

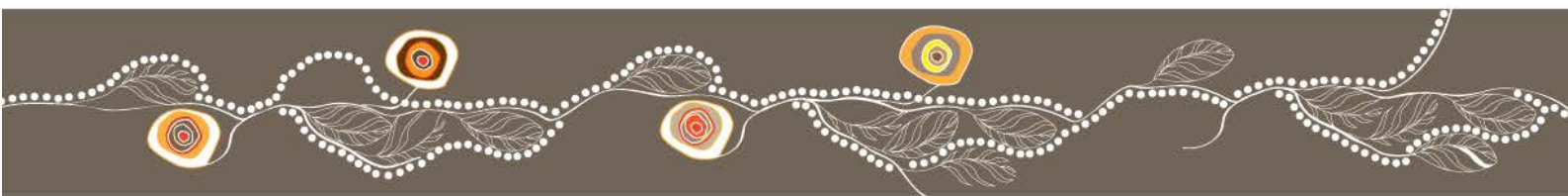


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AGENDA

Council Meeting to be held
at Darebin Civic Centre,
350 High Street Preston
on Monday, 4 September 2017
at 6.00 pm.

Public question time will
commence shortly after 6.00 pm.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

Council pays respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



Italian

Questo è l'ordine del giorno della riunione del Consiglio Comunale di Darebin per la data che compare sulla prima pagina di questo documento. Se desiderate informazioni in lingua italiana sugli argomenti dell'ordine del giorno, siete pregati di chiamare la Linea Telefonica Multilingue del Comune al 8470 8888.

Greek

Αυτή είναι η ημερήσια διάταξη για τη συνεδρίαση του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Darebin, για την ημερομηνία που φαίνεται στο εξώφυλλο αυτού του εγγράφου. Αν θα θέλατε πληροφορίες στα Ελληνικά σχετικά με τα θέματα σ' αυτή την ημερήσια διάταξη, παρακαλούμε καλέστε την Πολυγλωσσική Τηλεφωνική Γραμμή του Δήμου στον αριθμό 8470 8888.

Chinese

這是一份戴瑞濱市議會議程表，其開會日期顯示於此文件之封面。如果您欲索取有關此議程表的中文資料，敬請致電 8470 8888 聯絡市議會的多語種電話專線。

Arabic

هذا هو جدول أعمال اجتماع مجلس بلدية داربيبن والذي سيحدد في التاريخ الوارد في الصفحة الأولى من هذه الوثيقة. إذا أردت الحصول على مزيد من المعلومات في اللغة العربية حول المواضيع المذكورة في جدول الأعمال، يرجى الاتصال برقم هاتف البلدية المتعدد اللغات 8470 8888

Macedonian

Ова е дневниот ред за состанокот на Општината на Градот Даребин, која ќе биде на датумот покажан на предната корица од овој документ. Ако Вие сакате некои информации на Македонски јазик, за предметите на овој дневен ред, Ве молиме повикајте ја Општинската Повеќејазична Телефонска Линија на 8470 8888.

Vietnamese

Đây là nghị trình cho cuộc họp của Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin; ngày họp có ghi ở trang bìà tài liệu này. Muốn biết thêm về chương trình nghị sự bằng Việt ngữ, xin gọi cho Đường dây Điện thoại Đa Ngôn ngữ của Hội đồng Thành phố qua số 8470 8888.

Bosnian

Ovo je dnevni red za sastanak Gradske općine Darebin čiji je datum održavanja naznačen na prvoj strani ovog dokumenta. Ako želite više informacija o tačkama ovog dnevnog reda na bosanskom jeziku, molimo nazovite općinsku višjezičnu telefonsku službu na 8470 8888.

Croatian

Ovo je dnevni red sastanka u Darebin City Council za dan koji je naveden na prednjem ovitku ovog dokumenta. Ako želite informacije o tačkama ovog dnevnog reda na hrvatskom jeziku, molimo da nazovete Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Višjezičnu telefonsku liniju) na 8470 8888.

Portuguese

Esta é a pauta para a reunião da Câmara Municipal de Darebin a ser realizada na data que consta na capa deste documento. Se você deseja informação em Português sobre os itens desta pauta, por favor ligue para a Linha Telefônica Multilíngue da Câmara no 8470 8888.

Serbian

Ово је дневни ред за састанак Darebin City Council-а (Градско веће Darebin) који ће се одржати на дан који је наведен на насловној страни овог документа. Ако желите информације на српском о тачкама дневног реда, молимо вас да назовете Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Вишејезичку телефонску линију Већа), на 8470 8888.

Somali

Kuwani waa qodobada shirka lagaga wada hadli doono ee Degmada Degaanka Darebin ee taariikhda lagu xusey boga ugu sareeya ee qoraalkan. Haddii aad doonysid wararka ku saabsan qodobadan oo ku qoran Af-Somali, fadlan ka wac Khadka Taleefanka Afafka ee Golaha oo ah 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr. Steph Amir
Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Tim Laurence
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Lina Messina
Cr. Susanne Newton
Cr. Susan Rennie
Cr. Julie Williams

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 August 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer or make a Comment or Submission prior to a specific item listed on the Agenda of an Ordinary Council meeting.

QUESTIONS

Members of the public can ask up to two (2) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Questions submitted online will be responded to in the first instance. If you are not present at the meeting, the Chairperson will read the question and provide a response. The Chairperson may then take questions from members in the gallery.

Any question not answered at the meeting will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided to the person asking the question.

In accordance with the Darebin Governance Local Law, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance; or
- deals with a subject matter already answered; or
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an officer.

If you are unable to submit your question prior to the Ordinary Council meeting, the Chairperson may take questions from the floor.

SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS

Members of the public may make a comment or 2 minute submission on a matter listed on the Agenda prior to the item being debated.

A person who is unable to stay at the meeting until the Agenda item is heard, may make their comment or submission during Question Time.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, or make a comment or submission to an agenda item, at an Ordinary Council meeting are encouraged to do so in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (b) by email to Q&S@darebin.vic.gov.au; by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (c) in person at the Preston Customer Service Centre, 274 Gower Street, Preston; or
- (d) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072; or
- (e) with a Council officer prior to a Council meeting.

Council meetings can be viewed at the Watch Council and Planning Committee meetings page.

Agenda's will be available for viewing on Council's website at the 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes' page by 5pm, up to 6 days prior to the date of the meeting. Copies are also available at Customer Service centres and libraries.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

6.1 DRAFT 2016/2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed By: Acting Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the “Act”) requires Council to prepare in respect of each financial year an annual report containing:

- A report of operations;
- Audited financial statements;
- A performance statement; and
- A copy of the report on the performance statement.

The Act requires that the annual report be submitted to the Minister within three months of the end of the financial year. Council is required to pass a resolution giving approval in principle to each of the Statements. The Act also requires Council to authorise two Councillors to certify each of the Statements after any changes recommended, or agreed to, by the auditor have been made. Regulations 21 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (the “Regulations”), specify that the Financial Statements must be certified by the Principal Accounting Officer, two Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer, prior to the Auditor-General signing the audit report.

To assist Council in approving in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the 2016/2017 year, the Audit Committee should review the draft Statements with the benefit of comments by Council management and the Victorian Auditor-General’s Office representative. The Audit Committee, after it is satisfied with comments of Council management and the Victorian Auditor-General’s Office representative, should then make a recommendation to Council to adopt in principle each of the Statements for the 2016/2017 year.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

The report recommends that Council approve in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the 2016/2017 financial year and authorise two Councillors to sign the Statements in their final form.

The financial statements disclose a surplus for the year of \$21.63 million.

Recommendation

That Council

That Council:

- (1) Approves in principle the Financial Statements for the 2016/2017 year enclosed in **Appendix A** to this report.
 - (2) Authorises Councillors..... and to sign the Financial Statements in their final form after any changes recommended, or agreed to, by the Auditor have been made.
 - (3) Approves in principle the Performance Statements for the 2016/2017 year enclosed in **Appendix B** to this report.
 - (4) Authorises Councillors..... and to sign the Performance Statement in its final form after any changes recommended, or agreed to, by the Auditor have been made.
-

Introduction

Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the "Act") requires Council to prepare in respect of each financial year an annual report containing:

- A report of operations;
- Audited financial statements;
- A performance statement; and
- A copy of the report on the performance statement.

Issues and Discussion

Financial statements format

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ("AIFRS"). As per Regulation 19 and 20 in part four of the regulation, the financial statements must be prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.

Some of the more significant disclosure changes in the 2016/17 financial statements include:

- Note reference for Trade and other receivables and Other financial assets changed in line with re-numbering of notes (notes 17 and 18).

- Note 1 – Various minor text changes, removal of notes with no application and added disclosure to Pending Accounting Standards for AASB 15 Revenue from contracts with customers and AASB 16 Leases.
- Note 3 – Interest on rates and charges added as a line item.
- Note 21 – Additional columns added to summary of Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment to show acquisitions, contributions, revaluation, depreciation, disposal and transfers.
- Note 23 – Simplified disclosures.
- Note 33 – Superannuation note updated to reflect latest available information.
- Note 36 – Updated to reflect the application of AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures.

Financial Statements – overview of reported results

The Comprehensive Income Statement shows that for the year ended 30 June 2017, the Council achieved an operating surplus of \$21.63 million which was a \$1.6 million increase from the 2015/2016 result. The main items contributing to this movement between years are as follows:

- Rates (\$5.2 million increase) – The increase in general rates is in line with the general increase in rates approved by Council for the 2016/17 year (2%) together with supplementary rate income generated, an increase in green waste charges and the Solar Saver special charge raised in January (refer note 3);
- User fees, statutory fees and fines (\$1.4 million increase) – The increase in user fees, statutory fees and fines resulted mainly from an increase in statutory planning fees, traffic enforcement fines and the annual price increases on most services with some fluctuations within individual services (refer notes 4 and 5);
- Grants – operating (\$5.1 million increase) – The increase in operating grants reflects a mix of factors including timing of receipt of the 2017/18 Victorian Grants Commission funding, and normal CPI increases in recurrent Government grants (refer note 6);
- Grants – capital (\$1.0 million decrease) – The decrease in capital grants is reflected by the receipt of grants in 2015/16 associated with the DISC stormwater and energy efficient street lighting, offset by new funding for the inner city netball program (refer note 6);
- Contributions – monetary (\$0.7 million decrease) – The decrease in cash contributions is due to lower open space contributions received (refer note 7);
- Contributions – non-monetary assets (\$0.3 million increase) – This movement represents property and infrastructure assets received from developers during the year (refer note 7);
- Fair value adjustment of investment property (\$0.2 million increase) – The increase in value of investment property is mainly due to the value of the CH Sullivan stadium (refer note 22);
- Employee costs (\$1.5 million increase) – The increase in employee costs reflects the increase in performance increments paid in the 2016/17 year and offset by a reduction in WorkCover premium and vacant positions not being filled (refer note 10);
- Materials and services (\$0.2 million decrease) – The materials and services category includes contract payments, utilities, major maintenance and other items such as waste disposal fees. The decrease results from lower major maintenance (capital works projects not capitalised) offset by increases in contract payments (refer note 11);

- Bad and doubtful debts (\$0.4 million increase) – The increase in bad and doubtful debts reflects increases in debt provision for outstanding parking, local law fines and animal related fines (refer note 12); and
- Depreciation and amortisation (\$1.1 million increase) – The increase in depreciation arises from asset additions during the financial year and the full year impact of the revaluation of building assets (refer note 13).

The Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017 shows that net assets increased by \$91.2 million for the year to \$1,358.9 million. The main items contributing to this increase are as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents (\$1.6 million increase) – Cash balances at year end increased due to a number of factors including delays in completing capital works projects, an increase in the level of rates and contributions received during the year, and the receipt in June of 50% of the 2017/18 VGC funding offset by an increase in holdings of term deposits with a greater than 90 day maturity (refer note 17) (refer note 16);
- Other financial assets (\$8.7 million increase) – This increase reflects the increase in holdings of term deposits with a greater than 90 day maturity (refer notes 16 and 17);
- Trade and other receivables – current (\$1.4 million increase) – This increase primarily reflects the increase in unpaid rates and charges, outstanding parking infringements and June GST refund owed by the Australian Taxation Office (refer note 18);
- Other assets (\$1.8 million increase) – This increase reflects the recognition of the pre-paid Animal Welfare Facility contribution made to City of Whittlesea which will be amortised over the initial contract term of 10 years (refer note 20);
- Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (\$78.8 million increase) – This increase reflects the net impact of the revaluation of land assets, contributed assets, asset disposals, additions and depreciation on all fixed asset classes. The revaluation of land was undertaken due to an average municipal wide land value increase of 11% since 1 July 2016. (refer note 21);
- Investment property (\$0.3 million increase) – This increase reflects the net increase from fair value adjustments (refer note 22);
- Trade and other payables (\$1.1 million increase) – This increase represents higher accrued employee costs unpaid and higher trade creditors held at year end (refer note 24);
- Trust funds and deposits (\$0.4 million increase) – This increase is due to higher outstanding Fire Services Property Levy (FSPL) and contract retentions and security deposits held at year end (refer note 25);
- Reserves (\$63.6 million increase) – The increase in reserves is due to the net asset revaluation increment of land assets offset by an decrease in the open space reserve which has funded the land purchases of the former Ruthven Primary and Lakeside Secondary schools (refer note 28).

The Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2017 shows that total cash and investments increased by \$1.6 million to \$47.0 million. The main movements during the year were a cash inflow from operating activities of \$40.4 million, offset by a cash outflow from investing activities of \$38.8 million and financing cash outflows of \$nil.

The Statement of Capital Works shows that for the year ended 30 June 2017, Council had achieved total Capital Works expenditure of \$31.4 million, an increase of \$10.0 million from the previous year. The main items of capital works for the year are as follows:

- Property (\$11.3 million) – The main items of expenditure include purchase of land at the former Ruthven Primary and Lakeside Secondary schools, completion of the East Preston Community Centre and works at BT Connor Reserve.
- Plant and equipment (\$4.3 million) – The main items of expenditure include information technology (\$1.4 million) and fleet replacement (\$2.0 million).
- Infrastructure (\$15.8 million) – The main items of expenditure include roads and transport (\$7.1 million), footpaths and cycle ways (\$3.4 million), and parks and open space (\$4.2 million).

Performance Statement – overview of reported results

The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014. The performance measures cover the following activities:

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

Indicator	2016/2017	2015/2016
Population (expense per head of population)	\$967	\$930
(Infra. per head of population)	\$3,934	\$4,032
(Population per km of road)	305	296
Own-source revenue	\$940	\$922
Recurrent grants	\$117	\$94
Disadvantage	5	5

Service Performance Indicators

Indicator	2016/2017	2015/2016
Aquatic facilities	5.4	5.6
Animal management	8	3
Food safety	92.1%	100.0%
Governance	65.0	66.9
Libraries	15.0%	16.0%
Maternal and child health services	78.5%	75.9%
MCH by Aboriginal children	91.5%	60.5%
Roads	70.4	70.8
Statutory planning	41.3%	60.3%
Waste collection	48.0%	47.4%

Financial Performance Indicators

Indicator	2016/2017	2015/2016
Revenue level	\$1,487	\$1,448
Expenditure level	\$2,175	\$2,087
Workforce turnover	9.6%	5.0%
Working capital	259.6%	226.8%
Unrestricted cash	116.8%	91.5%
Asset renewal	79.0%	66.1%
Loans & borrowing	0.00%	0.16%
Indebtedness	1.2%	1.2%

Adjusted underlying result	8.6%	8.0%
Rates concentration	72.3%	73.9%
Rates effort	0.26%	0.25%

Comments are included in the Statement on any significant variances.

Options for Consideration

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications

Nil

Risk Management

The Draft 2016/2017 Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement were presented to Council's Audit Committee on Monday 28 August, 2017

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

A copy of the Council Resolution is forwarded to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Executive Management Team
- VAGO (Victorian Auditor-General's Office)
- Audit Committee

Related Documents

- Darebin City Council Financial Statements
- Darebin City Council Performance Statement

Attachments

- Darebin City Council Annual Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2017 (**Appendix A**)
- Darebin City Council Performance Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2017 (**Appendix B**)

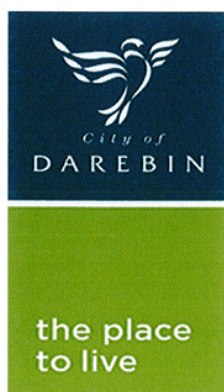
Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Darebin City Council Annual Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2017



**Darebin City Council
Financial Report
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Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Comprehensive Income Statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	3	119,474	114,260
Statutory fees and fines	4	8,650	7,103
User fees	5	13,580	13,762
Grants - operating	6	18,228	13,178
Grants - capital	6	2,103	3,068
Contributions - monetary	7	5,077	5,764
Contributions - non-monetary	7	418	144
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	8	26	(33)
Fair value adjustments for investment property	22	275	61
Other income	9	3,762	3,529
Total Income		171,593	160,836
Expenses			
Employee costs	10	77,854	76,355
Materials and services	11	45,008	45,220
Bad and doubtful debts	12	1,373	1,002
Depreciation and amortisation	13	22,055	20,973
Borrowing costs	14	0	8
Unspent DCP contributions	24	0	(6,485)
Other expenses	15	3,676	3,704
Total expenses		149,966	140,777
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		21,627	20,059
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be classified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	28	69,542	68,760
Total comprehensive result		91,169	88,819

The above comprehensive income statement should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	16	47,035	45,441
Trade and other receivables	18	13,140	11,758
Other financial assets	17	27,846	19,164
Inventories	19	67	65
Other assets	20	3,596	1,809
Total current assets		91,684	78,237
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	18	185	114
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	21	1,299,929	1,221,142
Investment property	22	3,142	2,867
Intangible assets	23	781	811
Other financial assets	17	236	236
Total non-current assets		1,304,273	1,225,170
Total assets		1,395,957	1,303,407
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	24	11,662	10,602
Trust funds and deposits	25	5,034	4,670
Provisions	26	18,618	18,730
Total current liabilities		35,314	34,002
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	26	1,774	1,705
Total non-current liabilities		1,774	1,705
Total liabilities		37,088	35,707
Net assets		1,358,869	1,267,700
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		534,108	506,524
Reserves	27	824,761	761,176
Total equity		1,358,869	1,267,700

The above balance sheet should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2017					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,267,700	506,524	742,157	19,019
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		21,627	21,627	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	27	69,542	0	69,542	0
Transfers to other reserves	27	0	(4,843)	0	4,843
Transfers from other reserves	27	0	10,800	0	(10,800)
Balance at end of financial year		1,358,869	534,108	811,699	13,062

		Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2016					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,178,881	495,445	673,397	10,039
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		20,059	20,059	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	27	68,760	0	68,760	0
Transfers to other reserves	27	0	(12,091)	0	12,091
Transfers from other reserves	27	0	3,111	0	(3,111)
Balance at end of financial year		1,267,700	506,524	742,157	19,019

The above statement of changes in equity should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
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Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000	2016 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		118,384	114,185
Statutory fees and fines		8,014	6,532
User fees (inclusive of GST)		16,131	14,149
Grants - operating		17,996	13,442
Grants - capital		2,103	3,068
Contributions - monetary		5,077	5,764
Interest received		1,284	1,868
Trust funds and deposits taken		311	511
Other receipts		1,684	1,539
Net GST refund/payment		5,789	5,611
Employee costs		(77,678)	(74,230)
Materials and services (inclusive of GST)		(58,734)	(56,348)
Trust funds and deposits paid		0	0
Net FSPL refund / payment		53	11
Net cash provided by/(used in) from operating activities	28	40,414	36,102
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(30,617)	(22,612)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		559	346
Payments for investments		(8,682)	(15,061)
Proceeds from sale of investments		0	0
Payment of loans and advances		(80)	41
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(38,820)	(37,286)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		0	(9)
Repayment of borrowings		0	(172)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		0	(181)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,594	(1,365)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		45,441	46,806
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	16	47,035	45,441
Financing arrangements	29		
Restrictions on cash assets	16		

The above statement of cash flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Statement of Capital Works
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Property			
Land		7,683	0
Total land		7,683	0
Buildings		3,625	4,319
Total buildings		3,625	4,319
Total property		11,308	4,319
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,063	2,203
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		137	237
Computers and telecommunications		1,389	1,282
Library books		734	702
Total plant and equipment		4,323	4,424
Infrastructure			
Roads		7,127	4,766
Bridges		134	326
Footpath and cycleways		3,420	1,927
Drainage		586	737
Land improvements		315	919
Parks, open space and streetscapes		4,184	3,944
Off street car parks		37	80
Total infrastructure		15,803	12,699
Total capital works expenditure		31,434	21,442
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		10,969	1,696
Asset renewal expenditure		17,078	13,638
Asset expansion expenditure		286	1,452
Asset upgrade expenditure		3,101	4,656
Total capital works expenditure		31,434	21,442

The above statement of capital works should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Introduction

The Darebin City Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 22 June 1994 and is a body corporate. Council's main office is located at 274 Gower Street, Preston.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 1989*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 1 (m))
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 1 (n))
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 1 (t))

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

(b) Changes in accounting policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies from the previous period.

(c) Revenue recognition

Income is recognised when the Council obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Council and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Rates and Charges

Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

Statutory fees and fines

Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

User fees

User fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or the payment is received, whichever first occurs.

Grants

Grant income is recognised when Council obtains control of the contribution. This is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured, and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed in Note 6. The note also discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on Council's operations during the current year.

Contributions

Monetary and non-monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies*Sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment*

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

Interest

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Dividends

Dividend revenue is recognised when Council's right to receive payment is established.

Other Income

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

(d) Fair value measurement

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 Fair value measurement, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(f) Trade and other receivables

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount as amortised cost using the effective interest rate method would not impact the carrying value. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(g) Other financial assets

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, being market value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at amortised cost. Unlisted shares are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable amount. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

(h) Inventories

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential.

All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies**(i) Non current assets classified as held for sale**

A non-current asset classified as held for sale (including disposal groups) is measured at the lower of its carrying amount and fair value less costs of disposal, and are not subject to depreciation. Non-current assets, disposal groups and related liabilities and assets are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale (or disposal group sale) is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

(j) Recognition and measurement of property, plant and equipment, infrastructure, intangibles*Acquisition*

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits detailed in Note 1(n) have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

Revaluation

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. Further details regarding the fair value hierarchy are disclosed at Note 21, Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 2 to 3 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies

(k) Depreciation and amortisation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment and intangibles

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit	\$
Property			
land	-	5,000	
land improvements	50 years	5,000	
Buildings			
heritage buildings	50 - 80 years	5,000	
buildings	50 - 80 years	5,000	
building improvements	50 - 80 years	5,000	
leasehold improvements	Life of lease	5,000	
Plant and Equipment			
vehicles	3 to 10 years	1,000	
plant, machinery and parks equipment	5 - 20 years	1,000	
fixtures, fittings and furniture	10 years	1,000	
computers and telecommunications	3 - 5 years	1,000	
library books, tapes, videos and DVDs	3 - 8 years	All	
Infrastructure			
road pavements and seals	20 - 30 years	All	
road substructure	80 - 120 years	All	
road formation and earthworks	-	All	
road kerb, channel and minor culverts	40 - 60 years	All	
bridges deck	50 - 100 years	All	
bridges substructure	50 - 100 years	All	
footpaths and cycleways	30 - 50 years	All	
drainage including pipes, pits and gross pollutant traps	100 - 120 years	5,000	
recreational, leisure and community facilities	10 - 50 years	5,000	
waste management	50 years	5,000	
parks, open space and streetscapes	10 - 50 years	5,000	
off street car parks	10 - 50 years	5,000	
Intangible assets			
software and system development costs	3 - 5 years	1,000	

Note 1 Significant accounting policies**(l) Repairs and maintenance**

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

(m) Investment property

Investment property is held to generate long-term rental yields. Investment property is measured initially at cost, including transaction costs. Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefit in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the Council. Subsequent to initial recognition at cost, investment property is carried at fair value, determined annually by independent valuers. Changes to fair value are recorded in the comprehensive income statement in the period that they arise. Rental income from the leasing of investment properties is recognised in the comprehensive income statement on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(n) Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

(o) Trade and other creditors

Trade and other creditors are unsecured and interest free. Settlement generally occurs within 30 days of invoice receipt except for deposits which are settled at the satisfactory completion of works or services.

(p) Trust funds and deposits

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited (refer to Note 25).

(q) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities at initial recognition.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council. Except where specific borrowings are obtained for the purpose of specific asset acquisition, the weighted average interest rate applicable to borrowings at balance date, excluding borrowings associated with superannuation, is used to determine the borrowing costs to be capitalised.

Borrowing costs include interest on bank overdrafts, interest on borrowings, and finance lease charges.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies**(r) Employee costs and benefits**

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date:

Wages and salaries and annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

Current Liability - unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability even when Council does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it will not have the unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current liability are measured at :

- present value - component that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months.
- nominal value - component that is expected to be wholly settled within 12 months.

Personal gratuity leave

Liabilities for personal gratuity leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Classification of employee costs

Non-current liability - conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non - current liability. There is an unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

This non-current LSL liability is measured at present value.

(s) Leases*Operating leases*

Lease payments for operating leases are required by the accounting standard to be recognised on a straight line basis, rather than expensed in the years in which they are incurred.

Leasehold improvements

Leasehold improvements are recognised at cost and are amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvement, whichever is the shorter. At balance date, leasehold improvements are amortised over a 15 year period.

(t) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies**(u) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities and commitments**

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value by way of note and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

(v) Pending accounting standards

The following new AAS's have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2017 reporting period. Council has assessed these pending standards and has identified the following potential impacts will flow from the application of these standards in future reporting periods.

Revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15) (applies 2019/20)

The standard shifts the focus from the transaction-level to a contract-based approach. Recognition is determined based on what the customer expects to be entitled to (rights and obligations), while measurement encompasses estimation by the entity of the amount expected to be entitled for performing under the contract. The full impact of this standard is not known however it is most likely to impact where contracts extend over time, where there are rights and obligations that may vary the timing or amount of the consideration, or where there are multiple performance elements. This has the potential to impact on the recognition of certain grant income.

Leases (AASB 16) (applies 2019/20)

The classification of leases as either finance leases or operating leases is eliminated for lessees. Leases will be recognised in the Balance Sheet by capitalising the present value of the minimum lease payments and showing a 'right-of-use' asset, while future lease payments will be recognised as a financial liability. The nature of the expense recognised in the profit or loss will change. Rather than being shown as rent, or as leasing costs, it will be recognised as depreciation on the 'right-of-use' asset, and an interest charge on the lease liability. The interest charge will be calculated using the effective interest method, which will result in a gradual reduction of interest expense over the lease term.

Council has a small number of operating leases that may be impacted as a result of this change. At this stage, Council is unable to quantify the amount of assets and liabilities to be recognised.

(w) Rounding

Unless otherwise stated, amounts in the financial report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. Figures in the financial statement may not equate due to rounding.

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 Budget comparison

The budget comparison notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of 10 percent or where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 27 June 2016. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. Council sets guidelines and parameters for revenue and expense targets in this budget in order to meet Council's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

(a) Income and Expenditure

	Budget 2017 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Variance 2017 \$'000	Variance 2017 %	Ref
Income					
Rates and charges	119,200	119,474	274	0%	
Statutory fees and fines	7,308	8,650	1,342	18%	I1
User fees	14,044	13,580	(464)	-3%	
Grants - operating	15,292	18,228	2,936	19%	I2
Grants - capital	2,123	2,103	(20)	-1%	
Contributions - monetary	3,500	5,077	1,577	45%	I3
Contributions - non-monetary	0	418	418	+100%	I4
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(20)	26	46	-230%	I5
Fair value adjustments for investment property	0	275	275	+100%	I6
Other income	2,879	3,762	883	31%	I7
Total income	164,326	171,593	7,267		
Expenses					
Employee costs	82,482	77,854	4,628	6%	E1
Materials and services	45,958	45,008	950	2%	
Bad and doubtful debts	951	1,373	(422)	-44%	E2
Depreciation and amortisation	20,832	22,055	(1,223)	-6%	
Borrowing costs	0	0	0	0%	
Other expenses	3,679	3,676	3	0%	
Total expenses	153,902	149,966	3,936		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	10,424	21,627	11,203		
Other comprehensive income					
Items that will not be classified to surplus or deficit in future periods					
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	5,106	69,542	(64,436)	+100%	O1
Total comprehensive result	15,530	91,169	75,639		

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 Budget comparison

(i) Explanation of material variations

Var Ref	Item	Explanation
I1	Statutory fees and fines	Statutory fees and fines were exceeded due to an increase in statutory planning fees (\$0.8 million), fines for traffic enforcement (\$0.4 million), and health registrations (\$0.1 million).
I2	Grants - operating	Operating grants were exceeded due to the early receipt of the 1st and 2nd quarter 2017/18 Victorian Grants Commission funding (\$2.3 million) received in June, Family and Children grants (\$0.3 million) and receipts from Commonwealth Home Support Program (\$0.2 million).
I3	Contributions - monetary	Contributions - monetary were exceeded due to higher than anticipated open space contributions received from developments undertaken within the municipality (\$1.3 million).
I4	Contributions - non-monetary assets	Contributions - non-monetary assets were exceeded due to contributed infrastructure assets from development received during the year. Contributed assets are not budgeted for during the year.
I5	Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Anticipated net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment was not achieved as it was more than offset by higher than anticipated sale proceeds received for some large fleet items replaced during the year.
I6	Fair value adjustments for investment property	Fair value adjustment for investment property was exceeded due to an increase in the fair value of the Sullivan Reserve stadium and land. Fair value movements in investment property are not budgeted for during the year.
I7	Other income	Budgeted other income was exceeded due to higher interest on investments (\$0.5 million) and larger than anticipated recoup for workcover (\$0.5 million) and paid parental leave (\$0.2 million).
E1	Employee costs	Employee costs was not achieved due to a reduction in WorkCover levy achieved through better injury management (\$0.6 million), lower aged & disability service delivery (\$1.0 million) and vacant positions across the organisation not being filled during the year.
E2	Bad and doubtful debts	Bad and doubtful debts was exceeded mainly due to a higher provision for doubtful debts required for traffic fines, animal registrations and miscellaneous local law fines (\$0.4 million) .

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 Budget comparison (cont)

(b) Capital Works

	Budget 2017 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Variance 2017 \$'000	Variance 2017 %	Ref
Property					
Land	0	7,683	7,683	+100%	CW1
Land improvements	95	108	13	14%	CW2
Total Land	95	7,791	7,696		
Buildings	5,879	3,473	(2,406)	-41%	CW3
Building improvements	517	269	(248)	-48%	CW4
Leasehold improvements	2,050	0	(2,050)	-100%	CW5
Total Buildings	8,446	3,742	(4,704)		
Total Property	8,541	11,533	2,992		
Plant and Equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,958	2,063	(895)	-30%	CW6
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	155	137	(18)	-12%	CW7
Computers and telecommunications	1,692	1,389	(303)	-18%	CW8
Library books	751	734	(17)	-2%	
Total Plant and Equipment	5,556	4,323	(1,233)		
Infrastructure					
Roads	6,520	4,234	(2,286)	-35%	CW9
Transport & road safety	2,060	1,809	(251)	-12%	CW9
Bridges	220	134	(86)	-39%	CW10
Footpaths and cycleways	3,226	2,411	(815)	-25%	CW11
Drainage	1,978	586	(1,392)	-70%	CW12
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	464	302	(162)	-35%	CW13
Parks, open space and streetscapes	7,275	6,065	(1,210)	-17%	CW14
Off street car parks	0	37	37	+100%	CW15
Total Infrastructure	21,743	15,578	(6,165)		
Total Capital Works Expenditure	35,840	31,434	(4,406)		
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	8,218	10,969	2,751		
Asset renewal expenditure	21,494	17,078	(4,416)		
Asset expansion expenditure	585	286	(299)		
Asset upgrade expenditure	5,543	3,101	(2,442)		
Total Capital Works Expenditure	35,840	31,434	(4,406)		

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 Budget comparison (cont)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Var Ref	Item	Explanation
CW1	Land	The budget for land was exceeded due to the purchase of the former Ruthven Primary School site and adjoining land at Lakeside Secondary College (\$7.2 million) and the former Melbourne Water land at Rona Street (\$0.5 million).
CW2	Land improvements	The budget for land improvements was exceeded largely due to improvement works at Merri Park and JC Donath Reserve (\$0.1 million).
CW3	Buildings	The budget for buildings was not achieved largely due to delays completing works on the Multisport Stadium (\$0.3 million), relocatable kindergarten (\$0.2 million), new portable buildings at PRACE (\$0.5 million) and the redevelopment of NARC (\$0.7 million).
CW4	Building improvements	The budget for building improvements was not achieved largely due to delays in providing disability access upgrades at Council facilities (\$0.1 million) and installation of the infield cycling barrier at DISC (\$0.2 million).
CW5	Leasehold improvements	The budget for leasehold improvements was not achieved due to the accounting treatment of the Council contribution made to the City of Whittlesea (\$1.9 million). The contribution made will be amortised over the life of the building lease.
CW6	Plant, machinery and equipment	The budget for plant, machinery and equipment was not achieved due to delays in the delivery of a number of heavy vehicles purchased late in the reporting period (\$0.4 million) and a number of purchases not recognised as assets in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 1(i)) (\$0.2 million).
CW7	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	The budget for fixtures, fittings and furniture was exceeded due to the completion of the Reservoir Community & Learning Centre fit-out (\$0.2 million).
CW8	Computers and telecommunications	The budget for computers and telecommunications was not achieved due to delays in the implementation of planned website enhancements (\$0.2 million), Council's intranet (\$0.1 million) and IT equipment renewal (\$0.1 million).
CW9	Roads, Transport & road safety	The budget for roads, transport & road safety was not achieved due to delays in the delivery of a number of traffic management and road safety projects (\$0.6 million), rehabilitation of Simpson Street and Chifley Drive (\$0.7 million), savings in the road resurfacing program (\$0.3 million) and Merri Pde safe crossing project which was cancelled due to loss of external funding (\$0.2 million).
CW10	Bridges	The budget for Bridges was not achieved due to delays in completing the Merri Creek pedestrian bridge (\$0.1 million).
CW11	Footpaths and cycleways	The budget for footpath and cycleways was not achieved due to delays to works associated with the St Georges Road bike path (\$0.6 million) and shared path renewal program (\$0.4 million).
CW12	Drainage	The budget for drainage was not achieved due to delays in completing the DISC storwater harvest & flood mitigation works (\$1.1 million). Works have been delayed as a result of contamination encountered at the site.
CW13	Recreational, leisure and community facilities	The budget for recreation, leisure and community facilities was not achieved largely due to delays in Bundoora Park farm works (\$0.1 million).
CW14	Parks, open space and streetscapes	The budget for parks, open space and streetscapes was not achieved largely due to delays completing works including play space upgrades (\$0.3 million), shopping strip infrastructure (\$0.3 million), Preston Girls High School (\$0.2 million) and the big park and Batman Park master plans (\$0.3 million).

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 3 Rates and charges		
Council uses Capital Improved Value as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. Capital Improved Value means the sum which land and all its improvements might be expected to realise at the time of valuation, if offered for sale on any reasonable terms and conditions.		
The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2016/17 was \$45,637,043,061 (2015/16: \$39,252,793,101).		
General rates	115,232	110,207
Cultural and recreational properties	30	26
Mixed use occupancy properties	0	0
Green waste services	2,281	2,173
Special rates and charges	330	324
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	1,113	1,118
Interest on rates and charges	488	412
Total rates and charges	119,474	114,260
The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2016, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2016.		
Note 4 Statutory fees and fines		
Animal registration	626	630
Building services	931	1,023
Environmental health	662	640
Statutory planning	1,815	1,031
Traffic enforcement	3,298	2,938
Infringement court recoveries	1,007	824
Election fines	310	0
Other planning and developer fees	1	17
Total statutory fees and fines	8,650	7,103
Note 5 User fees		
Aged and health services	1,223	1,350
Arts and culture	2,314	2,571
Family, children and community programs	198	216
Golf course attendance	911	990
Leisure centres and recreation	3,858	3,921
Library	210	201
Recycling	795	711
Registrations and other permits	2,671	3,052
Right of ways	656	662
Other fees and charges	744	88
Total user fees	13,580	13,762

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 6 Grants		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	12,296	4,014
State funded grants	8,035	12,231
Total grants	20,331	16,245
Operating Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Diesel fuel rebate scheme	85	79
HACC support services	754	0
Holiday program	0	5
Home help	4,242	0
Meals on wheels	225	0
Senior citizens	8	0
Victorian Grants Commission - general purpose	5,553	1,856
Victorian Grants Commission - local roads	1,281	453
Recurrent - State Government/Other		
Dementia care	368	342
Disability resource	179	149
Family support	428	409
HACC Aboriginal liaison	0	34
HACC support services	198	1,001
Health & safety	114	112
Home help	1,282	5,150
Immunisation	144	138
Libraries	935	916
Maternal and child health	1,273	1,126
Meals on wheels	43	247
Metro access	132	127
Playgroup Initiatives	131	193
Property maintenance	160	142
School crossings	313	286
Senior citizens	76	81
Youth services	40	39
Other programs	15	23
Total recurrent operating grants	17,979	12,908
Non-recurrent Commonwealth Government		
Other programs	5	20
Non-recurrent State Government / Other		
Other programs	244	250
Total non-recurrent operating grants	249	270
Total operating grants	18,228	13,178
Capital Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Roads to recovery	145	1,247
Recurrent State Government / Other		
Minor Works	18	0
Total recurrent capital grants	163	1,247

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 6 Grants (continued)		
<i>Non-recurrent Commonwealth Government</i>		
Energy efficient street lights	0	355
<i>Non-recurrent State Government / Other</i>		
Active Transport	50	0
Aged & disability	35	80
Minor works	57	180
DISC stormwater harvest and flood mitigation	0	650
Outdoor Sports Facility	204	0
Inner City Netball	1,547	0
Safe travel projects	47	38
Sportsfield Lighting	0	80
Sport & recreation grants	0	251
Water Sensitive Urban Design	0	187
Total non-recurrent capital grants	1,940	1,821
Total capital grants	2,103	3,068
Total grants	20,331	16,246
Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner		
Balance at start of year	2,022	3,312
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	3,901	2,022
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(1,508)	(3,312)
Balance at end of year	4,415	2,022
Note 7 Contributions		
(a) Monetary		
Drainage and open space	4,843	5,606
Other capital and minor works	234	158
Monetary	5,077	5,764
Non-monetary	418	144
Total contributions	5,495	5,908
Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes.		
Land	50	0
Land under roads	39	13
Roads	94	30
Drainage	235	101
Total non-monetary contributions	418	144
Note 8 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	570	334
Write down value of assets disposed	(544)	(367)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	26	(33)
Note 9 Other income		
Interest on investments, loans and advances	1,715	1,529
Property rental and leases	363	461
Workers compensation insurance recovery	523	327
Insurance recovery	132	100
Parental leave scheme recovery	194	138
Recovery of costs	835	974
Total other income	3,762	3,529

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 10(a) Employee costs		
Wages, salaries and related oncosts	62,907	61,372
Casual staff	5,875	5,651
Superannuation	7,904	7,619
Personal gratuity leave	112	62
WorkCover	668	1,228
Fringe benefits tax	388	423
Total employee costs	77,854	76,355
Note 10(b) Superannuation		
Council made contributions to the following funds:		
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	1,020	1,038
Employer contributions - other funds	0	0
	<u>1,020</u>	<u>1,038</u>
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	0	8
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	4,916	4,896
Employer contributions - other funds	1,968	1,686
	<u>6,884</u>	<u>6,582</u>
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	<u>540</u>	<u>533</u>
Refer to Note 33 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.		
Note 11 Materials and services		
Advertising, marketing and promotions	536	532
Apprentices and trainees	467	492
Banking fees and charges	374	389
Consultants	1,494	1,476
Contract payments for goods and services	23,567	21,583
Facility rental and hire	186	172
Fleet parts, consumables and registration	707	752
Fuel and oil	930	916
Insurances and excess	1,475	1,419
License fees	122	163
Materials and consumables	2,448	2,653
Memberships and subscriptions	294	283
Minor equipment purchases	327	397
Office administration	3,283	3,120
Repairs and maintenance	5,242	7,335
Other supplies and services	82	78
Utilities	3,474	3,460
Total materials and services	45,008	45,220

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 12 Bad and doubtful debts		
Parking fine debtors	246	133
Parking related debtors - PERIN Court	688	375
Other debtors	439	494
Total bad and doubtful debts	<u>1,373</u>	<u>1,002</u>
Note 13 Depreciation and amortisation		
Property	5,760	5,524
Plant and equipment	4,442	4,267
Infrastructure	11,429	10,833
Total depreciation	<u>21,631</u>	<u>20,624</u>
Intangibles	424	349
Total depreciation and amortisation	<u>22,055</u>	<u>20,973</u>
<i>Refer to Note 21 & 23 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges</i>		
Note 14 Borrowing costs		
Interest - Borrowings	0	8
Less capitalised borrowing costs on qualifying assets	0	0
Total borrowing costs	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>
Note 15 Other expenses		
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	71	76
Auditors' remuneration - internal audit	137	160
Community grants and other contributions	1,535	1,532
Councillors' emoluments	345	342
Fire services levies	113	118
Lease payments	142	130
Legal expenses	861	810
Perin court costs	119	117
Special rate payments	316	309
Write off of property, infrastructure and plant and equipment	37	110
Total other expenses	<u>3,676</u>	<u>3,704</u>

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 16 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	19	21
Cash at bank	710	3,995
Money market call accounts	24,472	12,910
Term deposits	21,834	28,515
	<u>47,035</u>	<u>45,441</u>
Restrictions		
Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary use. These include:		
- Developer contribution scheme	6,104	6,310
- Drainage development reserve	23	23
- Public resort and recreation reserve	6,708	12,459
- Fire Services Property Levy payable	77	24
- Contractor and security deposits (see Note 25)	4,957	4,645
Total restricted funds	<u>17,869</u>	<u>23,461</u>
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>29,166</u>	<u>21,980</u>
Intended allocations		
Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:		
- Cash held to fund carried forward capital works	11,335	6,464
- Car park development reserve	228	228
- Unspent conditional grants	4,415	2,022
Total funds subject to intended allocations	<u>15,978</u>	<u>8,713</u>
Refer also to Note 17 for details of other financial assets held by Council.		
Note 17 Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	<u>27,846</u>	19,164
Non-current		
Unlisted shares in corporations at cost	236	236
Total other financial assets	<u>28,082</u>	<u>19,400</u>
The shares in unlisted corporations reflect Council's holdings in Maps Group Limited, Regional Kitchen Pty Ltd, and RFK Pty Ltd.		

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 18 Trade and other receivables		
Current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	7,150	6,138
Special rate assessment	1,210	785
Infringement debtors	5,061	4,425
Less: Provision for doubtful debts - infringements	(3,907)	(3,257)
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Other debtors	3,067	3,758
Less: Provision for doubtful debts - other	(1,240)	(1,108)
GST receivable	1,790	1,017
Loans and advances	9	0
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>13,140</u>	<u>11,758</u>
Non-current		
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Loans and advances	185	114
Total non-current trade and other receivables	<u>185</u>	<u>114</u>
Total trade and other receivables	<u>13,325</u>	<u>11,872</u>
(a) Ageing of Receivables		
At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) was:		
Current (not yet due)	796	864
Past due by up to 30 days	288	467
Past due between 31 and 60 days	189	144
Past due between 61 and 90 days	209	209
Past due above 90 days	1,585	2,074
Total trade and other receivables	<u>3,067</u>	<u>3,758</u>
(b) Movement in Provision for Doubtful Debts		
Balance at the beginning of the year	4,365	4,025
New provisions recognised during the year	1,306	778
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectible	(524)	(438)
Amounts provided for but recovered during the year	0	0
Balance at end of year	<u>5,147</u>	<u>4,365</u>
(c) Ageing of individually impaired Trade and Other Receivables		
At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$1,262,000 (2016: \$1,355,000) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$1,240,000 (2016: \$1,108,000). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements. The ageing of receivables that have been individually determined as impaired at reporting date was:		
Over 3 months	1,262	1,355
Total trade and other receivables	<u>1,262</u>	<u>1,355</u>

**Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report****Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017**

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 19 Inventories		
Inventories held for distribution	26	32
Inventories held for sale	41	33
Total inventories	<u>67</u>	<u>65</u>
Note 20 Other assets		
Accrued income	1,337	1,356
Prepayments	2,259	453
Total other assets	<u>3,596</u>	<u>1,809</u>

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 21 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	At Fair Value 30 June 2016	Acquisitions	Contributions	Revaluation	Depreciation	Disposal	Transfer	At Fair Value 30 June 2017
Land	612,730	7,662	89	69,542	0	0	0	690,043
Buildings	193,563	2,878	0	0	(5,760)	(37)	133	190,767
Plant and equipment	19,812	3,927	0	0	(4,442)	(544)	174	18,927
Infrastructure	394,187	13,522	329	0	(11,429)	0	248	396,857
Work in progress	860	3,030	0	0	0	0	(555)	3,335
	1,221,142	31,039	418	69,542	(21,631)	(581)	0	1,299,929

Summary of Work in Progress

	Opening WIP	Additions	Transfers	Write-offs	Closing WIP
Buildings	390	748	(133)	0	1,005
Plant and equipment	174	0	(174)	0	0
Infrastructure	296	2,282	(248)	0	2,330
Total	860	3,030	(555)	0	3,335

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 21 Property, infrastructure plant and equipment (continued)

Land and Buildings	Note	Land - specialised	Land - non specialised	Total Land	Buildings - heritage	Buildings - specialised	Buildings - specialised	Buildings - non specialised	Work in progress	Total Buildings	Total Property
At fair value 1 July 2016		581,799	30,931	612,730	42,134	299,679	11,038	390	353,241	965,971	
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2016		0	0	0	(27,066)	(126,329)	(5,903)	0	(159,298)	(159,298)	
Movements in fair value		581,799	30,931	612,730	15,068	173,350	5,135	390	193,943	806,673	
Acquisition of assets at fair value		7,682	0	7,682	466	2,412	0	748	3,626	11,308	
Contributed assets		39	50	89	0	0	0	0	0	89	
Revaluation increments/decrements		65,981	3,561	69,542	0	0	0	0	0	69,542	
Fair value of assets disposed		0	0	0	0	(788)	0	0	(788)	(788)	
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Transfers		0	0	0	0	133	0	(133)	0	0	
		73,702	3,611	77,313	466	1,757	0	615	2,838	80,151	
Movements in accumulated depreciation											
Depreciation and amortisation		0	0	0	(268)	(5,309)	(183)	0	(5,760)	(5,760)	
Accumulated depreciation of disposals		0	0	0	0	751	0	0	751	751	
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		0	0	0	(268)	(4,558)	(183)	0	(5,009)	(5,009)	
At fair value 30 June 2017		655,501	34,542	690,043	42,600	301,436	11,038	1,005	356,079	1,046,122	
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2017		0	0	0	(27,334)	(130,887)	(6,086)	0	(164,307)	(164,307)	
		655,501	34,542	690,043	15,266	170,549	4,952	1,005	191,772	881,815	

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 21 Property, infrastructure plant and equipment (continued)

Plant and Equipment	Note	Plant machinery and equipment	Computers and telecommunications	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Library books	Artwork & historical collections	Other	Work in progress	Total plant and equipment
At fair value 1 July 2016		16,977	20,427	7,499	7,884	1,740	5,543	174	60,244
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2016		(7,803)	(16,248)	(6,686)	(5,356)	0	(4,165)	0	(40,258)
		9,174	4,179	813	2,528	1,740	1,378	174	19,986
Movements in fair value									
Acquisition of assets at fair value		1,741	994	137	734	20	301	0	3,927
Contributed assets		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation increments/decrements		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fair value of assets disposed		(1,649)	(124)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,773)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		0	174	0	0	0	0	(174)	0
		92	1,044	137	734	20	301	(174)	2,154
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation		(2,078)	(1,305)	(124)	(712)	0	(223)	0	(4,442)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals		1,110	119	0	0	0	0	0	1,229
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		(968)	(1,186)	(124)	(712)	0	(223)	0	(3,213)
At fair value 30 June 2017		17,069	21,471	7,636	8,618	1,760	5,844	0	62,398
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2017		(8,771)	(17,434)	(6,810)	(6,068)	0	(4,388)	0	(43,471)
		8,298	4,037	826	2,550	1,760	1,456	0	18,927

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 21 Property, infrastructure plant and equipment (continued)

Infrastructure	Note	Roads	Footpaths and cycleways	Bridges	Drainage	Land improvements	Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	Off street car parks	Work in progress	Total Infrastructure
At fair value 1 July 2016		283,458	103,220	7,980	174,221	47,933	33,031	8,351	296	658,490
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2016		(103,956)	(51,607)	(3,151)	(72,352)	(14,879)	(13,753)	(4,309)	0	(264,007)
		179,502	51,613	4,829	101,869	33,054	19,278	4,042	296	394,483
Movements in fair value										
Acquisition of assets at fair value		6,918	3,262	0	378	316	2,611	37	2,282	15,804
Contributed assets		94	0	0	235	0	0	0	0	329
Revaluation increments/decrements		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fair value of assets disposed		0	0	0	0	0	(44)	0	0	(44)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		57	63	0	28	0	100	0	(248)	0
		7,069	3,325	0	641	316	2,667	37	2,034	16,089
Movements in accumulated depreciation										
Depreciation and amortisation		(4,731)	(2,026)	(96)	(1,455)	(940)	(2,044)	(137)	0	(11,429)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals		0	0	0	0	0	44	0	0	44
Impairment losses recognised in operating result		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		(4,731)	(2,026)	(96)	(1,455)	(940)	(2,000)	(137)	0	(11,385)
At fair value 30 June 2017		290,527	106,545	7,980	174,862	48,249	35,698	8,388	2,330	674,579
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2017		(108,687)	(53,633)	(3,247)	(73,807)	(15,819)	(15,753)	(4,446)	0	(275,392)
		181,840	52,912	4,733	101,055	32,430	19,945	3,942	2,330	399,187

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
(Update year as required)

Note 21 Property, infrastructure plant and equipment (continued)

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified valuer Mr D Archer, AAPI, the City Valuer. The last valuation was undertaken as at 30 June 2016. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. An indexed based revaluation of land was conducted in the current year, this valuation was based on average municipal land movements by post code, a full revaluation of these assets will be conducted in 2017/18.

