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AGENDA OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on Monday 27 September 2021 at 6.00pm

This Council Meeting will be held virtually.

This meeting will be closed to the public pursuant to Section 395 of the Local Government Act 2020.

This meeting will be livestreamed and may be accessed from Councils website www.darebin.vic.gov.au.

Persons wishing to submit a 'Public Question' may do so online by 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting via the Question and Submissions form.



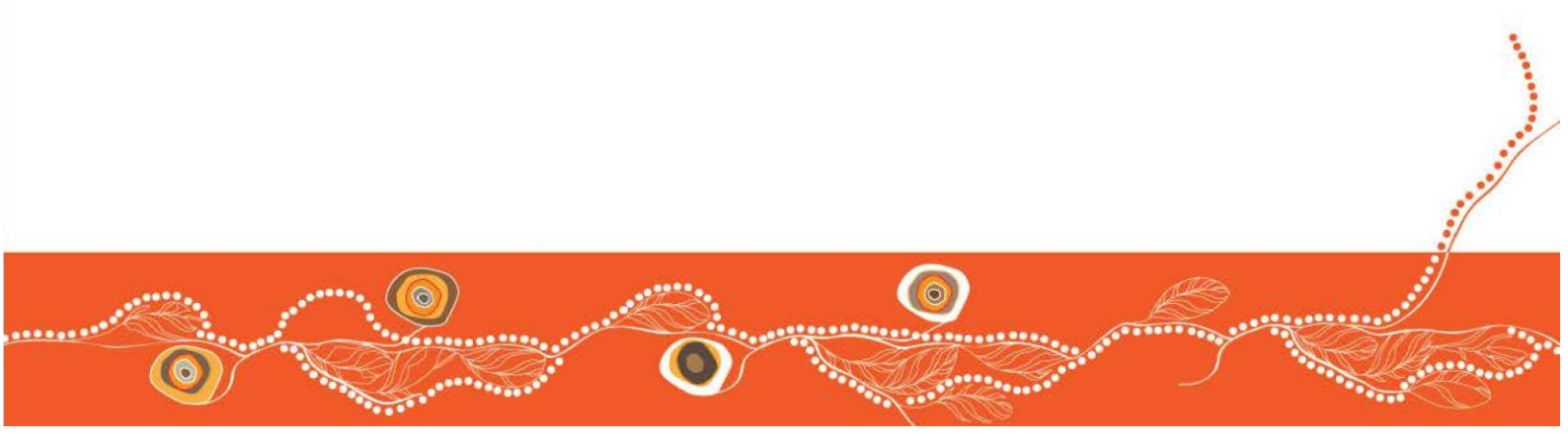
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all 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.



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کا ایجنڈا ہے۔ ایجنڈے کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

3. APOLOGIES

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Included in the Ordinary Council Minutes of the 23 August 2021 as part of the Public Question Time were three questions from Angela Denton of Northcote. These three questions were submitted for this meeting on the 3rd August 2021 and subsequently withdrawn by Ms Denton. They were presented to the meeting and responded to in error.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 August 2021 subject to the correction notation above be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

6. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Due to the current COVID-19 health crisis and associated requirements residents and interested persons are strongly encouraged to view this Council meeting online.

The meeting will not be open to the public and accordingly public questions to be answered at the meeting will only be received up until 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting.

QUESTIONS

Members of the public can ask up to three (3) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

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 Council Governnace Rules 2020, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- a) relates to a matter outside the duties, functions or powers of Council;
- b) is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance;
- c) may lead to a breach of Council's statutory obligations;
- d) relates to a Notice of Motion, Petition or item of urgent business;
- e) deals with a subject matter already answered;
- f) is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an Officer; or
- g) deals with a matter that should be, or has been, considered as a confidential matter or relates to any matter in respect of which Council may close the Meeting to the public under section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

No questions directed at an individual Councillor or Officer will be allowed

SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS

Due to the meeting not being open to members of the public, no submissions or comments will be able to be made on reports listed on the agenda

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, at an Ordinary Council Meeting may register their question or submission before 12.00 noon on the day of the meeting in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions; or
- (b) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072.

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.

7. PETITIONS

8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

8.1 PERMANENT HERITAGE CONTROLS FOR HEIDELBERG ROAD CORRIDOR - AMENDMENT C203DARE

Author: Strategic Planner

Reviewed By: General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's endorsement to commence an amendment to the Darebin Planning Scheme (Amendment C203dare) to introduce a permanent heritage overlay to seven properties along Heidelberg Road.

This follows community consultation on the proposed heritage protections (along with other proposed planning changes) and a Heritage Assessment (**Appendix A**) undertaken by experts. The findings of this assessment were presented to Council in April 2021, and Council resolved to undertake preliminary community consultation on the proposed heritage controls, along with land use and built form proposals for the corridor.

Consultation was undertaken from 22 June to 3 August 2021. Shortly after 22 June 2021, a demolition application was lodged for the Queen Anne style dwelling at no. 331 Heidelberg Road. Council resolved on 9 August 2021 to seek an interim heritage overlay to protect the property from demolition while permanent controls were being considered. Any request for interim heritage protection must be promptly followed by a planning scheme amendment for a permanent heritage overlay, or the Planning Minister will refuse Council's request to save no. 331 Heidelberg Road from demolition.

Council has a duty under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to identify and protect local heritage places. The Heritage Assessment identifies and recommends a permanent heritage overlay for seven properties along the Heidelberg Road Corridor. Each of the properties is identified as 'individually significant' with a detailed statement of significance - this the highest local heritage grading.

The findings of the recent community engagement show a high general level of support for heritage protection (67 per cent either support or strongly support). 12 per cent of respondents strongly opposed the heritage protection. This opposition appears to come mainly from landowners and is not unexpected: heritage protection is often contested, and landowner/community views can vary.

Common themes raised from consultation include social and historical value, maintenance and deterioration, redevelopment and new development potential. In consideration of the issues raised as part of the consultation process.

This report recommends commencing a Planning Scheme Amendment to apply a permanent heritage overlay to the identified properties. It is recommended that this matter be progressed ahead of the land use and built form controls, to prevent one or more of the properties from being demolished. If Council decides to proceed, formal engagement would occur as part of the planning scheme amendment process.

Officer Recommendation**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment by Context and the statements of significances as recommended in the report (**Appendix A**)
 - (2) Requests the Minister for Planning authorise the preparation and exhibition of Amendment C203dare to the Darebin Planning Scheme, pursuant to section 8A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (**Appendix B**)
 - (3) When authorised by the Minister for Planning, exhibits Amendment C203dare to the Darebin Planning Scheme in accordance with notice requirements under section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
 - (4) Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to the Amendment C203dare documentation
 - (5) In response to any more demolition applications under Section 29a of the *Building Act 1993* for properties included in Amendment C203dare, authorise the Chief Executive Officer to request the Minister for Planning prepare and approve an amendment under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to apply an interim Heritage Overlay, while permanent heritage controls via Amendment C203dare is considered.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION**Heidelberg Road Corridor Planning Project**

In response to recent development pressure, Council, in collaboration with Yarra City Council, has recently develop a Local Area Plan for the Heidelberg Road Corridor. Technical studies on land use, built form and heritage have also been undertaken. These four documents have informed proposed planning responses, that were considered by Council in April.

From 22 June to 3 August 2021, consultation on the proposed planning responses was undertaken. This report does not document the complete findings from this consultation process: this will be provided at a future meeting. This report is focused on heritage matters along the corridor.

Heritage Considerations along the Corridor

Council engaged heritage consultants Context to carry out the *Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment, Final report September 2020* (the "Heritage Assessment"). The Heritage Assessment identifies and recommends a permanent heritage overlay for seven properties along the Heidelberg Road Corridor. Each of the properties is identified as 'individually significant' with a detailed statement of significance - this the highest local heritage grading. The Heritage Assessment is included in **Appendix A**. The seven properties are:

- 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote: Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex
- 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote: residence
- 279-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote: Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints
- 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote: former residence

- 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield: Marineuie Court Apartments
- 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington: residence
- 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington: Kia-Ora Residence

Demolition request for 331 Heidelberg Road and interim Heritage Overlay request

On 28 June 2021, Council's building department received an application for demolition under Section 29A of the *Building Act 1993* for one of the seven subject heritage properties, 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote.

Under Section 29B of the *Building Act 1993*, suspension of a demolition permit can only occur if a planning scheme amendment is requested within the prescribed time. Council resolved on 9 August 2021 at its Planning Committee meeting, to request that the Minister prepare and approve Amendment C200dare to apply an interim heritage overlay to this site.

Any request for an Interim Heritage Overlay must be accompanied (or followed shortly thereafter) by the commencement of a planning scheme amendment for permanent controls. This is to demonstrate Council is serious about the application of a heritage overlay to the property and affords procedural fairness to the landowner whose demolition application is suspended.

If Council decides not to proceed with permanent heritage controls promptly, the Planning Minister will refuse Council's request to save no. 331 Heidelberg Road from demolition (Amendment C200dare).

Previous Council Resolution

At its Planning Committee Meeting held on *Monday 9 August 2021*, Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Request the Minister for Planning prepare and approve Amendment C200dare to apply an interim heritage overlay to the Darebin Planning Scheme, pursuant to section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Appendices A-D).*
- (2) Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to the Amendment C200dare material as attached (Appendices A-D) prior to the lodgement of the request with the Minister for Planning.*
- (3) Note that the affected landowner will have the opportunity to present their case and participate in the planning scheme amendment process for permanent heritage controls.'*

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.5 We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city

Council has a responsibility to comply with the responsibility to identify and protect local heritage. Heritage Overlay protection is a core component of planning and produces a net community benefit.

DISCUSSION

Heritage considerations and Responsibilities under the Act

As noted above, Council is responsible for protecting local heritage under legislation. This responsibility is articulated in the *State of Heritage Review 2020*, which states: "Protecting heritage is a council's responsibility under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and that responsibility needs to be taken seriously, even if there is community opposition...Local heritage outcomes are ultimately dependent on council action: completing heritage studies to identify places of local heritage significance and acting to protect them through the planning scheme"¹.

These protections are generally in the form of a heritage overlay. The planning system requires a high level of information and justification needed to establish and apply a Heritage Overlay. This justification has been undertaken and is included in the Heritage Assessment.

Community engagement findings in relation to heritage

As noted above, the findings of the community engagement survey in relation to heritage show a high general level of support for heritage protection (67 per cent either support or strongly support). 12 per cent of respondents strongly opposed the heritage protection. The detailed comments from community are included in confidential **Appendix C**, noting that the appendix has been made confidential because some of the comments include personal information. Those who supported the heritage protections raised the following issues:

- Support for preserving buildings and unique neighbourhood character.
- Ensuring new development was sympathetic to existing and proposed heritage places.
- Ensuring heritage places are not left to deteriorate.
- Undertaking further work to ensure other places (specifically historical laneways) are protected.

One of the landowners of an affected property has expressed support for heritage protection.

The majority of opposition is attributed mostly to landowners of two affected properties. Officers have undertaken research and analysis around the themes raised in the consultation process and is discussed below.

Devaluing of property

Concern that application of the Heritage Overlay will result in the property value decreasing and a perceived personal financial loss.

Officer Response

Previous panel decisions in relation to heritage have demonstrated that cost and devaluation are not relevant when considering whether to apply the Heritage Overlay. Financial implications to individual property owners must be offset against the benefit to the community and community's understanding and identifying with the past. There is an overall economic benefit to the broader community in retaining heritage fabric for current and future generations to enjoy.

In the case of Moreland Amendment C149 "private financial costs are not relevant"² and in the case of Stonnington Amendment C157 "the impact on individual owners was not

¹ State of Heritage Review, Local Heritage 2020, Heritage Council Victoria, p.9 and p. 43

² Heritage Issues, Summaries from Panel Reports, Issue 2, March 2018, p.7-9

relevant in determining the heritage significance of the place, and that the latter was the major consideration when applying the Heritage Overlay”³.

Overall in Darebin, property values have increased over the past decades and continue to do so including in heritage areas.

Recommendation

No change recommended.

Method of heritage assessment

Concerns were raised about the Heritage Assessment being conducted from the public domain without a detailed site inspection and the heritage value attributed to the properties as reported in the heritage assessment.

Officer Response

The Heritage Assessment was undertaken by experts with substantial rigour. It is not always possible or necessary to inspect building interiors when determining heritage value. In the majority of cases, the importance of the place is determined based on its external appearance. Landowners will have further opportunity to present their views on the Heritage Assessment through the planning scheme amendment process.

Recommendation

No change recommended. Encourage landowners to make submissions through the planning scheme amendment process.

Reduced potential for redevelopment sites

Need for higher density to be encouraged has been raised. Concerns around the proposed heritage properties being contradictory to a future modern streetscape.

Officer Response

A Heritage Overlay does not prevent development of a site, though it does require development to retain identified heritage elements and be sympathetic to the place’s heritage value. In addition, there is ample capacity in other areas for development, and there is no need for places to be excluded from heritage protection in order to provide additional development capacity.

Further, heritage protections should be applied where a place meets the relevant threshold of significance. The Maroondah Amendment C42 Panel found the Heritage Overlay should be applied to those places that met the threshold of significance and development options for the site or area should be considered at the permit stage”.

For the Heidelberg Road Corridor, it is possible to achieve an appropriate balance between the level of heritage protection and providing development opportunities.

Recommendation

No change recommended.

Burden of maintenance costs on landowners

Land owners have raised concerns around what incentives landholders have to maintain the property and prevent deterioration.

Officer Response

All landowners are responsible for building maintenance whether it is an older or newer building. The heritage overlay does not compel the landowner to undertake maintenance.

³ Heritage Issues, Summaries from Panel Reports, Issue 2, March 2018, p.4

Many refurbishment and minor works do not need permits and internal alterations are not impacted by the proposed controls. Council also offers a heritage advisory service where a landowner can seek advice about appropriate alterations at no charge.

Publishing of private information/ Lack of consultation with landowners

Concern regarding the application of a heritage overlay to a privately-owned building and concern owners have not been sufficiently consulted.

Officer Response

It is well established that public and privately owned buildings should be included in heritage overlays. It is common practice and necessary for studies to be undertaken by Council prior to determining whether to apply particular controls. These studies must remain internal and confidential until such time as Council has made a decision to consult or act on them.

In the case of Heidelberg Road, this is early engagement where community consultation has taken place before the planning scheme amendment process. This has provided landowners with an additional opportunity to comment on the proposal at an early stage.

Recommendation

No change recommended. Encourage landowners to make a submission through the planning scheme amendment process.

Need for interim heritage overlays

Council has already sought an interim heritage overlay for one property in response to a demolition application to save no. 331 Heidelberg Road from demolition (Amendment C200dare).

Officers do not propose that interim protections be applied to the remaining six properties at this stage, given there is limited evidence of development pressure on these sites. However, a recommendation is included to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to lodge interim Heritage Overlays requests in response to any future demolition applications for the remaining six properties. This allows Council to act quickly if any demolition applications are received while permanent controls are being considered.

Options for Consideration

Option 1: Commence planning scheme amendment C203dare to introduce a permanent Heritage Overlay to the seven identified properties (recommended)

Under this option, authorisation to commence the Amendment C203dare would be sought from the Minister for Planning. Once authorisation is received, exhibition of the amendment would take place.

This option would satisfy Council's legislative obligation to identify and protect heritage. It would also ensure that no. 331 is protected via an Interim Heritage Overlay.

Option 2: Wait to consider the heritage component along with the broader components of the Heidelberg Road Corridor Planning Project (not recommended)

This option would involve considering heritage matters with the broader Heidelberg Road corridor project, which will be presented to Council in the coming months.

This option would likely result in the request to apply an interim Heritage Overlay to no. 331 being refused by the Minister. The heritage place would then be demolished.

Option 3: Not proceed with the proposed Heritage Overlay (not recommended)

Council could decide not to proceed with the planning scheme amendment. This is not recommended as it would not be in alignment with Council's duties under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Further, the properties recommended in the report for a heritage overlay are determined to be individually 'significant' which is the highest category of local heritage value.

Under this option, the request for interim protection of no. 331 would not be supported by the Minister, and demolition of the place could occur.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The preparation of this amendment, as a separate piece of work to the broader Corridor project, is unplanned. However, it can be accommodated within existing budgets and resources.

Community Engagement

Extensive community engagement has been undertaken on the proposed planning considerations for the Heidelberg Road Corridor project between 22 June and 3 August, 2021. The purpose of the engagement activities is to hear from the community and receive feedback to help shape decision making and any future proposed planning scheme amendment.

In total, 234 survey responses were received (161 completed, 73 partial completion). An additional 12 written submissions were received in response to the project engagement. The content of survey responses and the written submission—in relation to heritage—make up the main issues and themes summarised in the ‘discussion’ section of this report.

A summary of engagement activities and participation is included in **Appendix D**.

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;

Public Transparency Principles

- (a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act;

Service Performance Principles

- (a) services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

The retention of heritage fabric supports the reduction of emissions by supporting reuse and adaptation of existing building stock. New development will be assessed against relevant provisions of the Darebin Planning Scheme. To apply a heritage overlay does not prohibit development and does not prevent a barrier to Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) works.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The heritage protection of a places of historic significance will provide net community benefit. An Equity Impact Assessment (EIA) that considered gender and best practice accessibility was undertaken as part of the Community Engagement Plan. The EIA identified a number of stakeholder groups to be notified along the Corridor including, medical research/age care

sector, mental health and disability support organisation, and children's medical clinic, preschool and childcare sectors.

The EIA identified Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation as a stakeholder and prompted key messages to be translated into the top 12 languages spoken in Darebin.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The application of an interim Heritage Overlay may create additional costs for landowners/developers if they wish to develop their property in circumstances where there were previously no planning permit requirements.

Operational Impacts

The proposed application of a Heritage Overlay may increase the number of planning permit applications because additional permit triggers will exist. This impact is considered to be negligible and outweighed by the protection that the Heritage Overlay will provide to valued heritage places.

Legal and Risk Implications

Council is obligated to conserve places of cultural heritage value and failing to apply appropriate controls places a risk to the significance of the heritage precinct. Council must prepare that a challenge on behalf of landowners in opposition to any future heritage controls may arise as part of the planning scheme amendment process.

If Council decides not to proceed with permanent heritage controls promptly, the Planning Minister will refuse Council's request to save no. 331 Heidelberg Road from demolition (Amendment C200dare).

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS




If Council decides to proceed, a planning scheme amendment process will commence, further details are included below.

- Early October 2021: request for authorisation to prepare and exhibit amendment submitted to DELWP. Request for Minister to prepare and approve amendment for interim heritage controls submitted to DELWP.
- Mid-late October 2021: Authorisation received.
- Late January-February 2022: exhibition period (note that exhibition may be possible before Christmas, depending on when authorisation is received. Exhibition over the Christmas period will be avoided).
- April 2022: Council considers submissions.
- May 2022: Panel hearing (if necessary).

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Draft Heidelberg Road Corridor Local Area Plan (LAP)
- Heidelberg Road Economics and Land Use Assessment
- Heidelberg Road Built Form Framework
- State of Heritage Review, Local Heritage 2020, Heritage Council Vic.
- Heritage Issues, Summaries from Panel Reports, Issue 2, March 2018

Attachments

- Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Amendment C203dare documents (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 
- Heidelberg Road Survey Responses - Heritage (**Appendix C**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Community Engagement - Summary of Participation (**Appendix D**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.

CONTEXT

Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment

Final Report

Report prepared for City of Darebin

September 2020



22 Merri Street Brunswick VIC Australia 3056 T +61 3 9380 6933
GML Heritage Victoria Pty Ltd trading as Context ABN 31 620 754 761

www.contextpl.com.au

Context**Report Register**

The following report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment*, undertaken by Context in accordance with its quality management system.

Job No.	Issue No.	Notes/Description	Issue Date
2586	1	Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment Draft Report	17 July 2020
2586	2	Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment Final Report	24 September 2020

Quality Assurance

The report has been reviewed and approved for issue in accordance with the Context quality assurance policy and procedures.

Copyright

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Context

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Heidelberg Road provides the municipal boundary, Darebin and Yarra City Councils and is an arterial thoroughfare through the suburbs of Northcote Fairfield and Alphington between Merri Creek and Darebin Creek.

Plans to redevelop the Alphington Paper Mill (APM) on the south side of Heidelberg Road has been a key driver for changes along Heidelberg Road. In response to these changes Darebin and Yarra City Councils have committed to prepare an overarching strategic plan to ensure future development and change anticipated in the AMP site and other parts along Heidelberg Road.

A draft Background Issues and Discussions Paper and a draft Local Area Plan were prepared by Darebin City Council in conjunction with Yarra City Council in 2019. These projects formed the basis of both Councils' subsequent individual Built Form Frameworks.

In April 2020, Context was engaged for preparation of City of Darebin's Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment, which will feed into Darebin's Built Form Framework. The final findings of the study are outlined in this report, 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020).

This study aimed to investigate and assess places of potential heritage value in the study area, a linear corridor of single-depth properties fronting the north side of Heidelberg Road, in Northcote, Alphington and Fairfield, generally extending between Merri Creek and Darebin Creek.

This report comprises an overview of the methodology, findings and recommendations, as well as citations for the nominated individual properties.

Key findings

The key findings of 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020) are:

- There are seven individual heritage places assessed to be of local significance (see Appendix A.1).
- There are 15 places that were initially identified and subsequently considered within Stage 1 of this Heritage Assessment but which were not recommended for the Heritage Overlay as they do not meet the threshold for local significance as individual place (Appendix A.2).

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Darebin City Council:

- Adopt the 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020), and
- Implement the 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020), by:
- Adding the places assessed as being of local significance, listed in Appendix A.1, to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme with the schedule entries shown in the place citations.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background and brief

In April 2020, Context was engaged for preparation of City of Darebin's Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment. This Heritage Assessment will contribute to Darebin's Built Form Framework.

The Heritage Assessment was structured in two stages: Stage 1 – Preliminary assessment and Stage 2 – Detailed assessment. The final findings of the study are outlined in this report, 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020).

This study aimed to investigate and assess places in the study area that are identified as having potential heritage value outside Darebin's current Heritage Overlay (HO). The study area is a linear corridor of single-depth properties fronting the north side of Heidelberg Road, in Northcote, Alphington and Fairfield, generally extending between Merri Creek and Darebin Creek.

1.2 Limitations

The key limitations of the study include the following:

- Physical historical and archival research was limited due to the restrictions and closure of public data repositories associated with COVID-19, which were implemented before the commencement of the study.
- In some cases, comparisons have been drawn with places protected on the HO outside the City of Darebin, where they provided a direct comparison in terms of their architectural style or type. Municipal-wide typological or comparative study was beyond the scope of this project.
- Detailed site inspections were outside the scope of this study, external visual inspections were carried out from public domain.

1.3 Acknowledgements

The assistance of the following people is gratefully acknowledged:

Julia Williams, Darebin City Council

Stevie Meyer, Darebin City Council

Context



Figure 1. Study area plan, showing the north side of Heidelberg Road in red outline. (Source: Nearmap, April 2020)

2.0 Contextual History

The study area along the northern side of Heidelberg Road is located in the Parish of Jika Jika. The original Crown allotments here ranged in size from approximately 1000 acres at the northern end of the parish (today's Northernhay Road Reservoir) down to 92 acres in the south east (today's Alphington and Fairfield). By June 1840, all the land in the study area had been sold. The study area comprises sites that are part of Crown Allotments 89, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120 and 121 ('Jika Jika and Melbourne no. 18' c.1851-52, State Library Victoria). The Heidelberg Road cut diagonally through these blocks. Although the area to the south of Heidelberg Road is within the City of Yarra, this has a shared history with the study area as both areas were part of the former Shire of Heidelberg and later former City of Northcote (Context 2007:64).

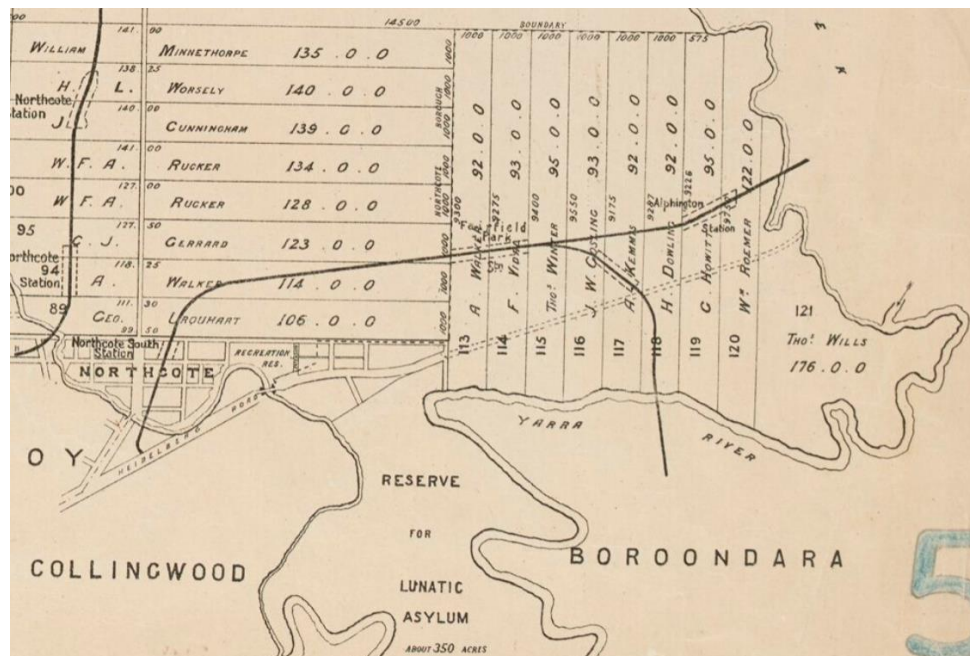


Figure 2. A section of Jika Jika Parish plan showing the Crown allotments in the study area. (Source: Department of Crown Lands and Survey Victoria, 'Jika Jika, County of Bourke' 1902)

Few of the first land buyers settled on their blocks; most were speculators looking for a quick profit by subdividing and selling their allotments. By 1843, Melbourne's first land boom had ended, and many speculators were left with land they could not sell (Context 2007:26).

Completed in 1842, Heidelberg Road was the first public road in the district and one of the first roads constructed in the Colony of Victoria (Shaw 1996:148). It replaced an earlier track that led to the village of Heidelberg, which probably followed a long-established Aboriginal track south of the new road, the junction of the Yarra River and Merri Creek was an important Aboriginal site and there were large Aboriginal camps on the river flats along Heidelberg Road in the 1840s (Context 2018:26). As Victoria's first road outside the confines of the Melbourne township, Heidelberg Road became one of the colony's busiest thoroughfares, connecting Melbourne with the village of Heidelberg. The road was constructed at the government's expense during an economic recession, and was built under the orders of Superintendent C. J. La Trobe. The road was improved with macadamisation in 1846, after the establishment of a newly constituted road trust. A toll-keeper, employed by the Heidelberg Road Trust,

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occupied a small hut on the Merri Creek where his wife collected the tolls (Context 2018:26). By the 1850s, Alphington had become a popular tourist destination, and Heidelberg Road near the Darebin Creek was developed with commercial buildings (*Argus* 29 March 1913:7). For a short distance prior to its crossing point over the Darebin Creek, the original route of Heidelberg Road was slightly south of the present alignment. The Heidelberg Road Trust constructed a new bridge over the Darebin Creek in 1852, which was replaced with an improved bridge in 1867 (Darebin Heritage).

The Heidelberg Road Trust became the Heidelberg Road District in 1861, in response to a desperate need by the mid-1850s for a properly constituted road district. Heidelberg Road District was the antecedent of the Shire of Heidelberg, which was established in 1871 (Context 2018:26).

Among the earliest developments in the study area was the 'Alphington Village' subdivision, created by William Montagu Manning, pastoralist and NSW solicitor-general, who acquired Crown Allotment 120 in 1852. The residential subdivision was named after Manning's birthplace in Devon, England (Darebin Heritage, 'Alphington'). In 1854, the allotment was subdivided into 130 lots, including commercial sites on both sides of Heidelberg Road (RBA Architects 2019:7).

The boom that accompanied Victoria's gold rushes in the early 1850s brought new optimism and a demand for farmland close to Melbourne. Some of the landholders in the Northcote area made speculative subdivisions, but the blocks were too small for farming and too far from Melbourne for urban settlement (Context 2007:27). In 1853 the township reserve on the Merri Creek near the south-eastern end of the study area was surveyed for sale as the Northcote Township (today's Westgarth), but again, most of the purchasers were speculators and only a few houses were built prior to the 1880s (Context 2007:27).

In the early settlement period, the study area remained sparsely settled with local farms. One of the early farms established in the area was 'Fulham Grange', located between Fairfield and Alphington on either side of Heidelberg Road, and bordering the Yarra River to the south. It was owned by the Perry Brothers who commissioned the notable artist Eugène von Guérard to paint the property in 1855 (Figure 4).



Figure 3. Oil painting by Eugène von Guérard, 'The farm of Mr Perry on the Yarra' (1855), shows orchards laid out on the north bank of the Yarra River at Alphington. (Source: Bonhams website)

One of Darebin's most active land agents and speculators were Charles Henry James and Percy Dobson, who bought up large tracts of land in Fairfield, Alphington and Thornbury during the land boom of the 1880s (Context 2007:28; RBA Heritage 2019:8). In 1883-85, James and Dobson were responsible for the subdivision and sale of the Fulham Grange Estate, Fairfield Park and St James Park. The Fulham Grange Estate, after which Fulham and Grange roads were named, was auctioned as early as March

Context

1883 at a 'most successful sale' held by Gemmell, Tuckett and Co. (*Herald* 5 March 1883:3; RBA Heritage 2019:8). The estate advertised '95 full-sized valuable allotments...situated on the Heidelberg Road, near Alphington' that were suitable for 'comfortable cottage residence'. The description read:

... the auctioneers would strongly advise those requiring land for the erection of comfortable homes, also builders and speculators, to inspect the property before the day of sale, and judge for themselves, as it is a well known fact that the WHOLE PUBLIC OF VICTORIA have always yearned for a piece of land in this DELIGHTFUL NEIGHBORHOOD and now that the chance has happily arrived, the auctioneers trust that they will embrace the opportunity, for depend upon it, the first purchasers will reap a very handsome profit in a very short time, and as a matter of course when the Alphington Railway is opened, which will not be long, first the whole of the land in this DELIGHTFUL SUBURB (which has hitherto been held in large blocks) must and will enhance fourfold or more in value (Age 2 March 1883:2).

Further auction sales for the Fulham Grange Estate and its extension was held in May 1883, 1884 and 1885 (*Argus* 12 March 1884:1; *Argus* 7 October 1885:4).

Despite the many land sales for residential development, the area remained relatively remote from Melbourne. Alphington and Fairfield Park railway stations were not open until 1888. The construction of the Outer Circle line, which was designed to connect Fairfield with Oakleigh, commenced in 1888 and was completed by 1891. The section from Riversdale to Fairfield stations was the final section to be completed. Fulham Grange Railway Station was located near the junction of Heidelberg Road, Fulham Road and Grange Road, Alphington. The Outer Circle line proved costly and unsuccessful. It closed after only three years of operation, with the section that passed the former Fulham Grange Railway Station reused as a private siding of the Australian Paper Manufacturers (APM) paper mill at Fairfield from 1919 to 1994. As a result, many of those allotments sold in the 1880s along Heidelberg Road remained undeveloped through to the early twentieth century.

In October 1884, a section of the 350-acre government reserve for a lunatic asylum between Heidelberg Road and Westgarth Street was subdivided into 15 allotments for auction by G.D. Langridge and Son. The property included seven 'full-sized' government allotments, with 66-foot frontages that extended to a depth of 231 feet to a government right-of-way. It also included nine 'very large' government allotments with the same frontage and depths that varied from 426 feet to 564 feet. Allotments fronting Heidelberg Road and Westgarth Street were considered 'well adapted for subdivisional purposes' (*Argus* 18 October 1884:9).

In January 1885, a further 12 allotments were released for purchase. These allotments, including six fronting Heidelberg Road and six fronting Westgarth Street, had frontages of approximately 33 feet with a depth of 200 feet and a right-of-way at the rear. The auction notice read:

... one dozen of superb allotments. Six facing Heidelberg Road. Six facing Westgarth Street. Alongside Tollgate. Stone's-throw from Merri Creek. Within few minutes' walk of the Clifton Hill omnibus route. Overlooking Studley Park, River Yarra, Melbourne, and Suburbs. Close to Outer Circle Railway. Close to terminus of proposed Clifton Tramway. Convenient frontages. Noble depths. The allotments are accurately pegged out, and are admirably adapted for residence sites... (Argus 31 January 1885:2)

All over Melbourne land companies were floated to buy land for quick resale at large profits, resulting in fortunes being made and lost. As land prices spiralled, banks and building societies over-reached their lending capacities and borrowers borrowed beyond their capacity to repay. Eventually, in December 1891 the whole structure began to collapse (Context 2007:28).

Economic recovery and the provision of improved transport facilities in the early twentieth century brought a new era of suburban development to Darebin, and to the study area. Once again people started moving out from the crowded inner northern suburbs and a new wave of suburban development

Context

began. By 1914, Northcote's growth was sufficient for the municipality to be raised in status, and the City of Northcote was proclaimed (Context 2007:71). As transport services began to improve, some 1880s subdivisions began to sell, and a few new ones were developed (Context 2007:29). By 1919, the steady increase in the number of commercial and residential buildings in the region was evidenced by the buildings along Heidelberg Road. The north side of Heidelberg Road was primarily developed with residential buildings, while the south side consisted of a combination of small commercial premises as well as some residential buildings (RBA Heritage 2019:12).

'Hanslope Estate' was a large residential subdivision of the interwar period. The six-acre site, which was part of Crown Portion 116, Parish of Jika Jika, County of Bourke, was subdivided into 33 residential allotments in 1919 under the instruction of owner Francis William Tame, manufacturer, at 25 Bloomfield Avenue, Alphington (CT Vol. 4272 Fol. 319). Another interwar subdivision was the 'MacRobertson Estate', which comprised the land bound by Heidelberg Road to the south, Station Street to the west, Arthur Street to the east, and other bordering properties to the north. While residential sites were located in Arthur Street, land fronting Station Street and Heidelberg Road was divided into shop sites. Along Heidelberg Road, ten narrow-fronted shop sites were provided (CT Vol. 4605 Fol. 820).

The preliminary notice of the subdivisional sale issued in June 1921, several months prior to its first auction in October, described the estate as follows:

The MacPherson Estate lies right between the two main Traffic Arteries – Heidelberg Road and the Railway Station; and it is reasonable to estimate that Station Street, between the abovementioned arteries will ONE DAY BE ALL SHOPS.

The Vendors realise this, and have provided Shop Sites along the Heidelberg Road frontage, and as many as possible along Station Street, leaving just an allotment with each of the two houses; the Arthur Street frontage will be sold in 50 ft. Villa Sites. This estate has always made a big gap between the shopping areas of Fairfield, and its subdivision is bound to be appreciated in the near future when Station Street is practically all shops (Weekly Times 25 June 1921:48).

Further suburban development took place in Northcote during the early years of the twentieth century and the 1920s, by which time the suburb was almost fully developed. In 1921 the Whittlesea railway line was electrified as far as Reservoir. The electric trains decreased travel time considerably and ran at more frequent intervals, thus encouraging a new wave of suburban development in areas such as Alphington, which had remained undeveloped up to that time. The electric service on the Whittlesea line was extended to Thomastown (outside Darebin) via a single track in 1929 (Context 2007:36). Most of Alphington's residential development took place during this time, when the north-south running streets were developed from the southern or railway end, and extended northwards across Separation Street. By 1930 Alphington was almost fully settled (Context 2007:65).

Despite the increased popularity of the area, some allotments along both sides of Heidelberg Road were still undeveloped until the 1920s, when light commercial or manufacturing businesses took up the available land. Some of the key industrial businesses in Heidelberg Road were newly established or substantially expanded during the interwar period, along with an increase in manufacturing in Melbourne in the 1920s owing to the introduction of federal tariffs. Manufacturing operations of various scales moved into the middle suburbs such as Northcote, Fairfield and Alphington. By 1930, there were 109 factories in Northcote alone (Summerton & Lovell 1997:89).

159-179 Heidelberg Road established and expanded in stages for Fairfield Hat Mills between 1909 and 1939 and later renovated for Spry's Corn Flakes Pty Ltd in 1939 was one of the oldest remaining medium to large scale industrial complexes on the north side of Heidelberg Road. The site was acquired by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1942 for use by the Department of Aircraft Production (S&Mc).

Context

On the south side, the Australian Paper Mills (APM) at 626 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (HO70, City of Yarra), and the Porta timber factory at 224 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (HO421, City of Yarra) were also major industrial developments in Heidelberg Road, however these were located on the south side of the road, just outside the municipal boundary.

Other important businesses in the north side of Heidelberg Road included the Centenary Dairy at 184-187 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, established in 1934 (Victoria’s centennial year) on a vacant site near the western end of the study area as a complex of model dairy, milk bar and residence, and continued operation into the 1980s (HO35, City of Darebin).

Small manufacturing businesses established on the north side of Heidelberg Road in the early 1920s included Henry A. Wallace’s printery, James A. Robillard’s garage, H. Hunt’s timber yards, and three bootmakers: Alex C. Graham, William L. Sibly, Alfred J. Reynolds (S&Mc 1920, 1925). The growing popularity of motor cars was apparent by 1930, with four new motor garages having opened along the north side of Heidelberg Road (S&Mc 1930).



Figure 4. A section of a 1931 aerial photograph showing Heidelberg Road between Merri Creek and Grange Road. The development of industrial sites was observed around the western end of the study area, while the middle section (around today’s Fairfield) was developed with residences and small-scale commercial or industrial sites. (Source: Central Plan Office, ‘MALDON PRISON (11/1931)’, via Landata)



Figure 5. A section of a 1945 aerial photograph showing Heidelberg Road between the Merri and Darebin creeks, showing more industrial sites developed on both sides of Heidelberg Road. (Source: ‘Melbourne 1945’, University of Melbourne)

World War II slowed any further development, before a new boom commenced in the late 1940s and changed the pattern of settlement in Darebin and the cultural make-up of the local population (Context 2007:75). This was the major period of urban expansion for suburbs in the municipality, including Reservoir and Preston, where more than 2500 new private houses and some large Housing Commission of Victoria estates were established between 1949 and 1954 (Context 2007:76). A large number of

Context

immigrants from Britain and continental Europe settled in the area, taking up the plentiful jobs in local factories. They were followed by immigrants from the Middle East and Asia, who established new places of worship and cultural institutions (Context 2007:76).

By 1958, vacant parcels were taken up by residences and other commercial buildings. The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints was also established by this time, occupying a large block of land between Heidelberg Road and Westgarth Street formerly occupied by storage yards (Figure 6). By 1974, the Heidelberg Road corridor was almost fully developed. On the north side, the sections between Jefferey Street and the Merri Creek and between Grange Road and Yarralea Street were primarily occupied by commercial and industrial buildings, while the rest of Heidelberg Road was predominantly occupied by low-rise residences (Figure 7). This pattern of development in the study area is still evident today.



Figure 6. A section of a 1958 aerial photograph showing Heidelberg Road between Merri and Parkview Road. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN PROJECT NO.3 (3/1954)', via Landata)



Figure 7. A section of a 1974 aerial photograph showing Heidelberg Road between Merri and Darebin creeks. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (6/1974)', via Landata)

Context

2.1.1 References

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3.0 Approach and Methodology

3.1 Introduction

This study was prepared in accordance with *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (rev. 2013) and the Victoria Planning Provisions Practice Note No. 1 'Applying the Heritage Overlay' (2018) (PPN01).

The Burra Charter was written by the heritage professional organisation, Australia ICOMOS, in the 1970s, and has been revised several times since, most recently in 2013. This document established so-called 'values-based' assessment of heritage places, looking at their social, aesthetic, historic and scientific values. Since that time, standard heritage criteria have been based on these values. In the late twentieth century, the most commonly used standard criteria were the Australian Heritage Commission (AHC) criteria for the Register of the National Estate.

The AHC criteria have since been superseded by the Heritage Council Criteria for the Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance (HERCON). These assessment criteria were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage, and by the Heritage Council of Victoria in 2008, and are substantially based on the AHC criteria. The PPN01 recommends the use of the HERCON criteria for carrying out heritage assessments.

The study was carried out in accordance with the set of tasks defined in Council's Briefs (received 18 May 2020). In addition to the above, this Study also considers relevant Independent Panel reports.

3.2 Stage 1 – Preliminary assessment

3.2.1 Introduction

In Stage 1, the properties fronting the north side of Heidelberg Road between Merri Creek and Darebin Creek were subject to a preliminary assessment, with particular reference to the following properties identified by Council's heritage officer as possessing heritage potential:

- 159 Heidelberg Road
- 257 Heidelberg Road
- 273-289 Heidelberg Road
- 331 Heidelberg Road
- 339 Heidelberg Road
- 607 Heidelberg Road
- 631, 633, 635 Heidelberg Road (*includes two parcels)
- 749-751 Heidelberg Road
- 755 Heidelberg Road
- 737, 737a Heidelberg Road (*within one parcel)

Context

3.2.2 Preliminary research

As the first task of this study Context undertook extensive desktop and limited archival research in order to understand the history and significance of the precinct. As part of this review we have considered the key documents including the *Darebin Heritage Review* (2000), *City of Darebin Heritage Study* (2011), and the existing Thematic Environmental History for the City of Darebin, as well as other relevant studies and databases. Some historical research was also undertaken to determine the potential heritage values of a selection of properties.

Physical historical and archival research was limited due to the restrictions and closure of public data repositories associated with COVID-19, which were implemented before the commencement of the study.

3.2.3 Desktop review and site inspection

In May 2020, Context staff undertook an online desktop review of all properties in the study area to determine whether there are other places with apparent heritage values in addition to those already identified by Council's heritage officer.

Following the desktop review, two Context consultants walked the entire study area and surveyed the properties of interest, taking photographs and noting alterations and any other important elements (e.g. outbuildings, fences, trees).

Site inspection involved a detailed external inspection from the public domain and documentation including field notes and photographs. These visits informed the subsequent preparation of the description in Stage 2.

3.2.4 Preliminary comparative analysis

Following the site inspection tasks, an internal project team workshop was held. The purpose of the workshop was to rationalise the benchmarking threshold of local significance and justify the potential significance of the investigated properties. Individual places and precincts included the Darebin Heritage Overlay were examined as part of this comparative exercise.

Comparative analysis is an essential step to determining if a place or precinct meets the local (or State) threshold for heritage significance. PPN01 advises that:

To apply a threshold, some comparative analysis will be required to substantiate the significance of each place. The comparative analysis should draw on other similar places within the study area, including those previously included in a heritage register or overlay.

In the preliminary comparative analysis process, similar places (in terms of built-date, type, and/or architectural style) already included in the Darebin Heritage Overlay were used as 'benchmarks' to provide a basis for comparison. Potential heritage places were compared according to a range of criteria, including how well they represented a historical theme, their architectural design quality, intactness and rarity.

Post-war heritage is an expanding area of heritage consideration and many comparative examples are included in Heritage Overlays in municipalities across Melbourne. In absence of local examples with existing heritage controls the comparative analysis considers a range of similar post-war housing in other local government areas to establish an appropriate 'benchmark'.

Context

Places that were found to fall below threshold for local significance as individual place were not recommended for detailed assessment in Stage 1.

3.2.5 Place database

An excel master datasheet was established in Stage 1 to record all properties considered and the findings from the above tasks. Lists of all properties considered as part of the Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment Stage 1 – Preliminary assessment are provided in Appendix A.

3.3 Stage 2 – Detailed Assessment

3.3.1 Contextual and individual place histories

A brief contextual history for the Heidelberg Road corridor was prepared, providing an overview of its nineteenth and twentieth-century periods of development.

Individual histories were prepared for each individual place, providing answers to key questions such as when the building was created/built, for whom, by whom (builder and designer, if known), and how it changed over time (both physically and in use). Biographical information on architects was also included where applicable.

Researchers drew upon the following primary and secondary sources:

- Previous heritage studies, including the *Darebin Heritage Review* (2000), *City of Darebin Heritage Study* (2011), and the existing Thematic Environmental History for the City of Darebin
- Planning permit records and associated plans provided by City of Darebin
- Local histories
- Certificates of title and plans of subdivision
- Central Plan Office historic aerial photography collection
- Rate books
- Parish plans
- Trove and Newspapers.com newspaper searches
- State Library of Victoria online collections of historic maps, plans and photos
- University of Melbourne archives
- Sands & McDougall street directories
- Public Record Office Victoria archival collections

3.3.2 Description and integrity

A description of each place was prepared based on the documentation from Stage 1. This sets out the context (wider setting), the elements of the site (e.g., fence, garden, outbuildings), the size and massing of the building, its materials, its stylistic influence(s), features of note, and any alterations if noted.

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A separate integrity statement was prepared to determine the intactness and legibility of each place to inform the subsequent comparative analysis and assessment benchmarking. Considerations were made for each place's retention of overall form and massing, original external finishes, pattern of fenestration, architectural detailing and setting, as well as level of alterations.

3.3.3 Comparative analysis

Comparative analysis is considered particularly important in justifying whether a place meets the threshold of local significance. It is also a key consideration in determining what assessment criteria applies and the relative importance of the place within in a locality or wider area.

Each comparative analysis was introduced with a brief overview of the relevant architectural style or building type. This introduction was then developed and expanded with the pertinent information from the contextual history to consider a selection of examples that provided a direct comparison in terms of their architectural providence, style or type with the subject site. A concluding discussion then considered how well the subject site compared to the comparative examples in order to benchmark its relative significance.

In most cases comparisons were sought from within the City of Darebin, and in some cases, from even farther afield where pertinent comparisons were not found within the municipality. This was where they provided a direct comparison in terms of their architectural style or type, or due to their demonstration of similar development pattern. Municipal-wide typological or comparative study was beyond the scope of this project.

3.3.4 Assessment against criteria

In accordance with PPN01, heritage places are no longer assigned a letter grade, but are identified as meeting either the threshold of 'State Significance' or 'Local Significance'. Places of Local Significance can include places that are important to a particular community or locality. Some of the places of local significance may also be important to the entire City of Darebin, but this is not essential to meet the Local Significance threshold.

The Practice Note advises that assessment of whether a place meets the local or State threshold should be determined in relation to model heritage criteria (also known as the HERCON Criteria) which are as follows:

Criterion A: Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance).

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).

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Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).

In the context of these assessments, where the criteria say, 'our cultural or natural history', it should be understood as 'Darebin's cultural or natural history'.

3.3.5 Statement of significance

For each individual place found to meet the threshold of local significance for at least one of the criteria, a statement of significance was prepared, summarising the most important facts and the significance of the place.

Each statement was prepared in accordance with *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (rev. 2013); using the HERCON criteria and applying the thresholds of local or State significance. Each assessment is summarised in the format recommended by the 'Applying the Heritage Overlay' Practice Note (2018), namely:

What is significant? – This section should be brief, usually no more than one paragraph or a series of dot points. There should be no doubt about the elements of the place that are under discussion. The paragraph should identify features or elements that are significant about the place, for example, house, outbuildings, garden, plantings, ruins, archaeological sites, interiors as a guide to future decision makers. Clarification could also be made of elements that are not significant. This may guide or provide the basis for an incorporated plan which identifies works that may be exempt from the need for a planning permit.

How is it significant? – Using the heritage criteria above, a sentence should be included to the effect that the place is important. This could be because of its historical significance, its rarity, its research potential, its representativeness, its aesthetic significance, its technical significance and/or its associative significance. The sentence should indicate the threshold for which the place is considered important.

Why is it significant? – The importance of the place needs to be justified against the heritage criteria listed above. A separate point or paragraph should be used for each criterion satisfied. The relevant criterion reference should be inserted in brackets after each point or paragraph, for example "(Criterion G)".

3.3.6 Mapping and curtilages

PPN01 states in regard to mapping:

The Heritage Overlay applies to both the listed heritage item and its associated land. It is usually important to include land surrounding a building, structure, tree or feature of importance to ensure that any development, including subdivision, does not adversely affect the setting, context or significance of the heritage item. The land surrounding the heritage item is known as a 'curtilage' and will be shown as a polygon on the Heritage Overlay map. In many cases, particularly in urban areas and townships, the extent of the curtilage will be the whole of the property (for example, a suburban dwelling and its allotment).

However, there will be occasions where the curtilage and the Heritage Overlay polygon should be reduced in size as the land is of no significance. Reducing the curtilage and the polygon will have the potential benefit of lessening the number of planning permits that are required with advantages to both the landowner and the responsible authority.

On this basis, the individual places recommended by this study are to be mapped to the extent of the title boundaries.

3.3.7 Statutory recommendations

The statutory recommendations for places and precincts assessed to be of local significance are made in accordance with relevant policies and guidelines set out in PPN01.

Context

The Practice Note describes additional controls that can be ticked in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay for a place, including:

- External Paint Controls – to control changes to paint colours; particularly important if evidence of an early colour scheme survives; note that a planning permit is always required to paint a previously unpainted surface (e.g., face brick, render, stone, concrete, timber shingles).
- Internal Alteration Controls – to be used sparingly and on a selective basis for special interiors of high significance.
- Tree Controls – to be applied only where a tree (or trees) has been assessed as having heritage value, not just amenity value.
- Fences and Outbuildings which are not exempt from advertising planning permit applications – demolition applications for early fences and/or outbuildings that contribute to the significance of a place must be publicly advertised if this box is ticked, and the accelerated VicSmart permit process cannot be used; note that a planning permit is required to alter, demolish or replace a fence or outbuilding even if this box is not chosen, however public notice of the permit application is generally not required.
- Included on the Victorian Heritage Register – can only be entered by Heritage Victoria.
- Prohibited uses may be permitted – this allows additional uses not normally permitted in a given zone, subject to a planning permit; it is most frequently used to give redundant buildings a wider range of future use options to ensure their long-term survival, e.g., purpose-built shops in residential areas.
- Incorporated Plan has been adopted for the place/precinct – an incorporated plan is sometimes prepared to introduce permit exemptions for a precinct or provide specific guidance in managing a complex site.
- Aboriginal heritage place – note that Aboriginal heritage significance was not assessed as part of this study.

When making statutory recommendations, recommendations for these additional controls were made where appropriate. In cases where Tree Controls or Fence and Outbuilding exemptions are recommended, the specific elements to be protected have also been indicated for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay to provide clear guidance for planners and owners. For example: Tree Controls: *Yes – English Oak*.

3.3.8 HERMES entry

PPN01 specifies that:

All statements of significance should be securely stored in the HERMES heritage database.

Where a planning scheme amendment has resulted in the addition of, or amendments to, places in the Heritage Overlay, the strategic justification (that is, heritage study documentation and statements of significance) should be entered into the department's HERMES heritage database.

This should be done once the citations have been finalised and adopted by Council. Once the associated amendment is adopted, the records of those places added to the Darebin Heritage Overlay can be made publicly visible on the Victorian Heritage Database.

Context

Places found not meet the threshold of local significance should be entered into the HERMES database to note that they have been 'Researched but NOT recommended'. These records are not published for the general public to see but are accessible to Council staff.

4.0 Key findings

4.1 Local significance

A total of seven places assessed are considered to meet the threshold for local significance when assessed against the HERCON criteria, and thus are worthy of protection in the Heritage Overlay.

These places include:

1. Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch), 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote
2. Residence, 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote
3. Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote, 279-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote
4. Former residence, 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote
5. Marineuie Court, 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield
6. Residence, 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington
7. Kia-Ora, 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

4.2 Not of local significance

15 places considered in Stage 1 found to fall below the threshold of local significance as individual place, the rationale for which is detailed in Appendix A.2.

No further action is recommended for these places.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Adoption of Assessment

It is recommended that the City of Darebin formally adopt the 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment' (2020), which comprises this report, and include this report as a Background Document in the Darebin Planning Scheme.

5.2 Implementation of Assessment

It is recommended that the City of Darebin implement the recommendations of this study by preparing a planning scheme amendment that will add the individual places assessed as being of local significance listed in Appendix A.1 to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme with the schedule entries as shown in the place citations. In addition to the general planning permit requirements of Clause 43.01 (Heritage Overlay), specific controls have been recommended for some individual places in accordance with Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) Practice Note 'Applying the Heritage Overlay' (2018)

6.0 References

- Australian Heritage Commission 2001. *Australian Historic Themes*. AHC, Canberra.
- Australia ICOMOS 2013, *Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, The Burra Charter*.
- Butler, Graeme 1991, *City of Northcote Conservation Study Review*, prepared for former City of Northcote.
- Context 2008, *City of Darebin Heritage Study*, prepared for City of Darebin.
- Darebin Heritage*, via <http://heritage.darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au/>, accessed online June 2020.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2018, *Planning Practice Note 1: Applying the Heritage Overlay* (Jan and August 2018).
- Heritage Council of Victoria 2010. *Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes*. HCV, Melbourne.
- RBA Architects 2019, *Heidelberg Road Heritage Review (Stage 2)*, prepared for City of Yarra.
- Summerton, Michelle and Lovell, Allom & Associates 1997, 'Darebin: An Environmental History', prepared for City of Darebin.
- Ward, Andrew 2001, *Darebin Heritage Review*, prepared for City of Darebin.
- Yarra City Council 2019, *Heidelberg Road Corridor – Background Issues and Discussion Paper [Draft]*, in conjunction with Darebin City Council.
- Yarra City Council 2019, *Heidelberg Road Corridor – Local Area Plan*, in conjunction with Darebin City Council.

Context

Appendix A—Assessment Findings

A.1 Places of local significance




The following individual places are recommended for inclusion in the Darebin Heritage Overlay.

	Title	Address 1	Address 2	Address 3	Recommended threshold
1	Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch)	159-179	Heidelberg Road	Northcote	Local
2	Residence	257	Heidelberg Road	Northcote	Local
3	Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote	279-289	Heidelberg Road	Northcote	Local
4	Former residence	331-333	Heidelberg Road	Northcote	Local
5	Marineuie Court	441	Heidelberg Road	Fairfield	Local
6	Residence	521	Heidelberg Road	Alphington	Local
7	Kia-Ora	607	Heidelberg Road	Alphington	Local





Context

A.2 Places not recommended

Below is the full list of places that were initially identified and subsequently considered within Stage 1 of this Heritage Assessment but which were not recommended for the Heritage Overlay as they do not meet the threshold for local significance as individual place.

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
1		Context fieldwork	Residence	329 Heidelberg Road, Northcote	Interwar/postwar – moderne	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	High integrity, some representative interest. Fine intact late interwar/postwar brick residence with garden and fence (overpainted) consistent with the era. Highly representative but not an outstanding or rare example. Not enough evidence to justify its inclusion at this time.
2		City of Darebin	Flats	339 Heidelberg Road, Northcote	Interwar/postwar – moderne	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	Fair integrity, some historical and representative interest. Late interwar/postwar brick flats with some visible changes to the frontage. Possibly early flats in the municipality but not an outstanding or rare example. Could be contributory within a precinct. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
3		Context fieldwork	Residence	481-487 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar – bungalow	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	Medium integrity, low architectural value. Could be contributory within a precinct. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.



Context

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
4		Context fieldwork	Residence	523 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar – bungalow	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	An intact and representative example, but type is well-represented with better examples on the HO. Could be contributory within a precinct. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
5		Context fieldwork	Residence	539 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar – bungalow	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	An intact and representative example, but type is well-represented with better examples on the HO. Could be contributory within a precinct. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
6		City of Darebin	Residence	631 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar – mock Tudor	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	Medium integrity. Not architecturally distinctive enough and too altered (intrusive alterations include carport and wall section, and extension with new window on the right-hand side of the porch). Could be contributory within a precinct. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
7		City of Darebin	Former residence	633 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar – mock Tudor	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	Medium integrity, low architectural interest. Limited visibility, low architectural value and too altered. Some historical interest for its long-term association with a social group (HO might not be an appropriate tool for this place).



Context

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
8		Context fieldwork	Residence	641 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Postwar	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	High integrity, some representative interest. Modest late interwar/postwar brick residence. Not architecturally distinctive enough. Highly representative but also very common design across Darebin and beyond. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
9		Context fieldwork	Shops	727-731 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Victorian/Edwardian	4.6 Retailing	Fair integrity, with intact early ground level shopfronts. Fragmented group of shops that are not architecturally distinctive or outstanding. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
10		City of Darebin	Shop and residence	737, 737a Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Edwardian	4.6 Retailing	Medium integrity, some historical and architectural interest given its corner location and its representation of shop and residence type, but too altered (recent tiling to the shop, intrusive awning, changes to opening patterns, new picket-fenced portico). Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.


Context

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
11		Context fieldwork	Shops	747 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Interwar	4.6 Retailing	Fair integrity, low architectural interest. As a group of shops, 747-755 Heidelberg Road have some historical interest, but are not comparable to Darebin's other commercial precincts, which have more extensive and cohesive streetscape along both sides of the street (e.g. HO97, HO305, HO307, HO309). The group does not retain the same degree of integrity as other small group of shops on the individual HO either (e.g. HO130, HO131, HO132). Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
12		City of Darebin	Shops	749-751 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Edwardian	4.6 Retailing	Medium integrity, some historical and architectural interest for its design and legibility as a pair of shops and residences type building, but too altered (new penetration on no. 749, new windows, both ground level shopfronts replaced, box awnings). As a group of shops, 747-755 Heidelberg Road have some historical interest, but are not comparable to Darebin's other commercial precincts, which have more extensive and cohesive streetscape along both sides of the street (e.g. HO97, HO305, HO307, HO309). The group does not retain the same degree of integrity as other small group of shops on the individual HO either (e.g. HO130, HO131, HO132). Does not

Context

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
							meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
13		City of Darebin	Shop	755 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Edwardian	4.6 Retailing	Medium integrity, low architectural interest. As a group of shops, 747-755 Heidelberg Road have some historical interest, but are not comparable to Darebin's other commercial precincts, which have more extensive and cohesive streetscape along both sides of the street (e.g. HO97, HO305, HO307, HO309). The group does not retain the same degree of integrity as other small group of shops on the individual HO either (e.g. HO130, HO131, HO132). Ground floor shopfront altered. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.
14		Context fieldwork	Residence	815 Heidelberg Road, Northcote	Victorian – Italianate	5.3 Nineteenth century 'boom time'	Low/medium integrity, originally a substantial and finely detailed house, but appears altered. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.

Context

No	Image	Source	Name	Address	Period/style	Relevant theme from Darebin's TEH	Rationale
15		Context fieldwork	'Murweh'	825 Heidelberg Road, Northcote	Edwardian - Queen Anne	5.3 Twentieth century recovery	Low/medium integrity, originally a substantial and finely detailed house, but appears altered. Does not meet the threshold as an individual heritage place.

Context

7.0 Appendix B—Place Citations

Context

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote

Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch)

Citation number:
Prepared by: Context
Survey Date: May 2020
Place Type: Industrial
Significance level: Significant
Architect: -
Builder: Not known
Construction Date: c.1909-39
Extent of overlay: To title boundaries

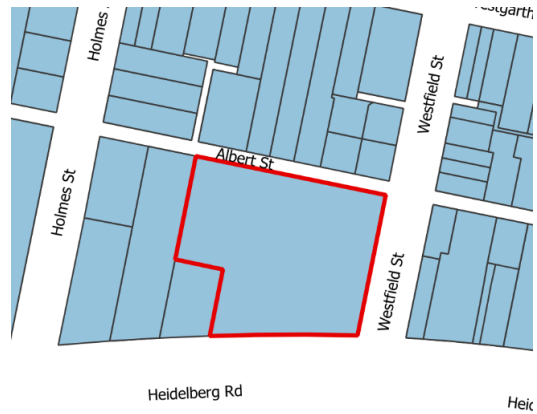


Figure 1. 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Google, March 2020)



Figure 2. View into the site from Heidelberg Road. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

4 Developing Darebin’s Economies

4.3 Other manufacturing industries

6 Governing

6.4 Defending Australia

PLACE HISTORY

159-179 Heidelberg Road is located on Crown allotments 12, 23, 24 and part of 11 in the Township adjoining the City of Northcote, Parish of Jika Jika in the County of Bourke (CT). The site was part of the land originally set aside in c.1851-52 as part of the 350-acre Government Reserve for a Lunatic Asylum. It was subdivided and sold to the public in 1884-85 (*Argus* 18 October 1884:9).

Between 1905 and 1907 Lilian McCrohan, wife of hat manufacturer Thomas J. McCrohan, owned Crown Allotment 24 bound by Heidelberg Road, Bower Street (today’s Westfield Street) and Albert Street (CT Vol.2223 Fol.491; Vol.2254 Fol.689; Vol.3141 Fol.119). By around this time, Thomas J. McCrohan’s hat manufacturing business, formerly at the corner of Westgarth Street and Bower Street, had relocated to the subject site at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Bower Street (S&Mc 1905-07).

By 1910, McCrohan entered into a partnership, McCrohan and Bardsley Pty Ltd, and commenced trading as Fairfield Hat Mills (*Argus* 21 November 1910:9). The company acquired more land including, Crown allotments 12 and 23 in 1911 and 11 by 1922 (CT Vol.3519 Fol.623; Vol.4590 Fol.994; Vol.3495; Fol.895).

In 1909, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) Detail Plan shows three buildings including two residences at the corner of Albert Street and Bower Street. A hat factory existed on an adjoining land fronting Albert Street. None of these structures survive today (Figure 3; MMBW Detail Plan no. 1269, 1909).

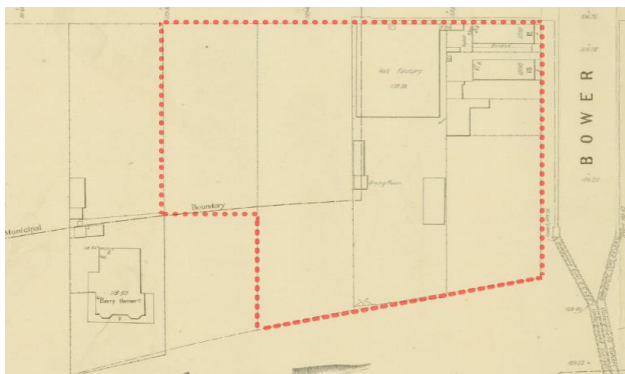


Figure 3. Section of the MMBW plan from 1909. The approximate site boundary is shown in red dotted line. (Source: MMBW Detail Plan no. 1269, 1909)

As concern over the threat of war with Germany grew, all young Australian men were subject to military training in 1909, followed by the introduction of compulsory universal training for men between the ages of 14 and 18 in 1911 (Context 2007:94). McCrohan and Bardsley was one of five felt hat manufacturers

Context

that were awarded big hat contracts for supply of 20,000 hats to the new militia in 1912 (*Advertiser* 10 May 1912:8). A great portion of the company's employees were girls and women (*Daily Herald, SA* 14 February 1912:2).

In 1918, McCrohan and Bardsley was one of seven hat mills in Victoria (*Herald* 24 May 1918:8). In 1922, McCrohan and Sons Pty Ltd, manufacturing furriers and hatters, was formed to acquire the business of McCrohan and Bardsley Pty Ltd (*Herald* 29 March 1922:13). In 1935, the business was in liquidation and bought by the United Felt Hats Pty Ltd, which amalgamated 10 hat mills and became Fairfield Hat Co. (*Age* 14 June 1935:6; *Advertiser* 27 May 1946:2).

The 1931 aerial shows the site occupied by industrial buildings of various sizes (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Subject site in 1931, fully developed with buildings. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'MALDON PRISON (11/1931)', via Landata)

Labourers were called for demolition of 'fire job' at the Fairfield Hat Mills in May 1939, possibly indicating part of the premises were demolished (*Age* 4 May 1939:17).

In April 1939, Spry's Corn Flakes Pty Ltd acquired the property at 159-179 Heidelberg Road 'formerly occupied by the Fayrefield (likely typo of Fairfield) Hat Mills' with a capital of £100,000 to manufacture cornflakes and other cereal lines. The founder of the business, William Henry Spry, formerly a bootmaker, had invested money in a new business venture selling breakfast cereal based on wheat instead of corn, which his factory neighbour Bob Creaser had seen in the United States. The family business created well known products including Spry's Weeties (later just Weeties), corn flakes, Crispies and Vita Brits (*Herald Sun* 19 June 2018).

Spry's 'modernised and extended the building' on the subject site, which suggests the façades of the industrial building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street were renovated in current Interwar Moderne style by this time (*Argus* 29 April 1939:10).

After only two years of operation from the subject site, the factory was sold by Spry's during World War Two, with a large auction of grain milling machinery and other industrial fittings held on 2 December 1941 (*Age* 15 November 1941: 2). The property comprising Crown allotments 11, 12, 23 and 24 was acquired by Walker Tobacco Pty Ltd. With the exception of part of Crown Allotment 11 (today known as 155 Heidelberg Road), this land was immediately transferred to the Commonwealth of Australia in December 1942, for use by the Department of Aircraft Production (DAP) (CT Vol.6539 Fol.771). The land today known as 159-179 Heidelberg Road was formed by this time.

Context

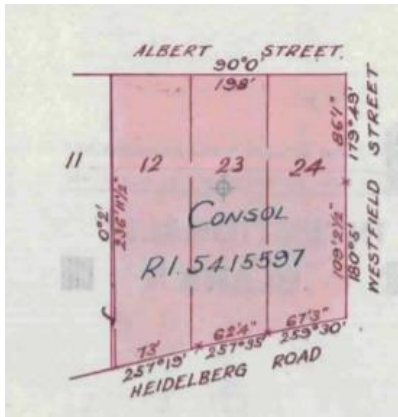


Figure 5. Crown allotments 12, 23 and 24 were consolidated following the acquisition of land by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1942. Part of Crown Allotment 11 fronting Albert Street was also held by the Commonwealth. (Source: CT Vol.6539 Fol.771)

DAP gun turrets for the Beaufort Bomber, a twin-engine aircraft designed for carrying torpedos and bombs. The site was known as ‘DAP Gun Turret’ in 1946 (*Age* 27 February 1946:12). Darebin Heritage website writes:

Work began on the gun turrets at the Fairfield plant in the expectation it would take up to 2 years to produce the first locally manufactured turret, but this was achieved in 6 months.

An article in The Age explains that of the total work force across Melbourne working on the Beaufort planes, over 80% were men and women without previous factory experience. Training centres in NSW and Victoria ‘converted butchers, bakers, clerks, hairdressers and even women who had no experience beyond household duties into efficient units on the production line’.

‘The men and women who are building Beauforts come from the stage, the circus tent, the bake house and the bar room. The division employs a pastry cook who helps to make ship busters now instead of doughnuts’.

In 1944 The Age mentions distinguished service awards for pilots in the South West Pacific area and asks the question, ‘How many people recall that these Australian airmen won distinction while serving in Australian- built machines? The story of the planning and building of Australia’s great fighting plane, the Beaufort, is one of which every Australian may well be as proud, as are the men and women who turn out these famous machines’.

During the war years the Fairfield factory increased its range not only to different types of turrets but also undercarriage support beams and hydraulic components for other aircraft. (Darebin Heritage)

After the end of the war, the DAP continued to operate as DAP’s Equipment Store and Aircraft Maintenance and Disposals Branch in a reduced capacity (*Age* 29 March 1947:20; 16 August 1948:4; Darebin Heritage).

The 1945 and 1954 aerials indicate that substantial changes occurred at the site since 1931. The large saw-tooth roofed industrial building fronting Albert Street and the adjoining three-storey gable roofed wing were built after 1931, possibly during Spry’s ‘modernisation and extension’ to the premises. The two-storey storage building with a narrow street frontage to Heidelberg Road was also constructed around the same time, and originally adjoined the rear (south) elevation of the Albert Street building. Parts of the site were cleared likely for vehicle access and later used as carpark (Figure 7)

Context



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL P02825.004

Figure 3. Women assembling a Beaufort tail plane at the Department of Aircraft Production's Beaufort Division complex, c.1942. (Source: Australian War Memorial, via Darebin Heritage)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL P03702.033

Figure 6. View of the machine shop at the Beaufort gun turret plant, unknown date. (Source: Australian War Memorial, via Darebin Heritage)



Figure 7. The 1945 (left) and 1954 (right) aerials show substantial changes since 1931. The large saw tooth roofed building was newly built, replacing earlier buildings on site and truncating the northern section of a single-storey building. Parts of land fronting Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street was cleared likely for vehicle access and car parking. (Source: 'RINGWOOD 1945', University of Melbourne Map Collection; Central Plan Office, 'MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN PROJECT NO.3 (3/1954)', via Landata)

Context

In 1960, a public auction was held at the subject site to sell aircraft materials and general stores that were no longer required for Government purposes (*Age* 13 April 1960:6). Following the sale, the building was repurposed by the Commonwealth of Australia as the Postmaster-General’s Engineer Division Depot and Installation Depot (*Age* 24 June 1963:15; S&Mc 1965).

In 1979, tenders were invited for minor works including ‘alterations and additions to Engineering Depot’, but details of the work were not specified (*Age* 17 November 1979:116). The property was transferred to the Australian Telecommunications Commission in July 1986 (CT Vol.8053 Fol.742). The premises were sold by auction in 1994 and remain in private ownership today (CT Vol.10245 Fol. 768; *Age* 12 March 1994:85).

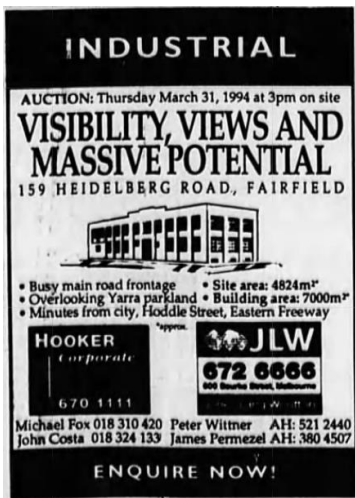


Figure 8. Illustration of the main building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street in a 1994 auction notice. (Source: *Age* 12 March 1994:85)

Later changes include the removal of the southern section of the Albert Street building built c.1939. As the result, the narrow-fronted building in Heidelberg Road at the southwest corner of the site became separated from the Albert Street building. The land has since been used as carpark. A new concrete building was constructed at the corner of Albert and Westfield streets in 1910 (Figure 9 and Figure 10).

The buildings fronting Heidelberg Road are used as storage facility while the buildings fronting Albert Street have been repurposed as offices.



Figure 9. The 1978 (left) and 1981 (right) aerials show the site very similar to its earlier state. A small wing or building at the corner of Albert and Westfield streets was demolished between 1954 and 1978. (Source: Central Plan Office, ‘WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (4/1978)’ & ‘WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (1/1981)’, via Landata)

Context

DESCRIPTION

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is located on the northern side of Heidelberg Road, near the Merri Creek. Surrounded generally by low-rise industrial and residential buildings, the site looks across to the T. H. Westfield Reserve, part of the Yarra Bend Park, and is also in the vicinity of the Bill Lawry Oval to the west. The site is bound by Heidelberg Road to the south, Westfield Street to the east and Albert Street to the north.

Originally established by 1905-07 for the Fairfield Hat Mills and substantially renovated in 1939 for Spry's Corn Flakes Pty Ltd, the site currently comprises buildings constructed under the different ownerships. The main building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street was built between 1909 and 1931 and renovated in Moderne style c.1939 for Spry's Corn Flakes Pty Ltd. A two-storey face brick building with saw tooth roofs and concrete lintels fronting Albert Street, and the two-storey face brick building with a narrow street frontage to Heidelberg Road also likely date to c.1939. Other existing two-storey brick buildings were constructed during the period between 1909 and 1931 during the Fairfield Hat Mills' occupancy.

Further changes were introduced to the premises under the ownership of the Commonwealth of Australia, during when the buildings were used by the Department of Aircraft Production (1941-c.1960) and the Postmaster-General's Engineering Division Depot (c.1960-1986). By 1986, the site was owned by the Australian Telecommunications Commission until 1994 when it was transferred to private ownership. More recent additions to the site include Building 4, a single-storey 1970s storage building, and Building 8, a contemporary two-storey exposed concrete building (built 2010) at the corner of Albert and Westfield streets.

The estimated built dates for each building on the subject site are marked on Figure 10.

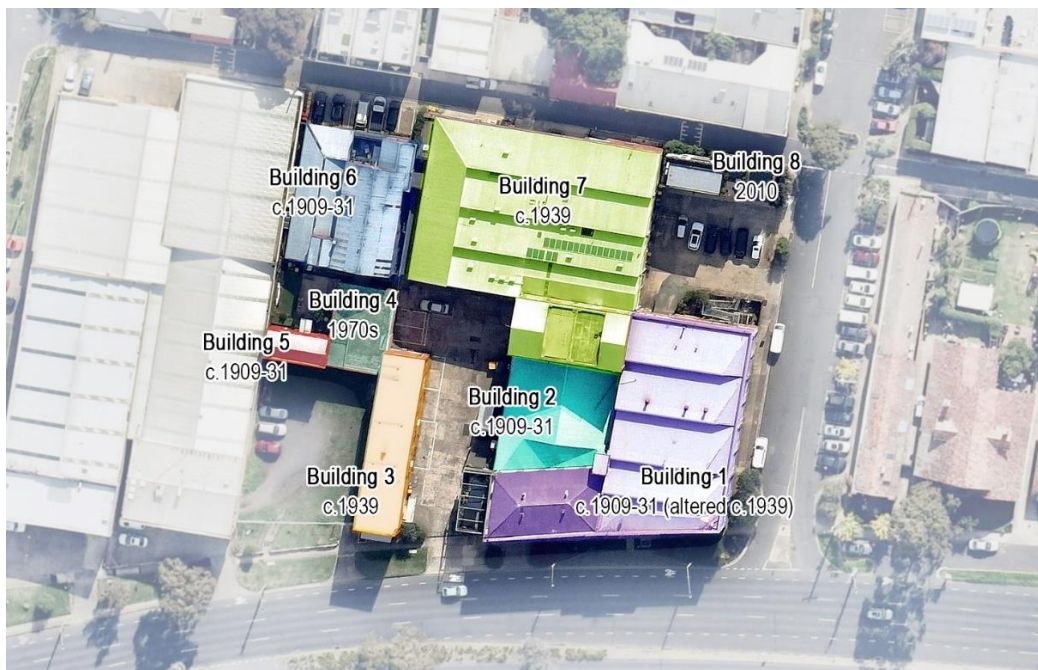


Figure 10. Estimated built dates for buildings at 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote on an aerial photograph. (Source: Nearmap, with Context overlay)

Context

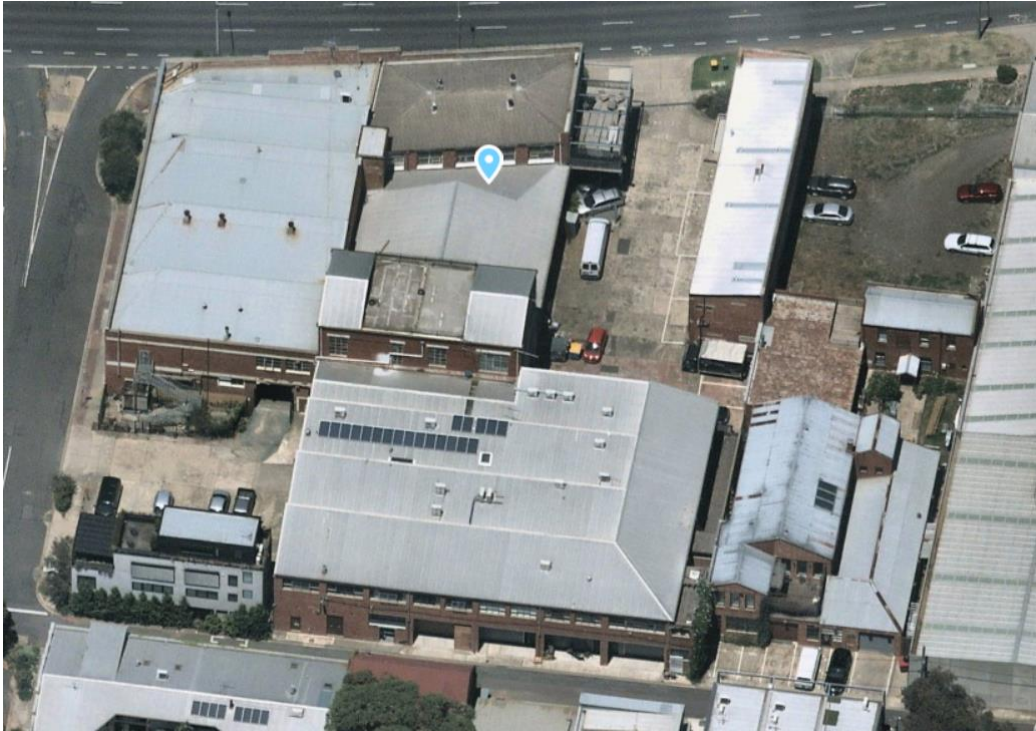


Figure 11. A bird-eye view of the subject site, looking south. (Source: Nearmap)

Buildings fronting Heidelberg Road

The street facing elevations of the Moderne style Building 1 (built c.1909-31 and renovated c.1939) are generally painted render over loadbearing brickwork. They have a stepped parapet and a distinctive oversized stepped architrave around the front entrance. This architrave is inset with tiled edges (Figure 12 & Figure 13).

The building is asymmetrically composed. It has a wider western bay with a hipped roof and five windows on the upper level divided by narrow pilasters. Three windows are provided at ground level. These have window grills that appear to be later additions. The central and eastern bays have a saw-tooth roof behind the parapet, with each bay having three windows at each level. Small ventilators are provided on the recessed spandrels of the eastern bay. The multi-pane steel-frame windows on both street façades appear original. As evidence of affiliation with the Commonwealth, the Royal cypher with 'ER II' lettering with the crown symbol remains above the front door (Figure 13).

Comprising eight bays, the Westfield Street elevation is also asymmetrical, with two narrower end bays. The windows on the Westfield Street elevation are generally larger, having twelve-pane windows and sixteen-pane windows in the central four bays. The rear (north) elevation is of face brickwork and features painted concrete lintels, timber upper level door, and smaller multi-pane metal-frame windows. The large opening for vehicles on this elevation appear to be later additions.

A steel-frame balcony has been added to the western elevation of the main building.

Context

Behind the hipped roofed two-storey section of Building 1, Building 2 is an earlier (c.1909-31) single-single-storey face brick building with hip and gable roof. The door and window openings of this building have been altered.

Building 3 (built c.1939) is located on Heidelberg Road at the southwest corner of the site. Likely separated from the other c.1939 building fronting Albert Street (Building 7) after the post-1981 demolition of the southern section of Building 7, the two-storey face brick storage building has a skillion roof and an altered street façade with a flat parapet and a box awning (Figure 15). Apart from the street façade which has been altered with the introduction of new openings and a balcony, the building retains original features in the east elevation, comprising original multi-pane metal-frame windows, exposed concrete lintels, regularly spaced metal vent covers and original timber loading doors around the centre of each level. An evidence of its former storage use, an original timber hoist also survives on this elevation (Figure 16).

Adjoined to the abovementioned c.1909-1939 building, two buildings are located at the rear (Figure 18). Building 4 is a single-storey concrete building with a roller door dates from the 1970s that first appeared in the 1974 aerial photograph. Having no windows, it might have been constructed as a storage or an electric substation during the occupancy of the Postmaster-General's Engineer Division Depot. Building 5 is a c.1909-1939 two-storey brick storage with a simple rectangular form and a gable roof, that stands behind this 1970s structure. It features windows on the north and east elevations, which appear largely intact (Figure 11).



Figure 12. The main building (Building 1) at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street, built in 1939. (Source: Google, February 2020)



Figure 13. The Royal cypher above the entrance of the Building 1. Note the distinctive oversized stepped architrave around the front entrance that is inset with tiled edges. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context



Figure 14. Westgarth Street and rear (north) elevation of Building 1. The Westgarth Street elevation features intact large multi-pane windows divided by narrow pilasters. The north elevation is of face brickwork with less glazing and intact upper level windows and doors. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 15. C.1939 Building 3 at the southwest corner of the site. The east elevation appears largely original. (Source: Google, February 2020)

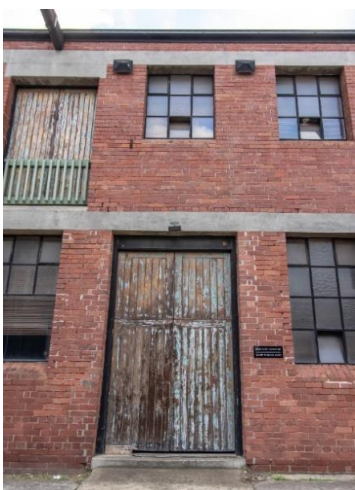


Figure 16. East elevation of Building 3, retaining original multi-pane metal-frame windows, exposed concrete lintels, regularly spaced metal vent covers, an original timber hoist and original timber loading doors on each level around the middle. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

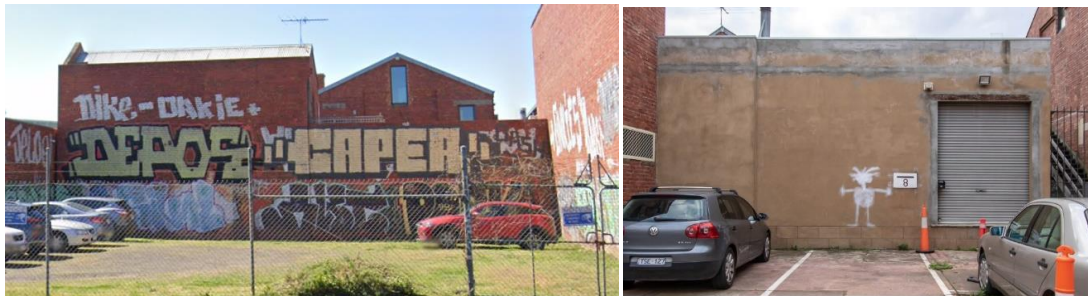


Figure 17. Views of the buildings 4 (left) and 5 (right) at the rear of the Heidelberg Road buildings. (Source: Google, February 2020; Context, May 2020)

Buildings fronting Albert Street

Building 6 is a c.1909-31 single- and two-storey brick building on the northwest corner of the site that has a complex roof form comprising a main gabled roof with two smaller gable-roof wings and a single-storey low hipped roofed section. The narrow upper level openings on the Albert Street elevation appear new. The window and door joinery to ground level openings are also recent additions.

Building 7 is a large c.1939 two-storey building that is of loadbearing face brick construction with a saw-tooth roof. The building has been altered, with the introduction of new large recessed openings for vehicles on Albert Street (Figure 19), as well as the partial demolition of the southern section and reconstruction of the south wall after 1981. The upper level multi-pane metal-frame windows are generally original or early. Openings on each end bay appear more intact, with original ground-level openings. The original metal-frame windows and saw tooth roofs are still highly legible when viewed from Westgarth Street.

The three-storey gabled wing to the south of the saw-tooth roofed building is also part of the building. All glazing on the west and south elevations has been replaced.



Figure 18. C.1909-31 Building 6 on the northwest corner of the site (left-hand side) and its rear elevation (right-hand side). (Source: Google, February 2020; Context, May 2020)

Context



Figure 19. View along Albert Street, Showing the c.1939 Building 7 with some intact ground-level detailing (left-hand side) and new ground-level openings (right-hand side). (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 20. East elevation of Building 7 viewed from Westgarth Street. Note the original metal-frame windows and saw tooth roofs highly legible on this elevation. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 21. View into the site from Heidelberg Road, showing the new south wall of Building 7, rebuilt after 1981 following partial demolition (left-hand side); Building 7's three-storey gabled wing with new glazing (middle); earlier single-storey Building 2 behind Building 1 (right-hand side); and the steel-frame balcony added to Building 1 (far right). (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

INTEGRITY

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, comprising a collection of industrial buildings developed in stages, is generally intact as a single industrial complex.

The main building (Building 1) at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street is highly intact, with a few changes visible to original or early important fabric. The building retains original openings, windows, architectural detailing including the stepped parapet, pilasters and spandrels. These features reflect the restrained Moderne style. The building also retains its original built form and scale as well as its original detailing including the hipped and saw-toothed roofs and rendered finish over loadbearing brickwork.

Other face brick storage facilities (buildings 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7) on the subject site display some degree of alterations and changes, including those to openings and glazing. Partial demolition and reconstruction are evident in Building 3 fronting Albert Street and Building 2. Despite the changes, the buildings are still highly legible as industrial buildings retaining the typical elements such as large multi-pane metal-frame windows and/or industrial saw tooth roofs for natural light, and simple brickwork with concrete lintels and utilitarian elements such as hoists and timber loading doors.

Overall, as an example of a single industrial complex 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, has high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS*Industrial sites in Darebin*

In the nineteenth and early twentieth century, Darebin's main industries were brick making and potteries, bacon curing and tanning (Context 2007:51). There was an increase in manufacturing in Melbourne in the 1920s owing to the introduction of the federal tariffs and small manufacturing operations moved into the middle suburbs. Darebin has seen development of other industries in the early twentieth century, with 109 factories located in Northcote in 1930 (Summerton & Lovell 1997:89). Industries common in Darebin in the nineteenth to the interwar period were dyeing and dry-cleaning, leather manufacturing, clothing and hat manufacturing, furniture making and small engineering (Context 2007:51)

New manufacturing businesses were established on Heidelberg Road in the early twentieth century associated with a general growth in manufacturing industries in the municipality. These were typically small in scale except for a few of examples. The Australian Paper Mills (APM) at 626 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (HO70, City of Yarra) and the Porta timber factory at 224 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (HO421, City of Yarra) are two medium to large scale industrial sites in Heidelberg Road, however these are located on the south side of the road, just outside the municipal boundary.

The subject site comprises a collection of low-rise buildings built of loadbearing brick construction with minimal decorative elements, reflecting its industrial use. The main building (built c.1939) at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street features some elements influenced by the Moderne style, including the stepped parapet and non-traditional moulded architrave inset with tiled edges to the entrance. Consistent with other twentieth-century industrial buildings in metropolitan Melbourne, all subject buildings display a utilitarian design aesthetic and feature plain walls and large multi-pane metal-frame windows.

The brick factories, warehouses or storages constructed in the early twentieth century and interwar period are generally of a simple utilitarian character, utilising loadbearing face brick external walls with either a steel post and beam or reinforced concrete internal structure. Windows are generally large,

Context

designed to maximise access to natural light at a time when artificial lighting was not adequate for the manufacturing process.

Early twentieth century industrial buildings in Darebin that are currently included on the City of Darebin's Heritage Overlay as individual places include the following.

Watson & Paterson Former Bacon-Curing Factory, on the corner of Dundas Street and Plenty Road, Preston (HO30), was established in 1862. In c.2000, two buildings existed (dating from c.1900 and the 1920s) were still used for small goods manufacture, appear to be the last remnant of an important nineteenth century industry in what was then the rural district of Preston. Preston was a centre of pig farming from the 1860s and was the location of several bacon and ham curing works. The former Watson and Paterson bacon-curing factory is of historical significance to Darebin City.

The former Howe Leather Factory at 99-103 High Street, Preston (HO128) was operative since at least the early 1880s, possibly apart from a period in the 1890s and early 1900s, and has been occupied by the Howe tanning company continuously since 1910. One of the industries associated with local farming activities in the nineteenth century, the Howe factory is among the last tanneries remaining in Preston. The substantially intact and distinctive elevations facing High Street and Warrs Avenue form a notable local landmark. The former Howe Leather Factory is of local historical and architectural significance to Darebin City.

The former Northcote Pottery at 85a Clyde Street, Thornbury (HO176) was built just before the turn of the century in 1898. The pottery moved out in the 2000s, and the buildings have since been converted for residential uses. No Statement of Significance is available for this place.

Joshua Pitt Pty Ltd Tannery at 52-60 and 71 Gadd Street, Northcote (HO180) was established on this site in 1900. The earliest warehouse and industrial buildings, generally on the north side of Gadd Street date from the early twentieth century when the firm established operations on this site. As the firm expanded further buildings were added and from the 1930s buildings began to be constructed on the south side of the street. The complex comprised a group of brick industrial and administrative buildings on both sides of Gadd Street until the early 1910s. Pitts was the largest tannery complex in Northcote. The former industrial complex of Joshua Pitt Pty Ltd in Gadd Street, Northcote is of local historic significance to Darebin City.

Context



Figure 22. Former Watson & Paterson Bacon-Curing Factory (HO30), at the corner of Dundas Street and Plenty Road, Preston c.2000 (upper) and in 2019 (lower).



Figure 23. Former Howe Leather Factory (HO128) at 99-103 High Street, Preston c.2000 (upper) and in 2019 (lower). The complex has been converted to an apartment block in the early 2000s. (Source: VHD Place ID 24274; Google, July 2019)

Context



Figure 24. Former Northcote Pottery (HO176) at 85a Clyde Street, Thornbury during the demolition work in late 2009 (upper) and after conversion into apartments in 2019 (lower). (Source: Google, December 2009; January 2019)



Figure 25. Former Joshua Pitt Pty Ltd Tannery (HO180) at 52-60 and 71 Gadd Street, Northcote in 2009 (upper) and 2019 (lower). Buildings on both sides have been demolished, and the surviving building from the early twentieth century was converted to apartments. (Source: Google, November 2009; July 2019)

Context

In the past two decades, Darebin's industrial complexes on the HO have seen substantial changes, although the level of changes differ from place to place. As manufacturing moved out to regional areas in the more recent past, former manufacturing premises from the early twentieth century in Darebin have been redeveloped as residential apartments. The buildings with main street frontages (former Watson & Paterson Bacon-Curing Factory, former Howe Leather Factory and former Northcote Pottery) or the key buildings (former Joshua Pitt Pty Ltd Tannery) were the structures retained in the above HO-listed examples.

As a single site, the subject complex at 159-179 Heidelberg Road compares well with all above HO-listed examples in their original intact conditions prior to substantial changes introduced after 2000. Darebin's former industrial complexes typically comprised multiple low-rise utilitarian buildings, built of loadbearing brick in utilitarian designs, which were simultaneously developed in stages as businesses expanded rather than to a consolidated building scheme. All above examples were developed in stages from the Edwardian period to the late interwar period, during the municipality's key expansion period of manufacturing industries.

Like the subject main building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street, the street-fronting buildings at the former Howe Leather Factory at 99-103 High Street, Preston and former Northcote Pottery at 85a Clyde Street, Thornbury featured relatively more elaborate detailing than other buildings on site which had more stripped-back, utilitarian designs. The more elaborate design of these buildings reflected their function as offices that provided a public presence for the businesses who ran these complexes. In terms of the use of architectural styles popular during the interwar period, the front building at the former Howe Leather Factory complex is comparable to the subject main building, although the subject building adopted non-traditional Moderne style elements whereas the Howe Leather Factory building used stripped Classical style detailing.

In most cases, the factory or storage buildings were often located at the rear of the main or key buildings have generally been subject to a greater level of change and alteration. This reflects both the rate of historical change in the development of industrial use of the sites and changes associated with more recent use and adaptation. Various degrees of changes of this type are observed in all the above examples including the subject complex.

For its retention of early building footprints, massing, materiality and built elements reflective of its original and continuing industrial use, the subject complex at 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, provides important tangible evidence of the interwar expansion of light manufacturing industry in the early twentieth century to the late interwar period. The site's direct historical association with the Commonwealth of Australia and its departments including the Department of Aircraft Production (DAP) and Postmaster-General's Engineering Division Depot is also important factor that sets this place apart from many other industrial sites in Darebin.

Context

ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

✓	<p>CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p>
	<p>CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p>
	<p>CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)</p>
	<p>CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, comprising buildings built between 1909 and 1939 for the Fairfield Hat Mills and the subsequent owner Spry’s Corn Flakes Pty Ltd, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- Two-storey main building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street built c.1939, including its original built form and scale, and materiality including the rendered finish over loadbearing brickwork (street frontages) and face brickwork with concrete lintels (rear elevation);
- Main building’s architectural detailing including the original fenestrations, multi-pane steel-frame windows, bays with pilasters and spandrels and other elements influenced by Moderne style such as the stepped parapet and distinctive oversized stepped architrave around the front entrance that is inset with tiled edges;
- Overall representation of the site as an industrial complex evidenced in the assemblage of early brick buildings developed between c.1909 and c.1939; and

Context

- Original or early built form and scale, loadbearing face brickwork, and the utilitarian characteristics of the existing c.1909-39 buildings, including: concrete lintels, original openings with intact large multi-pane metal-frame windows, timber loading doors and hoist.

The c.1970s single-storey building and the 2010 exposed concrete building at the corner of Albert and Westfield streets are not significant.

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of local historic and representative significance to the City of Darebin.

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

The complex at 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is historically significant for its continued industrial use and development over time under the management of various businesses. The complex was originally established and expanded between 1905-07 and the 1930s for the Fairfield Hat Mills, and substantially renovated in 1939 for Spry's Corn Flakes Pty Ltd. The Moderne style main building at the corner of Heidelberg Road and Westfield Street was completed during the 1939 renovation and extension. The Commonwealth of Australia acquired the property in 1941, after when the buildings were used by the Department of Aircraft Production (1941-c.1960) and the Postmaster-General's Engineering Division Depot (c.1960-1986). By 1986, the site was owned by the Australian Telecommunications Commission until 1994.

The industrial complex is significant for its demonstration of the development of manufacturing businesses in Darebin in the early twentieth century, when light industry, including garment and hat making and food production, became the key industries of the municipality.

The site's association with the production of military hats during the Fairfield Hat Mills era in 1912, and its later operation as a Department of Aircraft Production branch from 1941 to c.1960 is also an important demonstration of Darebin's wartime efforts in the past. (Criterion A)

The complex comprising the Moderne style main building and other utilitarian brick buildings at 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of representative significance as an industrial complex consisting of a group of low-rise loadbearing brick buildings constructed in the first half of the twentieth century. It is one of a small group of surviving and intact industrial complexes established in Darebin during this period. With its distinctive Moderne office building and supporting group of more utilitarian industrial buildings, the complex provides important tangible evidence of Darebin's industrial in its early built form, massing and materiality. (Criterion D)

Context



Figure 26. Significance of individual elements of 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Nearmap, with Context overlay)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	No
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

Context

OTHER

N/A

Context**REFERENCES**

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Context

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote

Residence

Citation number:	
Prepared by:	Context
Survey Date:	May 2020
Place Type:	Residential
Significance level:	Significant
Architect:	-
Builder:	Not known
Construction Date:	c.1948-49
Extent of overlay:	To title boundaries



Figure 1. 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 2. 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, looking into the front gate. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

5 Building Suburban Darebin

5.3 Twentieth century recovery

PLACE HISTORY

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, was built c.1948-49. The land known as 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, was part of Crown Allotment 27 near Northcote, Parish of Jika Jika, County of Bourke (CT Vol. 2929 Fol. 734).

The land was vacant until 1945 (S&Mc 1945). The existing residence was listed in the 1950 Sands & McDougall postal directory, likely constructed after the transfer of land to Beniamino Bortolussi in 1948 (S&Mc 1950; CT Vol. 2929 Fol. 734). Beniamino and his wife Linda Bortolussi resided at 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, until they died in 1981 (CT Vol. 2929 Fol. 734).

Beniamino Bortolussi (also known as Benjamin Bortolussi) was in partnership with Domenico Pertile and Nello Buriani, carrying out business of granolithic and marble contractors, under the name of Anglo-Italian Granolithic Co. (formed by 1926), at 210A Leister Street, Carlton. In 1935, N. Buriani retired, and D. Pertile in 1954. B. Bortolussi carried on the business in Carlton from 1954 (*Age* 11 September 1926:1; 13 August 1935:15; 23 June 1954:9). The company continues today as Anglo-Italian Concrete today.

The aerial photographs from 1954, 1969 and 1981 show few changes over time (Figure 3). The house, garage and the vegetable patch at the rear of the property existed by 1954. Landscaping including the front garden setting and planting, two sheds and concrete pavement at the rear of the property were completed by the 1960s. By 1981, a tree planted in the front garden prior to 1954 had been removed. The original c.1948-49 house was extended to the north after 1981, with a patio and new hipped roofed sections attached to the northwest corner of the original house (Figure 3 and Figure 4).

257 Heidelberg Road remains as a private residence today.

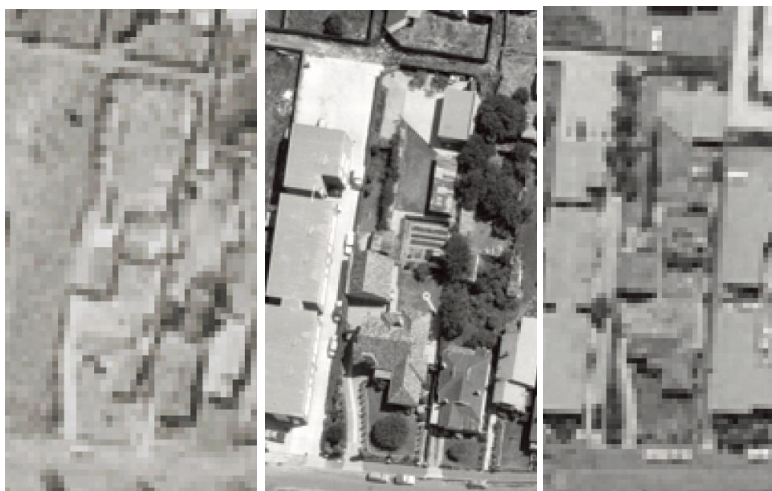


Figure 3. 257 Heidelberg Road, in 1954 (left), 1969 (middle) and 1981 (right). (Source: Central Plan Office, 'MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN PROJECT NO.3 (3/1954)', 'EASTERN FREEWAY PROJECT (1/1969)' & 'WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (1/1981)', via Landata)

Context

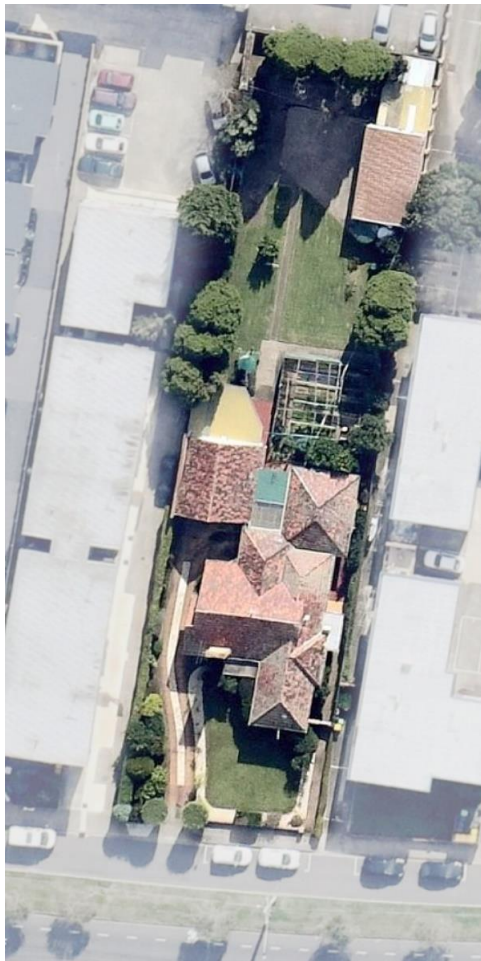


Figure 4. Aerial photograph of 257 Heidelberg Road. (Source: Nearmap)

DESCRIPTION

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is a single-storey cream face brick residence, built c.1948-49 (designer unknown) for the owner Beniamino Bortolussi.

The narrow rectangular allotment is located within a largely residential strip on the north side of Heidelberg Road across the Fairfield Park. The building has a terracotta tile hip and gable roof, with a hipped roofed wing extending to the south intersected at its mid-point by a transverse gable-roofed wing that fronts the west. The roof is distinguished by exaggerated eave overhangs (accentuated by curved corner windows) lined with narrow timber lining boards. A smaller hipped roofed bay exists on the north. There are a patio and new hipped roofed sections attached to the northwest corner of the original house. An original separate garage built of cream brick (front elevation) and textured red brick (side elevations) is located near the northwest corner of the house. An open carport has been constructed to the north elevation of the original garage.

The brick house is clad with cream brick laid in fletcher bond (curved corners are laid in in header courses), with thin recessed brown brick bands running across the façade of the street-fronting wing. On the principal elevation, the lowermost three courses of brickwork are of unglazed dark red brick.

Context

Terracotta vents are inserted in these bottom courses. The brick windowsills of the corner windows are laid in angle, and the projected ‘brick on edge’ effect continues across the street-fronting elevation.

The dominating decorative features of the house are: its curved corners with wide steel-framed corner windows fitted with curved glass; bands of recessed slim darker-coloured bricks; and an unusually proportioned wide, yet thin and tall chimney that acts as a strong vertical element. This is in contrast to the otherwise horizontal emphasis given to the treatment of the façade through its use of bands of different coloured brickwork, horizontal glazing bars and thin feature tiles that protrude fin-like at regular intervals up the corner of the chimney. These are defining elements of the late 1940s examples referred to as ‘Waterfall’ style houses that developed out of the Moderne style of the 1930s and were popular during the immediate postwar period. The entrance porch is not visible from public domain.



Figure 5. Views of 257 Heidelberg Road showing the key decorative elements and driveway. (Source: Context, May 2020)

The garden with original landscaping elements in the front setback is largely consistent with the initial construction period. The driveway and footpath are paved with large brown concrete panels with a raised edge on one side that forms the edge of the garden bed. There is a brown concrete strip inserted with irregular-cut marble pieces in the middle of the driveway, which reflects the property’s association with the first owner Beniamino Bortolussi, granolithic and marble contractor.

Cypresses on either side of the gate are possibly planted in the c.1960s during the ownership of the Bortolussi family or like-for-like replacements (see Figure 3). Various ornamental plants including tapestry hedge and standard roses are planted in the front garden. At the rear of the property, there are cypresses and vegetable patch.

The front fence is constructed of matching cream brick laid in fletcher bond with brown and dark red brick accents. A distinctive saw tooth detail to the fence’s brick capping, piers with stepped tops and curved corners to the driveway opening. Curved corners are laid in header course. The mild steel fence panels and gates all appear original. Tree hedging extends along both the eastern and western allotment

Context

boundaries. A shed and watertank is located at the rear of the property. The sections of the back garden are concrete-paved, with footpaths to the house and around the vegetable patch.



Figure 6. Details of the front fence of 257 Heidelberg Road, constructed of matching cream brick laid in header course with brown and dark red brick accents. Mild steel gates and fence panels are also original. (Source: Context, May 2020)

INTEGRITY

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote is highly intact with limited changes visible to original or early fabric. The early postwar residence retains the original street frontages and built form with gable and hipped roofs. Intact original elements include cream face brick walls with brown and dark red brick bands, terracotta tile roofs, curved corners with wide steel framed corner windows fitted with curved glass, strong verticality of the chimney, low masonry fences with mild steel gate and fence panels, and landscaping features to the front garden. The discreet rear additions are not visible from public domain. Overall, the building has very high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

1940s Moderne style domestic architecture

After the beginning of the World War Two, the Government introduced building restrictions in 1941 that allowed only houses not exceeding a total cost of £3000 to gain a permit. Rationing of building and other materials limited new constructions and building work ceased by 1942, resulting in a short supply of housing during the wartime and postwar years. By 1946, after the end of the War, suburbs were springing up. An Influx of immigrants in the postwar period was another factor that accelerated densification of areas formerly considered outer suburbs. From 1945 to 1955, around when the wartime building restrictions became relaxed, 576,440 houses were completed. However, severe shortages of building materials and increased labour costs meant that economic housing designed by architects and mass-produced by builders became favoured by new homeowners:

The many low-cost design books or catalogues which became available in the immediate post-war era are an indication of the demand for housing. The Sun's Book of Post-War Homes, published by Melbourne's Sun News-Pictorial in 1946, was the product of an architectural competition. The Australian House, by Norman Jenkins, contained fifty houses... Your Post-War Home by Watson Sharp offered 'Home plans of distinction for Australians who are planning to build'... (Cuffley:40)

Context

Books, magazines and catalogues of house designs had a powerful influence in maintaining popular ideals as well as in identifying or directing trends. Magazines such as the *Australian Home Beautiful*, the *Home*, *Australian House and Garden* and *Australian Homemaker* were among the influential media (Cuffley:35). Plans published in these magazines and design handbooks provided solutions to maximise the efficiency of the budget and land size, often encouraging construction of smaller homes in anticipation of future extensions (Cuffley:74). Garages, whether or not integrated with the house itself, and formal gardens with ornamental or flowering plants were also commonly featured with the houses in the 1940s magazines and handbooks.

Melbourne's regional interpretation of the international popular Mid-century Modern or International style architecture was not fully developed until the early 1950s with the stereotypical forms and massing of detached interwar houses carried on into the 1950s. The subject residence displays the defining elements of houses that were popular during the wartime and immediate postwar period built under building restrictions. Houses from this period often employ austere design with cube forms often juxtaposed with curved and cylindrical forms derived from Moderne style architecture of earlier decades.

Moderne architecture favoured geometric forms, especially plain wall planes, curved corners and copings, interpenetration of volumes and surfaces, and a clear articulation of forms, often emphasising horizontal, vertical, or diagonal lines.

In the 1940s, the pressed imperial-size bricks were particularly popular as standard 'modular' building or cladding material. Overfired clinker bricks, cream bricks and machine-textured or 'tapestry' bricks became fashionable. Colours and textures were employed to give a desired effect, such as the use of string courses to enhance the modern horizontal emphasis or as trims and textures. Examples with vertical elements with curved or falling effects are also referred to as 'Waterfall' front houses (Cuffley:118-119).

On the Darebin's Heritage Overlay, many interwar examples are single residences predominantly in Old English/Tudor Revival and Californian bungalow style. There are only a small number of Moderne residences identified as being Individually significant in Darebin.

The Sandland Family Houses at 36 Cooper Street and 40 Cooper Street, Preston (HO208) are a pair of houses developed for the locally important Sandland family. The house at 36 Cooper Street is a rendered brick inter-war villa with a hipped roof clad in terracotta tiles. Its design features elements influenced by the Moderne style. Two projecting bays flank a central porch. The bay to the right has a curved wall at the corner of the building. The curved corner window in this location has a horizontal hood above its window. The upper walls of the house are rendered brick and the bases of the walls are face brick. The windows of the house are steel framed and contribute to the Moderne character of the dwelling. The front boundary fence is complementary and has a brick base, rendered brick pillars and wrought iron railings between each pillar. The house, garden and front fence at 36 Cooper Street, Preston are elements that contribute to the significance of the place. The pair at 36 and 40 Cooper Street are of local historic, architectural and aesthetic significance to Darebin City.

499 St Georges Road, Thornbury is a substantial early 1940s cream brick Moderne style building, originally a combined house and surgery. It has an L-shaped and geometric form relieved by the partly cantilvered and curved balconies (structural support added as a later addition), the umber brick plinth and tapestry brick banding ('speedlines'). Fenestration includes original timber doors with porthole window and timber-framed corner windows. The extended cuboid wing, which addresses Fyffe Street, incorporated both the former surgery and garage. 499 St Georges Road is recommended as individually

Context

significant in Thornbury Park Estate precinct (assessed and recommended as individually significant place in 'Thornbury Park Estate Precinct' 2020).

8,9 and 10 Kelley Grove, Preston, are included in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). They are all 1940s examples constructed of face cream brick with variegated brick detailing, asymmetrical arrangement and terracotta tiled roofs. The Kelley Grove Precinct has a highly consistent and intact streetscape.



Figure 7. 36 Cooper Street, Preston (HO208). (Source: Google, July 2019)



Figure 8. 499 St Georges Road, Thornbury (assessed and recommended as individually significant place in 'Thornbury Park Estate Precinct' 2020). (Source: Google, July 2019)



Figure 9. 10 (left) and 8 (right) Kelley Grove, Preston, in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)



Figure 10. 9 Kelley Grove, Preston, in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)

Context

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, compares well with these examples and like them features design elements that are evocative of the Moderne style that was popular for the interwar domestic architecture and carried onto 1950s.

The use of curved corners and/or windows, low masonry fences with mild steel work, terracotta tiled hipped roofs (with or without gabled bays) and cream brick walls (except for 36 Cooper Street, Preston) with darker-coloured brick details are the common features observed in these examples. With the use of curved elements and stepping down chimneys as the primary vertical element in the street frontages, 9 and 10 Kelley Grove (in HO103 Kelley Grove Precinct) are representative examples of the 'Waterfall' front houses. 499 St Georges Street is a more representative of the late interwar Moderne domestic architecture, with its geometric two-storey and partly cantilevered and curved balconies.

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is a better example than the group of places in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). 257 Heidelberg Road is distinguished for its fine detailing and high integrity. This is evident in the curved corner windows with curved glass and deep eave overhangs, recessed bands of slim dark coloured brick work and its unusually proportioned and detailed chimney. It is further distinguished by its retention of key characteristics of the 1940s domestic setting including its relatively formal landscaping and original garage. The discreet rear additions are not visible from the public domain and do not diminish the place's integrity. The intact postwar ornamental garden in the front setback also complements to the place's representativeness.

The subject building compares favourably to the Moderne style examples at 36 Cooper Street, Preston (part of HO36) and 499 St Georges Road, Thornbury (recently assessed and recommended as individually significant place in 'Thornbury Park Estate Precinct' 2020) in terms of its architectural qualities, integrity and its use of decorative face brick cladding, curved windows, simplified asymmetrical form and solid massing.

Context

ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

✓	<p>CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p>
	<p>CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)</p>
	<p>CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT**

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, a single-storey cream face brick residence, built c.1948-49 for the owner Beniamino Bortolussi, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original built form, roof and scale of the residence and separate garage;
- unpainted brick surfaces and decorative brickwork, pattern of fenestration;
- chimney, and steel framed windows including the curved glass to the corner windows;
- low masonry brick fence with saw tooth detailing, mild steel panels and gates; and
- front garden and landscaping including the concrete and marble-paved driveway and footpath; and
- two cypresses by the gate.

Context**HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT**

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of local historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin.

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, a single-storey cream face brick residence, built c.1948-49, is historically significant as an example of immediate postwar residential development in Darebin. A major boom commenced in the late 1940s changed the pattern of Darebin's settlement. Over 2500 new private houses were built in the municipality between 1949 and 1954, to meet the increasing demands for housing. The building reflects the massive postwar boom and suburban expansion that characterises Darebin's postwar development. (Criterion A)

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of representative significance, for its design characteristic of the late 1940s domestic architecture. Severe shortages of building materials and increased labour costs meant that architect-designed economic housing became favoured by new homeowners. House plans published in popular magazines and design handbooks provided solutions to maximise the efficiency of the budget and land size.

The subject residence displays the defining elements of the early postwar houses influenced by Interwar Moderne style that was popular for the interwar domestic architecture and carried onto 1950s. The elements highly characteristic of the type include its cube forms juxtaposed with curves; horizontal emphasis to the façade through its use of bands of different coloured brickwork; tall chimney that acts as a strong vertical element; relatively formal garden and landscaping of the front setback; and low masonry fence with mild steel panels and gates. These are defining elements of the late 1940s examples that developed out of the Moderne Style of the 1930s and was popular during the immediate postwar period. (Criterion D)

257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is also aesthetically significant, distinguished by its high intactness and integrity as well as its use of well-detailed elements that reflect the influences of Moderne style architecture adapted for late 1940s residences. Key elements include the curved corner windows with curved glass and deep eave overhangs, recessed bands of slim dark coloured brickwork and its unusually proportioned and detailed chimney. The overall brickwork and refinement of detail in the design are evidence of a high level of craftsmanship. The brickwork incorporating face cream, brown and dark red bricks, curved corners laid in header course, saw tooth detail to the fence's brick capping, piers with stepped tops and curved corners to the driveway opening all bring interest and textural depth to the elevations achieved through the adaptation of cheap building materials under the Government's building restrictions.

The front garden also features distinctive features. The driveway is paved with large custom-made brown concrete panels with a raised edge on one side that forms the edge of the garden bed. There is a brown concrete strip inserted with irregular-cut marble pieces in the middle of the driveway, which reflects the property's association with the first owner Beniamino Bortolussi, granolithic and marble contractor. Other landscaping elements that are consistent with the style include the narrow garden bed that is covered with aggregate gravels and wraps around the front lawn; cypresses planted on either side of the gate; and various ornamental plants including tapestry hedge and standard roses in the front garden. (Criterion E)

Context

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	Yes - Masonry fence
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

OTHER

Low masonry fence with mild steel panels and gates, and original cream brick garage.

Context**REFERENCES**

Age, as cited.

Central Plan Office, *Historic Aerial Photography - 1930s to 1990s*, via Landata.com.au, as cited.

Context 2008, *City of Darebin Heritage Study Volume 1: Draft Thematic Environmental History*, prepared for City of Darebin.

Cuffley, Peter 1993, *Australian Houses of the Forties & Fifties*, Five Mile Pres:Rowville.

Land Victoria, Certificates of Title (CT), as cited.

Sands & McDougall, *Melbourne and Suburban Directories (S&Mc)*, as cited.

273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote

Citation number:

Prepared by: Context

Survey Date: May 2020

Place Type: Religious

Significance level: Significant

Architect: (likely) Arnold Ehlers and A. Neff Taylor in conjunction with the (Mormon) Church Architectural Department

Builder: Not known

Construction Date: c.1958 & c.1974-78

Extent of overlay: To title boundaries



Figure 1. Quadrangle fronting Heidelberg Street, Northcote. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 2. Chapel fronting Westgarth Street, Northcote. (Source: Google, June 2019)

Context**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

7 Community and Culture

7.1 Worshiping

PLACE HISTORY

273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is a church and community complex built for the Mormon Church c. 1958, most likely to designs prepared by Arnold Ehlers and A. Neff Taylor in conjunction with the (Mormon) Church Architectural Department.

Prior to the construction of the church complex, it appears that the land did not have any permanent structures erected on site. A plan dated to 1909 shows the land as empty, with the majority of the surrounding blocks also undeveloped (MMBW Detail Plan no. 1270, 1909). According to street directories, the land was used by Sidney Panther as 'storage' from at least 1925 until 1955 (S&Mc 1925, 1955). This storage was likely to have been linked to Panther's timber business (*Advocate* 16 May 1949:7).

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints (known commonly as the Mormon or LDS Church) has its origins in the American religious movement founded by Joseph Smith in the early nineteenth century. The movement had an established presence in Australia since the 1840s. Experiencing rapid growth nationally in the post-war period, the church underwent an unprecedented expansion program in all states of Australia between 1956 and 1958. During this time 19 chapels and additions to existing sites were undertaken at a cost of one million dollars and an estimated half-million dollars in donated labour from church members (Cummings 1961:221). A further 15 parcels of land intended for use as chapel sites had also been purchased by this time (Cummings 1961:221). All building work was designed by Arnold Ehlers and A. (Amos) Neff Taylor in conjunction with the Mormon Church's Architectural Department (Cummings 1961:221). The consistent contribution and oversight of works from Neff Taylor, Ehlers and the Department, all based in Utah (America), meant the designs for the sites around Australia conformed to general standards, design features and materiality which were also common in LDS buildings around the world.

The church at the subject site was most likely constructed in 1958 towards the end of this period of expansion between 1956 and 1958. An aerial photograph shows the building being built in June 1958 (Figure 5). The building was completed by January 1960 (Figure 3).

In 1961 the church was described in the following terms:

In a lovely setting of spacious lawns and gardens on Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, stands the chapel erected by the Melbourne Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints... this grand edifice not only contains a very lovely chapel, but a large recreation hall, individual classrooms for Sunday School work, committee rooms, and a beautifully appointed kitchen. These rooms are built around a large quadrangle, in which seats set on a paved area are surrounded by lawns and gardens with flowering shrubs... what a wonderful impression the landscaped grounds must make on the passer-by! If so much thought and work has been put into the beautification of the surrounding of the building, one straight away visualizes the beauty of the interior." (Cummings 1961:229)

This description indicates that the first buildings, inclusive of the original chapel and community centre with courtyard, were designed as a cohesive structure.

Context

In 1974-78, a new chapel was built to the north of the c.1958 building (Figure 7). A passage connecting the two buildings was constructed by 1981 (Figure 8).

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints still operates today as a place of worship. The community centre houses a Family History Centre, a branch of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah (*Newsroom* 13 April 2020).

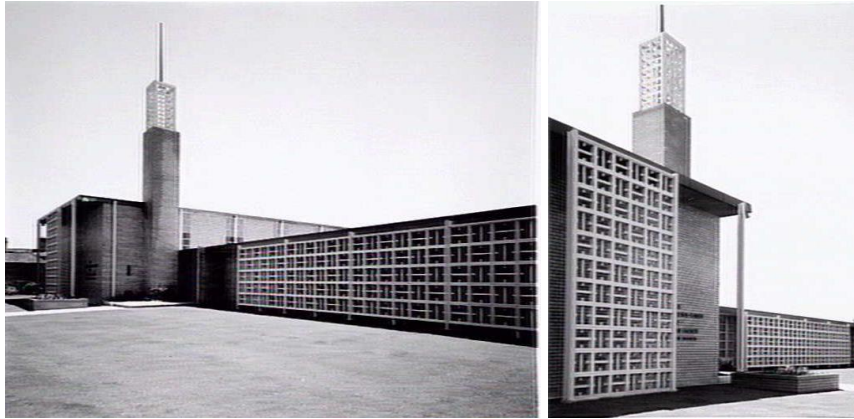


Figure 3. The building facing Heidelberg Road in January 1960. Note that the decorative screens and the spire on the tower have been removed. (Source: Lyle 1960, 'Church of Latter Day Saints', State Library Victoria Accession No: H92.20/6790)

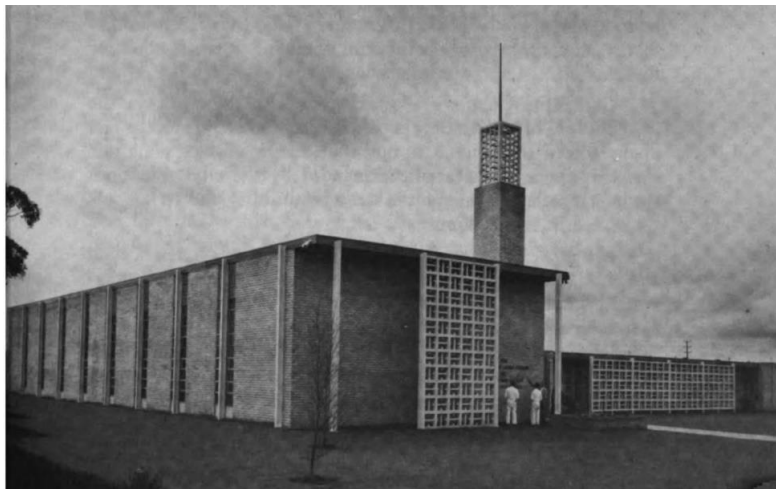


Figure 4. The building facing Heidelberg Road, at completion. Note that the decorative screens and the spire on the tower have been removed. (Source: Cummings 1961:223)

Context



Figure 5. 273-289 Heidelberg Road in Heidelberg Road being built in June 1958. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'MELBOURNE OUTER SUBURBS NO.2 PROJECT (6/1958)' via Landata)



Figure 6. 273-289 Heidelberg Road in January 1969. The early landscaping shown is largely intact. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'EASTERN FREEWAY PROJECT (1/1969)' via Landata)



Figure 7. 273-289 Heidelberg Road in April 1978. Note the new chapel was completed by this time. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (4/1978)' via Landata)



Figure 8. 273-289 Heidelberg Road in January 1981. Note the passage between the earlier building and the new chapel was completed by this time. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'WESTERN PORT FORESHORES (1/1981)' via Landata)

Context

A. (Amos) Neff Taylor, Architect

A. Neff Taylor was born in 1919 in Utah. Taylor's grandfather had been the third president of the Latter-day Saints Church, and was involved with Joseph Smith and Brigham Young in the foundational years of the religion (*Deseret News*, 2 November 1946:8). After serving in the navy during World War Two, A. Neff Taylor joined the Latter-day Saints Church as a designer of chapels, and later, temples, for the organisation for over 26 years (*Salt Lake Tribune* 28 February 1980:32). By 1961, Taylor had been appointed the head of the technical and research section of the Church's architectural department (*Deseret News*, 26 August 1961:6). An active member of the church, Taylor held positions as a bishop, high council member and stake executive secretary until his death in 1980 (*Salt Lake Tribune* 28 February 1980:32).

Arnold Ehlers, Architect

Arnold Ehlers was born in 1901 in Hamburg, Germany, later moving with his family to Utah, America. Ehlers graduated from the Blaine School, Salt Lake City in 1917 having earlier attended the Carlisle School. Following his graduation, Ehlers took courses in mathematics and engineering at the Latter-day Saints High School, Salt Lake City, in preparation for a career in architecture. Serving as a draughtsman at multiple architectural practices, Ehlers undertook mostly minor commercial and public projects until 1939. During this time, Ehlers eventually became the Chief Draughtsman for the firm of Anderson and Young in Salt Lake City. In 1939, he left to set up a partnership with Lorenzo Young in the same city, however the firm was interrupted by the onset of World War Two (Archifact 2013:52).

Practicing intermittently through the war, Ehlers eventually obtained a position as Supervising Architect for the Latter-day Saints Building Committee, while continuing to undertake private commissions. Between 1952 and 1954, Ehlers acted as Supervising Architect for the Church Building Committee, New Zealand, followed by contributing towards the building program in Australia later in the decade (Archifact 2013:52).

Continuing to work in other roles as an Area Architect for the Church, Ehlers had a brief time in practice with his son, Jack, in 1964 and 1965. Ehlers was then charged with the Meetinghouse remodelling Programme for the Church Building Department until he retired in 1971 (Archifact 2013:52).

DESCRIPTION

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints complex comprises a recreation hall fronting the northern side of Heidelberg Road (c.1958) and a later chapel (c.1974-78). fronting Westgarth Street to the south. The buildings are connected via a passage (c.1978-81). The site is generally flat and has generous front setback.

Chapel and community centre (c.1958)

Set back from the street, the c.1958 building comprising the original two storey chapel and single storey community centre is a dominant building in the Heidelberg Road streetscape. The steel-framed buildings are constructed in orange brick with a pinkish tint laid in stretcher bond and have a low-pitch roof clad in metal sheets that float above an expressed steel beam that acts as a modern interpretation of a classic entablature.

Context

The original two-storey chapel is built to the west of and is attached to the single storey community centre. The community centre is built around a large internal quadrangle and originally housed a large recreation hall, individual classrooms for Sunday School work, committee rooms, and a kitchen. A tower topped with decorative panels is located along the eastern wall of the chapel where it intersects with the community centre building. The community centre is accessed from an entrance on the east.

Along the southern elevation, facing Heidelberg Road, projecting eaves are supported by regularly spaced steel universal columns. Two-storey in height across the front of the Chapel and single storey across the community centre, these columns create a colonnade effect across the buildings. At the eastern end of the community centre the building projects forward to be in line with the colonnade and its sheer wall surface is broken up by narrow recessed vertical panels in the brickwork that maintain the rhythmic spacing of the columns. Narrow full height vertical openings are provided on the west, north and south elevations of the building and are commonly placed either side of an expressed steel member. Breaking the wall surface into regular bays these openings replicate the vertical emphasis created by the colonnades across the front of the buildings. Fitted with metal framed windows that are divided into a square module, the top and bottom panels of each of these windows are fitted with opaque glass. Highlight windows exist on the eastern wall of the chapel. The east elevation features a full-height metal-framed window and clerestory windows.

The landscaping around the building including the lawn, concrete pavement and brick garden beds (in matching bricks) appear original, as shown in Figure 6. Gumtrees planted after 1981 exist in front of the c.1958 building close to the footpath. The courtyard within the quadrangle is paved with brick. The c.1978-81 passage is built in cream brick, with large steel-framed windows and flat roof.

New chapel (c.1974-78)

Constructed of cream bricks laid in stretcher bond, the north-facing chapel is a modern style church building, within the broader Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical idiom. The building has a traditional basilica-like plan with four wide low-pitched gabled wings comprising narthex, nave, apse, choir, and transepts.

The primary elevation facing Westgarth Street is distinguished by its sheer brick wall that steps back from the street line and incorporates a large central section constructed from panels of interlocking off form concrete that emphasise verticality. A spire rises from above the main recessed entry that is set from Westgarth Street and features geometric concrete formwork.

The roof form of the chapel is constructed using four interlocking low-pitched gables and continues towards the ground over the main entry, anchoring the building to the site at this point. Each of the minor gable ends feature a central panel of pale rock faced brickwork that is set between vertical slim projecting brick columns. These panels provide a contrasting ribbed texture to the otherwise unadorned wall surfaces of the building.

Large rectangular steel-framed windows are provided on the east and west elevations. Small windows are on the south, and the north elevation features strip windows behind the projecting wall plane.

At the front of the Chapel a lawn area is broken up by a brick paved path that leads to the entry and appears original. Garden beds planted with small shrubs surround the building and a group of eucalypts mark the entry. A low brick fence runs along the Westgarth Street boundary and a dwarf brick wall inset with the church name stands on the lawn behind the low fence. The 'visitors welcome' appended after

Context

the 'Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints' is part of the Church's standard style of logo from c.1980.

INTEGRITY

As a whole, the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints complex at 273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is largely intact with some changes visible to original or early important fabric.

The c.1958 building is relatively intact, retaining the original built form of the original chapel and a community centre built around a quadrangle. The building's steel-frame construction, orange brick walls, tower with decorative top panels, full-height and clerestory windows, and the landscaping including the orange brick garden beds are part of the important early elements. Despite the loss of decorative panels along the colonnade and the spire above the tower, the original design of the building is still highly legible.

The c.1974-78 chapel fronting Westgarth Street represents a slightly later mode of design within the denomination's architecture. The building appears highly intact, with its retention of important elements such as the basilica-like floor plan, steel-frame construction with cream brick cladding, gable roofs with a shallow pitch, decorative stonework on each gable end and a spire.

The building has been altered, with the removal of original decorative panels along the Heidelberg Road elevation and the spire above the tower. The logo 'Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints' on this elevation is also a later addition dating from after 1980. The earlier signage was located near the right-hand side edge of the wall (Figure 3).

The site's intact early landscaping, c.1981 passage connecting the two buildings, and its continuous use as a place of worship are other factors that contribute to the importance of the place. Overall, the building has high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS*Post-war Mormonist architecture*

A church architect has been a feature of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints since 1847. Building a ward chapel involves constant consultation with the Church Design and Architecture Division, housed in the central church offices in Salt Lake City (Starrs 2009:335). The Church officials oversaw the details from building design, temperature control, size, square footage to decorations, grading, logos facing, and signage. Unlike temples, which are used for particular rituals with exclusive access, the ward chapels (commonly known as meetinghouses) are often mass-produced with simpler designs. Since the 1920s, Mormons have repeated more or less standardised designs for the ward chapel architecture, although there was no single standard plan adopted until after the 1950s (Starrs 2009:335).

In the 1930s, the church building slowed due to the economic depression, but it was the period when some of the most original architectural work of the church was developed, influenced by art deco and International School motifs (Starrs 2009:335). The period was followed by the church's key expansion period in the immediate postwar period. From 1945 to 1955, three firms in Salt Lake City designed more than 1000 stake and ward meetinghouses. Standardisation of plans largely advanced during this period, due to the lack of time for specialisation. In the 1950s, a standard plan prototype became established. In the ward meetinghouse, a multipurpose room was provided close to the chapel. The multipurpose room is adaptable into a gymnasium, stage, or rehearsal facilities, and all adjoined a kitchen and classrooms. (Starrs 2009:335-336).

Context

A Church Building division was formed in 1955, with Harold Burton as church architect. Burton moved to a more modern, ecclesiastical architecture (Starrs 2009:336). In 1959, a senior church design official issued a blanket statement: 'A church should embody architectural beauty, dignity, simplicity, structural stability, and functional livability [sic], and at the same time be economic in its cost and give long service with low expenditure and maintenance' (Starrs 2009:336). The church advocated the use of a generic and place-unspecific standard design. Modern meetinghouses were enthusiastically described by church leaders as positive proof of church's success in the mission field.

In 1964, the growth in the building program of the Church led to the reorganisation of the Building Division, and the subsequent establishment of an office dedicated to standard plans (Bradley 1981:24). By the late 1970s, a complete set of 23 drawings was available. Every building was designed to accommodate the largest possible zoning regulations. Gable roofs with sprawling wings, almost always accompanied by the rectangular asymmetrically placed tower form were key characteristics of the standard-plan designs (Figure 9) (Starrs 2009:337-338). Modifications of the basic plan often included changes of basic massing, façade decoration and steeple forms. It was common to apply a decorative theme throughout the design (Bradley 1981:26).

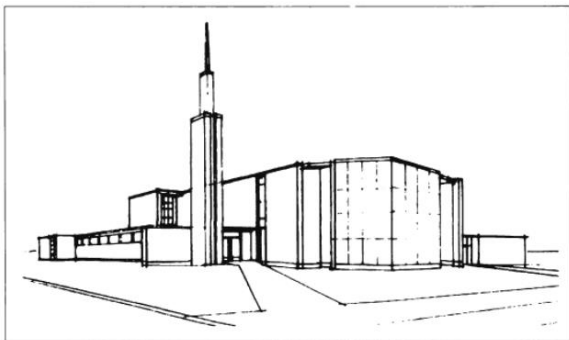


Figure 9. An example of a standard-plan drawing, known as the 'Fairmont' style. (Source: Meinig 2009:339)

In Australia, 19 chapels and additions to existing chapels were built between 1956 and 1968. The following are a selection of examples in Victoria, that are likely contemporaneous with the c.1974-78 building on the subject site. These designs were repeated across Australia, with similar designs existent in other states. None of these have heritage protection.



Figure 10. LDS Church in Gladstone Road, Dandenong North (No HO). (Source: Google, March 2020)



Figure 11. LDS Church in Hewish Road, Croydon (No HO). (Source: Google, September 2019)

Context



Figure 12. LDS Church in Glenroy Road, Glenroy (No HO). (Source: Google, February 2020)



Figure 13. LDS Church in Hawthorn Road, Hawthorn (No HO). (Source: Ware 2016, via Google)

An example in Greenwich, New South Wales, features decorative screens similar to the c.1958 building. It is likely another pre-standard plan building, which was constructed through the expansion program in all states of Australia between 1956 and 1958, in which 19 chapels and additions to existing sites.



Figure 14. LDS Church in Greenwich Road, Greenwich, New South Wales. (Source: Google, November 2019)

The subject site as a whole, the LDS church complex at 273-285 Heidelberg Road is distinctive for its unique design approach, and for its demonstration of the Church's changed design tastes in the post-war period. Combining a chapel and multi-purpose recreational hall with a box-like massing and form, the c. 1958 building is a rarer, pre-standard design church that represents profound influence of International style. The c. 1974-78 building represents the Church's fully developed standard plan designs actively adopted around the world. These elements reflect the church's original design scheme and is consistent with the aesthetics of modernist architecture, as well as those of the Mormon church's architectural department in Utah, United States. The site as a whole is an unusual important example in Victorian context, comprising both the pre- and established standard design LDS church buildings.

Post-war churches in Darebin

The subject site is characteristic of churches of various denominations set within complexes of associated buildings and grounds, such as chapels, halls, Sunday schools and gardens. As a complex, Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints in Northcote illustrates the progression of Heidelberg Road during the post-war boom and the evolving role of the church community in providing both educational and spiritual services to the growing community.

Post-war churches in Darebin, as in Victoria and Australia more widely, fall into a range of architectural styles, ranging through various Revival styles, Modernist, or what has been broadly categorised as a

Context

Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style. While Revival styles continued to reference strongly historical precedents such as the Gothic or Romanesque basilica or cathedral designs, Modernist designs sought to break from tradition, sometimes radically, for example by using 'round' plans or other geometric or organic forms. Between these two paths, the Late Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style in Australia retained 'a traditional attitude', comprising a vertical motif such as the 'finger pointed to the traditional heaven' but combined with broader naves and shorter plans to emphasise 'the ministry of the word' (Apperly, Irving & Reynolds 1994:230). Familiar materials such as brick and timber were used to integrate the church into the community and to reflect the residential settings in which they were located.

The Modernist churches in Darebin that are currently included on the City of Darebin's Heritage Overlay as individual place include the following.

Regent Baptist Church complex at 726-34 High Street, Reservoir (HO271) comprises a 1918 timber chapel with a clinker brick porch added in 1923, and a 1964 church designed by Keith Reid. The Modernist church has two brown brick bays that flank a central entrance. Above the door in this entrance is a large stained-glass window and a steeply pitched roof clad in terracotta tiles crowns the composition. A cone-shaped copper spire extends up from the roof at its High Street end. A bay projects to the south at rear. The Regent Baptist Church complex is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to Darebin City.

St George's Anglican Church, 32-34 Ralph Street, Reservoir (HO279) was constructed in 1964, designed by the noted architectural firm of Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell. It is a Modernist Anglican church built of steel and concrete, which is of a cubic form and displays structural expressionism in its use of a space frame truss roof that appears to float above the building. A tall spire set on a raised platform is placed centrally above the roof. St George's Anglican Church is of local historic, architectural and social significance to Darebin City.

St Gabriel's Catholic Church Complex at 237-243 Spring Street, Reservoir (HO280) comprises a church designed by S. J. Moran and constructed by F. O. Dixon in 1960, and a presbytery at 237-243 Spring Street. The church is constructed of cream brick in the Modernist style with a roof clad in terracotta tiles. It is built on a diagonal to the Spring Street and Viola Street corner. The church has a recessed entrance which is faced with glazed white tiles and panels of small green mosaic tiles. At right of the entrance is a bell tower with a cross at its top. There is a foundation stone at the base of the tower. Further west along Viola Street is a cream brick Presbytery that is contemporaneous with the church, and sympathetic to it in terms of its materials. St Gabriel's Catholic Church Complex is of local historic, architectural and social significance to Darebin City.

Holy Name Catholic Primary School & Church Complex, 2-26 Robb Street, Reservoir (HO249), Darebin City (HO249) was built in stages from 1939 to 1966. The church was designed by J. P. Saraty and constructed by 1964 and the mural and artworks were created for the church by Voitre Marek. The Modernist form of the church and its setting behind an open forecourt is integral to the significance of the place. The Holy Name Church complex is of local historic, architectural, aesthetic and social significance to Darebin City.

Context



Figure 15. Regent Baptist Church complex at 726-34 High Street, Reservoir (HO271).



Figure 16. St George's Anglican Church, 32-34 Ralph Street, Reservoir (HO279).



Figure 17. St Gabriel's Catholic Church Complex at 237-243 Spring Street, Reservoir (HO280).



Figure 18. Holy Name Catholic Primary School & Church Complex, 2-26 Robb Street, Reservoir (HO249).

For its adoption of Modernist and Late-Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style idioms, both the c.1958 and c.1974-78 buildings at 273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote compare well with all of the above examples of post-war churches in Darebin. The HO-listed churches and the subject buildings utilise a restrained material palette of brick cladding and steel window frames and details.

Built with a linear, box-like horizontal and vertical massing of rectangular forms, the subject c.1958 building assumes a more functionalist aesthetic and includes a quadrangle that was part of the original design scheme. The simple rectangular tower functions as a strong vertical element that plays off against the horizontal character of its low-lying rectangular form of the recreational wing, establishing prominence in the streetscape.

The subject c.1974-78 building is distinguished from these other modern designs by its adoption of a standard design that was provided by the centralised church offices in Utah, United States. This building adopts a more traditional basilica-like plans, less typically seen in Modernist church designs. Yet, its adoption of asymmetrically placed vertical tower form and linear, box-like massing echoes the widely popular Late-Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style idioms that are also represented in all the above HO-listed examples.

As a group, modern post-war churches in Darebin display an eclectic character, ranging from traditional basilica forms, to the modern cubic-form church. Post-war churches are not well represented in the Heritage Overlay. The LDS church in Northcote compares favourably to other post-war churches in the

Context

municipality in terms of its architectural qualities, integrity and its use of brick cladding, plain walls and simplified forms.

The two post-war chapels demonstrate the evolution of architectural custom and Modern ecclesiastical design of the LDS church, where, unlike many other denominations, established a standardised church designs produced by the church's Building Division and repeated around the world.

ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

✓	<p>CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p>
	<p>CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p>
	<p>CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints complex at 273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, comprising the c.1958 chapel and recreation hall building fronting Heidelberg Road and the c.1974-78 new chapel fronting Westgarth Street, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original form and scale of the c.1958 chapel and recreation hall building, including its simple rectangular form, very low-pitched roof form and its asymmetric composition of the horizontal and vertical elements of hall, rectangular tower and landscaped quadrangle;
- elements that reflect the Modernist ecclesiastic designs of the c.1958 building produced by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints’ Building Division in Utah, United States, including the original orange face brick cladding, full-height metal-frame windows, clerestory windows and steel universal columns supporting projecting eaves on the Heidelberg Road elevation;
- original form and scale of the c.1974-78 chapel, including its basilica-like plan and four-wings with low-pitched gables;

Context

- elements that reflect the Modernist ecclesiastic designs of the c.1974-78 building produced by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints' Building Division in Utah, United States, including original cream face brick cladding and decorative brick and concrete panelling, pattern of fenestrations as well as the tower; and
- other original landscaping elements including the lawn and brick paving on the Heidelberg Road set back, brick paving of the quadrangle, brick garden beds built as part of the c.1958 building scheme, and early signages on the c.1958 building and in front of the c.1974-78 chapel including the dwarf brick wall.

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints complex at 273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of local historic, representative and social significance to the City of Darebin.

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is historically significant as a church complex consisted of a c.1958 chapel and recreation hall building fronting Heidelberg Road and a c. 1974-78 chapel fronting Westgarth Street, established for the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints (LDS Church) in 1958. The earlier building was built c. 1958 most likely to designs prepared by Arnold Ehlers and A. Neff Taylor in conjunction with the (Mormon) Church Architectural Department. Experiencing rapid growth nationally in the post-war period, the church underwent an unprecedented expansion program in all states of Australia between 1956 and 1958, in which 19 chapels and additions to existing sites were undertaken. The Church officials at Utah, United States oversaw the entire building program, from the selection of sites to design details and functionality. The subject site would have been ideal for the church, as a new boom commenced in Darebin in the late 1940s with more than 2,500 new private houses and some large Housing Commission of Victoria estates were established between 1949 and 1954.

As a complex, 273-289 Heidelberg Road demonstrates the evolution of design aesthetics of the Building Division of the LDS church, where, unlike many other denominations, established a standardised church designs produced by the church's Building Division and repeated around the world. The pre-standard plan building built c. 1958, comprising a chapel and a multipurpose room, was based on the Church's primitive prototype that formed the basis for the development of standard plans after the 1950s. The c. 1958 building is a tangible evidence of the last era of custom-design meetinghouses, as one of 19 churches built in that period across Australia. The later c. 1974-78 building displays the elements of more standardised church designs that were repeated in churches built in the 1970s. Gable roofs with sprawling wings, almost always accompanied by the rectangular asymmetrically placed tower form were key characteristics of the standard-plan designs. (Criterion A)

273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of representative significance for both the c.1958 and c.1974-78 buildings' adoption of Modernist and Late-Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style idioms. The representative elements include a restrained material palette of brick cladding and steel window frames and details. A linear, box-like horizontal and vertical massing of rectangular forms and simple rectangular tower (the c. 1958 building); and adapted traditional basilica-like plans, asymmetrically placed vertical tower form and linear, box-like massing (the c. 1974-78 building) echo the widely popular Late-Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style architecture. (Criterion D)

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints still operates today as a place of worship. The community centre houses Family History Centre, a branch of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City,

Context

Utah. The subject complex is of social significance to the City of Darebin, for its continued association with the church community. (Criterion G)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	No
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

OTHER

N/A

Context**REFERENCES**

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Context

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote

Former residence

Citation number:	
Prepared by:	Context
Survey Date:	May 2020
Place Type:	Residential
Significance level:	Significant
Architect:	-
Builder:	Not known
Construction Date:	1913
Extent of overlay:	To title boundaries



Figure 1. 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 2. 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

5 Building Suburban Darebin

5.3 Twentieth century recovery

PLACE HISTORY

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, was built in 1913 for the owner Henry Samuel Trevena, contractor. By September 1912, H. S. Trevena was the proprietor of the Crown Allotments 46 and 47, near the City of Northcote, Parish of Jika Jika, County of Bourke. The residence known today as 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote is located on allotments 47 and part of 46 (CT Vol. 8532 Fol. 743). In 1913, the residence first appeared in the Sands and McDougall postal directory described as 'vacant' (S&Mc 1913). By early 1914, H. S. Trevena and his wife Ellen Gertrude resided at the residence then known as 106-108 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (ER 1914). They continued to live here until 1918.

In 1910-11, H. S. Trevena was the Mayor of Collingwood, where he was born in 1868 (Ancestry; *Table Talk* 15 September 1910:18). In 1914, Trevena relocated his sewerage and plumbing business to the Fairfield and Alphington area (*Heidelberg News and Greensborough and Diamond Creek* 3 January 1914:3).

In November 1918, Baillieu, Allard Pty. Ltd. advertised the sale of the house under instructions from H. S. Trevena. The property, described as a 'beautiful modern brick villa residence, facing south overlooking Fairfield Park', was built on land having a frontage of 142 feet and depth of 210 feet through to Westgarth Street. The advertisement read as follows:

This magnificent home contains wide entrance hall, drawing room (16 x 16 [ft]), dining room (25 x 20), billiard room (23 x 18 ft 6 in), bedrooms (16 x 16, 15 x 12, 15 x 12), study, maids' rooms, kitchen, bathroom (with hot and cold water), pantry, storerooms, 2 w.c.'s [water closets] and every possible modern convenience.

The outhouses comprise 3-stall stable, garage, extensive model poultry houses, aviaries, conservatory and fernery, and large workshop.

The land is laid out in beautiful garden and lawns (Heidelberg News and Greensborough and Diamond Creek 30 November 1918:2).

Between 1920 and 1964, the property remained under the ownership of Abraham Newmark, tanner, and his wife Nahammah (or Nehama), whose family members were the owner-occupiers until the late 1950s (CT Vol. 8532 Fol. 743, Vol.6460 Fol. 921; S&Mc 1955, 1960). Following A. Newmark's death in 1935, the properties now known as 329 Heidelberg Road and 214 Westgarth Street were subdivided from the original land parcel of the subject property in 1940-41. These properties were transferred to both Ariel and Zaheerah Newmark, children of Abraham and Nahammah (CT Vol. 3593 Fol. 527; Ancestry).

The original residence was converted to flats between 1965 and 1967, during the ownership of Goneli Bros. Pty. Ltd., builders. In 1967, the property was transferred to Giovannbattista Iacuone, fishmonger, and his wife Hilda Marie, who was residing at 339 Heidelberg Road (CT Vol. 8532 Fol. 743). 216 Westgarth Street was subdivided from the subject land in 1985. It is likely that the former residence was converted for commercial use in 1987, when the title was transferred to a private company (CT Vol. 8532 Fol. 743). The former residence is now used as psychotherapy consulting rooms.

Context

DESCRIPTION

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is a single storey brick residence built in 1913 (architect unknown) for Samuel Trevena.

The building exhibits features consistent with the Queen Anne style, particularly evident in its layout, picturesque hipped roof and fine architectural detailing. The house is asymmetrically arranged, with a hipped slate roof accentuated with decorative terracotta ridge cresting, gargoyles and finials. The roof is bell cast towards the southern and eastern elevations forming a verandah that wraps these sides of the front section of the house. To its western end of the southern elevation, this verandah features a protruding octagonal bay over a box bay window with narrow leaded sash windows that demonstrate influences of art nouveau styling. The elaborate roof of this southwestern bay is counter balanced by the octagonal bay window with distinctive candle snuffer roof located at the northern end of the east-facing verandah. This window has narrow, timber framed sash leaded windows that continue around the form of the tower. Above the windows is roughcast cladding framed within gridded timber strapping.

The front section of the house to the south is squarish in plan form. Two narrow rectangular forms with an M shaped hip roof form its northern wings. The building is constructed of red face brick and has two narrow red brick chimneys, one on each of the rectangular rear wings. Each chimney has a simple corbelled brick cornice capped with terracotta chimney pots.

The front entrance is located beneath the eastern wing of the verandah. There is a porthole window adjacent to the front door and two sash windows framed by segmental arches. A low face brick wall with rendered cement coping surrounds the verandah. Brick columns are regularly spaced along the wall, each supporting a rendered square doric colonette. The bricks comprising the verandah balustrade wall and colonettes are possibly interwar alterations.

The western elevation of the house features a small low skillion roofed extension toward the rear section of the house to the west.

To the northwest corner of the house is a small, single storey, red brick extension that appears to date from c.1980s. The addition features a simple pedimented parapet with decorative finial concealing a hipped roof of corrugated metal cladding. A wide set window presents on its principal elevation facing Heidelberg Road. An access ramp with simple metal handrail leads up to it from the driveway.

The building is well set back from the street and has a driveway to the east. The front boundary has a tall fence of corrugated metal interspersed with decorative posts at regular intervals, indicating the more transparent earlier fence that matches the gate has been overclad. Decorative double width palisade gates open onto a wide, paved entrance driveway. The fence appears to be a recent Victorian replica addition. The western portion of the yard features a swimming pool, large ornate fountain and cast-iron streetlight; these are all recent additions. Several medium sized trees are dotted in the yard as well as a range of floral and shrub plantings along the verandah and boundary fencing.

Context

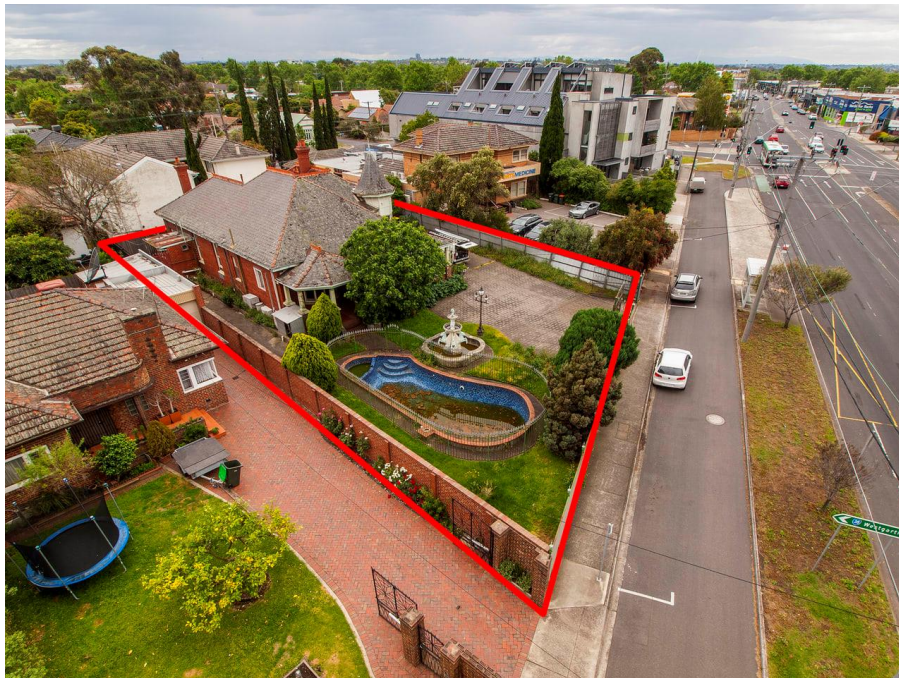


Figure 3. A bird-eye view of 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Commercial Real Estate, June 2020)

INTEGRITY

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is largely intact with some degree of changes visible to original or early significant fabric. Changes include alterations to the verandah, the single storey extension on the northwest corner, and the addition of new fencing. The building retains its original roof form including architectural detailing and chimneys, its pattern of fenestration, and highly intact turret tower. The building also retains its original built form and scale, verandah roof, red brick planar surfaces and window joinery. The addition and early alterations to the verandah do not significantly diminish the legibility of the building as an example of Queen Anne domestic design. Overall, the building has good integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Federation and Queen Anne villas

The Queen Anne style emerged in Australia during the Federation era, sometimes also referred to as the Edwardian era, which dates from roughly 1890 to the start of the First World War in 1914. The style presents a lighter, more picturesque aesthetic that departs from the symmetry and formalism of earlier Victorian era styles. Commonly associated with domestic architecture, the style in Australia was influenced by English and American designs but with notable regional variations. One such variation was the integration of a wide wrap-around verandah.

The treatment and ornamentation of roofs is a key characteristic of Queen Anne architecture. Designs of this style feature picturesque roofscapes that consist of various roof forms. They are frequently clad in terracotta or slate and accentuated by terracotta ridging, apex ornamentation, and elongated chimneys capped with terracotta pots. Typically constructed of red brick, other common wall surfaces include roughcast panelling and wall-hung timber shingles. Asymmetrical facades often incorporated striking elements, such as low towers or sinuous Art Nouveau detailing, contribute to the romantic appearance of the style. Bay, oriel and round accent windows were popularly applied.

Context

In the City of Darebin, this period of development is relatively under-represented, and examples of Queen Anne styles included as individual places within the Heritage Overlay are largely concentrated within Preston. The examples provided below are generally have a more modest design than the subject building and reflect a transitional style that incorporates elements of the interwar bungalow. Comparable examples on the Heritage Overlay include:

The house at 4 Mount Street, Preston (HO237), constructed by 1917, is an early twentieth century bungalow constructed in brick with a low-pitched hip slate roof. It is of historical and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. Architecturally, it has a unique design, with an unusual combination of features that illustrates the transition in styles from with the Federation era Queen Anne style, to the bungalows that emerged during the inter-war period. The house reflects the recovery in development in Preston following the economic crash of the late 1890s and prior to the post-First World War boom. It has had some recent alterations and additions made, including the outbuildings, the front fence and gates and skillion at the rear of the house.

The house formerly known as 'Balleer', constructed c.1910, at 648 Bell Street, Preston (HO204) has historical and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. It is a transitional Federation era house with a relatively unusual form comprising a main gable and two subsidiary gables, which addresses the corner, and has a relatively high degree of external integrity. The house is described as having Arts and Crafts detailing, notably in the way that the design addresses its corner siting by the inclusion of subsidiary gables to the Bell Street elevation. However, it exhibits several elements that are characteristic of the Queen Anne style, including the picturesque, decorated roof, red face brick walls with roughcast panel accents, and asymmetrical composition. Later alterations and additions include the lean-to extension and other outbuildings to the rear.

The house known as 'Somerset', at 93 Cramer Street, Preston (HO209) constructed c.1915, it is described as a substantial single-storey Edwardian villa set back from the street behind a mature garden. The house is of brick construction and has a hipped and gabled roof with slate tile roofing. The roof features the complex intersection of forms characteristic of the style and includes terracotta ridge capping, apex ornamentation and tall brick chimneys complete with terracotta chimney pots. A bay projects towards side of the street facing elevation and a verandah with a timber frieze and brackets continues across the remainder of this façade. Another bay projects from the side of the house, contributing to its picturesque qualities. It is of local historic and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. Historically, the house is significant as evidence of the first phase of suburban development in this part of Preston in the early years of the twentieth century. Its scale and grandeur, not common in housing in Preston during that period demonstrates the diversity of its residents and their means. The house is architecturally significant as an unusually substantial brick Edwardian villa, not commonly found throughout Darebin, and is a good representative example of Edwardian villa design. Its significance is heightened by the house's intactness and good condition. The house has aesthetic qualities as a villa within a garden setting. Its front fence, outbuildings, alterations, and additions are recent developments.

1 Flinders Street, Thornbury (HO122), is a substantial brick villa constructed in 1910. The house is red brick with a terracotta tiled and ornamented roof and wide verandah with timber fretwork - all elements that are consistent with the Queen Anne style. Its symmetrical arrangement is uncommon for designs of this style and contribute to its aesthetic significance.

'Kia-Ora' at 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, built 1903, is a substantial red brick residence. Kia-Ora is sited on a substantial and irregular sized corner allotment with prominent street frontages to Grange Road, Heidelberg Road, and Fullham Road. The building design exhibits features associated with the

Context

Queen Anne style, notable in its varied building and roof forms, red face brick surfaces, its architectural detailing including decorative chimneys and ridge cresting. Early additions, including the western gable wing (dating from c.1911-1919) and the low brick fence with strapped cast iron gate (likely from the interwar period), are complimentary in style and materials. A verandah wraps around the south-western corner. Kia-Ora has a mature garden setting enhances the integrity of the place. Being a highly intact example of a Queen Anne style building, 607 Heidelberg Road has been identified as having potential historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin and recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme in the 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment', Context 2020.



Figure 3. 4 Mount Street Preston (HO237).



Figure 4. 'Balleer' 648 Bell Street Preston (HO204).



Figure 5. 'Somerset' 93 Cramer Street Preston (HO209).



Figure 6. 1 Flinders Street Thornbury (HO122).

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is a substantial brick villa finely articulated in the Queen Anne style. Like Balleer, Somerset, the house at 1 Flinders Street, Thornbury, and 607 Heidelberg Road, the subject building exhibits key features of the style in its complex and picturesque assemblage of roof forms punctuated by tall chimneys and decorative terracotta ridge capping and finials. Like the subject building, Somerset and 1 Flinders Street have wide verandah rooves that connect to the roof of the built form in one sweeping unbroken line. In terms of its scale and the elaborateness of its design, 331-333 Heidelberg Road is most directly comparable to Somerset and 607 Heidelberg Road. The dramatic roof composition with the tower and bay window counterpoints distinguishes the subject building as a more complex and elaborate example of the style. Although the house at 4 Mount Street, Preston, is a later

Context

and more modest example, its slate clad roof, tall narrow chimney with terracotta caps, projecting bay window and red brick surfaces are comparable design elements.

Houses of the late Federation period often combine elements of the bungalow style resulting in different (and generally simpler) forms. The asymmetry of Federation-era villas may be replaced with a more symmetrical form and may include a porch (either projecting or recessed). The examples provided above generally reflect this later development. The house at 331-333 Heidelberg Road is distinct as a fine example of early Federation era design in Darebin. Its integrity is comparable to 4 Mount Street, Somerset and Balleer, all of which have had recent modifications and additions including new fences. The high level of intactness in the roof forms, tower and bay window elements

Context**ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA**

✓	CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).
	CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).
	CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).
✓	CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).
✓	CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).
	CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)
	CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).
	CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT**

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, a single storey brick residence constructed in 1912 for Samuel Trevena, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original form, slate roof, turret tower and projecting bay window
- face brick cladding, roughcast gridded panels, pattern of fenestration and timber window and door joinery
- terracotta ridge cresting, gargoyles, finials, chimneys; and
- deep set back from the street

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of local historic, representative, and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin.

Context

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote is of historical significance as a physical representation of the development of the Darebin area and its growing prestige in the twentieth century. The building’s substantial setback from the street and fine architectural detailing reflect the status of the building’s original owner, the former Mayor of Collingwood Samuel Treven. The construction of this elaborate villa signals the growing prestige of the area. The building reflects the recovery in development in Darebin following the economic crash of the 1890s and before the start of World War One. (Criterion A)

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is of representative significance, for its retention of elements characteristic of Federation era designs. This includes its varied building and roof forms, red face brick surfaces, its pattern of fenestration and window and door joinery, and decorative roof ornamentation. The subject building is a sound representative example of a substantial Federation era villa, a typology that is relatively underrepresented in the City of Darebin Heritage Overlay (Criterion D)

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, is also aesthetically significant as a fine, early example of the Queen Anne style. Its dramatic, varied roof composition with contrasting slate and terracotta materials, decorative ornamentation and sweeping bellcast verandah, demonstrate the picturesque aesthetic. The low tower and projecting bay window add romantic detail and distinguish the building’s design as a particularly elaborate example within the City of Darebin. The retention of the original windows and deep setback further enhance the building’s aesthetic quality. (Criterion E)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	No
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

OTHER

N/A

Context**REFERENCES**

Argus, as cited.

Australian Electoral Commission, *Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980*, via Ancestry.com, accessed online June 2020.

Heidelberg News and Greensborough and Diamond Creek, as cited.

Land Victoria, Certificates of Title (CT), as cited.

Sands & McDougall, *Melbourne and Suburban Directories (S&Mc)*, as cited.

441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield

Marineuie Court

Citation number:	
Prepared by:	Context
Survey Date:	May 2020
Place Type:	Residential
Significance level:	Significant
Architect:	-
Builder:	Not known
Construction Date:	1939
Extent of overlay:	To title boundaries



Figure 1. East elevation of 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 2. South elevation of 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

5 Building Suburban Darebin

5.3 Twentieth century recovery

PLACE HISTORY

The two-storey brick flats Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, were built c.1939 for the owner Walter James Marriner, licenced victualler (CT Vol. 6234 Fol. 621).

The subject land consisted of allotments 37, 38, 39 and 40 of the 1921 subdivisional sale known as MacRobertson Estate. The MacRobertson Estate originally included expansive grounds occupied by an 1893 mansion 'Carmelea' at today's 43 Station Street. Carmelea was the private residence of MacPherson Robertson, who was the director of the successful confectionary business MacRobertson Pty. Ltd. The MacRobertson Estate also included Robertson's daughter's residence at 31 Station Street ('Carmelea' HO80, City of Darebin).

The MacRobertson Estate covered the land bound by Heidelberg Road to the south, Station Street to the west, and Arthur Street to the east and other properties to the north. While villa sites were located in Arthur Street, land fronting Station Street and Heidelberg Road was divided into shop sites. Along Heidelberg Road, ten narrow-fronted shop sites were provided (CT Vol. 4605 Fol. 820).

The preliminary notice of the subdivisional sale issued in June 1921 described the Estate as below:

The MacPherson Estate lies right between the two main Traffic Arteries – Heidelberg Road and the Railway Station; and it is reasonable to estimate that Station Street, between the abovementioned arteries will ONE DAY BE ALL SHOPS.

The Vendors realise this, and have provided Shop Sites along the Heidelberg Road frontage, and as many as possible along Station Street, leaving just an allotment with each of the two houses; the Arthur Street frontage will be sold in 50 ft. Villa Sites. This estate has always made a big gap between the shopping areas of Fairfield, and its subdivision is bound to be appreciated in the near future when Station Street is practically all shops (Weekly Times 25 June 1921:48).

The first auction of the subdivision was held in October 1921 (*Argus* 1 October 1921:2).

Walter James Marriner was one of the first purchasers of the subdivision. He was granted with the Certificate of Title for the allotments 38, 39 and 40 in October 1922 (CT Vol. 4605 Fol. 820). Fronting Heidelberg Road, each of the allotments, 38, 39 and 40 had a frontage of 20 feet. They were originally indented as shop sites. The land remained vacant up until October 1938 when Marriner purchased adjoining allotment 37 in the same subdivision for the development of the brick block of flats that is extant at 441 Heidelberg Road (CT Vol. 6234 Fol. 621).

Marineuie Court became listed in the Sands & McDougall postal directory in 1940, indicating that the building existed by 1939 (S&Mc 1938, 1940). When completed, it was the first block of flats built in Heidelberg Road between Merri and Darebin creeks (S&Mc 1940).

Marriner died in 1955 at East Preston, and the property was transferred to Walter James Marriner Jnr., wholesale jeweller, and Ivan Arkwright Fortescue Croft, solicitor. The property was again transferred in 1968, being subdivided into strata titles in the following year (*Herald* 13 March 1954:8; CT Vol. 6234 Fol. 621).

Context

The Marineuie Court remains in use as residential flats today.

DESCRIPTION

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, is a two-storey block of brick flats built by 1939 for the owner Walter James Marriner, licenced victualler. The block contains four residential units and is accessed via a driveway the eastern boundary of the allotment.

Marineuie Court, the first block of flats built in the study area, displays elements that were influenced by the Moderne style. These include the simple geometric built form, non-traditional decorative motifs and curved corners. Marineuie Court features distinctive face clinker brick walls laid in stretcher-bond with horizontal bands of variegated tapestry brickwork, and selectively placed vertical cream brick motifs. The windowsills are demarcated in header course brickwork and the lintels are soldier course.

The building has a hipped roof clad with terracotta tiles with projecting eaves and four brick chimneys. Two curved concrete balustrades are provided on the upper level balconies on the east elevation. Another upper-level balcony is on the west elevation.

The east and west-facing windows are timber-framed double-hung sash and appear original. There are three south-facing, timber framed windows on each level. The central windows in these locations are wider than those to either site. On the north elevation, there are two smaller timber-framed double-hung windows.

Thin metal signage reading: 'Marineuie Court', is located on the Heidelberg Road (south) elevation. The lower section of this elevation has been patched with cement.

The footpaths are paved with concrete. A single-storey brick garage with iron-clad roof and metal tilt-doors is located at the rear of the property. The garage appears to date from the same era as the flats. The garage has a simple rectangular form with a concrete lintel running across the front, above the openings. There is a small room with a double-hung sash window and timber door attached to the west of the garage.

The flats have modest front and side setbacks. The front garden is planted with a number of ornamental trees and shrubs. The low brick fence along the title boundary appears to be a later replacement.



Figure 3. Showing details including the brick lintel, embossed cream brick detailing and timber-framed double-hung sash windows. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

Figure 4. Showing the thin metal signage 'Marineuie Court' and brickwork incorporating clinker brick and varigated tapestry brick. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 5. Original brick carport at the rear of the block of flats. (Source: Context, May 2020)

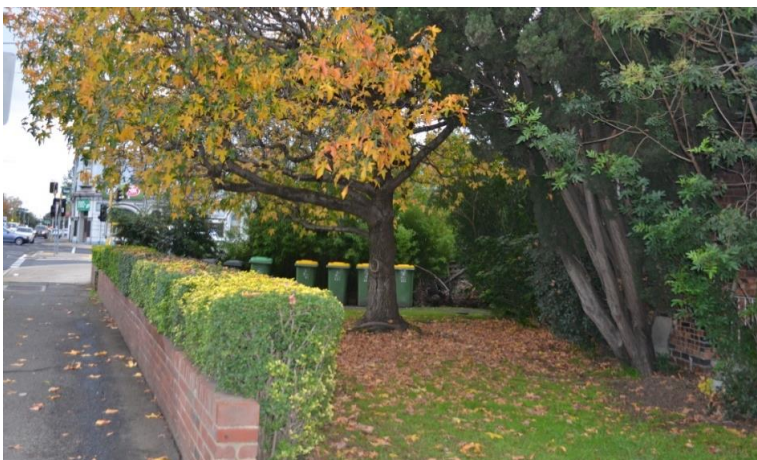


Figure 6. Garden bed in the front setback. The low brick wall appears to be a later replacement. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

INTEGRITY

The Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield is highly intact with a very few changes visible to original or early fabric. The building retains important design elements including the distinctive exposed brickwork contrasted with smooth curbed concrete balconies on the upper level. The building retains its original hipped roof form and terracotta tile cladding, original chimneys, timber-framed windows, early brick carpports, and the thin metal signage reading 'Marineuie Court'. Retaining its original built form and scale, materials and stylistic details, overall, the Marineuie Court has high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The following comparative examples are split into two groups. The first is a selection of individually significant Moderne style residences in City of Darebin. The second group of comparisons is group of Moderne style flats within other municipalities that have individual Heritage Overlays. This second group will provide the comparative benchmark for the assessment of 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield.

Moderne style examples in Darebin

The Moderne style was to architecture what Art Deco was to the decorative arts – a modern break from past styles, escapist rather than intellectual, inherently decorative rather than stridently functional. The Moderne style straddled the Depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s, when simple lines held the promise of reduced cost and decoration was an achievable form of home improvement, an economical sentiment that carried through to the years of World War II. Moderne architecture favoured geometric forms, especially plain wall planes, curved corners and copings, interpenetration of volumes and surfaces, and a clear articulation of forms, often emphasising horizontal, vertical, or diagonal lines.

In Australia, while initially taken up for use on commercial buildings, the Moderne idiom started to be adopted by a number of architects for use on residential commissions in the early 1930s. By the mid-1930s the style was becoming more widely embraced by the broader community, gaining popularity amongst middle-class homeowners.

On the Darebin's Heritage Overlay, many interwar examples are single residences predominantly in Old English/Tudor Revival and Californian bungalow style. There are only a small number of Moderne residences identified as being Individually significant in Darebin.

The Sandland Family Houses at 36 Cooper Street and 40 Cooper Street, Preston (HO208) are a pair of houses developed for the locally important Sandland family. The house at 36 Cooper Street is a rendered brick inter-war villa with a hipped roof clad in terracotta tiles. Its design features elements influenced by the Moderne style. Two projecting bays flank a central porch. The bay to the right has a curved wall at the corner of the building. The curved corner window in this location has a horizontal hood above its window. The upper walls of the house are rendered brick and the bases of the walls are face brick. The windows of the house are steel framed and contribute to the Moderne character of the dwelling. The front boundary fence is complementary and has a brick base, rendered brick pillars and wrought iron railings between each pillar. The house, garden and front fence at 36 Cooper Street, Preston are elements that contribute to the significance of the place. The pair at 36 and 40 Cooper Street are of local historic, architectural and aesthetic significance to Darebin City.

499 St Georges Road, Thornbury is a substantial early 1940s cream brick Moderne style building, originally a combined house and surgery. It has an L-shaped and geometric form relieved by the partly cantilvered and curved balconies (structural support added as a later addition), the umber brick plinth

Context

and tapestry brick banding ('speedlines'). Fenestration includes original timber doors with porthole window and timber-framed corner windows. The extended cuboid wing, which addresses Fyffe Street, incorporated both the former surgery and garage. 499 St Georges Road is recommended as individually significant in Thornbury Park Estate precinct (assessed and recommended as individually significant place in 'Thornbury Park Estate Precinct' 2020).



Figure 7. 36 Cooper Street, Preston (HO208). (Source: Google, July 2019)



Figure 8. 499 St Georges Road, Thornbury (assessed and recommended as individually significant place in 'Thornbury Park Estate Precinct' 2020). (Source: Google, July 2019)

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, compares well with these examples and like them features design elements that are evocative of the Moderne style. The building has simple two-storey geometric form that is accentuated vertically by tall chimneys. The non-traditional ornamentation including patterned brickwork bands and motifs and the conspicuous curved and smooth-surface elements juxtapose with the wall surface are all elements that reflect the characteristics of the style. The values expressed in these buildings suggest a confident and progressive modernity, representing the unique nature of the area as a new affluent suburb.

Development of flats and apartment living

The first apartment buildings or flats began to be constructed in Melbourne in the first decades of the twentieth century. In many municipalities, restrictive building codes were enacted to control or stop this new form of development, ostensibly for safety reasons. The municipalities of Prahran and St Kilda were two that allowed flat development to occur, with the earliest purpose-built examples dating from the beginning of the 1910s (Context 2007:144). Widespread development of purpose-built flats began in metropolitan Melbourne by the 1920s however flats were slow to become socially acceptable (Context 2007:145). Apart from changing the physical character of the suburbs, the flats also changed the social mix by encouraging more single people to live within the area. Until the development of flats, the accommodation choices for single people were very limited, and the new form of accommodation provided additional freedom, particularly for unmarried women (Context 2007:145).

The following individually significant examples include freestanding two-storey Moderne style flats in adjacent municipalities including Moreland, Yarra and Banyule. In these municipalities blocks of flats or apartments were built on main thoroughfares or in residential streets taking up land that became available.

Context

The block of flats at 33 Dwyer Street, Clifton Hill (significant in HO316 Clifton Hill Eastern Precinct, City of Yarra) were created in 1937 for Miss Ida E Aspinall. This place is significant as a two-storey clinker brick block of flats that are well preserved and distinctive for the area. It is distinguished as an example of a late but significant phase of development in the North Carlton and Princes Hill precinct. The flat block incorporates motifs from the English Domestic Revival, including mufti paned double hung timber windows, tall slender chimneys and a Georgian Revival influenced entry portico. 33 Dwyer Street, Clifton Hill is historically and architecturally significant to the City of Yarra (VHD Place ID. 102813).

The block of flats at 51 Heidelberg Road, Clifton Hill (significant in HO316 Clifton Hill Eastern Precinct, City of Yarra) was created in 1939-1942 (during WW2) for Mrs Linda Winifred Baines. The Baines' flats are significant as a two-storey cream brick and hipped roof Moderne style flat block with original fence. 51 Heidelberg Road, Clifton Hill are architecturally significant to the City of Yarra (VHD Place ID. 92433).

The Milton Courts Flats at 423 Canning Street, Carlton North (significant in HO326 North Carlton Precinct, City of Yarra) were created in 1938 for Rae Helmer. The Milton Courts Flats are significant as a well-preserved two-storey hipped roof clinker brick flat block of four flats. Each flat has four rooms each and feature rounded balustrading to their balconies that are particularly evocative of the Moderne style. It is distinguished as an example of a significant later phase of development in the North Carlton precinct. 423 Canning Street, Carlton North is historically and architecturally significant to the City of Yarra (VHD Place ID. 104016).

The flats at 83-85 The Boulevard, Ivanhoe (HO152, City of Banyule) were constructed c. 1941 and are of local significance to the City of Banyule. The flats at 83-85 The Boulevard represent an early and unusual form of development along The Boulevard. Built during the Second World War in 1941 by Rose Krieger, this building predates much of the development in this area. As a purpose designed block of flats it is unusually early in Banyule and represents a new way of housing people that was to become much more common after World War Two. The place is associated with the post war wave of architectural innovation particularly amongst European emigres. The flats are notable for the sweeping entry staircase built into the hillside, the detached garaging, the face brick walls in contrasting cream and brown panels and the high level of intactness of these exterior elements. 83-85 The Boulevard is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Banyule (VHD Place ID 121512).

Three Moderne apartments blocks at 37, 301 and 434C Lygon Street, Brunswick East (Serial Listing HO443, City of Moreland) are all freestanding, two-storey apartment blocks. They are non-contiguous in location. Built between 1940-1946, the series of buildings reflects the evolution of housing types in the city of Moreland in the late interwar and early postwar periods. During this time housing underwent a change from the single-storey, freestanding houses that were erected during the 1920s and early 1930s, and began including more two-storey, multi-family flats. The group of flats is of aesthetic (architectural) and historical significance to the City of Moreland (VHD Place ID 184691).

Context



Figure 9. 33 Dwyer Street, Clifton Hill (significant in HO316 Clifton Hill Eastern Precinct, City of Yarra). (Source: Google, July 2019)

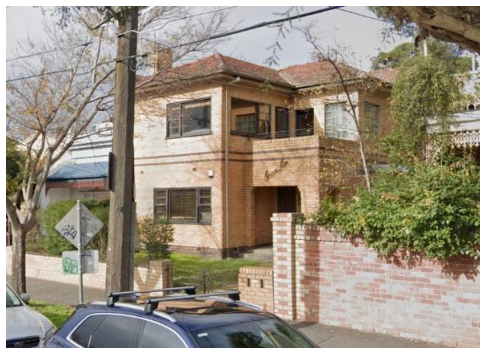


Figure 10. 51 Heidelberg Road, Clifton Hill (significant in HO316 Clifton Hill Eastern Precinct, City of Yarra). (Source: Google, July 2019)



Figure 11. 423 Canning Street, Carlton North (significant in HO326 North Carlton Precinct, City of Yarra). (Source: Google, November 2019)



Figure 12. 83-85 The Boulevard, Ivanhoe (HO152, City of Banyule). (Source: VHD Place ID. 121512)



Figure 13. 37 Lygon Street, Brunswick East (Serial Listing HO443, City of Moreland). (Source: Google, September 2019)



Figure 14. 301 Lygon Street, Brunswick East (Serial Listing HO443, City of Moreland). (Source: Google, September 2019)

Context



Figure 15. 434C Lygon Street, Brunswick East (Serial Listing HO443, City of Moreland). (Source: Google, September 2019)

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield compares well with the above examples for its retention of early important elements including the original face brick finish, building and roof form and original features including windows, doors and decorative detailing, the garden setting and layout, low walls set along the title boundary and modest front and side setbacks.

441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield demonstrates the integration of common domestic forms and details of traditional architecture, such as hipped roofs and double-hung sash windows into a new building style.

The flats at 441 Heidelberg Road shows similar application of Moderne-influenced elements such as projecting curved balustrades, seen at 304 and 434C Lygon Street, Brunswick East, and decorative brickwork, displayed at 51 Heidelberg Road, Clifton Hill, 434C Lygon Street, Brunswick East and 83-85 The Boulevard, Ivanhoe. The subject block of flats is distinguished by its highly decorative, well-detailed brickwork incorporating at least four different kinds of bricks including clinker, cream and tapestry bricks and variegated bricks.

Unlike inner municipalities such as Moreland and Yarra where the level of high density living had been already established before the emergence of flats, densification of suburbs was more apparent in the immediate post-war years in middle-ring municipalities including Darebin and Banyule. Driven by the Housing Commission of Victoria (HCV), large estates of houses and flats were built in Darebin, accommodating 10,000 people from the 1940s by 1966. Built in 1939 as the earliest flats on the section of Heidelberg Road between Merri and Darebin creeks, Marineuie Court is one of the less common examples that demonstrates the earlier development of flats in the City of Darebin in the late interwar period. It illustrates the historical shift from the predominance of single-storey, freestanding houses erected during the 1920s and early 1930s to the gradual social acceptance of multi-storey flats.

Context**ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA**

✓	CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).
	CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).
	CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).
✓	CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).
✓	CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).
	CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)
	CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).
	CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT**

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, a block of flats built in 1939 for Walter J. Marriner, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original freestanding two-storey building form and hipped roof;
- face brick finish and well-detailed brickwork incorporating at least four different kinds of bricks including clinker, cream and tapestry bricks and variegated bricks
- other early decorative elements influenced by Moderne style, including the curved balustrades to the upper level balconies, and thin metal signage 'Marineuie Court' on the Heidelberg Road (south) elevation;
- original timber-framed windows
- original brick carports at the rear of the property; and

Context

- modest front and side setbacks, as well as the garden setting and layout.

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield is of local historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin.

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield, built in 1939 for Walter James Marriner, licenced victualler, is historically significant as the earliest flats built in the section of Heidelberg Road between Merri and Darebin creeks. Walter J. Marriner was one of the first purchasers of the 1922 MacRobertson Estate subdivision which envisioned full commercial development along Station Street between Heidelberg Road and the Railway Station. The land remained vacant up until October 1938 when Marriner purchased another allotment in the same subdivision for the development of brick flats now extant at 441 Heidelberg Road. Marineuie Court is one of the less common examples that demonstrates the earlier development of flats in the City of Darebin in the late interwar period. It illustrates the historical shift from the predominance of single-storey, freestanding houses erected during the 1920s and early 1930s to the gradual social acceptance of multi-storey flats. (Criterion A)

Marineuie Court at 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield is of representative significance for its retention of early important elements including the original face brick finish, building and roof form, external materials, original features including windows, doors and decorative detailing, the garden setting and layout. Its modest front and side setbacks and open presentation to Heidelberg Road over a low fence (later addition) along the title boundary are also important. (Criterion D)

441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield is also aesthetically significant, distinguished by its highly decorative, well-detailed brickwork that incorporates at least four different kinds of bricks. Marineuie Court features walls laid in distinctive face clinker brick walls laid in stretcher-bond with horizontal bands of variegated tapestry brickwork, and selectively placed vertical cream brick motifs. The windowsills are demarcated in header course brickwork and the lintels are soldier course.

441 Heidelberg Road is also important for its demonstration of decorative elements influenced by Moderne style, including the curved balustrades in upper level, and thin metal signage ‘Marineuie Court’ on the Heidelberg Road (south) elevation. (Criterion E)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No

Context

OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	No
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

OTHER

N/A

Context**REFERENCES**

Argus, as cited.

Context 2007, *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History*, prepared for City of Stonnington.

Herald, as cited.

Land Victoria, Certificates of Title (CT), as cited.

Sands & McDougall, *Melbourne and Suburban Directories (S&Mc)*, as cited.

Weekly Times, as cited.

Context

Context

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Residence

Citation number:

Prepared by: Context

Survey Date: May 2020

Place Type: Residential

Significance level: Significant

Architect: -

Builder: Not known

Construction Date: c.1941

Extent of overlay: To title boundaries



Figure 16. Southern elevation of 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington.



Figure 17. Southern elevation of 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington in 2009 showing fenestration and second portico opening. (Source: Google, 2009)

Context

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

5 Building Suburban Darebin

5.3 Twentieth century recovery

PLACE HISTORY

The brick residence at 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, was built by 1942 for the owner Vincent J. O'Meara, dairy produce merchant (CT Vol. 4935 Fol. 990).

The land today known as 521 Heidelberg Road was formed and sold as part of the subdivisional sale known as Hanslope Estate (*Argus* 12 October 1920:3). The six-acre land part of Crown Portion 116, Parish of Jika Jika, County of Bourke, had been subdivided into 33 residential allotments in 1919 under the instruction of the owner Francis William Tame, manufacturer, at 25 Bloomfield Avenue, Alphington (CT Vol. 4272 Fol. 319). The subject land was purchased by Charles Arthur Pleasants, furrier, in 1924, and V. J. O'Meara took ownership in September 1940 (CT Vol. 4935 Fol. 990).

By 1942 a brick residence had been erected on the vacant property (S&Mc 1940). Vincent James O'Meara and his wife Joyce Isabel occupied the new house until 1949. From 1951 until 1975, Thomas Roy Booth, fruiterer, and his wife Jean Frances (died in 1958) were the owner-occupiers (CT Vol. 4935 Fol. 990).

521 Heidelberg Road remains as a private residence today.

DESCRIPTION

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is a single storey variegated cream brick residence, built c.1941 (designer unknown), for the owner Vincent J. O'Meara.

The building occupies a large allotment with a street frontage facing south to Heidelberg Road. It has a hipped, concrete tiled roof with a central bay set forward of the main built form. This bay incorporates a projecting entrance portico with an eaveless gable end. A very low brick chimney is located at the centre of the roof just south of the ridgeline. The principal built form is rectangular with solid massing set horizontally on an east-west alignment. The facades and internal layout are asymmetrically arranged. A small, single storey lean-to structure extends from the main form on the western side of its northern elevation.

521 Heidelberg Road exhibits features associated with the Old English style, most notably in the corbelled portico detail, fenestration, and decorative brickwork. It is constructed of cream clinker bricks with narrow variegated tapestry bricks laid decoratively in a stepped pattern around window surrounds and at the gable end. Framing the portico opening, a ring of tapestry bricks forms a shallow four-centred arched entrance. A second opening to the portico, with a narrower arch, exists on its eastern elevation, it is likely that a third opening mirrors this arch on the portico's western wall.

Along the southern façade the building has three sets of matching timber-framed windows, two are located west of the portico and one is located on its eastern side. The windows have a tripartite arrangement comprising a large central glazed section framed on either end by narrow double-hung sash windows. Each window has a simple projecting brick sill. The entrance is accessed through the portico via three concrete steps, the front door faces the street but is not visible due to the hedge that

Context

screens the house from the street. Three windows of varying sizes are located along the east and north elevation. The western elevation has two window openings.

A tall brick fence extends along the street boundary with a wide gateless driveway opening on the eastern portion. It is painted except for bands of unpainted cream clinker brick matching the building to pillar cappings and on the lower, slightly protruding, section of the fence, indicating that this is likely to be original. Recessed sections of the fence between the columns indicate that this section of the fence has been in-filled between the pillars to increase the overall height of the fence. Dense tree hedging extends above the fence, enhancing screening from the busy Heidelberg Road. The front yard has a crossover and wide unsealed driveway to the east, lawn and beds of mature low and medium plantings along the western allotment boundary and front façade.

INTEGRITY

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is highly intact with few changes visible to original or early significant fabric. The building retains its original built form and surface materials and stylistic details. The building also retains its original pattern of fenestration, window joinery and decorative brickwork. The front fence, although altered, remains intact. The changes which have been made to it are readily reversible. Overall, the building has very high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS*Old English architecture*

The Old English style, sometimes also known as Tudor Revival, emerged in Australia in the nineteenth century and experienced a resurgence in the interwar period. Influenced by the English rural and village architecture of the Tudor period, the style reflects a picturesque, rustic aesthetic distinct from the academic qualities of Gothic architecture that had dominated the earlier medieval period. The style sought to marry the respectability of age with a spirit of progress, whereby rubbed brickwork, ancient oak, and leaded glass casements were deftly turned out in pressed reds and clinkers, veneered beams, and double-hung sashes. Hallmarks of the Old English style included asymmetrical forms, the low pointed Tudor arch, half-timbered construction (especially of upper floors or gable ends), steeply pitched (and generally tiled) roofs, prominent chimneys, and snug porches under the main roof sweep. By the 1930s there was less use of half-timbering, and a dominance of brick walling, often enlivened by decorative brick patterning or colours. Decorative applications of texture, clinker, heeler herringbone or corbelled brickwork characterise later examples of Old English architecture.

The interwar revival of the Old English style had a significant impact on Australia's suburbs and assumed its greatest prominence during the 1930s. It was popularised in suburban Australian domestic architecture by speculative builders during the interwar period. The Old English style can be found in residences for the middle classes, often sitting with smug comfort amid rows of Spanish Mission, Moderne, and occasional Georgian Revival interwar dwellings.

In the City of Darebin, the Old English style is relatively underrepresented in the Heritage Overlay. The interwar period represents a period of growth and development in the area and the introduction of the Old English style in residential architecture reflects the increasingly middle-class status of Darebin's suburbs from this period. Only one of the examples provided below is included as an individual listing, the others are included as contributory within precincts.

18 Barton Street, Reservoir (HO260), is a post-war house in the Old English style, constructed in clinker brick. It has a steeply pitched transverse gable roof with a projecting gable toward the street. There is a

Context

brick and wrought iron front fence and gates, which appears to be contemporary with the house. The now mature garden provides an appropriate setting. The house at 18 Barton Street, Reservoir is significant as a representative example of a house that is associated with the second phase of suburban development in Reservoir during the 1950s. It is a well-detailed example of a post-war house in the 'Old English' style in a garden setting and is complemented by a fence detailed to match the house.

26 William Street, Preston (C1 graded in 'Heart of Preston' (William Street) precinct, HO183) is a modest, later example of the Old English style with clinker face brick walls, stepped eaveless gable ends and variegated brick window surrounds. Historically, the 'Heart of Preston' (William Street) precinct is significant as evidence of the 'stop-start' pattern of residential development in Preston during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. It illustrates how estates subdivided during the 1880s boom were not fully developed until the interwar period. Within this precinct, 26 William Street demonstrates the third era of residential development.

3-5, 9 and 10 Kelley Grove, Preston, are included in the Kelley Grove precinct (HO103). They are all late interwar examples constructed of face cream brick with variegated brick detailing, asymmetrical arrangement and terracotta tiled rooves. The Kelley Grove precinct is a highly consistent and intact streetscape.



Figure 18. 18 Barton Street, Reservoir (HO260).



Figure 19. Close up of 18 Barton Street, Reservoir, showing the portico entrance.



Figure 20. 10 Kelley Grove, Preston, contributory Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)



Figure 21. 7 Kelley Grove, Preston, contributory in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)

Context



Figure 22. 3-5 Kelley Grove, Preston, contributory in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)



Figure 23. 9 Kelley Grove, Preston, contributory in the Kelley Grove Precinct (HO103). (Source: Google, December 2018)



Figure 24. 26 William Street, Preston, C1 graded in the 'Heart of Preston' (William Street) Precinct (HO183).

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, exhibits architectural characteristics consistent with the Old English style, notably in its decorative face brickwork, roof form, solid asymmetrical massing and fenestration. The comparative examples above are generally later constructions but all feature wide window bays, face brickwork and hipped terracotta tiled hipped rooves. Like the subject building, 18 Barton Street and 7, 9 and 10 Kelley Grove, Preston, and 26 William Street, Preston, feature eaveless projecting gable ends with stepped, or corbelled, brickwork detailing. Horizontally composed tripartite window arrangements are found within the subject building, 18 Barton Street, 3, 5, 7 and 2-8 Kelley Grove. 5 and 7 Kelley Grove are also notable for their inclusion of a pronounced portico entrance that forms the principle design feature of the street façade. Stylistically, 521 Heidelberg Road displays finer architectural detailing than the examples included in precincts.

The subject building is comparable to the provided individually significant examples in its levels of integrity. Unlike the examples given, the subject building's fence has been altered. However, it appears that the original fence is extant, and the modification is reversible. Overall, 521 Heidelberg Road is highly legible as an interwar example of the Old English style.

The subject building compares favourably to other interwar examples of the Old English style in the municipality in terms of its architectural qualities, integrity and its use of decorative face brick cladding, wide, finely detailed gabled portico, timber framed tripartite windows, simplified asymmetrical form and solid massing.

Context

ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

✓	<p>CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p>
	<p>CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p>
	<p>CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)</p>
	<p>CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, a single storey brick residence built c.1941 for Vincent J. O’Meara, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original built form, roof and scale;
- unpainted brick surfaces and decorative brickwork, pattern of fenestration;
- arched entrance portico, chimney, timber window joinery; and
- low brick fence with brick pillars.

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is of local historic and representative significance to the City of Darebin.

Context

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, built c.1941, is of historic significance as a later example of interwar residential development in Darebin. The building reflects the transitional period between the gradual growth and elevated status of the area in the interwar period to the massive growth and suburban expansion that characterises its post-war development. (Criterion A)

The house demonstrates key characteristics of the interwar Old English style that was popularised in suburban domestic architecture in the interwar period including its stepped projecting gabled portico, decorative brickwork and tripartite timber framed windows. The style is relatively underrepresented within Heritage Overlay to the City of Darebin planning scheme. It is a modest but architecturally refined and highly intact example of the Old English style, enhanced by extant garden elements including the original front fence, and unsealed driveway. (Criterion D)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	Yes – Masonry fence
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

OTHER

Tall masonry fence along the street boundary.

Context**REFERENCES**

Argus, as cited.

Land Victoria, Certificates of Title (CT), as cited.

Sands & McDougall, *Melbourne and Suburban Directories* (S&Mc), as cited.

Context

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Kia-Ora

Citation number:
Prepared by: Context
Survey Date: May 2020
Place Type: Residential
Significance level: Significant
Architect: -
Builder: Not known
Construction Date: 1903, c.1918
Extent of overlay: To title boundaries



Figure 1. 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington. (Source: Context, May 2020)



Figure 2. 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington. (Source: Context, May 2020)

Context

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Darebin Thematic Environmental History (2007)*:

5 Building Suburban Darebin

5.3 Twentieth century recovery

PLACE HISTORY

'Kia-Ora' at 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, was built by 1903, on part of Crown Portion 117, Parish of Jika Jika, County of Bourke, held by Walter Foreman, gentleman, since 1885 (CT Vol. 1757 Fol. 281). The land was part of the housing estate known as the Fulham Grange Estate. The site was formerly part of the land occupied by Perry brothers Nurseries from the 1850s before being subdivided and auctioned in 1883-85 (*Argus* 7 February 1883:2; *Argus* 24 September 1885:3).

In 1889, southern section of the allotment was acquired by the Victorian Railways Commissioners, for construction of the Outer Circle railway line. The construction of Outer Circle line commenced in 1888 and was completed by 1891. Riversdale to Fairfield was the final section to be completed. Fulham Grange Railway Station was located near the junction of Heidelberg Road, Fulham Street and Grange Street, Alphington. The costly and unsuccessful Outer Circle line closed after three years of operation, and the section that passed the former Fulham Grange Railway Station was reused as a private siding of the Australian Paper Manufacturers (AMP) from 1919 to 1994 ('Fulham Grange Station on the Outer Circle Line (Demolished)' VHD Place ID 27252).

After its completion, in 1903, the brick residence at 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, was occupied by Benjamin B. Sibthorpe and his family (ER 1903). The property was depicted in the 1910 Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) plan and is labelled as 'Kia-Ora'.

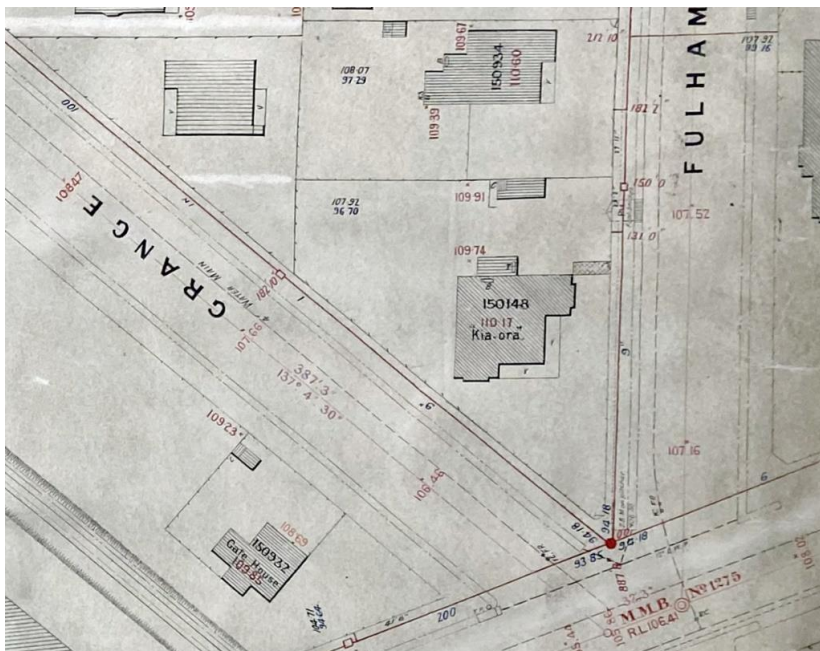


Figure 3. 'Kia-Ora', at 607 Heidelberg Road between Grange and Fulham streets. (Source: MMBW Detail Plan no.2478, 1910)

Context

The property was still held by Walter Foreman until his death in May 1913, and was transferred to Walter Foreman Jnr. And George Alfred Stephens shortly after (CT Vol. 1757 Fol. 281).

In 1914, Benjamin B. B. Sibthorpe became the owner of the property (CT Vol. 1757 Fol. 281; S&Mc 1974). Benjamin Barrington Bank Sibthorpe was a director of MacRobertson's Pty. Ltd., a well-known confectionery business based in Fitzroy. The founder of MacRobertson's, a prominent businessman and philanthropist MacPherson Robertson was also living in the vicinity, near Heidelberg Road, at 43 Station Street, Fairfield ('Carmelea' HO80, City of Darebin).

By 1918, dentist Ernest Barrington Sibthorpe, son of Benjamin Sibthorpe, commenced dental practice at the subject premises (S&Mc 1917-18). The existing western wing was added between 1910 and 1931 (Figure 4). It is likely that the western wing was constructed c.1918 to house Ernest Sibthorpe's dental clinic.

Benjamin Sibthorpe died in 1940 and his family members continued to reside at 'Kia-Ora' through to 1968 (*Age* 11 September 1940:10; S&Mc 1955). The residence was sold for \$16,050 after Elizabeth Mary Sibthorpe's death in 1968. At that time, the property was described as a brick house with nine rooms on site of 12,7100 sq. feet subject to road widening order (*Age* 1 July 1968:10).

607 Heidelberg Road remains as a private residence today.



Figure 4. 607 Heidelberg Road in 1931, showing the western wing added c.1918. (Source: Central Plan Office, 'MALDON PRISON (11/1931)', via Landata)

Context

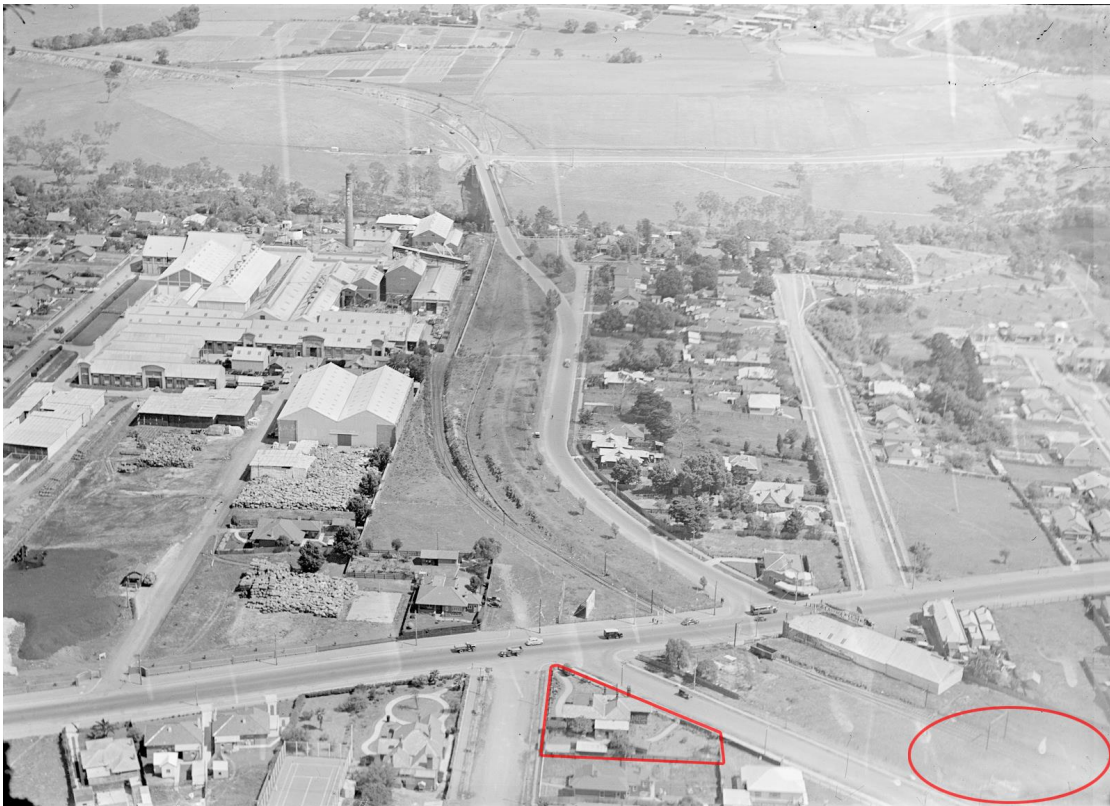


Figure 5. A c.1945 aerial photograph of Heidelberg Road looking south, showing 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington and the approximate location of the demolished Fulham Grange Station to the bottom-right highlighted in red. (Source: Pratt 1945, 'Australian Paper Manufacturing mill (APM) at Fairfield', State Library Victoria, Accession no.: H91.160/169)

DESCRIPTION

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is a single storey brick residence built in 1903 (architect unknown) for the owner Walter Foreman.

Kia-Ora is sited on a substantial and irregular sized corner allotment with prominent street frontages to Grange Road, Heidelberg Road, and Fullham Road. The building design exhibits features associated with the Queen Anne style, notable in its roof form, layout, fine architectural details, and surface materials.

The original built form has a squarish plan and composite hip roof with two projecting gable wings oriented to the east and south. A third projecting gable wing (built c.1918) extends from the western elevation. An L-shaped corrugated metal skillion roof wraps around the north-western corner of the main built form. The northern section of this roof shelters a small red brick extension that is original. The roof along the western elevation forms an open pergola (Figure 6).

Context



Figure 6. Aerial photograph of 607 Heidelberg Road. (Source: Nearmap)

The building has a terracotta tiled hip and gable roof with terracotta ridge cresting. Three tall chimneys punctuate the roof. The chimneys feature decorative raised brickwork arranged in a geometric pattern and robust corbelled cornices. The eastern- and western-most chimneys are wider, and each is capped with two terracotta chimney pots, the central chimney is narrow and has a single terracotta pot.

Kia-Ora is constructed of red face brick. Two rows of cream, stretcher laid bricks form a continuous decorative banding along the eastern and southern wall surfaces. Above the arched openings are soldier course lintels. The original gable wings have wide overhanging eaves, simple timber barge boards and timber fretwork brackets. The gable ends have regularly spaced half-timber strapping interspaced with roughcast surfaces. Wide, segmentally arched windows present on the eastern and southern gable ends. The timber-framed windows comprise six panes of decorative leaded and coloured glass, the bottom ones have vertical proportions and the shorter upper panes follow the curvature of the arch. Underneath the window openings are simple projecting sills. Along the eastern façade is a tall timber-framed sash window and the front entrance door which features timber surrounds and sidelights. On the southern façade are two tall sash windows with leaded glass upper panes.

On the western elevation is a third gable wing dating from c.1911-1919. This early addition matches the original gable wings in its stylistic detail and materials. It is constructed of face brick and has wide eaves and timber fretwork brackets (of a slightly different design to the original brackets). The gable ends also have half-timber strapping and roughcast surfaces. Distinct from the other gable wing openings, this wing has a box bay window comprising narrow sash windows. A low, flat corrugated metal roof shelters the box bay window. At the rear section of the western façade there is a sash segmental arch window with a stringcourse label mould.

A verandah wraps around the south-western corner. It has decorative ironwork valances and posts that appear to be a later addition. Timber fretwork and turned posts were more commonly used in Federation era verandah designs. The retention of the original timber eave brackets on this building indicates that the verandah detailing may also have been timber.

Four outbuildings of various sizes are dotted along the northern boundary of 607 Heidelberg Road. The largest of these, a corrugated metal clad garage fronting Fullham Road, is a later addition. Comparison

Context

of contemporary aerial photographs with historical plans and plans indicate that the smaller corrugated metal clad outside lavatory behind the garage is original. The other smaller shed structures are obscured from street view but appear to be recent additions.

Kia-Ora has a mature garden setting and retains early fencing along boundary of the principal street frontages. It has a low clinker brick wall with strapped cast iron gate, suggesting that the fence dates from the interwar period. The brick wall has a decorative pattern made up of a central row of soldier course bricks between two rows of header bricks. Brick piers modulate the wall, adding height and visual interest. Several of these columns appear to have been repaired or reconstructed in like material. The low height of the fence and its use of red brick modulated with piers complement the building and garden. The rear section of the allotment has a timber paling fence and Colorbond gate concealing a concrete driveway off Fullham Road. A concrete path leads from the corner gate to the verandah entrance. The garden features dense vegetation and plantings along the principle facades. Two mature trees in the front yard appear to be original or early plantings, a pineapple palm and Norfolk Island palm.

INTEGRITY

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is a highly intact Queen Anne style house exhibiting minimal changes visible to original or early significant fabric.

The building retains original and early features, including its decorative ridge cresting, chimneys, gable end detailing, timber framed windows and door and its pattern of fenestration. The building also retains its original built form and scale, materials and stylistic details. Early additions, including the western gable wing and the low brick fence, are complimentary in style and materials. They contribute to the aesthetic qualities of the place and do not diminish the legibility of the original building.

The mature garden setting, including the two mature tree specimens, enhances the integrity of the place.

Overall, the building has high integrity.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Federation Queen Anne villas

The Queen Anne style emerged in Australia during the Federation era (sometimes also referred to as the Edwardian era) which dates from roughly 1890 to the start of the First World War in 1914. The style presents a lighter, more picturesque aesthetic that departs from the symmetry and formalism of earlier Victorian era styles. Commonly associated with domestic architecture, in Australia the style was influenced by English and American designs but with notable regional variations. One such variation was the integration of a wide wrap-around verandah.

The treatment and ornamentation of roofs is a key characteristic of Queen Anne architecture. Designs of this style feature picturesque roofscapes that consist of various roof forms. They are frequently clad in terracotta or slate and accentuated by terracotta ridging, apex ornamentation, and elongated chimneys capped with terracotta pots. Typically constructed of red brick, other common wall surfaces include roughcast panelling and wall-hung timber shingles. Asymmetrical facades often incorporated striking elements, such as low towers or sinuous Art Nouveau detailing, contribute to the romantic appearance of the style. Bay, oriel and round accent windows were popularly applied.

In the City of Darebin, this period of development is relatively under-represented, and examples of Queen Anne styles included as individual places within the Heritage Overlay are largely concentrated

Context

within Preston. The examples provided below generally have similar scale and exhibit similar stylistic features to the subject building. Comparable examples on the Heritage Overlay include:

The house at 4 Mount Street, Preston (HO237), constructed by 1917, is an early twentieth century bungalow constructed in brick with a low-pitched hip slate roof. It is of historical and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. Architecturally, it has a unique design, with an unusual combination of features that illustrates the transition in styles from the Federation era Queen Anne style, to the bungalows that emerged during the inter-war period. The house reflects the recovery in development in Preston following the economic crash of the late 1890s and prior to the post-First World War boom. It has had some recent alterations and additions made, including the outbuildings, the front fence and gates and skillion at the rear of the house.

The house formerly known as 'Balleer', constructed c.1910, at 648 Bell Street, Preston (HO204) has historical and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. It is a transitional Federation era house with a relatively unusual form comprising a main gable and two subsidiary gables. The house has a relatively high degree of external integrity. The house is described as having Arts and Crafts detailing, notably in the way that the design addresses its corner siting with the inclusion of secondary gables to the Bell Street elevation. However, it exhibits several elements that are characteristic of the Queen Anne style, including the picturesque, decorated roof, red face brick walls with roughcast panel accents, and asymmetrical composition. Later alterations and additions include the lean-to extension and other outbuildings to the rear.

The house known as 'Somerset', at 93 Cramer Street, Preston, (HO209) constructed c.1915, it is described as a substantial single-storey Edwardian villa set back from the street behind a mature garden. The house is of brick construction and has a hipped and gabled roof with slate tile roofing. The roof features the complex intersection of forms characteristic of the style and includes terracotta ridge capping, apex ornamentation and tall brick chimneys complete with terracotta chimney pots. A bay projects towards the side of the street facing elevation and a verandah with a timber frieze and brackets continues across the remainder of this façade. Another bay projects from the side of the house, contributing to its picturesque qualities. It is of local historic and architectural significance to the City of Darebin. Historically, the house is significant as evidence of the first phase of suburban development in this part of Preston in the early years of the twentieth century. Its scale and grandeur, not common in housing in Preston during that period demonstrates the diversity of its residents and their means. The house is architecturally significant as an unusually substantial brick Edwardian villa, not commonly found throughout Darebin, and is a good representative example of Edwardian villa design. Its significance is heightened by the house's intactness and good condition. The house has aesthetic qualities as a villa within a garden setting. Its front fence, outbuildings, alterations, and additions are recent developments.

1 Flinders Street, Thornbury (HO122), is a substantial brick villa constructed in 1910. The house is red brick with a terracotta tiled and ornamented roof and wide verandah with timber fretwork- all elements that are consistent with the Queen Anne style. Its symmetrical arrangement is uncommon for designs of this style and contributes to its aesthetic significance.

331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, built 1913, is a substantial red brick residence that demonstrates elements of the Queen Anne style. The building features an asymmetrical layout with picturesque roof, a striking corner tower, and wraparound verandah with octagonal bay windows. Its substantial setback from the street, fine architectural detailing and the substantial size of the residence reflects the development and growing prestige of the Darebin area in the twentieth century. The building has good integrity withstanding some alterations, including modifications to the verandah, a single storey brick

Context

addition to the northwest corner and loss of the original fence. 331-333 Heidelberg Road has been identified as having potential historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin and recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme in the 'Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment', Context 2020.



Figure 3. 4 Mount Street, Preston (HO237).



Figure 4. 'Balleer' 648 Bell Street, Preston (HO204).



Figure 5. 'Somerset' 93 Cramer Street, Preston (HO209).



Figure 6. 1 Flinders Street, Thornbury (HO122).



Figure 7. 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (recommended for inclusion in the Darebin Planning Scheme Heritage Overlay in the Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment, Context 2020)

Kia-Ora at 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is a substantial brick villa articulated in the Queen Anne style.

Context

Like Balleer, Somerset and the houses at 1 Flinders Street, Thornbury, and 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote, Kia-Ora exhibits key features of the style including prominent gable ends, terracotta ridge cresting, tall elaborate chimneys and roughcast and red face brick surfaces. Unlike these three examples, Kia-Ora does not have apex ornamentation or finials. Somerset, 1 Flinders Street and 331-333 Heidelberg Road also have wraparound verandahs comparable to the subject building, demonstrating the Australian variation of the style.

The house at 4 Mount Street, Preston, is a later construction, and has a more modest design, it retains elements of the Queen Anne style in its face brickwork, tall, corbel capped brick chimney with terracotta chimney pot, and in its fenestration. Built slightly later than the other examples, 4 Mount Bay Street has a box bay window that is comparable to the early addition at Kia-Ora.

In terms of its scale and its level of architectural detailing, 607 Heidelberg Road is most directly comparable to Somerset and 331-333 Heidelberg Road. The subject building is a refined example of the style, distinguished by its accent brickwork, decorative timber framed windows, gable ends and its mature garden setting. This is further enhanced by the substantial size and corner location of the allotment and its prominent street frontages.

Houses of the late Federation period often combine elements of the bungalow style resulting in different (and generally simpler) forms. The asymmetry of Federation-era villas may be replaced with a more symmetrical form and may include a porch (either projecting or recessed). Balleer, Somerset and 4 Mount Street reflect this transition between architectural styles. The early additions to Kia-Ora, including the western projecting gable and low brick fence, also reflect this transition and are complimentary in style and materials to the original design. Kia-Ora is distinguished by its fine detailing and substantial allotment and garden setting. Its level of integrity compares favourably to the comparative examples for its retention of early and original fabric. The recent pergola on the western elevation, timber paling fence and garage do not diminish the legibility of the subject building. 4 Mount Street, Somerset, Balleer and 331-333 Heidelberg Road have also had recent modifications and additions, including new fences and sheds.

Context

ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

✓	<p>CRITERION A Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION B Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p>
	<p>CRITERION C Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p>
✓	<p>CRITERION E Importance of exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance)</p>
	<p>CRITERION G Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>
	<p>CRITERION H Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, a single storey brick residence built in 1903 for Walter Foreman, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- original (1903) and early (c.1918) form and scale, terracotta tiled roof, chimneys and verandah roof form;
- red face brick surfaces, decorative cream brick banding and roughcast surfaces;
- pattern of fenestration, timber-framed windows and doors; and
- timber gable strapping and timber eave brackets, stringcourse label mould.

HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is of local historic, representative, and aesthetic significance to the City of Darebin.

Context

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

Kia-Ora at 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is of historical significance for its representation of the development of Darebin and its growing prestige of Alphington as a residential area in the twentieth century. The substantial size of the allotment and fine architectural detailing of the house reflect the elevated status of the area. This is further reflected in the building’s association with Benjamin Barrington Bank Sibthorpe (occupant from 1903 and owner from 1914) who was a director of MacRobertson’s Pty. Ltd., a well-known confectionery business based in Fitzroy. The construction of this finely detailed villa signals the growing prestige of the area and its desirability to middle class professionals. The house also reflects the area’s economic recovery following the economic crash of the 1890s before the start of World War One. (Criterion A)

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is of representative significance, for its retention of elements characteristic of Federation era designs incorporating Queen Anne styling. This includes its varied building and roof forms, red face brick surfaces, its pattern of fenestration and window and door joinery, decorative chimneys and ridge cresting. The subject building is a good representative example of a substantial Federation era villa, a typology that is relatively underrepresented in the City of Darebin Heritage Overlay (Criterion D)

607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington, is also aesthetically significant as a fine, early example of the Queen Anne style. Its prominent, three street facing gables with fine architectural detailing, decorative chimneys and ridge cresting and wraparound verandah, demonstrate an Australian adaptation of the picturesque aesthetic qualities of this style. The substantial corner allotment with a low fence and mature garden setting enhance its aesthetic quality and distinguish the building’s design as a particularly refined example within the City of Darebin. (Criterion E)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Darebin Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Darebin Planning Scheme:

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS	No
INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS	No
TREE CONTROLS	No
OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES	No
TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER	No
PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED	No
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE	No

Context

OTHER

N/A

Context

REFERENCES

Age, as cited.

Argus, as cited.

Australian Electoral Commission, *Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980*, via Ancestry.com, accessed online June 2020.

Central Plan Office, *Historic Aerial Photography - 1930s to 1990s*, via Landata.com.au, as cited.

'Fulham Grange Station on the Outer Circle Line (Demolished)' Victorian Heritage Database (VHD) Place ID 27252, accessed online 22 June August 2020.

Land Victoria, Certificates of Title (CT), as cited.

Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) Detail Plan, as cited, State Library of Victoria.

Pratt, C. D. 1945, 'Australian Paper Manufacturing mill (APM) at Fairfield', State Library Victoria: Airspy collection of aerial photographs, Accession no.: H91.160/169

Sands & McDougall, *Melbourne and Suburban Directories (S&Mc)*, as cited.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C203 DARE

EXPLANATORY REPORT

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Darebin City Council, who is the planning authority for this amendment.

The Amendment has been made at the request of Darebin City Council.

Land affected by the amendment

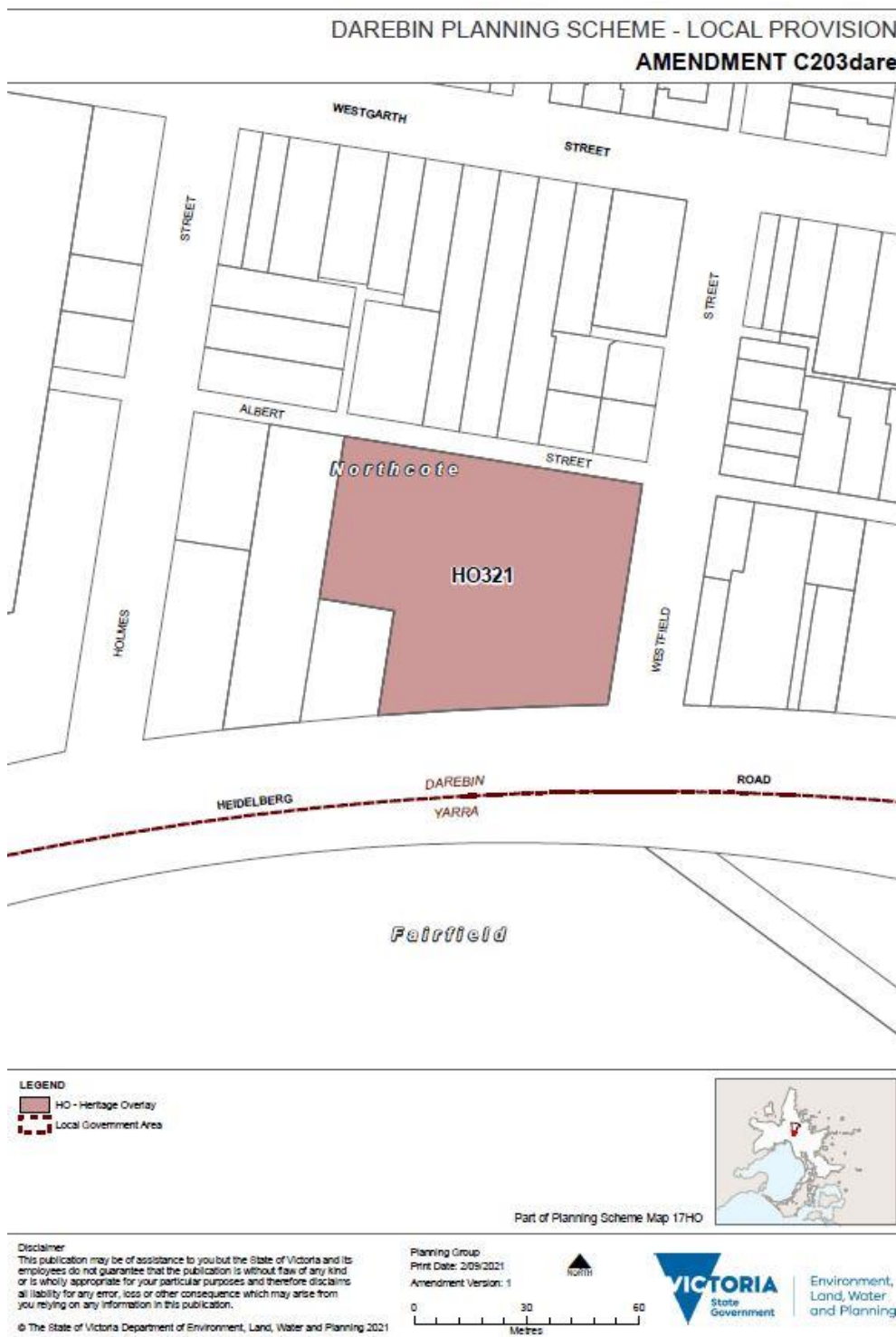
The amendment applies to seven (7) properties along the Heidelberg Road corridor in Northcote, Fairfield and Alphington, Victoria, as shown in the maps.

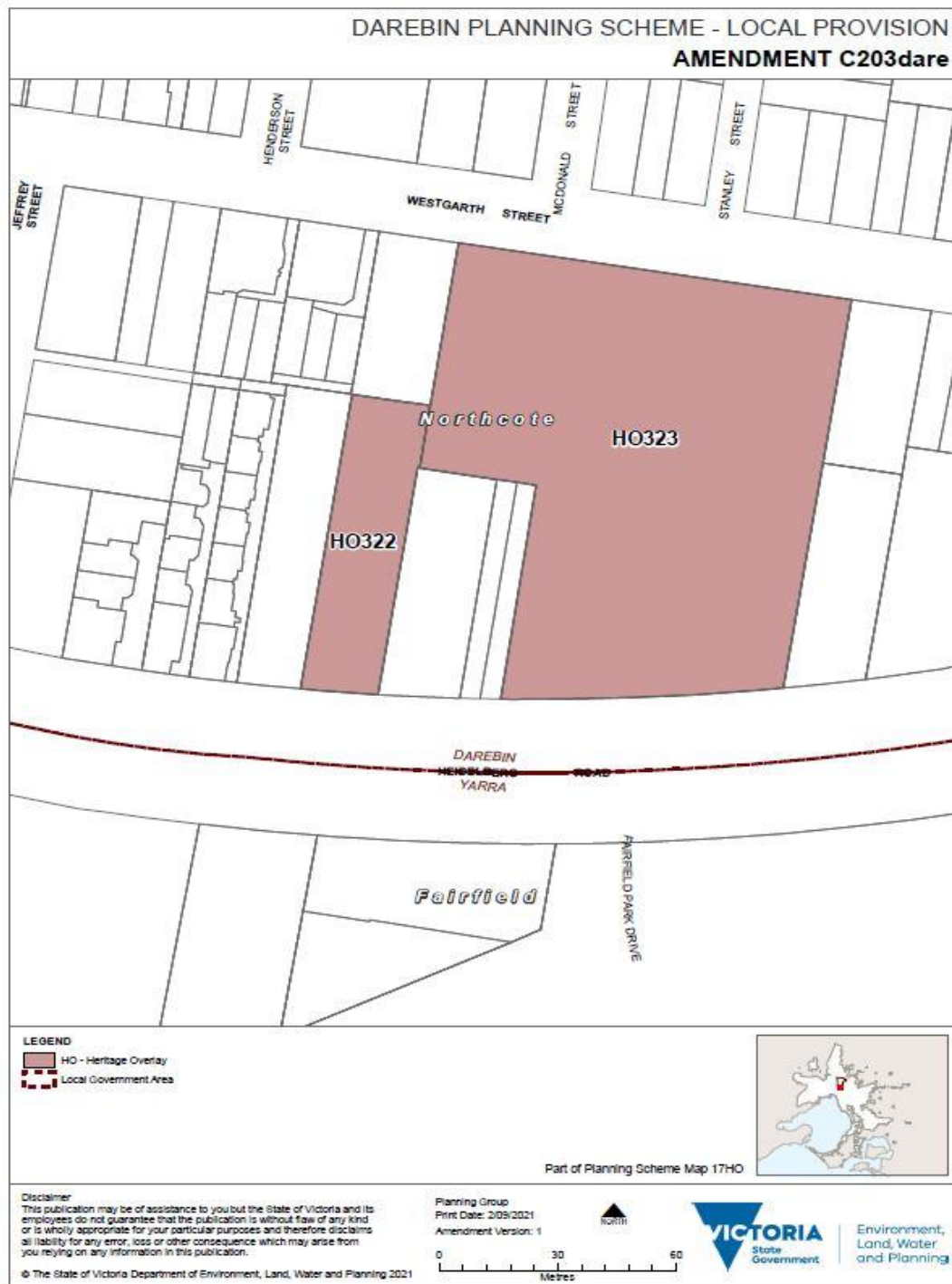
The amendment applies to individual properties at the following addresses:

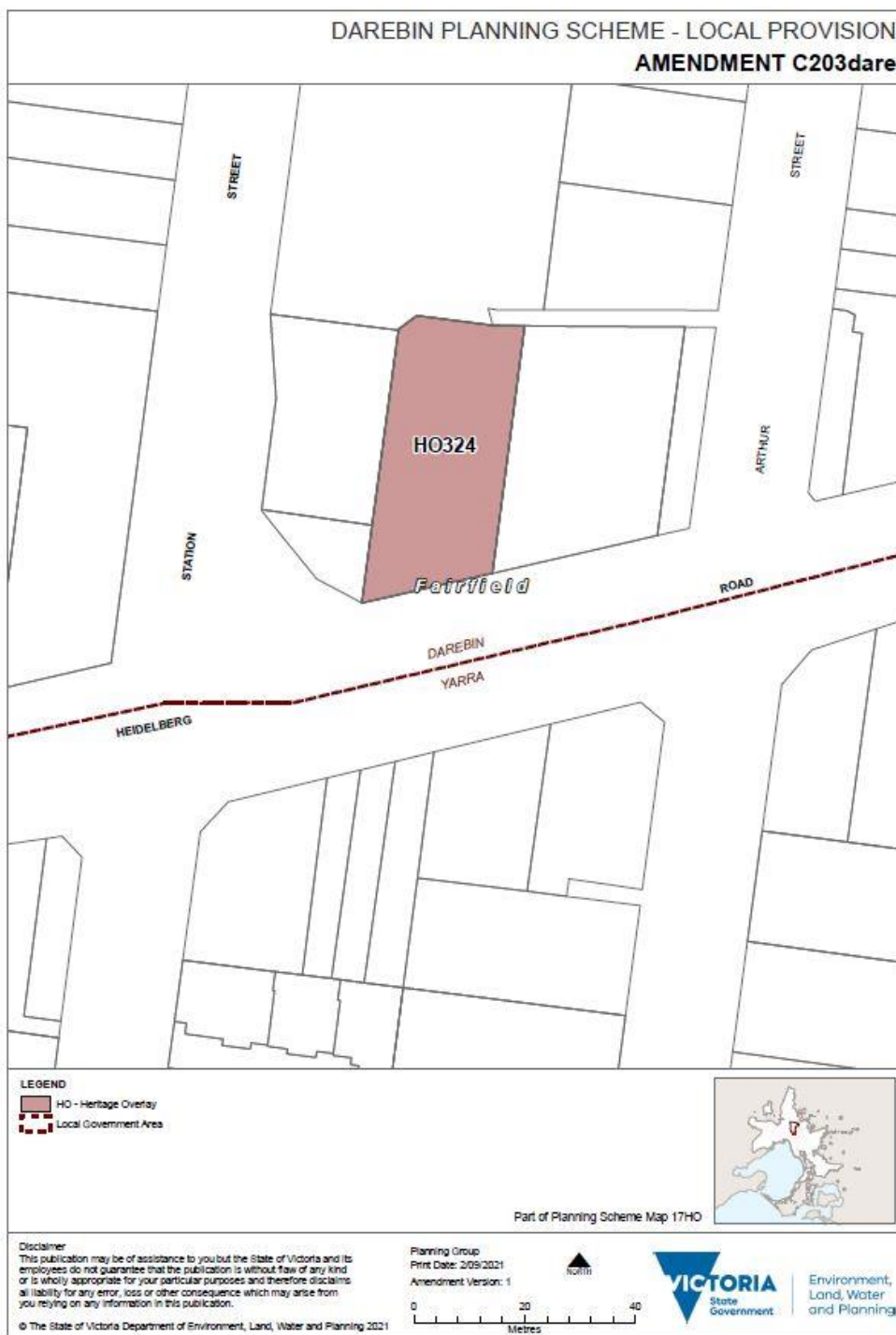
- 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch))
- 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Residence)
- 273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote)
- 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Residence)
- 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (Marineuie Court)
- 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Residence)
- 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Kia-Ora)

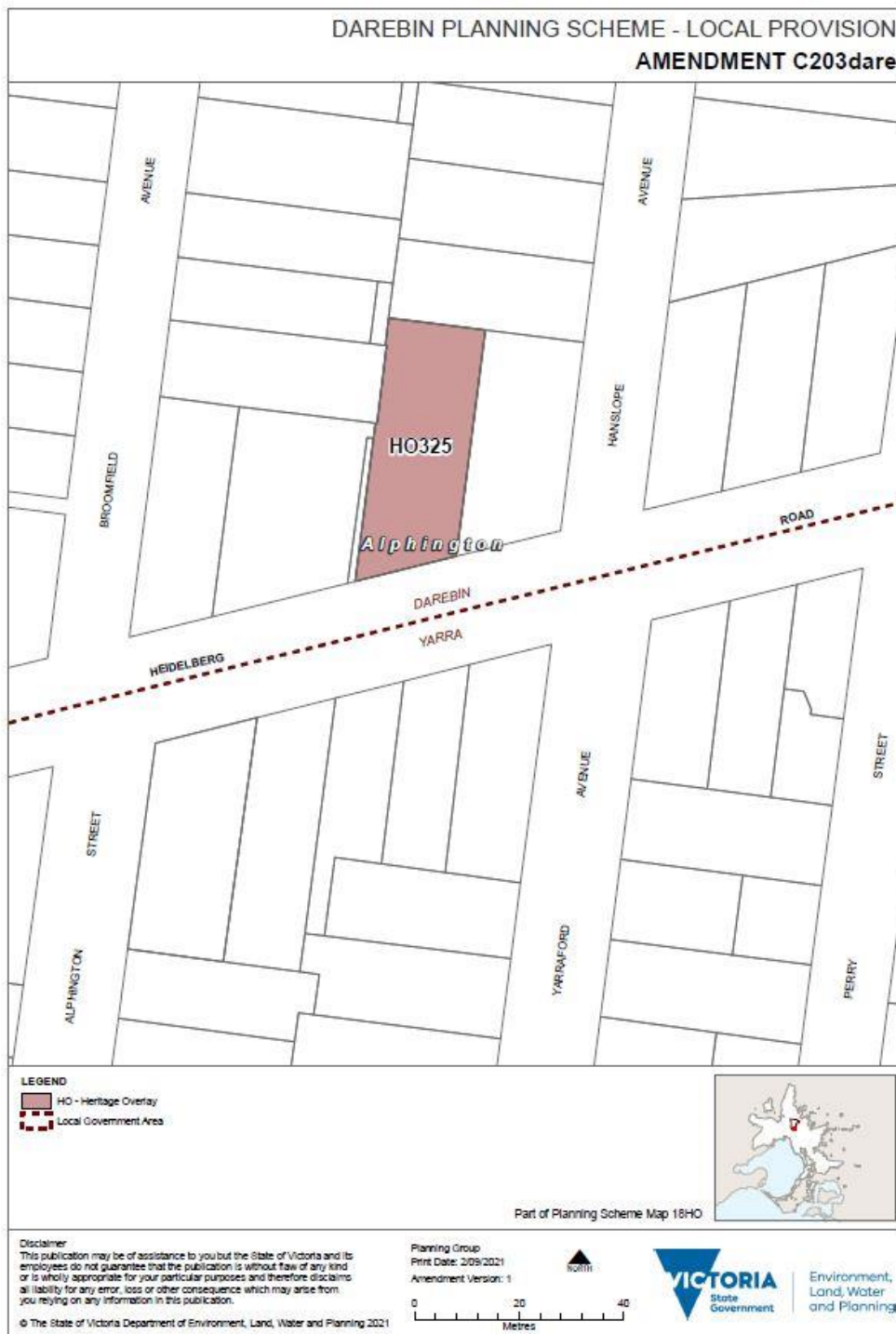


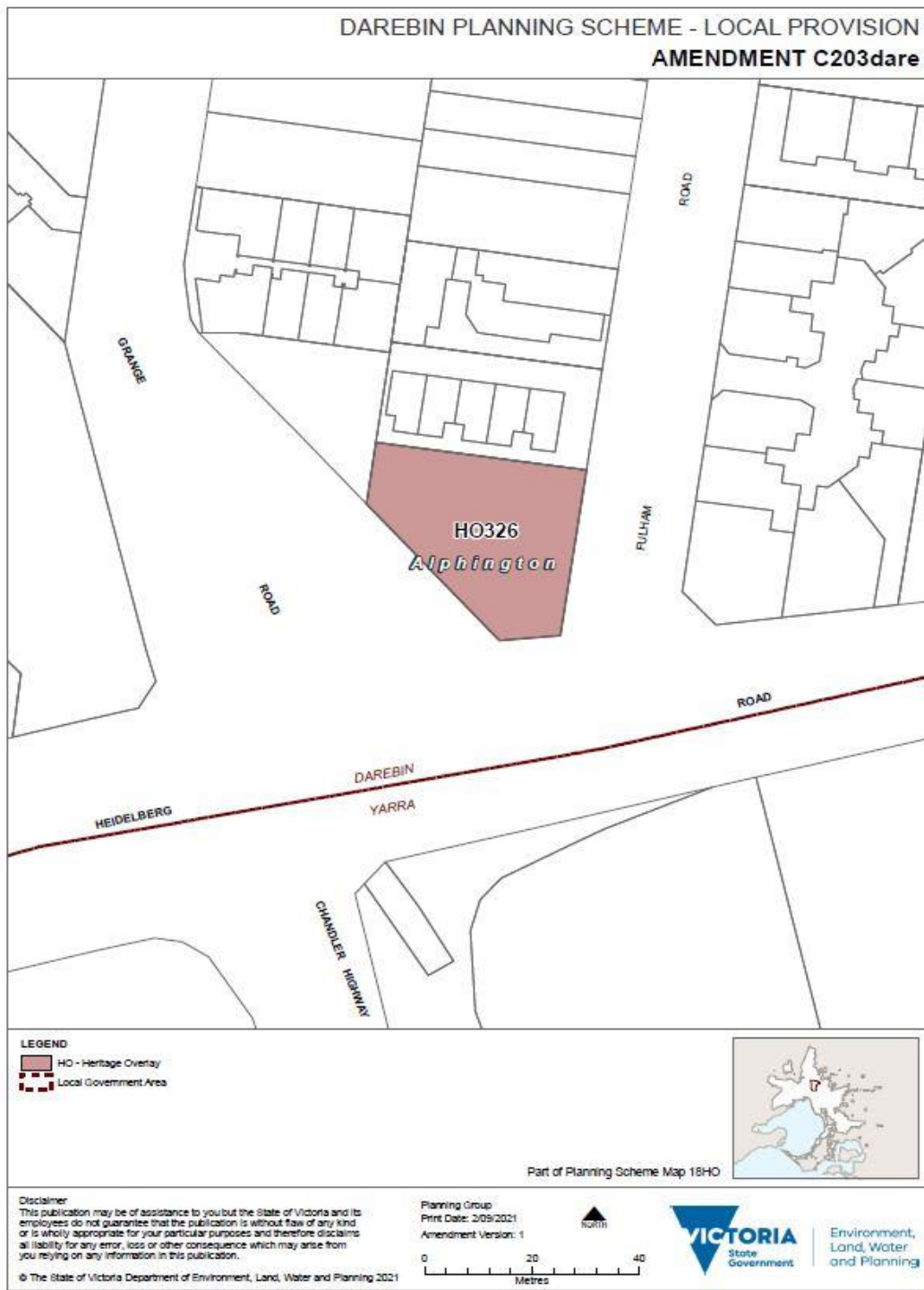
004











What the amendment does

The amendment proposes to implement the recommendations of the *Context Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment report- Final Report, September 2020* by applying the Heritage Overlay (HO319, HO321, HO322, HO323, HO324, HO325 and HO326) to the seven (7) individually significant properties identified in the report and listed above.

Specifically, the Amendment makes the following changes to the Darebin Planning Scheme:

1. Amends the Schedule to Clause 43.01 (Heritage Overlay) and Planning Scheme Map 17HO and 18HO to apply the Heritage Overlay (HO321, HO322, HO323, HO324, HO325, HO326 and HO327) to seven identified properties along the Heidelberg Road corridor.
2. Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.04 (Documents Incorporated in this Planning Scheme) to include the updated incorporated document *City of Darebin heritage study Incorporated Plan – permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021)* and include the statements of significance for each of the seven properties.
3. Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background documents) to reference the *Context Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment report- Final Report, September 2020*

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

In accordance with the Planning Policy Framework (PPF), it is State policy to ensure the conservation of heritage significant places. To do this, places, buildings and objects must be identified, assessed and documented as places of natural and cultural heritage significance, as a basis for their inclusion in Victorian planning schemes.

Darebin City Council has an obligation to conserve and protect Darebin's cultural and built heritage. To do this Council undertakes heritage reviews and gap studies to investigate the significance of place and the appropriateness of their protection via a Heritage Overlay, and subsequent inclusion in the Darebin Planning Scheme. This is consistent with the Darebin Council Plan (2021-2025) to protect valued neighbourhood character. The planning scheme is the most appropriate means of protecting heritage places and achieving the desired outcome.

The amendment proposes to implement the recommendations of the *Context Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment report- Final Report, September 2020*. This study provides strategic justification to support the amendment. In total seven properties along Heidelberg Road were identified as locally significant and worthy of individual protection in the Heritage Overlay. The desired outcome will be to formally protect places of local heritage significance in the Darebin Planning Scheme and ensure new development does not affect the significance of the heritage precinct/place. This aligns with the purpose of the Heritage Overlay.

The amendment will ensure that a planning permit is required for demolition and a range of buildings and works to ensure the heritage significance is protected. Any proposal will then be able to be assessed by Council having regard to the purpose and decision guidelines of the Planning Policy Framework and Heritage Overlay. Planning permit exemptions for minor works not deemed to impact the heritage values are outlined in the *City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021)*

Various structural improvements were made to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay as part of Amendment VC148. These changes enable a statement of significance to be listed and incorporated to assist decision making.

The amendment applies these new provisions by listing each of the seven properties' statements of significance within the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) and incorporating these documents in the Schedule to 72.04 of the Darebin Planning Scheme.

How does the Amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The amendment implements the following objectives of planning in Victoria, under Section 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*:

- *To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land.*
- *To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.*
- *To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.*
- *To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environmental for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria*
- *To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives outlined above.*

The amendment implements these objectives by applying the Heritage Overlay to all identified significant heritage properties within the Heidelberg Road corridor to protect heritage places in the City of Darebin.

How does the Amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

The amendment is expected to have a positive environmental impact by protecting places of historic significance and thereby supporting the reuse of existing building stock.

The amendment is also expected to have positive social effects by ensuring future development responds to the heritage significance of the precinct, so it can be appreciated by future generations.

The amendment is not expected to have significant economic impacts, although it may impose some additional costs on the owners or developers of affected properties as a planning permit will be required for most buildings and works due to the application of the heritage overlay. The Heritage Overlay does not prohibit development, but instead requires the significance of a place to be considered when assessing applications. These impacts are offset by the benefit to the community provided through the protection of heritage places over many generations.

Further, planning permit exemptions for minor works triggered by the Heritage Overlay are included and updated in the Incorporated Plan.

Does the Amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The municipal area of Darebin does not have any designated bushfire prone areas.

Does the Amendment comply with the requirements of any Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

The amendment is consistent with the Ministerial Direction on the Form and Content of Planning Schemes under Section 7(5) of the Act.

The amendment is consistent with Ministerial Direction No.9 – Metropolitan Strategy pursuant to Section 12 of the Act, that requires planning authorities to have regard to the Metropolitan Strategy (Plan Melbourne).

The amendment is consistent with Direction 4.4 of Plan Melbourne: Respect Melbourne's heritage as we build for the future. The amendment is consistent with this direction as it proposes to make minor changes to enable the Planning Scheme to continue to guide appropriate development in the municipality, and that the built heritage of the municipality is maintained.

The amendment is consistent with Ministerial Direction No.11 – Strategic Assessment of Amendments, as the requirements of this direction have been followed in the preparation of this amendment.

How does the Amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment supports the following aspects of the Planning Policy

Framework. (PPF): *Clause 15.03-1S Heritage Conservation:*

Objective: To ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance.

Strategies: Identify, assess and document places of natural or cultural heritage significance as a basis of their inclusion in the planning scheme.

Provide for the conservation and enhancement of those places that are of aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, scientific or social significance.

Encourage appropriate development that respects places with identified heritage values. Retain those elements that contribute to the importance of the heritage place.

Encourage the conservation and restoration of contributory elements of a heritage place. Ensure an appropriate setting and context for heritage places is maintained or enhanced.

The amendment ensures that the policy direction for heritage conservation can be met through the identification, assessment and protection of heritage places within Darebin. The protection of properties through the application of a heritage precinct will encourage appropriate development and the conservation and restoration of contributory elements of these places.

In addition, the PPF requires Council as responsible authority to balance conflicting objectives in favour of net community benefit and sustainable development, for the benefit of present and future generations. The amendment seeks to achieve this net community benefit by ensuring places with heritage values are conserved through inclusion in the heritage overlay, for present and future generations.

How does the Amendment support or implement the Local Planning Policy Framework, and specifically the Municipal Strategic Statement?

The amendment supports the Planning Policy Framework at Clause 15 (Built Environment and Heritage) and Clause 15.03-1S (Heritage Conservation).

Objective

- *To ensure the conservation of places of heritage significance.*

Strategies

- *Identify, assess and document places of natural and cultural heritage significance as a basis for their inclusion in the planning scheme.*
- *Provide for the conservation and enhancement of those places that are of aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, scientific or social significance.*
- *Encourage appropriate development that respects places with identified heritage values.*
- *Retain those elements that contribute to the importance of the heritage place.*

- *Encourage the conservation and restoration of contributory elements of a heritage place. Ensure an appropriate setting and context for heritage places is maintained or enhanced*

The amendment will assist in the implementation of Clause 21.02-4 (Heritage) within the Local Planning Policy Framework of the Darebin Planning Scheme.

In respect to this clause, the amendment supports and is consistent with:

Objective 1 - Heritage Places and Areas – ensuring that places of heritage significance are conserved and enhanced.

Strategies: Discourage demolition or relocation of locally significant heritage buildings.

Encourage appropriate use of heritage places in keeping with heritage significance.

The amendment implements state and local planning policy as it has identified and assessed the seven individual heritage properties along the Heidelberg Road corridor in Northcote, Fairfield and Alphington as having local cultural heritage significance and is proposing to apply the Heritage Overlay to ensure their protection.

The amendment will assist in conserving Darebin's built heritage while not significantly impacting upon the broader housing development objectives of the municipality

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

Not applicable as a reformed Municipal Planning Strategy as part of the Smart Planning process has yet to be introduced into the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Does the Amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The amendment makes proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions by utilising the Heritage Overlay to protect places of local heritage significance; an approach consistent with *Planning Practice Note 1 Applying the Heritage Overlay* and the Ministerial Direction - The Form and Content of Planning Schemes.

How does the Amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

The views of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning have been sought in the preparation of this amendment.

Does the Amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

The requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010 apply where an amendment is likely to have a significant impact on the transport system.

This amendment makes changes to heritage controls applying to places of cultural heritage significance and is not expected to have any impact upon the objectives, strategies and decision-making principles of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

Resource and administrative costs

- **What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?**

The amendment will increase the number of sites subject to the provisions of the Heritage Overlay, therefore potentially resulting in more planning applications. The

anticipated increase in planning applications, given the amendment is limited to just seven sites is not expected to have a significant impact on resourcing and administrative costs.

Where you may inspect this Amendment

The amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during opening hours at the City of Darebin (Planning Counter), 274 Gower Street, Preston, and is available at the Darebin City Council website www.darebin.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

27/08/2021
C161dare

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 43.01 HERITAGE OVERLAY

1.0

Application requirements

27/08/2021
C161dare

None specified.

2.0

Heritage places

27/08/2021
C461dare

Proposed C203dare The requirements of this overlay apply to both the heritage place and its associated land.



PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER							
HO19	Terrace Houses, 186-192 Clarke Street, Northcote	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1774	No	No
HO312	Former Northcote Theatre 212-220 High Street, Northcote	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H2287	Yes	No
HO45	Former Northcote Cable Tramways Site 626-628 High Street, Thornbury	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H2129	Yes	No
HO144	Preston Tramway Workshops 16-18 Miller Street, Preston The heritage place includes Miller Street Tramway Bridge (part) (refer HO236)	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H2031	No	No
HO59	Former Mont Park Hospital and Avenue of Honour Ernest Jones Drive and Springthorpe Boulevard and Cherry Street Macleod	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1872	Yes	No
HO74	Bundoora Park Homestead 7-27 Snake Gully Drive, Bundoora	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1091	Yes	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO175	Former Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Aged 104 – 112 St Georges Road, Northcote	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H1950	Yes	No
HO313	Yan Yean Water Supply System Northcote, Preston, Reservoir The heritage place includes: Part HO163 Northcote-Merri Precinct; and Part HO171 Regent G.E. Robinson Park	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H2333	No	No
HO314	Maroondah Water Supply System (Upper and Central Sections) Reservoir	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H2381	No	No
	LOCAL OVERLAYS							
	Precincts:							
HO167	Alphington Area bounded by Clive Street and Miller Street, north of Heidelberg Road to the Railway line	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO297	Broomfield Avenue Precinct 2-52 and 3-45 and 495 (Park); 509 and 515 Broomfield Avenue; Heidelberg Road, Alphington Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	Yes - Street trees and Bloomfield Park	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO96	Area bounded by St George's Road, Hawthorn Road, Hartington Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO97	Area bounded by Herbert Street, James Street, Butler Street, Bastings Street, Eastment Street, Hawthorn Road, Separation Street & Prospect Grove, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO98	Area bounded by Langwells Parade, Right of Way, Hunter Street & High Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO99	Dally Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO100	Area bounded by Clarke Street, Charles Street, Merri Parade, High Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO101	Area bounded by High Street, Union Street, Westgarth Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO102	Area bounded by High Street, Westgarth Street, Urquhart Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO105	Robbs Parade, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO160	Northcote - Township Area bounded by Westgarth Street, East Street, Cunningham Street, Walker Street, Ross Street, Urquhart Street, High Street and Merri Creek	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO161	Northcote - Westgarth Area bounded by Clarke Street, Roberts Street, Simpson Street, South Crescent, Westgarth Street, High	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Street, Jackson Street, Tobin Avenue, Pearl Street, Timmins Street and Bridge Street							
HO162	Northcote - Rucker's Hill Area bounded by Clarke Street, Waterloo Road, Ilma Grove, High Street, Separation Street, James Street, Herbert Street, Turnbull grove, Eastment Street and Helen Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO163	Northcote – Merri Area bounded by St. George's Road, Westbourne Grove, Park Street and Gordon Grove	No	No	No	No	No (part Ref No H2333 refer HO313)	No	No
HO164	Northcote - Clarke Street North and south sides of Clarke Street, west of St. George's Road to Merri Creek	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO165	Northcote – Sumner Estate Area bounded by Auburn Avenue, Sumner Avenue, St. George's Road and Winifred Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO166	Northcote - Croxton Area bounded by Arthurton Road, Scott Street, Gladstone Avenue, Railway Parade, and St. George's Road	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO173	Newmarket Street Area bounded by Clarke Street, Brooke Street and includes all properties in Newmarket Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO298	Gladstone Avenue Precinct	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	1-35 & 2-46 Gladstone Avenue Northcote Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO95	HCV Newlands Estate, Elizabeth Street, Preston.	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO103	Kelley Grove, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO104	Collins Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO168	Preston Tramway Area bounded by Oakover Road, Gillingham Street, Davies Street and Devon Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO169	Preston State School Area bounded by Orient Grove, Oakover Road, Etnam Street and Scotia Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO182	<i>Preston, Bruce Street</i> 9-25 Bruce Street, 2-8 Herbert Street, & 17 Mary Street, Preston Incorporated plan: Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO183	<i>Preston, 'Heart of Preston' precinct</i> 8-42 & 9-43 William Street, Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions							
HO184	<i>Preston Mary Street precinct</i> 5-15 & 26-36 Mary Street, Preston Incorporated plan: Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO185	<i>Preston Spencer Street precinct</i> 1-23 & 8-18 Spencer Street, Preston Incorporated plan: Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO186	<i>Preston War Service Homes precinct</i> 17-25 & 18-28 Arthur Street, 27-37 Bruce Street, 1-9 & 10-16 Herbert Street and 76-84A St Georges Road, Preston Incorporated plan: Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO170	Bell Railway Area bounded by Garnet Street, Showers Street, west of High Street to the Railway line	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO299	Carlisle Street Precinct 42-46, 52-56 & 62-64 Carlisle Street, Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO300	Garnet Street Houses 7-17 & 16 Garnet Street, Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO301	High Street Preston 274-288 & 317-341 High Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO302	Larne Grove & Roxburgh St Precinct 1-31 & 4-26 Larne Gve, 1-23 & 2-24 Roxburgh St, 23-33 Dundas St & 30-36 Milton Cres, Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO303	Livingstone Parade Precinct 1 -9 & 6-24 Livingstone Parade Preston, 8 & 10 South Street Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO304	Milton Crescent Precinct 6-12 & 5-11 Milton Crescent Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO305	Plenty Road Precinct 85-107, 131-141 & 126-134 Plenty Road Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO171	Regent G.E. Robinson Park Area bounded by King William Street, Down Street, Garden Street and High Street	No	No	No	No	No (part Ref No H2333 refer HO313)	No	No
HO172	Preston Oakhill Avenue Area bounded by Tyler Street, Oakhill Avenue, Capp Street, Xavier Grove, Mc Ivor Street, Southernhay Street, McCarten Street, King William Street and Joffre Street	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO306	Edgar Street Precinct 2-18 Edgar Street Reservoir Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO307	High Street Reservoir 658-694 & 763-793 High Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO308	Queen Street Precinct 1-27, 41-49 & 2-58 Queen Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO309	High Street, Thornbury 732-848 & 827-927 High Street Thornbury Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO310	Plow Street Precinct 1-31 & 2-30 Plow Street Thornbury Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO311	Rossmoyne Street Precinct 43-67 & 50-78 Rossmoyne Street Thornbury Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO181	Woolton Avenue, 55-67 & 52-60 Woolton Avenue, Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO295	Whittlesea Railway Precinct Arthurton Road, Merri parade Northcote, Normanby Avenue Thornbury, Bell Street, Murray Road Preston High Street, Regent Street Reservoir. Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO315	Fairfield Village Heritage Precinct Railway Place, Fairfield Railway Station and reserve, Wingrove Street and Station Street, Fairfield Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	Yes	No	Yes - Two palm trees on the railway reserve	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Individual Items:							
	Alphington							
HO187	Clifton Bridge Yarana Road (Darebin Parklands), Alphington	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
	Bundoora							
HO111	Former Larundel Hospital Complex	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO107	Hugh Linaker's Cottage, Larundel	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO108	Idiot Block, Farm Workers Block, and Idiot Cottages, Larundel (Kingsbury)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO188	Preston General Cemetery, 900 Plenty Road Bundoora	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
	Fairfield							
HO1	1-3 Abbott Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO2	17-19 Arthur Street, Fairfield (House & Shop)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO3	35 Arthur Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO112	92-96 Arthur Street, Fairfield (Post Office)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO6	51 Austin Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO7	59 Austin Street, Fairfield(House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO8	Former St Anthony's Presbytery 59 Austin Street, Fairfield	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO34	12 Hanslope Avenue, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO125	Merri Creek Bridge, Heidelberg Road, Fairfield	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO35	Centenary Dairy Complex 181-187 Heidelberg Rd, Fairfield	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO36	Grandview Hotel 429 Heidelberg Rd, Fairfield	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO37	457 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO316	St Andrew's Alphington and Fairfield Uniting Church, 85-87 Gillies Street, Fairfield Incorporated document City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
HO38	Uniting (Former Methodist) Church complex, 797-809 Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO39	Hills View (former), 849-851, Heidelberg Road, Alphington	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO189	Fairfield Primary School No. 2711 1-5 & 176-206 Langridge Street & Wingrove Street, Fairfield	Yes	No	Yes - Moreton Bay Fig and Pepper trees	No	No	No	No
HO75	2 Rowe Street, Fairfield (House & Canary Island Palm-"Phoenix Canariensis")	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO78	31 Station Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO79	36 Station Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO80	43 Station Street, Fairfield (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO154	61 Station Street, Fairfield	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO190	St Paul's Anglican Church and Organ 88E Station Street Fairfield	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
	Macleod							
HO62	Paying Patients Ward, Former Mont Park Hospital, Former Mont Park Hospital	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO64	Laundry Workers Block, Former Mont Park Hospital	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO66	Hospital Block, Former Mont Park Hospital	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO109	Female Convalescent Ward, Mont Park	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
	Northcote							
HO4	5 Auburn Avenue, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO5	8 Auburn Avenue, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO9	46 Bastings Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO113	58 Bastings Street, Northcote (House & Shop)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO10	Anglican Church 1-3 Bayview Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO11	13 Bayview Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO114	135 Bent Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO115	42 Bower Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO12	16-20 Candy Street, Northcote (Row Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO116	12-16 Christmas Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO117	41-45 Christmas Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO13	5-11 Clarke Street, Northcote (Row Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO14	106 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO118	108-110 Clarke Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO15	107-109 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO119	127 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO16	151 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO17	155 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO120	157 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO18	178 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO20	212 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO21	215 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO22	219 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO23	224 Clarke Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO25	47 Cunningham Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO26	85 Cunningham Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO28	92 Dennis Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO121	33 Derby Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO180	Former Joshua Pitt tannery 52-60 Gadd Street, Northcote 1. 1907 Drying House 2. 1925 Drying House annex 3. remnant chimney	No	Yes – 1907 Drying house only	No	No	No	No	No
HO40	Helen Street Primary School, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO126	12-18 Helen Street Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO41	Former Wesleyan Manse, Helen Street (lot 1, TP845679E), Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO42	74-76 Herbert Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO127	Merri Creek Bridge, High Street Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO43	136-144 High Street, Northcote (Houses & Shops)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO129	329 High Street, Northcote (Shop & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO130	466-468 High Street, Northcote (Shops & Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO44	RSL Hall 496 High Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO131	509-513 High Street, Northcote (Shops & Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO192	Baptist Church 540-542 High Street Northcote	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO132	581-599 High Street, Northcote (Shops & Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO133	607-617 High Street, Northcote (Croxtton Park Hotel)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO52	25 Jackson Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO53	Presbyterian Church & Hall 40-42 James Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO177*	Former Northcote police station 43 James Street, Northcote. Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO54	36 James Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO55	51 James Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO56	57 James Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO57	68 James Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO58	69 James Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO140	34 Jenkins Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO141	36 Jenkins Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO193	Former Ensign Dry Cleaning 24 Leinster Grove Northcote	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
HO142	1-3 Leonard Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO69	3 McLachlan Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO70	4-4a McLachlan Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO71	5 McLachlan Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO72	11 McLachlan Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO145	18 Mitchell Street, Northcote (Primitive Methodist Church, now Salvation Army Hall)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO146	70 Mitchell Street, Northcote Shop (former) and residence	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO147	76-82 Mitchell Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO191	Reserve - Johnson Park 12 Palmer Street Northcote	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO194	Northcote Cemetery 143 Separation Street Northcote	No	No	Yes - Italian Cypress	No	No	No	No
HO195	Northcote High School 19-29 St Georges Road Northcote	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO196	Reserve - Merri Park 33 St Georges Road Northcote	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO77	140 St George's Road, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO155	1 Thomson Street Northcote (Shop & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO156	9-15 Union Street, Northcote (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO82	26 Urquhart Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO83	44 Urquhart Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO85	1-3 Walker Street, Northcote (Duplex Dwellings)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO86	7 Walker Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO87	Former Police Station 24 Walker Street, Northcote	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO88	34 Walker Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO89	45 Walker Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO90	3 Wardrop Grove, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO197	Reserve - Oldis Gardens and Northcote Cricket Ground Westgarth Street Northcote	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO157	74 Waterloo Road, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO91	127 Westgarth Street, Northcote (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO158	153 Westgarth Street, Northcote (House, St. Helens)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preston							

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO198	Howard Park 172 Albert Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO199	Sacred Heart Catholic Church complex (Church, Rectory, Hall, School) 322 Bell Street Preston, 4-6 Clifton Grove & 89 David Street, Preston	Yes	Yes - church only	No	No	No	No	No
HO200	Preston Masonic Centre 382-4 Bell Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO201	House 392 Bell Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO202	Former BP Service Station 548 Bell Street Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO203	House 634 Bell Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO204	House (Balleer) 648 Bell Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO205	House 664 Bell Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palm (Phoenix canariensis)	No	No	No	No
HO206	House (La Rocque) 82 Bruce Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO207	Former Stables 43 Carlisle Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO24	Preston Girls' High School Cooma Street Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO208	Houses (Sandland family) 36 & 40 Cooper Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	Yes	Yes - Front Fence	No	No	No
HO209	House 93 Cramer Street Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO210	Preston City Oval & Band Hall 11-21 Cramer Street Preston	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO27	Former Salvation Army Hall 61 David Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO30	Former Bacon Curing Factory cnr Dundas St & Plenty Rd, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO211	House 7 Eastwood Avenue Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO31	Newlands State Primary School, 2-26 Murphy Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO32	HCV Bachelor Flats, 15-17 Eric Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO212	West Preston Progress Hall 523 Gilbert Road Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO213	Houses 244-46 Gower Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO214	Reg Parker sculpture (Untitled 8/73) 266 Gower Street Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO215	Truby King Baby Health Centre 270 Gower Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO216	Junction Hotel 2-4 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO128	93-103 High Street, Preston (Howe Leather Factory)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO217	Shops & residences 107-109 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO218	Prince Alfred Hotel (former) & Shop 111-113 High Street Preston	No	Yes - staircase only	No	No	No	No	No
HO219	Fidelity Tent No. 75 of the Independent Order of Rechabites (former) 251-3 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO220	Shop & residence 283 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO221	Shops & residences 306-08 High Street Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO50	Preston Town Hall & Municipal Offices 350 High Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO222	Shops 352-72 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO223	Commonwealth Bank 374-76 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO224	Metropolitan Fire Brigade - Preston (former) 378 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO225	All Saints Anglican Church complex 400 High Street Preston & 239 Murray Road Preston	Yes	Yes - church only	Yes - Bhutan Cypresses	No	No	No	No
HO226	Shop 435 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO227	Shops 471-73 High Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO228	J. Harvey Grocer (former) 626-628 High Street Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO229	House (Prestonia) 10 Hotham Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO230	House (Crawford) 12 Hotham Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO231	Preston South Primary School No. 824 56B Hotham Street Preston	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO51	56-82 Hotham Street, Preston (Builders Terrace)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO232	House (Rainhamville) 4 Hurlstone Avenue Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palm	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO234	House and Shop 65 Jessie Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO235	House 65 May Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO236	Miller Street Tramway Bridge Miller Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No (part Ref No H2031 refer HO144)	No	No
HO237	House 4 Mount Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO238	Houses (Yarraberb & Leura) 7 & 9 Mount Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO239	Preston West Primary School No. 3885 83 Murray Road Preston	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO179	House 418 Murray Road, Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO240	East Preston Tram Depot 211-243 Plenty Road Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO73	Bluestone Cottage & Shop 339 Plenty Road, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO241	Shops 519-541 Plenty Road Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO242	House, garage & doctor's surgery (former) 572 Plenty Road Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO243	State Savings Bank of Victoria (former) 600-606 Plenty Road Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO244	House 230 Raglan Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO245	Brickworks' Houses 227-45 & 259-63 Raglan Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO246	House 16 Regent Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO247	House (Cliveden) 18 Regent Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO248	House and Canary Island Palms 30 Regent Street, Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palms	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO249	Holy Name Catholic Primary School & Church 2-26 Robb Street Reservoir	Yes	Yes - church only	No	No	No	No	No
HO150	59B Roseberry Avenue, Preston (Preston Police Station)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO174	66 Spring Street, Preston (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO76	Oakover Hall 12 Stafford Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO250	Preston Technical College (Former) 77-89 St Georges Road Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO81	Preston East Primary School Sylvester Grove, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO251	Preston Primary School No. 1494 240 Tyler Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO252	House (Leura) 268 Tyler Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO253	Houses (Wahroonga & Leaholme) 297 & 299 Tyler Street Preston	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO254	House 20 Winifred Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO92	131 Wood Street, Preston (Former Hospital)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO255	House 192 Wood Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO256	House (St John's Villa) 282 Wood Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO94	Greek Orthodox Church Yann Street, Preston	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO257	House 8 Yann Street Preston Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

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	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO258	House 17 Yann Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO259	Grandview Dairy (former) 16 Young Street Preston Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reservoir							
HO260	House and Fence 18 Barton Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	Yes - Front Fence	No	No	No
HO261	St Mark's Anglican Church and Vicarage 19-21 Beatty Street Reservoir	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO262	House and fence 194 Edwardes Street Reservoir Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	Yes - Front Fence	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO263	Reserve - Edwardes Lake and Park 200A Edwardes Street Reservoir	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO264	Methodist Church 34 George Street Reservoir	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO265	Clydebank Dairy Trees 679 Gilbert Road Reservoir	No	No	Yes - Bhutan Cypresses	No	No	No	No
HO266	House 685 Gilbert Road Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO267	House 689 Gilbert Road Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO268	House 40 Gloucester Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palm	No	No	No	No
HO49	Uniting Church 648-656 High Street, Reservoir	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO271	Regent Baptist Church 726-734 High Street Reservoir	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO273	House 34 King William Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO274	House 59 King William Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO275	House (Annandale) 40 Leamington Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	Yes - Front Fence	No	No	No
HO276	Reserve - F.G Pike Reserve 26 Mason Street Reservoir	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO277	House 34 Mason Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palm	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO278	House (Rosehill) 7 Pellew Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO279	St George's Church of England 32-34 Ralph Street Reservoir	No	Yes - church only	No	No	No	No	No
HO280	St Gabriel's Catholic Church 237-243 Spring Street Reservoir	No	Yes - church only	No	No	No	No	No
HO281	House 9 Station Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO282	House 1 Wild Street Reservoir Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Thornbury							
HO176	Northcote Pottery 85a Clyde Street, Thornbury.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
HO29	82 Dundas Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO122	1 Flinders Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO33	1-4/6 Francis Grove, Thornbury (Flats)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO283	UFS Dispensary (former) 2 Gooch Street Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO123	9 Gooch Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO284	Reserve - The Steps 1 Clarendon St, 12 & 19 Gooch St, 26 Flinders, 29 Rossmoyne St & 2A Raleigh St Thornbury	No	No	Yes - Canary Island Palms	No	No	No	No
HO124	9-11 Harold Street, Thornbury (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO134	703 High Street, Thornbury (Shop & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO135	707 High Street, Thornbury (Shop & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO285	Salvation Army Hall & Sunday School 710 High Street Thornbury	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO136	711 & 715 High Street, Thornbury (Shops & Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO46	St Mary's Church 718-730 High Street, Thornbury	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO137	731 High Street, Thornbury (Shop & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO286	Shops 735-737 High Street Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO138	759-761 High Street, Thornbury (Shops & Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO48	Thornbury Regent Theatre 859 High Street, Thornbury	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO287	Thornbury Primary School No. 3889 16-24 Hutton Street Thornbury	No	No	Yes - Italian Cypresses	No	No	No	No
HO139	21 Hutton Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO288	MMTB Substation 3-5 Martin Street Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO143	34 Martin Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO148	2-4 Normanby Avenue, Thornbury (Houses)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO289	Electricity Substation Pender Street, Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO290	Reserve - Penders Park 48A Pender Street Thornbury	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
HO149	66 Raleigh Street, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO291	Thornbury Uniting Church 7-15 Rossmoyne Street Thornbury.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO151	28 Shaftesbury Parade, Thornbury (Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Vicarage and Parish Hall)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO152	40 Shaftesbury Parade, Thornbury (Former S.G. Tomkins Pty Ltd Dairy & House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO292	Front fence 47 Shaftesbury Parade Thornbury	No	No	No	Yes - front fence	No	No	No
HO153	52 Shaftesbury Parade, Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO293	House (Hillside) 6 Speight Street Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan - Permit Exemptions (2021)							
HO294	Penders Grove Primary School No. 3806 370 Victoria Road Thornbury	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO84	Primary School Wales Street, Thornbury	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
HO159	54 Woolton Avenue Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO93	60 Woolton Avenue Thornbury (House)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO319	331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Residence) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO321	159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch)) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch) Statement of Significance, September 2021							
HO322	257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Residence) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	No	No	No	Yes-masonry fence	No	No	No
HO323	273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	273-289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote) Statement of Significance, September 2021							
HO324	441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (Marineuie Court) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (Marineuie Court) Statement of Significance, September 2021	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
HO325	521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Residence) Incorporated plan: City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	No	No	No	Yes- masonry fence	No	No	No
HO326	607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Kia-Ora) Incorporated plan:	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

PS map ref	Heritage place	External paint controls apply?	Internal alteration controls apply?	Tree controls apply?	Outbuildings or fences not exempt under Clause 43.01-4	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 2017?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Aboriginal heritage place?
	City of Darebin Heritage study Incorporated Plan – Permit exemptions (2011, amended 2021) Statement of significance: 607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Kia-Ora) Statement of Significance, September 2021							

**Denotes interim controls apply*

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

31/07/2018
VC148**SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.04 DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED IN THIS PLANNING SCHEME****1.0 Incorporated documents**27/09/2021 - / - / - - -
C161dare Proposed C203dare

Name of document	Introduced by:
5-9 Nisbett Street, Reservoir - September 2020	C193dare
29-31 Clingin Street, Reservoir - September 2020	C193dare
48-50 Clingin Street and 37-45 Nisbett Street, Reservoir - October 2020	C195dare
Assessment of Trees for VPO Update in Mount Cooper, Bundoora 3 December 2009	C105
Assessment of Trees for VPO Update in Springthorpe Estate, Macleod 16 May 2010	C105
Biosciences Research Centre Incorporated Document, June 2008	C94
Chandler Highway Upgrade Incorporated Document, March 2016 (Amended December 2017)	GC80
City of Darebin Development Contributions Plan, Version 3.0 (Darebin City Council, 2020)	C190dare
City of Darebin Heritage Study Incorporated Plan – Permit Exemptions (2021)	C161dare C203dare
Concept Plan and Building Envelope Plan, Northland Plan No 3, September 2000	C21
High Street, Reservoir Level Crossing Removal Project Incorporated Document, March 2018	GC86
Hurstbridge Rail Line Upgrade 2017 Incorporated Document, January 2017	GC60
Incorporated Document - Preston Residential Heritage Precincts Permit Exemptions, February 2008	C68
Lancaster Gate Tree Protection Layout Plan – Stages 3 and 4 – 1 September 2003	C51
Lancaster Gate Tree Protection Plan – Stages 1 and 2 – 1 September 2003	C51
Preston Central Incorporated Plan March 2007 (as amended 2014)	C135
Preston Market Incorporated Plan March 2007	C67
Vegetation Survey – Former Kingsbury Centre Site, Bundoora - Map 2	C5
159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex (later Department of Aircraft Production branch) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare
257 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare
273--289 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, Northcote) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare
331-333 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare
441 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield (Marineuie Court) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare
521 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Residence) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

Name of document	Introduced by:
607 Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Kia-Ora) Statement of Significance, September 2021	C203dare

DAREBIN PLANNING SCHEME

31/07/2018
VC148

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0 Background documents

27/09/2021 - / - / - -
C161dare Proposed C203dare

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
Fairfield Village Built Form Guidelines 2017 (amended 2019)	C161dare - Schedule 21 to Clause 43.02
Fairfield Village Heritage Assessment 2017 (amended 2019)	C161dare - Schedule 1 to Clause 43.01
Context Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment report- Final Report, September 2020	C203dare

**CITY OF DAREBIN HERITAGE STUDY
INCORPORATED PLAN – PERMIT EXEMPTIONS
(2011, amended 2021)**

This incorporated plan sets out the permit exemptions from the provisions of the Heritage Overlay in accordance with Clause 43.01-2 that apply to specific heritage place and precincts assessed by the *City of Darebin Heritage Study – Historic Heritage Places* (2011), which were added to the Heritage Overlay by Amendment C108 (Part 1) to the Darebin Planning Scheme and the *Fairfield Village Heritage Assessment 2017*, which were added to the Heritage Overlay by Amendment C161 to the Darebin Planning Scheme.

Please refer to the relevant heritage place and precinct citations in the *City of Darebin Heritage Study – Historic Heritage Places* (2011), ~~and~~ the *Fairfield Village Heritage Assessment, 2017* and the Heidelberg Road Heritage Assessment (Context) 2020 for further information about the significance of each place and precinct, including history, description and statements of significance. This information can also be accessed from the City of Darebin website or by contacting Darebin Council.

1 Application

These permit exemptions apply to places included within the Heritage Overlay as follows:

- Heritage precincts in the residential zones as specified in Table 3.1 (Section 3.1)
- Individual heritage places in the residential zones (Section 3.2)
- Heritage precincts in the business zones as specified in Table 3.2 (Section 3.3)
- East Plenty Tram Depot, 211-43 Plenty Road, Preston (Section 3.4)
- Whittlesea Railway Precinct (Section 3.5)
- Miller Road Tramway Bridge (Section 3.6)
- Northern Metropolitan Institute of Technology (Former Preston Technical School) (Section 3.7)
- House and former doctor’s surgery, 572 Plenty Road, Preston (Section 3.8)
- St Andrew’s Alphington and Fairfield Uniting Church, 85 Gillies St, Fairfield (Section 3.9) Fairfield Railway reserve. (Section 3.10)

This incorporated plan does not provide permit exemptions from a planning permit if required by any other provision of the Darebin Planning Scheme.

2 Definitions

The following definitions apply:

DEFINITIONS

<i>Heritage Place</i>	<i>Significant</i>	A <i>Significant</i> place is a single heritage place that has cultural heritage significance which may be independent of its context. These places may also contribute to the significance of a heritage precinct. <i>Significant</i> places within a heritage precinct will not usually have a separate Statement of Significance.
	<i>Contributory</i>	A <i>Contributory</i> place contributes to the significance of a heritage precinct, but would not be significant on their own.

	<i>Significant feature</i>	A <i>Significant feature</i> is any feature (building, tree, structure etc.) identified as contributing to the significance of a heritage place or precinct. <i>Significant features</i> are identified in the <i>City of Darebin Heritage Study 2008</i> and the <i>Fairfield Village Heritage Assessment, 2017</i> .
<i>Non Heritage Place</i>	<i>Non-contributory or Not Significant</i>	<i>Non-contributory or Not Significant</i> places which do not contribute to the significance of a heritage precinct. In some instances, a <i>Significant</i> place may be considered <i>Non-contributory or Not Significant</i> within a precinct. For example, an important Modernist house within a Victorian era precinct.
<i>Maintenance</i>		<i>Maintenance</i> means the continuous protective care of a <i>place</i> , and its <i>setting</i> . <i>Maintenance</i> is to be distinguished from repair which involves <i>restoration or reconstruction</i> .

Significant, Contributory and Non-contributory or Not Significant places within heritage precincts are shown on the precinct maps that form part of this incorporated plan – see Attachment A.

3 No Planning Permit Required

3.1 Heritage precincts in the residential zones

This applies to the heritage precincts listed in Table 3.1, which are shown on the attached precinct maps. It does not apply to heritage places that are individually listed in the schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Refer to Section 3.2).

Table 3.1 – Heritage precincts

Precinct	Locality	HO No.
Broomfield Avenue	Alphington	HO297
Gladstone Avenue	Northcote	HO298
Carlisle Street	Preston	HO299
Garnet Street	Preston	HO300
Larne Grove and Roxburgh Street	Preston	HO302
Livingstone Parade	Preston	HO303
Milton Crescent	Preston	HO304
Edgar Street	Reservoir	HO306
Queen Street	Reservoir	HO308
Plow Street	Thornbury	HO310
Rossmoyne Street	Thornbury	HO311
Woolton Avenue	Thornbury	HO181

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following development within the heritage precincts subject to the Heritage Overlay specified in Table 3.1:

Demolition and routine maintenance

- Demolition of a building or part of a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory* on the relevant precinct map.
- Demolition of a side or rear fence. This does not apply to a property located on a corner or if any part of the side or rear fence is identified as a *Significant feature*.
- Repairs or routine maintenance to a building that would change the appearance of that building on a property shown as *Non-contributory* on the relevant precinct map. This does not apply if the repairs or routine maintenance would result in an extension to the building.
- Repairs or routine maintenance or alterations to the wall of a building that faces the rear boundary that would change the appearance of that building on a property shown as *Contributory* on the relevant precinct map. This does not apply if the repairs or routine maintenance would result in an extension to the building, or to a property on a corner site.

Construction of and extensions to buildings, other structures, services and fences

- Construction of an outbuilding with a gross floor area not more than 10 square metres and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1.
- Construction or extension of an open-sided pergola or verandah with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1.
- Construction or extension of a deck with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1.
- Construction of an extension to a building on a property shown as *Contributory* on the relevant precinct map provided that all of the following conditions are met:
 - the building height¹ is not more than the building height of the original dwelling excluding any later extensions or additions;
 - The extension is sited within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1.
 - the setback from side boundaries is not less than the setback of the existing building.
- Construction of an extension to a building on a property shown as *Non contributory* on the relevant precinct map provided that:
 - the building height¹ is not more than the building height of the existing building; and
 - the setback from front or side boundaries is not less than the setback of the existing building.
- Construction of a front fence not more than 1.2metres in height above natural ground level provided that this does not require the demolition of an existing front fence of a property shown as *Significant* or *Contributory* on the relevant precinct map or identified as a *Significant feature* within the precinct.
- Construction of a side or rear fence including the installation of lattice or trellis. This exemption does not apply to:
 - Side fences within 3 metres of the frontage; or
 - Side fences along the secondary frontage of a property on a corner site.
- Installation of domestic services normal to dwelling on any property that may be visible from a street or public park provided that the installation:
 - is not attached to the front wall of the building;

¹ "Building height" as defined by Clause 72 General Terms in the Darebin Planning Scheme

- is not situated between the front wall of the building and the front property boundary;
- if attached to the side wall of a building on a property shown as *Significant* or *Contributory* on the relevant precinct map, it is set back not less than 4 metres from the minimum front setback of the dwelling (See Note 1);
- does not project above the highest point of the roof;
- is not situated on that part of the roof that faces directly toward a street (including a side street); and if situated on part of a roof that faces a side boundary on a property shown as *Significant* or *Contributory* on the relevant precinct map, it is set back not less than 4 metres from the minimum front setback of the dwelling (See Note 1).
- Construction or extension of a domestic swimming pool or spa and associated mechanical equipment and safety fencing on any property provided that the pool is situated within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1

3.2 Individual places in the residential zones

This applies to heritage places that are individually listed in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay, except for 572 Plenty Road, Preston (Refer to Section 3.8).

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following development for individually listed heritage places within the residential zones subject to the Heritage Overlay:

Demolition and routine maintenance

- Demolition of or alterations to a building that is not specified as a *Significant feature*. This includes routine maintenance that would change the appearance of a building.
- Demolition of a side or rear fence. This does not apply to a property located on a corner or if any part of the side or rear fence is identified as a *Significant feature*.

Construction of and extensions to buildings and fences

- Construction of an outbuilding with a gross floor area not more than 10 square metres and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard of a property as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.
- Construction or extension of an open-sided pergola or verandah with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.
- Construction or extension of a deck with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.
- Construction of a front fence not more than 1.2 metres in height above natural ground level provided that this does not require the demolition of an existing front fence that is identified as a *Significant feature*.
- Construction of a side or rear fence including the installation of lattice or trellis. This exemption does not apply to:
 - Side fences within 3 metres of the frontage; or
 - Side fences along the secondary frontage of a property on a corner site.
 - The installation of lattice or trellis on a fence identified as a *Significant*

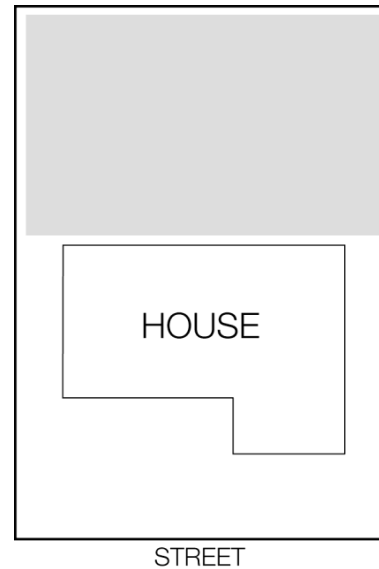
feature.

- Construction or extension of a domestic swimming pool or spa and associated mechanical equipment and safety fencing on any property provided that the pool is situated within the rear yard as defined on Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.

NOTE 1: For the purposes of this exemption the front setback is measured to the original dwelling and not to any later extensions or additions such as garages or carports

FIGURE 1

The shaded area defines the rear yard for the purposes of this policy



3.3 Heritage precincts in the business zones

This applies to the heritage precincts listed in Table 3.2, which are shown on the attached precinct maps.

Table 3.2 – Heritage precincts

Precinct	Locality	HO No.
High Street, Preston	Preston	HO301
Plenty Road	Preston	HO305
High Street, Reservoir	Reservoir	HO307
High Street, Thornbury	Thornbury	HO309
Fairfield Village	Fairfield	HO315
<u>159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex)</u>	<u>Northcote</u>	<u>HO321</u>

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following development within the heritage precincts subject to the Heritage Overlay listed in Table 3.2:

- Demolition of a building or part of a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory* or *Not Significant* on the relevant precinct map.
- Routine maintenance to a building that would change the appearance of that

building on a property shown as *Non-contributory or Not Significant* on the relevant precinct map.

- Signage situated below verandah at ground floor level on a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory or Not Significant* on the relevant precinct plan.
- Above verandah signage on a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory* on the relevant precinct plan unless the building is adjacent to a *Significant or Contributory* building as shown on the relevant precinct map.
- Installation of an automatic teller machine on a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory or Not Significant* on the relevant precinct plan.
- The alteration to an existing building façade of a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory or Not Significant* on the relevant precinct plan provided that:
 - The alteration does not include the installation of an external roller shutter
 - At least 80 per cent of the building front at ground level is maintained as an entry or window with clear glazing.
- An awning on a building on a property shown as *Non-contributory or Not Significant* on the relevant precinct plan that projects over a public road reservation if it is authorised by the relevant public land manager.

3.4 East Preston Tram Depot

This applies to the East Preston Tram Depot at 211-243 Plenty Road, Preston (HO240). *Significant features* are listed in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3 – East Preston Tram Depot significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
The offices, constructed by 1955, facing Plenty Road	Later alterations and additions
The covered tram storage shed, constructed by 1955, to the extent of the exterior walls and roof	Later alterations and additions

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following demolition and buildings and works within HO240 (East Preston Tram Depot):

- Removal of, modifications and repairs to and replacement of overhead power lines.
- Repairs to and replacement of tramway tracks.
- Modifications and repairs to and replacement of any electric or electronic signalling equipment.
- Removal of, repairs to, installation or replacement of safety barriers, rubbish bins, seating, bicycle racks and other small items of furniture.
- Removal, installation, repair or replacement of non-commercial signage, security lighting, fire safety equipment provided it does not involve the removal or erection of a building or other structure.
- Resurfacing of existing paths and driveways.
- Removal, installation or replacement of garden watering, water recycling or drainage systems.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard 4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees.

3.5 Whittlesea Railway Precinct

This applies to all sites included within the Whittlesea Railway Precinct (HO295).

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following demolition and buildings and works within HO295 (Whittlesea Railway Precinct):

- Removal of, modifications and repairs to and replacement of overhead power lines.
- Repairs to and replacement of railway tracks and sleepers including ballast.
- Modifications and repairs to and replacement of any electric or electronic signalling equipment.
- Removal of, repairs to, installation or replacement of ticket machines, passenger control gates, safety barriers, rubbish bins, seating, bicycle racks and other small items of platform furniture.
- Removal, installation, repair or replacement of non-commercial signage, security lighting, fire safety equipment provided it does not involve the removal or erection of a building or other structure.
- Resurfacing of existing paths and driveways.
- Removal, installation or replacement of garden watering, water recycling or drainage systems.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard 4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees.
- The construction or demolition of buildings and works and tree removal necessary to achieve compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002* in accordance with a plan for such works within the Heritage Overlay area which has been approved by the responsible authority.

3.6 Miller Street Tramway Bridge

This applies to the Miller Street Tramway Bridge (HO 236). *Significant features* are listed in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4 – Miller Street Tramway Bridge significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
Brick abutments either side of the railway line	Post 1945 alterations and additions including concrete deck, supporting piers and cyclone wire fencing.

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following demolition and buildings and works within HO236 (Miller Street Tramway Bridge):

- Alterations or additions, or routine maintenance to a structure that would change the appearance of that structure other than the *Significant features* of the structure listed in Table 3.4.
- Installation of or alterations and additions to trackwork, overhead wiring and associated infrastructure and the carrying out of associated works.

Former Preston Technical College (NMIT)

This applies to the former Preston Technical College (now NMIT) 77-89 St Georges Road, Preston (HO250). *Significant features* are listed in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5 – Former Preston Technical College (NMIT) significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
The former Preston Technical College designed by Percy Everett and constructed by 1937	Later alterations and additions including the additions to the north and south wings constructed c.1955. Landscaping and other buildings.

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following demolition and buildings and works within HO250 (Former Preston Technical College):

- Demolition or alteration of non-significant buildings or features. Construction or demolition of buildings and works necessary to achieve compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* in accordance with a plan for such works within the Heritage Overlay area that has been approved by the responsible authority.
- Construction of a fence not more than 1.2 metres in height above natural ground level.
- Construction or extension of a deck with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level.
- Removal of, repairs to, installation or replacement of safety barriers, rubbish bins, seating, bicycle racks and other small items of furniture.
- Removal, installation, repair or replacement of non-commercial signage, security lighting, fire safety equipment provided it does not involve the removal or erection of a building or other structure.
- Resurfacing of existing paths and driveways or construction of new paths or driveways.
- Removal, installation or replacement of garden watering, water recycling or drainage systems.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard 4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees.

3.7 House, garage and former doctor’s surgery, 572 Plenty Road, Preston

This applies the house, garage and former doctor’s surgery, 572 Plenty Road, Preston (HO242). *Significant features* are listed in Table 3.6.

Table 3.6 – House, garage and former doctor’s surgery significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
The house and its interior designed by Harold Desbrowe Annear.	The interior of the garage.
The garage designed by Harold Desbrowe Annear.	The side and rear fencing other than the arched gateway and high rendered wall.
The arched gateway and high rendered wall adjoining the house facing Plenty Road	

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for

the following buildings and works within HO242:

Interior

- Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of any original paint or other decorative scheme.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.
- Installation, removal or replacement of curtain tracks, rods and blinds.
- Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted art.
- Refurbishment of existing bathrooms, toilets and kitchens including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures including the original shower structure and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- Demolition or removal of non-original bathroom partitions and tiling, sanitary fixtures and fittings, kitchen wall tiling and equipment, lights, built-in cupboards and the like.
- Removal or replacement of non-original door and window furniture including, hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts.
- Installation of stud walls, which are removable, providing no alteration to the structure is required.
- Removal of tiling or concrete slabs in wet areas provided there is no damage to or alteration of original structure or fabric.
- Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and that the central plant is concealed.
- Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original servant's bells, light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain in situ.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.
- Installation of plant within the roof space.
- Installation of new built-in cupboards providing no alteration to the structure is required.

Demolition and routine maintenance

- Demolition of or alterations to a building that is not specified as a *Significant feature*. This includes routine maintenance that would change the appearance of a building.
- Demolition of the non-significant side or rear fence.

Construction of and extensions to buildings and fences

- Construction of an outbuilding with a gross floor area not more than 10 square metres and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard of a property as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.
- Construction or extension of an open-sided pergola or verandah with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level and a maximum building height not more than 3 metres above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.

- Construction or extension of a deck with a finished floor level not more than 800mm above natural ground level within the rear yard as defined in Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.
- Construction of a side or rear fence including the installation of lattice or trellis. This exemption does not apply to the installation of lattice or trellis on a fence identified as a *Significant feature*.
- Construction or extension of a domestic swimming pool or spa and associated mechanical equipment and safety fencing on any property provided that the pool is situated within the rear yard as defined on Figure 1. This does not apply if it would require the removal, demolition or alteration of a *Significant feature*.

3.8 St Andrew's Alphington and Fairfield Uniting Church, 85 Gillies St, Fairfield

This applies St Andrew's Alphington and Fairfield Uniting Church, 85 Gillies St, Fairfield, (HO314). *Significant features* are listed in Table 3.8

Table 3.8 – St Andrew's Alphington and Fairfield Uniting Church significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
The exterior and interior of the church as designed by Francis Bruce Kemp.	The existing picket fencing on the street boundaries The features located within the blue polygon on the aerial plan in Attachment B

Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following buildings and works within HO314:

Interior

- Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of any original paint or other decorative scheme.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings. Installation, removal or replacement of curtain tracks, rods and blinds.
- Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted art.
- Refurbishment of existing bathrooms, toilets and kitchens including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures including and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- Demolition or removal of non-original partitions and tiling, sanitary fixtures and fittings, wall tiling and equipment, lights, built-in cupboards and the like.
- Removal or replacement of non-original door and window furniture including, hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts.
- Installation of stud walls, which are removable, providing no alteration to the structure is required.
- Removal of tiling or concrete slabs in wet areas provided there is no damage to or alteration of original structure or fabric.
- Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and that the central plant is concealed.

- Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.
- Installation of plant within the roof space.
- Installation of new built-in cupboards providing no alteration to the structure is required.

Demolition and routine maintenance

- Demolition of or alterations to all features within the blue polygon shown in Figure 2. This includes routine maintenance that would change the appearance of a building.
- Demolition of the non-significant side or rear fences.
- Construction of and extensions to buildings and fences

FIGURE 2

*St Andrew's Alphington and Fairfield
Uniting Church, 85 Gillies St, Fairfield
The red line is the HO boundary and
the blue polygon is the area that is
appropriate for future development.*



3.9 Fairfield Railway Reserve

This applies to all land within the curtilage of the Fairfield Railway reserve as shown on the Fairfield Village Heritage Precinct map in Attachment A. Significant features are listed in Table 3.9.

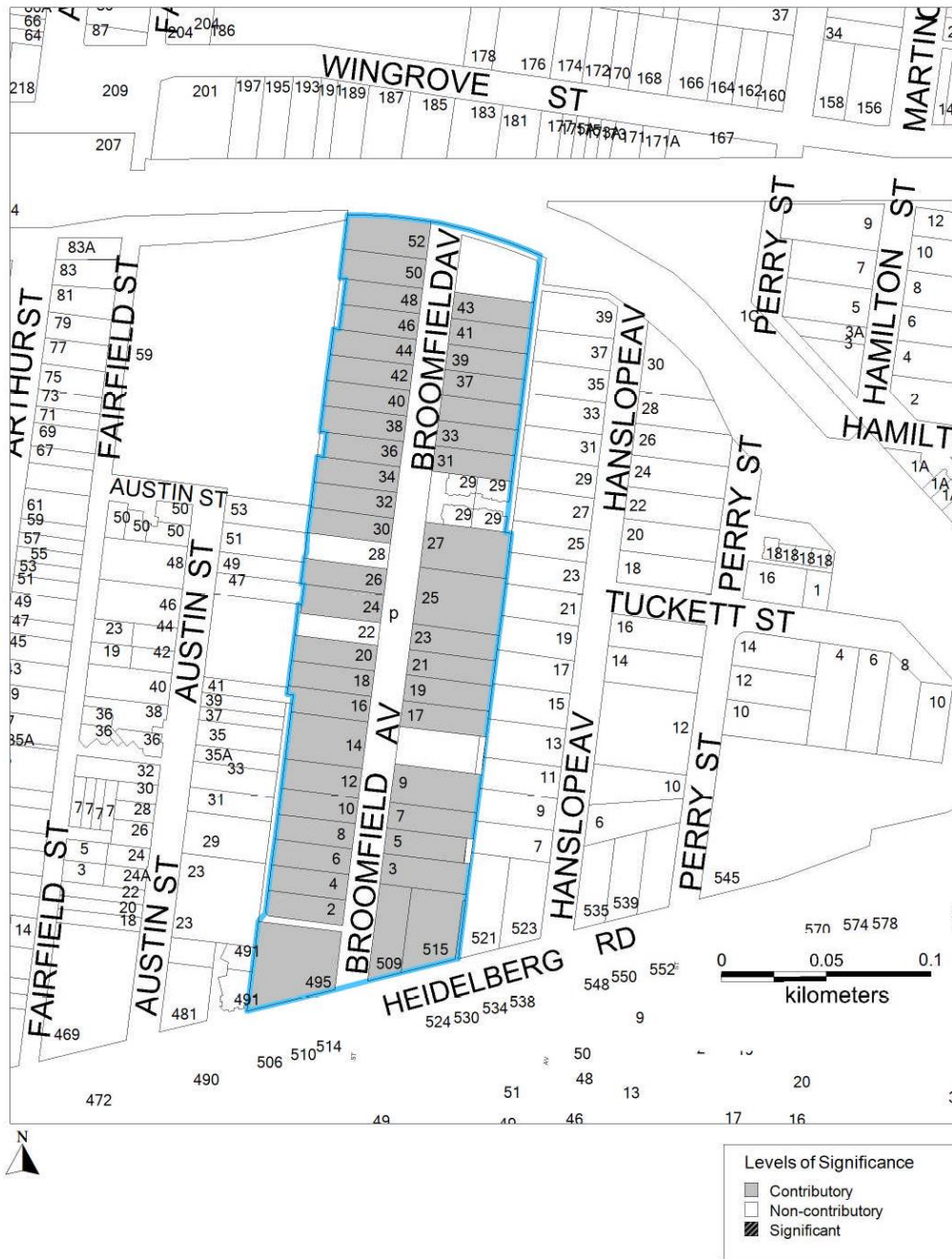
Table 3.9 – Fairfield Railway Reserve significant features

Significant feature	Non-significant features
The two mature palm trees at entrance to station from Railway Place	Wire mesh fencing
South side station building and verandah	Car park areas
North side station building and verandah	Gum trees
North and south platforms	FIDO art work
Timber pedestrian bridge	South side Protective Services Officer building and adjacent shelter
Signal Box, including timber staircase	

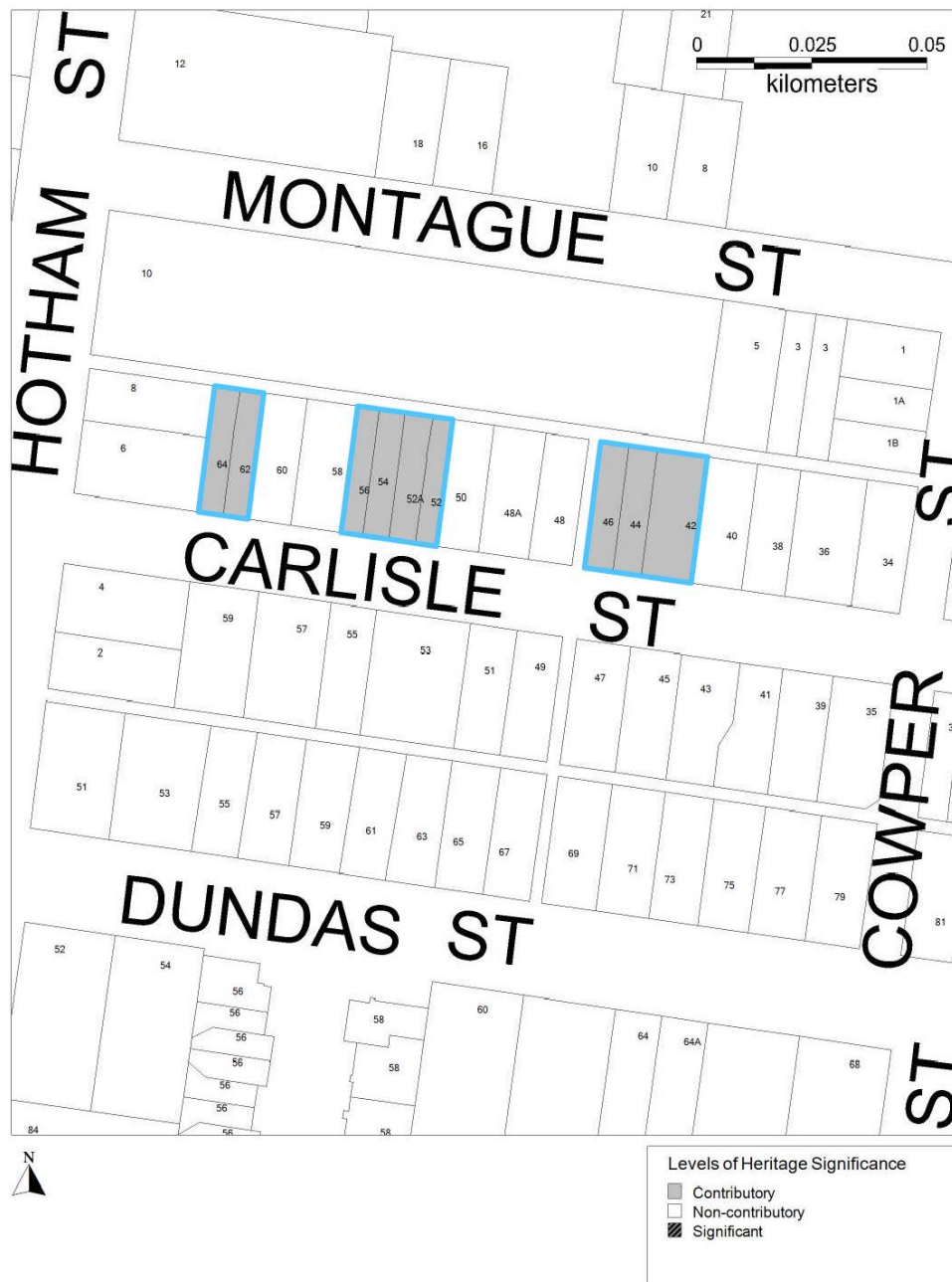
Under Clause 43.01-2 of the Planning Scheme, no planning permit is required for the following demolition and buildings and works within the Fairfield Railway Reserve within HO313:

- Removal of, modifications and repairs to and replacement of overhead power lines and associated support structures.
- Works, repairs and routine maintenance which change the appearance of a building, structure, tree or other item not identified as a significant feature in Table 3.9.
- Works, repairs and routine maintenance which do not change the appearance of a building, structure, tree or other item identified as a significant feature in Table 3.9.
- Repairs to and replacement of railway tracks and sleepers including ballast.
- Modifications and repairs to and replacement of any signaling or communications equipment.
- Removal of, repairs to, installation or replacement of ticket machines, passenger control gates, safety barriers, rubbish bins, seating, bicycle racks and other small items of platform furniture.
- Removal, installation, repair or replacement of non-commercial signage, security lighting and fire safety equipment provided it does not involve the removal or erection of a building or other structure.
- Demolition or removal of a fence
- Resurfacing of existing paths, platforms and driveways provided this is undertaken to the same details, specifications and materials.
- Removal, installation or replacement of garden watering, water recycling or drainage systems.
- Management of trees (except the two palm trees) in accordance with Australian Standard 4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees.
- The construction or demolition of buildings and works and tree removal necessary to achieve compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002, except for demolition or removal of any item identified as a significant feature in Table 3.9.