Land under roads

Land under roads acquired on or after 1 July 2008 is recognised at cost.

Details of the Council's land, land improvements and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2017 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000	Date of Valuation
2017					
Assets measured at fair value					
Land	0	34,542	655,501	690,043	Jun-17
Buildings	0	4,952	185,815	190,767	Jun-16
	0	39,494	841,316	880,810	

No transfers between levels occurred during the year

Valuations of infrastructure

Infrastructure includes road surface and substructures, footpaths, kerb and channel, traffic devices parking bays, offstreet car parks, drainage pipes, pits, gross pollutant traps and bridges. The valuations for infrastructure assets were determined by Mr S Hamilton, B Eng (Civil), Manager Major Projects, Engineering & Transport. The valuations were performed as at 30 June 2015 on the basis of fair value being the current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation at the date of the valuation.

Road and offstreet car park replacement cost is calculated with reference to a representative range of unit costs received from contractors and other relevant sources. Accumulated depreciation has been assessed with reference to the AUSTRROADS National Pavement Condition Indicators and road condition surveys.

Bridge replacement cost is based on the major components of the structure and sourced from representative bridge construction projects. Accumulated depreciation has been assessed based on knowledge of Council's bridge network and industry standards.

Drainage replacement cost is calculated with reference to a representative range of unit costs received from contractors and other relevant sources. Accumulated depreciation has been assessed based on knowledge of Council's drainage network and industry standards.

Land improvements are valued using the depreciated replacement cost method. This cost represents the replacement cost of the building/component after applying deprecation rates on a useful life basis. replacement costs relate to costs to produce the property to an "as new" standard. Economic obsolescence has also been factored into the depreciated replacement cost calculation.

Land improvements includes playing surfaces, retarding basins and other land improvements. The valuations for land improvements were determined by Mr D Archer, AAPI, the City Valuer. The valuations were performed as at 30 June 2015 on the basis of fair value being the current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation at the date of the valuation.

The next scheduled full revaluation for this purpose will be conducted in 2017/18.

There were no changes in valuation techniques throughout the period 30 June 2017.

For all assets measured at fair value, the current use is considered the highest and best use.

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(Update year as required)

Valuations of infrastructure (continued)

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2017 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000	Date of Valuation
2017					
Assets measured at fair value					
Roads	0	0	181,840	181,840	Jun-15
Footpaths & cycleways	0	0	52,912	52,912	Jun-15
Bridges	0	0	4,733	4,733	Jun-15
Drainage	0	0	101,055	101,055	Jun-15
Land improvements	0	0	32,430	32,430	Jun-15
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	0	0	19,945	19,945	Jun-15
Offstreet carparks	0	0	3,942	3,942	Jun-15
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>396,857</u>	<u>396,857</u>	

No transfers between levels occurred during the year

2017	2016
\$'000	\$'000

Reconciliation of specialised land

Land under roads	1,029	990
Community facilities	54,677	48,792
Council administration & depots	27,888	24,894
Offstreet carparks	12,668	11,243
Parks and reserves	559,239	495,880
Total specialised land	<u>655,501</u>	<u>581,799</u>

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land and land under roads

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 10% and 80%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$20 and \$3,014 per square metre.

Specialised buildings

Specialised buildings are valued using a depreciated replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs is calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$500 to \$7,200 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 50 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 30 years to 120 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets. Current replacement cost for infrastructure is calculated as follows;

Roads and offstreet car parks range between \$28 to \$398 per square metre.

Shared paths and cycleways range between \$48 to \$233 per square metre.

Drainage assets range between \$115 to \$1,890 per unit.

Bridge assets range vary depending on construction type.

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016	
	\$'000	\$'000	
Note 22 Investment property			
Balance at beginning of financial year	2,867	2,806	
Fair value adjustments	275	61	
Balance at end of financial year	<u>3,142</u>	<u>2,867</u>	
<i>Valuation of investment property</i>			
The valuation of investment property has been determined by Mr D Archer, AAPI, the City Valuer, who has recent experience in the location and category of the property being valued. The valuation is at fair value, based on the current market value for the property.			
Note 23 Intangible assets			
Software and system development costs	654	684	
Water access rights	127	127	
Total intangible assets	<u>781</u>	<u>811</u>	
	Software	Water rights	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Gross carrying amount			
Balance at 1 July 2016	4,440	127	4,567
Additions from internal developments	0	0	0
Other additions	394	0	394
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u>4,834</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>4,961</u>
Accumulated amortisation and impairment			
Balance at 1 July 2016	(3,756)	0	(3,756)
Amortisation expense	(424)	0	(424)
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u>(4,180)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(4,180)</u>
Net book value at 30 June 2016	684	127	811
Net book value at 30 June 2017	<u>654</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>781</u>
Note 24 Trade and other payables			
Trade payables	10,304	9,431	
Employee costs	1,305	1,090	
Unearned revenue	53	81	
Total trade and other payables	<u>11,662</u>	<u>10,602</u>	

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 25 Trust funds and deposits		
Contractor and security deposits	4,723	4,407
Fire Services Property Levy payable	77	24
Retention amounts	234	239
Total trust funds and deposits	<u>5,034</u>	<u>4,670</u>

Purpose and nature of items

Contractor and security deposits - Deposits are taken by Council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to building works, tender deposits, contract deposits, and the use of civic facilities and other Council assets.

Fire Services Property Levy - Council is the collection agent for fire services property levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the State Government in line with that process.

Retention amounts - Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or a related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with Council's contractual obligations.

Note 26 Provisions

	Employee	Other	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2017			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	20,390	45	20,435
Additional provisions	7,120	0	7,120
Amounts used	(6,398)	0	(6,398)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(765)	0	(765)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<u>20,347</u>	45	<u>20,392</u>
2016			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	18,746	45	18,791
Additional provisions	6,829	0	6,829
Amounts used	(5,112)	0	(5,112)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(73)	0	(73)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<u>20,390</u>	45	<u>20,435</u>

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	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 26 Provisions (continued)		
(a) Employee provisions		
Current employee provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	3,803	3,626
Long service leave	1,341	1,280
Personal gratuity	255	255
Redundancy	182	0
	<u>5,581</u>	<u>5,161</u>
Current employee provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	2,371	2,474
Long service leave	8,660	9,119
Personal gratuity	1,961	1,931
Redundancy	0	0
	<u>12,992</u>	<u>13,524</u>
Total current employee provisions	<u>18,573</u>	<u>18,685</u>
Non-current		
Long service leave	1,774	1,705
Total non-current employee provisions	<u>1,774</u>	<u>1,705</u>
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	18,618	18,730
Non-current	1,774	1,705
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	<u>20,392</u>	<u>20,435</u>
The following assumptions were adopted in measuring present values of employee benefits:		
	%	%
Weighted average rates of increase in employee costs	2.8	4.1
Weighted average discount rates	2.6	1.7
	Years	Years
Weighted average settlement period		
Long Service Leave	2.7	3.5
Annual Leave	3.0	2.8
(b) Other provisions		
Current	45	45
Total current provisions	<u>18,618</u>	<u>18,730</u>

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 27 Reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Increment (decrement) on revaluation \$'000	Share of increment (decrement) on revaluation by an associate \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
(a) Asset revaluation 2017				
Property				
Land	495,092	69,542	0	564,634
Buildings	76,369	0	0	76,369
	571,461	69,542	0	641,003
Plant and equipment				
Other	6,143	0	0	6,143
Infrastructure				
Roads	94,360	0	0	94,360
Drainage	66,756	0	0	66,756
Bridges	3,437	0	0	3,437
	164,553	0	0	164,553
Total asset revaluation reserves	742,157	69,542	0	811,699
2016				
Property				
Land	432,624	62,468	0	495,092
Buildings	70,077	6,292	0	76,369
	502,701	68,760	0	571,461
Plant and equipment				
Other	6,143	0	0	6,143
Infrastructure				
Roads	94,360	0	0	94,360
Drainage	66,756	0	0	66,756
Bridges	3,437	0	0	3,437
	164,553	0	0	164,553
Total asset revaluation reserves	673,397	68,760	0	742,157

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Transfer from accumulated surplus \$'000	Transfer to accumulated surplus \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
(b) Other reserves				
Drainage development	23	0	0	23
Car park development	228	0	0	228
Public open space and recreation	12,458	4,843	10,594	6,707
Developer contribution scheme	6,310	0	206	6,104
Total other reserves	19,019	4,843	10,800	13,062
(b) Other reserves				
Drainage development	23	0	0	23
Car park development	228	0	0	228
Public open space and recreation	9,788	5,606	2,936	12,458
Developer contribution scheme	0	6,485	175	6,310
Total other reserves	10,039	12,091	3,111	19,019

Note 27 Reserves (continued)

Nature and purpose of reserves

Statutory and discretionary reserves:

Drainage development

The drainage development reserve is used to provide partial funding for the replacement of Council's drainage network. Funding is provided from developer contributions for drainage which is initially recognised in the comprehensive income statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Car park development

The car park development reserve is used to provide funding for future development and ongoing maintenance of car parks within the municipality. Funding is derived from unspent contributions from commercial developers for cash in lieu of constructed car parks. This funding is initially recognised in the comprehensive comprehensive income statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Public open space and recreation

The public open space and recreation reserve is used to provide funding for future purchases and improvements of open space. Funding is provided from developers' contributions for open space which is initially recognised in the comprehensive income statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Developer contribution scheme

The developer contribution reserve is used to provide for the future funding of Council's asset base. These assets include community facilities, parkland, and the drainage and road networks. Funding is provided by way of a developer's contribution, whereby the developer funds only the renewal of assets from that location. This funding is initially recognised in the comprehensive income statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

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	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Note 28 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus		
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	21,627	20,059
Depreciation and amortisation	22,055	20,973
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(26)	33
Bad and doubtful debts	1,373	1,002
Fair value adjustments for investment property	(275)	(61)
Contributions - non-monetary assets	(418)	(144)
Write-off of property, plant and equipment	37	110
Finance costs	0	8
	<u>22,746</u>	<u>21,921</u>
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables	(2,745)	(1,559)
Decrease (increase) in inventories	(2)	29
Decrease (increase) in accrued income	30	(445)
Decrease (increase) in prepayments	(1,806)	93
Increase (decrease) in trade and other payables	295	(6,151)
Increase (decrease) in trust funds and deposits	311	511
Increase (decrease) in provisions	(42)	1,644
	<u>(3,959)</u>	<u>(5,878)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>40,414</u>	<u>36,102</u>
Note 29 Financing arrangements		
Credit card facility	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>
Used facilities	<u>25</u>	<u>29</u>
Unused facilities	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>

The Council had no access to a bank overdraft facility at balance date.

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Note 30 Commitments

Council has entered into the following commitments

2017	Not later than	Later than 1	Later than 2	Later than 5	Total
	1 year	year and not	years and not	years	
	\$'000	later than 2	later than 5	Later than 5	\$'000
		years	years	years	
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Information systems & technology	1,647	0	0	0	1,647
Collection & processing of recyclable waste (i)	1,551	0	0	0	1,551
Collection & processing of hard waste (i)	308	0	0	0	308
Cleaning contracts for council buildings	588	0	0	0	588
Golf course management & maintenance	464	63	63	0	590
Insurance	1,177	0	0	0	1,177
Valuations	67	78	82	0	227
Tree management	735	0	0	0	735
Internal Audit	205	0	0	0	205
Total	6,742	141	145	0	7,028
Capital					
Construction works	2,196	0	0	0	2,196
Total	2,196	0	0	0	2,196
2016					
	Not later than	Later than 1	Later than 2	Later than 5	Total
	1 year	year and not	years and not	years	
	\$'000	later than 2	later than 5	Later than 5	\$'000
		years	years	years	
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Animal control services	2,115	0	0	0	2,115
Information systems & technology	1,075	0	0	0	1,075
Collection & processing of recyclable waste (i)	1,745	1,546	258	0	3,549
Collection & processing of hard waste (i)	474	472	0	0	946
Cleaning contracts for council buildings	793	272	0	0	1,065
Golf course management & maintenance	482	484	83	0	1,050
Insurance	1,177	0	0	0	1,177
Valuations	0	0	0	0	0
Electoral services	554	0	0	0	554
Tree management	619	604	0	0	1,223
Internal Audit	161	210	0	0	371
Total	9,195	3,587	341	0	13,124
Capital					
Construction works	2,400	0	0	0	2,400
Total	2,400	0	0	0	2,400

Note (i): All or part of these commitments are calculated based on a contracted rate multiplied by estimated level of service consumption.

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	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 31 Operating leases		
(a) Operating lease commitments		
At the reporting date, the Council had the following obligations under non-cancellable operating leases for the lease of equipment and land and buildings for use within Council's activities (these obligations are not recognised as liabilities):		
Not later than one year	139	190
Later than one year and not later than five years	261	436
Later than 5 years	33	50
	432	676
(b) Operating lease receivables		
Council has entered into commercial property leases on its investment property, consisting of surplus freehold buildings. These properties held under operating leases have remaining non-cancellable lease terms of between 1 and 75 years. All leases include a CPI based revision of the rental charge annually.		
Future minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases at the end of the year are as follows :		
Not later than one year	340	398
Later than one year and not later than five years	575	376
Later than 5 years	842	868
	1,756	1,642

Note 32 Superannuation

Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation categories, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2017, this was 9.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation).

Defined Benefit

Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan.

There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

Funding arrangements

Council makes employer contributions to the defined benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund's Actuary.

As at 30 June 2016, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 102.0%. To determine the VBI, the Fund Actuary used the following long-term assumptions:

Net investment returns 7.0% pa
Salary information 4.25% pa
Price inflation (CPI) 2.5% pa

	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 32 Superannuation (continued)		
Vision Super has advised that the VBI for the LASF Defined Benefit sub-plan is 103.1% as at 30 June 2017. The VBI is to be used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 2016 interim actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.		
Employer contributions		
Regular contributions		
On the basis of the results of the 2016 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2017, this rate was 9.5% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2015/2016). This rate will increase in line with any increase to the contribution rate. In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.		
Funding calls		
If the defined benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at actuarial investigation or the defined benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the defined benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.		
In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall. Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.		
Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up. If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers. In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that		
2016 Interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts		
The Fund's interim actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2016 identified the following in the defined benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A VBI surplus of \$40.3 million; and • A total service liability surplus of \$156 million. 		
The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2016.		
The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's defined benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses.		
Council was notified of the 30 June 2017 VBI during August 2017.		
2017 Full triennial actuarial investigation		
A full actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2017. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed in December 2017.		
Future superannuation contributions		
In addition to the disclosed contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 (2015/16 \$0). There were \$540,000 of contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2017. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2018 are \$920,000.		

Note 33 Contingent liabilities**Superannuation**

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined in Note 33. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists. At this point in time it is not known if additional contributions will be required, their timing or potential amount.

Former landfill sites

Council has responsibility for a number of facilities contained on former landfill sites. Council may have to carry out site rehabilitation works in the future. At balance date, Council is unable to accurately assess the financial implications of such works.

Legal matters

The Council is presently involved in several confidential legal matters, which are being conducted through Council's solicitors. As these matters are yet to be finalised, and the financial outcomes are unable to be reliably estimated, no allowance for these contingencies has been made in the financial report.

Note 34 Financial instruments**(a) Objectives and policies**

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank borrowings. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Our interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes us to fair value interest rate risk. Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rate.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the Local Government Act 1989. We manage interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause us to make a financial loss. We have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in our balance sheet.

To help manage this risk:

- Council has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities it deals with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- Council only invests surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in our investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when we provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 33.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral against these financial assets.

Note 34 Financial instruments (continued)**(d) Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements or we will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, we will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- has a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed in the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 33, and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

All financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Fair value**Fair value hierarchy**

Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

(f) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months (Base rates are sourced from Reserve Bank of Australia):

- A parallel shift of +0.5% and -0.5% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 2.52%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

Darebin City Council **Notes to the financial report**
 2016/2017 Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 35 Related party transactions

(i) Related Parties

Council is the parent entity.

(ii) Key Management Personnel

Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Stephanie Amir (7/11/2016 - Current)	Vince Fontana (Mayor 1/7/2016 - 4/11/2016)
Gaetano Greco (1/7/2016 - Current)	Tim Laurence (1/7/2016 - Current)
Kim Le Cerf (Mayor 14/11/2016 - Current)	Bo Li (1/7/2016 - 4/11/2016)
Lina Messina (7/11/2016 - Current)	Trent McCarthy (1/7/2016 - Current)
Susan Newton (7/11/2016 - Current)	Susan Rennie (7/11/2016 - Current)
Steven Tsitas (1/7/2016 - 4/11/2016)	Angela Vilella (1/7/2016 - 4/11/2016)
Oliver Walsh (1/7/2016 - 4/11/2016)	Julie Williams (1/7/2016 - Current)

Chief Executive Officer

Rasih Dev (1/7/2016 - 7/12/2016)	Philip Shanahan (2/1/2017 - Current)
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Other Key Management Personnel

Gavin Cator (1/7/2016 - 28/7/2016)	Andrew McLeod (7/11/2016 - Current)
Stephen Hamilton (1/7/2016 - Current)	Katrina Knox (1/7/2016 - Current)
Jacinta Stevens (1/7/2016 - Current)	Oliver Vido (16/1/2017 - Current)

	2017
	Number
Total Number of Councillors	14
Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	8
Total Key Management Personnel	22

(iii) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel	2017
	\$'000

Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

Short-term benefits	1,855
Long-term benefits	170
Termination benefits	182
Total	2,207

The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:

	2017	2016
	Number	Number
\$10,000 - \$19,999	4	0
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	0
\$30,000 - \$39,999	5	7
\$50,000 - \$59,999	0	1
\$60,000 - \$69,999	2	1
\$100,000 - \$109,999	1	0
\$140,000 - \$149,999	1	1
\$150,000 - \$159,999	1	0
\$170,000 - \$179,999	0	1
\$180,000 - \$189,999	0	1
\$230,000 - \$239,999	1	1
\$260,000 - \$269,999	1	0
\$270,000 - \$279,999	0	1
\$280,000 - \$289,999	1	0
\$370,000 - \$379,999	0	1
\$590,000 - \$599,999	1	0
	22	15

Darebin City Council **Notes to the financial report**
 2016/2017 Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 35 Related party transactions (continued)

(iv) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties.

2017
\$'000

Details of transactions between Council and other related parties are disclosed below:

Employee expenses of close family members of key management personnel	82
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	305
	<u>387</u>

(v) Outstanding balances with related parties

There are no balances outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties.

(vi) Loans to/from related parties

Council does not make loans to or receive loans from related parties. No guarantees have been provided.

(vii) Commitments to/from related parties

Council has no outstanding commitments to/from other related parties.

Note 36 Senior Officers Remuneration

A Senior Officer is an officer of Council, other than key management personnel, who:

- a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
- b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$142,000

The number of Senior Officers other than the Responsible Persons, are shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2017 Number	2016 Number
* < \$142,000	0	1
\$142,000 - \$149,999	5	3
\$150,000 - \$159,999	3	3
\$160,000 - \$169,999	2	4
\$170,000 - \$179,999	6	6
\$180,000 - \$189,999	1	2
\$190,000 - \$199,999	2	0
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	0
	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>

Note: * Senior Officer departed during the year

\$'000 \$'000

Total remuneration for the year for Senior Officers included above amounted to:

3,341 3,122

Note 37 Events occurring after balance date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

Darebin City Council
2016/2017 Financial Report

Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Allan Cochrane CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

Melbourne
4th September 2017

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Darebin City Council for the year ended 30 June 2017 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars in the financial report to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Kim Le Cerf
Councillor

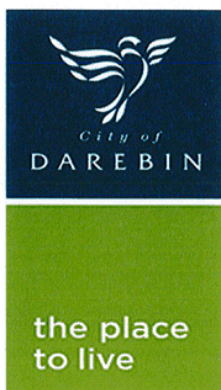
Susan Rennie
Councillor

Phillip Shanahan
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Melbourne
4th September 2017

Darebin City Council Performance Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2017



Darebin City Council
Performance Statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Description of municipality

The City of Darebin (Darebin) is situated over an area between 5 and 15 kilometres north of Melbourne's Central Business District. This area covers 53 square kilometres of land and stretches from Melbourne's inner northern suburbs of Northcote and Fairfield out to the traditional middle-ring suburbs of Reservoir and Bundoora. Darebin has a population of 155,022 which is projected to increase to 192,142 over the next 20 years. Darebin is home to one of the largest, most diverse communities in Victoria in terms of cultures, languages (148 languages are spoken), religions, socio-economic backgrounds, employment status, occupation and housing needs. Darebin's largest industries include education, training, retail trade, health care and social assistance.

Darebin City Council
Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Service/indicator/measure		Results			Material Variations
		2015	2016	2017	
Aquatic Facilities Utilisation					
AF6	Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	6.3	5.6	5.4	Council has two aquatic facilities – Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) and Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre. Attendance at the RLC this year was impacted by flooding damage in January that forced the closure of the centre for a week and impacted on the service for another month. In the Council Plan 2017-2021, Council has committed to a renewal of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre.
Animal Management Health & safety					
AM4	Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	11	3	8	A total of eight dog attack matters proceeded to prosecution and Council was successful in every instance. Of these eight, six were from the previous financial year. When making a prosecution, Council now invites the person making the complaint to come out to the pound and identify the particular animal using a 'fine-up' structure. Since we have adopted this procedure, our prosecution success rate has improved substantially.
Food Safety Health & safety					
FS4	Critical and major non-compliance notifications [Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises] x100	98.0%	100.0%	92.1%	From 1 July 2016, 'Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications' will be reported by calendar year rather than financial year. This has been implemented to better align reporting with the Department of Health and Human Services. Council was on target to meet 100% compliance for this indicator had the reporting period remained at financial year, however this change occurred in May 2017 so the retrospective modification has distorted the results.
Governance Satisfaction					
G5	Satisfaction with council decisions [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	67.8	66.9	65.0	Community satisfaction with consultation and engagement has decreased slightly from the previous year. In 2016-2017, Council completed a number of significant consultation projects including the Council Plan 2017-2021 and Budget for 2017-2018. Both projects received over 1,000 responses from Darebin residents and businesses.

Darebin City Council
 Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

		Results			Material Variations
		2015	2016	2017	
		Service/indicator/measure			
Libraries					
Participation					
LB4	Active library members [Number of active library members / Municipal population] x100	16.2%	16.0%	15.0%	Active library members are those who have borrowed from the lending collection, including e-books. It excludes other library activities such as events and programs, the use of public internet and meeting rooms. In 2016-2017, Council launched a successful drive to increase membership which will be repeated annually. Our recently developed app was downloaded more than 4,000 times on mobile devices in the last twelve months.
Maternal & Child Health					
Participation					
MC4	Participation in the MCH service [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	75.9%	N/A	78.5%	The Maternal and Child Health Service will review its client data base each quarter so that it will be more useful in reaching out to parents to promote and encourage visitation to our service.
MC5	Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service]x100	60.5%	N/A	91.5%	Darebin has one of the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in metropolitan Melbourne and forms 1% of the city's total population. The Maternal and Child Health Service works in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service and the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency to offer all Aboriginal families a service that is culturally safe and responsive to their needs. Last year's software issues resulted in inaccurate figures which underestimated the number of Aboriginal children accessing the Maternal and Child Health Service.
Roads					
Satisfaction					
R5	Satisfaction with sealed local roads [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	69.3	70.8	70.4	Community satisfaction is almost exactly the same in 2016-2017 as in previous years. A greater focus has been provided on asphalt resheeting over road reconstructions to increase the total number of square metres of pavement that is renewed and to improve road surface and the ride quality for users. This strategy is aimed at improving overall user experience and increasing the average condition of the road network as a whole. Over the past three years Council has allocated \$7.4M to road resheeting and \$4.6M to road reconstructions.

Darebin City Council
 Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Service/indicator/measure		Results			Material Variations
		2015	2016	2017	
Statutory Planning					
Decision making					
SP4	Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application /Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	45.3%	60.3%	41.3%	In 2016-2017, the number of decisions sent to VCAT went up and Council's success in defending their decisions declined. The most significant influence on this indicator is the high frequency of decisions of the Planning Committee that do not align with the recommendations of Council officers. To help improve this situation, in 2017-2018 Council will commence a review of the Planning Scheme and the Planning Committee Charter.
Waste Collection					
Waste diversion					
WC5	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill [(Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / (Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins) x100	48.3%	47.4%	48.0%	This is a slight improvement on last year's overall diversion from landfill (47.4%). The largest change was an increase in the amount of recycled green waste by 1,266 tonnes – a 12% growth on the previous year. Food is a significant component of waste that is sent to landfill and work will be undertaken in the coming year to trial food waste being diverted to green waste recycling.
Definitions					
"Aboriginal child" means a child who is an Aboriginal person					
"Aboriginal person" has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006					
"active library member" means a member of a library who has borrowed a book from the library					
"annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the Act					
"class 1 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the <i>Food Act 1984</i> , that have been declared as class 1 food premises under section 19C of that Act					
"class 2 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the <i>Food Act 1984</i> , that have been declared as class 2 food premises under section 19C of that Act					
"Community Care Common Standards" means the Community Care Common Standards for the delivery of HACC services, published from time to time by the Commonwealth					
"critical non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the <i>Food Act 1984</i> , or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health					
"food premises" has the same meaning as in the <i>Food Act 1984</i>					
"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the <i>Road Management Act 2004</i>					
"major non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the <i>Food Act 1984</i> , or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken					
"MCH" means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age					
"population" means the resident population estimated by council					
"target population" has the same meaning as in the Agreement entered into for the purposes of the Home and Community Care Act 1985 of the Commonwealth					
"WorkSafe reportable aquatic safety incident" means an incident relating to a council aquatic facility that is required to be notified to the Victorian WorkCover Authority under Part 5 of the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> .					

Darebin City Council
Sustainable Capacity Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Indicator/measure	Results			Material Variations
	2015	2016	2017	
Population				
C1 Expenses per head of municipal population [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$1,024	\$930	\$967	Total expenditure increased by \$9.2M from previous year. Prior year was impacted by write-back of \$6.4M payable for unspent DCP funds which was no longer required.
C2 Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$3,827	\$4,032	\$3,934	Although Infrastructure value has increased from previous year, the population figure has increased by 4,141 from 2015/16.
C3 Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	291	296	305	The population figure has increased by 4,141 from 2015/16.
Own-source revenue				
C4 Own-source revenue per head of municipal population [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$879	\$922	\$940	No variation/comment
Recurrent grants				
C5 Recurrent grants per head of municipal population [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$123	\$94	\$117	Recurrent grants impacted by advance payment of 50% of the 2017/18 Victorian Grants Commission funding (\$2.3M)
Disadvantage				
C6 Relative socio-economic disadvantage [Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage by decile]	5.0	5.0	5.0	No variation/comment

Definitions

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than —

- (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
- (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b)

"infrastructure" means non-current property, plant and equipment excluding land

"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

"own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)

"relative socio-economic disadvantage", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA

"SEIFA" means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet website

"unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Darebin City Council
 Financial Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

		Results					Forecasts			Material Variations
Efficiency		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		
Dimension/indicator/measure										
Revenue level										
E1	Average residential rate per residential property assessment [(Residential rate revenue / Number of residential property assessments)]	\$1,381	\$1,448	\$1,487	\$1,522	\$1,629	\$1,743	\$1,866	No variation/comment	
Expenditure level										
E2	Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$2,290	\$2,087	\$2,175	\$2,294	\$2,345	\$2,370	\$2,399	Total Expenditure increased by \$9.2M from previous year. Prior year was impacted by write-back of \$6.4M payable for unspent DCP funds which was no longer required.	
Workforce turnover										
E3	Resignations and terminations compared to average staff [(Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year) x100]	9.8%	5.0%	9.6%	9.3%	9.3%	9.3%	9.3%	Terminations and resignations experienced during the year were as forecast.	
Liquidity										
Working capital										
L1	Current assets compared to current liabilities [(Current assets / Current liabilities) x100]	159.5%	226.8%	259.6%	176.7%	163.2%	129.6%	115.9%	Current assets impacted by increased cash and cash equivalents arising mainly from delays in completing the planned capital works program and receipt of 50% of the 2017/18 Victorian Grants Commission funding.	
Unrestricted cash										
L2	Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [(Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities) x100]	61.6%	91.5%	116.8%	53.6%	51.1%	17.1%	4.2%	Delays in completing the planned capital works program and receipt of the 2017/18 Victorian Grants Commission funding has impacted on unrestricted cash balances.	
Obligations										
Asset renewal										
O1	Asset renewal compared to depreciation [(Asset renewal expenses / Asset depreciation) x100]	60.3%	66.1%	79.0%	121.9%	109.5%	133.2%	143.2%	Although more spending has been incurred on asset renewal projects, the indicator was impacted by delays in completing the 2016/17 capital works program with below budget renewal expenditure of \$3.0M on infrastructure, \$1.0M on plant and equipment and \$0.4M on property.	

Darebin City Council
Financial Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Dimension/Indicator/measure	Results					Forecasts			Material Variations
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		
Loans & borrowings									
O2 Loans and borrowings compared to rates [(Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue) x100]	0.16%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	No variation/comment
O3 Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [(Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue) x100]	0.14%	0.16%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	No variation/comment
Indebtedness									
O4 Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue [(Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue) x100]	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	No variation/comment
Operating Position									
Adjusted underlying result									
OP1 Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [(Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue) x100]	(1.9%)	8.0%	8.6%	3.1%	3.3%	4.4%	5.1%		No variation/comment
Stability									
Rates concentration									
S1 Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue [(Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue) x100]	71.4%	73.9%	72.3%	76.0%	75.4%	74.8%	74.4%		No variation/comment
Rates effort									
S2 Rates compared to property values [(Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality) x100]	0.27%	0.25%	0.26%	0.27%	0.26%	0.26%	0.25%		No variation/comment

Definitions

- "adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than—
- (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
- (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b)
- "adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)" means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure
- "asset renewal expenditure" means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability
- "current assets" has the same meaning as in the AAS
- "current liabilities" has the same meaning as in the AAS
- "non-current assets" means all assets other than current assets
- "non-current liabilities" means all liabilities other than current liabilities
- "non-recurrent grant" means a grant obtained on the condition that it be expended in a specified manner and is not expected to be received again during the period covered by a council's Strategic Resource Plan
- "own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants
- "population" means the resident population estimated by council
- "rate revenue" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges
- "recurrent grant" means a grant other than a non-recurrent grant
- "residential rates" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges levied on residential properties
- "restricted cash" means cash and cash equivalents, within the meaning of the AAS, that are not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year
- "unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Darebin City Council
Other Information
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 Basis of Preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by the council's strategic resource plan. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by council in its strategic resource plan on **27 June 2016** and which forms part of the council plan. The strategic resource plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The strategic resource plan can be obtained by contacting council.

Darebin City Council
Certification of performance statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2017

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

Allan Cochrane CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

Melbourne
4th September 2017

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Darebin City Council for the year ended 30 June 2017 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* to certify this performance statement in its final form.

Kim Le Cerf
Councillor

Susan Rennie
Councillor

Phillip Shanahan
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Melbourne
4th September 2017

6.2 URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK 2015 ST GEORGES ROAD AND PLENTY ROAD CORRIDORS – SHOWERS STREET ADDENDUM**Author:** Manager City Design and Strategic Planning**Reviewed By:** Director City Futures and Assets

Report Background

The area of Showers Street, Preston which is to be included within this 'Addendum' to the Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors (adopted by Council August 2017), is located between the eastern side of St Georges Road and the rail reserve, and is adjacent to (and was formally included within) the Oakover Village precinct. The Oakover Village precinct is a strategic area located to the south-west of Preston at the intersection of St Georges and Oakover Road. The proximity of multiple transport options, community services and commercial activity make it an attractive site for redevelopment and urban renewal. Showers Street however, which sits directly adjacent to Oakover Village precinct, is uniquely distinguished from the balance of the precinct by its well-established residential character and smaller lot sizes.

Showers Street was initially included in Precinct 7 Oakover Village section of the *St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors Urban Design Framework 2015* (UDF 2015) and within sub-precinct 4 (Kenwood/Showers) of Schedule 11 to the Development Plan Overlay (DPO11) Oakover Village DPO11. The Independent Planning Panel (panel report released in 2014) which was set up to hear submissions to Amendments C136, C137 and C138 observed that the Oakover Village precinct has redevelopment potential however expressed concern about the scale of change envisaged for smaller residential streets (not fronting St Georges Road) such as Showers Street.

Approval of Amendment C136 (15 September 2016) formally removed Showers Street from DPO11. The Minister for Planning instead applied Schedule 16 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO16) St Georges Road Corridor and the Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1 (RGZ1) to Showers Street. The Minister for Planning's decision has now necessitated the need to update Precinct 7 within the UDF 2015 and prepare specific design guidelines for Showers Street, which recognises Showers Street residential characteristics as distinct from the strategic urban development corridor of St Georges Road.

These design guidelines seek to recognise Showers Street as a largely intact residential pocket which is distinguished from the balance of the St Georges Road Corridor, and to ensure that expectations of the scale and change in Showers Street is managed more strictly by considering the requirements for change and the capacity of the modestly sized lots to accommodate taller built form.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 28 August 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 3 – A liveable city

Summary

The UDF 2015 was developed to set a clear direction for residential and mixed-use growth along the St Georges Road and Plenty Road corridors (the Corridors). The updated UDF 2015 (version 1.3) was presented to Council for adoption on 21 August 2017 as a single document for both the Plenty Road and St Georges Road corridors. It now reflects its status as a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Draft design guidelines for Showers Street (north and south side) are proposed as an addendum to the UDF 2015 (version 1.4). Preparation of the design guidelines is in response to:

- Concerns expressed by Showers Street landowners and residents in two separate meetings with Council about the new planning controls introduced into the Darebin Planning Scheme through approval of Amendment C136.
- The Panel Report (31 July 2014) recommendation to create a separate Design and Development Overlay (DDO) or controls under the zone to the land on the north side of Showers Street.
- The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) hearing [for Gonsalves and Darebin CC [2016] VCAT 2035 (2 December 2016)] which highlighted that DDO16 does not provide sufficient built form and design guidance for those properties in Showers Street.

This subsequent revised version 1.4 of the UDF 2015 includes the draft Showers Street design guidelines which now requires adoption by Council.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the draft Showers Street design guidelines as an addendum to the Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors to be a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme as shown in **Appendix A** to this report.

Introduction

The new planning controls approved by the Minister for Planning as part of Amendment C136 for Showers Street (east side of St Georges Road) was DDO16 and RGZ1. In two meetings held by Council, landowners and residents from Showers Street have expressed strong concerns that the new planning controls are not appropriate for a local residential street.

Their concern was affirmed by guidance from the Tribunal in regard to the hearing [for Gonsalves and Darebin CC [2016] VCAT 2035 (2 December 2016)] and is supported by the Independent Planning Panel set up to hear submissions to Amendments C136, C137 and C138.

In acknowledging that the controls to guide future development in Showers Street could be strengthened, Council officers have engaged with owners and occupiers affected by this particular section of Showers Street, and are proposing to prepare guidelines for Showers Street through a two-step approach. This includes an interim measure, which will incorporate draft design guidelines for Showers Street, prepared as an addendum to the UDF 2015 (version 1.4). This update is now to be adopted by Council to enable preparation of planning scheme amendment to create a separate DDO for Showers Street, or a similar control, to be implemented formally into the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Issues and Discussion

Council undertook considerable policy development in relation to preparation of Amendment C136 (St Georges Road). The exhibited Amendment C136 (St Georges Road) envisaged Showers Street as part of the Oakover Village precinct, within sub-precinct 4 (Kenwood>Showers) of DPO11.

The rationale for including Showers Street within sub-precinct 4 included the medium to long term development potential of this area, enhanced by its locational advantages as being proximate to public transport (Bell Station), the arterial road network (St Georges Road and Bell Street), the Preston Central Activity Centre and the Junction – South Preston Neighbourhood Centre.

The Panel Report dated 31 July 2014 considered all submissions to Amendments C136, C137 and C138 and was reported to Council on 15 September 2014. The Panel broadly supported the strategic intent of the Amendments and the UDF. It acknowledged the redevelopment potential of Oakover Village, however the Panel expressed concerns with the scale of change proposed, particularly in the smaller residential streets, stating *“On inspection, the Panel noted the distinctly residential and well maintained nature of the predominantly single storey cottages on the narrow Shower Street.”*

The Panel made specific recommendations in regard to the north side of Showers Street (east of St Georges Road) and proposed rezoning from Mixed Use Zone (MUZ2) to Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) with a 4 storey height limit. It also recommended applying a DDO or controls under the zone to the land on the north side, thus separating this area and distinguishing it from the proposed DPO11 for Oakover Village precinct.

The eventual approval of Amendment C136 (15 September 2016) removed both the north and south sides of Showers Street from DPO11 Oakover Village and instead applied the DDO16 and RGZ1 to Showers Street, removing any specific design guidance for built form and design controls for Showers Street.

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT)

An impetus to review the planning controls for Showers Street was highlighted during the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) hearing [for Gonsalves and Darebin CC [2016] VCAT 2035 (2 December 2016)] which resulted in an application for a four storey apartment building at 40 Showers Street, Preston being refused by the Tribunal. The VCAT hearing for 40 Showers Street identified a lack of sufficient guidance on the built form and design controls in DDO16 for those properties in Shower Street which do not interface with St Georges Road.

Community consultation process

Two community consultation meetings were held subsequent to the Tribunal order being made. These sessions were held on:

- Tuesday 21 March 2017
- Wednesday 14 June 2017

At the first consultation, Council identified a need to prepare design guidelines for Showers Street as an interim measure for inclusion within the UDF 2015. This was seen by Council as an appropriate ‘first step’ in creating those planning controls for Showers Street that were identified as a policy gap by the Tribunal. An addendum to the UDF 2015 for Showers Street is now outlined in **Appendix A**. A report was prepared that captured landowner and resident feedback from the first meeting. A copy of the *‘Showers Street Residents Meeting: Report & Next Steps’* May 2017 is attached in **Appendix B**.

The second step to implementing new planning controls is to prepare a DDO (or a similar control) for Showers Street that outlines the specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development. The change to the planning controls will be introduced into the Darebin Planning Scheme through a planning scheme amendment process, including full public exhibition. This option was presented at the second consultation session which supports the recommendation of the Independent Planning Panel. The planning scheme amendment process can proceed once the revised UDF 2015 (version 1.4) is adopted by Council.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – That Council adopts the draft Showers Street design guidelines as an addendum to the *Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors* to be a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Option 2 – That Council does not adopt the draft Showers Street design guidelines as an addendum to the *Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors* to be a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Financial and Resource Implications

The adoption of the draft Showers Street design guidelines as an addendum to the UDF 2015 will provide clear benefits for preparation and assessment of future planning applications. In the long term it will enable the preparation of a planning scheme amendment to introduce a DDO for Showers Street (or a similar control) into the Darebin Planning Scheme. This will provide certainty to residents and developers and reduce lengthy timeframes in referring matters to the Tribunal. This will have a positive impact on the resource and administrative cost of the responsible authority.

Risk Management

If the revised UDF 2015 is not adopted there is a risk that the design guidelines created for Showers Street will hold no consideration in any future planning permit application.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no economic development issues raised by this proposed Addendum to the UDF 2015.

Environmental Sustainability

Although the particular sections around environmental sustainability were removed by the Minister for Planning as part of the approved Design and Development Overlay document for Amendment C136, the revised UDF 2015 retains important Environmentally Sustainable Design measures to assist in guiding future development. Furthermore the Minister for Planning has now approved Amendment GC42 to introduce an Environmentally Sustainable Development Local Planning Policy into the Darebin Planning Scheme that will apply to residential and non-residential development.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

There are no human rights, equity and inclusion issues raised by this proposed Addendum.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

- Once adopted the revised UDF 2015 (version 1.4) will be published on Council's website and distributed for use by Statutory Planners, Developers and the Community.
- Officers will commence the process for preparing a planning scheme amendment to introduce a DDO for Showers Street (or a similar control) into the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Consultation and AdvocacyExternal

- The UDF 2015 (version 1.4) is the outcome of two meetings held with Showers Street landowners and residents.

Internal

- Manager Planning and Building
- Executive Manager City Plan and Transformation
- Director City Futures and Assets

Related Documents**Attachments**

- St Georges Rd Plenty Rd Corridors Urban Design Framework - Addendum (**Appendix A**)
- St Georges Rd Plenty Rd Corridors Urban Design Framework - Showers Street residents Meeting Report (**Appendix B**)

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



the place
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URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK 2015

St Georges Road and
Plenty Road Corridors

Addendum: Showers Street Design Guidelines

For Adoption

The *Showers Street Design Guidelines* document is an Addendum to the adopted *Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors* (UDF 2015, version 1.3).

The UDF 2015 was originally developed to set a clear direction for residential and mixed-use growth along the St Georges Road and Plenty Road corridors (the Corridors) and was adopted by Council on 21 August 2017.

This Addendum provides specific design guidelines for the Showers Street area between St Georges Road and Railway Place West in response to:

- Concerns expressed by Showers Street landowners and residents in two separate meetings with Council about the new planning controls introduced into the Darebin Planning Scheme through approval of Amendment C136;
- The Panel Report (31 July 2014) recommendation to create a separate Design and Development Overlay (DDO) or controls under the zone to the land on the north side of Showers Street; and
- The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) hearing [for Gonsalves and Darebin CC [2016] VCAT 2035 (2 December 2016)] which highlighted that DDO16 does not provide sufficient built form and design guidance for development applications in Showers Street.

This Addendum forms part of UDF 2015 version 1.4 and is being presented to Council for adoption.

Addendum: Showers Street Design Guidelines

St Georges Road Precinct 7 - Oakover Village

Context

Showers Street is a residential pocket that lies to the east of St Georges Road. It is defined by three readily identifiable boundaries, with St Georges Road to the west, the St John's Greek Orthodox College and the public open space of the Ray Bramham Gardens to the north, and the train line corridor to the east. The southern interface is formed by a rear laneway that separates the Showers Street lots from the larger former industrial lots and the public land holdings of the wider Oakover Village precinct.

Showers Street is distinguished from the balance of the Oakover Village precinct by its well-established residential character. The front garden settings of dwellings, with their low front fences and relatively spacious character, are a valued characteristic. The streetscape also exhibits low-rise residential forms, modest lot sizes with frontage widths generally falling within the 10-15m range, and a number of terraced houses (with 5m wide frontages). Whilst there is diversity in building style, the street trees and grass verges help to bring a degree of visual cohesiveness.

Showers Street has locational advantages due to its proximity to public transport (Bell Station), the arterial road network (St Georges Road and Bell Street), the Preston Central Activity Centre, and The Junction – Preston South Neighbourhood Centre. Along with the scale of change and redevelopment expected in Oakover Village, The Junction, and St Georges Road, this forms an expectation of 'substantial change' for Showers Street over the longer term, with the strategic status identified in Council's *Municipal Strategic Statement*.

Expectations of the scale of change in Showers Street are influenced by consideration of the requirements for change, and the capacity of the modestly sized lots to accommodate taller buildings. The creation of larger development sites through lot consolidation may be constrained by the individual lot ownership patterns, and apparent investment evidenced in the form of good levels of general maintenance, and renovation/extension works to dwellings.

Future Development Considerations

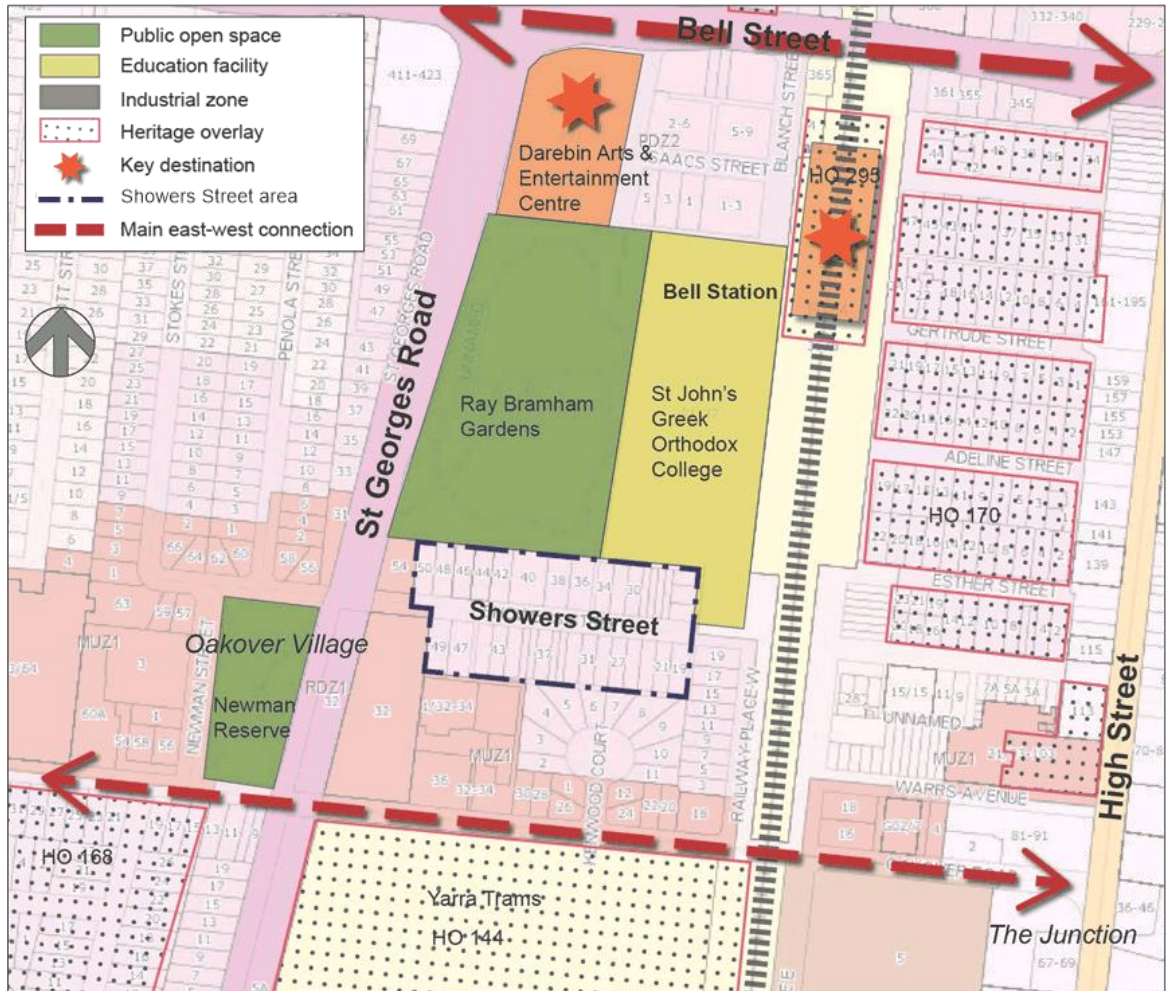
- A high level of change and development intensification is expected in the environs of Showers Street. To the south of the street, Oakover Village Sub-precincts 3 and 4 set building heights of 6-12 storeys for future development. The Bell Street level crossing is expected to be removed, with the nearby Bell Station likely to be relocated.
- Future development in Showers Street is likely to be influenced by the low-scale nature of the street, and the relatively narrow lot sizes which potentially limit development yields.
- Design controls should allow capacity for future development to maximise the locational advantages of the area, whilst seeking an appropriate 'fit' alongside existing dwellings.
- The fine-grained building frontages are a feature of Showers Street and the grain should be retained if lots are consolidated into larger development sites. Future developments should ensure that building massing respects adjoining dwellings and their secluded open spaces.

Land Use

Land use in Showers Street will remain residential, with the form of development expected to intensify in the form of townhouses and low-rise apartment buildings where the size of development sites allow. The Residential Growth Zone (RGZ) designation supports this future direction.



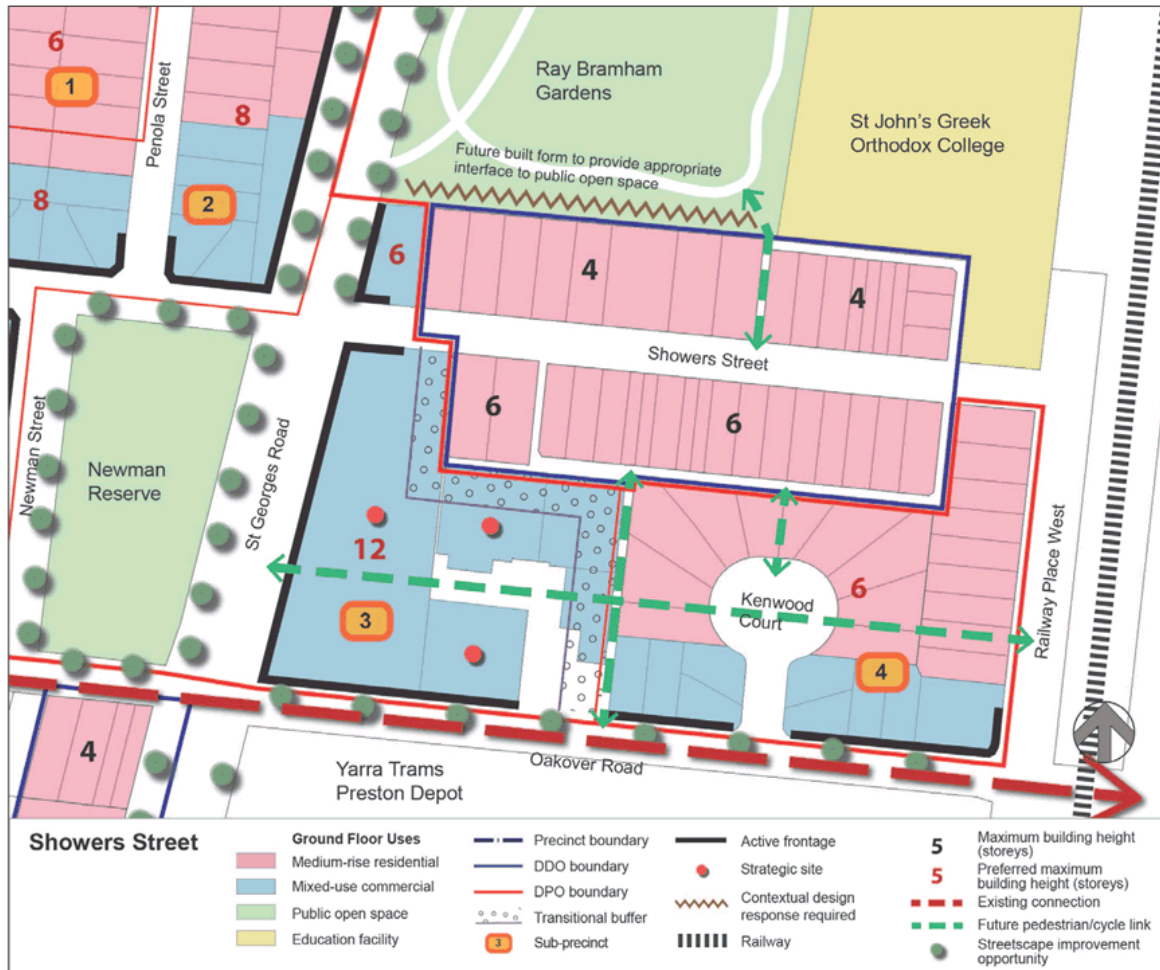
Figure 118 - Showers Street Existing Conditions Analysis



Addendum: Showers Street Design Guidelines

St Georges Road Precinct 7 - Oakover Village

Figure 119 - Showers Street Framework Plan



A-4 Addendum - St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors Urban Design Framework 2015



Preferred Future Outcomes

In the longer term the area will accommodate residential uses at increased densities, leveraging the excellent locational advantages. Compared to surrounding areas with fewer development constraints, the pace of change in Showers Street is likely to be slower.