ATTACHMENT A - HERITAGE PRECINCT MAPS



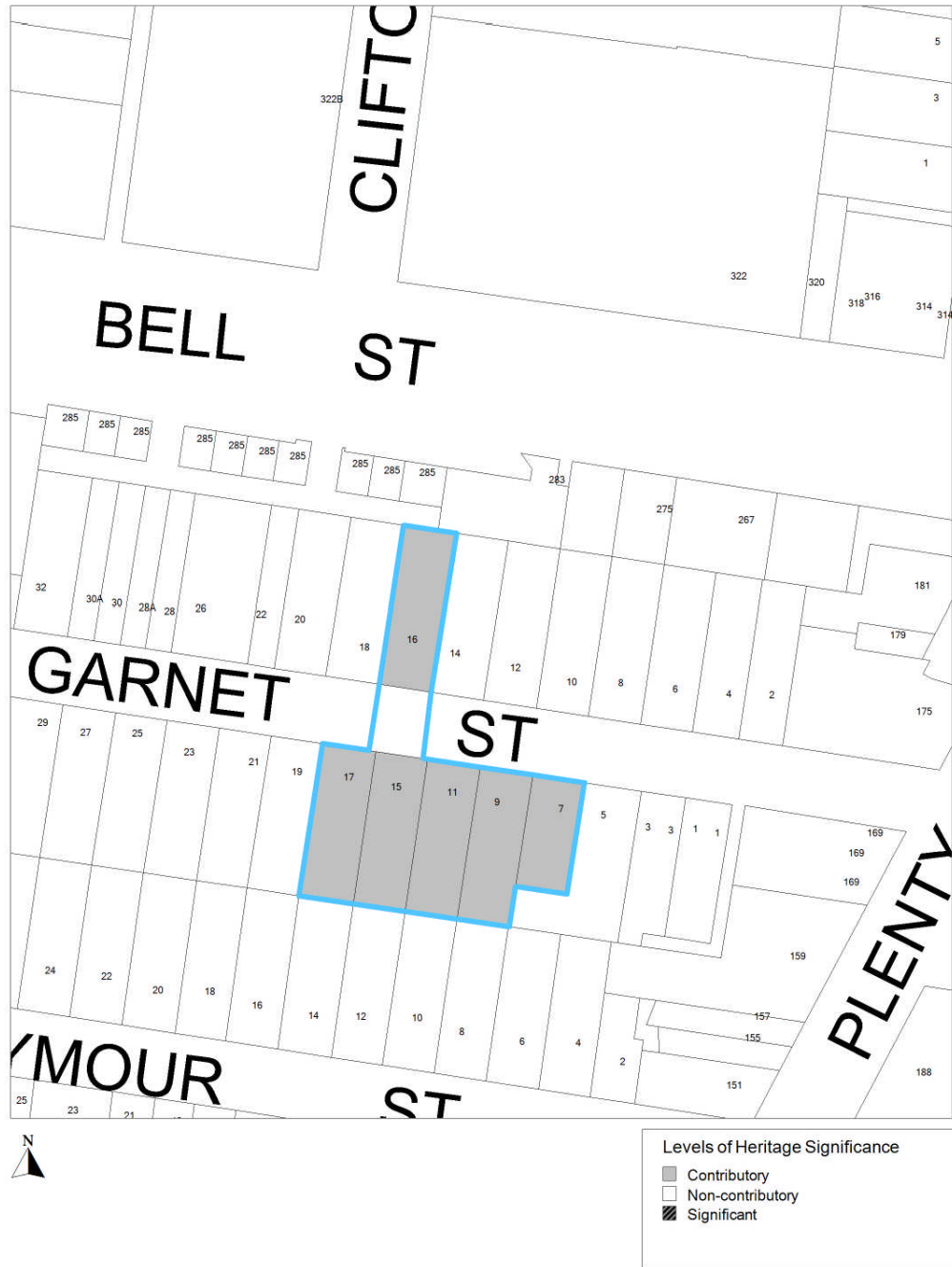
Broomfield Avenue Precinct, Alphington



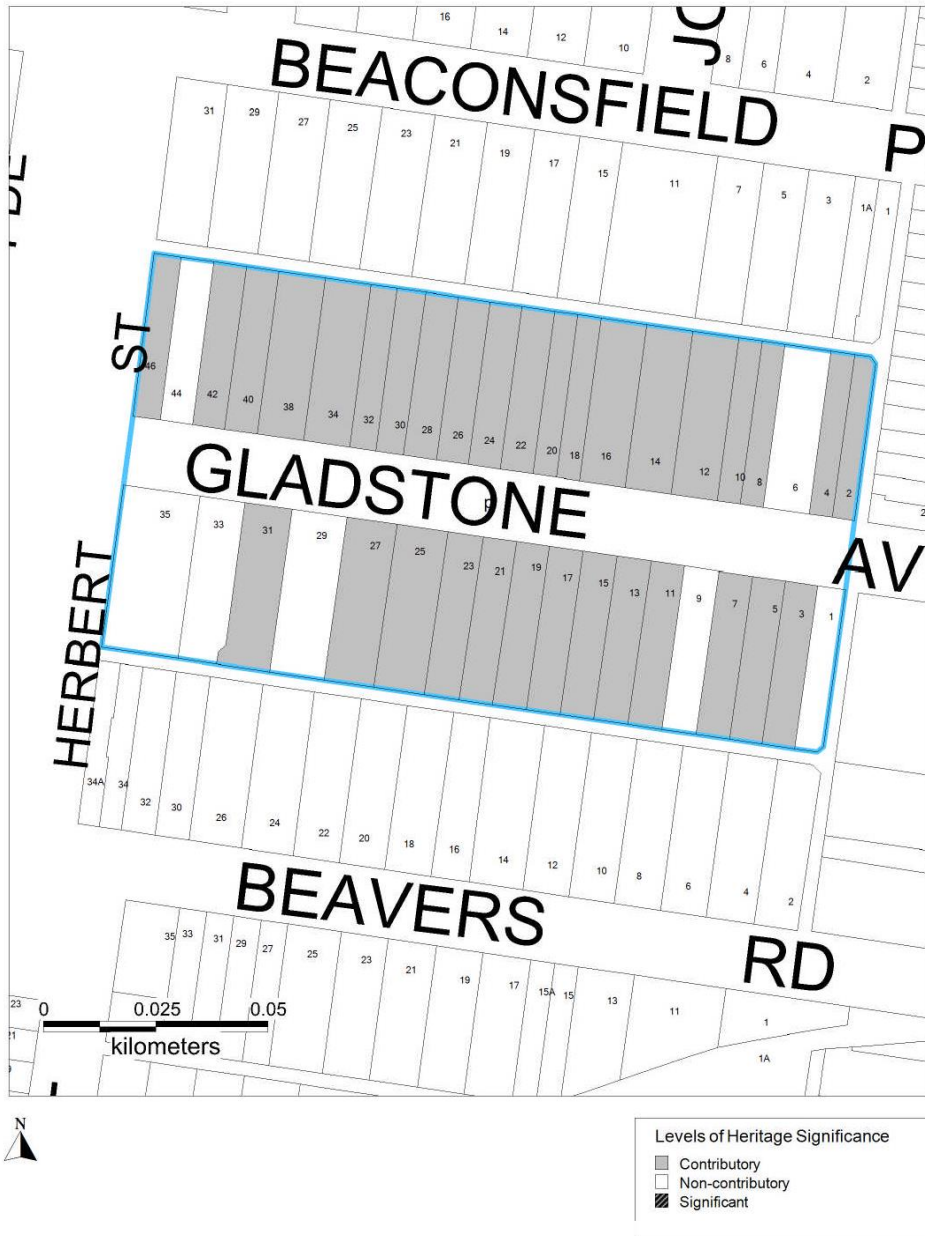
Carlisle Street Precinct, Preston



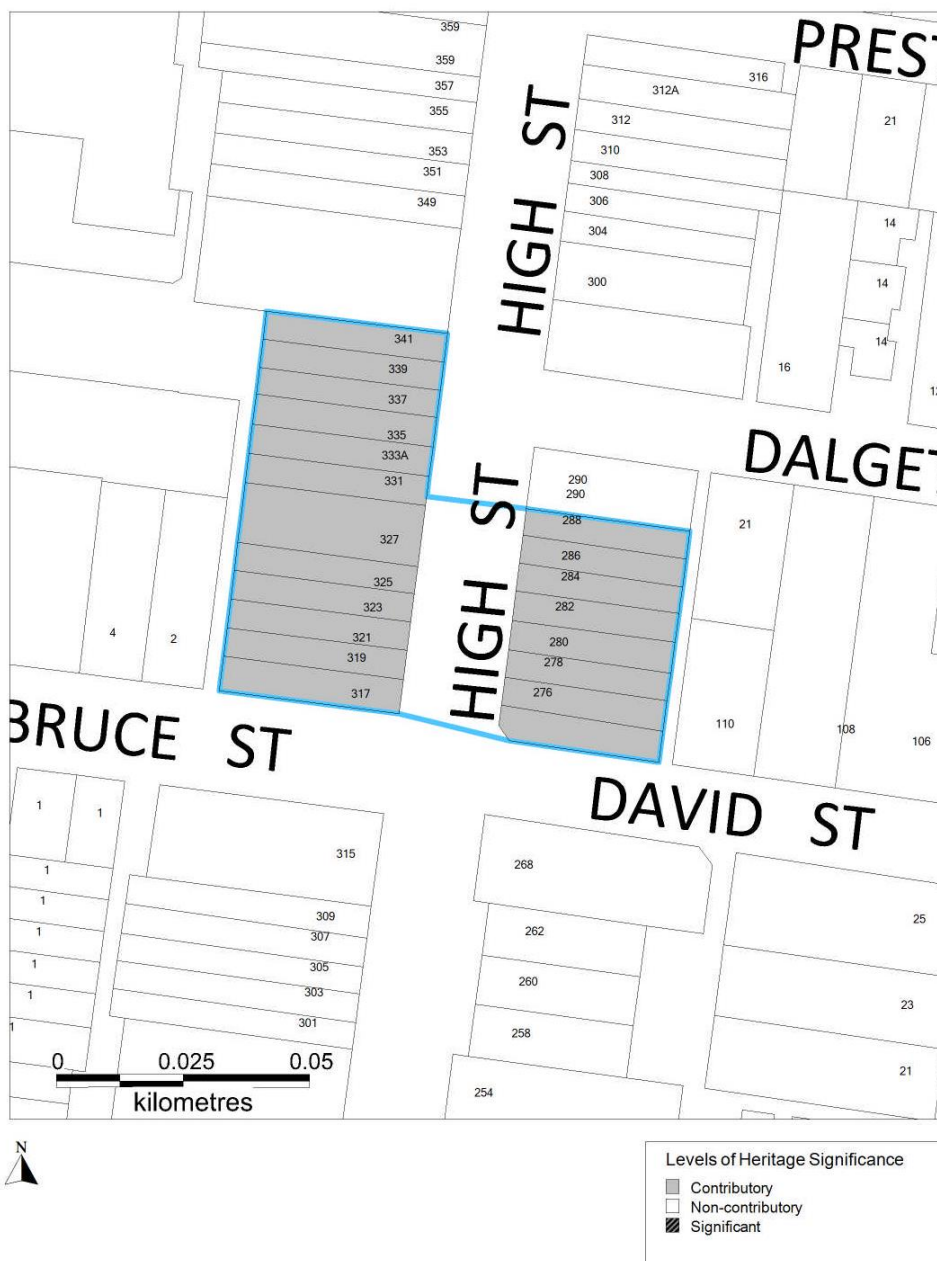
Edgar Street Precinct, Reservoir



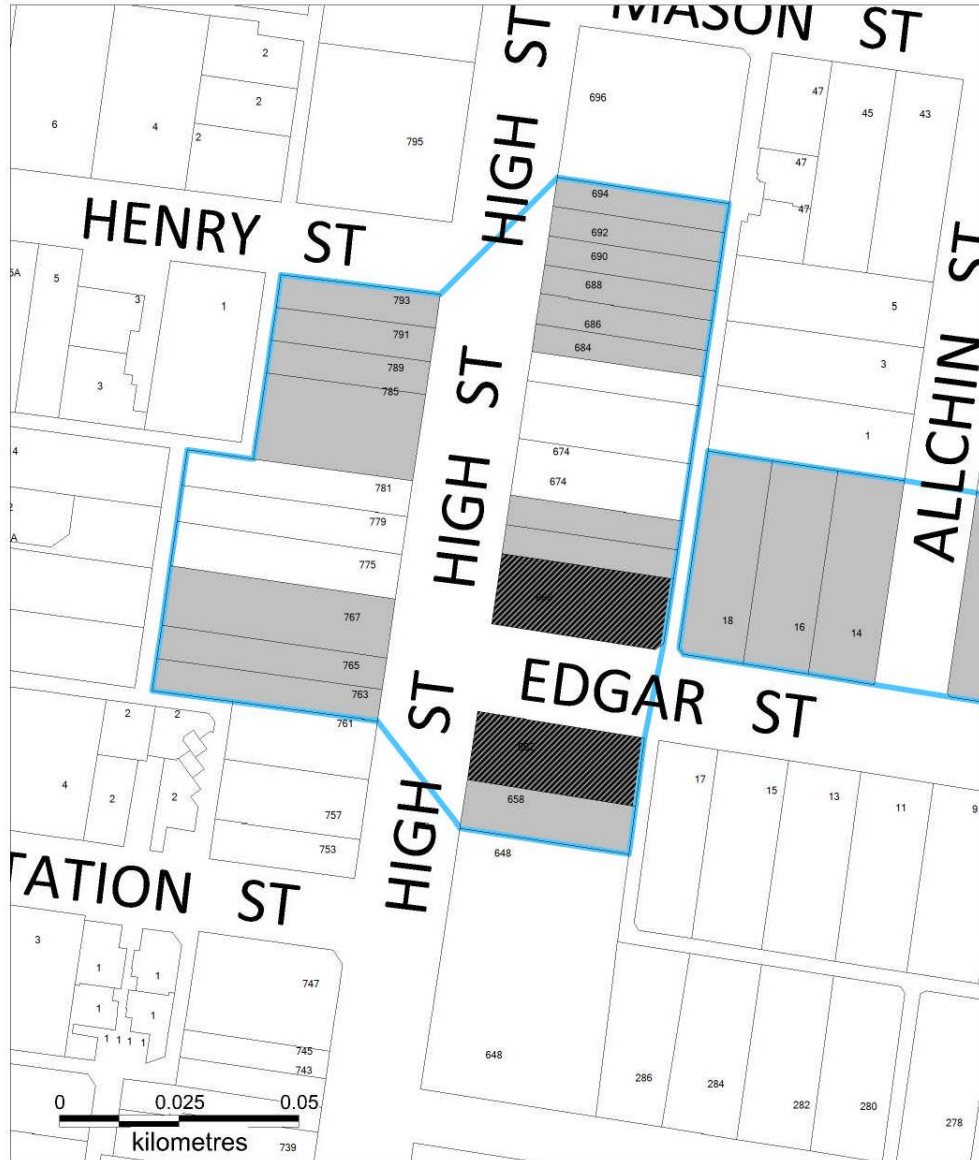
Garnet Street Precinct, Preston



Gladstone Avenue Precinct, Northcote



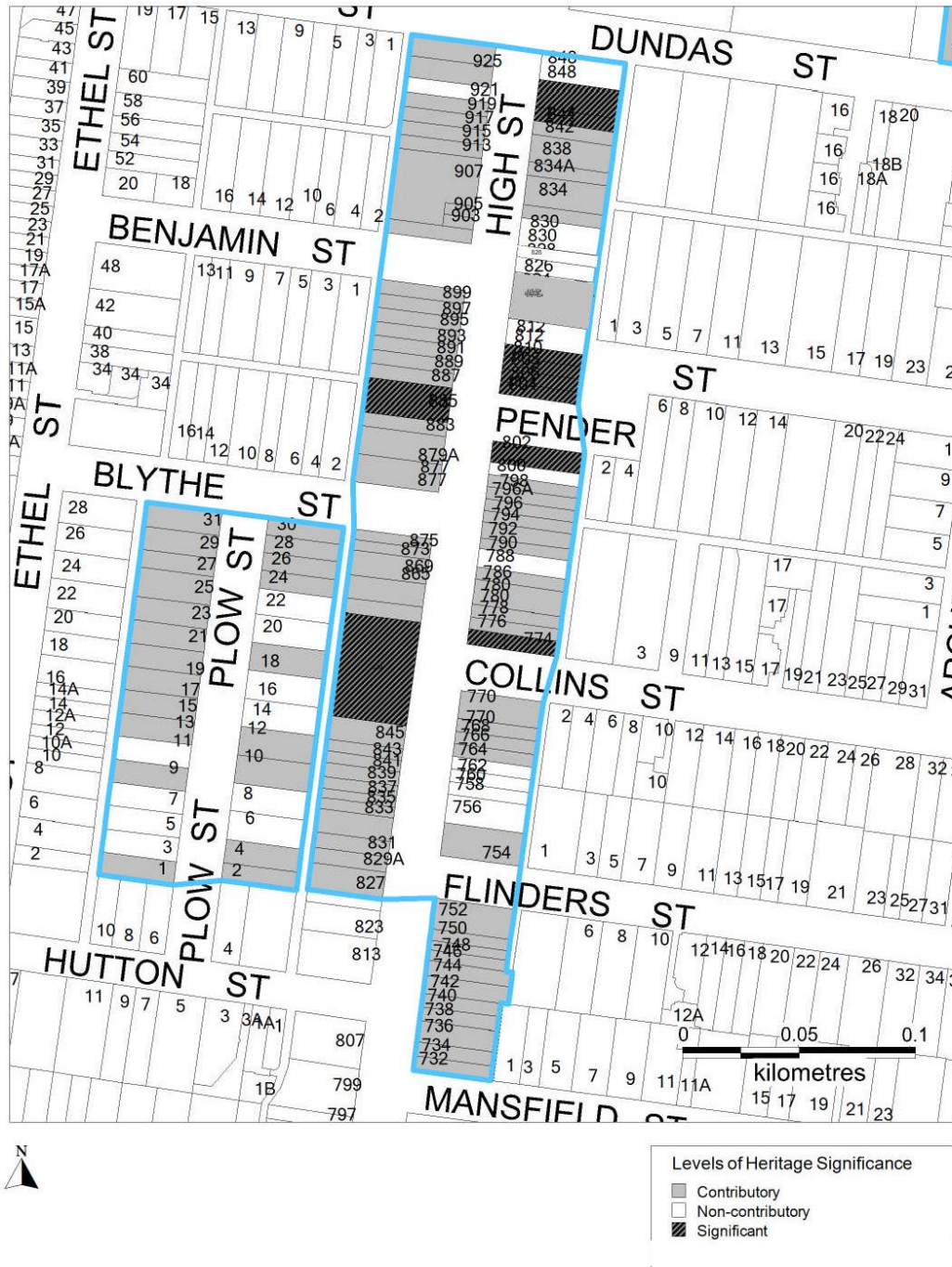
High Street, Preston



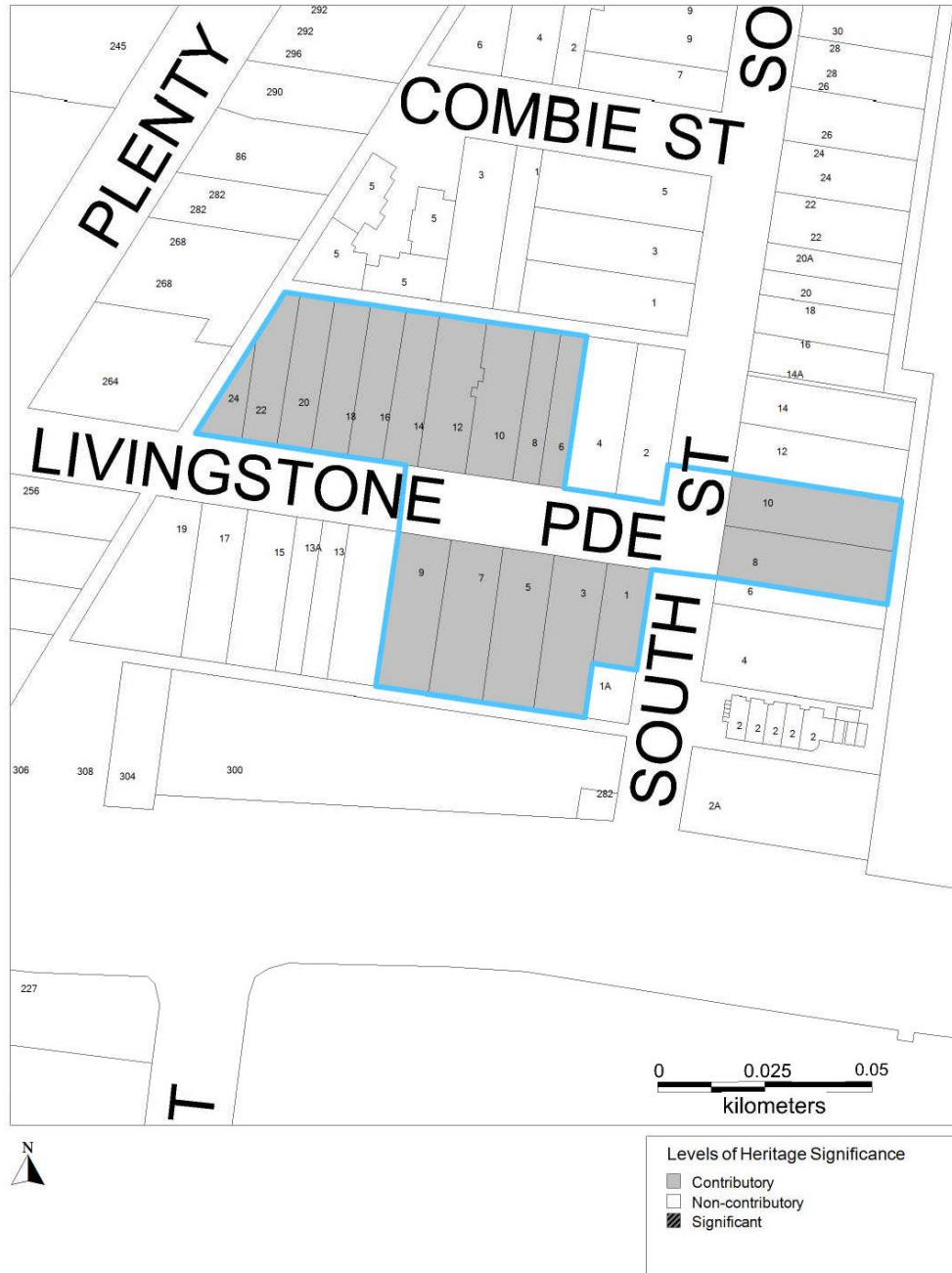
Levels of Heritage Significance

- Contributory
- Non-contributory
- Significant

High Street, Reservoir



High Street, Thornbury



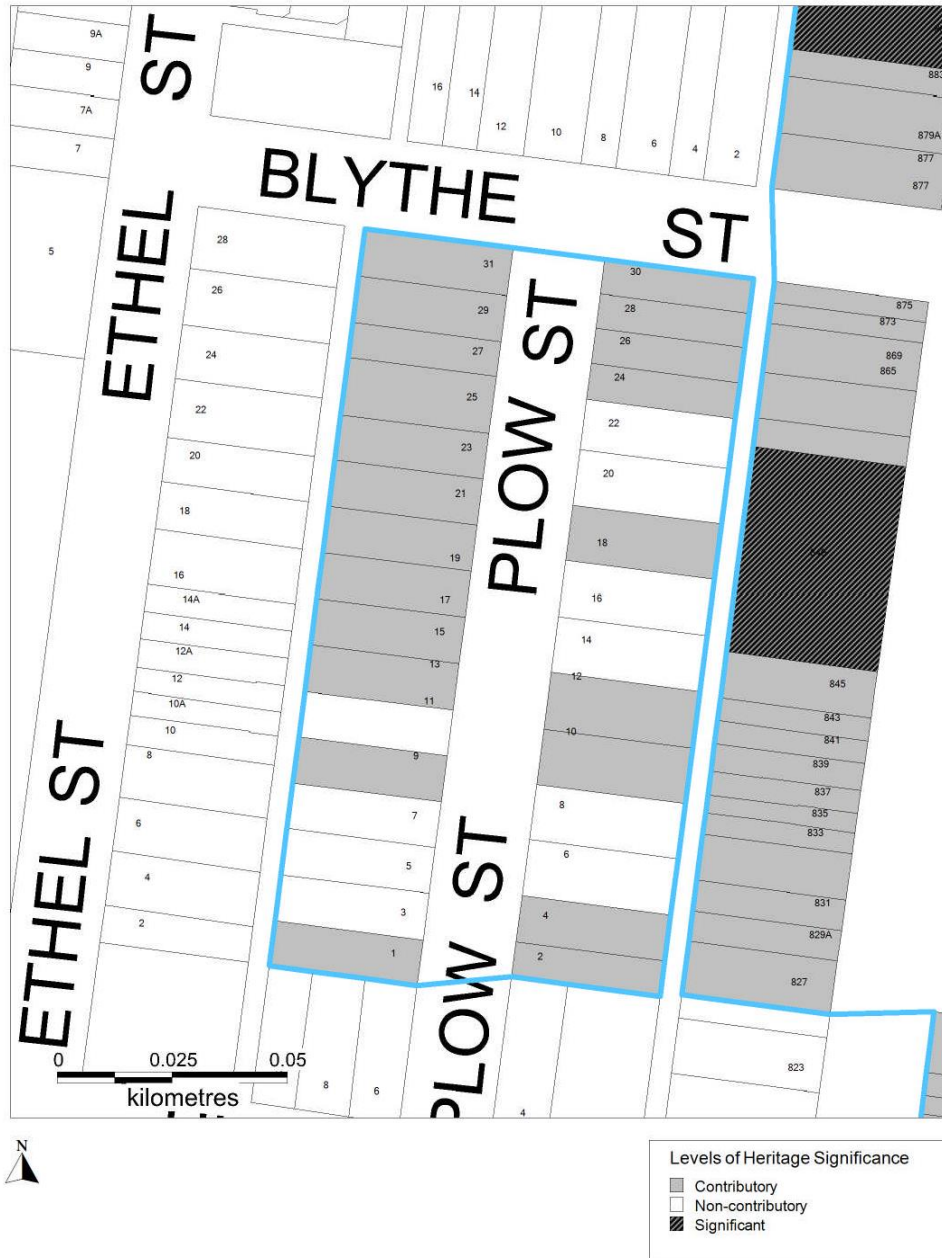
Livingstone Parade Precinct, Preston



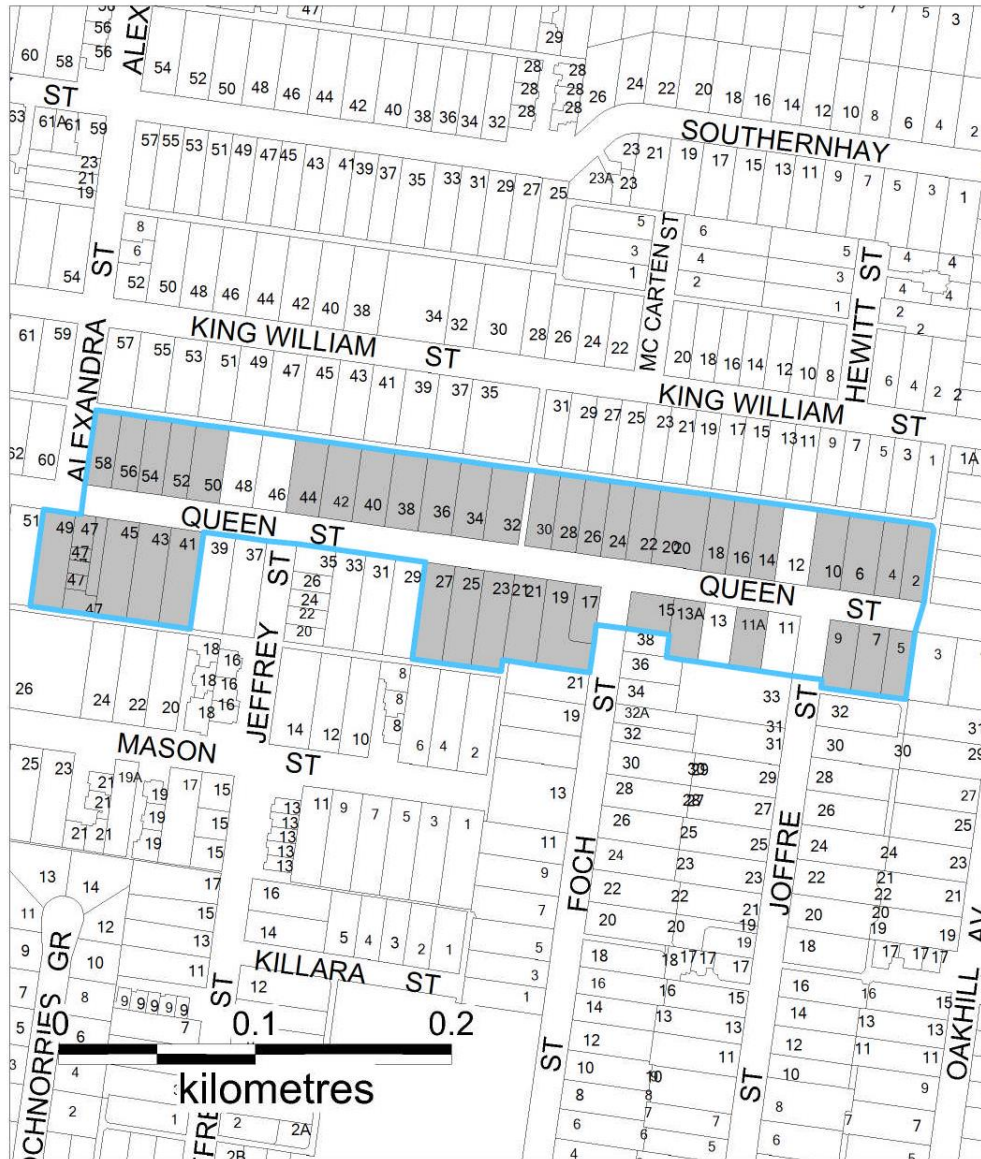
Milton Crescent Precinct & Larne Grove and Roxburgh Street Precinct, Preston



Plenty Road, Preston

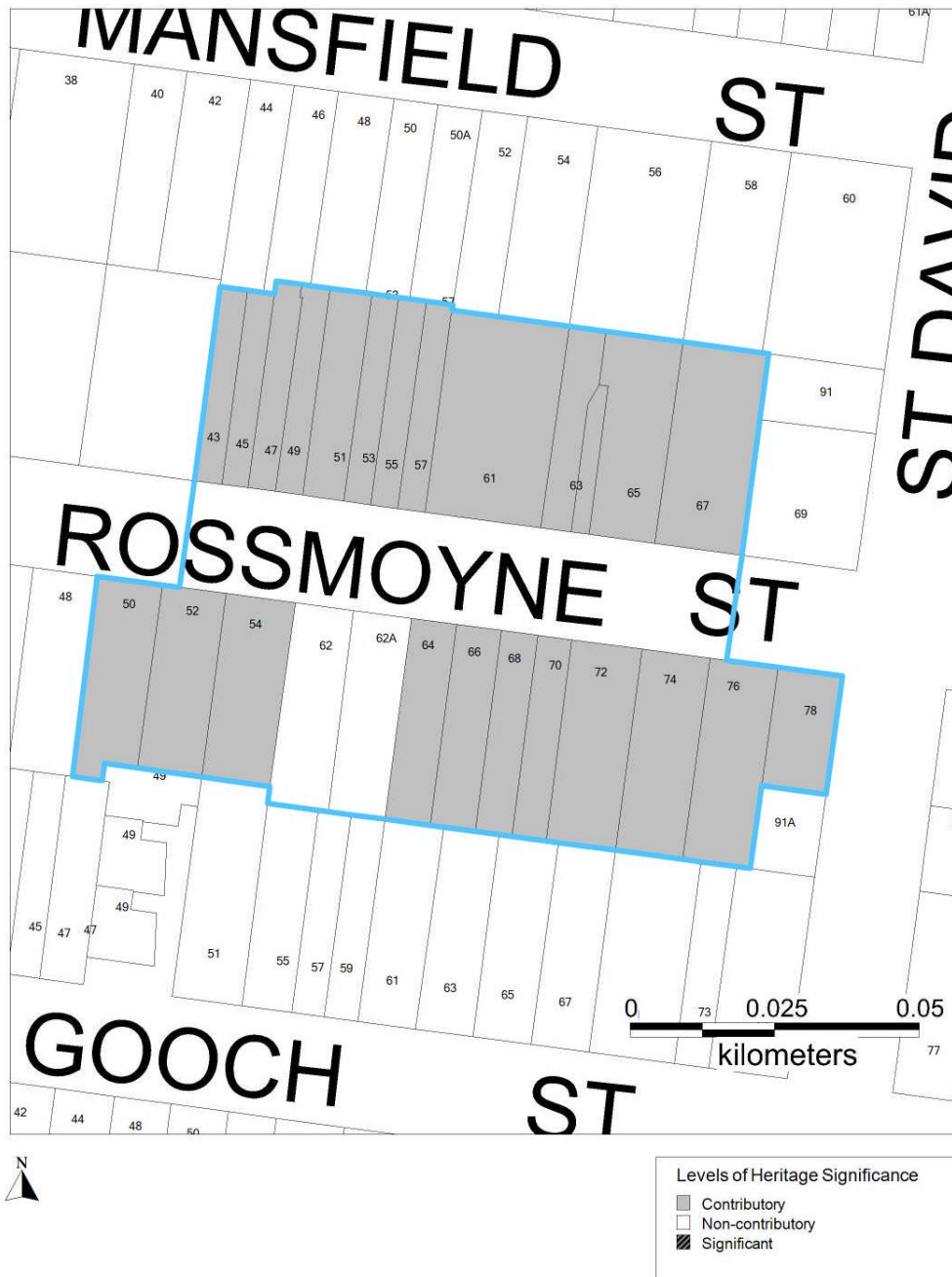


Plow Street Precinct, Thornbury

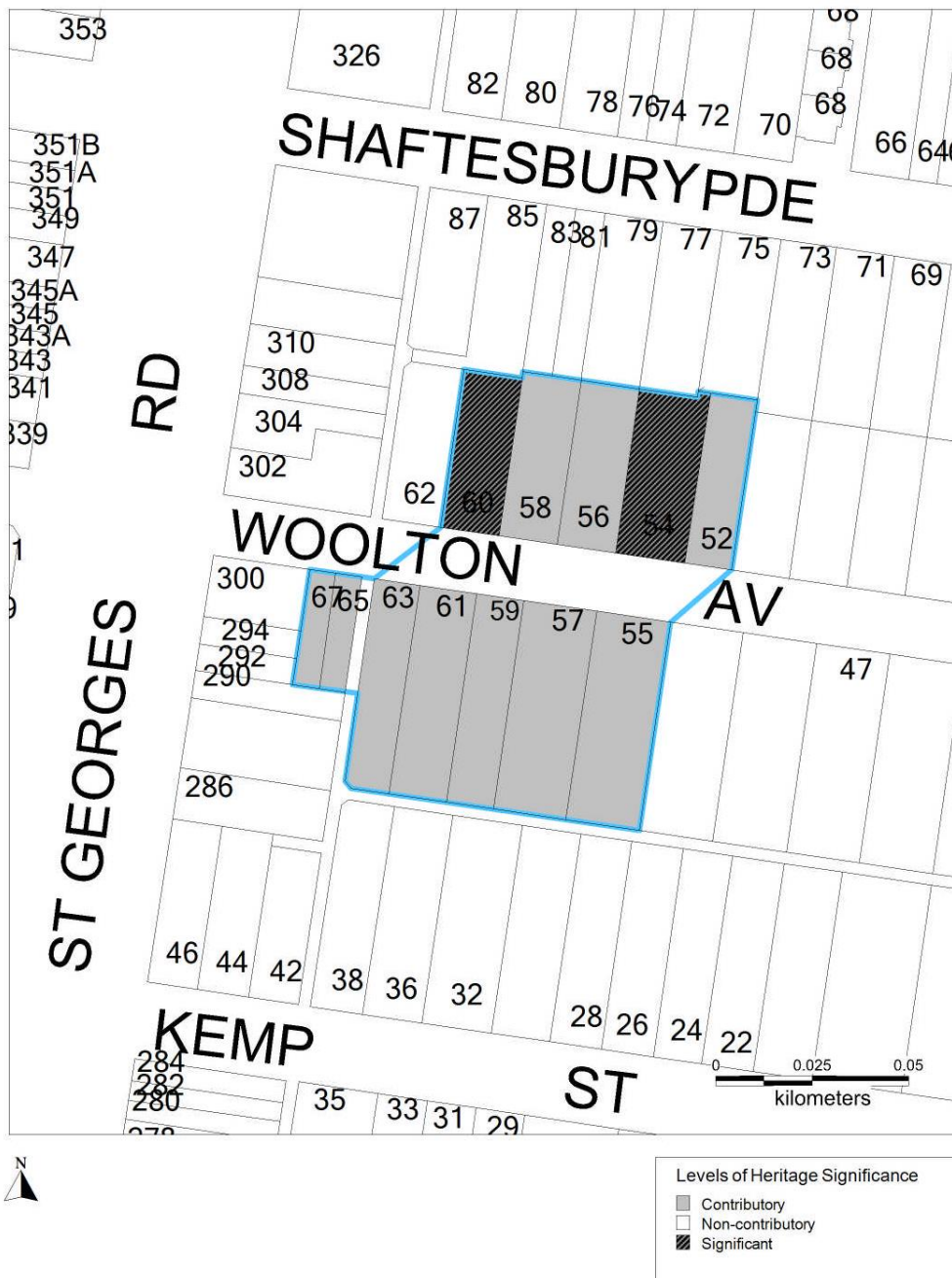


Levels of Heritage Significance	
■	Contributory
□	Non-contributory
▨	Significant

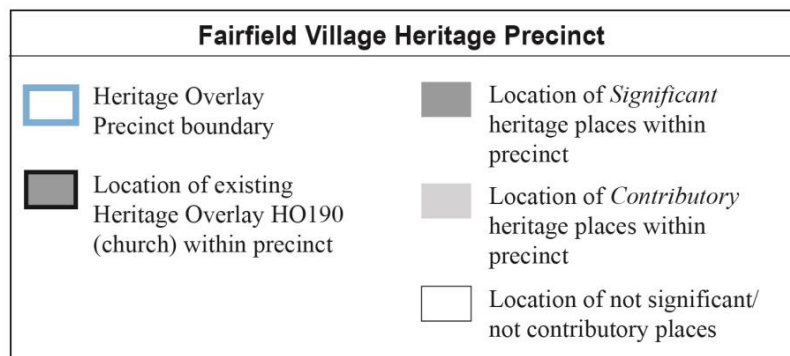
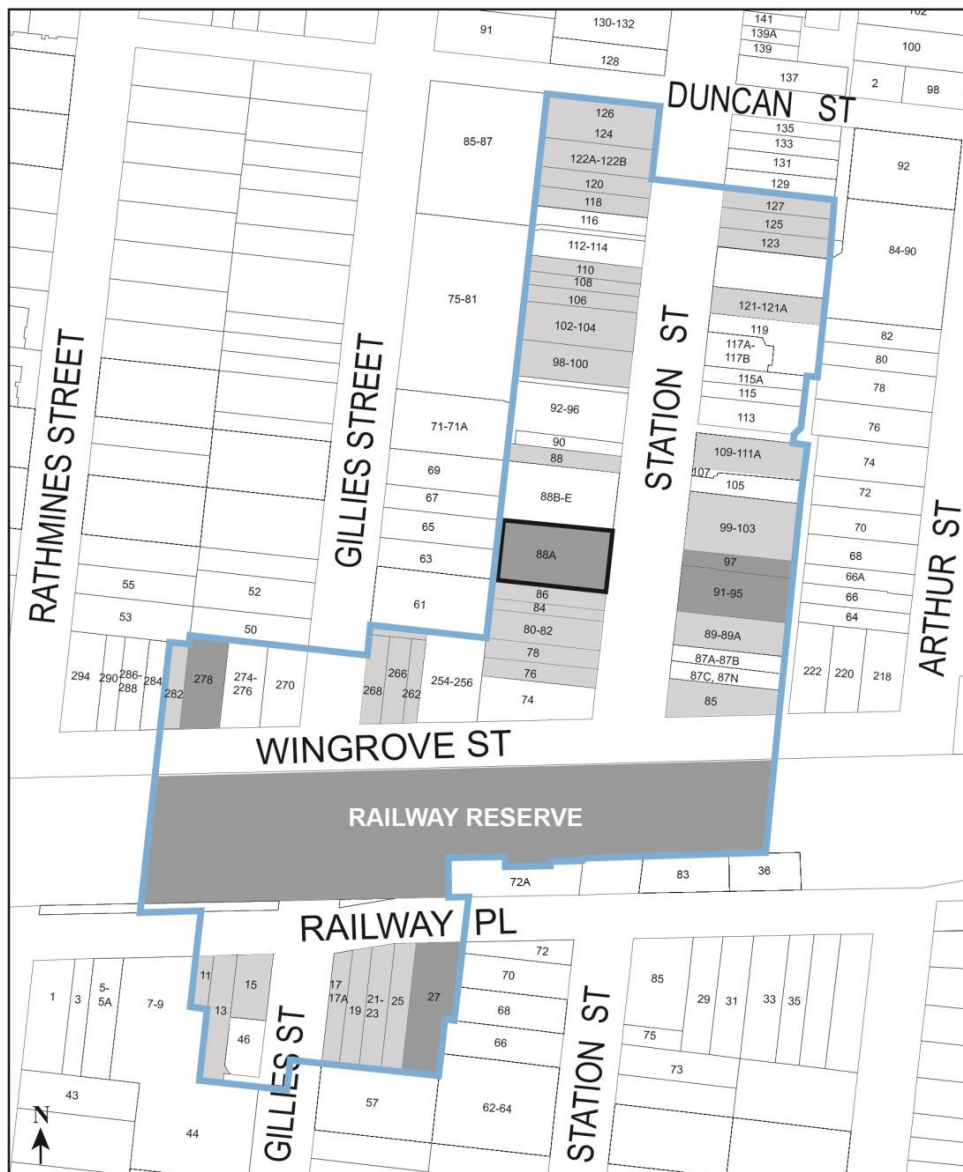
Queen Street Precinct, Reservoir



Rossmoyne Street Precinct, Thornbury



Woolton Avenue Precinct, Thornbury



Fairfield Village Heritage Precinct, Fairfield



Figure 26. Significance of individual elements of 159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote. (Source: Nearmap, with Context overlay)

159-179 Heidelberg Road, Northcote (Former Fairfield Hat Mills Complex)

Heidelberg Road Corridor Community engagement – summary of participation

The following communication material and engagement activities was distributed as part of the community consultation:

- A. Individual letters drafted and sent to landowner and occupiers detailing the proposed planning considerations specifically affecting each property
- B. Summary document
- C. Fact sheet
- D. Translation material into the top 12 languages spoken in Darebin
- E. A campaign of Social Media posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

Engagement Activity	Number of participants/ people engaged	Target group	Demographic information	Date
Direct Letters (including communication material A, B, C)	Approximately 140	Landowners and occupiers	Not Available	22 June
Letter box drop (including communication material C, D)	Approximately 1500	Community members	Properties located within 200metres of Heidelberg Road in Darebin. Properties located in the City of Yarra that front Heidelberg Road.	22 & 23 June
Direct email (including communication material B attached)	23	Identified key stakeholders	Local Member of Parliament, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Yarra Council, Vic Roads, VicTrack, Darebin Appropriate Development Association (DADA), Alphington Appropriate Development Association (AFADA), Alphington Paper Mill Community Reference Group, other identified interested parties	22 June
Pop-up face-to-face information session in front of Fossette café 737 Heidelberg Road Alphington (including communication material B, C, D, and hard copy survey)	Approximately 40	Community members	Not Available	29 June between 8.30am – 11.30am & 12pm – 1.30pm
Online Zoom information session x2	42	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Gender</u>: The majority of registered participants were female. 33% registered as 'Male' and six chose 'prefer not to say'. • <u>Age group</u>: Majority of registered participants were 	6 July 6pm – 8pm 13 July 6pm-8pm

Heidelberg Road Corridor Community engagement – summary of participation

			<p>aged between 50-59 years and 60-69years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Postcode</u>: 73% of registered participants were from Northcote, Fairfield Alphington • <u>Language spoken</u>: 78% of registered participants indicated they speak English only • <u>Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin</u>: ^ registered participants chose to 'prefer not to say'. Majority of registered participants indicated they were not. • <u>Disability</u>: One registered participant identified as having a disability. Six registered participants indicated 'prefer not to say'. 	
YourSay Page	780 visits during engagement period (1,100 total visits since beginning of project December 2019 and the time of writing)	Community members	Not Available	Ongoing Engagement period 22 June – 3 August
Online Survey	234 survey responses (161 completed, 73 partial completion)	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Gender</u>: More than half of the survey respondents indicated their gender was 'Female' and 38% indicated their gender was 'Male'. One respondent identifies as non-binary and 9 respondents chose 'I prefer not to say'. • <u>Age group</u>: All nine age groups were represented by the survey respondents, but the three dominant age groups were '30-39', '40-49' and '50-59'. <p><u>Postcode</u>: 77% of respondents were from Northcote, Fairfield and Alphington.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Language spoken</u>: 11% of the survey respondents indicated they spoke a language other than English at home and 79% of the respondents indicated they spoke 	Open 22 June Close 3 August

Heidelberg Road Corridor Community engagement – summary of participation

			<p>English only. 10 people chose to 'prefer not to say'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin:</u> 6.3% of the survey respondents indicated that they 'prefer not say if they are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. 91% of respondents indicated they were not. ' • <u>Disability:</u> Three survey respondents identified as having a disability and the large majority identified as not having a disability. Nine respondents chose 'I prefer not to say'. 	
Social Media Post Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook reached 7843 people	Online Community	608 people liked, commented, reacted, clicked link	August 2
Social Media Post Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook reached 7771 people	Online Community	24 people liked, commented, reacted, clicked link	July 22
Social Media Post Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook reached 4905 people	Online Community	293 people liked, commented, reacted, clicked link	July 12
Social Media Post Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook reached 2908 people	Online Community	64 people liked, commented, reacted, clicked link	July 2
Social Media Post Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook reached 5705 people	Online Community	229 people liked, commented, reacted, clicked link	June 22
Council Officer availability for discussion (Email, Telephone, and Meetings)	29 contacts	All target groups	Not Available	On going

8.2 LEVEL CROSSING REMOVAL PROJECT – RESERVOIR ASSET OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AND RESERVOIR REVITALISATION**Author:** Project Lead - Level Crossings Removal Project**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following many years of advocacy for removal of the level crossing by Council, the State Government completed construction of a new station at High Street Reservoir and elevated the rail line above the road in October 2020. This has been a transformative project for Reservoir and has lifted the whole precinct including with new areas of quality open and public spaces, and better connection of the whole Reservoir Activity Centre.

The State Government has asked Council to maintain and manage the open spaces and community use parts areas under the rail line. This report recommends that there is significant community benefit in Council doing this, and therefore recommends that Council do so. Council maintaining and managing the open space and non-rail assets will provide a significant community benefit.

Local councils historically manage and maintain open space assets to a better standard, in line with community expectations, than State Government. In taking on management and maintenance of these open space areas and assets, Council would also have flexibility to adjust them over time (e.g. vary landscaping treatments with more biodiversity) and be able to program these spaces for community uses or events. Council staff have the skills and capability to undertake this work to the standard our community expects. In taking on management of these areas, Council would also cover the maintenance and management costs.

This report recommends that Council take on maintenance responsibility for the open space areas and non-rail assets under the new rail line for 50 years. It recommends that ownership of some non-land assets, such as park benches or trees, would be transferred to Council. Acknowledging the costs of maintenance to Council for these new open spaces, the State Government's Level Crossing Removal Project has offered a funding contribution to Council for nearby improvements in public spaces that will benefit the community. The capital contribution offered is equivalent to Council's expected maintenance and renewal costs for a period of 10 years (approximately 1 million dollars).

Officer's assessment is that this agreement with the LXP represents good value for Council and the local community, because significant new areas of open space will be available to the public and managed to a high standard at no acquisition cost to Council.

Should council decide to maintain and manage these new open spaces, this report also seeks authorisation to implement Council's decision, by authorising the CEO to execute and sign all remaining documents and agreements required. The CEO would execute a range of necessary agreements to implement Council's decision including a 50-year license to manage the land, accepting ownership of non-rail assets (such as park benches), and accepting the funding contribution from the LXP.

This report also recommends four priority projects for funding with the LXP capital contribution offered. These projects have been identified as part of Council's long-term planning and are known to deliver benefit to the Reservoir community.

Council could consider rejecting the LXP's offer and not enter into the required agreements, however this is not recommended. This would likely result in poorer maintenance of the new open spaces and less ability to adjust use of these spaces in future to meet changing community needs.

Note that this decision has no bearing on Council's advocacy relating to the State Government's level crossing removals in the Bell to Preston area.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Agree to maintain and manage the new open spaces at Reservoir for 50 years, on the basis that LXP provides a capped funding contribution for capital project improvements to the equivalent value of 10 years of maintenance costs.
- (2) Authorise the CEO to finalise and execute any MoU's, agreements or licenses required to execute Council's decision such as:
 - a) Agreements to maintain and manage the new open space areas near Reservoir Station.
 - b) Agreements to take ownership and/or management responsibility of non-rail infrastructure and open space assets within the open spaces such as park benches, shared user paths, and soft landscaping, but not including land assets.
 - c) Accepting the funding contribution from the Level Crossing Removal Project for the purposes of capital improvements proximate to Reservoir Station.
- (3) Endorse the projects near Reservoir Station for funding with the LXP capital project contribution, in priority order to be constructed subject to final cost confirmation at construction tender stage:
 - a) High on Broadway – Urban Nodes
 - b) Ramp up Reservoir
 - c) Broadway Park: including landscaping, accessible toilet, seating.
 - d) DDA compliant car parks.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Works for the removal of the Reservoir level crossing commenced in late 2018 and were completed by the LXP in October 2020.

A common element of many level crossing removal projects with an elevated rail solution is the creation of new open spaces underneath and alongside the newly elevated rail track. This open space is generally used for landscaping, recreation areas, shared user paths, rail-based engineering functions and other open space functions.

Typically, the management and maintenance of new open space assets created in these projects passes to the organisation best placed to maintain the types of open space assets in question. For example, Metro Trains Management (MTM) will maintain new station buildings and the area immediately surrounding them and the Department of Transport (DoT) maintain any newly created major roads. Local councils are usually asked to take over the maintenance and management of new open space assets relating to recreation, soft

landscaping, shared user paths and other open space assets directly benefiting their communities. This is usually the case as councils are best placed to maintain these assets to an acceptable standard for the local community (often a higher standard than other State Government entities would deliver).

Land in the rail corridor remains in VicTrack ownership. This is to ensure that in the long run, the State Government is able to modify the train network in future, and also to ensure that it can control access and risks relating to the railway infrastructure both above ground in the viaduct, and underground.

In most cases, the State Government and LXP aim for non-rail assets to be maintained/managed by each organisation to also be owned by that entity (for example park benches). This helps land managers easily make necessary management decisions (such as moving a park bench), and also avoids the project creating “orphan assets” that neither the rail operator nor other government entity (such as Council) are responsible for.

There is a two-year defect liability period, which commenced in December 2020, during which time the State government will remain responsible and any construction defects would be identified and rectified.

Officers have been in discussions with the LXP to confirm the capital contribution, those projects to be prioritised with the contribution, and a licence agreement to allow Council access to the State Government owned land to undertake management and maintenance of non-rail assets and open space created by the project.

In May 2021, the LXP provided the proposed long-term licence agreement which will enable Council to manage the land and non-rail assets. This licence will be between MTM (as the rail operator) and Council. Provisions are built into the licence to ensure that any change of rail operator will not limit Council’s ability to access and manage the land over the period of the agreement.

Detailed analysis has been undertaken by Council officers to determine Council’s costing estimates for maintenance over the 10-year period (based on the assets to be managed/maintained by Council detailed in Table 2 below). In recognition of Council’s ongoing maintenance obligations at Reservoir, the LXP have agreed to provide a capital contribution approximately equivalent to Council’s 10-year maintenance costs. This capital contribution is to be used for capital works projects near the Reservoir level crossing removal that are complementary to the transport and precinct outcomes associates with the LXP.

Key activities timeline

Table 1 – Key activities – LXP Projects	
Late 2018	Works commenced on the removal of the Reservoir level crossing project.
December 2019	Construction of the elevated structure completed and operational.
July 2020	Final finishing touches to the surrounding landscape completed.
October 2020	Practical completion of Reservoir Station.
November 2020	Council officers inspected assets delivered by Reservoir Project.
December 2020	Two year defects liability period commences for Reservoir.
March 2021	Quarterly DCC/LXP inspections of landscaping and open space areas commence.

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2.2 We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving

The level crossing removal at High Street, Reservoir has created new public spaces in Darebin, beneath the new rail viaduct. If Council accepts maintenance responsibility for these spaces, we will have the ability to maintain and manage them at the standard expected by our community. We will be able to make changes in future as community needs change, and to program these sites with community events if needed.

The LXP has offered to contribute funding to some nearby capital works projects to offset the long-term maintenance costs to Council. These projects are consistent with the 2021-2025 Council Plan (and will directly contribute to achievement of Strategic Direction 2) and also satisfy previous Council resolutions for infrastructure improvements to the Reservoir area. Delivery of these projects will help improve the amenity of the local area and support economic recovery in Reservoir.

DISCUSSION

Community benefits

Council taking on the maintenance and management of open space and non-rail infrastructure assets for the long term at Reservoir will provide a significant community benefit. The main benefits are:

- Council is better placed to service the open space areas and landscaping created by the project in line with the expectations of our community. Compared to State Government agencies, such as MTM or VicRoads, local councils manage open space and landscaping more frequently and to a higher standard, given our responsibility to and relationship with the local community.
- Council will have control over how the open spaces are used and managed for the 50 year period. Council can adjust management and servicing of these areas to meet local needs over time. Landscaping and infrastructure can be adjusted and replaced as required over time, in line with Council biodiversity policies and any degradation of non-rail infrastructure assets.
- The funding contribution from the LXP/State Government towards nearby capital works projects will support the local economy and community by improving the local area and making it more attractive for visitors.

Notwithstanding the ongoing maintenance costs, this substantial new area of open space being provided where it is needed most (and Council's capacity to maintain it to a high standard in line with community expectations) is a significant benefit to Darebin residents.

Good value

It is rare that Council has the opportunity to secure a new area of community use open space in the heart of an Activity Centre, at no land purchase or delivery costs. This in itself represents good value for money to Council and the local Reservoir community.

Council has outlined its plans to expand and improve open spaces across the City in its Open Space Strategy 'Breathing Space'. The new areas of open space at Reservoir Station are already directly benefiting the local community.

In this case, Council will be funded by the LXP to accept maintenance and management of this space, rather than having to fund the purchase and construction of a new open space itself, which it often has to do to expand the open space network (for example at the former Ruthven Primary School site).

Overall, this is a much lower cost way for Council to expand its open space network than purchasing and developing our own new open spaces alone.

Ongoing operational responsibility

Under the proposed licence agreement, Council will incur ongoing maintenance costs at Reservoir for 50 years. These ongoing costs would be provided for in Council's budget each year, commencing from the end of the defect liability period (after December 2022). As consideration for Council accepting this ongoing maintenance obligation, the LXP will provide a capital contribution for the Council projects detailed below.

Projects to be funded with LXP contribution

The capital contribution from the LXP needs to be allocated to complementary capital works projects to the transport and precinct outcomes associated with the LXP, i.e. there is a link between the new station precinct and the Council project to be funded. The following projects in Reservoir are proposed to be prioritised with the LXP capital contribution:

1. High on Broadway – Urban Nodes
2. Ramp up Reservoir
3. Broadway Park: including landscaping, accessible toilet, seating.
4. DDA compliant car parks.

Appendix A (Table 3) provides further detail of the projects in Reservoir that are proposed to be prioritised with the LXP capital contribution. These projects are recommended as priorities for funding with the LXP contribution as:

- The projects will achieve community and economic goals of Council
- Will support and complement the projects and improvements Council is planning via the Reservoir Revitalisation process and the Reservoir Streetscape Masterplan 2014.
- Are projects that Council can deliver the within our own timelines, minimising impacts to the community and aligning with the Council Plan.
- Meet the criteria for the required for LXP funding. Capital improvements using the funding need to be related to and complementary with (in terms of proximity or connection) the Reservoir Station precinct and rail corridor.

All four projects are recommended as priority projects in the precinct and have been identified as strategic priorities. They are generally expected to be able to be delivered with this funding. However, it is only when design and tendering for a builder has been complete

that Council will understand the specific costs of these projects. Therefore, there is some risk that the capital contribution from the LXRП may not cover their full delivery cost. If needed, decisions about how to source funding, or timing of these projects would be taken by Council when developing future years budgets.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Council has two main options to consider:

Option 1: Agree to maintain and manage the open spaces and accept LXRП/State Government funding

This is officers' recommended option as outlined in this report.

Option 2: Decide not to manage and maintenance at Reservoir – not recommended

Council could also decide not to take on management and maintenance of open space and non-rail infrastructure at High Street, Reservoir.

If this were to occur, the LXRП would then seek to have MTM (as rail operator) or VicTrack (as landowner) to take on responsibility for management and maintenance of the assets and open space areas. In this case, if Council wanted run community events in these spaces, it would need to seek State government permission to do so. LXRП would not provide Council the capital funding contribution and Council would not incur maintenance costs.

This is not recommended as there is a risk that were Council not to proceed this offer, the LXRП could seek to reduce long-term maintenance costs for the Reservoir project area by reducing the size and quality of the landscaping and open space/non-rail infrastructure assets. Typical State Government maintenance standards can be observed in other parts of the rail corridor. Council regularly receives enquiries from residents seeking maintenance and improvement to these areas along the rail line.

LXRП may also remove community focussed non-rail infrastructure assets if agreement cannot be reached with VicTrack/MTM to manage them where Council has decided not to. While officers advise they think it is unlikely in the short term, it has occurred in other locations and it is more likely in future years (at the point an asset is due for renewal, it might simply not be replaced). LXRП considers this to minimise cost and to avoid "orphan assets" (assets that are built and are not maintained by any agency). This would be a poor outcome for Darebin residents, particularly in Reservoir, where high quality new open space and associated community infrastructure is required.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

Council would cover the maintenance costs for assigned open space and non-rail infrastructure via its operating budget each year. Detailed analysis has been undertaken by Council officers and the estimated maintenance cost is \$89,332.6 (excl. GST) per annum (at 2021 costs).

The LXRП have agreed to make a funding contribution for infrastructure projects that is approximately equivalent to Council's estimated 10-year maintenance costs. The capital contribution from the LXRП is to be used for capital improvements nearby the High Street, Reservoir project and is in recognition of the ongoing maintenance costs to Council in

accepting these areas. For a 10-year period, officers estimate a maintenance cost of \$1,000,827 (excl. GST) to Council. These numbers are officers' best estimates based on currently available information and experience.

Community Engagement

Consultation

There has not been consultation in relation to this specific decision. Council has consulted the community in developing its now adopted Open Space Strategy, the Reservoir Structure Plan 2012 and Reservoir Streetscape Master Plan 2014 which all identify the need for civic and community public spaces in the Reservoir Activity Centre.

Three of the four projects proposed for funding by the LXP capital contributions (refer to Appendix A) have been identified in the 10-year Capital Works Plan (and the Council Plan 2021-2025) and community consultation for this was completed between 2011 and 2014.

Communications

The three larger projects in Reservoir to be funded by the LXP contribution discussed in this report will be supported by a project communications plan, which will include good engagement with local traders to minimise disruption and to understand their feedback on design. Communications plans will also ensure that CALD and other diverse communities are specifically included in any further community engagement. This includes translated materials and/or translators; targeted communication with CALD groups and business leaders that will benefit from the projects. Outcomes will be shared with the community and will link with Council's *Love Local* campaign and more broadly the Council Plan 2021-2025.

Light touch communications with nearby traders will be done ahead of installation of the smaller project to introduce DDA car parking.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Council is considering taking on maintenance and management responsibility for newly created areas of open space and non-rail assets created by the level crossing removal at Reservoir. This decision will commit Council to maintenance/management of these spaces and assets for 50 years. This will require Council to commit budget to this maintenance during this period. The LXP will provide Council a capital contribution in recognition of the long-term maintenance costs related to this decision. The capital contribution is to be used on capital projects in the vicinity of the level crossing, that will benefit the community.

Public Transparency Principles

- (a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act;

Officers recommend that Council enter into an agreement with the LXP at Reservoir to accept maintenance responsibility for the assets created by the project. The benefits of this decision for Darebin residents, namely Council receiving a significant contribution from the LXP to allocate to capital projects in the area, are discussed in this report.

Service Performance Principles

- (c) quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community;

Council must consider the long-term costs of accepting maintenance responsibility for the open spaces and non-rail assets at Reservoir. It is noted that Council is being funded by the LXP to accept the long-term maintenance of new open space and non-rail assets. It is rare that Council can expand its open space network at no initial purchase of land or delivery cost.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)**

The new open space areas which Council is proposed to maintain and manage include new landscaping around Reservoir Station (approximately 7000 square metres of landscaping, with 210 trees,) and upgraded drainage assets. Council would maintain these in line with its biodiversity and drainage management goals, improving ESD outcomes around Reservoir Station.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The proposed capital works projects to be funded with the capital contribution offered by LXP will support community connection and improve safety and accessibility in the vicinity of the new station and Reservoir broadly (e.g. through provision of new DDA car parking spaces and other accessible infrastructure including improved wayfinding and signage).

Community organisations such as Neighbourhood Houses, disability advocates and members from Neighbours for Change are representatives on the Reservoir Revitalisation Board and have had input in the selection of two of the four capital works projects to be funded with the LXP capital contribution.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Capital works to be delivered with the LXP funding will have economic development benefits to support businesses and the community in their COVID recovery. The list of projects has been developed in consultation with staff from Council's Economic Development and City Design units and complements the projects to be delivered via the Reservoir Revitalisation initiative (it is noted that two of the four projects are also part of Reservoir Revitalisation – Refer to Appendix A for the list of projects to be funded). Together, these capital improvement projects are expected to deliver a significant economic and amenity benefit for the local area around Reservoir Station.

As manager of the new community spaces under the viaduct in reservoir, Council will have the ability to program these to meet the local needs of our community, and to provide community the ability to use these spaces. This can support community connection for our local diversity in Reservoir.

Operational Impacts

Council would become land manager of the area shown in Appendix B. The licence will ensure that Council can access the areas where we agree to take maintenance responsibility when we need to. This means Council will not need to seek MTM permission for access each time we seek to undertake maintenance.

The non-rail assets that Council would accept management and maintenance (and in some cases ownership for, e.g. soft landscaping and furniture) responsibility for are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Overview of assets to be owned, maintained, or managed (Reservoir)		
Graffiti, rubbish, hard landscape, cleaning	Approx.	Unit
Retaining walls (painting/power washing)	1522	Sqm
Piers (graffiti/power wash)	457	Sqm
Seats	3	Seat
Signage – 2 primary, 6 cycling advice, 3 finger points	11	Signs
Line marking – SUP	350	M
Line marking bike symbols	5	Signs
Drainage	174	M
Cleaning (street sweeping)	5200	Sqm
Soft landscaping	7000	Sqm
Trees	210	Trees

Legal and Risk Implications

Various agreements would be executed by the CEO to implement this decision, including a Licence for 50 years between Council and MTM. The various agreements necessary will be prepared with specialist review and if needed legal advice to ensure that Council manages the various legal and practical risks as necessary. Council is a land and property manager and establishing and managing these types of agreements is core business for Council. These new public open spaces would be incorporated into Council’s assets register and monitored and maintained to Council’s standards.

The licence enables Council’s ongoing maintenance and management of the non-rail assets and open space areas on the State Government owned land at Reservoir Station. Detailed plans will form part of the licence agreement and will clearly delineate Council’s land management/maintenance responsibilities at ground level (soft landscaping, seats etc.), below ground (e.g. Council drainage assets), and above ground (e.g. graffiti management on some parts of the rail piers around the station). Appendix B outlines the areas at ground level where Council will take on maintenance responsibility.

The LXRP are also proposing that Council will become ‘owner’ of non-rail infrastructure assets including plants, trees, benches, and other open space furniture. While this is slightly different to solely “maintaining” these assets, there are not any particular downsides to this approach, and it is an effective way to implement ‘maintenance’ of the open spaces more broadly. It also gives Council flexibility to change the open spaces and soft landscaping and/or repurpose or dispose of these types of assets in future.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Details



Should Council decide to support the officer recommendation, the immediate next steps for the Reservoir project would be to execute the necessary agreements to implement Council’s decision, including a 50-year license. The capital improvement works to be funded will be

planned and sequenced as part of Council's future budgeting and capital works planning activities.

Timeline

- September 2021 - late 2021 – various agreements executed by CEO to implement Council's decision.
- June 2022 – Ramp Up Reservoir and High on Broadway Urban Nodes, as part of the Reservoir Revitalisation program, need to be completed (timing requirement of Reservoir Revitalisation program).
- Late 2022 – Defect liability period ends at Reservoir and assets transferred to owner/maintainer. At this time, Council would take over the management/maintenance open space and soft landscaping.
- 2022-onwards – The Broadway Park and DDA Parking upgrades do not have a strict delivery deadline. Design and construction for these projects to commence once the LXP capital contribution is received, depending on Council's decision for this matter and alignment with Council's adopted budget.

Attachments

- LXP Priority Projects (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Map of Council maintenance areas (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 
- LXP Assets Summary (**Appendix C**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.

Appendix A

Table 3 – Priority projects for LXP capital contribution	
PROJECT	DETAILS
<p>High on Broadway – Urban Nodes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is part of the Reservoir Revitalisation program • Delivery of this project will contribute to elements of Council’s 10-year capital works plan for Reservoir (Streetscape and Place Improvements – Reservoir Activity Centre). • Delivery of this project is included in Council Plan 2021-2015 	<p>This project focuses on creating an improved sense of arrival/gateway to the Broadway side of the Reservoir precinct near the pedestrian crossing to Reservoir Station (location shown in image 1 below).</p> <p>The entry of the activity centre will be brought in line with other main shopping strips and the entry to Broadway will be similar in design language as the one on Edwardes Street. This will improve the visual connectivity and understanding of the two sides of the centre in Reservoir as one larger precinct.</p> <p>Project outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a gateway to the centre on Broadway, as outlined in the Reservoir Streetscape Masterplan 2014. • New pavement design, new custom street furniture, bike hoops, new trees along High Street and Spring Street. • New and improved spaces, sense of place and seating opportunities will entice the local community to visit, shop and recreate locally. • A coherent design language that links the whole centre (Edwardes Street and Broadway). <hr/> <p>Delivery Timeline: Construction to be completed by June 2022.</p>
<p>Ramp up Reservoir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is part of the Reservoir Revitalisation program • Delivery of this project will contribute to elements of Council’s 10-year capital works plan for Reservoir (Streetscape and Place Improvements – Reservoir Activity Centre). • Delivery of this project is included in Council Plan 2021-2015 	<p>This project will focus on enhancing the Reservoir (Rezza) brand throughout the centre through new wayfinding signage, flags and banners in the direct vicinity of Reservoir Station to enhance the identity, sense of place and sense of arrival when alighting at the station.</p> <p>This project will help provide a cohesive, branded Reservoir, one that is recognised and celebrated by businesses and the community and assist with uniting businesses across the centre.</p> <p>Project outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase wayfinding signage, flags and banners focussed close to Reservoir Station, especially along Broadway, High Street, Spring Street and Edwardes Street • Work with businesses to integrate Reservoir branding into their offering and promotional material • Deliver branding activities with businesses • Build the capacity of businesses to be part of Reservoir including library of videos and images • Assist with uniting businesses from both sides of the strip <hr/> <p>Delivery Timeline: Construction to be completed by June 2022.</p>

Appendix A

<p>Broadway Park (landscaping, accessible toilet, seating)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project would contribute to elements of Council's 10-year capital works plan for Reservoir (Streetscape and Place Improvements – Reservoir Activity Centre). 	<p>This project would involve the detailed design and delivery required to deliver the proposed permanent park in the old Cheddar Road slip lane. The project would deliver a new multi-purpose civic open space for the Reservoir precinct near Broadway, including landscaping, accessible toilet, public art, playable elements, lighting, shade structures, and seating.</p> <p>The master plan of the project (and broader precinct) was adopted in 2014. The detailed design, consultation, and delivery process for the project would be enabled by this funding from the LXP.</p> <p>Council have previously tested this area as an open space with the temporary pop-up park. Given the amount of change in the area since Council adoption of the master plan (level crossing removed), City Design unit would come back to Council with an update on the findings from that process and the proposed design and consultation process for the permanent park.</p> <p>The statutory transport planning process to permanently close the Cheddar Road slip lane is underway. Delivery of this project would satisfy a major goal of the Reservoir Streetscape Master Plan 2014.</p> <p>Delivery Timeline: Cheddar Road slip lane to be formally closed by beginning of 2022. Detailed design and consultation for Broadway Park targeted for 2022-23 and delivery of the project for 2023-2024.</p>
<p>DDA compliant car parks in the centre</p>	<p>This project would introduce DDA compliant car parking spaces into the centre (6 spaces) near Broadway and Edwardes Street.</p> <p>This project would help satisfy a previous Council resolution committing Council to upgrading all parking spaces for people with a disability to be fully compliant with the relevant requirements.</p> <p>Delivery Timeline: Project delivered 2021-2022.</p>

Image 1: High on Broadway – Urban Nodes:

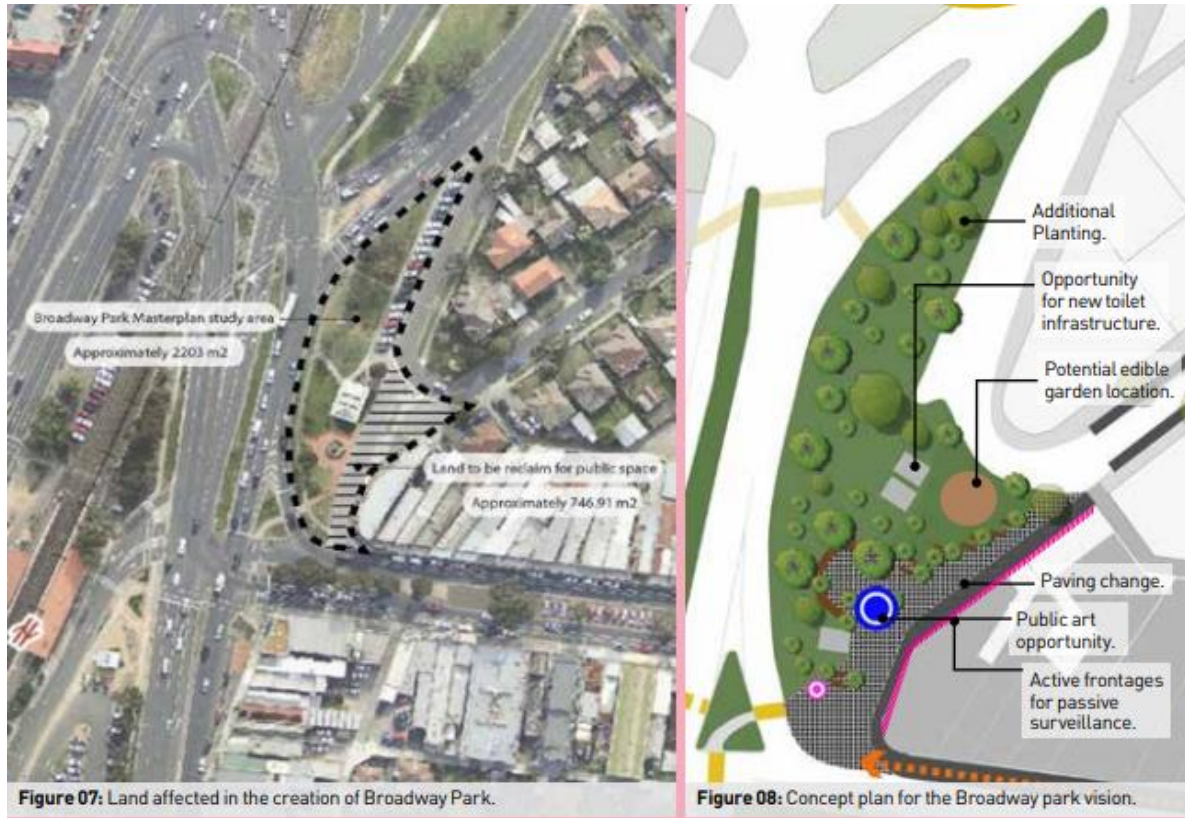


Image 2: Ramp up Reservoir:

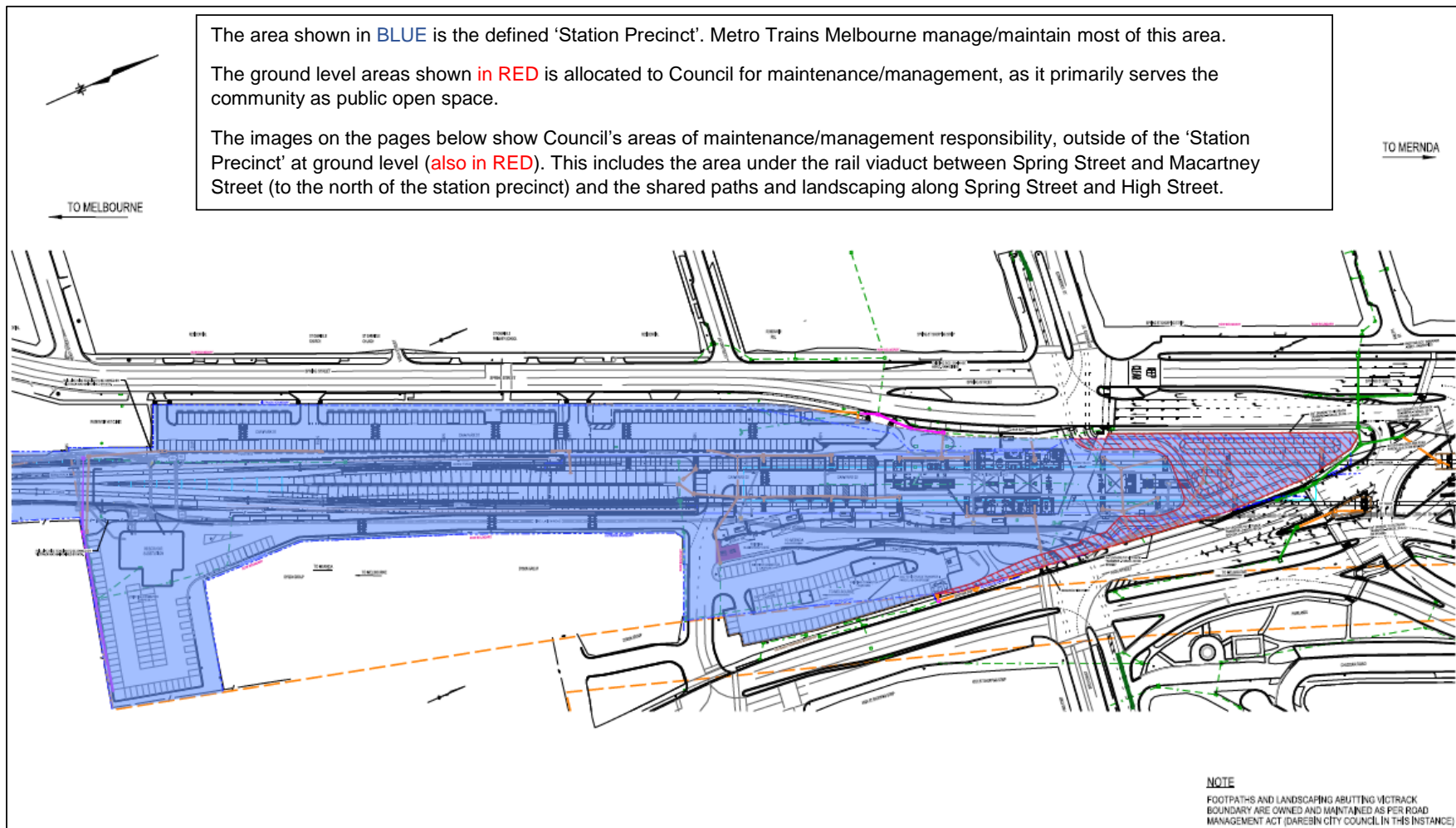


Appendix A

Image 3: Broadway Park concept plan (Reservoir Streetscape Master Plan 2014)



Appendix B – Areas of Council maintenance/management responsibility at Reservoir Station



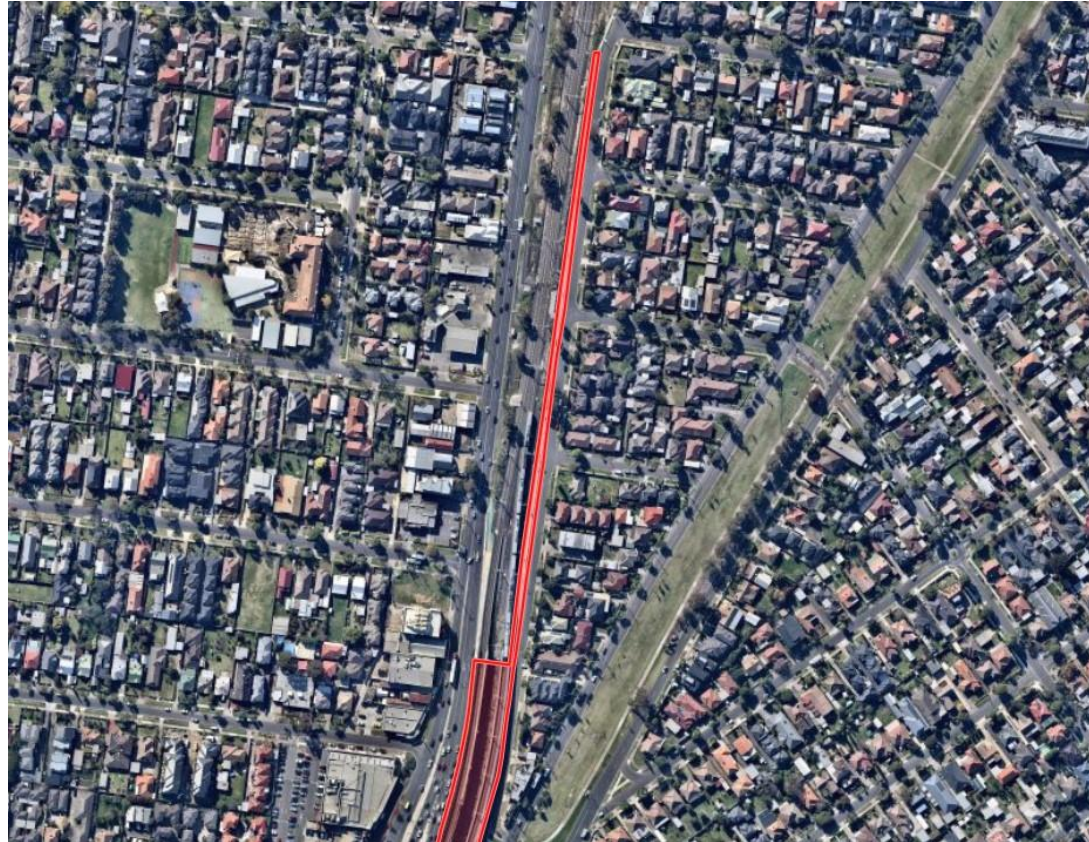
Appendix B – Areas of Council maintenance/management responsibility at Reservoir Station



Appendix B – Areas of Council maintenance/management responsibility at Reservoir Station



Appendix B – Areas of Council maintenance/management responsibility at Reservoir Station



8.3 2020–21 ANNUAL COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN REPORT

Author: Corporate Planning Officer
Manager Finance

Reviewed By: General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required by the *Local Government Act* (the Act) to prepare a Council Plan containing the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives, and indicators to monitor the achievement of those objectives.

This end of year and end of Council Plan report gives an overview of Council's performance in delivering the Council Plan 2017-21. Appendix A also includes an overview on Capital Works Delivery and Financial Report, which is a standard quarterly report that is tailored to inform our community of progress toward our goals and support transparency with our community. A comprehensive financial report, including the Annual Financial Statement and a Performance Statement, will also be tabled at the Council meeting on 27th September. Finally, in a report to Council on 25th October 2021, the Report of Operations (annual report) will close out the reporting for the 2020-21 financial year, as well as the annual reporting on the Council Plan 2017-21.

2020/21 was the fourth year and final year of the four-year Council Plan. Delivery of the Council Plan, through the Council Plan Action Plan 2020/21, saw the end of year status of the deliverables as 87% per cent achieved.

COVID has disrupted Council operations, with direct impacts on some services. Council's response to relief and recovery priorities for the local community has impacted the full delivery of the 2020-21 Council Action Plan. Despite the impact of COVID, key achievements for the fourth quarter of the Council Plan Action Plan in 2020/21 included:

- The establishment of the Victorian Energy Collaboration, with Darebin leading a collective of 46 Victorian Councils to secure new electricity contracts to switch to 100% renewable energy from 1 July 2021.
- Investment of \$4.1m to renew approximately 33,000 square metres of concrete paths across the municipality.
- Council responded to 166 requests through the COVID Recovery Community Navigation Support and Social Connection programs in the fourth quarter. Twenty-seven household referrals were received for the Community Activation and Social Isolation Initiative, and 300 masks were distributed. Council supported 150 households with food relief through the COVID emergency relief boost.
- Refurbishment of the six senior citizen centres.
- The establishment of a 20-year Community Vision for Darebin – Darebin 2041, developed by the community through a deliberative panel, for the community.
- The establishment of the new Council Plan, incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan for 2021-25, aligned to the underpinning pillars of the Darebin 2041 Community Vision.
- Advocacy for key changes in relation to the major works for the removal of four level crossings in the Bell to Preston Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP).

- Advocacy efforts with the State Government and the developer to ensure that the planning controls and proposals for redevelopment of the Preston Market protect what the community have told Council is important.
- Delivery of Council's COVID Recovery Package Grants program with \$1,025,801 distributed to 339 local businesses, community organisations and groups, sporting clubs and creative and arts organisations.

The report also includes the Financial Report for the 12 months ended 30 June 2021.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the 2020–21 Quarter 4 Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report at **Appendix A**.
 - (2) Notes the Financial Report (in **Appendix A**) for the 12 months ended 30 June 2021.
 - (3) Notes the Chief Executive Officer, as required under Section 97(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* is of the opinion a revised budget is not required.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Supporting the Council Plan is an annual action plan that outlines the principal activities that will be undertaken over the course of each financial year. Under the Act, the Chief Executive Officer must also ensure that every three months a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 22 June 2017, Council resolved:

'That Council receive quarterly updates on progress of the Action Plan.'

At its meeting held on 24 May 2021, Council resolved:

'That Council notes the 2020–21 Quarter 3 Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report.'

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.1 We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

DISCUSSION**Council Plan Action Plan Report**

A detailed update on the Council Plan actions, status of Council resolutions, the capital works program and the financial statements for the twelve months ending 30 June 2021 is attached. Key matters are discussed below.

Council Plan Action Plan Activities

The attached progress report includes updates on all 215 actions from the 2021/22 Council Plan Action Plan and the 16 Big Actions from the Council Plan 2017/21. Highlights from the fourth quarter, being the last quarter of 2021/22 and the final reporting period for the Council Plan 2017-21, include the following:

- Darebin has been the lead council in securing new electricity contracts for 46 Victorian Councils to switch to 100% renewable energy from 1 July 2021. Our streetlights, libraries, sporting facilities and town halls will now be powered by renewable energy.
- A strong focus this year has been on supporting Darebin's most vulnerable community members to adapt to the effects of climate change, such as running an information and education campaign on how to keep cool in summer.
- \$4.1m was spent in 20/21 to renew approximately 33,000 square metres of concrete paths across the municipality.
- Council responded to 166 requests through the COVID Recovery Community Navigation Support and Social Connection programs in the fourth quarter. Twenty-seven household referrals were received for the Community Activation and Social Isolation Initiative, and 300 masks were distributed. Council supported 150 households with food relief through the COVID emergency relief boost.
- Refurbishment of the six senior citizen centres was nearing completion at the time of reporting. The refreshed and more modern look of the internal spaces at these centres will encourage opportunities for increased mixed use of these facilities by more diverse communities, not just seniors groups, which will support the revitalisation of the use of these facilities.
- Council developed a 20-year Community Vision in 2021 through a Deliberative Panel that was representative of the Darebin community. The Darebin 2041 Community Vision was adopted by Council on 28 June 2021. The Vision will guide Council's work across its services and programs, including planning, growth and development. The Community Vision and underpinning pillars are incorporated into the 2021-25 Council Plan (along with the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) which was also adopted on the 28 June 2021.
- In relation to the major works for the removal of four level crossings in the Bell to Preston Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP), Council continues to advocate for several key changes, particularly to the design of the commuter car park at Bell Station (to be relocated to the west entirely, or access provided from the west via Bell Street at a minimum) and a safer design for pedestrians and cyclists at Cramer Street, near the Preston Market.
- Council continues to call on the State Government and the developer to ensure that the planning controls and proposals for redevelopment protect what the community have told Council is important. At its meeting on 22 March, Council updated its 'Heart of Preston' objectives and advocacy position to detail what is needed to ensure that the market flourishes. At its meeting on 28 June, Council adopted its key submission points in response to the State Government's proposed planning controls for the market precinct, which are currently on public consultation.

- In 2020/21 as part of Council's COVID Recovery Package Grants program, \$1,025,801 was distributed to 339 local businesses, community organisations and groups, sporting clubs and creative and arts organisations.

Financial Report

The financial statements contain the following summaries:

The Comprehensive Income Statement shows that for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Council achieved an operating surplus of \$6.18 million which was a \$14 thousand decrease from the 2019-20 result. The main items contributing to this movement between years are as follows:

- User fees, statutory fees and fines (\$4.78 million decrease) – The decrease in user fees, statutory fees and fines resulted mainly from a decrease in traffic enforcement, environmental health, arts venues, leisure centres and recreation and libraries. The decrease is mainly due to facility and program closures resulting from COVID-19. (refer notes 3.2 and 3.3);
- Grants – operating (\$4.72 million increase) – The increase in operating grants reflects a mix of factors including one-off funding for the Working for Victoria and Economic recovery programs and timing of receipt of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Victorian Grants Commission funding, and normal CPI increases in recurrent Government grants (refer note 3.4);
- Grants – capital (\$4.06 million increase) – The increase in capital grants is reflected by State funding received for KP Hardiman Reserve, Narrandjeri Stadium, and the Federal funded Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (refer note 3.4);
- Contributions – monetary (\$3.46 million decrease) – The decrease in cash contributions is mainly due to contributions received for other public open space, capital and minor works and small-scale technology certificates associated with the Solar Saver program (refer note 3.5);
- Employee costs (\$5.93 million increase) – The increase in employee costs reflects the increase in salary, wages and superannuation under relevant industrial agreements. Council also participated in the State Government Working for Victoria program and received \$4.5m grant funding towards employee costs (refer note 4.1 and 3.4);
- Materials and services (\$4.72 million decrease) – The materials and services category includes contract payments, utilities, major maintenance and other items such as waste disposal fees. The decrease reflects lower building and general repairs due to the forced closure of many facilities under COVID-19. Contract payments made in relation to the Solar Saver program also decreased. Offsetting this was an increase in information technology costs associated with the new integrated financial system (refer note 4.2); and
- Bad and doubtful debts (\$1.24 million decrease) – The decrease in bad and doubtful debts reflects decreases in debt provision for outstanding parking, local law fines, animal related fines and other debtors. Less traffic enforcement fines were referred to Fines Victoria in 2020-21 (refer note 4.6);

The Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2021 shows that net assets decreased by \$31.96 million for the year to \$1,489.18 million. The main items contributing to this increase are as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets (\$8.95 million decrease) – Cash balances at year end decreased due to a number of factors including completing capital works projects, a decrease in the level contributions received during the year, and a decrease in holdings of term deposits with a greater than 90-day maturity. Under Council’s COVID-19 community and business resilience and recovery package the payments of rate and charges were able to be deferred which resulted in an increase in rate receivables at year end. Council’s shareholding in the Regional Kitchen Pty Ltd which was transferred to Western Health in August 2020 (refer note 5.1);
- Trade and other receivables (\$2.37 million increase) – This increase primarily reflects the increase in current rate receivables (refer note 5.1);
- Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (\$17.29 million decrease) – This decrease reflects the net impact of the revaluation of infrastructure assets (\$38.14 million), additions, contributed assets, asset disposals, and depreciation on all fixed asset classes. The revaluation of Infrastructure was undertaken in accordance with Council’s asset revaluation policy (refer note 6.1);
- Trade and other payables (\$2.49 million decrease) – This decrease represents lower trade creditors held (refer note 5.3);
- Unearned income (\$8.02 million increase) This increase represents higher unspent capital grants where Council has not met the certain service performance obligations of the funding agreement. This includes \$3.12 million from State Government for the construction of the Aboriginal Women & Girls Sport and Wellness Centre at Sir Doug Nicholls Oval (refer note 5.4);
- Provisions (\$1.23 million increase) – This increase represents higher employee provisions for annual leave and long service leave provided during the year (refer note 5.4); and
- Reserves (\$36.13 million decrease) – The decrease in reserves is due to the net asset revaluation decrement of infrastructure assets, a reduced developer scheme reserve used to construct of Narrandjeri Stadium and an increase in contributions to the open space reserve (refer note 9.1).

The Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 shows that total cash and investments increased by \$4.81 million to \$47.73 million. The main movements during the year were a cash inflow from operating activities of \$36.84 million, offset by a cash outflow from investing activities of \$31.95 million and financing cash outflows of \$0.09 million.

The Statement of Capital Works shows that for the year ended 30 June 2021, Council had achieved total Capital Works expenditure of \$44.67 million, an increase of \$0.62 million from the previous year. The main items of capital works for the year are as follows:

- Property (\$23.11 million) – The main items of expenditure include substantial buildings works at the Reservoir Leisure Centre, commencement of construction of the Narrandjeri Stadium, B T Connor Reserve pavilion, pre-construction works at NARC and essential building renewal works at various locations.

- Plant and equipment (\$3.54 million) – The main items of expenditure include information technology (\$1.07 million), fleet replacement (\$1.58 million), library resources (\$0.4 million) and refuse bin replacements (\$0.3 million).
- Infrastructure (\$18.02 million) – The main items of expenditure include roads and transport (\$5.06 million), footpaths and cycle ways (\$6.29 million), completion of the K P Hardiman Reserve hockey pitch (\$2.39 million) and the outdoor courts at John Cain Memorial Park (\$1.19 million).

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The report includes a financial report for the twelve months ended 30 June 2021.

Community Engagement

The preparation of the Fourth Quarter progress report was supported by all senior leaders from across the organisation and involved detailed discussions with every Manager, Service Manager and Project Manager.

The community will be informed of the content of this report by publishing it on the corporate website and social media.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Public Transparency Principles

- (b) Council information must be publicly available unless (i) the information is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act; or (ii) public availability of the information would be contrary to the public interest;

Strategic Planning Principles

- (e) strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances;

Service Performance Principles

- (d) a Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

The 2017-21 Council Plan has a specific goal that addresses Council's commitment to environmental Sustainability, which is a theme that runs through the goals of the plan.

Operational Impacts

There are no operational impacts relating to this report

Legal and Risk Implications

Undertaking this Quarter four / end of year progress report allows the identification of issues and potential issues that may affect the delivery of Council's work plan and allows those issues to be addressed to minimise the impact on the community and Council.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Once formally noted by Council, the 2020–21 Quarter 4 Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report will be promoted using a variety of communication channels. It will also inform the development of the 2020-21 Annual Report.

Implement the communications plan using the Darebin corporate website, and social media.

The 2021–22 Quarter 1 Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report for the period ended 30 September 2021 will be presented in December 2021.


RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Plan 2017-21

Council Plan Action Plan 2020-21

Council Budget 2020-21

Attachments

- Appendix A - Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report 2020-21 Q4 (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)


DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

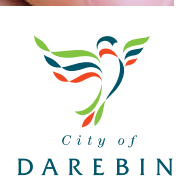
Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

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.



**COUNCIL PLAN
ACTION PLAN
PROGRESS
REPORT
2020—21**

Quarter 4



FOURTH QUARTER 2020–21 PROGRESS REPORT

Welcome

Darebin Council aspires to be a greener, bolder, more connected city. We are working hard to address the critical issues affecting our community including the climate emergency, unprecedented growth and change and growing inequality. We invite you to read on to see what we've done to meet these challenges in the fourth quarter of the 2020–21 financial year.

How to Read This Report

This document outlines our progress in completing the Council Plan Action Plan 2020–21. The report comes in five sections:

1. The Big Action Progress Report covers the status of the 16 priority projects that Council has set in its Council Plan for 2017–21.
2. The Action Plan Update covers the 200 items from the 2020–21 Council Plan Action Plan. The actions are arranged by Council Plan goal and each action has a comment that outlines the progress against that action as at 30 June 2021.
3. The Capital Works Summary contains highlights from projects in our capital works program, as well as a dashboard that gives an update for each individual project.
4. The Status of Council Resolutions report provides a summary of the organisation's progress in implementing Council's decisions from the 2020–21 financial year.
5. The Financial Report provides an executive summary, including information on our operating and capital works performance.

Darebin at a Glance

The City of Darebin is one of Australia's fastest growing areas, located in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, covering an area of around 53 square kilometres of land encompassing the areas of Bundoora, Kingsbury and Macleod, Keon Park, Fairfield and Alphington, Northcote, Preston, Reservoir, Coburg and Thornbury. Darebin is changing as Melbourne's population grows and its suburbs are becoming highly sought-after places to live because of good transport, amenity and access to employment. The city is expected to grow by approximately 40 percent in the next 20 years.

We are home to one of the largest, most diverse communities in Victoria in terms of culture, language (around 140 languages are spoken), religion, socioeconomic background, employment status, occupation and housing need. We have one of the largest populations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents in metropolitan Melbourne. We know that one in five Darebin residents is affected by a disability of some kind and that almost one-third require assistance. Nearly 6 percent of our population, 16 years and over, identify as bisexual, gay, lesbian or 'other' sexuality. While the social and economic prosperity of Darebin is changing with more residents earning higher incomes, there are many people in Darebin who experience disadvantage and our unemployment rate (as at March 2021) of 7.7 percent is significantly higher than the greater Melbourne figure of 7.1 percent.

Our Services

Darebin City Council provides services to residents, businesses and community groups, from the early years – maternal and child health and family services – through to retirement and seniors activities.

Services are also available to support new businesses, maintain roads, footpaths and drains, provide waste collection, youth services, libraries, sports grounds, arts programs, festivals and more.

Our Plan for a Greener, Bolder, More Connected City

Guiding the way Council delivers its services and plans for the future is the Council Plan 2017-21. This plan was developed following the most recent election and outlines the objectives and aims of Council over its four-year term. Development of the plan included significant community consultation at community forums, festivals and using social media.

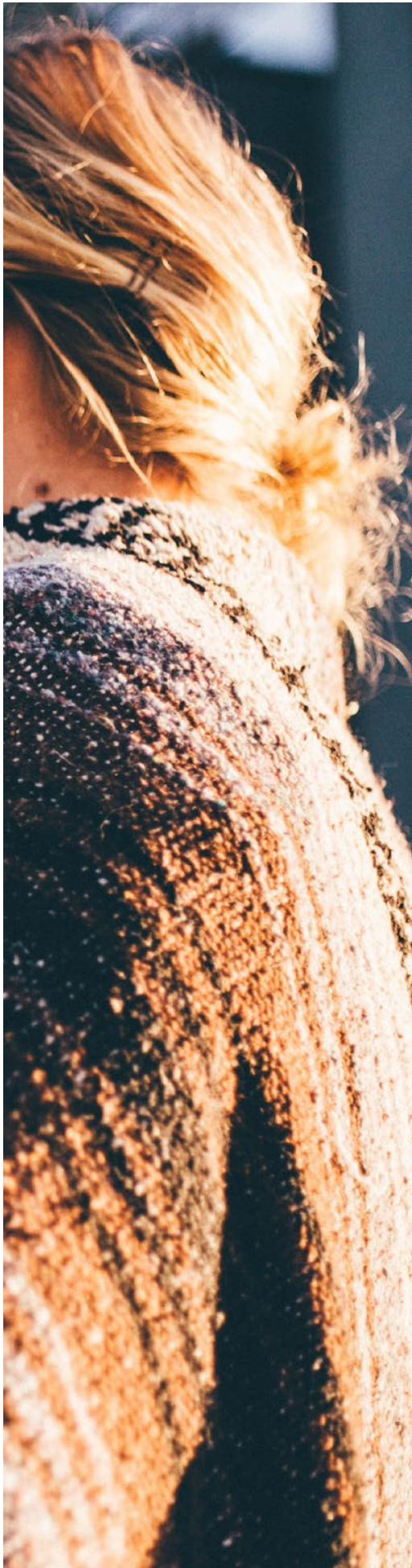
Council understands that there are a number of challenges facing our country and community and has outlined actions that will enable us to meet these head-on. To live our vision of being 'A greener, bolder, more connected city', Council's aspirations are:

1. We will be leaders in creating a sustainable city through local innovation projects that address climate change.
2. We will improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well.
3. We will ensure our planning system facilitates high quality and sustainable development that extracts social, environmental and economic benefits for our community.

4. We will support and attract a diversity of local businesses and industries by fostering an environment in which they can thrive.
5. We will lead on equity and recognise our diverse community as our greatest asset for solving future challenges.
6. We will be a leading, modern and open council to meet our challenges, now and in the future.

Under each goal of the Council Plan, are three strategies dictating how the organisation plans to meet these objectives. Supporting the Council Plan is an annual Action Plan which sets out our work for the financial year to ensure that the objectives of the Council Plan are implemented.





REPORT AGAINST OUR 16 BIG ACTIONS



BIG ACTIONS – COUNCIL PRIORITIES AND PROGRESS

Action 1: Double solar power

The Solar Saver program continues to inspire broad solar uptake across Darebin, with Council successfully meeting its 2016 goal of doubling the amount of solar power in Darebin in late 2019 one year early. With Darebin residents being such strong solar supporters, the amount continued to grow into 2020/21.

The Solar Saver program has now delivered over 7900kW worth of solar for the Darebin community since its inception.

On track

Action 2: Create a new Darebin Energy Foundation (now the Climate Emergency Darebin Advisory Committee) – a climate emergency think tank and initiative innovator – to address climate change

Council created the Climate Emergency Darebin (CED) Advisory Committee in 2018. Since then, CED has provided advice and feedback to Council to implement Council's Climate Emergency Plan. Highlights include: developing strategic advocacy in collaboration with national networks, providing advice that helped form the Climate Emergency Australia Network, and advising on climate mobilisation activities such as community leader workshops and reducing greenhouse emissions through Council operations.

On track

Action 3: Dramatically improve walking and cycling

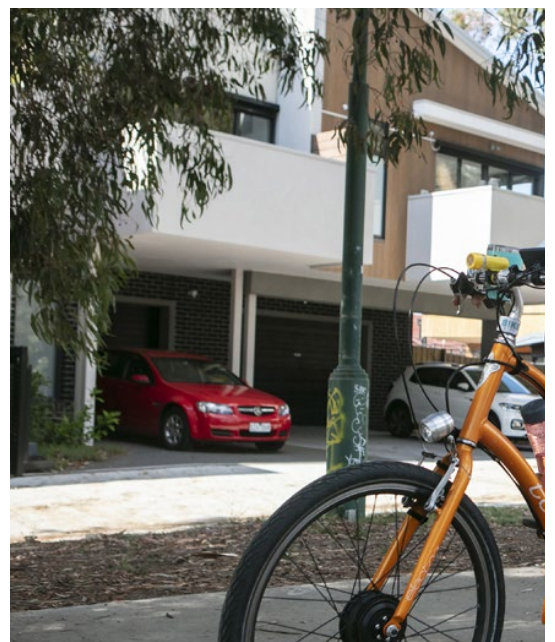
Highlights include completing the Northcote Thornbury Streets for People corridor to support safer streets. We've also successfully secured with others over \$2 million in funding from the Victorian Government through the Northern Regional Trails Strategy for better walking and cycling routes in Reservoir and Bundoora, and advocated to the State Government for the Heidelberg Road pop up bike lanes, which have been used by over 50,000 people riding each month. Throughout COVID-19, cycling has increased between 100 to 150%.

On track

Action 4: Advocate for better public transport

Following Council's advocacy, the State Government announced additional tram services between Docklands and Preston to respond to COVID-19. Additional trains were also implemented on the Mernda and Hurstbridge Lines. Council has worked on implementing new advocacy positions for an electric bus between the Route 11 terminus and Reservoir Station as an interim solution until the Route tram is extended, and to bring forward the northern sector of the Suburban Rail Loop. Other ongoing public transport advocacy to the State Government includes accessible transport and bus network reform.

On track



Action 5: Establish a Nature Trust to create more open space across Darebin

Council has established the Darebin Nature Trust (DNT) Advisory Committee, which brings together a group of community members with a broad range of biodiversity expertise. The Committee has provided significant input and guidance on biodiversity aspects of Council's new Open Space Strategy: Breathing Space, Darebin's Gardens and Wildlife program that launched in June 2021, and the Biodiversity Management Plan.

On track

Action 6: Create a new park, playground, oval and children's hub on the site of the old Ruthven Primary School in Reservoir

Based on community feedback, Council decided to develop this site as a nature based park and not to proceed with a children's hub. A Master Plan to create a nature based and diverse park at the former Ruthven Primary School was adopted by Council on 29 June 2020.

Concept plans for a new playspace and nature play area were shared with the community in February 2021 and endorsed by Council on the 24th May 2021. Consultation on the playspace was delayed because of the 2020 lockdowns and this also delayed construction. Construction is set for the second half of 2021, and the playspace is set to open by late 2021.

A draft planting plan has been created to guide rewilding at Ruthven Park and, in conjunction with Darebin Nature Trust and former Ruthven Community Reference Group, a planting trust has been established for this park.

On track

Action 7: Build a multi-sports stadium

The Outdoor Courts have been completed and Practical Completion has been issued.

The Narrandjeri stadium has progressed significantly and is at 62% completion. All the services are in, the concrete, steel and timber structures have been erected and roof work is underway. Outside the building, the tree cells and retaining wall are also under construction, and the intersection works at the entry from Darebin Road have commenced and are 15% complete. Completion date for all works is scheduled for early December 2021.

At risk of missing target

Action 8: Renew the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre (NARC)

The project has progressed significantly. The design is 100% complete and at a stage where the architects can be novated to a construction contractor.

Following an EOJ process, 3 contractors were shortlisted for tendering.

The construction tenders closed 17 June 2021 and three (3) tenders were received from the three short listed Contractors. Currently the Panel is evaluating the tenders and aiming to issue a report to Council with a Contractor recommendation in August 2021.

At risk of missing target



BIG ACTIONS – COUNCIL PRIORITIES AND PROGRESS

Action 9: Reimagine and revitalise seniors facilities

Whilst refurbishment of the six senior citizen centres is mostly complete, there remain a number of outstanding initiatives connected to the refurbishment. It is anticipated that these works are likely to be fully finalised by 30 June 2021. The refreshed and more modern look of the internal spaces at these centres will encourage opportunities for increased mixed use of these facilities by more diverse communities, not just seniors groups, which will support the revitalisation of the use of these facilities.

On track

Action 10: Reinvigorate the Darebin Arts Centre

An upgrade to the Darebin Arts Centre’s HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) was completed in June 2020. This upgrade significantly improved the service delivery and experience of patrons and artists at the venue, while also providing environmentally sustainable improvements. Workforce planning has concluded as part of the new business model which is in line with Council’s endorsed five year strategy of transforming the facility into a dedicated Arts Centre.

On track

Action 11: Increase our Tree Canopy and urban forest

Planting is ongoing but this project stage is complete, with RAPID Canopy the main planting program being implemented this financial year for streetscape planting. All planting sites have been assessed with some tree planting completed before Stage 4 restrictions were enacted.

To date, 3400 trees have been planted in streetscapes. Preston West & Reservoir East have been planted.

Over 5000 indigenous tube stock have been planted in bushland areas and over 200,000 tube stock have been planted as part of rewilding Darebin.

200 park trees have been planted.

On track

Action 12: Expand our land subdivision levy

Council has nearly finalised a draft implementation and enhancement plan for the Open Space Strategy. This will support the planning scheme amendment to increase the levy that developers contribute towards public open space. The community will be consulted on the draft of the implementation and enhancement plan in late 2021. This project has required additional work that was not originally expected to give it the best chance of success. This follows recent planning panel feedback on similar projects at other councils. The timeline for this project has therefore extended by 12 to 18 months.

Getting there – some obstacles



Action 13: Create a Developer Contributions Scheme

Council has prepared a municipal Development Contributions Plan (DCP) to allow Council to collect funds from new development to contribute to the costs of infrastructure. The proposed plan was exhibited for community and stakeholder consultation in 2020, through Planning Scheme Amendment 170dare. At its meeting of 22 March, Council considered 17 submissions and decided to refer the amendment to an independent Planning Panel. A Panel hearing was held in May 2021 and a report will be provided to Council in early 2021/22. The Panel report will make recommendations about the amendment for Council's consideration and, at that stage, Council can decide to adopt the amendment with or without changes before submitting to the Minister for Planning for approval.

On track

Action 14: Create a new suburb for Northland

Progress on the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP) planning has been disrupted due to significant changes in State Government policy in early 2020 which prioritises industrial uses in this area. Considering this change, and at slower population growth is now expected as a result of COVID-19, Council decided to put this project on hold in 2020-21 and will reconsider it at a later date.

Discontinued

Action 15: Use the opportunity created by the Government's removal of road and rail crossings

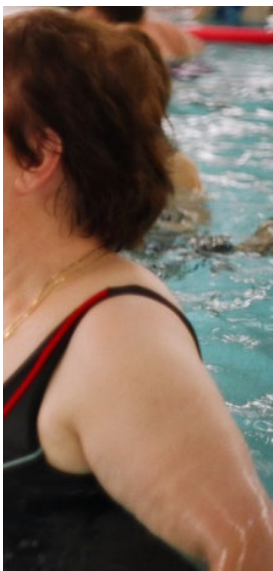
Major works for the removal of four level crossings in the Bell to Preston Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) have commenced. Council continues to advocate for several key changes, particularly to the design of the commuter car park at Bell Station (to be relocated to the west entirely, or access provided from the west via Bell Street at a minimum) and a safer design for pedestrians and cyclists at Cramer Street, near the Preston Market. Council's clear advocacy position is outlined in our adopted advocacy document, 'Preston Reconnected'. As major works for the project progress, Council will continue to engage with the LXRP to improve outcomes for Darebin residents.

On track

Action 16: Develop a plan for the revitalisation of central Preston

Major projects underway in central Preston, particularly the Level Crossing Removal Project, and the State Government review of planning controls for the Preston Market precinct, create a once in a generation opportunity to plan for Preston into the future. Council decided to focus its effort on these significant opportunities and progress the updating of the structure plan more slowly than initially anticipated. Council officers continue to strongly advocate for Council's objectives in these two projects. Council is also developing a Structure Plan to strengthen town planning controls relating to land use, development, transport and public space, to enhance the Preston High Street centre. Substantial preparatory work has been undertaken for the Structure Plan, including background studies, a transport plan and a Built Form Framework, which is nearing completion. The Structure Plan itself will be prepared following community engagement in the 2021-22 financial year.

On track







PROGRESS REPORT ON THE 2020-21 ACTION PLAN



GOAL 1

We will be leaders in creating a sustainable city through local innovation projects that address climate change.

1.1 We will become an energy and water efficient city and reduce waste.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver the mobilisation strategy endorsed on 2 December 2019, with input from Climate Emergency Darebin and other community leaders, to strengthen existing community leadership and build a broader movement across Darebin to support the update of Climate Emergency action and initiatives</p>	<p>A range of mobilisation activities have been delivered this year, including: Keep Cool in Darebin communications and engagement campaign helping to support vulnerable households during heatwaves; Stories of Us digital series, profiling community members who are building resilience and connection through COVID-19 and beyond and preparing and delivering a community skills series with climate active groups across Darebin, Yarra and Moreland. Work has also started to support vulnerable community members most at risk from climate change.</p>
<p>Implement key projects from the Climate Emergency Plan including tendering for a supplier to provide renewable energy for Darebin and many other Victorian local governments</p>	<p>Darebin has been the lead council in securing new electricity contracts for 46 Victorian Councils to switch to 100% renewable energy from 1 July 2021. Our streetlights, libraries, sporting facilities and town halls will now be powered by renewable energy. The new deal the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) was launched on 20 May 2021 and received national media attention.</p> <p>VECO is the largest emissions reduction project ever undertaken in the Australian local government sector. Victorian Councils have come together to drive investment in renewable energy, resulting in pooling 240GWh of electricity. This is equivalent to powering 45,000 homes with renewable energy or taking 90,000 cars off the road each year.</p>





2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Report on the progress of Council's delivery on the Climate Emergency Plan (2017–2021) and in consultation with the community and other stakeholders, develop a new plan for the following four years</p>	<p>A strong focus this year has been on supporting Darebin's most vulnerable community members to adapt to the effects of climate change, such as running an information and education campaign on how to keep cool in summer. Other highlights include purchasing carbon neutral off sets (certification is expected shortly), delivering the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) with 45 other Councils, and progressing climate risk work. Looking ahead to 21 22, much preparatory work has done to review the Plan and to undertake inclusive community consultation for the Climate Emergency Plan review. We look forward to working with our community as we continue to lead action on the climate emergency.</p>
<p>Develop technical standards for future Council building projects to support energy efficiency including guidance material for LED lighting, solar panel installation and other energy efficient building improvements</p>	<p>Technical guidance in response to Council's ESD policy was finalised in May and has now been rolled out through the Project Management Toolkit.</p>
<p>Improve building energy performance monitoring</p>	<p>Council has delivered a new energy performance dataset which enables Council to identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency and measure savings from renewable energy and initiatives. Recently, monitoring tools were used to improve performance of solar systems and identify high priority sites for future solar installations and lighting upgrades, as well as reducing energy use during COVID-19 facility shutdowns.</p> <p>This dataset has also enabled Council to measure greenhouse gas emissions associated with our operations and calculate the required amount of offsets to achieve Carbon Neutrality. Council is currently in the process of achieving carbon neutrality certification. This process is expected to be completed by the end of July 2021.</p>
<p>Continue to purchase electric and hybrid vehicles in accordance with Council's Fleet Policy that includes operating within areas where appropriate alternatives exist. Progress the installation of EV charging stations at the Reservoir Operations Centre and additional charging station at the Preston Town Hall site.</p>	<p>Council placed an order for 9 hybrid vehicles as part of the fleet management process. The vehicles have arrived and have been in use since mid December 2020. Council has received delivery of one fully EV van for our library teams.</p>
<p>Install 500 solar panels (1,000kW) for 100–200 low income households through the Solar Saver program</p>	<p>Despite delays due to multiple COVID-19 lockdowns in Melbourne, the Solar Saver program has supported 153 solar installations for low income households in this financial year, which amounts to 2,400 panels, totalling 714kW.</p>
<p>Launch the Solar Saver Bulk Buy to support at least 100 households and small businesses to access solar with reputable suppliers and products</p>	<p>The Solar Saver Bulk Buy program began in July 2020 and, by June 2021, over 600 households had expressed interest in the program. 124 installations have been completed through the Bulk Buy stream, totalling 606kW. While the challenges of COVID-19 slowed progress this year, we look forward to 2021 22 when the Solar Saver program will continue to offer bulk buy panels for our community.</p>

GOAL 1

We will be leaders in creating a sustainable city through local innovation projects that address climate change.

1.1 We will become an energy and water efficient city and reduce waste.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Provide subsidised LED lighting to support businesses to reduce bills and carbon emissions	Forty two businesses in total have been supported to upgrade 1,320 lights through the Light\$mart program this year, with 20 installations in the last three months. The upgrades collectively reduce CO2 emissions by 147 tonnes a year, which equates to taking 39 cars off the road. Nineteen Efficiency and Sustainability Health Checks have been undertaken to identify additional opportunities to reduce on going costs, CO2 emissions and waste to landfill.
Develop technical standards for future Council building projects to support water efficiency including guidance material for water tank installation, storm water re-use and greater usage of non-portable water supply both within buildings and for irrigation	Technical guidance in response to Council's ESD policy was finalised in May and has now been rolled out through the Project Management Toolkit.
Increase the amount of food waste collected from the Darebin community through promotion of the introduction of food waste recycling as part of the green waste service	Council continued education and promotion of food and green waste recycling, and also conducted food and green waste audits across the municipality, with the findings going towards increased education and community engagement to reduce food waste to landfill. A successful Multi Use Developments (MUDs) trial identified opportunities for introducing food waste collection services to apartments (either Council or privately serviced), and to support residents living in apartments to reduce their food waste. Closing the loop, we also supported Darebin's community gardens through the donation of compost produced through Darebin's food and green waste recycling service.
Deliver an ongoing program of recycling and waste education and communications focussing on 'Recycle Right'	The Darebin community continues to be a great recycler, enjoying the Sustainable Darebin Map, attending a virtual Material Recovery Facility tours, and participating in Slow Fashion online panel discussion and other events. To reduce waste to landfill, Council collaborated with community led Darebin Hard Rubbish Heroes (nearly 10,000 members) to promote collaborative share and repair events in the lead up to and during Darebin's hard waste collection. Twenty two cafes are now participating in the Wangim KeepCup trial, and 2,267 single use cups have been diverted from landfill since the project commencement. Darebin's businesses were supported through the Single Use Plastics guide for businesses to reduce waste to landfill, save businesses money and support our local businesses. The team looks forward to continuing to promote Council's recycling and waste initiatives, with a particular emphasis on the circular economy in the next year.
Implement Darebin's Waste Strategy to deliver on the aspirations of the Climate Emergency Plan 2017–22 by cutting emissions from waste, supporting elimination of single-use plastics and ensuring recycling systems are effective in the long run	Work continued to implement Council's Waste and Recycling Strategy, helping the community reduce waste to landfill. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A waste and recycling behaviour change and education trial that identified opportunities for improving waste services for apartments. - Sustainable Darebin Map. An interactive online map has been developed that showcases the sustainable initiatives and businesses in Darebin. - Wangim cup program. Twenty two cafes are now participating in the Wangim KeepCup trial, and 2,267 single use cups have been diverted from landfill since the project commencement. - Circular economy initiatives at KP Hardiman Reserve. Council received a \$299,580 grant (max. \$300k per grant) through the Sustainable Infrastructure fund.



1.2 We will increase sustainable transport through safer streets for walking and cycling, and advocacy for public transport.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>50 car share bays are in place, in 2020–21 offer car share companies the opportunity to establish 10 or more bays. It is noted that car share companies are currently reviewing their plans in the context of COVID-19 and the final number of bays will be driven by their interest.</p>	<p>There were 6 new car share spaces installed in Darebin in June and a further 4 spaces will be installed in July. This will bring the total number of car share spaces in Darebin to 74.</p> <p>Council had aimed to reach 100 new bays in the council term. However, priorities changed mainly due to the impact of COVID-19.</p>
<p>Work with Reservoir Views Primary as the lead 'Octopus School' to improve safe travel to School</p>	<p>Reservoir Views Primary School had a Safe Travel Audit conducted and Council has engaged the school community through a parent and student travel preference survey. Active Travel Routes have been mapped and decals (decorative designs) installed. The school has been provided with a new bike fleet and bike shed, and one staff member has been trained in Bike Education.</p>
<p>Promote and support cycling and walking during COVID-19 and beyond including through events (such as Ride2Work Day) and virtual events and promotions</p>	<p>In 2020/21, we continued to offer low cost/free bike skills workshops and one on one bike training to the community. In March 2021, we collaborated with community group WeCycle to launch 'Free Monthly Bike Checks' at Cycle Bike Hub in Batman Park. The event is fully subscribed each month and we are working with other local bike riding groups such as Darebin BUG to make it a regular focus for Darebin's bike riding culture. Our E bike Q&A webinar in November 2020 was attended by 70 Darebin residents, and in May 2021 we ran an in person 'E bikes for Me?' session, with a special focus on mobility for older community members. Many participants in our programs are readers of Darebin Loves Bikes e news, which is distributed to an expanding list of over 860 subscribers.</p>
<p>Works to be constructed this year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four pedestrian and bike rider safety treatments along the Mernda Rail-line Streets for People corridor Traffic signals and path improvements at the Cheddar Road and Dole Avenue intersection Four treatments, including a temporary road closure/pocket park, along the Preston Activity Link Streets for People corridor Three treatments in the Croxton West area along Leinster Grove and Woolhouse Street 	<p>Detailed designs have progressed for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe crossing point on Boldrewood Parade north of Broadway - Miller Street / Bracken Ave Signalised Pedestrian Crossing - High / Pender / Blyth pedestrian crossing - High / Woolton pedestrian crossing - Preston Streets for People corridor (4 sites) James Street (2 sites) and Cramer Street (2 sites) - Croxton West Local Area Place Making/Streets for People (LAPM)/SfP) raised zebra crossings on Arthurton Road, Woolhouse Street and Leinster Grove. <p>Construction has been completed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Olive St/ Edwards St, Reservoir - Traffic signals and path improvements at the Cheddar Road and Dole Avenue intersection - Preston Activity Link James Street (2 sites) and Cramer Street (2 sites) - Northcote/Thornbury 2 raised zebra crossings Herbert/Hawthorn and Ethel Street - Construction Cheddar Road LAPM one location Strathmerton/Evans - Construction Northcote LAPM priority location Sharp St.
<p>Implement further speed limit reductions to 40km/h in the Northcote and Thornbury areas of Darebin to achieve over 35% of local roads operating at 40km/h</p>	<p>Council successfully secured State Government approval to roll out two new 40 kph zones in Darebin, with changes to be rolled out by the end of June. A number of other applications have been submitted and are pending state government approval. These changes mean 24% of local Darebin streets will have a 40km/h speed limit. Looking forward to 2021/22, work will continue to further reduce speed limits in local streets to 40 kmh.</p>

GOAL 1

We will be leaders in creating a sustainable city through local innovation projects that address climate change.

1.2 We will increase sustainable transport through safer streets for walking and cycling, and advocacy for public transport.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Improve bike rider safety by delivering priority treatments along the Northcote and Preston Streets for People corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two road safety treatments on James Street and two on Cramer Street in Preston Five wombat crossings: two on Ethel Street, one on Stott Street and one each on Herbert Street and Hawthorn Road, in Northcote to complete the Mernda Rail-line Streets for People project 	<p>Detailed designs have been completed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bracken Avenue Crossings Northern Reservoir Streets for People corridor Broadhurst Avenue and Radford Road Reservoir. Roundabout, zebra crossings and shared user path. Croxton West Local Area Place Making/Streets for People (LAPM/ SfP) raised zebra crossings on Arthurton Road, Woolhouse Street and Leinster Grove. Cheddar Road LAPM 2 locations Strathmerton/Orrong and Broadway/Boldrewood. <p>Construction has been completed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northcote LAPM priority location Sharp St Dundas Street line marking SfP Northcote/Thornbury 2 raised zebra crossings Herbert/Hawthorn and Ethel Street Wood St bicycle safety projects
<p>Continue to develop designs for the construction of priority treatments along the Reservoir and Preston Streets for People corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two speed reduction/safety treatments along Cramer Street between St Georges Road and Gilbert Road Pedestrian and rider safety and access upgrades near the roundabout of Broadhurst Avenue and Radford Road 	<p>Construction of several priority treatments in both corridors was completed. Design development work was completed for the Preston Activity Link, with design work mostly completed for the priority project along the Northern Reservoir Streets for People corridor.</p>
<p>Deliver 100 percent of the Footpath Renewal Program and continue to improve on the satisfaction in the footpath network</p>	<p>This action has been completed in full, with \$5.4m spent to renew approximately 35,000 square metres of concrete paths across the municipality.</p>
<p>Design and construct the shared path connection from the northern side of La Trobe University to Plenty Road</p>	<p>Council secured funding from the Victorian Government through the Northern Regional Trails Strategy group of councils. Jointly funded by La Trobe University, this project constructed a new pedestrian and bicycle path through La Trobe University. Construction of the path is complete.</p>
<p>Advocate to the State Government for improved east-west transport connections throughout Darebin</p>	<p>Council has continued to work with neighbouring local governments and the Department of Transport to advocate for improved bus connections throughout Darebin. The next stages of improved connections to the pop up bicycle lanes on Heidelberg Road will improve access to important east west bicycle connections in the south of Darebin. Council has continued to advocate to bring forward construction of the northern section of the Suburban Rail Loop.</p>
<p>Advocate for more frequent services on all public transport in supporting the recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Following Council's advocacy, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Government announced additional tram services between Docklands and Preston, and additional train services on the Mernda and Hurstbridge Lines. These have continued to run post lockdown. Council will continue to advocate for auto on signals at pedestrian crossings, fast tracking of active and public transport projects, and funding for walking and cycling projects to support the significant increases in usage.</p>



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Collaborate with the wider northern Melbourne region of councils for permanently improving bus services across Darebin	Council has continued to collaborate with other councils in the northern region through the Northern Councils Alliance to develop advocacy positions and plans on improving bus services for the community. Council is also advocating for interim bus service expansion to serve the northern suburbs ahead of the Suburban Rail Loop being delivered and an interim electric bus to connect the current Tram 11 terminus to Reservoir Station.
Work with other impacted local governments and the Metropolitan Transport Forum to advocate to the Victorian Government to commit to the delivery of the Melbourne Metro Two Project	Darebin continues to work with local government and other stakeholders to advance advocacy for constructing Melbourne Metro 2. This forms part of Council's COVID-19 recovery advocacy to stimulate local economies and provide sustainable transport connections.
Advocate to the State Government and relevant Ministers for the prioritisation of the delivery of accessible tram stops along tram route 86	Council has continued meetings with the Department of Transport and advocating to Ministers and local MPs for accessible tram stops along the Route 86 tram route as part of its COVID-19 advocacy package. This would promote the revitalisation of High Street and support local businesses, residents and visitors and remove barriers to using public transport currently being experienced by people with a disability.
Advocate to the State Government and relevant Ministers for the fast delivery of safe infrastructure to improve safety of people choosing to ride and walk to work during and following the COVID-19 pandemic C-19	Following successful advocacy from Council, the State Government installed new pop up bicycle lanes on Heidelberg Road and the next stage of connectors along feeder routes was implemented in June 2021. Council continues to advocate for pop up bicycle lanes on other key arterial roads in Darebin. Council will continue to work with neighbouring local governments, the State Government and the community on design and implementation, as well as further advocacy on cycling and walking infrastructure to support community need.
Continue to advocate for funding for walking improvements on arterial roads, including pedestrian crossings	Council has continued its delivery of safe walking infrastructure on local streets. On arterial roads, Council is advocating for the State Government to fund and approve safety and infrastructure improvements for walking in Darebin as part of its COVID-19 advocacy package. Darebin continues to work closely with the Department of Transport and other local governments to coordinate and implement advocacy efforts.



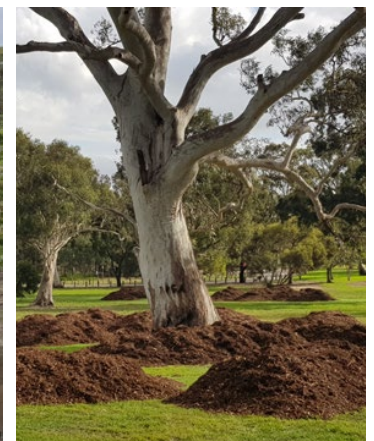
C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 1

We will be leaders in creating a sustainable city through local innovation projects that address climate change.

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.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Support the Darebin Nature Trust (DNT) to provide advice to Council on biodiversity and open space matters, including advice on rewilding, community programs, advocacy, biodiversity management and the implementation of Breathing Space: The Darebin Open Space Strategy	Council is working with Darebin Nature Trust (DNT) to support them in their role of providing Council with expert biodiversity advice. This year DNT has provided advice on implementing Breathing Space (Council’s Open Space Strategy); a submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Biodiversity and Ecosystem Decline; establishing the Darebin Gardens for Wildlife program; the Darebin Good Design Guide for Landscaping on private property; advocacy for protecting the Dumbarton Street Grasslands threatened ecological community; and, the Rewilding Program which has seen the planting of over 120,000 indigenous plants in 2020-2021.
Monitor and manage sediment levels in Edwardes Lake and Leamington Street wetlands	Over the preceding three years, there has been no significant change to the sediment levels at Edwardes Lake. Officers continue to monitor the sediment levels as required.
At Donath Dole Reserve, extend the current footpath to increase community access to a larger area of the park	The Contract was delivered on time and below budget as part of the larger intersection works. Stakeholder engagement, including with Department of Transport (DoT) and Public Transport Victoria (PTV) (bus lines), and local residents, resulted in minimal issues during construction.
Create a pocket park at Oakover as part of the implementation of the Junction Urban Master Plan (JUMP)	The construction of the pocket park is now complete and contains new seating areas, street trees, garden beds and bike parking, as well as new pedestrian crossings to the space.
Rewild parks across Darebin including at Mayer Park; Donath Dole Reserve; Oldis Gardens; Robinson Capp Reserve; Hayes Park; Larkin Reserve; McDonnell Park; Ruthven Reserve	100,000 indigenous tube stock were ordered for the first six months of 2021 planting season and by the end of June 2021, a total of approximately 175,000 plants have been planted across Darebin for this program. In the last quarter, rewilding activities took place in Blake Reserve (18,000), Johnson Park (2,000), Donath and Dole Reserve (6,500), Strettle Reserve (2,500) and Clements Reserve (9,000) as well as a number of smaller pocket parks. Rewilding works at McDonnell Park has been put on hold until the Northern Aquatic and Recreation Centre redevelopment works are completed, and Mayer Park has also been paused pending the Master Plan development. Additionally, there was heavy investment in Edwardes Lake park (in excess of 15,000 tube stock) and Cheddar Road (6,000 plants).





2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Renew assets identified by the Park Asset Data collection process</p>	<p>Installation of assets has been completed at Johnson Park Northcote and SPAN Community Centre Thornbury.</p> <p>Other works completed include investigation, preparation, supply and installation of water and drinking fountain at Penders Park Thornbury; supply and installation of fencing at Dole Avenue Reservoir; and, installation of irrigation at Edwardes Lake Park and grass replacement in Reservoir.</p>
<p>Increase tree plantings and canopy in parks, streets and median strips to achieve coverage targets in line with Council’s Urban Forest Strategy</p>	<p>Planting is ongoing but this project stage is complete, with RAPID Canopy the main planting program being implemented this financial year for streetscape planting. All planting sites have been assessed with some tree planting completed before Stage 4 restrictions were enacted.</p> <p>To date, 3400 trees have been planted in streetscapes. Preston West and Reservoir East have been planted.</p> <p>Over 5000 indigenous tube stock have been planted in bushland areas and over 200,000 tube stock have been planted as part of rewilding Darebin.</p>
<p>Investigate a scheme that would allow developers to voluntarily fund Water Sensitive Urban Design in the neighbourhood rather than installing WSUD on site as required by the Planning Scheme</p>	<p>A report, including financial modelling has been completed to assess the feasibility of a voluntary contribution scheme for Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD). The report shows that it is feasible to implement a voluntary scheme for developers to meet some of the planning for stormwater management requirements via voluntary monetary contributions to Council in lieu of constructing on site WSUD assets. The options modelled would still require a significant proportion of the stormwater management requirements of the planning scheme to be met on site.</p>
<p>Undertake research into the use of permeable paving that will enable water to sink into the ground and water table leading to the improved condition of our waterways</p>	<p>Bundoora Park Golf Course permeable paving project was designed by June 2021. A cost comparison between traditional asphalt pavement and permeable paving will decide whether the project is to be constructed in a future financial year.</p>
<p>Incorporate rain gardens/Water Sensitive Urban Design into civil works, where appropriate</p>	<p>Site specific rainwater management treatments are being designed to achieve operational effectiveness and reduce the maintenance cost and effort.</p> <p>Construction to date includes rain gardens at 13 sites, passively irrigated garden beds at 9 sites, and tree pits in 4 different sites/streets.</p>
<p>Ensure planning approvals require larger developments to construct and/or to contribute funds toward water-sensitive urban design installations</p>	<p>Processing of all major developments includes an Environmental Sustainable Design assessment and seeks opportunities to minimise water use and maximise water reuse and quality. This is a standard part of all application assessments for major developments and the team is continually seeking ways to ensure additional Water Sensitive Urban Design outcomes.</p>

GOAL 2

We will improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well.

2.1 We will ensure health and social services meet our community's needs across their life-course.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Undertake surveys in the East Preston and East Reservoir neighbourhoods to inform community development and wellbeing priorities</p>	<p>The wellbeing surveys for East Preston and East Reservoir neighbourhoods were deferred due to COVID-19. The health and wellbeing needs of East Preston and East Reservoir residents were identified during the community engagement process of identifying priorities of the 2021 2025 Council Plan (integrating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan), with engagement sessions taking place in both neighbourhoods with a range of community priority groups. The wellbeing surveys for East Preston and East Reservoir neighbourhood will be undertaken next financial year to establish a baseline data set.</p>
<p>Review the Health and Wellbeing Plan with learnings from COVID-19 C-19</p>	<p>The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was integrated into the draft Council Plan and has been submitted to the Department of Health seeking exemption to embed into the Council Plan. The 2021 Darebin Health and Wellbeing Profile Report informed the Plan and had a strong focus on the impact of COVID-19 on the health and wellbeing of community.</p> <p>Other activities in this quarter included a partnership with five primary schools for professional development and parental engagement and learning on Berry Street Education Model and a Council Careers Day for First Nations students from a Darebin secondary school, with 11 students participating.</p>
<p>Continue to connect residents to: Council's Community Navigation Support and Social Connection Programs C-19 Emergency relief agencies and wellbeing services C-19 Partner with Darebin Information Volunteer Resource Service (DIVRS) and local services to support vulnerable young people and their families' access emergency relief, support and material aid. C-19</p>	<p>Council responded to 166 requests through the COVID-19 Recovery Community Navigation Support and Social Connection programs for this quarter. Twenty seven household referrals have been received for the Community Activation and Social Isolation Initiative, and 300 masks were distributed. Council supported 150 households with food relief through the COVID-19 emergency relief boost and Darebin's 'Emergency Relief and Support Services During COVID-19' brochure was updated this quarter to provide up to date local emergency relief information.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>In partnership with the Darebin Best Start Aboriginal Reference Group deliver the biennial 'Welcome Baby to Country' event to connect to and welcome the new generation of Aboriginal babies and toddlers in Darebin to Wurundjeri Country</p>	<p>Council has sought advice and feedback from Darebin Best Start Aboriginal Reference Group regarding the delivery of the 'Welcome Baby to Country' in 2020/21. Due to COVID-19 and the community's priority of protecting elders, the event will be postponed until the 2021/22 financial year. Ongoing planning and conversations with the Darebin Best Start Aboriginal Reference Group and the community continue to take place.</p>
<p>Deliver the Addressing Intergenerational Isolation COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery Project C-19</p>	<p>Council delivered the following projects across 20/21, fostering intergenerational social connections and reducing isolation experienced through COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dear Darebin (a mail art project) – 1000 postcards aimed at communities not engaged with online platforms - BUDS Gardening Program – a trial aimed at older residents through gardening with younger people (also reported by Aged & Disability in Q4) - Play Streets community events in East Preston and East Reservoir in partnership with the Somali Australia Council of Victoria (SACOV) (also reported by Equity and Wellbeing in Q3) - African Drumming and Dancing workshops in East Preston and East Reservoir as part of the Art for Good Health Project (also reported by Equity and Wellbeing in Q3) - Darebin Schools' NAIDOC Yarning Conference (also reported by Equity and Wellbeing in Q2)
<p>Review Council's Pandemic Sub-plan following the conclusion of COVID-19</p>	<p>Council's COVID-19 Safe Plan has been updated to incorporate the State's COVID-19 Safe Summer directives. This document supports the Pandemic Sub Plan and will be reviewed upon the lifting of the State of Emergency. This has been extended until December 2021.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 2

We will improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well.

2.1 We will ensure health and social services meet our community's needs across their life-course.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Increase immunisation rates through targeting Early Years services for vulnerable children</p>	<p>The immunisation service held 39 immunisation sessions (drop in and appointment clinics) during this period. A total of 2486 vaccines were administered to 1144 children (2338 Government Funded vaccines and 148 fee paying vaccines e.g. Meningococcal B, Chickenpox booster and Meningococcal ACWY). The enhanced home visiting program facilitated two children to receive 7 vaccines. Immunisation rates for Darebin have not been provided at the time of this report.</p>
<p>Increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families accessing and remaining engaged with the Maternal and Child Health service through the employment of an Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Nurse</p>	<p>The Maternal and Child Health service provided 45 Key Age and Stage (KAS) consultations to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. The service provided an additional 3 KAS consultations to babies under the age of 8 weeks compared to the previous quarter.</p>
<p>Increase the use of digital platforms such as social media and telehealth in the delivery of health checks and support services to children, young people and their families to improve social, health and wellbeing outcomes C-19</p>	<p>During 2020 21 Council's services for children, young people and families have evolved to deliver a hybrid model of face to face and remote service delivery, adjusting regularly to changing COVID-19 restrictions whilst ensuring continuity of service provision. Supports for families through services such as Maternal and Child Health, Family Services and Supported Playgroups were delivered using digital platforms where appropriate during periods of lockdown to ensure families received the health checks and supports they need. Digital engagement options continued to be made available to families when face to face service delivery resumed, to ensure that families who were anxious about attending appointments or groups were still engaged. Youth Services delivered more than 50 online events and weekly activities, online mentoring to over 80 young people, online support and referral to over 120 vulnerable and at-risk young people and achieved a significant expansion of their reach through social media platforms. The Children and Community Development unit also used digital platforms to provide supports to early childhood professionals across Darebin to enable professional development and networking to continue, with increased participation in these activities as a result of the shift to online delivery.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Following the adoption of the Ruthven Masterplan, make improvements to the park on the site of the old Ruthven primary school to maximise its natural bushland character. This will include a new planting program for rewilding, and the design and construction of a new playspace. Progress plans to rename the park in consultation with the local Wurundjeri people.</p>	<p>Concept plans for a new play space and nature play area were shared with the community in February 2021 and endorsed by Council on the 24th May 2021. Consultation on the play space was delayed because of the 2020 lockdowns and this also delayed construction. Construction is set for the second half of 2021; the play space is set to open by late 2021.</p> <p>A draft planting plan has been created to guide rewilding at Ruthven Park and, in conjunction with Darebin Nature Trust and former Ruthven Community Reference Group, a planting list has been established for this park.</p>
<p>Implement Council’s Youth Services Strategy Action Plan 2019–21, in collaboration with the Youth Citizens Jury</p>	<p>Council, in partnership with the Young Citizen Jury, continued to support the implementation of priorities from the Youth Services Strategy. Due to COVID-19, actions and priorities have needed to be adjusted. Outcomes achieved this quarter have included: actively participated in the development of the community vision, priorities and four year council plan; and, supported the planning of a range of Victorian Youth Week activities and initiatives, including School Holiday activities, Public Jam Skate and BMX event, and a Youth Expo (adapted to be hosted online due to COVID-19 restrictions).</p>
<p>Deliver an additional five pre-employment skill development training programs, to young people to increase their job readiness and employability</p>	<p>Council continues to support young people’s employability and employment through a range skill development training programs and initiatives. These included delivery of a Youth Leadership program in partnership with Big Sister (a job readiness workshop) and planning for a 6 week urban farming training program (postponed until July 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions). One to one employment support and coaching continues to take place on a needs basis.</p>



GOAL 2

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2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Implement the Age Friendly Darebin Review Year Two actions</p>	<p>Age Friendly initiatives, many of which have been adapted in line with COVID-19 safe practices, have been delivered. Cafe Meals voucher trial has been completed. Bridging the Digital Divide work made a huge difference to the lives of participating residents, and included diverse older participants, in collaboration with Libraries, Your Community Health and via our Community Support Workers. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander elder women with an interest in building their use of technology benefited from new access options to leisure, personal connection, health and daily living. Lawn mowing and gardening trials concluded and are being evaluated. Individual Social Support services have expanded. Our local Homeshare provider has been collaboratively promoted as an affordable housing option. In the physical environment, Age Friendly considerations have influenced a range of infrastructure projects. The only delays have been aspects of initiatives that required older community members' consultation and participation. These will be rolled over to next year</p>
<p>Continue to support the community's recovery from COVID-19 impacts through the Community Navigation Support and Social Connection Programs</p>	<p>The Community Navigation service model has transitioned to reflect a) the continued decrease overall in demand, apart from temporary rises around outbreaks and restriction reintroductions, and b) the increased demand for Assessment services. Calls are triaged expertly via Customer service.</p> <p>The focus has shifted more to post COVID-19 information rebuilding and supporting community confidence to resume social and daily living activities. This has included: reorienting social support programs; resuming outreach work for vulnerable communities, both general and geographically targeted; and, educating and supporting community about COVID Safe use of facilities and spaces. Post-COVID collaboration with our community partners will be built on what we have collectively learned from the extended crisis.</p>
<p>Complete the construction of the Edwardes Lake Park changing place facility</p>	<p>The construction of the Edwardes Lake Park Changing Place Facility and Public Amenities was completed in November 2020 and has been operational since early December.</p>
<p>Ensure our food and health businesses maintain high standards of public health and safety</p>	<p>Restrictions during the State of Emergency provided limited access to some businesses. Council's Health Protection Unit completed a total of 793 assessments at registered businesses within the municipality.</p>



.2 We will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Design and construction of playspaces at Ruthven Reserve, Penders Park (stage 2), CH Sullivan Reserve and Vale Reserve	Vale Reserve upgrade works are now complete. CH Sullivan Reserve play space minor upgrade works are now complete. Construction of a play space at Ruthven is set for the second half of 2021 to allow for better weather during construction. Funding for Penders Park Stage 2 has been received. Construction has started and is on track for delivery by end of December 2021.
Complete new designs for the redevelopment of the pavilion and grandstand at Bill Lawry Oval, Northcote to maximise community access and participation	A concept design for the redevelopment of the Bill Lawry Oval pavilion and grandstand has been developed as part of the design competition to appoint an architect. Concept designs have incorporated community feedback. A report to appoint the successful architect to further develop this design is awaiting endorsement.
Complete the KP Hardiman Reserve, Reservoir hockey pitch and lighting replacement project	The installation of the new synthetic hockey pitch and lighting has been completed and is in use for community sport. An official opening has been delayed due to recent COVID-19 restrictions.
Complete the soccer pavilion replacement at BT Conner Reserve, Reservoir	Pavilion replacement is underway but not complete. Services and the concrete pad for the new pavilion have been completed with framing now ready to install.
Complete the planning and due diligence to identify the preferred re-development option for the Reservoir Leisure Centre to maximise the health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes of the surrounding community	The health and wellbeing study has been completed. Reporting of results to Council have been delayed. COVID-19 has impacted on the delivery timelines and delayed the delivery of this project.
Award the construction contract for the Multi-Sports Stadium (MSS) and commence construction	ADCO Constructions was unanimously approved by Council at the 20 July 2020 Council meeting. The stadium construction commenced in September 2020 and is progressing well. The building foundations are completed and work has commenced on the main building structure. Construction commenced in September 2020 and is scheduled for completion in December 2021.
Determine and implement the optimal management model that will be utilised for the Multi-Sports Stadium (MSS) once it opens	The management model for the Multi Sports Stadium has been endorsed and the specification completed. The public tender for the management for the MSS will be released to the market shortly.
Complete the construction of the outdoor courts at the Multi-Sports Stadium	The construction of the outdoor courts at the Multi Sports Stadium is complete. The construction includes 4 outdoor courts, amenities building, solar lighting to service the adjacent road construction and new amenities, lighting for the new outdoor courts, new road construction, landscaping, outdoor tables and seating and coaches and players boxes.
Award the construction contract for the new 5-star green star rated Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre facility	Following an EOI process, 3 contractors were shortlisted for tendering. The construction tenders closed 17 June 2021 and three (3) tenders were received from the three short listed Contractors. Currently the Panel is evaluating the tenders and aiming to issue a report to Council with a Contractor recommendation in August 2021.

GOAL 2

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2.2 We will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Recommend the Reservoir Leisure Centre Seniors Exercise Program to support health and wellbeing in spaces where seniors meet C-19</p>	<p>The Living Longer Living Stronger program has been relaunched. Participation numbers are reduced due to COVID restrictions (230 for the quarter compared to 380 for the same time last year).</p> <p>Staying Active memberships (for over 60's) have increased to 319. This is slightly up for the same period last year, which recorded 312 memberships.</p> <p>Programs that are suitable for all ages and abilities have been incorporated into the Get Active in Darebin free exercise program, which launched the Autumn program in March. This program offers a range of activities at both indoor and outdoor locations, including family friendly yoga at the Reservoir Seniors Centre.</p> <p>Virtual exercise programs offered during 2020 and 2021 continue to be available online and include options for a range of ages and abilities including: Keep Strong, Gentle Yoga, Chair Yoga, Awareness through Movement and Meditation.</p> <p>In addition, as a result of the May and June 2021 COVID-19 lockdowns, Reservoir Leisure Centre has established a direct contact approach with these users to ensure they understand the changes in access to the programs. These direct phone calls allow for engagement during times of isolation and ensure users stay safe, with a clear direction on reopening.</p>
<p>Recommend the Community Gym Program for Reservoir Neighbourhood House members to increase participation, health and wellbeing C-19</p>	<p>There are currently 54 (free) Community Gym memberships after reactivation in December 2020. The Reservoir Neighbourhood House continues to provide a referral pathway service for identification of suitable participants and support for participants to overcome engagement barriers to ensure memberships are being utilised. There is a waiting list of 25 people for this program.</p>
<p>Review the outcomes of the 2010–20 Leisure Strategy and develop a new strategy that identifies programs and partnerships for increased physical activity</p>	<p>This project has been delayed due to COVID-19 and will not be completed this year. This action has been identified for completion in year 1 of the 2021 25 Council Plan.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Recommence the Swim to 50 Program at Reservoir Leisure Centre to provide swim lessons for children from low income and new immigrant families in the community C-19</p>	<p>This project was paused due to COVID-19 and the pool hall facility improvements program. Planning with stakeholders to engage participants has been undertaken to reactivate the program. The May/June COVID-19 lockdown prevented program restart which is now scheduled for July (term 3).</p>
<p>Continue to deliver the diverse range of online exercise programs developed during the COVID-19 restrictions to maximise access and participation in programs that support physical activity C-19</p>	<p>A program of online live streamed classes were reinstated for the May and June lockdown period and a library of over 250 classes remain available online for free use.</p> <p>Your Community Health took an active role in sharing these classes over the May and June period by promoting the classes through their social media channels.</p> <p>When in centre capacity limits applied, a new format of live streaming centre-based classes was implemented.</p> <p>Classes include a range of strength, cardio, older adults specific, child friendly, tai chi and mind/body specific sessions to suit a wide range of abilities and interests.</p> <p>The Darebin Get Active Autumn program was launched in March with a range of in person and on line activities throughout the municipality, with a focus on areas experiencing higher levels of disadvantage.</p>
<p>Implement the Getting Sports Clubs Back on Track Grants program as part of the COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience Package to enable Darebin’s Sport Clubs to restart activities once restrictions ease C-19</p>	<p>This funding program has been completed, with 43 clubs approved for a total of \$99,000 in funding in round one and \$42,000 in recovery grants being awarded to 13 clubs in round two.</p>
<p>Review the Performance Subsidy Program to support Darebin’s community sports clubs to maximise equity participation outcomes</p>	<p>This action has commenced but is not completed. A draft of a new performance subsidy program has been developed with updated goals regarding inclusion and alignment with the new 2021 25 Council Plan. This has been identified as a year one action for the new Council Plan and will be finalised in time to be implemented for summer season facility users.</p>
<p>Report on the second year of outcomes and achievements of the Promoting Women and girls in Sport Partnership Agreement and use this evident to determine the next phase of the partnership</p>	<p>The second-year outcomes report and the extension of the agreement for 2021 and 2022 was endorsed at the Council meeting in March 2021.</p> <p>A new agreement has been finalised for years 3 and 4 of the partnership, outlining key participation and inclusion outcomes to be achieved for this period.</p>
<p>Review and implement new licence/seasonal agreements to assist Darebin’s sports clubs to maximise access, equity and participation outcomes</p>	<p>The review on how seasonal/annual license agreements can include equity and inclusion principles has commenced but is not completed. Implementation has been delayed due to COVID-19 but will be implemented in the coming year with licence and annual agreements currently in development.</p>

C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 2

We will improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well.

2.2 We will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Maximise access to the newly refurbished Senior Citizen Centres Work in collaboration with community groups</p>	<p>COVID-19 restrictions continue to impact on the full operation of the centres in a COVID safe and normal environment. Prior to restrictions in May and June 2021 many seniors groups returned to using senior citizen centres, albeit in smaller numbers. Community members and seniors groups have enjoyed using the centres during business hours. In coming weeks we will explore how to enable groups who access these centres after hours and weekends to also commence their use at these centres.</p>
<p>Design and deliver seasonal festivals aligned to COVID-19 safe festival and events protocols C-19</p>	<p>Darebin's FUSE Autumn Festival 2021 ended on 28 March 2021. The program included 16 events (13 of them free), featuring 160 artists at 18 locations across Darebin. The culmination of activities was a great success, and all 16 events had live, face to face components to them, which were managed effectively in accordance with COVID safe plans. 20% of the events showcased First Nations artists, 16% showcased CALD artists, 16% showcased artists over 55 and 12.5% showcased artists with a disability.</p>
<p>Support artists and festival producers through artistic commissions to deliver a range of initiatives as part of FUSE festival</p>	<p>Delivery of Darebin's FUSE Spring Festival 2020, FUSE Autumn Festival 2021 and Council's Creative Recovery program led to 75 artistic commissions, providing employment opportunities to over 400 artists, artistic producers and technicians across mediums as varied as visual art, broadcast, performance, film, digital art and music. Additional work is being undertaken to support community led events to remain COVID safe through Council's Event Permit process.</p>
<p>Through Darebin's Arts venues, provide opportunities to produce and deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · An innovative and diverse season of production through the Speakeasy program at Northcote Town Hall Art Centre · A season of Arts productions directed at elderly citizens through our 'Morning Music' program at the Darebin Art Centre · A range of productions that engages local families and children · The Mayors Writing Awards · Support for artists and the development of new theatrical works 	<p>The third quarter (Q3) saw the reopening of our cultural facilities with events and performances at both Northcote Town Hall and Darebin Arts Centres. COVID safe work plans have delivered a safe environment for staff, artists and audiences to return to work, create, and enjoy creative experiences.</p> <p>Some highlights have included: Raga series of outdoor early morning concerts in collaboration with Multicultural Arts Victoria; the launch of N Scribe, Darebin's annual magazine featuring local writers; the opening of the Speakeasy performing arts program with the first production in this year's program ('Enlightenment'); ten (10) young people taking over Northcote Town Hall for 'Let's Take Over'; and the launch of the autumn FUSE Darebin festival.</p> <p>Some creative programs have been delayed due to the impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns in Victoria, and will be resumed as soon as it is safe to do so.</p>
<p>Deliver an online and refocused version of the biennial Darebin's A1 Salon to support local visual artists of all ages across Darebin to exhibit new works</p>	<p>The biennial A1 Darebin Art Salon was delivered online between 10 July to 11 September 2020. Over 100 entries were received from Darebin artists who live, work or study in the municipality. Of the applicants, 33 identified as culturally and linguistically diverse, 7 identified as First Nations artists, and 22 applicants identified as artists with disability. This year's prize winners were selected by a 'People's Choice' voting system, with over 1600 votes received. An online closing event was held on Friday 11 September 2020.</p>

C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
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Establish the newly formed Art and Heritage panel to support and inform Council’s policies and initiatives aligned to its collections

The Darebin Art & Heritage Advisory Panel held its first meeting under its new governance model in July 2020. Subsequently, an expressions of interest process was undertaken for additional Panel members. In December 2020, Council endorsed the appointment of eight new community members to the Panel’s membership, as well as an organisational member position for Multicultural Arts Victoria

The first meeting of the Art & Heritage advisory panel for 2021 was held on 16 February. The meeting was attended by the eight newly appointed community members and the existing six sitting members, as well as the Councillor representative Cr Susanne Newton. In early March 2021, Veronica Pardo (CEO of Multicultural Arts Victoria) accepted the invitation to join the Art & Heritage Advisory Panel, thereby completing the panel’s full membership as endorsed by Council.

Regular meetings have been held with the newly formed panel and have included discussions of key priorities for the advisory panel for the year ahead. Three further panel meetings are scheduled for the 2021 calendar year.

Design and deliver an exhibition in partnership with Midsummer Festival to showcase the work of emerging artists who identify as LGBTIQ

Emerging artist EO Gill was selected as the winner of the Bundoora Homestead Prize at the 2020 Midsumma Australia Post Art Award. Gill’s exhibition ‘CLEAVE’ was presented at Bundoora Homestead in partnership with Midsumma Festival from 7 April – 27 June 2021. The exhibition was accompanied by a critical text by Sydney writer and artist Frances Barrett.

EO Gill’s exhibition was launched with an opening celebration event at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre on Saturday 17 April, including a Welcome to Country ceremony and an introduction from Councillor Laurence. The exhibition has resulted in new audiences visiting Bundoora Homestead and positive feedback from visitors.



GOAL 2

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2.2 We will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Create COVID safe platforms and artistic experiences that support artists and audiences to return to presenting work in Darebin. C-19</p>	<p>A range of COVID-19 safe initiatives have been developed. Highlights include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Projects and initiatives delivered through the FUSE Spring 2020 program led to the provision of support to around 200 artists and artistic producers and technicians, across mediums as varied as visual art, broadcast, performance, film, digital art and music. 2. Ten performance seasons have been rescheduled to 2021 in the Darebin Arts Speakeasy program. 3. The Speakeasy Performance Development program supported 73 artists to develop future works. 4. The A1 Darebin Art Salon was presented online in 2020 to ensure local artists and makers were able to exhibit their work despite the temporary closure of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre. 5. Darebin Arts portfolio is participating in regular meetings with industry peers in the sector to share methods and systems for returning to safe presenting practices and re opening of cultural facilities.
<p>Run Backyard Harvest events within the FUSE festival to help community learn from and inspire each other in regards to local food production.</p>	<p>The Backyard Festival (due to be held during FUSE Autumn March 2021), was put on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions. A free online Queensland Fruit Fly Information Session was run to reduce the risk of QFF infestation in Darebin. Web and print resources have been developed to help gardeners to learn gardening and seed saving skills, and support the community to use Darebin's new Seed Libraries. Council collaborated with Darebin Libraries and supported Early Learning Services with resources to deliver sustainability and seed saving workshops for children. Council supported the launch of the new Regent Community Garden in Reservoir and is supporting the development of a new Food Justice Farm in Preston.</p>
<p>Increase the number of community gardens at the Bundoora Park Farm</p>	<p>The ten new gardens are full of vegetable plants and thriving. These garden beds have been completed using recycled corrugated iron from the Reservoir Crossing Removal Project.</p> <p>Planning for expanding the community food growing project is underway and is considering how to address key barriers to participation in urban agriculture and food production, such as equitable access to land.</p>
<p>Strengthen partnerships with agencies, the neighbourhood house network and not-for-profit organisations, to deliver programs and services, as part of a COVID recovery responding to current and emerging vulnerabilities. C-19</p>	<p>This quarter, as part of a COVID recovery program responding to community vulnerabilities, Council has continued to partner with Victorian Transcultural Mental Health and Your Community Health to undertake the planning and outreach phases of the Social and Emotional Wellbeing project. Co design workshops are planned for July. Council also supported East Reservoir Neighbours for Change to continue to meet and provide advocacy on homelessness, community and traffic safety locally and the DIVRS Fresh Food Outreach continued to be delivered at East Preston Community Centre, providing bi weekly emergency relief to residents.</p>

C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



8.3 We will expand **lifelong-learning** opportunities, to enable local people to learn, develop their interests, and secure good quality work.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver an infrastructure, workforce and service review that responds to the introduction of government subsidised three-year-old kindergarten program and identify options that meet future community needs</p>	<p>Council has undertaken extensive planning for the roll out of funded three year old kindergarten in collaboration with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) and kindergarten providers across Darebin. This has resulted in the signing of a Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan with DET and the drafting of a twenty year Early Years Infrastructure Plan which will be taken to community consultation in the coming months. Capital and operational projects in 2021/22 and subsequent years will continue the work of increasing kindergarten infrastructure capacity, supporting services with change management, and promoting participation in three year old kindergarten.</p>
<p>Transition the East Preston Community Centre to a lead tenant model by June 2023, informed by engagement with East Preston communities</p>	<p>The East Preston Community Centre has continued to recommence programs this quarter, with a small pause during the June COVID-19 restrictions. The three year plan has been reviewed to consider the impact of COVID-19 on the planning of the transition period. Council's next steps will include establishing an East Preston Community Centre Committee and commencing an expression of interest process for lead tenancy in 2021/22.</p>
<p>Review and implement revised library fines and charges to reduce barriers to use</p>	<p>As part of Darebin's COVID Resilience and Recovery Package, overdue fines did not accrue during the 2020/21 financial year. The 2021/22 Budget deliberations resolved to reinstate overdue fines from 1 July 2021.</p>
<p>Increase the number of library events delivered in community languages</p>	<p>Darebin Libraries have delivered seven events in community languages this year, including two in Auslan (the same number of events as last year). The planned community language events to launch the Spanish and Macedonian collections were postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Darebin Libraries will continue to increase its focus on community language events in 2021/22.</p>
<p>Implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander protocols for libraries, archives and information services, to increase partnerships with Aboriginal organisations and access and service relevance to Aboriginal people</p>	<p>Work has commenced but will not be completed in this financial year. A statement of intent has been developed and the discovery stage is underway, focussing on understanding the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Current practices are being documented in preparation for a community led review of those practices and protocol development in the new financial year.</p>



GOAL 3

We will ensure our planning system facilitates high-quality and sustainable development that extracts social, environmental and economic benefits for our community.

3.1 We will encourage and facilitate **appropriate high-quality development in identified areas** to create opportunities for living accessibly to public transport, infrastructure, open space and attractive, safe public areas.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Strengthen standard planning permit conditions to improve the quality of design and sustainability in planning applications	Planning permit conditions have been strengthened to improve the quality of design and sustainability in planning approvals. Customers are advised early of these requirements at pre application meetings.
Assess the impact of COVID-19 particularly in regards to affordable housing and the economy	Officers have been networking with practitioners across the sector and attending industry seminars to understand the impacts of COVID-19 and opportunities for recovery. Seminar topics have included urban planning, the retail market, the housing market and affordable housing. These findings are informing multiple council programs to support local business and the most vulnerable in the community.
Translate the local content of the Darebin planning scheme into the new state format (including a new Municipal Planning Strategy) for review by the Department of Environmental and Water and Planning, and for Council to consider seeking an amendment to the local Planning Scheme	The translation of the Darebin Planning Scheme into the new format for Victorian planning schemes, and the update of local policy, is underway. The project is on track with the second draft of the policy neutral transition into the new Planning Policy Framework complete. More updates to the Planning Policy Framework, including a revised Municipal Planning Strategy will be updated in the next financial year.
Release new residential design guidelines as a tool to improve the quality of design and sustainability in planning applications	Council adopted the Darebin Good Design Guide Apartment Development and Darebin Good Design Guide Medium Density Development at the 7 September 2020 Council Meeting. The guidelines were uploaded to the Council website on 11 September 2020. New development is increasingly adopting the directions in the Darebin Good Design Guide.





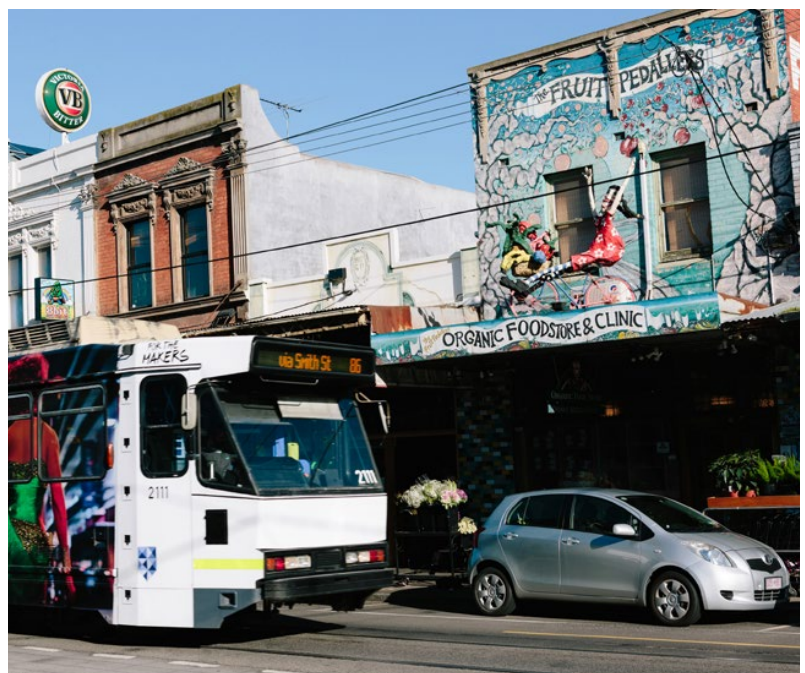
2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Establish a long term 50-year Vision for the City, informed by extensive community and stakeholder engagement, to guide planning, growth and development</p>	<p>Council developed a 20 year Community Vision in 2021 through a Deliberative Panel that was representative of the Darebin community. The Darebin 2041 Community Vision was adopted by Council on 28 June 2021. The Vision will guide Council's work across its services and programs, including planning, growth and development. The Community Vision and underpinning pillars are incorporated into the 2021 25 Council Plan (along with the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) which was also adopted on the 28 June.</p>
<p>Achieve a median time taken to resolve planning compliance matters of 30 days and increase confidence in the Darebin Planning Scheme and planning decisions</p>	<p>The median resolution time for a representative sample of service requests has been reduced to 10 days on account of improved efficiencies and resumption of inspections following end of Stage 4 restrictions.</p>
<p>Champion high standards for design excellence in private development in Darebin, through the City Designer who works with planning permit applicants and their designers to raise the quality of design in applications</p>	<p>Council's City Designer has continued working with the statutory planners and planning permit applicants through pre application meetings and design referrals. Weekly sessions have been initiated with statutory planners to discuss design related issues for all planning applications.</p>
<p>Develop a vision and built form guidelines for Heidelberg Road to guide high quality development, including consultation with the surrounding community</p>	<p>The project to develop a vision and planning controls for Heidelberg Road is a multi year project. Substantial progress has been made, including technical studies on land use, heritage and urban design to inform the planning approach. Community engagement is now underway to seek community input into development of appropriate planning controls. Engagement was delayed slightly during the recent lockdown, and will be finalised in the coming weeks, with a report coming back to Council on the findings of engagement later in the year.</p>
<p>Council has done significant planning towards a future suburb in the Northland precinct, however, the State Government has recently made some quite significant policy changes around industrial land, and the impacts on the local economy of COVID-19 also mean that this planning needs to be revisited. In 2020–21 the impact on the local economy will be assessed. Further specific planning relating to the Northland precinct will be considered in future years</p>	<p>Progress on the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP) planning has been disrupted due to significant changes in State Government policy in early 2020 which prioritises industrial uses in this area. Considering this change, and that slower population growth is now expected as a result of COVID-19, no 2020 21 action was planned nor has been completed.</p>
<p>Complete the Preston Library Feasibility Study and determine the next steps</p>	<p>The Preston Library Feasibility work is now complete. A new or redeveloped Preston Library will be considered as part of the Preston Civic Precinct planning. Consideration of a global learning hub (which would include a library) for Preston has been identified in the 2021 25 Council Plan.</p>

GOAL 3

We will ensure our planning system facilitates high-quality and sustainable development that extracts social, environmental and economic benefits for our community.

3.1 We will encourage and facilitate **appropriate high-quality development in identified areas** to create opportunities for living accessibly to public transport, infrastructure, open space and attractive, safe public areas.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Advocate for good planning outcomes at the Preston Market Precinct through the Victorian Planning Authority’s planning process	Council continues to call on the State Government and the developer to ensure that the planning controls and proposals for redevelopment protect what the community have told Council is important. At its meeting on 22 March, Council updated its ‘Heart of Preston’ objectives and advocacy position to detail what is needed to ensure that the market flourishes. At its meeting on 28 June, Council adopted its key submission points in response to the State Government’s proposed planning controls for the market precinct, which are currently on public consultation. Council also continues its advocacy campaign, including contacting all local State and Federal MPs to seek their support for Council’s position on protecting the market and the interests of existing traders.
Seek community feedback on a draft Urban Design Framework for Central Preston as part of the Future Preston project, and prepare a Central Preston Structure Plan that provides a framework to guide future development in the area	Council has prepared a draft Future Preston Central Vision as well as background reports on urban design, land use, and transport. The preparation of a Built Form Framework is nearing completion. Community engagement will take place in 2021/22, the findings of which will be used to prepare the draft Structure Plan. The work is progressing, however the specific work is not as far progressed as was planned at the beginning of the year. Council has delayed this to prioritise work on other major Central Preston opportunities including advocacy to the Level Crossing Removal Project and for strong Planning Controls at the Preston Market.
Assist and establish a business led association for Preston Central	The Preston Central Business Association has been established. The Committee, supported by a Marketing Coordinator, has developed a Marketing Plan which it is now implementing.






2020-2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Council successfully advocated for removal of our level crossings through the Preston area and in 2020-21 will advocate for excellent design and to ensure that construction is managed so it minimises disruption and supports business and community through that time. Council's work will include review of state government designs and plans and working with the state government to integrate creative outcomes in rail infrastructure projects at Preston Market and Bell Station.</p>	<p>Council successfully advocated to the Level Crossing Removal Project for additional open spaces. Council provided support for traders and implemented economic activity during the first rail occupation in May 2021. Council continues to advocate for the access to the Bell Station commuter carpark to be from the West of the station. The State Government has not yet changed its plans.</p>
<p>During any disruption from the Level Crossing Removals, Council will help traders and community minimise the impact and will encourage our community to shop locally</p>	<p>Council is advocating for minimal disruption and for substantial State support for traders affected, based on the objectives adopted in 'Preston Reconnected'. We are supporting local businesses with a range of economic initiatives, such as the 'Love Local' campaign to encourage residents to shop locally. Council is making new on street parking available in Preston to ensure residents and visitors can support their local businesses even when construction is underway.</p>
<p>In 2020-21 Council expects to further progress this multi-year project (public open space levy) to increase the open space levy. This year this is expected to include presentation to a Planning Panel and seeking authorisation from the Minister for Planning. It is expected to be completed in the 2021-22 financial year.</p>	<p>Council has prepared an Implementation Plan of the Open Space Strategy to support a planning scheme amendment aimed at increasing the contribution that developers make towards public open space. The community will be consulted on the Implementation Plan in mid late 2021 before the planning scheme amendment progresses to a Planning Panel early 2022 rather than late 2021.</p>
<p>In 2020-21 Council expects to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to consult on a proposal for new Developer Contributions Plan that would ensure that developers contribute financially to Council infrastructure as the population grows</p>	<p>Council consulted on its proposed new Developer Contributions Plan (DCP) and considered submissions at its meeting on 22 March 2021. Council then referred them to an independent Planning Panel which convened in May 2021. The Panel will provide a report with recommendations about the amendment to consider before a decision on the final steps namely, adoption of the DCP amendment and requesting approval from the Minister for Planning.</p>
<p>This year of the program will investigate further sites that can be used for affordable housing and update the Darebin Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character guidelines</p>	<p>This quarter, Stage 1 of the Neighbourhood Character Study was completed. Council continues to work with the State and community housing providers on the delivery of the \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build. The commencement of the Housing Strategy was delayed due to work being undertaken on the Neighbourhood Character Study and work required to consider the opportunities and impact of the major State government housing announcements during the year.</p>
<p>Continue to implement the project to develop new social housing on a Council car park at Townhall Avenue, including lease execution, project management, consultancy and legal investigations to progress the project</p>	<p>Council has selected an affordable housing provider to develop and manage high quality affordable housing at the former Council car park at Townhall Avenue. Recent activity has focussed on finalising the lease and planning advice.</p>

GOAL 3

We will ensure our planning system facilitates high-quality and sustainable development that extracts social, environmental and economic benefits for our community.

3.2 We will support our creative industries to ensure the city grows as a significant arts and creative centre.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Implement the following COVID-19 Recovery projects including: creative collaborations; cultural infrastructure grants, arts partnership support recovery program, online recovery program to support Darebin’s creative vibrancy by assisting artists to sustain their practice and connect to colleagues through web-based media </p>	<p>There are four program components occurring as part of Council’s recovery program specifically designed to deliver cultural outcomes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Creative Collaboration in Isolation Program is in the acquittal phase. 2. The Culture Online Initiative is providing creative opportunities to 33 artists to exhibit work on a digital platform and is available for viewing. The third series of works were launched in February 2021 and this program concluded in March 2021. 3. The Cultural Infrastructure grants are in the delivery phase and support local creative industries to adapt to the adverse impacts of COVID-19 restrictions. 50 artists will receive direct support from these grants with a further 227 benefiting from organisational improvements and opportunities created by this funding. 4. The Arts Partnership initiative is in the delivery phase. The Arts Recovery Partnership Grants closed on 4 March 2021 and 39 applications were received. The total amount of funding requested was \$776,622. The Grant has been designed to support creative businesses in Darebin that have been heavily impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns, social distancing and reductions to venue capacities. Eight (8) Darebin arts business were successfully awarded Arts Recovery Partnership Grants and will complete and acquit their projects by April 2022.
<p>Expand and consolidate the cultural licensee program at Northcote Town Hall Art Centre and Darebin Arts Centre</p>	<p>Licensee programs have been delayed during 2020 due to the closure of Council’s arts venues due to COVID-19 lockdowns in Victoria. Negotiations have continued around the license arrangement for Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) at Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre. Speak Percussion have commenced their license arrangement at Darebin Arts Centre and have occupied their new office space as of January 2021. Further licensee programs are anticipated for the 2021/22 financial year. Finalisation of formal licences for Northcote Town Hall is in progress and delayed due to infrastructure works impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns disruptions. Council is able to meet its obligations regarding the housing of creative organisations at the venue and finalise formal contractual arrangements in July.</p>
<p>Provide virtual access to at least 100 percent of the Darebin Indoor and Outdoor Art Collection through the online catalogue</p>	<p>Council has begun relocation of the Darebin Art Collection online database from an outdated content management system to the Victorian Collections online website. This is a State Government funded, industry leading platform for collections management. Currently 90% of this relocation project is now complete. The project is on track and will be completed in full by 30 June 2021, with community having access to 100% of the Darebin Art Collection online from 1 July 2021.</p>

 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



3.3 We will manage local roads, buildings and public spaces to make our city safer, cleaner and more attractive.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Complete up to three grant funding applications for local blackspot safety improvement projects and construct 10 traffic management measures to improve road safety	Six Federal blackspot funding applications have been submitted. There have been 10 traffic management measures installed to improve road safety.
Ensure all road reconstruction and road reseal projects contain a maximum permissible recycled content to improve the sustainability of Council’s civil construction practices	Works have now been completed on the resurfacing program using materials with recycled content.
Protect and enhance urban character by regulating tree removal and pruning on private property within Darebin and completing replacement planting with species suitable to local vegetation and site constraints	Council has employed a tree protection arborist to oversee the implementation of the adopted local law (for protection of significant trees on private property) and protection measures under the planning scheme. The Tree Protection Arborist continues to work with Local Laws (and Planning Protection Officers) to process permits and investigate possible breaches.
Embed good streetscape design into any Council re-development projects, such as Streets for People. Undertake advocacy for good streetscape outcomes with State Government bodies, including the Level Crossing Removal Authority and VicTrack.	In line with adopted Council objectives, Council continues to advocate for good streetscape design outcomes through the State Government Level Crossing Removal Projects (Preston Station and Bell Station), the Preston Market precinct redevelopment, and Council led projects such as the redevelopment of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, the new Multi Sports Stadium and minor upgrades to five Retail Activity Centres.
Engage with local business associations and stakeholders on local improvements or activity centres	Local businesses and associations have been consulted in various improvement projects across the City. These include Oakhill Village, Miller and Gilbert, Crevelli Street, Reservoir and Thornbury Village. Activities included temporary light installations, murals, extended outdoor dining and streetscape enhancements. Almost 100 businesses also took part in the draft budget and Council Plan development process, which included a focus on future streetscape improvements.
Engage with local business associations and stakeholders on small scale targeted streetscape improvements to support activity centres to come back to life post COVID-19 including improvements at: Yarra Ave/Boldrewood, Reservoir, McMahn/Boldrewood, Reservoir and Plenty/Tyler, Reservoir C-19	After a slight delay early on due to COVID-19, this project is now back on track. Intensive community consultation has been completed with both traders and business owners. A residential brochure informing the community (within 500m of the centres) of the works and celebrating the intended changes has been delivered, with positive feedback received. All works are set for completion by the end of June.
Ensure new development within the activity centres funds the upgrade and improvement of adjacent streetscapes	Planning approvals for new development in activity centres fund the upgrade and improvement of adjacent streetscapes, where appropriate, and can include in kind provision of street trees, street furniture, bicycle parking and footpath upgrades. This is achieved through the imposition of conditions on planning approvals.

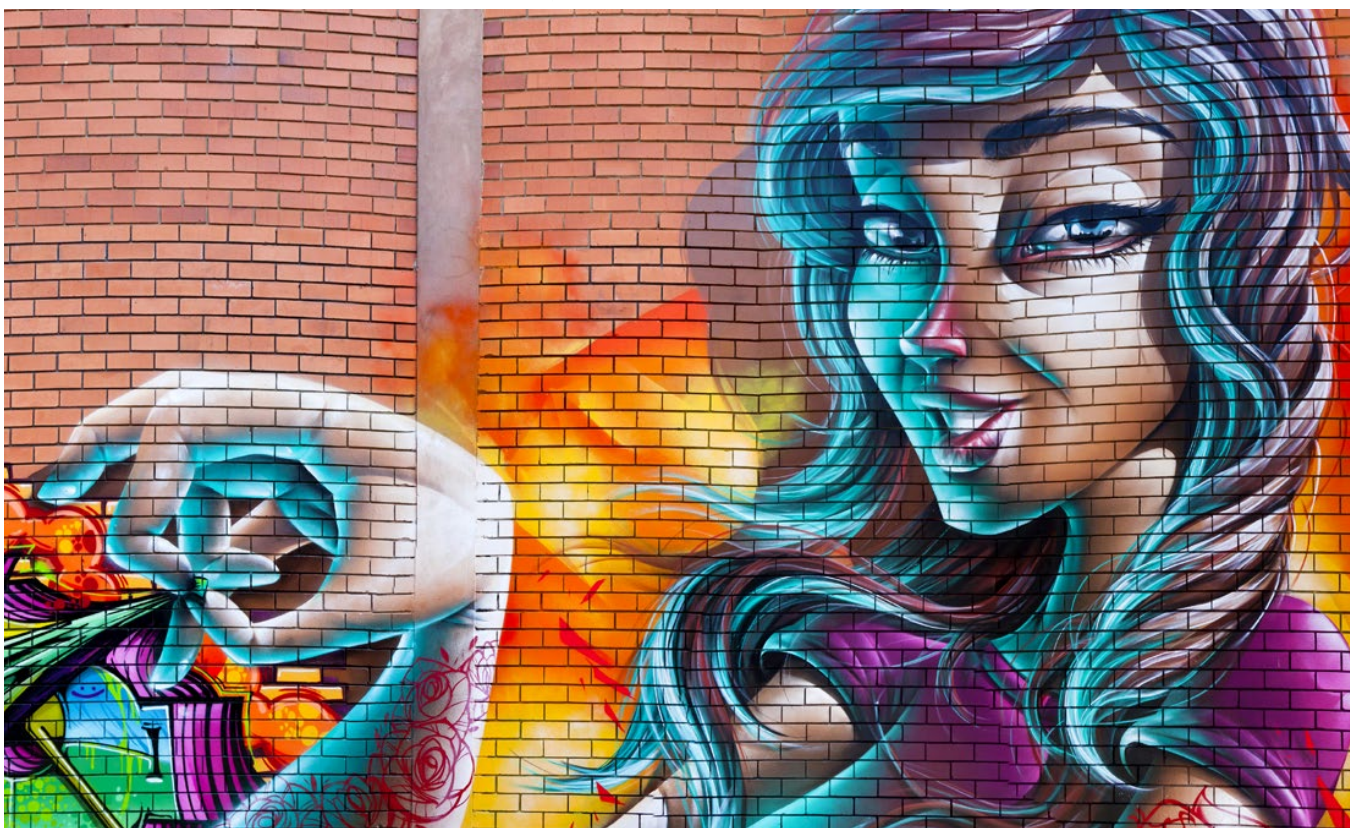
C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 3

We will ensure our planning system facilitates high-quality and sustainable development that extracts social, environmental and economic benefits for our community.

3.3 We will manage local roads, buildings and public spaces to make our city safer, cleaner and more attractive.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver two whole-of-place audits in Preston and Reservoir to identify actions that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime</p>	<p>A total of five safety audits were undertaken in 2020/21 and were used to inform current and future projects and grant applications. One safety audit was undertaken this quarter in Gellibrand Street Reservoir. The report will help inform future improvements at this informal reserve.</p>
<p>Deliver community safety infrastructure projects including Main Drive, Bundoora Lighting upgrade that respond to data about gendered experience in public spaces and improves perceptions of safety</p>	<p>The State Government funded Community Safety Infrastructure project at Main Drive Bundoora is underway, with the lighting design strategy commencing in this quarter. Lighting installation will be completed in 2021/22 and will improve street lighting along Main Drive.</p>
<p>Continue to provide a safe environment for school children walking and cycling to school and ensure that 90 percent of primary schools within the city participate in Council’s School Crossing Education program</p>	<p>Council’s school crossing program has supported schools throughout the pandemic, many of which remained open for key families. The service operated in a COVID safe way throughout. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the School Crossing Education program is on hold for now.</p>
<p>Continue to implement the Graffiti Strategy 2019-23</p>	<p>A new graffiti removal contract has been entered into in early 2021 and a more proactive approach to graffiti removal will be a feature of this contract. Particular focus will be placed on business activity centres and shopping strips.</p>





2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Complete 12 street art murals across the municipality to minimise graffiti occurring at hot-spot locations, while improving amenity	Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we have managed to install only six murals this year.
Reduce the number of domestic animals directed to re-homing programs and increase the number of domestic animals registered in the municipality and lost animals returned directly to their owner	Council has a total of 14,780 animals registered within the municipality, which is an 11% increase from 12 months ago. The higher rate of registered animals enables staff to directly contact an owner to promptly reunite them with their lost pets, which reduces rehoming.
Incorporate signage and design into public spaces to support dog walking as well as other users in line with the updated Open Space Strategy and balance community needs	To respond to increased use of open spaces during COVID-19 restrictions, new temporary park signs have been created to help balance varied community needs. These have been installed at Johnson Park, Northcote and in all playgrounds across Darebin.
Deliver Year four actions identified in the Domestic Animal Management Plan and continue to encourage the responsible ownership of domestic animals	Microchip numbers on applications for registrations of new animals are now referenced against the Centralised Animal Records database to ensure consistency between Council and State data. This was a specific improvement listed for year 4 of the plan.
Apply planning permit conditions that require better construction management in major developments and review opportunities to strengthen the local law in regard to disruption related construction matters	A planning permit condition has been developed that requires a construction management plan for major developments. Opportunities to strengthen the Local Law regarding minimising disruption from construction are currently under investigation.
Assist the community and local business to plan for and manage disruption associated with the State Government’s level crossing removal construction activity in Preston and Reservoir and advocate to State Government to minimise disruption	Council supported businesses across the city with a range of activities to assist them to retain and attract customers throughout construction. Council visited businesses during this time to share information and support traders. Council successfully advocated to the Level Crossing Removal Project and minimised car parking disruption, traffic movements and noise during the construction phase.
Conduct regular inspections and achieve swimming pool and boarding house compliance with regulations	Exceptional swimming pool barrier compliance has been achieved by the Building Services Team since the State Government introduced compliance requirements in 2019. Boarding house compliance continues through the registration program and regular inspections.
Support the Victorian Building Authority as the lead agency to respond to identified combustible cladding risks.	The Building Services Team has worked with the Victorian Building Authority and Cladding Safety Victoria to effectively manage the approximate 101 properties identified as having combustible cladding in Darebin. All ‘Extreme Risk’ properties have had immediate intervention to reduce the risk rating from ‘Extreme’ to ‘High’ and all properties have had a ‘Show Cause’ Notice issued to them, seeking evidence to demonstrate that the combustible cladding present does not pose a risk. Council’s Municipal Building Surveyor and Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor are working closely with each property’s Owners Corporation to resolve the Building Notices. However, the responsibility to address the risk ultimately rests with the owners of the relevant properties.

GOAL 4

We will support and attract a diversity of local businesses and industries by fostering an environment in which they can thrive.

4.1 We will foster an environment that ensures our local businesses succeed – from large industries to microbusiness and freelancers.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Support businesses through the COVID recovery including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the Business Support line until December (and possibly longer dependent on demand) Deliver a range of business development and industry support programs C-19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2354 calls were made to the business support line in 20/21. – 18 businesses participated in a Business Recovery Program each and received tailored business development and growth strategy support. – 420 community responses including 200 online entries were received as part of a Customer Loyalty Program. The information provided will assist future marketing and promotional plans. – 1400+ businesses were listed and promoted on the Darebin Business Map – 700+ business visitations were undertaken, in person and via telephone, providing general business recovery information. – 120 businesses were provided with a “health check” including online marketing support, guidance on funding and government supports. – 500 business impacted by the level crossing related works were provided support and information in key languages. – 120 businesses received support through extended outdoor dining project; 1300+ additional seats were provided to local cafes, restaurants and bars, and 25 parklets and laneways were transformed. This equates to opening over 40-30 seated cafes on our footpaths and laneways. – 237 businesses received COVID recovery grants of \$541,33. – 100 Reservoir businesses impacted by the June restrictions received outreach. This included updates, guidance on COVID safe information, counselling and mentoring support.
<p>Undertake a promotional campaign and place-based activities which showcase Darebin businesses and retail precincts C-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Council commenced a ‘Love Local’ campaign encouraging the community to support local businesses. This included a social media campaign and branding across the municipality. – In Preston, artworks from the Darebin Art Collection were installed on buildings. – The WANGIM Cup project, supported by Darebin Council, has 22 local cafes participating. These cafes are being profiled through Council’s communication channels. In addition to this, 2267 single use cups have been diverted from landfill since the project commencement. – 1400 businesses have been profiled and promoted on the Darebin Business Map.
<p>Support and promote the work of Darebin based social enterprises</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Two local social enterprises were profiled at this year’s Sustainability Matters event on 27 April 2021, these being: Reducing Our Footprint and Moon Rabbit. – Moon Rabbit was also featured in our new Sustainable Cafes video on the Darebin Sustainable Business Playlist. – Council worked with project managers during the procurement process to include social enterprise and local business in all tender assessments. – Five social enterprises received funding through the COVID recovery grants program and one participated in the Recovery Business Program. – Humble Sampler and Alphington Food Hub have been connected into Food Inc; the new food incubator organisation established through Melbourne Innovation Centre. – A dedicated area of the Darebin Business Map highlights local social enterprises.

C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver food handler information sessions to support new and existing food businesses in food safety education</p>	<p>In person information sessions for businesses were cancelled as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. Health Protection Officers provided alternatives to face to face training which included free online food safety training.</p>
<p>Assist businesses and employers to access employment services, support and create pathways for Darebin’s job seekers C-19</p>	<p>Darebin has partnered with Moreland Council to recruit for Jobs Advocates through the State Government’s Jobs Victoria program. These have now commenced and complement advocates already in place through community-based organisations covering Darebin. Darebin has also supported the establishment of two separate Jobs Victoria Employment Services (JVES) programs which will further add benefits to Darebin job seekers and employing businesses. Council continues to promote online platforms, Darebin Joblink and Melbourne’s North Job Link, for local employment. COVID-19 restrictions delayed the running of the first of a series of jobs forums initially planned for Q1 and Q2 in 2021/22. This will now take place in July.</p>
<p>Deliver targeted support to Community Managed Kindergarten and Child Care Services COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery Package Project C-19</p>	<p>Council has continued to support community managed kindergarten and childcare services by providing regular information on sector and guidelines changes. Work has commenced to review the network purpose and support structures to ensure sustainable and ongoing connections with all community managed services.</p>
<p>Deliver a series of workshops assisting businesses to improve their digital and financial capabilities in response to the impacts of COVID-19 C-19</p>	<p>Council developed, implemented and promoted the Darebin Business Webinar Series which attracted over 221 attendees, with over 94% of businesses indicating that they had an increased understanding of how to improve their business. These have all been made available online for future access. Promotion of the Australian Small Business Advisory Service (ASBAS) was delivered in partnerships with Melbourne Innovation Centre. Council also held two webinars on employer rights and responsibilities for when Jobkeeper ended, which have since been made available online for future access. Finally, Business Victoria’s Digital Adaptation program was promoted to the local business community.</p>
<p>Council has investigated high level technology options for sensors and signage to help people identify where parking is, however given the current drop in parking demand related to COVID-19, there are not plans to progress this further in the 2020–21 year C-19</p>	<p>There are no plans to progress this further in the 2020 21 year.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 4

We will support and attract a diversity of local businesses and industries by fostering an environment in which they can thrive.

4.2 We will enable and activate space, including vacant shopfronts and council facilities, to accommodate different businesses and industries.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver the Active Space Program in partnership with landlords and real estate agents in vacant shops in Darebin to enable start-up businesses to trial their businesses and increase visual amenity and beautification through commissioning artwork from local artists in vacant shop windows C-19</p>	<p>An audit of vacant commercial shopfronts was undertaken. Approximately 230 vacant shops were identified. This information will be used to inform future business recovery investments and activity into the retail activity centres</p>
<p>Support businesses operating in Council facilities, including the Melbourne Innovation Centre</p>	<p>Council has worked closely with Melbourne Innovation Centre to deliver a wide range of support for Darebin business and organisations from one on one business mentoring, to the Australian Small Business Advisory Service and Business Resilience Program.</p> <p>Council has also actively supported and promoted the establishment of Food Inc, a food business incubator program developed in partnership with Melbourne Innovation Centre and Melbourne Polytechnic.</p> <p>Light\$mart upgrades have been undertaken in Q4 in three businesses operating out of Council owned buildings: Cranross Tennis Club, Thornbury Childcare Centre and Bridge Darebin (Thornbury Neighbourhood House).</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



.3 We will pursue regionally significant economic opportunities to drive growth and sustainability for our region.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Advocate for regional economic growth through enhanced partnerships with regional economic bodies such as North Link, Northern Council Alliance, Metro Partnerships and La Trobe and implement regional strategies, such as the Melbourne’s North Food and Beverage Growth Plan</p>	<p>Coordinated by NorthLink, Darebin Council has partnered with six other councils to collectively increase tourism and awareness in Melbourne’s North in response to the impact of the pandemic. An initial three-week Facebook campaign saw 7,860 visits to the campaign website. The second stage of this campaign is to be finalised and implemented in the next financial year.</p> <p>As part of our on going partnership with Melbourne’s North Food Group, Council provided six Darebin businesses with free memberships to the Food Group.</p> <p>Council engaged with La Trobe University’s various entrepreneur and accelerator programs to identify and refer potential candidate start up and scale up businesses.</p> <p>Finally, Council has signed a Business-Friendly Charter with the Office of the Small Business Commissioner to assist small businesses.</p>



GOAL 5

We will lead on equity and recognise our **diverse community** as our greatest asset for solving future challenges.

5.1 We will ensure our services, facilities and programs **benefit all**, including our most vulnerable.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver an Employment Forum in partnership with the Darebin Intercultural Centre and Welcoming Cities for local communities and organisations in Darebin (see 5.2 for Reference Group)</p>	<p>The forum was scheduled for June but has been postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions and was held on the 21 July 2021. This will include speakers from multicultural community organisations, including AMES and SPECTRUM Migrant Resource Centre.</p>
<p>Update and implement the Darebin Welcoming Cities Action Plan to reflect impacts of COVID-19 to prioritise actions in the Welcoming Cities standards</p>	<p>The Welcoming Cities Action Plan continues to be implemented. This quarter included: Refugee Week activities, such as a tapestry exhibition at the Darebin Intercultural Centre, with over 20 tapestries made by women and girls from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds; and, a joint statement from Northsiders with Refugees and Refugee Action Collective, along with a statement from Mayor Cr Lina Messina in support of refugees and people seeking Asylum. A number of other planned events have been postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p>
<p>Undertake at least 20 Equity Impact Assessments to ensure that Council services, facilities and programs address the needs of the most vulnerable cohorts as outlined in the Towards Equality Framework</p>	<p>This quarter, Equity Impact Assessments (EIA) were applied to sixteen projects. This included a suite of Human Resources policies cascading from the Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy, the review of the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program for Younger People, and initial advice on the Neighbourhood Character study. EIAs were also applied to a range of Community Engagement plans, including transport, environment and strategic planning projects. In total, 50 Equity Impact Assessments were undertaken in 2020/21.</p>
<p>Undertake Equity Impact Assessments of all projects within Council's COVID-19 Recovery Package to ensure that package is responsive to the diverse needs, experiences and human rights impacts ^[C-19]</p>	<p>Over 20 Equity Impact Assessments (EIA) have been applied to Council's COVID-19 Recovery projects. There is also provision of ongoing EIA advice to support program delivery to ensure projects are responsive to community need and also accessible. This quarter, EIA focused on the Retail Activity Centre upgrades program.</p>
<p>Ensure that Council's policies, strategies and plans reflect and embed the goals and principles of the Towards Equality Framework</p>	<p>The Towards Equality Framework (TEF) continues to be applied through Council's planning and advocacy. This quarter, the goals and principles of the TEF underpinned the induction training delivered to Councillors as part of the Local Government (Governance and integrity) Regulations 2020. These sessions focused on engagement with Aboriginal communities as well as gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness. The Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy (WDIS) was endorsed and reflects the three goals of the Towards Equality Framework.</p>
<p>Ensure that our multicultural and multifaith communities are supported with reference to financial hardship, discrimination based on race/culture and other forms of vulnerabilities</p>	<p>Activities in this quarter included supporting the Preston Mosque during Ramadan and Eid. The Mosque participated in Council led truth telling activity as part of Reconciliation Week.</p> <p>A number of multicultural and multifaith communities and organisations participated in the development of the draft 2021 25 Council Plan. In collaboration with East Preston Islamic College and Victoria Police, Council also provided support for the Iftar Dinner.</p>

[C-19] Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Implement the Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019 – 2023 specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing on Early Childhood – challenge rigid gender roles and stereotypes and promote respectful relationships Incorporate targets for women’s participation in the development of the Leisure Strategy Undertake a gender equity workforce audit 	<p>Key milestones this quarter included actions required as part of the Gender Equality Act. These included participation in the People Matters Survey as part of the Gender Equity Audit, which will help inform a Gender Equity Action Plan. Planning also commenced to deliver Gender Equity in Early Years training, and several stakeholders from the women’s and family violence sector provided feedback and input into the development of the 2021 25 Council Plan.</p>
<p>Deliver a job ready program, in partnership with a local jobs provider organisation, for diverse community members from low socio-economic backgrounds who are unemployed, underemployed, or have a disability</p>	<p>Council’s Community Employment outcomes are being delivered through a collaboration across People and Culture, Equity and Inclusion and Economic Development and aims to improve outcomes for job seekers at risk of or experiencing long term unemployment in Darebin.</p> <p>The design and development of the Community Employment (and Employment Pathways) Program of work has progressed with the following programs and initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence’s Given the Chance Program for six new trainees appointed to Council. The program is a social enterprise designed to support disadvantaged job seekers into paid employment. The partnership aims to actively enable the appointment of candidates from under-represented groups across the Darebin community. Partnership with Intowork for a further two trainees, including one traineeship as an identified position for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff. Implementation of Council’s new Recruitment Policy (and practice) and Work Adjustments Policy (and practice) aligned to the Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy actions. This includes key partnerships in identifying and reaching out to potential candidates from under-represented groups (i.e. age, gender, CALD, People with a Disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) whilst also ensuring inclusive recruitment practices enable their appointment. Introduction of Work Integrated Learning (WIL) enabling learning experiences which integrate academic theory with authentic work experience. Council is partnering with higher education institutions, including University’s and TAFEs, to support students who are required to engage in a work placement to finalise their studies.



GOAL 5

We will lead on equity and recognise our **diverse community** as our **greatest asset** for solving future challenges.

5.1 We will ensure our services, facilities and programs **benefit all**, including our most vulnerable.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Implement project partnership to support and promote culturally diverse artists responding to the dominant culture in ways that builds empowerment and self-determination</p>	<p>Council's partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria to deliver TAKEBACK has continued to develop. Additional funding was secured through Creative Victoria, and the closing weekend for FUSE Autumn 2021 on 27/28 March was expanded to include the culturally diverse Women of Soul - a FUSE Fund recipient project that culminated in a special ten year anniversary event celebrating the strength and resilience of female artists in Darebin. Both shows were presented at Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre over the final weekend of the festival, and all shows were sold out.</p>
<p>Develop and deliver age friendly focused AMPLIFY, as part of FUSE autumn 2020-21</p>	<p>AMPLIFY is a targeted professional development opportunity that seeks to address inequality in the music industry by supporting and amplifying lesser heard voices. While the outcome of this year's program shifted slightly (once applications were received) to remove the mentorship component, the selected producer delivered an event as part of FUSE Autumn 2021 that successfully engaged performers and audiences over the age of 55.</p>
<p>Endorse and implement a new community-led Disability Access and Inclusion Plan for Darebin</p>	<p>The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan has now been completed and will be presented to the Darebin community in September 2021. Council teams have developed actions for the 2021/22 year that will support this vision.</p>
<p>Reach out to and prioritise disadvantaged and culturally and linguistically diverse communities for participation in the Solar Saver program</p>	<p>The Solar Saver Rates program has prioritised support for low income residents and pensioners. Ensuring support for CALD communities has been a program priority. Since July 2020, 20 participants with English as their second language have joined the program.</p> <p>The Solar Saver program has offered to its customers the chance to participate in the Energy Assistance Program delivered by The Brotherhood of St Laurence, Australian Energy Foundation and Uniting. Eligible participants will receive bespoke energy efficiency advice and assistance to access the Utility Relief Grant. This grant provides a support of up to \$250 to pay utility bills. While the grant will no longer be available beyond August 2021, Council looks forward to continuing to help its low-income community reduce its emissions and save money in the next iteration of the Solar Saver program, launching in early 2022.</p>
<p>Construct up to three upgrades to existing disabled parking spaces serving activity centres or schools that improve user safety and accessibility. Install 5 new disabled parking spaces in residential areas in response to community needs</p>	<p>There have been 10 parking spaces for people with a disability installed in residential streets around Darebin.</p>
<p>Establish a community reference group to inform the design and construction of a new home for the Darebin Intercultural Centre</p>	<p>A Community Reference Group (CRG) was established to support the architect's work to produce a detailed and culturally fit for purpose design for Darebin's relocated Intercultural Centre. The Terms of Reference and proposed membership were endorsed by Council in July 2020. The last of five meetings was held in March 2021 before the group completed its work and the CRG was dissolved.</p>



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Promote and communicate the Language Aide and Multilingual Service so residents can access our services and informant in different languages</p>	<p>The Language Aide and Multilingual Service continues to be promoted to the community, through community engagement activities, print, social media and the website. The community can access the program via a dedicated multilingual phone line and in person at any of the Customer Service centres. Engagement with the program remains high internally and with community members.</p>
<p>Implement the Electronic Gaming Machine Policy and Action Plan</p> <p>2018–2022 specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Council’s Planning Scheme to consider an EGM planning policy Undertake communications that increase awareness of the gambling harm and losses to pokies Work in partnership with others to support those who have reduced their gambling during COVID-19 C-19 	<p>This quarter the Libraries After Dark program recommenced, which seeks to provide at risk groups, including people who use electronic gaming machines, with a range of social or recreational options during the evening. A project commenced to investigate ways for seniors’ clubs to have access to free or low cost food, as this is a major attraction for seniors to visit electronic gaming machine venues.</p>
<p>Continue to deliver human rights campaigns, events and programs protecting the rights of all people, to live without fear and with freedom, respect, equality and dignity</p>	<p>Two interactive community workshops to increase understanding of racism and options for how to make a report of racism were scheduled for June as part of Refugee week, at the Darebin East Preston Community Centre. However, these have been postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The workshops will be delivered by the Victorian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission with support from Victoria Police in late July 2021</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 5

We will lead on equity and recognise our **diverse community** as our greatest asset for solving future challenges.

5.1 We will ensure our services, facilities and programs **benefit all**, including our most vulnerable.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Continue to advocate for changes in policy and funding with Federal and Victorian Governments relating to COVID-19 impacts C-19	The Mayor, CEO and Council officers have continued to advocate for changes in policy and funding through engagement with Federal and State Government representatives and seek support for disadvantaged and low-income residents, local businesses and precincts.
Support community campaigns that are consistent with our goals and values in line with an approved advocacy strategy	Council has delivered advocacy and support for community campaigns, consistent with goals and values, with a focus on support for residents affected by the removal of level crossings in Preston, and preparation for work to protect Preston Market in the redevelopment of the privately-owned site through individual advocacy strategies. In addition, Council marked Refugee Week by writing to the Federal Minister to ask for resettlement for the refugees previously held at the Mantra Bell for over a year. Council has also written to the Prime Minister to ask for a Federal Climate Disaster Levy to support communities affected by climate disasters.
Continue to implement the Local Diversity Through Inclusion (Pathways to Employment) strategy. Minimise barriers to diversity in the workplace through the review of internal recruitment policies and processes. Identify and deliver programs that improve employment pathways for the community. Council's Community Employment Plan will also include a mentoring program for refugee and other diverse groups	The Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy is complete. It was launched with the appointment of a Diversity Taskforce for the implementation phase, with representation right across the organisation (staff cohorts across all divisions) and lived experience across the dimensions of the strategy (i.e. age, gender, CALD, People with a Disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people). Early actions are already underway, with a new Recruitment and Selection Policy and practice (includes a guide for recruitment of First Nations people) and Workplace Adjustments Policy and practice underpinned by Diversity and Inclusion Principles built into a new Darebin Capability Framework. Key outcomes to date include: Eleven identified positions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people appointed since May 2020, including two Band 8 leadership positions; and, scoping and appointment of eight new Darebin trainees as part of the Victoria Apprenticeship Recovery Package program, partnering with Brotherhood of St Laurence's Given the Chance program.
Develop and deliver Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and refugee mentoring programs across Council and increase the number of employment opportunities within Council for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employees including elective use of special measures provisions within the Equal Opportunity Act 2010	Council has launched its new Recruitment and Selection Policy (and practice), which includes a guide for the recruitment of First Nations people. Eleven identified positions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been appointed since May 2020, including two Band 8 leadership positions. Mandatory training in Aboriginal Cultural Awareness is being implemented across the organisation. This training will commence initially with all leadership positions and then proceed across all staff cohorts (e.g. indoor/professional, front facing, outdoor), with a view to building and enabling a culturally safe workplace. This will continue through 2021 and is now built into Council's Group Learning Program and induction practice. Mentoring programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and refugees is at scoping stage in support of existing recruitment and culturally safe workplace practices and Council's Community Employment direction.

C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



5.2 We will bring the ideas of our diverse community into our decision-making.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Deliver a package of COVID-19 Recovery Grants across business, community, sporting groups and creative industries C-19</p>	<p>In 20/21 as part of Council's COVID Recovery Package Grants program, \$1,025,801 was distributed to 339 local businesses, community organisations and groups, sporting clubs and creative and arts organisations.</p>
<p>Develop a child and youth engagement protocol to support engagement of children and young people across Council, in partnership with Melbourne University and the Young Citizens Jury</p>	<p>Council has worked with the University of Melbourne and members of the Young Citizens Jury to understand best practice in engaging children and young people and assess our current practice. Achievements included the completion of an evidence review to guide future practice and a baseline assessment of current practice across the organisation. Planned engagement with children and young people to develop the protocol was deferred to prioritise getting children and young people's input into the development of Council's new Community Engagement Policy, the Community Vision and Council Plan. This work will be carried forward into 2021/22 with targeted engagement of children and young people to inform the drafting of the protocol, which will complement Council's Community Engagement Policy by providing specific guidance to officers on how to engage ethically and meaningfully with children and young people.</p>
<p>Review, implement and monitor the Community Engagement Strategy and Framework to ensure it meets the community engagement requirements included in the new Local Government Act 2020</p>	<p>Following extensive community feedback, the Community Engagement Policy was endorsed by Council on 22 February 2021. The new policy features minimum standards of engagement, and is based upon the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum. The new policy supersedes the earlier Community Engagement Framework adopted in November 2019.</p>
<p>Support the implementation of new terms of reference for our community advisory committees to ensure consistency and clarity of purpose</p>	<p>A review of the current Advisory Committee terms of reference was undertaken during Aug–Sept 2020 and a generic, simplified Standard Terms of Reference was produced which was endorsed at an Officer level. These Terms of Reference were presented to Council in conjunction with the appointment of Councillor delegates to Advisory Committees on 7 December 2020. Following a review of feedback from Advisory Committees on the draft Terms of Reference, a model Terms of Reference was endorsed by Council on 28 June 2021 for implementation with Advisory Committees.</p>



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery

GOAL 5

We will lead on equity and recognise our **diverse community** as our greatest asset for solving future challenges.

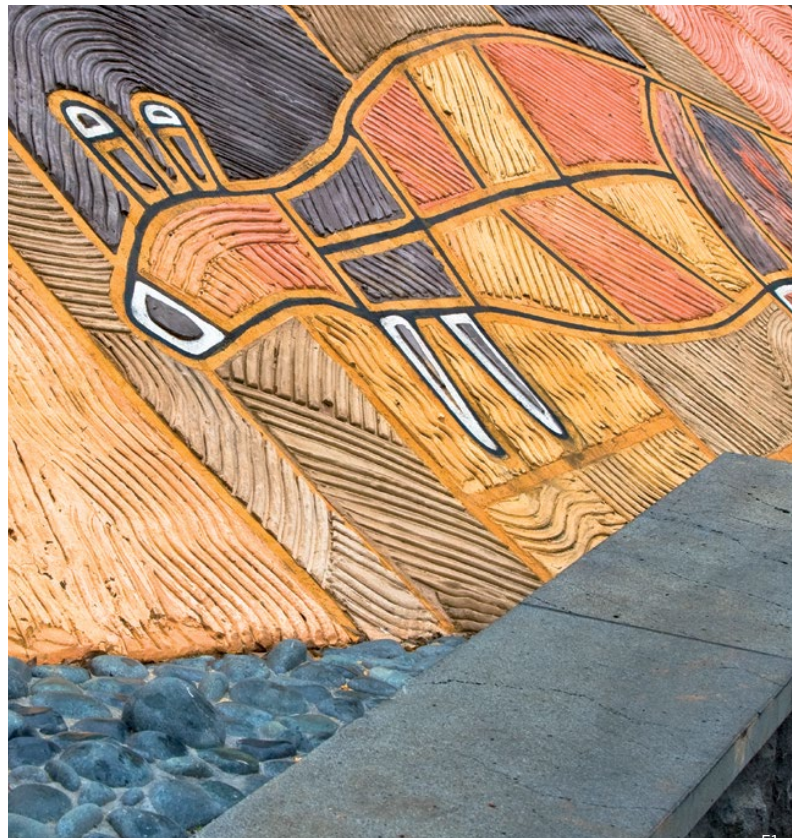
5.2 We will bring the ideas of our diverse community into our decision-making.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Provide community-focused facilitation and governance training to councillors as part of the councillor induction process after the 2020 election	The final phase of the mandatory Councillor Induction Training was delivered in April and covered engagement and reconciliation with traditional owners and giving effect to gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness. Councillors signed that they had completed their mandatory training at the April Council meeting.
The development and implementation of new Governance Rules and the Community Engagement Policy, as required by the Local Government Act 2020, are anticipated to incorporate processes for greater citizen participation in Council meetings. This will result in increased opportunities for those who may be impacted by a Council decision, to have their views heard.	Council has complied with the requirement of the Local Government Act 2020 to develop Governance Rules to regulate the conduct of its meetings and other associated matters. Council's Community Engagement Policy was adopted on 22 February 2021. Both the Governance Rules and Community Engagement Policy are actively being used to provide for increased participation in Council decision making.
Review report templates and provide training to staff to ensure reports are succinct, evidence based, supported by relevant policy and/or plans, and clearly explain recommendations and proposed outcomes	Three training sessions on report writing have taken place this year during February and April 2021. The review of the Council report template has been completed for presentation to EMT in July and subsequently into the Council Meeting Agenda templates. Ongoing training and review of these critical governance work will continue into FY22.
Implement and monitor the Advocacy Strategy to support key Council strategies and priority initiatives	Council has delivered advocacy and support for community campaigns, consistent with goals and values, with a focus on support for residents and businesses impacted by COVID, support for residents affected by the removal of level crossings in Preston and preparation for work to protect Preston Market in the redevelopment of the privately-owned site through individual advocacy strategies.



5.3 We will be responsive and respectful to the current and emerging aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Continue to partner with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee to identify and implement programs that improve outcomes for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders workforce and community</p>	<p>The Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC) members provided feedback on the Community Vision and the draft 2021/25 Council Plan. Seven new DAAC members were recruited and appointed to the Committee and will commence in the new financial year.</p>
<p>Implement the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017–2021 including specific actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a Darebin Schools Yarning Conference that celebrates the 2020 NAIDOC theme Increase recognition and visibility of the Aboriginal culture through renaming Council meeting rooms in Woiwurrung language 	<p>Fourth quarter activities included supporting Reconciliation Week and marking Sorry Day by lighting up prominent Council buildings in purple. The Wurundjeri Woi wurung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation has been instrumental in several major projects this quarter, including: the naming of the Darebin Women Sports Stadium ‘Narrandjeri’ (meaning ‘woman leader’ in Woi wurung language); the redesign of the Northcote Aquatic Recreation Centre; and, the new Intercultural Centre. Work is underway for NAIDOC week, which will include a flag raising at Bundoora Park.</p>
<p>Implement Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy actions to achieve a minimum of 3% employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</p>	<p>Council advertised three identified positions during this quarter. In total, there were 18 identified positions advertised during the 2020/2021 financial year. 371 staff members have completed the Aboriginal Cultural Awareness training in the past 12 months, including 45 staff members in this quarter.</p>



GOAL 6

We will be a **leading, modern, and open council** to meet our challenges, now and in the future

6.1 We will implement **the best delivery models** to optimise efficiency and value.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Implement the new Asset Management Strategy to ensure that service delivery is provided in a financially sustainable, customer-centric and effective way	The Asset Management Strategy was presented to Council in February 2021. Council resolved to defer it for consideration following the new Council Plan being established in June 2021.
Continue to improve permit processes for businesses to make it simpler to do business in Darebin	The Better Approvals team has continued to support local businesses through the Better Approvals Program, with 140+ businesses receiving support in this quarter. This program has also continued to deliver the expansion of outdoor dining, with an additional 1300+ seats provided and 20 parklets installed.
Consider ongoing workplace efficiency, flexibility and service improvement opportunities that have emerged during the COVID-19 period and support the organisation’s implementation of relevant operating changes C-19	The Business Improvement program has been adapted to address current challenges and deliver quality improvements, and enhanced effectiveness to key organisational processes through direct support to services and an online capacity building program. The training enables staff to address process inefficiencies and review service components effectively with the aim of creating a better customer experience and reducing risk to the organisation. The training supports the Policy Review Program and enhances the quality of Council’s procedures through the online mapping system for easy access. Improvement activities include digitisation of hard copy forms across the organisation.



C-19 Indicates actions addressing COVID-19 challenges and/or recovery



2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Review the Toy Library to ensure the service is flexible and responsive to Darebin’s diverse community	The Toy Library Review Reference Group has met on a monthly basis to oversee and support the review. The group includes internal and external key stakeholders. A bench marking exercise comparing Toy Libraries in Melbourne and interstate has been completed and the consultancy group, ‘Beyond Foundations’, has completed a consultation process with the community and engagement with key services.
Deliver stage two of the Kindergarten and Childcare Centralised Registration Review and determine a future model that meets the diverse needs of the community	Due to the impact of COVID-19 on the priorities of kindergarten and childcare services, Council has revised the scope of this project. An updated project plan and delivery schedule has been developed for 2020/21 and will also continue into the 2021/22 financial year. Feedback from community managed childcare and kinder services informed a number of changes to the registration system.
Undertake a homelessness and rough sleeper StreetCount that informs Council about people sleeping rough within Darebin	The StreetCount has been delayed due to COVID-19 and will not take place in 2021. Council will participate in the Northern Metro region Census Homelessness Enumeration in August 2021, which will collect local data on the number of people sleeping rough in Darebin.
Analyse and respond to the results from the 2019–20 Annual Community Survey to understand the community perceptions and attitudes towards our Council services and programs, as well as the issues in the municipality that needs to be addressed	The 2020 Annual Community Survey report was presented to Darebin’s Executive Management Team. Two internal workshops were conducted for Darebin leaders and four divisional meetings held as part of the roadshow to report the results to the organisation. The purpose of the workshops was to ensure leaders were aware of community perceptions and expectations in order to inform policies, initiatives and services. The workshops also required leaders to analyse the results and discuss the ways to improve the survey for the following year. The division meetings encouraged participants to think about the results and interrogate whether the right questions were being asked. The report was also sent to Councillors via an e bulletin article which included a recorded presentation from the survey contractor. The survey results have also been made public on the Darebin website for the interest of community members. This project was completed in Q3.
Implement a continuous improvement process where engagement planning draws on the experience of previous engagements to expand our collection of data and avoid duplication	A temporary solution has been identified for data collection via the intranet to support all Darebin Council community engagement projects. This resource will be accessible by all business units across the organisation. As part of the roll out of the new Community Engagement Policy, business units are required to submit their final reports to the Community Engagement and Demographics team where findings, learnings and success stories are collected and shared. Much of the learning has been used to inform and refine the new Community Engagement Policy. This process will continue to be improved through the implementation of the Community Engagement toolkit which will be rolled out soon.

GOAL 6

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6.1 We will implement **the best delivery models** to optimise efficiency and value.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Finalise and implement the Workforce Planning Strategy and Workforce Diversity Strategy</p>	<p>The Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy is complete and launched, enabled by the Diversity Taskforce and engaging leaders and staff across the whole organisation and key external and community partners. A number of actions are already in progress specifically the Recruitment and Selection and Workplace Adjustments Policy and practice, including recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Diversity and Inclusion Training, Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training and the Job Access Program. Requirements of the new Gender Equality Act have also been incorporated in 2021 actions, and are in progress with the Gender Action Plan, due in September 2021.</p> <p>The Workforce Plan is at early stages of development and focuses on data mapping and analysis in the context of Council’s forward strategic and policy direction. The Workforce Plan is intended to ensure a workforce able to deliver on Council’s key services and strategic projects to a changing community now and into the future, whilst aligning with the requirements of the new Local Government Act. The early work is being done in collaboration with a network of People and Culture leaders across Northern Councils.</p>
<p>Design and implement workplace culture and change programs and practices to ensure a modernised and skilled workforce readily able to cohesively deliver on Council’s key services and strategic projects</p>	<p>The Darebin Change Journey, Council’s flagship workplace and culture change program, is progressively delivering over 38 projects which focus on: creating a great place to work; putting the community at the heart of everything we do; making our everyday work easier by streamlining our systems; and achieving community goals in our Council Plan all working to ensure Council has a modernised and skilled workforce able to cohesively deliver on Council’s key services and projects. Twenty seven of these projects are complete and 11 still in progress are to be completed through to mid 2022. Monitoring is in progress with an 18 month review undertaken against the four organisational level priorities which determined following results and insights from employee engagement (culture) survey: 1) Processes 2) People and Culture practices 3) Collaboration 4) Values in Action. Further monitoring will continue to mid 2022 followed by a comprehensive evaluation, underpinned by the outcomes of the planned culture survey against the previous baseline.</p>
<p>Continue to implement and monitor Council’s Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy, framework and processes. Deliver better practice, improve compliance, value for money, more effective collaboration with other councils and service providers and improve service levels</p>	<p>Key stakeholders across Council were engaged to develop Social and Sustainable objectives and outcomes. Using standard processes for formal Request for Quotations and Request for Tendering, key section criteria includes our objectives which are articulated to ensure our assessments consider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and people, disadvantaged and disability employment opportunities, local economy, businesses and improving gender equity. Our objectives, rather than generic across all activities, are now tailored and specific for each procurement. This ensures, and will result in, a far greater alignment in achieving the aims of Council’s objectives. Following the evaluation, all awarded contracts will be recorded in a database of KPIs which procurement managers will use to report achievements throughout contract delivery. These improvements have a significant education and ‘on the job training’ benefit for stakeholders in understanding the social and sustainability priorities. Data collated from early 2020 to April 2021 has shown positive results which will be shared through ongoing Council reporting programs.</p>

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2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
<p>Collaborate with other northern metropolitan Councils and the Municipal Association of Victoria to advocate for improved operational guidelines for the proposed Environment Protection Act to ensure the effective use of Council resources in helping our community resolve amenity-based complaints</p>	<p>Council participated in stakeholder consultation and collaborated with the Environmental Protection Authority in preparation for the changes to the Environmental Protection Act.</p>
<p>Implement key technical functionality including: the digitisation of Council records (such as planning applications) to enable the online searching of information for faster and more comprehensive decision making, collaborative tools including webinar software, the digital signing of documents, as well as new cloud based platforms for publishing material on the Darebin website</p>	<p>The Archiving and Digitisation initiative aims to reduce the Council's archiving holdings by reviewing all stored records for currency, followed by digitising all paper based documents. This initiative was initially undertaken to assist in developing processes and procedures for the council's Record Management staff to manage and digitise records. This initiative has also provided a solid starting point for the Council's officers, to continue the management and review of all remaining records stored Offsite. To date, the records team have reviewed over 4,463 archive boxes of records, leading to the destruction of 3,515 boxes (being obsolete) and 965 archive boxes being reviewed, updated and reconstituted back into the physical archive storage system.</p>
<p>Implement the Customer Complaint Policy and Procedure</p>	<p>The Complaint Handling Policy and Procedure went live on 30 November 2020 and is now embedded in our processes across Council. A complaint handling report is currently being developed which will enable the organisation to analyse complaint data to identify areas of opportunity to improve our services, reduce complaint volume and improve the customer experience.</p>
<p>Continue the re-design of the new Darebin website including the consolidation of up to 10 different Council websites into a single, easily searchable web presence that is secure, simplified, with easily accessed Council services</p>	<p>The website project has completed a review and consolidated a number of web pages into a new updated modern and contemporary website, based within the Council's new and secure cloud based environment. This initiative has set the groundwork for the Council to further consolidate existing and new information and events for the future.</p>
<p>Make key content on the Darebin website more accessible by increasing the legibility and readability of the information so it is aligned with disability standards and by translating the information into a variety of languages that reflect the Darebin community</p>	<p>Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 defines how to make Web content more accessible to people with disabilities. Accessibility involves a wide range of disabilities, including visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning, and neurological disabilities. The website project has completed the foundations to achieve the WCAG AA standards. In addition to Equity considerations, the emphasis in the project is to ensure cultural considerations are uppermost regarding language availability for specific cultural groups. The new website includes accessibility features such as audio translation of text, adjustable font sizes and Google translate functionality that enables translation of all website content into 109 languages.</p>
<p>Review and update the website content for Planning and Development to improve access to information, interactivity and user-ability for Statutory Planning and Building Services</p>	<p>Website content relating to development applications has been updated as part of the Council Website upgrade with the goal to improve access to information. This is a continuous improvement project and work will be ongoing.</p>

GOAL 6

We will be a **leading, modern, and open council** to meet our challenges, now and in the future

6.2 We will find new ways to deliver **long-term financial sustainability**.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	
<p>Progress priority projects that increase revenue. They include expanding our land subdivision levy to fund more open space (open space levy) and introducing a developer contributions scheme to ensure developers contribute financially to our infrastructure as population grows</p>	<p>The implementation plan for the Open Space Strategy, which will support the open space levy, has been developed. Community consultation will occur later this year and a planning panel hearing is anticipated in early 2022.</p> <p>At its meeting of 22 March 2021, Council decided to refer Amendment C170dare Development Contributions Plan to an independent Planning Panel. A Panel hearing was held in May and a report will be provided to Council in July 2021. The Panel report will make recommendations about the amendment for Council’s consideration. At that stage, Council can decide to adopt the amendment with or without changes, or abandon the amendment.</p>
<p>Implement values-based leadership, management and practices underpinned by a robust capability framework. Implement the recommendations of the policy review project that will embed key strategic initiatives (such as ‘Age Friendly Darebin’ and ‘Towards Equality’) into officer decision-making processes and interactions with customers, residents, the community and each other</p>	<p>Council’s ‘Values in Action’ program has embedded its six new organisational values and behaviours in organisational systems and practices including: recruitment and induction; reward and recognition; performance management; learning and development; flexible work practices; and, organisational policies and procedures.</p> <p>Council’s Capability Framework has been completed, identifying a core set of capabilities, knowledge, skills, and other attributes that will enable Council staff to perform their jobs more effectively. The design of Council’s new Leadership Development is built on the new Capability Framework and organisational values – ensuring both are embedded into officer management practices and decision making.</p>
<p>Develop a Financial Plan for a ten-year period that includes statements describing the financial resources required to give effect to the Council Plan and other strategic plans of Council</p>	<p>The development of the Financial Plan 2021 2031 has progressed through a coordinated approach with the development of the Budget 2021 22, Rating and Revenue Plan and the Community Vision to establish the long-term resourcing requirements. The draft Financial Plan was endorsed by Council on 8 April and then presented for Deliberative Engagement to the Panel over two sessions held during May and June 2021. The Financial Plan was adopted at the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2021.</p>





2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	
Review the preparation of the Annual Budget and mid-year financial review to ensure they provide Council with the relevant information to maintain its financial sustainability	The Budget 2020–21 was developed in collaboration with Councillors during March and April and the draft was endorsed at a Council meeting held on 8 April. The draft budget was then put on display to the community for 28 days where submissions on the draft budget could be received. The submissions were considered when the budget was adopted at the Council meeting held on 28 June 2021.
Undertake and implement a full review of fees and charges that considers equity, socio-economic factors, demographics, social wellbeing and environmental sustainability	The Fees and Charges review identified three types of subsidies that will form the where, why and how fees should be charged Full Cost Recovery, Partial Council Subsidy and Full Council Subsidy. Council officers were asked to review fees under their management to ensure the correct pricing method was correctly applied with feedback confirming this to be correct. This work and these principles informed the development of the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021/25 that was adopted at the Council meeting held on 28 June 2021.
Implement a Public Transparency Policy in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020	Implementation of the Public Transparency Policy is an ongoing action for Council. The Public Transparency Policy was adopted in July 2020 and key activities have included internal communications and embedding into the policy framework and related procedures. Other key transparency actions include the translation of key information into the 12 common languages to ensure residents whose first language is not English can participate, the inclusion of publicly available registers such as Declared Conflicts of Interest onto Council’s website. Work will continue through Financial Year 21/22 to continue the embedding of the Policy.
Conduct a comprehensive review of the current risk management policy, related documents and risk assessment tools and implement the policy across the organisation	The Risk Management Policy and Risk Management Framework have both been adopted, which incorporate guidance and tools that will build risk maturity and support implementation. The policy and framework were endorsed by the Executive Management Team, Council’s Audit and Risk Committee and the CEO in June 2021.

6.3 We will communicate our progress on the actions in this council plan to residents, community leaders, community organisations, business, industry, and Victorian and Federal governments to ensure we can all act together.

2020–2021 actions working towards targets:	Progress comments:
Progress of the Council Plan 2017–21 is reported quarterly and annual action plans developed for each year of the Council Plan. Quarterly progress reports and the annual action plans are listed on Council’s website to keep the community informed	All reports have been presented to Council on time and are accessible on the Darebin website. The Fourth Quarter (end of Financial Year) Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report 2019/20 was presented to Council on 7 September 2020. The First Quarter Council Plan Progress Report for the 2020/21 financial year was presented to Council at the meeting on 7 December 2020. The Second Quarter Council Plan Progress Report for the 2020/21 financial year was presented to Council at the meeting on 22 February 2021. The Third Quarter Council Plan Progress Report for the 2020/21 financial year was presented to Council at the meeting on 24 May 2021.





CAPITAL WORKS



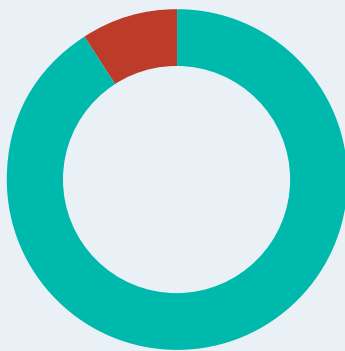
CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT

Fourth Quarter 2020-21

This is the fourth year of the Council Plan 2017-21. Darebin's capital works program continues Council's strong investment in new and renewed infrastructure. In the Annual Adjusted Budget 2020-21, Council committed \$49.79 million to its 2020-21 capital works program of 57 projects and programs of work.

Actual spend on the capital works program for 2020-21 is \$50.08 million which represents 100.01% of the portfolio budget.

Overall Performance



- 91% On track
- 9% Not completed

Bridge Renewal - Broadhurst Avenue Bridge

Total project budget: \$85,000

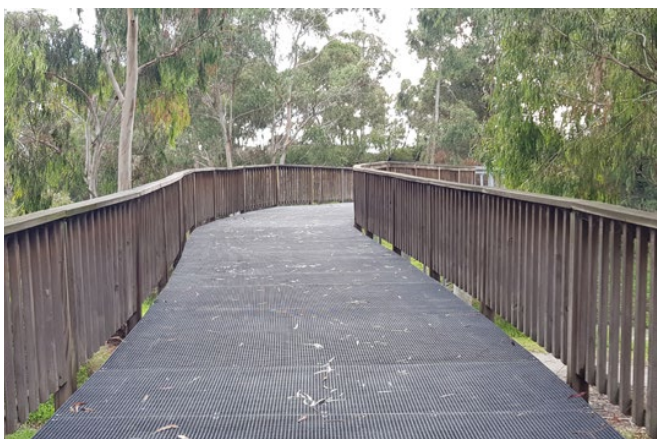
Works were recently completed on the renewal of the Broadhurst Avenue Bridge - a timber pedestrian bridge that crosses over the Merri Creek between Darebin and Moreland. The timber deck was found to be slippery when wet and the existing barrier post connections were not adequately strong, a potential risk to bridge users. Bridge renewal works included replacing the existing timber deck with non-slip material (i.e. fibreglass reinforced plastic mesh) and installing steel stiffeners at each barrier post connection. The bridge is now open to the community.

The project cost was approximately \$85,000 with Moreland contributing 50%.

City of Darebin Operations Centre - Rainwater tank installation

Total project budget: \$80,000

City of Darebin's Operations Centre has a large roof area to collect rainwater from for reuse and had a previously installed water tank with 5,000L storage capacity in place. This rainwater was connected to a pump that fed one tap near the wash bay. A concrete slab was installed to support the weight of new rainwater tanks and increase rainwater storage on this site to a total of 65,000 litres. Pumps and associated controls have been fitted so that rainwater can be used to flush toilets and fill vehicle mounted tanks, which will allow the parks and open space teams to water plants throughout the municipality.



Urban Forest Strategy Program

Total project budget: \$800,000

Favourable weather conditions has meant Council's exciting street tree planting program (RAPID Canopy) ahead of schedule for 2021. With an ambitious target of 6000 additional street trees by the end of October 2021, planting works are well under way with close to 2400 trees already planted throughout our streetscapes. Prioritising areas of socio-economic disadvantage and those with higher levels of urban heat, the program is well on track to deliver nine significant environmental, social and amenity values for the community. Works have recently been completed for Preston East, Reservoir West, Alphington, Kingsbury and Macleod. It is worth noting that 82% of all trees being planted as part of the program are native or indigenous to Darebin and will significantly increase overall canopy cover throughout the municipality.

Perry Street Child Care Centre

Total project budget: \$65,000

Based on several ongoing electrical faults, a focus on reducing utility costs and in response to the latest building condition audit, renewal works were prioritised for the Perry St Child Care Centre. These works included: Internal painting to all ceilings, walls, doors, architraves and skirting boards. Replacement of ceiling tiles and repair to the ceiling grid. Upgrade of electrical switchboard. Upgrade of all internal & external lighting to energy efficient LED. Upgraded some of child safety guards to all internal and external doors for improved children's safety. The staff and families using this facility are delighted with the improvement works and are looking forward to using the fresh, bright new spaces.

Road Resurfacing Program

Total project budget: \$1,703,584

The second package of road resurfacing works for the year was completed in the fourth quarter. The team resurfaced 27,700 sqm of Darebin's local roads using asphalt containing a recycled product from steel slag, line marking and reinstating speed humps and traffic loops. The resurfacing works prolongs the life of the road avoiding more costly road rehabilitation works. A total of 2,400 tonnes of recycled material (steel slag) was used in this project.

Darebin Arts Centre Accessible Ramp


Total project budget: \$130,000

Works have recently been completed to provide a new Disability Discrimination Act - compliant ramp and new automatic entry doors to the DAC foyer from the rear courtyard of the complex. This has now provided an alternate access option for the centre. The works included the demolition and replacement of the existing non-compliant ramp including new handrails, new tactiles, a new link to the existing rear landing, rear landing steps tactiles, new step tread inserts, new handrails leading to the entry foyer door, installation of the new automatic entry doors and a new canopy.

































CAPITAL WORKS REPORT

Fourth Quarter 2020-21

 Project completed

 Not completed, or continuing into 2021-22

Project by Asset Class	Total Budget	Progress comment
Bridges		
Bridge Upgrade - Installation of New Approach Guardrails	\$230,000	 Project cancelled, to be reconsidered in a future year.
Bridge and Road Condition Survey	\$150,000	 Project has been completed
Broadhurst Bridge	\$100,001	 Project has been completed
Bridge Upgrade - Darebin Creek Trail 2019-20	\$156,850	 Project has been completed
Beavers Road Bridge 2019-20	\$298,728	 Project has been completed
Leamington St Bridge Repair	\$150,000	 Project has been completed
Building Improvements		
Carbon Management Plan - Buildings	\$260,002	 Project has been completed
Building ESM Program	\$100,000	 Project has been completed
Buildings		
Multi Sport Stadium	\$3,574,145	 Project has been completed
Building Renewal Program	\$2,000,000	 Project has been completed
Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre	\$940,002	 Project has been completed
Catalyst Project - Preston Civic Precinct (includes Intercultural Centre)	\$200,001	 Project has been completed
Bill Lawry Oval Pavilion	\$799,999	 Project will continue in 2021-22
Reservoir Leisure Centre	\$499,999	 Project has been completed
BT Connor Pavilion Redevelopment	\$250,000	 Project has been completed
Toilet Strategy	\$230,000	 Project has been completed
JE Moore Park North Pavilion Female Changeroom Upgrade 2019-20	\$109,999	 Project has been completed
Neighbourhood Activity Centre Renewal Program	\$109,310	 Project has been completed
Darebin Arts Centre - DDA Compliance - Front and Rear Entry	\$100,000	 Project has been completed
Darebin International Sports Centre (DISC) & Darebin Community Sports Stadium (DCSS) renewal	\$50,000	 Project has been completed
Moon Rabbit - Food waste bio-dehydrator	\$50,000	 Project has been completed
Drainage		
Drainage System Renewal and Upgrade Program including WSUD and Reactive Works	\$1,064,449	 Project has been completed
Stormwater Pipe Relining Program	\$193,000	 Project has been completed
Footpaths and Cycleways		
Footpath Renewal Program	\$5,383,000	 Project has been completed
Cycling Program Detailed Design and Construction	\$315,590	 Project has been completed
Walking Program Detailed Design and Construction	\$500,000	 Project has been completed
Shared Path - Parks Renewal Program	\$250,000	 Project has been completed
Information Technology		
IT Infrastructure Implementation	\$1,025,000	 Project has been completed
IT Improvement Program	\$1,962,896	 Project has been completed
Darebin Libraries Technology Action Plan	\$118,113	 Project has been completed

Project by Asset Class	Total Budget	Progress comment
Land Improvements		
KP Hardiman Synthetic Hockey Pitch Redevelopment	\$2,412,001	Project has been completed
Darebin Resource Recovery Centre Retaining Wall	\$200,000	Excavation of the existing wall uncovered additional structural works required that will delay project completion into 2021-22
Library Books		
Darebin Libraries Product Purchases (Collection)	\$800,000	Project has been completed
Parks and Open Space		
Open Space Improvements Program	\$1,896,200	Part of this program will continue into 2021-22
Community Safety Upgrade Improvements	\$483,084	Project has been completed
Park Asset Renewal Program including Drinking Fountains	\$150,000	Project has been completed
JCMP Sportsfield Resurfacing	\$150,000	Project has been completed
Bundoora Park Aiaa Maasarwe Memorial	\$167,000	Project has been completed
Alphington Farmers Market - Gate and gravel path work	\$10,000	Project has been completed
Plant, Machinery and Equipment		
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Heavy Vehicles	\$1,500,001	Project has been completed
Replacement of Mobile Garbage, Green Waste and Recycling Bins	\$300,000	Project has been completed
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Light Vehicles	\$250,000	Project has been completed
Arts Venues & Hubs Plant & Equipment Program	\$150,000	Project has been completed
Youth Services Asset Renewal Program	\$75,000	Project has been completed
Reservoir Leisure Centre Gym Equipment and Group Exercise Equipment	\$50,000	Project has been completed
Recreation, Leisure and Community Facilities		
John Hall Oval Lighting Upgrade	\$170,000	Project will continue in 2021-22
Crispe Park Lighting Upgrade	\$50,000	Project has been completed
WH Mott - New Lighting	\$15,000	Project has been completed
Roads		
Road Rehabilitation Design & Construction Program	\$1,610,000	Project has been completed
Road Resurfacing Program	\$1,703,584	Project has been completed
Blackspot Design and Construction Program	\$853,000	Project will continue in 2021-22
Safe Travel Program Detailed Design and Construction	\$210,000	Project has been completed
Kerb and Channel Renewal Program	\$200,002	Project has been completed
Right of Way Rehabilitation Program	\$100,000	Project has been completed
Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program	—	Project combined with Neighbourhood Activity Centre Renewal Program
Streetscape Works		
Streetscape and Place Improvements - Preston Activity Centre	\$63,109	Project has been completed
Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture		
Furniture Replacement Program	\$100,001	Project has been completed

STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Council decision-making is guided by the direction and intent set out in the Council Plan, principles outlined in the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Governance Rules and the Councillor Code of Conduct. These decisions are recorded in the form of resolutions, which are enacted by the Council administration.

Resolutions, once recorded, take effect immediately. They can vary greatly in scale from writing a letter to communicate Council's position on a matter, to delivery of a complex capital project.

Darebin City Council records and monitors the progress made on the implementation of Council resolutions.

In this Financial Year to date, 186 resolutions have been completed and 19 resolutions are in progress. Due to the complexity of some of the resolutions, they may span multiple years and can be superseded or updated as the initiatives progress.

The status of the 205 resolutions made by Darebin City Council since 1 July 2020 is:

91% complete

9 % in progress



FINANCIAL REPORT

Twelve months ended
30 June 2021

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Operating performance

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Operating					
Revenue	173,786	182,600	8,891	173,786	185,713
Expenditure	(168,115)	(176,418)	(8,380)	(168,115)	(172,888)
Surplus (deficit)	5,671	6,182	511	5,671	12,825
Capital & other					
Revenue/grants	(3,989)	(5,745)	(1,756)	(3,988)	(9,214)
Developer contributions	0	(584)	(584)	0	(515)
Adjusted underlying surplus/(deficit)	1,682	(147)	(1,829)	1,683	3,096

For the twelve months ended 30 June 2021, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$6.18 million, which is \$0.51 million ahead of the full-year budget. After eliminating capital and other items, the adjusted underlying deficit is \$0.15 million, which is \$1.83 million less than the full-year budget. An underlying deficit is the net surplus for the year adjusted for non-recurrent capital grants and contributions. It is an accepted measure of financial sustainability as it is not impacted by non-recurring or once-off items of revenue and expenses that can often mask the operating results.

Total revenue is favourable by \$8.81 million and total expenditure is unfavourable by \$8.30 million. The main items contributing to this favourable variance are greater income than budgeted from operating and capital grants, monetary contributions offset by greater expenses for employee costs and materials and services.

There are significant variances in the actual result compared to the adopted budget with some of these variances due to Council participating in the Victorian Government funded Working for Victoria initiative. The revenue and costs were not budgeted so the initiative has resulted in a favourable variance in Grants – operating, \$5.0 million, and unfavourable variances in Employee costs of \$4.38 million and Materials and services of \$0.62 million. The net cost to Council is zero.

Council received substantial Federal Government - Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Funding (LCRI) for infrastructure initiatives. Subsequently, funding and corresponding infrastructure spending of \$4.7 million was undertaken. Council also received additional State Government funding of \$0.5 million for the KP Hardiman Reserve hockey field resurfacing project.

Revenue in Statutory fees and fines are unfavourable due to traffic enforcement income tracking slower than budget \$0.14 million. This is primarily due to the State Government COVID-19 restrictions.

Contributions received from developers for public open space and other capital works are \$2.50 million greater than budget.

The total expense variance of \$8.30 million is predominately due to the Working for Victoria costs and purchases or projects not recognized as assets in accordance with Council's asset capitalization policy thresholds. Projects include Urban Forest Strategy \$0.9 million, minor building works \$0.8 million, library resources \$0.5 million and IT Software as a Service (SaaS) purchases \$1.2 million.

1.2 Capital performance

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Budget & CFWD's \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Property	20,059	23,109	(3,050)	20,059	19,665	24,072
Plant & equipment	6,239	3,536	2,703	6,239	6,876	6,381
Infrastructure	13,790	18,024	(4,234)	13,790	14,890	19,336
Total capital works	40,088	44,669	(4,581)	40,088	41,431	49,789

For the twelve months ended 30 June 2021, Council has expended \$44.67 million on the capital works program, which is \$4.58 million ahead of the full-year budget. The variance is due mainly to advance works undertaken at the new Narrandjeri Stadium \$6.5 million and works associated with the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Funding (LCRI) for infrastructure initiatives.

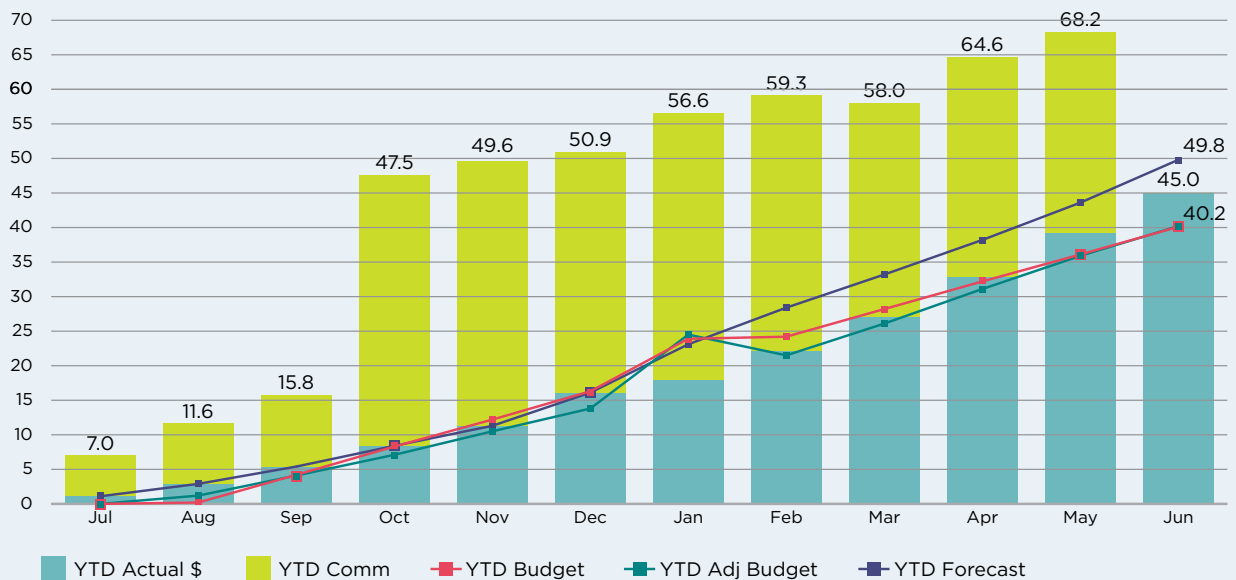
The adopted budget has increased from \$40.09 million to an annual forecast of \$49.79 million. This is due to unbudgeted Federal Grants (LCRI) in 2020-21 for Footpath and Building Renewals \$4.70 million, Road Blackspot \$343K, the advance progress of the Narrandjeri Stadium \$5.0 million and \$400K allocated from 2019-20 operating surplus towards the Integrated Finance System project.

The total capital works amount of \$44.67 million excludes purchases or projects (\$5.18 million) not recognized as assets in accordance with Council's asset capitalization policy thresholds.

The 3rd Quarter review identified 15 projects which are programmed for delivery in 2020-21 which will require some budgeted funds to be carried forward to the 2021-22 year. The value of this is \$2.57 million. Significant projects include:

- Darebin Operations Centre retaining wall - Additional design consultation has delayed the project
- Bill Lawry Oval pavilion - Complex project requiring cultural heritage consultation
- Open Space - Penders Park stage 2 - Funding is being sought from State Government to complete the project. Expected to be completed over two financial years.

Cumulative capital works actual and committed expenditure



1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.3 Financial position

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Audited 2020 \$'000
Cash and investments	53,583	64,580	10,997	53,583	58,789	73,526
Net current assets	37,045	36,315	(730)	37,045	33,233	50,038
Net assets and total equity	1,458,221	1,489,183	30,962	1,458,221	1,533,967	1,521,142

The financial position as at 30 June 2021 shows a cash and investment balance of \$64.58 million, which is \$11.0 million ahead of budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences in receipt of rates, government receipts, payments to employees and suppliers, payments for property, infrastructure and plant and equipment and a higher opening cash and investment position compared with budget. The cash and investment balance of \$64.58 million was sufficient to meet restricted cash and intended allocation obligations of \$38.14 million at the end of June. 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.

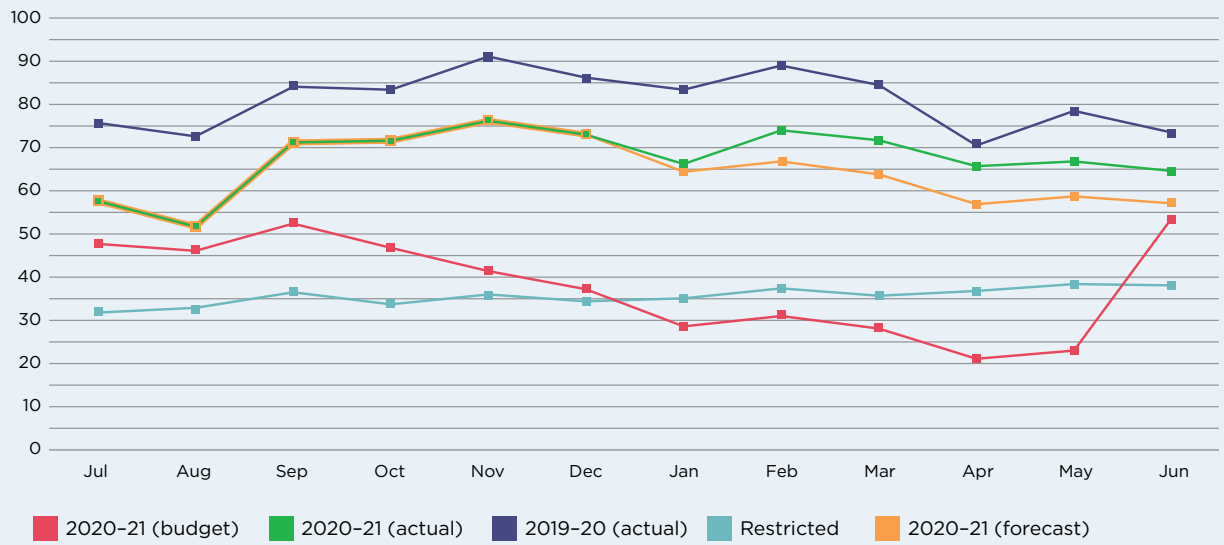
The net current asset position is \$36.32 million, which is \$0.73 million less than budget. Due to the prior year revaluation increment of property assets, offset by the current year revaluation decrement of infrastructure assets, the net asset position of \$1.49 billion is \$30.96 million more than budget.

Figure 01 shows Council's cash balance is within expectations. Every opportunity is taken to invest surplus cash to maximise investment returns.

Figure 02 shows projections of the movement in Council's working capital over the course of the 2020/21 financial year. The chart portrays:

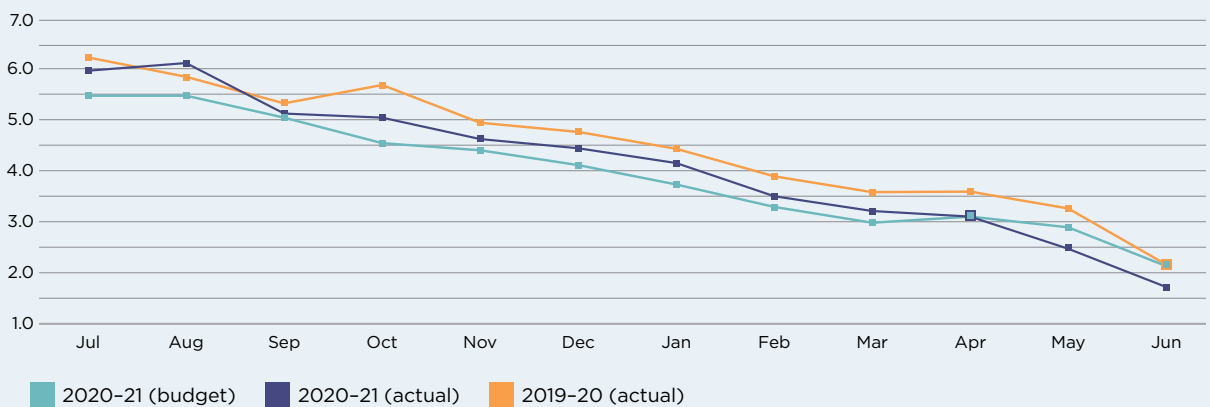
- Budgeted 2020/21 working capital
- Actual 2020/21 working capital
- Actual 2019/20 working capital.

Figure 01: Cash and Investment Balance



Note: Cash and investments include term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet (\$16.85M).

Figure 02: Working capital (current assets/current liabilities)



APPENDIX A

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the 12 months ended 30 June 2021

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Income					
Rates and charges	135,560	135,161	(399)	135,560	135,452
Statutory fees and fines	5,739	5,599	(140)	5,739	5,319
User fees	5,464	5,684	220	5,464	5,443
Grants - operating	15,727	21,095	5,368	15,727	21,827
Grants - capital	4,570	6,309	1,739	4,570	9,795
Contributions - monetary	3,500	6,003	2,503	3,500	5,522
Net gain (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	612	648	36	612	559
Fair value adjustments for investment property	0	(76)	(76)	0	0
Other income	2,614	2,177	(437)	2,614	1,796
Total income	173,786	182,600	8,814	173,786	185,713
Expenses					
Employee costs	88,339	92,175	(3,836)	88,339	90,602
Materials and services	46,723	52,921	(6,198)	46,723	50,310
Bad and doubtful debts	1,320	579	741	1,320	840
Depreciation and amortisation	24,323	23,939	384	24,323	24,053
Lease finance costs	0	6	(6)	0	0
Other expenses	7,410	6,798	612	7,410	7,083
Total expenses	168,115	176,418	(8,303)	168,115	172,888
Surplus for the year	5,671	6,182	511	5,671	12,825
Less					
Grants - capital (non-recurrent)	(3,989)	(5,745)	(1,756)	(3,988)	(9,214)
Non cash developer contributions	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted underlying surplus/(deficit)	1,682	(147)	(1,829)	1,683	3,096

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2021

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000	Audited 2020 \$'000
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	36,730	47,727	10,997	36,730	41,936	42,920
Trade and other receivables	13,598	19,937	6,339	13,598	13,598	17,175
Other financial assets	16,853	16,853	0	16,853	16,853	30,606
Inventories	67	58	(9)	67	60	60
Other assets	2,618	2,212	(406)	2,618	2,525	2,528
Total current assets	69,866	86,787	16,921	69,866	74,972	93,289
Non-current assets						
Trade and other receivables	4,718	3,996	(722)	4,718	4,369	4,387
Other financial assets	236	6	(230)	236	4,704	236
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	1,414,755	1,447,094	32,339	1,414,755	1,490,061	1,464,388
Right-of-use assets	0	154	154	0	263	237
Investment property	2,810	2,714	(96)	2,810	2,790	2,790
Intangible assets	467	969	502	467	578	1,086
Total non-current assets	1,422,986	1,454,933	31,947	1,422,986	1,502,766	1,473,124
Total assets	1,492,852	1,541,720	48,868	1,492,852	1,577,738	1,566,413
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables	7,956	15,004	(7,048)	7,956	15,182	17,520
Trust funds and deposits	4,571	5,123	(552)	4,571	4,527	4,527
Unearned Income	0	8,044	(8,044)	0	0	0
Provisions	20,294	22,227	(1,933)	20,294	21,918	21,107
Lease liability	0	74	(74)	0	112	97
Total current liabilities	32,821	50,472	(17,651)	32,821	41,739	43,251
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions	1,810	1,981	(171)	1,810	1,876	1,876
Lease liability	0	84	(84)	0	156	144
Total non-current liabilities	1,810	2,065	(255)	1,810	2,032	2,020
Total liabilities	34,631	52,537	(17,906)	34,631	43,771	45,271
Net assets	1,458,221	1,489,183	30,962	1,458,221	1,533,967	1,521,142
Equity						
Accumulated surplus	568,744	564,636	(4,108)	568,744	569,789	560,464
Asset revaluation reserve	865,796	898,505	32,709	865,796	936,646	936,646
Other reserves	23,681	26,042	2,361	23,681	27,532	24,032
Total equity	1,458,221	1,489,183	30,962	1,458,221	1,533,967	1,521,142

APPENDIX A

Statement of Cash Flow

For the 12 months ended 30 June 2021

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Rates	147,286	132,293	(14,993)	147,286	138,145
Statutory fees and fines	6,235	5,428	(807)	6,235	5,319
User fees and charges (inclusive of GST)	5,937	7,246	1,309	5,937	5,855
Government receipts	22,052	35,864	13,813	22,052	32,103
Contributions - Monetary	3,500	5,720	2,220	3,500	5,522
Other income	1,866	1,367	(499)	1,866	1,232
Employee costs	(96,588)	(90,936)	5,653	(96,588)	(89,030)
Materials and services (inclusive of GST)	(59,188)	(69,673)	(10,485)	(59,188)	(71,568)
Net FSPL refund / payment	0	27	27	0	0
	31,100	27,336	(3,763)	31,100	27,578
Interest	1,175	548	(627)	1,175	764
Trust funds and deposits	0	569	569	0	0
Net GST refund / payment	7,088	8,391	1,304	7,088	8,958
Net cash provided by operating activities	39,363	36,844	(2,519)	39,363	37,300
Cash flows from investing activities					
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	673	1,381	707	673	861
Payment for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(44,095)	(47,436)	(3,341)	(44,095)	(53,022)
Repayment of loans and advances	0	123	123	0	123
Proceeds from sale of other financial assets	0	230	230	0	0
Net cash used in investing activities	(43,422)	(45,702)	(2,282)	(43,422)	(52,038)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Interest paid - lease liability	0	(6)	(6)	0	0
Repayment of lease liabilities	0	(83)	(83)	0	0
Net cash used in financing activities	0	(89)	(89)	0	0
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(4,059)	(8,946)	(4,886)	(4,059)	(14,737)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	57,642	73,526	15,884	57,642	73,526
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	53,583	64,580	10,998	53,583	58,789

Note: Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year includes term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet (\$30.61M).

Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Surplus for the year	5,671	6,182	511	5,671	12,825
Items not involving cash or non operating in nature					
Depreciation and amortisation	24,323	23,939	(384)	24,323	24,053
Interest expense	0	6	6	0	0
Bad and doubtful debts	1,320	579	(741)	1,320	840
Net (gain)/loss on sale of assets	(612)	(648)	(36)	(612)	(559)
Other	0	23	23	0	230
	30,702	30,081	(621)	30,702	37,389
Change in operating assets and liabilities					
Decrease/(Increase) in rate debtors	16,968	(2,868)	(19,836)	17,000	2,894
Decrease/(Increase) in other operating assets	1,063	8,072	7,010	(6,077)	(30)
(Decrease)/Increase in trade creditors	(2,582)	14	2,596	(1,831)	(4,524)
(Decrease)/Increase in other operating liabilities	(7,921)	319	8,240	(431)	760
(Decrease)/Increase in provisions	1,133	1,226	93	0	812
	8,661	6,765	(1,896)	8,661	(88)
Net cash provided by operating activities	39,363	36,844	(2,519)	39,363	37,300

APPENDIX A

Statement of Capital Works

For the 12 months ended 30 June 2021

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Budget & CFWD's \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
Capital works						
Property						
Buildings	19,859	22,991	(3,132)	19,859	19,465	23,872
Building improvements	200	118	82	200	200	200
Total property	20,059	23,109	(3,050)	20,059	19,665	24,072
Plant & equipment						
Plant, machinery & equipment	2,375	2,021	354	2,375	2,375	2,375
Fixtures, fittings & furniture	100	75	25	100	100	100
Computers & telecommunications	2,964	1,074	1,890	2,964	3,601	3,106
Library books	800	366	434	800	800	800
Total plant & equipment	6,239	3,536	2,703	6,239	6,876	6,381
Infrastructure						
Roads	3,675	5,061	(1,386)	3,625	4,078	4,677
Bridges	480	716	(236)	480	515	1,077
Footpaths & cycleways	2,343	6,288	(3,945)	2,333	2,633	6,449
Drainage	1,093	1,206	(113)	1,093	1,223	1,257
Land Improvements	3,312	3,668	(356)	3,312	3,262	2,762
Recreation, leisure & community facilities	303	337	(34)	303	303	235
Parks, open space & streetscapes	2,584	748	1,836	2,644	2,876	2,879
Total infrastructure	13,790	18,024	(4,234)	13,790	14,890	19,336
Total capital works	40,088	44,669	(4,581)	40,088	41,431	49,789
Represented by:						
New assets	11,835	17,377	(5,542)	11,835	12,231	14,699
Asset renewal	16,493	20,703	(4,210)	16,493	17,046	20,484
Asset expansion	4,442	1,462	2,980	4,442	4,591	5,517
Asset upgrade	7,318	5,127	2,191	7,318	7,563	9,089
Total capital works	40,088	44,669	(4,581)	40,088	41,431	49,789






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8.4 DRAFT 2020-21 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

Author: Financial Accountant
Manager Finance

Reviewed By: General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council is required to prepare an annual report in respect of each financial year consisting of three parts:

- Report of operations: information about the operations of the council
- Performance Statement: audited results achieved against the prescribed performance indicators and measures, including a copy of the auditor's report on the performance statement.
- Financial Statements: audited Financial Statements prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards including a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements.

The Act requires that the annual report be submitted to the Minister within four months of the end of the financial year. Council is required to pass a resolution giving approval in principle to each of the Statements and 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 year ended 30 June 2021, 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 year ended 30 June 2021. The statements were presented to Council's Audit Committee at its meeting on 13 August 2021.

The Financial Statements and the Performance Statement provide, as part of the annual report, a transparent account of Council's operations in line with good governance. The annual report forms part of a comprehensive public accountability process and reporting that includes:

- The Council Plan
- The Annual Budget
- Internal and External Audit; and
- The Annual Report.

Officer Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with the recommendations of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, and having considered Council's draft Financial and Performance Statements for 2020/2021, at **Appendix A & B** to this report:

- (1) Approve in principle the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 as per **Appendix A** to this report;
 - (2) Authorise the Manager Finance to make any non-material changes to the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement that may arise from the completion of audit and internal review procedures;
 - (3) Authorise _____ and _____ to certify the Financial Statements in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed to by the Auditor-General have been made;
 - (4) Approve in principle the Performance Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 as per **Appendix B** to this report;
 - (5) Authorise Councillors _____ and _____ to certify the Performance Statements in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed to by the Auditor-General have been made;
 - (6) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to forward the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO).
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Act requires a Council's annual report to contain audited Financial Statements.

Sections 98, 99 and 100 of the Act state that:

- The Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with the regulations and include any other information required by the regulations.
- The Financial Statements must be submitted to the auditor as soon as possible after the end of the financial year and certified in their final form by two Councillors, the CEO and principal accounting officer.
- The annual report must contain a copy of the auditor's report on the Financial Statements.
- The annual report must be submitted to the Minister for Local Government within three months of the end of each financial year (30 September).

The Regulations require a Council's Financial Statements to be prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.

Regulations 19 and 20 in part four of the regulations state that:

- The Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.
- The Financial Statements must contain a statement of capital works.
- The Financial Statements must include specified other information as notes.

The Local Government Model Financial Report is underpinned by the following guiding principles:

- The presentation of the Financial Statements should promote transparency and accountability of local government to stakeholders.
- The pursuit of consistency in local government Financial Statements is important but the primary role is to recognise and report responsibly on relevant local issues.
- By law the Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report which has been developed to illustrate as widely as possible the minimum disclosure requirements for Councils.
- While the Local Government Model Financial Report is used as a basis for preparing the Financial Statements, subject to each Council's individual circumstances, the statements must also be an accurate and transparent representation of local issues.
- Local government finance professionals are in the best position to make informed decisions about the appropriateness or otherwise of relevant disclosures and the exercise of professional judgement, in excess of the minimum requirements, in preparing the Financial Statements.
- In the event of any conflict between the requirements of the Local Government Model Finance Report and the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards, the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standard take precedence.
- When preparing Financial Statements, local government finance professionals should have regard to the principles of sound financial management set out in section 101 of the Act.

There were no significant disclosure changes in the 2020-21 financial statements.

Previous Council Resolution

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

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.1 We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

DISCUSSION

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

Financial Statements – overview of reported results

The Comprehensive Income Statement shows that for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Council achieved an operating surplus of \$6.18 million which was a \$14 thousand decrease from the 2019-20 result. The main items contributing to this movement between years are as follows:

- Rates (\$1.94 million increase) – The increase in general rates is in line with the general increase in rates approved by Council for the 2020-21 year (2.0%) together with supplementary rate income generated, and an increase in green waste charges. The previous financial year included Solar Saver special charge (refer note 3.1);
- User fees, statutory fees and fines (\$4.78 million decrease) – The decrease in user fees, statutory fees and fines resulted mainly from a decrease in traffic enforcement, environmental health, arts venues, leisure centres and recreation and libraries. The decrease is mainly due to facility and program closures resulting from COVID-19. (refer notes 3.2 and 3.3);
- Grants – operating (\$4.72 million increase) – The increase in operating grants reflects a mix of factors including one-off funding for the Working for Victoria and Economic recovery programs and timing of receipt of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Victorian Grants Commission funding, and normal CPI increases in recurrent Government grants (refer note 3.4);
- Grants – capital (\$4.06 million increase) – The increase in capital grants is reflected by State funding received for KP Hardiman Reserve, Narrandjeri Stadium, and the Federal funded Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (refer note 3.4);
- Contributions – monetary (\$3.46 million decrease) – The decrease in cash contributions is mainly due to contributions received for other public open space, capital and minor works and small-scale technology certificates associated with the Solar Saver program (refer note 3.5);
- Contributions – non-monetary assets (\$0.2 million decrease) – This movement represents a decrease on the property and infrastructure assets received from developers during the year (refer note 3.5);
- Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (\$0.1 million increase) – This movement is mainly due to an decrease in the sale of other assets disposed in 2020-21 (refer note 3.6);
- Other income (\$0.95 million decrease) – The decrease in other income, resulted mainly from lower deposit interest rates earned on invested funds and a decrease in property rental and leases. Cash and investment balances held were lower than the previous year.
- Employee costs (\$5.93 million increase) – The increase in employee costs reflects the increase in salary, wages and superannuation under relevant industrial agreements. Council also participated in the State Government Working for Victoria program and received \$4.5m grant funding towards employee costs (refer note 4.1 and 3.4);
- Materials and services (\$4.72 million decrease) – The materials and services category includes contract payments, utilities, major maintenance and other items such as waste disposal fees. The decrease reflects lower building and general repairs due to the forced closure of many facilities under COVID-19. Contract payments made in relation to the Solar Saver program also decreased. Offsetting this was an increase in information technology costs associated with the new integrated financial system (refer note 4.2);
- Depreciation and amortisation (\$0.73 million increase) – The increase in depreciation arises from increases in depreciation on property and infrastructure. (refer note 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.7);

- Bad and doubtful debts (\$1.24 million decrease) – The decrease in bad and doubtful debts reflects decreases in debt provision for outstanding parking, local law fines, animal related fines and other debtors. Less traffic enforcement fines were referred to Fines Victoria in 2020-21 (refer note 4.6);
- Other expenses (\$0.67 million increase) – The increase in other expenses reflects increases in contributions and community support funding provided under Council's COVID-19 community and business resilience and recovery package (refer note 4.8).

The Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2021 shows that net assets decreased by \$31.96 million for the year to \$1,489.18 million. The main items contributing to this increase are as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets (\$8.95 million decrease) – Cash balances at year end decreased due to a number of factors including completing capital works projects, a decrease in the level contributions received during the year, and a decrease in holdings of term deposits with a greater than 90-day maturity. Under Council's COVID-19 community and business resilience and recovery package the payments of rate and charges were able to be deferred which resulted in an increase in rate receivables at year end. Council's shareholding in the Regional Kitchen Pty Ltd which was transferred to Western Health in August 2020 (refer note 5.1);
- Trade and other receivables (\$2.37 million increase) – This increase primarily reflects the increase in current rate receivables (refer note 5.1);
- Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (\$17.29 million decrease) – This decrease reflects the net impact of the revaluation of infrastructure assets (\$38.14 million), additions, contributed assets, asset disposals, and depreciation on all fixed asset classes. The revaluation of Infrastructure was undertaken in accordance with Council's asset revaluation policy (refer note 6.1);
- Intangible assets (\$0.12 million decrease) - This decrease reflects the net impact of additions and amortisation of the class (refer note 5.2);
- Trade and other payables (\$2.49 million decrease) – This decrease represents lower trade creditors held (refer note 5.3);
- Unearned income (\$8.02 million increase) This increase represents higher unspent capital grants where Council has not met the certain service performance obligations of the funding agreement. This includes \$3.12 million from State Government for the construction of the Aboriginal Women & Girls Sport and Wellness Centre at Sir Doug Nicholls Oval (refer note 5.4);
- Provisions (\$1.23 million increase) – This increase represents higher employee provisions for annual leave and long service leave provided during the year (refer note 5.4);
- Reserves (\$36.13 million decrease) – The decrease in reserves is due to the net asset revaluation decrement of infrastructure assets, a reduced developer scheme reserve used to construct of Narrandjeri Stadium and an increase in contributions to the open space reserve (refer note 9.1).

The Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 shows that total cash and investments increased by \$4.81 million to \$47.73 million. The main movements during the year were a cash inflow from operating activities of \$36.84 million, offset by a cash outflow from investing activities of \$31.95 million and financing cash outflows of \$0.09 million.

The Statement of Capital Works shows that for the year ended 30 June 2021, Council had achieved total Capital Works expenditure of \$44.67 million, an increase of \$0.62 million from the previous year. The main items of capital works for the year are as follows:

- Property (\$23.11 million) – The main items of expenditure include substantial buildings works at the Reservoir Leisure Centre, commencement of construction of the

Narrandjeri Stadium, B T Connor Reserve pavilion, pre-construction works at NARC and essential building renewal works at various locations.

- Plant and equipment (\$3.54 million) – The main items of expenditure include information technology (\$1.07 million), fleet replacement (\$1.58 million), library resources (\$0.4 million) and refuse bin replacements (\$0.3 million).
- Infrastructure (\$18.02 million) – The main items of expenditure include roads and transport (\$5.06 million), footpaths and cycle ways (\$6.29 million), completion of the K P Hardiman Reserve hockey pitch (\$2.39 million) and the outdoor courts at John Cain Memorial Park (\$1.19 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 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014. The performance measures cover the following activities:

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

Indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021
Expenses per head of municipal population	\$1,035	\$1,066	\$1,060
Infrastructure per head of municipal population	\$4,499	\$4,571	\$4,405
Population density per length of road	318	323	314
Own-source revenue per head of municipal population	\$973	\$932	\$896
Recurrent grants per head of municipal population	\$98	\$102	\$99
Relative socio-economic disadvantage	7.0	7.0	7.0
Percentage of staff turnover	14.2%	10.5%	13.4%

Service Performance Indicators

Indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021
Aquatic Facilities	5.3	3.3	1.9
Animal management prosecutions (Number of prosecutions)	2	N/A	N/A
Animal management prosecutions (% of successful prosecutions)	N/A	0	0.0%
Food Safety	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Governance	70.8	69.0	68.0
Libraries	15.6%	14.3%	12.3%
Maternal & Child Health	80.0%	76.9%	71.5%
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children	90.8%	84.1%	76.6%
Roads	71.5	72.0	70.0
Statutory Planning	44.9%	41.2%	47.8%
Waste Collection	46.4%	50.8%	63.6%

Financial Performance Indicators

Indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021
Expenditure level	\$2,344	\$2,413	\$2,418
Revenue level (assessment)	N/A	\$1,756	\$1,806
Working capital	261.8%	215.7%	172.0%
Unrestricted cash	130.7%	97.0%	68.6%
Loans & borrowings	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Indebtedness	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%
Asset renewal and upgrade	N/A	140.8%	110.4%
Adjusted underlying result	7.9%	1.7%	-0.2%
Rates concentration	69.6%	73.8%	76.4%
Rates effort	0.21%	0.23%	0.21%

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES**Financial Management**

N/A

Community Engagement

N/A

Other Principles for consideration**Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles**

(g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;

Public Transparency Principles

(c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;

Strategic Planning Principles

(a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;

Service Performance Principles

(c) quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)**

The Financial Statements and the Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 incorporate Council's funding and delivery of environmental operations in a range of areas

including waste collection, recycling services, street cleaning, litter collection, park and sporting field maintenance and improvements in the context of drought, water-saving and energy efficiency measures.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The Financial Statements and the Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 reflect and incorporate the equity, inclusion and wellbeing initiatives delivered during 2020-21.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The Financial Statements and the Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 reflect and incorporate the economic development initiatives delivered during 2020-21.

Operational Impacts

N/A

Legal and Risk Implications

There have been no legal or risk issues which have been identified that impact on this report.

The Draft Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021 were presented to Council's Audit and Risk Committee on Monday 13 September 2021. The Audit Committee recommended that Council:

- (1) Council approve in-principle the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2021;
- (2) the Council resolution to approve 'in-principle' include the following authorisations:
 - Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to forward the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO);
 - Authorise the Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor, and another Councilor to certify the final versions of the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement;
 - Authorise the Manager Finance to make any non-material changes to the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement that may arise from the completion of audit and internal review procedures;
 - Authorise the Manager Finance to make any material changes discussed with VAGO after discussion with the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee before reporting to Council; and
 - Record its appreciation and congratulations to the staff involved in the preparation of the annual statements under the difficulty of the pandemic restrictions.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS



A copy of the Council Minutes and signed certified Financial Report and Performance Statement will be provided to the Victorian Auditor General's office for consideration for certification.

The certified Financial Report and Performance Statement will be incorporated into Council's Annual Report which will be provided to the Minister for Local Government by 30 September 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Annual Budget 2020-2021

Attachments

- Annual Financial Report for The Year Ended 30 June 2021 (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Performance Statement for The Year Ended 30 June 2021 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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 2021



**Darebin City Council
Financial Report
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Darebin City Council
2020/2021 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.

Srini Vasani CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

Melbourne
27 September 2021

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Darebin City Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 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.

Lina Messina
Councillor

Tom Hannan
Councillor

Sue Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer

Melbourne
27 September 2021

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	3.1	135,161	133,221
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	5,599	8,094
User fees	3.3	5,684	7,971
Grants - operating	3.4	21,095	16,373
Grants - capital	3.4	6,309	2,252
Contributions	3.5	6,003	9,659
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	648	566
Fair value adjustments for investment property	6.2	(76)	(20)
Other income	3.7	2,177	3,126
Total Income		182,600	181,242
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	92,175	86,244
Materials and services	4.2	52,921	57,637
Depreciation	4.3	23,391	22,560
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.4	452	526
Amortisation - right of use assets	4.5	96	125
Bad and doubtful debts	4.6	579	1,821
Finance costs - leases	4.7	6	8
Other expenses	4.8	6,798	6,125
Total expenses		176,418	175,046
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		6,182	6,196
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be classified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1	(38,141)	70,850
Total comprehensive result		(31,959)	77,046

The above Comprehensive Income Statement should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1 (a)	47,727	42,920
Trade and other receivables	5.1 (c)	19,938	17,175
Other financial assets	5.1 (b)	16,852	30,606
Inventories	5.2 (a)	58	60
Other assets	5.2 (b)	2,212	2,528
Total current assets		86,787	93,289
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1 (c)	3,995	4,387
Other financial assets	5.1 (b)	6	236
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	1,447,095	1,464,388
Right-of-use assets	5.7	154	237
Investment property	6.2	2,714	2,790
Intangible assets	5.2 (c)	969	1,086
Total non-current assets		1,454,933	1,473,124
Total assets		1,541,720	1,566,413
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3 (a)	15,004	17,491
Trust funds and deposits	5.3 (b)	5,123	4,527
Unearned income	5.3 (c)	8,044	29
Provisions	5.4	22,227	21,107
Lease liability	5.7	74	97
Total current liabilities		50,472	43,251
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	1,981	1,876
Lease liability	5.7	84	144
Total non-current liabilities		2,065	2,020
Total liabilities		52,537	45,271
Net assets		1,489,183	1,521,142
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		564,636	560,464
Reserves	9.1	924,547	960,678
Total equity		1,489,183	1,521,142

The above Balance Sheet should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2021					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,521,142	560,464	936,646	24,032
Adjusted opening balance		1,521,142	560,464	936,646	24,032
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		6,182	6,182	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1 (a)	(38,141)	0	(38,141)	0
Transfers to other reserves	9.1 (b)	0	(7,612)	0	7,612
Transfers from other reserves	9.1 (b)	0	5,602	0	(5,602)
Balance at end of financial year		1,489,183	564,636	898,505	26,042

	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2020					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,444,101	551,832	865,796	26,473
Impact of change in accounting policy - AASB 16 Leases		(5)	(5)	0	0
Adjusted opening balance		1,444,096	551,827	865,796	26,473
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		6,196	6,196	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1 (a)	70,850	0	70,850	0
Transfers to other reserves	9.1 (b)	0	(8,340)	0	8,340
Transfers from other reserves	9.1 (b)	0	10,781	0	(10,781)
Balance at end of financial year		1,521,142	560,464	936,646	24,032

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)
Note	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Rates and charges	132,293	127,703
Statutory fees and fines	5,428	6,911
User fees (inclusive of GST)	7,246	10,275
Grants - operating	29,555	16,047
Grants - capital	6,309	2,252
Contributions - monetary	5,720	9,186
Interest received	548	2,040
Net trust funds and deposits	569	(71)
Other receipts	1,367	1,295
Net GST refund/(payment)	8,391	9,495
Employee costs	(90,936)	(86,624)
Materials and services (inclusive of GST)	(69,376)	(73,751)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(297)	(211)
Net FSPL receipt/(payment)	27	27
Net cash provided by/(used in) from operating activities	36,844	24,574
	9.2	
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(47,436)	(41,014)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,381	892
Proceeds from sale of investments	13,984	3,095
Repayment of loans and advances	123	9
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(31,948)	(37,018)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Interest paid - lease liability	(6)	(8)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(83)	(27)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(89)	(35)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	4,807	(12,479)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	42,920	55,399
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	47,727	42,920
	5.1	
Financing arrangements	5.5	
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1	

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Statement of Capital Works
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Property			
Buildings		22,991	15,182
Building improvements		118	1,342
Total buildings		23,109	16,524
Total property		23,109	16,524
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,021	3,303
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		75	327
Computers and telecommunications		1,074	1,811
Library books		366	399
Total plant and equipment		3,536	5,840
Infrastructure			
Roads		5,061	4,452
Bridges		716	2,165
Footpath and cycleways		6,288	6,896
Drainage		1,206	2,114
Land improvements		3,668	2,901
Recreation, leisure and community facilities		337	0
Parks, open space and streetscapes		748	3,156
Total infrastructure		18,024	21,684
Total capital works expenditure		44,669	44,048
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		17,377	10,888
Asset renewal expenditure		20,703	23,537
Asset expansion expenditure		1,462	1,401
Asset upgrade expenditure		5,127	8,222
Total capital works expenditure		44,669	44,048

The above Statement of Capital Works should be read with the accompanying notes.

**Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report****Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021****OVERVIEW****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.

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 Australian Accounting Standards 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 6.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3)
- the determination, in accordance with AASB 16 *Leases*, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.7)
- other areas requiring judgments

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.

OVERVIEW**(b) Impact of COVID-19 crisis on Darebin City Council operations and 2020/21 financial report**

On 16 March 2020 a state of emergency was declared in Victoria due to the global pandemic COVID-19 virus, known as coronavirus. Council's operations and consequentially its financial results were significantly impacted by COVID-19 during the 2020-21 financial year which are noted below:

- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many services and facilities were temporarily closed during varying levels of restrictions such as the leisure centres, golf courses, arts venues, libraries and community centres. These closures in service resulted in a decrease in Council user fee revenue by \$6.7 million and also decreased associated expenses by \$2.1 million.
- Council received grant funding from Department, Jobs, Precincts and Regions for the Working for Victoria program \$4.5 million and a further \$0.4 million for Economic Recovery
- Council activated its COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery Plan in response to this crisis. This resulted in an increase in expenses of \$3.8 million.
- Council adopted a COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy that enables ratepayers to defer the payment of the 2020/21 rates. The financial impact to date from deferral of rates revenue and interest free period is \$3.1 million which has resulted in an increase in the rates debtor balance as at 30 June 2021.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 Performance against budget

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 \$1.8 million 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 15 July 2020. 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*.

1.1 Income and Expenditure

	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 %	Ref
Income					
Rates and charges	135,560	135,161	(399)	0%	
Statutory fees and fines	5,739	5,599	(140)	-2%	
User fees	5,464	5,684	220	4%	
Grants - operating	15,727	21,095	5,368	34%	I1
Grants - capital	4,570	6,309	1,739	38%	I2
Contributions	3,500	6,003	2,503	72%	I3
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	612	648	36	6%	
Fair value adjustments for investment property	0	(76)	(76)	+100%	
Other income	2,614	2,177	(437)	-17%	I4
Total income	173,786	182,600	8,814	5%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	88,339	92,175	(3,836)	-4%	
Materials and services	46,723	52,921	(6,198)	-13%	E1
Bad and doubtful debts	1,320	579	741	56%	E2
Finance costs - leases	0	6	(6)	+100%	
Depreciation	23,815	23,391	424	2%	
Amortisation - intangible assets	508	452	56	11%	
Amortisation - right of use assets	0	96	(96)	+100%	E3
Other expenses	7,410	6,798	612	8%	E4
Total expenses	168,115	176,418	(8,303)	-5%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	5,671	6,182	511	9%	

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 Performance against budget

(i) Explanation of material variations

Var Ref	Item	Explanation
I1	Grants - operating	Grants- operating were favourable to budget by \$5.4 million due to Darebin City Council participating in the Victorian Government funded Working for Victoria Initiative (\$4.5 million) and also Business support for the Outdoor Dining program (\$0.4 million).
I2	Grants - capital	Grants- capital were favourable to budget by \$1.7 million due to funding received for Local Roads and Community Infrastructure which was not budgeted to be received in 2020-21 (\$2.6 million). Council also received additional grant funding for the KP Hardiman Reserve hockey field resurfacing project (\$0.5 million).
I3	Contributions - monetary	Contributions - monetary were exceeded by \$2.2 million due to an increase on Public Open Space contributions for development projects (\$0.9 million) received during the year. These funds are committed to be spent on eligible open space projects. There was also an increase in external contributions received for the Local Government Power Purchasing Agreement project (\$0.3 million), funding received for strategic water outcomes (\$0.15 million) and receipt of contributions for the construction of the Beavers Rd bridge (\$0.4 million) and Darebin Creek Trail bridge (\$0.122 million).
I4	Other income	Other income is unfavourable to budget by \$0.42 million due to the fall in deposit interest rates which has resulted in lower interest income received (\$0.7 million) for the year.
E1	Materials and services	Materials and services were exceeded due to a higher than anticipated major maintenance expenditure that was originally anticipated as capital works expenditure. This includes purchases or projects not recognised as assets in accordance with Council's asset capitalisation policy thresholds (see Note 6). Projects include, Urban Forest Strategy (\$0.9 million), minor building works (\$0.8 million), library resources (\$0.5 million) and IT Software as a Service purchases (Saas) (\$1.3 million).
E2	Bad and doubtful debts	Bad and doubtful debts were favourable to budget by \$0.7 million mainly due to a lower provision amount required as a result of the reduced traffic fines and Local Law infringements issued in 2020-21.
E3	Amortisation - Right of Use assets	Some property and equipment previously captured under an operating lease are now required to be amortised over the life of that lease under AASB 16 Leases. Amortisation of right of use assets was not budgeted for in 2020/21.
E4	Other expenses	Other expenses were favourable by \$0.6 million mainly due to contributions and community support funding provided under Council's COVID-19 community and business resilience and recovery package and are offset in the Materials and services and Employee costs line.

Darebin City Council **Notes to the financial report**
2020/2021 Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 Performance against budget

1.2 Capital Works

	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 %	Ref
Property					
Buildings	19,859	22,991	3,132	16%	CW1
Building improvements	200	118	(82)	-41%	CW2
Total Buildings	20,059	23,109	3,050	15%	
Total Property	20,059	23,109	3,050	15%	
Plant and Equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,375	2,021	(354)	-15%	CW3
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	100	75	(25)	-25%	
Computers and telecommunications	2,964	1,074	(1,890)	-64%	CW4
Library books	800	366	(434)	-54%	CW5
Total Plant and Equipment	6,239	3,536	(2,703)	-43%	
Infrastructure					
Roads	3,675	5,061	1,386	38%	CW6
Bridges	480	716	236	49%	CW7
Footpaths and cycleways	2,343	6,288	3,945	168%	CW8
Drainage	1,093	1,206	113	10%	
Land improvements	3,312	3,668	356	11%	CW9
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	303	337	34	11%	
Parks, open space and streetscapes	2,584	748	(1,836)	-71%	CW10
Total Infrastructure	13,790	18,024	4,234	31%	
Total Capital Works Expenditure	40,088	44,669	4,581	11%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	11,835	17,377	5,542	47%	
Asset renewal expenditure	16,493	20,703	4,210	26%	
Asset expansion expenditure	4,442	1,462	(2,980)	-67%	
Asset upgrade expenditure	7,318	5,127	(2,191)	-30%	
Total Capital Works Expenditure	40,088	44,669	4,581	11%	

Darebin City Council **Notes to the financial report**
 2020/2021 Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 Performance against budget

(i) Explanation of material variations

Var Ref	Item	Explanation
CW1	Buildings	The budget for buildings was exceeded largely due to the advance in works undertaken at the new Narrandjeri Stadium (\$6.5 million), offset by delays completing works on the Bill Lawry Oval pavilion (\$0.6 million).
CW2	Building improvements	The budget for building improvements was not achieved largely due to works undertaken that were not recognised as assets (\$0.1 million) in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 6).
CW3	Plant, machinery and equipment	The budget for plant, machinery and equipment was not achieved due to delays in the delivery of several heavy vehicles purchased late in the reporting period (\$0.2 million) and several purchases not recognised as assets (\$0.1 million) in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 6).
CW4	Computers and telecommunications	The budget for computers and telecommunications was not achieved mainly due to the Oracle cloud solution Software as a Service (SaaS) project that was not recognised as a physical assets (\$1.3 million) in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 6).
CW5	Library books	The budget for library books was not achieved due to several purchases not recognised as assets (\$0.5 million) in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 6).
CW6	Roads	The budget for roads was exceeded due to additional funding received under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program allocated to roads resurfacing (\$0.7 million) and the Main Drive lighting (\$0.4 million).
CW7	Bridges	The budget for bridges was exceeded due to additional works to complete the Beavers Road cable stay bridge (\$0.3 million) and the urgent works required to replace guard rails on the Leamington Street bridge (\$0.2 million).
CW8	Footpaths and cycleways	The budget for footpaths and cycleways was exceeded due to additional funding received under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program allocated to footpath renewal (\$3.9 million).
CW9	Land improvements	The budget for land improvements was exceeded due to additional works required to complete the Sport and Recreation Victoria funded Inner City Netball program (\$0.3 million).
CW10	Parks, open space and streetscapes	The budget for parks, open space and streetscapes was not achieved largely due to several purchases that were not recognised as assets (\$1.4 million) in accordance with Council's policy (see Note 6), this included tree planting under the urban forest strategy.

Note 2 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

2 (a) City Sustainability and Strategy

The City Sustainability and Strategy Division's role is to plan for the long-term future of Darebin and to ensure sustainable social, environmental, economic and community wellbeing benefits for our community. The City Sustainability and Strategy Division includes the following departments: City Development; City Futures; City Safety and Compliance; and Environment and Sustainable Transport. Significant items allocated to the Division include; public open space contributions.

Operations and Capital

The Operations and Capital Division provides major operational services and the management of capital works. The Operations and Capital Division includes the following departments: Assets and Capital Delivery; City Works; and Parks and Open Spaces. Significant items allocated to the division include; contributed assets infrastructure asset depreciation and net gain on sale of assets.

Community

The Community Division provides high quality community focused programs, service delivery and communication to residents. The Community Division includes the following departments: Aged and Disability; Creative Culture and Events; Equity and Wellbeing; Families, Youth and Children; and Recreation and Libraries.

Governance and Engagement

The Governance and Engagement Division's role is to act as a business partner by understanding the organisation's needs, risks and limitations and to provide timely specialist advice as well as smart, agile customer oriented support. The Governance and Engagement Division includes the following departments: Communications and Engagement; Finance; Information Services; People and Development; and Governance and Performance. Significant items allocated to the Division include; general rates and charges, interest on rates and investments, Victorian Grants Commission funding and fair value adjustment for investment property.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 2 Analysis of Council results by program

2 (b) Summary of revenues, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

	Income	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2021					
City Sustainability and Strategy	8,996	28,581	(19,585)	1,023	190,071
Operations and Capital	9,525	63,573	(54,048)	5,929	845,106
Community	15,805	50,364	(34,559)	11,786	271,382
Governance and Engagement	148,274	33,900	114,374	8,666	170,582
Non-attributable	0	0	0	0	64,579
	182,600	176,418	6,182	27,404	1,541,720
2020					
City Sustainability and Strategy	15,163	34,554	(19,391)	1,565	190,229
Operations and Capital	4,687	62,989	(58,302)	939	862,146
Community	18,391	49,424	(31,033)	11,570	271,499
Governance and Engagement	143,001	28,079	114,922	4,551	169,013
Non-attributable	0	0	0	0	73,526
	181,242	175,046	6,196	18,625	1,566,413

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services		
3.1 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 that 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 2020/21 was \$61,333,178,005 (2019/20: \$55,463,427,066).		
General rates	131,044	127,405
Cultural and recreational properties	22	38
Green waste services	2,705	2,630
Special rates and charges	611	1,703
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	779	770
Interest on rates and charges	0	675
Total rates and charges	135,161	133,221
The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2020, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2020.		
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.		
Council adhered to the The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) maximum amount increase rates set at 2.0%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of Council's average rates and charges.		
3.2 Statutory fees and fines		
Animal registration	1,094	822
Building services	888	802
Environmental health	31	798
Statutory planning	1,543	1,537
Traffic enforcement	1,250	2,477
Infringement court recoveries	434	1,284
Other statutory fees and fines	359	374
Total statutory fees and fines	5,599	8,094
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.		
3.3 User fees		
Aged and health services	844	929
Arts and culture	201	715
Family, children and community programs	212	166
Golf course attendance	1,178	984
Leisure centres and recreation	1,264	2,949
Library	29	134
Registrations and other permits	1,762	1,800
Other fees and charges	194	294
Total user fees	5,684	7,971
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised over time	518	668
User fees recognised at a point in time	5,166	7,303
Total user fees	5,684	7,971
User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.		

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
3.4 Funding from other levels of government		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	14,025	11,778
State funded grants	13,380	6,847
Total grants	27,405	18,625
(a) Operating Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Diesel fuel rebate scheme	95	89
Centre based care	333	328
General home care	6,227	6,106
Financial assistance grant - general purpose	3,229	3,636
Financial assistance grant - local roads	917	914
Recurrent - State Government / other		
Centre based care	52	13
Disability resource	185	180
Family support	512	510
General home care	736	723
Health and safety	122	120
Immunisation	117	139
Libraries	1,051	1,045
Maternal and child health	1,585	1,513
Metro access	0	25
Playgroup initiatives	252	132
School crossings	513	500
Youth services	43	42
Other programs	0	8
Total recurrent operating grants	15,969	16,023
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Non-recurrent - State Government / other		
Working for Victoria	4,500	0
Economic Recovery	420	0
City development	80	0
Arts	52	57
Child care / kindergartens	0	94
Talking back	24	63
Other programs	50	136
Total non-recurrent operating grants	5,126	350
Total operating grants	21,095	16,373
(b) Capital Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Roads to Recovery	582	706
Recurrent - State Government / Other		
Total recurrent capital grants	582	706

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
3.4 Funding from other levels of government (continued)		
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Local roads and community infrastructure program	2,643	0
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government / Other</i>		
Blackspot funding	0	259
Cycling facilities	0	619
E-waste facility	0	100
KP Hardiman Reserve	724	0
Mayer Park lighting	0	15
Minor works	82	40
Multi-Sports Stadium	1,800	0
Pavilion upgrades	20	35
Public safety infrastructure	90	300
Safe travel	368	130
Inner City Netball program	0	48
Total non-recurrent capital grants	5,727	1,546
Total capital grants	6,309	2,252
Total grants	27,404	18,625

(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner

Operating Grants

Balance at start of year	2,987	3,270
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	2,385	2,879
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(2,694)	(3,162)
Balance at end of year	2,678	2,987

Capital Grants

Balance at start of year	265	2,228
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	7,979	265
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(265)	(2,228)
Balance at end of year	7,979	265

Grant income is recognised at the point in time when Council satisfies its performance obligations as specified in the underlying agreement.

3.5 Contributions

(a) Monetary

Drainage and open space	4,353	5,353
Small-scale technology certificates	278	1,878
Other operating	505	803
Other capital and minor works	584	1,152
Monetary	5,720	9,186
Non-monetary	283	473
Total contributions	6,003	9,659

Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes.

Land under roads	53	79
Roads	23	57
Drainage	207	337
Total non-monetary contributions	283	473

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

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale - right of ways	531	522
Proceeds of sale - other assets	830	364
Write down value of assets disposed	(378)	(266)
Write-off of property, infrastructure and plant and equipment	(335)	(54)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	648	566
The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.		
3.7 Other income		
Interest on investments, loans and advances	472	1,232
Property rental and leases	338	599
Workers' compensation insurance recovery	735	276
Insurance recovery	12	149
Other recovery of costs	620	870
Total other income	2,177	3,126
Interest is recognised as it is earned.		
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.		
Note 4 The cost of delivering services		
4.1 (a) Employee costs		
Wages, salaries and related on-costs	76,981	68,970
Casual staff	4,661	6,788
Superannuation	8,720	8,294
Personal gratuity leave	140	117
WorkCover	1,378	1,773
Fringe benefits tax	295	302
Total employee costs	92,175	86,244
(b) Superannuation		
Council made contributions to the following funds:		
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	566	653
	566	653
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	4,623	4,643
Employer contributions - other funds	3,531	2,998
	8,154	7,641
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	640	820
Refer to Note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.		

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
4.2 Materials and services		
Advertising, marketing and promotions	474	646
Apprentices and trainees	379	337
Banking fees and charges	321	393
Building repairs and maintenance	3,773	5,770
General repairs and maintenance	2,147	3,329
Consultants	3,326	3,338
Contract payments for goods and services	13,585	18,249
Facility rental and hire	360	396
Fleet parts, consumables and registration	833	930
Fuel and oil	756	930
Insurances and excess	1,735	1,812
Information technology	5,625	3,669
Licence fees	284	123
Materials and consumables	2,019	2,247
Memberships and subscriptions	412	314
Minor equipment purchases	1,024	379
Office administration	769	958
Waste management and tipping	9,817	8,902
Other supplies and services	1,796	856
Utilities	3,486	4,059
Total materials and services	52,921	57,637
4.3 Depreciation		
Property	6,623	6,283
Plant and equipment	4,020	4,101
Infrastructure	12,748	12,176
Total depreciation	23,391	22,560
Refer to Note 5.2 (c) and 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.		
4.4 Amortisation - intangible assets		
Intangibles	452	526
Total amortisation - intangible assets	452	526
4.5 Amortisation - right of use assets		
Property	22	22
Other equipment	74	103
Total amortisation - right of use assets	96	125

Refer to Note 5.7 for further information relating to Council's right of use assets.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
4.6 Bad and doubtful debts		
Parking fine debtors	101	112
Parking-related debtors - Fines Victoria	178	1,398
Other debtors	300	311
Total bad and doubtful debts	579	1,821
Movement in provision for doubtful debts		
Balance at the beginning of the year	9,848	8,148
New provisions recognised during the year	649	2,030
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectible	(321)	(330)
Balance at end of year	10,176	9,848
4.7 Finance costs - leases		
Interest - lease liability	6	8
Total finance costs - leases	6	8
4.8 Other expenses		
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	76	75
Auditors' remuneration - internal audit	111	170
Community grants and other contributions	4,041	3,551
Councillor allowances	367	384
Fire Services Property levy	144	124
Short-term, low value lease payments	380	232
Legal expenses	1,029	1,023
Fines Victoria processing costs	58	185
Special rate payments	362	381
Write-off of other financial assets	230	0
Total other expenses	6,798	6,125

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Note 5 Our financial position		
5.1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	13	11
Cash at bank	4,190	12,979
Money market call accounts	37,204	23,124
Term deposits	6,320	6,806
	<u>47,727</u>	<u>42,920</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	0	3,940
- Drainage development reserve	23	23
- Public resort and recreation reserve	19,541	15,188
- Fire Services Property Levy payable	68	42
- Contractor and security deposits (see Note 5.3 (b))	5,054	4,485
Total restricted funds	<u>24,686</u>	<u>23,678</u>
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>23,041</u>	<u>19,242</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	2,570	4,642
- Car park development reserve	227	227
- Capital grant funding	7,979	0
- Unspent conditional grants	2,679	3,252
Total funds subject to intended allocations	<u>13,455</u>	<u>8,121</u>
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	<u>16,852</u>	<u>30,606</u>
Non-current		
Unlisted shares in corporations at cost	<u>6</u>	<u>236</u>
Total other financial assets	<u>16,858</u>	<u>30,842</u>
Total financial assets	<u>64,585</u>	<u>73,762</u>

Council invested in floating rate notes (FRN) and deposits that have a maturity profile ranging from 60 days to 5 years.

These investments are classified as current as at 30 June due to:

- Investments will be redeemed based on cash requirements at any point in time
- Council's sizeable capital works program and the deferral of rate payments is expected to impact on short to medium cash requirements
- FRN's and deposits have a guaranteed margin over the 90 Day Bank Bill Swap Rate (90D BBSW) and can be redeemed without break penalty
- FRN and deposits coupon rates are reset every 90 days

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
5.1 Financial assets (continued)		
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.		
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.		
The shares in unlisted corporations reflect Council's holdings in Maps Group Limited and Regional Kitchen Pty Ltd. Council's shareholding in Regional Kitchen Pty Ltd were transferred to Western Health on 7 August 2020. Pursuant to the Share Sale Agreement dated 16 July 2020, a purchase price of \$1 was paid to each shareholder.		
(c) Trade and other receivables		
Current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	14,769	11,699
Special rate assessment	682	606
Infringement debtors	10,191	10,020
GST receivable	1,769	1,608
Less: Provision for doubtful debts - infringements	(9,507)	(9,257)
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Other debtors	2,694	3,082
Less: Provision for doubtful debts - other	(669)	(592)
Loans and advances	9	9
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>19,938</u>	<u>17,175</u>
Non-current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Special rate assessment	3,959	4,229
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Loans and advances	36	158
Total non-current trade and other receivables	<u>3,995</u>	<u>4,387</u>
Total trade and other receivables	<u><u>23,933</u></u>	<u><u>21,562</u></u>

Short-term receivables are carried at invoice amount. 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.

(d) Ageing of receivables

At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. The ageing of Council's trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) was:

Current (not yet due)	0	0
Past due by up to 30 days	529	1,275
Past due between 31 and 60 days	808	678
Past due between 61 and 90 days	73	13
Past due above 90 days	1,284	1,116
Total trade and other receivables	<u><u>2,694</u></u>	<u><u>3,082</u></u>

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020	
	\$'000	\$'000	
5.1 Financial assets (continued)			
(e) Ageing of individually impaired trade and other receivables			
At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$1,284,000 (2020: \$1,116,000) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$669,000 (2020: \$592,000). 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:			
Past due between 31 and 180 days	669	592	
Total trade and other receivables	669	592	
5.2 Non-financial assets			
(a) Inventories			
Inventories held for distribution	36	34	
Inventories held for sale	22	26	
Total inventories	58	60	
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.			
(b) Other assets			
Accrued income	70	130	
Prepayments	2,142	2,398	
Total other assets	2,212	2,528	
(c) Intangible assets			
Software and system development costs	842	959	
Water-use licences	127	127	
Total intangible assets	969	1,086	
	Software	Water rights	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Gross carrying amount			
Balance at 1 July 2020	6,412	127	6,539
Other additions	336	0	336
Balance at 30 June 2021	6,748	127	6,875
Accumulated amortisation and impairment			
Balance at 1 July 2020	(5,454)	0	(5,454)
Amortisation expense	(452)	0	(452)
Balance at 30 June 2021	(5,906)	0	(5,906)
Net book value at 30 June 2020	959	127	1,086
Net book value at 30 June 2021	842	127	969

Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised as an expense on a systematic basis over the asset's useful life. Amortisation is generally calculated on a straight-line basis at a rate that allocates the asset value, less any estimated residual value over its estimated useful life. Estimates of the remaining useful lives and amortisation method are reviewed at least annually, and adjustments made where appropriate. Water-use licences entitle Council to irrigate specific parcels of land within the municipality. Current licences are valued at historical cost.

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
5.3 Payables		
(a) Trade and other payables		
Trade payables	13,438	15,194
Employee costs - (payable)	12	0
Accrued expenses	1,554	2,297
Total trade and other payables	15,004	17,491
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Contractor and security deposits	4,978	4,286
Fire Services Property Levy payable	69	42
Retention amounts	76	199
Total trust funds and deposits	5,123	4,527
(c) Unearned income		
Unspent capital grants	7,979	0
Unearned income	65	29
Total unearned income	8,044	29

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. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in Council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

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.

Unearned Income - In accordance with the introduction the revenue recognition requirements under Australian Accounting Standards, Council has recorded revenue received during the year that has associated performance obligations that are yet to be met as unearned income. Income will be recognised as these obligations are met.

5.4 Provisions

	Employee \$'000	Other \$'000	Total \$'000
2021			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	22,982	0	22,982
Additional provisions	8,177	0	8,177
Amounts used	(6,680)	0	(6,680)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(271)	0	(271)
Balance at the end of the financial year	24,208	0	24,208
2020			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	22,059	45	22,104
Additional provisions	7,239	0	7,239
Amounts used	(6,665)	(45)	(6,710)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	349	0	349
Balance at the end of the financial year	22,982	0	22,982

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
5.4 Provisions (continued)		
(a) Employee provisions		
Current employee provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	5,242	4,812
Long service leave	1,744	1,779
Personal gratuity	258	277
	<u>7,244</u>	<u>6,868</u>
Current employee provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	3,093	2,842
Long service leave	9,867	9,474
Personal gratuity	2,023	1,922
	<u>14,983</u>	<u>14,238</u>
Total current employee provisions	<u>22,227</u>	<u>21,106</u>
Non-current		
Long service leave	1,981	1,876
Total non-current employee provisions	<u>1,981</u>	<u>1,876</u>
Current	22,227	21,106
Non-current	1,981	1,876
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	<u>24,208</u>	<u>22,982</u>

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. LSL is measured at present value. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a 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.

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.

The following assumptions were adopted in measuring present values of employee benefits:

	%	%
Weighted average rates of increase in employee costs	2.8	3.0
Weighted average discount rates	0.7	0.5
Weighted average settlement period	Years	Years
Long service leave	4.3	3.8
Annual leave	2.3	2.3

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
5.5 Financing arrangements		
Credit card facility	45	45
Used facilities	19	18
Unused facilities	26	27

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

5.6 Commitments

Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

2021	Not later than 1 year \$'000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$'000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$'000	Later than 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Operating					
Animal welfare services	411	411	1,234	308	2,364
Information systems and technology	3,086	0	0	0	3,086
Internal audit	188	188	574	0	950
Collection/processing of recyclable waste (i)	4,834	4,833	9,803	4,357	23,827
Cleaning contracts for council buildings	414	0	0	0	414
Delivered meals	1,012	0	0	0	1,012
Insurance	1,986	0	0	0	1,986
Traffic signal maintenance	99	0	0	0	99
Waste disposal	3,442	0	0	0	3,442
Total	15,472	5,432	11,611	4,665	37,180
Capital					
Construction works	15,766	0	0	0	15,766
Total	15,766	0	0	0	15,766
2020					
Operating					
Animal welfare services	411	411	1,645	342	2,809
Information systems and technology	1,792	0	0	0	1,792
Internal audit	182	182	198	0	561
Collection/processing of recyclable waste (i)	3,513	519	0	0	4,032
Insurance	1,772	0	0	0	1,772
Traffic signal maintenance	81	83	0	0	164
Waste disposal	3,605	0	0	0	3,605
Total	11,355	1,195	1,843	342	14,735
Capital					
Construction works	3,813	0	0	0	3,813
Total	3,813	0	0	0	3,813

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

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
5.7 Leases		
At inception of a contract, Council would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The contract involves the use of an identified asset; - The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and - The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset. 		
This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.		
As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus · any initial direct costs incurred; and · an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located. 		
The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.		
The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.		
Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fixed payments · Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date; · Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and · The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early. 		
When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.		
Council has elected to apply the temporary option available under AASB 16 Leases which allows not-for-profit entities to not measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.		

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	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
5.7 Leases (continued)		
Right-of-use assets		
	Property \$'000	Other P&E \$'000
		Total \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2020	81	156
Additions	0	13
Amortisation charge	(22)	(74)
Balance at 30 June 2021	<u>59</u>	<u>95</u>
Lease Liabilities		
	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Less than one year	74	97
One to five years	84	144
More than five years	0	0
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June:	<u>158</u>	<u>241</u>
Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at 30 June:		
Current	74	97
Non-current	84	144
Total lease liabilities	<u>158</u>	<u>241</u>
Short-term and low value leases		
Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of AUD\$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.		
	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	4	0
Leases of low value assets	376	232
Total	<u>380</u>	<u>232</u>
Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)		
Non-cancellable lease commitments - short-term and low-value leases		
Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:		
Payable:		
Within one year	399	348
Later than one year but not later than five years	396	737
Total lease commitments	<u>795</u>	<u>1,085</u>

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Notes to the financial report
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Note 6 Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	At Fair Value 30 June 2020	Additions	Contributions	Revaluation	Depreciation	Disposal	Write-off	Transfer	At Fair Value 30 June 2021
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	713,995	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	714,048
Buildings	214,687	4,432	0	0	(6,623)	0	(275)	2,940	215,161
Plant and equipment	17,624	3,536	0	0	(4,020)	(377)	(60)	0	16,703
Infrastructure	501,652	17,513	230	(38,141)	(12,748)	0	0	8,125	476,631
Work in progress	16,430	19,187	0	0	0	0	0	(11,065)	24,552
	1,464,388	44,668	283	(38,141)	(23,391)	(377)	(335)	0	1,447,095

Summary of Work in Progress

	Opening WIP \$'000	Additions \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Write-offs \$'000	Closing WIP \$'000
Buildings	11,280	18,677	(6,332)	0	23,625
Infrastructure	5,149	510	(4,732)	0	927
Total	16,430	19,187	(11,064)	0	24,552

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Notes to the financial report
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Note 6 Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

(a) Property

	Land - specialised	Land - non specialised	Total Land	Buildings - heritage	Buildings - specialised	Buildings - non specialised	Work in progress	Total Buildings	Total Property
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	672,540	41,455	713,995	47,100	342,813	15,268	11,280	416,461	1,130,456
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	0	0	0	(28,355)	(154,464)	(7,676)	0	(190,495)	(190,495)
	672,540	41,455	713,995	18,745	188,349	7,592	11,280	225,966	939,961
Movements in fair value									
Additions	0	0	0	599	3,833	0	18,677	23,109	23,109
Contributed assets	53	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	53
Revaluation increments/decrements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fair value of assets disposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-off	0	0	0	0	(1,773)	0	0	(1,773)	(1,773)
Transfers	0	0	0	23	2,918	0	(6,332)	(3,391)	(3,391)
	53	0	53	622	4,978	0	12,345	17,945	17,998
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	0	0	0	(300)	(6,030)	(293)	0	(6,623)	(6,623)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	0	0	0	0	1,498	0	0	1,498	1,498
Revaluation increments/decrements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	(300)	(4,532)	(293)	0	(5,125)	(5,125)
At fair value 30 June 2021	672,593	41,455	714,048	47,722	347,791	15,268	23,625	434,406	1,148,454
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2021	0	0	0	(28,655)	(158,996)	(7,969)	0	(195,620)	(195,620)
	672,593	41,455	714,048	19,067	188,795	7,299	23,625	238,786	952,834

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 6 Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

(b) Plant and Equipment

	Plant machinery and equipment	Computers and telecomms	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Library books	Artwork & historical collections	Other	Work in progress	Total plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	18,503	24,143	8,211	10,056	1,914	7,055	0	69,882
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	(10,734)	(20,920)	(7,240)	(8,130)	0	(5,234)	0	(52,258)
	7,769	3,223	971	1,926	1,914	1,821	0	17,624
Movements in fair value								
Additions	1,518	1,206	75	366	0	371	0	3,536
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	(1,725)	(107)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,832)
Write-off	(201)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(201)
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(408)	1,099	75	366	0	371	0	1,503
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,717)	(1,271)	(172)	(542)	0	(318)	0	(4,020)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	1,348	107	0	0	0	0	0	1,455
Accumulated depreciation of write-off	141	0	0	0	0	0	0	141
	(228)	(1,164)	(172)	(542)	0	(318)	0	(2,424)
At fair value 30 June 2021	18,095	25,242	8,286	10,422	1,914	7,426	0	71,385
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2021	(10,962)	(22,084)	(7,412)	(8,672)	0	(5,552)	0	(54,682)
	7,133	3,158	874	1,750	1,914	1,874	0	16,703

Darebin City Council
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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 6 Assets we manage
6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

(c) Infrastructure

	Roads	Footpaths and cycleways	Bridges	Drainage	Land improvements	Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	Off street car parks	Work in progress	Total Infrastructure
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	311,511	133,755	10,971	189,210	55,702	44,416	8,352	5,149	759,066
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	(80,222)	(43,451)	(1,432)	(80,835)	(18,479)	(23,274)	(4,572)	0	(252,265)
	<u>231,289</u>	<u>90,304</u>	<u>9,539</u>	<u>108,375</u>	<u>37,223</u>	<u>21,142</u>	<u>3,780</u>	<u>5,149</u>	<u>506,801</u>
Movements in fair value									
Additions	5,061	6,288	716	1,205	3,665	578	0	510	18,023
Contributed assets	23	0	0	207	0	0	0	0	230
Revaluation increments/decrements	(9,022)	(15,187)	(2,972)	(265)	1,676	0	(145)	0	(25,915)
Fair value of assets disposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-off	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers	1,049	63	2,861	238	3,504	410	0	(4,732)	3,393
	<u>(2,889)</u>	<u>(8,836)</u>	<u>605</u>	<u>1,385</u>	<u>8,845</u>	<u>988</u>	<u>(145)</u>	<u>(4,222)</u>	<u>(4,268)</u>
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	(4,494)	(2,181)	(176)	(1,586)	(1,372)	(2,834)	(105)	0	(12,748)
Revaluation increments/decrements	(2,569)	(8,211)	(1,473)	(1,307)	(678)	0	2,012	0	(12,226)
	<u>(7,063)</u>	<u>(10,392)</u>	<u>(1,649)</u>	<u>(2,893)</u>	<u>(2,050)</u>	<u>(2,834)</u>	<u>1,907</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(24,974)</u>
At fair value 30 June 2021	308,622	124,919	11,576	190,595	64,547	45,404	8,207	927	754,797
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2021	(87,285)	(53,843)	(3,081)	(83,728)	(20,529)	(26,108)	(2,665)	0	(277,239)
	<u>221,337</u>	<u>71,076</u>	<u>8,495</u>	<u>106,867</u>	<u>44,018</u>	<u>19,296</u>	<u>5,542</u>	<u>927</u>	<u>477,558</u>

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

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 have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods

	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit \$
Land and land improvements		
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	5,000
plant, machinery and parks equipment	5 - 20 years	3,000
fixtures, fittings and furniture	10 years	3,000
computers and telecommunications	3 - 5 years	3,000
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
Right-of-use assets		
land	Life of lease	5,000
plant, machinery and equipment	Life of lease	5,000

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

Depreciation and amortisation

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to Council in a manner that 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.

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.

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 the lease period.

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified valuer Mr A Lee, AAPI, (Valuer General's contract valuer). The last valuation was undertaken as at 30 June 2020. 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. A full revaluation of these assets will be conducted in 2021/22.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2021 are as follows:

Assets measured at fair value	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000	Date of Valuation
Land	0	41,455	672,593	714,048	June 2020
Buildings	0	7,299	207,862	215,161	June 2020
	0	48,754	880,455	929,209	

No transfers between levels occurred during the year.

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Valuations of infrastructure

Infrastructure includes road surface and substructures, footpaths, kerbs and channels, traffic devices parking bays, off-street car parks, drainage pipes, pits, gross pollutant traps and bridges. The valuations for infrastructure assets were determined by Mr P Shah, B Eng (Civil), Co-ordinator Infrastructure Planning. The valuations were performed as at 30 June 2021 on the basis of fair value being the current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation at the date of the valuation.

Road, footpaths and cycleways and off-street car park replacement costs are 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 depreciation 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 P Shah, B Eng (Civil), Co-ordinator Infrastructure Planning. The valuations were performed as at 30 June 2021 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 2023/24.

There were no changes in valuation techniques throughout the period to 30 June 2021.

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

Details of Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2021 are as follows:

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Assets measured at fair value	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000	Date of Valuation
Roads	0	0	221,337	221,337	June 2021
Footpaths and cycleways	0	0	71,076	71,076	June 2021
Bridges	0	0	8,495	8,495	June 2021
Drainage	0	0	106,867	106,867	June 2021
Land improvements	0	0	44,018	44,018	June 2021
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	0	0	19,296	19,296	June 2021
Off-street carparks	0	0	5,542	5,542	June 2021
	0	0	476,631	476,631	

No transfers between levels occurred during the year.

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land and land under roads

Specialised land and land under roads are 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 90%. 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 \$5,324 per square metre.

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment**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 are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$500 to \$10,000 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 80 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 10 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 off-street car parks range between \$47 to \$507 per square metre.

Shared paths and cycleways range between \$49 to \$244 per square metre.

Drainage assets range between \$92 to \$5,273 per unit.

Bridge assets range varies depending on construction type.

	2021	2020
Reconciliation of specialised land	\$'000	\$'000
Land under roads	1,258	1,205
Community facilities	62,217	62,217
Council administration and depots	27,145	27,145
Off-street carparks	14,371	14,371
Parks and reserves	567,602	567,602
Total specialised land	672,593	672,540

6.2 Investment property

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of financial year	2,790	2,810
Fair value adjustments	(76)	(20)
Balance at end of financial year	2,714	2,790

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 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.

Valuation of investment property

The valuation of investment property has been determined by Mr A Lee, AAPI (Valuer General's contract 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.

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Note 7 People and relationships
7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related parties

Council is the parent entity.

(b) 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 (1/7/2020 - 23/10/2020)
Gaetano Greco (1/7/2020 - current)
Tim Laurence (1/7/2020 - current)
Trent McCarthy (1/7/2020 - current)
Susanne Newton (1/7/2020 - current)
Susan Rennie (Mayor 1/7/2020 - 23/10/2020)
Susan Rennie (23/10/2020 - current)

Emily Dimitriadis (9/11/2020 - current)
Tom Hannan (9/11/2020 - current)
Kim Le Cerf (1/7/2020 - 23/10/2020)
Lina Messina (1/7/2020-23/10/2020)
Lina Messina (Mayor 9/11/2020 - current)
Julie Williams (1/7/2020 - current)

Chief Executive Officer

Sue Wilkinson (1/7/2020 - current)

Other key management personnel

GM City Sustainability and Strategy

Rachael Ollivier (1/7/2020 - current)

GM Operations and Capital

Sam Hewett (29/7/2020 - current)

GM Community

Kerry McGrath (1/7/2020 - current)

GM Governance and Engagement

Ingrid Bishop (1/7/2020 - 31/7/2020)

Jodie Watson (1/10/2020 - current)

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Total number of councillors	11	9
Chief Executive Officer and other key management personnel	6	6
Total key management personnel	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>

(c) Remuneration of key management personnel

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	1,639	1,740
Long-term benefits	40	41
Post-employment benefits	116	122
Total	<u>1,795</u>	<u>1,903</u>

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Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2	0
\$20,000 - \$29,999	3	0
\$30,000 - \$39,999	5	8
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	0
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	0
\$100,000 - \$109,999	0	1
\$110,000 - \$119,999	0	1
\$150,000 - \$159,999	0	1
\$190,000 - \$199,999	1	0
\$220,000 - \$229,999	1	0
\$240,000 - \$249,999	0	1
\$280,000 - \$289,999	2	1
\$300,000 - \$309,999	0	1
\$360,000 - \$369,999	1	0
\$380,000 - \$389,999	0	1
	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>

(d) 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 \$151,000.

The number of senior officers is shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
< \$151,000	0	2
\$151,000 - \$159,999	7	7
\$160,000 - \$169,999	5	2
\$170,000 - \$179,999	4	8
\$180,000 - \$189,999	7	2
\$190,000 - \$199,999	2	2
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	3
\$220,000 - \$229,999	0	2
\$230,000 - \$239,999	0	1
\$270,000 - \$279,999	0	1
	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>

	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration for the year for senior officers included above amounted to:	<u>4,497</u>	<u>5,314</u>

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council had no reportable transactions with related parties.

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

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

(c) Loans to/from related parties

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

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

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

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Notes to the financial report
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Note 8 Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

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.

(a) Contingent assets

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 30 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 :

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	310	362
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,680	1,512
Later than five years	2,838	1,741
	<u>4,828</u>	<u>3,615</u>

(b) 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 below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

Future superannuation contributions

In addition to the disclosed contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling **\$54,000** during the 2020/21 year (2019/20 \$45,000). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 are **\$470,000**.

Former landfill sites

Council has responsibility for several 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

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.

Building cladding

Council has several buildings that may require rectification works as a result of flammable building cladding. Council is currently working with the Victorian Building Authority and Cladding Safety Victoria on monitoring and potential remediation of non-compliant cladding.

Liability Mutual Insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2021 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2021 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2022 that are expected to impact Council.

8.3 Financial instruments**(a) Objectives and policies**

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 are disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by 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. 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 that 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 rates.

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 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;
- may require collateral where appropriate; and
- only invests surplus funds with financial institutions that 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 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 that are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions that 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 8.1.

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.

8.3 Financial instruments (continued)**(d) Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements or when 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 that targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- has readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- has a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitors budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- sets limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

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 8.1, 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.

With the exception of borrowings, 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) 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 the Reserve Bank of Australia):

- A parallel shift of +0.5% and -0.5% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of **0.74%**.

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.

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

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

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.

8.4 Fair value measurement

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by reassessing 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.

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, 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 of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from two to three 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.

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, 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 with 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.

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

The COVID-19 lockdowns have resulted in the closure of Council facilities and services which will reduce revenue and to a lesser extent expenses. As such, Management will undertake an in depth review at the end of September to re-forecast figures to reflect the impact of these closures.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 9 Other matters

9.1 Reserves	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Increment (decrement) on revaluation \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
(a) Asset revaluation			
2021			
Property			
Land	581,533	0	581,533
Land improvements	5,894	998	6,892
Buildings	95,205	0	95,205
	<u>682,632</u>	<u>998</u>	<u>683,630</u>
Plant and equipment			
Other	6,143	0	6,143
Infrastructure			
Roads	139,478	(9,724)	129,754
Footpaths and cycleways	29,403	(23,398)	6,005
Drainage	72,614	(1,572)	71,042
Bridges	6,376	(4,445)	1,931
	<u>247,871</u>	<u>(39,139)</u>	<u>208,732</u>
Total asset revaluation reserves	<u>936,646</u>	<u>(38,141)</u>	<u>898,505</u>
2020			
Property			
Land	513,318	68,215	581,533
Land improvements	5,894	0	5,894
Buildings	92,570	2,635	95,205
	<u>611,782</u>	<u>70,850</u>	<u>682,632</u>
Plant and equipment			
Other	6,143	0	6,143
Infrastructure			
Roads	139,478	0	139,478
Footpaths and cycleways	29,403	0	29,403
Drainage	72,614	0	72,614
Bridges	6,376	0	6,376
	<u>247,871</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>247,871</u>
Total asset revaluation reserves	<u>865,796</u>	<u>70,850</u>	<u>936,646</u>

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

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 9.1 Reserves (continued)

	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				
2021				
Car park development	228	0	0	228
Capital works	1,775	0	0	1,775
Developer Contribution Scheme	3,940	0	3,940	0
Drainage development	23	0	0	23
Information technology	1,422	0	0	1,422
Plant replacement	559	2,107	764	1,902
Public open space and recreation	15,187	4,354	0	19,541
Unspent grants and contributions	898	1,151	898	1,151
Total other reserves	24,032	7,612	5,602	26,042
(b) Other reserves				
2020				
Car park development	228	0	0	228
Capital works	1,775	0	0	1,775
Developer Contribution Scheme	5,070	0	1,130	3,940
Drainage development	23	0	0	23
Information technology	1,422	0	0	1,422
Plant replacement	753	2,089	2,283	559
Public open space and recreation	13,525	5,353	3,691	15,187
Unspent grants and contributions	3,677	898	3,677	898
Total other reserves	26,473	8,340	10,781	24,032

Note 9.1 Reserves (continued)**Nature and purpose of reserves****Statutory and discretionary reserves:****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 Income Statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Capital works

The Capital Works reserve was established with effect from 19 March 2018 by Council resolution for the purpose of financing future capital works projects. Funding is derived from identified capital works project savings. Council may expend funds from the reserve for the purposes of major capital works.

Developer Contribution Scheme

The Developer Contribution Scheme 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.

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.

IT technology reserve

The Information Technology reserve was established by Council resolution for the purpose of financing Council's IT strategy over the coming years. Funding is derived from identified IT-related capital works project savings. Council may expend funds from the reserve for the purposes of information technology development and implementation projects.

Plant replacement

The Plant Replacement reserve was established to ensure adequate funds are available to purchase plant at the optimum replacement point. Transfers to and from the reserve are based upon plant depreciation or replacement charges less the net plant purchases as per the approved plant replacement program.

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 that are 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.

Unspent grant and contributions funding

The Unspent Grant and Contributions reserve is used to fund future grant funded projects. Grant funding is received in advance from both federal and state government authorities to fund projects. Revenue from grants and contribution is initially recognised in the Comprehensive Income Statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate the tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus		
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>6,182</u>	6,196
Depreciation and amortisation	23,939	23,211
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(983)	(620)
Bad and doubtful debts	579	1,821
Fair value adjustments for investment property	76	20
Contributions - non-monetary assets	(283)	(473)
Write-off of property, plant and equipment	335	54
Write-off of other financial assets	230	0
Finance costs - leases	6	8
	<u>23,899</u>	24,021
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables	(3,089)	(5,808)
Decrease (increase) in inventories	2	34
Decrease (increase) in accrued income	57	435
Decrease (increase) in prepayments	256	(298)
Decrease (increase) in other assets	83	21
Increase (decrease) in trade and other payables	7,659	(879)
Increase (decrease) in trust funds and deposits	569	(71)
Increase (decrease) in provisions	1,226	923
	<u>6,763</u>	(5,643)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u><u>36,844</u></u>	<u>24,574</u>

Darebin City Council
2020/2021 Financial Report

Notes to the financial report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Note 9 Other matters
9.3 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 2021, 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 Actuary.

A triennial actuarial review for the Defined Benefit category as at 30 June 2020 was conducted and completed by the due date of 31 December 2020. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was **109.7%**. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

- Net investment returns 6.5% pa
- Salary information 3.5% pa
- Price inflation (CPI) 2.0% pa

As at 30 June 2021, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

Vision Super has advised that the VBI for the LASF Defined Benefit sub-plan is **109.7%** as at 30 June 2021.

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2020 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.

9.3 Superannuation (continued)**Employer contributions***Regular contributions*

On the basis of the results of the 2020 triennial 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 2021, this rate was 9.5% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2019/2020). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

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 an 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 employer's successor.

9.3 Superannuation (continued)***The 2020 triennial actuarial investigation surplus amounts***

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. A full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2020 (Triennial) \$m	2021 (Interim) \$m
- A VBI surplus	\$100.0	\$151.3
- A total service liability surplus	\$200.0	\$233.4
- A discounted accrued benefits	\$217.8	\$256.7

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 2020.

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 as at 30 June 2020.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2020.

Council was notified of the 30 June 2021 VBI during August 2021. (2020: August 2020)

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2021 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2021.

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 are detailed below:

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Type of Scheme</i>	<i>Rate</i>	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Vision super	Defined benefit	9.50%	566	653
Vision super	Accumulation fund	9.50%	4,623	4,643
Other funds	Accumulation fund	9.50%	3,531	2,998

In addition to the above contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling **\$54,000** paid during the 2020/21 year (2019/20 \$45,000).

There were **\$640,000** of contributions outstanding and nil loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 is **\$470,000**.

Darebin City Council Performance Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021



Darebin City Council
Performance Statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

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 164,181 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.

The COVID-19 lockdowns experienced in 2020/21 have impacted on some of the results reported in the Performance Statement. The subsequent closure of Council facilities has impacted the participation rates of some of the services measured in the service performance indicators.

Darebin City Council
Sustainable Capacity Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

		Results				
Indicator/measure		2018	2019	2020	2021	Material Variations
Population						
C1	Expenses per head of municipal population [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$1,013	\$1,035	\$1,066	\$1,060	No material variation from the previous year
C2	Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$4,552	\$4,499	\$4,571	\$4,405	No material variation from the previous year
C3	Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	311	318	323	314	No material variation from the previous year
Own-source revenue						
C4	Own-source revenue per head of municipal population [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$936	\$973	\$932	\$896	No material variation from the previous year
Recurrent grants						
C5	Recurrent grants per head of municipal population [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$104	\$98	\$102	\$99	No material variation from the previous year
Disadvantage						
C6	Relative socio-economic disadvantage [Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage by decile]	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	The Commonwealth Government calculates an index of relative socio-economic disadvantage which outlines an overall measure of disadvantage across the municipality.
Workforce turnover						
C7	Percentage of staff turnover [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	12.0%	14.2%	10.5%	13.4%	This financial year (20/21), departures from Council included a small number of retirements and redundancies, with the majority departing due to resignations (approx. 79%). Of that 79%, most left Darebin post January 2021, with one-third departing in Q4. These departures were evenly distributed over the organisation. After analysis, this is not identified as a concern. From what we know about the job market post the COVID lockdowns of 2020, the employment market was in a state of recovery and growth with a number of key industries booming. Departures from Darebin during this period are reflective of an open job market with a number of highly visible opportunities for job seekers to engage with.