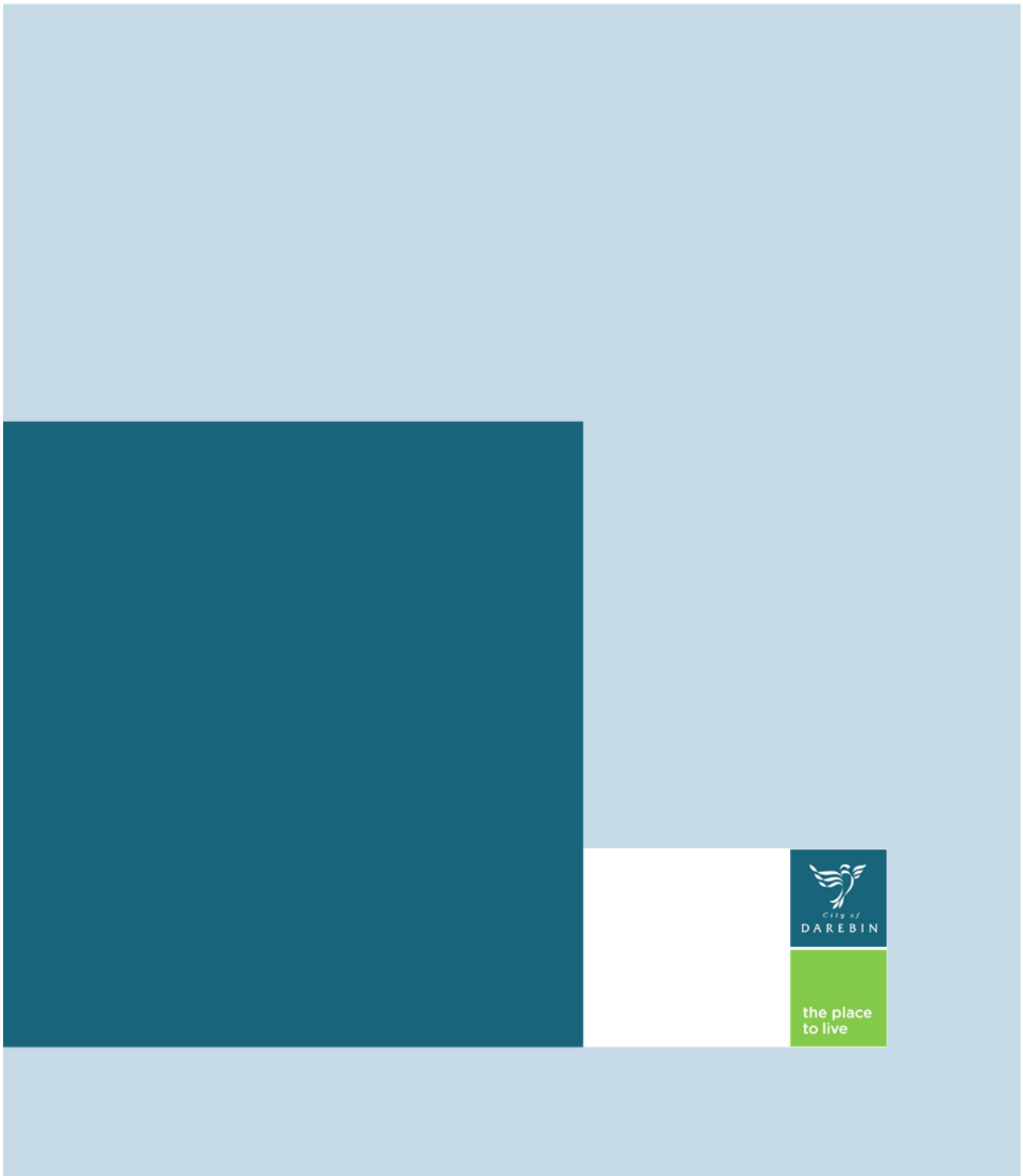
Built Form

- Seek infill development that respects the streetscape by incorporating domestic fenestration patterns, proportions, materials and detailing in the design of new dwellings.
- Seek landscaped front gardens with space for canopy planting, reflecting the existing garden setting of Showers Street. This can be facilitated by requiring front setback depths that reflect the prevailing pattern of the street.
- Seek minimum site widths of 20m to accommodate taller buildings, creating efficient development sites and access options, whilst also achieving fine-grain frontage in the design of street facades.
- Seek suitable interfaces to common areas with dwellings orientating entrances and habitable rooms towards the street and shared access-ways, as appropriate. This will help to maximise opportunities for passive surveillance and provide a good sense of address for dwellings.
- Ensure the scale of new development does not overwhelm the side street by providing street facades to a preferred height of 2 storeys, with upper levels set back to be recessive.
- Ensure that new dwellings are designed to limit adverse impacts on the amenity of existing dwellings in terms of wall heights, side setbacks, and massing through the site.
- Require development to decrease in scale towards the rear of sites, helping to moderate impacts on adjoining lots where the context includes open rear gardens.

- Utilise rear vehicle access, where it exists, minimising interruptions to the street front and maximising opportunities for landscaping.
- Encourage development on the north side of Showers Street to provide for passive surveillance opportunities over the open space of the Ray Bramham Gardens.

Movement, Access, and Public Realm

- Showers Street is fairly constrained for traffic movement due to the relatively short and narrow roadway. The pedestrian environment is pleasant due to the street being removed from the busy traffic of St Georges Road.
- There is potential to improve pedestrian connectivity to the north, creating a public link to the Ray Bramham Gardens.
- There is potential to improve pedestrian connectivity to the east across the train line corridor.
- The southern interface with the Oakover Village precinct could provide opportunity for public realm improvements through the Oakover Village Development Plan process, with potential for widening the existing rear laneway, and installation of lighting.





Showers Street Residents Meeting



Report & Next Steps

May 2017



Workshop No.01 - Showers Street Residents Meeting

The first workshop with Showers Street landowners and residents was held at the Darebin Arts and Entertainment (DAEC) on Tuesday 21 March 2017. The Mayor, Cr Le Cerf and Cazaly Ward Councillors were invited to attend. Cr Messina attended on behalf of Council. It brought together residents concerned about the new planning controls introduced through gazettal of Amendment C136 St Georges Road Corridor (15 September 2016). The controls approved by the Minister for Planning as part of Amendment C136 for the section of Showers Street between St Georges Road and the rail corridor, was the Design and Development Overlay (DDO16) and the Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1 (RGZ1). The planning process undertaken for Amendment C136 is illustrated in the flowchart at the end of this report.

In essence landowners and residents of Showers Street expressed their concern that the new planning controls are not appropriate for a local residential street.

Why was Amendment C136 St Georges Road prepared?

- To provide a strategy for future development in the St Georges Road corridor and its surrounds, including the Oakover Village Precinct.
- Amendment C137 Plenty Road Corridor and Amendment C136 St Georges Road Corridor are part of a broad municipal plan to manage Darebin's future housing and economic land use needs.

Working closely with local residents from Showers Street the first workshop has confirmed:

- Concern from residents that the DDO16 does not provide sufficient built form and design guidance for those properties in Showers Street which do not interface with St Georges Road. This arose from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) hearing [for Gonsalves and Darebin CC [2016] VCAT 2035 (2 December 2016)] which resulted in an application for an apartment building at 40 Showers Street being refused by the Tribunal.
- Landowners and residents in Showers Street want assurance that assessment of future planning applications in Showers Street will be subject to rigorous and more appropriate design controls.
- That the thoughts and opinions of landowners and residents from the first workshop have been captured in this report and will be a reference point to review the planning controls within the Darebin Planning Scheme, where it is considered to be appropriate and necessary.

**What does this mean for landholders?**

- Landowners and residents will be invited to attend a second workshop where a range of options about how to achieve more rigorous design controls will be presented. Meeting details are to be confirmed.
- An interim measure will be to create built form guidelines for Showers Street to be included in the revised St Georges Road and Plenty Road Urban Design Framework (UDF) which will be undertaken following gazettal of Amendment C137.

Summary of Workshop Outcomes:

The meeting started with residents introducing themselves and outlining one thing they would like to achieve from the meeting. Following a presentation from Council officers about the background to Amendment C136 and the VCAT Hearing for Gonsalves and Darebin City Council, the following planning challenges were captured from the resultant discussion and post-it notes.

Challenge one: How were these planning controls introduced? Where to from here?

- Why is there a gap in the planning scheme?
- Why is Showers Street different from other residential streets?
- Why was our street included in the St Georges Road UDF?
- Could Cr Messina please clarify as to how Council sees our street as a unique situation?
- Why is 52 & 54 Showers Street not included in DDO16 given both have frontage to Showers Street?
- Why did it take Council so long to get to this point? How will you restore our faith in the process? Residents are looking for a positive outcome.
- Is the zoning of Showers Street predetermined or will the sentiments of residents actually be honoured notwithstanding anything that has been decided by Council?
- How did we get here? Discrepancies in what was submitted vs approved.



- Can we place a stop on building multi-storey developments that were approved under Schedule 11 to the Development Plan Overlay (DPO11) Oakover Village? Can we put a stop to this until a resolution is reached?
- Want consistency for the future.

Challenge two: When will the Zone and Overlay for Showers Street be reviewed?

- Is zoning pre-determined? Is this a fait accompli?
- What are the design frameworks for Showers Street?
- Where to from here? What are the options moving forward? Will DPO11 and DDO16 be amended? When will this occur?
- What will the new rezoning for Showers Street look like?
- Is a two storey height limit possible in moving forward?
- How soon would any changes to the zoning / overlay be, until it is adopted? Months or years? What is the timeline? Residents are looking for a transparent outcome.

Challenge three: How can Council avoid inappropriate development in the interim?

- What are the plans for 47 / 36 / 40 Showers Street?
- What is the best way to avoid putting residents of Showers Street at a disadvantage (lifestyle) due to what we believe is "inappropriate development"?
- Is Council serious about change or is this just lip service?
- Clarity with what can be developed and types of development and easy avenues for appeal and surrounding areas / factories?
- Stop 'high-rise' development in our small, lovely street.
- Showers Street rezoned for appropriate development and who got zoned in Showers Street?
- Residents want assurances that there will no change to Showers Street.



- Residents' lifestyle is at risk – how can we avoid this risk and maintain our sense of community?
- Clarity to be provided about what can be development, what types of development are preferred, and avenues for appeal.
- Use of Right of Ways (ROWs) is accessed informally by residents for purposes other than vehicle access and should be maintained.
- Prevention of adhoc development in the street.
- Generous setbacks from common boundary.

Challenge four: What are the plans for Oakover Village and how can residents have a say?

- The residents have made an investment in the long term future/community of Showers Street. We would love to have some assurances that our neighbourhood will remain 'unique'.
- Are there any plans for the Housing Commission lots?
- How would any change sit with the Council / Minister's large vision for the Oakover Village precinct?
- What is the future of Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) site?
- How can we achieve well-designed and appropriate development with a strong environmental focus, which suits the streetscape?
- Transitional buffers with DPO11 Oakover Village to be enforced.
- Widen laneway to south and lower scale at edge of DPO11 Oakover Village interface.
- Concern about scale of development along rear of south facing lots on Showers Street which interface with DPO11 Oakover Village.



The following is a general response to the questions raised in these four main challenges:

Challenge one: How were these planning controls introduced? Where to from here?

As outlined in the meeting Council has undertaken an extensive process in its preparation of Amendment C136, outlined in the flowchart at the end of this report. The need to review the planning controls for Showers Street was highlighted during the VCAT hearing for 40 Showers Street, Preston.

Challenge two: When will the Zone and Overlay for Showers Street be reviewed?

Showers Street is located within a Substantial Housing Change Area and a Strategic Development Precinct, identified in the Strategic Housing Framework Plan of Clause 21.03 Housing in Darebin's Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). The housing change area is reflected by the zoning of the site which is Residential Growth Zone (RGZ1). The intent for Substantial Housing Change Areas is to support increased residential densities and increased housing diversity. The zoning was supported by the independent Panel and the Minister for Planning.

The purpose of the Design and Development Overlay (DDO) is to outline specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development in particular areas. The planning gap identified from the VCAT hearing for 40 Showers Street is that there is insufficient guidance on the built form and design controls in DDO16 for a local residential street.

It is not expected that the zone for Showers Street will change, as the policy basis for more intensive residential development has been established through Amendment C138 and C136. Instead examples of good design and potential planning tools to provide guidance around development for Showers Street will be discussed with residents at the second workshop.

Challenge three: How can Council avoid inappropriate development in the interim?

Council will strengthen the planning controls for Showers Street based on feedback from landholders and residents at the second workshop. Built form guidelines for Showers Street will be prepared and included in the revised St Georges Road and Plenty Road UDF, once Amendment C137 is gazetted. This will assist Council officers in assessment of new planning applications.

Challenge four: What are the plans for Oakover Village and how can residents have a say?

Both Council and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will provide written updates through letterbox drops to households within close proximity of DPO11 Oakover Village. Property owners and occupiers surrounding each DHHS major land parcel will have an opportunity to provide feedback to DHHS and Council through the Development Plan Overlay process.



Key values attributed to Showers Street

During the workshop, residents were asked to identify the values about Showers Street most important to them. The list below is not exhaustive but within the time constraints given during the workshop these were values identified. They included:

- Value of architectural history ie: Californian Bungalow, Single fronted Victorian Terraces, Brassworks factory
- Loss of history is under threat
- Value privacy (no overlooking or overshadowing), liveability and social connectedness
- Value two storey maximum height
- Value amenity and sustainable urban design
- Protect the community spirit of the street
- Safe space to build on neighbourly community and trust
- Consistency of development
- Transitional buffer with the park and no overlooking into the park.
- Preserve the neighbourhood character
- I value my private backyard
- Sense of green street
- Openness of street scape
- Sustainability features in development, environment and social
- Predominant residential streetscape to be retained
- Built form that does not encroach on public space including laneways that are social spaces

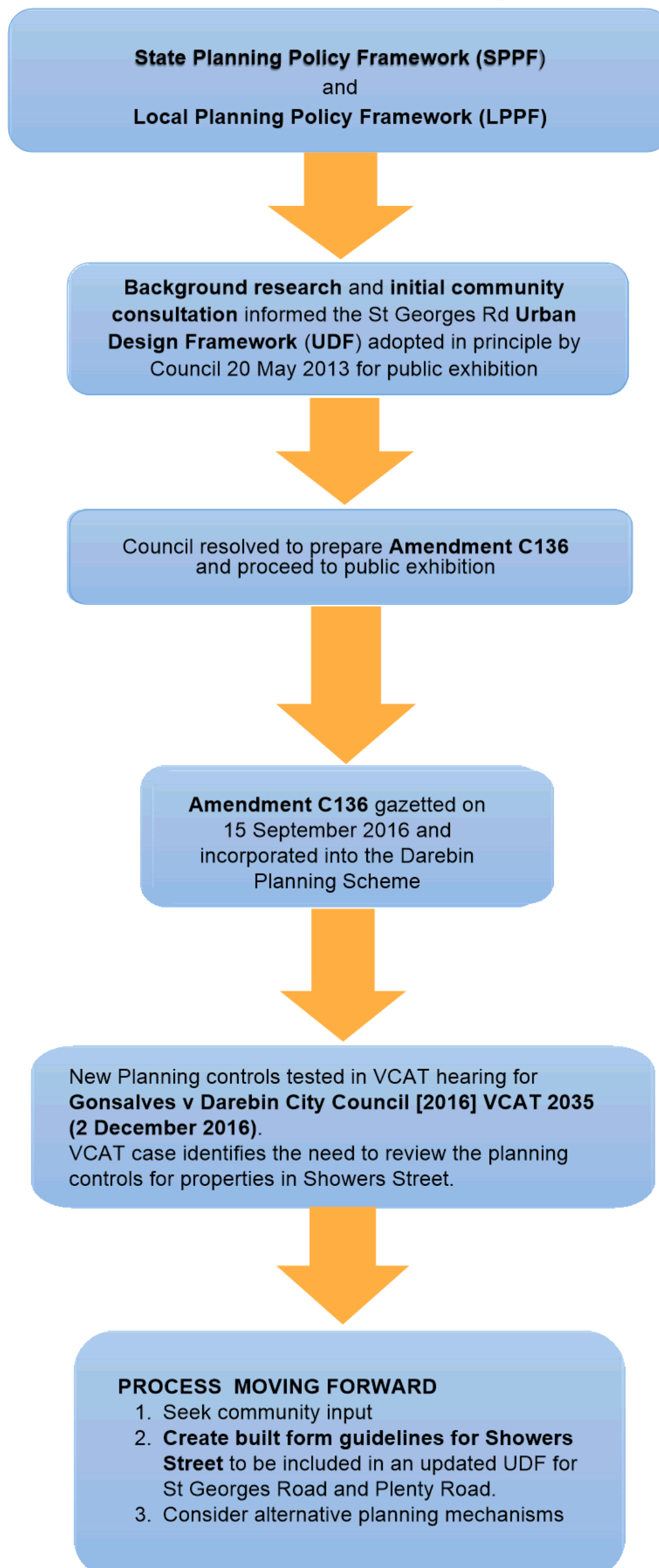


Suggested ideas for a Showers Street Urban Design Framework (UDF)

Landowners and residents were asked to contribute their ideas for a draft Showers Street UDF. Several themes were addressed which included built form; public realm; additional design guidelines for preferred future character; pedestrian and vehicle access. This feedback will guide discussion in the second workshop where options to strengthen the new planning controls will be outlined and expectations of what Council can achieve will be established. A summary of the feedback from residents is as follows:

Built Form	Public Realm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No more than two storeys ➤ Buildings which maintain privacy ➤ Transitional buffer between homes ➤ Privacy in backyards ➤ Maintain same setback from boundaries as in ResCode ➤ Natural light not to be blocked ➤ Neighbourhood character reinstated ➤ Buildings which allow for community living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Street trees, nature strips to be maintained ➤ Consistency of streetscape and built form frontages ➤ Using Ray Braham Gardens without being gazed upon ➤ Green streetscape
Additional Design Guidelines for Preferred Future Character	Pedestrian and vehicle access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Front setback requirements ➤ Garden area requirements ➤ Why can't we have a heritage overlay? ➤ A new building adjacent to an existing building cannot be more than 3.5metres higher ➤ Setbacks – 4 metres from the common boundary ➤ No apartments on Showers Street ➤ No poorly designed one bedroom apartments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safety in small narrow street with vehicle and pedestrian movement ➤ Greater consideration to providing a bike path ➤ Local traffic provided access only ➤ Apartments create extra traffic in a small narrowstreet ➤ Traffic flow to be kept to a minimum safetylevel ➤ No basement car parks

Amendment C136 St Georges Road



6.3 PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE ADJOINING 2 AND 4 COMBIE STREET AND 13 SOUTH STREET, PRESTON**Author:** Property Manager**Reviewed By:** Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides Council with information regarding the outcome of statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of part of the right-of-way adjoining 2 - 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston, as shown hatched in the site plan in **Appendix A** (Road), and recommends that the Road be discontinued and sold.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 3 April 2017 Council resolved:

“That Council:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 206 and Clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 (“the Act”) to discontinue the Road adjoining 2 and 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston, shown hatched on the plan enclosed as **Appendix A**.*
- (2) Give public notice under sections 207A and 82A and 223 of the Act of the proposed discontinuance in the appropriate newspapers and on Council’s website and such notice state that if discontinued, Council proposes to sell the land from the Road to the adjoining property owner at 2 Combie Street, Preston, by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners.”*

Previous Briefing(s)

10 August 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the history and background relating to the right-of-way adjoining 2 and 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** as well as the outcome of the statutory procedures into its proposed discontinuance.

In 1992, Council resolved to discontinue and sell part of the right-of-way/road which is bounded by Combie Street, South Street and David Street, Preston (ROW). However, the section of the right-of-way/road located between 2–4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston (Road) was not included for discontinuance at that time.

In 2015, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner requesting the discontinuance and sale of the Road. Initial investigations identified that whilst the Road is open, it is not constructed or used for access, and appears to be used for parking by the adjoining owners at 2 Combie Street. The Road is not listed on Council’s Register of Public Roads; however it remains a road on title. All stakeholders including adjoining property owners were consulted and no objections were raised at that time.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 3 April 2017, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures and give public notice of the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road. Public notice of the proposal was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 2 May 2017 and 3 May 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on council's website. The notice period ended on 2 June 2017 with no submissions received.

This report recommends that following the completion of the statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road and having received no submissions, that the Road be discontinued and sold by private treaty in accordance with Council policy and transfer any land not sold to itself.

Recommendation

That Council:

Having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the road adjoining 2 and 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston, shown hatched on **Appendix A** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and schedule 10, Clause 3 to the *Local Government Act 1989*;
 - (2) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
 - (3) Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining properties in accordance with Council policy and signed "in-principle" agreements;
 - (4) Directs that the discontinuance and sale will not affect any right, power or interest held by Yarra Valley Water in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes, under the control of that Authority in or near the road;
 - (5) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of the adjoining properties; and
 - (6) Delegates power to the Chief Executive Officer to do all other acts to enable any land from the Road not sold to the adjoining property owners to be transferred to Council.
-

Introduction

In 2015, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner at 2 Combie Street, Preston requesting the discontinuance and sale of the right-of-way/road shown hatched on the plan in **Appendix A** and coloured yellow on the aerial photo in **Appendix B** (Road).

The section under investigation adjoining 2 and 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston (Road) was not included in the original discontinuance undertaken in 1992 and remains a 'road' on title. The Road is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads, is not constructed or used for access and is currently used for parking by the property owner that initiated the proposal.

Once the initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of the proposed discontinuance, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the Road.

Issues and Discussion

Statutory Procedures

Public notice of the proposed Road discontinuance was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 2 May 2017 and 3 May 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website.

Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties were notified in writing and were advised that written submissions would be considered by Council as per the provisions of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Internal departments and the service authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and whilst no objections were received, both Yarra Valley Water and Council engineers have advised that easements would need to be saved over the land to provide for existing underground assets within the Road, if the road were to be discontinued. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer within part of the Road and Council has a drain in the Road.

The notice period ended on 2 June 2017 with no submissions having been received.

Land Allocation

All the immediate adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal. The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Road are shown hatched in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C**.

The owners of 2 Combie Street have entered into an 'in principle agreement' confirming their interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 2 in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C** at current market value as well as meeting their share of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Road.

Despite the land survey revealing that the owners of 13 South Street and 4 Combie Street occupy part of the Road, these owners have indicated a reluctance to acquire Lots 1 and 3 respectively. It should be noted that the occupation by the owner of 4 Crombie Street is a matter of centimetres. It is proposed that Council take title of these lots to protect the future of these assets.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Road would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the Road or use it for parking.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally Council may lose future rights to the Road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Discontinuance Process (Recommended)

Council could proceed with the discontinuance and sale of land from the Road in accordance with the signed 'in-principle' purchase agreement. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures that were completed with no submissions received. Further it would formalise the occupation of the Road by the adjoining property owners.

This option could also provide for future sales to other adjoining property owners whilst protecting Council's interest in any unsold parcels of land from the Road. Nonetheless, by taking title to the land Council would be required to comply with further statutory procedures should a future sale be established.

Financial and Resource Implications

At the commencement of negotiations with the property owners of 2 Combie Street, Council's City Valuer placed a rate per square metre on the land of \$528.00/m² (including GST) for the land from the Road. This rate took into account the roads relationship to the purchaser and the fact that the land would be encumbered with easements in favour of Council and Yarra Valley Water.

Given the area of 44m², the market value for the land to be sold at that time was assessed at \$23,232 including GST. Costs associated with the statutory procedures and sale of the Road would be recovered from the purchaser. Any costs associated with Council transferring any unsold land to itself would be managed within existing annual budget allocations (if required).

Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting the statutory process would be funded from existing budget allocations.

Risk Management

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Consultation with the immediate adjoining owners has been undertaken. The statutory procedures extended this consultation to the whole of the community by giving public notice of the proposal and providing the opportunity to make formal submissions to Council regarding the proposal.

Other

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

Future Actions

- Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette.

- Arrange for the land to be sold and transferred to the owners of the adjoining property by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy.
- Arrange for the balance of any land not sold, to be transferred into Council's ownership (if required).

Consultation and Advocacy

- Council departments
- Darebin community
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners of adjoining properties
- Statutory authorities

Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015
- Council Minutes – 1 August 2016 and 3 April 2017

Attachments

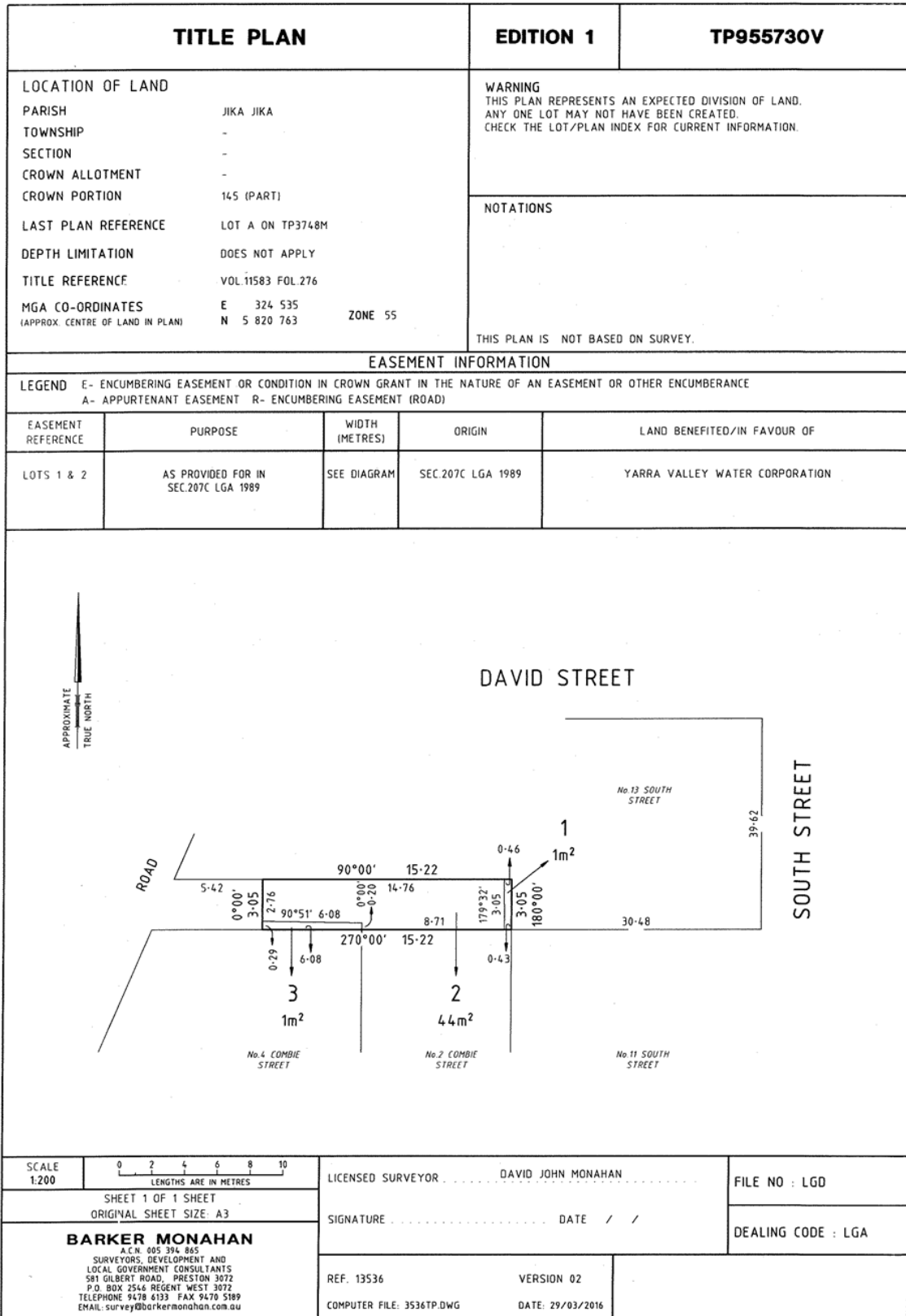
- Site Plan (**Appendix A**)
- 2016 Aerial View (**Appendix B**)
- Title Plan TP955730V (**Appendix C**)

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.





6.4 PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE ADJOINING 3 TO 13 TRACEY STREET AND 54 TO 56 ELLIOT STREET, RESERVOIR**Author:** Property Manager**Reviewed By:** Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides Council with information relating to the outcome of statutory procedures into the proposed discontinuance and sale of part of the right of way adjoining 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 and 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, as shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** (Road) and recommends the discontinuance and sale of the Road.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 15 May 2017 Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 206 and Clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to discontinue the Road adjoining 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 and 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on **Appendix A**.*
- (2) Give public notice under sections 207A and 82A and 223 of the Act of the proposed discontinuance in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website and such notice state that if discontinued, Council proposes to sell the land from the Road to the adjoining property owner at 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 and 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners.'*

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 10 August 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the history and background relating to the right-of-way adjoining 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 and 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir (Road), shown hatched on the site plan **Appendix A**, as well as the outcome of the statutory procedures into its proposed discontinuance.

In 2015, Council received an enquiry from 'The Mayflower Group Reservoir', the owners of 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, requesting the discontinuance and sale of the Road to facilitate a proposed redevelopment of the existing 38 bed nursing home and independent living units on the site. Initial investigations identified that Road was not constructed or used for access, and a majority of the Road appeared to have been enclosed within the applicant's property for many years. The Road is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads; however it remains a road on title.

Additionally, a small part of the Road which is currently open and unused, directly adjoining 54 Elliot Street, is also proposed to be discontinued as part of this proposal and sold to the owners of that property.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 15 May 2017, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures and give public notice of the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road. Public notice of the proposal was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 30 May 2017 and 31 May 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website. The notice period ended on 30 June 2017 with no submissions received.

This report recommends that following the completion of the statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road and having received no submissions, that the Road be discontinued and sold by private treaty in accordance with Council policy and transfer any land not sold to itself.

Recommendation

That Council:

Having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the road adjoining 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 and 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on **Appendix A** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and schedule 10, Clause 3 to the *Local Government Act 1989*;
 - (2) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
 - (3) Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining properties in accordance with Council policy and signed 'in-principle' agreements;
 - (4) Directs that the discontinuance and sale will not affect any right, power or interest held by Yarra Valley Water in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes, under the control of that Authority in or near the road;
 - (5) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of the adjoining properties; and
 - (6) Delegates power to the Chief Executive Officer to do all other acts to enable any land from the Road not sold to the adjoining property owners to be transferred to Council.
-

Introduction

In 2015, Council received an enquiry from 'The Mayflower Group Reservoir', the owner of 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir, requesting the discontinuance and sale of the right-of-way/road, shown hatched on the plan in **Appendix A** and coloured yellow on the aerial photo in **Appendix B** (Road).

The Road is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads, is not constructed nor used for access. A majority of the Road adjoining 56 Elliot Street appears to have been enclosed within the owners property for many years, whilst a small part of the Road adjoining 54 Elliot Street, is open and unused.

Once initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of the proposed discontinuance, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake further consultation with a view to Council commencing the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the of the 3.05m wide section of Road.

Issues and Discussion

Statutory Procedures

Public notice of the proposed Road discontinuance was given in Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 30 May 2017 and 31 May 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website.

Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties were notified in writing and were advised that written submissions would be considered by Council as per the provisions of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Internal departments and the Service Authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and whilst no objections were received, both Yarra Valley Water and Council engineers have advised that easements would need to be saved over the land, if discontinued. Yarra Valley Water has existing underground assets within part of the Road and Council would require an easement to cater for any future installation of a drain by Council.

In addition, Ausnet Electricity Services Pty Ltd has advised that it has overhead electricity cables traversing the site, including the Road, and will require an easement to be saved over the land shown E1 on Title Plan TP958337G in **Appendix C**.

The notice period ended on 30 June 2017 with no submissions having been received.

Land Allocation

All the immediate adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal. The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Road are shown in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C**.

The owners of 56 and 54 Elliot Street, Reservoir, have entered into an 'in principle agreement' confirming their interest in acquiring the land shown as lot 1 and lot 2 in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C** respectively, at current market value as well as meeting their share of all of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Road.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Road would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the Road.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally Council may lose future rights to the Road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Furthermore, 'The Mayflower Group' would not be able to proceed with their current design of the proposed redevelopment of the aged care facility incorporating part of the land from Road. Redesign of the facility and resubmission of any planning/building application/s would be required and reduced yields may prevent any redevelopment of the site from occurring.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to commence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Discontinuance Process (Recommended)

Council could proceed with the discontinuance and sale of land from the Road, in accordance with the 'in-principle' purchase agreement. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures that were completed with no submissions received. Further it would formalise the occupation of the Road by the adjoining property owners.

This option would also protect Council's interests in any unsold parcels of land from the Road by enabling Council to take title. Nonetheless, by taking title to the land Council would be required to comply with further statutory procedures should a future sale be initiated.

Financial and Resource Implications

At the commencement of the negotiations, Council's City Valuer placed a rate per square metre on the land of \$176.00/m² (including GST) for 54 Elliot Street and \$104.50/m² for 56 Elliot Street. This rate took into account the Road's relationship to the purchaser and the fact that the land would be encumbered with easements in favour of Council, Yarra Valley Water and Ausnet Electricity Services Pty Ltd.

Given the area of 12m² for the land to be sold to 54 Elliot and 330m² for the land to be sold to 56 Elliot, the market value for the land to be sold has been assessed at \$36,597 including GST. Costs associated with the statutory procedures and sale of the Road would be recovered from the purchasers. Any costs associated with Council transferring any unsold land to itself would be managed within existing annual budget allocations (if required).

Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting the statutory process would be funded from existing budget allocations.

Risk Management

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Consultation with the immediate adjoining owners has been undertaken. The statutory procedures extended this consultation to the whole of the community by giving public notice of the proposal and providing the opportunity to make formal submissions to Council regarding the proposal.

Other

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

Future Actions

- Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- Arrange for the land to be sold and transferred to the owners of the adjoining properties by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy.
- Arrange for the balance of any land not sold, to be transferred into Council's ownership (if required).

Consultation and Advocacy

- Council departments
- Darebin community
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners of adjoining properties
- Statutory authorities

Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015
- Council Minutes – 15 May 2017

Attachments

- Site Plan (**Appendix A**)
- 2016 Aerial View (**Appendix B**)
- Title Plan TP958337G (**Appendix C**)

Disclosure of Interest

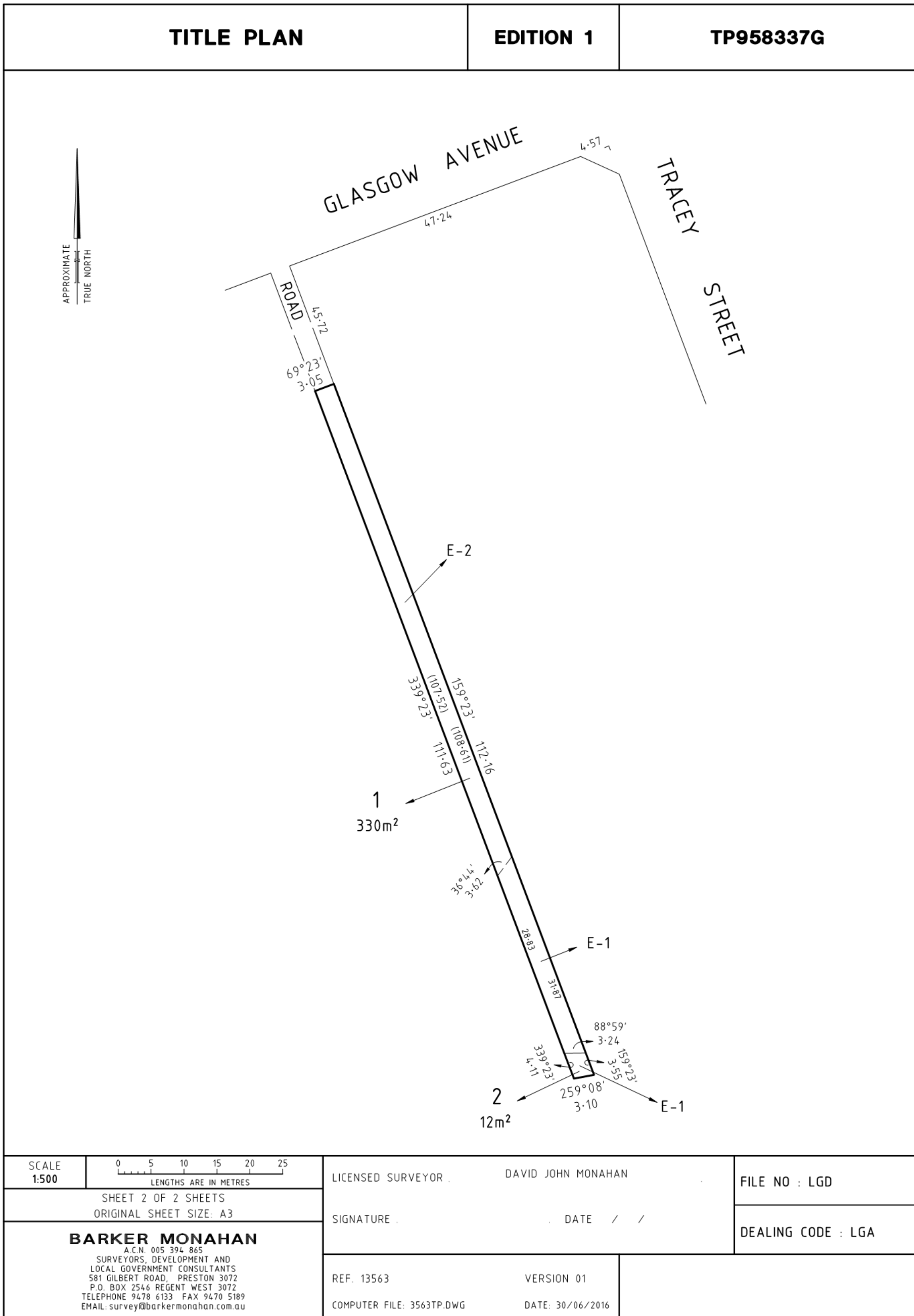
Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.





TITLE PLAN		EDITION 1		TP958337G	
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH KEELBUNDORA TOWNSHIP - SECTION - CROWN ALLOTMENT - CROWN PORTION 13 (PART) LAST PLAN REFERENCE LP8469 DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY TITLE REFERENCE VOL.4984 FOL.715 MGA CO-ORDINATES E 323 310 ZONE 55 (APPROX. CENTRE OF LAND IN PLAN) N 5 825 060			WARNING THIS PLAN REPRESENTS AN EXPECTED DIVISION OF LAND. ANY ONE LOT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN CREATED. CHECK THE LOT/PLAN INDEX FOR CURRENT INFORMATION.		
			NOTATIONS THIS PLAN IS NOT BASED ON SURVEY.		
EASEMENT INFORMATION					
LEGEND E- ENCUMBERING EASEMENT OR CONDITION IN CROWN GRANT IN THE NATURE OF AN EASEMENT OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCE A- APPURTENANT EASEMENT R- ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)					
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	LAND BENEFITED/IN FAVOUR OF	
E-1	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	SEE DIAGRAM	SEC.207C LGA 1989	AUSNET ELECTRICITY SERVICES PTY LTD	
E-1 & E-2	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	SEE DIAGRAM	SEC.207C LGA 1989	YARRA VALLEY WATER CORPORATION	
SEE SHEET 2 FOR DIAGRAM					
SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE: A3		LICENSED SURVEYOR . DAVID JOHN MONAHAN		FILE NO : LGD	
BARKER MONAHAN A.C.N. 005 394 865 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 581 GILBERT ROAD, PRESTON 3072 P.O. BOX 2546 REGENT WEST 3072 TELEPHONE 9478 6133 FAX 9470 5189 EMAIL: survey@barkermonahan.com.au		SIGNATURE . DATE / /		DEALING CODE : LGA	
		REF. 13563 VERSION 01 COMPUTER FILE: 3563TP.DWG DATE: 30/06/2016			



7. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 OAKOVER ROAD SLIP LANE REVIEW

Author: Urban Designer

Reviewed By: Director City Futures and Assets

Report Background

The report is in response to Notice of Motion from 4 April 2016 and 4 July 2016 and discusses the feasibility of creating a permanent open space at the Oakover Road slip lane.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 4 April 2016, Council resolved:

- *Maintain the closure of the slip lane at the corner of Oakover Road and High Street after the removal of the pop up park at this location.”*
- *Be presented with a report on the feasibility of a permanent green open space at this location in consultation with the JUMP community reference group and other stakeholders. The report may consider how such green open space can be constructed and maintained by community members or groups.*

At its meeting on 4 July 2016, Council resolved to:

- *‘Maintain the closure of the Oakover Road and High Street ‘slip lane’ to enable community consultation and a detailed traffic study to be conducted. This will enable a full analysis of the issues to be addressed with a report provided to Council on the outcomes with recommendations for consideration.’*

Previous Briefing(s)

- Council Briefing – 20 February 2017 and 10 August 2017.
- Council E Bulliten – 26 June 2017 and 5 July 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 1 – A sustainable city

- Goal 1.2 – We will increase sustainable transport through safer streets for walking and cycling, and advocacy for public transport.
- Goal 1.3 – We will expand and improve our network of open and green spaces, parks and natural environments to provide the lungs for our city and reduce the impacts of climate change.

Summary

- This report provides an overview of the community consultation and traffic investigations to assist in understanding the feasibility of creating a permanent space at the Oakover Road slip lane site.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorses Option 1 as outlined in this report, to support the permanent closure of the Oakover Road slip lane to create a permanent public space as illustrated in **Appendix A**.
 - (2) Notifies all submitters of Councils resolution regarding the Oakover Road slip lane.
 - (3) Notifies all properties within a 500m radius of the subject site of Councils resolution regarding the Oakover Road slip lane.
-

Introduction

- The Preston Junction precinct is one of Darebin's key urban renewal areas and is in the process of transforming from an industrial precinct into burgeoning urban centre. The past six months alone has seen the planning approval of approximately 500 new dwellings, yet to be constructed. Currently only a third of the potential development sites have been constructed.
- The Junction Urban Master Plan (JUMP) was prepared in response the Preston Junction precinct undergoing significant transformation in the private realm – however the public environment was lagging behind, still reflecting the precincts industrial past. JUMP was endorsed by Council at its 7 April 2014 meeting.
- The master plan also recognised the lack of public open spaces in JUMP; together with an increase in the residential and business population in this area, will place additional demands on existing open space. Consultation for the master plan highlighted the community's desire for additional greenery and open spaces.
- Reclaiming the Oakover Road slip lane to create a new public open space is a direct recommendation in JUMP (key initiative 2).
- Based on the recommendations in JUMP, the 2014 Citizens Jury project 'roving Pop-up Park' was installed at the site from late November 2015 – April 2016. This installation involved a temporary closure of the slip lane to reimagine it as open space.
- A petition from the community was lodged at the 4 April 2016 Council meeting requesting that the slip lane remain closed until further options for this space were investigated. Council supported this petition and resolved to retain the temporary closure of the slip lane to enable further consultation and investigation of this space.



Figure 1: Temporary closure of the Oakover Road slip lane.

Issues and Discussion

Understanding the Site

- The subject site is located on the intersection of two local roads, High Street and Oakover Road, Preston. A 40 km/h speed limit applies to High Street, whilst a speed limit of 50km/hr applies to Oakover Road. Darebin City Council is the Road Management Authority for these two roads.
- The site is approximately 295m² in area and is comparable with seating area located at the corner of Edwardes Street and High Street, Reservoir (270m²), refer to Figure 2.



Figure 2: Seating Node at the corner of High and Edwardes Streets, Reservoir.

- There is an 800mm change in the levels of site. This gradient change complies with DDA access requirements and can be a feature in the design of the space.
- Given the projected growing population of this area, Design and Development Overlay 13 (DDO13) requests a 5m landscape setback to be provided through any redevelopment of 1 Oakover Road. When this 1 Oakover Road is developed, the setback can be designed to complement and enlarge the Oakover Road slip lane space.

- Telstra assets are located beneath Oakover Road at this site, with two manhole access points located in the central traffic island of the site. Any reduction of this kerb to facilitate easier vehicle turning movements was not supported by Telstra as it exposed their assets and placed their workers at higher risk. The preliminary quote to relocate the Telstra pits was \$500,000.
- Because of the location of the Telstra asset, the kerb could not be modified during the temporary closure of the slip lane. It sits at a 90 degree angle, making it difficult for vehicles over 7.5m (most notably trucks) to safely turn left into Oakover Road from High Street. To compensate for that, large heavy vehicles were banned from turning left into Oakover Road – and are required to detour and enter Oakover Road via St Georges Road. VicRoads support this change and endorsed a MOU for new signage to facilitate this truck turn ban. Local businesses such as Australia Post and local mechanics have been engaged early on and support this change. Australia Post is also downsizing their operation resulting in a reduction of larger vehicles using Oakover Road.

Community Consultation

In order to deliver on a community asset that reflected the community expectations for this location as outlined in the Junction Urban Master Plan, a series of community consultation phases were undertaken. The methods and outcomes of these engagements are described as follows:

Temporary 'Pop-Up Park' – Community consultation and outcomes (2016)

Significant community consultation was undertaken and valuable feedback collected throughout the temporary (pop-up) park project. Methods used included:

- The pop-up park itself was an innovative, participatory engagement tool. It allowed the local community to experience temporary change in their local area and to provide feedback.
- During the decommissioning of the pop-up park, an online survey was created to collect feedback about the design of the pop-up park from residents and businesses within a 500m radius of the site. Thirty-nine responses were received.
- A design workshop was held with the JUMP Community Working Group. This invitation was also extended to the community within a 500m of the site. Fourteen residents contributed to discussions of what this space should look like – a simple, green and walkable space was preferred by those in attendance.
- Community also expressed desire to create and maintain community gardens/open space at other locations, such as Railway Place.



Figure 3: Temporary Pop-Up Park November 2015.

Permanent Slip Lane Closure – Concept Design (2017)

- The proposed concept design for the future public space at Oakover Road, found in **Appendix A** reflects the community feedback and lessons learnt from the pop-up park project collected in 2016.
- This concept design proposes a simple, adaptable seating area for the community. It features 8 trees, including 3 large canopy trees for shade, seating, bike repair station, bike hoops and rubbish/recycling bins. Trees will be located in passively irrigated tree pits– which collect stormwater run-off and remove pollutions from the stormwater before it enters the waterway. They also reduce ongoing maintenance. A new east-west pedestrian crossing on High Street will connect the site to the remainder of the pedestrian improvement works. Due to the slope of the site, the space will feature two terrace areas. The footpath will be shifted to the edge of Oakover Road, providing a traditional street interface to the space. The concept provides a solid foundation for any future extension of the space through a redevelopment of 1 Oakover Road.
- The proposed concept design will create an easier turning circle for vehicles entering Oakover Road from High Street. This is achieved, as the kerb line to High Street will be extended by 1.8m.

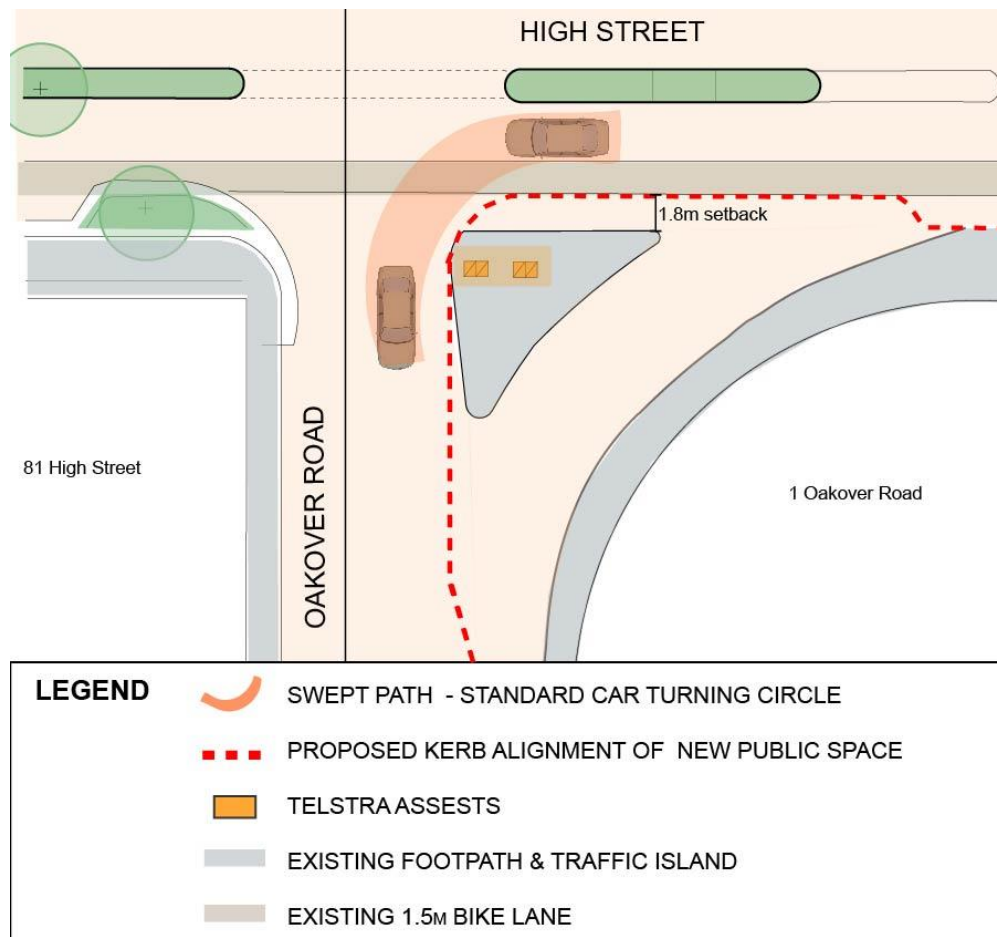


Figure 5: Proposed outline of Public Space created through the closure of the Oakover Road slip lane.

Community consultation and outcomes (2017)

- Community consultation took place from 22 June to 9 July 2017 and included: Delivery of a summary brochure to 3200 residents and businesses within a 500m radius of the site. This brochure posed the question of retaining the open space or reopening the slip lane. An image of the proposed design outcome was included and can be found in **Appendix A**.
- Council officers hosted two 'drop-in' information sessions on Thursday 29 June (6–8pm) at the Northern Community Christ Church and at subject site on Saturday 1 July (10am–12.30pm). Over 40 people attended these sessions over the 2 day period.
- Email notification to community members who registered an interest to the project and key stakeholders including Dysons, PTV, Telstra, Australia Post, and Darebin Bicycle User Group, Darebin Bicycle Advisory Committee, Darebin Community Safety Committee and Darebin Disability Advisory Committee.
- Promotions of key events were shared on Council's social media channels, informing the wider Darebin community.
- Promotion on the City of Darebin and 'Your say Darebin' website.
- Council officers invited formal community feedback via an online survey or email.

Summary of submissions

- The consultation of the future of the Oakover Road slip lane attracted a good response from the community with a total of 213 responses received. Overall, the majority responses supported the creation of new space in lieu of the slip lane.

- When analysing **all of the submissions** received (email, petition, online survey) we found that:
 - 68% or 145 respondents supported the permanent closure of the slip lane to create a new public open space.
 - 31.5% or 67 respondents supported reopening the slip lane to vehicles.
 - 0.6% or 1 respondent chose ‘can’t say’.
- **Appendix B** provides a summary of the 174 online survey results received. Also included in this summary is a demographic breakdown of the respondents. **Appendix C** identifies the summary of emails submissions, in which seventeen responses were received, which was evenly split amongst community opinions. One petition containing 22 signatures from local residents and business supporting the permanent closure of the slip lane to create a new public space was lodged with Council.
- The social media posts attracted much attention and debate on this site. Council officers have reviewed and noted these comments, as found in **Appendix D**. Comments made on social media do not constitute a formal submission and have not been included in the consultation process.
- Telstra have noted their support for the concept design as it protecting their assets, whilst increasing manhole access buffer from the road. Metropolitan Fire Brigade has requested that the turning radius of the intersection considers their vehicle types.
- The feedback collected during the community consultation process was analysed to understand community priorities and concerns for the project.
- **Submissions of support** were generally based on the following themes: increasing greenery and tree planting in precinct, improving the safety of the intersection, need for additional open space in the area, beautifying the area and creating a pedestrian friendly environment.
- The key concerns raised by submitters **who did not support the closure of the slip lane**, together with Council officers response, are summarised below:

Community Concerns	Council officer Response
Location is not suitable for open space; therefore the space won't be used.	This view is contrary to the Junction Urban Master Plan (2014), in which is recognises that additional open space will be required to service the growing Preston Junction community. This is also reflected in the Design and Development Overlay 13 (DDO13) requests a 5m landscape setback to be provided through any redevelopment of 1 Oakover Road. This view is also contrary to majority of the submitters.
Increase in traffic congestion	The reviews of the traffic counts have indicated that there has not been any significant increase in traffic congestion as a result on the slip lane closure.
It is difficult and dangerous for cars to turn	The proposal seeks to modify the kerb on the corner of High Street, so that a wider kerb will be created. The tight nearly 90 degree kerb that drivers currently experience will be removed. The intersection will read like a normal ‘T-intersection’.
No value for money	Many submitters voiced their frustrated with

Community Concerns	Council officer Response
	the money that has been allocated to this project so far.
It was not safe space for children	Using lessons learnt from the pop-up park project, the concept design of the space is a very simple, seating area with natural shade. No elements or the design of the space has been designed for children.

- Despite the above concerns, the consultation showed that majority of the participants support the closure of the slip lane to create a permanent space at the Oakover Road Slip lane location.

Traffic Analysis

- Traffic counts were commissioned in 2015 (before the temporary park), 2016 (during the temporary park) and in June 2017 (after pedestrian improvement works were completed) to help understand the impact of the temporary closure of the slip lane on the wider network. Analysis of these counts, found in **Appendix E** indicates that:
- Pedestrian movements at the Oakover Road and High Street intersection have increased from 33 pedestrians in 2015 to 51 pedestrians in 2017.
- Cycling movements at this intersection have increased. When comparing the AM peak in 2015, 2016 and 2017, cyclist numbers increased from 15, 28 and 22 respectively. It must be noted that the 2016 count was undertaken in the warmer period while the 2015 and 2017 were taken in the cooler months.
- Traffic volumes at this intersection have remained consistent, indicating that temporary closure of the slip lane has not pushed traffic to local streets.
- Traffic speeds recorded at this intersection have reduced to an average of 30km in 2017.
- Larger vehicles (over 7.5m) are obeying the north-bound, left turn into Oakover ban (average of 3 trucks in AM peak, and 4 trucks in PM peak) were noted. This is a significant reduction from the 2016 counts where 14 (AM) and 17 (PM) were recorded.
- Analysis of the traffic counts indicate that the temporary closure of the slip lane has created a slower and safer road environment for all users, without impacting the flow of local traffic. Sustainable transport methods of walking and cycling have increased since the closure of the slip lane.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Permanently close the Oakover Road slip lane to create a public space

Create a new public open space by permanently closing the Oakover Road slip lane. An easier turning circle will be created through widening the kerb by 1.8m to High Street. Implement the proposed design as indicated in **Appendix A**. Implementing this option will cost approximately \$200,000– \$250,000. This option also:

- Align with the Council Plan (2017–2021), through future proofing open space for a growing population, creating safer streets for walking and cycling and increases Darebin’s urban forest.
- Reinforce the actions identified in the Darebin Transport Strategy (2012–2027), Darebin Cycling Strategy (2013–2018) and JUMP (2014).

- Compliment the recent JUMP pedestrian improvement works which has seen the modification of High Street to include a planted central median, pedestrian crossings, and kerb outstands and street tree planting.
- Reinforces JUMP's vision of creating a pedestrian focused streetscape environment for High Street, by slowing traffic and creating a more walkable public realm.
- Is supported by the majority of participants in the recent community consultation process.
- Is supported through the traffic analysis for the site. Temporary closure of the slip lane has created a slower and safer road environment for all users, without impacting local traffic.
- Telstra support extending the kerb to High Street, which will create an easier turning circle for vehicles entering Oakover Road from High Street, and address many frustrations raised the by community.

Option 2 – Reopen the slip lane to vehicular traffic

- Reopen the slip lane to traffic and remove the temporary bollards. Implementing this option will have minimal cost to Council. This option is not supported by the principles of the JUMP which highlights a desire for increased open space in the area. This option is not supported by the majority of participants in the recent community consultation process.

Financial and Resource Implications

There is \$340,000 allocated in the 2017/2018 Capital Works budget for the continued implementation of the Junction Urban Master Plan. Approximately \$250,000 of this funding would be used for the Oakover Project and include a road safety audit, detailed design and construction of the new public space. Ongoing maintenance costs for the site would be approximately \$6,000 per year and form part of Councils operational costs.

Risk Management

Risks associated with pedestrian safety, vehicular safety and cyclist safety were considered as part of the design process. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) was undertaken of the redesign of High Street in 2016. These designs considered the closure of the Oakover Road Slip Lane and was not raised as a risk. An additional RSA would be undertaken of the concept design of the permanent public space, ensuring all users were considered. Any future design and construction of a public space in this location will be designed to meet Australian Design and Building Standards. Additional risks have been listed in each option presented.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

Increasing amenity, usability and accessibility of public open space will have a positive impact on the community by creating places for communities to gather and make vital connections. This has a positive impact in increasing retail traffic and visitation numbers, having a positive flow-on effect on adjacent retail centres, residential area and public transport corridors.

Environmental Sustainability

Public open space at the Oakover Road slip lane site improves the environmental sustainability of the precinct by decreasing the area of impermeable road surface and introduces permeable surfaces such as tree pits and garden beds.

The proposed concept seeks to introduce up to 8 new trees for the area – increasing the tree canopy coverage for the area, reducing urban heat island and providing cool, resting places for the local community. The passive tree pits proposed for the site, will collect stormwater run-off and remove pollutions from the stormwater before it enters the waterway. They also reduce the need for manual watering. Other sustainability initiatives (which will be resolved during the design process) may include the use of sustainable/recycled materials for the customised seating.

By eliminating the slip lane at this location it re-prioritises sustainable transport modes for the area through creating safer streets for walking and cycling.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Public open spaces enhance the social and community value of this neighbourhood by improving access to open space in areas that are lacking or undertaking urban transition, providing much needed local space for people to gather and interact.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

- Notify all submitters and properties within 500m of the subject site Council's resolution.
- Implement Council's preferred option as outlined in this report.

Consultation and Advocacy

The following Council staff have been consulted in the preparation of this report – Manager Transport and Public Spaces, Coordinator Public Realm, Team Leader Sustainable Transport, Design Engineer, Project Manager, Principal Strategic Planner, Manager Parks, Team Leader Parks Maintenance, Senior Arborist and Transport Planner.

Related Documents

- Junction Urban Master Plan (2014)
- GreenStreets Streetscape Strategy (2010–2020)
- Darebin Transport Strategy (2012–2027)
- Darebin Cycling Strategy (2013–2018)
- Council Minutes – 4 April 2016 and 4 July 2016

Attachments

- Oakover Consultation Brochure (**Appendix A**)
- Online Survey Summary (**Appendix B**)
- Summary of Submissions (**Appendix C**)
- Social Media Feedback Summary (**Appendix D**)
- Traffic Statistics for Oakover-High Street (**Appendix E**)

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

PROJECT TIMELINE

April 2014	Junction Urban Master Plan (JUMP) is adopted by Council.
Sept 2014	Citizens Jury of 31 local residents recommend 8 projects for Council to fund including the 'Darebin Pop-Up Park Kit' - a movable, temporary park to activate underutilised sites in Darebin.
Jan. 2015	Oakover slip lane site selected for the 'Pop-up Park', as it is a recommended project in JUMP
Sept. 2015	Community consultation of Pop-Up Park concept for Oakover road site.
Late Nov. 2015	Pop-Up Park opens for a 4 month period.
Late April 2016	Pop up park is removed. Council at its 4 April meeting resolved to keep the slip lane closed until further community consultation about the future options for the site.
July 2016	Design workshop about the slip lane is held with community.
June 2017	Community consultation of the future options for the Oakover Road slip lane site.
Sept. 2017	Council to consider report on the future of the Oakover Road slip lane site.

Understanding the site's design challenges



Oakover Slip Lane Site (2015)

- A** Telstra's assets are located beneath Oakover Road. Their workers require safe access to these assets.
- B** The location of Telstra's assets limits how much the kerb can be modified
- C** There is a slight slope in this location, presenting a design challenge for creating a safe and all inclusive public space.
- D** Under the Darebin Planning Scheme any future development of the adjacent site will require a 5m landscape area along the street edge, creating an opportunity to increase this open space in the future.

We want to hear from you!

Your feedback from this final phase of consultation will be reported back to Council in September so that a decision can be made about the future of this site.

Check out the concept plans and further traffic information by visiting www.darebin.vic.gov.au/JUMP

Let us know your thoughts by:

- Completing an online survey at www.darebin.vic.gov.au/JUMP
- Emailing publicplaces@darebin.vic.gov.au

Come and chat with Council officers:

- Thursday 29 June (6pm-8pm) - Northern Community Church of Christ, 81 High Street (Main entry from High St & fully accessible entrance from Oakover Rd.)
- Saturday 1 July (10am - 12.30 pm) at the Oakover slip lane site.

Last day to get your feedback to Council is **Sunday 9 July 2017.**

CITY OF DAREBIN

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darebin.vic.gov.au



National Relay Service
TTY dial 133 677 or
Speak & Listen
1300 555 727 or
relayservice.gov.au
then enter
03 8470 8888



Speak your language
T 8470 8470
العربية Italiano
Ελληνικά Македонски
繁體中文 Somali
हिंदी Tiếng Việt

More Information

Chat with our Public Places officers by contacting 8470 8381 or email public.places@darebin.vic.gov.au

Visit the JUMP project page at www.darebin.vic.gov.au/JUMP for regular updates.



the place to live

TRANSFORMING YOUR JUNCTION PRECINCT



Delivering a safe, accessible public open space on the corner of Oakover Road and High Street is a key project in the Junction Urban Master Plan (JUMP). It recognised that additional public spaces are needed for this growing community.

In 2016, we tested this idea by closing the slip lane on Oakover Road and created a temporary 'pop-up park' in the reclaimed space. This installation allowed Council and community to test future options for the space. Council voted to keep the slip lane closed following planned removal of the 'pop-up park', until further consultation could be undertaken regarding the future option of the site.

We now need your feedback for the future vision of the slip lane. Should we transform it into a permanent public open space or reopen it to cars? Your feedback will be reported to Council in September so a final decision can be made about the future of this site.

Creating a safer street environment for all users

Slip lanes are generally hazardous for pedestrians as they take longer to cross and cars tend to drive through at higher speeds. The temporary closure of the slip lane allowed us to understand the traffic and safety implications of any permanent closure of the slip lane.

We compared traffic count surveys from 2016 (during pop-up park) and 2015 (before pop-up park). We found that while the temporary 'pop-up park' was in place:

- Average traffic speeds of 25-30km/hr were recorded.
- There was no evidence of vehicles avoiding this intersection in favour of other local roads.
- Majority of trucks were using the detour route promoted.
- Cyclists numbers have increased at this location.
- Pedestrians numbers remained consistent.
- No accidents have been reported at the intersection since the slip lane was removed.

In summary, the temporary closure of the slip lane has created a slower road environment for all users, without impacting on local traffic.

Could the Oakover slip lane be the new meeting space for the Preston Junction Community?

In order to assist you in understanding what a future public open space may look like, a concept design has been prepared. It responds to the community feedback and lessons learnt from the pop-up park project. A simple, walkable, open space with seating and shade trees are being suggested for the site.

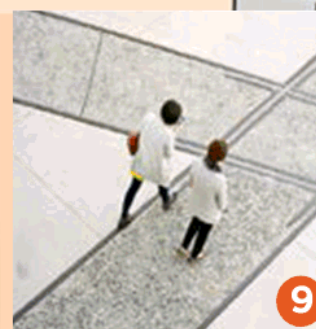


- LEGEND**
- Custom Seating
 - Rubbish & Recycle Bins
 - Bike Hoops
 - Bluestone Pavers
 - Drinking Fountain
 - New Tree (Chinese Elm)
 - New Tree (Ginkgo biloba 'Princeton Sentry')
 - New Tree (Large Oak Species to be determined)
 - Tree Pits
 - Tram Track paving detail
 - Stairs
 - Bike Repair Station
 - Future 5m landscape planning setback

- 1 As a driver, it will be easier to turn left into Oakover Road** - The new design creates a wider turning circle for cars entering Oakover Road from High Street - much like a traditional kerb you would experience elsewhere in Darebin.
- 2 Driver sightlines** will be kept clear and open.
- 3 Linking in with the High Street pedestrian safety upgrades** through creating a 2m wide pedestrian crossing point on High Street.
- 4 Protecting assets** - A safer and wider accessible area is created for Telstra to access their infrastructure, as the kerb on High Street will be extended by 1.8m.
- 5 Eight new street trees** are proposed for site, increasing the Preston Junction's tree canopy coverage.
The centerpiece of the site will be three, large deciduous trees with spreading canopies to provide much needed shade and greenery on the site. Along Oakover Road and High Street, new street trees will be provided in tree pits which capture and use stormwater run-off. They will play a role in reducing the future impact of climate change for the area.
- 6 New Custom Seating** - Custom communal seats will be provided at the site.
- 7 A new accessible footpath** will be created along Oakover Road.
- 8 A safer and more pleasant seating area** will be created as the design shifts the main 'seating area' away from the road. The footpath will be shifted along Oakover Road and contain tree plantings. The space will feature new stairs and terracing responding to the topography of the site.
- 9 The precincts rich tram history** will be reflected in proposed paving surface treatment, including pavers with tram tracks/ steel details embedded in the paving.
- 10 Streetscape amenities**
New bins, bike hoops, bike repair station and drinking fountain will be provided in the space.
- 11 Improved Lighting** will be incorporated into the space improving safety.



Narrow Trees will be planted along Oakover Road



Tram tracks will be subtly referenced in the paving, reflecting the site's history



Custom timber communal seating will be created for the JUMP Precinct



Large, deciduous Trees such as Oak Trees will be a feature in the new space



Bluestone pavers to be used as the surface material



New stairs and terraces will be introduced to create the new space



Report for Creating a safer Oakover Rd and High St intersection

Report completed by Community Engagement & Demographics Unit

Background and Introduction

One of the projects identified in the Junction Urban Master Plan was creating a safer intersection on the corner of Oakover Rd and High St. By removing the slip lane at this location, shorter, safer pedestrian crossings and more space for seating and trees can be provided without impacting traffic.

Council undertook a community consultation process to get feedback from the community to ascertain whether or not they support permanently closing the slip lane to create a new public open space.

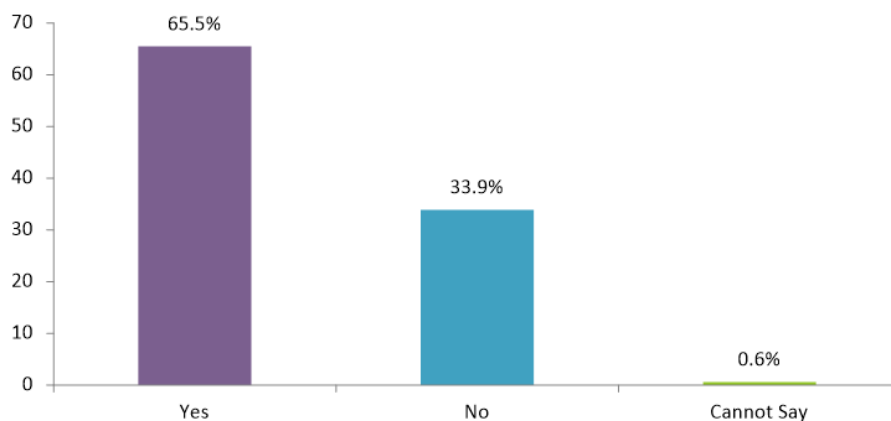
A survey was developed to capture the feedback from the community and there were also drop in sessions held. A total of 174 responses were received of which 173 responses were completed and one response was partial.

Given the divisiveness around this project, some extra analysis was conducted on the IP addresses of the responses to identify any duplication. The analysis indicated that there were 14 cases of IP address duplication. These responses were carefully analysed and the results suggested that two of these duplication were from the same respondents. The rest of the responses despite being received from the same device showed differences in responses. This suggested that the responses were most likely from different members within families or from a number of residents living in the same household.

The findings from the results received have been filtered by respondents who indicated that they support the closing of the slip lane and those who indicated that they do not support the closure. A summary of the general findings which include all responses received can also be found as Appendix A at the end of the report.

Findings

After looking at the proposed design for the slip lane area, do you support closing the slip lane to create a new public open space? Please explain your answer in the comments box below.



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	65.5%	114
No	33.9%	59
Cannot Say	0.6%	1
	Total	174

The majority of the 174 respondents supported closing the slip lane to create a new public open space (65.5% or 114 respondents). However, it is important to note that a third of the respondents did not support the closure (33.9% or 59 respondents) and one respondent chose 'Can't Say'.

YES – comments from respondents who support closing the slip lane

A wide range of comments were received from the respondents who support closing the slip lane. The following themes have been identified from the comments. The top three most mentioned reasons for supporting the closure were: trees and greenery, safety and need of open space in the area.

Themes	Number
trees and greenery	29
safety	27
need of open space in the area	22
beautification	22
pedestrian friendly space	19
less car traffic	9

encourages walking	8
traffic calming	7
as long as cars can turn into Oakover Rd	4
space designed with access	3
cyclist friendly	3
no effect on traffic	3
easier for cars to turn	3
people friendly	2
design fixes previous issues with pop up park	2
slip lane redundant in area	2
need to expand this area in near future	1
good place for lunch	1
corner could be rounded off a bit	1
reduce heavy vehicle usage	1
encourages sustainable transport modes	1
make sure it is not too flat to the surface of the road	1
creates vibrant shopping precinct	1
better living	1
seating areas	1

Verbatim Comments from respondents who support closing of slip lane

Count	Response
3	This is a builtup area in need of open public space
2	A new park will be great for the area. It's small, but the more trees the better!
1	A great idea to bring some greenery into this industrial area that is becoming residential
1	AS LONG AS YOU IMPROVE ABILITY FOR CARS TO TURN LEFT INTO OAKOVER ROAD
1	Area needs new pedestrian friendly spaces given the amount of people living in the area now.
1	As someone who has only recently bought a property in the area I often wondered why the slip lane was disused. It seems logical to reclaim this area as a public space. I think the bike service area is a particularly important feature as there are very few of these facilities in the area. I think it would be great if the council could come to some sort of arrangement to expand this area in the near future. As an interim fix the council should offer to integrate the 'Spirit of India's front fence into the project to bring it up to the same standard as the rest of the proposed development.
1	Attractive, safe and pedestrian-friendly
1	BUT only if the space is designed with access in mind. If not then reopen it to cars.
1	Beautifies the local busy- road based area. Preston can be more attractive and this helps!

1	Because the streetscape is for locals to use and enjoy, not a thoroughfare for cars and commuters who could easily use alternate routes. If we are supporting higher density living and apartments, we need to reclaim as many public spaces as possible!
1	Because then pedestrians don't have to cross the slip lane and they can get across quicker. Age:7.
1	Crossing here with kids (or even without!) is not good, kinda threatening in fact. I'd love to have a safer street, that is also welcoming to have more people out walking.
1	Darebin needs more trees and open space.
1	Do it do it do it do it! :-)
1	Fantastic!! Will provide traffic calming along High Street and a good place to eat my lunch!
1	Given the function of High Street as a 'place' rather than a corridor for heavy car traffic, a high speed left turn slip is completely inappropriate and counter to creating an attractive walkable environment. I completely support closing the slip lane, as well as council's other efforts to reduce car dominance along High Street in Preston.
1	Given the large number of multi-storey developments / apartment buildings being constructed, Darebin needs more open space and greenery. Also, it absolutely must be more pedestrian-friendly!!
1	Great that cars have slowed at the intersection making it safer for pedestrians and young families with young children.
1	I believe it may be easier and safer for drivers turning left, or right, into Oakover Road, with the closing of the slip lane.
1	I like the bike repair station, bike hoops, rubbish bins and added greenery. The space at the moment looks very sad so it would be good to see it rejuvenated and welcoming. The tram detail sounds nice too. The wider turning circle for drivers is a very important aspect of the proposed design. We live in the JUMP precinct and frequently walk, drive and cycle through the Oakover precinct.
1	I like the idea of green garden spaces. To plant a few bigger native trees to support the native bird life.
1	I live in the Junction precinct and it's currently a depressing concrete jungle in desperate need of more green. The proposed design will make it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly and safer.
1	I love the idea of deciduous / shade trees. A large oak (as noted in the brochure) would be perfect. If it were possible, I'd like to see the corner rounded off a bit for cars, to make the turn less tight- but not too much, to keep the public space large.
1	I support this because we should be promoting pedestrian access over car traffic.
1	I think this is a fantastic idea! More green space and less traffic is terrific!
1	I think this is a great idea. Any improvements to high st Preston is welcomed.
1	I totally support any urban design initiative that improves the aesthetic quality of Darebin

	and more importantly, that involves the planting of trees that will reduce the heat.
1	I would like to see continued changes to this stretch of High Street to promote foot traffic, calm vehicular traffic and reduce heavy vehicle usage.
1	Important for community, having open space with nature. Positive on so many levels! It's a must.
1	Improve safety Increase pedestrian amenities Encourage sustainable transport modes
1	It is better in every way creating a pleasant respite area and safer crossing for pedestrians as well as being visually interesting
1	It looks friendly and safe
1	It will make a pleasant, safer pedestrian respite
1	It will make the whole intersection safer for both motorists and pedestrians
1	It will provide an attractive and safer intersection
1	It's a great idea to continue the good work council is doing by adding trees to public spaces in the area. Well done, great idea!
1	It's fairly a unattractive space currently and we really don't need the slip lane and we DO need more public open space desperately.
1	Looks really nice! Thank you.
1	Love the design, just need to ensure cars don't drive over it if it is too flat to the surface of the road.
1	Love the space and trees
1	Makes the area a lot more people friendly. Not just a space for cars to pass through.
1	Making the area attractive, resident friendly, safer
1	More desirable public space, reduce traffic speed. Over time all of the old industrial buildings in that area will become apartments and more people will be walking around the area. Helping to create a vibrant shopping precinct on the northern high street. When will the Woolworths site be redeveloped...?! Knock down the Paintmobile building (with peeling paint, haha) and create a pedestrian thoroughfare that connects through to a dynamic northern precinct on that Woolies site.
1	More public space makes for better living
1	My family drives, walks and cycles through this intersection. I support the proposal with some caution. I can't tell from the 3D whether a reasonable swept path has been allowed for vehicles turning left into Oakover. The hard corner is a nightmare at the moment! Also, the 3D isn't very helpful in understanding how the intersection would be traversed by people in wheelchairs and scooters. Those comments notwithstanding, I do appreciate the possibility of greening up an otherwise barren corner.
1	Need more roads to accommodate the increase in traffic and development. Not a good great location for a park - prefer railway place for open space. Concept needs to be implemented. No half baked design.

5

1	Nice green space
1	No effect on traffic, safer for pedestrians and increasing tree coverage - I fail to see a downside.
1	Please do everything you can to reduce the number of speeding cars on high street. The use of reclaimed timber for benches and maybe some fruit trees
1	Please keep the slip lane closed. As a pedestrian in this area, it is difficult enough to get across Oakover Road as is with the slip lane closed. If it were to be reopened, it would make crossing the road even harder. Cars drive way too fast through here and no one is looking out for pedestrians.
1	Please plant some decent natives, instead of introduced species
1	Plenty road has become a popular place for residents to take short walks to restaurants, neighbours, and the library. Closing the slip lane makes sense. When the slip lane was open, drivers accelerate. It disincentivise people to walk.
1	Promoting community pride in aesthetically appealing spaces as well as a safer area for pedestrians.
1	Provides a significant boost to safety and additional, much-needed public amenity at little cost to road traffic.
1	Safety for pedestrians is very important. Permanently closing the slip lane also makes it safer for cyclists using High St.
1	Slip lanes in general are very dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. I support keeping the park. It hasn't been much used so far because it's very unattractive and traffic speeds in the area have been too high. The medians will improve that problem. As the high density units fill up there will be more people needing local open spaces. Plan for the future, make it nice and people will come. We should be prioritising pedestrians, not through traffic. That's one of the issues I voted in Greens councillors to do. So do it!
1	Some seating areas would be great as this area has few places to sit.
1	Still hard to turn right into High Street from Oakover because of visibility and hard to left from High Street into Oakover because it is such a sharp turn into a relatively narrow street.
1	The inclusion of large trees with wide canopies is very good. It mentions oaks. Is the Council using Algerian oaks? City of Melbourne Future Urban Forest gives them a good rating in response to predicted temperature increases.
1	The more green space in this area the better! The residents are changing and the surrounding needs to catch up
1	The only concern I have relates to the need for greater softening of the Left-Hand turn into Oakover Road.
1	The previous pop up was poorly designed, seating too close to reaps, inadequate turning for vehicles from High St into Oakover. His design appears to fix those issues.
1	The slip lane allowed people to drive with speed and aggression around the corner from High St into Oakover Rd. This was dangerous, particularly for pedestrians attempting to

	cross.
1	The slip lane is redundant in this location.
1	The slip lane was dangerous for pedestrians as it allowed cars to drive too fast around the corner.
1	There are plenty of roads, you should do way more things like this. There's barely any green space in Thornbury and Preston and more and more high rises. For the record, this is effectively nothing, so don't pat yourselves on the back too much. More parks and public space please, especially with higher density living
1	This area is going through a massive change, from industrial to high density residential. It is so important to dedicate any space possible to green space to ensure that current residents and residents of the future have a place to relax and absorb greenery. I highly support the proposed 'pocket park' as I believe that it is the first big step toward a new Preston South
1	This is a lovely design and makes the area more pedestrian friendly.
1	This is a terrific initiative. Thanks Darebin. The new, open, green space will really help continue the activation of the street scape and make it safer and more suitable for everyone
1	This is an area in transition. Council needs to start planning for the future face of the area. It will be a mixed use area with substantial increases in residents and jobs. Both parties will require access to high quality open space. Start planning for the future. Yes to a new public open space at the Oakover slip lane!
1	This is an excellent development for slowing traffic, greening the area and improving safety for pedestrians.
1	This project is ano brainer. The junction area is changing with more people moving in and more bars and restaurants opening in the area. We need as much public open space and safe streets as we can get.
1	This proposed design looks very nice. I like it.
1	Urbanite Ash trees would be highly suited to this location.
1	We have such few spaces where we can plant bigger trees and have some pedestrian break space, this is so perfect for this!
1	We need more open space in the junction area
1	With growing populations, more public space is a priority. Transform this area from a place to pass through to a desirable place to live
1	With large numbers of people moving into the immediate area in the next 10 years, it makes sense to take opportunity to close a redundant and dangerous slip lane and provide open space at the same time.
1	With the increase in the number of residents calling The Junction home, any green space will be very valuable to the community. There are many examples of these small parks throughout inner city Melbourne and all offer a space for pausing, gathering and a respite from the traffic and concrete. The removal of the slip lane does not remove the traffic - it

	still accommodates all directions of traffic, while at the same time providing a space for other community members who enjoy walking, riding or watching the world go by under the shade of a tree. I am a regular walker through the site, and would love a space to sit and enjoy a break from the concrete, asphalt and traffic.
1	Wonderful concept for the area
1	Yea I think it's a big improvement much safer
1	Yes - with more space to easily turn left onto Oakover Rd.
1	as a cyclist who travels along High Street it feels pretty dangerous riding along this area (cars seem to speed along here & try to cut cyclists off), but the area is changing to be more residential & so I think creating more of a community atmosphere by encouraging more people out on the streets would make the area safer & encourage cars to slow down in this now populated area. I'd also visit the area more if effort was put toward making it greener and less industrial
1	great design, sliplane must stay closed, it was really dangerous. this will be a key addition to fulfilling the vision of the JUMP masterplan.
1	highly supportive of proposal
1	safer and prettier
1	slows traffic in a good way - people hoon through the sliplane. at the end of this sliplane is where the bike lane starts and its a good place to get on and off bikes - when its been fenced off we have felt much safer - but its super ugly. it makes crossing the road easier and safer. with the preston parcel lockers located there - there is foot traffic at that intersection.
1	the design looks good

NO – comments from respondents who did not support closing the slip lane

A range of comments were received from the respondents who did not support closing the slip lane. The following themes have been identified from the comments. The top three most mentioned reasons for not supporting the closure were: the area proposed is not a suitable/ appropriate public open space area and won't be used, intersection will be blocked by increase in traffic and it would be difficult and dangerous for cars to turn.

Themes	Number
area proposed is not a suitable/ appropriate public open space area and won't be used	33
intersection will be blocked by increase in traffic	24
difficult and dangerous for cars to turn	17
not value for money	12
not safe for children	5
busy corner/ area	4
not enough foot traffic for change	3
difficult for pedestrians to cross	2

design proposed will not be the same when implemented	2
not safe for children and pets to play	1
less safe for motorists and cyclists	1
space not accessible	1
effects on emergency services	1

Verbatim Comments from respondents who do not support closing of slip lane

Count	Response
2	Traffic has slowed considerably as a result of the new median strips, which is good for pedestrians and safety. However, this intersection is now quite clogged, in several directions. The proposed open space, whilst looking nice, is not likely to actually look like this. Proposed costs could be far better spent on something that is actually an open space, as opposed to a large curb.
1	"A new public open space"? Really? Three trees, paving and two wooden benches? Talk about clutching at straws. Who is going to congregate there? Smokers? Skateboarders? Don't try and claim the public need this space.
1	Closing the slip lane helps clog traffic going in both directions which is a problem during peak hours. It's slower for vehicles to turn left as they must slow right down to do a sharp turn and while they do this cars turning right into Oakover Rd or passing through get backed up waiting to turn.
1	Creates increased traffic flow issues coming out of Oakover rd onto high st. When the pop up park was in place I never once saw anyone using it. The area just isn't suitable for a public space, the slip way was put in for a reason in the first place.
1	Even in a small car, it's difficult to make the turning in a way that doesn't make the cars behind you almost hit your car. Please return it to a slip lane. You can still beautify the island section.
1	Green space was tried and was a failure, not an appropriate place for open space. Causes yeah congestion and it's not safe for children.
1	High Street, is incredibility busy now 7 days 24 hours a day. I go through Oakover road to high street every day. Ever since the slip lane has been closed its made turning right, or left more dangerous. There have been so many near misses with cars. When the slip lane was open it made this intersection alot safer. Why have it close when there is alot more cars on the road?
1	I live right near this corner and use it several times per day. Not once did I ever see anyone use the 'pop up' park. Who'd want to? Relax next to a busy road? No thanks! Since the closing the corner has been very problematic for all users with many near misses or people having to re-attempt the corner. Even with the less acute corner in the plan the slipway must be retained for the sake of safety. Please 'green up' the area - and all of Preston - but don't create hazardous road conditions. I ask again - who would want to use this a place to relax?

1	I really do appreciate that the council is trying to make our city nicer but as a daily user of Oakover Rd i would like to see the slip lane reinstated traffic lights installed . It's a very busy Rd.
1	I think it is safer and the traffic flows much better with the slip lane open. Please reopen the slip lane.
1	It didn't work as a pop up park- it's on a. Busy road with nothing nice to look at- more functional as a slip lane
1	It is a busy corner in the middle of nowhere, it is unsafe for kids and pets to play. The cost for such a small area is not value for money
1	It is far less safe for motorists and cyclists in the current configuration. Return the slip lane!
1	It is not an are where I'd want to sit even if there were a few trees. It's busy with traffic and I'd rather go to a park or cafe. Use the money for something else and give it back to the cars. I use this road all the time and at the moment the turn from the south is a bit tight and slows down traffic from behind
1	It was an eyesore and no-one used it when it was trialed. Oakover Rd has quite a bit of traffic needing to left to get to St Georges Rd, Gilbert Rd or even the Aust Post Depot. The slip lane would make it much easier. Bring it back to what it was. Please stop wasting money unnecessarily Darebin Council. Fix the already established parks.
1	It's a busy area
1	It's already a very different intersection to navigate as a driver. Loosing the skip lane makes it harder
1	It's become a dangerous corner since the closure of the slip lane. The pop-up park blocked vision until you were very close to the intersection, and the corner turning from High (northbound) into Oakover is tight and difficult to negotiate.
1	No one used the pop up park. No one wants to spend time in a traffic island. the space is too small to form an effective park. The slip lane was useful and practical and prevented sharp turns in a busy traffic area. I am all in favour of pedestrian precincts but this is not the appropriate area! Too many cars here and not enough foot traffic to justify this change. PLEASE bring back the slip lane before there is a serious accident at this site!
1	Open for cars as huge traffic problem and last temporary park last was waste of council rates.
1	Open it up so traffic and awkward turning isn't requires. There's better places to make it more friendly to sit and relax. Plus not kid friendly.
1	Slip road is needed more. The temporary park was a waste of council money. The slip road must be reinstalled because the new single lane aspect means this will turn into a bottle neck.
1	Stairs are dangerous with no tactile markings for the blind, no handrails for the elderly and not accessible for people with prams or wheelchairs teens with

	<p>skateboards will play here with their skateboards rolling onto the road. People never sat there when the pop up 'plants in garbage bags' idea happened because those living in the area (mostly those in apartments) already have gardens/swimming pools as part of their complexes so would sit here first before going to sit on the side of the road. If there was grass it may be used for pets to go to the toilet but thats about it.</p>
1	<p>The current closure of the slip lane always feels far more dangerous than when it was open. The turn is extremely tight, far tighter than a normal left turn. I think turning it into a 'park' along the lines of the pop up is ridiculous, who wants to sit, converse, or do anything in a busy thoroughfare. However having three lanes ie left and right out of Oakover and left into makes sense to me.</p>
1	<p>The failure of the pop up park was proof that this area will never be utilised by locals as a 'new meeting space for the Preston Junction Community'. There is a lot of traffic around that corner making it too noisy and busy for relaxing or 'meeting'. Priority should be given to the cars to keep the traffic moving through the area. Having said that, where are all the 'green spaces' the developers were supposed to provide for locals (in exchange for waiver of development guidelines by council, e.g. minimum car spaces)?</p>
1	<p>The proposed design is very uninspiring and does not appear to be worth the effort or cost if it's purely about creating public space.</p>
1	<p>The slip lane helped traffic move more freely and made it easier for pedestrians to cross the road at busy times. Since the lane's closure, the intersection has been awkward, to say the least, and precarious for pedestrians. It makes the area off-putting for foot traffic - for instance, I would drive and park somewhere nearby, but would think twice about walking around the area, which would limit my patronage of businesses in the precinct. High Street in both Preston and Thornbury are great areas for walking, but this spot is a nuisance at present, and spoils the whole effect.</p>
1	<p>The slip lane should be reinstated to traffic ASAP. It was a very misguided decision to close it, and waste rate-payers money on a pop-up park. It was a poor location for a "park", in an inhospitable location that no-one was ever going to use, surrounded by a never-ending cavalcade of trucks, cars and noisy motorbikes. Spend the money you were going to waste, on this fool's errand, and plant mature trees along this section of High Street and Oakover Road. If you have ever walked along this area in the height of summer you would be aware how the scorching footpaths along High St are in desperate need of some shade trees. This will require the planting of non-indigenous trees to provide an adequate level of shade and cooling in the massive concrete jungle that has been created in council's bid to accommodate apartment developers.</p>
1	<p>The space is quite small and i can't see it being well utilised. Re-open the slip lane.</p>
1	<p>The space is too small and the slip lane is needed. Without the slip lane the left turn is too dangerous.</p>
1	<p>The space is very small and bordered by two busy roads, which does not make it a place people are likely to stop or linger. As a pop up park it seemed</p>

	to get very little use, and it's not a pleasant place to stop or be. While I understand the aim of better/more open space in the area, this isn't a good location.
1	The traffic moves smoother with the slip lane. The corner is way to busy to want it to become a public precinct. I never saw anyone using it, when you made it into a green space. Such a waste of tax payers money, trying to reinvent the slip lane. Re - open the slip lane!
1	There is no foot traffic that travels West down Oakover Road. I totally support the development of public open spaces but this isn't one of those spaces that should be transformed. I use Oakover Rd/High Street Junction twice a day and I never saw anyone use the pop up park so why spend money doing it permanently.
1	There is no possibility of cars turning into both from the south and north and out of the road turning right or left and would be dangerous
1	There was a pop up park there for a while. It wasn't useable (I tried) and I never once saw anyone utilise it even though it was well resourced with trees, seating and ground cover.
1	This area has become very dangerous with cars both turning into Oakover and onto High St. It is way too tight a turn and an accident waiting to happen. The slip road needs to reopen. The 'green space' that was opened there last year was an ongoing joke, looked ridiculous and was never used. Very frustrating as a local.
1	This is not a quiet tranquil area, its a busy intersection. Its not safe place for children to play or to sit and rest. There is a lot of traffic that turn at that intersection its a road junction not a meeting place. There is not enough room on the junction to provide space for everything that is planned. You could sit and smell the petrol fumes and watch cars to go past but its not an area for a social gathering.
1	This space is too small and poorly located for a public open space
1	To me it just looks like turning the section into concrete no one wants to sit on a corner and watch the traffic go by
1	Traffic is bad enough we should be creating roads not closing them.
1	Unsafe environment for kids and people to socialise. ImaPacts traffic flow I
1	Waste of space
1	What a waste of money seriously who is going to enjoy that space especially in that location? Possible Andrew congregation area for alcoholics and druggies.
1	Who is going to use this space for anything other than a footpath
1	With the slip lane closed, the left hand turn from High St in Oakover rd is too tight. When the pop up green spaces was located at that spot earlier in the year, I walked past with my family. We commented that at no point would we use that space. It is too close to a major rd and there in no safety for young

	kids.
1	as a driver and pedestren on this intersection the area is not one where people will sit. i used the 'pop up park' there once. it felt strange to be sitting on the intersection of a busy street with my kids and i couldn't relax. while this is more appropariate, the current interseaction is far too sharp for a left turn off high st into oakover. if the need for pedestrian safety is of concern, put a zebra crossing in. the illustration makes this area look much bigger than it is,so a few trees and a seat are about all you could do, if considering a better flow of traffic through the intersection.
1	leave it as a slip for traffic, high st is congested enough
1	please leave the slip lane in place
1	there is very little pedestrian use of the area the pop up park was a disaster and NOT utilized it is not a residential area a public space should be located where it is utilized not an add hoc position like this
1	waste of money as more urgent council repairs on services needto be addressed. The road is already congested and have serious concerns of safety to all in case of a fire. Has traffic studies been done to the area on all the changes? has the effects on emergency services been tken inot account
1	we need the left hand slip lane as it takes the pressure off congestion of traffic and it is safer and to make it safe to walk and drive through

Verbatim Comments from respondent who chose 'Cannot Say'

Count	Response
1	Will the Trees make it dangerous for cars turning right into High St? If you can do this design but not impede visibility while also implementing a right turning lane into High Street while making a bit more room for cars turning left into Oakover (I think that is very do-able) then that would be PERFECT. A win/win situation EVERYBODY will be happy.

Do you have any other comments regarding the Oakover Slip Lane Project?

YES – other comments received from respondents who support closing the slip lane

The following verbatim other comments were received from respondents who supported closing the slip lane.

Count	Response
2	A great idea!
2	Just do it!
1	- the stairs could be visually confusing the people with vision impairment, they need a railing and stair nosings and TGSIs or to be a different surface to the main ground

	surface to indicate a change in gradient and potential tripping hazard. - could the ramp access be moved into the centre or along the building line? - the natural gradient ramp is not obvious, needs railings.
1	A pedestrian crossing on high street would be a nice to have
1	A piazza/seating type area would be good, for people to stop, eat their lunch, etc. Bike loops could be useful.
1	As a resident of the Junction I enthusiastically support the Oakover Slip Plan Project. The increase in tree canopy will improve the experience of walking and the seats will provide a place to meet friends or take a quick break.
1	As long as the vehicle turning is improved, then the new design would be a good one for the area.
1	As more residents move into the area, this is a great idea. People can stop with their dogs. Changing the face of the area, from industrial to liveable.
1	Cars can still use the road. It's safer and will mean more people congregate and socialise in the street. It's an important way to build friendships in the neighbourhood. The design is simple enough so people can use it in their own way. I fully support it!
1	Consider including a raised pedestrian table across Oakover as part of the project, as per a number of other side roads abutting High Street.
1	Could we have a water bottle refilling station there?
1	Council is slowing speeds and installing a median in this area to accommodate the expected increased numbers of pedestrians. It also has retained the bike lanes to assist cyclists. It makes no sense whatsoever to reopen the slip lane, which is not needed and poses a hazard for cyclists and pedestrians in the area.
1	Create a community area
1	Drinking fountain to also include a dog drinking fountain Access to power in the garden beds for 'fairy' lighting in trees. Power points for doing a pop-up entertainment (Eg Carols on the corner) Therapeutic stones embedded into paving.
1	Excellent planning and design
1	Exciting prospect at having a permanent green public open space at the slip lane
1	Feature trees will be important to the space
1	Get working!
1	Great idea. I bought an apartment last October and it's great to see the development on high st, making it safer for cyclists and pedestrians.
1	Great initiative.
1	Great work by council - testing an idea first and arriving to a fact-based solution.
1	I fully support it

1	I like what you are doing with the JUMP project
1	I really think it's a great proposal I love what's happening in the area, keep up the good work
1	I support building a pocket park in place of the slip lane
1	I think it is a great idea and it will greatly enhance the Junction
1	I think it is great that the slip lane is being converted into open space, I just think it is prudent that people driving north and turning left from High Street into Oakover Rd need a more natural turn as the 90-degree angle is a bit difficult to navigate at the moment.
1	I think more than two bicycle loops are needed. I'm a cyclist and I want cycling to be encouraged in Darebin as much as possible. More bike loops please.
1	I travel down that part of High Street on the bus or car. I have not noticed any issues with the traffic. The traffic flows at the steady 40km speed, no hold ups, just a slower amble.
1	I would like to see more greenery included in the design above. The trees are great, but I think we need designs that reduce the amount of concrete in our cities.
1	I would support implementation of similar road infrastructure changes in Darebin.
1	It is a wonderful Council initiative to make our living space more attractive and improve the amenity of the area.
1	It is forward thinking
1	It would only work and enhance the area if there is a lot of greenery and less of a concrete/grey feel. Possibly with grass, sitting area and maybe herb garden?
1	JUMP improvements have been talked about for a long time - get a wriggle on :) PS - the travel islands that have been placed along High street wasn't the greatest idea. Traffic has worsened and it is more difficult for cars to turn.
1	Just do it, we need more of this innovative thinking and to further prioritise pedestrians (and the safety of pedestrians)! Also, please consider placing some strategically placed bollards / more trees / planter boxes etc on the perimeter of the area to protect pedestrians from out of control drivers.
1	Love it! Also love all of the new median strips and trees in the area. The native plants in the new gardens are awesome.
1	Maybe some feature ground lighting for night highlight trees, seating or public art, denser planting of trees to create protected oasis
1	More public space makes for better living.
1	More space for bicycles would be nice.
1	My only concern regarding the redesign of this space is that it is an extremely hard turn when turning in a vehicle left from High Street onto Oakover. Any works to address this would be welcomed.

1	Need to think about traffic flow and safety.
1	Plant lots of trees!
1	Please ensure WSUD and other rain gardens are utilised in the design.
1	Please incorporate ground level greenery, garden beds, grasses, etc. Current design looks very concrete heavy.
1	Please please do not reopen as a road!
1	Please, please make Oakover Road a No Right Turn into High Street. It's a nightmare in the mornings trying to turn left there with all the right hand turners having to wait so long to turn right. I have to do rabbit runs around all the back streets to get out of that intersection. I use this intersection twice a day, at least.
1	Potentially widening the current Oakover Rd entrance to avoid trucks and cars going over the pavement and/or garden bed.
1	Providing community infrastructure in this area will only increase in cost as the area gentrifies. Use this as public open space while the opportunity exists! Let's move away from reliance on cars in this area that is so well serviced by public and active transport. Help to catalyse change in the area.
1	Since the closure of the slip lane it is very difficult for pedestrians to cross safely. Please install greater traffic calming measures to improve pedestrian safety
1	So pedestrians have one less road to cross.
1	Some more signage to make people aware of the speed limit would be a good idea.
1	Suggestions include: As much greenery as possible whilst allowing for pedestrian movement. Presently the municipality has an excessive amount of concrete and other impervious surfaces. Native trees instead of deciduous trees to provide winter greenery. A pedestrian friendly crossing across Oakover Road (presently there is none). A boulevard of Eucalypts along Oakover Road to soften the road and provide winter greenery and habitat for wildlife including nectar feeding birds.
1	The Artist's proposed design for the new public open space is a definite beautification of the site and a public-friendly upgrade. I do hope it goes ahead.
1	The crossing of Oakover Lane and the train line requires urgent attention. The condition of the road in the area is a traffic hazard.
1	The face of the area is changing. Start introducing public space now. Darebin will be a more desirable place
1	The forest of signs on the High Street median strips before and after Oakover make it extremely difficult to see approaching cars when turning right into Oakover from High. I understand the need to ensure drivers see the median strip itself, but couldn't this be achieved by reflective markers along the base of the strips and fewer signs? I've seen several near misses, presumably because drivers' vision has been blocked. Finally, is council factoring in the huge amount of construction (and subsequent traffic) that will be occurring when the Australia Post site closes and is rebuilt as apartments??

1	The more large trees the better. Please consider installing a zebra crossing where Oakover joins High Street to make it even safer.
1	The new design is far preferable to the old, dangerous slip lane.
1	The pop park gave us a taste of how we can bring this area to life so that it works to calm traffic, be a safer place for pedestrians and bring much needed green space to the Junction - the large trees and seating is a great addition.
1	The pop up park was great, I've been sad its been gone for so long.
1	The proposal looks great on paper. I hope it will, if completed, look as good.
1	The redesign of this area needs to include differentiated colours/pavers for the crossings to indicate that it is a pedestrian crossing. It's been shown that cars respond to different pavement colours by slowing down. The crossing of Oakover Road as well as the High St crossing should include this in the design.
1	The works that have been done already in the junction has made massive changes to the character of the area. More people walk the streets, the cars are slower and riding along high street is significantly safer, due to the changes to the street and traffic calming its has created. Council should be applauded on their work to date. This slip lane closure is a no brainer.
1	There are plenty of roads, you should do way more things like this. There's barely any green space in Thornbury and Preston and more and more high rises. For the record, this is effectively nothing, so don't pat yourselves on the back too much. More parks and public space please, especially with higher density living.
1	This improves and adds value to the area. It will encourage people to acknowledge each other as they pass by. It will slow down the speed of the area.
1	This will compliment the new trees on high st
1	Trees. We need more greenery in your proposal. Soon there wont be a green space left at junction. Can you put more greenery in. More than one tree? What about a ring of skinny tres
1	Widen the left turn area so increase current size and reduce proposed open public space.
1	a bubbler/water filling station & somewhere to lock up bikes would be a good addition that would encourage people to stop and use the space
1	lets do it
1	this looks really great, i strongly support this vision
1	this project should be about the future of the junction area, not one dominated by cars speeding through!
1	trees and seats would be nice - wasnt super keen on the last one with the food truck cause having groups of people loiter at an intersection was a bit odd! the more greenery the better. High street needs more green.