Darebin City Council

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

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

Darebin City Council
Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

		Results				Material Variations
Service/indicator/measure		2018	2019	2020	2021	
Aquatic Facilities						
Utilisation						
AF6	Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	5.3	5.3	3.3	1.9	Currently two leisure centres operate within the City of Darebin: Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre (NARC) which is managed externally by YMCA Victoria, and Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) which is managed in house. As with many facilities during this period, impacts were felt as a direct result of closures due to Covid-19.
Animal Management						
Health & safety						
AM4	Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	3	2	N/A	N/A	As of July 1 2019, AM4 has been replaced by AM7
AM7	Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions] x100	N/A	N/A	0	0.0%	Council has taken a more educational approach to animal management enforcement during the Covid-19 outbreak. While Council did not take any animal management prosecutions to court, some particularly dangerous animals were surrendered to Council and others declared "menacing" or "dangerous" requiring the dog to wear a muzzle and/or a lead whilst outside of the property. Note: the one prosecution lodged in 2020-21 is pending an outcome.
Food 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	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Darebin's commitment to addressing high risk, non-compliant premises in food safety is demonstrated by achieving 100% in consecutive years.
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]	66.7	70.8	69.0	68.0	This result compares very favourably with that of similar councils last year and the sector more broadly.

Darebin City Council
Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

		Results				Material Variations
Service/indicator/measure		2018	2019	2020	2021	
Libraries						
Participation						
LB4	Active library borrowers in municipality [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100	14.7%	15.6%	14.3%	12.3%	The closure of library branches and community lifestyle changes due to the pandemic has had a significant impact. Many existing customers made good use of digital library collections during the stay at home measures.; however, the number of new members dropped during the closure and some customers prefer to access physical collections only.
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	81.4%	80.0%	76.9%	71.5%	Due to COVID-19 pandemic a higher number of families chose not to attend a face to face assessment and consulted with the nurse over the telephone.
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	90.9%	90.8%	84.1%	76.6%	Due to COVID 19 pandemic some families chose not to attend the MCH service for a face to face consultation but did consult with the nurse via the telephone
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]	69.9	71.5	72.0	70.0	In 2020-21, 27,700 sqm of Darebin's local roads were resealed using asphalt containing a recycled product from steel slag, line marking and reinstating speed humps and traffic loops. The resurfacing works prolongs the life of the road avoiding more costly road rehabilitation works.
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	46.1%	44.9%	41.2%	47.8%	The number of VCAT outcomes that uphold Council's decision has increased this year, from 41 per cent to 48 per cent. The increase is the result of process and governance improvements to Council's management of VCAT applications. Ongoing resource and process improvements are planned and Council is aiming for further performance improvements at VCAT.

Darebin City Council
Service Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

		Results				Material Variations
Service/indicator/measure		2018	2019	2020	2021	
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	49.1%	46.4%	50.8%	63.6%	The increase since last year in waste diverted from landfill is due to more Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) bins being out in the Darebin community now.

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
- "CALD" means culturally and linguistically diverse and refers to persons born outside Australia in a country whose national language is not English
- "class 1 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the *Food Act 1984*, 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 *Food Act 1984*, 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 *Food Act 1984*, 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 *Food Act 1984*
- "local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the *Road Management Act 2004*
- "major non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984*, 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 facility 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 *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*.

Darebin City Council
Financial Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results				Forecasts				Material Variations	
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025		
Efficiency										
Revenue level										
E1	Average residential rate per residential property assessment [Residential rate revenue / Number of residential	\$1,519	\$1,553	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As of July 1 2019, E1 has been replaced by E4.
Expenditure level										
E2	Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$2,290	\$2,344	\$2,413	\$2,418	\$2,492	\$2,409	\$2,487	\$2,540	No material variation from the previous year
Revenue level										
E4	Average rate per property assessment [Total rate revenue / Number of property assessments]	N/A	N/A	\$1,756	\$1,806	\$1,850	\$1,910	\$1,954	\$1,999	Increase in-line with The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) maximum amount increase rates set at 2.0% for 2020/21
Working capital										
L1	Current assets compared to current liabilities [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	242.0%	261.8%	215.7%	172.0%	143.4%	132.1%	129.9%	128.6%	Current assets impacted by decreased cash and cash equivalents arising mainly from completion of the planned capital works program and measures provided under Council's COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package. Future years will be impacted by the capital expenditure for the Narrandjeri Stadium, Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and Reservoir Leisure Centre.
Unrestricted cash										
L2	Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	127.0%	130.7%	97.0%	68.6%	39.0%	31.2%	32.4%	30.5%	Greater completion rate of the planned capital works program and Council's COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package has impacted unrestricted cash. Future years are impacted by the planned capital expenditure for the Narrandjeri Stadium, Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and Reservoir Leisure Centre.

Darebin City Council
Financial Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results				Forecasts				Material Variations	
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025		
Obligations										
Loans & borrowings										
O2	Loans and borrowings compared to rates [(Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue) x100]	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.74%	23.25%	30.88%	27.21%	Future years borrowing planned to fund planned capital expenditure at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and Reservoir Leisure Centre.
O3	Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [(Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue) x100]	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.05%	0.82%	2.78%	3.77%	Future years borrowing planned to fund planned capital expenditure at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and Reservoir Leisure Centre.
Indebtedness										
O4	Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue [(Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue) x100]	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	5.8%	19.2%	24.9%	21.7%	Future years borrowing planned to fund planned capital expenditure at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, and Reservoir Leisure Centre.
Asset renewal and upgrade										
O5	Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation [(Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation) x100]	N/A	N/A	140.8%	110.4%	132.4%	173.2%	174.6%	121.0%	Expenditure on asset renewal and upgrade has decreased by \$5.9 million from previous year. Prior year included significant spending on buildings within the municipality.
Operating Position										
Adjusted underlying result										
OP1	Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [(Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue) x100]	6.2%	7.9%	1.7%	-0.2%	-2.6%	6.8%	5.7%	6.0%	Adjusted underlying surplus has decreased by \$3.5 million from previous year due to the COVID-19 impact on the reduction in discretionary revenue items such as user fees and statutory fees and fines.

Darebin City Council
Financial Performance Indicators
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

Dimension/indicator/measure		Results				Forecasts				Material Variations
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Stability										
Rates concentration										
S1	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	71.5%	69.6%	73.8%	76.4%	78.1%	75.4%	75.5%	75.4%	No material variation from the previous year
Rates effort										
S2	Rates compared to property values [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.26%	0.21%	0.23%	0.22%	0.22%	0.23%	0.24%	0.24%	Municipal Capital Improved Value (CIV) has increased by \$7.3 billion (13.2 %) since 1 Jan 2019. Rate revenue has increased by \$3.0 million (2.3%) from prior year.

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 2021

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 Act 1989 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 28 June 2021 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 2021

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*.

Srini Vasan CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

Melbourne
27 September 2021

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Darebin City Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 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.

Lina Messina
Councillor

Tom Hannan
Councillor

Sue Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer

Melbourne
27 September 2021

8.5 NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY**Author:** Manager Climate Emergency & Sustainable Transport**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's endorsement of the Northern Council Alliance Northern Region Transport Strategy - Final Report.

The overall purpose of the Strategy is to bring together existing transport policies and strategies across the Northern Region and develop a strategic document for advocacy and project implementation.

The Strategy complements Darebin's own process to refresh the Darebin Transport Strategy and Darebin Cycling Strategy in the 2021-22 Financial Year by strengthening existing strategic objectives and providing regional context.

This report also recommends Darebin support's Banyule City Council's advocacy position that the State Government produce a Victorian Transport Plan.

Darebin's key transport advocacy items are all supported by the Strategy.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorse the Northern Council Alliance Northern Region Transport Strategy (2021) final report.
 - (2) Note the report will be used by the Northern Councils Alliance for regional advocacy purposes
 - (3) Call on the State Government to produce a Victorian Transport Plan to align and integrate current strategies and plans including the Northern Region Transport Strategy.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Northern Councils Alliance (NCA) is a grouping of seven local governments in the Northern Region of Melbourne. The member councils are the Cities of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland and Whittlesea and the Shires of Mitchell and Nillumbik. Council appoints one councillor representative each year with the CEO.

The Northern Region Transport Strategy has been developed to bring together Federal and State Government, and local Government to focus actions and coordinate efforts (see **Appendix A**).

The Strategy was developed through 2020 and 2021 and was funded by the Northern Metropolitan Partnership and overseen by the Transport Working Group of the NCA. Membership comprises representatives from all member councils, the Victorian Government through the Department of Transport, Melbourne Airport, La Trobe University and NORTH Link.

Darebin was represented on the Transport Working Group and actively participated in all workshops and meetings to put forward Darebin's priorities, advocacy items and strategic objectives. All Darebin priorities put forward have been included in the final Northern Region Transport Strategy.

Victoria is experiencing one of its largest transport infrastructure programs in its history. Many of these are located in the Northern Region. These include the Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal (BIFT), Melbourne Airport Rail Link and Suburban Rail Loop.

It is important that councils work together and with key stakeholders in the Region to ensure the best possible outcomes, particularly in light of key opportunities such as the North West City Deal. Darebin's participation in these processes represents the interests, needs and aspirations of our local communities.

On 9 August 2021 Banyule City Council endorsed the Northern Regional Transport Strategy Final Report ([Appendix B](#)). Banyule Council has also called for:

- other Councils in the Northern Councils Alliance to advocate to the State Government to produce a Victorian Transport Plan to align and integrate current strategies and plans including the Northern Region Transport Strategy
- other Northern Councils, the Department of Transport and all Local State Members of Parliament to implement the Strategic Cycling Corridors as a priority and to meet with all 3 State members to discuss Council's concerns with transport related issues within State Government organisations.

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

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2.2 We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving

DISCUSSION

The north is experiencing significant growth and change. It is vital that the regional transport system can support population growth, jobs, and the economy, maintain and improve liveability, and support goals of each council including on climate emergency and biodiversity.

The key challenges for the Northern Region identified through the Strategy are:

1. Public transport is unreliable or unavailable
2. Poor connections from east to west
3. Poor connections in growth areas

4. Congestion on roads
5. Inadequate cycling infrastructure
6. Safety concerns on public transport.

The priority actions from these challenges are:

1. Support growth while managing impacts
2. Create a network of strategic places
3. Enable travel choice to jobs and activity.

The strategy brings together governments and key stakeholders to focus actions and coordinate efforts.

The Strategy complements Darebin's own process to refresh the Darebin Transport Strategy and Darebin Cycling Strategy in the 2021-22 financial year by strengthening existing strategic objectives and providing regional context. No binding targets or actions for Darebin are included in the Northern Region Transport Strategy.

Darebin's key transport advocacy items are all supported by the Strategy. These include tram route extensions, improved links for vulnerable community members to jobs and road safety upgrades.

Banyule City Council request for State Transport Plan and for a meeting

Officers consider Banyule's advocacy request for a State Transport Plan to have merit: While a regional plan will support integrated and better regional transport outcomes, a State Plan will ensure strategic investment in priority transport needs. It is also a State Government requirement under the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

On the 4 August 2021 VAGO released its *Integrated Transport Planning* inquiry, and found "*DoT and its predecessors have not, over the past decade, demonstrably integrated transport planning and are yet to meet the Act's requirements for the transport plan.... The absence of a transport plan... creates risks of missed opportunities to sequence and optimise the benefits of these investments to best meet Victoria's transport needs.*"

Banyule City Council has also called for Darebin (and other northern councils and the State Government) to implement strategic cycling corridors as a priority. Darebin will consider its cycling network as part of the Darebin Transport Strategy refresh occurring this year.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The Strategy does not commit Council to any financial expenditure or additional resource requirements. This Strategy provides a cohesive and coordinated basis for Darebin to seek funding from State or Commonwealth governments, improving our chances of success.

Actions from the Strategy will be the subject of advocacy and funding applications to the State and Federal Government.

Community Engagement

The Strategy was developed through consensus of all member Councils and stakeholders on the strategic objectives, identified issues and other considerations. Content was developed

from existing policies, strategies and endorsed advocacy priorities with extensive community engagement behind them.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

(f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;

This work has been developed collaboratively and supports regional collaboration on advocacy and implementation of infrastructure. Collaborating with other northern Councils, State and Federal Governments will achieve the best transport outcomes for our region.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

The Northern Transport Strategy supports environmental outcomes by seeking to improve public transport services and active transport choices for people.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

An Equity Impact Assessment has not been undertaken, however improving pedestrian, cycling and public transport networks and services is known to be an important strategy for addressing disadvantage because car ownership is lower in disadvantaged communities and therefore reliance on other forms of transport is higher. Some of the areas of disadvantage within Darebin correlate with poorer public transport services, and addressing these gaps contributes to equity, inclusion and wellbeing. An Equity Impact Assessment and Gender Impact Assessment will be undertaken for projects arising from this strategy as they are implemented.

A Charter check has been completed, and it is considered the Strategy raises no Charter of Human Rights issues.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The North West City Deal presents many opportunities for Darebin to benefit from large-scale investment and infrastructure improvements to support local and regional economies. This Strategy provides a cohesive strategic basis for councils and stakeholders in the Northern Region to strongly advocate for transport projects in local communities through the City Deal process. This will improve our chances of success.

Increased transport choices will support our community and visitors to access cultural events and opportunities.

Operational Impacts

The Strategy does not have any impacts on Council operations.

Legal and Risk Implications



Council has legislated requirements under several state acts and policies related to transport. These include the *Transport Integration Act*, *Climate Change Act*, *Road Management Act* and *Local Government Act*.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Darebin will work with all northern Councils to advocate for the State and Federal Governments to support the implementing the Northern Region Transport Strategy.

Council consider priorities for implementation of transport network improvements within Darebin each year during establishment of its budget.

Attachments

- Northern Region Transport Strategy Final (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Banyule CC_NRTS_Minutes_9August21 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.



Northern Region Transport Strategy



Prepared by GTA now Stantec on behalf of the NCA 2020. Funded by the Northern Metropolitan Partnership.

The Northern Region Transport Strategy was overseen by the Northern Council’s Transport Working Group comprising of representatives from the seven councils in Melbourne’s North in collaboration with the Northern Metropolitan Partnership, Department of Transport, Melbourne Airport, La Trobe University and NORTH Link.



Northern Councils Alliance

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NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY BACKGROUND



The Northern Region requires a strategy to help align people and agree actions.

- The region consists of seven Local Government Areas (Banyule, Darebin, Moreland, Nillumbik, Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell). It is a large and complex area, about the size of Greater London.
- The region is home to 20% of Melbourne’s population (more than one million community members) and 12% of jobs today. Before COVID-19, there were about a bus load of people moving to the area every day¹.
- There are key growth areas in the region, as well as important existing and future centres of activities and industry.
- It is vital that the transport system can support growth, jobs, and the economy, safeguarding and improving livelihood and liveability, and supporting the climate emergency goals of Councils.

Governments and stakeholders are working to support growth and realise potential.

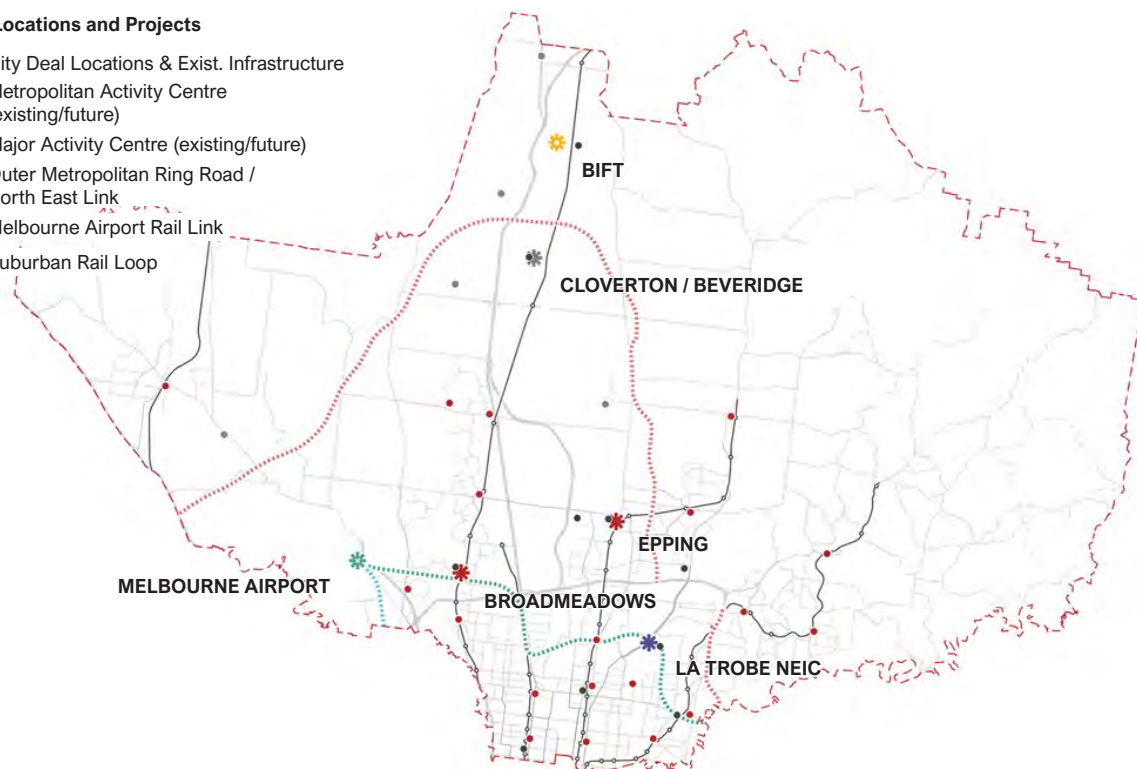
- The Councils have formulated policies, strategies and plans, working with stakeholders.
- The State Government is planning and delivering major investments in the region, including Melbourne Airport Rail Link and the city shaping Suburban Rail Loop.
- There are opportunities in the region such as those associated with the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster (La Trobe NEIC) and Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal (BIFT).
- The North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan outlines a set of priorities for the region, including an emphasis on precinct development, such as La Trobe NEIC, Broadmeadows, Epping and Beveridge².

The region now needs a strategy to bring together governments and key stakeholders to focus actions and coordinate efforts.

The Northern Councils Alliance has engaged GTA Consultants, working in collaboration with the Northern Metropolitan Partnership and funded through the Metropolitan Partnership Development Fund, to analyse the regions transport and land-use situation and identify priorities for Councils to better coordinate investment and work, as well as engage with State and Federal Governments.

Key Locations and Projects

- City Deal Locations & Exist. Infrastructure
- ✳ Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Major Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Outer Metropolitan Ring Road / North East Link
- Melbourne Airport Rail Link
- Suburban Rail Loop



Map references - please refer back page

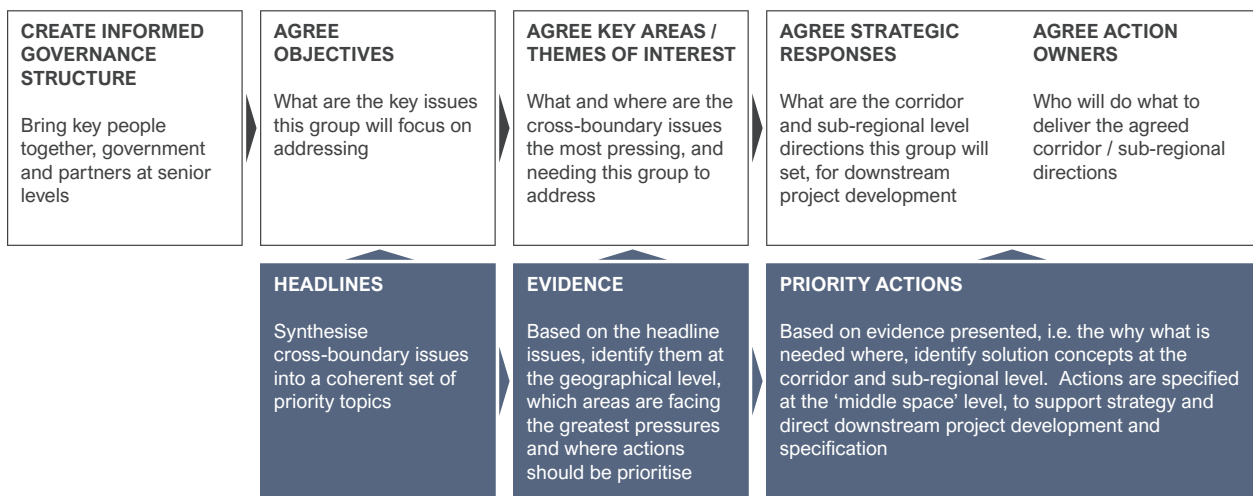
NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY APPROACH



This strategy has been developed using a consensus-based approach, focusing on what can be delivered tactically and realistically within the short-term, supported by evidence and analysis.

- It has followed a step-by-step process with governments and stakeholders* agreeing on objectives, issues, strategic responses and actions.
- The steps have been supported by workshops and public consultation that highlighted both headlines from policies and strategies, and evidence on challenges and opportunities, leading to concept solutions.
- The principles underpinning this strategy are similar to those for leadership: achieving alignment on direction, a shared belief in a goal and identifying the role of the team in achieving the goal.
- This approach, in term of managerial and analytical approaches, has been successfully deployed at Transport for London as well as in the Western Metropolitan Region of Melbourne.

MANAGERIAL / STUDY PROCESS TO GUIDE PEOPLE THROUGH TO AGREEING PRIORITY ACTIONS



The strategy takes existing strategic and high-level plans as the starting point and translates these long-term goals into short-term practical solutions, which then guide the downstream development of projects





Some of the challenges facing the region were discussed through one-on-one interviews with Councils and confirmed through public consultation ³.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT IS UNRELIABLE OR UNAVAILABLE

- Unpredictable services, not running to schedule
- Limited to daytime hours - doesn't suit shift workers
- Infrequent services or no coverage (Wallan, Beveridge)

"I'm representing some La Trobe University students that couldn't make it tonight... the transport quality dips after Reservoir with bus wait times too long"



POOR CONNECTIONS FROM EAST TO WEST

- Unsafe or disconnected cycling infrastructure
- Absence of east-west public transport connections
- Limited realistic alternatives to driving

"We tried to establish a Hume BUG [Bicycle User Group] but it was challenging as all paths are north to south and it is challenging to ride and cross train lines"



POOR CONNECTIONS IN GROWTH AREAS

- Poor connections to public transport and jobs
- Public transport lags behind urban development
- Difficult to access broader areas without a car
- Many drive to station or to work



CONGESTION ON ROADS

- Increasing density in inner suburbs
- Growth in outer suburbs congesting road corridors
- Freight sharing key corridors
- Disconnect between homes and jobs



INADEQUATE CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

- Lack of safe and connected cycling infrastructure
- Concern that provision is based on demand, rather than policy aspirations
- Impacts other users (i.e. people with wheelchairs, people with prams, limited mobility)



SAFETY CONCERNS ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- Services are overcrowded in inner suburbs
- Concerns for safety of women and young people on public transport, especially at night

The key headline issues were agreed upfront, which then channeled focus for developing targeted evidence that would underpin solutions.

Governments and key stakeholders agreed to support / improve:

- Access to jobs and activity through connectivity – including access to Melbourne CBD but also sub-regional centres, especially along an east-west alignment
- Growth and capacity for travel needs – with a need to support land-use plans but also not wanting to place additional pressures where the network is already congested
- Neighbourhood and places – how to create a network of strategic places that best support people's livelihoods and areas' liveability, while considering the implications from traffic movements
- Freight and associated job impacts – how to support existing industries and future developments as BIFT, while recognising that freight traffic needs to be managed
- Safety and security – how transport networks could improve so that people can safely use public transport, helping people to access a range of economic and social opportunities.

The agreed evidence and resultant priority actions are explained through the next set of figures. They are to:

1. Support growth while managing impacts
2. Create a network of strategic places
3. Enable travel choice to jobs and activity

NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY MACRO CONTEXT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH



There is a strong relationship between transport, employment and economic output.

<p>Transport = bring people and services together, getting stuff out there to buyers</p> <p>Employers need access to labour and markets, employees need access to jobs. Transport provides that access</p> <p>The better the transport, the better the access, the lower the 'cost barrier' and the bigger the pool for both employers and employees.</p> <p>Bigger pool = more employees to choose from, more market to sell</p>	<p>to; more employment opportunities to choose from</p> <p>Lower the 'cost barrier' = more likely to come together. So, more opportunities to collaborate and create, more incidental conversation and more 'overhearing'.</p> <p>Bigger pool for everyone + more choices + more coming together to create = more economic output (more revenue for the State)</p> <p>Also, quicker, easier, more reliable transport benefits users...</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Transport drives employment and economic development, through connecting employers to workers and places where they can sell their goods and services, and connecting people to jobs.

Improvements to transport networks provide better access and lower costs for both employers (e.g. more efficient freight networks) and employees (e.g. improved public transport for those without cars).

This improves opportunities for both, with employers having more employees and suppliers to choose from and more people to sell to, and people having more jobs to choose from. It also enables more opportunity to collaborate, create and innovate, thereby increasing economic output. This results in increased efficiency and profits for employers, which will attract more jobs into the region.

There will be a large increase in jobs in the region, with new industrial precincts in the outer areas and major activity centres throughout. Connecting people to jobs and employers to labour and markets is required to unlock these employment and industrial opportunities.

Improving access to health services provides better health outcomes and economic benefits in communities.

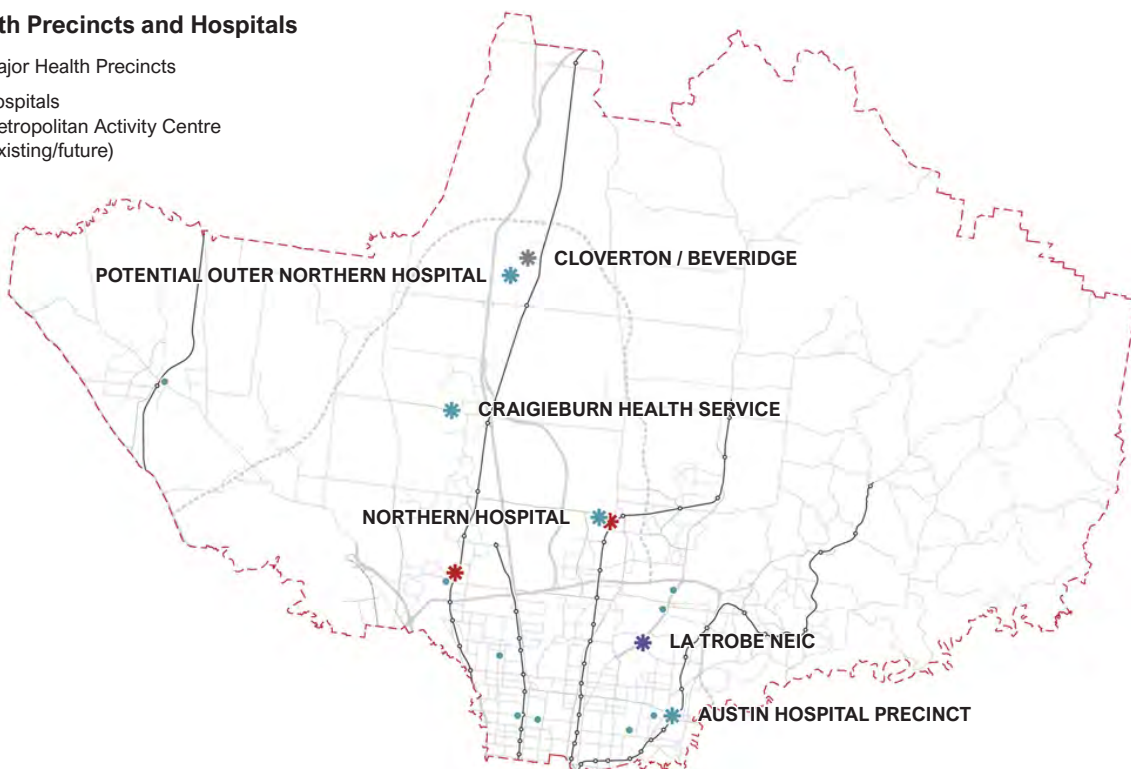
It improves access for patients and visitors, allowing for larger catchments of health facilities to service communities. It also provides opportunities for health services to specialise, rather than needing each site to serve all needs. This provides both transport (travel time) and health benefits to users. Improving access to health precincts also drives economic output, as key employers.

The North West City Deal identified an opportunity for a new Outer Northern Hospital. Other planned projects include a new Health & Wellbeing Hub at La Trobe University and the Northern Hospital expansion. Improving access to existing and planned health / hospital precincts are an opportunity to improve access to both health services and jobs.

<p>Better transport = easier access for patients (and visitors) + bigger catchment of health facilities to service communities (including more opportunities to site specialisation, rather than one site needs to serve all needs) = user benefits (travel and better / more specialist attention) + provider efficiencies</p>

Health Precincts and Hospitals

- Major Health Precincts
- Hospitals
- Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)



NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY MACRO CONTEXT – SAFETY AND SECURITY



Safety and security are important to the effectiveness of transport networks and the wellbeing of the community.

It is important that everyone can access the transport network safely and that perceived safety or security does not act as a barrier to use.

People make transport decisions on when to travel, how to travel, where to travel, and whether they travel at all. These travel decisions are based on a range of factors such as travel time, fares, weather and security. When people believe that using different parts of the transport network are unsafe, it discourages them from using it and limits their mobility.

The impact of safety and personal security on mobility varies by individual. Employees from different age groups, industries and skill levels may value security differently (e.g. how much they are willing to pay for an Uber to get home safely). There are also real and perceived threats experienced due to characteristics such as sex, gender, age, race, disability, socio-economics and being 'different'.

This reduced mobility restricts access to opportunities (including employment, work, education, social and health) and goods and services which reduces economic output. Therefore, it is important to improve security for all users of all modes, including for women and young people on public transport, car safety and safety of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists which were identified through consultation.

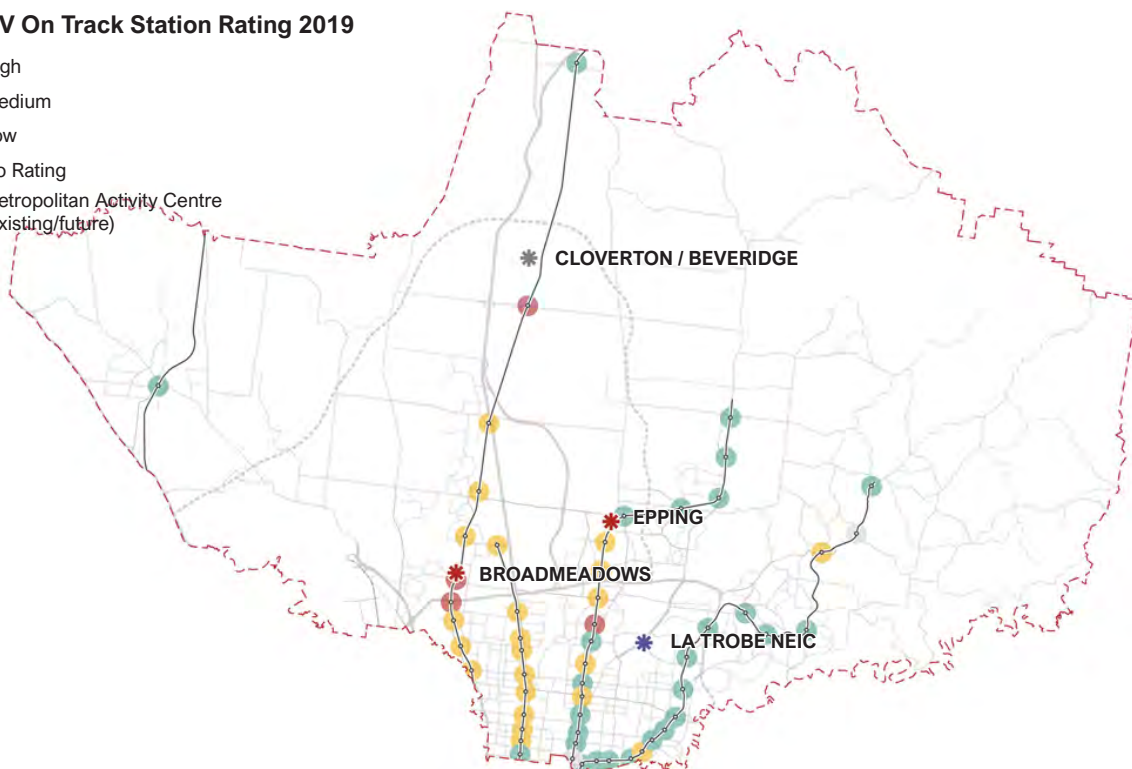
Safety and security can be investigated further by using or building upon existing data sources to identify challenges, opportunities and priorities in the region. For example:

- The Free To Be project crowdsourced the safety-related experiences of young women in Melbourne in 2016. It includes locations of “sad” and “happy” spots, and comments about these experiences. Locations listed as “sad spots” include Sydney Road, some train stations and underpasses.
- The RACV On Track survey collated 24,500 responses on Victoria’s train stations and services in 2019. People were asked to rate their train stations on factors including the perception of convenience, safety, comfort and access. Broadmeadows and Jacana Station were in the top 10 stations (metro and regional) perceived to be unsafe. Broadmeadows was ranked 2nd, with 49% of respondents stating that they don’t feel safe at certain times of the day and Jacana ranked 5th with 34% of respondents making the same statement.

Based on these studies, we know that the transport response should be to provide frequent services that have staff on the network, or positive reassurance throughout a trip.

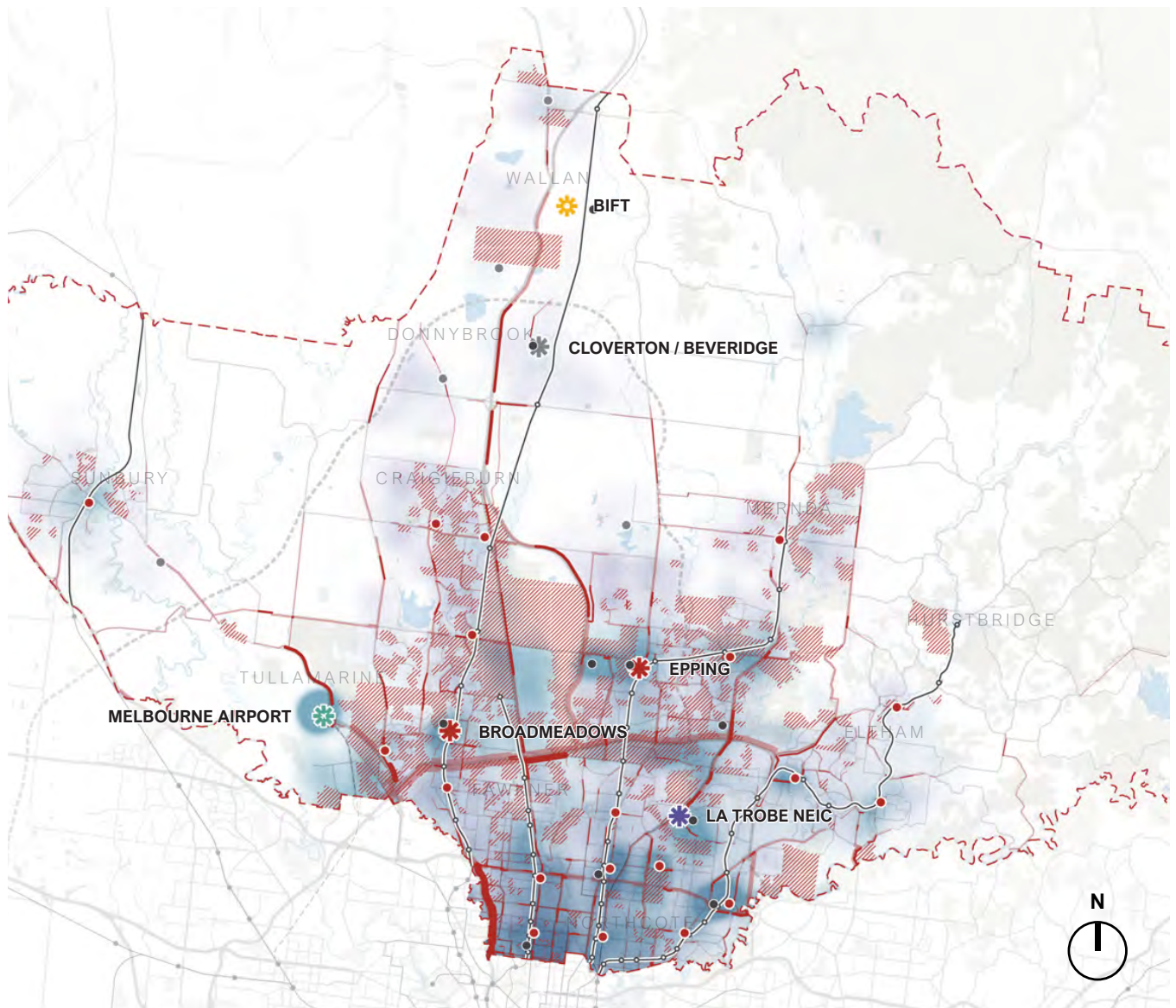
RACV On Track Station Rating 2019

- High
- Medium
- Low
- No Rating
- ✱ Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)



Map references - please refer back page

**EVIDENCE PACKAGE 1
CONGESTION LIMITS ACCESS BETWEEN PEOPLE AND JOBS**



Legend

- High employment density (2031)
- High population density (2031)
- ▨ Above trend car mode share
- ✦ Key Destinations
- City Deal Transformative Projects and Key Existing Infrastructure
- ✦ Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Major Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Congested road corridors (2031)

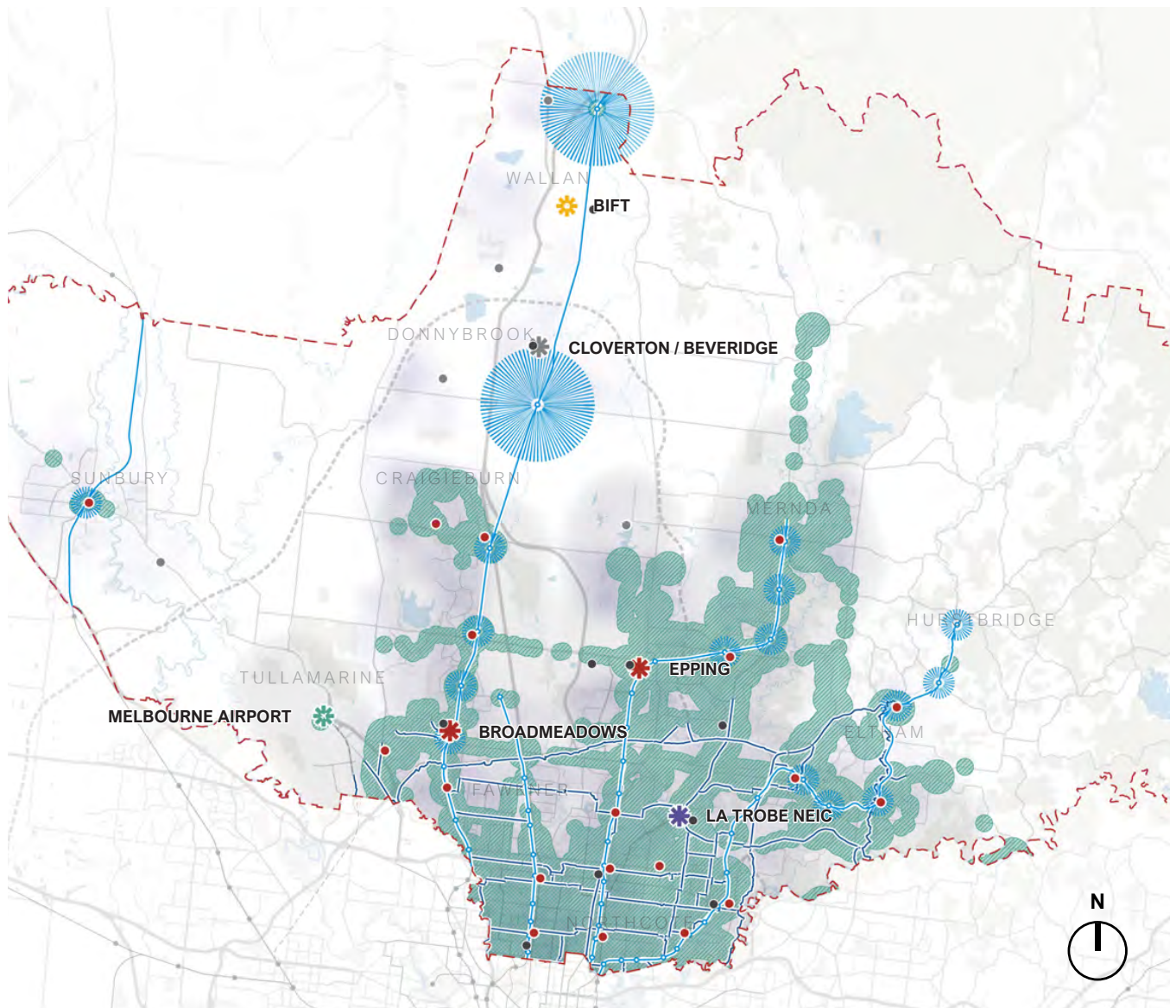
Challenges

- Population growth and need to access jobs (including to clusters in Broadmeadows, Epping and La Trobe NEIC and the CBD) put pressure on the transport network, particularly north-south in outer areas, while inner areas continue to experience congestion
- High car mode share in parts of the region, with developments that generate traffic unnecessarily despite their high density and access to alternative modes of transport
- Conflicts between users and modes, particularly in high-demand and space-constrained urban centres in the inner-north

Opportunities

- State investments in Metro Tunnel and new rail projects will bring additional capacity that supports mass transit based movements, as well as support new communities served by rail lines
- Opportunity to build momentum for changed travel patterns, align planning with eventual delivery and preemptively manage impacts of North East Link and Suburban Rail Loop
- Movement and Place offers a framework for prioritising the different modes of transport (movement) and balancing that against the role of streets as 'places' worth visiting. It considers freight and other traffic movements, as well as prioritisation between motorised and active modes

**PRIORITY ACTIONS PACKAGE 1
SUPPORT GROWTH WHILE MANAGING IMPACTS**



Build on State investment and work together to improve access to railway stations

Connect people to jobs while alleviating growing vehicle congestion on key corridors, freight networks and inner areas. Initiatives may improve safety, enhance connections from walking and cycling networks and unlock stations as transport hubs (i.e. Eltham, Greensborough).

- Areas for station access improvements/ upgrades - larger spots are examples of committed State investment (improved shelter and access at Donnybrook and new facilities and bus bays at Wallan).

Reduce impacts of developments on the road network

Encourage transit and active travel oriented developments in areas of high public transport service provision (i.e. through parking controls and supporting density around stations), making the most of transport infrastructure and reducing additional road congestion pressures

- In areas of good public transport*, reduce traffic generated from new developments. Encourage sustainable transport options. Review resilience of road network in outer areas.

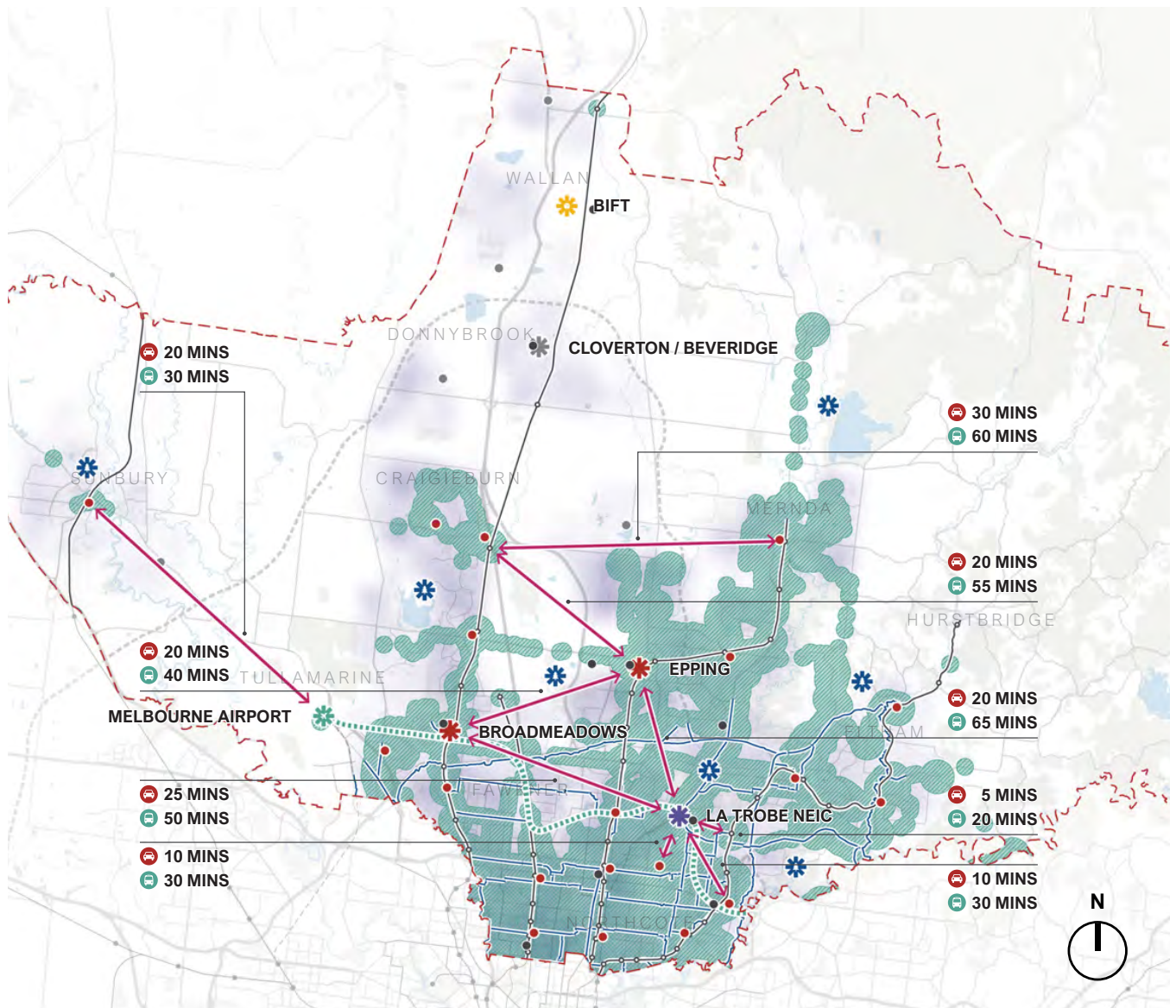
Apply Movement and Place

Work with the State to apply Movement and Place and conduct corridor studies to manage freight movements, identify areas for investment, reduce conflicts between users and support cycling and place in key centres as appropriate.

- Use Movement and Place to manage networks and road space allocation.

Map references - please refer back page. *See attributions for the definition of high public transport service provision.

EVIDENCE PACKAGE 2 LACK OF CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN KEY PLACES



Legend

- Population growth (2016 - 2031)
- ▨ Higher public transport accessibility
- ✦ Key Destinations
- ✦ Regional Trails
- City Deal Transformative Projects and Key Existing Infrastructure
- ✦ Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Major Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Key movements and travel times
- - - Suburban Rail Loop (future, indicative)
- Strategic Cycling Corridors
- 🚗 Typical travel time in the morning peak by mode (car/public transport)

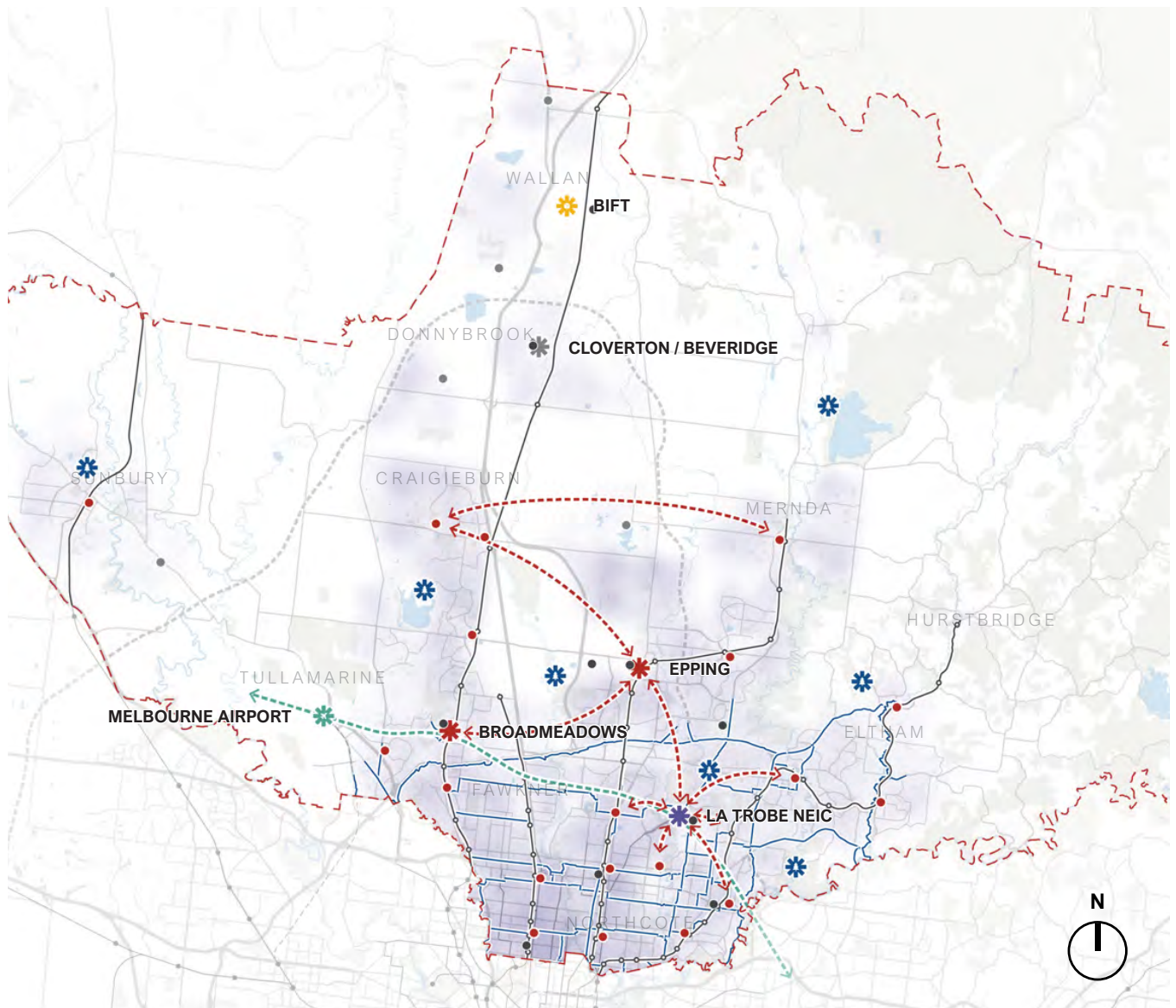
Challenges

- A lack of east-west connectivity between neighbouring municipalities and centres, especially by public transport. Elevated demand for some east-west road links
- Challenges in bringing people in rural and suburban areas to centres and transport hubs
- Uncompetitive public transport travel times compared to car, including poor linkages between services. Public transport can typically take 3 to 5 times longer and up to 10 times longer in some cases between key centres. Travel times have been shown to illustrate the difference in times between key locations.

Opportunities

- Momentum for public transport demand and land-use change can be built in advance of Suburban Rail Loop
- Hubs and activity centres provide a focal point for jobs, services and investment (i.e. City Deal, activity centre/NEIC, health precincts and local living grants)
- The Northern Regional Trails Strategy and Strategic Cycling Corridors offer the basis for a connected cycling network and can build upon long-term active travel behaviour accentuated by COVID-19

**PRIORITY ACTIONS PACKAGE 2
CREATE A NETWORK OF STRATEGIC PLACES**



Create a network of places

Link Metropolitan Activity Centres, City Deal Hubs and the La Trobe NEIC to communities and other hubs for services, jobs and transport hubs. Initiatives are focused on connect major centres that sit on separate train lines.

- - - Examples of connections that are not connected with a rail line with faster direct public transport services. Reorganisation of bus services to La Trobe University ⁴

Improve east-west public transport connectivity

Enhance connections to jobs and services at the airport, hospitals and between key centres. Link north-south public transport spines to create transport hubs at key centres (i.e. Broadmeadows, Heidelberg, La Trobe), building momentum for Suburban Rail Loop.

- - - Key east-west public transport connection, building momentum for Suburban Rail Loop

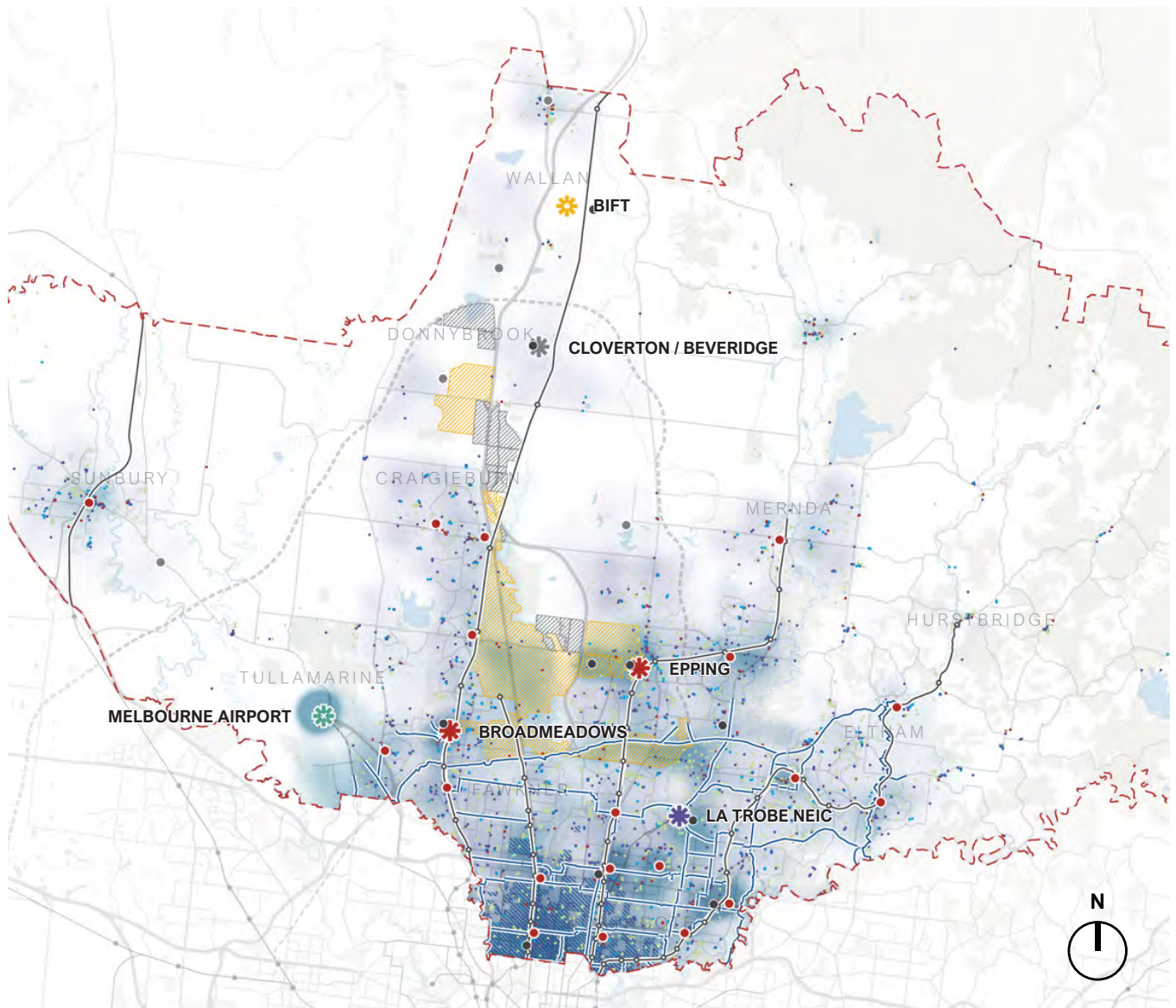
Create a network of cycling connections

Deliver the Northern Regional Trails Strategy, with a focus on the previously-identified 'priority trails' and Strategic Cycling Corridors. Upgrade existing routes, particularly those that link to, or between, key places and centres.

- * Previously-identified 'priority trails' from the Northern Regional Trails Strategy (indicative, see 2016 strategy for routes)
- Strategic Cycling Corridors to delivered with a focus on inner areas with higher density

Map references - please refer back page

**EVIDENCE PACKAGE 3
LACK OF CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN PEOPLE AND JOBS**



Legend

- High employment density (2031)
- High population density (2031)
- State Significant Industrial areas (existing/future)
- Higher cycling uptake
- ★ Key Destinations
- City Deal Transformative Projects and Key Existing Infrastructure
- ★ Metropolitan Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Major Activity Centre (existing/future)
- Points of Activity
- Strategic Cycling Corridors

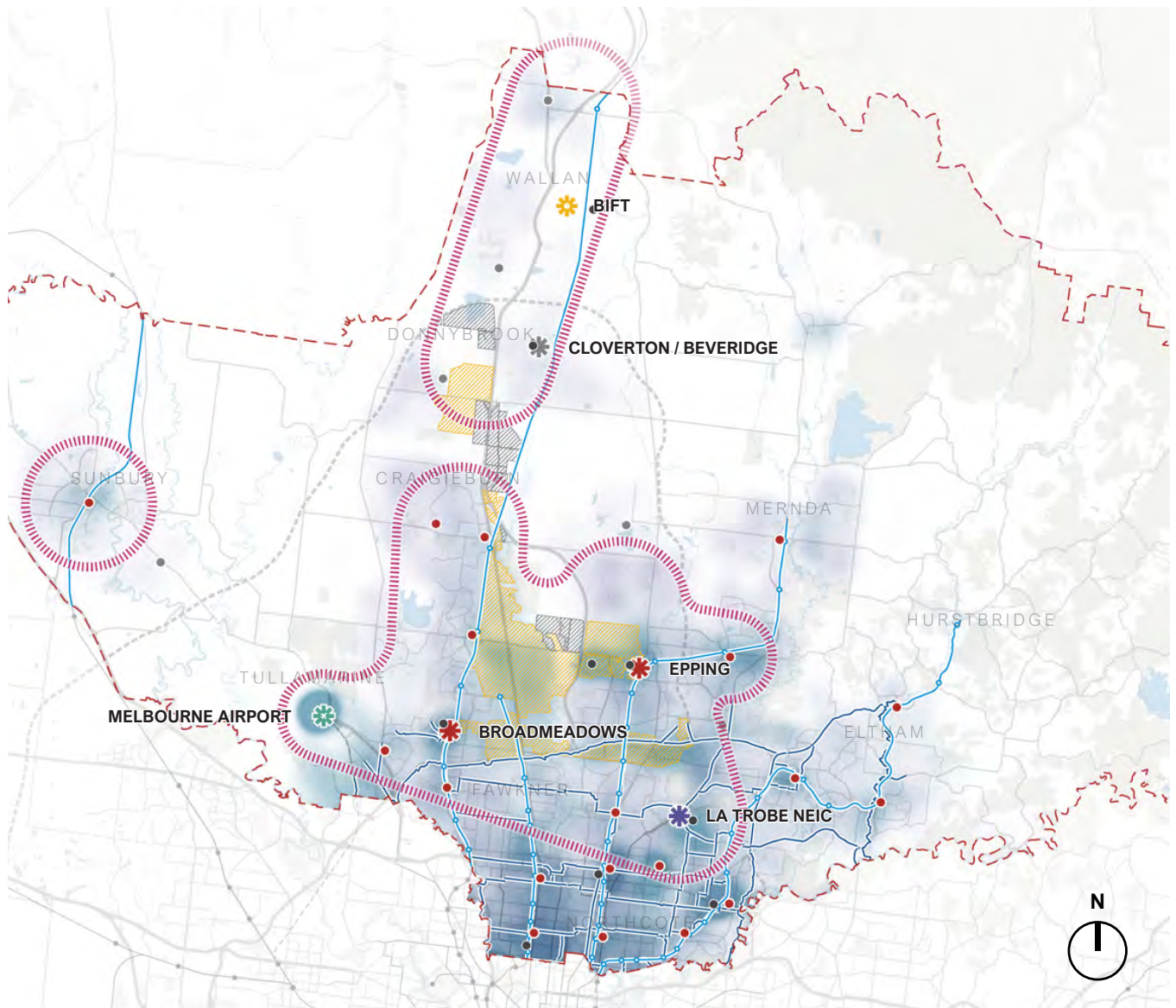
Challenges

- Key centres lack east-west connectivity
- Challenges in bringing people in rural and suburban areas to centres and transport hubs, particularly where infrastructure and services lag development
- Access to industrial areas which have low job density, particularly from lower-density residential areas and growth areas can be difficult using conventional public transport. This also applies to meeting needs for access to diverse points of activity.

Opportunities

- State government investment in Regional Rail station upgrades along the Seymour corridor
- Opportunity to use new technology and develop alternate worker transport models where existing transport networks are not meeting needs, to ensure access to future jobs and encourage job creation (i.e. BIFT)
- Strategic Cycling Corridors support cycling as a viable alternative, particularly for inner areas where there is a density of activity and network of places to support cycling
- New jobs in the area

**PRIORITY ACTIONS PACKAGE 3
ENABLE TRAVEL CHOICE TO JOBS AND ACTIVITY**



Explore solutions to connect low-public transport areas to jobs

Connecting areas of population which are poorly serviced by public transport to jobs and opportunities in key centres, such as the airport, existing industrial areas and future developments (such as BIFT) by exploring innovative means (such as on-demand, shuttles to stations, community transport options, carpooling, e-buses), minimum service levels for public transport (20 min bus frequency, information at stops, direct routes) and expanded bus networks.

- Three opportunities for innovative solutions and minimum service levels for public transport to connect people to destinations

Maximise opportunity from rail corridor and station upgrades

Build on committed state investment for improvements to station access, comfort and safety (such as Donnybrook and Wallan) to capitalise on opportunities to link people to jobs, such as complementary enhancements to walking and cycling connections and connecting feeder services.

- Build on committed station upgrades, such as on the Seymour line (Donnybrook and Wallan)

Build cycling as a viable travel choice in inner areas

Support cycling as a viable travel choice, focussing on areas where there is a concentration of jobs and population to connect a network of inner-city places and transport corridors aligned with State thinking. These will provide core routes for people to connect into.

- Strategic Cycling Corridors

Map references - please refer back page

NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY SUMMARY

The Northern Metropolitan Region is home to 20% of Melbourne's population and 12% of jobs. The region is growing and faces a number of challenges and opportunities.

The Northern Councils Alliance has brought together the Councils in the region (Banyule, Darebin, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and Mitchell), the State Government and key stakeholders, to establish the Northern Region Transport Strategy.

The strategy has been formulated through a consensus-based process, focusing on the key issues for prioritised collaboration across organisations and geography. Its purpose has been to translate long-term and high-level objectives into short-term and deliverable actions, building a pathway to delivering benefits.

The priority actions contained within this plan have been developed based on:

- shared objectives to support growth, access to jobs and opportunities, neighbourhood and places, industries and freight as well as managing impacts of the transport network, while improving safety and security. Access to jobs and activity
- evidence from existing policies, strategies and plans, as well as through analysis of data on population, jobs, traffic, development and land-use.

Three packages of priority actions have been proposed, namely:

1. Support growth while managing impacts, by

- building on State investment and working together to improve access to railway stations and other transport hubs, focus on getting people to stations and alleviate pressures on the road network
- reducing impacts of developments on the road network, especially in areas of already high public transport accessibility
- applying Movement and Place and conducting corridor studies to manage impacts of freight movement and support cycling and 'place', restricting through-traffic in inner areas.

2. Create a network of strategic places, by

- better connecting Plan Melbourne's key Metropolitan Activity Centres and the La Trobe NEIC and City Deal Hubs to communities and services, with a region-wide review responding to the suggestions from Victorian Transport Action Group
- improving east-west public transport connectivity, building momentum for Suburban Rail Loop
- creating a network of regional trails as per the Northern Regional Trails Strategy.

3. Enable travel choice to jobs and activity, by

- exploring solutions to connect low-public transport areas to jobs e.g. on-demand transport, minimum service levels for public transport, in particular to support access to industrial sites and longer-term development of Beveridge Intermodal Freight Terminal
- maximising opportunity from station upgrades, including complementary works and feeder network integration to better serve existing and new communities
- supporting cycling in inner areas, delivering the Strategic Cycling Corridors.

NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY NEXT STEPS

The strategy takes existing strategic and high-level plans as the starting point and translates these long-term goals into short-term practical solutions, which then guide the downstream development of projects.

The next steps are to:

- At stations identified in NTRS for improved access, develop masterplans that create multi-modal connections. These access plans should be developed in a timely manner (in response to upgrade) rather than resource.
- Progress with a pilot sub-regional parking amendment to introduce maximum parking rates in areas of high public transport accessibility. Adopt Smart Planning pathway, similar to secondary dwelling code to streamline process and exploit synergies between partnership.
- Conduct area-based studies that test the resilience of the road network and review options to improve resilience in outer areas.
- Prepare a program business case to fund Movement and Place studies that produce standard outputs across the region and identify short terms measures for immediate delivery.
- Secure funding to undertake a rolling program of bus reviews to adjust the network, connect centres and raise the key services to 'Useful Network' frequencies and service standards (see VTAG report).
- Secure funding as above to create a key east-west public transport connection, building momentum for Suburban Rail Loop
- Secure funding to enable DOT to review bus services to La Trobe University, linking across the Yarra.
- Undertake multi-modal corridor reviews that in the short-term align 'movement' outcomes and travel demand management measures of connections, including at the airport, hospitals and other key centres.
- Continue to work together to deliver the Northern Regional Trails Strategy and prioritise resolving the missing links and the priority trails.
- Publish updated SCCs and have the Partnership work to deliver SCCs on-road and off-road, making sure they are safe, legible and direct.
- Prepare feasibility and business case for on-demand transport (and other emerging options) that look to serve the denser areas noting that there is a lack of credible first and last mile options; access to key destinations (there's an advantage for on-demand e.g. limited parking) and higher residential density where there may be challenges for traditional buses.⁴ The area provides three potential types of trials. The Existing townships of Sunbury, the larger NEIC and aeropolis, and the growth area of Beveridge / Cloverton.
- Jointly advocate for public transport minimum service levels and expanded bus networks. Adopt this in all strategy documents across the region as a common theme. Incorporate this requirement into rolling program of bus reviews.
- Investigate challenges and priorities to address safety and security in the Region.

NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY REFERENCES

1. Northern Metro Region - Five Year Plan for Jobs, Services and Infrastructure 2018-2022, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, https://www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/36028/4325-DELWP-Five-Year-Plan-2018-Alterations-Northern-Metro_Short_FA_Web.pdf, accessed October 2020
2. North and West Melbourne City Deal, <https://www.nwmcitydeal.org.au/>, accessed October 2020
3. Northern Metropolitan Partnership Signature Event Summary - Transport Workshop, V1, 14 September 2020, prepared by Capire on behalf of the Northern Metropolitan Partnership
4. Networking the North, June 2020, Victorian Transport Action Group

MAP REFERENCES

GTA has used a range of resources and data to produce the map outputs in this summary report, including:

- City Deal Locations - derivative of 'North & West City Deal Precinct Map' by North & West City Deal, which includes locations of transformative projects and key existing infrastructure
- RACV On Track Station Rating - derivative of the 2019 RACV On Track Survey Results by RACV, Custom styling applied, where Low = 3-4, Medium = 4-6 and High = 6-10
- Regional Trails - derivative of 'Priority Trails' by Nillumbik Shire Council, Banyule City Council, Whittlesea City Council, Hume City Council, Darebin City Council, Moreland City Council and Yarra City Council.
- Seymour Line Upgrades - derivative of 'Regional Rail Revival Projects Map' by Rail Projects Victoria
- Priority Connections - derivative of 'Networking the North for bus recommendations' by the Victorian Transport Action Group
- Metropolitan/Major Activity Centres - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Local Government Area Boundaries - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Points of Activity - derivative of Points of Interest (filtered to attractor locations) by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- National Employment and Innovation Cluster - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Hydrological data - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Geological data - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Road network information - by the Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads), used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Public transport accessibility information - derivative of 'PTV GTFS Feed' by Public Transport Victoria, used under CC BY 4.0. High accessibility is defined as an 800m radius from public transport stops with frequencies better than 10 minutes or a 400m radius for a frequency of 11-20 minutes in the AM peak. Data from AM peak (8-9am) 13/12/2019.
- Cycling Mode Share - derivative of 'Census 2016 - Journey to Work' by Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Car Mode Share Trend - derivative of 'Census 2016 - Journey to Work' by Australian Bureau of Statistics. GTA analysis of car mode share vs. population density trendline for SA1s in Northern Region and Inner Melbourne. Areas greater than 10% above trendline are highlighted.
- Road congestion data - derivative of 'Victorian Integrated Transport Model' by the Department of Transport. Custom styling applied.
- Future population data - derivative of 'Victoria in the Future' by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, used under CC BY 4.0. Custom styling applied.
- Future demographic data - derivative of 'SALUP Model Appendix' in 'Melbourne Functional Economic Region Report' by SGS Economics & Planning.
- Suburban Rail Loop Alignment - derivative of 'Suburban Rail Loop Alignment Map' by the Department of Transport, used under CC BY 4.0.
- Airport Rail Link Alignment - derivative of 'Airport Rail Link Alignment Map' by the Department of Transport, used under CC BY 4.0.
- Outer Metropolitan Ring Road - derivative of 'OMR Geotechnical Appendix A - Locality Map' by the Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads), used under CC BY 4.0.
- BIFT location - by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, (Plan Melbourne) used under CC BY 4.0. Note: location to be determined. Custom styling applied.
- Strategic Cycling Corridors - provided by the Department of Transport, used with permission
- Travel times - based on Google Maps for a 'typical' morning peak hour. Sunbury to Melbourne Airport is based on Apple Maps using the same parameters.

MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**9 AUGUST 2021**

4. PLANET – ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Nil

5. PLACE – SUSTAINABLE AMENITY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT**5.2 NORTHERN REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY - FINAL REPORT
SUMMARY**

1. This report has been prepared to present Council with the final report titled: The *Northern Region Transport Strategy* (Transport Strategy) prepared by GTA Consultants on behalf of the Northern Councils Alliance (NCA) and funded by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions via the Northern Metropolitan Partnership.
2. The purpose of the Transport Strategy (*Attachment 1*) is to provide a regional perspective and understanding of how the transport network is operating and identify cross regional desire lines.
3. Whilst each Council within the Northern Councils Alliance has existing transport strategies, the Transport Strategy was designed to not reinvent these, but to consider them across the region and establish a high-level regional view that will assist in ongoing prioritisation and advocacy.
4. The Transport Strategy has identified priority actions across the seven municipalities of the Northern Councils Alliance - Cities of Banyule, Darebin, Moreland, Nillumbik, Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell Shire - at a Federal and State level and it may be used to support regional advocacy efforts. These priority actions relate to:
 - Supporting growth while managing impacts
 - Creating a network of strategic places
 - Enabling travel choice to jobs and activity
5. Among many items the report discussed the challenges of:
 - population growth and the need to access jobs;
 - high car use;
 - the limitations of the current public transport system;
 - difficulty of access to services particularly people living in the rural and suburban areas to centres and hubs; and
 - the lag of infrastructure and services to many housing and industrial developments.
 - creating a network of strategic places
6. The report is presented for Council consideration and endorsement.

Resolution (CO2021/146)

That Council:

1. Endorses the Northern Council Alliance Northern Region Transport Strategy (2021) final report.
2. Supports the further development of the projects listed on page 13 of the Northern Region Transport Strategy with associated advocacy plan.
3. Notes the report will be utilised for regional advocacy purposes by the Northern Councils Alliance.

MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**9 AUGUST 2021**

4. Seeks support from the other Councils in the Northern Councils Alliance to advocate to the State Government to produce a Victorian Transport Plan to align and integrate current strategies and plans including the Northern Region Transport Strategy.
5. Reviews and considers any changes required to the Strategic Cycling Corridors in Banyule as part of the Banyule Bicycle Strategy.
6. Writes to other Northern Councils, the Department of Transport and all Local State Members of Parliament:
 - Requesting the implementation of the Strategic Cycling Corridors, as a priority, to meet the state objectives of this program.
 - Raising concerns with the lack of integrated transport planning and community consultation with major transport projects being developed in Banyule.
 - Request a meeting with all 3 State members to discuss Council's concerns with transport related issues within State Government organisations.

Moved: Cr Tom Melican

Seconded: Cr Mark Di Pasquale

CARRIED

8.6 REVIEW OF THE ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Author: Acting Manager Property and Business Improvement
Coordinator Asset Planning

Reviewed By: General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The existing Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy have come to the end of their duration. The Asset Management Policy and the Asset Management Strategy provide a strategic approach to Council in the delivery of best-practice asset management activities over the period of the Council term. These documents will underpin the 10-year Asset Plan that is required to be in place by June 2022 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Work has been undertaken to review and prepare a draft Asset Management Policy and a draft Asset Management Strategy for Council to review. There has been significant internal consultation throughout the development of the draft Policy and draft Strategy and it is proposed that these documents proceed to community consultation before they are adopted by Council.

The Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy were presented for Council's consideration in early 2021, however they were deferred to ensure alignment with the new Council Plan.

Following adoption of the Council Plan in June 2021, the Asset Management Policy (**Appendix A**) and Asset Management Strategy (**Appendix B**) have been updated and are presented to Council for their consideration to proceed to community consultation before presentation to Council for adoption at its meeting on 22 November 2021

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorse the Asset Management Policy (**Appendix A**) to proceed to community consultation
 - (2) Endorse the Asset Management Strategy (**Appendix B**) to proceed to community consultation
 - (3) Receives a report that includes the outcomes of community consultation on the draft Asset Management Policy and draft Asset Management Strategy at the 22 November Council meeting.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

This report is in response to Council's existing Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy reaching the end of their duration in 2019. Both documents have been reviewed and updated, and ensure alignment with the newly adopted Council Plan, Community Vision and 10-year Financial Plan.

In accordance with the new *Local Government Act 2020*, these two documents will be guided by an overarching “Asset Plan”, which will be developed by June 2022. The 10-year Asset Plan and 10-year Financial Plan are the two resource plans required by *the Act* that support the achievement of the Community Vision. The Asset Plan will be a strategic asset-management planning document and will be underpinned by the Asset Management Policy, Asset Management Strategy and a suite of Asset Management Plans based on asset classes.

Previous Council Resolutions

At its meeting held on 22 February 2021, Council resolved:

‘That Council defer this item to a future meeting of Council to allow for the Strategy to be updated to align with the Council Vision and new four year Council Plan’.

At its meeting held on 2 October 2017, Council resolved:

‘That Council adopts the Asset Management Policy 2017.’

At its meeting held on 18 May 2015, Council resolved:

‘That Council adopts the Asset Management Strategy 2015 – 2019.’

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2.2 We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving

4.1 We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

4.3 We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

DISCUSSION

The draft Asset Management Policy and Strategy have been informed by the 2041 Darebin Community Vision, 2021-25 Council Plan, research and review of best practice across the local government and other sectors. This work was also supported with the engagement of external consultants to provide specialist expertise in the development of the drafts for Council’s consideration.

Asset Management Strategy

The draft Asset Management Strategy (**Appendix B**) sets out a fresh approach to asset management for Council and establishes a foundation for us to move forward and focus our attention on key strategic and operational asset management improvement initiatives including:

- Aligning and integrating asset management objectives and activities within Councils overall suite of strategies, priorities and plans
- Assigning dedicated resources for strategic asset management activities
- Establishing an asset data and information improvement program
- Developing asset risk assessment tools
- Upgrading and integrating asset management technology
- Improving asset management decision-making processes
- Meaningfully, equitably and inclusively engaging our stakeholders and community to ensure community infrastructure is accessible, equitable, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the diverse Darebin community
- Ultimately, ensuring we provide fair and good outcomes to the community while remaining financially sustainable, socially responsible and adaptive to climate change.

The draft Asset Management Strategy is proposed to replace the current Asset Management Strategy (adopted on 18 May 2015) if adopted by Council at its meeting on 22 November 2021.

Asset Management Policy

The draft Asset Management Policy (**Appendix A**) states that the long-lived nature of many assets and the need for their ongoing renewal means that planning must be on an understanding of the full costs throughout each asset's lifecycle. Both short and long-term financial requirements including depreciation, asset investment and planning needs must be addressed. This approach supports the realisation of the Darebin 2041 Community Vision and ensures the best outcomes for the future of the municipality.

The draft Asset Management Policy is proposed to replace the current Asset Management Policy (adopted on 2 October 2017) if adopted by Council at its meeting on 22 November 2021.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The Asset Management Policy states that the long-lived nature of many assets and the need for their ongoing renewal means that planning must be on an understanding of the full costs throughout each asset's lifecycle. Both short and long-term financial requirements including depreciation, asset investment and planning needs must be addressed.

The Asset Management Strategy sets out a fresh approach to asset management for Council. It establishes a foundation to move forward and focuses attention on key strategic and operational asset management improvement initiatives including assigning dedicated resources for strategic asset management activities. An Asset Management Improvement Plan has been developed setting out actions and timeframes over the next four years for asset management activities.

Specific costs and resource requirements for the implementation of the Asset Management Improvement Plan (AMIP) are yet to be developed but will form part of funding applications to Council's annual budget process.

Community Engagement

Timeline	Details
27 September	Seek Council endorsement of draft Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy to proceed to community consultation.
28 September – 27 October	Digital engagements planned such as: - Two online sessions for community discussion and feedback - Online feedback via the Your Say Darebin online engagement platform, supported by a translated outline of the engagement opportunity and purpose of the document into the top 12 languages other than English that Council has committed to. Circulation of the draft Strategy and Policy to the Administrator of each of Council's Advisory Committees for distribution to Committee members to provide input and feedback
8 November 2021	Provide Councillors with a briefing on the feedback on the draft Asset Management Policy and draft Asset Management Strategy and recommendations for final Policy and Strategy.
22 November 2021	Present findings of feedback received and recommendations for final Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy for adoption by Council.
25 November 2021	Outcome of engagement reported back to the community via Your Say web page (closing the loop).

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;

Public Transparency Principles

- (a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act;

Strategic Planning Principles

- (b) strategic planning must address the Community Vision;

Service Performance Principles

- (c) quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Both the Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy are aligned to Council's environmental commitments and consultation with relevant teams has occurred throughout the development of the documentation.

The policy and strategy states that our asset management objectives include to mitigate environmental impact, improve the resilience of our infrastructure and align our asset management activities with climate adaptation responsibilities and preparing our community for change in an equitable, inclusive and rights-based way.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The Asset Management Policy states that we will ensure that our asset management activities are integrated across our organisation for the lifecycle of the assets, as we continue to place equity, inclusion, human rights and our community's wellbeing and quality of life at the heart of what we do.

The Asset Management Policy states that our approach to asset management will be based on a number of principles including being:

- **Accessible, equitable, inclusive and responsive** to the needs of our diverse community, improving equity, inclusion, fulfillment of rights and health outcomes

The Asset Management Policy states that one of our asset management objectives is to reduce discrimination, disadvantage, barriers to community participation and the unequal distribution of assets, as well as inappropriate resourcing that hinders equity, diversity, access and inclusion.

The Asset Management Strategy recognises that one of the significant challenges in managing Council's assets is that while the health and overall socio-economic status of the municipality is improving, there is also:

- A growing inequity between wealthier areas and poorer areas;
- An increasing exclusion of low-income residents in housing and participation in community life; and
- A reduction in diversity, cultural awareness and cultural practice

In this environment, without a focus on equity and inclusion, the assets that Council provides and manages can unintentionally support the growing inequity.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The Asset Management Strategy recognises that there are significant challenges in managing Council's assets, including:

- a growing population and changing demographics. In part, the increase in population will be accommodated by replacing already identified areas of existing industrial development with high density residential development and by densification on existing residential land, increasing the demand on existing assets and services.
- managing Council's assets is that while the health and overall socio-economic status of the municipality is improving, there is also a reduction in diversity and the culture that attracted people to choose Darebin as a place to live.

One important response relates to how service levels are determined so that cultural issues are identified and considered. The management of assets is then matched to the outcomes from the determination of service levels.

Another important response is that the provision of new services will have to be carefully planned to ensure that the required assets are designed and located in the most appropriate areas to meet the needs of the particular age group and community at large and to address or redress existing inequities in asset distribution

Operational Impacts

Over the duration of this Asset Management Strategy, we will:

- Define service levels, gather asset information and determine asset risk; and
- Use this information to update our asset management plans.

Customer-focused service-planning requires the linking of customer needs to service-planning and asset management plans and operational and maintenance plans. In general terms there will be a clear link between the Community Vision, 10-year Financial Plan, 10-year Asset Plan, Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan), annual report, service plans and asset management plans.

The impact of the Asset Management Strategy will be crystallised through the outcomes of service-level reviews on asset management plans for each asset class. Operational impacts will in turn be embedded in the 10 year Financial Plan, 10 year Capital Works program, 4 year Workforce Plan, Annual Budget and Annual Work Plans.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Asset Management Policy states that our Asset Management objectives includes to implement data-driven, evidence-based decision-making that is derived from risk (including safety), compliance and performance standards, supported using smart technology and a sound governance framework.

In addition to legislative requirements, the Strategy is aligned with the requirements of ISO 55001 (the International Standard for Asset Management), the National Asset Management Accountability Framework (NAMAF) and the International Infrastructure Management Manual.

The Asset Management Strategy provides greater controls in how Council manages its infrastructure. It provides the approach to demonstrating:

- Due diligence applied by the Council
- Alignment to the overarching governance principles, strategic planning principles, service performance principles and financial management principles outlined in the *Local Government Act 2020*
- Commitment to the management of Council's assets and developed understanding of infrastructure risks

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Upon endorsement to proceed to community consultation, the draft Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy will undertake community consultation as outlined in the community consultation section of this report.

Officers will provide a briefing to Councillors on the feedback received on the draft Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy, including any proposed changes, prior to bringing the Policy and Strategy back to Council for adoption at its meeting on 22 November 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

2041 Darebin Community Vision

2021-25 Council Plan (incl Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan)

2021-31 Financial Plan

10yr Capital Works Program

Asset Management Plans

Darebin Climate Emergency Plan 2017-22



Towards Equality

Community Engagement Policy 2021

Risk Management Framework

Local Government Act 2020

Attachments

- Draft Asset Management Policy (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Draft Asset Management Strategy (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.



Asset Management Policy

A policy is the guiding principle that helps the organisation to take logical decisions. It is a set of common rules to inform decisions and behaviours and commonly has supporting procedures and guidelines.

<p>Purpose</p>	<p>This policy outlines Darebin City Council's commitment and approach to sustainably managing our assets for the benefit of current and future generations and to ensure that our asset management practices are from the start, focused on our community and its betterment.</p> <p>We will ensure that our asset management activities are integrated across our organisation for the lifecycle of the assets, as we continue to place our community's wellbeing and quality of life at the heart of what we do.</p>
<p>Scope</p>	<p>This policy applies to the planning, funding, creation, acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal of all Council asset's lifecycle and includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All Council owned physical assets; and 2. All physical assets that Council does not own but has direct responsibility for, or control over through a legal mechanism or formal arrangements. <p>Council and all Council employees are responsible for adherence to this policy in their day to day activities, operational and strategic planning.</p>
<p>Definitions and Abbreviations</p>	<p>Level of Service – the standard to which the service should operate.</p> <p>Lifecycle Cost - The total cost of an asset throughout its life including planning, design, construction, acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal costs.</p> <p>Long Term Financial Plan - A summary of the financial projections and impact of Council's strategic and operational activities including proposed operating and capital investment for a period of 10 years or more.</p> <p>Assets - Physical assets owned or under the care, control and management of Council that contribute to the community's needs for access to major economic and social facilities – examples include roads, drainage, transport, buildings, lighting, cultural and heritage, open space, street trees and information technology.</p> <p>Asset lifecycle – the period from asset concept to asset disposal.</p> <p>Asset Management - is the systematic approach to the governance and management of assets whilst maximising service delivery potential and managing related risks and costs over the assets' life and maximising the financial and economic benefits of the assets.</p> <p>Asset Management Plan - Long term plans (usually 5 to 10 years) for specific asset classes that outline the asset activities, level of service, costings and programs for each class.</p> <p>Asset Management Strategy - An AM Strategy is a strategic document that guides and informs the management of assets (physical objects). It outlines the direction Council will take with its assets and the activities needed to improve its asset management capability to optimise the service delivery for the community.</p>

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<p>Policy Statement(s)</p>	<p>Asset management is the systematic approach to the governance and management of assets whilst optimizing service delivery potential and managing related risks and costs over the assets' life. It enables Council to provide services in the most cost-effective manner for the present and future generation whilst managing the asset holistically and cost effectively.</p> <p>Council owns and maintains assets such as roads, drainage, pathways, buildings, parklands, cultural collections, libraries and vehicles to support service provision to the community it serves.</p> <p>The long-lived nature of many assets and the need for their ongoing renewal means that asset planning must consider the thorough understanding of the full costs throughout each asset's lifecycle, and address both short and long-term financial requirements including depreciation, asset investment and planning needs.</p> <p>Well maintained infrastructure (such as footpaths, buildings and street trees) play an important role in forming the look and feel of an area as well as contributing to the health and wellbeing of the community, So asset management must also recognise the impact that Council's assets have on the wellbeing of the community along with the presentation of the assets in public realms of Council control.</p> <p>Community infrastructure contributes to achieving other important social policy outcomes, including preventative health, social inclusion and tolerance, stronger social capital and community resilience, Stronger economical investments in region and better access to broad-based education and learning.</p> <p>Asset management is the practical vehicle for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving the well-being of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well; and 2. Ensuring that our services, programs and facilities benefit all including our most vulnerable. 3. Improving the community infrastructure with optimum service delivery contributing to environmental, sustainable, economical and viable outcomes <p>It is important that Council understands all the steps in the lifecycle of an asset and who is responsible for each step. Holistic lifecycle asset management involves all activities associated with managing our community assets including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Creating / acquiring • Operating • Maintaining • Renewing • Replacing; and • Disposing /retiring of assets.
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Lifecycle asset management



Our approach to asset management will ensure we will implement smart investment decisions that are planned and programmed to enable the best value outcomes for our community.

This commitment will be achieved by adhering to the following principles and objectives:

Our approach to asset management will be based on the following principles:

- **Community-centric** services with relevant and clear community benefit and value
- **Financially sustainable** investment decisions that optimise asset performance, return on investment and affordability
- **Responsive** to the needs of our diverse community, improving health outcomes and social inclusion
- **Climate change** and adaptation responsibilities underpinning our approach to asset management
- **Continuous improvement** in governance, developing integrated systems, improving quality, compliance and reporting

Our asset management objectives for 2020-2025:

- Centralised and integrated platform for service delivery through assets supported by robust Asset Management System capable to handle processes of the lifecycle of the assets;
- Creation of robust and informed Asset Management Plans considering the lifecycle costings based on service levels, community needs, population/growth demands, financial affordability, compliance to legislations and standards.
- Ensure community services are supported by service levels and standards that demonstrate an appropriate balance of expectation through consultation, with the objectives and requirements of Council.
- Drive prudent investment decisions throughout the asset lifecycle – from acquisition to disposal, to ensure adequate funding in the short and long term (acknowledging inter-generational impact), whilst delivering robust financial performance.
- Reduce discrimination, disadvantage, lack of community participation and the unequal distribution and inappropriate resources that hinders diversity, access and inclusion.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mitigate environmental impact, improve the resilience of our infrastructure and align our asset management activities with climate adaptation responsibilities and preparing our community for change. ▪ Implement data-driven, evidence-based decision-making that is derived from risk (including safety), compliance and performance standards, supported by the use of smart technology and a sound governance framework. ▪ Ensure asset-related transactions including procurement are conducted in line with the Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy and Fraud and Corruption Guidelines.
<p>Responsibilities</p>	<p>To achieve our purpose, the following key roles and responsibilities are identified:</p> <p><u>Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Act as custodians of community assets ▪ Adopt the Asset Management Policy (AM Policy) and Asset Management Strategy (AM Strategy including AM Improvement Plan) and Asset Management Plans ▪ Ensure that asset management requirements, as outlined in the AM Strategy are appropriately considered in decision making; and responded to in the Council planning and financial management. ▪ Adopt the Community Infrastructure Plan and The Asset Plan. <p><u>Chief Executive Officer/Executive Management Team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To provide leadership and direction in the development and implementation of the AM Policy and AM Strategy and Asset Management Improvement Plan (AMI Plan). ▪ Responsible for the allocation of resources and development of sound asset management practice across the organisation as well as ensuring that all asset management activities are consistent with the objectives of Council Plan, Integrated Business Planning, Annual Budget and Reporting Process and the Long-Term Financial Plan. ▪ Approve and adopt the Financial management policies and procedures related to asset management and planning. <p><u>Asset Management Steering Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support and contribute to Council’s short and long term financial planning to ensure that Council operates within all fiscal guidelines and legislative requirements, and is financially sustainable. ▪ Facilitate a strategic approach to the delivery of the Asset Management Policy and Strategy and ensure all asset management activities are aligned to the AM Policy Principles and objectives. ▪ Facilitate a strategic approach to the delivery of Asset Management Plans considering the lifecycle costings based on service levels, community needs, population/growth demands, financial affordability, compliance to legislations and standards. ▪ Optimise decision-making and asset investments across the lifecycle of council’s asset base. ▪ Lead, govern and monitor the implementation of asset management activities across the organisation as outlined in the AM Strategy and AM Improvement Plan, including the review of KPIs and timeframes. ▪ Ensure that \$30m per annum is dedicated to asset renewal which will ensure that service levels will be maintained to a satisfactory standard. ▪ Oversee the ongoing development and review and implementation of service plans and AM Plans and Community Infrastructure Plan ▪ Ensure the Darebin Priority Review Lens, human rights and equity principles and strategies are taken into consideration. ▪ Champion the AM Strategy across Council and drive behavioural change. ▪ Reduce organisational risk.

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	<p><u>Service Managers/ Asset Owners/ Asset Planning/ Responsible Officers/ AM-related Project Officers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement the suite of AM documentation ▪ Review and regularly update AM Plans ▪ Develop and implement maintenance, renewal and capital works programs in accordance with the AM Policy, AM Strategy, AM Plans and budget allocation ▪ Deliver services to agreed risk, budget and service level expectations ▪ Develop and implement business processes to support asset management ▪ Develop and implement individual asset class asset management plans ▪ To report asset related risk and damage ▪ Gather, analyse and respond to data and research including asset condition assessments and valuations ▪ Ensure appropriate delegations and approval processes are followed ▪ Monitor, review and report on asset management activities as required ▪ Use asset management information systems correctly to ensure data integrity ▪ Undertake all risk and compliance obligations ▪ Establish and monitor asset risk inspection regimes ▪ Provide accurate and reliable information to Council for decision making <p>Council uses the Service Manager / Asset Owner operational model to ensure accountability and role responsibilities are clearly defined and measurable. The Asset Management Responsibility matrix is developed to support the policy provisions.</p>		
<p>Organisational Values</p>	<p>Council’s organisational values enable and support the effective design and application of this policy by guiding staff in the course of their work.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>We Make a Difference: We are driven by our desire to make a difference for the people we serve. Our work is purposeful and creates a positive impact for the community. We are proud to work here. Our work matters.</p> <p>We are Accountable: We are empowered to own and take responsibility for our actions. We follow through on our commitments and deliver on our promises. We make it happen.</p> <p>We are Collaborative: We are united by a common purpose to serve the community. We work together, connecting within our teams and across the organisation. We are inclusive and collaborative. We are one.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>We have Integrity: We act with integrity and transparency in conversations and decision-making. Through open and clear communication, we build trust. We’re honest. We walk the talk.</p> <p>We show Respect: We are diverse, inclusive, respectful and caring. We encourage everyone to have a voice and we listen to each other. We recognise one another’s contributions and treat people fairly. We look after each other.</p> <p>We are Creative: We are bold, courageous and innovative. We try new things, experiment and continuously improve. We are open-minded, creative and forward-thinking. We are leaders.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>We Make a Difference: We are driven by our desire to make a difference for the people we serve. Our work is purposeful and creates a positive impact for the community. We are proud to work here. Our work matters.</p> <p>We are Accountable: We are empowered to own and take responsibility for our actions. We follow through on our commitments and deliver on our promises. We make it happen.</p> <p>We are Collaborative: We are united by a common purpose to serve the community. We work together, connecting within our teams and across the organisation. We are inclusive and collaborative. We are one.</p>	<p>We have Integrity: We act with integrity and transparency in conversations and decision-making. Through open and clear communication, we build trust. We’re honest. We walk the talk.</p> <p>We show Respect: We are diverse, inclusive, respectful and caring. We encourage everyone to have a voice and we listen to each other. We recognise one another’s contributions and treat people fairly. We look after each other.</p> <p>We are Creative: We are bold, courageous and innovative. We try new things, experiment and continuously improve. We are open-minded, creative and forward-thinking. We are leaders.</p>
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<p>Breach of Policy</p>	<p>Breaches of policy are to be corrected immediately. Any concerns about non-compliance should be reported immediately to the Policy owner.</p>		

GOVERNANCE

<p>Parent Strategy/ Plan</p>	<p>Asset Management Strategy; Asset Management Improvement Plan</p>
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Related Documents	<p>This policy should be read in conjunction with Council's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy • 2020-2025 Asset Management Improvement Plan • Asset Management Plans • Asset Rationalisation Policy (under review) • Asset Disposal Policy (under review) • Financial Sustainability Guidelines (VAGO) • Property Management Framework • Property Management Policy • Fleet Policy • Darebin Climate Emergency Plan 2017-2022 • Waste and Recycling Strategy 2020 • Breathing Space 2019 • Community Engagement Strategy and Framework • Long Term Financial Plan, Annual Budget 2020/21 • Risk Management Policy and Framework • Community Infrastructure Plans/Frameworks and Reviews, Masterplans • Human Rights/Equality/Inclusion Frameworks and Plans • Darebin Policy Review Lens
Supporting Procedures and Guidelines	National Asset Management Accountability Framework (NAMAF); VAGO AM Guidelines; 10 Year Capital Works Funding Strategy (adopted October 2019); ISO 55001; Essential Safety Measures Guidelines; International Infrastructure Management Manual; other applicable Financial Policies and State Government Guidelines
Legislation/ Regulation	<p>LG Act 2020: Sec 92 Asset Plan</p> <p>LG Act 2020: Part 4 – Planning and Financial Management, Section 89 Strategic planning principles</p> <p>Road Management Act 2004</p>
Author	Manager, Property and Business Improvement
Policy Owner/ Sponsor	General Manager, Governance and Engagement
Date Effective	XXX (Date adopted by Council)
Review Date	June 2023. This policy shall be reviewed every two (2) years to ensure alignment with other Council policies and the Council Plan.
Version Number	1.0
Document ID	XXX
Content enquiries	Manager, Property and Business Improvement

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All Darebin policies and procedures must be developed through the lens of key Darebin strategies, plans and related considerations. See the **Darebin Policy Review Lens** to inform and guide policy development and review.

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Asset Management Strategy

2021 to 2025

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

THE CASE FOR CHANGE

Darebin’s Council Plan 2021-25 sets a progressive agenda to deliver positive, fair and real outcomes for current and future generations in Darebin. Key to this and Council’s municipal responsibilities are the assets we own, manage and operate are supported by sound, equitable sustainable and effective management of assets to create a liveable environment and contribute to a strong local Community. Community infrastructure contributes to achieving important social policy outcomes, including preventative health, social inclusion and tolerance, stronger social capital and community resilience and better access to broad-based education and learning.

Our 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy outlines the key areas of focus, what we will do, proposed outcomes and the improvements needed to achieve Council’s vision from a customer experience and service delivery perspective - all this, whilst considering the long term financial and inter-generational impact. We will ensure that our asset management activities are strategically integrated across our organisation for the lifecycle of the assets, as we continue to place equity, inclusion, human rights and our community’s wellbeing and quality of life at the heart of what we do. The 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy also sets out how our activities align with the Council Plan 2021-25; how we will deliver the outcomes we have promised to the community; and how we will create capacity and capability to support future direction and strategic intent.

It is timely that we have set a new challenge with the 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy as we need to build upon the good work and planning undertaken recently, shift our approach from reactive to proactive; from relying on the good will and intensive effort of our people, to improved planning, better data management, more efficient processes, improved results and, most importantly, delivering fair and positive outcomes for the community.

I look forward to improving our approach to managing our assets and, in doing so, improving the quality of life for the people of Darebin.

Photo. Darebin City Council, Chief Executive Officer Sue Wilkinson



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A FRESH APPROACH TO ASSET MANAGEMENT

Our 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy (AM Strategy) is first and foremost, applied to the benefit of the community by way of ensuring that Council's physical assets support the services and functions provided by Darebin City Council (Council). Our AM Strategy sets out a fresh approach to asset management (AM) for Council and establishes a foundation for us to move forward and focus our attention on key strategic and operational asset management improvement initiatives including:

- Aligning and integrating AM principles, objectives and activities within Councils overall suite of strategies, priorities and plans
- Assigning dedicated resources for strategic asset management activities
- Establishing an asset data and information improvement program
- Developing asset risk assessment tools
- Upgrading and integrating asset management technology
- Improving asset management decision-making processes
- Meaningfully, equitably and inclusively engaging our stakeholders and community to ensure community infrastructure is accessible, equitable, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the diverse Darebin community
- Ultimately, ensuring we provide fair and good outcomes to the community while remaining financially sustainable, socially responsible and adaptive to climate change.

Acknowledging the introduction of the new Local Government Act in 2020 coupled with the commencement of the new Council Term in October 2020, there are municipal, region, state and federal priorities that will continue to change and at more rapid pace with the uncertainty and unpredictability of 21st Century drivers and pressures.

At a minimum, challenges for our current and new Council will include:

- **Recovery from Pandemic** – significant disruption and change forced upon Council, its services, community expectation and business continuity
- **The climate emergency** – causing damage and harm to our health, human rights, social fabric, environment, infrastructure and economy
- **A growing population and changing community needs** – as Melbourne becomes Australia's largest city the challenges that come with population growth and the ever-evolving community needs in the 21st century city
- **A changing economy** – placing demands on services, transport, infrastructure, education and employment
- **Growing inequality** – demand for improved social inclusion, accessibility, responsiveness to diversification, multiculturalism and different demographical group needs exacerbated by Covid19
- **Reduced funding** – requiring Council to find new ways to provide more with less
- **Changes in Technology** – agility and capacity to meet the ever-changing technological demands and the need for ubiquitous capability

At a minimum, Council is committed to:

- Aligning AM activities with Council Plan, key strategic frameworks, policies and principles to ensure AM benefits all in the Darebin community, notably people who experience or have historically experienced discrimination and disadvantage, including locational disadvantage in the distribution (and quality/maintenance) of assets
- Applying an integrated and holistic approach to implementing AM across Council
- Improving its overall AM capability

- Maximising the return on investment from Council assets and improving financial performance
- Addressing community wellbeing (including community safety and perceptions of safety) as well as accessibility, inclusion, social fabric, community connections and harmony and access to resources
- Ensuring workplace OH&S compliance across our facilities and environs; and
- Implementing and reporting against the 2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy

At a minimum, Council must improve its AM functionality in the following:

- **Systems** – Strategic, functional, purposeful, integrated business systems including prioritisation tool
- **Data and Information** – collection, hosting, modelling and integrity of data to inform sound, evidence-based Council decision-making
- **Processes** – robust processes and procedures to manage Council’s AM activities and service delivery improvement
- **Culture** – a workforce focused on the service needs of the community using an integrated, strategic and holistic approach across Council
- **Skills** – ensuring employees have the right AM skills, capability and capacity along with adequate staff provisions for AM activities

At a minimum, Council should experience an increase in efficiencies and the effectiveness of its AM activities by:

- Improving our financial sustainability and asset performance by:
 - understanding the lifecycle and performance of assets
 - improving decision-making on capital works, timing and project management capability
 - ensuring a baseline of \$30m per annum is dedicated to asset renewal which will ensure that service levels will be maintained to a satisfactory standard
 - improving our response to evidence-based, policy or legislative requirements such as renewal, public safety, accessibility and environmental priorities
- Identifying and mitigating service risks caused by assets which are not consistently identified under existing processes
- Migrating from a reactive maintenance culture to a preventive maintenance culture
- Understanding and responding to the criticality of certain assets; and
- Reducing the overall lifecycle costs associated with the assets whilst maintaining service levels.
- Recognising and responding to the diversity, social inclusion and different demographical needs and expectations of fairness and equity of our Darebin community
- Ensuring asset-related transactions including procurement are conducted in line with the Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy and Fraud and Corruption Guidelines.

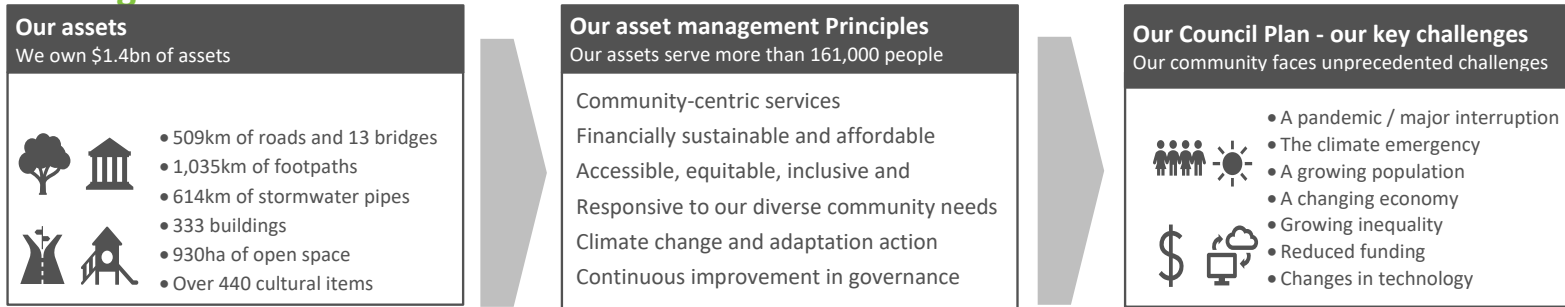
Implementation of the AM Strategy will commence late 2021 and will be supported by an Asset Management Improvement Action Plan and Asset Management Plans (AM Plans are individual asset class plans i.e. Roads, Buildings, Drainage). The AM Improvement Action Plan is an operational plan derived from the AM Strategy that outlines what all the improvement tasks and actions are, who is responsible for completion of the tasks, and timelines. It is designed to ensure priority improvements driven by business and community requirements are delivered in a timely way.

Acknowledging that we have an ambitious goal and some work ahead of us, our AM Strategy provides a robust roadmap for our asset management journey over the next five years. By applying evidence-based and contemporary asset management practices and aligning to the many key Council strategies and plans, we aim to achieve our objectives.

To assist with communicating the direction and intent of the AM Strategy, it is presented as a one-page strategy as follows:

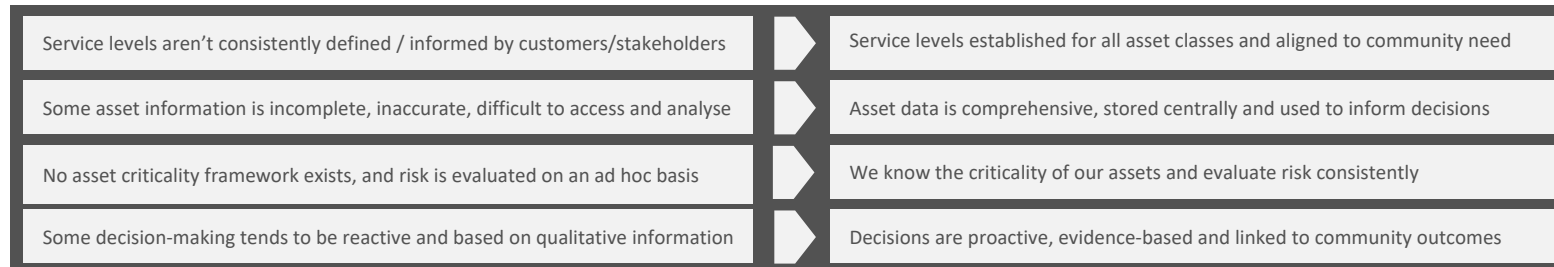
SUMMARY OF DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL 2021-2025 ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Strategic context



Where are we? (current status)

Where do we want to be? (future status)



Baseline asset management improvements expected



Acronyms

AMIS	Asset Management Information System
AM	Asset Management
AMP	Asset Management Plan
AMS	2021-2025 Asset Management Strategy
DCP	Development Contributions Plan
DRFA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements
FGRS	Fair Go Rates System
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
NAMAF	National Asset Management Assessment Framework
OPF	Organisational Policy Framework
PMO	Project Management Office
VAGO	Victorian Auditor-General's Office

1 PURPOSE – WHY ASSET MANAGEMENT

1.1 WHAT IS ASSET MANAGEMENT?

Asset management is the systematic approach to the governance and management of assets whilst maximising service delivery potential and managing related risks and lifecycle costs. It enables Council to provide affordable, accessible, equitable, inclusive and responsive services for the present and future generations.

Council owns and maintains assets such as roads, buildings, parks and open space, land, lightings, cultural collections, libraries and vehicles to support service provision to the community it serves.

The long-lived nature of many assets and the need for their ongoing capital, renewal and maintenance means that planning must be on an understanding of the full lifecycle costs, and should address both short and long-term financial and service planning needs.

Well maintained infrastructure plays an important role in forming the look and feel of an area so asset management must also recognise the impact that Council's assets have on the health and wellbeing of the community as well as their rights.

Community infrastructure contributes to achieving other important social policy outcomes, including preventative health, social inclusion and tolerance, stronger social capital and community resilience and better access to broad-based education and learning.

Asset management is the practical vehicle for:

1. Improving the well-being of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well; and
2. Ensuring that our services, programs and facilities benefit all including people who experience disadvantage or discrimination.

It is important that Council understands all of the steps in the lifecycle of an asset and who is responsible for each step. Holistic lifecycle asset management involves all activities associated with managing our community assets including:

- Planning
- Creating / acquiring
- Operating
- Maintaining
- Renewing, Replacing, Recycling, Retiring and
- Disposing of assets.

Figure 1. shows the numerous activities associated within the life cycle of asset management.



Figure 1: Lifecycle Asset Management

To support the lifecycle management of assets, clear strategic direction, sound financial planning and the identification and mitigation of risk associated with Council’s assets must also be in place.

Grouping of similar assets are placed into *asset classes* for identification and management. Darebin’s asset classes include:

- Buildings
- Roads and Bridges
- Leisure and culture
- Parks and Open space
- Cultural Collections
- Fleet and Plant
- Drainage
- Information Technology

Council manages its community assets in the context of:

- Localised community needs
- local, state and national plans and commitments, notably to social justice and environment
- Policies; and
- Legislation and standards.

By managing its assets this way, Council can ensure it continues to deliver services that respond to the needs of the Darebin community in its diversity while ensuring compliance with relevant legislation and standards, and alignment with strategy and priorities.

1.2 ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY (AM POLICY) AND OBJECTIVES

Council has set clear direction with the development of a new AM Policy. The purpose of the AM Policy is:

To outline Darebin City Council’s commitment and approach to sustainably managing our assets for the benefit of current and future generations and to ensure that our asset management practices are from the start, focused on our community in its diversity and contribute to improved outcomes for all, particularly community members who experience disadvantage or discrimination. We will ensure that our asset management activities are integrated across our organisation for the lifecycle of the assets, as we continue to place our community’s wellbeing and quality of life at the heart of what we do.

Reviewed every two (2) years, our AM Policy sets the direction and outlines the principle-based approach that we take. It also assigns roles and responsibilities for how Darebin will manage its assets.

The AM Policy supports key strategic and operational plans including the Council Plan, Asset Plan (due June 2022) and the Long-Term Financial Plan and informs the AM Strategy.

This policy applies to the planning, funding, creation, acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal/retiring of all Council assets and includes:

1. All Council owned physical assets; and
2. All physical assets that Council does not own but has direct responsibility for, or control over.

Council and all Council employees are responsible for adherence to this policy in their day-to-day (including design) activities, operational and strategic planning. Below are the AM Policy Principles and Objectives that guide Council's asset management practices:

Our approach to asset management will be based on the following principles:

- **Community-centric** services with relevant and clear community benefit and value and opportunities for community input and engagement
- **Financially sustainable** investment decisions that optimise asset performance, return on investment and affordability
- **Accessible, equitable, inclusive and responsive to needs** of our diverse community, improving equity, inclusion, fulfillment of rights and health outcomes
- **Climate change** and adaptation responsibilities underpinning our approach to asset management, recognising the need for climate/environmental justice, to jointly address social inequality and environmental breakdown
- **Continuous improvement** in governance, developing integrated systems, improving quality, compliance and reporting

To support the intent of the Principles, Council has Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Results—driven and Time-bound (SMART) objectives that all Council AM activities will be recorded and measured against.

Our SMART Asset Management Objectives for 2021-2025:

1. Ensure community services are supported by service levels and standards that demonstrate an appropriate balance of community expectation through community consultation, with the objectives and requirements of Council.
2. Drive prudent investment decisions throughout the asset lifecycle – from acquisition to disposal, to ensure adequate funding in the short and long term (acknowledging inter-generational impact), whilst delivering robust financial performance.
3. Reduce discrimination, disadvantage, barriers to community participation and the unequal distribution of assets, as well as inappropriate resourcing that hinders equity, diversity, access and inclusion.
4. Reduce environmental impact, improve the resilience of our infrastructure and align our asset management activities with climate adaptation responsibilities and preparing our community for change, in an equitable, inclusive and rights-based way.
5. Implement data-driven, evidence-based decision-making that is derived from risk (including safety), compliance and performance standards, supported by the use of smart technology and a sound governance framework.

Actions that enable and support the achievement of objectives are outlined in the Asset Management Improvement Plan (AMI Plan) - refer Section 6. In an environment whereby resources are limited, activities and actions are prioritised in line with the needs of our community, legislative/compliance obligations, safety requirements and the availability of resources.

1.3 WHAT IS AN ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY?

An AM Strategy is a strategic document that guides and informs the management of Council’s assets. It defines the direction Council will take with its assets and the activities needed to improve its asset management capability and effectiveness. It provides a four-year outlook supporting the vision of Council, the AM Policy and through the AM Framework (Figure 2), aligns asset management activities to and our key strategies and plans.



Figure 2: Council's Asset Management Framework

Following are examples of key strategies and plans that inform the AM Policy and Strategy:

- Community Vision,
- 10 Year Financial Plan
- 10 year Asset Plan
- Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan)
- Annual Budget
- Municipal Development Contributions Scheme and Plan
- Annual Capital Works Plan and 10 Year Capital Works Plan
- Borrowing Policy
- Darebin Community Engagement Policy 2021 and Framework
- Towards Equality – Equity Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029
- Climate Emergency Plan
- Internal Audit Plan
- Property Asset Management Strategy, Open Space Strategy (Breathing Space)
- Service-related community infrastructure plans (i.e. Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework and Neighbourhood House Facilities Plan) and service plans
- Transport and Economic Development strategies
- Age Friendly Darebin, Community Safety Framework
- Darebin Drainage Strategy
- Watershed: Darebin Whole of Water Cycle Management Strategy 2015 to 2025

1.4 DAREBIN'S APPROACH TO ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE

In April 2020, the State Government proclaimed the new Local Government Act 2020, which clearly outlines the legislative obligations of Council regarding asset management. The legislation states:

Sec. 92 Asset Plan

(1) Subject to subsection (6), a Council must develop, adopt and keep in force an Asset Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.

(2) The scope of an Asset Plan is a period of at least the next 10 financial years.

(3) An Asset Plan must include the following—

(a) information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under the control of the Council;

(b) any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

(4) Subject to subsection (6), a Council must develop or review the Asset Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Asset Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election, other than the first general election to be conducted under section 257(1)(a).

(5) The Asset Plan adopted under subsection (4) has effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.

(6) A Council must develop and adopt an Asset Plan under this section in accordance with its community engagement policy by 30 June 2022 following the first general election to be conducted under section 257(1)(a).

(7) The Asset Plan adopted under subsection (6) has effect from 1 July 2022.

The Local Government Act 2020 has other sections that relate to asset management other than Sec. 92 specifically.

Part 4 – Planning and Financial Management, Section 89 Strategic planning principles:

“(1) A Council must undertake the preparation of its Council Plan and other strategic plans in accordance with the strategic planning principles.

(2) The following are the strategic planning principles—

(a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;

(b) strategic planning must address the Community Vision;

- (c) strategic planning must take into account, the resources needed for effective implementation;
- (d) strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation;
- (e) strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances”.

Also included:

Section 65 Community Asset Committee

- (1) A Council may establish a Community Asset Committee and appoint as many members to the Community Asset Committee as the Council considers necessary to enable the Community Asset Committee to achieve the purpose specified in subsection (2).
- (2) A Council may only establish a Community Asset Committee for the purpose of managing a community asset in the municipal district.

The new Local Government Act 2020 is the most ambitious reform to the local government sector in over 30 years. It is intended that the Act will improve local government democracy, accountability and service delivery for all Victorians.

In addition to legislative requirements, the AM Strategy is aligned with the requirements of ISO 55001 (the International Standard for Asset Management), the National Asset Management Accountability Framework (NAMAF) and the International Infrastructure Management Manual.

Council has designed the AM Strategy and AM Improvement Action Plan to deliver on the requirements of the Act and other state government legislative requirements, industry standards and dovetails into the overall Council corporate planning framework (refer Section 2.5).



Picture: J C Donath Reserve Skatepark

2 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 OUR COMMUNITY

The City of Darebin is situated between 5 and 15km north of Melbourne’s CBD on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. The City encompasses a total land area of 53 square kilometres with a diverse and growing population. Key community statistics are shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Key community statistics for the City of Darebin

2.2 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

The Darebin 2041 Community Vision is:

Darebin is an equitable, vibrant and connected community.

Darebin respects and supports First Nations People, values country, our diverse communities and places.

Darebin commits to mitigating the climate emergency, creating prosperity for current and future generations.

Supporting the visions, there are key pillars identified as:

 <p>Vibrant, Respectful and Connected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating all diverse communities and uplifting different voices in places of power • Connection to, and preservation of, local history acknowledging past harm and trauma • Vibrant and dynamic spaces, amenities and events • Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, living culture and connection to country • One Darebin, no suburb left behind 	 <p>Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging and incentivising business investment and growth in the sustainability sector • Creating equitable and diverse opportunities for employment and volunteering • Being a 20-minute city with access to amenities and services close to our homes • Sustaining community ownership of services and maintaining the health and wellbeing of all, across all life stages • Making Darebin a Victorian centre for creative industry and the arts. • Ensuring development and the built environment are designed for liveability and sustainability 	 <p>Climate, Green and Sustainable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking urgent action on the climate emergency, leading and educating communities and businesses • Making decisions that are community driven, transparent, socially and equitably just and equitable • Providing and promoting safe and sustainable transport • Regenerating, enhancing and protecting ecosystems and biodiversity • Integrating ecological solutions in the built environment, promoting sustainable development and retrofitting practices, which protect natural assets and strive for zero carbon emissions
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These pillars become our strategic directions for the next four years. Under each of these pillars, we commit to strategies objectives (what we want to achieve), indicators (how we can tell if we have), key actions (what actions we will take), and the health and wellbeing priorities they will address.

2.3 OUR COUNCIL PLAN 2021`-2025 GOALS

Darebin's Council Plan 2021-25 identifies 10 big action items incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Our 10 Big Actions

- 1 **Build infrastructure for the future** by redeveloping Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, redeveloping BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir, and building Darebin Intercultural Centre in Preston
- 2 **Plan infrastructure for decades to come** by redeveloping Reservoir Leisure Centre, activating Edwardes Lake Boat House in Reservoir, building new kindergarten facilities, and undertaking a feasibility study for a Global Learning Hub in Preston
- 3 **Continue to lead with our response to the climate emergency** by updating our Climate Emergency Plan to set out how to best achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions for Darebin by 2030, offering solar installations and energy retrofits to pensioners and vulnerable communities, delivering new business and community power purchase partnerships, supporting a shift to a circular economy and massively reducing our waste going to landfill, and delivering projects and programs aimed to improve safety for people cycling, walking and wheeling, increasing active travel which will also reduce transport emissions
- 4 **Deepen our commitment to truth and justice for First Nations communities** in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples who live and work in Darebin
- 5 **Support vulnerable members of our community** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, expanding our homelessness Assertive Outreach program, and supporting community-led programs in East Reservoir and East Preston, to achieve greater physical and mental health, and wellbeing for all
- 6 **Champion local business and creative industries** by providing support with COVID-19 recovery, facilitating the establishment of a Darebin Chamber of Commerce, and improving the lighting and safety of our retail precincts and business activity centres
- 7 **Build a more inclusive community for all** by supporting Darebin's multicultural communities, reducing racism and discrimination, increasing access to our Council's services and sporting assets by groups who are under-represented, developing our Disability Action Plan to improve access for all to our services and infrastructure, and achieving Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for our services and activities
- 8 **Improve the quality of development** and work to protect all that we love about Darebin by pursuing protections for Preston Market, conducting a Planning Scheme review informed by in-depth community consultation, and reviewing our Parking Permit Policy
- 9 **Protect our natural environment and biodiversity** by improving water quality in Edwardes Lake, increasing tree canopy coverage in our parks, residential areas and retail precincts, and enhancing understorey planting
- 10 **Expand our delivery of quality universal services** across the lifespan by providing more three-year-old kindergarten places, continuing to deliver our flagship Age Friendly Darebin project, expanding aged care direct services, and registering to become an aged care package provider

The Council Plan 2021-25 identifies four strategic directions to achieve the vision. To link the strategic directions to activities, strategic objectives have been developed that provides the link to series of action items underneath to strategic directions. The table below outlines asset management outcomes for each direction and objective.

Council Plan Strategic Direction	Strategic Objective	Darebin City Council Indicators
<p>Vibrant, Respectful and Connected</p>	<p>Our Darebin will celebrate all our diverse communities.</p> <p>We will uplift different voices in places of power, influence and decision-making.</p> <p>We will recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values, and honour their living culture and connection to country.</p> <p>We will support connection to, and the preservation of, local history, and acknowledge past harm and trauma.</p> <p>Our Darebin will be one filled with vibrant and dynamic spaces, amenities and events. It will be a city where no suburb, or person, will be left behind.</p> <p>We are one Darebin.</p>	<p>We will develop partnerships with organisations from across our city, to value and include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds</p> <p>Number of people or groups from culturally diverse and diverse backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, accessing Council services and sporting assets</p>
<p>Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing</p>	<p>Our Darebin will encourage and incentivise business investment and growth in the sustainability sector.</p> <p>We will create equitable and diverse opportunities for employment and volunteering.</p> <p>We will make Darebin a centre for creative industry and the arts in Victoria.</p>	<p>We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well</p> <p>We will design and create public spaces where our people feel safe, welcome, and respected, including improving lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving</p> <p>Improved occupancy of buildings by community groups and/or for community wellbeing purposes</p> <p>Increase in the city-wide perceptions of safety over four years (> by 1%)</p> <p>Zero deaths of vulnerable road users on Darebin’s roads and streets</p>

	<p>We are a 20-minute city, and will ensure our community’s access to amenities and services close to our homes.</p> <p>We will sustain our community’s ownership of services across their lifespan.</p> <p>We will maintain the health and wellbeing of all.</p> <p>Our Darebin will ensure development, and the built environment, is designed for our liveability and sustainability.</p>	<p>We will foster local urban streetscapes and activity centres that connect our community, support economic recovery, and encourage people to live, work and play locally</p> <p>We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors</p>	<p>Number of trees planted in activity centres</p> <p>Community satisfaction with our streetscapes ‘look and feel’</p> <p>Increased number of accessible car parking spaces</p>
<p>Climate, Green and Sustainable</p>	<p>Our Darebin will take urgent action on the climate emergency facing our world. We will lead and educate our community and businesses to redress the imbalance.</p> <p>We will make decisions that are driven by our community. Our decisions will be transparent, and socially and equitably just. Our decisions will be equitable for our community.</p> <p>We will provide and promote safe and sustainable transport across our city.</p> <p>We will lead the regeneration, enhancement and protection of our natural ecosystems and biodiversity.</p> <p>We will integrate ecological solutions into our built environment. We will promote sustainable development and</p>	<p>We will adapt to climate change and build the resilience of our community, infrastructure and the built environment, with a focus on our vulnerable communities at risk of fuel poverty, and flooding</p> <p>Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas</p> <p>We will reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy on a large scale for Council buildings and through community focused initiatives</p>	<p>Number of actions taken to protect the built environment from flooding and extreme heat</p> <p>Number of indigenous plants planted</p> <p>% canopy cover on public land</p> <p>% Council energy supplied from renewable sources</p>

	retrofitting practices that protect our natural assets. Our Darebin will strive for zero carbon emissions		
Responsible, Transparent and Responsive	Our Darebin is responsible, and responsive, to our community’s needs, now and into the future. We will make our decisions in the best interests of our community – transparently, and with integrity. We will manage our resources effectively, and plan for our future growth. We will work in partnership with our community, business, and other government, to fulfill our responsibilities as the custodians of our city. Our Darebin is progressive. Our Darebin is accountable. Our Darebin is a leader.	We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future	Victorian Auditor General’s Office (VAGO) indicators: liquidity; net result; adjusted underlying result; internal financing; indebtedness
		We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community	Victorian Auditor General’s Office (VAGO) indicator: asset renewal and capital replacement Increase occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings
		We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community	Key performance indicators for our key services (based on data submitted to State Government through its Local Government Performance Reporting Framework)

Table 1: Darebin City Council’s asset management outcomes

2.4 HOW DO ASSETS BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY?

The Council Plan outlines our vision, goals and actions to serve the community and improve the quality of life in Darebin. Assets play a critical role in delivering services to the community and realising the aims of the Council Plan. Table 2. provides an overview of our asset classes and how our assets enable the provision of services to our community.

Asset Class	Services Description
Roads and Bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the safe and equitable movement of people and goods within and through the city by both motorised and non-motorised transport and vehicles, taking into account the imperative to address the climate emergency facilitate the safe and equitable movement of pedestrians through the city (incl footpaths and walkways), particularly taking into account gender, age and abilities Provision of adequate and inclusive lighting and signage to meet required standards and enhance community wellbeing and safety
Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the community by providing services across the lifespan i.e. children, youth, aged, as well as to the whole Darebin community in its diversity, including people who experience or have historically experienced discrimination and disadvantage Provide suitable accessible, inclusive and welcoming spaces in which Council can provide services both to the community and for the community, includes lighting Recognise this is Aboriginal land Provide spaces to provide administrative and operational services to support the operation of Council for the benefit of the community Provide spaces for commercial activity for the benefit of the community Provide support to the community by provision of commercial services through residential, entertainment and relaxation services
Drainage & Stormwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood protection and mitigation Integrated Water Management Natural amenity Public Safety
Parks & Open Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide accessible, equitable and inclusive spaces for active and passive recreation, including playgrounds, that respond to the diversity of the Darebin community Recognise and respectfully draw from local Aboriginal knowledge to “rewild” the municipality Provide spaces in support of sporting clubs Provide access to water, Shade, rest places, recreation and wellbeing amenities Provide the “breathing space” for our city including parks and gardens Provide opportunities for accessible, equitable and inclusive active and passive recreation activities Provide the “green lungs” for our community

Fleet and Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide vehicles (light and heavy fleet) to support service provision, while seeking to limit carbon emissions by adapting to technologies • Provide plant and equipment necessary to support the delivery of services
Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports administrative and operational services • Provision of ubiquitous IT capability to support SMART City • Provides the community with internet, WIFI and research services at libraries and other Council locations and seeks to reduce the digital divide
Cultural Collections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides educational and cultural services, indoor & outdoor cultural collections that support truth-telling about local and Australian history • Supports the history of Council and heritage collections, acknowledging that Traditional Owners and custodians, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, cared for this land for thousands of years pre-invasion and • Recognises the diverse range of people and cultures from other countries and the local Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people

Table 2: How our assets provide services to the community

2.5 ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Darebin is committed to building a fair, inclusive and equitable City, particularly as it changes with population growth and action to address climate change. We know our diverse community is our greatest asset for building a greener, bolder, more connected city, which is why we put residents, business owners and the community sector at the heart of our decision-making. Council’s Community Engagement Policy 2021 ensures we conduct our community engagement in a way that includes all voices in our community and is open and transparent to ensure the community can trust the decisions we make as caretakers of this City.

Given that assets exist to provide services, meaningful, equitable and inclusive community engagement is integral to asset management. Council undertakes comprehensive research and community engagement programs to determine community and service needs at multiple levels. For example, this includes community engagement on the:

- Community Vision
- Council Plan
- Annual Budget; and
- Individual projects required to deliver these Plans.

Council also intends to engage with the community to set service levels and performance targets for specific asset classes and / or services.

Our AM engagement approach follows Darebin’s Community Engagement Policy requirements and we will align to the principles of the Policy outlined below:

- A genuine opportunity to shape the way our local government works
- Focused on providing input to solving challenges
- Representative of community needs
- Building on our relationships with the community which are essential to providing trust in our work
- Accessible, easy and enjoyable
- Ensures that Council closes the loop with outcomes of community engagement shared

2.6 INTEGRATION BETWEEN ASSET MANAGEMENT AND OTHER COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

A key outcome of the Asset Management Strategy is to ensure that Council’s asset management decisions are aligned to the Council Plan and key strategies. This means the management of our assets must interface with numerous other Council objectives including responding to the climate emergency, supporting a diverse and inclusive community and maintaining financial sustainability. The Local Government Act 2020 requires the Asset Plan to be in place by June 2022. This process is facilitated through Council’s Integrated planning and reporting framework (Figure 5.) as below:

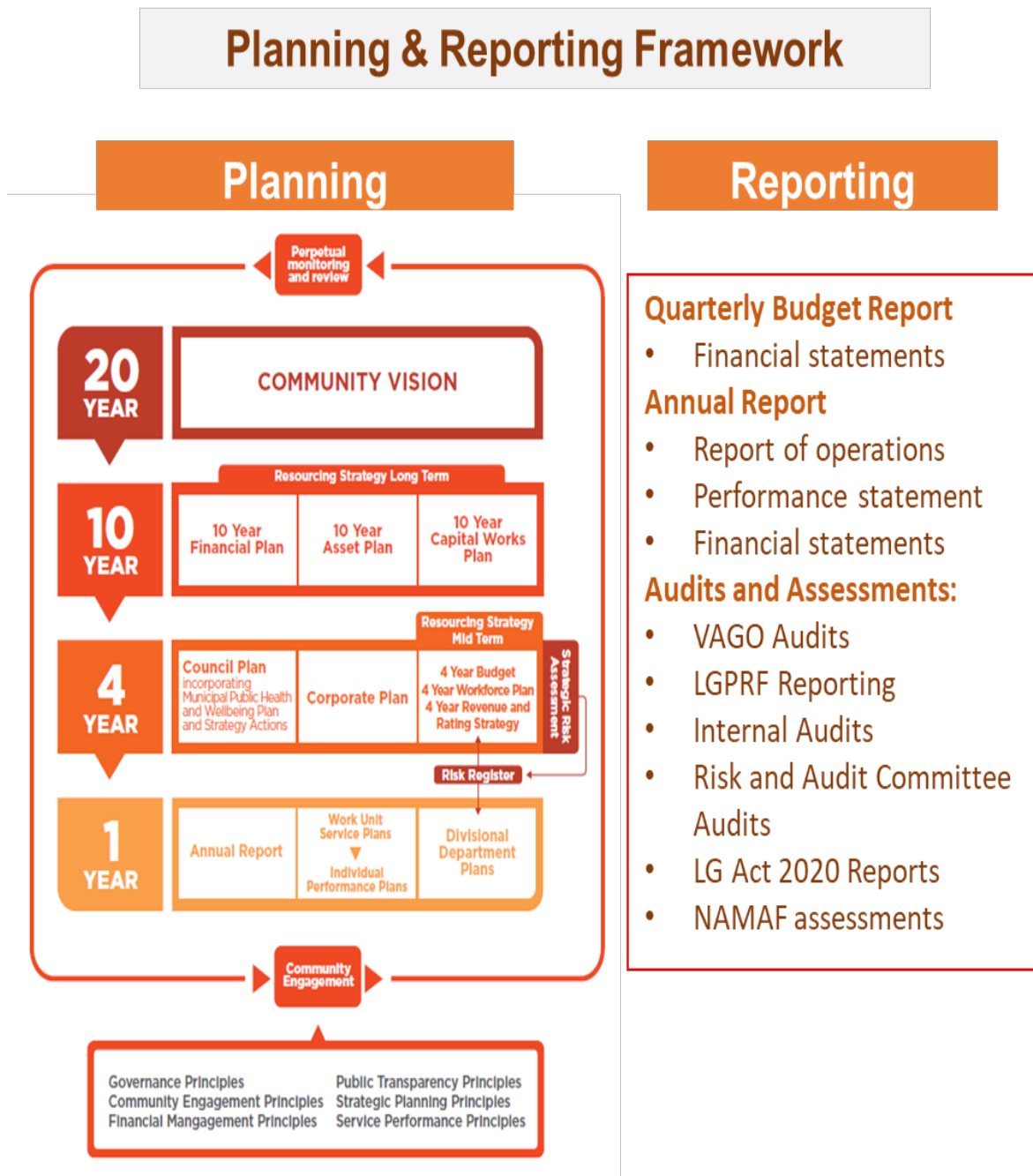


Figure 5: Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework – LG Act 2020

To achieve a fully integrated approach to decision-making, Council must align the AM Strategy, objectives and decision-making with Council’s other strategies including but not limited to:

Long Term Financial Plan	Community Infrastructure Plans and/or Community Service Review Plans
Future Darebin	Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan 2015
Towards Equality - Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029	Darebin Housing Demand and Supply Analysis 2020
Community Engagement Strategy and Framework	Corporate Risk Management Strategy
Development Contributions Plan	Darebin Affordable Housing Review 2020

Figure 6. below illustrates the relationship, integration and information flow between the Council Plan and supporting strategies and asset management planning and implementation. The new Asset Plan will be in place by 2022 (as per LG Act 2020) overarching the AMP and AMS.

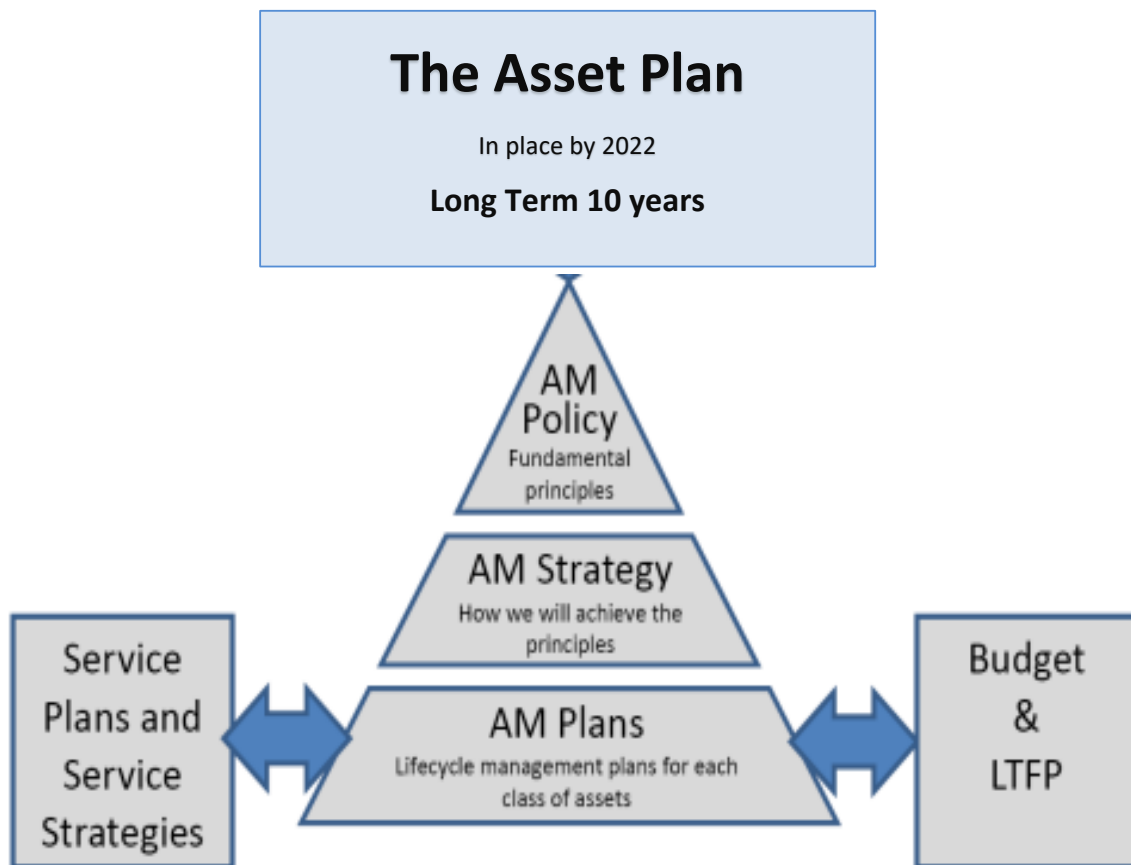


Figure 6: the relationship between the required LG Act Integrating Asset Management Activity with the Council Plan

To further support the integration and information flow, embedding asset management practices and other key strategic outcomes in Council policy is fundamental to our success. The key to achieving this is through our Organisational Policy Framework which Council has already developed. The Organisational Policy Framework aims to:

- Provide employees with clear policy direction regarding Council’s strategic intent, priorities, operational activities and desired outcomes
- Empower and enable employees to develop, decide, act and deliver in an effective, timely and accountable manner
- Ensure compliance to legislation and regulations
- Provide simple and easy to access procedures in a mapped format.

Figure 7. below shows the hierarchy of the organisational policy framework.

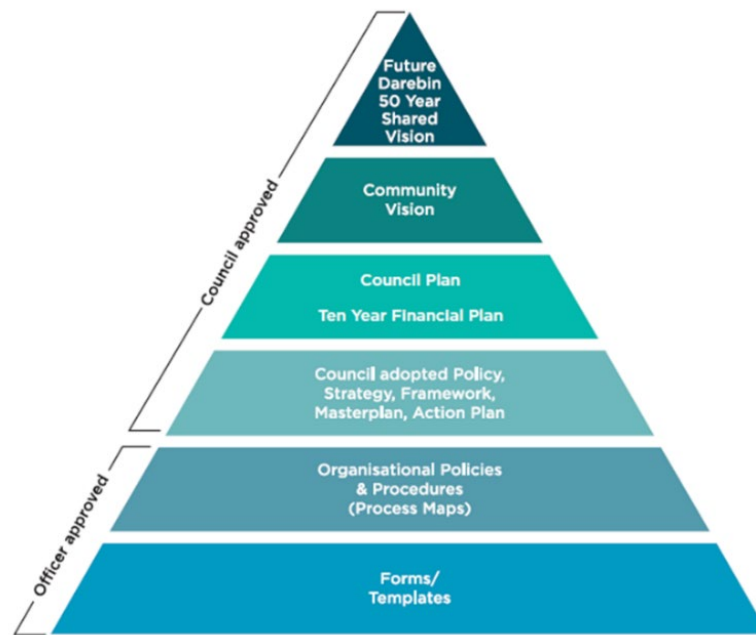


Figure 7: Organisational Policy Framework

The Organisational Policy Framework is made up of policies and procedures as set out in Table 3.

POLICIES	PROCEDURES
Guiding principle that helps the organisation to take logical decisions	Steps to be followed consistently to accomplish an end result
Set of common rules to inform decisions and behaviours	A how to/step by step process Usually linked to policy

Table 3: Policies and Procedures

The process to review all policies and procedures is documented using the Organisational Policy Template, applying the policy review lens, as well as comparing against best practice and relevant legislation.

2.7 POLICY REVIEW LENS

To assist officers, Council has developed a Darebin Policy Review Lens resource covering 7 themes that require consideration when developing and reviewing policies, strategies and plan.

1. Aged Friendly Darebin
2. Community Engagement
3. Environment and Climate Emergency

4. Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing
5. Occupational Health and Safety
6. Social and Sustainable Procurement
7. Values and Behaviours

Our AM Strategy was developed through the Policy Review Lens.

3 CURRENT STATE OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

Figure 8. below is an overview of assets under Council management:



Figure 8: Overview of assets managed by Council in FY2018-19

3.1 REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATE OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

3.1.1 VICTORIAN AUDITOR-GENERAL’S OFFICE (VAGO) ASSESSMENT

Our State Government understands the challenges that local governments face when planning, managing, and disposing of assets. In Victoria alone, local government is accountable for over \$103b of infrastructure, \$2.7b capital works annually and hold over \$1b in borrowings to support these initiatives.

In May 2019, the Victorian Auditor-General’s Office produced a consolidated audit report on Local Government Assets: Asset Management and Compliance. This report provided a summary of findings from an audit of asset management performance completed with the support of five Councils across Victoria. The City of Darebin was one of the Councils audited.

The intent of the audit was to identify strengths and weaknesses of LG asset management practices and to develop ways to support the sector.

The audit focussed on the following AM functions:

- Asset Management policy, governance and roles
- Identifying asset information needs
- Information management processes

- Documenting new assets
- Asset maintenance and failure information
- Accuracy and completeness of asset information
- Asset information management systems
- Capital and operational planning
- Using asset Risk
- Asset management capability and resources.

The action plan recommended by VAGO for Darebin is shown in table 4 below. This audit has informed the AM Strategy and is part of the systemic approach to improving our overall AM practices. The VAGO audit action plan forms part of Darebin’s AMI Plan.

1.	<i>Revise governance and policy guidance for asset investment decision-making to instruct that it is evidence-based.</i>
2.	<i>Clearly determine and document the information needed for effective asset reporting and decision-making, including ensuring Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) needs are met.</i>
3.	<i>Establish more consistent and systematic processes for data collection on all asset classes to a level commensurate to the criticality of the asset and implement them to collect the information.</i>
4.	<i>Structure asset management information systems so they can easily record and access data to enable analysis for planning and decision-making. This may include acquiring new systems and/or integrating systems.</i>
5.	<i>Identify critical assets and the potential risks of their failure, to inform investment priorities.</i>
6.	<i>Integrate asset management planning into financial planning cycles and processes to ensure council balances asset investment needs against their objectives and funding constraints.</i>
7.	<i>Evaluate capability, including resource, skills and training to meet identified asset management needs, potentially using the National Asset Management Assessment Framework.</i>

Table 4: Action Plan recommended by VAGO

3.1.2 NATIONAL ASSET MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK (NAMAF) ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

In 2009, the then Local Government and Planning Ministers’ Council (LGPMC) agreed to enhance the Local Government asset management and financial planning frameworks. From this agreement the National Assessment Framework and supporting maturity model and self-assessment tool was developed to improve local government asset management and financial planning practices. NAMAF helps local government understand the linkages and integration of asset management across their corporate and business planning and service delivery framework. The logical sequence being:

Strategic Planning > Asset Planning > Long-Term Financial Planning > Resource Planning > Forward Capital Works Planning > Budget.

The elements assessed within the NAMAF model include:

- Strategic long-term planning
- Annual Budget development
- Annual reporting
- Asset management policy
- Asset management strategy
- Governance and management
- Defining levels of service
- Data and systems
- Skills and processes
- Evaluation of the above

- Asset management plans

The improvement opportunities in the NAMAf findings included:

- Review of high-level oversight / governance by the Council, CEO/GM and Executive Management Team, for development and implementation of this Asset Management Strategy
- Updating of Asset Management Plans
- Development of Service Plans
- Formalise processes such as Levels of Service and infrastructure risk
- Provide appropriate asset data combined with improved knowledge and capability

Improvement actions at asset class level will form part of the asset management plans when they have been updated and / or developed.

VAGO's comparison of the audit findings with the NAMAf self-assessments for Darebin concluded that Darebin's 2018 self-assessment differed greatly from its result in 2016, when it assessed its asset management as excellent—the highest rating available. This difference was partly due to new staff, who gave a more critical assessment score.

Darebin undertakes the NAMAf self-assessment regularly to ensure a realistic understanding of AM practices and improvements is documented and actioned. The NAMAf tool is aligned to the VAGO audit and ISO standards. The next self-assessment is scheduled for 2021.

The ongoing work being undertaken to improve asset management practices within Council include:

- Documentation and implementation of AM Governance (in progress)
- Development of the 2021-2025 AM Strategy
- Development of an AM responsibility matrix
- Employment of skilled Subject Matter Experts in their field of Asset Management expertise
- Creation of Asset Numbering (in progress)
- Development of hierarchy for Asset Classes (draft)
- Auditing of Asset and asset information for all asset classes and categories
- Finalisation of Building Asset Management Plan (draft)
- Finalisation of Roads Asset Management Plan (draft) and Road Management Plan (draft)
- Criticality assessment framework for Buildings classifications
- Buildings revaluation
- Road, kerb and channel and footpath condition assessment survey and revaluations
- Carpark and Rights-of-way and other road asset condition assessment survey and revaluations
- Park and Gardens data collection
- New IT systems including integrated financial solutions
- Alignment with Audit and Risk Committee
- Essential Safety Audit (Buildings)
- Restructure of Asset Management business unit resulting in increased resources

3.2 SERVICE LEVELS AND ASSET PERFORMANCE

As assets exist to provide services to the community, it is important that we understand the level of service the organisation (including regulatory requirements) and community desires when making decisions about investment in our assets. We have designed many ways of collecting input from the community about service levels including engagement activities during development of our Council Plan and Annual Budget, information from our annual community satisfaction survey, customer complaint data and online engagement through our “Your say” site.

Although we have many ways to elicit input from the community, currently only our Road Asset Management Plan uses this community input in a comprehensive way to create well-defined levels of service and performance targets. This use of community input will need to be duplicated across all our asset classes during the life of this strategy.

The levels of service are recognised in two forms, community based (the community indicator being measured) and technical based (the indicator related to the technical activity that is required to achieve the community-based level of service). An example of both forms of level-of-service for a building follows.

Community based level of service:

- *The building will provide a safe environment for users*
- *The building will be accessible to community in line with programming requirements*

Technical based levels of service to support the community-based level of service could include:

- *The building will be compliant with all relevant legislative requirements, BCA and Council policies*
- *The building will achieve a Five Star Rating for sustainability*
- *Quality of Air through the Air Conditioning System will be monitoring annually and achieve a rating of satisfactory*

Our Road Asset Management Plan has been revised recently and includes well-defined service levels and performance targets. Our focus now is to establish clear and contemporary service levels for our other main asset classes – informed by engagement with the community and an understanding of the cost to provide those levels of service (both community and technical levels of service).

Once service levels have been agreed, the performance of our assets will be managed to meet those service levels. For some assets, this could mean they will be renewed, upgraded or better maintained to meet the desired service-level. For other assets (if they are providing better service than needed), it could mean allowing the condition of the asset to decline naturally to the standard whereby it enables the agreed level of service to be delivered.

3.3 OUR ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS (AM PLANS)

AM Plans outline the strategies and actions proposed by the Service Manager and Asset Managers to achieve Council's strategic goals and objectives. AM plans enable consistent management of each of our asset classes (e.g. roads, buildings, IT, open space, Fleet, Cultural Collections etc) and have a 10-year outlook (can be longer), focus on a specific category of assets and *manage risk to service-levels at an acceptable lifecycle cost*.

The AM plans consider asset criticality, asset condition, risk assessment, capital renewal, demand, level of service, maintenance planning and operational interventions among other factors. The purpose of an AM plan includes:

- Defining service-levels based on community input where applicable
- Aligning asset investment decisions with community outcomes and the Council Plan
- Reflecting planning outcomes determined through Masterplans, strategic planning etc
- Identifying capital expenditure (purchase, renewal, construction of new assets) and operational expenditure (maintenance, etc) needed to be meet service levels
- Cash flow forecasts for the operation, maintenance and capital expenditure of assets

Currently, some elements of our asset management planning rely on qualitative data and reactive decisions where there is an absence of good asset information, consistent risk evaluation and sufficient resourcing.

This makes it difficult to prioritise investments across asset classes, ensure integration with financial planning and be confident that demand and levels of service align on balance with the expectations and needs of the community.

Council is committed to not only ensuring quality asset information is collected and maintained, risk is consistently managed, and decision-making is evidence-based and equitable but is also committed to achieving legislative requirements.

A broad illustration of the asset management planning process (linking strategic goals with operational activities) is shown below in Figure 9.

It is important to note that strategic direction, service demand and levels of service are the foundation blocks to determining community infrastructure needs not historical data, current assets or current services.

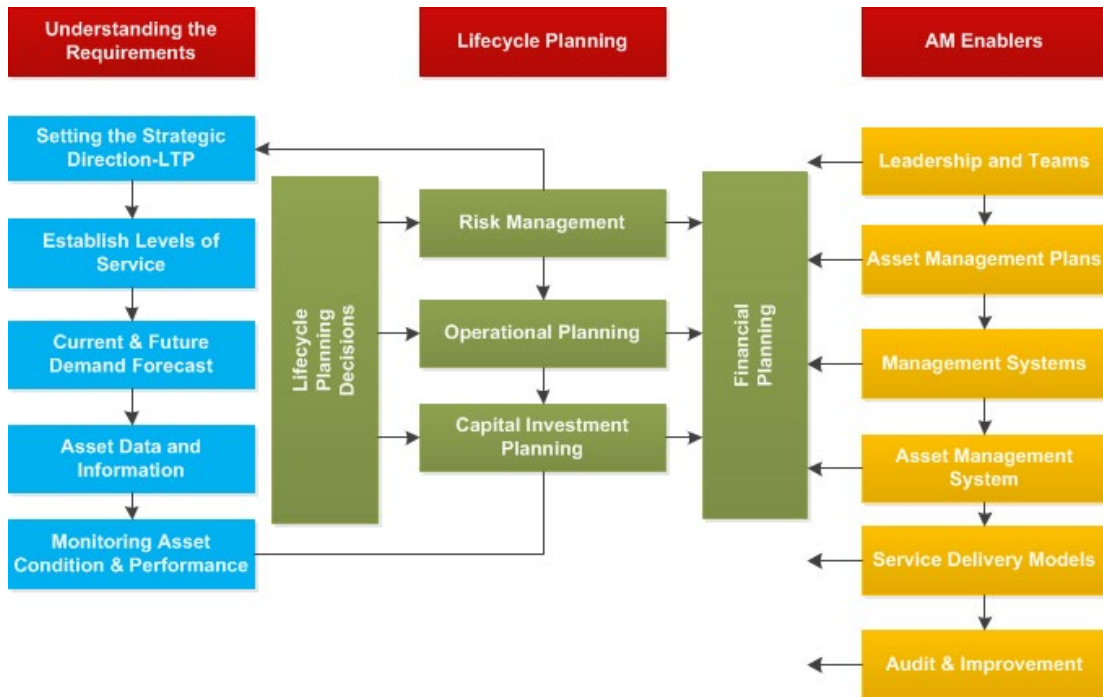


Figure 9: Asset management planning process for asset classes

AM Plan Review Schedule

Our Road Asset Management Plan has recently been updated and our Building Asset Management Plan was reviewed in June 2020. We will review our Drainage Asset Management Plan and Open Space Asset Management Plan in 2021-2022. It is proposed to review the existing Cultural Collections and Information Services (IT) AM Plans in 2021-2022. Some asset class AM Plans do not exist and need to be developed.

The review schedule for the individual AM Plans will be confirmed by the Asset Management Steering Committee – refer section 6.

The AMI Plan will highlight key improvement activities that are required to support the development of AM Plans.

3.4 CORPORATE APPLICATIONS

In relation to asset management, Council has implemented the following corporate applications:

- Implementation of a new integrated finance system including AM functionality
- Integrated Finance System (IFS – Oracle)
- Console Property Management
- Objective (records management)

- ArcView Geographical Information System
- CAMs (Pathway) customer request management
- CAMS (asset management)
- Council uses the SMEC (Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation) Pavement Management System. This is a software package, developed by SMEC, to aid road owners in the management, maintenance and monitoring of their road network.
- Assetic (Parks and Open Space)

CAMS asset management functionality includes but is not limited to:

- Asset register
- Asset valuations
- Asset condition
- Inspections
- Maintenance Management including maintenance costing
- Performance Management
- Asset Risk

As identified in the VAGO audit, CAMS and other Asset Management Information Systems have not been able to satisfy audit requirements and has limited integration with Council other applications. This is identified as an improvement action as the development and implementation of a Centralised and Integrated Strategic Asset Management System.

The Console Property Management Application has been reported as not meeting the needs of Council for the following reasons and is identified as an improvement action:

- Database not interactive with Council's IT platform
- Doesn't provide add-ons to Objective for record keeping
- There are no Asset Hierarchy fields to collect renewal data on buildings
- Financial reporting is not linked to Council's financial platform
- Regulatory Audit Trail requirements do not provide linkage to Council's records
- No features/facility for asset modelling on whole-of-life renewal or capital renewal
- Lacking in quality financial portfolio reporting
- There is no register available to integrate with CAMS
- No GIS Asset mapping integration for intuitive portfolio management

The technological impact of AM improvement is significant and will be managed in a prioritised manner in line with competing IT programs across the organisation. Any IT financial investment is authorised by the IT Steering Committee which meets regularly. All Annual Budget IT investment is approved by the IT Steering Committee prior to Council adoption.

The development of a Centralised and Integrated Strategic Asset Management System is a key element in efficient delivery of Asset Management Practises and outcomes for Darebin City Council. This has also been recognised as action item in the Council Plan 2021-25.

3.5 ASSET DATA AND INFORMATION

Effective management of our assets requires having quality data and information about our assets such as what we own, where they are, how much they cost and how well they are performing.

At present, we have complete asset information for less than 50 per cent of our assets and we have high confidence in only 22 per cent of our asset information as reported for an audit undertaken by VAGO¹. The VAGO report included the following recommendations:

¹ Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO), Local Government Assets: Asset Management and Compliance, May 2019.

- Clearly determine and document the information needed for effective asset reporting and decision-making, including ensuring Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) needs are met
- Establish more consistent and systematic processes for data collection on all asset classes to a level commensurate to the criticality of the asset and implement them to collect the information and
- Structure asset management information systems so they can easily record and access data to enable analysis for planning and decision-making. This may include acquiring new systems and/or integrating systems.