NO – other comments received from respondents who do not support closing the slip lane

The following verbatim other comments were received from respondents who did not support closing the slip lane.

Count	Response
2	I like the new median strips. Much safer. Pedestrian lights could also enable safer passage.
1	Anyone I have spoken to around here thinks it is idiocy and would prefer money to go to providing other improvements in this area to compensate for the horrible environment being created by over development.
1	As there is no slip lane for turning left into Oakover Road it is very dangerous for all, drivers, walkers. Please put it back to how it was.
1	As there is only going to be more traffic in Darebin in the future, making busy intersections smaller is short-sighted and potentially dangerous. At some point it is likely a right turning lane and/or traffic lights will be needed at that intersection, and losing the slip lane to unnecessary "public space" will make this harder to achieve. Further, I can't imagine why people would want to sit and hang out at the intersection of two busy roads.
1	Bring back the slip lane and when the constructors are finished there they can move to the roundabouts on the corner of Massey Ave and Glasgow Ave and Radford Rd and Glasgow Ave. They have been completely ruined by trucks since becoming detour routes during the construction of the roundabout corner of Massey Ave and Broadhurst Ave.
1	Bring it back :)
1	By closing it off the way it is now makes it difficult to turn off an already busy street
1	Dangerous for cyclist and residents
1	Dig up the concrete in the island and plant some trees.
1	Enough said I think.
1	Far too dangerous for an open space. The fumes from cars and the chance of cars mounting the area because of traffic congestion or a wet day mishap....Far far too dangerous to be an open space for pedestrians
1	I do not support the closure of the slip lane. I think it is safer and better for traffic with the lane open.
1	I don't know why it's taking so long- Just turn it back into a skip lane
1	I encourage to keep looking for little pockets to improve. This spot however isnt suitable.
1	I love useable outdoor space - Green or paved. i believe the slip lane should be

	re-opened and the cash used elsewhere. That spot is inappropriate for "relaxation" or "hanging out".
1	I mostly drive through this precinct but I also walk here.
1	I never saw anybody "enjoying" the pop-up park while it was there and I pass it twice each day. The area isn't close to any houses so doesn't get much foot traffic. Provide a decent through road for traffic to pass north-south through Darebin before providing these traffic clogging "solutions". Why do you even expect that people would come to this spot for relaxation when traffic passes by all day long making it an unpleasant spot for a quiet cup of tea. You'll never find families with kids here, it just isn't safe.
1	Invest MONEY INTO PARKS.
1	It does need some kind of crossing there for pedestrians
1	It is an extremely tight turn into oak over road travelling any direction from high, especially left if there is any waiting traffic in the side street. Adding the risk of increased pedestrian traffic will increase time spent at the corner and congestion.
1	It's caused traffic congestion!
1	Its dangerous for children, should be kept as slip road
1	Keeping it closed also impedes the traffic flow. Please re-open as a turning lane.
1	Leave it open as it allows the traffic to flow alot quicker with alot less risk.
1	Perhaps it might be possible to compromise from the original slip lane, and the current impossible jutting out corner, which puts both cars coming out of Oakover and cyclists in jeopardy.
1	Please reinstate the slip lane to ease traffic congestion. Invest capital funds in other green areas.
1	Please reopen before someone is seriously hurt.
1	Please spend money elsewhere.
1	Reinstate it (the slip way) and beautify the traffic island. Not a soul will use it as a place to sit and relax - please see the reality of this.
1	Return it back to car use as it was safer.
1	Seems such an odd place to be trying to put public open space. It's an intersection between busy roads, and that section of High St doesn't have a lot of appeal for people to sit and enjoy it - you won't lift the street character much by creating this public space. And if it does attract people, the narrowed road at that place is more likely to cause accidents through the reduced vision of cars, and potentially increased number of pedestrians.
1	Slip way entering oak over from high street is much more useful as new planting in middle of road has made this turning a bottle neck.
1	Stop wasting tax payers money and leave the slip lane as a slip lane.

1	The artists impression in the brochure is not to scale, giving the impression that the 'park' will be much more spacious than actually possible. The people and cars are drawn smaller than they should be proportionate to the space). This is deceptive... unless the council has acquired some of the car park from the reception centre on the corner??
1	The design of the public space above looks great so if it does go ahead at least the turn has been rounded not like the sharp turn it is at the moment. Your work is appreciated even though you probably cop plenty of criticism at times
1	There is a park just further up on St Georges Road which could be turned into a great place to sit under trees, there is already a playground and seating and shelter could be proved for a community gathering area. I would rather see money spent on developing this area where there is plenty of space to grow extra trees. It will provide a permanent area designed to enjoy a quiet rest or family time with picnic areas and playground without too much through traffic to worry about.
1	This is the biggest white elephant I've ever seen.
1	Turn it into a bike lane to meet up with the bike path on St Georges Road.
1	Waste of tax payer funds in my opinion. Can think of a million better ways to spend money then putting a park on a busy intersection, causing traffic issues that simply won't be used...crazy idea but thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback
1	With the current closure of the slip lane the intersection has become more congested and turning in to Oakover road is much harder to navigate.
1	With the new median strips in place, anything that gets traffic off high street quicker with the slip lane will help those trying to turn right from the other side of high street (apartment car park).
1	Yes, I do not feel this design is necessary and is costly. I support the idea of more trees and making the footpath safe but from the picture of the design it is not really open space just more concrete. I am sorry the Darebin Council disagrees and feel I do have a point regarding my objections
1	Yes, don't waste public money on such a small area. Just one block down toward the railway line there is long strips of grassy area that could be developed into a nicer open space. Also, how about making the developer leave open space in front of their apartment buildings?
1	Yes. Return it to car use. It's not a useful public space
1	You have made that intersection very dangerous for drives turning left or right into Oakover. Visibility of on coming traffic along high st is now blocked by the low level street signs.
1	it is a safety issue if it closed off completely as it is hard to do a left hand turn and right hand turn builds up traffic waiting for the left hand turns
1	its currently difficult to drive in that intersection. the turning lane into high st is only a single lane, with cars held up if a car is turning right. A better option would be a left and right turning lane and a wider lane that is not so sharp for turning left from high st. Have traffic lights been considered as an option for this intersection. there seems to be a bit of traffic on both high st turning right into Oakover, as well as

	exiting the street onto high st in both directions at busy times that create delays.
1	removal of the slip lane has made entering Oakover Road dangerous
1	terrible proposal

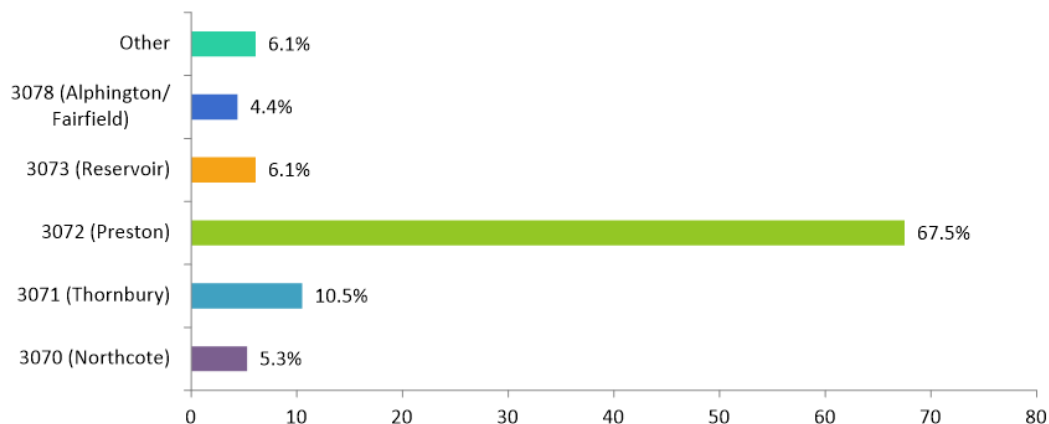
The following verbatim other comment was received from the respondent who chose 'Cannot Say'.

Count	Response
1	There is plenty of room for the council to include a right turning lane. I'd say at least 65% of traffic turns left into High St from Oakover which is a breeze to do. Turning right can be a nightmare though and banks up traffic.

About You

What is your postcode?

YES – postcode of respondents who support closing the slip lane



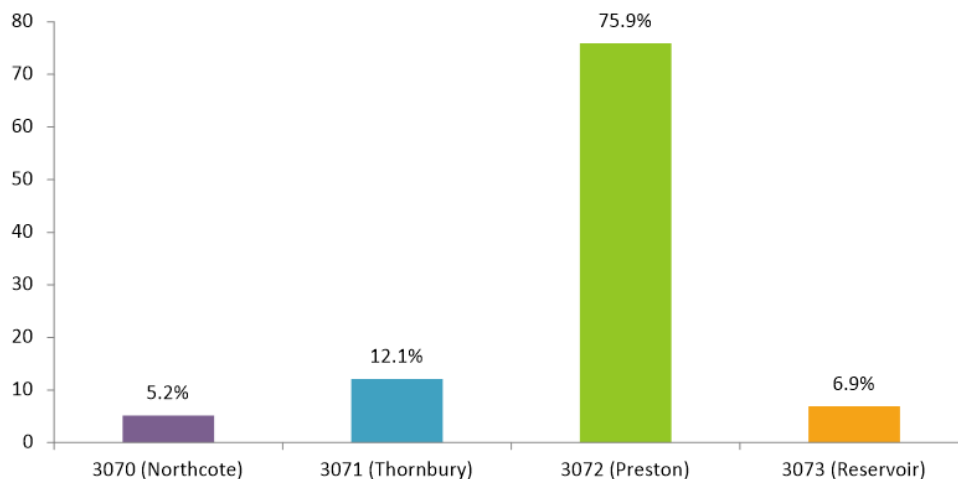
Value	Percent	Count
3070 (Northcote)	5.3%	6
3071 (Thornbury)	10.5%	12
3072 (Preston)	67.5%	77
3073 (Reservoir)	6.1%	7
3078 (Alphington/ Fairfield)	4.4%	5
Other	6.1%	7
	Total	114

The majority of the 114 respondents who supported closing the slip lane live in 'Preston' (67.5%). There were also a notable proportion of respondents who live in 'Thornbury' (10.5%). The large majority of the respondents live in Darebin.

The following postcodes were received from respondents who chose 'Other'.

Other	Count
3058	3
3053	1
3067	1
3081	1
Total	6

NO – postcode of respondents who do not support closing the slip lane



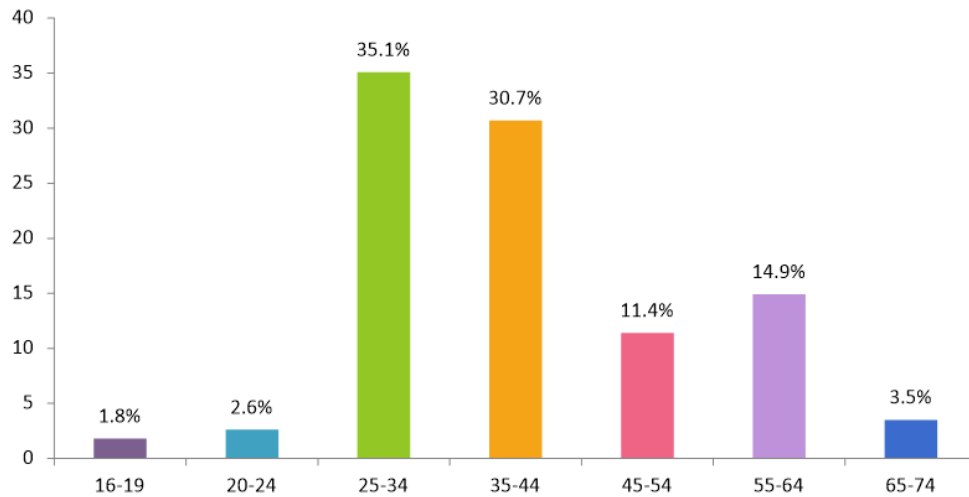
Value	Percent	Count
3070 (Northcote)	5.2%	3
3071 (Thornbury)	12.1%	7
3072 (Preston)	75.9%	44
3073 (Reservoir)	6.9%	4
	Total	58

Three quarters of the respondents who did not support closing the slip lane live in 'Preston' (75.9%). There were also a notable proportion of respondents who live in 'Thornbury' (12.1%). All respondents live in Darebin.

The respondent who chose 'Cannot Say' indicated that they live in Preston.

What is your age group?

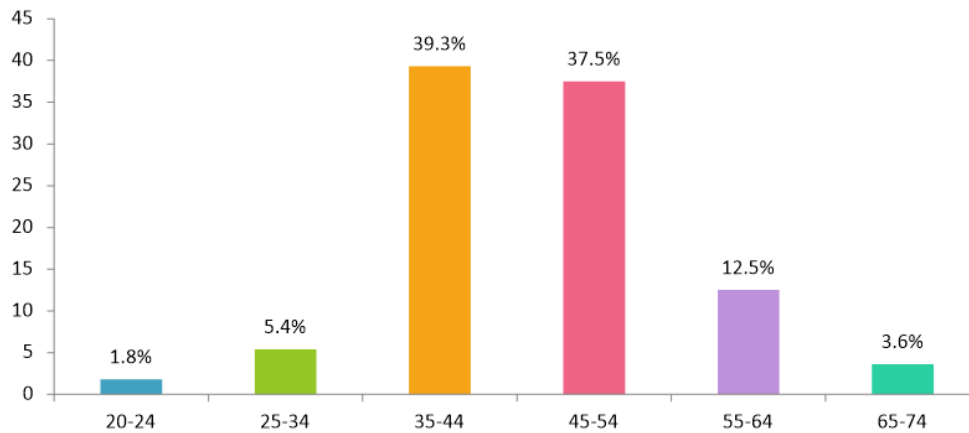
YES – age group of respondents who support closing the slip lane



Value	Percent	Count
16-19	1.8%	2
20-24	2.6%	3
25-34	35.1%	40
35-44	30.7%	35
45-54	11.4%	13
55-64	14.9%	17
65-74	3.5%	4
	Total	114

The highest proportion of the 114 respondents who supported closing the slip lane indicated they were in the '25-34' age group (35.1%). This was closely followed by the '35-44' age group. All age groups with the exception of '75 and over' were represented.

NO – age group of respondents who do not support closing the slip lane



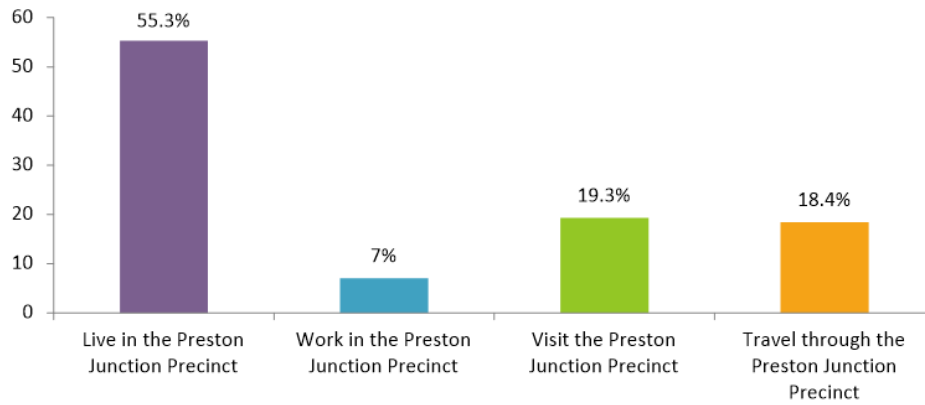
Value	Percent	Count
20-24	1.8%	1
25-34	5.4%	3
35-44	39.3%	22
45-54	37.5%	21
55-64	12.5%	7
65-74	3.6%	2
	Total	56

The highest proportion of the 56 respondents who did not support closing the slip lane indicated they were in the '35-44' age group (39.3%). This was very closely followed by the '45-54' age group. Most age groups were represented except for the '16-19' and '75 and over' age groups.

The respondent who chose 'Cannot Say' indicated that they were in the '45-54' age group.

Do you:

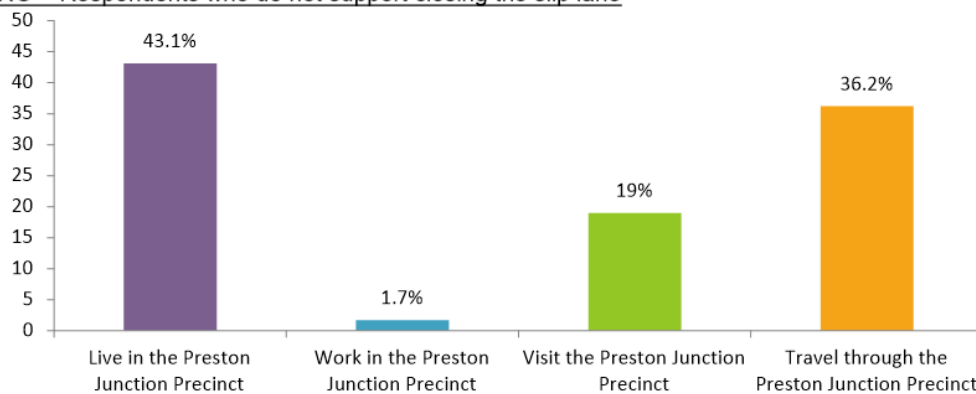
YES – Respondents who support closing the slip lane



Value	Percent	Count
Live in the Preston Junction Precinct	55.3%	63
Work in the Preston Junction Precinct	7.0%	8
Visit the Preston Junction Precinct	19.3%	22
Travel through the Preston Junction Precinct	18.4%	21
	Total	114

Over half of the 114 respondents who supported closing the slip lane indicated that they 'Live in the Preston Junction Precinct' (55.3%).

NO – Respondents who do not support closing the slip lane



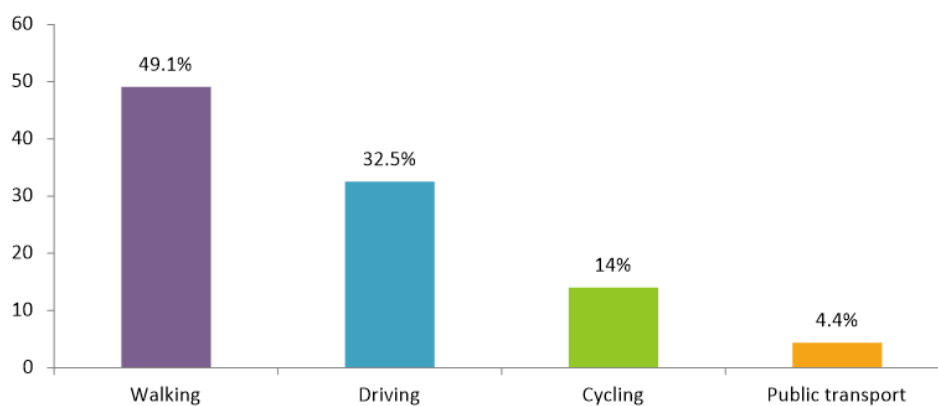
Value	Percent	Count
Live in the Preston Junction Precinct	43.1%	25
Work in the Preston Junction Precinct	1.7%	1
Visit the Preston Junction Precinct	19.0%	11
Travel through the Preston Junction Precinct	36.2%	21
	Total	58

The highest proportion of the respondents who did not support closing the slip lane indicated that they 'Live in the Preston Junction Precinct' (43.1%). This was followed by 'Travel through the Preston Junction Precinct' (36.2%).

The respondent who chose 'Cannot Say' indicated that they 'Travel through the Preston Junction Precinct'.

Which transport mode do you primarily take when going past the Oakover slip lane area?

YES – Respondents who support closing the slip lane

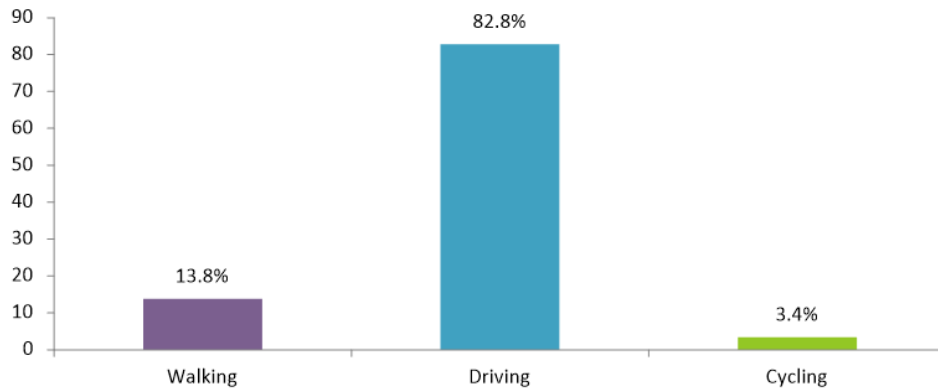


Value	Percent	Count
Walking	49.1%	56
Driving	32.5%	37
Cycling	14.0%	16
Public transport	4.4%	5

	Total	114
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Just under half of the 114 respondents who supported closing the slip lane indicated that they walked when going past the Oakover slip lane (49.1%). Just under a third indicated that that drove past.

NO – Respondents who did not support closing the slip lane



Value	Percent	Count
Walking	13.8%	8
Driving	82.8%	48
Cycling	3.4%	2
	Total	58

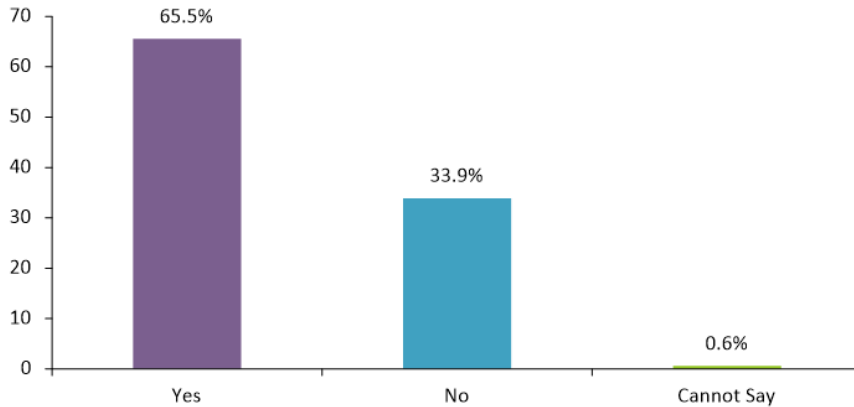
The large majority of the 58 respondents who did not support closing the slip lane indicated that they drove when going past the Oakover slip lane (82.8%).

The respondent who chose 'Cannot Say' indicated that they drove when going past the Oakover slip lane.

Appendix A

General Findings

After looking at the proposed design for the slip lane area, do you support closing the slip lane to create a new public open space? Please explain your answer in the comments box below.



Value	Percent	Count
Yes	65.5%	114
No	33.9%	59
Cannot Say	0.6%	1
	Total	174

The following are the verbatim comments that were received to support the response of the respondents.

Count	Response
3	This is a builtup area in need of open public space
2	A new park will be great for the area. It's small, but the more trees the better!
2	Traffic has slowed considerably as a result of the new median strips, which is good for pedestrians and safety. However, this intersection is now quite clogged, in several directions. The proposed open space, whilst looking nice, is not likely to actually look like this. Proposed costs could be far better spent on something that is actually an open space, as opposed to a large curb.
1	"A new public open space"? Really? Three trees, paving and two wooden benches? Talk about clutching at straws. Who is going to congregate there? Smokers? Skateboarders? Don't try and claim the public need this space.
1	A great idea to bring some greenery into this industrial area that is becoming residential

1	AS LONG AS YOU IMPROVE ABILITY FOR CARS TO TURN LEFT INTO OAKOVER ROAD
1	Area needs new pedestrian friendly spaces given the amount of people living in the area now.
1	As someone who has only recently bought a property in the area I often wondered why the slip lane was disused. It seems logical to reclaim this area as a public space. I think the bike service area is a particularly important feature as there are very few of these facilities in the area. I think it would be great if the council could come to some sort of arrangement to expand this area in the near future. As an interim fix the council should offer to integrate the 'Spirit of India's front fence into the project to bring it up to the same standard as the rest of the proposed development.
1	Attractive, safe and pedestrian-friendly
1	BUT only if the space is designed with access in mind. If not then reopen it to cars.
1	Beautifies the local busy- road based area. Preston can be more attractive and this helps!
1	Because the streetscape is for locals to use and enjoy, not a thoroughfare for cars and commuters who could easily use alternate routes. If we are supporting higher density living and apartments, we need to reclaim as many public spaces as possible!
1	Because then pedestrians don't have to cross the slip lane and they can get across quicker. Age:7.
1	Closing the slip lane helps clog traffic going in both directions which is a problem during peak hours. It's slower for vehicles to turn left as they must slow right down to do a sharp turn and while they do this cars turning right into Oakover Rd or passing through get backed up waiting to turn.
1	Creates increased traffic flow issues coming out of Oakover rd onto high st. When the pop up park was in place I never once saw anyone using it. The area just isn't suitable for a public space, the slip way was put in for a reason in the first place.
1	Crossing here with kids (or even without!) is not good, kinda threatening in fact. I'd love to have a safer street, that is also welcoming to have more people out walking.
1	Darebin needs more trees and open space.
1	Do it do it do it do it! :-)
1	Even in a small car, it's difficult to make the turning in a way that doesn't make the cars behind you almost hit your car. Please return it to a slip lane. You can still beautify the island section.
1	Fantastic!! Will provide traffic calming along High Street and a good place to eat my lunch!
1	Given the function of High Street as a 'place' rather than a corridor for heavy car traffic, a high speed left turn slip is completely inappropriate and counter to creating an attractive walkable environment. I completely support closing the slip lane, as well as council's other efforts to reduce car dominance along High Street in Preston.
1	Given the large number of multi-storey developments / apartment buildings being constructed, Darebin needs more open space and greenery. Also, it absolutely must be more pedestrian-friendly!!

1	Great that cars have slowed at the intersection making it safer for pedestrians and young families with young children.
1	Green space was tried and was a failure, not an appropriate place for open space. Causes yeah congestion and it's not safe for children.
1	High Street, is incredibly busy now 7 days 24 hours a day. I go through Oakover road to high street every day. Ever since the slip lane has been closed its made turning right, or left more dangerous. There have been so many near misses with cars. When the slip lane was open it made this intersection alot safer. Why have it close when there is alot more cars on the road?
1	I believe it may be easier and safer for drivers turning left, or right, into Oakover Road, with the closing of the slip lane.
1	I like the bike repair station, bike hoops, rubbish bins and added greenery. The space at the moment looks very sad so it would be good to see it rejuvenated and welcoming. The tram detail sounds nice too. The wider turning circle for drivers is a very important aspect of the proposed design. We live in the JUMP precinct and frequently walk, drive and cycle through the Oakover precinct.
1	I like the idea of green garden spaces. To plant a few bigger native trees to support the native bird life.
1	I live in the Junction precinct and it's currently a depressing concrete jungle in desperate need of more green. The proposed design will make it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly and safer.
1	I live right near this corner and use it several times per day. Not once did I ever see anyone use the 'pop up' park. Who'd want to? Relax next to a busy road? No thanks! Since the closing the corner has been very problematic for all users with many near misses or people having to re-attempt the corner. Even with the less acute corner in the plan the slipway must be retained for the sake of safety. Please 'green up' the area - and all of Preston - but don't create hazardous road conditions. I ask again - who would want to use this a place to relax?
1	I love the idea of deciduous / shade trees. A large oak (as noted in the brochure) would be perfect. If it were possible, I'd like to see the corner rounded off a bit for cars, to make the turn less tight- but not too much, to keep the public space large.
1	I really do appreciate that the council is trying to make our city nicer but as a daily user of Oakover Rd I would like to see the slip lane reinstated traffic lights installed. It's a very busy Rd.
1	I support this because we should be promoting pedestrian access over car traffic.
1	I think it is safer and the traffic flows much better with the slip lane open. Please reopen the slip lane.
1	I think this is a fantastic idea! More green space and less traffic is terrific!
1	I think this is a great idea. Any improvements to high st Preston is welcomed.
1	I totally support any urban design initiative that improves the aesthetic quality of Darebin and more importantly, that involves the planting of trees that will reduce the heat.
1	I would like to see continued changes to this stretch of High Street to promote foot traffic, calm vehicular traffic and reduce heavy vehicle usage.

1	Important for community, having open space with nature. Positive on so many levels! It's a must.
1	Improve safety Increase pedestrian amenities Encourage sustainable transport modes
1	It didn't work as a pop up park- it's on a. Busy road with nothing nice to look at- more functional as a slip lane
1	It is a busy corner in the middle of nowhere; it is unsafe for kids and pets to play. The cost for such a small area is not value for money
1	It is better in every way creating a pleasant respite area and safer crossing for pedestrians as well as being visually interesting
1	It is far less safe for motorists and cyclists in the current configuration. Return the slip lane!
1	It is not an area where I'd want to sit even if there were a few trees. It's busy with traffic and I'd rather go to a park or cafe. Use the money for something else and give it back to the cars. I use this road all the time and at the moment the turn from the south is a bit tight and slows down traffic from behind
1	It looks friendly and safe
1	It was an eyesore and no-one used it when it was trialled. Oakover Rd has quite a bit of traffic needing to left to get to St Georges Rd, Gilbert Rd or even the Aust Post Depot. The slip lane would make it much easier. Bring it back to what it was. Please stop wasting money unnecessarily Darebin Council. Fix the already established parks.
1	It will make a pleasant, safer pedestrian respite
1	It will make the whole intersection safer for both motorists and pedestrians
1	It will provide an attractive and safer intersection
1	It's a busy area
1	It's a great idea to continue the good work council is doing by adding trees to public spaces in the area. Well done, great idea!
1	It's already a very different intersection to navigate as a driver. Loosing the skip lane makes it harder
1	It's become a dangerous corner since the closure of the slip lane. The pop-up park blocked vision until you were very close to the intersection, and the corner turning from High (northbound) into Oakover is tight and difficult to negotiate.
1	It's fairly a unattractive space currently and we really don't need the slip lane and we DO need more public open space desperately.
1	Looks really nice! Thank you.
1	Love the design, just need to ensure cars don't drive over it if it is too flat to the surface of the road.
1	Love the space and trees
1	Makes the area a lot more people friendly. Not just a space for cars to pass through.
1	Making the area attractive, resident friendly, safer

1	More desirable public space, reduce traffic speed. Over time all of the old industrial buildings in that area will become apartments and more people will be walking around the area. Helping to create a vibrant shopping precinct on the northern high street. When will the Woolworths site be redeveloped...?! Knock down the Paintmobile building (with peeling paint, haha) and create a pedestrian thoroughfare that connects through to a dynamic northern precinct on that Woolies site.
1	More public space makes for better living
1	My family drives, walks and cycles through this intersection. I support the proposal with some caution. I can't tell from the 3D whether a reasonable swept path has been allowed for vehicles turning left into Oakover. The hard corner is a nightmare at the moment! Also, the 3D isn't very helpful in understanding how the intersection would be traversed by people in wheelchairs and scooters. Those comments notwithstanding, I do appreciate the possibility of greening up an otherwise barren corner.
1	Need more roads to accommodate the increase in traffic and development. Not a good location for a park - prefer railway place for open space. Concept needs to be implemented. No half baked design.
1	Nice green space
1	No effect on traffic, safer for pedestrians and increasing tree coverage - I fail to see a downside.
1	No one used the pop up park. No one wants to spend time in a traffic island. The space is too small to form an effective park. The slip lane was useful and practical and prevented sharp turns in a busy traffic area. I am all in favour of pedestrian precincts but this is not the appropriate area! Too many cars here and not enough foot traffic to justify this change. PLEASE bring back the slip lane before there is a serious accident at this site!
1	Open for cars as huge traffic problem and last temporary park last was waste of council rates.
1	Open it up so traffic and awkward turning isn't required. There's better places to make it more friendly to sit and relax. Plus not kid friendly.
1	Please do everything you can to reduce the number of speeding cars on high street. The use of reclaimed timber for benches and maybe some fruit trees
1	Please keep the slip lane closed. As a pedestrian in this area, it is difficult enough to get across Oakover Road as is with the slip lane closed. If it were to be reopened, it would make crossing the road even harder. Cars drive way too fast through here and no one is looking out for pedestrians.
1	Please plant some decent natives, instead of introduced species
1	Plenty road has become a popular place for residents to take short walks to restaurants, neighbours, and the library. Closing the slip lane makes sense. When the slip lane was open, drivers accelerate. It disincentivises people to walk.
1	Promoting community pride in aesthetically appealing spaces as well as a safer area for pedestrians.
1	Provides a significant boost to safety and additional, much-needed public amenity at little cost to road traffic.
1	Safety for pedestrians is very important. Permanently closing the slip lane also makes it safer for cyclists using High St.

1	Slip lanes in general are very dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. I support keeping the park. It hasn't been much used so far because it's very unattractive and traffic speeds in the area have been too high. The medians will improve that problem. As the high density units fill up there will be more people needing local open spaces. Plan for the future, make it nice and people will come. We should be prioritising pedestrians, not through traffic. That's one of the issues I voted in Greens councillors to do. So do it!
1	Slip road is needed more. The temporary park was a waste of council money. The slip road must be reinstated because the new single lane aspect means this will turn into a bottle neck.
1	Some seating areas would be great as this area has few places to sit.
1	Stairs are dangerous with no tactile markings for the blind, no handrails for the elderly and not accessible for people with prams or wheelchairs. Teens with skateboards will play here with their skateboards rolling onto the road. People never sat there when the pop up 'plants in garbage bags' idea happened because those living in the area (mostly those in apartments) already have gardens/swimming pools as part of their complexes so would sit here first before going to sit on the side of the road. If there was grass it may be used for pets to go to the toilet but that's about it.
1	Still hard to turn right into High Street from Oakover because of visibility and hard to left from High Street into Oakover because it is such a sharp turn into a relatively narrow street.
1	The current closure of the slip lane always feels far more dangerous than when it was open. The turn is extremely tight, far tighter than a normal left turn. I think turning it into a 'park' along the lines of the pop up is ridiculous, who wants to sit, converse, or do anything in a busy thoroughfare. However having three lanes i.e. left and right out of Oakover and left into makes sense to me.
1	The failure of the pop up park was proof that this area will never be utilised by locals as a 'new meeting space for the Preston Junction Community'. There is a lot of traffic around that corner making it too noisy and busy for relaxing or 'meeting'. Priority should be given to the cars to keep the traffic moving through the area. Having said that, where are all the 'green spaces' the developers were supposed to provide for locals (in exchange for waiver of development guidelines by council, e.g. minimum car spaces)?
1	The inclusion of large trees with wide canopies is very good. It mentions oaks. Is the Council using Algerian oaks? City of Melbourne Future Urban Forest gives them a good rating in response to predicted temperature increases.
1	The more green space in this area the better! The residents are changing and the surrounding needs to catch up
1	The only concern I have relates to the need for greater softening of the Left-Hand turn into Oakover Road.
1	The previous pop up was poorly designed, seating too close to reaps, inadequate turning for vehicles from High St into Oakover. His design appears to fix those issues.
1	The proposed design is very uninspiring and does not appear to be worth the effort or cost if it's purely about creating public space.
1	The slip lane allowed people to drive with speed and aggression around the corner from High St into Oakover Rd. This was dangerous, particularly for pedestrians attempting to cross.
1	The slip lane helped traffic move more freely and made it easier for pedestrians to cross the road at busy times. Since the lane's closure, the intersection has been awkward, to

	say the least, and precarious for pedestrians. It makes the area off-putting for foot traffic - for instance, I would drive and park somewhere nearby, but would think twice about walking around the area, which would limit my patronage of businesses in the precinct. High Street in both Preston and Thornbury are great areas for walking, but this spot is a nuisance at present, and spoils the whole effect.
1	The slip lane is redundant in this location.
1	The slip lane should be reinstated to traffic ASAP. It was a very misguided decision to close it, and waste rate-payers money on a pop-up park. It was a poor location for a "park"; in an inhospitable location that no-one was ever going to use, surrounded by a never-ending cavalcade of trucks, cars and noisy motorbikes. Spend the money you were going to waste, on this fool's errand, and plant mature trees along this section of High Street and Oakover Road. If you have ever walked along this area in the height of summer you would be aware how the scorching footpaths along High St are in desperate need of some shade trees. This will require the planting of non-indigenous trees to provide an adequate level of shade and cooling in the massive concrete jungle that has been created in council's bid to accommodate apartment developers.
1	The slip lane was dangerous for pedestrians as it allowed cars to drive too fast around the corner.
1	The space is quite small and I can't see it being well utilised. Re-open the slip lane.
1	The space is too small and the slip lane is needed. Without the slip lane the left turn is too dangerous.
1	The space is very small and bordered by two busy roads, which does not make it a place people are likely to stop or linger. As a pop up park it seemed to get very little use, and it's not a pleasant place to stop or be. While I understand the aim of better/more open space in the area, this isn't a good location.
1	The traffic moves smoother with the slip lane. The corner is way too busy to want it to become a public precinct. I never saw anyone using it, when you made it into a green space. Such a waste of tax payers money, trying to reinvent the slip lane. Re - open the slip lane!
1	There are plenty of roads; you should do way more things like this. There's barely any green space in Thornbury and Preston and more and more high rises. For the record, this is effectively nothing, so don't pat yourselves on the back too much. More parks and public space please, especially with higher density living
1	There is no foot traffic that travels West down Oakover Road. I totally support the development of public open spaces but this isn't one of those spaces that should be transformed. I use Oakover Rd/High Street Junction twice a day and I never saw anyone use the pop up park so why spend money doing it permanently.
1	There is no possibility of cars turning into both from the south and north and out of the road turning right or left and would be dangerous
1	There was a pop up park there for a while. It wasn't useable (I tried) and I never once saw anyone utilise it even though it was well resourced with trees, seating and ground cover.
1	This area has become very dangerous with cars both turning into Oakover and onto High St. It is way too tight a turn and an accident waiting to happen. The slip road needs to reopen. The 'green space' that was opened there last year was an ongoing joke, looked ridiculous and was never used. Very frustrating as a local.
1	This area is going through a massive change, from industrial to high density residential.

	It is so important to dedicate any space possible to green space to ensure that current residents and residents of the future have a place to relax and absorb greenery. I highly support the proposed 'pocket park' as I believe that it is the first big step toward a new Preston South
1	This is a lovely design and makes the area more pedestrian friendly.
1	This is a terrific initiative. Thanks Darebin. The new, open, green space will really help continue the activation of the street scape and make it safer and more suitable for everyone
1	This is an area in transition. Council needs to start planning for the future face of the area. It will be a mixed use area with substantial increases in residents and jobs. Both parties will require access to high quality open space. Start planning for the future. Yes to a new public open space at the Oakover slip lane!
1	This is an excellent development for slowing traffic, greening the area and improving safety for pedestrians.
1	This is not a quiet tranquil area, it's a busy intersection. It's not safe place for children to play or to sit and rest. There is a lot of traffic that turn at that intersection it's a road junction not a meeting place. There is not enough room on the junction to provide space for everything that is planned. You could sit and smell the petrol fumes and watch cars to go past but it's not an area for a social gathering.
1	This project is ano brainer. The junction area is changing with more people moving in and more bars and restaurants opening in the area. We need as much public open space and safe streets as we can get.
1	This proposed design looks very nice. I like it.
1	This space is too small and poorly located for a public open space
1	To me it just looks like turning the section into concrete no one wants to sit on a corner and watch the traffic go by
1	Traffic is bad enough we should be creating roads not closing them.
1	Unsafe environment for kids and people to socialise. Impacts traffic flow I
1	Urbanite Ash trees would be highly suited to this location.
1	Waste of space
1	We have such few spaces where we can plant bigger trees and have some pedestrian break space; this is so perfect for this!
1	We need more open space in the junction area
1	What a waste of money seriously who is going to enjoy that space especially in that location? Possible Andrew congregation area for alcoholics and druggies.
1	Who is going to use this space for anything other than a footpath
1	Will the Trees make it dangerous for cars turning right into High St? If you can do this design but not impede visibility while also implementing a right turning lane into High Street while making a bit more room for cars turning left into Oakover (I think that is very do-able) then that would be PERFECT. A win/win situation EVERYBODY will be happy.

1	With growing populations, more public space is a priority. Transform this area from a place to pass through to a desirable place to live
1	With large numbers of people moving into the immediate area in the next 10 years, it makes sense to take opportunity to close a redundant and dangerous slip lane and provide open space at the same time.
1	With the increase in the number of residents calling The Junction home, any green space will be very valuable to the community. There are many examples of these small parks throughout inner city Melbourne and all offer a space for pausing, gathering and a respite from the traffic and concrete. The removal of the slip lane does not remove the traffic - it still accommodates all directions of traffic, while at the same time providing a space for other community members who enjoy walking, riding or watching the world go by under the shade of a tree. I am a regular walker through the site, and would love a space to sit and enjoy a break from the concrete, asphalt and traffic.
1	With the slip lane closed, the left hand turn from High St in Oakover rd is too tight. When the pop up green spaces was located at that spot earlier in the year, I walked past with my family. We commented that at no point would we use that space. It is too close to a major rd and there in no safety for young kids.
1	Wonderful concept for the area
1	Yea I think it's a big improvement much safer
1	Yes - with more space to easily turn left onto Oakover Rd.
1	as a cyclist who travels along High Street it feels pretty dangerous riding along this area (cars seem to speed along here & try to cut cyclists off), but the area is changing to be more residential & so I think creating more of a community atmosphere by encouraging more people out on the streets would make the area safer & encourage cars to slow down in this now populated area. I'd also visit the area more if effort was put toward making it greener and less industrial
1	as a driver and pedestrian on this intersection the area is not one where people will sit. I used the 'pop up park' there once. it felt strange to be sitting on the intersection of a busy street with my kids and I couldn't relax. while this is more appropriate, the current intersection is far too sharp for a left turn off high st into oakover. if the need for pedestrian safety is of concern, put a zebra crossing in. the illustration makes this area look much bigger than it is, so a few trees and a seat are about all you could do, if considering a better flow of traffic through the intersection.
1	great design, slip lane must stay closed, it was really dangerous. this will be a key addition to fulfilling the vision of the JUMP masterplan.
1	highly supportive of proposal
1	leave it as a slip for traffic, high st is congested enough
1	please leave the slip lane in place
1	safer and prettier
1	slows traffic in a good way - people hoon through the slip lane. at the end of this slip lane is where the bike lane starts and it's a good place to get on and off bikes - when it's been fenced off we have felt much safer - but its super ugly. it makes crossing the road easier and safer. with the Preston parcel lockers located there - there is foot traffic at that intersection.
1	the design looks good

1	there is very little pedestrian use of the area the pop up park was a disaster and NOT utilized it is not a residential area a public space should be located where it is utilized not an ad hoc position like this
1	waste of money as more urgent council repairs on services need to be addressed. The road is already congested and have serious concerns of safety to all in case of a fire. Has traffic studies been done to the area on all the changes? has the effects on emergency services been taken into account
1	we need the left hand slip lane as it takes the pressure off congestion of traffic and it is safer and to make it safe to walk and drive through

Do you have any other comments regarding the Oakover Slip Lane Project?

The following are the verbatim other comments that were received from the respondents.

Count	Response
2	A great idea!
2	I like the new median strips. Much safer. Pedestrian lights could also enable safer passage.
2	Just do it!
1	
1	- the stairs could be visually confusing the people with vision impairment, they need a railing and stair nosings and TGSIs or to be a different surface to the main ground surface to indicate a change in gradient and potential tripping hazard. - could the ramp access be moved into the centre or along the building line? - the natural gradient ramp is not obvious, needs railings.
1	A pedestrian crossing on high street would be a nice to have
1	A piazza/seating type area would be good, for people to stop, eat their lunch, etc. Bike loops could be useful.
1	Anyone I have spoken to around here thinks it is idiocy and would prefer money to go to providing other improvements in this area to compensate for the horrible environment being created by over development.
1	As a resident of the Junction I enthusiastically support the Oakover Slip Plan Project. The increase in tree canopy will improve the experience of walking and the seats will provide a place to meet friends or take a quick break.
1	As long as the vehicle turning is improved, then the new design would be a good one for the area.
1	As more residents move into the area, this is a great idea. People can stop with their dogs. Changing the face of the area, from industrial to liveable.
1	As there is no slip lane for turning left into Oakover Road it is very dangerous for all, drivers, walkers. Please put it back to how it was.
1	As there is only going to be more traffic in Darebin in the future, making busy intersections smaller is short-sighted and potentially dangerous. At some point it is likely a right turning lane and/or traffic lights will be needed at that intersection, and losing the slip lane to

	unnecessary "public space" will make this harder to achieve. Further, I can't imagine why people would want to sit and hang out at the intersection of two busy roads.
1	Bring back the slip lane and when the constructors are finished there they can move to the roundabouts on the corner of Massey Ave and Glasgow Ave and Radford Rd and Glasgow Ave. They have been completely ruined by trucks since becoming detour routes during the construction of the roundabout corner of Massey Ave and Broadhurst Ave.
1	Bring it back :)
1	By closing it off the way it is now makes it difficult to turn off an already busy street
1	Cars can still use the road. It's safer and will mean more people congregate and socialise in the street. It's an important way to build friendships in the neighbourhood. The design is simple enough so people can use it in their own way. I fully support it!
1	Consider including a raised pedestrian table across Oakover as part of the project, as per a number of other side roads abutting High Street.
1	Could we have a water bottle refilling station there?
1	Council is slowing speeds and installing a median in this area to accommodate the expected increased numbers of pedestrians. It also has retained the bike lanes to assist cyclists. It makes no sense whatsoever to reopen the slip lane, which is not needed and poses a hazard for cyclists and pedestrians in the area.
1	Create a community area
1	Dangerous for cyclist and residents
1	Dig up the concrete in the island and plant some trees.
1	Drinking fountain to also include a dog drinking fountain Access to power in the garden beds for 'fairy' lighting in trees. Power points for doing a pop-up entertainment (E.g. Carols on the corner) Therapeutic stones embedded into paving.
1	Enough said I think.
1	Excellent planning and design
1	Exciting prospect at having a permanent green public open space at the slip lane
1	Far too dangerous for an open space. The fumes from cars and the chance of cars mounting the area because of traffic congestion or a wet day mishap....Far far too dangerous to be an open space for pedestrians
1	Feature trees will be important to the space
1	Get working!
1	Great idea. I bought an apartment last October and it's great to see the development on high st, making it safer for cyclists and pedestrians.
1	Great initiative.
1	Great work by council - testing an idea first and arriving to a fact-based solution.
1	I do not support the closure of the slip lane. I think it is safer and better for traffic with the lane open.
1	I don't know why it's taking so long- Just turn it back into a skip lane

1	I encourage to keep looking for little pockets to improve. This spot however isn't suitable.
1	I fully support it
1	I like what you are doing with the JUMP project
1	I love useable outdoor space - Green or paved. I believe the slip lane should be re-opened and the cash used elsewhere. That spot is inappropriate for "relaxation" or "hanging out".
1	I mostly drive through this precinct but I also walk here.
1	I never saw anybody "enjoying" the pop-up park while it was there and I pass it twice each day. The area isn't close to any houses so doesn't get much foot traffic. Provide a decent through road for traffic to pass north-south through Darebin before providing these traffic clogging "solutions". Why do you even expect that people would come to this spot for relaxation when traffic passes by all day long making it an unpleasant spot for a quiet cup of tea. You'll never find families with kids here, it just isn't safe.
1	I really think it's a great proposal I love what's happening in the area, keep up the good work
1	I support building a pocket park in place of the slip lane
1	I think it is a great idea and it will greatly enhance the Junction
1	I think it is great that the slip lane is being converted into open space, I just think it is prudent that people driving north and turning left from High Street into Oakover Rd need a more natural turn as the 90-degree angle is a bit difficult to navigate at the moment.
1	I think more than two bicycle loops are needed. I'm a cyclist and I want cycling to be encouraged in Darebin as much as possible. More bike loops please.
1	I travel down that part of High Street on the bus or car. I have not noticed any issues with the traffic. The traffic flows at the steady 40km speed, no hold ups, just a slower amble.
1	I would like to see more greenery included in the design above. The trees are great, but I think we need designs that reduce the amount of concrete in our cities.
1	I would support implementation of similar road infrastructure changes in Darebin.
1	Invest MONEY INTO PARKS.
1	It does need some kind of crossing there for pedestrians
1	It is a wonderful Council initiative to make our living space more attractive and improve the amenity of the area.
1	It is an extremely tight turn into oak over road travelling any direction from high, especially left if there is any waiting traffic in the side street. Adding the risk of increased pedestrian traffic will increase time spent at the corner and congestion.
1	It is forward thinking
1	It would only work and enhance the area if there is a lot of greenery and less of a concrete/grey feel. Possibly with grass, sitting area and maybe herb garden?
1	It's caused traffic congestion!
1	Its dangerous for children, should be kept as slip road

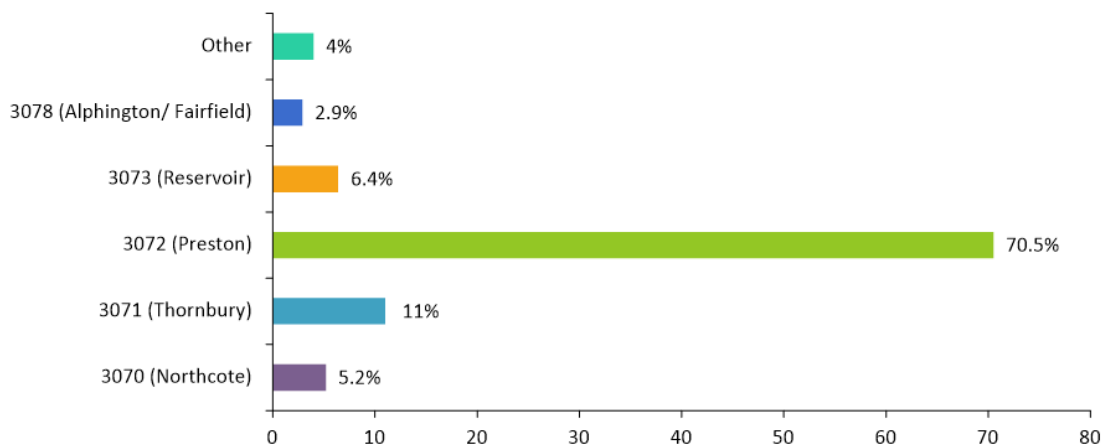
1	JUMP improvements have been talked about for a long time - get a wriggle on :) PS - the travel islands that have been placed along High street wasn't the greatest idea. Traffic has worsened and it is more difficult for cars to turn.
1	Just do it, we need more of this innovative thinking and to further prioritise pedestrians (and the safety of pedestrians)! Also, please consider placing some strategically placed bollards / more trees / planter boxes etc. on the perimeter of the area to protect pedestrians from out of control drivers.
1	Keeping it closed also impedes the traffic flow. Please re-open as a turning lane.
1	Leave it open as it allows the traffic to flow a lot quicker with a lot less risk.
1	Love it! Also love all of the new median strips and trees in the area. The native plants in the new gardens are awesome.
1	Maybe some feature ground lighting for night highlight trees, seating or public art, denser planting of trees to create protected oasis
1	More public space makes for better living.
1	More space for bicycles would be nice.
1	My only concern regarding the redesign of this space is that it is an extremely hard turn when turning in a vehicle left from High Street onto Oakover. Any works to address this would be welcomed.
1	Need to think about traffic flow and safety.
1	Perhaps it might be possible to compromise from the original slip lane, and the current impossible jutting out corner, which puts both cars coming out of Oakover and cyclists in jeopardy.
1	Plant lots of trees!
1	Please ensure WSUD and other rain gardens are utilised in the design.
1	Please incorporate ground level greenery, garden beds, grasses, etc. Current design looks very concrete heavy.
1	Please please do not reopen as a road!
1	Please reinstate the slip lane to ease traffic congestion. Invest capital funds in other green areas.
1	Please reopen before someone is seriously hurt.
1	Please spend money elsewhere.
1	Please, please make Oakover Road a No Right Turn into High Street. It's a nightmare in the mornings trying to turn left there with all the right hand turners having to wait so long to turn right. I have to do rabbit runs around all the back streets to get out of that intersection. I use this intersection twice a day, at least.
1	Potentially widening the current Oakover Rd entrance to avoid trucks and cars going over the pavement and/or garden bed.
1	Providing community infrastructure in this area will only increase in cost as the area gentrifies. Use this as public open space while the opportunity exists! Let's move away from reliance on cars in this area that is so well serviced by public and active transport. Help to catalyse change in the area.

1	Reinstate it (the slip way) and beautify the traffic island. Not a soul will use it as a place to sit and relax - please see the reality of this.
1	Return it back to car use as it was safer.
1	Seems such an odd place to be trying to put public open space. It's an intersection between busy roads, and that section of High St doesn't have a lot of appeal for people to sit and enjoy it - you won't lift the street character much by creating this public space. And if it does attract people, the narrowed road at that place is more likely to cause accidents through the reduced vision of cars, and potentially increased number of pedestrians.
1	Since the closure of the slip lane it is very difficult for pedestrians to cross safely. Please install greater traffic calming measures to improve pedestrian safety
1	Slip way entering oak over from high street is much more useful as new planting in middle of road has made this turning a bottle neck.
1	So pedestrians have one less road to cross.
1	Some more signage to make people aware of the speed limit would be a good idea.
1	Stop wasting tax payers money and leave the slip lane as a slip lane.
1	Suggestions include: As much greenery as possible whilst allowing for pedestrian movement. Presently the municipality has an excessive amount of concrete and other impervious surfaces. Native trees instead of deciduous trees to provide winter greenery. A pedestrian friendly crossing across Oakover Road (presently there is none). A boulevard of Eucalypts along Oakover Road to soften the road and provide winter greenery and habitat for wildlife including nectar feeding birds.
1	The Artist's proposed design for the new public open space is a definite beautification of the site and a public-friendly upgrade. I do hope it goes ahead.
1	The artists impression in the brochure is not to scale, giving the impression that the 'park' will be much more spacious than actually possible. The people and cars are drawn smaller than they should be proportionate to the space). This is deceptive... unless the council has acquired some of the car park from the reception centre on the corner??
1	The crossing of Oakover Lane and the train line requires urgent attention. The condition of the road in the area is a traffic hazard.
1	The design of the public space above looks great so if it does go ahead at least the turn has been rounded not like the sharp turn it is at the moment. Your work is appreciated even though you probably cop plenty of criticism at times
1	The face of the area is changing. Start introducing public space now. Darebin will be a more desirable place
1	The forest of signs on the High Street median strips before and after Oakover make it extremely difficult to see approaching cars when turning right into Oakover from High. I understand the need to ensure drivers see the median strip itself, but couldn't this be achieved by reflective markers along the base of the strips and fewer signs? I've seen several near misses, presumably because drivers' vision has been blocked. Finally, is council factoring in the huge amount of construction (and subsequent traffic) that will be occurring when the Australia Post site closes and is rebuilt as apartments??
1	The more large trees the better. Please consider installing a zebra crossing where Oakover joins High Street to make it even safer.
1	The new design is far preferable to the old, dangerous slip lane.

1	The pop park gave us a taste of how we can bring this area to life so that it works to calm traffic, be a safer place for pedestrians and bring much needed green space to the Junction - the large trees and seating is a great addition.
1	The pop up park was great, I've been sad it's been gone for so long.
1	The proposal looks great on paper. I hope it will, if completed, look as good.
1	The redesign of this area needs to include differentiated colours/pavers for the crossings to indicate that it is a pedestrian crossing. It's been shown that cars respond to different pavement colours by slowing down. The crossing of Oakover Road as well as the High St crossing should include this in the design.
1	The works that have been done already in the junction has made massive changes to the character of the area. More people walk the streets, the cars are slower and riding along high street is significantly safer, due to the changes to the street and traffic calming it has created. Council should be applauded on their work to date. This slip lane closure is a no brainer.
1	There are plenty of roads; you should do way more things like this. There's barely any green space in Thornbury and Preston and more and more high rises. For the record, this is effectively nothing, so don't pat yourselves on the back too much. More parks and public space please, especially with higher density living.
1	There is a park just further up on St Georges Road which could be turned into a great place to sit under trees, there is already a playground and seating and shelter could be proved for a community gathering area. I would rather see money spent on developing this area where there is plenty of space to grow extra trees. It will provide a permanent area designed to enjoy a quiet rest or family time with picnic areas and playground without too much through traffic to worry about.
1	There is plenty of room for the council to include a right turning lane. I'd say at least 65% of traffic turns left into High St from Oakover which is a breeze to do. Turning right can be a nightmare though and banks up traffic.
1	This improves and adds value to the area. It will encourage people to acknowledge each other as they pass by. It will slow down the speed of the area.
1	This is the biggest white elephant I've ever seen.
1	This will compliment the new trees on high st
1	Trees. We need more greenery in your proposal. Soon there won't be a green space left at junction. Can you put more greenery in. More than one tree? What about a ring of skinny trees
1	Turn it into a bike lane to meet up with the bike path on St Georges Road.
1	Waste of tax payer funds in my opinion. Can think of a million better ways to spend money then putting a park on a busy intersection, causing traffic issues that simply won't be used...crazy idea but thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback
1	Widen the left turn area so increase current size and reduce proposed open public space.
1	With the current closure of the slip lane the intersection has become more congested and turning in to Oakover road is much harder to navigate.
1	With the new median strips in place, anything that gets traffic off high street quicker with the slip lane will help those trying to turn right from the other side of high street (apartment car park).

1	Yes, I do not feel this design is necessary and is costly. I support the idea of more trees and making the footpath safe but from the picture of the design it is not really open space just more concrete. I am sorry the Darebin Council disagrees and feel I do have a point regarding my objections
1	Yes, don't waste public money on such a small area. Just one block down toward the railway line there is long strips of grassy area that could be developed into a nicer open space. Also, how about making the developer leave open space in front of their apartment buildings?
1	Yes. Return it to car use. It's not a useful public space
1	You have made that intersection very dangerous for drives turning left or right into Oakover. Visibility of on coming traffic along high st is now blocked by the low level street signs.
1	a bubbler/water filling station & somewhere to lock up bikes would be a good addition that would encourage people to stop and use the space
1	it is a safety issue if it closed off completely as it is hard to do a left hand turn and right hand turn builds up traffic waiting for the left hand turns
1	its currently difficult to drive in that intersection. the turning lane into high st is only a single lane, with cars held up if a car is turning right. A better option would be a left and right turning lane and a wider lane that is not so sharp for turning left from high st. Have traffic lights been considered as an option for this intersection. there seems to be a bit of traffic on both high st turning right into Oakover, as well as exiting the street onto high st in both directions at busy times that create delays.
1	let's do it
1	removal of the slip lane has made entering Oakover Road dangerous
1	terrible proposal
1	this looks really great, I strongly support this vision
1	this project should be about the future of the junction area, not one dominated by cars speeding through!
1	trees and seats would be nice - wasn't super keen on the last one with the food truck cause having groups of people loiter at an intersection was a bit odd! the more greenery the better. High street needs more green.

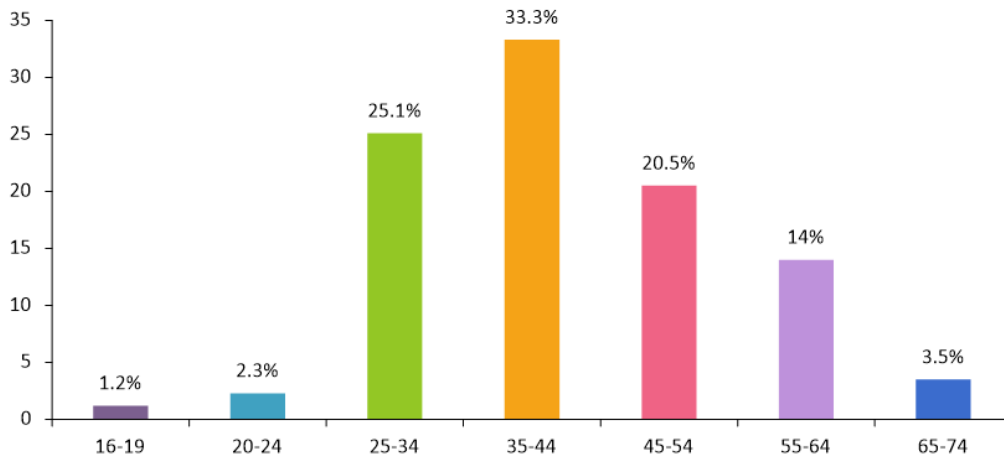
What is your postcode?



Value	Percent	Count
3070 (Northcote)	5.2%	9
3071 (Thornbury)	11.0%	19
3072 (Preston)	70.5%	122
3073 (Reservoir)	6.4%	11
3078 (Alphington/ Fairfield)	2.9%	5
Other	4.0%	7
	Total	173

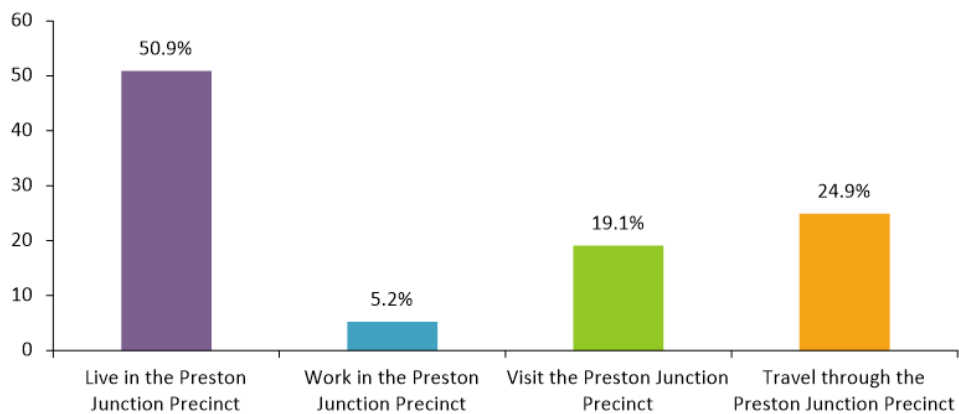
Other	Count
3058	3
3053	1
3067	1
3081	1
Total	6

What is your age group?



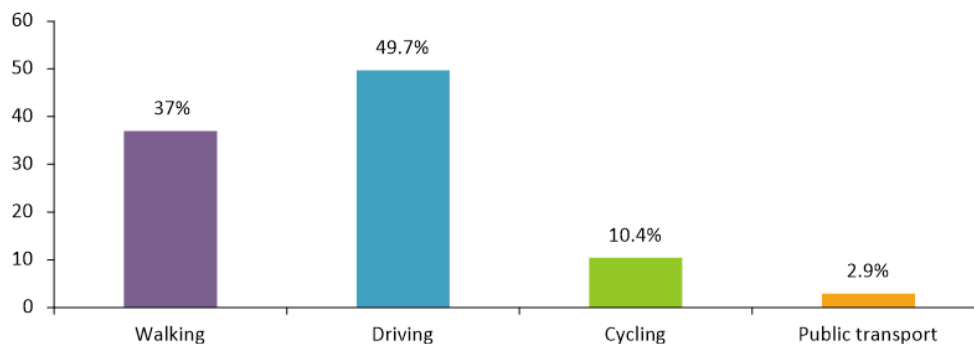
Value	Percent	Count
16-19	1.2%	2
20-24	2.3%	4
25-34	25.1%	43
35-44	33.3%	57
45-54	20.5%	35
55-64	14.0%	24
65-74	3.5%	6
	Total	171

Do you:



Value	Percent	Count
Live in the Preston Junction Precinct	50.9%	88
Work in the Preston Junction Precinct	5.2%	9
Visit the Preston Junction Precinct	19.1%	33
Travel through the Preston Junction Precinct	24.9%	43
	Total	173

Which transport mode do you primarily take when going past the Oakover slip lane area?



Value	Percent	Count
Walking	37.0%	64
Driving	49.7%	86
Cycling	10.4%	18
Public transport	2.9%	5
	Total	173

APPENDIX C - Future of Oakover Road slips lane – Consultation Outcome

Summary of Email Submissions for the Consultation period 24 June – 9 July 2017

Date	Submitter	Comments // Summary of Submission	Does the submitter support the permanent closure of the slip lane?
21/06/2017	K Dundas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The central median works have resulted in a noticeable reduction in vehicle speeds this project would add to the overall improvement to the precinct Supports additional trees and the choice of material 'Are there plans to develop additional public open space in the junction area?' 	Yes
21/06/2017	J Copsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using native trees such as dwarf gum trees or Eucalyptus caesia instead of deciduous trees for the site 	Yes
23/06/17	C Erlandsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project will soften the precinct Has concerns with the stone edged steps, believes this will attract skate boarders Use metal strips or pins embedded into the stone to deter skate boarders 	Yes
21/06/17	P Papas	Add understorey plantings and native trees such as eucalypt trees like yellow gums instead of deciduous trees	Yes
01/07/17	A Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in traffic congestion from the closure of the slip lane Pop up Park was not used Trees were not maintained and died Should not be a meeting place for the Preston Junction community Rate payers money should be used else where 	No
24/06/17	B Li	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the idea of more trees planted Does not support the bike repair station Use of tram tracks in surface may be a tripping hazard 	Yes

26/07/17	D Weir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the proposed tree plantings • Believes that oak trees will provide shade and beauty to the site 	Yes
29/06/17	K Stavrakis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Pop up Park did not work • Rate payers money should be used else where • The closure of the slip lane has made it difficult to turn into Oakover Road and increased traffic congestion 	No
03/07/17	N Passaportis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the proposed tree plantings • Believes the project will have a calming effect on traffic as well as become a safer crossing for pedestrians and motorists 	Yes
1/7/17	Darebin Rate Payer Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen the slip lane • It is unsafe to have an urban park in this location • Rate payers money should be used else where • Agrees with more trees are needed • Suggests a pedestrian crossing with a marked cycle way with lights for cyclists is needed for the intersection • More seats and bins within the precinct • Suggests repainting the current markings on the slip lane and the addition of a sign suggesting that large trucks are to be prohibited from using the slip lane • Has concerns of multiple constructions occurring at the same time and the further impact this will have on safety. 	No
02/07/17	P Cargill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the consultation process • Slip lane was dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists prior to its closure • Supports infrastructure that will deal with the upcoming building apartments and new businesses • Supported the Pop Up Park • Changing the terminology used to describe the project to assist people understanding its intended use 	Yes
22/07/17	D Mitsis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen the slip lane • Has concerns of the major traffic congestion caused by the median strips on High Street which can bank up to Bell Street 	No

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is concerned with the tree choice along High Street, believes this will interfere with traffic • Leslie Park (in Reservoir) should be upgraded • Would like council to consider upgrading parks in Reservoir 	
04/07/17	J.D. Blake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Believes it is more dangerous having the slip lane closed for cyclists, vehicles • Pop up Park did not work • Trees were not maintained and died • There is traffic congestion problems on to Oakover Road, believes this will be a greater issue if the slip lane is permanently removed • Believes that The Junction Urban Master Plan(JUMP) needs to be considered carefully given the complex intersection of the slip lane 	No
8/7/17	M & J De Bono	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Pop up Park did not work, believes it was too dangerous • Believes that the original slip lane was placed to assist with traffic flow • The current yellow and black poles restrict visibility • 'Has there been an accident while the slip lane was open?' • Has concerns of the safety of the area due to the growing urban population and the rising amount of apartments in the area. • Believes that there are other parks and open spaces that are much safer 	No
29/06/17	P Sheridan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pop Up Park did not work • Suggests a permanent space is created that the left turn (north travelling) lane is to be more driver friendly. 	Conditional Support
12/07/17	L Molina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic conditions at intersection is unsafe • Not appropriate place for open space. 	No
15/07/17	J Hines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic conditions at intersection is unsafe • The traffic calming works have increased congestion • There is traffic overflow onto Warrs Ave, for those commuters wishing to avoid the Oakover/High Street intersection. • This rat-run traffic is not obeying speed restrictions 	N/a

APPENDIX E - Future of Oakover Road slip lane

Summary of Social Media Comments for the Consultation period 24 June – 9 July 2017

FACEBOOK (Darebin Council facebook page)

Date	Submitter details	Comments // Summary of Submission	Does the submitter support the permanent closure of the slip lane? (yes/no)
01/07/17	J Handley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...Slip lanes are very dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists...' '...The current site is unattractive and traffic speeds are too high...' '...The proposed median will improve the problem...' '...With the increase of people there will be a greater demand for local open spaces...' 	Yes
01/07/17	L Harrison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...Roads are being made more difficult to drive on due to reduced speeds for periods beyond peak times...' '...Roads are being reduced to single lanes, parking only lanes and bike lanes...' 	No
30/07/17	L Phillips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...Why spend so much money on a corner that no one goes to...' 	No
01/07/17	H Mazzeo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Believes that money should be spent else where 	No
01/07/17	R McInnes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...Re open the space to cars...' 	No
01/07/17	C Tsihilis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...Re open the space to cars...' 	No
27/06/17	A Purdon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...I love green spaces but I do not agree with the location...' '...Re open the slip lane to cars and spend the money in a different location ...' '...The temporary space was not used for the intended purpose...' 	No
30/6/17	D Rose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re open the slip lane Believes that the Pop Up Park was not used 	No
27/06/17	S Wills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> '...What would be the cost of the project spent?...' 	No

7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...I fully support green spaces and community consultation but wonder if there is a way to achieve both...' • Believes the project will be an un used park 	
28/06/17	L Fazio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to know the intended cost for the project • Believes the project will be an un used park 	No
27/06/17	J Handley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Slip lanes mitigate against pedestrians crossing safely...' • Does not believe that the project has worked due to the few pedestrians in the immediate vicinity • '...Planning for the future I would like to see the space for people and not cars...' 	Yes
27/06/17	K Hull -Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not believe the project has worked due to the few pedestrians in the vicinity • Would like to see a space for people not cars for the future 	Yes
01/06/17	S Dlouhy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soften the kerb corner • '...Remove plants and furniture that blocks the views of drivers and pedestrians...' • '...It may be better to widen the road opening and place an island in the middle • I cross here with a pram and find it difficult to cross 	Yes
27/06/17	H Hayden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '...Modify the corner so it is not so tight...' • '...The upgrades to High Street have caused issues in traffic flow and turning onto side streets...' • '...Does not find the space safe or an appealing hangout...' 	No
27/06/17	B de Rango	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Does believe that this is an ideal location to spend time in 	No
28/06/17	A Pruscino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Does not believe this is in an ideal location to spend time i 	No
29/06/17	C Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...The current slip lane encouraged dangerous driving and endangered pedestrians...' • '...The project is a quick spot for a rest or to take shade under a tree...' 	Yes

29/06/17	K Nicholls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...The closure of the slip lane has put more pressure on motorists to get across to High Street...' • Re open the slip lane for cars • Believes that it is a very busy and dangerous intersection 	No
28/06/17	A Hann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Believes the project is a waste of time • '...Reopen Beavers Street and Beaconsfield parade...' • '...If the city of Darebin is worried about green spaces why are they continuing to grant permits to large multi storey apartment buildings?...' 	No
27/06/17	M Antoniou	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '...It is too dangerous...' • Believes that the money should be spent else where 	No
27/06/17	V Saulitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '...The turn is still very tight for cars...' 	No
27/06/17	M Semaan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane for cars • '...Turning left from high street is a very sharp turn...' 	No
27/06/17	M Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...The slip lane should stay closed...' • '...Less paving and more imagination...' • '...Plant a large marker tree...' 	Yes
28/06/17	J Goldberg Adams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open it as a Slip lane • '...It is currently a tripping hazard...' 	No
27/06/17	Liam Whitley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Re open it as a slip lane for cars...' • Believes it is a wasted space as a public space 	No
27/06/17	K Dato	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...How about focusing on other parts of Darebin further north?...' 	No
28/06/17	A Pruscino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '...It is an odd place for a green space and the turn is awkward...' 	No
27/06/17	L Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Plant trees that will grow larger. They will be needed when the apartments get full...' 	Yes
28/06/17	I Otley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...More trees...' • '...Plant for the future...' 	Yes

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Plant one large tree...' 	
27/06/17	N Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane 	No
27/06/17	S Gorman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... Greeny! Please make this for the people...' 	Yes
27/06/17	H Mazzeo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane to cars 	No
28/06/17	R Bommelmeer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... Great Idea...' • Believes that there should be more space for people and less space for cars 	Yes
27/06/17	M Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... Council should consider purchasing a really viable community asset for the triangle and possibly sell other marginal open spaces nearby to fund it...' 	Yes
30/06/17	E Connell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... Transform it...' • '... We need more places like this in these urban areas...' 	Yes
07/07/17	T Kate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not want the slip lane. Does not believe this corner should be turned into a 'token parkland/sitting area space' 	No
07/07/17	K Brackett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not want the slip lane to be turned into a park 	No
07/07/17	E Allen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not want the slip lane to be turned into a park 	No
07/07/17	X Brouwer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... A lot of traffic turns into Oakover. A whole slip lane may not be needed but perhaps a rounded corner that is easier to turn around and have some trees and bushes on the reclaimed land to beautify the corner and the street...' 	Yes
07/07/17	L Christensen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '... Too much money was injected into it, I'd heard close to \$200,000' 	No

7		only to have valuable trees die. Doesn't believe that the temporary space was used...'	
07/07/17	D Gillespie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '...If there is a need for open space council should ask developers to include open air courtyards in their high rise projects...' • Believes that there is a problem with the traffic due to the closure of two lanes to one in either direction due to street parking 	No
07/07/17	J Passaportis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Well done for creating the right balance allowing for the flow of traffic as well as providing some much needed green space in the junction and making it more pedestrian friendly...' 	Yes
08/07/17	A Buckley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • '... Council has wasted \$100k on this park on a very busy corner...' • '... Spend money maintaining the existing parks in Darebin such as Ray Brahman Gardens...' 	No
07/07/17	L Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Have it as a green open space...' • '...Thanks for reclaiming some unused road...' • '...I look forward to watching a few trees growing on this location...' 	Yes
07/07/17	A Bonanno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...What about acquiring the parking lot nearby and turning the whole area into a green space/dog and kid friendly too?...' • '...Putting a tree, some plants and a bench on a busy corner won't make it more appealing...' • '...Miller Street and high street would need a green make up as well...' 	Yes
08/07/17	S Dlouhy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agrees to rounding the corner • '...Maybe reclaim some slip lane to do this and make an island in the middle ...' 	Yes
07/07/17	Petropoulos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believes that that rates should be allocated else where • Believes that blocking the slip lane off permanently will create traffic congestion • There is too much restrictions on parking 	No

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...The apartment's number of apartments being built is making it impossible to find parking in my street and your built revenue is being increased significantly...' • '...Why are the rates so high?...' 	
07/07/17	S Maunders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...Why would you want to sit on the edge of a busy road breathing is fumes of cars...not to mention the danger of cars...' 	No
07/07/17	M Payne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments in relation to Shelagh Maunders The long term plan is to close this section (between Bell Street and Plenty Junction) to thoroughfare traffic 	N/A
07/07/17	L Singer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Does not believe that a park on this corner is at an appropriate location 	No
08/07/17	V Koukoulas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen it the slip lane • Believes that the money for this project should be allocated to other projects 	No
10/07/17	A KL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believes that the money for this project should be allocated to other projects 	No
09/07/17	R Mammoliti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • The slip lane corner is too sharp • There are is a high level of traffic 	No
07/07/17	A Laver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane, believes it is currently dangerous closed • '...The design is not green space it is an urban design ie concrete space with seating a few trees and a water fountain...' • Believes the design would work better in a different location 	No
08/07/17	G Vabre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen the slip lane for traffic 	No
07/07/17	Rosie Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen the slip lane for traffic 	No
08/07/17	Gary Ford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • '...I think council should have waited until the neighbouring site is developed to link in with more generous open space...' 	No

09/07/17	Cathryn Kohn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re open the slip lane • Believes the Pop up Park did not work 	No
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INSTAGRAM

Submitter details	Comments // Summary of Submission	Does the submitter support the permanent closure of the slip lane? (yes/no)
susannenewton	So great	Yes
green_remedy	Outstanding!	Yes



The Statistics

How the closing of the slip lane has impacted local traffic.

Background

In Australia 30% of our public space is dedicated to roads and carparks¹. As our cities grow to accommodate more people, we need to think creatively to reimagine what this public space could be, so it can benefit a larger proportion of the community. Repurposing our public roads into pedestrian spaces, encourage people of all ages to socialise and activate, and truly invest in our streets as public assets.

This is a key objective in the Junction Urban Master Plan (JUMP) – Council's blueprint for improving the public environment for the Preston Junction Precinct. The Master Plan recommends that by removing slip lane, there is an opportunity to create a small urban public space for the community.

This idea was tested over a four month period from Late November 2015 – late April 2016, where the Oakover Road slip lane was closed temporarily and a 'Pop-up Park' installed in the reclaimed space.

The Study Area

The study area focuses on the intersection of High Street and Oakover Road, Preston.

These roads are classified as local and major roads under the jurisdiction of Darebin City Council. Darebin City Council is the Road Management Authority of this location.

High Street is aligned north-south and generally comprises one traffic lane in each direction, with on-road bike lanes and parallel on-street parking provisions. A 40km/h speed limit applies to High Street within the study area from 8am to midnight. Recent traffic calming measures were implemented on High Street, including a central median and landscaping to improve the amenity of the precinct for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. These works were a high priority project in the Junction Urban Master Plan.

High Street carries in the order of 12,000 vehicles per day, which is consistent with sections, further south (Thornbury) as well as other roads which operate under similar conditions (Arthurton Road, Northcote).

Oakover Road extends 1.7km, in an east-west direction from High Street to A H Capp Reserve. It generally comprises of a single traffic lane, and on-road bike marking (from High Street to St Georges Road). Oakover Road (between High Street to Railway Place/South Morang train line) falls within the JUMP focus area, and is home to some large strategic redevelopment sites, including Australia Post and motor mechanics. Through the realisation of JUMP and future redevelopment of these sites, it is envisaged that Oakover Road will look very different to how we see it today.

Oakover Road does carry high volumes of traffic when we compare it to other local roads. Traffic surveys undertaken in 2015 indicate an average weekday volume of 5,400 vehicles per day. It is generally expected that local roads carry no more than 2,000vpd. However, it must be noted that volumes are higher than would be expected given the Australia Post Centre is a major traffic generator. This will change as Australia Post has reduced its operational capacity at the Preston site.

¹ Codesign Tactile urbanism (2010).

Impact on local traffic network

By installing a 'pop-up park' at this location we were able to test the idea of a temporary park in the space and understand the implications of closing the slip lane.

Traffic counts were undertaken in 2015 (before the installation of the 'pop-up park', in 2016 (during the 'pop-up' park) and in 2017 (after the completion of the High Street traffic calming works).

The study area included the intersection of High Street and Oakover Road as indicated in figure 1.

The traffic counts recorded the number of standard vehicles (cars), large vehicles (vehicles greater than 5.5m), cyclists, pedestrians and traffic speeds.

The traffic counts took place from 6am – 8pm on the following days:

- 28 & 30 July 2015
- 22 & 24 March 2016
- 20 & 22 June 2017



Figure 1. Study Survey Area

THE FINDINGS

Traffic analysis of this data reviews counts of the entire intersection (all movements of this intersection), unless stated in the subsection. It also calculates the average number of movements during AM (8am-9am) and PM (5pm-6pm) peak periods, over the two days.

When comparing the traffic data we found that:

Standard Cars

- Overall traffic volumes remained fairly constant between 2015, 2016 and 2017 during peak hours, indicating that traffic did not avoid this intersection in favour of other local roads.

	2015 (average)	2016 (average)	2017 (average)
AM peak	1282	1270	1262
PM peak	1361	1374	1374

- The number of northbound vehicles turning left into Oakover Road from High Street has also remained consistent - indicating that vehicles are not avoiding this intersection in favor of other local roads.

	2015 (average)	2016 (average)	2017 (average)
AM	117	108	108
PM	108	118	117

Traffic Speeds

- During the installation of the pop-up park, traffic speeds were recorded to be very low on High Street with average speeds in the region of 15-20km/h and 85%tile speeds in the region of 20-25km/h. These speeds are for northbound and southbound vehicles on High Street only and the very low speeds are likely due to left-turning and right-turning vehicles slowing through vehicles near the subject site.
- The 2017 traffic counts were undertaken after the completion of the traffic calming works. The results indicate that vehicles are complying with the 40km speed limit on High Street.
- No accidents have been reported at the intersection since the slip lane was removed.

Heavy Vehicles (Trucks)

- The number of heavy vehicles using this intersection has fluctuated over the past 2 years. This could be attributed to the number of construction sites in the precinct. During the 2016 survey, the 'Nine high' development on the corner of Miller Street/High Street and the site opposite the pop-up park site were under construction.

	2015 (average)	2016 (average)	2017 (average)
AM peak	57	88	65
PM peak	47	62	61

- In 2016, the northbound - left turn ban for large vehicles was imposed. Over the past 15 months, there has been a significant reduction in the number of large vehicles violating this road regulation.

	2015 (average)	2016 (average)	2017 (average)
AM peak	n/a	14	3
PM peak		17	4

- It should be noted that, 'heavy vehicle' was classified as any vehicle larger than 5.5m and includes transit vans (possibly access the Australian Post site), whereas the left-turn restriction, prohibited vehicles larger than 7.5m long from turning left at the T-intersection.

Cyclists

- The number of bicycles recorded showed an increase over the last 2 years.

	2015(average)	2016(average)	2017 (average)
AM peak	15	28	22
PM peak	24	31	25

Pedestrians

- Peak time for pedestrians was recorded during the lunchtime period (generally 11am-2pm), where the numbers of pedestrians crossing using this intersection has increased.

	2015 (average)	2016 (average)	2017 (average)
AM peak	33	32	51
PM peak	41	42	49

Conclusion:

In reviewing this data:

- Pedestrian numbers have increased over the past 2 years. The recent traffic calming works, which include the central median and landscaping works, is heralding change in the precinct.
- Cyclist's numbers have increased. When comparing the 2015 and 2017 data (recorded during the winter period), the number of cyclists in the AM period increased from 15 to 22.
- Traffic speeds on average are 30-40km/hr.
- The recent counts indicate that the north-bound, left turn truck ban is being adhered to.
- Traffic volumes at this intersection have remained consistent over the 2 year period, indicating that commuters are not avoiding this intersection in favour of other local roads.

In summary, the temporary closure of the slip lane, coupled with the recent traffic calming works is starting to realise JUMP's vision of creating a slower and safer High Street environment - without impacting the local traffic network.

Any permanent closure of the Oakover slip lane will reinforce the pedestrian focussed environment, by creating shorter and safer crossings and a small urban community space this location.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. URGENT BUSINESS

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

11. PETITIONS

12. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

12.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed, pursuant to section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements.

Meetings of the Audit Committee were held on 5 December 2016, 27 February 2017, 8 May 2017 and 17 July 2017. A summary report of the meeting is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. The minutes of the meeting, incorporating the reports considered by the Committee, have been circulated to Councillors.

Recommendation

That the Reports of the Audit Committee meetings held on 5 December 2016, 27 February 2017, 8 May 2017 and 17 July 2017 be received and the Committee Recommendations be adopted.

Related Documents

- Nil.

Attachments

- Summary Reports of Audit Committee (**Appendix A**)



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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 5 December 2016

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**MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE
350 HIGH ST, PRESTON ON MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 2.00 PM

1. PRESENT

Committee Members

Mr Michael Said (Chairperson)
Mr Terry Richards (Independent External Member)
Ms Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)
Cr Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Committee Member)
Cr Susan Rennie (Committee Member)

Council Officers

Mr Rasiah Dev (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr Andrew McLeod (Director Corporate Services)
Ms Jacinta Stevens (Director Civic Governance and Compliance) (to item 12.1)
Mr Allan Cochrane (Chief Financial Officer)
Ms Gracie Karabinis (Manager Corporate Risk)
Mr Michael O'Riordan (Financial Accountant)
Mr Steve Hamilton (Director City Futures & Assets) (Items 7.3 to 1 0.2)
Mr Ben Ragg (Manager Digital and Information Services) (Item 13.1)

External Auditors

Mr Tim Loughnan (Victorian Auditor-General's Office)
Mr Remy Szpak (Victorian Auditor General's Office)

Minutes

Mr Allan Cochrane (Chief Financial Officer)

2. APOLOGIES

None

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Audit Committee members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest.
No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Audit Committee members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest. The following record of members' disclosures will remain until amended by the member concerned.

Mr Michael Said

- Manningham City Council
- Yarra City Council
- Whitehorse City Council
- Whittlesea City Council
- Baw Baw City Council
- Colac Otway Shire Council
- Moorabool Shire Council
- Yarra Plenty Regional Library
- Chisholm Institute of TAFE

Mr Terry Richards

- Latrobe City Council

Ms Lisa Tripodi

- City of Greater Geelong

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Audit Committee Meetings held on Monday 6 June 2016 and 29 August 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee confirms the minutes of the Audit Committee Meetings held on Monday 6 June 2016 and 29 August 2016 be confirmed as correct records of business transacted.

6. STANDING REPORTS

6.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/S

The following are matters arising from the Audit Committee Meeting held Monday 6 June 2016 that are yet to be finalised:

- Council to report on a six monthly basis that they are compliant with the new Child Wellbeing and Safety Act.

Actioning Officer: Manager People and Development

Due: 3 April 2017

Action: In progress – meetings have commenced and will continue to ensure organisational compliance with child safe standards.

Item 9.6 Follow-up of Selected Higher Risk Matters Raised in Prior Internal Audit Reports

- Management to give priority to the outstanding Higher Risk Matters Raised in Prior Internal Audit Reports.
- Overdue Higher Risk matters to be clearly highlighted, stating when the matter will be remedied by.

Actioning Officer: Director Corporate Services

Due: 3 April 2017

Action: To gain support from all Directors, this item will be discussed at the EMT meeting on 6 December 2016. Directors will be asked to address these issues as a matter of urgency.

The following are matters arising from the Audit Committee Meeting held Monday 5 December 2016:

Item 7.2 Investment Performance report

- That a debt performance report to be prepared that details debt statements, policy and compliance when Council takes a debt position.

Actioning Officer: Financial Accountant

Due: The Audit Committee in December or June after loan settlement

Action: Debt performance report to be prepared for December and June Audit Committee meetings.

- Commentary to be provided in the next Investment Performance Report on the implementation of the Fossil Fuel Investment Policy as adopted by Council 4 July 2016.

Actioning Officer: Financial Accountant

Due: 5 June 2017

Action: Investment Performance report to include commentary on implementation of the Fossil Fuel Investment Policy.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Item 8.1 Corporate Risk and Business Continuity Planning report

- An update to the telephone system referenced in the Business Continuity Plan to be provided.

Actioning Officer: Manager Corporate Risk and Audit

Due: 5 June 2017

Action: Provide update on telephone system in BCP.

- Risk Management Policy to come to the February Audit Committee meeting.

Actioning Officer: Manager Corporate Risk and Audit

Due: 27 February 2017

Action: Risk Management Policy to come to the February Audit Committee meeting.

Item 11.1 Procurement Policy

- Rename 4.6 Conflict of Interest
- Need to make clear the difference between Probity Advisor and Probity Auditor and that both are external
- Matters relating to probity to be clarified
- Need to include reference material and related documents.

Actioning Officer: Coordinator Procurement and Contracting

Due: November 2017

Action: Update Procurement Policy to incorporate the above issues.

6.2 DECLARATION OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE BY CEO

The CEO confirms that Council is legally compliant in its operations. This is reported via the quarterly Director's Questionnaire which requires all Directors to attest to the legal compliance of their Directorate's activities and to report any known instances of fraud, misappropriation or pending litigation.

Directors are required to confirm full compliance with contractual agreements. All issues that are disclosed via the questionnaire are provided to the CEO.

6.3 CEO REPORT

New Darebin Council

Darebin has five new councillors as a result of the October 22 election.

Significantly for Darebin, we now have six female councillors. Female representation is up from 34 per cent to 38 per cent state-wide, but our Council has had the most notable change in this regard.

Along with the four experienced councillors who have been re-elected, it's exciting for staff and the community to have so many new faces on our Council. They will bring new ideas and diversity to the Chamber, along with a renewed interest in our plans and strategies. The Council is being engaged in developing the next four-year Council Plan. As part of that process we will need to progressively familiarise our new

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

councillors with the strategic foundations that underpin the services we provide to the community.

The new Council was sworn in at an Oath of Office ceremony on Monday 7 November and they have been participating in a comprehensive induction program.

At the Statutory Meeting on Monday on 14 November, Cr Kim Le Cerf was elected as Mayor for 2016-2017 and Cr Gaetano Greco was elected to the position of Deputy Mayor and Council representatives were appointed to Council Standing Committees, Community Advisory Committees and Community Organisations.

In specific reference to our Audit committee, I would like to welcome Mayor Kim Le Cerf and Cr Susan Rennie who have been nominated as the Council's member representatives for the next twelve months.

I'm very much looking forward to establishing a respectful and productive working relationship with our new Council. They are representative of our community today, and they will help shape Darebin's future.

Our new Council comprises:

Rucker Ward	Cazaly Ward	La Trobe Ward
Susan Rennie	Steph Amir	Gaetano Greco
Kim le Cerf	Lina Messina	Tim Laurence
Trent McCarthy	Julie Williams	Susanne Newton

Organisational restructure - getting ready for Darebin's future – a time for change

The local government sector is experiencing significant change. As an organisation we need to be able to respond effectively to change while still ensuring that we provide relevant, effective services that put our community at the centre of everything we do.

A new organisational structure involving a high-level management restructure has been implemented to get our City ready for the future and complement the changes occurring around us, such as community expectations, demography, income and legislation.

This structural change with realigned of accountabilities and responsibilities, was undertaken to coincide with:

- (1) the development of the new four year Council Plan and long-term financial plan;
- (2) prioritising services in line with the community survey results;
- (3) results of the staff engagement and alignment survey;
- (4) the 2016/17 budget;
- (5) new Council post the October elections; and
- (6) the need for us to further improve our local government performance indicator results.

With the challenges facing us as a local government, it is an opportune time to realign directorates and position them to deliver the most effective strategies and services to our community. As a consequence of the restructure, there is five directorates (as per attached organisational structure):

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

- (1) Corporate Services
- (2) City Futures and Assets
- (3) Operations and Environment
- (4) Community Development
- (5) Civic Governance and Compliance.

There were two vacant director positions with Andrew McLeod being appointed to the Director Corporate Services position and an appointment soon to be made to the Director Operations and Environment position.

Andrew McLeod comes to Darebin following nearly a decade with Fairfield City Council in NSW overseeing the Corporate Services, Library, Environmental Standards and Customer Service functions. Prior to Local Government, Andrew had an extensive career in senior leadership roles in Human Resources, IT and Operations management in the private sector, working for companies such as Pacific Brands, Macquarie Capital, National Foods, SOCOG and Chubb Australia.

Andrew is a keen advocate and industry leader in the areas of leadership practice, industrial relations, organisational change and ethical governance, and has held many representative roles and key advisory positions in sector and industry reform. He has a strong association with the University of Technology, Sydney having lectured in leadership and industrial relations practice and is a regular key note speaker at industry and sector conferences. As a passionate advocate for the development and enhancement of communities and his teams, Andrew is driven by maximizing the potential and performance of the organisations that he works for. Andrew has extensive experience in Auditing and will support the Audit Committee on behalf of the CEO.

Annual Report

The Annual Report was completed and submitted within the statutory deadline. The Annual Report for 2015-2016 was formally adopted at the Council Meeting held on Monday, 3 October 2016.

Further improvements were made to the format to improve its readability and to reflect best practice on the City of Darebin Annual Report 2015-2016 is available on Council's website.

The Report maps out how we have performed against our strategic objectives, and how we are tracking towards achieving the goals set out in our 2013 - 2017 Council Plan.

Commencement of Mandatory Obligation to Notify IBAC of Suspected Corrupt Conduct:

Recently made changes to Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Act 2011 makes it a mandatory obligation of relevant principal officers to notify IBAC of suspected corrupt conduct effective 1 December 2016. As a principal officer of Darebin I have received the attached letter from the IBAC.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee notes the report which was tabled at the meeting.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Kim Le Cerf
SECONDED: Ms Lisa Tripodi

That the Audit Committee notes the CEO report.

6.4. SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL REPORTS WITH POTENTIAL IMPACTS FOR COUNCIL**AUTHOR:** Director Corporate Services**MANAGER:** Chief Executive**SUMMARY:**

This items lists the external reports Council is aware of that have potential impacts for Council. These reports will be reviewed in due course to identify any gaps or issues Council needs to address.

The Internal Audit Progress Report provided by Crowe Horwath under the Internal Audit section of the meeting agenda also lists public sector reports of possible interest.

CONSULTATION:

Chief Financial Officer

Committee Recommendation**MOVED:** Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee notes the information in this report regarding the potential impacts for Council.

Report

In the period since the Audit Committee meeting of 6 June 2016, Council has become aware of the following external reports requiring its attention:

- VAGO: Audit Committee Governance (August 2016)
- VAGO: Financial Systems Controls Report: 2015-16 (November 2016)
- IBAC: Perceptions of corruption – Survey of Victorian Government suppliers (June 2016)
- IBAC: Summary: Changes to the IBAC Act (July 2016)

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT – 3 MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed by: Director Corporate Services

Summary:

A comprehensive first quarter financial review has been undertaken for the three months ended 30 September 2016 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$91.33 million, which is \$3.32 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$6.13 million, which is \$7.46 million behind the budget.

All material variations have been explained in the report.

Consultation:

Managers and Co-ordinators.

Recommendation

That the contents of the "Financial Report for the three months ended 30 September 2016" included as **Appendix A** to this report be received and the year-to-date actual and budget operating and capital results be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the year-to-date actual and budget operating and capital results and the contents of the "Financial Report for the three months ended 30 September 2016".

Report

Introduction and Background

In compliance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the attached report (Appendix A) compares the actual and budgeted operating revenues and expenses and the actual and budgeted capital revenues and expenses for the three months ended 30 September 2016. It also compares the actual and budgeted movements in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement for that period.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

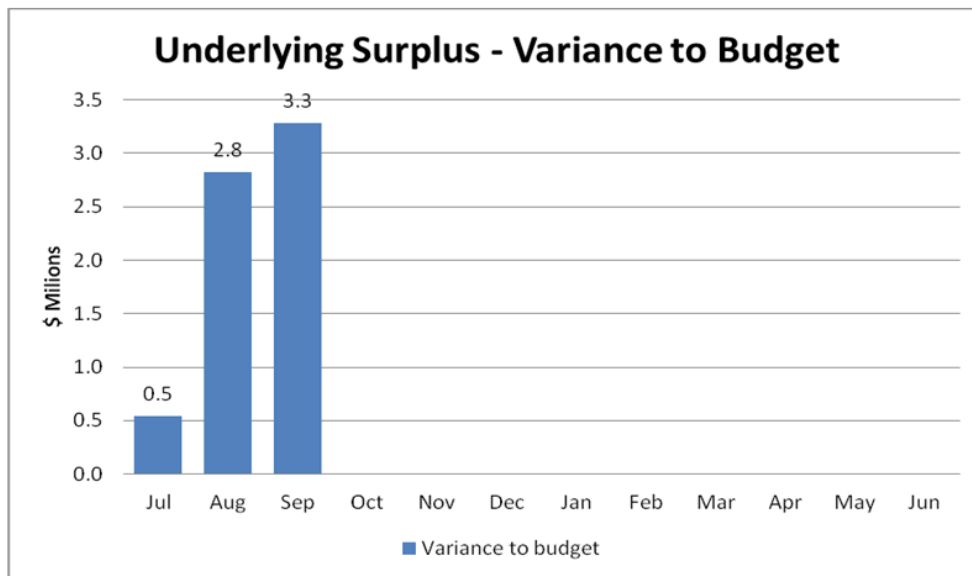
5 DECEMBER 2016

Issues and Discussion

Operating Performance

For the 3 months ended 30 September 2016 Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$91.33 million, which is \$3.32 million ahead of the year to date budget. The main items contributing to this favourable variance are employee costs, materials and services and other expenses.

The year to date adjusted underlying surplus is \$89.46 million, which is \$3.20 million ahead of budget. The underlying result is the net surplus for the year adjusted for capital grants and contributions and timing differences on grants received and spent.



Capital Performance

For the 3 months ended 30 September 2016, Council has expended \$6.13 million on the capital works program, which is \$7.46 million behind the year to date budget. The variance is due mainly to delays in buildings works, roads and parks, open space and streetscapes.

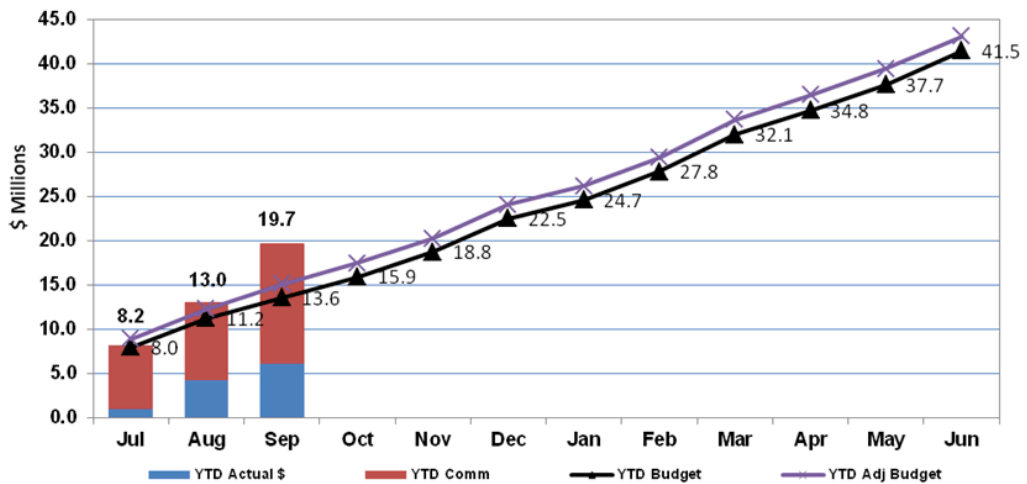
As at 30 September 2016 a further \$6.66 million has been committed by way of issued purchase orders. Commitments are not reflected in the reported capital expenditure and may indicate that many projects are well advanced.

	YTD Budget	YTD Adj Budget	YTD Actual
% of budget expended	33%	35%	15%
% of budget expended and committed			33%

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Capital Works Projects - Expenditure



Project Variances over \$50,000

Overall, the 2016/17 program is on track with no major risks or issues identified. At this early stage of the financial year, there are no confirmed projects that have been identified as not being delivered as budgeted or providing savings. Any changes to this situation will be monitored and communicated to the Council in future reports should it be required.

It should be noted that the progress of the Multi-Sports Stadium project is awaiting State Government approval on the nominated footprint for the new facility.

Financial Position

The Financial Position as at 30 September 2016 shows a cash and investment balance of \$62.03 million which is \$21.84 million ahead of budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences in receipt of rates, other income, payments to employees and suppliers, delay in payments for capital works and a higher opening cash and investment position compared with budget.

The cash and investment balance of \$62.03 million was sufficient to meet restricted cash and intended allocation obligations of \$33.10 million at the end of September. Restricted cash is the amount of cash holdings Council requires to meet external restrictions such as trust funds, statutory reserves and cash for intended allocations such as cash held to fund future capital works.

The net current asset position is \$135.84 million which is \$33.31 million more than budget. The net asset position of \$1.36 billion is \$11.84 million less than budget.