Improving the completeness and accuracy of our asset information is critical to improving our asset management practices and making better investment decisions. This is identified as an improvement action.

3.6 RISK-BASED ASSET MANAGEMENT

Given the reality of budget constraints, it is impossible to invest in all our assets at once. Instead, we need to prioritise our investment to deliver the outcomes that are either:

- Identified as priority in the Council Plan and Annual Budget
- Legislative requirement
- Public and workplace safety
- Form part of projects currently in progress

An important element of prioritisation is to understand the risk posed by and to our assets i.e. How would services/people be impacted if the asset fails using a risk-based approach to asset investment and / or renewal?

Darebin has a risk management framework in place. Darebin uses the risk management framework to ascertain both strategic and operational risks. The challenge is that risk management is not being done in a uniform manner meaning that gaps do exist in determining asset risk exposure.

Risk management has two components: the consequence of failure (how big would the impact be?) and the probability of failure (how likely is the failure?). Currently, we do not have a consistent method for determining the consequence of failure (asset criticality). We also have limited information on the condition of our assets (a proxy for how likely they are to fail).

The VAGO report recognised these limitations and included the following risk management recommendation:

- Identify critical assets and the potential risks of their failure to inform investment priorities

In addition, assets can fail in a number of ways:

- Fail to deliver the level of service
- Assets not performing as intended
- Condition of the assets
- There is a change in use or demand for the assets
- The community no longer needs the asset
- Technical changes in standards mean that although the asset still performs, it fails to comply with the required standards
- The asset becomes obsolete over time

Without addressing asset-risk, Council is open to the following risk exposure:

- OH&S issues
- Unsafe environment e.g. personal injury
- Failure to insure risks Council cannot manage or mitigate
- Non-compliance with legislation and the latest standards
- Unexpected asset failure of assets e.g. stormwater pipeline collapse

In addition to this, Council is also in the process of developing and identifying the impacts of organisational strategic risks as per the strategic risk register which will then help to analyse the risks. The impact of these risks on assets is identified along with operational risk management of assets, as an improvement action within the improvement action plan.

3.7 CAPITAL WORKS PLANNING AND FUNDING

The Financial Plan 2021-31 outlines the long term resourcing and support for the delivery of the 2041 Community Vision and Council Plan 2021-25. This is further supported by a yearly budget and a 4-Year Rating and Revenue Plan.

The funding strategy reflects the funds required to undertake the works program and is effectively the compilation of capital works from each of the asset management plans focused on a ten-year period. Year 1 of the 10 Capital Works Plan forms part of the Annual Budget. The 10 year plan is reviewed annually to ensure alignment between relevant plans.

It is also a requirement of the Local Government Act 2020 for Council to adopt an Asset Plan. The Asset Plan includes information over the same ten-year period about maintenance, renewal, expansion, upgrade, disposal and decommissioning in relation to each asset class under the control of the Council.

The major requirements for long-term capital works planning is to be able to provide a high level of confidence in the modelling, financial impact and resource allocation. Outcomes from the planning include:

- Sound asset data to assist with the planning process
- A strong understanding of the performance of the assets
- A predictive modelling tool to permit robust modelling to generate capital works projects over a ten-year period across asset classes
- Alignment of depreciation of the assets with the condition of the assets
- A greater understanding of the asset renewal requirements.

3.8 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN

Council is committed to creating a new DCP which would introduce a levy on new development to help fund new and upgraded infrastructure as the Municipality grows. A DCP is a common tool used by local government to ensure that the cost of providing infrastructure is shared between developers and the wider community on a fair and equitable basis. Council has now formally advised the Minister for Planning, who has given Council authorisation to consult with community.

Once a DCP is in place, Council will need to monitor and manage the use of this funding stream on an ongoing basis. The DCP as a mechanism is not flexible – there are obligations that Council must meet that require it to spend the allocated funds and undertake the works. This requires dedicated resources, monitoring and review to ensure these obligations are met.

3.9 SOCIAL AND SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

Council's overarching mission is to preserve and improve the physical, social, environmental, cultural and economic health and wellbeing of our neighbourhoods, while ensuring quality of life for current and future generations. This mission is directly aligned to the principles of asset management as stated in the AM Policy. Council aims to achieve its mission through social and sustainable procurement practices.

3.10 ASSET VALUATIONS

Darebin City Council owns and manages almost \$1.4 billion of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets (as at 30 June 2019). Some of the asset valuation data is incomplete and / or not known so the AM Strategy and AMI Plan provides an opportunity to improve our asset knowledge and compile a more complete picture over time. Based on the data that we gather and analyse we are able to predict one of the

key AM outputs which is Council’s asset renewal demand i.e. the amount of funds required to maintain Council assets to an agreed level of service.

Asset renewal demand is based on the following factors:

- Asset quality
- Asset value
- Asset life
- Asset condition
- Intervention levels

The more accurate the data and the understanding of the factors above, the more accurate the allocation of renewal funds allowing Council to optimise its budget allocation.

Table 5. below summarises Council’s assets by value and class. This list includes subsets of assets as part of the asset class. Council is continuing to improve its asset register as part of continuous improvement and acknowledges this as an improvement action item.

Asset Class	Description	Value
<i>Land</i>	<i>Council-owned land</i>	<i>\$714 million</i>
<i>Roads</i>	<i>Roads, footpaths and cycleways, bridges, car parks, work in progress</i>	<i>\$328 million</i>
<i>Buildings</i>	<i>Community services, leisure and culture, corporate and commercial (e.g. tenanted properties)</i>	<i>\$215 million</i>
<i>Drainage</i>	<i>Stormwater pipes, pits, gross pollutant traps</i>	<i>\$107 million</i>
<i>Open space</i>	<i>Parks, open space, streetscapes, play spaces, trees, land improvements</i>	<i>\$63 million</i>
<i>Plant and equipment</i>	<i>Machinery, vehicles, information and communication technology hardware and devices, furniture, library books and similar equipment</i>	<i>\$17 million</i>
<i>Cultural Collections</i>	<i>Indoor, outdoor and heritage collections</i>	<i>\$3.6 million</i>
Total		\$1,447.1 million

Table 5: Asset value by asset class as at 30 June 2021

4 THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

In addition to understanding the factors that influence service demand and play an important part in determining our prioritisation and spend in regard to managing our assets, designing how we approach our asset management, and establishing our levels of service, we also need to consider the significant external challenges that have an impact on our assets.

As outlined previously in Section 2.2, these challenges include:

- Recovery from the Pandemic, other major business interruption and emergencies
- The climate emergency
- A growing population
- A changing economy
- Growing inequality
- Reduced funding and resources
- Changes in technology.

Below is an overview of these key challenges and why, and how Council has responded.

4.1 RECOVERY FROM THE PANDEMIC (OTHER MAJOR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION AND EMERGENCIES)

The COVID-19 global pandemic is creating unprecedented challenges for the Darebin community. Its impacts have shown to:

- Range from fatal, long term illness and hospitalisation
- Restrict movement for the community
- Slow the economy and create unemployment and business closure
- Be easily transmitted between people in the community
- Be the cause of reduced services within the community
- Create hardship for people in the community
- Create business continuity challenges for Council

As a result, Council has prepared and administered its COVID safe plan to protect its employees in the workplace, how it will respond to suspected or confirmed cases within Council and how the Council will meet the requirements set out by the Victorian Government.

In addition to the above, Council has developed and implemented its COVID-19 \$11.3m Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package that provides emergency relief, support for the community and small businesses, deferment of payment of rates until June 2021 and waiver of fees and charges. Council's COVID-19 Plan is second only in Victoria to the City of Melbourne. Council has also temporarily closed most of its community services ie aquatic centre, arts centre etc in line with State Government directives.

The main focus for Council is to provide a mechanism of a recovery from pandemic by supporting the community with various initiatives and activities that allows the community to not only get back on the feed but also to recover confidently from the major interruptions. Council is committed to provide asset base to support this within the parameters of sustainable financial planning within Council Plan 2021-25

The full impact and duration of the pandemic is unknown and may also have an impact on future design and construction of buildings, service delivery models and how the workplace will operate. It is however already documented that the pandemic has exacerbated and magnified existing inequalities, which we will need to take into account when prioritising AM activities.

This has been identified as a continuous improvement action.

4.2 THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Most of our assets have been designed, constructed and maintained on the premise that the future climate will remain similar to the past climate. However, we are already experiencing very hot days, longer droughts and more intense storms and weather activity.

The impacts of changing weather patterns and more intense activity on the local community and Council's assets will be real and will require a new thinking in regard to building/infrastructure design and maintenance, risk assessment, increased costs and changes to AM practices and modelling.

Likely changes that we are, and will experience include:

- Increased cost of food, utilities, fuel and insurance or uninsurable assets
- Changes to the way services are designed and delivered
- Increase reliance on IT
- Poor health and deaths resulting from severe weather and poorer air quality
- Damage to buildings, roads, bridges
- Damage to power and water supplies from severe weather events
- Strained emergency, health and community support services
- Reduced water supply and more frequent and stringent water restrictions affecting households, agriculture, parks and wildlife
- transitional impacts as the economy decarbonises, such as fossil fuel unavailability, and stranded assets
- Local economic and organisational impacts of lost productivity due to extreme weather.

These impacts are not evenly distributed but affect first and foremost people in the community who already experience poverty, discrimination and disadvantage. As a climate change leading organisation, we need to ensure that we take climate and environmental justice into account, our process and practices are agile, our data is current and usable, and our planning is timely and strategic for our assets to perform adequately, effectively that provides optimum service delivery.

4.3 A GROWING POPULATION AND CHANGES IN DEMOGRAPHICS

The population of the city is expected to grow from 169,533 (as at 2020) to 230,000 in 2041, an increase of 35.74%.

In part, the increase in population will be accommodated by replacing already identified areas of existing industrial development with high density residential development and by densification on existing residential land, increasing the demand on existing assets and services.

Based on figures produced from the 2016 census when the population was 146,719, growth across all age groups at 2041 is predicted to be fairly even with a 50% increase in 0 to 15 year-olds, a 47% increase in 16 to 65 year-olds and a 57% increase in the over 65's.

However, the spread will not be even across the City of Darebin and is predicted to be with more 0 - 15-year-olds concentrated around Preston and the over 65's concentrated in Preston, Bundoora and the City's south.

The provision of new services will have to be carefully planned to ensure that the required assets are designed and located in the most appropriate areas to meet the needs of the particular age group and community at large and to address or redress existing inequities in asset distribution.

Asset management has an important role to plan in the future design of the city, development and open space and ensuring it is fully integrated into the planning process is essential to supporting liveability.

4.4 A CHANGING ECONOMY

The Darebin economy is changing. Once dominated by manufacturing, the main growth industries are now in the service and knowledge sectors. Our growing industries increasingly involve people setting up their own

small enterprises, and undertaking self-employment, temporary/agency work, independent contracting, fixed-term contracts and on-demand work.

In 2016, around 58% of Darebin's 13,000 businesses were small ventures not operating out of commercial premises. Co-working spaces are emerging in lower-cost, city-fringe locations like Darebin that offer alternative places for people to work. In our north, micro-businesses are more likely to be construction-industry contractors. In our south they are more likely to be professionals working in services that support the businesses in Melbourne's CBD, the driver of Victoria's economy.

The progressive transition to a global renewable economy also poses local transitional risks to our local economy - but also opportunities.

It is yet to be seen what the final impact of the COVID -19 pandemic will have on the Darebin economy. Will impacted micro-businesses restart? Will larger manufacturers reboot - particularly with regard for calls for Australia to become more self-sufficient in some areas of manufacturing rather than relying on imported goods? Will our main shopping precincts look the same?

Understanding and responding to economic growth, change and diversification will be an imperative.

4.5 GROWING INEQUALITY

With the changing nature of the Darebin community and gentrification (urban renewal and transformation), the importance and responsibility of Council to ensure equity, fairness, human rights and social inclusion are considered in all of Council's business, has never been so paramount. While the overall health and socio-economic status of the municipality improves at a macro level, this can in part be due to less-advantaged residents being pushed out of the municipality, rather than individuals or households experiencing better health and socio-economic outcomes. There is also:

- A growing inequity between wealthier areas and poorer areas
- An increasing exclusion of low-income residents in housing and participation in community life
- A reduction in diversity, cultural awareness and cultural practice

An unintended result of gentrification is the increasing economic and health pressures on low income and 'disadvantaged' residents and communities. This disadvantage has a cumulative effect that creates poor health outcomes, poor education outcomes, riskier behaviour and often a loss of human rights and a 'voice'.

In Darebin's growing wealthy environment, without a focus on equity, inclusion and human rights, the assets that Council provides and manages can unintentionally support the growing inequity.

4.6 REDUCED FUNDING AND RESOURCES

A number of plans and strategies have been developed across asset classes and services delivered by Council in an endeavour to maintain service levels/assets whilst meeting competing demands and priorities across the Municipality. However, since 1 July 2016 all Victorian Councils have been operating under a rate capping policy implemented by State Government with annual rate increases limited to CPI. This has cost Darebin approximately \$30 million in revenue since 2016.

In addition to this, Council is constantly responding to cost shifting activities from other levels of Government, increase in costs associated with contractors and materials and periodic policy changes including the freeze on CPI on Financial Assistance Grants received from State Government.

This means that in the future there will be more competition for funding for the construction, operation and maintenance of assets servicing our community.

Difficult decisions will have to be made on the types of services that Council is able to deliver and the level of resources including assets, that are funded for delivery of these services.

4.7 CHANGES IN TECHNOLOGY

The pace of technological change is faster and more demanding than at any time in human history. This pace of change will only continue with a shift to a global renewable economy also contributing to driving a rapid technological change.

Changes in technology have the potential to change every aspect of our asset management from the types of assets Council provides, the materials from which they are constructed, the materials and techniques used for maintenance and for some assets, the energy sources used to power them and how these assets are used by the community.

As a positive, new technologies have the potential to reduce construction and maintenance costs, reduce waste, impact climate change and improve the lives of our community. However, new technologies can also compound and exacerbate existing inequalities, impinge on human rights and have negative environmental impacts which need to be understood and assessed. These two sides of the coin need to be carefully considered and balanced.

Failure to be aware of, embrace new technologies and have the capacity to fund and resource technological demand could result in Council inefficiently using its resources, or worse, providing assets which are rendered obsolete in a short period of time. Investing the time, resources and expertise in this area to ensure readiness and capability is a strategic imperative as accessible, equitable, inclusive, diversity-responsive and human rights-supportive IT will need to be one of Council’s core competencies.



Picture: Reservoir Community & Learning Centre

5 FUTURE STATE OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

5.1 REQUIRED ASSET MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY

As anticipated, stakeholders engaged and interviewed during the development of the AM Strategy process all showed varied understanding of asset management, its application and the relationship with service delivery. The role people play in the delivery of asset management across services could be enhanced by improving asset management capabilities across Council. Furthermore, for Council to migrate from its current asset management capability to “Advanced” will require improvement in capability as defined in the National Asset Management Assessment Framework.

Asset management capability can be significantly improved through the following and is identified as an improvement action:

1. Identifying roles and responsibilities for AM by completing Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed (RACI) analysis
2. Providing training to employees as part of their roles and responsibilities
3. Providing employees with the supporting asset management information on the Intranet
4. Providing the reports required for employees to analyse asset performance to improve management and operational decisions.

Darebin is also using the Service Manager/Asset Owner model for defining and allocating roles and responsibilities. This is an industry model that is highly effective. As asset management is not the responsibility of one person or one department, a business partnership approach is essential so that the organisation works together efficiently and effectively. Figure 10. Outlines this partnership approach.

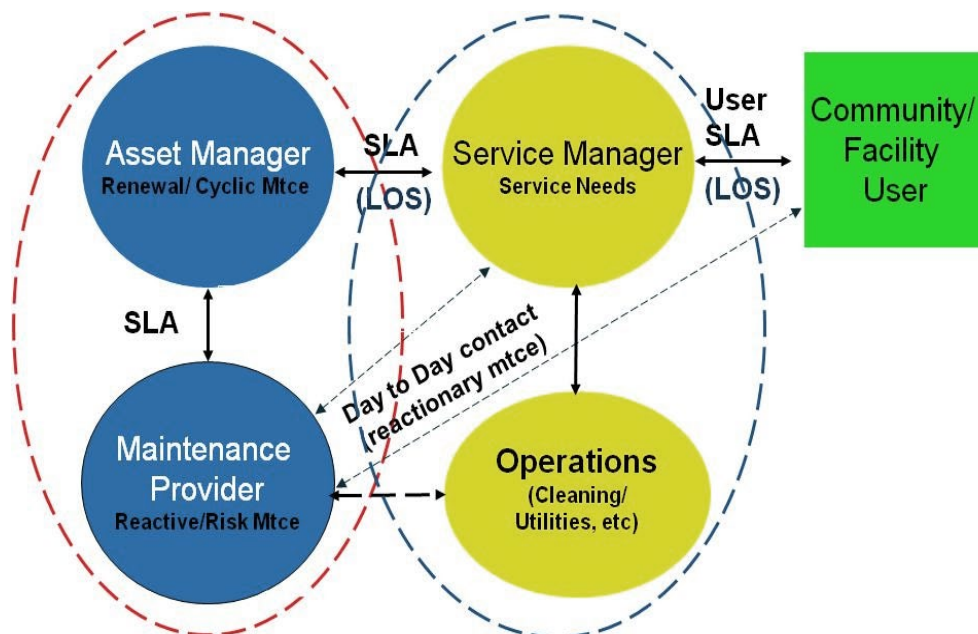


Figure 10: AM Role and Responsibilities – a business partnership approach

5.2 ASSET PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING

Asset management decision-making is centred around determining demand, the asset solution and the resourcing capability of Council to sustain the asset.

Figure 11. below demonstrate how good investment decisions are made when based on sound AM practices.

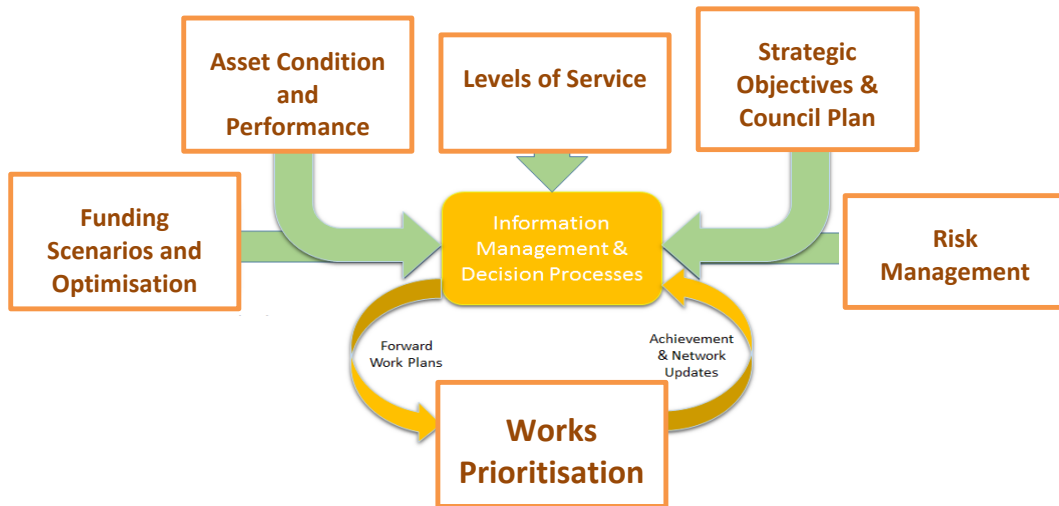


Figure 11: Evidence-based investment decisions (Roads example)

To support data-driven, evidence-based and equitable decision-making, we will need to:

- Understand the strategic direction, clarify service demand and service levels desired by the community
- Gather appropriate asset information, including monitoring asset performance and costs
- Understand the risk of service failure attributed to our assets
- Develop and implement asset management plans that deliver the agreed levels of service within Council’s financial constraints and acceptable risk limits.

Council’s improvement actions to be undertaken over the coming years will result in:

- Defining service levels, gathering asset information and determining asset risk (as described in the sections above); and
- Using this data and information to update our AM Plans.

The capital and maintenance programs generated by our asset management plans will be aligned with our financial plans, with prioritisation across asset classes to be informed by risk of deferral and level of alignment with the Council Plan. We will also ensure we allocate sufficient resourcing to achieve these tasks and improvement initiatives identified over the duration of this strategy.

5.2.1 CRITICALITY-BASED MAINTENANCE PLANNING

Criticality-based maintenance is an approach taken to align maintenance activities e.g. inspections, scheduled and preventive maintenance, with the view to spreading the available resources across the asset classes. By understanding the asset criticality, a manager or supervisor will be able to resource maintenance appropriately and apply the correct maintenance to assets of varying criticality.

From the criticality analysis, highly critical assets may also be high-risk assets and therefore receive the appropriate funding for capital works. Assets that are designated as having a low criticality will always be a

low-risk asset. Therefore, minimal maintenance such as inspections or corrective maintenance can be applied to the asset without the service being impacted by significant or very high risks.

5.2.2 CUSTOMER-FOCUSED SERVICE PLANNING

The intent of service planning is to provide an overall picture of the services provided but more than this, it is intended to align the services and the assets needed for the community and identify the funding required in the future to support the services. Should Council need to adjust the service-funding, the service plans provide Council with the options of adjusting service-levels by deferring/increasing capital funding or deferring/increasing maintenance funding.

The service plans assist the Service Manager (the owner of the service i.e. the owner of the Libraries Service is the Community Services Division) to articulate the services they provide and enable them to work with the Asset Manager (the position in Council held accountable for ensuring the asset meets asset-related service levels etc) to define their infrastructure capital and maintenance needs. This then assists the Asset Manager to plan future funding and resources required meet their internal stakeholders needs.

As stated previously, strategic direction, service demand and levels of service are the foundation blocks to determining community infrastructure needs not historical data, current assets or current services.

Customer-focused service-planning requires the linking of strategic direct, demand, customer needs to service-planning, asset management plans, funding, operational and maintenance plans. In general terms there will be a clear link between the Council Plan, Annual Budget, 10 year Capital Works Plan, Strategic Resource Plan, Service Plan, AM Plan, Annual Report and Customer Satisfaction Survey.

5.2.3 INTEGRATED WORKFLOWS

Efficient and effective AM processes will not only improve timely outcomes but will reduce and eliminate duplication and rework. Council has identified the need to document the AM function workflows particularly in the areas of planning, maintenance and capital delivery. Documenting the end-to-end processes will enable the various departments to work together more efficiently and improve decision-making.

Another key process that requires the input and support of numerous departments includes the asset-handover process. This process enables other key Council processes such as asset-recognition and maintenance, employee training, OHS compliance, general environmental duty compliance, and integration with emergency management procedures.

It is essential that the Asset Management Steering Committee support the development of integrated workflows and communicate the requirements across Council to ensure mapping and implementation is undertaken efficiently.

Integrated Workflows has been identified as an improvement activity for the AMI Plan.

5.3 ASSET MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

5.3.1 ASSET MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS

With reference to Section 3.4, the current use of the asset management applications and Geographical Information System (GIS) needs to be vastly improved.

Council could procure the Advanced Asset Management module for the following functionality:

- Capital Works Plan & Monitor
- Advanced Asset Accounting
- Lifecycle Planning
- Predictive Modelling
- Criticality

- Risk Management
- Asset Maintenance and Operational Management
- Dashboards
- Asset Mapping.

It should be recognised that predictive modelling software will allow Council to develop models to analyse the effects of capital works planning and maintenance for any asset type in Council. Such models may also analyse the funding required to maintain the asset condition at a desired level.

To identify the correct approach to undertake, Council could:

- Undertake a market analysis of asset management applications
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of each application
- Compare the applications to Council's needs
- Utilize a selective tendering process if the procurement policy permits
- Utilize an open tendering process to select an appropriate application.

The holistic Property Management software solution will need further investigation and should consider the following functionality as a minimum:

- Property condition reports should be able to be collated and be available to view at any time
- A mobile-enabled application for use by Council officers and integrated with add-ons i.e. IAuditor (used by Parks and Open Space) for inspections
- Facilitate integration with other relevant service streams as a minimum with property-related updates available, if required for related asset classes i.e.:
 - Facility services
 - Parks and Gardens
 - Maintenance services
- Electronic logging of any works required and assigning to the applicable service stream for completion
- Inspections to be carried out using the integrated mobile Inspection Application software
- Automatically allocate tasks including logging audit requirements
- Document management capacity for property management templates and direct email and logging of correspondence back to objective
- Capability to access and model all property related dates i.e. rent, outgoings etc.

When procuring a property management application, functions must integrate with the asset management application.

5.3.2 ASSET DATA AND INFORMATION

Our asset information should be comprehensive, stored centrally, secure and easily accessible by AM planners. To achieve this, we will:

- Establish an asset-data-framework to specify the information we require for each asset class
- Define our data validation rules
- Continue to gather asset data and cleanse the data to improve its accuracy
- Improve our existing asset management information system to use all of its functionality and ensure central storage of asset data that is controlled and secure
- Review the asset management information system, and its integration with other Council systems, to determine whether a business case exists to procure a new / upgraded system

With the appropriate data, asset planners will be able to:

- Plan for improved services supported by the appropriate assets (changes have been made to the structure of the AM business unit in July 2020 to improve the planning processes and place a greater emphasis on service/asset planning)

- Identify the asset-lives and asset-condition to adopt, thereby assisting in improving asset valuations
- Improve financial management with a greater emphasis on financial sustainability
- Apply more effective maintenance knowing the assets that are more critical than other assets
- Prioritise capital works planning knowing the risks associated with the assets
- Apply integrated planning (and the priority lens framework) across asset classes thereby selecting the most appropriate treatments

Asset data and information improvement tasks are outlined in the AMI Plan.

5.4 RISK-BASED ASSET MANAGEMENT

The identification, analysis and management of risk is an important Council function to ensure services are maintained for the community – and management of asset-risk is no different.

Risk management is an integral part of asset management – not necessarily to reduce risk, but to ensure we understand risk and can balance the level of risk in our assets against performance and cost objectives.

Risk-based asset management has shown to be effective for asset-intensive systems, not necessarily by reducing risk, but by using risk to balance the operational performance of the assets against the asset life-cycle cost. Expenditure on assets is rationalised by using an assessment of what risk exposure is acceptable by the different stakeholders, maximising overall wealth for the organisation and society.

Our desired future state for risk management includes the following which is outlined in the AMI Plan.

- Having an asset-criticality-framework and assessment tool that is applied consistently across all asset classes
- Gathering targeted condition-data to determine the likelihood of failure (and using that information to infer condition for assets where we do not have observed condition data)
- Applying the asset-criticality and condition-data to establish an overall level of risk for each of our asset classes.

5.5 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Councils across Australia raise approximately 3.5 per cent of the total taxation collected by all levels of government in Australia. However, Councils are entrusted with the maintenance of more than 30 per cent of all Australian public assets including roads, bridges, open space, footpaths and public buildings. This means that a large proportion of Council's income must be allocated to the maintenance and replacement of these assets to meet the service levels expected by the community.

At the same time, we have been subject to a cap on rate increases since 2017-18 under the State Government's Fair Go rates system. We are also experiencing ongoing cost-shifting from the Federal and State Governments to Local Government. In this constrained funding environment, it is essential that we invest in our infrastructure prudently and efficiently.

5.5.1 FUNDING STRATEGY

Further to Section 3.7, Council spends almost \$170 million a year to provide services to the community. To enable the provision of these services, we receive income from rates and charges, statutory and user fees, grants and contributions.

Our expenditure includes an ambitious Ten-year Capital Works Plan with a number of significant projects. A financially responsible and sustainable funding strategy has been developed.

The strategy outlines that \$30m per annum will be dedicated to asset renewal which will ensure that service levels will be maintained to a satisfactory standard.

5.5.2 FUNDING THE RENEWAL OF OUR ASSETS

We rely on a substantial portfolio of assets to provide services to our community. As these assets age, they become more costly to maintain. Sometimes, they fail and service to the community is disrupted. On the other hand, there is also a risk that we replace our assets prematurely – and spend money that could have been better used elsewhere.

Renewing² our assets at the right time is a key element of asset management planning. In an environment where funding is limited, it is essential that we understand when assets should optimally be replaced and ensure appropriate funding is available to do so.

Asset renewal expenditure as a percentage of depreciation is often used as an indicator to determine whether a Council is appropriately funding the renewal of its assets. This provides a reasonable proxy for monitoring purposes. However, asset renewal as a percentage of depreciation is not necessarily an accurate indicator of the true renewal-gap for many reasons such as:

- Depreciation is an important accounting measure, but often represents only a rough approximation of renewal need (i.e. risk-based replacement of assets based on asset condition and criticality to meet service levels); and
- Depreciation is also calculated based on the Greenfield valuation whereas the actual renewal requirement is higher due to the nature of assets being Brownfield replacement in built environment. Observations are that brownfield requirements are in upward of 25% from greenfield rates. As such, the renewal, maintenance and capital funding predictions and allocation should be based on Brownfield Replacement value of the asset.
- Overall asset renewal expenditure as a percentage of depreciation can underestimate the renewal-gap when there is excessive renewal expenditure in one asset class and under-expenditure in another asset class.

An alternate measure of the renewal-gap is to assess actual renewal expenditure relative to estimated renewal need. However, estimation of the renewal need is an inexact science that relies on assumptions about asset condition, replacement cost and other variables when asset information is incomplete and/or inaccurate. Table 6 outlines Council’s capital spend (not including maintenance) over the past 4 years, and the proposed spend for 2021-22.

ALLOCATION	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
New asset	\$14.51M	\$5.76M	\$6.84M	\$10.88M	\$11.83M	\$17.38M
Renewal	\$19.20M	\$22.89M	\$18.40M	\$23.54M	\$16.49M	\$20.70M
Expansion	\$0.522M	\$0.544M	\$0.838M	\$1.40M	\$4.44M	\$1.46M
Upgrade	\$4.95M	\$3.61M	\$6.67M	\$8.22M	\$7.31M	\$5.13M
TOTAL	\$39.2M	\$32.80M	\$32.74M	\$44.04M	\$40.1M	\$44.67M

Table 6: Council’s Capital spend over the past 4 years (does not include maintenance)

Figure 12. is a graph that sets out our best estimate of the required and planned asset renewal over the life of the most recent Strategic Resource Plan (4 years).

The dotted line in the graph represents uncertainty about the true amount of estimated renewal need. Given that we currently have limited information about our assets, we have assigned an upper and lower bound uncertainty interval of +/-25% to our best estimate of the required renewal expenditure.

Gathering more information about what assets we have, what condition they are in and how long they are estimated to last, is the first step in reducing the uncertainty in our estimated renewal need and understanding the true level of our renewal gap.

² Asset Renewal is the replacement or refurbishment of an existing asset (or component) with a new asset (or component) capable of delivering the same level of service as the existing asset to the current standard.

Our plan to address the renewal-gap is targeted first and foremost on improving our data quantity and quality. Council is working towards establishing a system, knowledge, processes and procedures with an aim to reduce the renewal gap gradually overtime and No Renewal Gap at the end of first period of “The Asset Plan”.

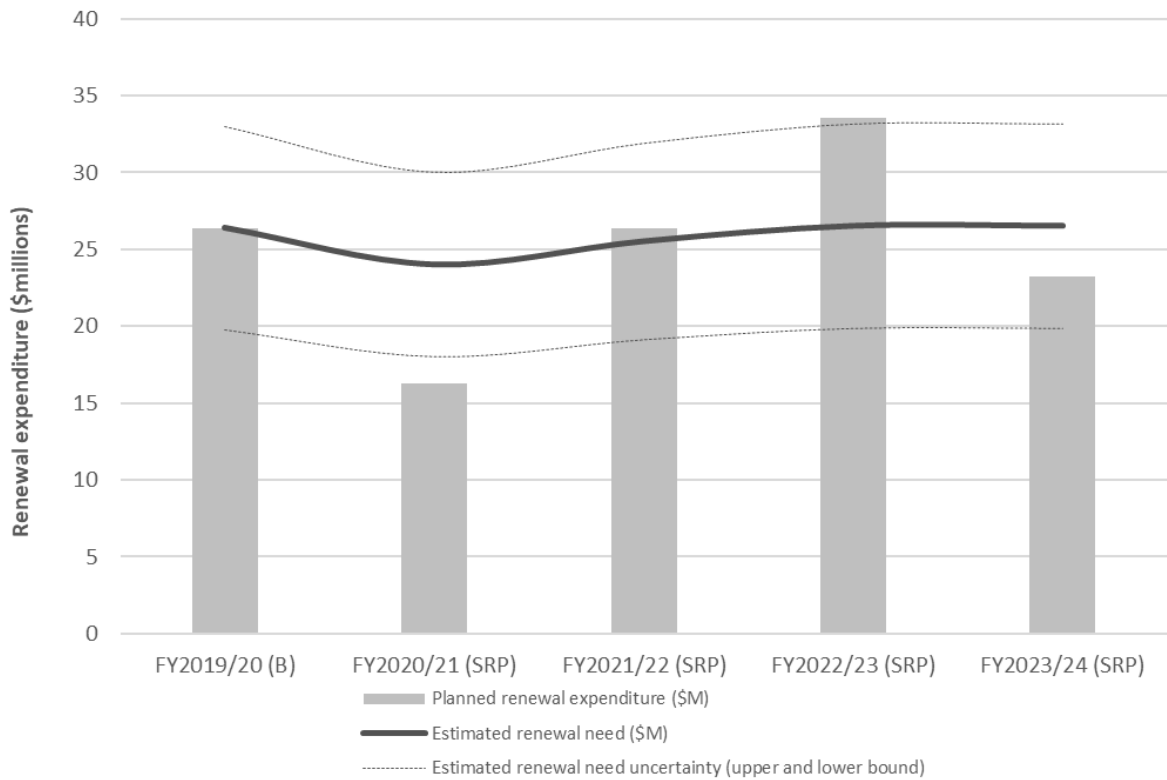


Figure 12: Renewal gap

In parallel with improving our data, we will also explore all available options to reduce our renewal gap including:

- Meaningful, equitable and inclusive engagement with the community on service levels where applicable – to determine more precisely what level of service the community needs and is willing to pay for – and then renew/maintain/operate assets in order to provide that level of service
- Efficiency improvement – to reduce construction costs and improve the utilisation of assets
- Demand management – to defer augmentation of assets and slow the deterioration of existing assets
- Shared services – exploring options to share assets and services with other organisations
- Technology gains – adopting new technologies that extend the life of assets or otherwise reduce the renewal burden (e.g. innovative, less expensive pipe replacement technologies)
- Asset rationalisation – decommission and/or sell assets that are no longer needed by the community
- Additional funding – either through external bodies (e.g. grants from other levels of government) or additional Council funding (e.g. by reducing investment in new assets and services)
- Sustainable building practices - to reduce the long-term operational costs of our assets

6 OUR ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Council officers have developed an Asset Management Improvement Plan (AMI Plan) 2020-2025 to bridge the gap between the current state of our asset management (described in Section 3) and the desired future

state (described in Section 5). This separate document is consistent with the recommendations in the VAGO report, industry standards and our internal self-assessment through the NAMAf review.

We recognise that we cannot do everything at once. Funding and resources are limited and, even in an unconstrained environment, some initiatives must be sequenced to derive the greatest benefit. The detailed AMI Plan will be monitored by our Asset Management Steering Committee (Section 7).

6.1 IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

A summary of our highest priority improvement initiatives is provided in Table 9. This summary represents a focal point for action over the duration of the AM Strategy.

Achievement of these initiatives is intended to strengthen Council’s asset management maturity, support staff and streamline processes, and improve outcomes for our community.

Improvement initiatives	Actions	Timing
1 Dedicate resources to deliver improvements and key tasks	Assign dedicated resources to deliver improvement initiatives and revise all asset management plans by 30 June 2022	June 2022
2 Asset data improvement program	Implement a program to improve the security, completeness and accuracy of asset information, warehouse data, train staff	Oct 2020 – May 2022
3 Develop asset risk assessment tools	Develop and implement a single asset criticality framework across asset classes and assess risk with targeted condition assessment	Oct 2021 – Mar 2022
4 Improve the integrated corporate planning system and embed AM	Improve and upgrade the existing corporate planning system; clearly define integration points with AM, provide staff training	Oct 2020 – Apr 2021
5 Improve asset management decision-making processes	Update the investment prioritisation framework and improve the budget process to better align strategy, capital funding and risk funding	Jun 2021 – Jan 2023

Table 7: High priority asset management improvement initiatives

In parallel with these initiatives, we will improve our asset management communications to update stakeholders on our progress and ensure our teams tasked with asset management responsibilities, understand our improved systems and processes, practices and desired outcomes.

6.2 VAGO AND INTERNAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Figure 13. identifies the seven recommendations and improvement actions required to address the recommendations from the VAGO audit report findings and are included in the AMI Plan.

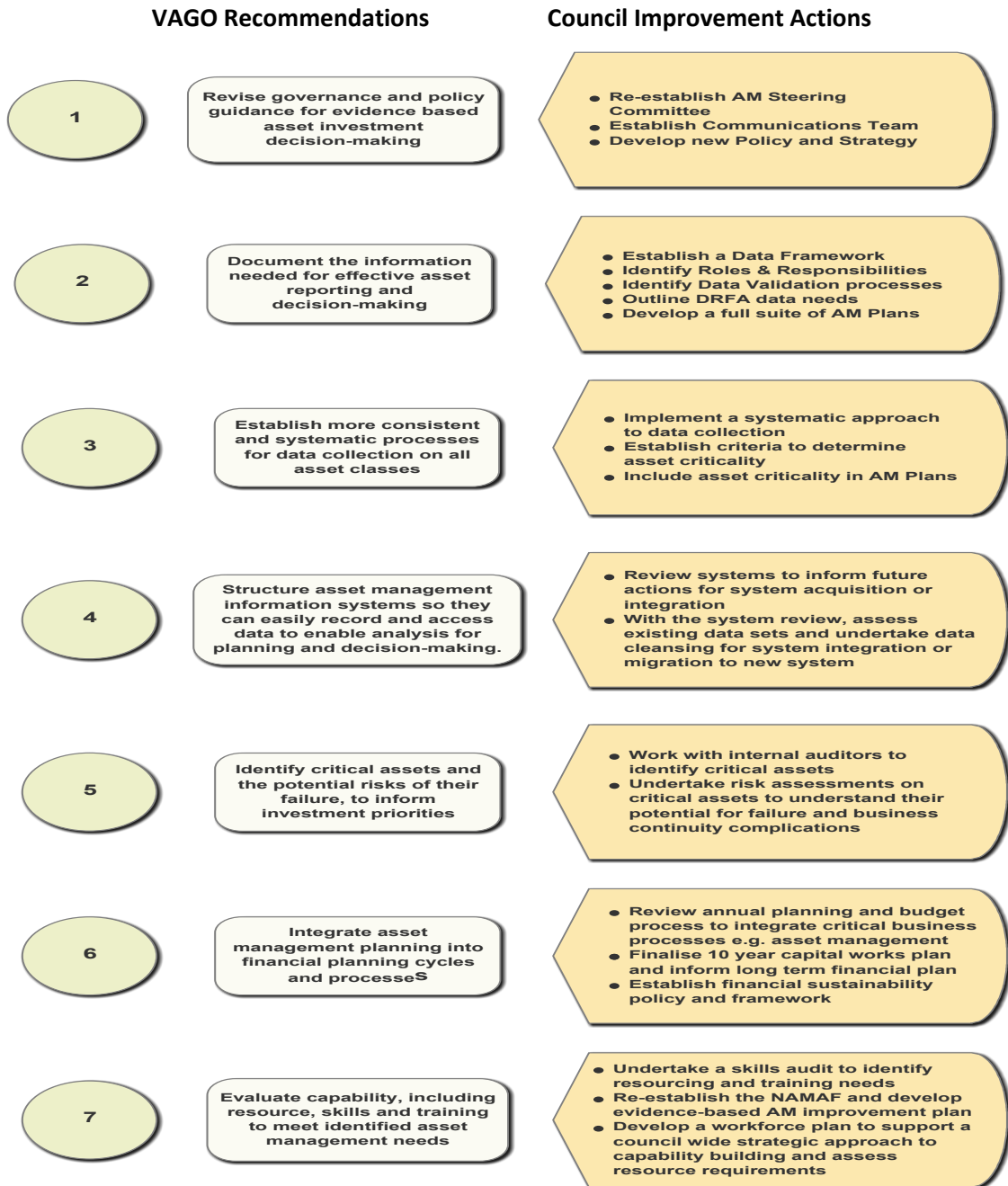


Figure 13: Seven VAGO Recommendations

6.3 NAMAF IMPROVEMENTS

Table 9. identifies the high-level actions from the NAMAF self-assessment (2018) in support of the asset management improvement process. These, and other identified improvements have been incorporated in the AMI Plan.

<i>Improvements</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Timing</i>
<i>Strategic Long-Term Plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed the reviewed AM plans into the Long-Term Financial Plan with consideration to resources required in both plans, financial sustainability obligations and levels of service. 	<i>May 2021 – Oct 2025</i>
<i>Annual Budget</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the Annual Budget with budget allocation linked to the AM plans. 	<i>Apr 2022 – Oct 2022</i>
<i>Annual Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the Annual report so it is fully compliant with all statutory regulations, explain variations between the budget and actual results and the impact of the variations on the Strategic Long-Term Plan. 	<i>Nov 2021 – Jun 2022</i>
<i>Financial Reporting Framework</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve financial reporting to address the issues on asset acquisitions, capitalisation policy and asset disposals, maintenance and renewal. 	<i>Nov 2021 – Jun 2022</i>
<i>Asset Management Policy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the AM Policy to align with the AM Strategy 2021 – 25. Include training for Councillors and Staff. AM plans to be developed based on community consultation and the financial reporting framework. 	<i>Oct 2021</i>
<i>Asset Management Strategy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure alignment of the 2021-2025 AM Strategy, AM Policy, and integrate with the Council Plan and annual budget processes. 	<i>Oct 2021</i>
<i>Asset Management Plans</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the AM plans for drainage, cultural collections, open space and information services in accordance with industry best practice. Also include AM functions e.g. risk, condition, levels of service etc. 	<i>July 2021 – March 2022</i>
<i>Governance and Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstate and implement the AM Steering Committee with a new Terms of Reference. 	<i>Nov 2020</i>
<i>Levels of Service</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop levels of service (technical and community) with community consultation (where applicable) and monitor/evaluate. 	<i>Oct 2021 – May 2023</i>

<i>Improvements</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Timing</i>
Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the use of CAMS across the asset classes and integrate with corporate systems such as Finance, Property Management and Customer Management. 	<i>Mar 2021 – Dec 2021</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure predictive modelling system 	<i>Oct 2021 – Apr 2022</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and recommend a new integrated strategic asset management system. 	<i>Jan 2021 – Oct 2021</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure, Implement and Configure Strategic Asset Management System 	<i>Oct 2021 – June 2023</i>
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and document a data-framework including document condition methodologies, asset standards and reporting framework, data collection and warehousing methodology, data ownership, controls and audit process. 	<i>Oct 2020 – May 2022</i>
Skills and Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document a skills matrix and identify AM training capability. Document AM supporting processes for the asset classes. 	<i>Feb 2021 – Oct 2021</i>
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document an evaluation process for AM improvements and reporting. Use auditors to monitor and report on AM improvements. Support the use of the NAMAF framework for monitoring the AM maturity assessment process. 	<i>Sep 2021 – Mar 2021</i>
DCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At commencement of the DCP, ensure the DCP eligible capital works are resourced and project-managed adequately and included in the PMO for reporting requirements and have a DCP indicator clearly identifying them. Through the PMO, receive a six-monthly exception report on all DCP projects not meeting project KPIs and deadlines in line with DCP expectation. 	<i>To be confirmed</i>

Table 8: NAMAF Improvements from Self-assessment

Note: The Asset Management Steering Committee will review and confirm dates specified in all the AM documents and base them on available resources, phasing of the AM Plan reviews, DCP implementation and organisational priorities.

6.4 OUTCOMES FROM THE ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN (AMI PLAN)

Table below outlines examples of the proposed outcomes expected from the AMI Plan assuming improvements are completed on time and in accordance with sound asset management practices. This will require the support and guidance of the Executive Management Team and the Asset Management Steering Committee ongoing. Proposed outcomes of AM actions will be clarified through the AMI Plan under each action.

AM improvement actions can take weeks whilst some take years to complete. It’s important to ensure the AMI Plan is realistic, practicable and achievable. Attachment B outlines best practice examples from other Councils demonstrating achievements in both the short and long term which have enabled significant positive change within the organisation and for their communities.

Improvement Actions	Purpose	Outcome
Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand Council’s ongoing maintenance and renewal requirements into the future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of future budget requirements to assist in future service delivery needs. Enhance Councils Long-Term Financial Plan using reliable and quality data.
Service Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of service plans in support of service delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to MAV and government requirements. Development of Service Plans in line with demand for each service. Assets will be planned against the service plan. Development of Community Infrastructure Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement and updating of AM Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AM plans direct the ongoing management of the assets, considering current issues and future needs. AM plans are used to drive current planning and future funding.
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data-framework is developed, documented and implemented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition methodologies are data driven. All assets are aligned to standards and reporting framework, Data collection, warehousing methodology, data ownership, controls and audit processes in place.
Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application of whole-of-life processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide enhanced justification of future operations and maintenance activities and funding. Demonstrate future renewal requirements.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency and application of AM across asset groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of standard management processes across asset groups. Documented and implemented asset management processes to enable

Improvement Actions	Purpose	Outcome
		<i>Council to manage infrastructure consistently across asset groups.</i>
Asset Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining service-levels and targets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Ability to effectively monitor the performance of the assets in line with expectations.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring asset performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Enhance the management of assets and service delivery for improved planning.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing infrastructure risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>While risk is managed at the corporate level, infrastructure risk is used to assist the planning and prioritising of future works.</i>
Organisational Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and implement ongoing AM training programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Development of Council employees' AM skills to enhance the management of the assets.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve AM system user-capabilities through specific training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Improve the effectiveness of existing systems and extend the knowledge of employees.</i>
AM Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced skills for applying AM and managing the infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Address identified gaps in capability and satisfy the requirements of the National Asset Management Assessment Framework.</i>
Predictive Modelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance predictive modelling capabilities for the development of future works and financial forecasting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Analysis and identification of future works requirements to establish future short and long-term budgets.</i>
Information Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved AM performance reporting from systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Quality and consistency of reporting on services provided e.g. Dashboards.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing improvement of Council's systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Enhance predictive modelling to support ongoing funding analysis</i>

Table 9: Example of outcomes from the AM Improvement Plan

7. GOVERNANCE

7.1 ASSET MANAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE

As identified in Figure 14. below, Council has implemented an AM Governance Framework to ensure an effective, systemic and consistent approach to asset management is achieved in line with Council direction.

The key component of the framework is the AM Steering Committee (AMSC) which will have oversight of all AM activities, practices, compliance, performance and reporting. The General Manager Governance and Engagement is the accountable executive for Council’s asset management activities and acts as the Chairperson of the AMSC and the Asset Management Project Control Group. The GM Governance and Engagement is also the executive responsible for the administration of the Audit and Risk Committee, corporate planning and risk functions.

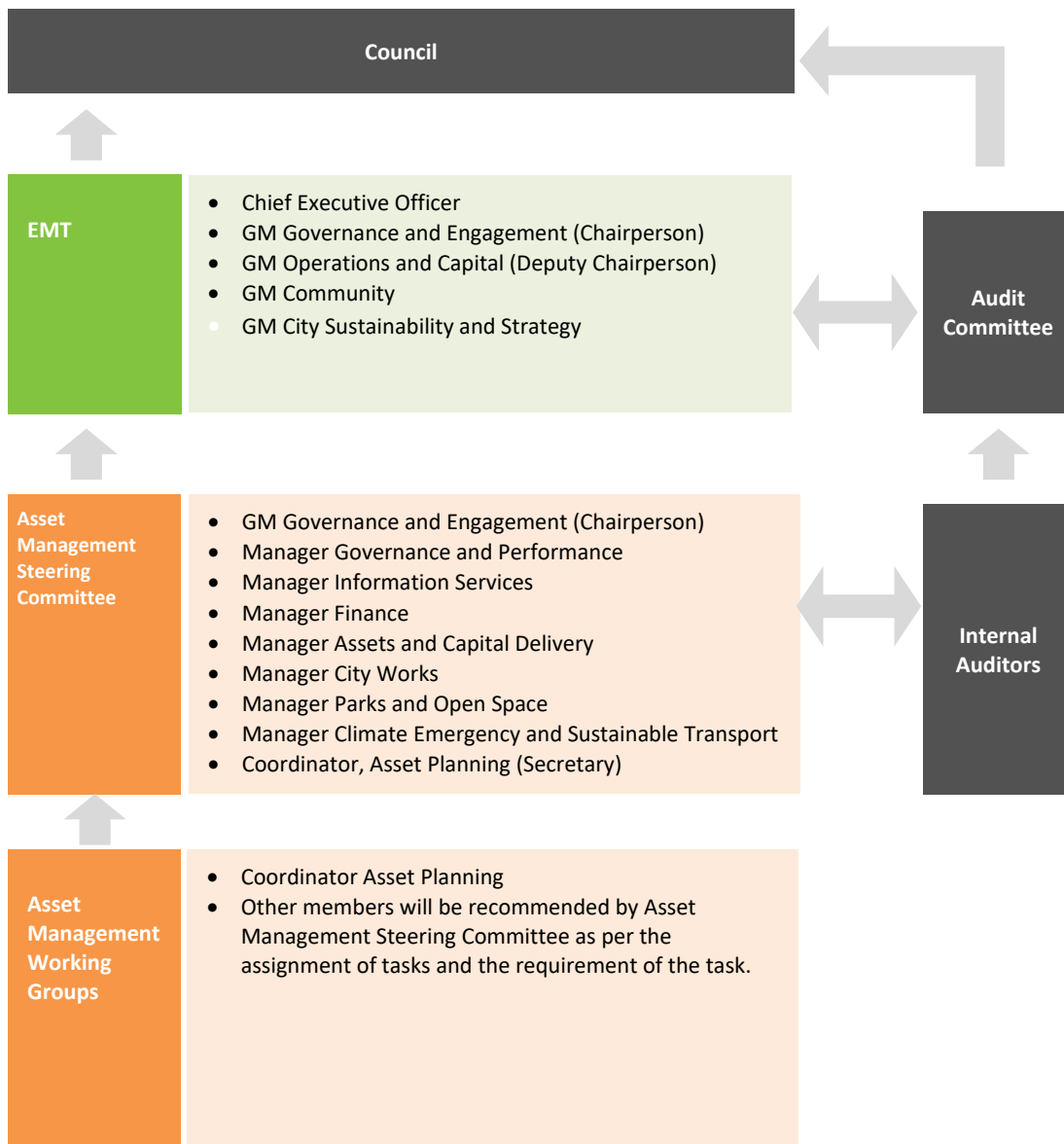


Figure 14: Council’s Asset Management Governance Framework

The AMSC objectives are:

- Support and contribute to Council's short- and long-term financial planning to ensure that Council operates within all fiscal guidelines and legislative requirements and is financially sustainable.
- Facilitate a strategic approach to the delivery of the Asset Management Policy and Strategy and ensure all asset management activities are aligned to the AM Policy Principles and objectives.
- Optimise decision-making and asset investments across the lifecycle of council's asset base.
- Lead, govern and monitor the implementation of asset management activities across the organisation as outlined in the AM Strategy and AM Improvement Plan, including the review of KPIs and timeframes.
- Ensure that \$30m per annum is dedicated to asset renewal which will ensure that service levels will be maintained to a satisfactory standard.
- Oversee the ongoing development and review and implementation of service plans and AM Plans
- Ensure the Darebin Priority Review Lens, human rights and equity principles and strategies are taken into consideration.
- Champion the AM Strategy across Council and drive behavioural change.
- Reduce organisational risk.

7.2 MONITORING AND REPORTING

Although some reporting takes place, Council currently does not have a documented and complete evaluation and reporting process by which asset management activities and improvements are identified, with timeframes and resources and responsible officers. A scheduled reporting regime is required to monitor, evaluate and report asset performance. This reporting requirement will include:

- 6 monthly reporting to the Executive Management Team of progress made against the actions of the AMI Plan
- Commence annual monitoring and reporting of NAMAF self-assessment scorecard results to the Executive Management Team – using the 2018/19 NAMAF results as a baseline. Next self-assessment due September 2021.
- Annual reporting to the Audit and Risk Committee of AMI Plan outcomes and NAMAF self-assessment scorecard results.
- Annual review of the AMI Plan (supporting the AM Strategy) and endorsed by the Asset Management Steering Committee.
- Biennial (every two years) desk top review of the AM Strategy with a full review every five (5) years in line with the new Council Plan.
- Review AM Plans every five (5) years in line with the new Council Plan.
- Biennial review of the AM Policy.

7.3 AM STRATEGY REVIEW CYCLE

The AM Strategy will commence in 2021 and will be reviewed after the adoption of The Asset Plan in July 2022. This will ensure the alignment between asset management priorities, Council's objectives and the requirement of The Asset Plan.

The Asset Management Steering Committee will evaluate progress of priority initiatives and make minor adjustments as required in each year from 2021 to 2025.

Following initial review of the AM Strategy in July 2022 (post adoption of The Asset Plan) will receive a desk-top internal review every 2 years and will be reviewed in detail every four years (this would include any applicable community engagement).

ATTACHMENT A – ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

8.7 REVIEW OF SALE OF MINOR COUNCIL PROPERTY ASSETS POLICY**Author:** Coordinator Property Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy was adopted in 2015. The Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (2015) was reviewed in August and September 2021, following a Notice of Motion at the Council meeting on 26 July 2021 and to update the Policy which is due for review.

The review of the policy has considered the current context, including the new Local Government Act. Additional considerations arose from a Council resolution on 26 July 2021 to consider social justice, equity for long term occupation and environmental factors.

The Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (2015) has been reviewed and the draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy is provided in **Appendix A** for consideration.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorse the Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) to proceed to community consultation
 - (2) Receives a report that includes the outcomes of community consultation on the draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy at its November meeting.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Council (on behalf of the Darebin community) possesses and/or has responsibility for a diverse and extensive portfolio of property assets which includes parcels both large and small. Smaller parcels of land include roads, reserves, revenge strips, hiatus and other pieces of land of unusual shape and/or limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area.

As Council has obtained ownership of these smaller parcels through various means over more than a hundred-year period, some of these property assets no longer provide benefit to the community and/or are not used or required for the purposes for which they were originally acquired. In these situations, such Minor Council Property Assets may be considered surplus and suitable for sale.

The Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy was adopted by Council on 18 May 2015 and is due for review.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 26 July 2021, Council resolved:

'That Council officers report back to Council in September 2021 with recommendations for the review of Council's 'Sale of minor Council property assets policy' that considers but is not limited to the following key matters:

- Social justice considerations of current DCC policy in regard to disused laneway transfers;*
- Consideration of adjustments to the broad approach to equity within the current policy to provide different treatment for land parcels that have been cared for and maintained for over 12 years by residential owners;*
- Consideration of introducing an 'environmental criteria' in the 'Sale of minor Council property assets policy' to maximise the preservation of green private open space and private gardens when disused unmade laneways are transferred and to ensure there is 'a net increase in green open space' from the disposal of unmade discontinued'*

At its meeting on 18 May 2015, Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Note that a review has been undertaken of the 1997 Discontinuance, Closure and Sale of Rights-of-Way policy and that this policy will be superseded by the 2015 Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.*
- (2) Adopt the Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy as provided at Appendix A of this report.'*

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

DISCUSSION

The Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy has been reviewed and updated to ensure the Policy aligns to the Local Government Act 2020, is current to Council's principles of fairness, equity and justice, and responds to the items raised at the Council meeting on 2021.

At the 26 July 2021 Council meeting, it was resolved that officers report to Council at this meeting with recommendations that consider:

- Social justice considerations of current DCC policy in regard to disused laneway transfers;
- Consideration of adjustments to the broad approach to equity within the current policy to provide different treatment for land parcels that have been cared for and maintained for over 12 years by residential owners;

- Consideration of introducing an 'environmental criteria' in the 'Sale of minor Council property assets policy' to maximise the preservation of green private open space and private gardens when disused unmade laneways are transferred and to ensure there is 'a net increase in green open space' from the disposal of unmade discontinued'

Responses to the Notice of Motion raised on 26 July 2021 are as follows:

Social justice considerations of current DCC policy regarding disused laneway transfers

Officers have reviewed opportunities to provide for social justice measures within the policy and note that the sale of Council owned land must be in accordance with the 'Sale of Land Best Practice Guidelines'. This essentially requires Council to sell the land at full market value unless there is a quantifiable community benefit that exists, or the land is restricted under a section 173 agreement. The draft policy allows for this provision but must be tested/applied on a case-by-case basis.

If land is discounted for social justice considerations, it must be applied under a fair and equitable lens and must not create a situation where adjoining landowners are paying different values for parcels of land that essentially mirror each other (subject to size and underground assets that may exist in the vicinity of the land). It will be difficult to quantify what are suitable social justice considerations, and how Council would be best to assess these. Residents would be required to provide personal financial information for officers to review. It is not Council's role or responsibility to undertake this process and the ability to purchase should be solely at the discretion of the Applicant and/or their financial advisors.

The current and draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) allow for instalment plans to pay Council over a four-year period, and at Manager discretion this can be extended to six years. Whilst an additional administration charge is payable for this service to set up the payment plan initially, no interest is charged nor any ongoing fees.

Consideration of adjustments to the broad approach to equity within the current policy to provide different treatment for land parcels that have been cared for and maintained for over 12 years by residential owners

Council's previous policy from 1997 provided a discount to the market value where occupation of the land could be evidenced for a period longer of 10 to 15 years, 25% discount, and exceeding 15 years received 50% discount.

Council's current policy does not recognise occupation of the land in terms of preference to purchase the land, nor reward the informal occupancy of the land via a discounted purchase price.

The draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) allows for a property owner who can demonstrate continuous and exclusive occupation of Council's land for a period of 12 years or more, the first offer to the land being sold.

Officers do not recommend altering to the purchase price for the land if a resident occupies the land without a formal agreement with Council, as this may be seen to reward informal occupancy and counteract the *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for Sale/Exchange of Land* June 2009.

Consideration of introducing an 'environmental criteria' in the 'Sale of minor Council property assets policy' to maximise the preservation of green private open space and private gardens when disused unmade laneways are transferred and to ensure there is 'a net increase in green open space' from the disposal of unmade discontinued laneways.

The majority of land managed under this policy are portions of unused road at the rear of residential properties. As part of the subdivision process of the unused road, generally easements are registered on the land to allow for drainage or sewer.

Once the portion of land is transferred to the adjoining property owner following a sale process, the land is incorporated in the property owner's overall land as fences are shifted to align to the new boundary.

This land will generally remain as private open space given it is most likely encumbered with an easement and being close to the boundary. Any development over the land will be guided by planning and building controls and regulations as opposed to the sale process.

If it was decided to enforce a property owner to keep the land as open space, Council would need to register an agreement under section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Under the current Policy and draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**), this would trigger the land be sold for less than market value. Further, it would be an additional administration work to register and maintain such agreements, as well as resources required to enforce the compliance of the Section 173 for the current owner and any successive owner of the property.

Officers have considered adding an environmental criterion into the policy however feel confident that the restrictions to the land by way of the easements, and planning and building controls allow sufficient restriction to the land being other than private open space.

It is considered that the open space provisions within Council's Planning controls are the most effective mechanism to address this concern.

Following consideration of the elements reported above, the draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy is provided at **Appendix A** for endorsement to proceed to community consultation.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy will not alter or affect the financial outcomes relating to the sale of minor property assets.

If any additional social justice or restrictions on land use (i.e. environmental factors) are requested to be added into this policy review, an assessment of financial implications will be required.

Community Engagement

This policy review has not provided broad substantive change, however there is significance in the inclusion of a provision to benefit those who have occupied a property for more than 15 years to address the intent of fairness within the existing policy.

It is proposed that Council endorse the policy to proceed to community consultation, in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy, for a period of 30 days.

Officers will provide the Wurundjeri Corporation the opportunity to inform the draft Policy in how the policy may acknowledge that Aboriginal people never ceded sovereignty of the land.

The outcome of community engagement will be considered to inform the draft Policy and will be reported to Council with the draft Policy for adoption at the November Council meeting.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- (g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Public Transparency Principles

- (a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act;

Strategic Planning Principles

- (c) Strategic planning must take into account the resources needed for effective implementation;
- (d) strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation;

Service Performance Principles

- (a) services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Land considered under the Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy is generally an unused road and will be transferred into a property owners land and used as passive open space. Any future use of the land will be guided by planning and building controls and regulations.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy has undertaken an Equity Impact Assessment.

The assessment ensures that all adjoining landowners are:

- Afforded an equal opportunity to purchase the land
- Had financial capacity to purchase
- Protect their current and future property rights
- Ensure that each adjoining landowner were not prohibited by language barriers or Covid related issues (which affected their ability to respond)

The recommendation arising from the Equity Impact Assessment is that as the policy relates to the sale of land, the policy should acknowledge that Aboriginal people never ceded sovereignty of the land. It is recommended through community engagement that officers contact Wurundjeri Corporation to provide the opportunity to inform the draft policy on this regard.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

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

Operational Impacts

The draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) does not alter or affect the operational impacts relating to the sale of minor property assets.

If any additional social justice or restrictions on land use (i.e. environmental factors) are requested to be added into this policy review, this will have an operational impact and will need to be considered.

The draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy will consider whether the land is actively managed as public open space and all drainage/asset rights must be reserved in favour of the relevant authority. This will be done on a case by case basis.

Legal and Risk Implications

The draft Sale of Minor Property Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) does not present any legal or risk implications. The policy update is aligned to the updated Local Government Act and is in accordance with *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for Sale/Exchange of Land* June 2009.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Timeline


Upon endorsement to proceed to consultation, the draft Sale of Minor Property Assets Policy will be made available on Council's community engagement platform - Your Say Darebin for community review and comment.

28 September 2021	Draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy available on Your Say Darebin for community consultation. Consultation Period (30 days)
22 November 2021	Draft Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy presented to Council for adoption, along with the outcomes of the community consultation process.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Subdivision Act 1988*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- *Transfer of Land Act 1958*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Goods and Services Tax Act 1999*
- *Local Government Best Practice Guideline for Sale/Exchange of Land* June 2009
- *Community Engagement Policy*

Attachments

- DRAFT 2021 Sale of Minor Assets Policy (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.



Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy

A policy is the guiding principle that helps the organisation to take logical decisions. It is a set of common rules to inform decisions and behaviours and commonly has supporting procedures and guidelines.

Purpose

This policy governs the process for assessment and sale of surplus Minor Council Property Assets that will *protect* Council's interests in a *fair* manner.

Through this policy, Council is demonstrating its commitment to the responsible management of its property portfolio in accordance with the strategic property objectives set out in the 2014 Property Asset Management Strategy:

1. Property assets contribute to economic growth
2. Property assets contribute to the health and social wellbeing of the community
3. Property assets can promote a balance between development and sustainability
4. Property assets contribute to the creative culture of the City
5. Council will optimise the service potential of its property assets

Council has acquired ownership and/or responsibility for these property assets by various means, including:

- acquisition by purchase, agreement or compulsory acquisition
- donation
- Crown grants
- open space contribution
- reserved by subdivision (e.g. roads, drainage reserves, revenge strips)
- vesting (e.g. through the road discontinuance process)

As the means by which Council has obtained ownership of land is varied and has occurred over the past century, some Minor Council Property Assets may no longer provide benefit to the community or may not be used or required for the purpose for which they were originally acquired.

From an asset management perspective, Council's property portfolio must meet current service needs whilst providing the flexibility to meet future requirements. This includes taking up the opportunity to sell surplus property assets.

Roads, reserves, revenge strips, hiatus and other pieces of land of unusual shape and/limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area (collectively referred to as Minor Council Property Assets in this policy) were originally set aside in early plans of subdivision for a particular purpose such as access or drainage. In many cases these parcels of land are still required for that purpose and need to remain open and available to the public. In situations where a Minor Council Property Asset is no longer reasonably required, it may be considered surplus and suitable for sale in accordance with this policy.

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<p>Scope</p>	<p>This Policy applies to Council's small property assets including roads, reserves, revenge strips, hiatus' and other pieces of land of unusual shape and/limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area.</p> <p>Roads, reserves, revenge strips, hiatus and other pieces of land of unusual shape and/limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area (collectively referred to as Minor Council Property Assets in this policy) were originally set aside in early plans of subdivision for a particular purpose such as access or drainage. In many cases these parcels of land are still required for that purpose and need to remain open and available to the public. In situations where a Minor Council Property Asset is no longer reasonably required, it may be considered surplus and suitable for sale.</p>
<p>Definitions and Abbreviations</p>	<p>Hiatus is a gap in the property cadastre created by measurement errors in plans of subdivision.</p> <p>Minor Council Property Asset includes Roads, Reserves, Revenge Strips, Hiatus and other pieces of land of unusual shape and/limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area.</p> <p>Reserve means land reserved on title for the purposes of drainage or other purposes, including Revenge Strips, but not land which is set aside for recreational purposes. For the purposes of clarity, this does not include land which would be commonly considered to be a 'park'. The sale of 'park' land would be investigated through a different process to that described within this policy.</p> <p>Revenge Strip means a small parcel of land or a reserve which has been created by subdivision, generally for the purpose of separating subdivisions.</p> <p>Road for the purposes of this policy has the same definition as that contained within the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and the <i>Road Management Act 2004</i>.</p>
<p>Policy Statement(s)</p>	<p>1. PRINCIPLES</p> <p>The key principles that underpin this policy for reviewing, identifying and evaluating Council's property portfolio and determining whether a Minor Council Property Asset is surplus to Council's requirements and suitable for sale (having regard to legislative requirements and existing Council policies, strategies and guidelines) are as follows:</p> <p>These principles include the key concepts of protecting Council's interests in a fair manner:</p> <p>2.1 Protect</p> <p>(i) Environment - The sale of surplus Minor Council Property Assets should aim to improve the environment and encourage sustainable activities.</p> <p>(i) Community Interest/Use - The sale of surplus Minor Council Property Assets should be in the best interest of the wider community having full regard to needs and expectations.</p> <p>(ii) Legal - Council will ensure compliance with relevant legislation and statutory obligations in the disposal of surplus Minor Council Property Assets.</p> <p>(iii) Financial - The sale of any Minor Council Property Asset should represent value for money with the aim to achieve a minimum of market value for the land except where there is a clearly demonstrated community benefit in selling the land for less than market value.</p>

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3.2 Fair

- (i) **Consultation** - Ensure appropriate consultation with the community and key stakeholders and that all relevant comments and representations are taken into consideration.
- (ii) **Transparency** - Provide an efficient, consistent and transparent process that will be open to public scrutiny while maintaining appropriate levels of commercial confidentiality.
- (iii) **Equality** - Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets will generally be offered to adjoining property owners on the basis of equitable distribution, except in circumstances where present occupation of greater than 15 years can be demonstrated.

2.0 POLICY FRAMEWORK

Throughout the life of a Minor Council Property Asset's, there may be a time when it is considered surplus to Council requirements as it is no longer required for access, infrastructure or other strategic purposes.

When a Minor Council Property Asset is declared surplus, Council will consider their discontinuance and sale according to this policy. A Council resolution is required prior to the discontinuance and sale of any Minor Council Property Asset.

2.1 Application for Discontinuance

The process for the sale of a Minor Council Property Asset can be initiated by an adjoining property owner, other interested parties or Council officers. Those parties external to Council will need to complete an Application to Purchase a Minor Council Property Asset form.

2.2 Declaring a Minor Council Property Asset Surplus Prior to Council considering a Minor Council Property Asset for discontinuance and disposal, it must be assessed using the Decision Logic Map and Decision Logic Matrix contained within the Property Asset Management Strategy as well as taking into consideration the review criteria and general principles contained in this policy.

If the assessment identifies that the Minor Council Property Asset may no longer be reasonably required for the purpose it was originally set aside for or any other strategic purpose, it may be deemed surplus to Council requirements and the Minor Council Property Asset may be considered suitable for discontinuance and sale. From this point onwards the potential sale of the Minor Council Property Asset would be progressed depending on the status of the land, i.e. Road or Reserve.

On the other hand, if the sale of the Minor Council Property Asset is not considered feasible, any applicant or interested party would be notified in writing of the decision and the reasons for the decision, and no further action would be taken.

2.2.1 Property Assessment Tool

Council's Property Asset Management Strategy details a structured process to guide decision making for property assets which involves the assessment of a property via a Decision Logic Map to determine how critical that property is to Council's core property functions and the role of that property asset in meeting Council's current and future service requirements. The Decision Logic Map provides a series of questions about a property asset to determine the most appropriate management action to undertake (see Appendix B).

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The outcome of the Decision Logic Map process is a result that is consistent with the Decision Logic Matrix (see figure below) identifying an appropriate management action for a given property asset based on its ability to provide service and its development potential.

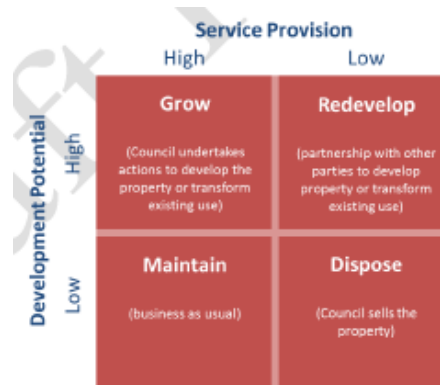


Figure 1 – Decision Logic Matrix

2.2.2 Review Criteria for the Sale of Minor Council Property Assets

The Minor Council Property Asset will be investigated to ascertain its status and whether it may be suitable for sale. This investigation should address the following:

- (i) Certificate of Title, including Council ownership and registered encumbrances.
- (ii) Unregistered encumbrances, including unregistered easements in favour of service authorities.
- (iii) Zoning: land zoned for public purposes must be appropriately rezoned prior to being offered for sale.
- (iv) Reasons for the original acquisition and any related obligations.
- (v) Potential uses of the site, including the highest and best use of the land and considering the optimum development potential of the land.
- (vi) Environmental Issues: a historical view and site inspection should be carried out and, if required, a site contamination assessment undertaken. If the land that Council is selling is deemed to be contaminated, a strategy will need to be prepared for the management of that contamination.
- (vii) Lease and licence agreements, including all associated rights.
- (viii) Any encroachments on the land and/or rights of adverse possession.
- (ix) Determining enhancements which may need to be undertaken on the land.
- (x) Presentation of the land to expose its best attributes: considerations include repairs, cleaning, clearing of vegetation, painting, pegging of boundaries and associated works.
- (xi) Servicing of the site, including service authority requirements.
- (xii) The appropriateness of subdivision of the site and the anticipated costs of any associated public works.



	<p>(xiii) Preparation of an agreement under section 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> may be necessary where Council wishes to control the future use of the land.</p> <p>(xiv) Town planning permits should be obtained where required.</p> <p>(xv) Structural and engineering reports may be required.</p> <p>(xvi) Land to be offered for sale with disclosure of relevant information to enable full and proper due diligence inquiry.</p> <p>2.2.3. General Principles for the Sale of a Minor Council Property Asset</p> <p>The following policy principles will be taken into account when considering the sale of a Minor Council Property Asset:</p> <p>(i) Discontinuances would generally only proceed where, and entire section Road or Reserve can be discontinued.</p> <p>(ii) The discontinuance of roads that are constructed (i.e. have a surface of bluestone, concrete or asphalt) will only be considered in cases where the road is demonstrably not required for access or where an alternate access can be provided to the satisfaction of adjoining property owners. If the constructed road is on the Council’s Register of Public Roads, it will need to be removed from the Register prior to the discontinuance taking effect.</p> <p>(iii) Land from the discontinuance of the road or reserve status of a Minor Council Property Asset may be retained by Council for its own purposes.</p> <p>(iv) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets will be sold to abutting property owners in accordance with legislative requirements.</p> <p>(v) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets will be offered for sale at market value plus costs.</p> <p>(vi) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets may be sold for less than market value in cases where a quantifiable community benefit exists, or the land is proposed to be used for services that would otherwise be provided by Council or are complementary to Council services.</p> <p>(vii) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets that are sold for less than market value, will be sold with appropriate measures in place (such as an agreement under section 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>) to ensure that the land will continue to be used for this purpose.</p> <p>(viii) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets may be sold subject to an easement registered on title in favour of a public authority or Council to protect any right, power or interest in, on, under or over the land.</p> <p>(ix) Council may remove any bluestone pitchers or other reusable materials upon a Minor Council Property Asset prior to sale.</p> <p>(x) Land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets is sold on an as-is basis at the time of transfer with the purchaser responsible for removal of any biological or physical material that may be present.</p> <p>(xi) Purchasers of land from surplus Minor Council Property Assets will be responsible for arranging for fencing of the land (in accordance with the mutual neighbourly responsibilities set out in the <i>Fencing Act 1968</i>) once the transfer is complete. This would include removal/relocation/reinstatement of fencing along the new boundaries.</p> <p>(xii) Proposed divisions of Minor council Property Assets may be longitudinal, latitudinal, diagonal or other methods as determined necessary given existing conditions.</p>
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	<p>2.3 Consultation</p> <p>Council is committed to an inclusive and transparent consultation process with its community and stakeholders that ensures compliance with relevant legislation, internal policies/strategies and Community Engagement Policy.</p> <p>As a minimum, all consultation will ensure public notice of the proposal is given in the Local newspapers and on Council's website as well as written notification to all abutting property owners, providing its community and stakeholders with the opportunity to make submissions. The requirement for a public submission process only applies where land requires discontinuance and sale.</p> <p>Council will ensure that it notifies all relevant internal services and all statutory authorities (both written and via 'Dial Before You Dig' searches) and all asset rights are reserved under any Title Plan.</p> <p>Council will undertake a further review of the appropriateness of the application (and land allocation) based on the results of this consultation.</p> <p>2.4 Costs</p> <p>2.4.1 Sale Price</p> <p>The sale of land from all Minor Council Property Assets is to be transacted on the basis of achieving the current market value for the land as determined by the Council's appointed valuer.</p> <p>Deviation from this procedure would only be considered by Council where a community benefit can be documented, and the community benefit outweighs any loss in financial return. On this basis, an amount lower than the current market value may be accepted pursuant to formal resolution at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council after consideration by Council.</p> <p>The sale price for a Minor Council Property Asset will be established based upon the following considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the current market value of the land as determined by the Council's appointed valuer • where a sale price less than market value is sought, demonstration and documentation that the sale of the land will provide benefit to the wider community and that these benefits outweighs any loss in financial return • any ownership rights which may have already accrued by the purchaser for Reserves that are in the name of original subdividers. <p>It is understood that the market value for any given Minor Council Property Asset may vary based on the size of the land, its location, its relationship to the purchaser's land, the size of the purchaser's land and whether or not any easements may be required to be placed on title.</p> <p>The market valuation will be determined on the current status of the land and not adjusted in light of any 'improved benefit' or the future use. Whilst it is recognised that many discontinued laneways will be encumbered and retained as private open space, Council cannot enforce the future use of the land through the sale process (or adjust its values to suit this). Any proposal to use the land for any other purpose</p>
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than private open space would be guided by planning and building controls/regulations.

The market valuation will not be determined on Council obtaining the personal financial records of the Applicant and assessing their financial capacity to purchase the land (and meet all associated costs). It is not Council's role or responsibility to undertake this process and the ability to purchase should be solely at the discretion of the Applicant and/or their financial advisors.

Council must abide by the *Local Government Best Practice Guideline For Sale/Exchange of Land June 2009* to obtain the maximum value for the property (in the best interests of its community and ratepayers).

2.4.2 Recovery of Sale Costs

Costs include publication of public notices, legal fees, surveyors fees, valuation costs, conveyance costs, State Government fees and charges (such as stamp duty, title registration costs and lodgement fees), and any costs associated with the relocation of fences.

Costs incurred as part of the sale of a Minor Council Property Asset, are to be recovered from the purchaser.

Costs will be shared equally by the purchasers and would be paid at the same time as the purchase price. It is projected that these costs will be approximately \$8,000.

All costs must be agreed by all parties and formalised under a countersigned 'Letter of Offer'.

2.4.3 Payment Terms

The full purchase price and all other costs must be paid by the purchaser to Council prior to the signing of the Transfer of Land documents.

Instalment plans are available to extend the terms of payment, allowing for equal annual payments for a period of up to four (4) years. An additional administration charge as detailed within Council's annual schedule of fees and charges, would be added to cover the administration costs required to facilitate such instalment plans.

At the discretion of the Manager, Property & Business Improvement, after taking into consideration any personal circumstances and financial hardship, the instalment period may be extended up to six (6) years in order to reach agreement to purchase land.

Instalment plans are made available at no interest or additional cost (other than the setup fee).

2.4.4 Goods and Services Tax

In accordance with the provisions of the *Goods and Services Tax Act 1999*, the sale of Council property (other than the sale of existing residential premises), including the sale and discontinuance and sale of roads, attracts GST. Council must ensure that GST is added to the sale price or that the sale price is inclusive of GST.

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2.5 Land Division

When offering land for sale, Council:

2.5.1 will first offer parcels of land to those property owners adjoining the Minor Council Property Asset that can demonstrate continuous and exclusive occupation of those parcels for 12 years or more. This rule does not apply if there is a change in ownership of the Applicant's land.

2.5.2 where 2.5.1 does not apply, the land will be offered on the basis of equal distribution to abutting property owners, taking into account:

- (i) Existing property boundaries (try to make neat parcels and maximise street frontage where possible)
- (ii) Existing structures and the surrounding land (consider how land can be used by purchasers)
- (iii) The presence of any underground assets (determining the future fence alignment so that it does not encroach on the easement reserved for the underground assets).

2.5.3 will keep the offer open to an abutting property owner for a period of 28 days. Council officers will undertake a site inspection and physically meet with the owner (where possible) where an adjoining owner fails to respond to Council's invitation (or successive notices),.

It is essential that Council undertake an equity impact assessment and ensure all owners are afforded the same access to information/right to purchase and not be limited by other factors such as language barriers, financial capacity and Covid related issues.

If the owner still fails to respond, it may result in Council offering the land to another abutting property owner.

2.5.4 if multiple abutting property owners want to purchase the same portion of land and it cannot be divided in a suitable way or an agreement cannot be reached by the parties involved with regards to the division, Council may invite each party to make a tender for purchase of the whole section of land abutting their property within a specific timeframe. The tender process will generally conform with Council's tender submission process.

2.5.5 will take title to the land created through the discontinuance or removal of the status of Minor Council Property Assets, where no abutting property owners wish to purchase the land.

2.6 Easements, Caveats and Covenants

Council reserves the right to place any easement, caveat or covenant on or over the land to be sold from a Minor Council Property Asset as it deems fit in order to protect its interests or the interests of other service authorities who may have assets on, below or above the subject land.

2.7 Other Provisions

2.7.1 Adverse Possession

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	<p>Adverse possession is a legal principle that may enable an occupier of a piece of land to obtain titled ownership of that land if they can prove uninterrupted and exclusive possession of the land for at least 15 years. Where the land is encumbered with an easement (such as right of carriageway, road or drainage) proof of non-use for at least 30 years is required to extinguish the easement. The validity of an adverse possession claim is assessed by Registrar of Titles via section 60 of the <i>Transfer of Land Act 1958</i>, however the assessment may be challenged through Court action.</p> <p>If Council receives a claim for adverse possession over a Minor Council Property Asset, Council may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake investigations and assessment of the Minor Council Property Assessment to ascertain the status of the land • seek legal advice on potential options available to Council, including establishing title over the land, placing a caveat on the land; potentially opening up the land for its registered purpose, and possibly evicting occupiers • take action in Court to defend Council’s property rights, if required. <p>2.7.2 Occupation of a Minor Council Property Asset</p> <p>Council discourages the unauthorised occupation or encroachment of Minor Property Assets and may take the necessary steps to remove such occupation.</p> <p>(i) Occupation of Minor Council Property Assets – Council titled land</p> <p>Where Council becomes aware of occupation of Council titled land, Council may undertake the assessment contained in section 2.7 of this policy to determine if the Minor Council Property Asset is surplus.</p> <p>If the assessment identifies the land is <i>required</i>, the occupier may be requested to remove all buildings and obstructions from the land and reinstate their fence along the correct property boundary. If the occupier fails to comply with the initial letter of request to remove and reinstate, use the power contained in Council’s General Local Law to make this request and also to recover costs from occupiers who refuse to comply.</p> <p>If the assessment identifies that the land is <i>surplus</i> to service requirements, commence a process to discontinue and sell the Minor Council Property asset or lease or licence the land to abutting property owners for a nominal annual fee that will be determined on a case by case basis, having due regard to the type of occupation.</p> <p>Section 7B of the <i>Limitation of Actions’ Act 1958</i> protects Council titled land from being adversely possessed by an occupier.</p> <p>(ii) Occupation of Minor Council Property Assets – non-Council titled land</p> <p>Where Council becomes aware of occupation of non-Council titled land, Council may undertake investigations and assessment of the Minor Council Property Asset to ascertain the ownership and the status of the land; seek legal advice on how to protect Council’s interest in the land, including establishing title over the land, saving easements over the land, potentially opening up the land for its</p>
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	<p>registered purpose, and possibly evicting occupiers; and consider the potential discontinuance and sale of the land at a future date.</p> <p>(iii) Exceptions</p> <p>Exception to this section is where an abutting property owner that is occupying a Minor Council Property Asset, has agreed ‘in writing’ to purchase the land from Council following discontinuance, or has entered into a lease or licence with Council to use the land.</p> <p>2.7.3 Fencing and Gates</p> <p>Council has no obligation to construct or maintain fencing on land abutting Roads (Schedule 5 Section 4 of the <i>Road Management Act 2004</i>), and Reserves, where Council is not the registered owner on title.</p> <p>Council will consider the approval/construction of fencing and non-lockable gating of Minor Council Property Assets, for which it is the owner or they vest in Council, when they are sold or licensed to an abutting property owner and where the installation of such will not be detrimental to the access needs of Council, service authorities, emergency services or other property owners, or to stormwater.</p> <p>3. STATUTORY PROCEDURES – LGA</p> <p>3.1 Discontinuance/Sale and Public submissions</p> <p>Section 189 (Restriction on power to sell land) of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> (Act) was revoked on 1 July 2021 and replaced by Section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>.</p> <p>Section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> is similar to section 189, however the exemption from compliance with section 223 (the right to make a submission) has been removed.</p> <p>Because section 223 does not apply under the 2020 Act, from 1 July 2021, any sale of land from a discontinued road must first comply with the community engagement provisions of Council’s Community Engagement Policy.</p> <p>Accordingly, from 1 July 2021 Council will be required to undertake a 2 staged process of first resolving to discontinue a road and sell the land under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act and then propose the sale of the land under section 114 of the 2020 Act</p> <p>The statutory procedures under section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> requires that Council publish a notice of its intention to sell the Land on the Council’s website and undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy.</p> <p>In contrast to the now repealed s. 189 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>, Section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> does not require Council to publish a public notice in a newspaper circulated within the municipality nor provide for the lodgement of submissions to Council and the consideration</p>
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	<p>of those submissions, pursuant to section 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>.</p> <p>Nevertheless, in order to provide a mechanism for feedback from interested parties as part of Council's community engagement process, it is recommended that Council invite both written and verbal submissions on the proposal, and deal with any submissions received, in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>.</p> <p>Under the principles, the notice of intention to sell the Land will afford affected parties the right to lodge a written submission with Council. Submitters may request to be heard by Council prior to a decision being made to proceed or otherwise with the proposal. Any verbal submissions received will be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.</p> <p>3.2 Removal / Vesting of Drainage Reserves (SDA section 20, 24 & 24A) If the surplus Council Property Asset is a Reserve, Council officers will prepare a report for Council consideration and decision to apply for a planning permit, for removal and/or vesting of the reserve status from the land in accordance with section 24A of the <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i>.</p> <p>A section 24A plan of subdivision will be prepared for certification by Council and lodging at Land Registry. This subdivision plan will remove the reserve status and vest the land in Council.</p> <p>Council's obligations in accordance with sections 20 and 24 of the <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i> with respect to how the proceeds of sale are applied and whether replacement open space must be provided, will depend upon whether this section 24A process is undertaken prior to or as part of the sale process.</p> <p>3.3 Exemptions Council is exempt from this process (with or without consideration) under Section 116 of the <i>LGA 2020</i> if the land is being transferred to any of the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Crown; • a Minister; • public body; • trustee appointed under any Act to be held on trust for public or municipal purposes; • public hospitals detailed in the <i>Health Services Act</i>; • Other hospitals carried on by an association or society that is not for profit to members. <p>3.4 Valuation of Minor Council Property Asset (LGA section 114(2)(c)) In accordance with section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, a Valuer qualified in accordance section 13DA (1A) <i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i> will be instructed to carry out a market valuation of the Minor Council Property Asset. This must be carried out not more than six months prior to the sale of the property.</p> <p>Council may choose to keep the valuation confidential prior to the sale of the Minor Council Property Asset.</p>
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	<p>3.5 Council Report to Determine the Sale A report will proceed to Council, summarising the submissions and provide a précis of the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting.</p> <p>Council will consider the submissions and make a decision whether the Minor Council Property Asset will be sold, retained or considered for some other alternative.</p> <p>All parties who have made a submission will be notified in writing of the resolution of Council and the reasons for the decision.</p>
Responsibilities	<p>How are individuals responsible for the success of the policy?</p> <p>Each officer is appointed in accordance with Council's Instrument of Delegation August 2020</p> <p>Manager, Property & Business Improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation and management of this Policy, including review of the policy. - management of the discontinuance and sale of roads as outlined in this policy, to carry out the referral stage and negotiate 'in-principle' agreements for their potential sale. - review of any application for the removal of the reserve status received by the Subdivisions Officer. <p>Strategic Planners, Statutory Planners and Subdivisions Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management of issuing a permit for removal of the reserve status over land and to vest the land in Council, in consultation with the Manager Property and business Improvement. The removal of the reserve status of land via Section 24A of the Subdivisions Act 1988 will only be exercised in accordance with a Council resolution, Council policy or strategy that identifies the land being surplus to Council requirements. <p>CEO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - responsible for the signing and sealing of any documents relating to the sale and undertakings in accordance with a Council resolution. <p>Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The decision to give public notice and the final decision to discontinue Minor Council Property Assets and any subsequent sale is not delegated to officers and requires Council resolution.
Breach of Policy	Breaches of policies are treated seriously. Any concerns about non-compliance should be reported immediately to the owner of this policy.

GOVERNANCE

Parent Strategy/ Plan	2014 Asset Management Strategy
Related Documents	<p>This policy should be read in conjunction with Council's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement Strategy and Framework 2019 - November 2019 • Council Plan 2017-2021 - June 2017 • Council Plan Action Plan 2020-2021 - July 2020

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy - March 2020 • Road and Place Naming Policy - June 2014 • Road Asset Management Plan - June 2016
Supporting Procedures and Guidelines	
Legislation/ Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> • <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> • <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i> • <i>Road Management Act 2004</i> • <i>Transfer of Land Act 1958</i> • <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> • <i>Goods and Services Tax Act 1999</i> • <i>Local Government Best Practice Guideline For Sale/Exchange of Land June 2009</i>
Author	Coordinator Property Services
Policy Owner/ Sponsor	General Manager Governance and Engagement
Date Effective	TBC – September 2021
Review Date	September 2024
Version Number	1
Document ID	A6123413
Content enquiries	Coordinator Property Services

All Darebin policies and procedures must be developed through the lens of key Darebin strategies, plans and related considerations. See the **Darebin Policy Review Lens** to inform and guide policy development and review.

**8.8 DAREBIN LIBRARIES AND LEARNING STRATEGY 2020-24
- ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2020-21****Author:** Senior Coordinator Darebin Libraries**Reviewed By:** General Manager Community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24* (Strategy) directs the operational focus of Darebin Libraries services, programs, technology and spaces over the life of the Strategy. Annual action plans bring the Strategy to life operationally, delivering on community priorities and responding to emerging issues and community feedback.

This report is the first annual report on the progress and outcomes of the 2020-21 action plan.

Darebin Libraries has contributed to positive community outcomes in 2020-21 despite the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-21 Annual Progress Report.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In August 2020, after significant community consultation and engagement, Council adopted the *Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24*. The strategy builds on the previous Darebin Libraries strategic approach, focuses on access and equity, embeds lifelong learning and aligns activities to respond to the climate emergency and COVID-19 pandemic through four goals:

- Goal 1: Equity of access
- Goal 2: A thriving and resilient community
- Goal 3: Welcoming safe spaces
- Goal 4: Responsive services

Key achievements and outcomes include:

- Reimagined library service delivery to respond to rapidly changing Victorian Government restrictions, including:
 - Click and Collect provided community access to the library's physical collections (when restrictions allowed)
 - Contactless home library service delivery ensured continued support of vulnerable and isolated community members

- Online events and programs provided lifelong learning opportunities for our community and employment for authors and presenters. When restrictions allowed, regular events were transitioned back to face-to-face delivery with COVID-safe plans
- *Ask a Librarian* telephone service provided access to a library team member to provide digital literacy support, especially for community members at risk of exclusion
- Increased investment in digital collections to support our community in response to stay-at-home measures, resulting in increases to digital loans of between 20-62% across the range of digital services
- Spanish and Macedonian community language collections added following community consultation
- Released and promoted upgraded Darebin Libraries app which improved access to and visibility of library services and digital collection, including Click and Collect
- Fortnightly *The Library at Home* e-newsletter to ensure customers are aware of changes and opportunities to engage with library collections, events and programs, and services especially when branches were closed or access restricted

See **Appendix A** for the full *Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-21 Outcomes* report.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 17 August 2020, Council resolved:

'That Council:

(1) Adopt the Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24

(2) Receives annual Council reports on progress and outcomes of the strategy and ensures information is provided in the Council Annual Report'

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1.4 We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health

4.3 We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

While Darebin Libraries are specifically mentioned in these two Strategic Objectives, the Strategy and associated action plans contribute to many Strategic Objectives, particularly through partnerships and collaboration.

DISCUSSION

Throughout 2020-21, Darebin Libraries has reimagined library service delivery in response to changing restrictions to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

The intermittent closures of library branches and community lifestyle changes have had a significant impact. Library members made good use of digital library collections and online programming, especially during stay-at-home measures.

The 2020-21 outcomes can be found in **Appendix A**.

Many key actions contribute to multiple Strategy goals and outcomes, and achievements have been included in the most relevant location to limit double entries.

These achievements and outcomes complement Darebin Libraries business as usual service delivery focused on our collections, events, technology and access to spaces which are measured through key statistics outlined below.

Key statistics (comparison with 2019-20 figures)

Many key indicators have been negatively impacted by COVID restrictions. This is not surprising, given the rapidly changing context in which libraries have operated over the past year and reflects state-wide public library sector trends. Reimagined agile and responsive library service delivery has, however, meant there have been positive changes demonstrated through these key indicators.

The 'good news' indicators

- **Total digital loans:** 321,289 (increased by 27%)

Digital collection loans increased significantly: e-books by 20%, e-audiobooks by 32%, e-magazines by 62%, music streaming and downloads by 34% and film streaming by 51%.

'Last year my mum, ... 84 years young, and who is an avid reader, was at a loss when the libraries were closed. I set her up on the iPad borrowing e-books from the Darebin library. The iPad is wonderful because you can make the font really big, bigger than the large font books, which mum needs because of her failing eyesight.' – Library member feedback

The 'not so good news' indicators

- **Events and programs:** 54,872 attendees for 361 events (15% decline in attendance due to reduced number of events and capped attendance when holding face-to-face events).

Online programming has increased the reach of Darebin Libraries events and programs and has provided much needed social connection for many community members of all ages.

'We attended Story time today and ... (whilst shy on camera) raved about it. Great job team! Keep up the amazing work.' – Storytime attendee feedback

'Thanks Lee for such a beautiful meditation, really enjoyed connecting to the natural ecosystems and our body' – Dadirri Mindfulness Meditation for Young People attendee feedback

'Thank you Darebin Libraries for arranging this class. And thank you Kelly for teaching us. Not only did I learn about a dish I've never really liked, it made me want to actually try make it. Plus, I learned some new Greek words to boot!' – Learn to make gemista cook along with Kelly Mihelakis attendee feedback

- **Branch** visitation: 261,130 (down 42%)
Access to library branches was significantly impacted by COVID restrictions during 2020-21.
- **Web page views:** 2,732,849 (down 17%)
- **Library App launches:** 91,698 (down 17%)
Website and library app usage is partially driven by customer access to our physical collections. *The Library at Home* e-newsletter increased in importance as the main communication mechanism for community members interested in Darebin Libraries services.
- **Total physical loans:** 395,718 (down 43%)
Physical collection loans decreased significantly, largely impacted by lack of access to collections through Victorian Government-directed branch closures during lockdowns. These figures are also impacted by the ongoing extension of current loans to ensure no overdue fines accrued during branch closures.
- **Wifi sessions:** 12,260 (down by 69%)
Darebin Libraries free wifi remained accessible during Victorian Government directed branch closures to support community members without access to the internet. Everyone was able to instantly access the free wifi by becoming library members through our online membership form.
- **PC sessions:** 12,173 (down by 75%)
PC sessions decreased significantly, largely impacted by lack of access to library computers during Victorian Government-directed branch closures during lockdowns and strict building caps when libraries were able to reopen.
- **Active Library Borrowers: 12.3% (down 1.8%)**
This Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) measure calculates the percentage of the municipal population that have borrowed a library collection item (book or other defined resource) each year for the past three years.

This figure has been impacted by some customers' preference to access physical collections only and access has been limited over the past year due to COVID. This measure excludes event attendees and usage of free technology services such as computers and wifi.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Strategy and annual action plans are influenced by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. The 2020-21 outcomes and achievements contribute to targets in 13 of the 17 goals via the delivery of topical workshops and talks, provision of targeted collections and information, access to welcoming, inclusive and free community spaces and technology, opportunities to learn, engage and connect, and through partnerships and initiatives.



CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The Strategy Action Plan was delivered within Darebin Libraries 2020-21 operational and capital budget allocations, supported by Victorian Government contributions of \$1,019,714 through the Public Library Funding Program and \$17,913 through the Premiers' Reading Challenge grant.

In 2020-21, Darebin Libraries' Cost of Library Service per Population figure was \$31.67 per capita, down from \$33.10 in 2019-20. This LGPRF measure enables comparisons of Victorian public library services. In 2019-20, Darebin Libraries was ranked 19 of 47 library services for per capita funding.

An independent report by SGS Economics and Planning found that for every \$1 invested in Darebin Libraries, \$5.60 is returned in community benefits (*Libraries Work! The socio-economic values of public libraries to Victorians*, 2018).

Community Engagement

The 2020-21 Outcomes report will be shared with our community through the dedicated Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24 page on the Darebin Libraries website (<https://www.darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au/strategy/>), Facebook and e-newsletter. Printed copies will be made available at each library branch.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;

Public Transparency Principles

- (c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;

Strategic Planning Principles

- (e) strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances;

Service Performance Principles

- (a) services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community;
- (b) services should be accessible to the members of the municipal community for whom the services are intended;
- (c) quality and costs standards for services set by the Council should provide good value to the municipal community;
- (d) a Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency):

The role of the library in supporting Council's environmental sustainability focus was heightened in the Strategy, with a key outcome in Goal 2 to 'Help the Darebin community meet the challenges of the climate emergency'.

Many outcomes and achievements outlined in **Appendix A** were delivered in collaboration with the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport team and other Council teams, including:

- Home Efficiency Tool Kits and Thermal Camera Tool Kits added to the library collection to support reduced home energy use and greenhouse gas emissions
- Seed Library established at Northcote Library
- LED lighting upgrades

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

Equity, inclusion and wellbeing are at the heart of the library's work and embedded into the consultation and engagement undertaken. Each goal within the Strategy specifically addresses inclusion, while several key actions specifically target communities at risk of exclusion. An equity impact assessment was undertaken in June 2020, in relation to the engagement plan for the Strategy consultation.

The previous *Health and Wellbeing Plan, Towards Equality – Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-29* and *Towards an Age Friendly Darebin* were strong reference points and influenced the focus and outcomes identified in the Strategy.

Many outcomes and achievements outlined in **Appendix A** were delivered in collaboration with the Equity and Wellbeing team to ensure alignment with or to specifically address the principles of equity, inclusion, wellbeing and human rights, including:

- Commenced Age Friendly Darebin pilot project with Your Community Health and Aged and Disability team to address digital divide for seniors
- Inclusion of captions on online videos to improve accessibility for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing
- Extending loans, pausing overdue fines during lockdowns to lessen the financial impact for our customers
- Expanding service eligibility for home library service to include carers, children and youth with new brochures translated into five community languages

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Skills acquisition and lifelong learning is an important aspect of building community capacity and increases economic development opportunities. A key action in Goal 2 is to 'Consult local businesses to identify their learning and development needs and implement collections, events and programs to support them'.

Cultural considerations are also a key focus of the Strategy, directly addressing our community's creative sector and economy.

Several outcomes and achievements outlined in **Appendix A** were delivered in collaboration with the Economic Development and Creative Culture and Events teams, including:

- Libraries supported the development and distribution of *Do It: Darebin Creek* zine, developed by Skypunch with Darebin Arts as something for local residents to do as part of daily exercise during lockdowns
- Redeployed library staff supported the Community and Local Business Resilience and Recovery Grants Hotline
- Delivered events to support community members at risk of exclusion focused on employment: Understanding Your Employment Rights (for people from a CALD background), Career Chat and Learn as well as sessions by Centrelink: 'Digital Services, Online Accounts, and myGov', 'Debt Prevention and Compliance' and 'Jobseeker Payments and Looking for Work'
- Podcast and self-guided walking tour 'History on High' included in Spring 2020 FUSE program to provide a snapshot of Darebin's rich and diverse history

Operational Impacts

The Strategy directs the operational focus of Darebin Libraries services, programs, technology and spaces over the life of the Strategy. Annual action plans are delivered collaboratively in partnership with other Council teams as well as community organisations and individuals to ensure effective impact, especially for communities at risk of exclusion.

Despite some library team members being redeployed to support prioritised Council activities during the extended lockdown in 2020, the actions to deliver positive outcomes for our community through this Strategy were still progressed.

Legal and Risk Implications

Darebin Libraries undertakes consultative risk assessments and implements appropriate risk mitigation strategies when adjusting library service delivery to Victorian Government COVID-19 restrictions and when implementing or addressing new initiatives or situations that increase the risk profile. No legal implications have been identified.


IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

- The Strategy *2020-21 Outcomes* report will be released via communication channels outlined above
- Implementation of the 2021-22 Strategy Action Plan

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24

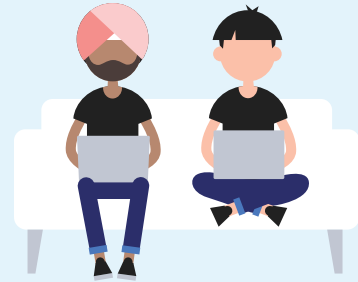
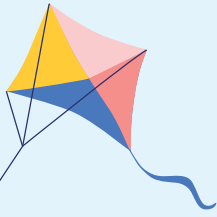
Attachments

- Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy - 2020-21 Outcomes Report (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)


DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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 Libraries and Learning Strategy 2020-24

Outcomes 2020-21



**Darebin
Libraries**

GOAL 1: EQUITY OF ACCESS

We will provide services, resources and facilities that enable all community members to access our libraries.

Collections that meet the needs of the Darebin community

Consult with our community to better understand their evolving needs and preferred collection formats

- ✓ Collection items purchased based on feedback and loans analysis to reflect the diverse needs of the Darebin community
- ✓ 'Suggest a Purchase' implemented so customers can request items to be purchased or borrowed from another library

Increase the number of community languages in our collections

- ✓ Spanish and Macedonian collections added following community consultation

Balance the transition from physical to digital collections in line with community use and need, responding to evolving COVID-19 impacts

- ✓ Increased investment in digital collections to support our community in response to stay-at-home measures:
 - » *The Age* online free for library members
 - » more ebooks and eaudiobooks on BorrowBox and CloudLibrary apps
 - » more than 3,000 emagazine titles available through RBDigital app
 - » launched Libby app for emagazines, ecomics and eaudiobooks
 - » increased Kanopy limits for film and documentary streaming
 - » launched LOTE Online for Kids and Clarity English services: Practical Writing, Study Skills Success and Tense Buster
 - » Premiers' Reading Challenge funding fully allocated to digital content
- ✓ Reimagined and adjusted activities to support safe access to our physical collections:
 - » contactless home library service deliveries
 - » Click and Collect established for reservations and bookclubs
 - » reopened library branches (when restrictions allowed) with COVID-Safe plans, building caps and group limits to enable browsing
- ✓ Actively donated withdrawn materials to our community:
 - » book giveaways at Reservoir Community and Learning Centre and immunisation sessions
 - » through partnerships with neighbourhood houses, schools, supported playgroups, youth hub and aged care facilities
 - » supported Alphington Community Centre *Blind Date with a Book* program and Refugee and Asylum Seeker toy drive
- ✓ Increased promotion of digital collections through fortnightly *The Library at Home* newsletter and Facebook posts resulting in increased awareness and usage

Increased library access

Review library fines and charges to reduce barriers to use

- ✓ Extended existing loans, paused overdue fines and book recovery activities to lessen the financial impact for our customers from March 2020 to June 2021
- ✓ After consideration in the 2021-22 budget deliberations, library fines remain

Review library opening hours

- ✓ Reservoir Community and Learning Centre will open on Sundays in 2021-22
- ✓ Libraries After Dark will continue at Preston Library on Thursdays in 2021-22
- ✓ Libraries After Dark extended to Reservoir Community and Learning Centre on Tuesdays in 2021-22

Expand the reach of the home library service to include socially isolated groups

- ✓ Contactless home library service delivery ensured continued support of vulnerable community members during restrictions
- ✓ When deliveries were paused, staff called customers to maintain social connection and provide digital literacy support
- ✓ Consulted with customers, community groups, disability support organisations and relevant Council teams to develop a home library service promotion plan
- ✓ Service eligibility has expanded to include carers, children and youth, with new brochures developed and translated into Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Mandarin and Vietnamese

Increased awareness and use of library services, especially by communities at risk of exclusion

Collaborate with our partners, community and other Darebin City Council departments to raise awareness of Darebin Libraries services, especially with communities at risk of exclusion

- ✓ Working with Juno Rapid Response Clinics and Darebin Ethnic Communities Council to tailor library service information
- ✓ Collaborated with and presented to Council teams to identify opportunities to work together to support our community
- ✓ Preston Library hosted an interview with Cr Susan Rennie and Kate Sommerville to promote the benefits of Libraries After Dark



GOAL 2: A THRIVING AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

We will promote and support the wellbeing and resilience of our community through increased opportunities for lifelong learning and social connection.

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Events that meet diverse community needs

Revise the Events Framework to increase the number of events that focus on the needs of communities at risk of exclusion and delivered in partnership with other Darebin City Council departments and community organisations and groups

- ✓ Framework and targets revised to increase our focus on the needs of communities at risk of exclusion
- ✓ Delivered online and outreach learning programs embedding STEAM principles for children and youth
- ✓ Online Storytimes and Rhyme Times delivered bi-weekly including bilingual videos and readings covering Aboriginal and multicultural themes
- ✓ Partnered with Islamic Society of Victoria and Preston Mosque for a Virtual Cuppa with a Childrens Librarian session
- ✓ Delivered diverse school holiday programs including Hakawati Refugee Stories and Dadirri Mindfulness for young people
- ✓ Hosted a digital art exhibition by Farhad Bandesh, a refugee in detention, in partnership with Northsiders with Refugees
- ✓ Adapted Conversation Café to an online format to support English-language practice and social connections, with most participants coming every week and increased engagement with the online program during lockdowns
- ✓ Researching Aboriginal Family History talk delivered in partnership with Koorie Heritage Trust, State Library of Victoria, Public Records Office of Victoria and National Archives of Australia

Increase the number of events delivered in community languages

- ✓ Stay-at-Home Storytimes in Somali and English (2), and French and English (2)
- ✓ 'How to make Gemista' event delivered in Greek
- ✓ Learn Auslan and Future Girl events with Asphyxia
- ✗ *Due to restrictions, this is the same number of community language events as the previous year.*

Opportunities to participate in lifelong learning

Expand programs that foster lifelong learning, using digital delivery in response to COVID-19 impacts

- ✓ Reimagined content and digital delivery of events and programs:
 - » online Storytimes and Rhyme Times including bilingual videos and readings covering Aboriginal and multicultural themes
 - » hosted a digital art exhibition by Farhad Bandesh, a refugee in detention, in partnership with Northsiders with Refugees
 - » online sessions on accessing Centrelink: 'Digital Services, Online Accounts and myGov', 'Debt Prevention and Compliance', 'Jobseeker Payments and Looking for Work'
 - » Youth United activism event on Facebook with Youth Services
 - » regular craft activities, cooking sessions and programs focused on mental health and wellbeing including 'Surviving Lockdown'
 - » partnered with Merri Creek Management Committee to deliver 'Discovering the Frogs of Darebin' webinar
- ✓ Transitioned some events (Storytime, Rhyme Time, Conversation Café, Makers Corner, Book Chat) back to face-to-face delivery when restrictions allowed
- ✓ Launched [webpage](#) to support, encourage and promote lifelong learning opportunities and local learning organisations
- ✓ Developed how-to-guides and FAQ sheets to support digital literacy

Increase digital literacy support across a variety of online platforms in partnership with community organisations

- ✓ Commenced Age Friendly Darebin pilot project with Your Community Health and Aged and Disability team to address digital divide for seniors without access to devices or internet through Introduction to digital literacy for carers program
- ✓ Promoted Online Safety for Grandparents and Carers by Office of the eSafety Commissioner
- ✓ Conducted BeConnected program in partnership with Hellenic Women's Group at Northcote Library
- ✓ Delivered session to PRACE and The Bridge teams on Darebin Libraries resources

Implement volunteering opportunities within the library

- ✓ Words on Wheels do-it-yourself kits have been loaned to Hilltop and Westgarth Aged Care Centres for volunteers to run memory evoking sessions
- ✗ *Not progressed in 2020-21; is a future focus*

Provide opportunities for communities to connect with Darebin's local history and culture

- ✓ Podcast and self-guided walking tour '[History on High](#)' included in Spring 2020 FUSE program to provide a snapshot of Darebin's rich and diverse history
- ✓ Provided Darebin content and imagery for Northland ANZAC display
- ✓ Received Public Records Office Victoria (PROV) grant to assess and identify solutions for uncatalogued donated historical items

Consult local businesses to identify their learning and development needs and implement collections, events and programs to support them

✘ *Not progressed in 2020-21; is a future focus*

Help the Darebin community meet the challenges of the climate emergency

Collaboratively develop services, collections and programs to increase community understanding and knowledge to meet the challenges of the climate emergency

- ✓ Collaboratively created collection resources lists for Fight for Planet A, Darebin Climate Challenge eResources, 16 Days of Activism, Sustainable Living, Earth Day, Sustainable Gardening, World Environment Day and to promote recycling
- ✓ Home Efficiency Tool Kits and Thermal Camera Tool Kits added to our collection to support reduced home energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in partnership with Climate Emergency team
- ✓ Shared information about our solar panels, battery storage and LED lighting upgrades to inspire our community to explore similar energy efficiency activities
- ✓ Seed Library established at Northcote Library
- ✓ Buzz and Dig Seed Saving workshop and seed mix giveaway in collaboration with Northcote Library Food Garden to recognise World Bee Day

Help the Darebin community meet the challenges of the COVID-19 recovery

Work with the Darebin Community and Business Recovery Taskforce and other Darebin City Council departments to implement services, collections and programs to help communities understand and meet the challenges of the COVID-19 recovery

- ✓ Participated in Council's COVID-19 Community and Local Business Resilience and Recovery response and redeployed library staff to Grants Hotline, and to help establish the Community Navigation Service
- ✓ Supported the development and distribution of *Do It: Darebin Creek* zine, developed by Skypunch with Darebin Arts as something for local residents to do as part of daily exercise during lockdowns
- ✓ Delivered events to support community members at risk of exclusion focused on employment and health and wellbeing: Understanding Your Employment Rights (for people from a CALD background), Career Chat and Learn as well as sessions on accessing Centrelink and 'Surviving Lockdown'
- ✓ Hosted a Work for Victoria employee who focused on community engagement activities
- ✓ Commitment (when libraries reopen) to support Darebin and Moreland City Council's Jobs Advocate Program which connects community members who are looking for work to information, advice and services

- ✓ Partnership established with Brotherhood of St Laurence to provide outreach services to residents of Supported Residential Services to access library services, collections and programs once restrictions allow
- ✓ Extended existing loans, paused overdue fines and book recovery activities to lessen the financial impact for our customers during the COVID-19 restrictions from March 2020 to June 2021
- ✓ Met with Reservoir Traders Association to explore reactivation of precinct



GOAL 3: WELCOMING SAFE SPACES

We will create welcoming, safe, flexible and inclusive physical and digital spaces.

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Enhanced welcoming, safe, flexible and inclusive spaces to meet diverse and changing community needs

- ✓ Blinds installed at Preston Library to support evening events
- ✓ Replaced Northcote Library roof
- ✓ Preston Library switchboard upgraded to support solar panel installation
- ✓ CCTV upgraded at Preston and Northcote Libraries
- ✓ Returns chutes upgraded at all branches
- ✓ New people counters installed at all branches

Investigate the feasibility of new and refurbished libraries

- ✓ Preston Library feasibility study report completed
- ✓ Feedback provided on Northcote Plaza redevelopment which explored a new location for the Northcote Library

Work with communities to co-design spaces that are welcoming, safe, flexible, comfortable, inclusive and accessible for all

- ✗ *Postponed to 2021-22 due to focus on responding to rapidly changing COVID restrictions and limited access to physical branches*

Explore and implement ways to provide both quiet and collaborative spaces

- ✓ COVID-Safe Storytimes and Rhyme Times held in Fairfield Community Room to enable quiet spaces during these events
- ✗ *Trial of zoned spaces postponed to 2021-22 when library branches reopen for public access.*

Appropriate technology to meet changing needs

Upgrade the Darebin Libraries website

- ✓ Enhanced current website to improve usability and accessibility including updating content and creating new pages to support library services
- ✓ Actively participated in the Council website redevelopment project

Upgrade the Darebin Libraries app

- ✓ Released and promoted upgraded Darebin Libraries app which improved access to and visibility of library services and digital collections

Improve access to digital resources and use technology to support the delivery of services, responding to evolving COVID-19 impacts

- ✓ Fortnightly *The Library at Home* newsletter to ensure customer communications while branches are closed or access is restricted
- ✓ *Ask a Librarian* service incorporated into Library Reception and increased staffing to support higher call rates from customers at home
- ✓ Facebook content expanded to engage customers with the library eg staff recommendations, behind-the-scenes staff profiles
- ✓ Delivered library events and programs through online platforms in response to stay-at-home measures and restrictions
- ✓ Summer reading program adapted to online environment: Branch Out readers advisory program for junior readers
- ✓ Ancestry (family history platform) available from home since March 2020
- ✓ Scanner purchased and implemented to support digitisation of local history materials
- ✓ Upgraded the library management system to support Darebin Libraries app upgrade and new inter library loan approach through Trove Collaborative Services
- ✓ New print management solution launched which includes scanning and mobility printing
- ✓ Device kiosks with laptops launched at Northcote and Preston Libraries to expand the number of computers available for customer use



GOAL 4: RESPONSIVE SERVICES

We will continue to build Darebin Libraries' capacity to provide services to meet our community's needs.

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A community-led approach to the design and delivery of library services and resources

Implement Darebin Community Engagement Strategy and Framework

- ✓ Established improved stakeholder engagement for Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week and Deadly Reads initiatives

Identify, encourage and support opportunities for community-led initiatives in libraries

- ✓ In partnership with Youth Services, Yarra Libraries and Yarra Youth and Middle Years, Darebin Libraries received a SLV grant for \$25,000 to deliver Hearts and Minds. Using co-design principles, a group of young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and CALD backgrounds will develop and deliver a project in 2022 addressing the challenge: How can libraries support youth mental health and wellbeing?

Continuously improving customer service

Reinvent library service delivery and customer service models in response to evolving COVID-19 impacts

- ✓ Contactless home library service deliveries
- ✓ Click and Collect services established (with improvements when re-established)
- ✓ Reopened library branches (when restrictions allowed) with COVID-Safe plans, building caps and group limits to enable browsing, access to computers and community meeting rooms
- ✓ Inclusion of captions on online videos to improve accessibility for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing
- ✓ Participated in #librarieschangelives campaign: branding included in new Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy and use of hashtag on relevant Facebook posts including those of community members describing why they love being back in our library spaces

Provide staff with customer service and engagement training and support their ongoing professional development

- ✓ Assertive Communication Over the Phone
- ✓ Connecting and Responding to Homelessness in the City of Darebin
- ✓ Introduction to psychological first aid
- ✓ Negotiation and Crisis Intervention training
- ✓ Aboriginal Cultural Awareness
- ✓ Manual Handling
- ✓ Co-design

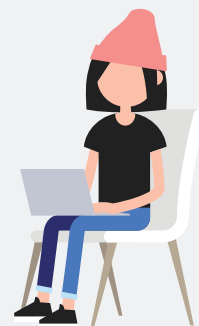
Knowing our impact

Consult communities to identify how they are using libraries, what we are doing well and where we can improve

- ✓ Re-established improved and more responsive Click and Collect service following customer and staff feedback

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Libraries Change Lives



DAREBIN LIBRARIES

266 Gower Street, Preston
 PO Box 257, Preston, Vic 3072
 T 1300 655 355
 E contact_us@darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au
darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au

 **National Relay Service**
relayservice.gov.au

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.

 **Speak your language**
 T 8470 8470

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हिंदी	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	Tiếng Việt

8.9 PRESTON MARKET PLANNING - PROCESS UPDATE AND ADVOCACY**Author:** Principal Strategic Planner**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) released its draft structure plan and planning controls for the Preston Market Precinct for public consultation between 18 May and 13 July 2021 (Amendment (C182)). Council's assessment of the Amendment found the proposed controls provide inadequate protection of the Preston Market, scoring poorly against Council's Heart of Preston (April 2021) objectives. In particular failing to protect the social, economic, or cultural functions of the market, weak protection of the market use and heritage and inappropriate development density and heights.

Council's detailed submission was lodged on 13th July upon closing of exhibition, in accordance with Council's resolution from the 28 June 2021 Council meeting with further technical critique in relation to planning matters such as heritage, market identity, housing supply, urban design, transport, affordable housing, and open space.

For the next stage of the planning process, the VPA have requested the Minister for Planning (Minister) refer submissions to a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) for consideration. A SAC panel hearing is scheduled in the week commencing 1 November 2021 and is expected to run for approximately 2 weeks. Officers are preparing for the panel hearing to put Council's position to Panel and have arranged for Council to be represented by esteemed legal counsel and highly regarded experts.

The VPA have advised they are considering changes to the Amendment in response to submissions before the SAC Hearing, however there is no indication of additional engagement with the community and it is anticipated that those changes will be minor compared to the scale of change that Council regards as required. This is not unexpected and reflects a potential desire of the VPA to use the SAC panel process to resolve a number of issues in submissions.

Council has been continuing with its strong advocacy campaign to protect the Preston Market through meetings with local, state, and federal MPs and other community groups. Community advocacy for changes to the VPA's proposed Amendment remains strong and is reflected by the record number of submissions received by the VPA for one of their planning projects (380 submissions) and Council's petition which currently stands at just over 9000 signatures.

To effectively advocate on this matter, officers recommend that Council focus in the next few months on advocacy via the formal planning process and on encouraging community submitters to also participate in this. There are strong planning merits for Council's position. Council is seeking that the developer enter a voluntary agreement confirming an ongoing commitment to running and protecting the market, in an enduring form that would also commit any future landowners to this. Council will advocate for this throughout the planning process, and if the developer agrees, this, combined with stronger planning controls, would be one of the strongest methods to protect the market.

In the lead up to the Standing Advisory Committee process, it is recommended that Council submits the Preston Market petition to the Minister to demonstrate the strength of the community's response. Council would also write to the VPA and the Minister, sharing the petition and reiterating Council's call for substantial changes to the Amendment in line with Council's submission, and to make any changes to the amendment public prior to the panel hearing.

Council will continue to advocate for protection of the market, and to involve community in this advocacy. The approach to this will be considered depending on the response from the Minister and VPA, and any future findings or report from the Standing Advisory Committee.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Submits Council's Preston Market petition to the Minister for Planning via a letter and social media post to reiterate Council's call to protect the market, and to demonstrate the strength of the community's response.
 - (2) Encourages community members and other stakeholders who made a submission to participate in the State Government's upcoming Standing Advisory Committee process.
 - (3) Writes to the Victorian Planning Authority and the Minister for Planning requesting:
 - a. substantial changes to the Amendment in line with Council's submission
 - b. the VPA makes public any changes to the amendment before the Standing Advisory Committee panel hearing
 - c. that the Standing Advisory Committee panel must include expertise on heritage, markets, and members with an understanding of the cultural significance of this market now and in the past for Melbourne's multicultural and migrant communities.
 - (4) Call for a report to Council by February 2021 to provide an update on the progress of the VPA's Preston Market project, the findings of the Standing Advisory Committee and to consider any new advice or issues that may arise in the months that follow.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In August 2017, following advocacy from Council and community, the Minister for Planning directed the VPA to review and update the current planning controls for the Preston Market site, designating it as a strategic development site of state significance. The Minister outlined that the review needed to be undertaken with Council, the owners of Preston Market, the traders, and the broader community.

Council's Role

Although Council is not the decision maker for the current review of planning controls, Council has long advocated for the best outcomes for the existing and future community, including businesses, residents, visitors, and workers. Council has a role in advocating for planning controls that align with Council priorities and strategies to ensure the ongoing success and vitality of the Preston Market and to create an exceptional place for the heart of Preston.

Council has called for the review of the planning controls to strengthen the depth and reach of community engagement and to develop a detailed understanding of technical issues and evidence about the needs, opportunities, and constraints of the site. A range of technical reports and advice have been undertaken by both the VPA and Council on transport, affordable housing, heritage, urban design, drainage, construction management and infrastructure planning, identity analysis and economic analysis.

Due to the complexity of the multiple elements that make up the market's character, planning mechanisms alone will not be sufficient to protect them. Therefore, Council has advocated for the VPA to also pursue voluntary agreements with the developer that would cover non-planning matters, such as the protection of the market use and traders, and the range and diversity of the market offer.

The VPA's planning process

The Minister designated the VPA as Planning Authority for the site in August 2017 and tasked the VPA with reviewing and updating the existing planning controls. The review of the controls was complete in October 2018, and in May 2021 the VPA released a planning scheme amendment (Amendment C182) for public consultation, including a draft Structure Plan and draft planning controls for the site. Public consultation ended on 13 July 2021 and Council lodged its submission in accordance with its resolution of 28 June 2021. A record number of submissions were received by the VPA (380).

The VPA has requested that the Minister refer all submissions to a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC). In anticipation of this, the VPA have scheduled a Directions hearing for the week of 27 September, and the panel hearing for the week commencing 1 November (expected to run for 2 weeks depending on the number of submitters to the panel). Council officers have started preparing for the panel hearing, including engagement of legal counsel and expert witnesses in heritage, urban design, identity, and transport.

The Standing Advisory Committee's role

The SAC will likely conduct a hearing to consider evidence and public submissions before presenting its findings to the Minister and the VPA. The SAC is comprised of planning and technical experts selected from a panel. Submitters to the amendment will be able to make submissions at the panel hearing and will be contacted by Planning Panels Victoria on how to do so.

In response to Council's advocacy, the VPA have requested the Minister include a heritage expert on the Standing Advisory Committee to ensure the market's cultural heritage significance is sufficiently considered.

Council advocacy undertaken

The community voice and interest in protecting the Preston Market is strong, as evidenced by the record number of submissions ever received for a VPA urban renewal project. During the VPA's public consultation process, Council communications focused on supporting and encouraging residents to make submissions to the VPA, which included the following advocacy campaign:

- A public petition calling on the Planning Minister to use his powers to change the planning process to make sure Salta Properties protects the Market in any future development of the site.
- Promotion of the petition and Council's position on social media.
- Updates to the Heart of Preston document.

- Updates to Council's webpage and FAQs.
- Contacting stakeholders to inform them of our new position and current advocacy campaign.
- Meetings between the Mayor and MPs at the local, state and federal level, to discuss the draft planning controls and their views on the retention of the market and its local heritage significance, in line with the Heart of Preston.
- A social media campaign in mid-June to coincide with the VPA's public consultation period.
- A letter drop to residents within 800m of market precinct (noting that the VPA have written their own letter to notify residents) encouraging them to make a submission, and suggesting things to consider.
- An information session with the Mayor for traders held in early July.
- A banner (4m x 1m) installed to the outside of the Gower Street building.
- A message sent to all signatories of Council's petition asking people to send a submission to the VPA before the closing date.
- CALD network letter – delivered through our networks to CALD groups– to those CALD groups that speak the same 4 languages the VPA have engaged, translations of letter available.
- Environmental group – Sustainability e-newsletter, and email to key stakeholder groups asking them to provide expert advice on these matters
- Inclusion in 'Your Darebin' July and in Darebin Community News July
- Council's submission made publicly available on Council's Yoursay page.

Council's submission

Council's detailed submission was lodged on 13th July upon closing of exhibition, in accordance with Council's resolution from the 28 June 2021 Council meeting. The first section of the submission contains the specific changes Council seeks, consistent with the Heart of Preston document. The second half of the submission contains further technical justification and critique in relation to planning matters such as heritage, market identity, housing supply, urban design, transport, affordable housing, and open space. The submission has been made publicly available on Council's Preston Market Yoursay page.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 28 June 2021, Council resolved:

That Council

- (1) *Endorse the recommended Submission (key points) to the VPA contained in Appendix A to form the basis of Council's submission to the VPA engagement on Preston Market Precinct Planning Framework, with the following changes:*
 - a. *Add to Submission Request 1 two new dot points as follows:*
 - *Incorporate Structure Plan Action 26 'Maintain at least the same number of car parking spaces as currently provided for the existing market' into the zone as a mandatory requirement.*
 - *Change from a discretionary to a mandatory requirement in the zone that car parking must be located underground, where possible. Where*

this is not technically possible parking must be located above ground level and sleeved with active uses.

- b. *In Submission Request 1, replace the last dot point with:
 - *Demolishing the market by 80% is an unacceptable heritage outcome that has no clear rationale and would decimate the heritage significance of Preston Market. It would also harm the social and cultural roles of the market, along with its continuity and commercial viability.**
 - c. *In Submission Request 2, replace dot point two with:
 - *Require the developer enter into a s173 agreement with Council, committing to the market diversity and affordability requirements in the Charter of Community Expectations. This must be entered into before a planning scheme amendment is gazetted.**
 - d. *In Submission Request 3 - dot point 4, replace sub-point 3 with:
 - *require an 'all electric site' and no new gas connections on the site. Ensure the precinct becomes a 'renewable energy power hub that maximises onsite solutions such as solar panels, battery storage and microgrid;**
 - e. *In Submission Request 3 - dot point 4, replace sub-point 5 with:
 - *provide for residential and commercial composting and/or anaerobic digestion and encourage urban agriculture facilities within the precinct, where amenity can be protected;**
- (2) *Authorise the General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy to add further detail, including of a technical nature, to Council's submission, prior to submitting it to the VPA on 13 July 2021, and subsequently as may be required as part of Council's submission to the Standing Advisory Committee and to Authorise the Manager City Futures to make minor alterations and corrections where necessary.*
- (3) *Write to the Victorian Planning Authority and Planning Minister, to:*
- a) *Outline Council's disappointment with the draft planning controls for Preston Market Precinct, and request significant changes be made to adequately protect the market's heritage, identity, and provide more appropriate design response to the local context.*
 - b) *Request that the VPA make these changes and engage the community once more, before proceeding to Standing Advisory Committee*
 - c) *Request that the proposed draft planning scheme amendment is not approved before the landowner commits to:
 - i. *Enter into a contractual commitment to ensure the market is an ongoing use on site and to support the market traders and affordability*
 - ii. *Adequately resolve the Section 173 agreement to Council's satisfaction on affordable housing and public easements and carparking prior to gazettal of a planning scheme amendment.**
- (4) *Endorses the communications campaign outlined in this report to share Council's decision and maximise community participation in the State Government's consultation.*
- (5) *Immediately advises all local state and federal MPs in the Darebin area of Council's decision and advocacy and seeks their support.*

- (6) *Request the Minister to require the VPA Projects Standing Advisory Committee to conduct its proceedings through a Public Hearing for greater transparency.*
- (7) *Call for a report to come back to Council in September to provide an update on the progress of the VPA's Preston Market project, and to consider any new advice or issues that may arise in the months that follow.*

In accordance with the above resolution, officers made changes to the submission in line with points (1) and (2) and wrote to the VPA, the Minister, and local, state and federal MPs in line with points (3), (5) and (6). This report is in response to point (7) of the resolution.

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.4 We will ensure major changes in our city achieve significant improvements in our City

This report aligns directly with action 4-18, to Protect Preston Market, including advocating Council's position to the State Government during its planning consultation process, and working with our community to advocate for the strongest possible planning controls and protections.

DISCUSSION

Planning Process and SAC

Panel hearing dates have been scheduled in anticipation that the Minister will soon refer submissions to a SAC, as requested by the VPA.

The VPA has advised officers it is currently considering making changes to the Amendment in response to submissions, and that it will be guided by the SAC (at the Directions hearing) regarding how to notify and distribute any proposed changes. Officers expect that changes will be circulated to parties to the SAC panel in the two weeks prior to the panel hearing, rather than be made publicly available from the outset. Given that the panel is only one month away (early November), and that no further community engagement has been planned, it is expected that the VPA's proposed changes will not be substantial at this stage.

Council's legal counsel and technical experts will make submissions to the SAC at the hearing and as such, there is still opportunity for Council to achieve what it is seeking (as per its submission) based on planning merits.

The SAC will consider all submissions and after the panel hearing will prepare a report on its findings for the VPA and the Minister. As a requirement of its Terms of Reference, the VPA must publicly release the report of the Committee within 10 business days of its receipt (likely early 2022).

The VPA will consider the SAC's recommendations before submitting the amendment to the Minister for decision later in 2022. The Minister will review the VPA's Amendment and the SAC's findings, before deciding on the amendment.

Advocacy

Recent advocacy

Since the close of the VPA's public consultation process, the campaign messaging has been updated to reflect Council's submission and its resolution of 28 June 2021:

- To outline Council's disappointment with the draft planning controls for Preston Market Precinct, and request significant changes be made to adequately protect the market's heritage, identity, and provide more appropriate design response to the local context.
- Request that the VPA make these changes and engage the community once more, before proceeding to Standing Advisory Committee
- Request to the Minister that the proposed draft planning scheme amendment is not approved before the landowner commits to enter into a contractual commitment to ensure the market is an ongoing use on site and to support the market traders and affordability.

Most recent advocacy actions have included:

- Further meetings between the Mayor and local, state and federal MPs, with some traction, including a meeting with Shadow Minister for Planning (the Hon David Davis) and a meeting with Samantha Ratnam (upper house) which resulted in questions in parliament to the Minister for Planning.
- Meetings with the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (who have made a submission and plan to appear at Panel) and Victorian Multicultural Commission.
- Meeting with community group Save the Preston Market Action Group.
- Officer meeting with the VPA to discuss requested changes in Council's detailed submission.

Advocacy (next steps)

To effectively advocate on this matter, officers recommend that Council focus in the next few months on its advocacy via the formal planning process and on encouraging community submitters to also participate in this.

There are strong planning merits for Council's position. Council is seeking that the developer enter a voluntary agreement confirming an ongoing commitment to running and protecting the market, in an enduring form that would also commit any future landowners to this. Council will advocate for this throughout the planning process, and if the developer agrees, this, combined with planning controls of the type that Council is seeking, would be one of the strongest methods to protect the market.

In the lead up to the Standing Advisory Committee process, it is recommended that Council submits the Preston Market petition to the Minister to demonstrate the strength of the community's response. Council would also write to the VPA and the Minister, sharing the petition and reiterating Council's call for substantial changes to the Amendment in line with Council's submission, and to make any changes to the amendment public prior to the panel hearing.

Council's Preston Market petition is still open at currently just over 9000 signatures. It is recommended that the petition is closed ahead of the SAC panel hearing and submitted to the Minister to demonstrate the strength of the community's response to the VPA's plans. Prior to lockdown, planned advocacy activities included delivering the closed petition to the

State Government on the steps of parliament. As this option is no longer feasible due to lockdown, it is recommended that the petition is submitted to the Minister by letter and via social media.

Although Council has called for substantial changes to the Amendment and further public consultation (resolution 28 June 2021) there has been no indication that substantial changes will be made, nor that the Minister will change the planning process in response to Council's request. Therefore, officers will continue to prepare for the SAC panel hearing as scheduled. Nevertheless, it is recommended that Council continues to call for a transparent and fair planning process, by which the public (not just submitters) are informed of the VPA's proposed changes to the Amendment before it proceeds to panel, so the community can see how the VPA has responded to submissions at this stage of the planning process.

It is also recommended that Council write to the VPA to make public any changes to the amendment before the Standing Advisory Committee panel hearing, in the interest of greater transparency.

Advocacy after the Standing Advisory Committee

Council will continue to advocate for protection of the market, and to involve community in this advocacy. The approach to this will be considered depending on the response from the Minister and VPA, and any future findings or report from the Standing Advisory Committee.

When the Committee process has completed, there are further decision - making steps and opportunities to influence the outcome, including consideration by the Minister for Planning.

The SAC has the ability to make minor or substantial recommendations for the Amendment, or it could find that further work is needed.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The Council Budget has funds set aside for expert consultants, staffing, campaign, and legal representation for the SAC hearing. However, there is a risk that the costs could be higher than budget if the length of the hearing is longer than expected, or if the SAC makes recommendations that require additional technical work.

Community Engagement

Four phases of community engagement have been conducted since January 2018 with over 2,000 people providing valuable feedback. There is consensus around the community's love of the Market's unique character, its wide walkways and airy street market feel, its multicultural traders and its affordable and diverse product range. However, there is no community consensus about aspirations for change. Many strongly feel the market should stay as it is, while others express a view the market is tired and needs updating.

The VPA undertook public consultation from 18 May until 13 July 2021 with a total of 380 public submissions received. No further community consultation is planned by the VPA. However, it is considered that the community should be informed of any proposed changes to the Amendment by the VPA, prior to panel.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)**

The project is consistently seeking high standards for environmentally sustainable design from any future development at the site.

This precinct will both impact and be impacted by climate change. While the proposed controls include high standards for ESD, the development will contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Council's submission to the VPA has advocated for this impact to be minimised through the adoption of even higher ESD standards, zero carbon commitments, and will request that the precinct be gas-free and have a circular waste process. Higher standards of ESD will also mean that the development is better able to withstand extreme weather events in the future.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

An EIA/GIA have not been undertaken for this program of work, however, equity, inclusion, wellbeing considerations have been integral to Council's advocacy on this matter and are embedded in Council's 'Heart of Preston' which outlines its objectives for the site. Council recognises the importance of the Market for the entire community and equity, inclusion and wellbeing considerations guide Council's activities for Preston Market. The Market plays a vital role by providing easy access to fresh, affordable food which is a vital wellbeing resource for vulnerable communities. Council is seeking that the future development continues to provide this service, and further contributes to social inclusion, accessibility and connectivity. New community infrastructure is also being sought to cater for the need generated by new residents.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Preston Market is key regional attraction and draws customers to the wider Preston area. It helps with business incubation and has flow on economic benefits to Preston more broadly. Council is seeking to protect the Market, its affordability and culture, while facilitating new commercial opportunities. More mixed-use development in this central location can have benefits for businesses. Future residents can benefit from social inclusion, and easy access to jobs, services and transport. Council recognises the cultural significance of the Preston Market to Darebin. Council is calling for any future development to respect the Market's cultural significance, heritage and identity of the Market. Council's submission to the VPA has been informed by heritage, identity and economic studies to strongly advocate for protection of what's special about the market.

Operational Impacts

As the site is privately owned there are limited operational impacts on Council. The draft planning controls include a Development Contribution Plan Overlay. This requires that any future developer contribute funds to provide for transport infrastructure and community facilities such as kindergartens, or other community benefits.

Legal and Risk Implications

It is considered that there are no legal issues arising from the contents of this report. Council remains committed to maintaining high standards to the probity and ethics in all aspects of

the *Local Government Act 2020*. Council is seeking to minimise risks to the Market and surrounding precinct through its advocacy and its submission to the VPA.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Officers will work with technical experts and legal counsel to ensure that Council makes strong submissions to the SAC.

Communication

During the VPA's public consultation process, Council communications have sought to support the community to be well informed on the issues with the VPA's Amendment and to encourage as many residents as possible to make submissions to the VPA. Now that the public consultation period has concluded, this report recommends that Council:

- focus on preparing for the upcoming Panel hearing, and
- encourage community submitters to participate in the State Government's Committee processes, and
- undertake advocacy to demonstrate to the State Government the strength of the community's position on the Preston Market

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- The VPA's *Draft Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan May 2021* and publicly available draft planning scheme ordinance, incorporated documents and background documents
- Heart of Preston, City of Darebin
- Council's submission to the VPA's public consultation process, 13 July 2021.

Attachments

Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.

8.10 2021 DAREBIN ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS**Author:** Coordinator Community Engagement and Demographics**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of the 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey results. Due to the fluctuations in COVID-19 restrictions and the community sentiment at the time the survey was conducted, the methodology of the Community Survey remained as telephone for this year. Darebin's preferred method for data collection is door-to-door engagement.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Council notes and endorses the 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results
 - (2) Council notes the summary of actions which will address the survey results
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey was conducted by Metropolis Research, which is the survey contractor engaged to conduct the annual survey on behalf of Darebin Council. The Community Survey was conducted as a telephone interview and was completed from 23 April to 17 May 2021.

A total of 1,000 residential households across the municipality were included via a random sample of 15,077 residential numbers, which mostly included mobile phone numbers but also included landlines where available.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 6 November 2019, Council resolved:

'That Council endorses the transition of the current quarterly Community Survey Program to an annual survey from early 2020 in line with contractual obligations'

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.3 We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

The Community Survey ensures that Council is regularly assessing community satisfaction and sentiment towards services and programs. The results and commentary received from residents are analysed carefully and addressed to ensure that services and programs meet the needs of the community.

DISCUSSION

Understanding the Key Findings

Overall this year Darebin had a decline in satisfaction. An analysis of the results was undertaken to explore the potential reasons to explain the decline, particularly for overall performance. The analysis involved consultation with three other Councils who use similar methodologies to conduct their Community Survey and use the same survey contractor.

Based on the analysis conducted which included feedback and further exploration of trends relevant to the time the Community Survey was conducted, the following themes were identified:

- Four-year Council election cycle
- Impact of COVID on community sentiment and service levels
- New residents
- Localised issues

Key Findings

The following is a summary of the key findings, for details refer to 'Appendix A – Key Findings from 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results'

Overall Performance

Darebin's overall performance score in 2021 was 6.91, which is a decrease from the previous year score of 7.07.

The 2.3% decrease in satisfaction was not statistically significant and is below the average decline in satisfaction of 2.8% which was recorded across the five other Councils that Metropolis Research had conducted community surveys for at the time the Darebin Community Survey report was written.

Comparison of Overall Performance for 2021

This result was almost identical to the 2021 Governing Melbourne average of 6.92 and slightly higher compared to the 2021 Local Government Satisfaction Survey overall performance average score for Metropolitan Councils of 6.70.

This result was also higher than the overall performance scores of Nillumbik Council (6.59) and Bayside Council (6.80), both which used the same methodology of telephone.

Satisfaction with Governance and Leadership

Satisfaction ratings with all five Governance and Leadership aspects have decreased from the previous year.

The decrease in satisfaction for the following aspects were statistically significant:

- Communicating its programs and services
- Community consultation and engagement
- Lobbying and making representations on key issues

Satisfaction with Council Services and Facilities

Satisfaction with seven of the 15 of Council services and facilities that are measured has increased from the previous year, while eight services and facilities experienced a decrease in satisfaction.

Darebin's 2021 score for LGPRF indicator 'Condition of sealed local roads' was identical to the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.05 and higher than metropolitan Melbourne average score of 6.80 from the 2021 Local Government Satisfaction Survey.

Six services and facilities appeared to be most strongly associated with lower overall satisfaction.

Satisfaction with Planning and Housing Development

Satisfaction with the two planning and housing development aspects have decreased marginally from the previous year. This decline disrupts the trend increase that has been observed over the past few years.

Agreement with Arts and Graffiti

Agreement with the two aspects of creative culture and graffiti management have decreased from the previous year. The decline in satisfaction with "I/ we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti" was statistically significant.

Satisfaction with Bike Lanes and Shared Pathways

There was an increase in satisfaction with the following three of the six aspects of bike lanes and shared pathways from the previous year:

- Links between on-road bike lanes
- Maintenance of on-road bike lanes
- Safety of off-road shared paths

'Maintenance of off-road shared paths' and 'Information about cycling and walking' had a decrease in satisfaction, and 'Links between off-road shared paths' remained stable.

Perception of Community Safety – During the day and at night

Darebin's 'Safety during the day' and 'Safety at night' scores have increased from the previous year. However, both scores were lower than the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne averages of 8.71 and 6.98 respectively.

Customer Service

The two aspects of customer service which were introduced in the previous year were included again in this year's Community Survey. Additional questions were added to inform Council's customer experience strategy, which is currently in development.

The one-off questions included followed from the question 'Have you contacted Darebin City Council in the last 12 months?'. A little less than one-third of respondents were asked supplementary questions. The results were as follows:

- 70.4% of respondents who contacted Council said they were given clear timeframes and a point of contact for their query.
The large majority of respondents (83.7%) who contacted Council reported that their query was resolved after they made one (42%) or two or three (41.7%) contacts with Council.

- The majority of the respondents (64.7%) contacting Council reported their query was resolved within the timeframes given by Council when they first made contact.

Satisfaction with Customer Service experience and the final outcome

'Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience' and "Satisfaction with the final outcome' experienced a decrease in satisfaction. The decrease in satisfaction with 'Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience' was statistically significant.

Top issues in Darebin

The Community Survey explores issues experienced by Darebin residents through the question: 'Can you please list what you consider to be the top three issues for the City of Darebin at the moment?'

The results showed:

- A total of 840 individual issues were mentioned in 2021 by 472 respondents. This is a decline from the 984 total responses which were provided by 549 respondents in the previous year
- The top three identified issues were: 'Building, Planning and Housing Development' (9.6%), 'Parks, gardens open space' (5.9%) and 'Traffic Management' (5.8%)
- There were several issues that appeared to be negatively correlated with satisfaction with overall performance

Additional questions

There were two additional sections added in this year's Community Survey. The first section included questions in line with the engagement for the strategic plans, which have already been reported separately in an engagement report tabled at the June Council Meeting.

The second section included questions about 'Getting around in the local area'. Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with seven statements about getting around in the local area and the results were as follows:

On average, respondents strongly agreed with five of the seven statements, and moderately agreed with the statements 'safe for children to cycle to school' and 'satisfied with Council providing information on and promoting walking in Darebin'.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The findings of the survey are largely addressed in year one of the Council Plan, which have already been budgeted.

Community Engagement

In addition to recurring questions which are asked on a yearly basis, the Annual Survey has an extra section which includes one-off questions to gather community insight on various topics raised through internal consultation with business units and aligned to organisational priorities.

This year the Community Survey included questions that were consistent with the other methods of engagement undertaken for the Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and Financial Plan 2021-2031. Other additional questions included in the survey were in relation to getting around the local area and customer

experience. The questions were included in consultation with the Customer Service team and the Sustainable Transport team (transport related questions were requested as ongoing indicators for transport strategies).

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The Community Survey results ensures that Council understands community sentiment and perceptions of our services, facilities and programs so the appropriate actions and decisions can be made.

Public Transparency Principles

- (b) Council information must be publicly available unless (i) the information is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act; or (ii) public availability of the information would be contrary to the public interest;

Service Performance Principles

- (d) a Council should seek to continuously improve service delivery to the municipal community in response to performance monitoring;

The Community Survey measures satisfaction with a range of Council services and facilities and the results received are addressed and actioned to ensure continuous improvement of service delivery to the community.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

While the Community Survey has no direct impact on environmental sustainability, previous indicators and questions in the survey have influenced operational activities, for example gathering perceptions on environmental actions, Carbon Tax, the recycling calendar, and others. From a practical perspective, the telephone methodology enables the responses to be captured directly into computers, which eliminates the need for paper in recording the survey responses.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

While the Darebin Community Survey has not applied an Equity Impact Assessment/ Gender Impact Assessment, the last review of the Community Survey in 2019 was undertaken in consultation with the Equity and Wellbeing team and the questions included where relevant are developed with advice from the team to ensure the appropriate considerations were included and compliance with the required legislation. Darebin's Community Survey includes a representative, weighted sample of different community voices. This ensures that our responses to the results are grounded in equity, inclusion, wellbeing and human rights considerations

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

There are no direct economic development considerations. The survey is conducted with consideration of our diverse communities and this year was conducted by telephone from 11am to 7pm weekdays and 11am to 5pm on weekends. Up to four attempts were made to contact each randomly selected telephone number, to give residents multiple opportunities to participate. Multilingual staff were available to assist and there were approximately 10

interactions where the Community Survey was conducted in either part or fully in a language other than English, including some in Indian languages and some in Mandarin or Cantonese

Operational Impacts

The results of the Community Survey do have an impact on operations as they indicate the services and facilities that residents are most and least satisfied with. The results will be reported widely to the organisation and discussed with the relevant business units.

Legal and Risk Implications

Due to the fluctuations in the COVID-19 restrictions, the methodology of the Community Survey was conducted by telephone instead of face-to-face interview style.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Many of the issues raised were identified and addressed as part of the development of the Council Plan. The Council actions in year one of the Council Plan Action Plan will address some of the services and facilities that have been identified by residents in the Community Survey as areas of improvement. For those that are not included, action plans have been developed for each area of improvement. The action plans will specifically address the areas of communications, customer service, advocacy, community engagement, safety and services.

In addition to the Action Plans, a Customer Experience Strategy in development will also support the area of improvement for customer service across Council. Development of the Strategy is nearing the approval phase of development.



A summary of the 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey results will be shared with the community, and the detailed report will be published on the website.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

[List any related documents](#)

- For details of key findings refer to 'Key Findings from 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results'
- For details of the Community Survey results refer to '2021 Darebin Community Survey Summary Report'

Attachments

- Key Findings from 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Summary Report (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.

Appendix A - Key Findings from 2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results

Understanding the Key findings

The Darebin Annual Community Survey results have overall been less favourable this year. An analysis of the results has been undertaken to explore the potential reasons to explain the decrease in ratings this year, particularly for overall performance. The analysis involved consultation with three other Councils who use similar methodologies to conduct their Community Survey and use the same survey contractor.

Based on the analysis conducted which included feedback from the three other Councils as well as further exploration of trends relevant to the time the Community Survey was conducted, the following themes were identified:

- **Four-year Council elections cycle:** The three Councils indicated that they generally experience a decrease in satisfaction with their overall performance every four years in line with Council elections. This is traditionally a time when candidates drive a narrative and perception of underperformance as part of election platforms to improve policies and services.
- **Change of survey methodology:** The three Councils indicated that the change in methodology from face-to-face to telephone was one of the main reasons for the decrease in their satisfaction ratings. This is due to respondents feeling more confident sharing negative feedback via telephone, as opposed to a face-to-face scenario, and losing the personable aspect of a face-to-face interview.
- **Impact of COVID on community sentiment and service levels:** All three Councils indicated that COVID-19 had an impact on community sentiment and experienced noticeable if not significant decreases in their Governance and Leadership aspects this year such as 'Consultation and Engagement', 'Communications' and 'Making decisions in the interest of the community'.
- **One of the Councils indicated that the reasons were not entirely clear, and that further investigation was needed.** Another Council indicated that the average satisfaction with their Leadership and Governance aspects declined measurably and significantly this year, from 7.27 or "very good" to 6.30 or "solid". This brings the average satisfaction below the long-term average over the last four years of 6.84. The third Council indicated that they had big dips in their Governance and Leadership aspects despite delivering the biggest ever community engagement program for their Council which included significant investment in a new online engagement platform, so community perception did not align to service levels.
- **New residents:** Traditionally, where there are greater numbers of new residents in the survey sample, responses are more favourable. In this year's survey, the impact of COVID has resulted in a decrease in movement with the fluctuations in COVID restrictions, which has affected the number of new residents moving into the municipality. This is also reflected in the 2020 Estimated Resident Population number where there has been a decrease in the proportion of population growth from the 2019 Estimated Resident Population. The Estimated Resident Population is updated annually based on the number of registered births, deaths, and an estimate of overseas, interstate and intra-state migration. All three Councils indicated that the number of new residents included in their Community Surveys had notably decreased and did have an impact on their satisfaction ratings

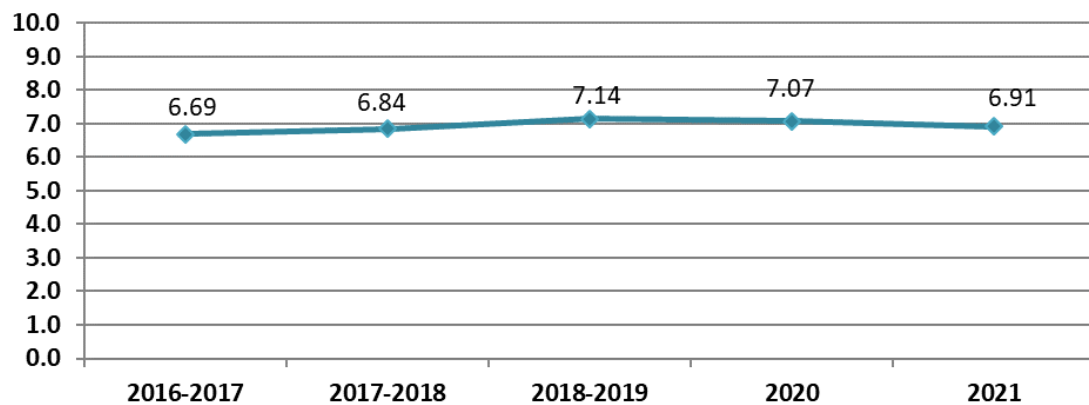
- Localised issues: Two of the Councils indicated that their decrease in satisfaction ratings had been influenced by proposed local projects and issues that were experienced by their Councils. For one of the Councils, their satisfaction ratings were influenced by the decline in satisfaction with aspects of their planning and housing development and a large proposed capital project. For another Council, their satisfaction ratings were influenced by the demolition of a tennis centre which residents were angry about.

Finally, the impact of COVID is another key factor in this year’s results. Generally, community sentiment is lower from successive lockdowns, and more specifically, this has meant that Council is less visible in the community. For example, minimal opportunities to conduct community engagement activities out in the community.

Key findings

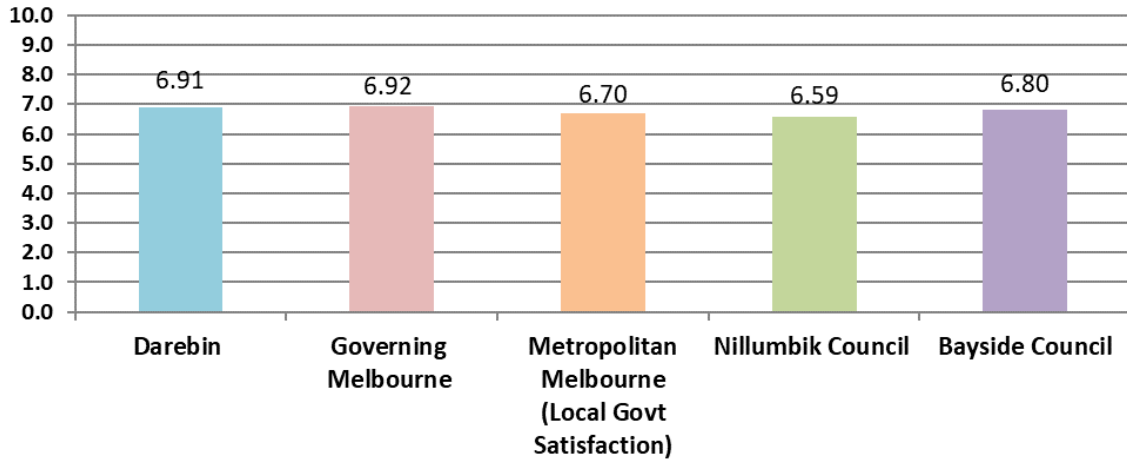
The following results are displayed as average (mean) scores from 0-10, where scores less than 5 are categorised as ‘extremely poor’ and scores of 7.75 and above are categorised as ‘excellent’

Overall Performance



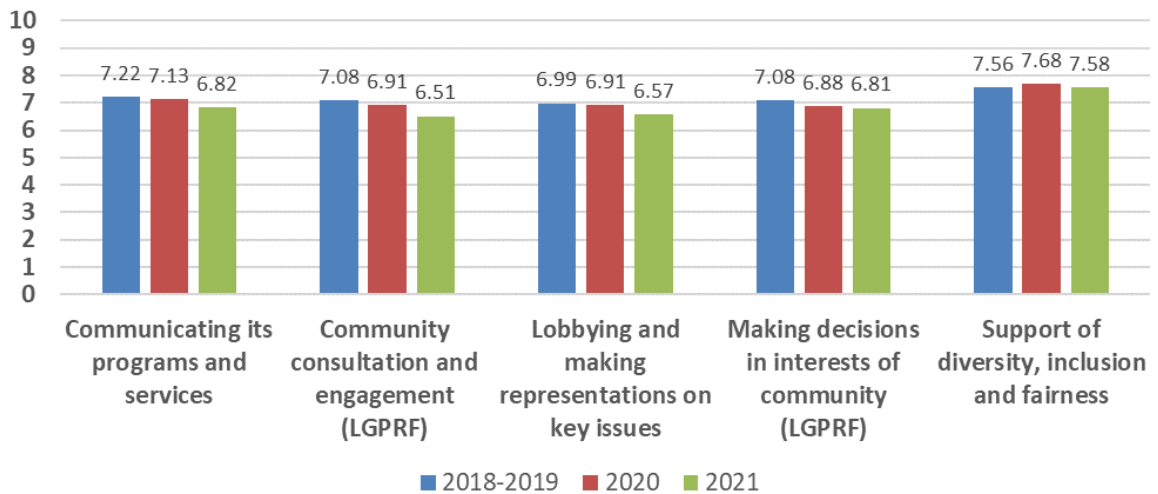
- Darebin’s overall performance score in 2021 was 6.91, which is a decrease from the previous year score of 7.07.
- The 2.3% decrease in satisfaction was not statistically significant and is below the average decline in satisfaction of 2.8% that has been recorded across the five other Councils that Metropolis Research had conducted community surveys for at the time the Darebin Community Survey report was written.