Policy Implications

Environmental Sustainability

Nil

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Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Nil

Economic Development

Nil

Other

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications

Nil

Conclusion

The Financial Report for the three months ended 30 September 2016 shows that Council's year-to-date operating result is a surplus of \$91.33 million and \$6.13 million has been expended on capital works

Future Actions

A further financial report will be presented to Council for the six months ending 31 December 2016.

Disclosure of Interests

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Related Documents

Nil

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7.2 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT – 12 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed by: Chief Financial Officer

Budget Implications: Investments of \$60.59 million as at 30 June 2016 and interest earned on invested funds of \$1.53 million for the twelve months ended 30 June 2016.

Summary:

A comprehensive review of Council's investment portfolio has been undertaken for the twelve months ended 30 June 2016. The Council's investment portfolio has earned \$1.53 million in interest on investments with term deposits and cash investments earning an annualised rate of 2.81% (2015: 3.21%). As at 30 June 2016, the Council's investment portfolio was valued at \$60.59 million (June 2015 \$47.94 million).

CONSULTATION:

Nil.

Recommendation

That the contents of this report relating to Investment Performance – 12 months ended 30 June 2016 be received.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the contents of the Investment Performance – 12 months ended 30 June 2016.

Report**Introduction and Background**

The Australian Government Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding (the Guarantee Scheme) formally commenced on 28 November 2008. The Guarantee Scheme was amended from 1 February 2012 where the level of cover on deposits was reduced to \$250,000 per person/entity per institution.

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Legislative framework

Council is governed by the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") which contains specific provisions on investments. The relevant sections of the Act are included in **Appendix 1** of this report.

The current policy provides a framework within which the investment of Council funds is to be undertaken by authorised Council officers. The policy sets out:

- Objectives being pursued through the investment of surplus funds
- Legislative requirements
- Types of approved investments
- Parameters for exposure to credit risk, product risk and institutional risk
- Criteria to assist in selecting investments
- Processes for evaluating and reporting investment performance against established benchmarks.

To strengthen Council's commitment to socially responsible investments the current investment policy was amended in June 2013 to include under the section of 'objectives / principles' the following statement;

'All financial institution to be selected for investments must indicate their commitment to core values of integrity, trust, customer service and the highest ethical standards along with their strong commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)'.

Core Issues

For the twelve months ended 30 June 2016, the Council's term deposit investments have outperformed the UBS Australian Bank Bill Index by 0.55%. Council's investments held in 11am or 'at call' accounts have outperformed the 11am Indicative Cash Rate by 0.38%. The outperformance of the UBS Australian Bank Bill Index was due to some financial institutions continuing to offer interest rates above benchmark in order to attract funds.

As at 30 June 2016 the Council's investment portfolio was valued at \$60.59 million, with \$47.68 million (79%) in term deposits and \$12.91 million (21%) in high-yielding cash accounts.

The investment allocation as at 30 June, 2016 is shown below:

Investments	Standard & Poors Rating LT/ST	Length of Invest (Days)	Funds invested at 30 June 15 \$'000	Return %
AMP	A/A1	182	\$2,062	3.00
AMP	A/A1	182	\$2,057	3.00
Auswide Bank	BBB/A2	92	\$2,000	3.00
Bank of Melbourne	AA/A1	92	\$2,074	2.95
BankWest	AA/A1+	60	\$2,030	2.80
BankWest	AA/A1+	60	\$2,069	2.80
BankWest	AA/A1+	60	\$2,110	2.80
Bank of Qld	A-/A2	182	\$1,010	3.10
Bank of Qld	A-/A2	182	\$1,015	3.15
Bank of Qld	A-/A2	184	\$2,166	3.00
Beyond Bank	BBB/A2	90	\$2,015	3.00
Beyond Bank	BBB/A2	92	\$2,073	3.00
Big Sky Building Soc.	BBB/A2	92	\$2,015	3.04
ING Bank	A-/A2	365	\$1,500	3.10
ME Bank	BBB/A2	90	\$2,000	3.00

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ME Bank	BBB/A2	91	\$2,000	3.11
ME Bank	BBB/A2	91	\$2,071	2.95
MyState Bank	BBB/A2	96	\$2,029	3.00
NAB	AA/A1+	150	\$2,090	2.95
NAB	AA/A1+	150	\$3,220	2.94
NAB	AA/A1+	90	\$2,015	2.90
NAB	AA/A1+	91	\$2,015	2.90
Suncorp Bank	A/A1	184	\$2,029	3.10
Suncorp Bank	A/A1	180	\$2,014	3.00
Total Term Deposits *			\$47,679	2.97
Westpac Cash Mgt	AA/A1+	n/a	\$3,353	1.80
ME Bank	BBB/A2	n/a	\$9,557	2.25
Total Cash Mgt *			\$12,910	2.13
Total All Funds *			\$60,589	2.79

Note: * Weighted average rate of return

The investment return for the twelve months to 30 June, 2016 is shown below:

Investments	Rating LT/ST	Avg Length of Invest (Days)	Portfolio Invested at 30 Jun 2016 %	Return %	UBS Index% / 11am Ind Cash Rate	+ / (-)%
AMP	A/A1	182	7%	3.02	2.17	+0.85
Auswide Bank	BBB/A2	92	3%	3.00	2.17	+0.83
BankWest	AA /A1+	76	10%	2.89	2.17	+0.72
Bank of Qld	BBB/A2	183	7%	2.87	2.17	+0.70
Beyond Bank	BBB/A2	91	7%	3.00	2.17	+0.83
Bank of Melbourne	AA/A1	101	3%	3.13	2.17	+0.96
Big Sky Building Soc.	BBB/A2	92	3%	2.96	2.17	+0.79
ING Bank Australia	A/A1	273	2%	3.00	2.17	+0.83
ME Bank	BBB/A2	79	10%	2.89	2.17	+0.72
MyState Bank	BBB/A2	95	3%	2.94	2.17	+0.77
NAB	AA/A1+	113	15%	2.90	2.17	+0.73
Suncorp Bank	A/A1	182	7%	2.92	2.17	+0.75
Total Term Deposits			79%	2.93 *	2.17	+0.55%
Westpac Cash Mgt	AA/A1+	n/a	5%	2.05	1.96	+0.09%
ME Bank	BBB/A2	n/a	16%	2.46	1.96	+0.50%
Total Cash Mgt			21%	2.34 *	1.96	+0.38%
Total All Funds			100%	2.81 *	2.13	+0.68%

Note: * Weighted average rate of return

The investment allocations by counterparty and by credit rating comply with the requirements of Council's investment policy.

The interest earned for the twelve months to 30 June 2016 is shown below:

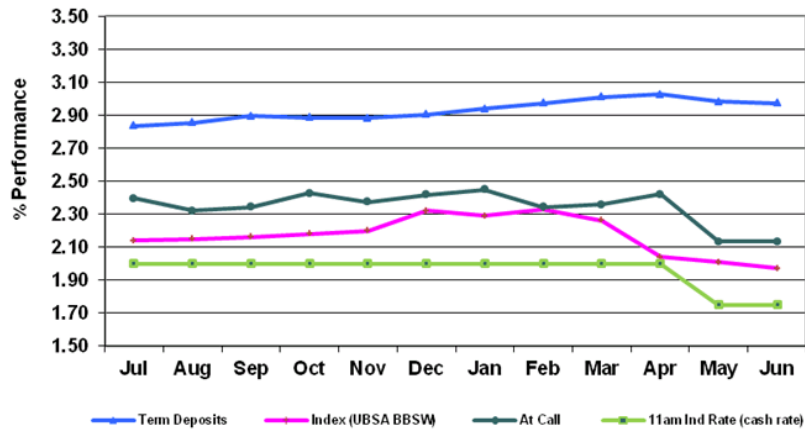
	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000
Term Deposits	911	1,172	261
At Call	304	356	52
Total All Funds	1,215	1,528	313

Interest exceeded budget due to higher interest rates (up to 3.30%) being locked-in for periods between 90 and 150 days, while the RBA official cash rate has decreased by 0.25% since July and also holding higher cash balances than expected.

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Monthly Returns by Asset Class



Future Actions

The investment portfolio will continue to be monitored in accordance with the investment policy recommendations.

With further cuts to official interest rates by the Reserve Bank now more unlikely, term deposit investment rates offered by financial institutions still remain low and may increase slightly in future. Council may wish to consider alternative investment products if rates continue to remain low.

An investment report for the 6 months ending 31 December, 2016 will be provided to the Audit Committee at its February 2017 meeting.

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7.3 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM – SEPTEMBER 2016 PERFORMANCE REPORT**Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed by:** Chief Financial Officer**Summary:**

This report has been prepared to provide the Council with details regarding the progress of the capital works program (the program) for the 2016/17 financial year. This report presents the first three months of the financial year, ending 30 September 2016.

The report presents program financial, projects timing and general commentary regarding program and individual project performance. Where appropriate, management measures are provided to provide comment on any budget or timing variances to ensure delivery of the program on time and on budget.

Overall, the 2016/17 program is on track with no major risks or issues identified.

Consultation:

EMT

Managers and Coordinators

Recommendation

That this report on the Capital Works Program performance as at 30 September 2016 be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation**MOVED:** Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the Capital Works Program performance as at 30 September 2016.

Report**Introduction and Background**

The 2016/17 Quarter 1 review has now been finalised including analysis of the actual capital works program for the three months ended 30 September 2016. The Audit Committee has asked that the briefing paper presented to Council with details regarding the achievement of the capital works program to date be presented to the Committee. Attached is the report titled "Capital Works Performance Report – 3 months ended 30 September 2016".

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Financial Implications

Nil

Future Actions

- Ongoing performance monitoring and proactive management of the program
- Reporting to EMT and Council on a quarterly basis.
- A mid-year performance report on the 2016/17 capital program will be presented to Councillors at a briefing to be arranged later this year.

Disclosure of Interests

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

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8. RISK MANAGEMENT**8.1 CORPORATE RISK AND BCP UPDATE**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting on 5 October 2016, which was cancelled. The report has since been updated.)

Author: Manager Corporate Risk

Reviewed by: Director Corporate Services

Summary:

As a regular requirement of the Audit Committee, the Manager Corporate Risk is responsible for providing progress reports on the ongoing implementation of Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report provides an update of Council's current risk management status in relation to its Proactive Risk Management practices and performance, Strategic and Operational Risk review and Business Continuity Planning.

Consultation:

Executive Management Team
Risk and Insurance Advisor
Claims Administration Officer
MAV Insurance
JLT Insurance
Echelon Claims Services

Recommendation

That this report regarding Corporate Risk and Business Continuity Planning is received and noted by the Audit Committee.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the Corporate Risk and Business Continuity Planning report and notes that the Risk Management Policy will come to the February Audit Committee meeting.

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Report**Introduction and Background**

Regular briefings to the Audit Committee of Council's Risk Management status, systems and practices have been ongoing since 2011. The commitment from the organisation has seen significant improvements in ensuring sound risk management practices are in place to protect it from corporate and operational risk exposures and defend it in potential legal proceedings.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the organisation's progress in relation its risk management systems and practices including proactive risk management programs and performance, strategic and operational risk profiles and business continuity planning.

Issues and Discussion**1. Fraud Prevention and Control**

As mentioned at the June 2016 Audit Committee meeting, the revised Fraud Prevention and Control policy was endorsed by EMT and signed by the Chief Executive Officer in April 2016. A thorough consultation process was undertaken with key stakeholder across the organisation to develop the revised one page policy statement of intent and commitment.

Although over 615 employees across Council had completed the 'Fraud Awareness' training module (either online or face-to-face) previous to the revised policy, a roll out program was established with Learning and Development to effectively inform all employees of the changes. On Monday, 16 May an email to all Managers, Coordinators and Team Leaders was sent from Learning and Development advising of the process required to effectively inform all employees of the new Fraud Prevention and Control policy. Employees were required to sign an acknowledgement form and return it to Learning and Development for record keeping by Friday, 17 June. I have been informed by Learning and Development that a total of 251 employees to date have acknowledged the new policy signed and returned their forms. Apart from training application forms whereby employee training will not be approved unless their compliance is complete, there is no other embedded follow up process at this stage. Learning and Development do however report to EMT quarterly on overall completion progress.

As a request by the Audit Committee, I have been able to confirm from the Learning and Development team of People and Development that the Fraud Awareness refresher training is scheduled for every two years.

2. Risk Management Policy

An extensive consultation process has been undertaken to develop a final draft of the new Risk Management Policy. Consultation included key stakeholders across the organisation, members of the Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance Committee and risk professionals through our Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath.

The policy now incorporates Council's Risk Appetite, Attestation, Assurance, Risk Profile, KPI's and operational changes to Council's current risk management practices. Presentation and endorsement of the new policy is scheduled for EMT in December 2016.

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3. Strategic and Operational Risk Report

As a request by the Audit Committee, six monthly progress reporting of all Strategic and Operational Risks with a residual high risk rating will be provided at alternative meetings. With the absence of our October 2016 meeting, a full report of both risk profiles will be presented at the Audit Committee in December of all current high risks, effective 1 July 2016. The Integrated Risk Management system that holds this information is currently undergoing a 'health check' hence the absence of an attached report.

In line with the above arrangements, the 'Risk Progress Reporting Framework' has been revised to ensure progress reporting is maintained at EMT, Audit Committee and the Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance Committee. The amended Risk Progress Reporting Framework is attached as **Appendix One**, for your information.

4. Business Continuity Planning and Testing

At the June 2016 Audit Committee meeting, a status report from our Business Continuity Key Action Plan was provided to reflect Areas of Improvement as identified during the desktop exercise held in October 2015. A total of 16 improvements were identified with 6 now completed and 10 in progress.

A key project for the Corporate Risk department for 2016/17, in line with the outstanding Areas of Improvement, is a complete review of Council's Business Continuity Management Program. A project plan has been established to ensure key components of Business Continuity are addressed throughout the review. The review includes:

- Re-assessment of Critical Services by completing Business Impact Assessments of each service delivery, in line with the new organisational structure.
- Development of a revised Business Continuity Plan and Directorate Sub Plans.
- Review Business Continuity Recovery Committee structure and its intent, responsibilities, members, frequency and required training.
- Review Primary and Secondary Control Centre sites as well as potential recovery sites.
- Required training for specific roles within Business Continuity and for all employees.

In line with our current Business Continuity Plan, an annual test is required to ensure key personnel remain well informed of their role and responsibilities in the event of a disruption. Equally we are required to test our external dependencies and therefore it was identified and agreed that our 2016 exercise will test our current after-hours telephone service, Oracle.

An established arrangement between Council and Oracle is in place whereby an automatic and instant transfer to Oracle is undertaken during business hours when Council's telephony system is down. With recent events we know this arrangement is successful and maintains a high level of customer service.

We were able to test in October 2016 of a manual transfer of calls to Oracle from Council. It took a total of 16 minutes including hold times and transfers to relevant Telstra departments, having to seek relevant authority from Council to conduct the transfer to Oracle. For busy periods Telstra informed that as a Government body we would not expect any greater than 20 minutes for such action to occur.

Digital Information Services are currently working on an alternative contingency whereby a new Telstra line is set up allowing an auto-route of calls between Preston and the Depot. Therefore if telephone lines were down at Preston, calls would automatically be transferred to the Depot. As our infrastructure of systems and equipment is in place at the Depot, Customer Service Officers during business hours would be able to maintain a high level of

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customer service within a 20 minute timeframe. Digital Information Services are anticipating that this arrangement will be implemented by the end of this year.

4. JMAPP Property Risk Audit 2014-2016

Council participated in the insurers JMAPP Property Risk Audit on 5 May 2016. This audit examined various areas attributed to effective property risk management. The audit focused on key areas such as:

- Property inspections - physical inspection of Council assets to assess the potential risk exposures and proactive inspections and maintenance records. Yanada House, Northcote Library and Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre (NARC) were the three sites selected by our Insurer to assess.
- Incident reporting procedures - relevant investigations/analysis conducted for all applicable losses (insurance claims) to mitigate similar future losses.
- Business Continuity- practices and documentation for Business Continuity Plans and testing of plans.

At the previous Audit Committee meeting, Council was yet to receive an overall percentage score and final report reflective of our performance against the criteria of the audit questions. Our percentage score of 79% has since been received with a full report. While there has been an overall decrease in the audit score from the previous audit of 96%, it is to be recognised that JMAPP's audit approach and content has undergone significant change and revision and the margin of error in the scoring has been considerably reduced, since the previous audit. The full report is provided as **Appendix Two**.

5. Audit Manager

Audit Manager Solutions from CAMMS Software was recently purchased to improve current efficiencies in the way the organisation manages its audits conducted both internally and externally. The system is now live and available with the first report provided at this Audit Committee meeting of 5 December 2016.

The Audit Manager Solution allows for the registering and tracking of any type of review activity, in an interactive and real time environment. The additional module within CAMMS is an extension to the Integrated Risk Manager module, which has been in place for almost five years.

Although the system is live, there are some teething problems with reporting provisions and email notification processes. We are working closely with CAMMS to resolve these issues. A demonstration of the system can be provided at the meeting of 5 December 2016.

6. Driver Education Program

With an increase in the number of motor vehicle incidents and the significant cost in claims, Corporate Risk has identified a need for a Driver Education Program. The concept of this program is a holistic approach to driver safety, with a key focus to enhance on existing policies and procedures and the delivery of driver education training in the 2016/17 period. The tender process to procure a panel of providers to deliver driver training has been finalised and a training needs analysis is currently being undertaken to determine the various training requirements for the organisation.

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The Driver Education Program will focus on:

- Developing an accident reduction strategy
- Developing of a Driver Safety policy
- Reviewing and enhancing existing forms and procedures
- Reviewing and enhancing current incident investigation processes
- Developing a communication plan to provide staff with regular information on safe driving practices and performance
- Enhancing claims reporting to management, and
- Developing and rolling out effective driver training programs across the organization.

Council has also recently participated in a Motor Fleet Risk Review facilitated by our motor vehicle insurer. The purpose of this review was to evaluate the quality of risk management controls in place to reduce potential risk exposures occurring within Council's fleet. Overall, Council fleet risk performance was evaluated as satisfactory. With this, several recommendations have been made by our insurer to further support Council's culture of continual improvement and assist Council to further develop the Driver Education Program. The Motor Fleet Risk Review report is attached as **Appendix Three**.

7. General Insurance and Claims Performance

An additional two reports has been provided to the Audit Committee titled 'Corporate Risk Statistical Analysis Report – Quarter Four and Annual – 2015/16' and 'Corporate Risk Statistical Analysis Report – Quarter One – 2016/17', as **Appendix Four** which provides a full account on the organisation's current performance in the areas of:

- Injury Management;
- Incidents and Injuries;
- Occupational Health and Safety;
- Medical and Functional Capacity Assessments, and
- General Insurance Claims Management.

The Quarter Four and Annual report was presented to EMT on Tuesday, 9 August 2016 and the Quarter One report was provided on 15 November 2016. Both reports were discussed and well received by Executive Members.

The Corporate Risk Department is continually enhancing the reports to ensure organisational performance is effectively documented, content remains relevant, collation of data is accurate training and current proactive programs being explained to address the issues and trends. Further enhancements will be considered for the Quarter Two report.

Policy Implications

Environmental Sustainability

Not applicable

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Not applicable

Economic Development

Not applicable

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Other

The actions in this report have implications for the Risk Management Policy and Guidelines and Business Continuity Plan.

Financial and Resource Implications

Risk and hazards that are not well managed leave Council exposed to greater expense which has implications on the costs of insuring our business and assets.

Conclusion

The ongoing implementation of Council's risk management framework and the regular discussions and reporting requirements of our systems and practices embeds a proactive risk management culture across Council.

Future Actions

Continue to provide regular briefings to the Audit Committee of Council's progress in its Corporate Risk Management practices and Business Continuity Planning.

Disclosure of Interests

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquires with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Related Documents

Fraud Prevention and Control Policy
Risk Management Policy
JMAPP Audit Report 2014-2016
Business Continuity Plan
Business Continuity Management Policy
Motor Vehicle Fleet Review Report August 2016
Corporate Risk Statistical Analysis Report – Quarter Four and Final 2015/16
Corporate Risk Statistical Analysis Report – Quarter One 2016/17

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9. EXTERNAL AUDIT**9.1 VAGO EXTERNAL AUDIT – INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Auditor-General has completed the annual audit of the financial report and performance statement of Darebin City Council for the year ending 30 June 2016.

In the Auditor-General's opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Darebin City Council as at 30 June 2016 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the Local Government Act 1989.

Consultation:

Acting Director Corporate Services
Chief Financial Officer
Financial Accountant
Coordinator Council Plan & Performance

Recommendation

That the attached independent auditor's report on Darebin City Council's financial report and performance statement for the year ended 30 June 2016 be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the independent auditor's report on Darebin City Council's financial report and performance statement for the year ended 30 June 2016.

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10. INTERNAL AUDIT**10.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT - AS AT 24 NOVEMBER 2016****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed by:** Chief Executive**Summary:**

The internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report to update the Audit Committee on Council's internal audit activity since its meeting of Monday 6 June 2016.

Consultation:

Acting Director Corporate Services
Senior Council Officers

Recommendation

That the attached report titled '*Internal Audit Progress Report – as at 24 November 2016*' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation**MOVED:** Ms Lisa Tripodi**SECONDED:** Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the '*Internal Audit Progress Report – as at 24 November 2016*' prepared by the internal auditors.

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10.2 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - BUILDING MAINTENANCE - GENERAL AND ESSENTIAL SAFETY MEASURES

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

In accordance with Council's annual audit plan, the internal auditors completed a review of the adequacy of processes and procedures surround Council owned buildings:

- (a) Building Maintenance – General, and
- (b) Building Maintenance – Essential Safety Measures (ESM).

Crowe Horwath identified two items of a high risk nature, as well as 4 moderate and 4 low rated risk items.

Consultation:

Director Assets and Business Services
Manager Assets and Properties
Manager Corporate Risk
Property Manager
Coordinator Facility Management
Building Strategy Advisor

Recommendation

That the attached report titled "*Building Maintenance – General and Essential Safety Measures*" prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled "*Building Maintenance – General and Essential Safety Measures*" prepared by the internal auditors.

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**10.3 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW HACC
IT SYSTEM CARELINK PLUS**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

In accordance with Council's annual audit plan, the internal auditors reviewed the process undertaken by management regarding the post implementation review for the Carelink plus system.

Crowe Horwath did not note any issues of a high risk nature but did identify 4 medium and 3 low rated risk items.

Consultation:

Acting Director Corporate Services
Director Community Development
Acting Manager Aged and Disability
System Administrator
Senior Team Leader Community Support

Recommendation

That the attached report titled "*Post Implementation Review HACC IT System Carelink Plus*" prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi

SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled "*Post Implementation Review HACC IT System Carelink Plus*" prepared by the internal auditors.

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10.4 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – VICROADS INFORMATION PROTECTION AGREEMENT – COMPLIANCE REPORT

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

Council obtains information from VicRoads to identify owners of vehicles for traffic or local laws related infringements.

Council is required to have a review undertaken with respect to its compliance with the VicRoads Information Protection Agreement (IPA) as required by Section 92 of the Road Safety Act 1986.

The internal auditors have provided a report which includes a summary of the compliance and non-compliance with VicRoads Information Protection Agreement as at June 2015.

Consultation:

Manager Economic Development and Civic Compliance
Coordinator Civic Compliance
Team Leader Business & Performance
Coordinator Corporate Information
Systems Administration (Core Council Systems)
ICT Client Services Coordinator

Recommendation

That the attached report titled '*VicRoads Information Protection Agreement – Compliance Report*' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*VicRoads Information Protection Agreement – Compliance Report*' prepared by the internal auditors.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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10.5 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – HUMAN RESOURCES PRACTICES

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

In accordance with Council's audit program, a review was completed of the human resource (HR) management practices and procedures and controls that have been put in place to minimise related exposures and risks.

Crowe Horwath did not note any issues of a high risk nature but did identify 3 medium and 10 low rated risk items.

Consultation:

Director Corporate Services (since left the organisation)
Manager People and Development
Payroll Coordinator
Learning and Development Consultant (Acting)
Human Resource Generalist
Workforce Planning Consultant

Recommendation

That the attached report titled '*Human Resource Practices*' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*Human Resource Practices*' prepared by the internal auditors.

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10.6 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – RECORDS MANAGEMENT REVIEW

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

Victorian Councils are required to comply with the Public Records Act 1973 and must create and keep such records as may be necessary to fully and adequately record their functions and operations as set out under the Act.

In accordance with the Council's annual audit plan, a review was completed of the record management processes to assess whether the controls and practices are operating satisfactorily.

Crowe Horwath did not note any issues of a high risk nature but did identify 3 medium and 6 low rated risk items.

Consultation:

Director Corporate Services (since left the organisation)
Chief Information Officer
Coordinator Corporate Information
Senior Corporate Information Officer
Manager Communications and Marketing
Team Leader Digital & Online Communications

Recommendation

That the attached report titled '*Records Management Review*' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*Records Management Review*' prepared by the internal auditors.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**10.7 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
(ANNUAL REVIEW OF SELECTED DEPARTMENT)**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed By: Chief Executive

Summary:

In accordance with Council's internal audit plan, a review has been carried out of the audit review processes to assess whether the procedures and practices are operating satisfactorily.

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify one medium rated risk item and one low rated risk item.

Consultation:

Manager Corporate Risk
Director Community Development
Acting Manager Creative Culture

Recommendation

That the attached report titled 'Risk Management Framework (annual review of selected department)' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*Risk Management Framework (annual review of selected department)*' prepared by the internal auditors.

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10.8 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Chief Executive**Summary:**

In accordance with Council's internal audit plan, a review has been carried out of the parks playground maintenance practices and procedures that have been put in place to minimise related exposures and risks. Specifically the audit reviewed the management and maintenance of playgrounds in accordance with key components of the Australian Standards AS/NZS 4486.1:1997 Playgrounds and playground equipment – Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation (AS 4486).

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify 4 medium rated risk items and 4 low rated risk items.

Consultation:

Acting Director Culture, Leisure and Works
Coordinator Public Places
Manager Parks and Vegetation
Team Leader Playground Maintenance

Recommendation

That the attached report titled 'Playground Maintenance' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*Playground Maintenance*' prepared by the internal auditors.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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10.9 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – FINANCIAL CONTROLS – CASH RECEIPTING, PAYROLL, PETTY CASH (AND RELATED DATA INTERROGATION)**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Chief Executive**Summary:**

In accordance with the annual internal audit program, a review was undertaken of the adequacy of the various processes and procedures that have been put in place within the Finance Department to manage and control the functions of cash receipting, payroll and petty cash. The review also involved the use of data analytics to interrogate data within those systems.

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify one medium rated risk item and three low rated risk items.

Consultation:

A/Director Corporate Services
Financial Accountant
Management Accountant
Assistant Accountant
Payroll Coordinator
Team Leader Training and Development

Recommendation

That the attached report titled '*Financial Controls – Cash Receipting, Payroll, Petty Cash (and related data interrogation)*' prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the report titled '*Financial Controls – Cash Receipting, Payroll, Petty Cash (and related data interrogation)*' prepared by the internal auditors.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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10.10 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – MEMORANDUMS OF AUDIT PLANNING FOR UPCOMING AUDITS

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled. The report has since been updated.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program 2016, Crowe Horwath has prepared memorandums of audit planning (MAPs) for the following upcoming or current audits:

- Capital Works Management
- Events and Festivals Management
- Immunisation Management Review
- Risk Management Framework (annual review of selected department)
- Parks Playground Maintenance Review
- Financial Controls – cash receipting, payroll, petty cash (and related data interrogation)
- Business Continuity Planning
- Parks and Gardens – Tree Management.

These MAPs have been signed off by management. Some audits have been completed, some are in progress and others are yet to commence.

Consultation:

Executive Management Team

Recommendation

That the attached Memorandums of Audit Planning titled '*Capital Works Management, Events and Festivals Management, Immunisation Management Review, Risk Management Framework (annual review of selected department), Parks Playground Maintenance Review, Financial Controls – cash receipting, payroll, petty cash (and related data interrogation), Business Continuity Planning and Parks and Gardens – Tree Management*', prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the Memorandums of Audit Planning titled '*Capital Works Management, Events and Festivals Management, Immunisation Management Review, Risk Management Framework (annual review of selected department), Parks Playground Maintenance Review, Financial Controls – cash receipting, payroll, petty cash (and related data interrogation), Business Continuity Planning and Parks and Gardens – Tree Management*', prepared by the internal auditors.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**10.11 INTERNAL AUDIT – AUDIT CLIENT SURVEYS:
RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AUDIT & PLAYGROUND
MAINTENANCE AUDIT****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed by:** Chief Executive**Summary:**

The Audit Committee has asked for surveys as part of the 2016/17 audit program. The surveys are conducted through SurveyMonkey following finalisation of the relevant audit report.

The Risk Management Framework Audit received an average rating of 4.5.

The Playground Maintenance Audit received an average rating of 4.3.

For the Committee's information, the evaluation criteria includes:

1. Professionalism
2. Communication skills
3. Attitude towards customers
4. Technical proficiency
5. Effectiveness in covering your key operating areas
6. Notifications to you – the audit purpose and scope
7. Provision of feedback on findings during the audit
8. Timeliness in providing the audit report
9. Accuracy of audit findings
10. Overall performance of the Internal Auditors.

Consultation:

Risk Management Framework Audit:
Manager Corporate Risk
Director Community Development
Acting Manager Creative Culture

Playground Maintenance Audit:
Acting Director Culture, Leisure and Works
Coordinator Public Places
Manager Parks & Vegetation
Team Leader Playground Maintenance

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the results of the client surveys for the Risk Management Framework Audit and the Playground Maintenance Audit.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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10.12 OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Director Corporate Services

Reviewed by: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Executive Management Team is committed to reducing the number of outstanding internal audit actions. To this end, Council has implemented a new computer based system called '*Audit Manager*' to assist Council Officers in providing feedback on their progress to complete audit actions. The system is managed by Corporate Risk and after a rigorous test period, was rolled out to Council Officers. To date, feedback has been positive.

A report to update the Audit Committee on progress towards implementing recommendations made in previous internal audit reports by the internal auditors is attached.

Consultation:

Executive Management Team
Senior Managers

Recommendation

That this report and attachment providing an update on outstanding audit actions be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee defers the Outstanding Internal Audit Actions to the next Audit Committee meeting.

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11. PROCUREMENT**11.1 PROCUREMENT NON-CONFORMANCE REPORT**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Coordinator Procurement & Contracting

Reviewed by: Director Civic Governance & Performance

Summary:

Section 186 'Restriction on power to enter into contracts' of the *Local Government Act 1989* covers Council's obligations when entering into contracts.

This report seeks to inform the Audit Committee of goods and services or works that have not partially or fully complied with the requirements specified under the *Local Government Act* or Council's Procurement Policy.

Consultation:

Chief Executive
Executive Management Team

Recommendation

That the Non Conformance Report as at 1 August 2016 attached as **Appendix A** to this report be received and noted.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the Procurement Non-Conformance Report.

Report**Introduction and Background**

In accordance with section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act') there is a requirement for Council to undertake procurement in an open and transparent manner and to publicly advertised for goods and services (G&S) or works above \$150,000 incl. GST (G&S) or \$200,000 incl. GST (works).

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Issues and Discussion

Since October 2014 the Procurement and Contracting team have been recording and reporting to the Executive Management Team any non-compliant procurement practices across Council.

To significantly minimise the risk around any non-compliance the Chief Executive gave approval to centralise all procurement and contracting across Council, where the value is equal to or greater than \$5,000 incl. GST. This included the requirement for the Procurement and Contracts team to either undertake or assist Business Unit in the undertaking of all procurement steps up to and including contract execution.

The centralisation of procurement and contracting does not include other ongoing management of contract deliverables for engagements of \$150,000 incl. GST, which continues to be undertaken by the relevant Business Unit. To monitor the procurement non-compliance a new report commenced on the effective date of the centralisation of procurement and contracting process.

It should be noted that there continues to be no breaches under S186 of the Local Government Act, which are purchases that require open public tendering or engagement through established panel arrangements. Council does acknowledge there are some minor breaches in relation to the procurement policy which falls under S186A (4) of the Local Government Act. Such breaches pertain to officers not following processes such as not referring procurements through Procurement Accreditation Committee (PAC) prior to obtaining sign off by the financial delegate. The Procurement team are working with the CE and Executive Management Team in rectifying these minor breaches so as to be fully compliant with the procurement policy.

Policy Implications

The report will continue to be prepared in accordance with the procurement policy.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial or resource implications with this report.

Conclusion

That the attached s186 reports be noted and received.

Future Actions

Continue to monitor and report non-compliance to the Executive Management Team.

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Related Documents

- Local Government Act 1989
- Procurement Policy 2015

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**5 DECEMBER 2016****11.2 PROCUREMENT POLICY**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Coordinator Procurement and Contracting

Reviewed by: Director Civic Governance & Performance

Report Background

In accordance with section 186A (7) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) there is a requirement for Council, on an annual basis, to review the procurement policy.

The current policy and guidelines were endorsed by Council dated 23 November 2015.

A recent review of those policy and guidelines enables Council to adopt a streamlined and efficient approach to the way in which procurement is undertaken at Darebin Council and incorporates the Darebin Industry Participation Policy principles.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

On an annual basis Council is required to review its procurement policy and submit it to Council for approval. A report was provided to Council at its meeting on 3 October 2016.

The report sets out the amendments made to the previous procurement policy dated November 2015.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the outcomes of the procurement policy review.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

Report**Introduction**

In accordance with section 186A (7) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) there is a requirement for Council, on an annual basis, to review the procurement policy.

Issues and Discussion

The attached policy (Appendix A) excludes the guidelines, which form a detailed framework for procurement processes across Darebin Council and therefore allows the guidelines to continually evolve as new operational processes are adopted or new systems introduced, without impact on the policy.

Changes to the Procurement Policy include:

Item 3.2 – Inclusion of Gifts and Hospitality section

Item 4.3 – Inclusion of PAC approval for Procurement Policy Exemptions prior to financial delegation approval.

Item 4.5 – A reduction in categories not requiring a purchase order

The policy continues to meet all requirements of the Act and defines the following key areas:

- Policy compliance and controls
- Governance
- Methods of undertaking procurement
- Purchasing thresholds
- Probity
- Financial delegations
- Purchase orders
- Local business framework
- Contract variations

Options for Consideration

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications

The policy will support Council's financial plan by ensuring procurement activities are undertaken in a consistent and appropriate manner. By adopting best practice principles, the policy will enhance the achievement of objectives in value for money which in turn will ensure public monies are spent in the best interest of the community and generating support for the local economy and the wider community.

Risk Management

Nil

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Policy Implications**Economic Development**

The procurement policy continues to include the following, which will be taken into consideration, where appropriate, with all procurement activities.

- Local Business Framework
- Darebin Industry Participation Policy

Environmental Sustainability

The procurement policy continues to include the following, which will be taken into consideration, where appropriate, with all procurement activities.

- Environmental Purchasing Code

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

The procurement policy continues to include the following, which will be taken into consideration, where appropriate, with all procurement activities

- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Disability Access and Inclusion Policy

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

- The amended Procurement policy (including links to other related policies) is uploaded onto the intranet for internal use.
- Procurement policy uploaded on Council's internet for public access and be made available at Customer Services Centres.
- The policy be reviewed and reported to Council annually.
- Continued assistance to local business and employment by promoting economic activity in collaboration with the Business Development team.

Consultation and Advocacy

Chief Executive
Executive Manager City Growth

Related Documents

- Local Government Act 1989
- Darebin Industry Participation Policy
- Local Business Framework
- Environmental Purchasing Code

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**5 DECEMBER 2016**

- Disability Access and Inclusion Policy
- Contract Guidelines
- Procurement Guidelines
- Excellence in Governance @ Darebin, Code of Conduct

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

12. GOVERNANCE

12.1 COUNCILLOR SUPPORT AND EXPENSES REPORT

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Council Business and Governance Officer

Review: Director Civic Governance and Performance

Summary:

This report provides the summary of expenses and reimbursements made by Councillors and the summary of officer mobile expenses for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee:

- (1) Receives and notes the Summary of Councillor expenses and reimbursements attached as Appendix A for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016.
- (2) Receives and notes the summary of officer mobile phone expenses and reimbursements including cumulative amounts attached as **Appendix B** to this report for the billing period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016.
- (3) Notes Councillors' expenses and reimbursement summaries plus cab charge and mobile phone declarations for 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 will be published on Council's webpage.

Report

Introduction and Background

Appropriate support must be provided to enable Councillors to effectively carry out their duties. This support includes the provision and maintenance of equipment and means of communication such as internet access and telephone calls. Such support is paid for directly by Council, with budget provision made for these expenses. Additionally, Councillors may incur costs and then seek reimbursement from Council for items such as travel or attendance at conferences or functions in an official capacity.

Section 75B of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires a Council to adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors and members of Council Committees.

The *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2013* (the Policy) provides that a report on Councillor expenses by category will be prepared, circulated to all Councillors and submitted to each (quarterly) meeting of Council's Audit Committee.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**5 DECEMBER 2016****Issues and Discussion****Policy Framework**

The Policy provides clarity regarding the resources, facilities and support to be provided to Councillors and the entitlements for Councillors who have out-of-pocket expenses incurred while performing their duties as a Councillor either reimbursed or paid directly by the Council.

Reimbursements are provided in line with the provisions of the Act, that is, when they are requested in writing and are established as reasonable and bona fide out-of-pocket expenses incurred while performing duties as a Councillor. Guidance as to the interpretation of 'Duties as a Councillor' is included in the policy.

Expenses

The Quarterly Summary of Councillor Expenses for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 includes expenses related to travel, training, conferences and telephone and internet services. Where a Councillor has reimbursed costs to Council for personal use of telephones this is also captured in the schedule.

Requests for reimbursement are accompanied by tax invoices. Where possible, attendance at training and conferences are paid directly by Council through electronic funds transfer or use of the corporate credit card. Payments are made in line with purchasing policy and guidelines.

Information about telephone and internet expenses is made available to Councillors monthly in the form of the itemised account. Councillors are reminded to identify and reimburse Council for personal use, if applicable.

It should be noted that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 21 October 2013, Council resolved that effective 1 November 2013 Councillor expenses and reimbursements are to be listed on Council's website to promote transparency. Further, at the same meeting of Council it was resolved that expenses and reimbursements for the current financial year would be reported in Council's annual report.

Outstanding Monies

There were no Councillors with outstanding monies as at 30 June 2016.

Reporting

The *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2013* provides that a report on Councillor expenses by category will be prepared and submitted to each (quarterly) meeting of Council's Audit Committee.

The report presents the overall expenditure for Darebin's nine Councillors, divided into a number of expense categories. To assist in interpretation, the report presents data for the most recent quarter and the three previous quarters.

At the Council meeting of 5 November 2014 Council resolved to amend the Councillor Support and Expense policy to allow Councillors to submit declarations electronically as well as in hard copy. It should be noted to comply fully with the Minister's request the declarations in whatever form they are submitted must be signed by the individual Councillor.

To enhance transparency in relation to reimbursements associated with telephone and cab charge expenses the information will be published quarterly on Council's website within one week of reporting the information to Council's Audit Committee.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**5 DECEMBER 2016**

In addition to the above any outstanding monies owed to Council for non-Council related calls or taxi trips will be made available on Council's website.

Councillor Mobile Phone and Cab Charge Declarations

Table 1 below outlines the telephone declarations for 2015/2016 to 30 June 2016 with the due date and the actual date the declaration was received by the Governance unit from each Councillor.

Table 2 below outlines the Cab Charge usage declarations for 2015/2016 to 30 June 2016 with the due date and the actual date the declaration was received by the Governance unit from each Councillor.

Both tables are being reported in line with the *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2013*.

Council Officer Communication Equipment

The new process came into effect on 1 June 2014. Since then all officers who are issued with a Council mobile phone have received individual bills. Attached at **Appendix B** is list of each officer, by directorate, and their total bill amount for 2015/2016. An additional column has also been included to show what reimbursements have been made to Council for non-council related business. On a monthly basis the Finance team will run a report on reimbursements made by officers which will be included in the attached spreadsheet.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Table 1 below outlines the telephone declarations due date and the actual date the declaration was received by the Governance unit from each Councillor.

COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF PERSONAL CALLS 2015/2016

Invoice Period	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Declaration Due Date	26 Aug 15	18 Sep 15	23 Oct 15	19 Nov 15	21 Dec 15	21 Jan 16	24 Feb 16	24 Mar 16	21 Apr 16	2 Jun 16	28 Jun 16	2 Aug 16
Cr. Greco	14 Sep 15	28 Sep 15	14 Oct 15	16 Nov 15	8 Dec 15	20 Jan 16	16 Feb 16	21 Mar 16	18 Apr 16	23 May 16	14 Jun 16	29 Jul 16
Cr. Fontana	14 Aug 15	8 Sep 15	9 Oct 15	10 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	14 Jan 16	10 Feb 16	10 Mar 16	18 Apr 16	19 May 16	14 Jun 16	21 Jul 16
Cr. Laurence	18 Aug 15	25 Sep 15	14 Oct 15	6 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	20 Jan 16	12 Feb 16	21 Mar 16	15 Apr 16	23 May 16	27 Jun 16	20 Jul 16
Cr. Li	18 Aug 15	7 Sep 15	14 Oct 15	17 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	2 Feb 16	16 Feb 16	21 Mar 16	18 Apr 16	23 May 16	14 Jun 16	25 Jul 16
Cr. McCarthy	17 Aug 15	15 Sep 15	8 Oct 15	17 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	11 Jan 16	19 Feb 16	29 Mar 16	7 Apr 16	31 May 16	27 Jun 16	1 Aug 16
Cr. Tsitas	16 Sep 15	16 Sep 15	8 Oct 15	20 Jan 16	7 Dec 15	20 Jan 16	15 Feb 16	22 Mar 16	23 May 16	01 Jun 16	28 Jun 16	9 Aug 16
Cr. Villella	17 Aug 15	28 Sep 15	17 Nov 15	17 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	2 Feb 16	31 Mar 16	31 Mar 16	18 Apr 16	16 May 16	12 Jul 16	8 Aug 16
Cr. Walsh	27 Nov 15		7 Dec 15	4 Dec 15	23 Mar 16	22 Mar 16	22 Mar 16	23 Mar 16	23 May 16	18 Jun 16	18 Jul 16	26 Aug 16
Cr. Williams	17 Aug 15	21 Sep 15	30 Oct 15	23 Nov 15	7 Dec 15	14 Jan 16	15 Feb 16	22 Mar 16	13 Apr 16	14 Jun 16	14 Jun 16	25 Jul 16

Councillor sent account for Month and Declaration due

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Table 2 below outlines the Cab Charge usage declarations due date and the actual date the declaration was received by the Governance unit from each Councillor.

COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF CAB CHARGE USAGE 2015/2016

Invoice Period	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Declarations Due Date	9 Sep 15	9 Sep 15	7 Oct 15	11 Nov 15	1 Dec 15	30 Dec 15	3 Feb 16	24 Feb 16	25 Mar 16	24 May 16	N/A*	12 Aug 16
Cr. Laurence	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C
Cr. Li	N/C	3 Sep 15	14 Oct 15	N/C	23 Nov 15	2 Feb 16	27 Jan 16	N/C	21 Mar 16	16 May 16	N/C	N/C
Cr. Tsitas	N/C	N/C	N/C	28 Oct 15	19 Nov 15	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	20 May 16	N/C	29 Aug 16
Cr. Walsh		19 Nov 15	19 Nov 15	26 Nov 15	19 Nov 15	22 Mar 16	22 Mar 16	22 Mar 16	22 Mar 16		N/C	31 Aug 16
Cr. Williams	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	23 Nov 15	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	1 Aug 16
Cr. Villella	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C

Councillor sent account for Month and Declaration due

N/C – Nil Cab Charge expenses incurred for the month

NOTE: Crs Greco, Fontana, and McCarthy have not incurred any Cab Charge expenses during 2015/2016 to 30 June 2016.

* N/A = Declaration not required as there were no charges for any Councillor for May 2016

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Policy Implications**Environmental Sustainability**

Nil

Social Inclusion and Diversity

Nil

Other

This report is provided in accordance with the *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2013* and the *Communication and Equipment Policy 2014*.

Financial and Resource Implications

Expenditure and reimbursements fall within the existing operating budget.

Future Actions

- Quarterly reports of Councillor expenses will be provided to the Audit Committee
- Each councillor will receive a copy of their expenses for the quarter
- Quarterly expenses and reimbursements will be published on the Darebin website

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Related Documents

- *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2013*
- *Communication and Equipment Policy 2014*
- Summary of Councillor expenses and reimbursements (**Appendix A**)
- Summary of Officers mobile charges and reimbursements (**Appendix B**)

13. DIGITAL & INFORMATION SERVICES

13.1 INFORMATION SERVICES: DISASTER RECOVERY AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN UPDATE

Author: Manager Digital and Information services

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Information Services department has a Disaster Recovery (DR) and Business Continuity Plan (BCP) which is updated periodically. The last update was completed in January 2015. This report provides the changes which have taken place during 2015 and 2016.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Excellent Service:

- Provide an efficient and productive Council administration that delivers excellent customer care that is responsive, accessible and inclusive.

Summary

The purpose of the IS Business Continuity Plan is to:

- Safeguard the council's computer based information and IS resources;
- Ensure that adequate policies, procedures and resources are in place to:
 - minimise the risk and impact in the event that a disaster occurs;
 - facilitate the recovery process so that the council's essential computer assisted services can be resumed at the earliest opportunity;
- Ensure that IS staff members are aware of their responsibilities in the event of a disaster.

In summary, the IS policy regarding backup, storage and recovery may be stated as follows:

- ◆ To ensure that all significant server based components of the IS network are regularly and frequently backed up, and securely stored, in a manner which facilitates reliable and timely recovery;
- ◆ To identify and provide the elements which must be incorporated in the desktop Standard Operating Environment (SOE), to enable users to avoid loss of data.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Susan Rennie
SECONDED: Mr Terry Richards

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this update in relation to Information Services Disaster Recovery Plan and Business Continuity Plan.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

Introduction

IS Business Continuity Plan is an ongoing part of Information Services responsibilities. IS has a documented DR and BCP plan since 2004 which underwent a complete review in October 2006 and an update in early 2015. As a result, the document was updated to reflect network changes, changes to the telephone system and to include various other items of information which have become available since the publication of the original document in November 2004. This report provides the changes which have taken place in last two years.

Issues and Discussion**IS Business Continuity Plan**

Following changes and upgrades have taken place in the IT infrastructure since Jan 2015 which have enhanced the IS ability to recover from disasters and provide business continuity:

- Upgrade of IBM SAN with EMC SAN – approximately 8 year old IBM Storage area network (Disk storage system) has been fully replaced by new generation EMC VPLEX storage area network. This provides enhanced performance and capacity as well as being new, reduces the risk of failure.
The new disk storage continues to replicate application data in real time across two IT data centres, which means that there will be no data loss resulting from failure of one site.
- Upgrade of Server environment – Two new blades have been added to existing blade servers and all servers over 5 years old are now retired. The server environment in the DMZ area is also being refreshed.
- Installation of high capacity diesel power generator – A new diesel power generation set has been acquired and is located in Preston office car park area. This is still to be brought in operation. Once operational, it will provide additional protection against power failure.
- Acquisition of NetScaler load balancers – Two new devices are being installed to provide resilience and load balancing across traffic arriving from outside via internet such as web traffic and emails etc.
- Completion of virtualisation – all production environments are now virtualised using VMWare.
- Use of Cloud infrastructure – New systems where possible are being hosted in the cloud environment supported by system vendor. Migration of email to Microsoft Office 365 is being investigated. Dropbox facilities have been installed to support councillors, planning and in general to facilitate move towards digitisation.

Backup, Storage and Recovery

New backup infrastructure using new HP rack servers, upgraded disk storage and tape libraries have been installed in 2016. These Libraries use LTO-6 tape technology which allows for up to 2.5 Terra byte data to be stored on one tape at transfer speeds of 160Mega Bytes per second. This will ensure that the data backups can be completed in the overnight 8 hour data window despite substantial increases in business data being kept.

Review of IS DR and BCP

It is anticipated that during 2017-18, once the new four year IS Strategy is finalised, BCP will be revisited and updated based on changes due to Cloud adoption and other changes in the strategy.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

Options for Consideration

It is expected that gradually IT services will be provided by using cloud based resources which are generally more robust and designed to provide continuous service. They may bring their own BCP considerations which will need to be addressed from time to time.

Financial and Resource Implications

This report does not change finance resources which will be within the normal IS operating and capital budget.

Risk Management

The Information Services Department approach to Business Continuity Planning is to implement a bilateral policy to manage potential disasters. The two components of the ISBCP are:

- Risk minimisation (preventative measures)
- Recovery procedures (in the event of a defined disaster)

Risk minimisation is achieved by the implementation of robust systems design and the adoption of appropriate policies and processes which, in the event of a serious problem:

- minimise the probability or the extent of serious disruption;
- improve the likelihood of a fast and successful recovery.

Risk minimisation procedures include the following:

- Retention of selected facilities as an alternative mechanism (such as telephone lines);
- Hardware redundancy for many aspects of the computer network;
- Robust system design especially in relation to network facilities;
- Diversification of service suppliers (such as for internet services);
- Use of recognised industry brands for hardware and software purchases;
- Installation of Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) in the main computer room and various other locations.

Policy Implications**Economic Development**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

- Ongoing periodic review of Darebin IT DR and BCP requirements.
- Migration to cloud with the added benefit of better BCP.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

Consultation and Advocacy

Various system owners and IT staff have been consulted in relation to preparing the main IS business continuity plan and backup strategy.

This report is provided by IT management.

Related Documents

Following documents, which are provided with this report, provide more details.

- Information Services Business Continuity Plan (Appendix A)
- Information Services Backup, Storage and Recovery Policy & Procedures (Appendix B)

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

14. AUDIT COMMITTEE**14.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN – DECEMBER 2016 TO AUGUST 2017**

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 October 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by: Director Corporate Services

Summary:

The Audit Committee is required to adopt a work plan for coming year.

For the Audit Committee's consideration, a draft Audit Committee Work Plan – December 2016 – August 2017, is attached to this report.

Once the Committee has agreed, the work plan will be implemented.

Consultation:

Director Corporate Services
Audit Committee Chair

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receives and, subject to any changes made by the Committee, adopts the Audit Committee Work Plan – December 2016 to August 2017.

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr Kim Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and adopts the Audit Committee Work Plan – December 2016 to August 2017.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

5 DECEMBER 2016

14.2 AUDIT COMMITTEE 2017 MEETING DATES

(This report was prepared for the Audit Committee Meeting of 3 December 2016, which was cancelled.)

Author: Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by: Director Corporate Services

Summary:

As per the Audit Committee Charter, the Committee is to meet at least four times a year, with authority to convene additional meetings, as circumstances require. All Audit Committee members are expected to attend each meeting, in person or through teleconference or video conference.

The proposed meeting dates for the Audit Committee during 2017 are:

- Monday, 6 February
- Monday 3 April
- Monday 5 June
- Monday 28 August (financials only)
- Monday, 2 October and
- Monday, 4 December 2017.

The meetings will take place in the Conference Room, 350 First Floor, 350 High Street Preston.

Consultation:

Director Corporate Services
Audit Committee Chair

Committee Recommendation

MOVED: Cr Kim Le Cerf
SECONDED: Ms Lisa Tripodi

That the Audit Committee adopts the proposed Audit Committee meeting dates of 6 February, 3 April, 5 June, 28 August, 2 October and 4 December 2017.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**5 DECEMBER 2016****15. OTHER BUSINESS**

Nil

16. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held at 1:00pm on Monday 2 February 2017 in the Conference Room of Darebin City Council, 350 High Street Preston.

17. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Audit Committee Charter, Item 6, Part 5(f) and Part 6(b), an opportunity is provided for the Audit Committee to meet with the internal auditor and external auditor to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee or the internal auditor and/or external auditor believe should be discussed privately.

18. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 4.53pm



the place
to live

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 27 February 2017

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE
350 HIGH STREET PRESTON ON MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2017**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 1.27PM

1. PRESENT

Members

Mr Michael Said (Chairperson)
Mr Terry Richards (Independent External Member)
Ms Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)
Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Committee Member)

Internal Auditor

Martin Thompson (Senior Partner, Audit and Assurance – Crowe Horwath)

External Auditor

Remy Szpak (Financial Audit Manager – VAGO)
Tim Loughnan (Sector Director – Local Government, Financial Audit- VAGO)

Officers

Phil Shanahan - Acting Chief Executive
Andrew McLeod - Director Corporate Services
Jacinta Stevens – Director Civic Governance and Compliance
Gracie Karabinis – Manager Corporate Risk and Audit
Allan Cochrane – Executive Manager, Finance
Michael O’Riordan – Financial Accountant

Minutes

Melanie Nitchov - PA to Director Corporate Services

2. APOLOGIES

Cr. Susan Rennie (Committee Member)

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Audit Committee members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest.

No Conflicts of Interest were declared.

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

4. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Audit Committee members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest. The following record of members' disclosures will remain until amended by the member concerned.

Mr Michael Said

- Manningham City Council
- Yarra City Council
- Whitehorse City Council
- Whittlesea City Council
- Baw Baw City Council
- Colac Otway Shire Council
- Moorabool Shire Council
- Yarra Plenty Regional Library
- Chisholm Institute of TAFE

Mr Terry Richards

- Latrobe City Council

Ms Lisa Tripodi

- City of Greater Geelong

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**Committee Decision****MOVED: Mr T Richards****SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi**

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 5 December 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

6. STANDING REPORTS**6.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/S****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive

Summary

The following are matters arising from the Audit Committee Meeting held Monday 6 June 2016 that are yet to be finalised:

- Council to report on a six monthly basis that they are compliant with the new Child Wellbeing and Safety Act.

Actioning Officer: Manager People and Development**Due:** 3 April 2017**Action:** In progress – meetings have commenced and will continue to ensure organisational compliance with child safe standards.

Item 9.6 Follow-up of Selected Higher Risk Matters Raised in Prior Internal Audit Reports

- Management to give priority to the outstanding Higher Risk Matters Raised in Prior Internal Audit Reports.
- Overdue Higher Risk matters to be clearly highlighted, stating when the matter will be remedied by.

Actioning Officer: Director Corporate Services**Due:** 3 April 2017**Action:** To gain support from all Directors, this item will be discussed at the EMT meeting on 6 December 2016. Directors will be asked to address these issues as a matter of urgency.

The following are matters arising from the Audit Committee Meeting held Monday 5 December 2016:

Item 7.2 Investment Performance report

- That a debt performance report be prepared that details debt statements, policy and compliance when Council takes a debt position.

Actioning Officer: Financial Accountant**Due:** The Audit Committee in December or June after loan settlement**Action:** Debt performance report to be prepared for December and June Audit Committee meetings.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**27 FEBRUARY 2017**

- Commentary to be provided in the next Investment Performance Report on the implementation of the Fossil Fuel Investment Policy as adopted by Council 4 July 2016.

Actioning Officer: Financial Accountant
Due: 5 June 2017
Action: Investment Performance report to include commentary on implementation of the Fossil Fuel Investment Policy.

- Debt Policy to be brought to the Audit Committee once per annum.

Item 8.1 Corporate Risk and Business Continuity Planning report

- An update to the telephone system referenced in the Business Continuity Plan to be provided.

Actioning Officer: Manager Corporate Risk and Audit
Due: 5 June 2017
Action: Provide update on telephone system in BCP.

- Risk Management Policy to come to the February Audit Committee meeting.

Actioning Officer: Manager Corporate Risk and Audit
Due: 27 February 2017
Action: Risk Management Policy to come to the February Audit Committee meeting.

Item 11.1 Procurement Policy

- Rename 4.6 Conflict of Interest
- Need to make clear the difference between Probity Advisor and Probity Auditor and that both are external
- Matters relating to probity to be clarified
- Need to include reference material and related documents.

Actioning Officer: Coordinator Procurement and Contracting
Due: November 2017
Action: Update Procurement Policy to incorporate the above issues.

- The revised Procurement Policy will come to the October 2017 Audit Committee meeting.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

That the Audit Committee note the Matters Arising from the previous meeting.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

6.2 ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Report Background**

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to section 139 of the Local Government Act 1989 to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements.

In accordance with the Audit Committee Charter, a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson is elected for a twelve month term. Mr Michael Said was elected Chairperson and Dr Bruce Carroll was elected Deputy Chairperson of the Audit Committee on 2 March 2015.

Audit Committee Charter

The Audit Committee Charter states that:

- (1) *The Audit Committee will appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair for a twelve month term each Council year.*
- (2) *The Chair and Deputy Chair will be external members.*
- (3) *The election of the Chair shall take place in accordance with the process for the election of the Mayor under the Darebin City Council Governance Local Law.*
- (4) *The election of the Deputy Chair shall follow the election of the Chair and shall take place in accordance with the process for the election of the Deputy Chair.*
- (5) *The Chair, and in their absence the Deputy Chair, will preside over meetings of the Audit Committee.*

The Audit Committee Charter was adopted at the Special Meeting of Council on Monday 10 November 2014. (Refer Appendix A).

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee conducts an election for the positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

6.3 VAGO EXTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY 2016-2017

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Summary

The audit strategy for the year ending 30 June 2017 has been prepared by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office and sets out their approach to the audit of the Darebin City Council financial report and performance statement for 2016-2017.

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee note the VAGO External Audit Strategy 2016/2017.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

That:

- (1) The Audit Committee note the VAGO External Audit Strategy 2016/2017.
- (2) Mr Loughnan (VAGO) is to meet with Mr Shanahan regarding the confidential treatment of a technical accounting matter prior to the interim audit commencing 6 March 2017.

CARRIED

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - 6 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on day month year, Council resolved:

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – Briefing 20 February 2017

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 - Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

A comprehensive mid-year financial review has been undertaken for the six months ended 31 December 2016 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date and the forecast financial position as at 30 June 2017. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$68.89 million, which is \$6.56 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$11.87 million, which is \$10.66 million behind the budget.

The forecast actual result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is an operating surplus of \$10.12 million and capital works expenditure of \$51.66 million. The forecast underlying result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is a surplus of \$4.79 million. All material variations have been explained in the report.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Ms L Tripodi

SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives the contents of the "Financial Report for the six months ended 31 December 2016" included as **Appendix A** to this report and notes the year-to-date and full-year forecast actual and budget operating and capital results.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

7.2 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT - 6 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Report Background**

In line with Council's current investment policy (Section 10 Performance Monitoring and Reporting), a mid-year and full-year investment performance report is to be presented to the Audit Committee for review.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on day month year, Council resolved:

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 - Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

A comprehensive review of Council's investment portfolio has been undertaken for the six months ended 31 December 2016. The Council's investment portfolio has earned \$0.81 million in interest on investments with term deposits and cash investments earning an annualised rate of 2.53% (December 2015: 2.79%). As at 31 December 2016, the Council's investment portfolio was valued at \$73.04 million (December 2015 \$55.50 million).

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee receives the contents of this report.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

7.3 FINANCIAL REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS**Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Report Background

The Audit Committee has asked that a short issues paper covering contemporary financial reporting developments be presented to the Committee each year in the lead up to the financial year-end. This report covers key financial reporting developments that are expected to impact on Council for the year ending 30 June 2017 or into the future.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6. Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

This report provides a brief overview of key financial reporting developments which Council will need to consider for its financial reporting for the year ending 30 June 2017.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

THAT the Audit Committee receives and notes this report on financial reporting developments.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

8. RISK MANAGEMENT**8.1 CORPORATE RISK AND BCP UPDATE****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

As a regular requirement of the Audit Committee, the Manager Corporate Risk and Audit is responsible for providing progress reports on the ongoing implementation of Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report provides an update of Council's current risk management status in relation to its Proactive Risk Management practices and performance, Strategic and Operational Risk review and Business Continuity Planning.

Recommendation

That this report is received and noted by the Audit Committee.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Ms L Tripodi**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf**That:**

- (1) This report is received and noted by the Audit Committee.
- (2) Consideration is given to the inclusion of the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Management Team and the Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance Committee in the revised Risk Management Policy.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

8.2 ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS**Author:** Manager Strategic Assets Management**Reviewed By:** Director City Futures and Assets**Report Background**

This report presents the status on following Asset Management Plans:

- Cultural Collections Asset Management Plan (2016) – New
- Information Services Asset Management Plan (2016) – New
- Open Space Asset Management Plan (2016) – Update of 2010 version
- Buildings Asset Management Plan (2016) - Update of 2007 version
- Stormwater Asset Management Plan (2016) – Update of 2007 version

Previous Council Resolution

At its ordinary meeting held on 23 May 2016, Council approved the Road Asset Management Plan, hence no further mention of the Road Asset Management Plan in this report.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 1 Vibrant and Innovative Economy

Strategy 1.5. Existing and new physical assets and infrastructure – Review and continue to manage the existing asset base, ensuring that the city's public spaces, drains, roads, footpaths, facilities, street trees parks and other infrastructure are maintained to the highest standard.

Goal 3 – Sustainable and Resilient Neighbourhoods

Strategy 3.3 Implement land use, Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and sustainable transport policies and initiatives that achieve good environmental outcomes.

The Asset Management Plans for Cultural Collections, Information Services, Open Space, Buildings and Stormwater are the 'Supporting Strategic Plans' to the Council Plan 2013-2017 (p. 35).

Summary

The production of asset management plans has been identified in Council's Asset Management Strategy 2015–2019 to identify the processes and practices involved in managing Council's infrastructure assets, identify gaps and improvement actions and to provide long-term financial forecasts for the maintenance and provision of infrastructure to meet community needs and level of service expectations.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

The update to the previous Asset Management Plans is as follows:

- Cultural Collections Asset Management Plan (2016) – Nil, new plan
- Information Services Asset Management Plan(2016) – Nil, new plan
- Open Space Asset Management Plan (2010) – Update of 2010 version includes key objectives of long term planning and strategy, service level standards, optimal whole of lifecycle, basis for forecasting asset related management options, environmental and financial risks.
- Buildings Asset Management Plan (2010) - Update of 2007 version includes key objectives of long term planning and strategy, service level standards, optimal whole of lifecycle, basis for forecasting asset related management options, environmental and financial risks.
- Stormwater Asset Management Plan (2007) – concentrated on the management of physical infrastructure designed to collect stormwater and discharge it into creeks and waterways. The new Stormwater Asset Management Plan also covers the physical infrastructure of overland and piped drainage systems that are owned and managed by Council including pits, pipes, gross pollutant traps, raingardens and wetlands.

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receive and note the asset management plans as attached to this report at **Appendices A to E**:

- Cultural Collections Asset Management Plan (2016) – New (**Appendix A**)
- Information Services Asset Management Plan (2016) – New (**Appendix B**)
- Open Space Asset Management Plan (2016) – Update of 2010 version (**Appendix C**)
- Buildings Asset Management Plan (2016) - Update of 2007 version (**Appendix D**)
- Stormwater Asset Management Plan (2016) – Update of 2007 version (**Appendix E**)

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That this report be deferred for discussion.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

9. INTERNAL AUDIT**9.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive

Summary

The internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report as at 17 February 2017 to update the Audit Committee on Council's internal audit activity since its last meeting on 5 December 2016.

Consultation

Director Corporate Services
Senior Council Officers

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

That the attached Internal Audit Progress Report prepared by Crowe Horwath be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

**9.2 INTERNAL AUDIT - AUDIT CLIENT SURVEY:
FINANCIAL CONTROLS - CASH RECEIPTING, PAYROLL,
PETTY CASH****Author:** Executive Manager Finance**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The Audit Committee has asked for surveys as part of the 2016/17 audit program. The surveys are conducted through SurveyMonkey following finalisation of the relevant audit report.

The Financial Controls – Cash Receipting, Payroll, Petty Cash Audit received an average rating of 3.8.

For the Committee's information, the evaluation criteria includes:

- (1) Professionalism
- (2) Communication skills
- (3) Attitude towards customers
- (4) Technical proficiency
- (5) Effectiveness in covering your key operating areas
- (6) Notifications to you – the audit purpose and scope
- (7) Provision of feedback on findings during the audit
- (8) Timeliness in providing the audit report
- (9) Accuracy of audit findings
- (10) Overall performance of the Internal Auditors.

Consultation

- Chief Financial Officer
- Financial Accountant
- Management Accountant
- Assistant Accountant
- Payroll Coordinator
- Team Leader, Training and Development

Committee Decision

MOVED: Ms L Tripodi
SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receive and note the results of the client survey for the Financial Controls – Cash Receipting, Payroll, Petty Cash Audit.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

9.3 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANNING**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Summary**

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program, internal audit has undertaken a review of the processes in place at Council to manage and control the Business Continuity Planning (BCP) process.

No high risk issues were identified, and 3 medium risks and 3 low risk issues were identified.

Overall, the current controls in place over the business continuity planning maintained by Council would benefit from some additional strengthening.

Management review of the audit outcomes supported the suggested controls and improvements.

Consultation

Allan Cochrane	Acting Director Corporate Services
Gracie Karabinis	Manager Corporate Risk
Pradeep Agrawal	Chief Information Officer
Katina Angelofsky	Manager People and Development
Mira Josevska	Risk and Insurance Advisor

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That the attached report: Business Continuity Planning prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

**9.4 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - IMMUNISATION
MANAGEMENT REVIEW****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Summary**

In accordance with the annual internal audit program, a review was undertaken of the adequacy of the various processes and procedures that have been put in place within the Families, Diversity and Community Department to manage the delivery of the Immunisation Service.

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify that a range of controls should be implemented to improve and reduce the identified weaknesses and exposures in Immunisation management.

Management review of the audit outcomes supported the suggested controls and improvements.

Consultation

Cheryl Hermence	Manager Families, Diversity and Community
Donna Karmis	Coordinator Family & Community Programs
Linda Martin	Immunisation Administration Officer
Deb McLaren	Immunisation Nurse
Linda Ryan	Leader Immunisation

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

That the attached report: Immunisation Management Review prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

**9.5 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - PARKS AND GARDENS -
TREE MANAGEMENT****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Summary**

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program, internal audit has undertaken a review of the procedures and practices around the management of Council's Parks and Gardens trees.

The Internal Auditors noted 2 high risk issues, 1 medium risk, and 4 low risk issues.

Council has a well established strategic framework for tree management, particularly in relation to maintaining and enhancing the amenity of tree stocks, but overall the current controls in place over tree management maintained by Council need strengthening.

Management review of the audit outcomes supported the suggested controls and improvements.

Consultation

Philip Tulk	Manager Parks and Vegetation
Libby Hynes	(Acting) Director Culture, Leisure and Works
Greg Nicholls	Co-ordinator Programmed Maintenance
Lee McKenzie	Acting Planning Arborist
David Smith	Acting Co-ordinator Urban Tree Management
Lana Aforizis	Administration Officer

Recommendation

That the attached report: Parks and Gardens – Tree Management prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Ms L Tripodi**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf**That:**

- (1) the attached report: Parks and Gardens – Tree Management prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.
- (2) it be noted that the Draft Budget for 2017/18 includes an allocation for pro-active tree management.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

**9.6 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - EVENTS AND FESTIVALS
MANAGEMENT REVIEW****Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Summary**

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program, internal audit has undertaken a review of the procedures and practices around the management of Council run events and festivals.

The Internal Auditors noted no issues of a higher risk nature, but suggested that overall the current controls in place over event and festival management would benefit from strengthening to reduce the identified weaknesses.

Management review of the audit outcomes supported the suggested controls and improvements.

Consultation

Katrina Knox	Director Community Development
Vicky Guglielmo	Manager Creative Culture
Vikki Woods	Arts Participation Coordinator
Sarah Catchlove	Administrator, Creative Culture
Tiffany White	Manager, Communication and Marketing
Deborah Equid	Events and Marketing Projects Coordinator
Emily Fuller	Festival and Events Officer

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the attached report: Events and Festivals Management, prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

9.7 MEMORANDUMS OF AUDIT PLANNING FOR UPCOMING AUDITS**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Acting Chief Executive**Summary**

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program for 2017, Crowe Horwath has prepared memorandums of audit planning (MAPs) for the following upcoming or current audits:

- *Asset Management Review*
- *VicRoads Confidentiality Review*
- *Parking Enforcement Review*

These MAPs have been signed off by management. The Asset Management Review is currently in progress, and the VicRoads Confidentiality Review and Parking Enforcement Review are yet to commence.

Consultation

Executive Management Team

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. K Le Cerf
SECONDED: Mr T Richards

That the attached Memorandums of Audit Planning titled: Asset Management Review, VicRoads Confidentiality Review and Parking Enforcement Review prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

27 FEBRUARY 2017

9.8 OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS**Author:** Manager Corporate Risk**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

This report provides an update on progress towards implementing recommendations made in previous internal audit reports since the last ordinary Audit Committee meeting held, 5 December 2016.

A total of 25 reports have been uploaded within Audit Manager stemming back to 2012/13 whereby a report with recommendations remains outstanding. Of the 25 reports a total of 143 recommendations have been identified with 57 completed, 53 overdue for completion and 33 scheduled for completion.

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Managers
- Council Officers with assigned internal audit recommendations

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this report.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf**That:**

- (1) the Audit Committee receives and notes this report.
- (2) Outstanding Internal Audit Actions be resolved by 3 April 2017 through discussion with the Executive Management Team

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

27 FEBRUARY 2017

10. PROCUREMENT**10.1 PROCUREMENT NON CONFORMANCE REPORT****Author:** Coordinator Procurement and Contracts**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Summary

Section 186 'Restriction on power to enter into contracts' of the *Local Government Act 1989* covers Council's obligations when entering into contracts.

This report seeks to inform the Audit Committee of goods and services or works that have not partially or fully complied with the requirements specified under the Local Government Act or Council's Procurement Policy.

Consultation

- Chief Executive Officer
- Executive Management Team

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receive and note the Non Conformance Report as at 1 January 2017 attached as Appendix A to this report.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi**That:**

- (1) the Audit Committee receive and note the Non Conformance Report as at 1 January 2017 attached as Appendix A to this report.
- (2) the Audit Committee were advised that the Non-Conformance Report is presented monthly to the Executive Management Team for their attention and action.
- (3) the Non-Conformance Report be presented annually to the Audit Committee, at the same time that the Procurement Policy is presented for review.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

27 FEBRUARY 2017

11. GOVERNANCE

Nil

12. CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

13. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairperson will draft his 6 monthly Audit Committee Chair report to go to a future Council Briefing session. This draft report will be sent to Audit Committee members in the next two weeks for their input before being submitted to Council.

14. NEXT MEETING

It was proposed that the next meeting be scheduled for 8 May 2017 and then 17 July 2017, to tie in with the Audit Committee Meeting Plan Matrix (December 2016 – August 2017) which agrees to 3 meetings be held in this Audit Committee year before the review of the Annual Statements on 28 August 2017.

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held at 2.00pm on Monday 8 May 2017 in the Conference Room.

15. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Audit Committee Charter, Item 6, Part 5(f) and Part 6(b), an opportunity is provided for the Audit Committee to meet with the internal auditor external auditor to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee or the internal auditor and/or external auditor believe should be discussed privately. Management will be required to leave the meeting during discussion of this item.

An In-Camera discussion was held from 1:00pm – 1:25pm prior to the commencement of this meeting. The Chairperson, Mr Richards, Ms Tripodi, Cr. Le Cerf and Mr Shanahan were in attendance.

MOVED: Ms Lisa Tripodi

SECONDED: Cr. Kim Le Cerf

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 3.17pm



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to live

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 8 May 2017

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE
350 HIGH STREET PRESTON ON MONDAY 8 MAY 2017**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 2:03PM

1. PRESENT***Members***

Mr Terry Richards (Independent External Member)
Ms Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)
Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Committee Member)
Cr. Susan Rennie (Committee Member)

Internal Auditor

Mr Garry Leon (Senior Manager – Risk Consulting, Crowe Horwath)

External Auditor

Mr Remy Szpak (Financial Audit Manager, VAGO)
Mr Tim Loughnan (Sector Director Local Government, Financial Audit, VAGO)

Officers

Mr Andrew McLeod (Director Corporate Services)
Mr Allan Cochrane (Chief Finance Officer)
Mr Michael O’Riordan (Financial Accountant)
Ms Gracie Karabinis (Manager Corporate Risk and Audit)

Minutes

Ms Melanie Nitchov (PA to Director Corporate Services)

2. APOLOGIES

Mr Martin Thompson (Senior Partner, Audit and Assurance – Crowe Horwath)

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Audit Committee members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest in relation to any matters listed on the Agenda.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

4. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Audit Committee members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest. The following record of members' disclosures will remain until amended by the member concerned.

Mr Terry Richards

- Latrobe City Council

Ms Lisa Tripodi

- City of Greater Geelong
- Moonee Valley Council Audit Committee

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 27 February 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

Mr Terry Richards will chair this meeting in the interim period until a new External Audit Committee Member and Chairperson is appointed.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

6. STANDING REPORTS**6.1 VAGO EXTERNAL AUDIT - INTERIM MANAGEMENT LETTER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

The Auditor-General has undertaken the interim phase of the financial report audit of Darebin City Council for the year ended 30 June 2017.

The interim management letter outlines deficiencies in the design and implementation of controls or other significant matters relevant to the financial reporting process during the interim phase of the audit.

Consultation

- Director Corporate Services
- Chief Financial Officer
- Financial Accountant

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That the attached report titled "Darebin City Council – Interim management letter for the year ended 30 June 2017" be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS**7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - 9 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

A comprehensive 3rd quarter financial review has been undertaken for the nine months ended 31 March 2017 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date and the forecast financial position as at 30 June 2017. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$44.90 million, which is \$8.35 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$18.38 million, which is \$13.68 million behind the budget.

The forecast actual result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is an operating surplus of \$14.97 million and capital works expenditure of \$45.15 million. The forecast underlying result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is a surplus of \$8.02 million. All material variations have been explained in the report.

All material variations have been explained in the report.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

THAT the contents of the "Financial Report for the nine months ended 31 March 2017" included as **Appendix A** to this report be received and the year-to-date and full-year forecast actual and budget operating and capital results be received and noted.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

7.2 **CAPITAL WORKS PERFORMANCE REPORT - 9 MONTHS
ENDED 31 MARCH 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

This report has been prepared to provide the Council with details regarding the progress of the capital works program for the nine months ended 31 March 2017.

Consultation

- EMT
- Managers and Coordinators

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

THAT this report on the performance of the Capital Works Program as at 31 March 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

**7.3 2016/17 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM MID-YEAR BUDGET
REVIEW REPORT****Author:** Chief Financial Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

At the last Audit Committee meeting, it was requested that a copy of this report be tabled at the Audit Committee meeting of 8 May 2017.

Consultation

Nil

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That the Audit Committee receive and note the attached 2016/2017 Capital Works Q3 Budget Review.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

7.4 DISCLOSURE OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Report Background**

Under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, all local governments in Victoria must produce annual financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

From 1 July 2016, the Australian Accounting Standards Board has determined that AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures will apply to government entities including local government.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

From 2016/17, local governments (councils) must disclose related party relationships, transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments in the annual financial statements.

Related parties are likely to include the mayor, councillors, chief executive officer (CEO), senior executives (EMT), their close family and any entities that they control or jointly control. Any transactions between council and these parties, whether monetary or not, may need to be identified and disclosed.

This information will be audited as part of the annual external audit undertaken by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO).

From 1 July 2016, Council will need to have systems to identify related parties and capture transactions with them.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

THAT this report on the Disclosure of Related Party Transactions be received and noted.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

8. RISK MANAGEMENT**8.1 CORPORATE RISK AND BCP UPDATE****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

As a regular requirement of the Audit Committee, the Manager Corporate Risk and Audit is responsible for providing progress reports on the ongoing implementation of Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report provides an update of Council's current risk management status in relation to its proactive risk management practices and performance, strategic risks and business continuity planning.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

That this report is received and noted by the Audit Committee.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9. INTERNAL AUDIT**9.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT****Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

The internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report as at 30 April 2017 to update the Audit Committee on Council's internal audit activity since its last meeting on 27 February 2017.

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Management

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the attached Internal Audit Progress report prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.2 INTERNAL AUDIT: STRATEGIC INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN - JULY 2017 TO JUNE 2018**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The Strategic Audit Plan prepared by Crowe Horwath is submitted to the Audit Committee to review. The plan, which covers the period from July 2017 to June 2018, includes a detailed program for the 2017 audit year.

A three year Strategic Internal Audit Plan will be developed over the 2017/18 financial year following the completion of Council's risk profile assessment.

Consultation

- Andrew McLeod – Director Corporate Services

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee review the attached Strategic Internal Audit Plan July 2017 to June 2018 prepared by the internal auditors Crowe Horwath to ensure its ongoing accuracy.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi**That:**

- (1) The Audit Committee review the attached Strategic Internal Audit Plan July 2017 to June 2018 prepared by the internal auditors Crowe Horwath to ensure its ongoing accuracy.
- (2) The Audit Committee review all Memorandums of Audit Planning (MAPS) with the opportunity for comment before they are signed off by the Director Corporate Services.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.3 INTERNAL AUDIT: SURVEY OF CUSTOMER RESULTS - IMMUNISATION MANAGEMENT**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The Audit Committee has asked for surveys as part of the 2016/2017 audit program. The surveys are conducted through SurveyMonkey following finalisation of the relevant audit report.

The Immunisation Management Audit received an average rating of 4.7.

For the Committee's information, the evaluation criteria included:

- Professionalism
- Communication skills
- Attitude towards customers
- Technical proficiency
- Effectiveness in covering your key operating areas
- Notifications to you – the audit purpose and scope
- Provision of feedback on findings during the audit
- Timeliness in providing the audit report
- Accuracy of audit findings

Consultation

- Cheryl Hermence - Manager Families, Diversity and Community
- Donna Karmis - Coordinator Family and Community Programs
- Lynda Martin - Immunisation Administration Officer
- Deb McLaren - Immunisation Nurse
- Lynne Ryan - Leader Immunisation Service

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the results of the client survey for Immunisation Management prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.4 INTERNAL AUDIT: SURVEY OF CUSTOMERS RESULTS - TREE MANAGEMENT**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The Audit Committee has asked for surveys as part of the 2016/17 audit program. The surveys are conducted through SurveyMonkey following finalisation of the relevant audit report.

The Tree Management Audit received an average rating of 4.0.

For the Committee's information, the evaluation criteria included:

- Professionalism
- Communication skills
- Attitude towards customers
- Technical proficiency
- Effectiveness in covering your key operating areas
- Notifications to you – the audit purpose and scope
- Provision of feedback on findings during the audit
- Timeliness in providing the audit report
- Accuracy of audit findings

Consultation

- Philip Tulk - Manager Parks and Gardens
- Libby Hynes - Acting Director, Culture, Leisure and Works
- Greg Nichols - Co-ordinator Tree Maintenance
- Lee McKenzie - Acting Planning Arborist
- David Smith - Coordinator Arboriculture Planning
- Lana Afrozis - Administration Officer, Parks and Open Space

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the results of the client survey for the Tree Management Audit, prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards

SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That:

- (1) The Audit Committee receives and notes the results of the client survey for the Tree Management Audit, prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.
- (2) Future internal audit surveys be discontinued, and a new mechanism be designed in its place by the internal Auditor and Director Corporate Services and brought back to the Audit Committee for consideration.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.5 INTERNAL AUDIT: CAPITAL WORKS MANAGEMENT**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

In accordance with the annual internal audit program, a review was undertaken of the adequacy of the various processes in place within Council to develop, manage and control the organisation's Capital Works program.

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify that a range of controls should be improved in order to reduce the identified weaknesses and exposures in Capital Works.

Management review of the audit outcomes supported the suggested controls and improvements.

Consultation

- Steve Hamilton - Director City Future and Assets
- Andrew McLeod - Director Corporate Services
- Allan Cochrane - Chief Finance Officer
- Chris Meulblok - Manager, Strategic Asset Management
- Deborah Strutt - Senior Co-ordinator, EPMO

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the attached report; Capital Works Management prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.6 INTERNAL AUDIT: ASSET MANAGEMENT REVIEW**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

In accordance with the annual internal audit program, a review was undertaken of infrastructure asset management processes in place within Council to assess whether the procedures and practices were operating satisfactorily, and that Council was not unnecessarily exposed in terms of risk.

Crowe Horwath did not identify any issues of a high risk nature, but did identify that the current controls in place could be improved in order to reduce the identified weaknesses and exposures in Asset Management.

Consultation

- Allan Cochrane – Chief Finance Officer
- Gracie Karabinis – Manager Corporate Risk and Audit
- Chris Meulblok – Manager, Strategic Asset Management
- Suman Nagpal – Coordinator Asset Systems
- Paul Wansborough – Coordinator Infrastructure Planning

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the attached report; Asset Management Review prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.7 MEMORANDUMS OF AUDIT PLANNING FOR UPCOMING AUDITS**Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program for 2017, Crowe Horwath has prepared Memorandums of Audit Planning (MAP's) for the following upcoming audits:

- Asset Protection
- Human Resources / Payroll Review
- Road Management Plan Compliance Review

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Management

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the following Memorandums of Audit Planning prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath: Asset Protection, Human Resources/Payroll Review and Road Management Plan Compliance Review.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

9.8 OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS**Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

This report provides an update on progress towards implementing recommendations made in previous internal audit reports since the last ordinary Audit Committee meeting held, 27 February 2017.

A total of 30 reports have been uploaded into Audit Manager stemming back to 2012/13 whereby a report with recommendations remains outstanding. Of the 30 reports a total of 208 recommendations have been identified with 86 completed, 29 overdue for completion and 93 scheduled for completion.

In March 2017 the support was gained to address the high risk outstanding audit recommendation from the Executive Management Team. Reports were distributed to each Director of their respective areas to review, discuss and address such outstanding actions. Some actions have been addressed and others were reviewed with realistic timeframes agreed.

An updated report as at 26 April 2017 is attached providing a current compliance report of all Internal Audit Reports and their status.

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Managers
- Risk and Insurance Advisor
- Council Officers with assigned internal audit recommendations

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this report.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

8 MAY 2017

10. PROCUREMENT

Nil

11. GOVERNANCE

Nil

12. CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Internal Audit cover page reports to be strengthened and written so that they are more purposeful, providing a synopsis of the impact of the internal audit report attached. Should management disagree with any of the recommendations made by the internal auditor, this should be listed on the cover page report.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held at 2.00pm on Monday 17 July 2017 in the Conference Room at Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston and will be chaired by Mr Richards.

15. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Audit Committee Charter, Item 6, Part 5(f) and Part 6(b), an opportunity is provided for the Audit Committee to meet with the internal auditor external auditor to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee or the internal auditor and/or external auditor believe should be discussed privately. Management will be required to leave the meeting during discussion of this item.

No In Camera discussion was held.

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 3:26pm.

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SUMMARY REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 17 July 2017

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

17 JULY 2017

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE
350 HIGH STREET PRESTON ON MONDAY 17 JULY 2017**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 2.04PM

1. PRESENT**Members**

Mr Terry Richards (Chairperson) (Independent External Member)

Ms Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Committee Member)

Cr. Susan Rennie (Committee Member)

Internal Auditor

Mr Martin Thompson (Senior Partner, Audit and Assurance - Crowe Horwath)

External Auditor

Mr Remy Szpak (Financial Audit Manager – VAGO)

Mr Tim Loughnan (Sector Director – Local Government, Financial Audit – VAGO)

Officers

Mr Andrew McLeod - Director Corporate Services

Ms Jacinta Stevens – Director Governance and Compliance

Mr Allan Cochrane – Chief Financial Officer

Mr Michael O’Riordan – Financial Accountant

Ms Gracie Karabinis – Manager Corporate Risk and Audit

Minutes

Ms Melanie Nitchov – PA to Director Corporate Services

2. APOLOGIES

Ms Janine Bush - Ms Bush was unable to accept the offer of appointment to Independent External Member of the Audit Committee.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Audit Committee members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest in relation to any matters listed on the Agenda.

Nil

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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4. REGISTER OF INTEREST

Audit Committee members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest. The following record of members' disclosures will remain until amended by the member concerned.

Mr Terry Richards

- Latrobe City Council

Ms Lisa Tripodi

- City of Greater Geelong
- City of Moonee Valley
- Knox City Council

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED**6. STANDING REPORTS**

Nil

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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7. FINANCIAL REPORTS**7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - 11 MONTHS ENDED 31 MAY 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Under the Local Government Act 1989, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

A comprehensive financial review has been undertaken for the eleven months ended 31 May 2017 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date and the forecast financial position as at 30 June 2017. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$31.30 million, which is \$10.84 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$24.36 million, which is \$13.32 million behind the budget.

The forecast actual result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is an operating surplus of \$14.97 million and capital works expenditure of \$45.15 million. The forecast underlying result for the year ending 30 June 2017 is a surplus of \$8.02 million. All material variations have been explained in the report.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That Audit Committee receives the contents of the "Financial Report for the eleven months ended 31 May 2017" included as Appendix A to this report and notes the year-to-date and full-year forecast actual and budget operating and capital results.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

17 JULY 2017

7.2 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Author: Financial Accountant

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Report Background

As part of the Local Government 'Better practice - Financial report preparation guidelines', the shell financial statements, incorporating all current reporting requirements, should be provided to the audit committee and external auditors for clearance prior to the commencement of preparing the financial report for year-end. The guidelines also specify the CEO / Council are briefed on how significant changes in requirements and/or accounting policies will likely impact the financial performance and position of the entity.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

We will be a leading, modern, and open council to meet our challenges, now and in the future.

Summary

This report provides the draft shell Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2017 to be presented at year-end.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee notes and receives this report on the draft shell Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2017.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

17 JULY 2017

7.3 BUDGET 2017/2018**Author:** Chief Financial Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Report Background**

The Proposed Budget 2017/2018 was received at a Meeting of Council on 8 May 2017. At that meeting, Council resolved to give public notice in accordance with section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) of Council's intention to adopt the Proposed Budget.

In response to the public notice, a total of fifty-six written submissions were received. Twelve of the submitters were heard by the Hearing of Submissions Committee on 15 June 2017.

The Proposed Budget 2017/2018 presented a financially sound budget that maintains all services from the previous year which is balanced and community focused. It seeks to maximise meeting diverse community expectations with a rate increase of 2.0% which has been set in accordance with the rate cap increase set by the State Government.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

The Council must prepare a Budget for each financial year. The Council must ensure that the Budget contains the information specified in the *Local Government Act 1989* ("the Act") and all details required by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* ("the Regulations").

This report presents the Budget 2017/2018 as adopted by Council on 22 June 2017.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this report and the Budget 2017/2018 as attached.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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8. RISK MANAGEMENT**8.1 CORPORATE RISK AND BCP UPDATE****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

As a regular requirement of the Audit Committee, the Manager Corporate Risk and Audit is responsible for providing progress reports on the ongoing implementation of Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report provides an update of Council's current risk management status in relation to its Proactive Risk Management practices and performance, Operational Risk review and Business Continuity Planning.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That this report is received and noted by the Audit Committee.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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9. INTERNAL AUDIT**9.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT****Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

The internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report as at 3 July 2017 to update the Audit Committee on Council's internal audit activity since its last meeting on 8 May 2017.

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Management

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

That the Audit Committee receives and notes the attached Internal Audit Progress report prepared by the internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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9.2 PARKING ENFORCEMENT REVIEW EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Author:** Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

Summary

The Parking Enforcement Review as attached was undertaken to:

1. Assess the adequacy of internal controls around meter and ticket machine collections and maintenance.
2. Assess the adequacy of internal controls around parking enforcement and penalty infringement notices.
3. Assess the adequacy of the internal controls with respect to the management of parking permits.

Overall it was found that the current controls in place over parking enforcement maintained by Council need to be strengthened. The audit identified a range of controls that should be implemented and improved in order to reduce the identified weaknesses and exposures.

Council has an active parking enforcement function in place that is supported by experienced Officers and an adequate operational framework.

The report from Council's internal auditors noted two high risk issues. These are:

a) *No management oversight of voided and reissued parking infringements*

Management Response: Concurrence with the audit finding committing to the following process improvement undertakings:

- DCA will be contacted to make control changes to Pinforce software.
- PINs that require voiding can only be withdrawn upon submission of a PIN withdrawal request to be approved by the Team Leader Traffic Enforcement.
- Extension of the detail provided and recorded for voided or reissued infringements.
- All future infringements issued in error will be corrected and re-issued.

b) *Lack of segregated duties between the enforcement function (issuing infringements) and the infringement administrative functions (infringement appeals and withdrawal)*

Management Response: Concurrence with the audit finding committing to the following process improvement undertakings:

- Segregation of duties has occurred such that the Team Traffic Services officer responsible for the issue of infringements is not involved in the review of any PINs that they may have issued.
- A structural and process review will be undertaken in 17/18 to ensure that there is clear line of division between the enforcement functions, including the issuing of parking infringements and the Unit's administrative functions.

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All other audit findings were supported by management and appropriate respondent controls are underway or planned to address medium and low risk process deficiency.

Consultation

- Craig Bruckner – Coordinator Civic Compliance
- Paul Edwards – Team Leader Business Performance
- Ellie Mandritis- Manager Health and Compliance
- Angelo Russo – Team Leader Traffic Enforcement
- Jacinta Stevens – Director Civic Governance and Compliance
- Jim Theodoropoulos – Traffic Officer

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That the Audit Committee receive and note the attached report; Parking Enforcement Review prepared by the Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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9.3 OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS**Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

This report provides an update on progress towards implementing recommendations made in previous internal audit reports since the last ordinary Audit Committee meeting held, Monday, 8 May 2017.

A total of 31 reports remain current and have been uploaded into Audit Manager to allow the system to register and track any type of review activity, in an interactive and real time environment.

Of the 31 current reports, a total of 214 recommendations have been identified with 114 completed, 15 remain overdue and 85 scheduled for completion.

A significant amount of work has been undertaken through the Corporate Risk and Audit department together with the Executive Management Team to review the number of outstanding audit recommendations with the respective Council Officers. As a result, we have seen an increase in addressed recommendations from 86 in the previous quarter to 114 currently. Of the 29 recommendations outstanding last quarter, a 49% improvement has been achieved this quarter.

It was suggested at the previous ordinary Audit Committee Meeting that a report listing the top 20 high risk outstanding internal audit actions to be tabled to the Audit Committee moving forward. In the absence of providing such a report for this meeting, CAMMS has provided, free of charge, a report writing tool for a 6 month period called Insights to assist in the development of specific reports. Initial training in the use of the tool was held with Council Officers on 8 June with further support available in early July. It is anticipated that a report to cater for the above request will be made available at the next ordinary Audit Committee meeting in October 2017.

In the interim, an updated report as at 28 June 2017 is attached providing a current compliance report of all Internal Audit Reports and their status.

Consultation

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Officers
- Risk and Insurance Advisor
- Council Officers with assigned internal audit recommendations

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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Recommendation

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this report on Outstanding Internal Audit Actions.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

That:

- (1) The Audit Committee receives and notes this report on Outstanding Internal Audit Actions.
- (2) The Internal Auditor prepares a summary review report of the CAMMS Audit Recommendations Compliance Report for the Audit Committee meeting to be held 2 October 2017.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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10. PROCUREMENT

Nil

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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11. GOVERNANCE**11.1 COUNCILLOR SUPPORT AND EXPENSES****Author:** Council Business and Governance Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

Section 75B of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires a Council to adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors and members of Council Committees.

The *Councillor Support and Expenses Policy 2017* provides that a report on Councillor expenses by category will be prepared, circulated to all Councillors and submitted to Council's Audit Committee.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the 2016/2017 annual summary of expenses and reimbursements made by Councillors and the annual summary of officer mobile expenses.

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

17 JULY 2017

Recommendation**THAT** the Audit Committee:

- (1) Receives and notes the Summary of Councillor expenses and reimbursements attached as **Appendix A** for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (2) Receives and notes the summary of Councillor Cabcharge Usage Declarations attached as **Appendix B** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (3) Receives and notes the summary of Councillor Mobile Phone Declarations attached as **Appendix C** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to April 2017.
- (4) Receives and notes the summary of officer mobile phone expenses and reimbursements including cumulative amounts attached as **Appendix D** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to April 2017.
- (5) Notes Councillor expenses and reimbursement summaries for 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 will be published on Council's webpage.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Mr T Richards
SECONDED: Ms L Tripodi

THAT the Audit Committee:

- (1) Receives and notes the Summary of Councillor expenses and reimbursements based on receiving the updated report to **Appendix A** for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (2) Receives and notes the summary of Councillor Cabcharge Usage Declarations attached as **Appendix B** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (3) Receives and notes the summary of Councillor Mobile Phone Declarations attached as **Appendix C** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to April 2017.
- (4) Receives and notes the summary of officer mobile phone expenses and reimbursements including cumulative amounts attached as **Appendix D** to this report for the billing period 1 July 2016 to April 2017.
- (5) Notes Councillor expenses and reimbursement summaries for 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 will be published on Council's webpage.

CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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11.2 GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY REPORT**Author:** Council Business and Governance Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance**Report Background**

The City of Darebin *Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2014* was developed to provide direction to Councillors and staff regarding their obligations in receiving or declining gifts or benefits.

This report provides an annual summary of gifts and hospitality declared by Councillors and council officers for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the annual summary of gifts and hospitality declared by Councillors and officers for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. In addition, it also reports on the cumulative value of gifts and hospitality for Councillors and officers where they have received (or been offered) more than one gift or offer of hospitality from the same person or organisation.

Committee Decision**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi**THAT** the Audit Committee:

- (1) Receive and note the Summary of Councillor gifts and hospitality, attached to this report as **Appendix A**, declared or declined for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (2) Receive and note the Summary of officer gifts and hospitality, attached to this report as **Appendix B**, declared or declined for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
- (3) Note the cumulative summaries of gifts and/or hospitality received by Councillors and officers to 30 June 2017 attached as **Appendix C**.

CARRIED

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT17 JULY 2017

12. CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

13. OTHER BUSINESS

A verbal address was given by the External Auditor, Mr Szpak, on the Interim Management Letter sent to the Chairperson and Mayor.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held at 2.30pm on Monday 28 August 2017 in the Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston. This meeting will address Financials only.

15. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Audit Committee Charter, Item 6, Part 5(f) and Part 6(b), an opportunity is provided for the Audit Committee to meet with the internal auditor and/or external auditor to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee or the internal auditor and/or external auditor believe should be discussed privately. Management will be required to leave the meeting during discussion of this item.

The meeting closed for In Camera discussion at 3.20pm.

Management and Officers were asked to leave the room prior to discussions commencing.

In Camera discussions took place with Audit Committee members, the Internal Auditor and External Auditor.

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 3.40pm.

13. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

13.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) to include Advisory Committees of Council if at least one Councillor is present or, a planned or scheduled meeting attended by at least half of the Councillors and one Council Officer that considers matters intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

Written records of Assemblies of Councillors must be kept and include the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

Pursuant to section 80A (2) of the Act, these records must be, as soon as practicable, reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

An Assembly of Councillors record was kept for:

- Councillors Briefing Session – 10 August 2017
- Aged Care Reform Working Group – 14 August 2017
- Arts Hack for Darebin Arts Centre – 15 August 2017
- Darebin Women's Advisory Committee – 17 August 2017
- Darebin Bicycle Advisory Committee – 22 August 2017

Recommendation

That the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 10, 14, 15, 17 and 22 August 2017 and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*

Attachments

- Assemblies of Councillors - 4 September 2017 (**Appendix A**)



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Councillors Briefing Session
	Date:	Monday 10 August 2017
	Location:	Conference Room, Darebin Civic Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Cr. Susanne Newton, Cr. Trent McCarthy (from 5.14pm), Cr. Susan Rennie (from 5.20pm), Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor – from 6pm), Cr. Steph Amir (from 7.25pm).
	Council Staff:	Steve Hamilton, Oliver Vido, Jacinta Stevens, Tiffany White, Katrina Knox (from 5.55pm). Libby Hynes (5.00pm-5.50pm), Cheryl Hermence (5.45pm-6.40pm), Vicky Guglielmo (5.45pm-7.20pm), Joanna Cuscaden (7.45pm-9.10pm), Darren Rudd (7.45pm-8.15pm), Che Sutherland (8.15pm-9.00).
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Lina Messina, Cr. Julie Williams, Cr. Tim Laurence (Approved Leave of Absence), Philip Shanahan.

The Assembly commenced at 5.00pm was suspended at 7.20pm and recommenced at 7.45pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Climate Emergency Plan	No disclosures were made.
2.	Child Care Waiting List	No disclosures were made.
3.	Australia Day Events at Darebin	No disclosures were made. Oliver Vido absent 6.39pm-6.42pm Cr Greco left the meeting at 7.20pm
4.	Discussion re Walker Street redevelopment	No disclosures were made.
5.	Car Parking Strategy	No disclosures were made.
6.	Northland Urban Renewal Precinct project: Presentation of Structure Plan	No disclosures were made.
7.	Oakover Road Slip Lane Review	No disclosures were made.
8.	Establishing a Darebin Community	No disclosures were made.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
	Housing Trust	
9.	Proposed Road Discontinuance Adjoining 2 and 4 Combie Street and 13 South Street, Preston	No disclosures were made.
10.	Proposed Road Discontinuance Adjoining 3 to 13 Tracey Street and 54 TO 56 Elliot Street, Reservoir	No disclosures were made.

The Assembly concluded at 9.15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Katrina Knox
	Officer Title:	Director Community Development



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Aged Care Reforms Working Group
	Date:	Monday 14 August 2017
	Location:	Conference Room, Darebin Civic Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Cr. Susanne Newton, Cr. Steph Amir (from 4.45pm), Cr. Susan Rennie (from 4.49pm).
	Council Staff:	Shadi Hanna, Robyn Mitchell, Katrina Knox.
	Other:	Nil
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Trent McCarthy.

The Assembly commenced at 4.37pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions completed from the last meeting • Update on new information • Update on current work underway • Other business 	No disclosures were made. Cr Rennie absent from 4.55pm-4.58pm

The Assembly concluded at 5.15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Katrina Knox
	Officer Title:	Director Community Development



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Arts Hack for Darebin Arts Centre
	Date:	Tuesday, 15 August, 2017
	Location:	Darebin Arts Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Cr. Trent McCarthy, Cr. Steph Amir, Cr. Susanne Newton
	Council Staff:	Vicky Guglielmo Wendy Dinning, Liz White, Aneke McCulloch, Tessa Waters,
	Other:	City of Darebin's Arts Ambassadors, representatives of Darebin's and Melbourne's creative industries and business sector.
APOLOGIES:		

The Assembly commenced at 6 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Concepts for re-envisioning the Darebin Arts Centre per the Council Plan 2017-21.	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 8.00 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Liz White
	Officer Title:	Arts Precincts Coordinator



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Women's Advisory Committee Meeting
	Date:	Thursday 17 August 2017
	Location:	Conference Room, Darebin Civic Centre
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Susanne Newton
	Council Staff:	Teneille Summers, Gemma Boucher, Disa Linden-Perlis
	Other:	Representatives of Darebin Women's Advisory Committee
APOLOGIES:		Cr Kim Le Cerf (Mayor)

The Assembly commenced at 6.10 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Darebin Women's Equity Strategy- Workshop on Future Directions	No disclosures were made
2	Health and Wellbeing Plan Consultation	No disclosures were made
3	Update on current projects and issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplify- Music Feast's Event Mentorship Program • Committee Review • Women's Leadership Event 6th July 	No disclosures were made
4	Other business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islamic Museum Women Only Morning Tea- tickets available for the 20th September 	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 7.55 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Gemma Boucher
	Officer Title:	Diversity Policy Officer



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Bicycle Advisory Committee
	Date:	Tuesday 22 August 2017
	Location:	Conference Room, Darebin Council Offices
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Step Amir
	Council Staff:	Che Sutherland, Angela Andrews
	Other:	Representatives of the Darebin Bicycle Advisory Committee.
APOLOGIES:		

The Assembly commenced at approximately 6.30 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Bike friendly roads and priority bike streets	No disclosures were made
2	Darebin Transport Strategies	No disclosures were made
3	Dockless share-bikes (yellow oBikes)	No disclosures were made
4	St Georges Road works - update	No disclosures were made
5	Transport team networks, committees and community activities	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 8.40 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Che Sutherland
	Officer Title:	Team Leader Transport Strategy

14. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Recommendation

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

15. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