Comparison of Overall Performance for 2021



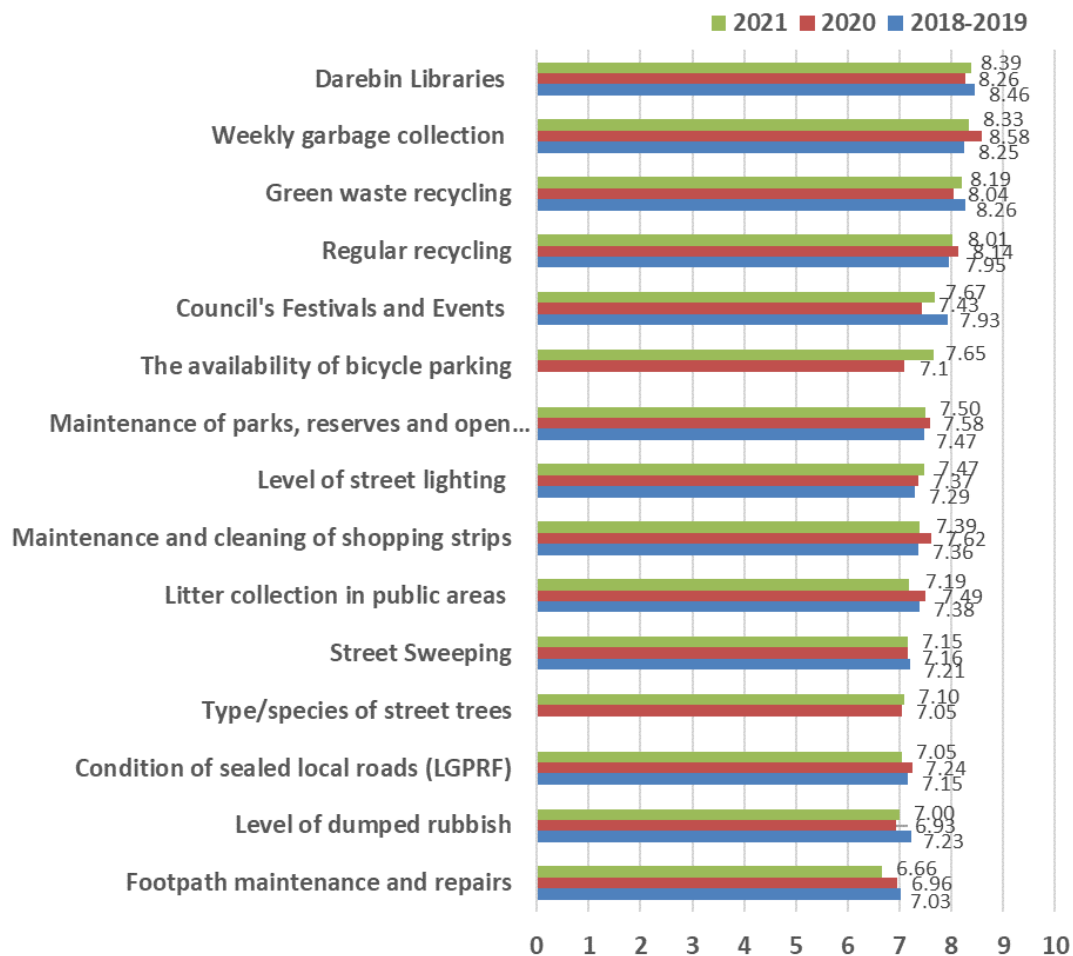
- The comparison of overall performance is drawn from the 2021 Local Government Satisfaction telephone survey (administered by JWS Research on behalf of Local Government Victoria), and the 2021 Governing Melbourne Survey which is an independent survey of community members in metropolitan Melbourne undertaken by Metropolis Research to provide an objective, consistent and reliable basis on which to compare some satisfaction results. The overall performance scores of two other metropolitan Councils that have used similar methodologies and have conducted their community surveys at the start of the year have also been included in the comparison.
- This result was almost identical to the 2021 Governing Melbourne average of 6.92 and slightly higher compared to the 2021 Local Government Satisfaction Survey overall performance average score for Metropolitan Councils of 6.70.
- This result was also higher than the overall performance scores of Nillumbik Council (6.59) and Bayside Council (6.80), both which used the same methodology of telephone.

Satisfaction with Governance and Leadership



- Satisfaction ratings with all five Governance and Leadership aspects have decreased from the previous year.
- The decrease in satisfaction for the following aspects were statistically significant:
 - Communicating its programs and services
 - Community consultation and engagement
 - Lobbying and making representations on key issues
- Darebin’s 2021 score for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) indicator ‘Community consultation and engagement’ was somewhat but not measurably lower than the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.72 but was higher than the Local Government Satisfaction metropolitan average of 5.90.
- Darebin’s 2021 score for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) indicator ‘Making decisions in the interests of community’ was marginally higher than the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.76, and was higher than the Local Government Satisfaction metropolitan average of 6.10.

Satisfaction with Council Services and Facilities



Satisfaction with seven of the 15 of Council services and facilities that are measured has increased from the previous year, while the following eight services and facilities experienced a decrease in satisfaction:

- Weekly garbage collection
- Regular Recycling
- Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space
- Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips
- Litter collection in public areas
- Street Sweeping
- Condition of sealed local roads
- Footpath maintenance and repairs

Darebin’s 2021 score for LGPRF indicator ‘Condition of sealed local roads’ was identical to the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.05 and higher than metropolitan Melbourne average score of 6.80 from the 2021 Local Government Satisfaction Survey.

The services and facilities that appeared to be most strongly associated with lower overall satisfaction was:

- Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space
- Condition of sealed local roads
- Regular Recycling
- Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips
- Green waste recycling
- Weekly garbage collection

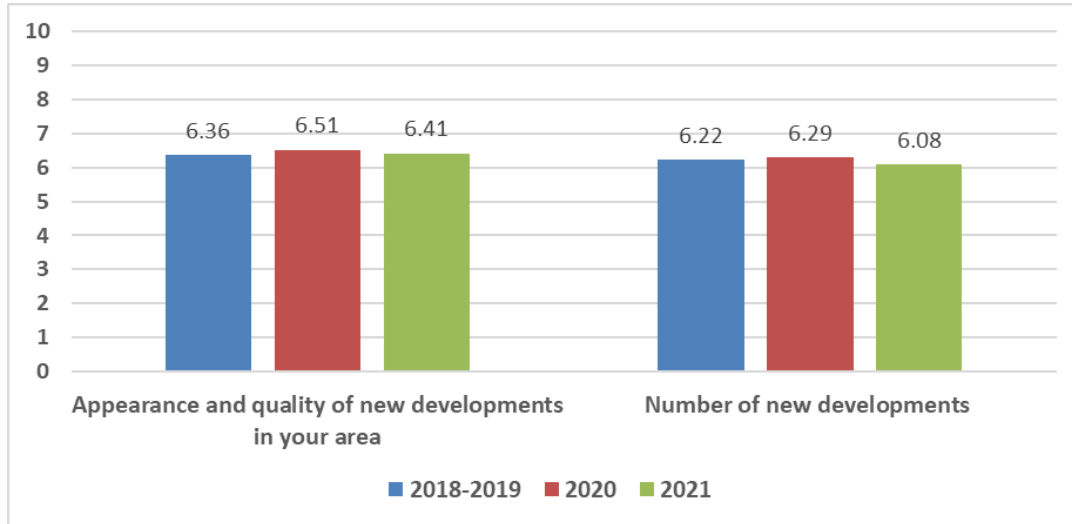
How do these scores relate to the 2017-2021 Council Plan KPIs?

The following Council Services and Facilities which are assessed through the community survey are 2017-2021 Council Plan performance indicators:

KPI	Target	Result
Condition of sealed local roads	Above 80%	86.2%
Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space	Above 85%	92.2%
Waste services	Above 80%	97.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	Above 80%	77.2%
Public spaces*	Above 80%	89.5%
Festivals and events	Above 90%	95.3%

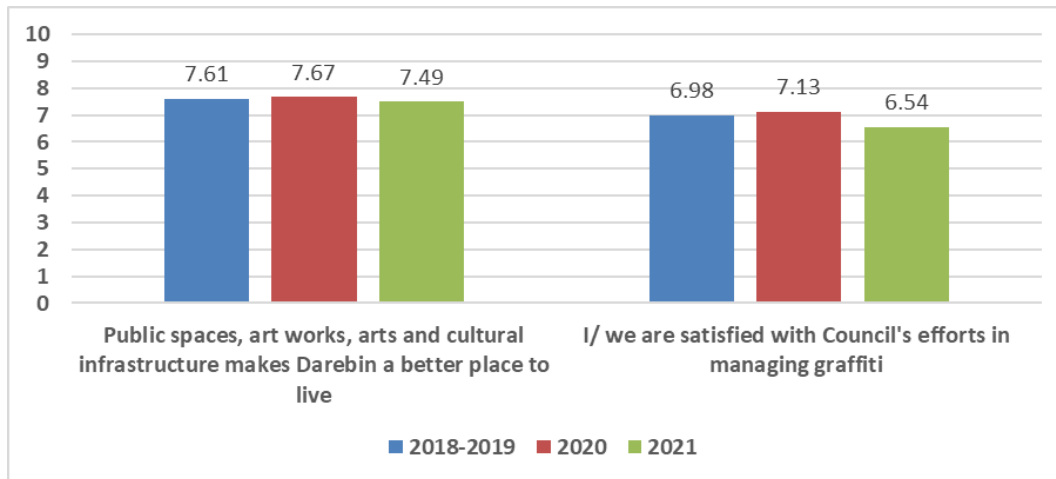
*Amalgamation of 3 indicators: Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, Level of street lighting and Litter collection in public areas

Satisfaction with Planning and Housing Development



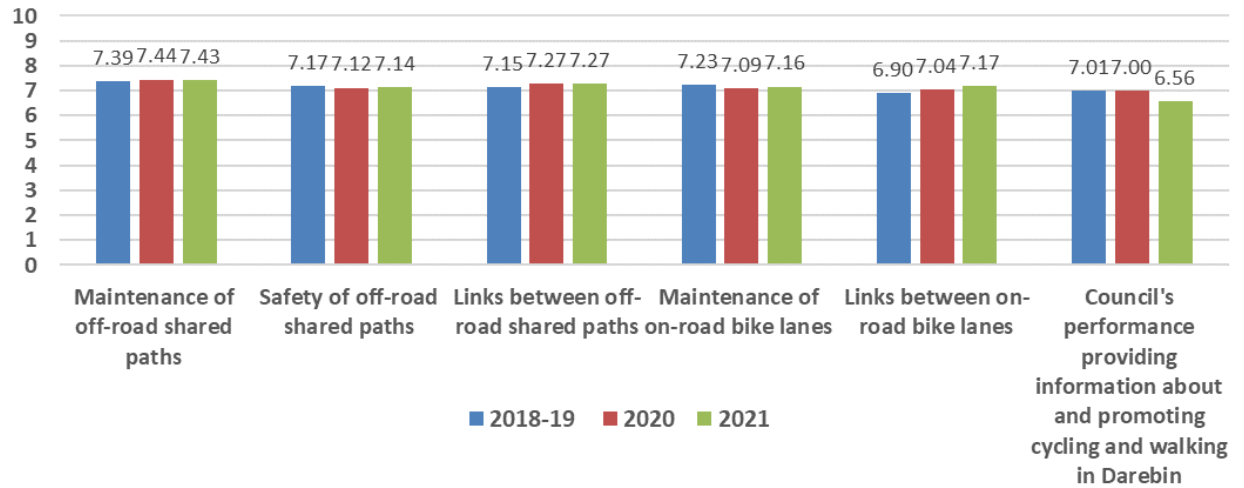
Satisfaction with the two planning and housing development aspects have decreased marginally from the previous year. This decline disrupts the trend increase that has been observed over the past few years.

Agreement with Arts and Graffiti



Agreement with the two aspects of creative culture and graffiti management have decreased from the previous year. The decline in satisfaction with “I/we are satisfied with Council’s efforts in managing the issue of graffiti” was statistically significant.

Satisfaction with Bike Lanes and Shared Pathways

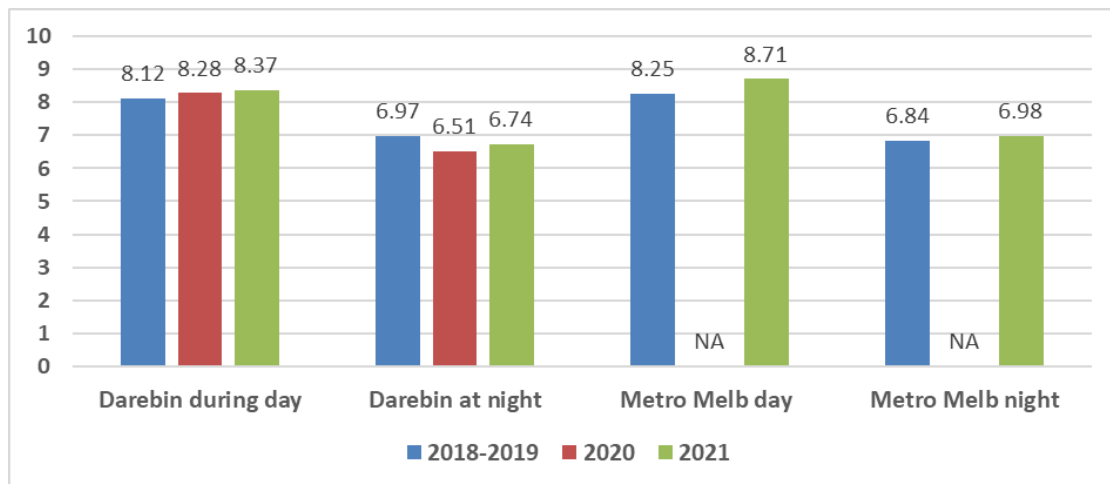


There was an increase in satisfaction with the following three of the six aspects of bike lanes and shared pathways from the previous year:

- Links between on-road bike lanes
- Maintenance of on-road bike lanes
- Safety of off-road shared paths

'Maintenance of off-road shared paths' and 'Information about cycling and walking' had a decrease in satisfaction, and 'Links between off-road shared paths' remained stable.

Perception of Community Safety – During the day and At night



Darebin's 'Safety during the day' and 'Safety at night' scores have increased from the previous year. However, both scores were lower than the Governing Melbourne metropolitan Melbourne averages of 8.71 and 6.98 respectively.

Customer Service

The two aspects of customer service which were introduced in the previous year were included again in this year's Community Survey. In addition, the Customer Service team requested additional questions in the survey to inform their customer experience review process.

The one-off questions included followed from the question 'Have you contacted Darebin City Council in the last 12 months?'. A little less than one-third of respondents were asked the following questions:

- Were you given clear timeframes and a point of contact?
- How many times did you contact Council to resolve your query?
- Was your query resolved in the timeframes provided?

The results were as follows:

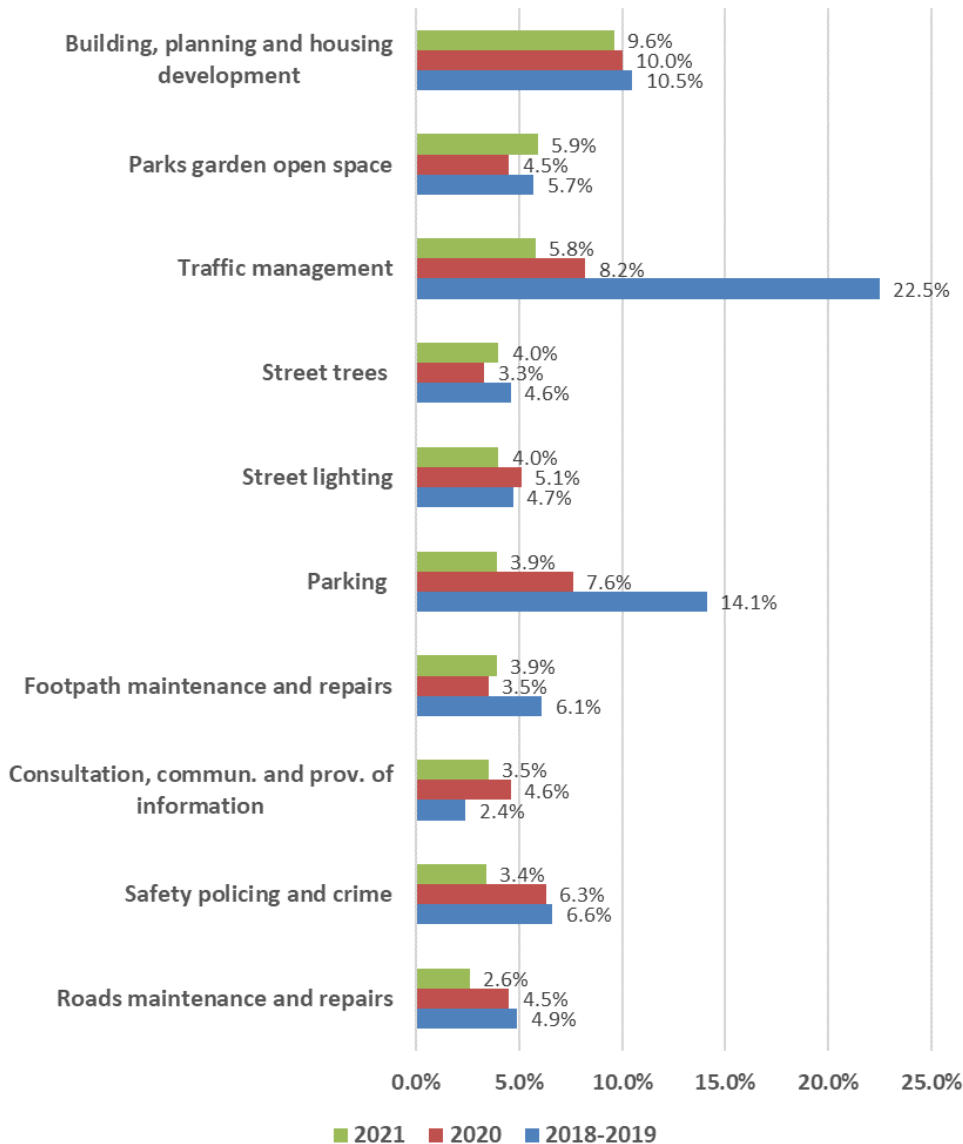
- 70.4% of respondents who contacted Council said they were given clear timeframes and a point of contact for their query.
- The large majority of respondents (83.7%) who contacted Council reported that their query was resolved after they made one (42%) or two or three (41.7%) contacts with Council.
- The majority of the respondents (64.7%) contacting Council reported their query was resolved within the timeframes given by Council when they first made contact.

Satisfaction with Customer Service experience and the final outcome

'Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience' and "Satisfaction with the final outcome' experienced a decrease in satisfaction. The decrease in satisfaction with 'Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience' was statistically significant.

Top issues in Darebin

The Community Survey explores issues experienced by Darebin residents through the question: 'Can you please list what you consider to be the top three issues for the City of Darebin at the moment?'



The results showed:

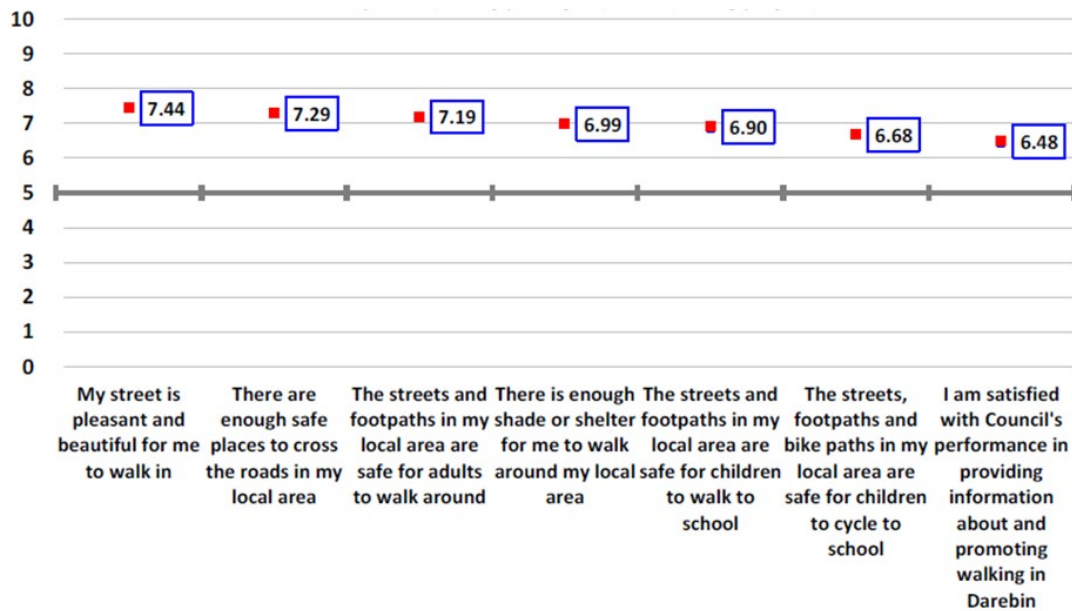
- A total of 840 individual issues were mentioned in 2021 by 472 respondents. This is a decline from the 984 total responses which were provided by 549 respondents in the previous year
- The top three identified issues were: 'Building, Planning and Housing Development' (9.6%), 'Parks, gardens open space' (5.9%) and 'Traffic Management' (5.8%)

- The issues that appeared to be negatively correlated with satisfaction with overall performance were bicycles and bike tracks; traffic management; street cleaning; parks, gardens and open spaces; street lighting; footpaths; building, housing, planning and development, communications, roads and parking

Additional questions

There were two additional sections added in this year’s Community Survey. The first section included questions in line with the engagement for the strategic plans, which have already been reported separately in an engagement report that was tabled at the June Council Meeting.

The second section included questions about ‘Getting around in the local area’. Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with seven statements about getting around in the local area and the results were as follows:



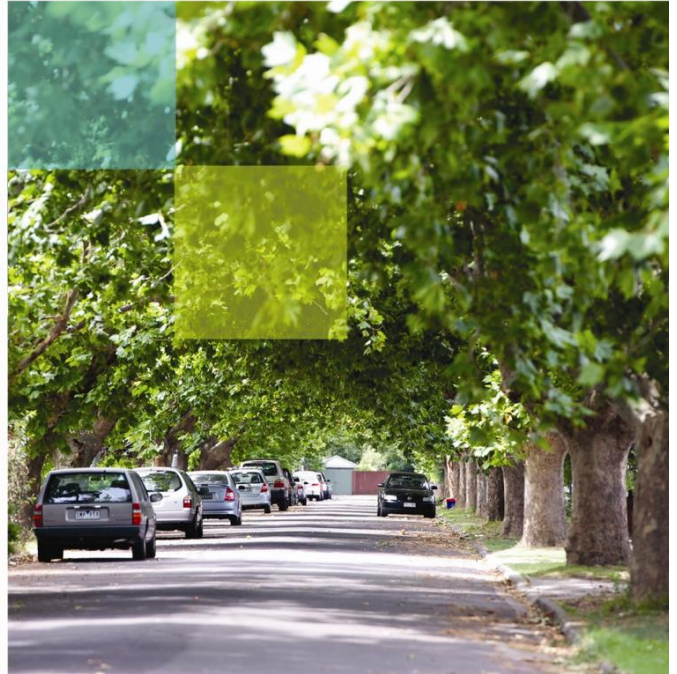
On average, respondents strongly agreed with five of the seven statements, and moderately agreed with the statements ‘safe for children to cycle to school’ and ‘satisfied with Council providing information on and promoting walking in Darebin’.



the place
to live

2021 ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

June 2021



Report prepared by
Metropolis Research Pty Ltd
on behalf of Darebin City Council



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Executive summary

Metropolis Research was commissioned by the City of Darebin to conduct the *Annual Community Satisfaction Survey*. The survey was first conducted in 1999.

The *Annual Community Survey* has traditionally been conducted as a door-to-door, interview style survey. Due to the lockdowns and social distancing requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible to conduct the survey as a face-to-face, doorstep interview survey again this year. Consequently, the survey was conducted as a telephone interview for the second consecutive year.

The surveying was all completed over three weeks in May 2021 and includes a sample of 1,000 respondents.

The 95% confidence interval around these results is plus or minus 3.1% at the 50% level.

Satisfaction with the performance of the Darebin City Council across all areas of responsibility ([overall performance](#)) declined 2.3% this year, down from 7.07 to 6.91 out of a potential ten.

Overall satisfaction with Council remains at a “good” level, with the result this year almost identical to the long-term average satisfaction since 1999 of 6.94.

Satisfaction with Darebin City Council’s overall performance is almost identical to the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.92 as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

More than four-fifths (84.7% down from 87.5%) of respondents were satisfied with Council’s overall performance, whilst 8.0% (up from 6.1%) were dissatisfied.

There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed across the municipality, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more satisfied than average and at a “very good” level.

There was some notable variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by respondent profile, with the following pattern evident:

- ⊗ **Higher than average satisfaction** - young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), senior citizens (aged 75 years and over), rental (both public and private) households, and new and newer residents of Darebin (less than five years in Darebin) tended to be more satisfied.
- ⊗ **Lower than average satisfaction** – middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years), homeowners and mortgagees, and long-term residents of Darebin (ten years or more) tended to be less satisfied than average.

It is noted again this year that the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly reduced the number of new residents in the municipality, down from 10.8% in 2019 to 1.2% this year. This will have materially affected overall satisfaction over the last two years, as new residents have always recorded measurably higher than average satisfaction with Council.



The issues most associated with lower satisfaction with Council’s overall performance for the respondents raising these issues included building and development, communication, roads, and parking. Respondents who raised these issues, on average, rated overall satisfaction with Council at “poor” levels.

The services most associated with lower satisfaction with Council’s overall performance included the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, green waste recycling, and garbage collection. In other words, respondents dissatisfied with these services were the least satisfied with Council’s overall performance.

Consistent with the small decline in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance, the average satisfaction with the five aspects of [governance and leadership](#) decreased by 3.4% this year, down from 7.10 to 6.86, although it remains at a “good” level.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with aspects of governance and leadership, particularly those around communication and consultation have declined in several municipalities surveyed in 2021.

Respondents rated as “very good” Council’s support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness (7.58). This result strongly suggests that Council is effectively engaging with its diverse and multicultural community.

Respondents rated as “good” the core aspects of governance and leadership including communicating its programs and services (6.82), making decisions in the interests of the community (6.81), lobbying, and making representations on key issues (6.57), and community consultation and engagement (6.51).


There were 15 [Council services and facilities](#) included in the survey, and the average satisfaction with these services and facilities was stable this year 7.52 this year, a “very good” level. It is important to note that this average satisfaction with services and facilities was measurably and significantly higher than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance (6.91).

Of the 15 services and facilities, only footpath maintenance and repairs (6.66) reported a satisfaction score lower than overall satisfaction with Council.

There was a decline in satisfaction with [Customer service](#) this year, with “overall satisfaction with the customer service experience” declining 8.5% to 6.98, which is a “good” down from a “very good” level. Satisfaction with the “final outcome” also declined somewhat this year, down 2.7% to 6.87, although it remains “good”.

Almost three-quarters (70.4%) of respondents reported that they were given clear timeframes and point of contact when they first contacted Council with their query. More than four-fifths (83.7%) reported that their query was resolved either after one, or two to three contacts. Almost two-thirds (64.7%) reported that their query was resolved within the timeframes provided.





There were two aspects of [planning and development](#) included in the survey this year. Satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments (6.41 down from 6.51) and satisfaction with the number of new developments (6.08 down from 6.29). Satisfaction with both declined marginally but not measurably this year.

The [perception of safety](#) in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day increased marginally this year, up 1.1% to 8.37 out of 10. This result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 8.71. Just 2.6% (up from 2.5%) of respondents felt unsafe in the public areas of the municipality during the day.

The perception of safety in the public areas of the municipality at night also increased measurably this year, reversing most of the decline recorded last year, down 3.5% to 6.74. This result was marginally but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.98. Three-quarters (77.2% up from 73.6%) of respondents felt safe in the public areas of the municipality at night, whilst 14.2% (down from 16.8%) felt unsafe.

It is noted that female respondents felt measurably and significantly (11.6%) less safe in the public areas of Darebin at night than male respondents.

When asked to rate their agreement with seven statements about [getting around in the local area](#), approximately three-quarters or more of the respondents agreed with all seven statements, with the strongest average agreement for “my street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in” (7.44) and the lowest agreement for “I am satisfied with Council’s performance providing information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin” (6.48).

The [top issues for the City of Darebin “at the moment”](#) remain building, housing, planning and development (9.6%), parks, gardens, and open spaces (5.9%), traffic management (5.8%), street lighting (4.0%), street trees (4.0%), footpath maintenance and repairs (3.9%), and parking (3.9%).

Taken as a whole, the *Community Survey* this year continues to report a “good” level of satisfaction with the overall performance of Darebin City Council, its governance and leadership performance, customer service, and a “very good” level of satisfaction with the delivery of most of the 15 included services and facilities.

The major issues of community concern continue to include roads and traffic, car parking, and the nature and extent of new housing development occurring in Darebin, as well as some issues with street lighting, street trees, and parks and gardens. These issues all appear to exert at least a mildly negative influence on community satisfaction with the performance of Darebin City Council for the respondents who raise the issues.

There were no issues that emerged in the City of Darebin this year that appear to have to be significant factors impacting on the community’s satisfaction with the performance of Council.





Introduction

Metropolis Research was commissioned by the Darebin City Council to conduct this, its 22nd *Annual Community Satisfaction Survey*.

The aim of the survey is to provide Council with a comprehensive picture of the community's satisfaction with Council's performance providing 15 services and facilities, aspects of governance and leadership, aspects of planning and housing development, aspects of customer service, as well as Council's overall performance.

In addition, the 2021 survey includes a more detailed examination of issues with getting around in the local area, including the pleasantness and beauty of the local area for walking, footpath safety for adults and children, safe street crossings, shade, satisfaction with Council performance providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin, and safety for children cycling to school.

This survey does not aim to replace satisfaction surveys of individual client-based services. It does however provide a broad measure of the community's perception of performance for core services and allows for comparison of services across Council.

In addition to measuring community satisfaction with aspects of Council performance, the *Community Satisfaction Survey* measures community perception of safety in public areas of Darebin. The *Community Satisfaction Survey* also quantifies the issues of importance to the community and examines specific questions as required by Council each year.

The sample size and methodology employed in this survey is statistically robust and provides results with a level of statistical significance generally greater than that obtained by other individual service specific surveys. Within the margin of error (as detailed for individual services), the results published in this report are a reliable reflection of the community's perceptions.

Methodology, response rate and statistical strength

The *Annual Community Survey* has traditionally been conducted as a door-to-door, interview style survey.

Due to the lockdowns and social distancing requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible to conduct the survey as a face-to-face, doorstep interview survey this year. Consequently, the survey was conducted as a telephone interview.

The surveying was all completed from 23rd of April to the 17th of May 2021.

Surveys were conducted from 11am till 7pm weekdays, and 11am till 5pm on Saturdays and Sunday.

Several (up to approximately four) attempts were made to contact each randomly selected telephone number, to give the household multiple opportunities to participate.



A total of 1,000 surveys were conducted from a random sample of 15,077, residential telephone numbers, including mostly mobile phone numbers but also including landlines where available.

The sample of residential telephone numbers was pre-weighted by precinct population, to ensure that each precinct contributed proportionally to the overall municipal results.

The final sample of surveys were then weighted by age and gender, to ensure that each age / gender group contributed proportionally to the overall municipal result. This was necessary given the limitations of the telephone survey methodology in obtaining a sample that reflects the age structure of the underlying population.

Of the 15,077 telephone numbers, the following results were obtained:

- No answer - 10,735.
- Refused - 2,491.
- Call back another time - 851.
- Completed - 15,077.

This provides a response rate of 28.6%, reflecting the proportion of individuals who were invited to participate in the research, who ultimately participated. This is up marginally on the 26.2% response rate achieved in 2020 which was also conducted by telephone, but down on the 33.7% recorded in 2019. Metropolis Research notes, however, that the response rate is good for a telephone survey, which reflects well on community engagement with Council.

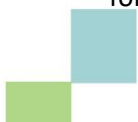
There were a small number of respondents (approximately 20 to 25) who appeared to refuse to participate because they said “do not speak English, including some who simply hung up during or immediately after the introduction. Because the survey was conducted by telephone, the same level of interaction is not possible as with the door-to-door methodology, and it is difficult to make assumptions about whether residents who unable to interact with the staff due to language or were using language as an easy way to decline.

In addition, there were approximately 10 interactions where the survey was implemented in either part or fully in a language other than English, including some in Indian languages and some in Mandarin or Cantonese.

The 95% confidence interval (margin of error) of these results is plus or minus 3.4% at the fifty percent level. In other words, if a yes / no question obtains a result of fifty percent yes, it is 95% certain that the true value of this result is within the range of 46.6% and 53.4%.

This is based on a total sample size of 1,000 respondents, and an underlying population of the City of Darebin of 166,430.

The 95% confidence level around the precinct level results is approximately plus or minus 12%, based on an average sample size of approximately 65 respondents. The 95% confidence level around the gender-based results is approximately plus or minus 5%, and for the age groups averages around plus or minus 7%.





Governing Melbourne

Governing Melbourne is an independent survey of the metropolitan Melbourne community undertaken annually by Metropolis Research since 2010.

Governing Melbourne is a survey of 1,200 respondents usually, but only 600 this year due to COVID-19, drawn in equal numbers from each of the 31 municipalities across metropolitan Melbourne.

Governing Melbourne provides an objective, consistent and reliable basis on which to compare the results of this City of Darebin survey. It is not intended to provide a “league table” for local councils, rather to provide a context within which to understand the results.

This report provides some comparisons against the 2020 metropolitan Melbourne average, which includes all municipalities located within the Melbourne Greater Capital City Statistical Area. Additional comparisons to other groups of councils (e.g., middle-ring councils, northern region councils) are available on request.

Glossary of terms

Precinct

The results of this report are presented at both the municipal and precinct level. The term precinct is used by Metropolis Research to describe the sub-municipal areas for which results are presented, as agreed with officers of Council. The precinct boundaries are most often the sub-municipal areas as presented in Council’s *Community Profile* as published by i.d Consulting.

Measurable and statistically significant

A measurable difference is one where the difference between or change in results is sufficiently large to ensure that they are in fact different results, i.e., the difference is statistically significant. This is because survey results are subject to a margin of error or an area of uncertainty.

Significant result

Metropolis Research uses the term *significant result* to describe a change or difference between results that Metropolis Research believes to be of sufficient magnitude that they may impact on relevant aspects of policy development, service delivery and the evaluation of performance and are therefore identified and noted as significant or important.





Somewhat / notable / marginal

Metropolis Research will describe some results or changes in results as being marginally, somewhat, or notably higher or lower. These are not statistical terms, rather they are interpretive. They are used to draw attention to results that may be of interest or relevant to policy development and service delivery.

These terms are often used for results that may not be statistically significant due to sample size or other factors but may nonetheless provide some insight into the variation in community sentiment across the municipality or between groups within the community, or in changes in results over time.

95% confidence interval

Average satisfaction results are presented in this report with a 95% confidence interval included. These figures reflect the range of values within which it is 95% certain that the true average satisfaction falls, based on a one-sample t-test.

The margin of error around percentage results presented in this report at the municipal level is plus or minus 3.5%.

Satisfaction categories

Metropolis Research typically categorises satisfaction results to assist in the understanding and interpretation of the results.

Metropolis Research has worked primarily with local government and developed these categories as a guide to satisfaction with the performance of local government across a wide range of service delivery and policy related areas of Council responsibility.

The scores presented in the report and are designed to give a general context about satisfaction with variables in this report, and are defined as follows:

- ⊗ ***Excellent*** - scores of 7.75 and above are categorised as excellent.
- ⊗ ***Very good*** - scores of 7.25 to less than 7.75 are categorised as very good.
- ⊗ ***Good*** - scores of 6.5 to less than 7.25 are categorised as good.
- ⊗ ***Solid*** - scores of 6 to less than 6.5 are categorised as solid.
- ⊗ ***Poor*** - scores of 5.5 to less than 6 are categorised as poor.
- ⊗ ***Very Poor*** - scores of 5 to less than 5.5 are categorised as very poor.
- ⊗ ***Extremely Poor*** – scores of less than 5 are categorised as extremely poor.





Summary of results

The following is a summary of the results from the *Darebin City Council – 2021 Annual Community Survey*.

Overall performance

- Satisfaction with Council’s overall performance declined 2.3% this year from 7.07 to 6.91 but remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.
- This result was almost identical to the 2021 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.92.
- More than four-fifths (84.7% down from 87.5%) of respondents were satisfied with Council’s overall performance, whilst eight percent (up from 6.1%) were dissatisfied.
- Respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora were marginally but not more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” level of satisfaction.
- Young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) were measurably more satisfied with Council’s overall performance, whilst middle-aged and older adults (aged 46 to 75 years) were measurably less satisfied.
- Rental household respondents (both public and private) were measurably more satisfied with Council’s overall performance, whilst mortgagee household respondents were measurably less satisfied.
- Satisfaction with Council’s overall performance tended to decline with the period of residence in the City of Darebin.

Governance and leadership

- The average satisfaction with the five included aspects of governance and leadership declined 3.4% this year, down from 7.10 to 6.86, although it remains “good”.
- Satisfaction with the five aspects of governance and leadership were as follows:
 - Support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness (7.58 down from 7.68) “very good”
 - Communicating its programs and services (6.82 down from 7.13) “good”
 - Making decisions in the interests of the community (6.81 down from 6.88) “good”
 - Lobbying and making representations on key issues (6.57 down from 6.91) “good”
 - Community consultation and engagement (6.51 down from 6.91) “good”.

Council services and facilities

- The average satisfaction with the 15 included Council services and facilities was 7.51, almost identical to the 7.53 recorded last year, and it remains “very good”.
- Satisfaction with the 15 services and facilities included in the survey were as follows:
 - Darebin Libraries (8.39 up from 8.26) “excellent”
 - Weekly garbage collection (8.33 down from 8.58) “excellent”
 - Green waste collection service (8.19 up from 8.04) “excellent”





- Regular recycling *(8.01 down from 8.14) "excellent"*
- Council's festivals and events *(7.67 up from 7.43) "very good"*
- The availability of bicycle parking *(7.65 up from 7.10) "very good"*
- Maintenance of parks, reserves, open space *(7.50 down from 7.58) "very good"*
- The level of street lighting *(7.47 up from 7.37) "very good"*
- Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips *(7.39 down from 7.62) "very good"*
- Litter collection in public areas *(7.19 down from 7.49) "good"*
- Street sweeping *(7.15 down from 7.16) "good"*
- The type and species of street trees *(7.10 up from 7.05) "good"*
- Condition of sealed local roads *(7.05 down from 7.24) "good"*
- The level of dumped rubbish *(7.00 up from 6.93) "good"*
- Footpath maintenance and repairs *(6.66 down from 6.96) "good"*

Bikes and shared pathways

- Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with six statements about bikes and shared pathways, as follows:
 - Maintenance of off-road shared paths *(7.43 down from 7.44) "very good"*
 - Links between off-road shared paths *(7.27 - stable) "very good"*
 - Links between on-road bike lanes *(7.17 up from 7.04) "good"*
 - Maintenance of on-road bike lanes *(7.16 up from 7.09) "good"*
 - Safety of off-road shared paths *(7.14 up from 7.12) "good"*
 - Information about cycling and walking *(6.56 down from 7.00) "good"*

Arts and graffiti

- Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with two statements about arts and graffiti, as follows:
 - The public spaces, art works, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live *(7.49 down from 7.67)*
 - I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti *(6.54 down from 7.13).*

Planning and housing development

- Satisfaction with the two included aspects of planning and housing development remains relatively modest again this year, as follows:
 - The appearance and quality of new developments *(6.41 down from 6.51) "solid"*
 - The number of new developments *(6.08 down from 6.29) "solid"*

Customer service

- A little less than one-third of the respondents (30.8% down from 40.1%) had contact with Council in the last twelve months.
- 70.4% of respondents who contacted Council said they were given clear timeframes and a point of contact for their query.





- More than four-fifths of respondents who contacted Council reported that their query was resolved after they made one (42.0%) or two or three (41.7%) contacts with Council.
- A little more than two-thirds (64.7%) of respondents contacting Council reported that their query was resolved within the timeframes given by Council when they first made contact.
- Satisfaction with the two aspects of customer service can best be summarised as follows:
 - Overall satisfaction with customer service experience (6.98 down from 7.63) “good”
 - Satisfaction with the “final outcome” (6.87 down from 7.06) “good”.

Perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin

- The perception of safety during the day remains very high, increasing by two percent this year to 8.37 (up from 8.28).
- The perception of safety at night increased marginally this year, up from 6.51 to 6.74.

Getting around in the local area

- Respondents were asked their level of agreement with seven statements about getting around in the local area, on a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree), with the average agreement as follows:
 - My street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in (7.44)
 - There are enough safe places to cross the roads in my local area (7.29)
 - The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for adults to walk around (7.19)
 - There is enough shade or shelter for me to walk around my local area (6.99)
 - The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for children to walk to school (6.90)
 - The streets, footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school (6.68)
 - I am satisfied with Council's performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin (6.48).

Issues to address in the City of Darebin in the coming 12 months

- ⊗ A total of 472 respondents (47.2% down from 54.7%) nominated 840 individual issues for the City of Darebin “at the moment”.
- ⊗ It is important to note that these issues are not all within the remit of local government, nor are they a list of complaints.
- ⊗ The top five issues for the City of Darebin this year are as follows:
 - Building, housing, planning, and development related (9.6% down from 10.0%)
 - Parks, gardens, and open spaces (5.9% up from 4.5%)
 - Traffic management (5.8% down from 8.2%)
 - Street lighting (4.0% down from 5.1%).
 - Street trees (4.0% up from 3.3%)
 - Footpath maintenance and repairs (3.9% up from 3.5%).





Overall performance

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the performance of Council across all areas of responsibility? Why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with the performance of Council “across all areas of responsibility” (overall performance) declined 2.3% this year to 6.91, although it remains at a “good”. This decline was not statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

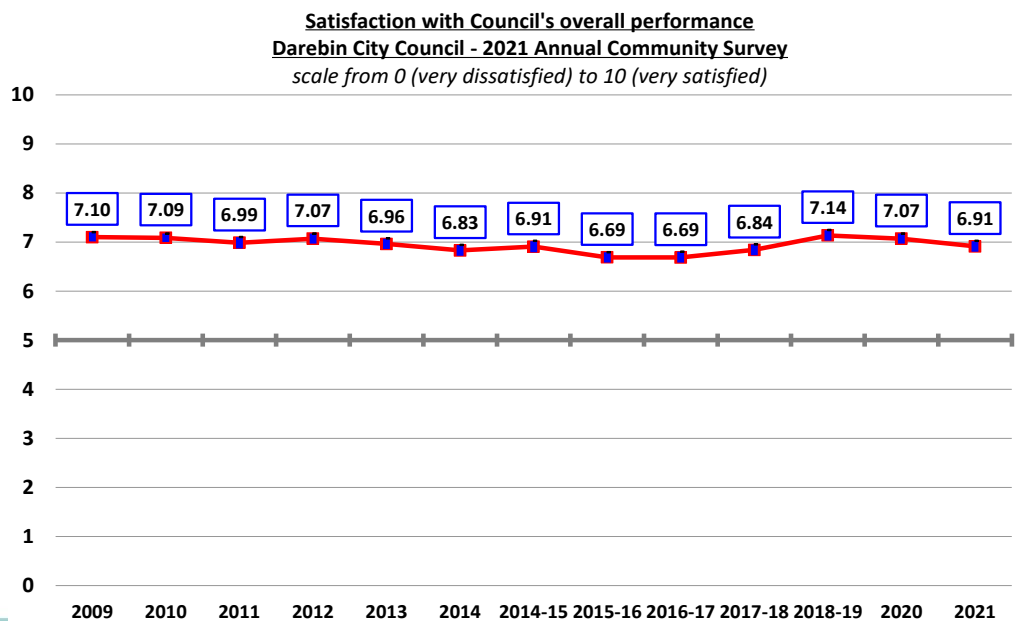
This result was almost identical to the long-term average satisfaction since 1999 of 6.94.

It is noted that, apart from a decline from 2015 to 2017, satisfaction with Council’s overall performance has remained relatively stable around the long-term average.

By way of comparison, this result was almost identical to the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.92 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

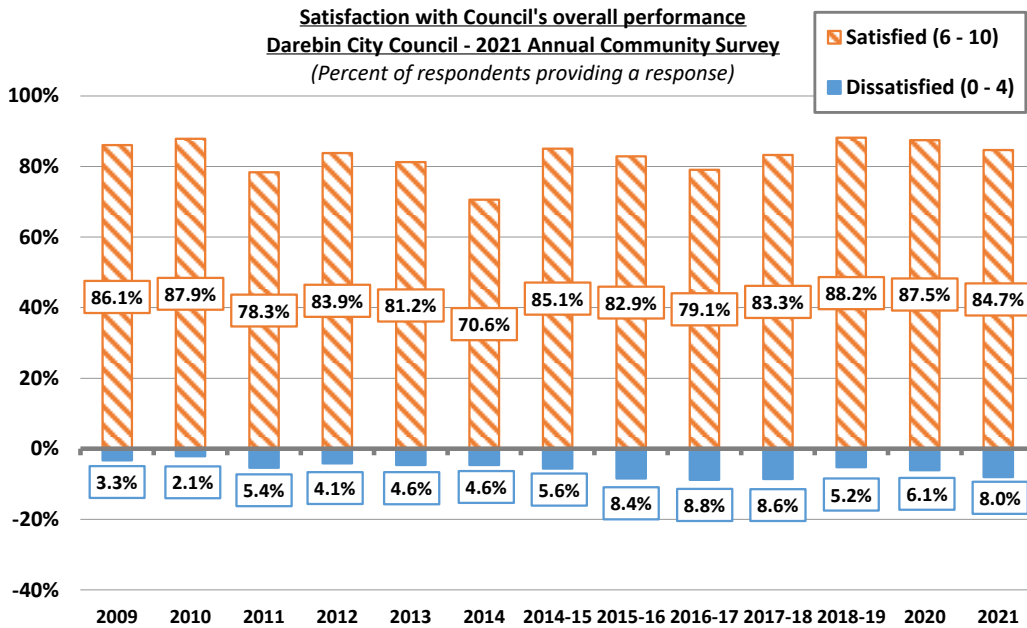
Metropolis Research conducts the *Annual Community Satisfaction Survey* for nine municipalities across metropolitan Melbourne. So far in calendar 2021, of the six completed surveys, none have recorded an increase in satisfaction, and the average decline in overall satisfaction has been 2.8%.

Metropolis Research notes that the decline in the number of “new residents” (i.e., less than one year in the City of Darebin) due to COVID-19 will have had a material impact on overall satisfaction in 2020 and 2021, as new residents always report measurably higher than average satisfaction with Council.

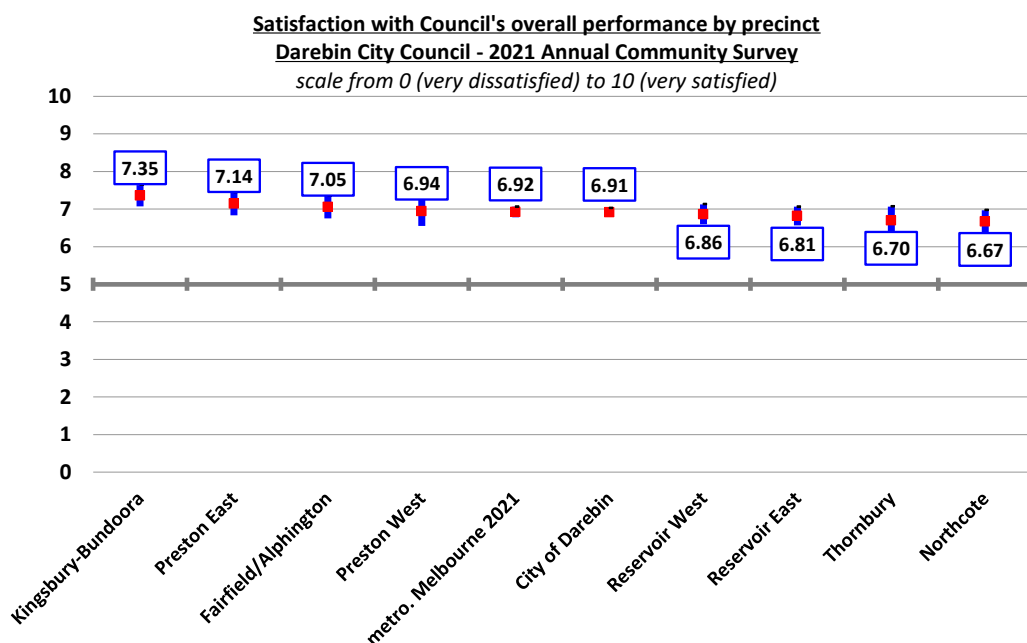




Consistent with the marginal (and not statistically significant) decline in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance, the proportion of respondents who were “satisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more) declined 2.8% and the proportion of “dissatisfied” respondents (rated satisfaction at less than five) increased 1.9%.



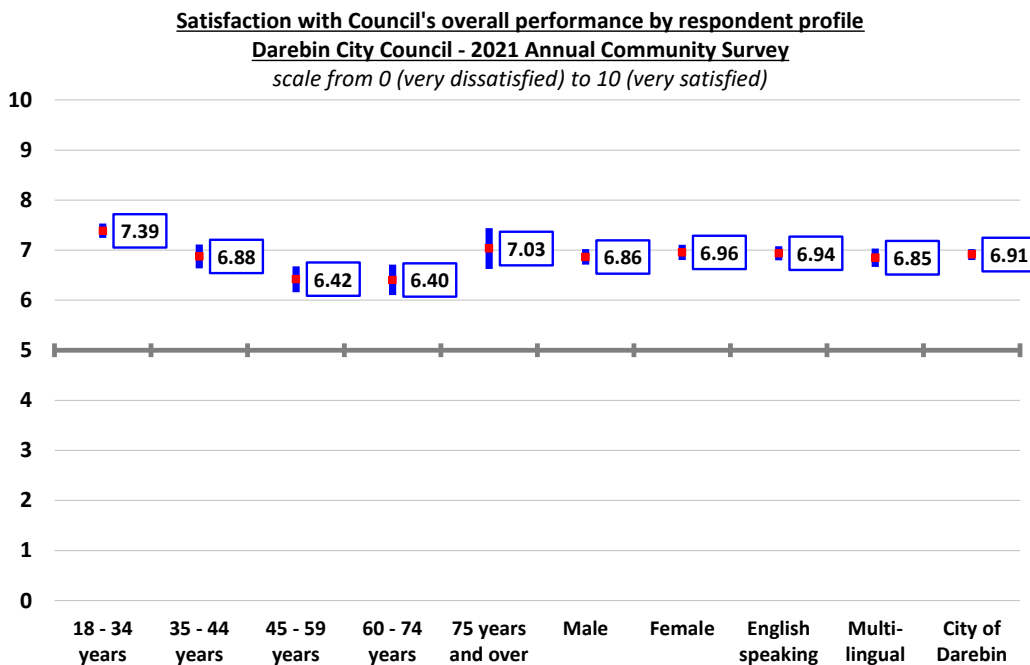
There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with overall performance observed across the municipality, with respondents from Kingsbury-Bundoora measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level of satisfaction.





There was notable variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Age structure** – satisfaction with Council’s overall performance declined measurably with the respondents’ age structure, from a high of 7.39 for young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) to a low of 6.40 for older adults (aged 60 to 74 years).
- **Gender** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction observed between male and female respondents this year, although female respondents were marginally more satisfied.
- **Language spoken at home** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction observed by language spoken at home this year.



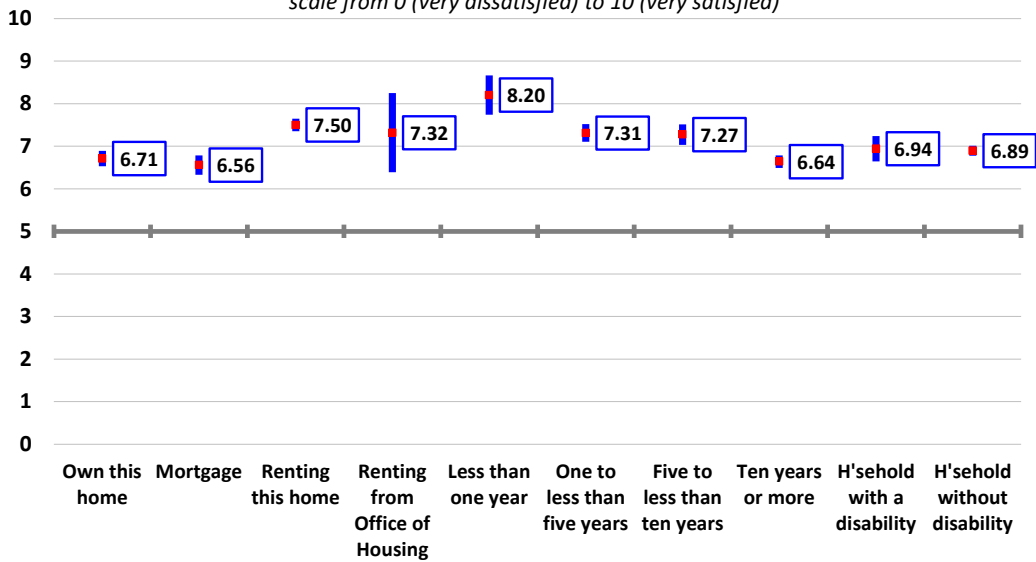
There was also some notable variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by housing situation, period of residence, and household disability status, as follows:

- **Homeowner and mortgagee household** - respondents were notably less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average, with mortgagee household respondents measurably less satisfied.
- **Rental household** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.
- **Period of residence in the City of Darebin** – satisfaction declined measurably with the respondents’ period of residence in the municipality, from a high of 8.20 for new residents (less than one year in the City of Darebin) to a low of 6.64 for long-term residents (10 years or more in the municipality).





Satisfaction with Council's overall performance by housing situation, period of residence and household disability status
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with Council’s overall performance increased in three precincts this year and declined in five, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction in 2021** – in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Fairfield-Alphington, and Preston West.
- **Decreased satisfaction in 2021** – in Preston East, Reservoir West, Reservoir East, Thornbury, and Northcote.

None of these variations were statistically significant the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with Council's overall performance
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lower</i>	<i>2021 Mean</i>	<i>Upper</i>
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	355	7.24	7.39	7.53
35 - 44 years	188	6.64	6.88	7.11
45 - 59 years	222	6.16	6.42	6.68
60 - 74 years	126	6.10	6.40	6.71
75 years and over	91	6.63	7.03	7.44
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	430	6.53	6.71	6.89
Mortgage	206	6.33	6.56	6.79
Renting this home	253	7.35	7.50	7.65
Renting from Office of Housing	17	6.39	7.32	8.25
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	12	7.74	8.20	8.66
One to less than five years	155	7.10	7.31	7.52
Five to less than ten years	186	7.03	7.27	7.51
Ten years or more	596	6.49	6.64	6.78
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	4.83	6.69	8.54
No	950	6.79	6.90	7.01
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	582	6.80	6.94	7.08
Multi-lingual	377	6.67	6.85	7.03
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	132	6.64	6.94	7.24
No	823	6.78	6.89	7.01
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	468	6.71	6.86	7.02
Female	514	6.80	6.96	7.11
City of Darebin	982	6.80	6.91	7.02



Satisfaction with Council's overall performance
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	107	6.53	6.83	7.13
	2017-18	120	7.04	7.33	7.62
	2018-19	119	6.78	7.07	7.35
	2020	71	6.86	7.24	7.62
	2021	96	7.07	7.35	7.64
Preston East	2016-17	123	6.17	6.49	6.80
	2017-18	122	6.51	6.82	7.13
	2018-19	117	6.74	7.03	7.33
	2020	96	7.02	7.31	7.59
	2021	117	6.84	7.14	7.45
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	118	6.13	6.46	6.78
	2017-18	120	6.58	6.88	7.19
	2018-19	119	6.48	6.75	7.01
	2020	62	6.57	6.92	7.27
	2021	72	6.75	7.05	7.35
Preston West	2016-17	115	6.03	6.39	6.75
	2017-18	113	6.55	6.86	7.17
	2018-19	115	6.61	6.92	7.23
	2020	133	6.57	6.84	7.11
	2021	104	6.55	6.94	7.33
Reservoir West	2016-17	124	6.58	6.84	7.10
	2017-18	124	6.66	6.96	7.25
	2018-19	118	6.99	7.28	7.57
	2020	172	6.84	7.10	7.35
	2021	167	6.60	6.86	7.12
Reservoir East	2016-17	120	6.79	7.08	7.38
	2017-18	124	6.67	6.95	7.23
	2018-19	122	6.98	7.26	7.54
	2020	148	6.84	7.10	7.35
	2021	184	6.57	6.81	7.06
Thornbury	2016-17	118	5.99	6.36	6.72
	2017-18	121	6.37	6.74	7.10
	2018-19	118	6.91	7.14	7.38
	2020	116	6.62	6.92	7.23
	2021	97	6.33	6.70	7.07
Northcote	2016-17	118	6.42	6.73	7.04
	2017-18	115	6.09	6.43	6.78
	2018-19	117	6.91	7.23	7.55
	2020	170	6.90	7.14	7.38
	2021	145	6.37	6.67	6.97

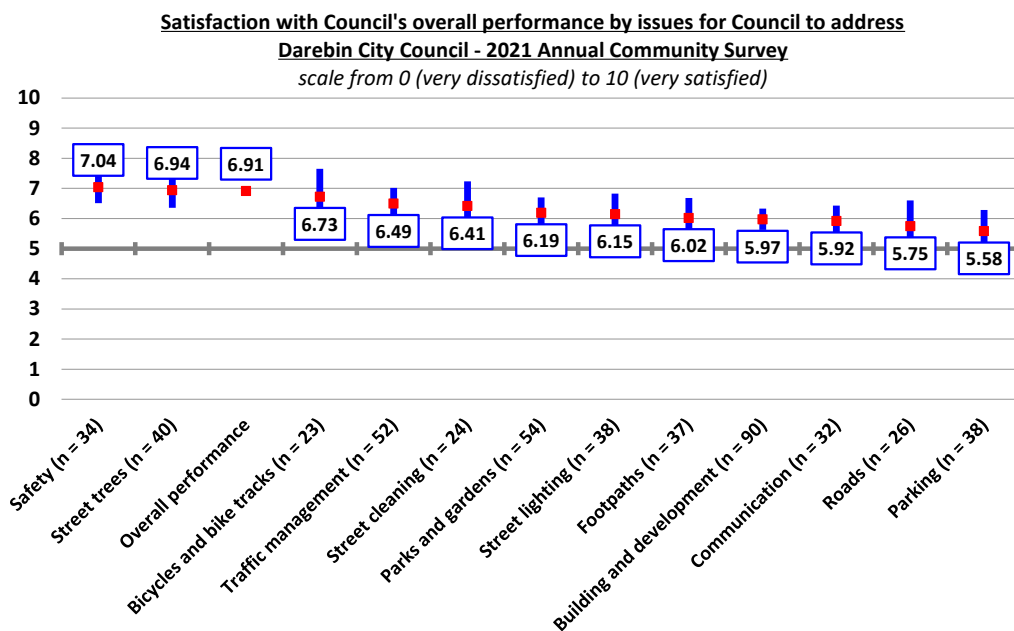


Relationship between issues and satisfaction with overall performance

The following graph displays the average overall satisfaction score for respondents nominating each of the top 12 issues to address for the City of Darebin “at the moment”, with a comparison to the overall satisfaction score of all respondents (6.91).

The detailed analysis of the top issues to address in the City of Darebin “at the moment” is discussed in the [Current Issues for the City of Darebin](#) section of this report.

The aim of this data is to explore the relationship between the issues nominated by respondents and their satisfaction with Council’s overall performance. The data does not prove a causal relationship between the issue and satisfaction with Council’s overall performance but does provide meaningful insight into whether these issues are likely to be exerting a positive or negative influence on these respondents’ satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.



Clearly the number of respondents nominating each of these 12 issues varies substantially, which is reflected in the size of the blue vertical bars (the 95% confidence interval).

The respondents who nominated “safety, policing, and crime” and “street trees” related issues, on average, were marginally but not measurably more satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average. This does not necessarily imply that these respondents are more satisfied with Council’s overall performance because of these issues, but it does show that the issues are highly unlikely to be negatively influencing these respondents’ satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.





There were a range of issues, however, that on average, the respondents nominating these issues were measurably less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the average of all respondents.

These issues include “parks, gardens, and open spaces”, “street lighting”, “footpaths”, “building, housing, planning, and development”, “communication”, “roads”, and “parking”.

Metropolis Research notes that the respondents nominating “building, housing, planning, and development”, “communication”, “roads”, and “parking”, on average, rated satisfaction at “poor” levels of satisfaction.

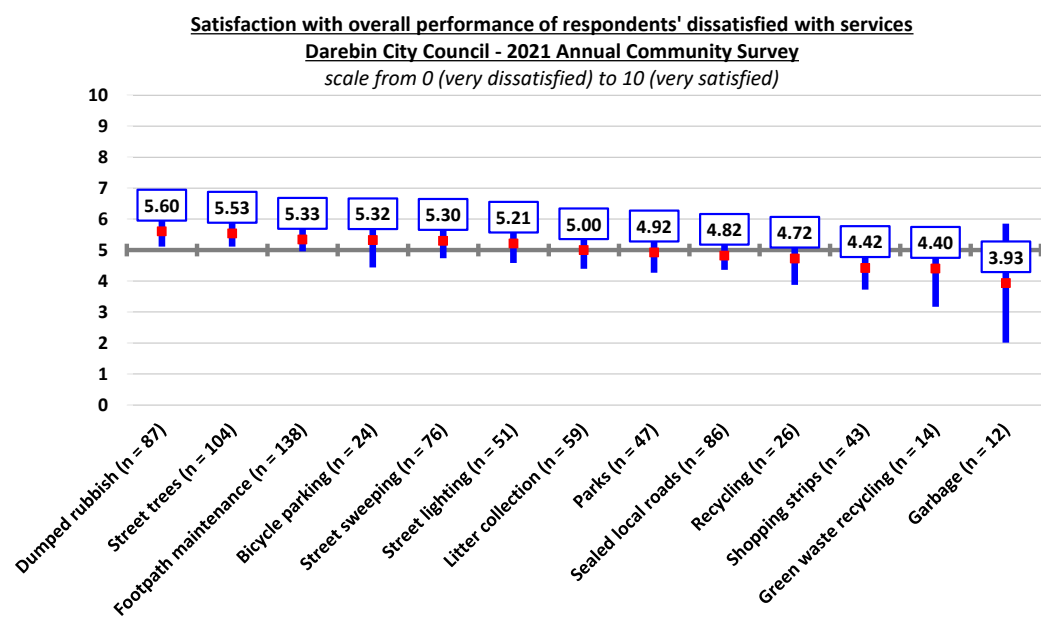
These results strongly imply that, for the respondents nominating these issues, the issues exert a negative influence on their overall satisfaction with Darebin City Council.

Relationship between satisfaction with services and overall satisfaction

The following graph provides the average satisfaction with Council’s overall performance of respondents dissatisfied with individual services and facilities.

Services and facilities with fewer than 10 dissatisfied respondents have been excluded from these results.

It is important to bear in mind that for many of these services, there were relatively few dissatisfied respondents (an average of approximately 59 dissatisfied respondents), hence the relatively large 95% confidence interval around these results.





Attention is drawn to the fact that respondents who were dissatisfied with individual services and facilities were also, on average, measurably and significantly less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average of all respondents (6.91).

It is also acknowledged that a relatively small sample of respondents were dissatisfied with most aspects of Council performance, with a significant degree of overlap between services. In other words, respondents who were dissatisfied with one service and facility were likely to be dissatisfied with several services and facilities and were also measurably less satisfied with Council’s overall performance.

The services and facilities that appear to be most strongly associated with lower overall satisfaction scores this year were parks, gardens and open spaces, the condition of sealed local roads, recycling, maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, green waste recycling, and the regular garbage collection. Respondents who were dissatisfied with these services, on average, rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance as “poor” level.

This reflects the fact that some (a small number) of respondents were dissatisfied with Council’s performance, and this tended to influence their satisfaction ratings for many, if not all, services and facilities included in the survey.

The opposite is also true for many respondents who tended to provide the same satisfaction rating for many, if not all, services, and facilities. This again reflects the fact that these respondents tended to see Council performance as being generally consistent across the full range of services and facilities provided by Council.

Correlation between satisfaction with services and facilities and overall performance

The following table provides the Pearson correlation coefficient for each of the 15 services and facilities when analysed individually against satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.

The correlation coefficient provides a measure of the relationship between satisfaction with each of the 15 services and facilities and satisfaction with Council’s overall performance. The correlation coefficient is a number between minus one and positive one, with scores of more than zero representing a positive correlation, and scores of less than one a negative correlation.

In other words, these results show how closely related satisfaction with the individual services and facilities are to satisfaction with Council’s overall performance. It does not show a causal relationship between satisfaction with services and facilities and overall performance but does highlight how closely they are related (correlated).

The fact that the correlation coefficients are relatively low (averaging 0.378) suggests that there is modest positive correlation between satisfaction with individual services and facilities and overall performance.



Metropolis Research notes, however, that whilst the correlation is only modestly positive in nature, suggesting that satisfaction with services and facilities is related to satisfaction with overall performance, this is based on relatively good levels of satisfaction with the delivery of services and facilities.

If satisfaction with a core individual service or facility was to drop substantially, such as the regular garbage collection service, it is highly likely that this would have a substantial impact on overall satisfaction with Council. Metropolis Research has observed this in several municipalities in recent years in relation to changes to waste and recycling kerbside collection services.

Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and index score scale 0 - 10)

Service / facility	2021		Correlation*
	Number	Mean	
Footpath maintenance and repairs	986	6.66	0.513
The condition of sealed local roads	989	7.05	0.503
Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space	971	7.50	0.476
Council festivals and events	159	7.67	0.434
Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips	959	7.39	0.424
The type / species of street trees	959	7.10	0.423
Street sweeping	959	7.15	0.414
Darebin Libraries services	392	8.39	0.390
The level of dumped rubbish	956	7.00	0.386
The level of street lighting	978	7.47	0.352
Litter collection in public areas	934	7.19	0.344
Green waste recycling	737	8.19	0.341
Regular recycling	972	8.01	0.325
Weekly garbage collection	988	8.33	0.293
The availability of bicycle parking	268	7.65	0.056

Average satisfaction with selected services **7.52**

(*) Pearson coefficient

Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council's overall performance

Respondents were asked:

"Why do you say that?"

All respondents were asked why they rated satisfaction with Council's overall performance at the level they did. The verbatim comments are outlined in the following tables.





A total of 339 responses were received, with 225 from the 832 respondents who were “satisfied”, 46 responses from the 72 respondents who were “neutral”, and 68 responses from the 78 respondents who were “dissatisfied”.

In summary, the following key messages were outlined by respondents:

- **Satisfied (225 responses)** – the reasons why respondents were satisfied with Council’s overall performance included many general positive comments about performance, although many referenced the view that this is always room for improvement. There were also several generally positive comments about Darebin as a place to live. A range of specific issues were raised in a positive light, with a range also raised as areas for improvement.
- **Neutral (46 responses)** – the issues raised by respondents who were neutral regarding Council’s overall performance included several comments around the need for improved communication and consultation with the community, some generally positive statements, as well as some specific issues such as roads, elderly services, and planning and housing development.
- **Dissatisfied (68 responses)** – the most common issues raised by respondents dissatisfied with Council’s overall performance related to a perception that there was no, little, or insufficient communication or consultations with residents, as well as several respondents referring to a perception that Council does not care about residents. There were a range of issues raised by a small number of respondents including some related to governance and some related to specific services and facilities such as parking, housing and development, and street trees.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council's overall performance less than 5

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Dissatisfied (0 - 4)</i>	
Little / no / poor communication with the residents	7
Do not care about /do not represent residents much	3
Little / no / poor consultation	3
No value for rates	3
Poor maintenance, don't fix things	3
The Council isn't responding well, don't follow through, don't listen	3
Council not doing anything	2
Lots of issues, don't know where to start, we'll be here all day	2
Needs improvement in many areas	2
Poor quality of many services	2
They need to do more on car parking especially for high rise buildings and new developments	2
50% rates should not go for wages	1



Blocking and narrowing of streets	1
Can improve a lot. Underperforming	1
Everything I have complained	1
Feel discriminated	1
Feel like they are corrupt	1
Fine is too high	1
Footpaths need fixing, especially for areas with more old people	1
Gentrified, too liberal in granting permits for developments	1
Have problems with parking and have complaints but nothing has been resolved	1
I have not seen Council do anything important, or that matters in Darebin	1
Issues such as car parking	1
Issues such as rubbish	1
It's because of trees in nature strips	1
Lack of engagement with residents with any aspect	1
Need more improvement with respect to consultation and communication with residents regarding development within the local area	1
Needs to make decisions in the best interest of the community	1
Never response to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
No reply to email with complaints	1
Not enough consultation. Do whatever they want	1
Not good at all	1
Not happy with the way they look after their community	1
Not inclusive at all	1
Overstaffed	1
Perceptions I have of Council are poor	1
Poor performance overall	1
Provide better road maintenance services	1
Stop wasting taxpayer's money, use more on necessary things	1
The footpaths are in very bad conditions for years	1
The roads are too dark, especially on Wood St	1
There is no communication, so the Council will never know what the issues are	1
They don't have our best interests at heart	1
They don't improve anything	1
They say they support the elderly, but they don't really do anything	1
They should make better effort in cleaning in most parts of Darebin	1
Very slow efficiency	1
Total	68





Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council's overall performance at 5
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Neutral (5)</i>	
Room for improvement	8
Poor performance regarding communication, need more	3
Not enough consultation. Do whatever they want	2
Poor communication / need more	2
Poor performance overall	2
All areas are lacking somewhere	1
Approval of townhouse needs to slow down	1
As a growing community, the municipality has handled it. But there is a disappointment, as the idea of community is disintegrating. The sense of community is in the people, not in the policy.	1
Because have issues with drunk people around the streets and have been causing trouble around the streets. Raised up the issue to Council but hasn't been fixed	1
Council has been unhelpful and rude towards me	1
Council has some feedbacks on newspaper, having some improvements	1
Customer service is great just the process of getting things done is slow	1
Gets involved in too many issues	1
Haven't been in contact with Council	1
I don't have a strong opinion either way	1
It's all feel	1
Lack of information about infrastructure around the area	1
More developments and upgradation of public spaces required	1
Most aspects in lower to mid-section	1
No value for rates	1
Not responsive	1
Personal experiences	1
Plant more trees	1
Poor decisions regarding new developments	1
Poor maintenance	1
Poor performance regarding consultation	1
Poor performance regarding engagement	1
Road maintenance	1
Safety is a major problem	1
Slow elderly services	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level. Council must address community needs over focusing on federal level issues. *Name removed* must act like a local Councillor instead of being a federal politician	1
Too much involved in pedestrians and cyclists	1
Traffic management is poor	1
They are very good at taking big rates	1

Total

46

26



Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council's overall performance more than 5
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Satisfied (6 - 10)</i>	
There is always room for improvement	36
Council is doing a good job	25
I'm generally happy with the Council, (incl. services, facilities, management)	19
Council is doing a good job but needs to focus on infrastructure as well	8
A good place to live	7
Garbage collection issues, incl. recycling and green waste	5
Overall decent, have no complaints	5
Generally satisfied with a few temporary issues time to time	4
Provides great services and has improved a lot over the past years	4
Increase parking	3
Would like more communication	3
Concerns over overdevelopment	2
Could do better in maintenance of public facilities	2
Could improve more regarding development planning	2
Council needs to focus on making the area greener and maintaining parks and gardens	2
Good communication	2
Graffiti can be improved	2
I've had good and bad experiences with the Council	2
More consultation is required	2
More emphasis on environmental issues and sustainability is needed	2
No proper maintenance of public areas, need to improve	2
Safety can be improved	2
The Council is engaging and involved	2
They need to improve traffic management	2
A lot of things need to improve, street cleaning trees etc.	1
Attend well to infrastructural needs	1
Average performance	1
Because their performance with high rise developments is terrible	1
Concerned about developments especially traffic outcomes	1
Congestion, traffic, and development posing increasing issue	1
Could be better but still nice	1
Could do better in terms of managing the Council responsibilities	1
Could improve with community consultation and engagement	1
Council is vocal, and helpful when you get in contact with	1
Council keeps the residents well informed about any new developments	1
Council rates have drastically gone up with no improvement or benefits	1
Council trying it's best to improve	1
Degree of development should be improved and quality	1
Do a lot of background works	1
Donath Reserve could do with another dedicated soccer pitch, to reflect the demand for soccer in that area	1

Don't care about the Council	1
Don't seem to have public's interest at heart	1
Drains issue	1
Generally great could do more with the public spaces	1
Good with promoting diversity	1
Had some hassles	1
If you got a problem, they fix it	1
I'm happy with Councils actions regarding invasion day	1
Improve in involving the community	1
Infrastructure is good	1
Interacts well with the community	1
Lights can be improved	1
Local businesses need more support from the Council	1
Lot of new developments no longevity	1
Make Northcote golf course a public open space	1
Management processes could be improved	1
More bike parking should be provided	1
More communication and consultation with residents and more information to let residents know what Council is doing	1
More emphasis needed on emergency response	1
More trees	1
Most decisions made agreed with	1
Need to do more in Reservoir, shopping centre is poor, should encourage shops	1
Need to improve consultation with community especially older population	1
Needs to be more engaging	1
Needs to be more proactive	1
Needs to decide over keeping Preston Market	1
Needs to focus and invest equally on all the areas and suburbs instead of focussing on just the less diverse and wealthy areas	1
Needs to improve regarding parking strategies	1
Needs to improve in terms of communication, better website design required	1
Not enough collection of yellow bins, only once in two-week time	1
Not too sure what Council does	1
Overall, can provide better services	1
Overall, heading in a good direction	1
Overstepping responsibility	1
Poor management with road maintenance for cyclists	1
Poor response when contacted, complicated process of contact	1
Poor town planning	1
Pretty slow in general	1
Reputation that the administration side of things has	1
Some places where they are not where they could be	1
Sometimes consultation and follow ups aren't effective. Council members pursue their own interests over community interests	1
The aged services are great	1
The Council needs to pick up on duties which were dropped during COVID	1
The efforts of the Council in implementation and improvement of services and facilities are evident and visible	1





The local congestion is a lot. There should be methods to improve it	1
The traffic light on St George Rd, it doesn't work so often, as a female, I am scared to drive if it is broken	1
There is no street life, and it isn't lively at all	1
They are not consulting with this us	1
They are trying, but still have room to improve communication	1
They do not do certain things and can improve a lot	1
They don't clean streets	1
They don't look after social housing	1
They haven't impressed me	1
They need to maintain roads better	1
They've allowed their prices to be too high	1
Things seem to be running	1
Too many small projects. So, losing its character in managing all of them	1
Too many townhouses it's a mess it is causing a huge a traffic they should restrict townhouse which is too populated	1
Took too long find the right department	1
Treated equal and supported. Allowed to enjoy in the community	1
Very inclusive and forward looking	1
Wastes efforts by focusing on not so important issues	1
We have a caring Council	1
Would love to see more proactive	1
Total	225
Total	339





Governance and leadership

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the following?”

The average satisfaction with the five included aspects of governance and leadership was 6.86 out of a potential 10, or a “good” level of satisfaction.

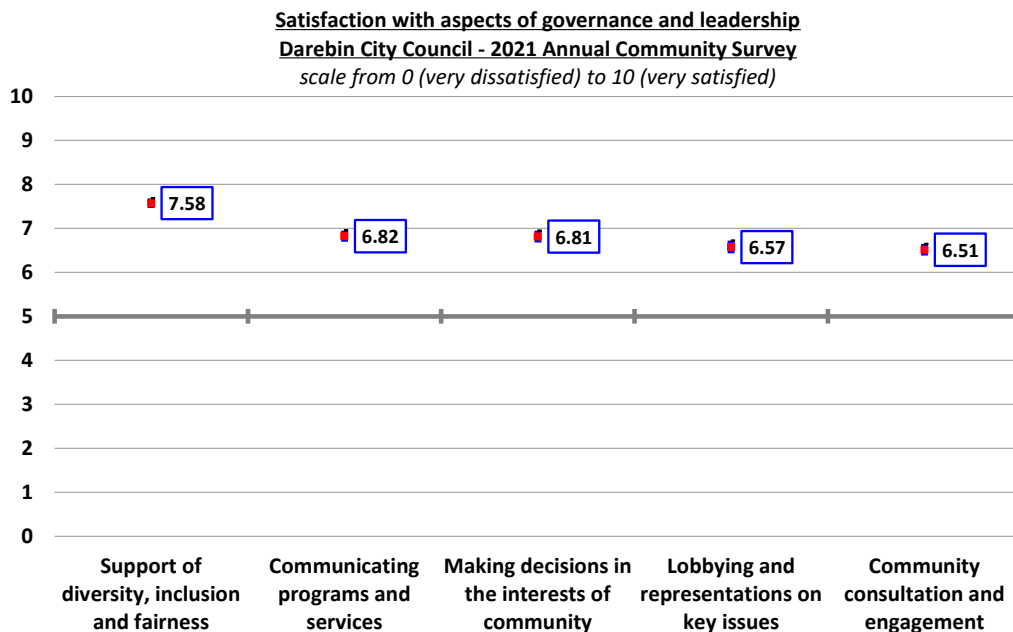
This result represents a notable but not statistically significant decline of 3.4% on the average of 7.10 reported last year after the first COVID-19 lockdown.

This decline was greater than the decline in satisfaction with Council’ overall performance (2.3%) and the average decline in satisfaction with services and facilities (0.1%).

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with aspects of governance and leadership declined in several other municipalities this year, with the declines larger than the decline in overall satisfaction. It has been difficult to provide additional insight into any underlying reasons for these declines, as no specific issues appeared in the results.

Satisfaction with the five included aspects of governance and leadership can best be summarised as follows:

- **Very Good** – for Council’s support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness.
- **Good** – for Council communicating its programs and services, community consultation and engagement, making decisions in the interests of the community, and lobbying and making representations on key issues.

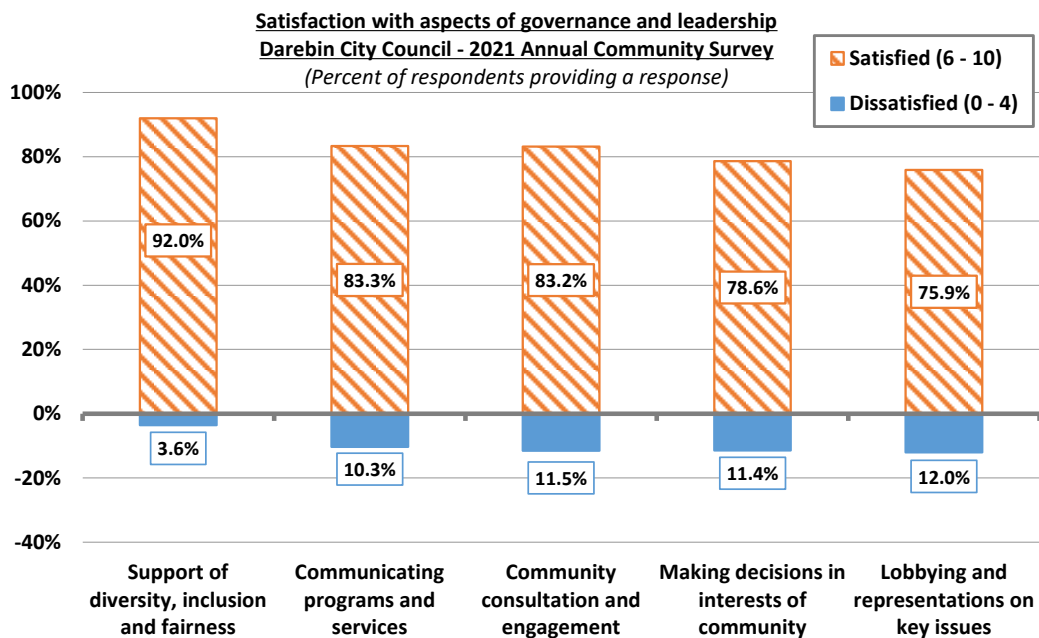




The following graph provides the breakdown of results into the proportion of respondents who were “satisfied” with each aspect of governance and leadership (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more) and the proportion who were “dissatisfied” (rated satisfaction at less than five).

Consistent with the “very good” average satisfaction, the overwhelming majority of respondents providing an answer to the question were “satisfied” with Council’s support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness, although it is noted that 3.6% of respondents were dissatisfied.

Three-quarters or more of respondents were satisfied with each of the four other aspects of governance and leadership, with approximately 10% dissatisfied.



Satisfaction with aspects of governance and leadership
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

Aspect	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say
Support of diversity, inclusion and fairness	3.6%	4.3%	92.0%	157
Communicating programs and services	10.3%	6.5%	83.3%	104
Making decisions in interests of community	11.5%	5.4%	83.2%	157
Lobbying and representations on key issues	11.4%	9.9%	78.6%	273
Community consultation and engagement	12.0%	12.1%	75.9%	150





Council’s support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness

Respondents were asked:

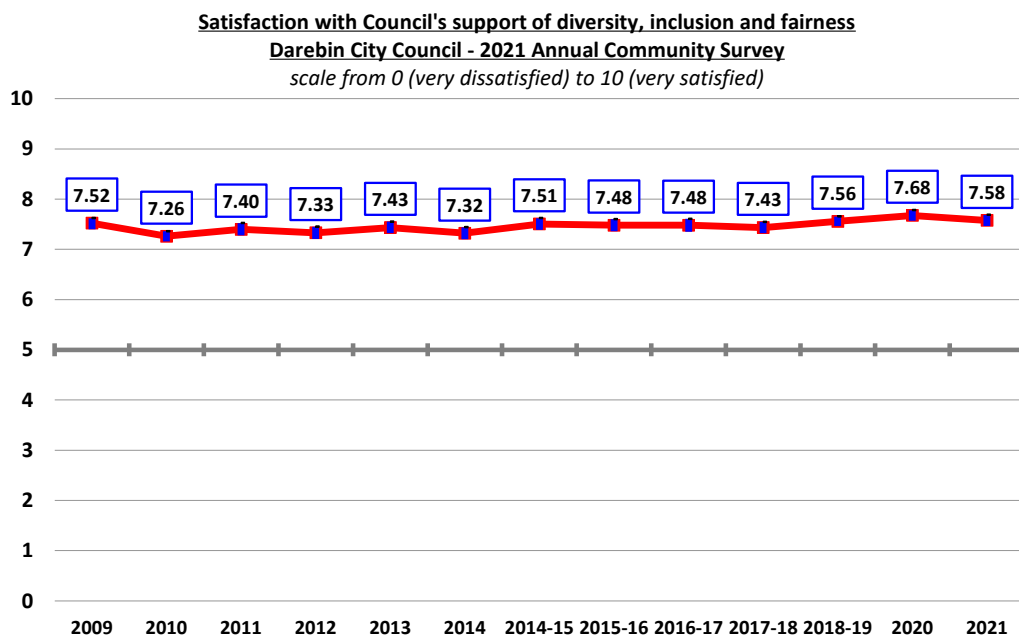
“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s support of diversity, inclusion and fairness? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

This aspect of governance and leadership was previously included in the survey as “Council’s performance in meeting the needs of the multicultural community”. Whilst time-series comparison is appropriate, the significant change in wording is noted.

Satisfaction with “Council’s support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness” declined marginally but not measurably this year, down 1.3% to 7.58, although it remains at a “very good” level.

This result has remained remarkably stable around the long-term average since 2009 of 7.46 and has been consistent at a “very good” level in each year.

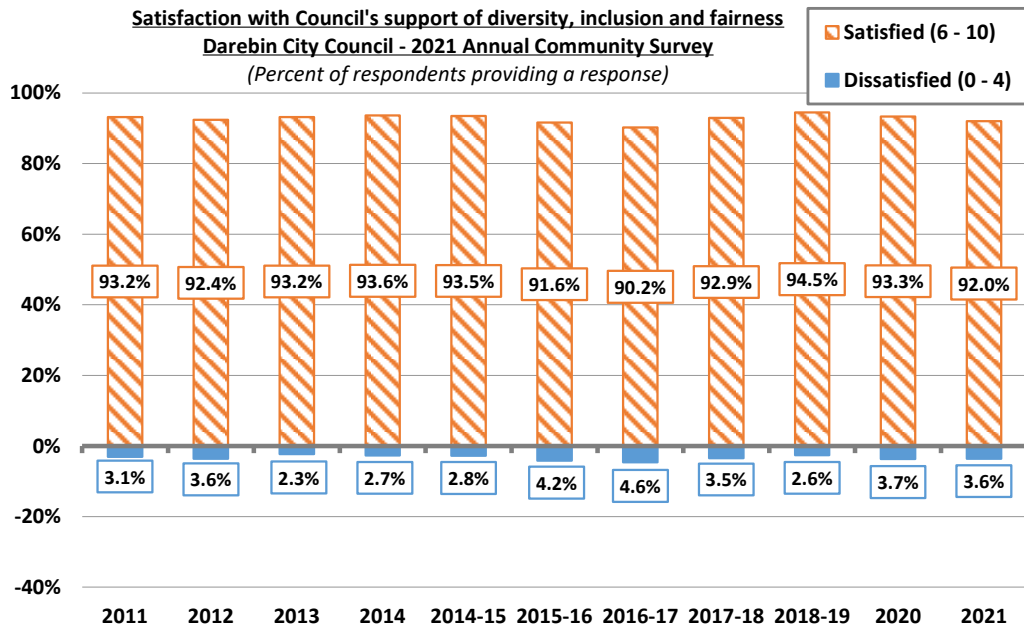
This question was not included in *Governing Melbourne* and therefore no metropolitan Melbourne comparison can be provided.



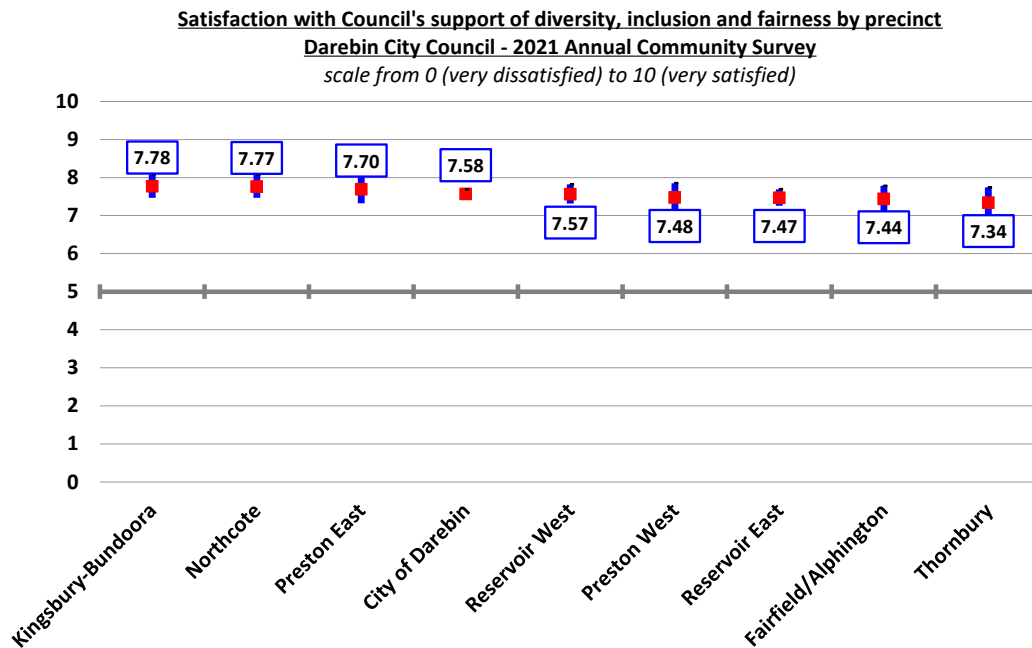
Consistent with the stable average satisfaction score, a little more than 90% of respondents providing a response were satisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership, whilst less than four percent were dissatisfied.

It is noted that no more than 4.6% of respondents providing a response to this question have been dissatisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership over the period 2009 to 2021.





There was no statistically significant variation in average satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although it is noted that respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, and Preston East rated satisfaction at "excellent" rather than "very good" levels.





There was, however, some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), private rental household respondents, and new and newer residents (less than five years in the City of Darebin).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes older adults (aged 60 to 74 years).

Satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness increased in three precincts and decreased in five, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston East, Reservoir West, and Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Preston West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.

None of these variations were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion and fairness
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lower</i>	<i>2021 Mean</i>	<i>Upper</i>
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	319	7.67	7.82	7.97
35 - 44 years	166	7.43	7.65	7.87
45 - 59 years	197	7.12	7.38	7.64
60 - 74 years	99	6.63	7.04	7.44
75 years and over	62	7.31	7.64	7.97
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	356	7.22	7.40	7.59
Mortgage	184	7.20	7.42	7.65
Renting this home	218	7.72	7.90	8.09
Renting from Office of Housing	17	7.38	8.07	8.76
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	12	8.55	9.10	9.65
One to less than five years	139	7.68	7.87	8.06
Five to less than ten years	166	7.58	7.81	8.04
Ten years or more	496	7.20	7.35	7.51
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	6.03	7.77	9.50
No	815	7.46	7.57	7.68
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	517	7.45	7.58	7.72
Multi-lingual	304	7.35	7.54	7.73
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	108	7.25	7.58	7.92
No	710	7.44	7.56	7.68
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	421	7.30	7.47	7.63
Female	421	7.55	7.69	7.82
City of Darebin	843	7.47	7.58	7.68



Satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion and fairness
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	77	7.12	7.45	7.79
	2017-18	104	7.12	7.41	7.71
	2018-19	110	7.27	7.55	7.83
	2020	56	7.65	8.02	8.39
	2021	89	7.47	7.78	8.09
Northcote	2016-17	85	7.14	7.48	7.83
	2017-18	92	6.98	7.28	7.58
	2018-19	101	7.27	7.55	7.84
	2020	149	7.88	8.11	8.34
	2021	119	7.47	7.77	8.06
Preston East	2016-17	94	6.89	7.26	7.62
	2017-18	104	7.36	7.61	7.85
	2018-19	107	7.48	7.72	7.95
	2020	86	7.12	7.49	7.86
	2021	107	7.33	7.70	8.07
Reservoir West	2016-17	103	7.01	7.37	7.73
	2017-18	106	7.45	7.75	8.04
	2018-19	107	7.41	7.69	7.97
	2020	153	7.24	7.51	7.78
	2021	139	7.32	7.57	7.82
Preston West	2016-17	79	7.00	7.41	7.81
	2017-18	89	7.07	7.36	7.65
	2018-19	95	7.19	7.48	7.78
	2020	119	7.41	7.69	7.98
	2021	90	7.10	7.48	7.85
Reservoir East	2016-17	88	7.66	7.98	8.29
	2017-18	101	7.07	7.38	7.68
	2018-19	101	7.27	7.50	7.72
	2020	132	7.38	7.64	7.90
	2021	158	7.26	7.47	7.69
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	86	7.05	7.40	7.74
	2017-18	92	7.08	7.43	7.79
	2018-19	97	7.17	7.49	7.82
	2020	59	7.12	7.43	7.73
	2021	56	7.10	7.44	7.78
Thornbury	2016-17	78	6.86	7.28	7.71
	2017-18	98	6.73	7.18	7.64
	2018-19	103	7.14	7.41	7.67
	2020	100	7.09	7.42	7.75
	2021	85	6.95	7.34	7.74



The following table outlines the reasons why the 67 respondents were not satisfied with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness.

The most common responses related to a perception that the respondent had not seen anything, or that Council could do better in some way.

It is also noted that some respondents did not support Council's support of diversity and inclusion, or believed that this was not a Council responsibility.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
Never seen anything	4
Could do better	2
Not Council's responsibility	2
Adding in new cultural things. No more public celebrations	1
Better access for wheelchairs	1
Council discriminates against boys (sports?) clubs/teams, in favour of girls' clubs/teams.	1
An issue of bias	1
Destroying Australian culture	1
Discrimination against Australians over Aboriginal	1
Have argument with neighbour and emailed but no reply	1
I am a migrant and I have no opportunities here	1
Issues with planning	1
More services for elderly	1
More support required for all communities	1
Never response to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
Not delivering what they promised	1
Overlook the issues of kids with special needs	1
Should celebrate other festivals	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level	1
The principle is wonderful, the practice is elusive	1
They are spending too much time here	1
They need provide more modes for communication and inclusion	1
They support the minority group more than the majority while taking decisions	1
We haven't noticed any inclusion, communication, or consultation from the Council with respect to key issues	1
White male yelling people to Indigenous people or people with other nationalities in bus 552	1
Total	29





Communicating programs and services

Respondents were asked:

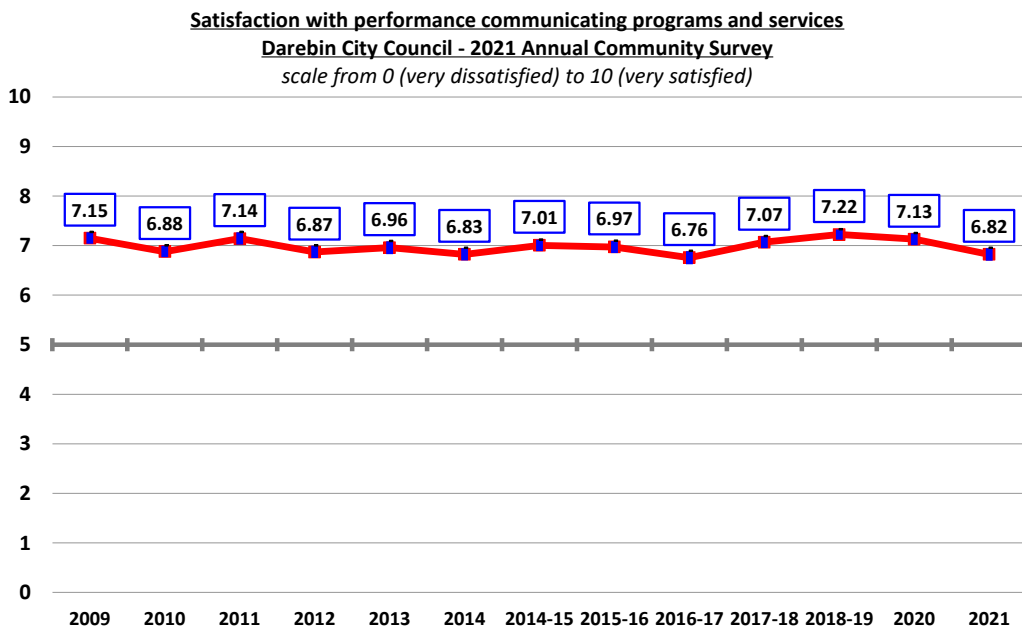
“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in communicating its programs and services? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with Council’s performance “in communicating its programs and services” declined a statistically significant 4.3% this year, down from 7.13 to 6.82, although it remains at a “good” level.

This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2009 of 6.99.

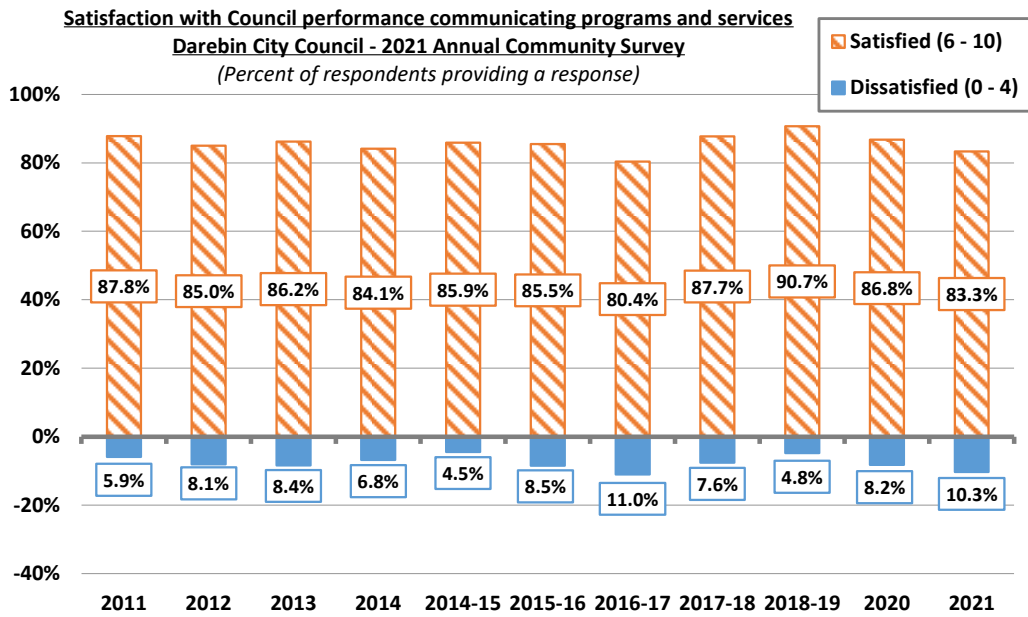
It is noted that this is the second consecutive decline in average satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership, down from the peak recorded since 2009 of 7.22 recorded in 2018-19, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This aspect of governance and leadership was not included in *Governing Melbourne* and therefore no metropolitan comparisons can be provided. Metropolis Research does note, however, that satisfaction with communication and consultation related aspects of governance and leadership have fallen in several municipalities during the COVID-19 pandemic.



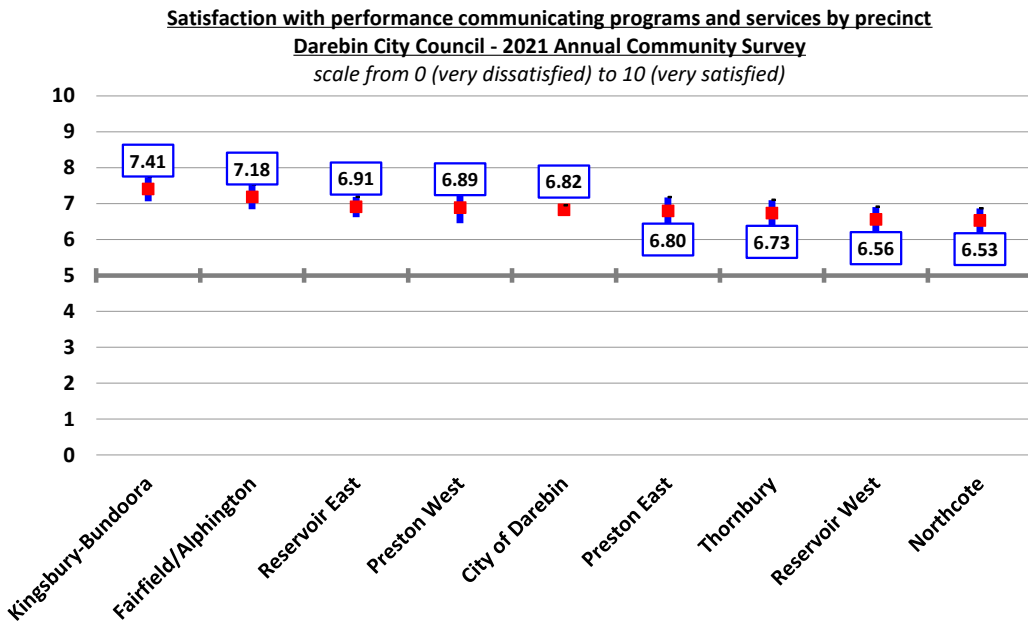
Consistent with the measurable decline in average satisfaction recorded this year, there was a small decline in the proportion of satisfied respondents (rated satisfaction at six or more), and a small increase again this year in the proportion of “dissatisfied” respondents (i.e., rated satisfaction at less than five).





There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance communicating its programs and services observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level.





There was also some notable variation in satisfaction with Council's support of diversity, inclusion, and fairness observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes the small sample of six Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islanders, young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), private rental household respondents, and new and newer residents (less than five years in the City of Darebin).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes older adults (aged 60 to 74 years) and mortgagee household respondents.

Satisfaction with Council's performance communicating its programs and services increased in one precinct and decreased in seven, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Thornbury, Preston West, Preston East, Reservoir East, and Reservoir West.

None of these variations were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with Council's performance communicating programs and services
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Variable	Number	2021		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	323	6.99	7.18	7.38
35 - 44 years	170	6.65	6.89	7.14
45 - 59 years	209	6.26	6.54	6.82
60 - 74 years	108	5.74	6.15	6.57
75 years and over	86	6.42	6.86	7.30
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	394	6.53	6.74	6.94
Mortgage	195	6.10	6.38	6.66
Renting this home	222	7.02	7.25	7.48
Renting from Office of Housing	14	6.77	7.38	7.99
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	10	6.00	7.53	9.05
One to less than five years	136	7.01	7.28	7.55
Five to less than ten years	172	6.75	7.05	7.35
Ten years or more	543	6.42	6.58	6.75
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	6.49	7.71	8.94
No	864	6.66	6.79	6.92
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	540	6.61	6.78	6.94
Multi-lingual	331	6.64	6.86	7.07
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	123	6.36	6.74	7.13
No	744	6.67	6.81	6.95
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	436	6.58	6.77	6.95
Female	460	6.70	6.88	7.05
City of Darebin	896	6.70	6.82	6.95

Satisfaction with Council's performance communicating programs and services
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	93	6.31	6.74	7.17
	2017-18	112	6.61	7.00	7.39
	2018-19	107	7.16	7.41	7.66
	2020	66	7.05	7.44	7.84
	2021	81	7.07	7.41	7.74
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	114	6.34	6.70	7.06
	2017-18	110	7.08	7.33	7.58
	2018-19	117	6.88	7.17	7.46
	2020	62	5.98	6.53	7.09
	2021	67	6.84	7.18	7.52
Reservoir East	2016-17	100	6.68	7.08	7.48
	2017-18	115	6.63	6.96	7.28
	2018-19	107	6.85	7.13	7.41
	2020	140	7.05	7.34	7.63
	2021	165	6.63	6.91	7.19
Preston West	2016-17	104	6.25	6.64	7.03
	2017-18	99	6.79	7.13	7.47
	2018-19	105	6.46	6.84	7.22
	2020	124	7.12	7.37	7.63
	2021	100	6.46	6.89	7.32
Preston East	2016-17	106	6.01	6.40	6.79
	2017-18	107	6.84	7.13	7.43
	2018-19	114	6.73	7.02	7.31
	2020	90	6.77	7.11	7.45
	2021	107	6.42	6.80	7.18
Thornbury	2016-17	103	5.99	6.39	6.79
	2017-18	113	6.41	6.81	7.20
	2018-19	104	7.03	7.24	7.45
	2020	108	6.59	6.95	7.31
	2021	89	6.36	6.73	7.10
Reservoir West	2016-17	120	6.48	6.83	7.17
	2017-18	107	7.01	7.34	7.67
	2018-19	114	7.24	7.53	7.81
	2020	162	6.66	6.95	7.25
	2021	147	6.20	6.56	6.91
Northcote	2016-17	111	6.65	7.00	7.35
	2017-18	110	6.70	7.02	7.33
	2018-19	115	7.03	7.33	7.63
	2020	162	6.85	7.17	7.49
	2021	139	6.19	6.53	6.87



The following table outlines the reasons why the 150 respondents were not satisfied with Council's performance communicating its programs and services.

The most common responses related to a perception that Council does not communicate properly, or that there is little or no communication.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with communicating programs and services less than 6

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
Don't communicate properly	6
Little / no communication	6
Don't see / hear from them	4
Communication strategies must change with time, social media, or other electronic channels	3
Lack of information from Council	3
Need to be more	3
Not enough communication with the residents	3
Not seen much	3
Better communication methods required	2
Don't really know much about the programs / services of Council	2
More flyers / promotion	2
Barely any form of communication from the Council's side unless you are well connected to the tele network	1
Don't hear from them, when it says junk mail, we don't receive it	1
Every 3 months they give it a go, and then they give up. They don't know which platforms to use	1
I always find out about Council events from friends and neighbours, no proper advertising	1
Just 1 notice in 3-4 months, no promotion or anything	1
Lots of posters, inadequate actions	1
Need to act from the compliance	1
Never response to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
No information or letters no correspondence	1
No newspaper, no communication whatsoever	1
No parking for development not fair	1
Not much communication i.e., bike lanes, cost of money	1
Prefers paper communication methods	1
Receiving a bit of info through the mail	1
Represents unnecessary issues	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level. Council must address community needs over focusing on federal level issues	1
The website is not easy to navigate and find information	1
Total	54



Community consultation and engagement

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in community consultation and engagement? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

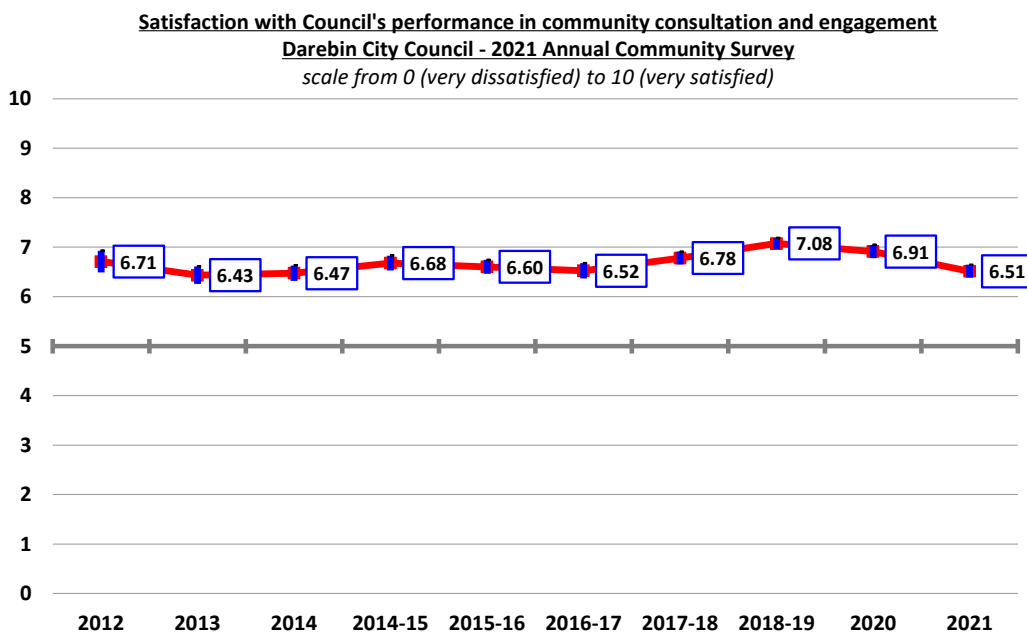
Satisfaction with Council’s “community consultation and engagement” declined measurably and significantly this year, down 5.8% to 6.51, although it remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.

This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2012 of 6.67.

By way of comparison, the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction with community consultation and engagement was 6.72, somewhat, but not measurably higher than the City of Darebin result of 6.51, as measured in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with community consultation and engagement has declined in all six *Annual Community Satisfaction Surveys* conducted by Metropolis Research so far in calendar 2021, declining by an average of eight percent.

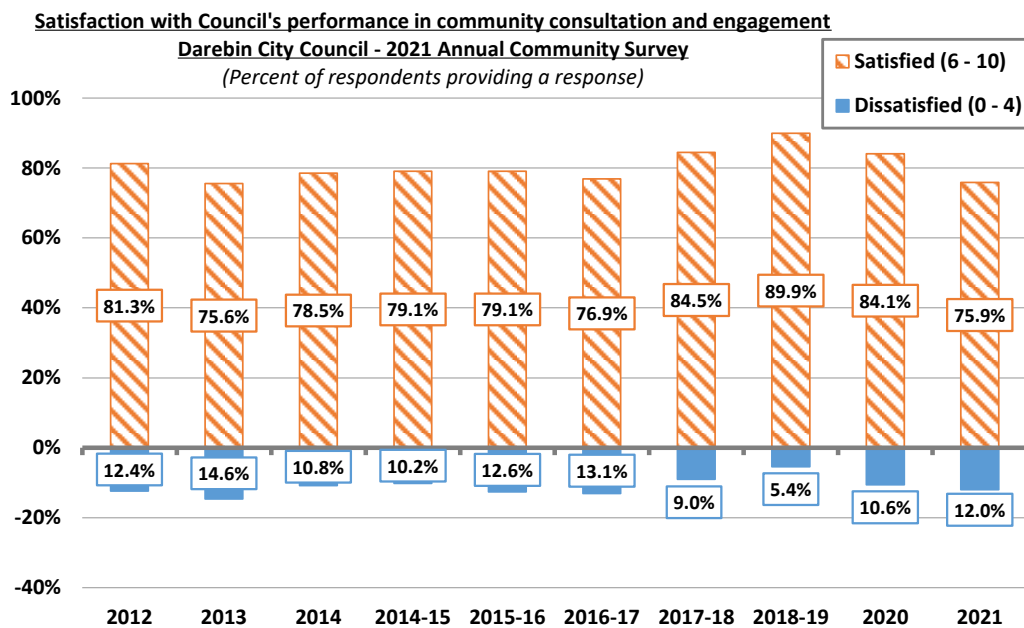
It is difficult to understand fully the reasons behind these declines across metropolitan Melbourne, although there is a possibility that COVID-19 may have played a role, as well as the local government elections held late in 2020.





Consistent with the measurable decline in average satisfaction with community consultation and engagement, the proportion of respondents who were “satisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more) declined notably again this year, down from 84.1% to 75.9%.

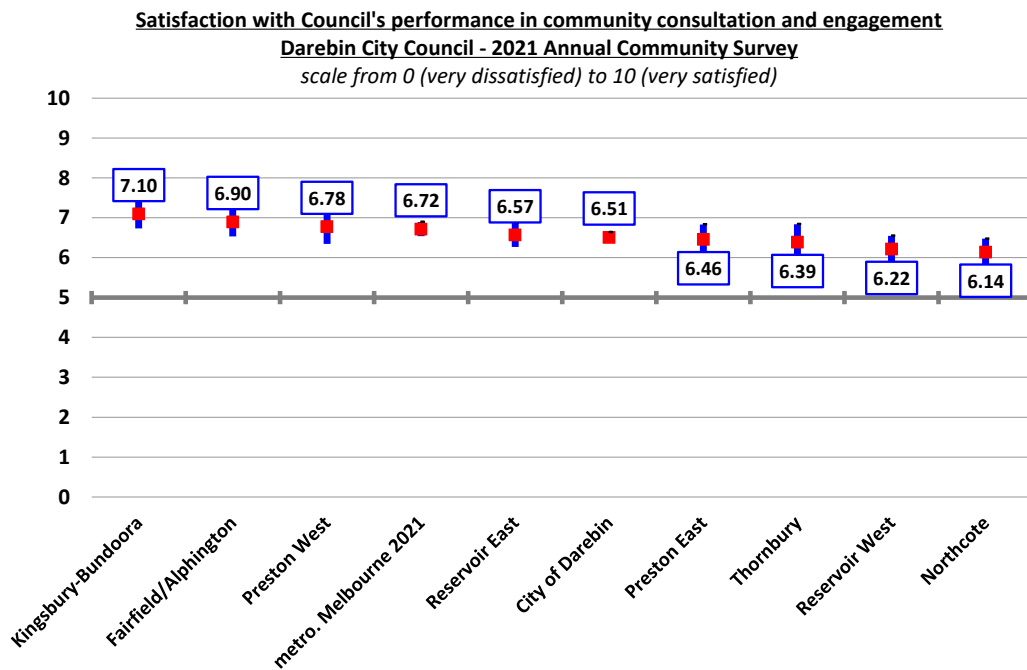
It is noted, however, that there was only a small increase in the proportion of “dissatisfied” respondents (i.e., rated satisfaction at less than five), up from 10.6% to 12.0%.



There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with community consultation and engagement observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied with community consultation and engagement than the municipal average.
- **Northcote** – respondents were notably, but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at a “solid” rather than a “good” level.





There was also some notable variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance in community consultation and engagement observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), private and public rental household respondents, and new residents (less than one year in the City of Darebin).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes older adults (aged 60 to 74 years) and mortgagee household respondents.

Satisfaction with Council’s performance Council’s performance in community consultation and engagement increased in one precinct and decreased in seven, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Thornbury, Preston West, Preston East, Reservoir East, and Reservoir West.

The decline in satisfaction in Reservoir West and Northcote were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with Council's performance in community consultation and engagement
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Variable	Number	2021		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	309	6.64	6.83	7.03
35 - 44 years	163	6.25	6.52	6.80
45 - 59 years	201	5.76	6.06	6.35
60 - 74 years	103	5.74	6.14	6.55
75 years and over	74	6.48	6.91	7.33
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	367	6.30	6.50	6.71
Mortgage	190	5.76	6.03	6.30
Renting this home	206	6.61	6.86	7.10
Renting from Office of Housing	14	7.60	8.24	8.88
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	12	6.60	7.98	9.37
One to less than five years	135	6.43	6.73	7.02
Five to less than ten years	165	6.46	6.75	7.04
Ten years or more	506	6.16	6.34	6.51
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	4.57	6.90	9.23
No	819	6.37	6.51	6.64
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	525	6.30	6.46	6.63
Multi-lingual	300	6.37	6.59	6.82
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	113	6.23	6.65	7.06
No	709	6.36	6.50	6.64
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	417	6.24	6.43	6.61
Female	433	6.41	6.60	6.78
City of Darebin	850	6.38	6.51	6.64

Satisfaction with Council's performance in community consultation and engagement
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	79	5.69	6.37	7.05
	2017-18	107	6.72	7.08	7.45
	2018-19	99	6.96	7.25	7.54
	2020	57	7.20	7.62	8.05
	2021	79	6.73	7.10	7.47
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	106	5.86	6.46	7.06
	2017-18	104	6.69	7.00	7.31
	2018-19	104	6.15	6.56	6.96
	2020	61	5.71	6.33	6.95
	2021	69	6.53	6.90	7.27
Preston West	2016-17	93	5.96	6.41	6.86
	2017-18	93	6.18	6.58	6.98
	2018-19	94	6.22	6.61	6.99
	2020	120	6.80	7.11	7.41
	2021	97	6.34	6.78	7.22
Reservoir East	2016-17	85	6.64	7.02	7.40
	2017-18	105	6.25	6.62	6.98
	2018-19	99	6.90	7.16	7.42
	2020	125	6.80	7.12	7.43
	2021	147	6.27	6.57	6.87
Preston East	2016-17	94	5.51	5.97	6.42
	2017-18	109	6.44	6.72	7.01
	2018-19	108	6.68	6.94	7.21
	2020	88	6.35	6.83	7.32
	2021	105	6.09	6.46	6.83
Thornbury	2016-17	89	5.50	6.01	6.52
	2017-18	101	6.41	6.82	7.23
	2018-19	101	6.77	7.04	7.31
	2020	102	6.28	6.68	7.07
	2021	80	5.94	6.39	6.84
Reservoir West	2016-17	98	6.13	6.48	6.83
	2017-18	108	6.64	6.98	7.32
	2018-19	108	7.21	7.45	7.70
	2020	155	6.58	6.90	7.22
	2021	136	5.88	6.22	6.55
Northcote	2016-17	95	6.75	7.03	7.31
	2017-18	103	6.23	6.66	7.09
	2018-19	109	6.76	7.12	7.48
	2020	151	6.44	6.77	7.11
	2021	138	5.81	6.14	6.48

The following table outlines the reasons why the 205 respondents were not satisfied with Council's consultation and engagement.



The most common responses related to a perception that there is little or no communication or engagement with the community.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with community consultation and engagement less than 6

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
Little / no consultation	12
Little / no engagement with the community	7
Don't hear anything from them	5
Council doesn't listen / not responsive at all	4
Not seen much / not aware	4
Needs to improve	3
Don't engage with community before decision	2
Regarding parking restrictions	2
Could do lot better in terms of engaging with community over social media or other electronic channels	1
Council contact	1
Didn't realise development with Preston Market	1
Don't see any of people from Council on street, no communication with resident	1
Engagement with road traffic problems	1
Haven't heard so much, only one time receive feedback	1
Insufficient elderly care	1
Issues aren't discussed. There should be done more often	1
More engagement needed	1
Need more consultation with residents	1
Need to act from the compliance	1
Never contacted before	1
Never response to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
No consultation from the Council with the residents till the change was implemented	1
No consultation happens regarding bike lanes	1
No information from the local paper	1
Not much for youth	1
Poor consultation regarding parking space planning near Roseberry Ave	1
Residents get informed after a decision is made (e.g., 40 km speed limit Cramer St)	1
Some consultation feels like a cover for pushing an initial agenda. Consultation doesn't change much	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level. Council must address community needs over focusing on federal level issues	1
There's way too much property development happening. Community isn't consulted about development	1
They don't communicate properly	1
They have not consulted with the community regarding developments and new facilities	1
Total	63



Making decisions in the interests of the community

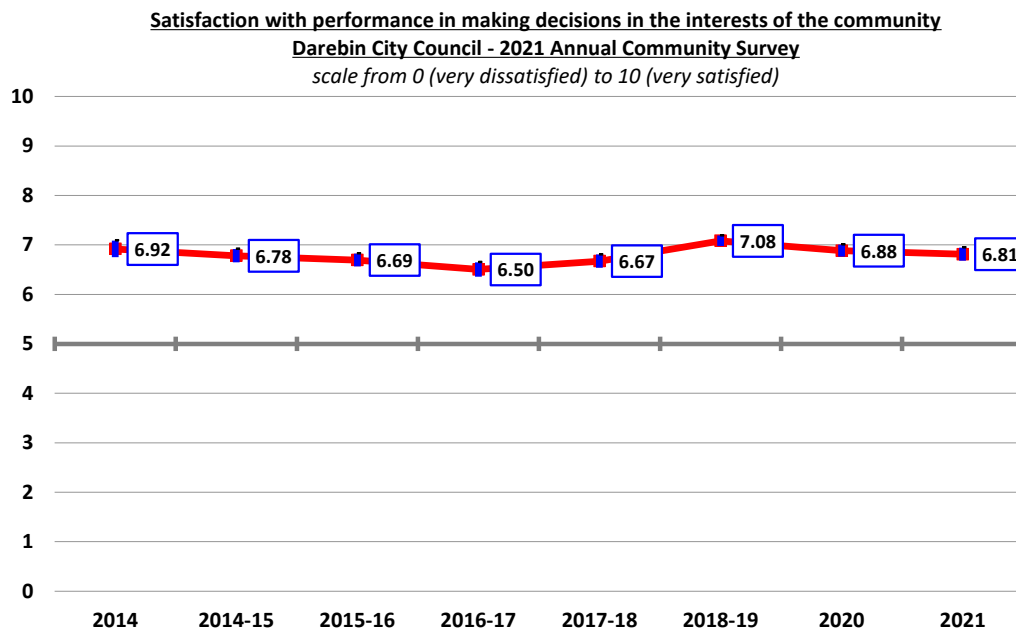
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in making decisions in the interests of the community?”

Satisfaction with Council’s performance “making decisions in the interests of the community” declined marginally but not measurably this year, down one percent to 6.81, although it remains at a “good” level.

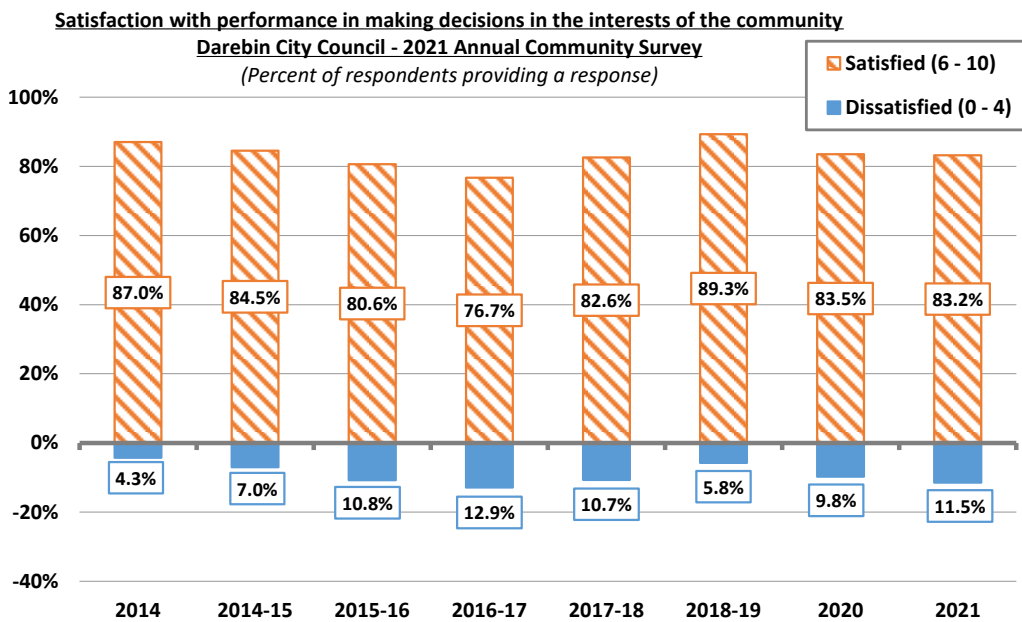
This result is marginally above the long-term average since 2014 of 6.79.

By way of comparison, this result was marginally higher than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.76, as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



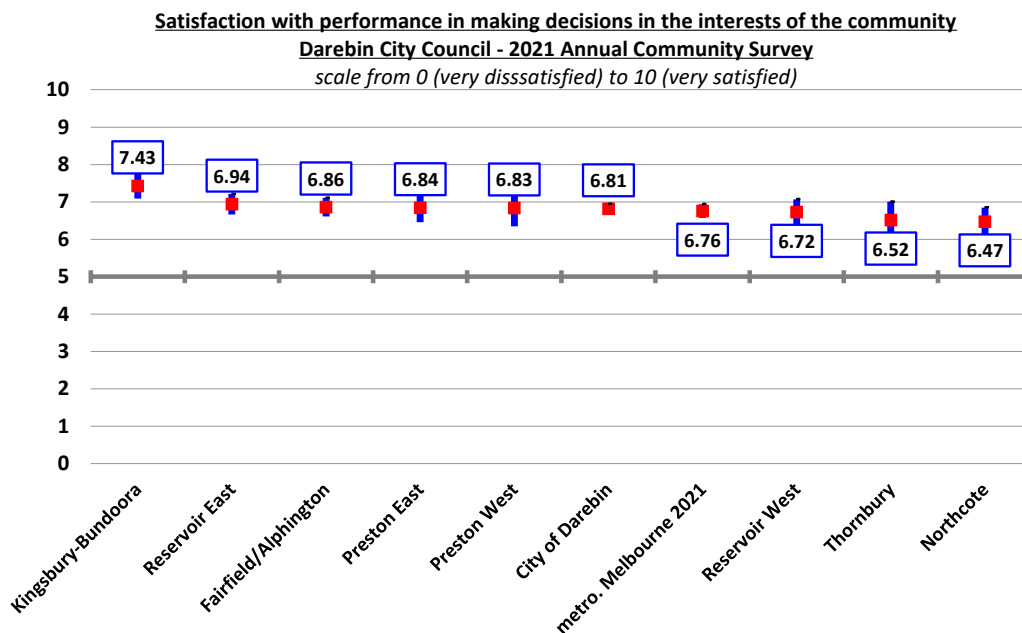
Consistent with the marginal decline in average satisfaction with Council’s performance making decisions in the interests of the community, there was a small increase in the proportion of “dissatisfied” respondents (i.e., rated satisfaction at less than five), up from 9.8% to 11.5%.





There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council making decisions in the interests of the community observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.
- **Northcote** – respondents were notably, but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at a “solid” rather than a “good” level.





There was also some notable variation in satisfaction with Council making decisions in the interests of the community observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), female respondents, private and public rental household respondents, and respondents who have lived in the City of Darebin for less than 10 years.
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes older adults (aged 60 to 74 years), male respondents, and mortgagee household respondents.

Satisfaction with Council's performance making decisions in the interests of the community increased in three precincts and decreased in five, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Reservoir East, and Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Northcote, Thornbury, Preston West, Preston East, and Reservoir West.

None of these variations in satisfaction at the precinct level were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with performance in making decisions in the interests of the community
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Variable	Number	2021		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	312	7.15	7.34	7.53
35 - 44 years	164	6.58	6.85	7.12
45 - 59 years	197	5.89	6.21	6.52
60 - 74 years	101	5.72	6.16	6.60
75 years and over	69	6.64	7.04	7.43
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	364	6.50	6.71	6.91
Mortgage	181	5.95	6.25	6.56
Renting this home	213	7.16	7.40	7.63
Renting from Office of Housing	14	7.43	8.13	8.83
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	12	6.93	7.95	8.97
One to less than five years	136	7.14	7.40	7.66
Five to less than ten years	168	6.98	7.26	7.55
Ten years or more	495	6.26	6.45	6.63
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	4.42	6.72	9.01
No	814	6.66	6.79	6.93
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	517	6.66	6.82	6.99
Multi-lingual	303	6.51	6.75	6.98
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	112	6.37	6.77	7.18
No	705	6.67	6.81	6.95
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	407	6.45	6.64	6.83
Female	436	6.79	6.97	7.16
City of Darebin	843	6.68	6.81	6.95

Satisfaction with performance in making decisions in the interests of the community
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	86	6.52	6.88	7.25
	2017-18	108	6.78	7.08	7.39
	2018-19	102	7.00	7.28	7.57
	2020	54	6.63	7.15	7.68
	2021	86	7.09	7.43	7.76
Reservoir East	2016-17	96	6.53	6.94	7.34
	2017-18	110	6.34	6.71	7.08
	2018-19	104	6.79	7.07	7.34
	2020	129	6.62	6.93	7.24
	2021	152	6.66	6.94	7.21
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	98	5.92	6.32	6.71
	2017-18	112	6.30	6.69	7.08
	2018-19	109	6.35	6.71	7.06
	2020	59	6.19	6.66	7.13
	2021	64	6.61	6.86	7.11
Preston East	2016-17	96	5.63	6.07	6.51
	2017-18	110	6.32	6.68	7.04
	2018-19	106	6.51	6.85	7.19
	2020	90	6.51	6.91	7.31
	2021	103	6.45	6.84	7.23
Preston West	2016-17	92	5.80	6.24	6.67
	2017-18	100	6.17	6.57	6.97
	2018-19	97	6.23	6.64	7.05
	2020	119	6.70	6.99	7.29
	2021	93	6.34	6.83	7.32
Reservoir West	2016-17	108	6.09	6.48	6.87
	2017-18	113	6.56	6.89	7.22
	2018-19	112	7.12	7.39	7.67
	2020	155	6.60	6.91	7.23
	2021	138	6.38	6.72	7.07
Thornbury	2016-17	98	5.62	6.11	6.60
	2017-18	100	5.83	6.29	6.75
	2018-19	102	6.96	7.18	7.39
	2020	101	6.27	6.64	7.01
	2021	81	6.02	6.52	7.01
Northcote	2016-17	96	6.42	6.78	7.14
	2017-18	103	6.12	6.54	6.97
	2018-19	110	6.88	7.18	7.48
	2020	153	6.57	6.87	7.16
	2021	126	6.09	6.47	6.85

The following table outlines the reasons why the 142 respondents were not satisfied with Council's performance making decisions in the interests of the community.

The most common responses relate to a perception that Council does not consult with the community, a perception that Council makes decisions in its interest rather than the community, or that it is "political" in some way.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with making decisions in the interests of the community less than 6

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
Community members not consulted	2
Doesn't take the feedback, recommendations from consultation seriously	2
Make their own decision /do what they want	2
Not enough / not seen much	2
They make decisions for minority over majority groups	2
Agendas	1
Because don't feel as a community member since compliance were not solved	1
Council only looks after developers	1
Gentrified decisions	1
Got rid of parking in train stations	1
I'm not sure how well they listen to us while making decisions	1
It's all about political votes	1
More email, flyers, mails should be provided about such things	1
Never response to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
Not enough communication	1
Not happy with selling of Preston Market	1
Represents unnecessary issues, doesn't make decisions that benefits most of the residents	1
Should care more about nature	1
Spend money on unnecessary infrastructure	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level. Council must address community needs over focusing on Federal level issues	1
The decisions made in the last 6 months are biased more politically sided	1
The issue of Northcote Golf course	1
They don't follow through	1
They take too long to make decisions on behalf of the community	1
To drive a community, it is about passion. They don't hear what the community really wants. 2019, poor parking policy	1
Very diverse community certain aspects emphasised to detriment of others such as Heidelberg bike lane	1
Very white - all white women in the Council, no access to job opportunities	1
Total	32



Lobbying and making representations on key issues

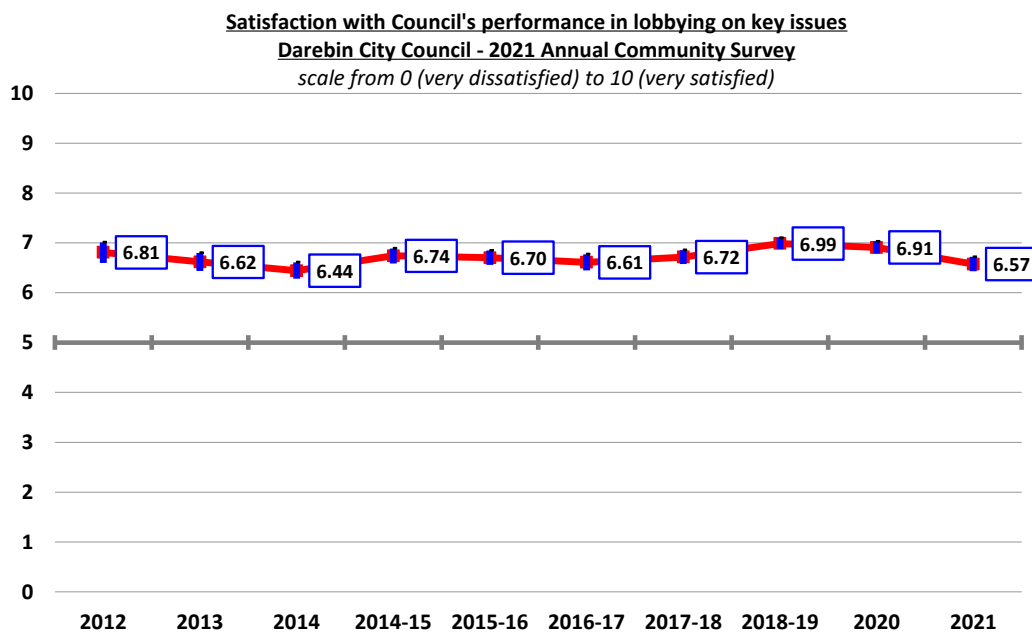
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in lobbying and making representations on key issues that affect the local community? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with Council’s performance in “lobbying and making representations on key issues that affect the local community” declined measurably this year, down 4.9% to 6.57, although it remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.

This result is now marginally but not measurably lower than the long-term average since 2012 of 6.71.

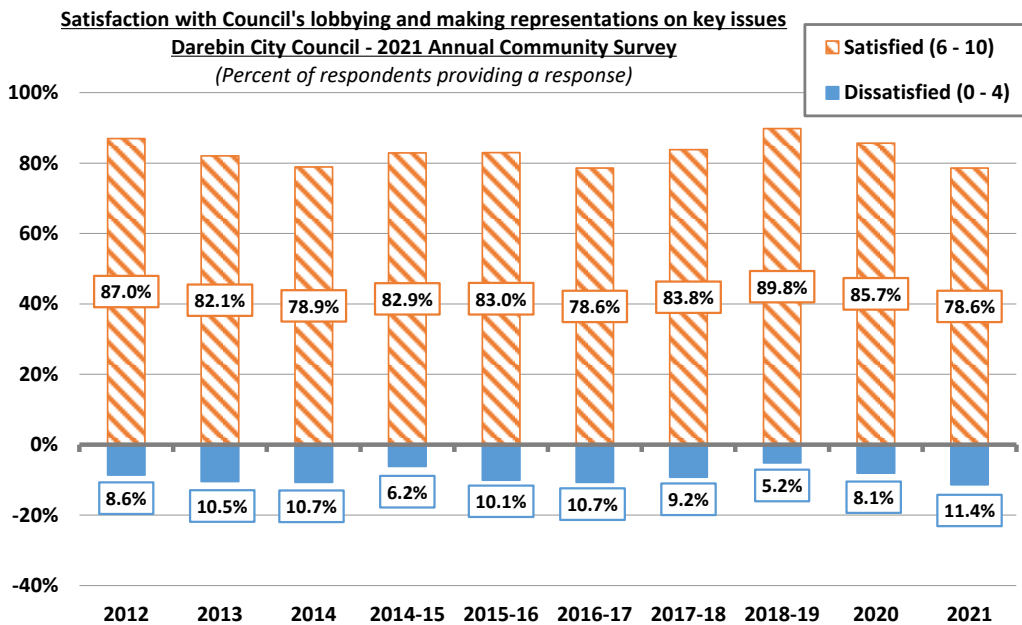
By way of comparison, this result was marginally but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.66 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research.



Consistent with the measurable decline in average satisfaction with Council’s performance lobbying on key issues, the proportion of respondents who were “satisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more) declined notably again this year, down from 85.7% to 78.6%.

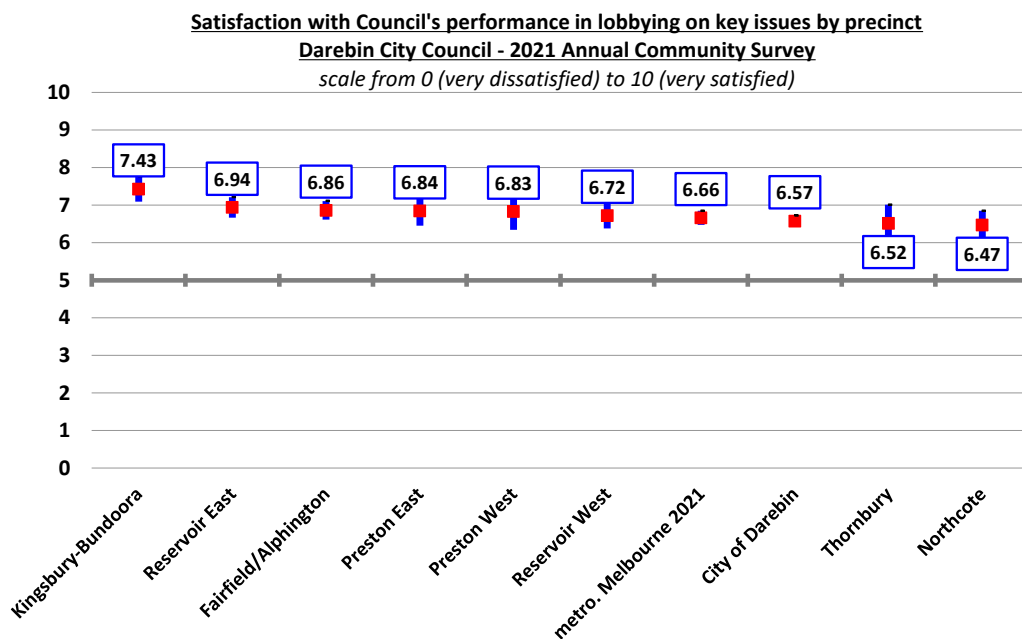
It is noted, however, that there was only a modest increase in the proportion of “dissatisfied” respondents (i.e., rated satisfaction at less than five), up from 8.1% to 11.4%.





There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council's performance lobbying on key issues observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level of satisfaction.
- **Northcote** – respondents were notably, but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at a “solid” rather than a “good” level.





There was also some notable variation in satisfaction with Council making decisions in the interests of the community observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), female respondents, private and public rental household respondents, and respondents who have lived in the City of Darebin for less than 10 years.
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes older adults (aged 60 to 74 years), male respondents, and mortgagee household respondents.

Satisfaction with Council's performance Council's performance making decisions in the interests of the community increased in three precincts and decreased in six, as follows:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora and Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Northcote, Thornbury, Preston West, Preston East, Reservoir East, and Reservoir West.

None of these variations in satisfaction at the precinct level were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.



Satisfaction with Council's performance in lobbying and making representation
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Lower</i>	<i>2021 Mean</i>	<i>Upper</i>
<i>Age</i>				
18 - 34 years	312	7.15	7.34	7.53
35 - 44 years	164	6.58	6.85	7.12
45 - 59 years	197	5.89	6.21	6.52
60 - 74 years	101	5.72	6.16	6.60
75 years and over	69	6.64	7.04	7.43
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	364	6.50	6.71	6.91
Mortgage	181	5.95	6.25	6.56
Renting this home	213	7.16	7.40	7.63
Renting from Office of Housing	14	7.43	8.13	8.83
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	12	6.93	7.95	8.97
One to less than five years	136	7.14	7.40	7.66
Five to less than ten years	168	6.98	7.26	7.55
Ten years or more	495	6.26	6.45	6.63
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	5	4.42	6.72	9.01
No	813	6.66	6.79	6.93
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	517	6.66	6.82	6.99
Multi-lingual	303	6.51	6.75	6.98
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	112	6.37	6.77	7.18
No	705	6.67	6.81	6.95
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	407	6.45	6.64	6.83
Female	436	6.79	6.97	7.16
City of Darebin	727	6.43	6.57	6.72

Satisfaction with Council's lobbying and making representations on key issues
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	60	6.61	7.02	7.43
	2017-18	94	6.83	7.19	7.56
	2018-19	94	6.88	7.20	7.53
	2020	47	6.80	7.29	7.78
	2021	86	7.09	7.43	7.76
Reservoir East	2016-17	69	6.79	7.20	7.62
	2017-18	97	6.34	6.70	7.06
	2018-19	92	6.62	6.95	7.27
	2020	114	6.70	7.01	7.32
	2021	152	6.66	6.94	7.21
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	82	6.00	6.45	6.91
	2017-18	106	6.45	6.79	7.14
	2018-19	93	6.78	7.08	7.37
	2020	55	6.30	6.78	7.27
	2021	64	6.61	6.86	7.11
Preston East	2016-17	76	5.52	5.95	6.38
	2017-18	99	6.46	6.80	7.14
	2018-19	88	6.26	6.64	7.01
	2020	74	6.64	7.03	7.43
	2021	103	6.45	6.84	7.23
Preston West	2016-17	71	5.64	6.18	6.73
	2017-18	80	6.06	6.49	6.92
	2018-19	77	6.34	6.74	7.14
	2020	109	6.78	7.04	7.31
	2021	93	6.34	6.83	7.32
Reservoir West	2016-17	90	6.21	6.63	7.06
	2017-18	97	6.38	6.76	7.15
	2018-19	108	6.81	7.10	7.39
	2020	146	6.40	6.75	7.10
	2021	138	6.38	6.72	7.07
Thornbury	2016-17	67	6.07	6.60	7.12
	2017-18	84	6.16	6.63	7.10
	2018-19	92	6.74	7.03	7.32
	2020	85	6.45	6.80	7.15
	2021	81	6.02	6.52	7.01
Northcote	2016-17	60	6.30	6.72	7.13
	2017-18	89	6.10	6.55	7.00
	2018-19	100	6.79	7.10	7.41
	2020	142	6.54	6.81	7.08
	2021	126	6.09	6.47	6.85

The following table outlines the reasons why the 156 respondents were not satisfied with Council's performance lobbying and making representations on key issues.

A range of issues were raised by individual respondents, as outlined in the table.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with lobbying and making representations on key issues less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
All self interest	1
Better consultation and engagement required	1
Can enhance more communication with residents such as local papers every fortnight	1
Doesn't take the feedback, recommendations from consultation seriously	1
Don't represent much of community more than the Councils own	1
Don't think it is Council's place to talk about politics	1
I have been contacting for a few times and still haven't resolved any of the parking issues around train stations and streets like Bastings St	1
Just hear from wife	1
Lack of communication or information on local papers, elderly cannot access online information	1
Never respond to the complaints that is being made and have numerous issues that haven't been solved	1
Not enough communication	1
Not paying attention to issues affecting disabled, elderly community	1
Not really policy to solve problems i.e., refugees	1
Not seen much	1
Not too effective in the outcomes	1
Overstepping the bounds of what is appropriate for local government	1
Represents unnecessary issues	1
Spends too much time and effort in addressing issues which are national level. Council must address community needs over focusing on Federal level issues	1
There is a big problem with road safety between Darebin and Moreland Council on Elizabeth St. It is right on border and kids living there must cross that street which doesn't have pedestrian crossing right near Coburg cemetery	1
There is *swear word removed* going on Council	1
They don't follow through	1
Total	21



Council services and facilities

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale from zero (lowest) to 10 (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with each service / facility?”

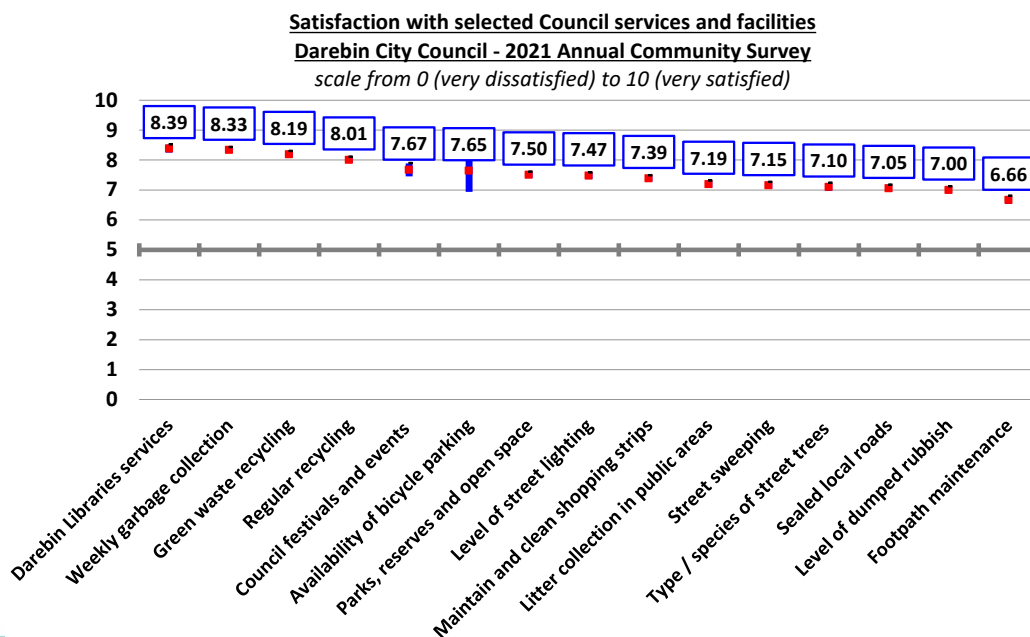
There were 15 Council provided services and facilities included in the 2021 survey.

The average satisfaction with these 15 services and facilities was 7.52, or a “very good” level of satisfaction in 2021, almost identical to the 7.53 recorded last year.

By way of comparison, 12 of these 15 services and facilities were included in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021. The average satisfaction with these 12 services and facilities was 7.58 in the City of Darebin, which was 2.5% lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.77 or “excellent”.

Satisfaction with these 15 services and facilities can best be summarised as follows:

- **Excellent** – for the Darebin Library services, weekly garbage collection, green waste recycling, and regular recycling.
- **Very Good** – for Council festivals and events, availability of bicycle parking, parks, reserves and open spaces, level of street lighting, and the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips.
- **Good** – for litter collection in public spaces, street sweeping, type / species of street trees, the condition of sealed local roads, the level of dumped rubbish, and footpath maintenance and repairs.





Metropolis Research notes that the average satisfaction with the 14 of the 15 included Council services and facilities was higher than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance (6.91).

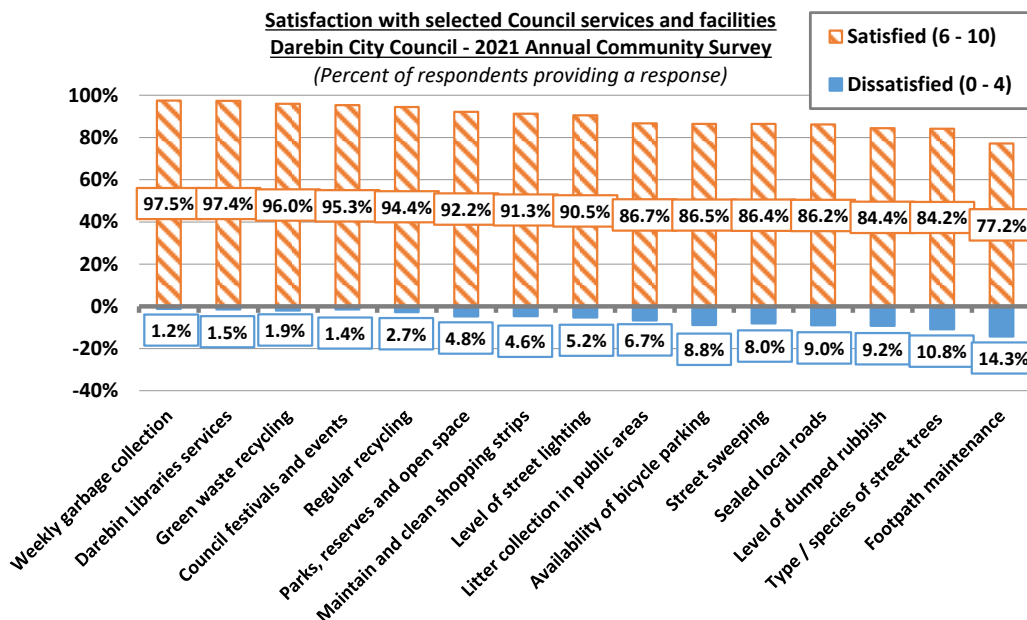
Darebin Library services, weekly garbage collection, green waste recycling, Council’s festivals and events, the availability of bicycle parking, the maintenance of parks, reserves, and open spaces, the level of street lighting, the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, litter collection in public areas, and street sweeping all recorded measurably higher satisfaction than satisfaction with overall performance.

This is an important finding, as it makes clear that, on average, the included services and facilities were not a negative influence on community satisfaction with the performance of Darebin City Council.

Only footpath maintenance and repairs (6.66) recorded an average satisfaction score lower than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance (6.91).

More than four-fifths of respondents providing a satisfaction score were “satisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more) with 14 of the 15 included services and facilities, whilst less than 11% were “dissatisfied” (rated satisfaction at less than five).

Footpath maintenance and repairs reported a slightly lower proportion of satisfied respondents (77.2%) and a slightly higher proportion of dissatisfied respondents (14.3%).



As outlined at the left of the following main table, the Darebin Library Services and the three core kerbside collection services all reported average satisfaction scores measurably higher than the average of all services and facilities (7.52).



There were six services and facilities to record average satisfaction scores lower than the average of all services and facilities: litter collection in public areas, street sweeping, the type / species of street trees, the condition of sealed local roads, the level of dumped rubbish, and footpath maintenance and repairs.

Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score scale 0 - 10)

	Service/facility	Number	2021			2020	2018-19	2017-18	2021 Metro.*
			Lower	Mean	Upper				
Higher than average	Darebin Libraries services	392	8.25	8.39	8.52	8.26	8.46	8.36	8.58
	Weekly garbage collection	988	8.24	8.33	8.42	8.58	8.25	8.43	8.52
	Green waste recycling	737	8.08	8.19	8.30	8.04	8.26	8.19	7.96
Average satisfaction	Regular recycling	972	7.91	8.01	8.10	8.14	7.95	8.02	8.32
	Council festivals and events	159	7.45	7.67	7.89	7.43	7.93	7.97	7.68
	The availability of bicycle parking	268	6.94	7.65	8.35	7.10	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
	Maintenance of parks, reserves, open space	971	7.40	7.50	7.61	7.58	7.47	7.43	8.01
	The level of street lighting	978	7.37	7.47	7.58	7.37	7.29	7.11	7.72
Lower than average satisfaction	Maintenance & cleaning of shopping strips	959	7.29	7.39	7.48	7.62	7.36	7.22	7.56
	Litter collection in public areas	934	7.08	7.19	7.31	7.49	7.38	7.06	n.a.
	Street sweeping	959	7.04	7.15	7.27	7.16	7.21	7.07	7.49
	The type / species of street trees	959	6.97	7.10	7.23	7.05	n.a.	n.a.	7.40
	The condition of sealed local roads	989	6.93	7.05	7.17	7.24	7.15	6.99	7.05
	The level of dumped rubbish	956	6.88	7.00	7.12	6.93	7.23	6.89	n.a.
	Footpath maintenance and repairs	986	6.53	6.66	6.80	6.96	7.03	6.86	7.00
<i>Average satisfaction with Council services</i>			7.36	7.52	7.68	7.53	7.53	7.41	7.77

(*2021 metropolitan Melbourne average from Governing Melbourne)

Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Service / facility	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say	Total
Weekly garbage collection	1.2%	1.3%	97.5%	12	1,000
Darebin Libraries services	1.5%	1.0%	97.4%	0	392
Green waste recycling	1.9%	2.1%	96.0%	3	740
Council festivals and events	1.4%	3.3%	95.3%	0	160
Regular recycling	2.7%	2.9%	94.4%	28	1,000
Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space	4.8%	3.0%	92.2%	29	1,000
Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips	4.6%	4.1%	91.3%	41	1,000
The level of street lighting	5.2%	4.3%	90.5%	22	1,000
Litter collection in public areas	6.7%	6.6%	86.7%	66	1,000
The availability of bicycle parking	8.8%	4.7%	86.5%	1	268
Street sweeping	8.0%	5.7%	86.4%	41	1,000
The condition of sealed local roads	9.0%	4.8%	86.2%	11	1,000
The level of dumped rubbish	9.2%	6.3%	84.4%	44	1,000
The type / species of street trees	10.8%	4.9%	84.2%	41	1,000
Footpath maintenance and repairs	14.3%	8.5%	77.2%	14	1,000



Condition of sealed local roads

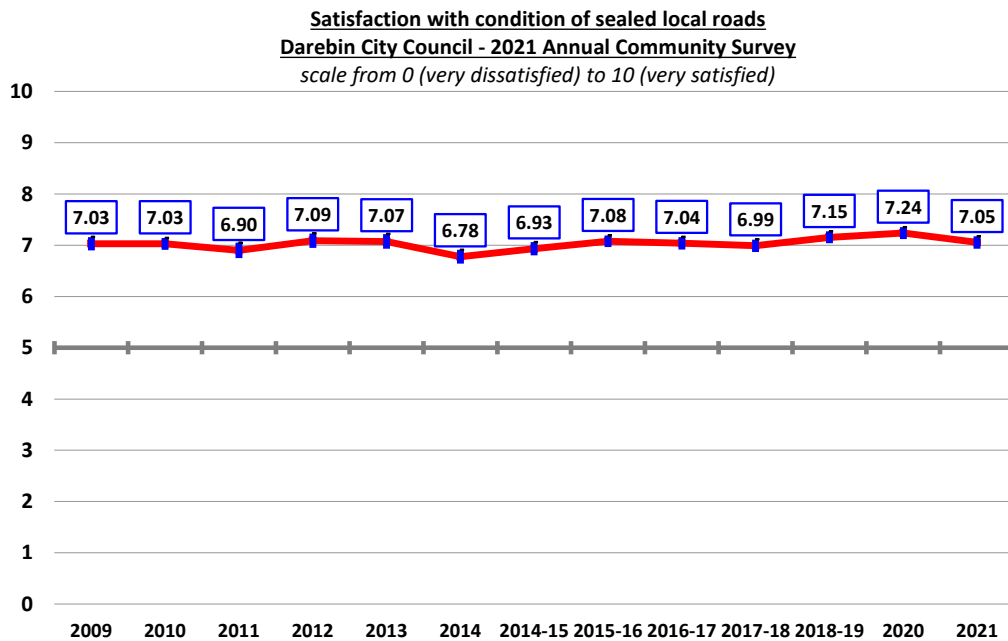
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads? If rated less than 6, are there any roads of concern?”

Satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads declined notably but not measurably this year, down 2.6% to 7.05, although it remains at a “good” level.

This result is almost identical to the long-term average since 2009 of 7.03.

By way of comparison, this result was identical to the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.05 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

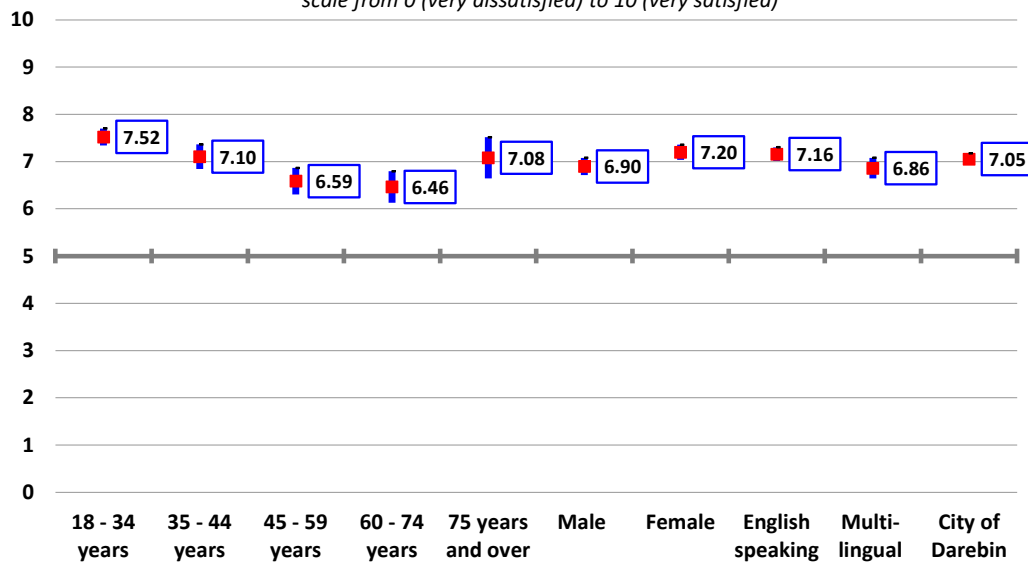


There was notable variation in satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), female respondents, and respondents from English speaking households.
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years), male respondents, and respondents from multi-lingual households.



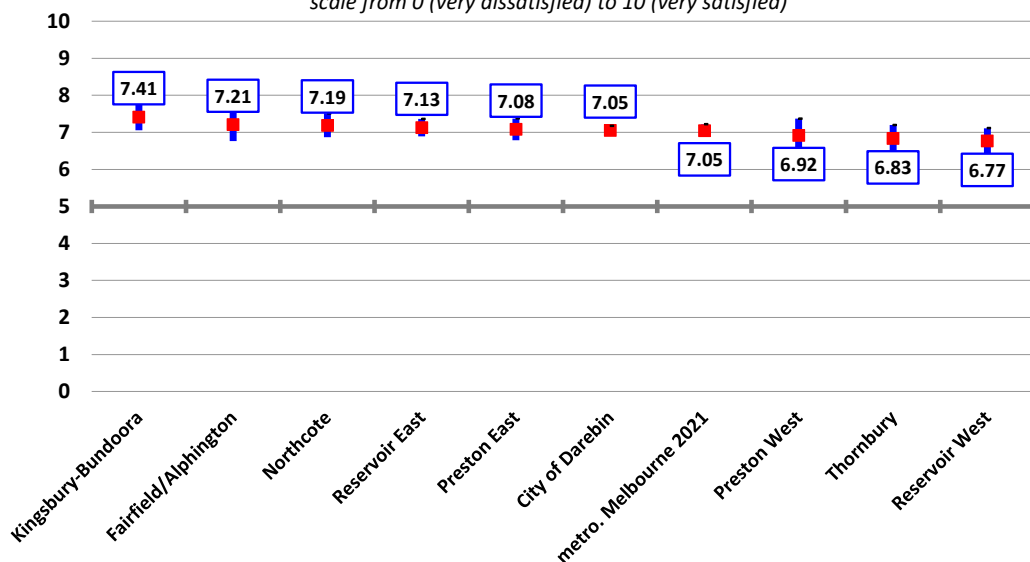
Satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads observed across the municipality, although the following is noted:

- Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level.

Satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads increased in one precinct and declined in seven, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- Increased satisfaction** – in Reservoir East.



- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Fairfield/Alphington, Northcote, Preston East, Preston West, Thornbury, and Reservoir West.

Satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	123	6.72	7.07	7.43
	2017-18	121	7.01	7.35	7.68
	2018-19	122	7.15	7.42	7.69
	2020	72	6.97	7.42	7.88
	2021	95	7.05	7.41	7.78
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	122	6.89	7.16	7.42
	2017-18	123	6.96	7.25	7.54
	2018-19	125	6.71	7.06	7.40
	2020	62	7.16	7.58	8.00
	2021	72	6.77	7.21	7.65
Northcote	2016-17	122	6.66	6.98	7.31
	2017-18	123	6.37	6.69	7.01
	2018-19	121	6.49	6.87	7.25
	2020	174	7.06	7.33	7.60
	2021	147	6.87	7.19	7.51
Reservoir East	2016-17	123	7.01	7.33	7.64
	2017-18	125	6.69	7.02	7.35
	2018-19	127	6.86	7.20	7.54
	2020	151	6.68	7.01	7.34
	2021	191	6.89	7.13	7.36
Preston East	2016-17	120	6.51	6.89	7.27
	2017-18	122	6.90	7.25	7.61
	2018-19	124	6.82	7.15	7.49
	2020	94	6.92	7.27	7.62
	2021	115	6.79	7.08	7.37
Preston West	2016-17	123	6.50	6.88	7.26
	2017-18	123	6.85	7.19	7.52
	2018-19	120	6.49	6.88	7.26
	2020	134	6.92	7.21	7.50
	2021	109	6.47	6.92	7.37
Thornbury	2016-17	121	6.53	6.90	7.27
	2017-18	119	6.22	6.66	7.10
	2018-19	123	6.91	7.20	7.48
	2020	116	6.90	7.20	7.51
	2021	97	6.47	6.83	7.20
Reservoir West	2016-17	127	6.72	7.06	7.39
	2017-18	126	6.60	6.92	7.24
	2018-19	122	7.21	7.47	7.72
	2020	174	6.88	7.16	7.44
	2021	164	6.42	6.77	7.11



The following table outlines the reasons why the 136 respondents were not satisfied with the condition of sealed local roads.

The most common reasons relate to a perception that there are a lot of potholes or that the roads are uneven or bumpy, or generally in poor condition.

It is noted, however, that several respondents referred to other issues not directly related to the condition of the road, such as traffic management issues, road network design, the use or non-use of bicycle lanes, and a range of other issues.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads less than 6 and roads of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
A lot of potholes on the roads	11
Bumpy / uneven roads	3
General roads in area are not good / poor	3
Very bad condition	3
Constructions	2
In general, maintenance lacking / poor	2
Lots of roads need repair / work	2
Lots of sidewalks and roads have potholes	2
The roads are patched and not replaced	2
Generally, lots of bad roads	2
Bike lane surfaces are bad and uneven	1
In general, more obstruction in the street	1
Lack of car spots	1
Laneways are cracked potholes. Especially near high-rise buildings	1
Major resurfacing needed in multiple places	1
Mismanaging of bike lanes	1
New traffic magazines are causing congestion and confusion	1
Poor, drainage	1
Roads are cracked, most streets	1
Roads have potholes, not suited for bikers	1
Speed limits too low,	1
The drains get blocked out with leaves and they are overflowing	1
The streets are horrendous, too many cracks	1
They are making streets smaller	1
Too many road works	1
Traffic management must be done	1

Specific sites

Better maintenance required, potholes, uneven surfaces, all over Reservoir	2
High St, Northcote	2
Poor quality roads around Regent, potholes	2
Potholes on Botha Ave	2
All the roads are very patchy around Herbert St and Hawthorn Rd	1
Bastings St	1
Bell St has a lot of potholes	1
Better maintenance required around King William St and High St	1
Bicycle path on Heidelberg Rd is bad	1
Cheddar Rd and the side streets around it are very bad	1
Corners Beavers St and Hebert St engineering management to put in traffic management	1
Drain caught up due to leaves and rubbish at Henry St and Cheddar Rd	1
Gilbert St with heavy traffic and many streets are blocked. Bike lanes are not used	1
Gnome St, Christmas St	1
High Street has lot of potholes	1
High street near Preston between Murray Rd and Cranmer St is bad	1
Horribly designed road near Thornbury train station	1
Kelsby St has cracked driveways	1
Kilmore Ave, the road is cracked up	1
Lots of bumps and potholes near Northcote Plaza	1
Lots of traffic and Grites Rd and Soldrers Rd	1
McGregor St is a dirt road at the end	1
McGregor street is just the worst. Not repaired. Always work going on. Unsafe, unrepaired, and just bad	1
Narrowed the roads on the streets along the railway between Thornbury and Croxton station	1
North Road, Cheddar Road need maintenance	1
Not clean, ugly, Percival Street	1
Not maintained at all, Mansfield Street	1
Not satisfied High St	1
Pedestrian crossing along Darebin St and High St	1
Poor maintenance on Seymour St	1
Poorly maintained across Fairfield	1
Potholes and uneven surfaces on and around Separation Street and off roads	1
Potholes down Carol St	1
Potholes near St Georges Rd close to bus stop near Melbourne Polytechnic College	1
Potholes on and around Pender St	1
Potholes, speed humps are too low or high - along Hughes Pde	1
Roads need resurfacing, bumpy road in Spring St	1
Roadwork at Polbre Pde, cannot cross the road	1
Rossmoyne St needs more maintenance	1
Shand Rd is not maintained	1
Spring St is all full of puddles. Gilbert Rd was flooded recently when rains. Very poor maintenance	1
Station St area is bad	1





Station St needs to be resurfaced	1
The closure on Herbert St blocks the turns into the nearby streets which is troublesome and time consuming	1
The pavements are terrible specially Westgarth St and they do crappy job in maintaining them	1
There are too many potholes on High St	1
Too many potholes, unsafe intersection near Albert St	1
Traffic congestion on High St	1
Wilmoth St has potholes, and not repaired	1
Total	101

Maintenance of parks, reserves, and the open space areas

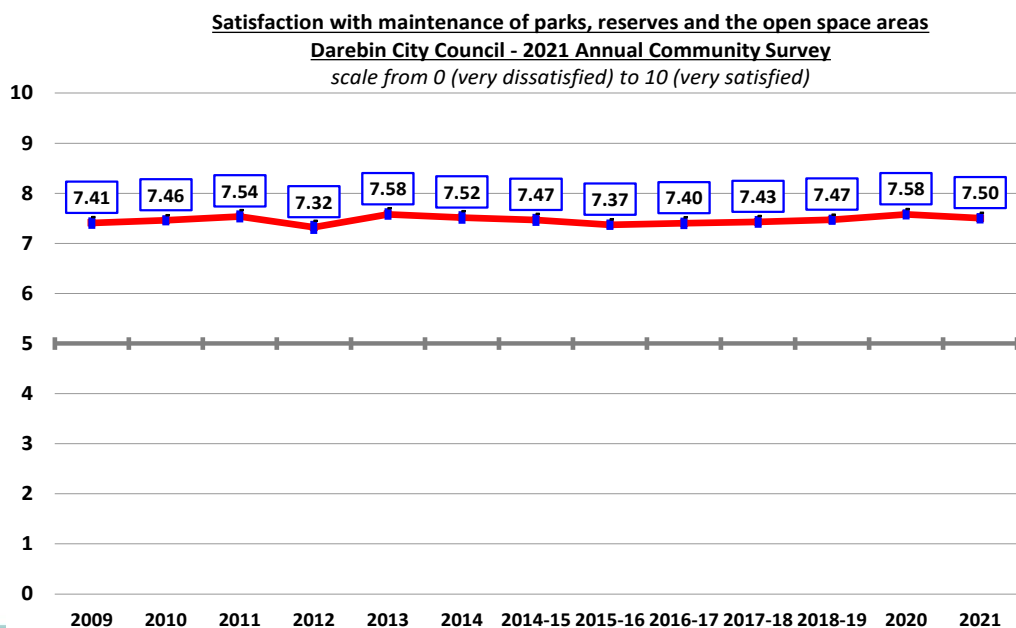
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves and the open space areas? If rated less than 6, are there any specific open spaces of concern?”

Satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves, and the open space areas declined marginally but not measurably this year, down 1.1% to 7.50, although it remains at a “very good” level.

This result is marginally above the long-term average since 2009 of 7.46.

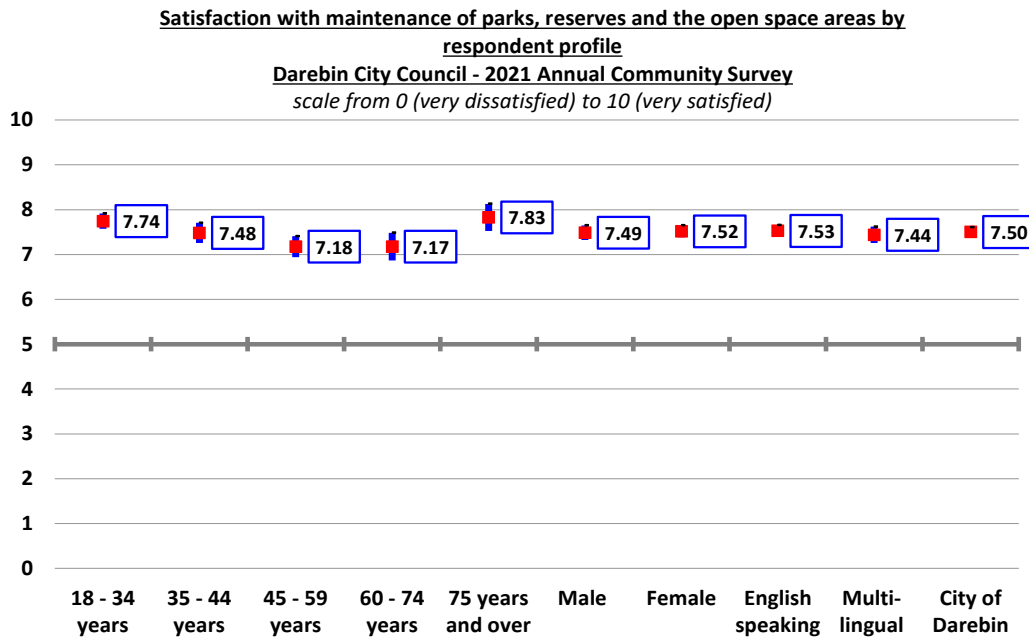
By way of comparison, this result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction with “the provision and maintenance of parks, gardens, and open spaces” of 8.01 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.





There was notable variation in satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves, and the open space areas observed by respondent profile, as follows:

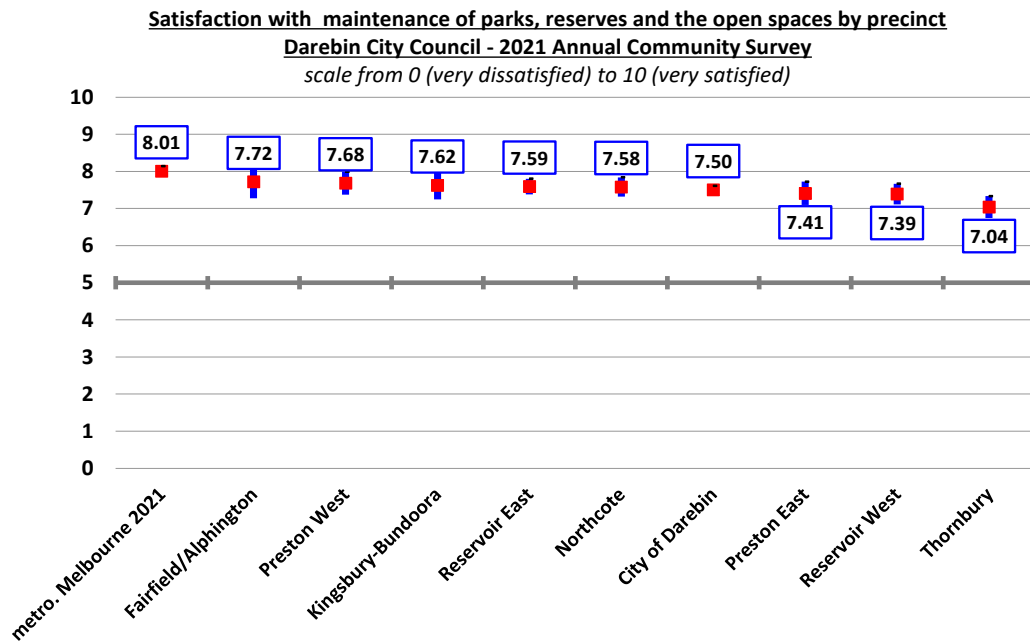
- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years).



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Thornbury** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at a “good” rather than a “very good” level.





Satisfaction with these facilities increased in two precincts and declined in six, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston West and Reservoir East.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Preston East, Reservoir West, and Thornbury.





Satisfaction with maintenance of parks, reserves and open spaces
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	118	6.95	7.29	7.63
	2017-18	119	7.45	7.71	7.98
	2018-19	123	7.30	7.58	7.86
	2020	63	7.59	7.92	8.25
	2021	70	7.28	7.72	8.16
Preston West	2016-17	119	6.78	7.14	7.51
	2017-18	122	7.03	7.37	7.71
	2018-19	119	7.15	7.43	7.71
	2020	135	7.12	7.33	7.55
	2021	105	7.38	7.68	7.99
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	120	7.41	7.68	7.96
	2017-18	117	7.43	7.74	8.06
	2018-19	121	7.41	7.63	7.85
	2020	73	7.45	7.91	8.37
	2021	95	7.24	7.62	8.00
Reservoir East	2016-17	116	7.00	7.39	7.78
	2017-18	118	7.24	7.50	7.76
	2018-19	123	7.30	7.59	7.87
	2020	149	6.93	7.24	7.55
	2021	183	7.38	7.59	7.80
Northcote	2016-17	122	7.28	7.54	7.80
	2017-18	121	6.74	7.12	7.49
	2018-19	120	7.22	7.53	7.84
	2020	174	7.59	7.81	8.04
	2021	143	7.32	7.58	7.84
Preston East	2016-17	116	6.69	7.06	7.44
	2017-18	113	7.22	7.56	7.89
	2018-19	118	6.53	6.89	7.25
	2020	88	7.51	7.78	8.05
	2021	116	7.09	7.41	7.72
Reservoir West	2016-17	126	7.18	7.48	7.79
	2017-18	121	6.93	7.28	7.63
	2018-19	118	7.21	7.46	7.71
	2020	171	7.25	7.53	7.82
	2021	163	7.11	7.39	7.67
Thornbury	2016-17	118	7.25	7.53	7.82
	2017-18	117	7.23	7.56	7.88
	2018-19	121	7.43	7.67	7.91
	2020	116	7.19	7.47	7.75
	2021	97	6.74	7.04	7.33



The following table outlines the reasons why the 76 respondents were not satisfied with the maintenance of parks, reserves, and the open spaces.

The most common reasons why respondents were not satisfied with the maintenance of the parks, reserves, and open spaces related to the cutting of grass.

It is noted that a range of other reasons were provided, including issues with dogs, overflowing bins in parks, cleanliness, and assorted other issues.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with maintenance of parks less than 6 and open spaces of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Cut the grass more often	3
The local park has a lot of rubbish / litter	2
Maintenance and cleaning not enough	2
Dogs should not be allowed to be in sports fields	1
Don't look after them	1
Fencing around the playground is not complete	1
Grass too long, especially during COVID	1
Grass too tall near the lake	1
Just don't like it	1
Lot of holes in the nature strips	1
Nature strips have rubbish on them	1
Not enough big trees in the area	1
Not safe for children because grass too high	1
Overflowing bins are not emptied in time	1
Parks look dry sometime	1
Poor maintenance. Never have inspections	1
Public toilets are terrible	1
Shades are not good enough	1
Syringes are there sometimes	1
The Council doesn't clean the public areas well. There are leaves and leftover garbage found on the paths	1
The roundabouts and parks are covered with leaves and poorly maintained	1
Theme parks are overflowing	1
There is no park lighting	1
There are no rubbish bins to dispose waste	1
Too many gum trees	1
Weeds are higher than plants	1



Specific parks

All Nations Park, not maintained at all	2
All Nations Park dog are off leash	1
Better maintenance and rubbish collection required after sporting events at Ruthven Park	1
Bundoora Park grass very long	1
Graffiti issues in Batman Park	1
Grass is too long near train station	1
Improvements and upgradation required in All Nations Park	1
John Cain Memorial Park	1
Lot of rubbish dumped near Zwar Park; more bins needed in public parks	1
Merri Creek Trail	1
Never has been watered, Woodstreet Park	1
No barrier for the lake, Edwardes Lake Park	1
Northcote public golf course - demolishing should be allowed	1
Park on Emerald St doesn't have any public toilets	1
Parking issues around the Ruthven Park	1
Parkside in Alphington - sporting ground was not repaired properly	1
Poor maintenance of reserve on Gresswel Rd	1
Rubbish in Batman Park	1
Tambo Ave big trees around	1
Too many weeds on Adam's Reserve and many other parks	1
Very poorly upgraded- park near Maryland community centre	1
Weed in Batman Park	1
Weed management required Frost Court Park	1
Total	54

Footpath maintenance and repairs

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs? If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?”

Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs declined measurably this year, down 4.3% to 6.66, although it remains at a “good” level.

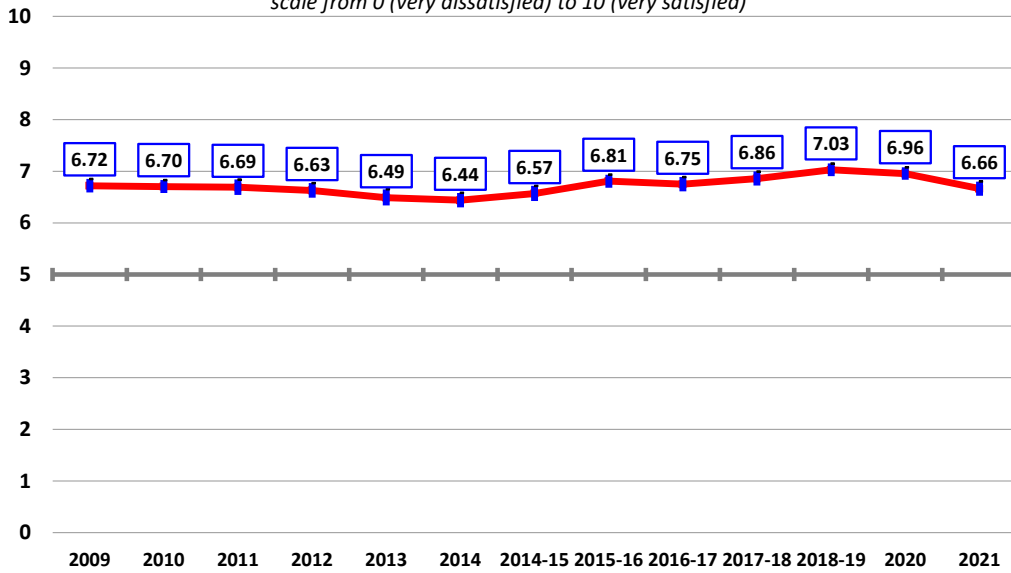
This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2009 of 6.72.

By way of comparison, this result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.00 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.





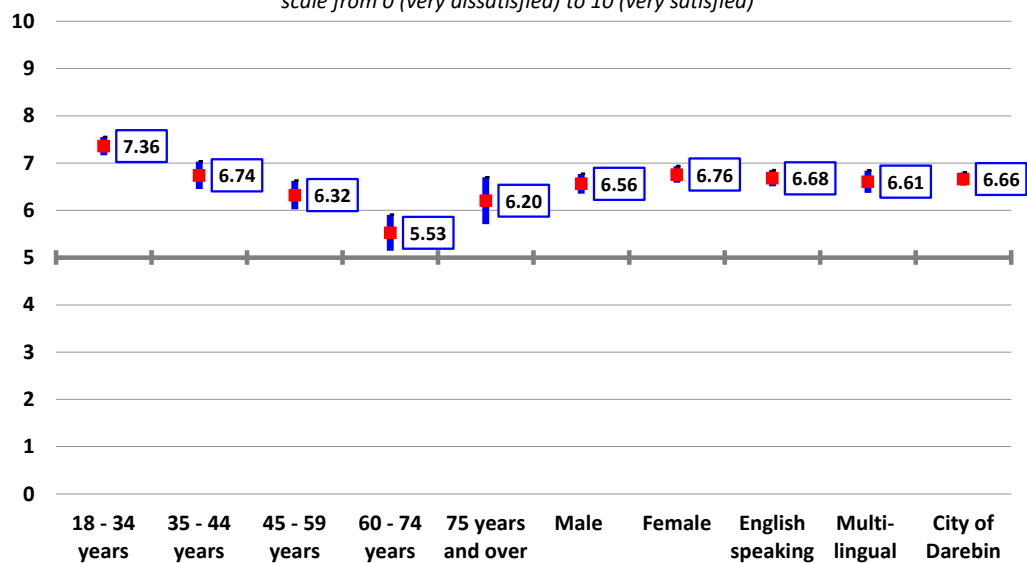
Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was notable variation in satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads observed by respondent profile, as follows:

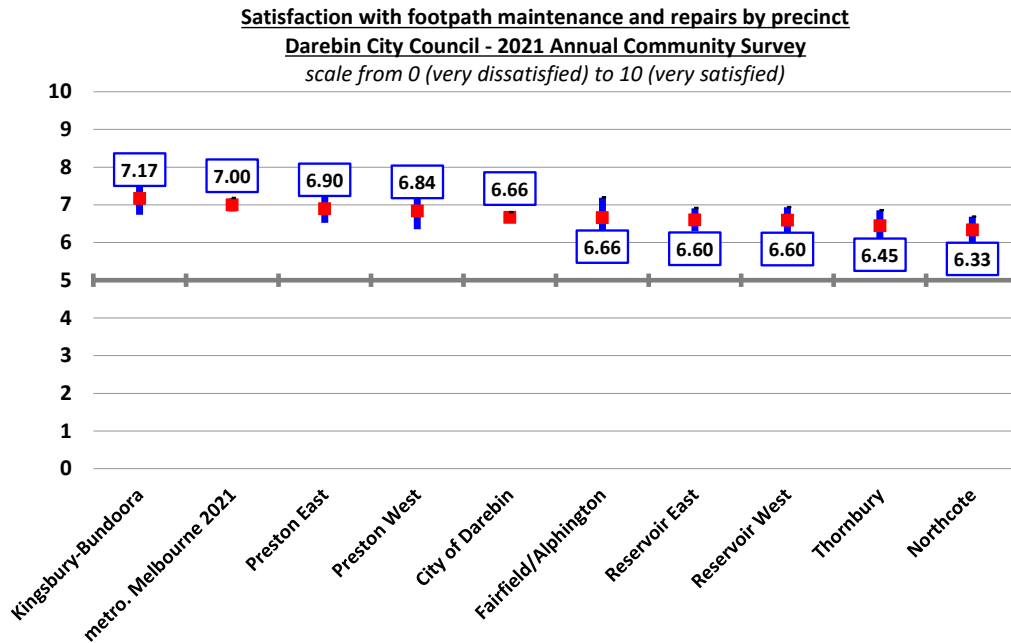
- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years).

Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repair by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction footpath maintenance and repairs observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.



Satisfaction with these facilities increased in one precinct and declined in seven, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston West.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Preston East, Reservoir East, Reservoir West, and Thornbury.



Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repair
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	120	6.19	6.63	7.08
	2017-18	123	6.91	7.21	7.51
	2018-19	123	6.75	7.10	7.45
	2020	75	6.79	7.26	7.73
	2021	94	6.74	7.17	7.59
Preston East	2016-17	114	6.32	6.75	7.17
	2017-18	121	6.44	6.85	7.26
	2018-19	123	6.21	6.59	6.98
	2020	92	6.55	6.93	7.32
	2021	115	6.52	6.90	7.27
Preston West	2016-17	122	6.24	6.61	6.98
	2017-18	118	6.68	7.07	7.45
	2018-19	122	6.62	6.98	7.35
	2020	137	6.31	6.60	6.88
	2021	105	6.36	6.84	7.32
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	121	6.03	6.41	6.79
	2017-18	123	6.53	6.89	7.26
	2018-19	125	6.37	6.77	7.17
	2020	61	6.48	6.98	7.48
	2021	72	6.13	6.66	7.19
Reservoir East	2016-17	124	6.62	7.02	7.43
	2017-18	123	6.73	7.08	7.43
	2018-19	126	6.70	7.06	7.41
	2020	151	6.48	6.80	7.13
	2021	190	6.30	6.60	6.91
Reservoir West	2016-17	126	6.62	7.00	7.38
	2017-18	128	6.36	6.78	7.20
	2018-19	125	7.16	7.43	7.71
	2020	175	6.75	7.06	7.36
	2021	165	6.26	6.60	6.93
Thornbury	2016-17	120	6.23	6.63	7.02
	2017-18	120	6.51	6.92	7.32
	2018-19	120	6.66	7.01	7.36
	2020	117	6.58	6.92	7.26
	2021	98	6.04	6.45	6.85
Northcote	2016-17	121	6.21	6.58	6.95
	2017-18	122	5.97	6.37	6.76
	2018-19	124	6.65	7.02	7.38
	2020	175	6.87	7.16	7.46
	2021	147	5.98	6.33	6.69

The following table outlines the reasons why the 224 respondents were not satisfied with footpath maintenance and repairs.

The most common reasons why respondents were not satisfied were the perception of uneven footpaths, a perceived lack of repairs, cracks, and the perception of poor maintenance.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with footpath maintenance less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Uneven	26
Not repaired / needs repairs	10
Cracks	9
Very poorly maintained	8
Trees are uprooting concrete	6
Always dirty	3
Condition in some areas is very bad	3
Lot of broken paths	3
Lot of trip hazards	3
Bumpy footpaths	2
Cracks and prone to accidents	2
Damaged footpaths	2
Uneven footpaths, not safe for elderly	2
Average	1
Bumpy for kids and adults. People are constantly tripping while walking	1
Council too slow to fix road	1
Dangerous for old people, concrete breaking	1
Dirty and black tar, kerb broken	1
General issues	1
Lot of uneven ground not safe for elderly people	1
Maintenance required	1
Obstacles present on the footpath constantly result in people tripping	1
Pedestrians prioritized lower than cars, so roads are in much better condition	1
Rubbish on streets	1
Sidewalk old and rusting away, no street signs	1
Some need work on them, also residents need to trim trees obstructing the footpaths in front of their homes	1
Takes too long to repair	1
The crossing of temporary path was dangerous	1
The flowers fallen on the path are slippery. People tend to step on them and slip	1
The footpath is not levelled	1
The laneways especially have a lot of garbage and syringes lying around	1
They are not disabled friendly	1
They have cracks in them and could result in people tripping	1
Too many humps on road	1

Tree roots in between the footpath which often results in minor accidents	1
Uneven footpath near school	1
Very poor quality	1

Specific locations

15 Latham St, Northcote	1
Because there is repair in front and concrete split Cooper St	1
Better maintenance required on Helen St	1
Between Bridge and Charles St uneven	1
Bridge St	1
Cheddar Rd	1
Christmas St, lots of tree debris, lots of elderly people for whom it is dangerous	1
Collier St has uneven footpath	1
Cooper St footpaths	1
Cracks, uneven footpaths near Arthur St	1
Dally St, Northcote	1
Darebin Blvd needs a footpath	1
Footpaths have cracks Mount Copper Estate Bundoora	1
Footpaths full of tar, Wilson Blvd	1
Footpath's maintenance required near Basting St, Northcote East	1
Footpaths on Shand Rd is not maintained	1
Gertz Ave has damaged driveways	1
Gillibrand Cres	1
Harker St has uneven footpath	1
Huge potholes on St Vigeons Rd	1
Kelsby St has uneven footpath	1
Kilmore Ave the footpaths is bad	1
Lacks regular maintenance on St Georges Rd	1
Loddon Ave has cracked driveway	1
Macintosh St	1
Main St Northcote	1
Mismatched, uneven, and chunks of concrete coming out of the footpaths in Latham St	1
Mount Cooper Estate work is poor standard	1
Murry Rd is uneven	1
Neighbour house under construction for years, at Wilmoth St	1
Northcote Plaza car parks	1
Orrong Ave has too many bumps	1
Parts of Northcote are dangerous	1
Poor maintenance, Seymour St	1
Station St area is worst	1
Streets in Northcote that border Fairfield	1
The footpaths are cracked around Lawley St	1
Trees cover footpaths, adults can trip over, and Council is doing nothing. Palm St, Alphington	1
Trees overhanging on Emmeline St hazardous	1
Uneven footpath on High St	1
Uneven footpaths around St Mary's Primary School	1
Uneven footpaths in Reservoir	1

Uneven footpaths in Tobin Ave	1
Uneven footpaths on Fairlie St	1
Uneven footpaths, better maintenance required, uncomfortable to walk on Queen St	1
Uneven in Fairfield	1
Uneven surfaces, trees growing through footpaths around Home St	1
Uneven, cracked, elderly people would trip over - along Hughes Pde	1
Uneven, cement has come out. All around Thornbury	1
Unlevelled and cracked footpaths on Roseberry Ave	1
Unsafe area in Railway Place	1
Very dangerous Clyde St	1
Victoria Rd footpaths are covered with tree fruits fallen with people tripping and injuring themselves	1
Westbourne Grv	1
Whitelaw St	1
Wood St not flat	1
Total	159

Weekly garbage collection

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

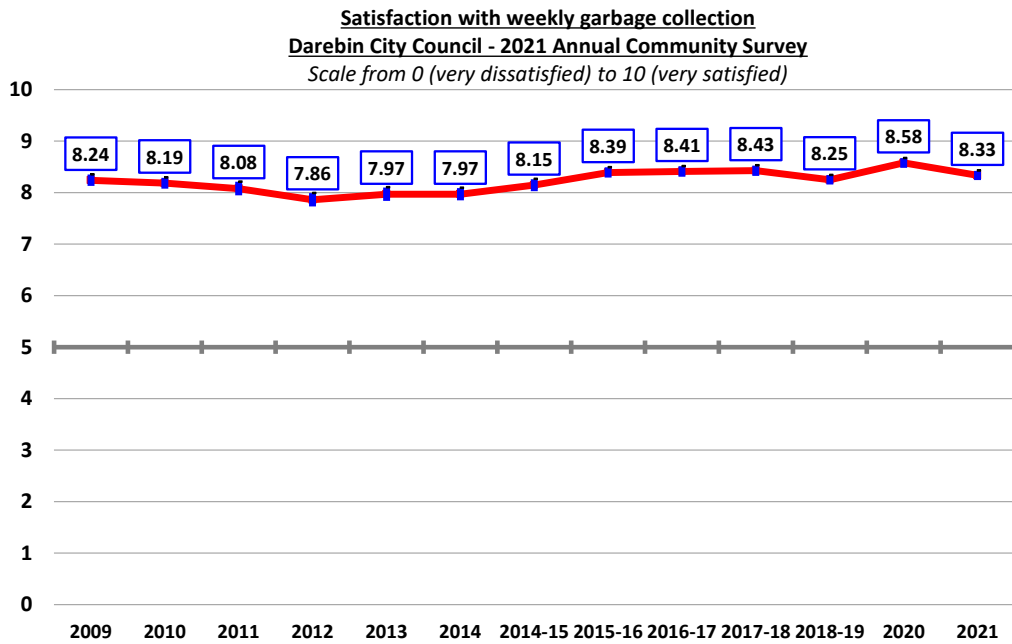
Satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection declined measurably this year, down 2.9% to 8.33, although it remains at an “excellent” level.

This result is marginally above the long-term average since 2009 of 8.22.

By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 8.52 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

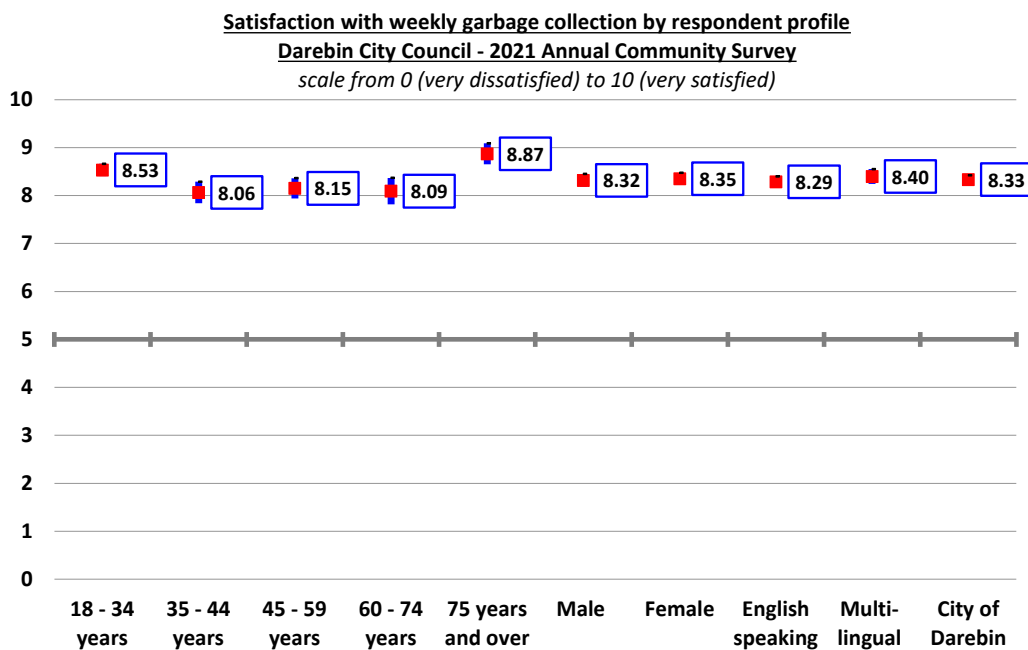
Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with the regular garbage collection services has been somewhat volatile across metropolitan Melbourne in recent years, as councils are progressively moving from a three-bin to a four-bin or similar service, which has affected satisfaction in some councils.





There was notable variation in satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection observed by respondent profile, as follows:

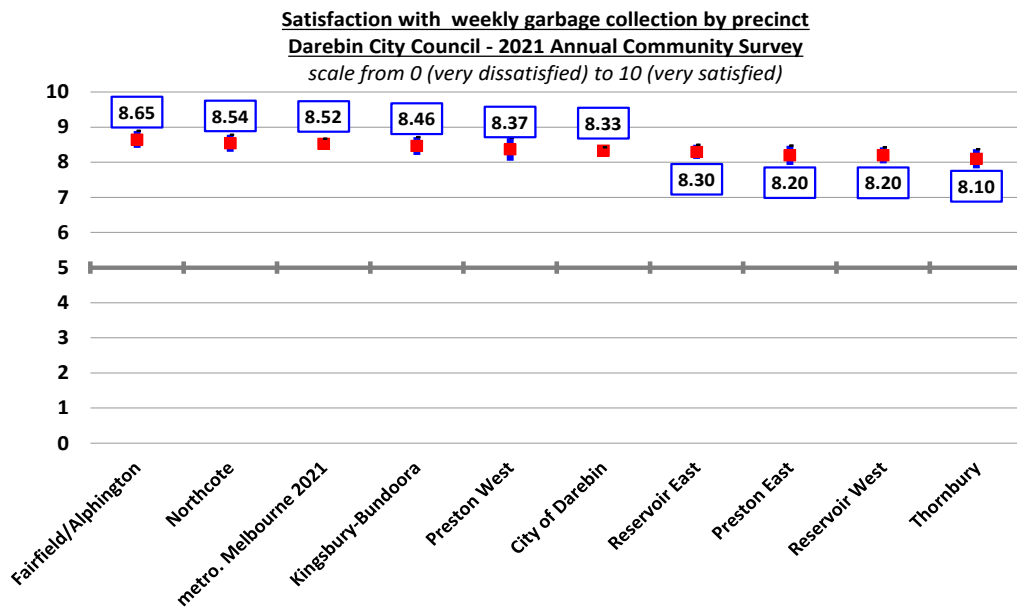
- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) and senior citizens (aged 75 years and over).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes adults (aged 35 to 44 years).





There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Fairfield/Alphington** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the average.
- **Reservoir West and Thornbury** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than the average.



Satisfaction with this service increased in one precinct and declined in seven, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston West.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Preston East, Reservoir West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.



Satisfaction with weekly garbage collection
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	122	8.03	8.28	8.53
	2017-18	121	8.27	8.50	8.72
	2018-19	124	8.14	8.36	8.59
	2020	59	8.49	8.78	9.06
	2021	72	8.41	8.65	8.89
Northcote	2016-17	124	8.17	8.44	8.72
	2017-18	123	7.87	8.18	8.48
	2018-19	123	7.89	8.20	8.51
	2020	173	8.47	8.70	8.94
	2021	147	8.30	8.54	8.78
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	124	8.14	8.40	8.67
	2017-18	122	8.52	8.74	8.96
	2018-19	123	8.12	8.37	8.61
	2020	75	8.33	8.66	8.99
	2021	95	8.21	8.46	8.72
Preston West	2016-17	123	7.86	8.15	8.44
	2017-18	124	8.32	8.58	8.84
	2018-19	123	7.78	8.07	8.36
	2020	135	7.95	8.20	8.46
	2021	107	8.05	8.37	8.69
Reservoir East	2016-17	127	8.35	8.62	8.90
	2017-18	127	7.84	8.16	8.48
	2018-19	126	8.21	8.45	8.70
	2020	152	8.45	8.69	8.94
	2021	191	8.09	8.30	8.50
Preston East	2016-17	122	8.00	8.31	8.62
	2017-18	123	8.34	8.59	8.83
	2018-19	124	8.22	8.46	8.70
	2020	95	8.27	8.53	8.79
	2021	116	7.93	8.20	8.47
Reservoir West	2016-17	128	8.41	8.66	8.92
	2017-18	127	8.14	8.45	8.76
	2018-19	125	7.82	8.06	8.31
	2020	178	8.32	8.56	8.80
	2021	167	7.97	8.20	8.42
Thornbury	2016-17	123	7.78	8.13	8.48
	2017-18	121	8.35	8.62	8.89
	2018-19	123	7.82	8.08	8.34
	2020	116	8.28	8.57	8.85
	2021	95	7.82	8.10	8.37



The following table outlines the reasons why 25 respondents were not satisfied with the weekly garbage collection.

The most common reasons were bins being broken, a perception that there is rubbish left in the street on collection days, and missed bins.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with weekly garbage collection less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
They break the bins	3
A lot of garbage is found on the street during rubbish collection days	2
Always gets missed	1
Because they don't pick up bins at Russell St	1
Bins are too small	1
Bins not handled properly while collection	1
Can't seem to get bins collected from soccer club (Kingsbury United soccer club)	1
Frequent arrangement for hard rubbish collection	1
Missed collection three times for two months	1
New bins are too small	1
New development charges extra for it	1
Not emptied properly	1
Services are bad and rates are increasing	1
They don't even stop to empty. Make a lot of mess. We have complained but no action	1
They often don't come	1
They throw bins wherever they want	1
They were late and were missed	1
Unhappy with size of bin	1
Total	21

Litter collection in public areas

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with litter collection in public areas? If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?”

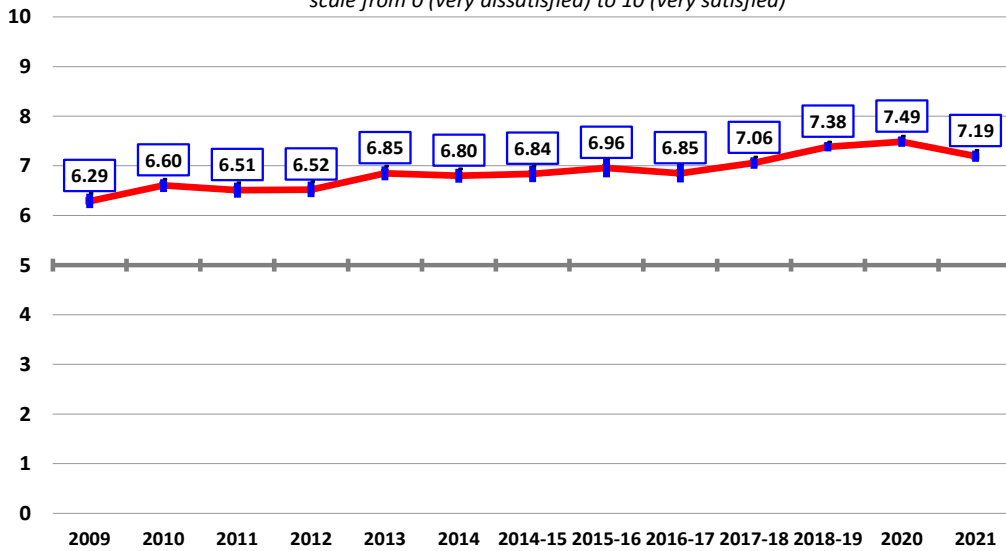
Satisfaction with litter collection in public areas declined measurably this year, down four percent to 7.19, and is now at a “good”, down from a “very good” level of satisfaction.

Despite the measurable decline this year, this result remains comfortably above the long-term average since 2009 of 6.87.



By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.39 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

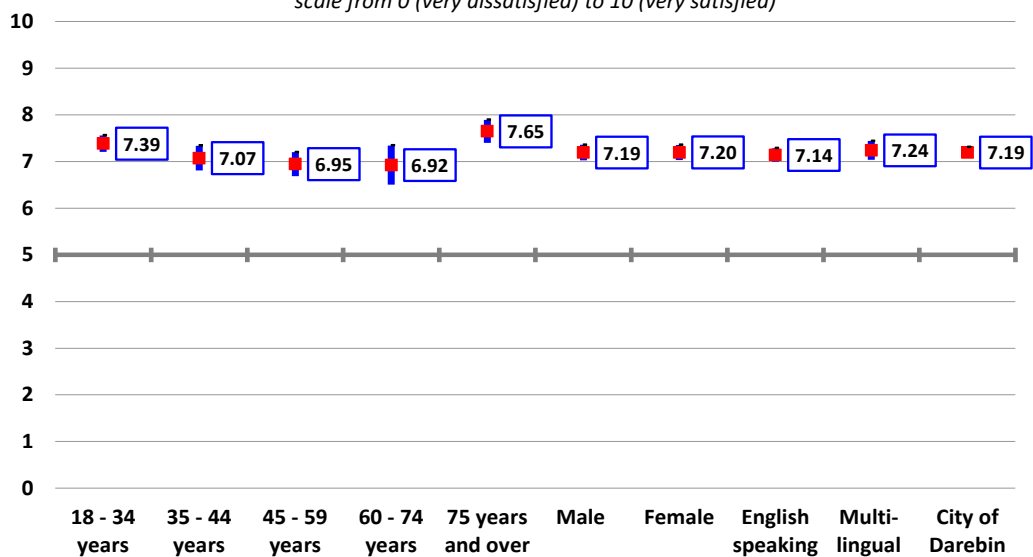
Satisfaction with litter collection in public areas
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was some notable variation in satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes senior citizens (aged 75 years and over).

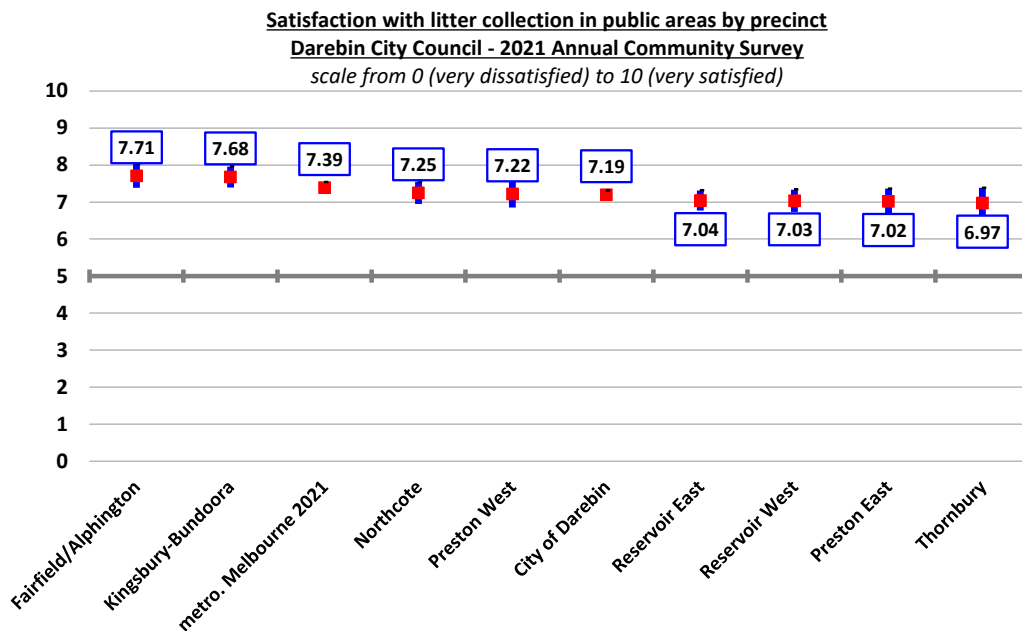
Satisfaction with litter collection in public places by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with litter collection in public areas observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Fairfield/Alphington and Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the average.



Satisfaction with this service increased in one precinct, was stable in Fairfield-Alphington, and declined in six, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Northcote, Preston East, Preston West Reservoir West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.



Satisfaction with litter collection in public places
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	55	6.37	6.91	7.45
	2017-18	120	7.05	7.35	7.65
	2018-19	117	7.20	7.48	7.75
	2020	61	7.36	7.71	8.06
	2021	69	7.39	7.71	8.03
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	56	6.43	7.04	7.64
	2017-18	123	7.27	7.50	7.74
	2018-19	122	7.23	7.51	7.79
	2020	69	7.19	7.59	7.99
	2021	95	7.39	7.68	7.96
Northcote	2016-17	58	6.80	7.28	7.75
	2017-18	119	6.46	6.80	7.14
	2018-19	113	7.37	7.65	7.92
	2020	164	7.32	7.57	7.82
	2021	144	6.95	7.25	7.55
Preston West	2016-17	58	5.59	6.17	6.76
	2017-18	120	6.93	7.27	7.61
	2018-19	118	6.50	6.86	7.21
	2020	131	7.26	7.52	7.79
	2021	100	6.85	7.22	7.59
Reservoir East	2016-17	57	6.61	7.02	7.43
	2017-18	120	6.64	6.98	7.31
	2018-19	121	7.16	7.43	7.70
	2020	141	7.26	7.54	7.82
	2021	173	6.77	7.04	7.31
Reservoir West	2016-17	62	6.23	6.77	7.32
	2017-18	123	6.72	7.06	7.40
	2018-19	123	7.28	7.50	7.71
	2020	169	7.08	7.36	7.64
	2021	150	6.73	7.03	7.33
Preston East	2016-17	55	6.24	6.82	7.40
	2017-18	122	6.79	7.11	7.44
	2018-19	120	6.81	7.09	7.38
	2020	88	7.32	7.63	7.94
	2021	114	6.67	7.02	7.36
Thornbury	2016-17	55	6.02	6.64	7.25
	2017-18	121	6.52	6.87	7.22
	2018-19	119	7.25	7.45	7.64
	2020	111	6.82	7.15	7.48
	2021	90	6.56	6.97	7.39



The following table outlines the reasons why the 124 respondents were not satisfied with litter collection in public areas.

The most common reasons related to a perception that there is too much litter in public areas, that bins are overflowing, and a perception that there should be more regular cleaning.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with litter collection in public areas less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Any public areas. All dirty, rubbish everywhere	4
Too much rubbish / litter on streets	4
Parklands	3
Bins are always overflowing	2
More regular cleaning	2
Rubbish on footpaths / nature strips all the time	2
A lot of litter always lying around. Especially train lines	1
A lot of litter in front of my house and not cleaned	1
Around government housing	1
Bin collection not increased in community in area	1
Collecting bins more	1
Do not pick up heavy rubbish	1
Does not happen	1
Drains are blocked with rubbish	1
Hard rubbish on the nature strips	1
Lot of face masks	1
Major pathways are filthy	1
More bins required in public areas	1
The leaves fallen on the street aren't cleaned frequently	1
They leave a lot of rubbish around in the area and it is not collected frequently	1
<i>Specific locations</i>	
Merri Creek trail is always dirty	2
Bins for dog waste required around parks near Bell St and High St	1
Central Ave	1
Edwardes Lake rubbish bin overflowing	1
Edwardes St is always dirty	1
Footpaths along High St dirty and terrible	1
Forest View lot of rubbish	1
JC Moore Reserve very dirty	1
Litter and glass around Northcote Plaza	1
Litter everywhere throughout Darebin	1



Litter needs to be picked up regularly in Basting St	1
Lot of dumps Tambo Ave	1
Lot of litter in Reservoir	1
Merri Park overflowing bins	1
More bins required on High Street	1
Northcote Plaza	1
Overspilling on Broadway	1
Overspilling on Royal Parade	1
Philip Reserve overflowing bins	1
Reservoir area could be better	1
Ruby Thompson Reserve	1
Very dirty around main streets and shopping centres specifically in Reservoir	1
Total	54

Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips? If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?”

Satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips declined measurably this year, down three percent to 7.39, although it remains at a “very good” level of satisfaction. This result reverses the significant increase recorded last year.

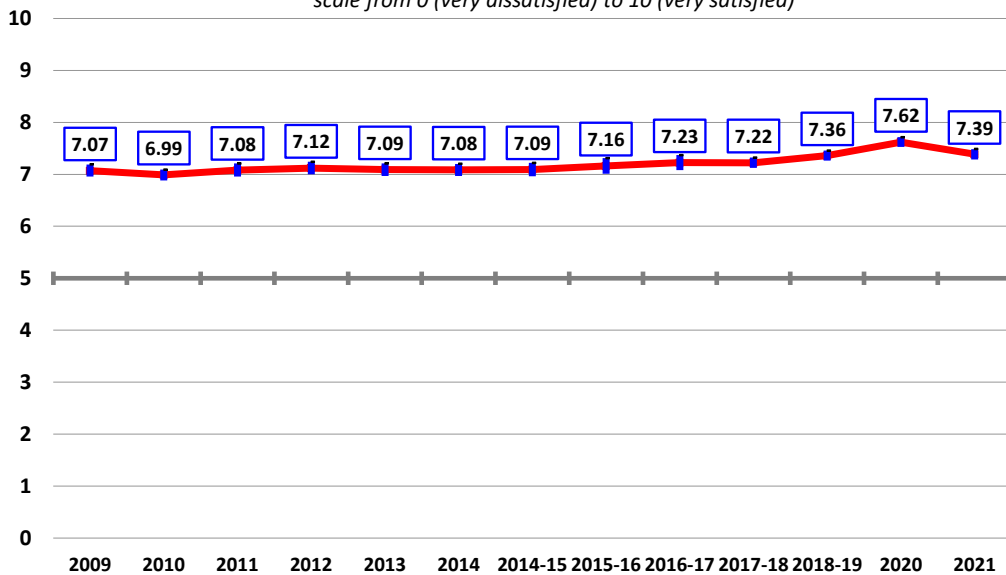
Despite the measurable decline this year, this result remains comfortably above the long-term average since 2009 of 7.19.

By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.56 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



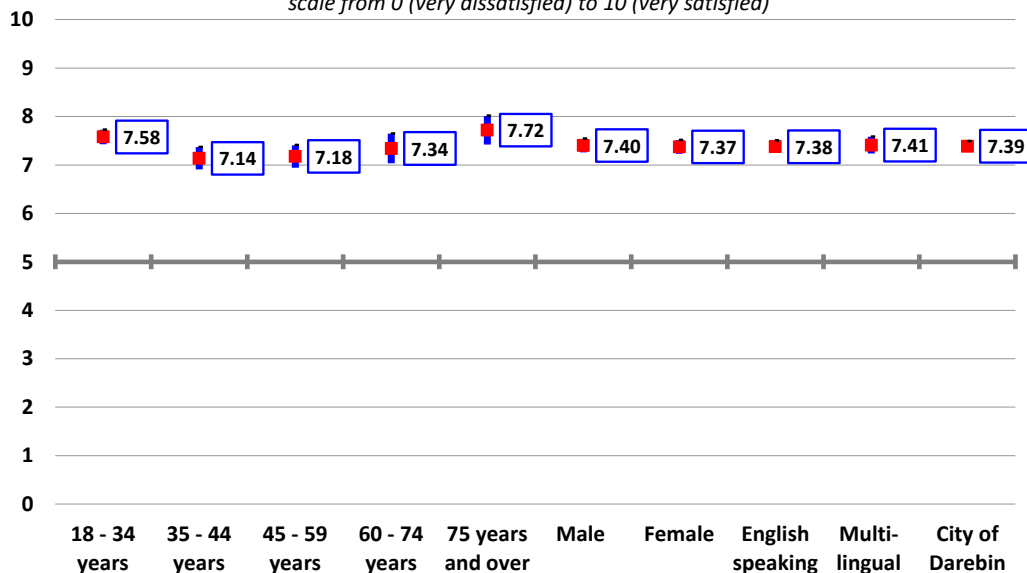


Satisfaction with maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was no statistically significant or notable variation in satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips observed by respondent profile.

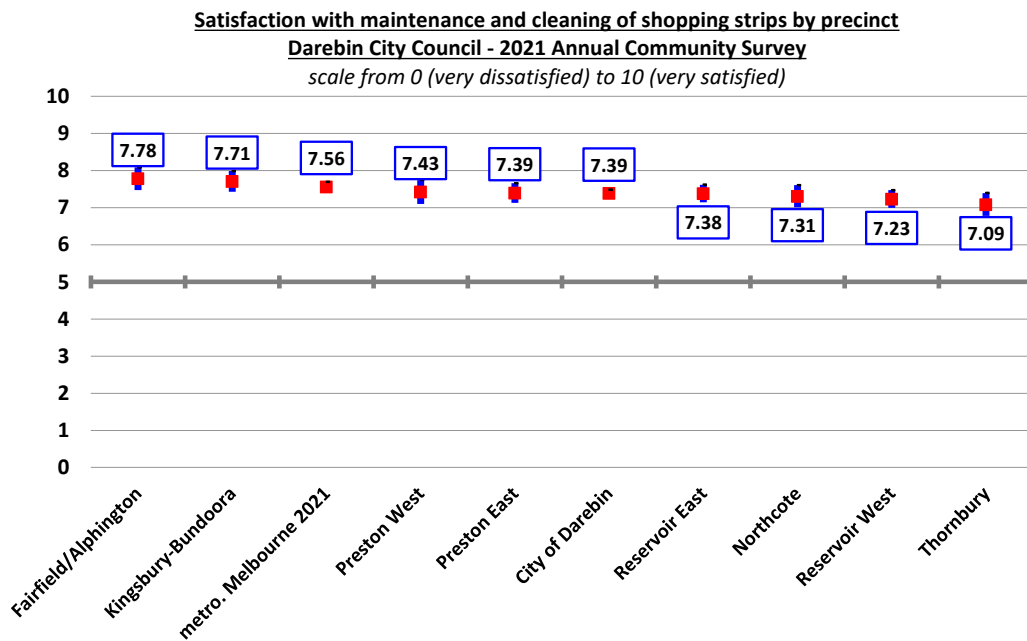
Satisfaction with maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Fairfield/Alphington and Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the average.





Satisfaction with this service increased in two precincts, and declined in six, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington and Preston East.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Preston West Reservoir West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.



Satisfaction with maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	58	7.04	7.38	7.72
	2017-18	121	7.21	7.45	7.68
	2018-19	121	7.00	7.28	7.56
	2020	62	6.97	7.35	7.73
	2021	72	7.48	7.78	8.09
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	55	6.94	7.36	7.79
	2017-18	117	7.46	7.69	7.92
	2018-19	123	7.13	7.41	7.68
	2020	68	7.69	7.99	8.29
	2021	95	7.43	7.71	7.99
Preston West	2016-17	60	6.41	6.82	7.22
	2017-18	116	7.22	7.49	7.76
	2018-19	118	6.72	7.04	7.36
	2020	134	7.23	7.49	7.74
	2021	104	7.10	7.43	7.75
Preston East	2016-17	60	6.71	7.25	7.79
	2017-18	119	6.86	7.16	7.46
	2018-19	121	6.86	7.17	7.49
	2020	93	7.11	7.38	7.65
	2021	115	7.13	7.39	7.66
Reservoir East	2016-17	60	6.60	6.98	7.37
	2017-18	121	6.92	7.21	7.49
	2018-19	124	7.14	7.40	7.65
	2020	145	7.50	7.71	7.93
	2021	176	7.14	7.38	7.62
Northcote	2016-17	59	6.89	7.32	7.75
	2017-18	120	6.58	6.88	7.19
	2018-19	115	7.28	7.57	7.85
	2020	168	7.66	7.88	8.09
	2021	145	7.01	7.31	7.61
Reservoir West	2016-17	59	7.27	7.63	7.99
	2017-18	124	6.93	7.21	7.48
	2018-19	124	7.24	7.47	7.70
	2020	172	7.41	7.66	7.92
	2021	157	6.99	7.23	7.47
Thornbury	2016-17	58	6.71	7.10	7.50
	2017-18	121	6.86	7.17	7.49
	2018-19	121	7.10	7.36	7.61
	2020	117	7.03	7.35	7.67
	2021	94	6.78	7.09	7.39



The following table outlines the reasons why the 83 respondents were not satisfied with the maintenance of shopping strips.

The most common responses related to a perception that shopping strips were dirty, bins were overflowing, or that there is a need for more cleaning.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with maintenance of shopping strips less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Dirty	2
Bins are overflowing	1
Could do better and improve the ways of cleaning	1
Decrease in parking because of outdoor parking	1
Not enough rubbish bins around tram and bus stops	1
Potholes near parking lots	1
Some are very dirty, smell, oil	1
They are dirty and unsafe	1
They aren't cleaned frequently plus they have removed bins which were necessary	1
Tidy up required	1
Too much graffiti	1
<i>Specific locations</i>	
Along Darebin Creek there's a lot of rubbish	1
Edward St has a lot of litter, unattractive shops	1
Elizabeth St not swept	1
High St	1
High St horrible between Murry and Gower St	1
High St is quite clean	1
High St, Preston the footpaths are filthy	1
No bins in Northcote Plaza car park, rubbish management required	1
Northcote Plaza is covered in graffiti	1
Not enough cleaning Edwood St	1
Plaza	1
Poor maintenance near Preston Market	1
Station St not clean	1
There is a lot of rubbish lying near the shopping places like the Plaza	1
Very dirty around main streets and shopping centres specifically in Reservoir	1
Total	27





The level of street lighting

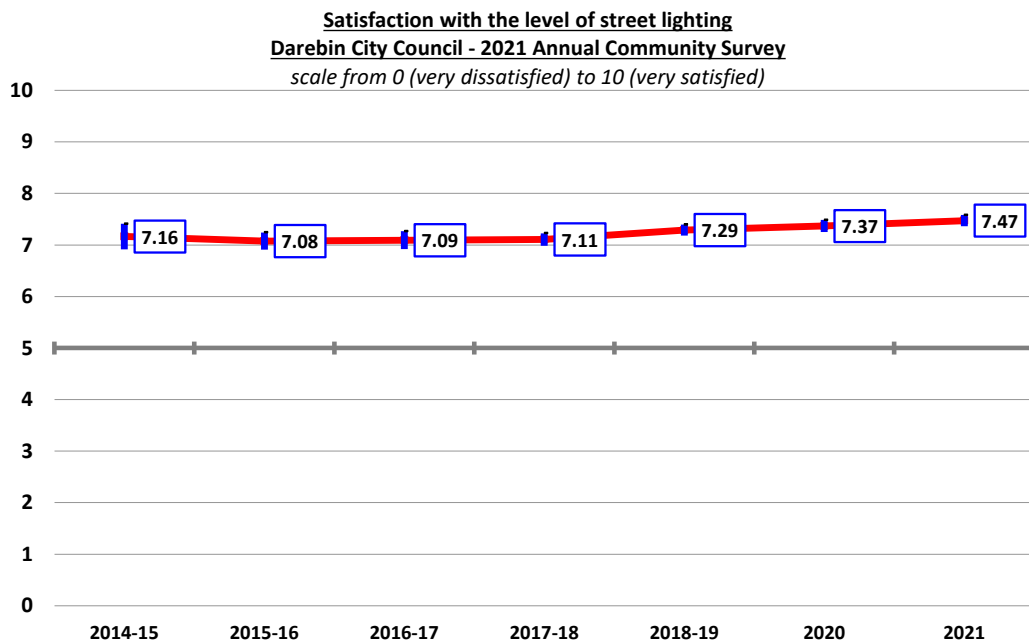
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the level of street lighting? If rated less than 6, are there any streets of concern?”

Satisfaction with the level of street lighting increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 1.4% to 7.47, although it remains at a “very good” level of satisfaction. This is the highest level of satisfaction for these facilities since first being included in the survey in 2014-15.

This result is well above the long-term average since 2014-15 of 7.22.

By way of comparison, this result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.72 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



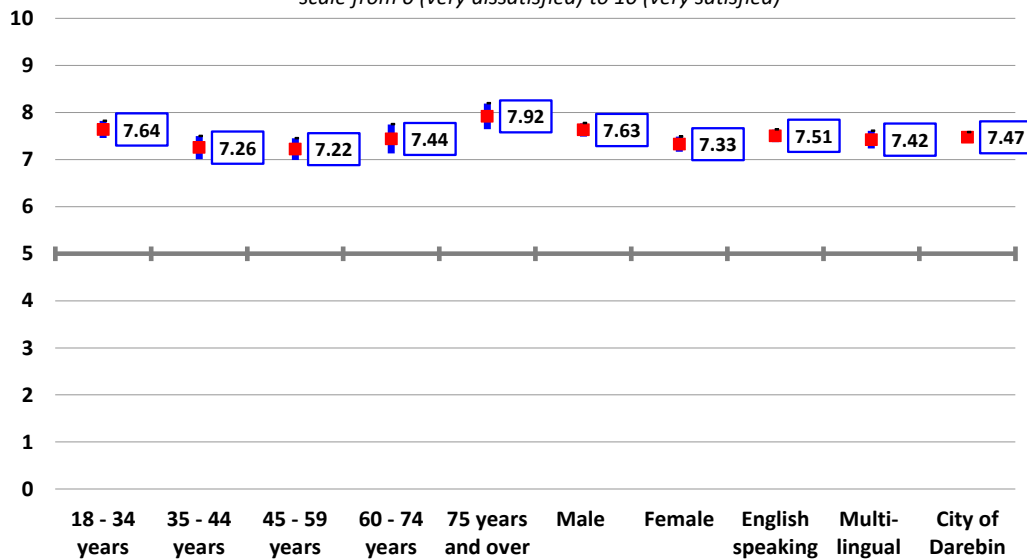
There was notable variation in satisfaction with the level of street lighting observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes senior citizens (aged 75 years and over) and male respondents.
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes female respondents.





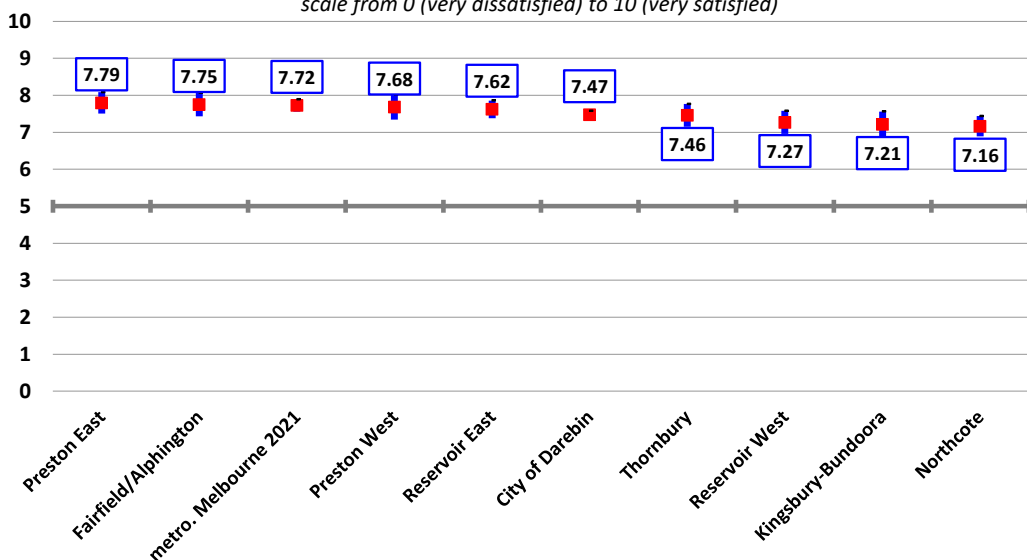
Satisfaction with the level of street lighting by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Although there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the level of street lighting observed across the municipality, it is noted that:

- **Fairfield/Alphington and Preston East** – respondents were somewhat more satisfied than the average and at “excellent” rather than “very good” levels.

Satisfaction with the level of street lighting by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in six precincts and declined in two, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston East, Fairfield/Alphington, Preston West, Reservoir East, Thornbury, and Reservoir West.



- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora and Northcote.

Satisfaction with the level of street lighting
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Preston East	2016-17	60	6.40	6.93	7.47
	2017-18	123	6.84	7.22	7.60
	2018-19	124	6.66	7.03	7.41
	2020	96	7.35	7.71	8.06
	2021	113	7.50	7.79	8.08
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	60	6.85	7.23	7.62
	2017-18	122	6.83	7.15	7.46
	2018-19	123	7.31	7.55	7.80
	2020	63	7.00	7.47	7.95
	2021	72	7.43	7.75	8.07
Preston West	2016-17	60	6.61	7.10	7.59
	2017-18	121	7.01	7.38	7.75
	2018-19	123	6.97	7.27	7.57
	2020	136	7.05	7.33	7.60
	2021	108	7.35	7.68	8.02
Reservoir East	2016-17	62	6.75	7.24	7.73
	2017-18	125	6.51	6.82	7.14
	2018-19	126	6.93	7.27	7.61
	2020	148	6.77	7.10	7.44
	2021	183	7.38	7.62	7.86
Thornbury	2016-17	60	6.92	7.33	7.74
	2017-18	123	7.03	7.37	7.72
	2018-19	122	7.01	7.25	7.50
	2020	115	6.91	7.22	7.52
	2021	98	7.15	7.46	7.76
Reservoir West	2016-17	62	5.49	6.13	6.76
	2017-18	125	6.89	7.22	7.56
	2018-19	125	7.08	7.33	7.58
	2020	175	6.94	7.26	7.57
	2021	164	6.96	7.27	7.58
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	61	6.72	7.26	7.81
	2017-18	123	6.35	6.71	7.06
	2018-19	121	6.98	7.26	7.55
	2020	71	7.21	7.59	7.98
	2021	95	6.86	7.21	7.56
Northcote	2016-17	62	7.33	7.66	7.99
	2017-18	123	6.68	7.01	7.34
	2018-19	117	7.11	7.42	7.73
	2020	170	7.24	7.52	7.80
	2021	145	6.89	7.16	7.44



The following table outlines the reasons why the 93 respondents were not satisfied with the level of street lighting.

The most common reasons related to a perception that there was insufficient lighting.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with the level of street lighting less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Not enough lighting in some areas, need more	6
Areas are very dark	3
Could be improved	2
Less lighting, too dark	2
Poor street lighting / less voltage, too dim	2
Poor street lighting around stations	2
General not good lighting	1
It's always dark. Trees block the lights	1
It's pitch dark - I can't see anybody on the street	1
Its sparse, less lighting in the area	1
Lane ways are always dark	1
Less in number on the local streets. It makes me feel unsafe at night	1
Less in number on the streets and near the parks	1
Live in corner. Very less lighting	1
Parks and gardens need more lights	1
Should be a lot more at night	1
Smaller streets do not have enough lighting	1
Some streets are very dull in brightness, and some are good	1
Too less. Only 2 poles in many lanes	1
Trees cover the lights	1

Specific locations

Around Preston not enough lighting / very dark	2
Adeline St dark at night	1
Area in Fairway more street lighting	1
Austral Ave	1
Barlow Rise can have more lights	1
Better lighting required around King William St	1
Better lighting required on Queen St, Masons St	1
Bottom of east of All Nations Park	1
Could be better on Tambo Avenue	1
Could be improved along Woods St	1
Could be improved on Roseberry Ave	1
Extremely dark Winterhill Link	1
Kelsby St has very dim streetlights	1

Main Rd Bundoora more streetlight required	1
Main roads have absolutely no lights like Gilbert Rd. Very limited lights	1
Mayor Park has bad lighting	1
More street lighting on North Rd because its very dark	1
Near Elizabeth St, laneways there's not enough lighting	1
Needs to be managed better around Beatty Park	1
No lights on Seston St	1
Not enough. Bogong Ct	1
Not good, Dennis St	1
Poor street lighting around All Nations Park	1
Rossmoyne St need more lighting	1
Side roads off Plenty Rd	1
Some streets too dark in Reservoir	1
Streetlights on Main St are too bright	1
Streets near Alphington Station dark walking home and paths	1
There are no streetlights on Sheargolds St	1
Total	61

Street sweeping

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with street sweeping? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with street sweeping remained essentially stable this year at 7.15 and remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.

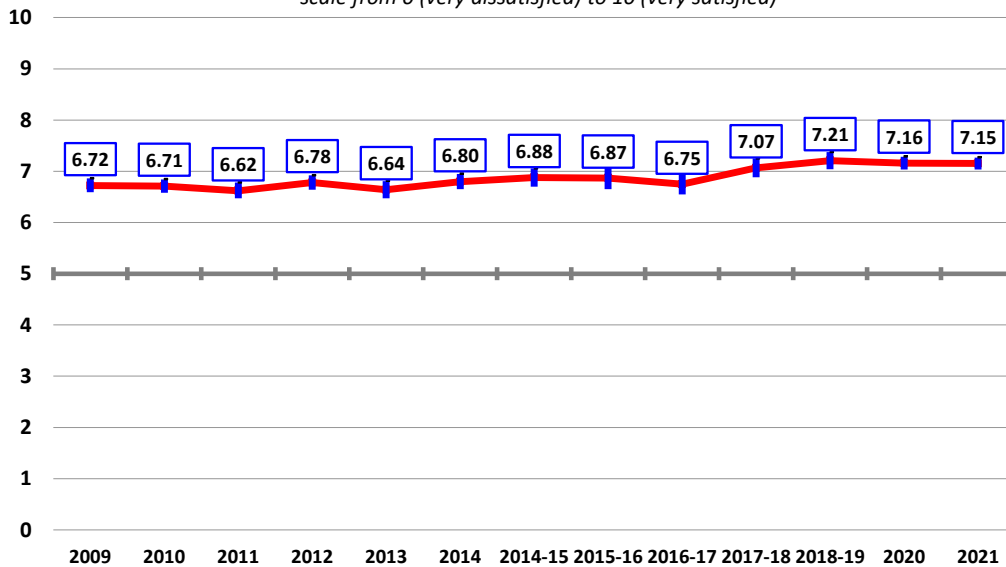
This result remains above the long-term average since 2009 of 6.87.

By way of comparison, this result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.49 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.





Satisfaction with street sweeping
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was notable variation in satisfaction with street sweeping observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) and respondents from multi-lingual households.
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years) and respondents from English speaking households.

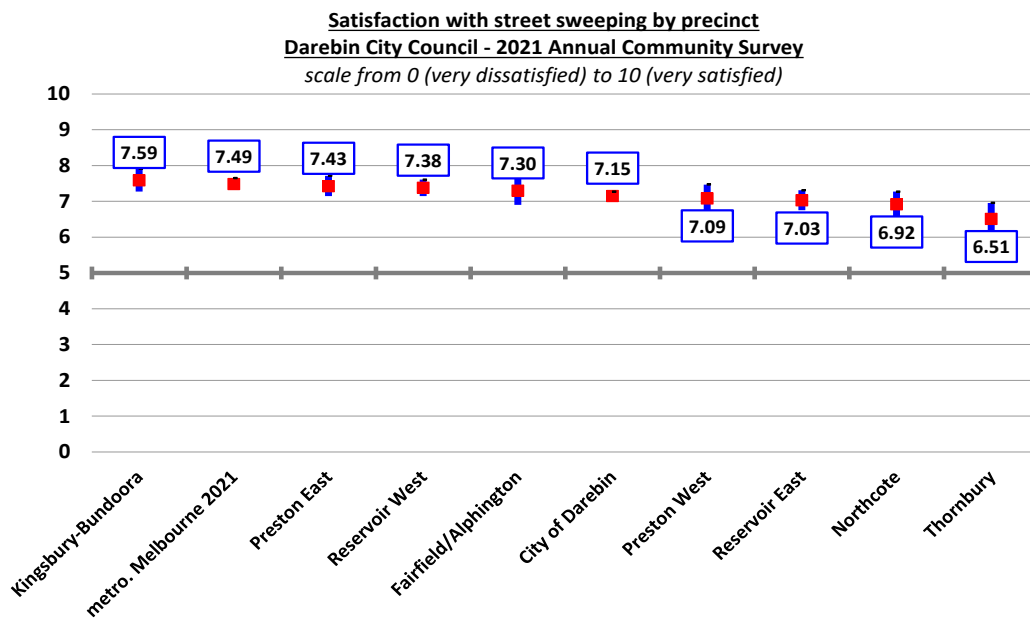
Satisfaction with street sweeping by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with street sweeping observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level.
- **Northcote and Thornbury** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than the municipal average.



Satisfaction with this service increased in four precincts and declined in four, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Reservoir West, Preston East, and Northcote.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Preston West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.





Satisfaction with street sweeping
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	57	6.61	7.19	7.78
	2017-18	60	6.57	7.08	7.59
	2018-19	60	7.02	7.33	7.65
	2020	69	6.97	7.44	7.92
	2021	94	7.27	7.59	7.91
Reservoir West	2016-17	65	6.26	6.80	7.34
	2017-18	62	6.57	7.10	7.62
	2018-19	62	7.32	7.55	7.77
	2020	170	6.90	7.22	7.55
	2021	161	7.15	7.38	7.61
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	59	5.62	6.25	6.89
	2017-18	62	6.04	6.61	7.18
	2018-19	61	6.45	7.02	7.58
	2020	62	7.21	7.60	7.98
	2021	69	6.90	7.30	7.70
Preston East	2016-17	58	5.94	6.64	7.34
	2017-18	60	6.84	7.40	7.96
	2018-19	60	6.42	6.90	7.38
	2020	87	7.06	7.40	7.74
	2021	113	7.14	7.43	7.71
Preston West	2016-17	56	6.03	6.52	7.01
	2017-18	60	7.18	7.52	7.85
	2018-19	57	6.73	7.32	7.90
	2020	132	7.01	7.28	7.55
	2021	105	6.70	7.09	7.47
Reservoir East	2016-17	60	5.73	6.23	6.73
	2017-18	55	6.53	7.07	7.61
	2018-19	56	7.17	7.61	8.04
	2020	148	6.87	7.19	7.51
	2021	185	6.75	7.03	7.31
Northcote	2016-17	57	6.74	7.32	7.89
	2017-18	60	6.17	6.73	7.29
	2018-19	53	6.07	6.74	7.40
	2020	168	6.48	6.83	7.17
	2021	141	6.57	6.92	7.27
Thornbury	2016-17	54	6.30	6.93	7.56
	2017-18	59	6.42	6.98	7.54
	2018-19	59	6.55	7.02	7.48
	2020	112	6.39	6.78	7.16
	2021	89	6.07	6.51	6.96



The following table outlines the reasons why the 130 respondents were not satisfied with street sweeping.

The most common reasons related to a perception that there was insufficient cleaning.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with street sweeping less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Haven't seen any	12
Haven't see it often	9
More frequent cleaning required	6
Leaves left down to drain, not being cleaned up, block the drain during rain	4
Not cleaned frequently	3
Needs improvement	2
After garbage collection, rubbish is all over. Never clean it immediately	1
Don't feel like that they have ever swept the streets due to build-up of leaves	1
General	1
Must call them every time laneways not cleaned	1
In autumn, the leaves are everywhere	1
Kerbing trucks are obstructed with car parking which is why they don't clean the entire area	1
Leaf dumps aren't cleaned frequently	1
Need to be done more, especially lines along drainage on street	1
Not clean	1
Not frequent especially drains	1
Not well maintained. There's rubbish always lying around the streets	1
Rubbish on streets	1
The street sweepers don't clean the gutters	1
There was a lot of rubbish found on the streets especially during the Corona virus time	1
<i>Specific locations</i>	
Clyde St needs to be cleaned	1
Constantly leaves on Main St	1
Could do with a lot more street sweeping and cleaning in Darebin and specifically Reservoir	1
Elizabeth St	1
Lot of rubbish Tambo Ave	1
Not done frequently in Preston	1
Not done thorough enough on South St	1
Percival St, they don't come through	1
The litter left by people walking on the path isn't collected - Ballinamona street	1
Total	59



The level of dumped rubbish

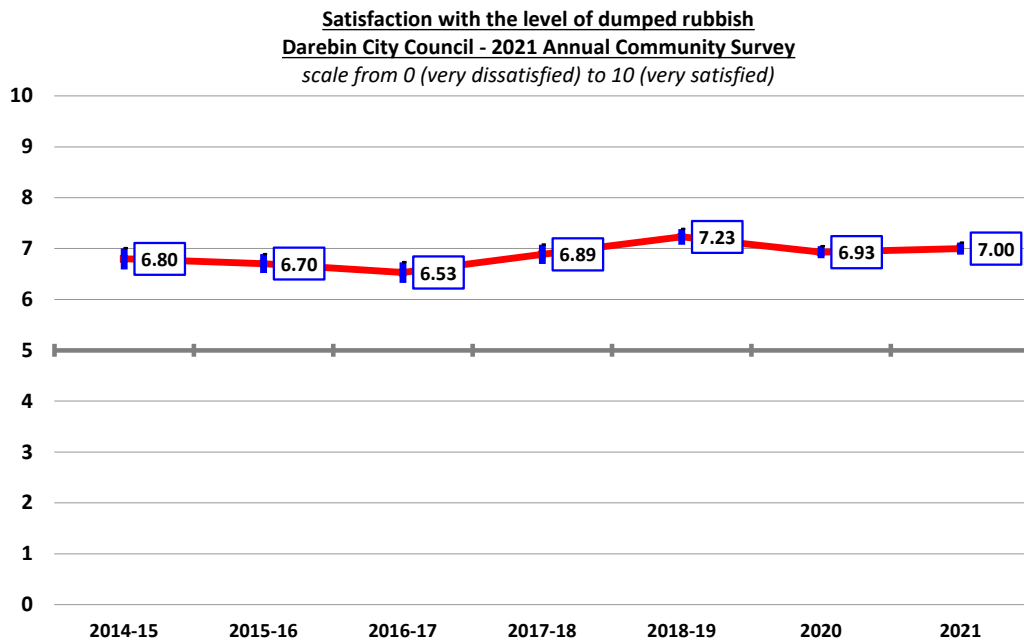
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish? If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?”

Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish increased marginally but not measurably this year, up one percent to 7.00, and remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.

This result remains above the long-term average since 2014-15 of 6.87.

By way of comparison, this result was marginally but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.10, as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



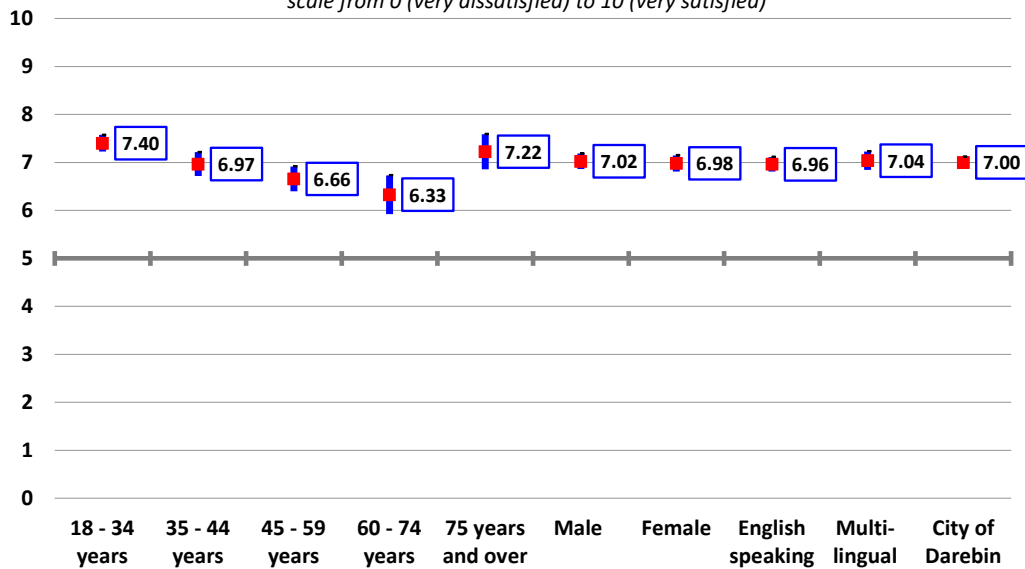
There was notable variation in satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years).





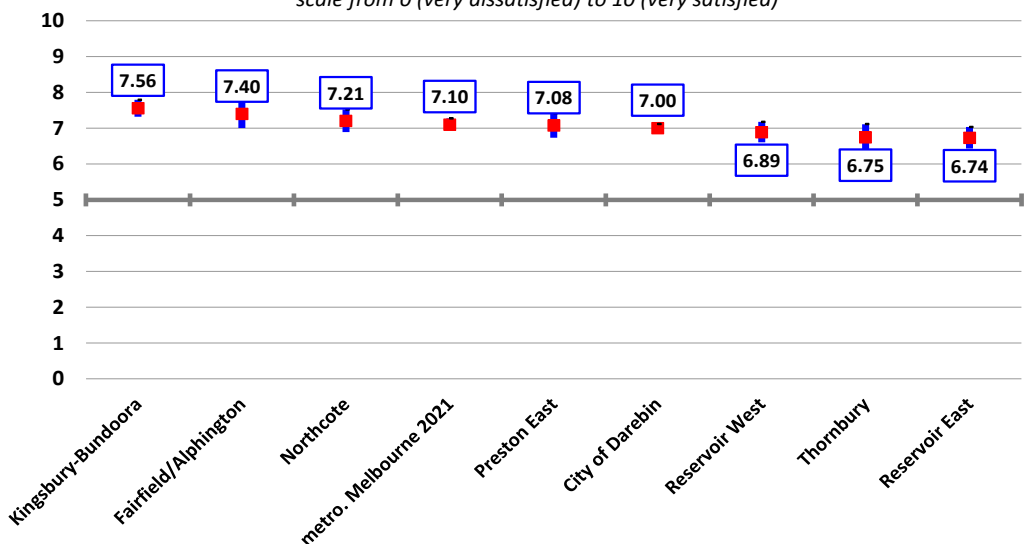
Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish observed across the municipality, as follows:

- Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level.

Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in four precincts and declined in four, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Northcote, Reservoir West, and Thornbury.



- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Preston East, Reservoir East, and Preston West.

Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	60	6.06	6.70	7.34
	2017-18	58	7.16	7.55	7.94
	2018-19	61	6.58	7.10	7.62
	2020	65	6.98	7.45	7.93
	2021	93	7.33	7.56	7.79
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	59	5.95	6.56	7.17
	2017-18	59	6.60	7.15	7.71
	2018-19	54	6.85	7.35	7.86
	2020	61	6.99	7.42	7.84
	2021	71	7.01	7.40	7.79
Northcote	2016-17	58	6.09	6.59	7.08
	2017-18	59	5.98	6.56	7.14
	2018-19	59	6.77	7.25	7.73
	2020	169	6.55	6.82	7.09
	2021	144	6.89	7.21	7.52
Preston East	2016-17	60	5.71	6.23	6.76
	2017-18	59	6.84	7.34	7.83
	2018-19	63	6.79	7.21	7.63
	2020	93	7.01	7.32	7.63
	2021	114	6.74	7.08	7.41
Reservoir West	2016-17	62	6.07	6.63	7.19
	2017-18	62	5.42	6.03	6.65
	2018-19	62	6.91	7.32	7.73
	2020	172	6.43	6.77	7.10
	2021	162	6.61	6.89	7.18
Thornbury	2016-17	61	5.52	6.08	6.65
	2017-18	58	6.85	7.24	7.64
	2018-19	59	7.25	7.61	7.97
	2020	109	6.31	6.69	7.07
	2021	91	6.39	6.75	7.12
Reservoir East	2016-17	63	5.89	6.54	7.19
	2017-18	61	6.53	7.07	7.60
	2018-19	62	6.84	7.23	7.61
	2020	152	6.58	6.86	7.15
	2021	177	6.44	6.74	7.04
Preston West	2016-17	60	6.40	7.02	7.63
	2017-18	60	6.28	6.87	7.45
	2018-19	55	6.07	6.62	7.16
	2020	136	6.49	6.79	7.10
	2021	106	6.33	6.71	7.10



The following table outlines the reasons why the 158 respondents were not satisfied with the level of dumped rubbish.

The most common reasons related to a perception that there was rubbish dumped on the footpaths and nature strips, or that there was generally a lot of dumped rubbish around.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Hard furniture and other household materials dumped on footpaths, streets nature strips	6
Not picked up frequently	3
Darebin generally	2
Needs to be cleaned regularly	2
There's a fair bit around	2
Along the train tracks it is very messy	1
Annual garbage should be twice a year instead	1
Could be collected on a weekly basis	1
Dirty and always full	1
Don't notice that	1
Dumping around charity bins	1
Laneways are usually filled with hard rubbish	1
People dump rubbish and Council doesn't bother managing the issue	1
Residential apartments leave their rubbish at nature strips that's why there is lot of dumped rubbish	1
The level of dumped rubbish on streets is concerning as it gets dirty and unhygienic	1
The shopping trolleys	1
A lot near community centres	1
<i>Specific locations</i>	
High level of dumped rubbish near commission flats	2
High levels of dumped rubbish in Reservoir	2
Around McDonald's	1
Between Westgarth and Fairfield	1
Do not pick up hard rubbish (Clements Road)	1
Gilbert Rd dumped rubbish	1
High level of dumped rubbish between Croxton and Thornbury station	1
High level of dumped rubbish Home St, Albert St	1
High levels of dumped rubbish around CH Sullivan Reserve	1
In front of Reservoir train station	1
Kelsby St has a lot of hard rubbish	1
Kingsbury Ave and train lines	1

Leamington St, Reservoir. People just dump rubbish for some reason	1
Lot of dumped rubbish on and around Cheddar Road	1
Lot of rubbish around Clark St	1
Lot of rubbish dumped near Zwar Park	1
Near Kirby St, people dump rubbish all around	1
Needs to be managed better around Butters St	1
People leave unwanted furniture on Monash West, Reservoir	1
Piles of dumped rubbish sits for more than 4 months on South St	1
Quiet a lot of rubbish in Medium St	1
Reservoir Regents area	1
Rubbish not being cleaned up on street and parks such as Cheddar Rd, Council only comes to pick up once a year	1
Rubbish outside Vinnies shop	1
The Merri Creek Trail	1
There is a lot of rubbish being dumped near the shopping areas and especially near High St	1
Too much dumped rubbish around Northcote and Fairfield	1
Too much dumped rubbish on Helen St	1
Train tracks Thornbury	1
Total	58

The type / species of street trees

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the type / species of street trees? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with the type / species of street trees increased marginally but not measurably this year, up less than one percent to 7.1, and remains at a “good” level of satisfaction.

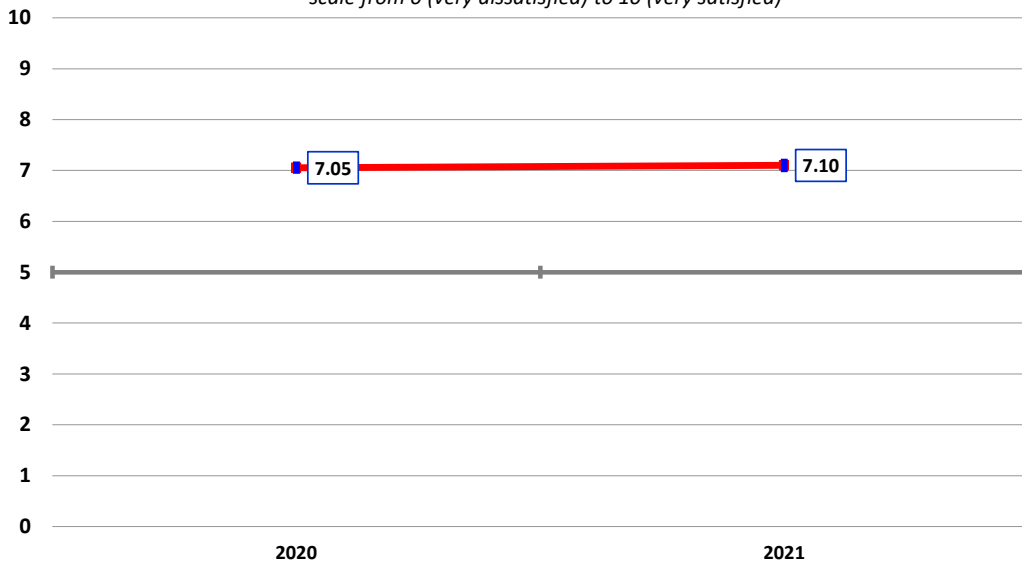
This question was not included in this format in *Governing Melbourne* and therefore no comparison results are available.

By way of comparison, however, the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction with “the provision and maintenance of street trees” was 7.40.





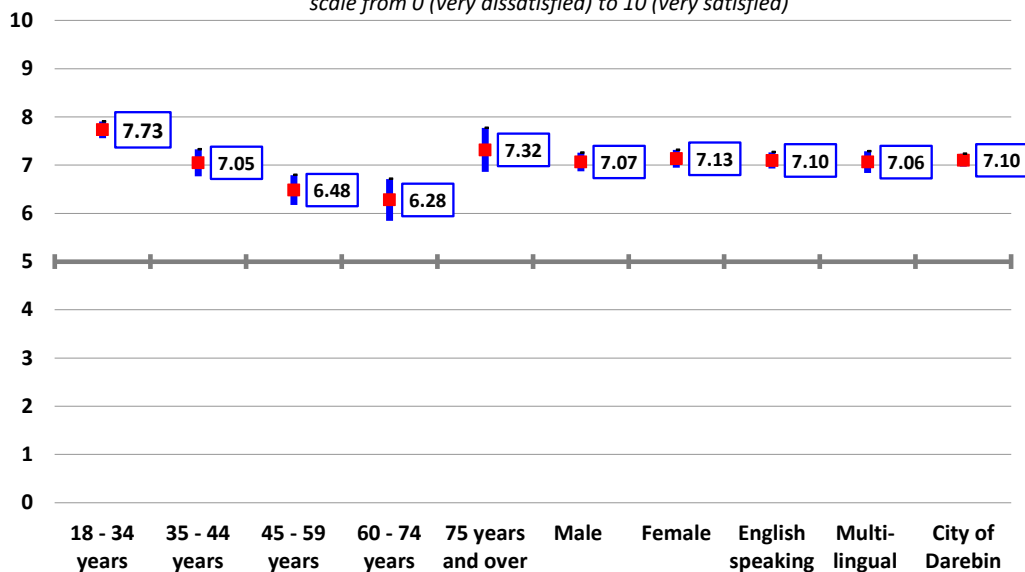
Satisfaction with the type / species of street trees
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was notable variation in satisfaction with the type / species of street trees observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes senior citizens (aged 75 years and over).
- **Less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years).

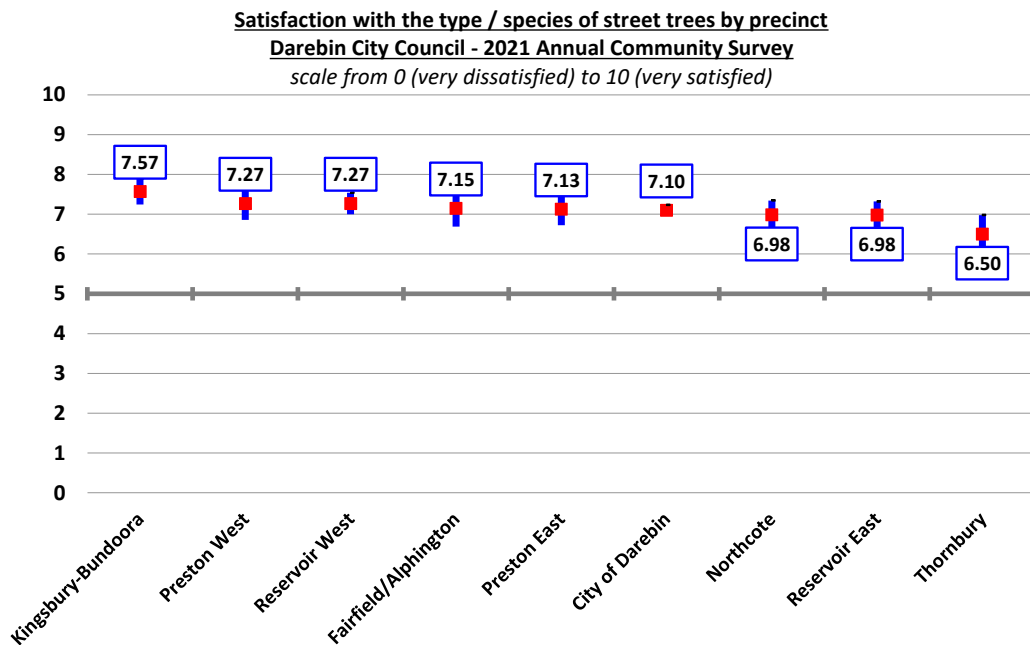
Satisfaction with the type / species of street trees by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the type / species of street trees observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “good” level.
- **Thornbury** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than average.



Satisfaction with this service increased in three precincts and declined in five, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Preston West, and Reservoir West.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Northcote, Reservoir East, Preston East, and Thornbury.





Satisfaction with the type / species of street trees
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2020	72	7.09	7.55	8.00
	2021	94	7.24	7.57	7.90
Preston West	2020	135	6.90	7.18	7.46
	2021	105	6.86	7.27	7.68
Reservoir West	2020	169	6.41	6.73	7.05
	2021	161	7.00	7.27	7.54
Fairfield-Alphington	2020	62	6.73	7.16	7.58
	2021	69	6.69	7.15	7.61
Preston East	2020	96	7.14	7.51	7.87
	2021	107	6.72	7.13	7.53
Northcote	2020	169	6.78	7.05	7.32
	2021	144	6.62	6.98	7.34
Reservoir East	2020	140	6.72	7.06	7.39
	2021	186	6.64	6.98	7.32
Thornbury	2020	116	6.29	6.66	7.03
	2021	94	6.02	6.50	6.98

The following table outlines the reasons why the 152 respondents were not satisfied with the type / species of street trees.

There were a range of issues raised, including preferences for different types of trees, concerns about trees dropping leaves or resin.

It is noted that several respondents also raised issues not directly related to the type or species of street trees, including concerns over the number (both too many and too few) of street trees, their location, and a range of other issues.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with the type / species of street trees less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number of responses)

Response	Number
They shed lot of leaves	5
I prefer indigenous / native trees	4
Poor maintenance of trees on nature strip	4
Trees shed gum nut	3
Planting big trees under powerlines, damage powerlines	3
Big trees damage concrete footpath	2
Could be more	2
Leaves falling on footpath dangerous to walk	2



Make too much mess	2
Not properly maintained	2
Not pruned / trimmed properly	2
Overhanging trees on footpath, got hit by the branches	2
The amount of leaf litter they produce blocks up gutters	2
Too many gum trees	2
Too many plane trees, not good	2
Trees could be trimmed more	2
Allergic to plane trees	1
Bad selection of trees	1
Bad trees are planted that rip out the roads and footpaths	1
Big trees, when there is a strong wind, stuff drop on the street	1
Branches fall on roads	1
Change the species of trees	1
Could be improved	1
Could do with more variety	1
Council needs to clear up the gum nuts that fall from the trees which are unsafe to walk around as they are slippery	1
Get olive trees and choice of trees by Council is terrible low maintenance trees preferred	1
Hate them, they drop nuts which can make people trip over and need to be cleaned	1
High, powerlines	1
Huge trees are planted around the roads	1
Leaves aren't being picked up or cleaned	1
Maintenance and watering of the trees	1
More fruit / edible trees preferred	1
More trees required on nature strips	1
More urban greening	1
Need olive trees in the area	1
Need to make the neighbourhood greener and more attractive	1
Not enough native particularly Eucalyptus	1
Not suitable trees. Too short	1
Old cherry blossoms need attention	1
Pruning is not done at all	1
Removal of big old trees that provided shade	1
Smell	1
Streetlight is blocked because of huge trees	1
The gum tree has wobbly trunk, not appropriate	1
The trees are ugly, they drop lots of leaves and barks	1
They are inconsistent and at various heights	1
They are just plain trees. More planting of colourful plants is required	1
They are not maintained it and they have died	1
They have got bad pollen	1
They need to be taller trees so that their branches don't come in the way	1
They're very ugly	1
Too many non-native trees	1
Too many old trees in the area	1
Too many paper barks that should be taken out	1
Too many trees	1
Tree are going to be too big and cause mess there should be better choice trees	1

Trees die quick and obstruct cable	1
Tree selection could be better	1
Unsafe for children	1
Very messy trees	1
Wish there were more still	1

Specific locations

A dead tree needs to be taken down from Sugarloaf St	1
Beauchamp St Preston leaves everywhere	1
Bees issue in Nature St	1
Berry trees make a huge mess all over the area - Mcfadzean Ave	1
Better maintenance required, consistency in terms of tree species required on King William St	1
Clarke St	1
Cooper St has a lot of trees that shed leaves. Plane trees that shed quite a lot	1
Dally St	1
Gilly St trees are bad. Adults trip over because of big trees and difficult to clean	1
In Kilmore Avenue the tree is not tree the resident selected. Bothering the power line and telephone line	1
Native trees planted odd because just my street Bryan St	1
Overhanging trees on Gilbert Rd	1
Prefers native trees on Gower St	1
Shedding and piling of leaves on Clara St	1
Smith St trees are not replaced, they have vandalised a lot of properties	1
Species of flowers on High St are horrible (pink lilies)	1
St Vigeons Rd has huge gum trees	1
Stuff comes of the trees Rathcown Rd	1
The species of trees isn't good on Boothby St	1
The tree in Tunaley Pde should be cut down bad	1
There could be more trees planted near the High St to make it a beautiful place	1
Too many tea trees on Russell St	1
Trees are overhanging Sapphire St	1
Tree leaves are tiny and not good visual, Wood St	1
Trees need to be trimmed down on Shaftesbury Pde, not safe during windy stormy day	1
Trees not cut properly, in the power lines near Shand Rd	1
Trees on Adeline St grow to power lines, Council needs to plant more appropriate trees not only consider the species	1
Trees on Pender St causes hay fever	1
Unsuitable trees on Bird Ave	1
Wilmoch St need to be pruned	1
Total	116



Regular recycling

Respondents were asked:

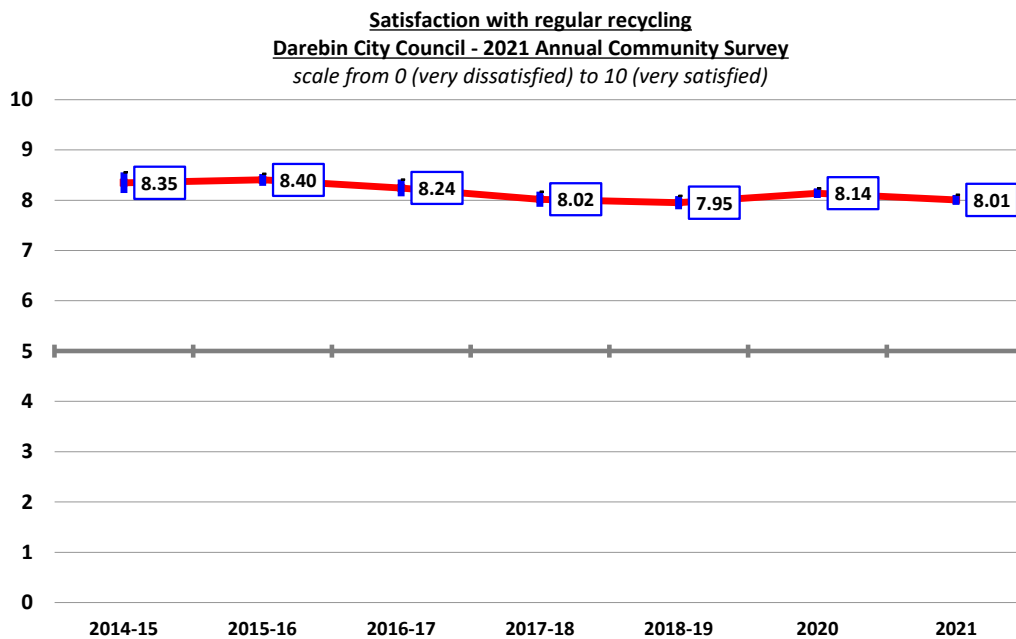
“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with regular recycling? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with the regular recycling declined marginally but not measurably this year, down 1.6% to 8.01, although it remains at an “excellent” level.

This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2009 of 8.16.

By way of comparison, this result was measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 8.32 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with recycling kerbside collection services has been somewhat volatile across metropolitan Melbourne in recent years, as councils are progressively moving from a three-bin to a four-bin or similar service and changing the frequency of collection for different bin collection services.



There was notable variation in satisfaction with the regular recycling observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **More satisfied than average** – includes senior citizens (aged 75 years and over).





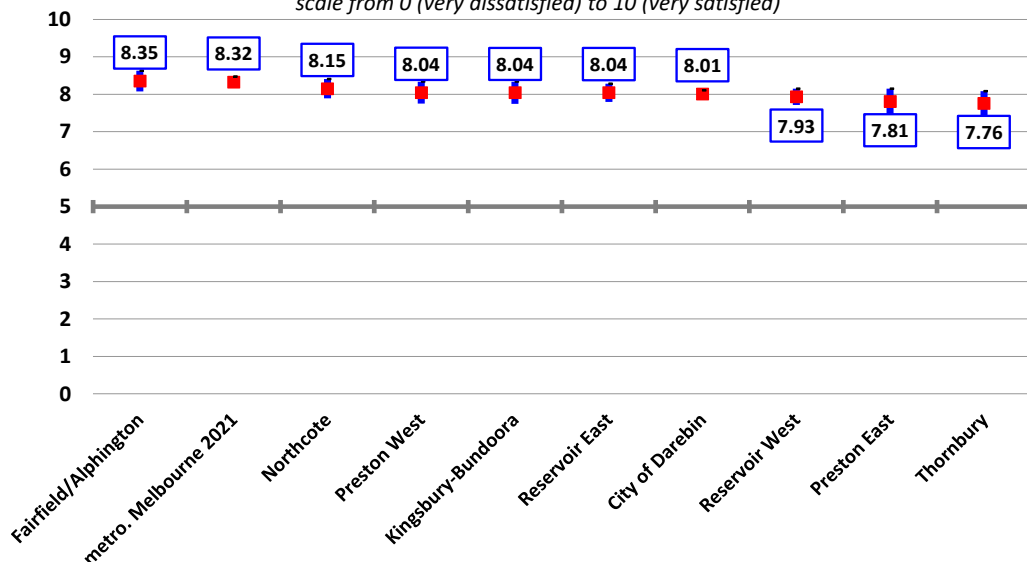
Satisfaction with regular recycling by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the regular recycling observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Fairfield/Alphington** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.

Satisfaction with regular recycling by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in two precincts and declined in six, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington and Preston West.



- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Northcote, Reservoir East, Reservoir West, Preston East, Kingsbury/Bundoora, and Thornbury.

Satisfaction with regular recycling
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	61	7.45	7.84	8.22
	2017-18	59	7.79	8.15	8.52
	2018-19	62	7.48	7.97	8.46
	2020	62	7.75	8.05	8.35
	2021	71	8.07	8.35	8.63
Northcote	2016-17	61	7.54	8.05	8.56
	2017-18	60	7.23	7.68	8.13
	2018-19	58	7.87	8.16	8.44
	2020	171	7.92	8.18	8.44
	2021	146	7.89	8.15	8.41
Preston West	2016-17	61	7.94	8.34	8.75
	2017-18	58	8.00	8.52	9.03
	2018-19	57	7.31	7.67	8.02
	2020	136	7.62	7.86	8.11
	2021	105	7.75	8.04	8.34
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	61	7.97	8.34	8.72
	2017-18	57	7.28	7.72	8.16
	2018-19	61	7.86	8.26	8.67
	2020	75	8.10	8.39	8.67
	2021	93	7.75	8.04	8.34
Reservoir East	2016-17	63	7.83	8.43	9.03
	2017-18	59	7.98	8.31	8.63
	2018-19	63	7.48	7.89	8.30
	2020	152	8.03	8.28	8.53
	2021	191	7.80	8.04	8.28
Reservoir West	2016-17	63	8.32	8.70	9.08
	2017-18	63	7.10	7.60	8.11
	2018-19	61	7.63	7.95	8.28
	2020	177	8.17	8.38	8.59
	2021	161	7.72	7.93	8.15
Preston East	2016-17	61	7.57	8.00	8.43
	2017-18	59	7.90	8.27	8.64
	2018-19	62	7.36	7.84	8.32
	2020	97	7.79	8.10	8.40
	2021	112	7.47	7.81	8.15
Thornbury	2016-17	62	7.42	7.94	8.45
	2017-18	60	7.73	8.08	8.44
	2018-19	59	7.60	7.92	8.23
	2020	115	7.45	7.77	8.09
	2021	94	7.44	7.76	8.08

The following table outlines the reasons why the 54 respondents were not satisfied with the regular recycling service.

The most common reasons raised by respondents was a preference for a more frequent collection.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with regular recycling less than 6

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
More frequent collection	6
Instead of fortnightly make it weekly	4
Recycling should be extended more, separating more types of recyclables	2
Unhappy with size of bin	2
Because sometimes overflows around Main St	1
Can manage better by more composting	1
Depot for plastic bottles recycling required	1
Don't recycle what we recycle in	1
I need a glass only recycling bin	1
If they added soft plastics, then it would be 10	1
More recycling	1
Not sure how well does the Council managed the recycling materials	1
Often at bin capacity before 2-week period, could be more often	1
Same as rubbish	1
Tetra packs aren't recyclable	1
The introduction of fines	1
They don't take everything	1
Where is it going after its collected?	1
Total	28





Green waste recycling

Respondents were asked:

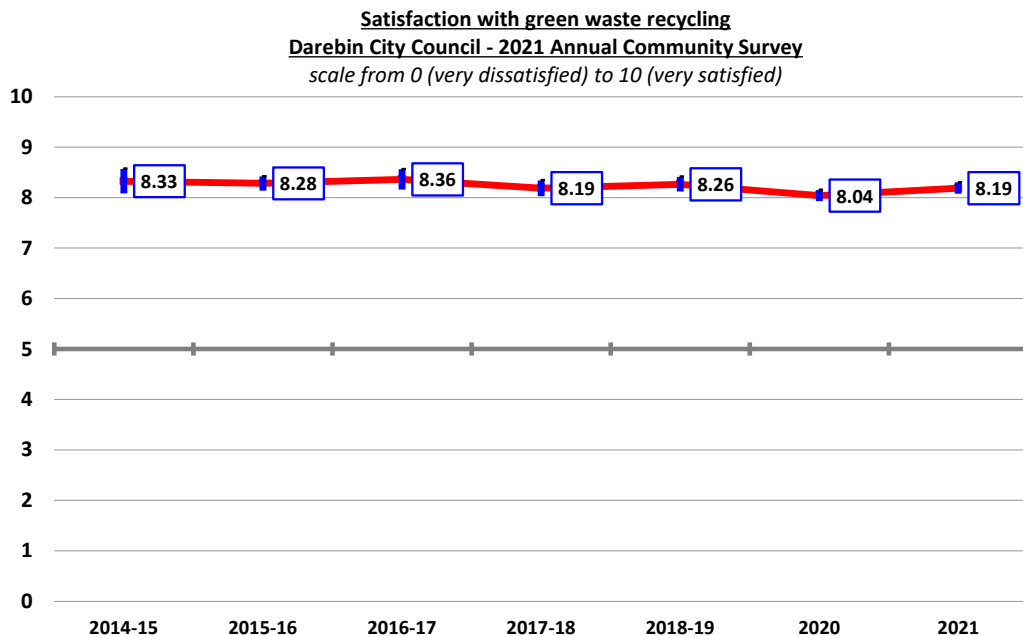
“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the green waste recycling? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with the green waste recycling increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 1.9% to 8.19, although it remains at an “excellent” level.

This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2014-15 of 8.24.

By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably higher than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.96 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with green and / or food and garden waste kerbside collection services has been somewhat volatile across metropolitan Melbourne in recent years, as councils are progressively moving from a three-bin to a four-bin or similar service.

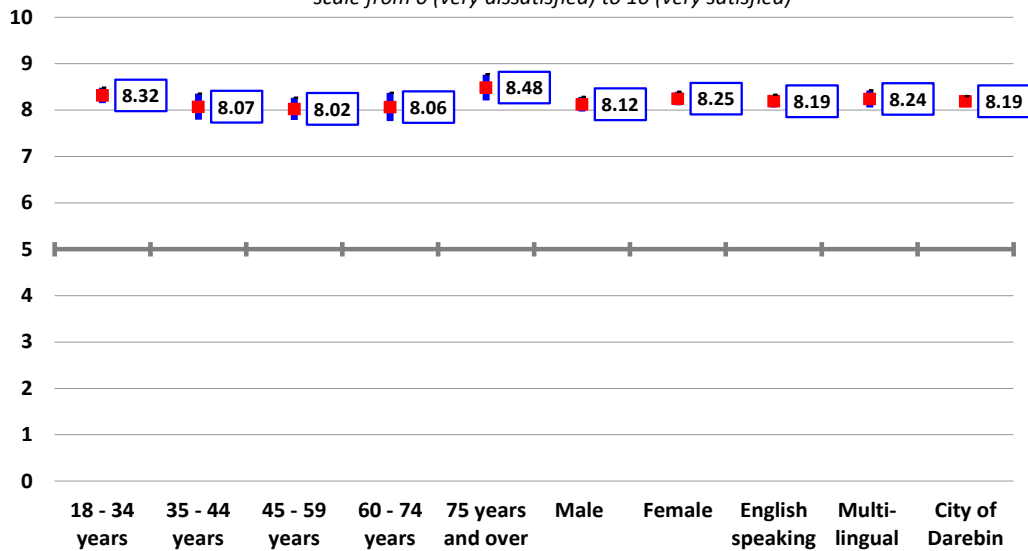


There was no notable variation in satisfaction with the green waste collection service observed by respondent profile.





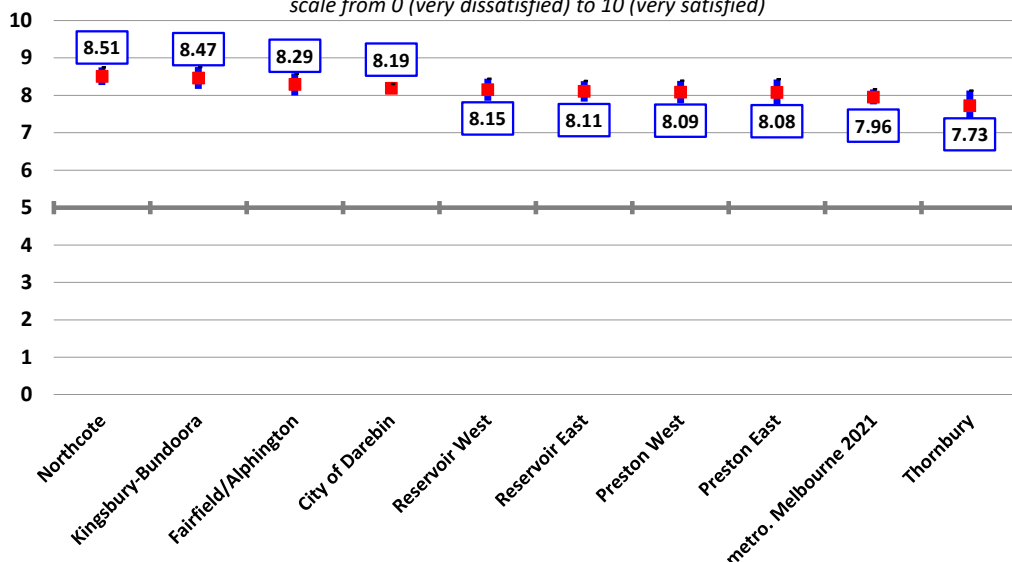
Satisfaction with green waste recycling by respondent profile
 Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction the green waste recycling collection observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Northcote** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.
- **Thornbury** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than average.

Satisfaction with green waste collection service by precinct
 Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in six precincts and declined in two, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Northcote, Kingsbury/Bundoora, Reservoir West, Reservoir East, Preston West, and Preston East.



- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington and Thornbury.

Satisfaction with green waste collection service
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2016-17	37	8.19	8.65	9.11
	2017-18	53	7.59	7.94	8.30
	2018-19	46	7.78	8.22	8.65
	2020	80	7.96	8.20	8.45
	2021	122	8.27	8.51	8.75
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	32	8.26	8.75	9.24
	2017-18	42	8.05	8.52	9.00
	2018-19	48	8.64	8.92	9.20
	2020	48	7.67	8.06	8.45
	2021	66	8.18	8.47	8.76
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	38	7.40	7.87	8.34
	2017-18	45	7.92	8.31	8.70
	2018-19	56	7.96	8.32	8.68
	2020	37	7.94	8.34	8.74
	2021	60	8.00	8.29	8.59
Reservoir West	2016-17	46	7.84	8.35	8.86
	2017-18	50	7.23	7.82	8.41
	2018-19	33	7.70	8.12	8.54
	2020	61	7.56	7.88	8.19
	2021	116	7.86	8.15	8.44
Reservoir East	2016-17	38	7.78	8.53	9.27
	2017-18	55	8.01	8.36	8.72
	2018-19	37	7.81	8.30	8.79
	2020	51	7.70	7.97	8.23
	2021	141	7.83	8.11	8.38
Preston West	2016-17	51	7.90	8.35	8.81
	2017-18	49	8.32	8.71	9.11
	2018-19	51	7.51	7.96	8.41
	2020	63	7.67	8.01	8.34
	2021	84	7.79	8.09	8.39
Preston East	2016-17	38	7.33	8.05	8.78
	2017-18	48	7.88	8.27	8.66
	2018-19	47	7.84	8.30	8.76
	2020	41	7.62	7.91	8.19
	2021	80	7.73	8.08	8.42
Thornbury	2016-17	35	7.54	8.11	8.68
	2017-18	45	7.41	7.96	8.50
	2018-19	45	7.89	8.22	8.55
	2020	50	7.65	7.96	8.26
	2021	68	7.33	7.73	8.13





The following table outlines the reasons why the 41 respondents were not satisfied with the green waste recycling service

The most common reasons raised by respondents was a preference for a more frequent collection.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with green waste recycling less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Green waste needs to be picked up on a weekly basis during summer months	4
All sorts of stuff in the bins makes bad smells	1
Bin should be bigger or more frequently	1
Bin size is small	1
Can't use decomposable bags in it.	1
Green bin not enough. Big property and it's not emptied.	1
Need a upsize of green bins no extra cost	1
Same as garbage collection	1
There should be upsized they are tiny	1
Total	12

The availability of bicycle parking

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking? If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?”

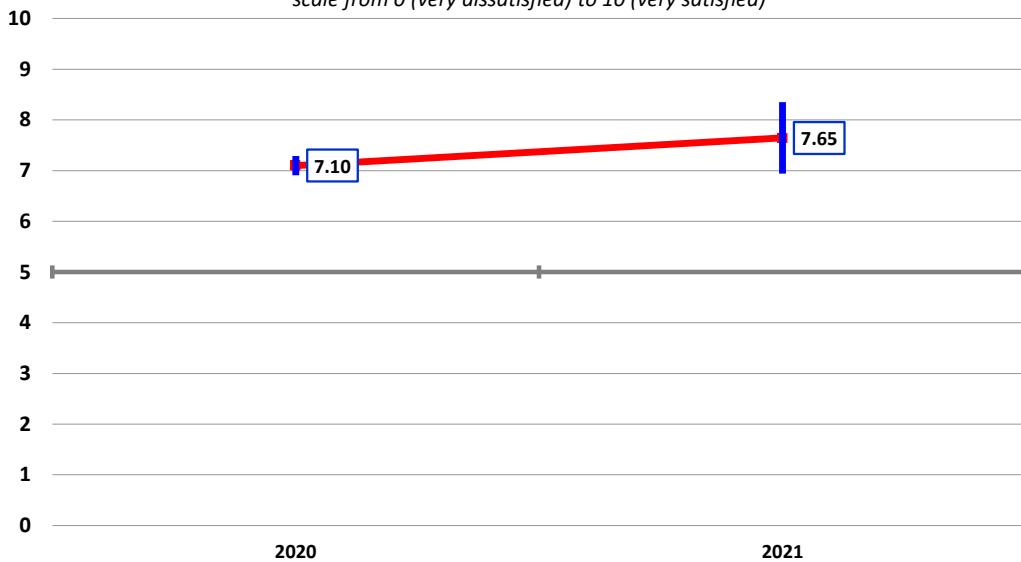
Satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 7.8% to 7.65, which is a “very good”, up from a “good” level of satisfaction.

This result is based on a sample of 268 respondents who provided a satisfaction score for the availability of bicycle parking. This represents 26.8% of the total sample of 1,000 respondents.





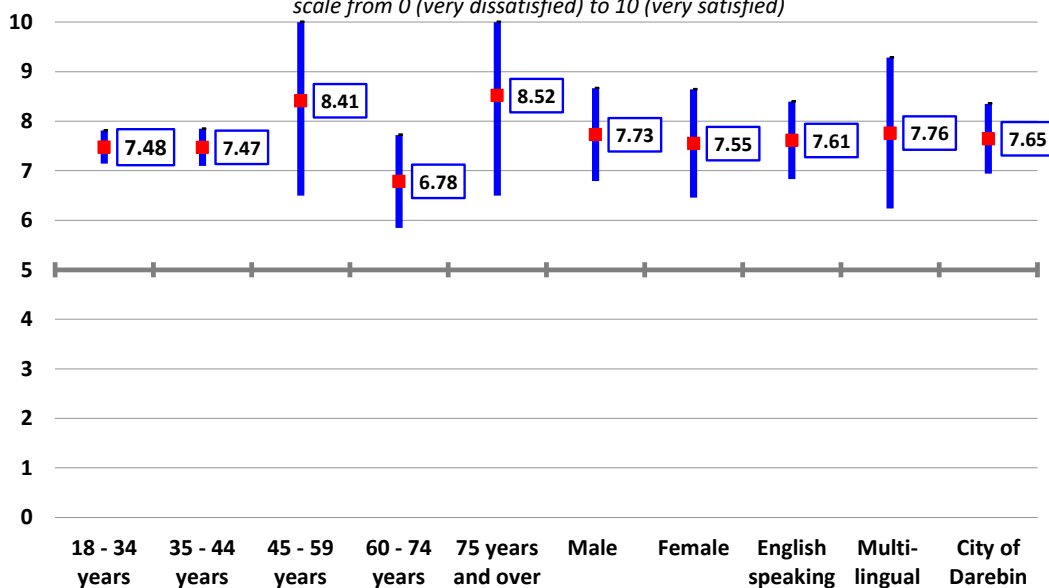
Satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Given the relatively small sample size at the age structure level, the 95% confidence interval (the vertical blue bars) around the average satisfaction scores is large for many age groups.

Consequently, there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking observed by respondent profile.

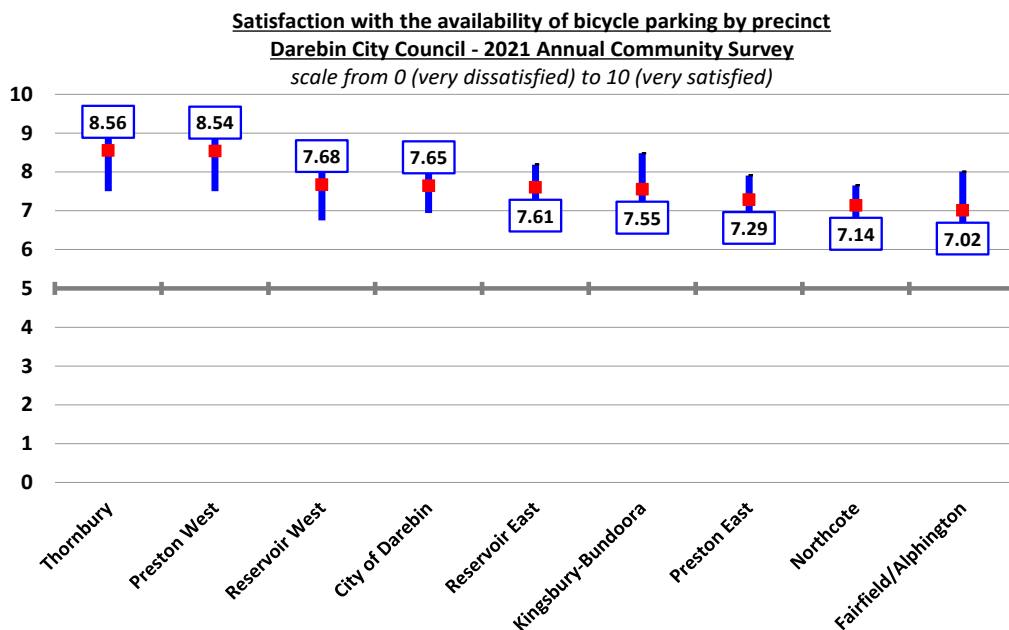
Satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking observed across the municipality, attention is drawn to the following:

- **Thornbury and Preston West** – respondents were somewhat, but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at “excellent” levels of satisfaction.
- **Northcote and Fairfield/Alphington** – respondents were somewhat, but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at “good” rather than “very good” levels.



Satisfaction with this service increased in six precincts and declined in two, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston West, Reservoir East, Kingsbury/Bundoora, Preston East, Thornbury, and Fairfield/Alphington.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Reservoir West, and Northcote.



Satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Thornbury	2020	52	6.29	6.80	7.31
	2021	37	7.50	8.56	9.50
Preston West	2020	57	6.47	6.97	7.48
	2021	30	7.50	8.54	9.50
Reservoir West	2020	69	7.35	7.72	8.09
	2021	21	6.75	7.68	8.60
Reservoir East	2020	43	6.03	6.81	7.58
	2021	41	7.03	7.61	8.19
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2020	19	6.19	7.05	7.91
	2021	20	6.63	7.55	8.48
Preston East	2020	36	6.39	6.95	7.50
	2021	30	6.67	7.29	7.91
Northcote	2020	102	6.86	7.25	7.64
	2021	66	6.63	7.14	7.65
Fairfield-Alphington	2020	30	5.94	6.60	7.25
	2021	23	6.02	7.02	8.01

The following table outlines the reasons why the 36 respondents were not satisfied with the availability of bicycle parking. The main concern appears to be a perception that there is insufficient bicycle parking available.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with the availability of bicycle parking less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number of responses)

Response	Number
Not enough bike parks / racks	7
Could be more	2
No parking at all	2
Car drivers pay for roads when bicycle riders are not paying anything	1
It is terrible. Not enough	1
Jessie St	1
More near the station and High St shops	1
Not enough of it Northcote Plaza, swimming pool	1
Not enough parking around Preston	1
There needs to be more room to park bikes around shopping centres	1
Too much of it. Need to reduce it on High St	1
Very limited around Fairfield	1
Total	20



Darebin Libraries

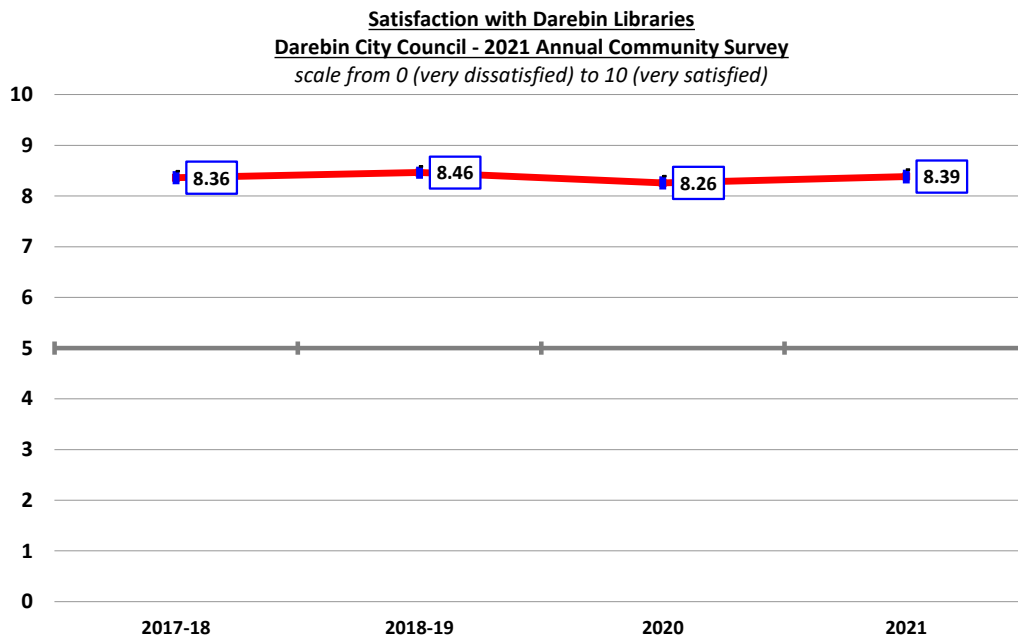
Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Darebin Libraries services? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with Darebin Libraries increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 1.6% to 8.39, although it remains at an “excellent” level.

This result is marginally above the long-term average since 2017-18 of 8.37.

By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 8.58 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

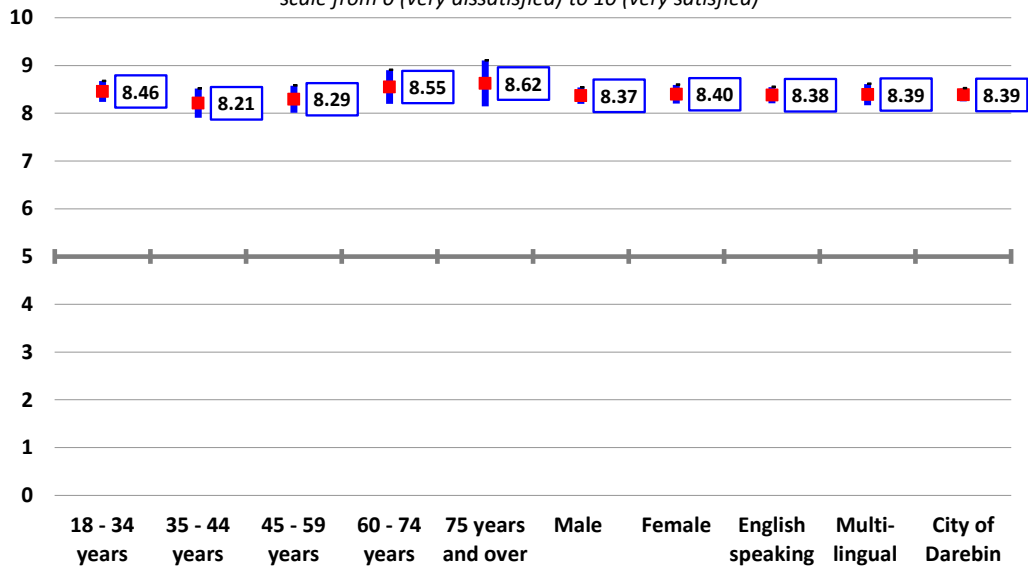


There was no statistically significant or meaningful variation in satisfaction with Darebin Libraries observed by respondent profile, with respondents from all age groups, gender, and language spoken at home rating satisfaction at “excellent” levels.



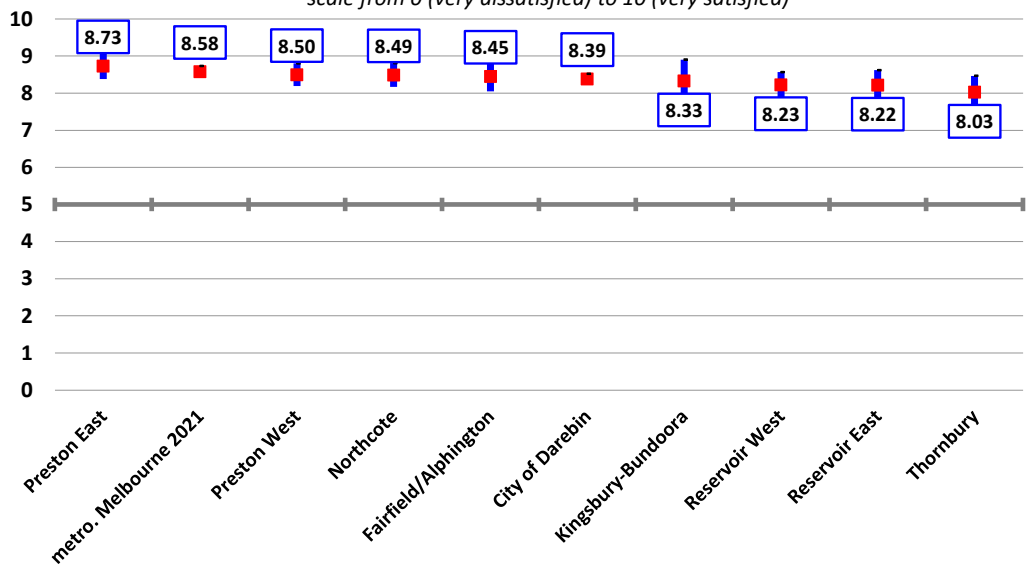


Satisfaction with Darebin libraries by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Darebin Libraries observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

Satisfaction with Darebin libraries by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in five precincts and declined in three, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Preston East, Preston West, Northcote, Fairfield/Alphington, and Reservoir West.





- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.

Satisfaction with Darebin libraries
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Preston East	2017-18	57	7.96	8.34	8.72
	2018-19	73	8.27	8.66	9.04
	2020	55	8.04	8.32	8.61
	2021	56	8.38	8.73	9.08
Preston West	2017-18	49	8.33	8.67	9.01
	2018-19	67	8.10	8.45	8.80
	2020	77	8.04	8.28	8.52
	2021	51	8.19	8.50	8.80
Northcote	2017-18	92	7.97	8.30	8.63
	2018-19	61	8.18	8.56	8.93
	2020	117	8.08	8.36	8.63
	2021	77	8.17	8.49	8.81
Fairfield-Alphington	2017-18	33	8.20	8.60	9.00
	2018-19	80	7.98	8.28	8.57
	2020	38	7.66	8.06	8.45
	2021	32	8.05	8.45	8.85
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2017-18	23	7.52	8.18	8.85
	2018-19	60	8.12	8.40	8.68
	2020	23	8.08	8.70	9.32
	2021	16	7.76	8.33	8.90
Reservoir West	2017-18	73	7.52	7.93	8.34
	2018-19	44	8.30	8.61	8.93
	2020	111	7.62	8.00	8.37
	2021	58	7.89	8.23	8.57
Reservoir East	2017-18	86	7.93	8.25	8.56
	2018-19	54	8.11	8.46	8.82
	2020	72	7.99	8.34	8.70
	2021	57	7.82	8.22	8.62
Thornbury	2017-18	57	8.60	8.88	9.15
	2018-19	73	7.90	8.21	8.51
	2020	63	7.89	8.32	8.75
	2021	44	7.59	8.03	8.46





The following table outlines the reasons why the 10 respondents were not satisfied with Darebin library services.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with Darebin Libraries services less than 6
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Policies around renting and fees for children's books needs to be changed	1
Update the facilities	1
Total	2

Council festivals and events

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council festivals and events? If rated less than 6, why do you say that?”

Satisfaction with Council festivals and events increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 3.2% to 7.67, although it remains at a “very good” level.

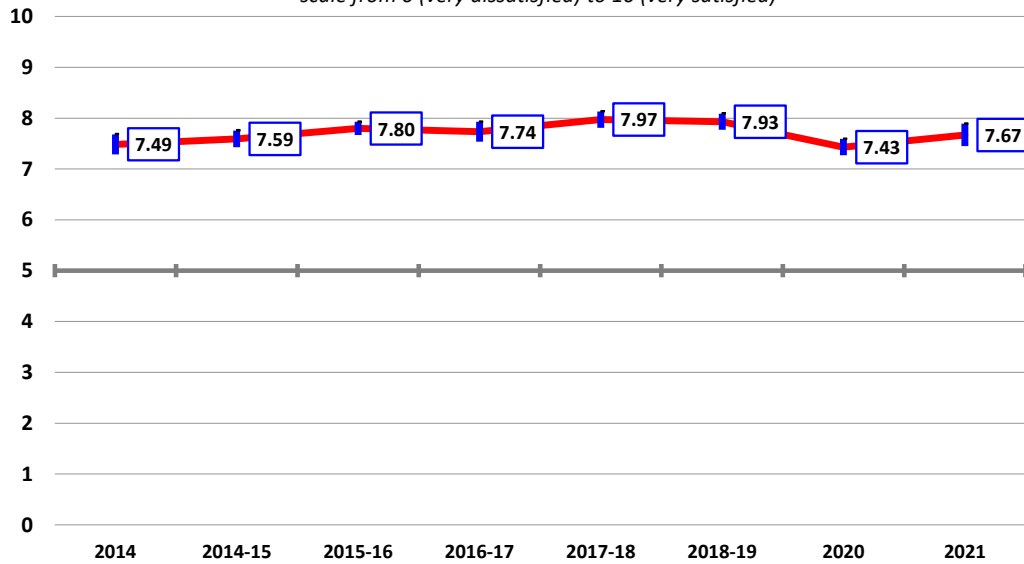
This result is marginally below the long-term average since 2014 of 7.70.

By way of comparison, this result was almost identical to the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 7.68 recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



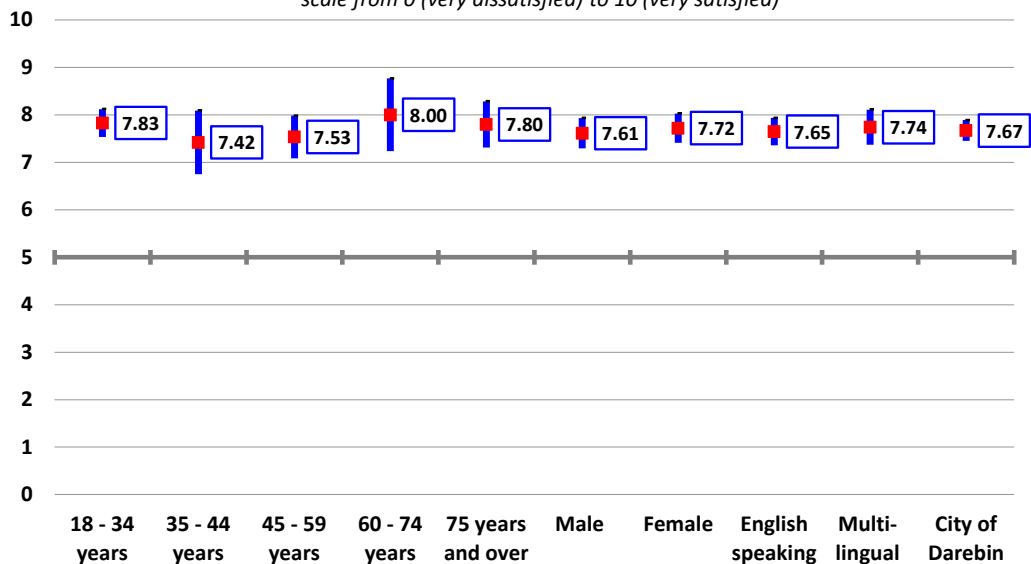


Satisfaction with Council festival and events
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was no statistically significant or meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council festivals and events observed by respondent profile, with respondents from all age groups, gender, and language spoken at home rating satisfaction at either “very good” or “excellent” levels.

Satisfaction with Council's festivals and events by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)

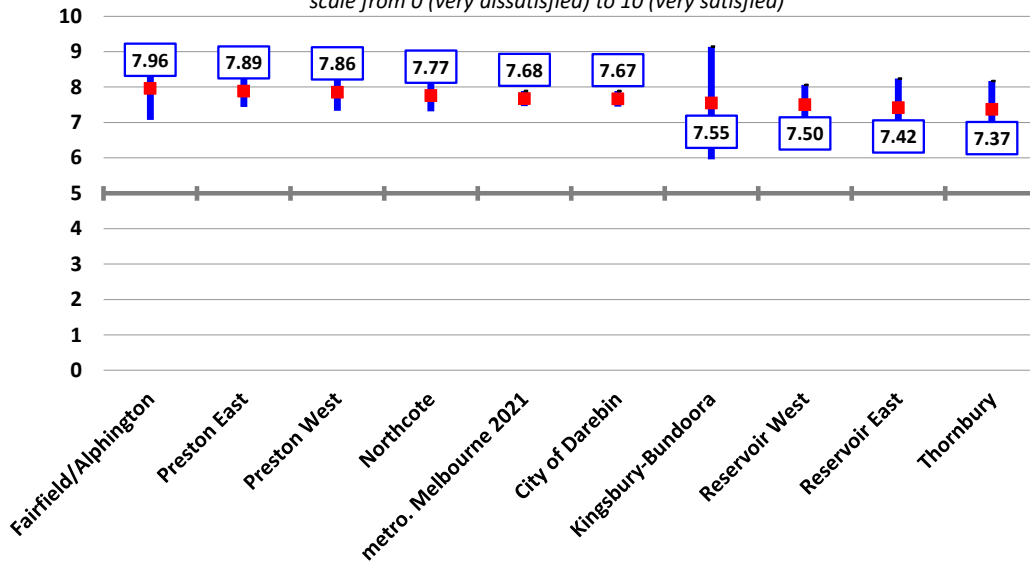


There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council festivals and events observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.





Satisfaction with Council's festivals and events by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Satisfaction with this service increased in seven precincts and declined in one, although none of these variations were statistically significant:

- **Increased satisfaction** – in Fairfield/Alphington, Preston East, Preston West, Northcote, Reservoir West, Reservoir East, and Thornbury.
- **Decreased satisfaction** – in Kingsbury/Bundoora.





Satisfaction with Council festivals and events
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Fairfield-Alphington	2016-17	44	7.12	7.59	8.07
	2017-18	30	7.99	8.43	8.88
	2018-19	30	7.56	8.00	8.44
	2020	20	6.08	6.84	7.60
	2021	9	7.07	7.96	8.85
Preston East	2016-17	39	7.26	7.82	8.38
	2017-18	25	6.76	7.48	8.20
	2018-19	37	7.17	7.59	8.02
	2020	45	7.32	7.77	8.21
	2021	29	7.44	7.89	8.33
Preston West	2016-17	42	7.49	8.00	8.51
	2017-18	41	7.81	8.22	8.63
	2018-19	43	7.57	8.02	8.48
	2020	52	7.55	7.84	8.13
	2021	18	7.33	7.86	8.39
Northcote	2016-17	56	7.32	7.71	8.11
	2017-18	30	7.73	8.17	8.61
	2018-19	43	7.35	7.88	8.42
	2020	88	6.97	7.33	7.70
	2021	33	7.32	7.77	8.22
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2016-17	21	6.97	7.81	8.64
	2017-18	17	7.34	8.06	8.77
	2018-19	32	7.75	8.13	8.50
	2020	22	7.09	7.80	8.51
	2021	6	5.96	7.55	9.14
Reservoir West	2016-17	44	7.09	7.64	8.19
	2017-18	47	7.51	7.83	8.15
	2018-19	27	7.52	7.93	8.34
	2020	87	6.91	7.29	7.66
	2021	25	6.95	7.50	8.06
Reservoir East	2016-17	21	7.07	8.00	8.93
	2017-18	32	7.22	7.84	8.47
	2018-19	25	7.57	8.16	8.75
	2020	54	6.79	7.32	7.85
	2021	27	6.59	7.42	8.24
Thornbury	2016-17	39	6.85	7.46	8.07
	2017-18	42	7.66	8.02	8.38
	2018-19	31	7.56	7.87	8.18
	2020	41	6.85	7.27	7.70
	2021	13	6.57	7.37	8.17





Bike and shared paths

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the following aspects of bike and shared paths? If rated either of these less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?”

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with six aspects of bike and shared paths.

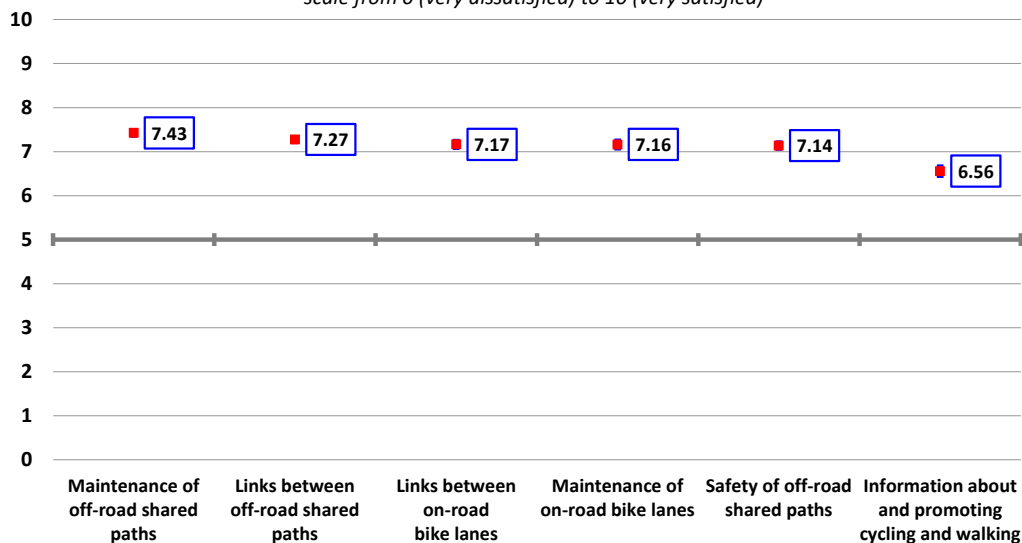
The average satisfaction with these six aspects of bike and shared paths was 7.12 out of a potential 10, down less than one percent on the average of 7.16 recorded last year and the 7.14 the year before.

This remains a “good” level of satisfaction. Clearly satisfaction with bike and shared pathways has remained, overall, very stable at a good level of satisfaction.

Satisfaction with these six aspects of bike and shared paths can best be summarised as follows:

- **Very Good** – for the maintenance of off-road shared paths and the links between off-road shared paths.
- **Good** – for the links between on-road shared paths, the maintenance of on-road bike lanes, the safety of off-road shared paths, and the information about and promoting cycling and walking.

Satisfaction with selected aspects of shared and bike paths
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)

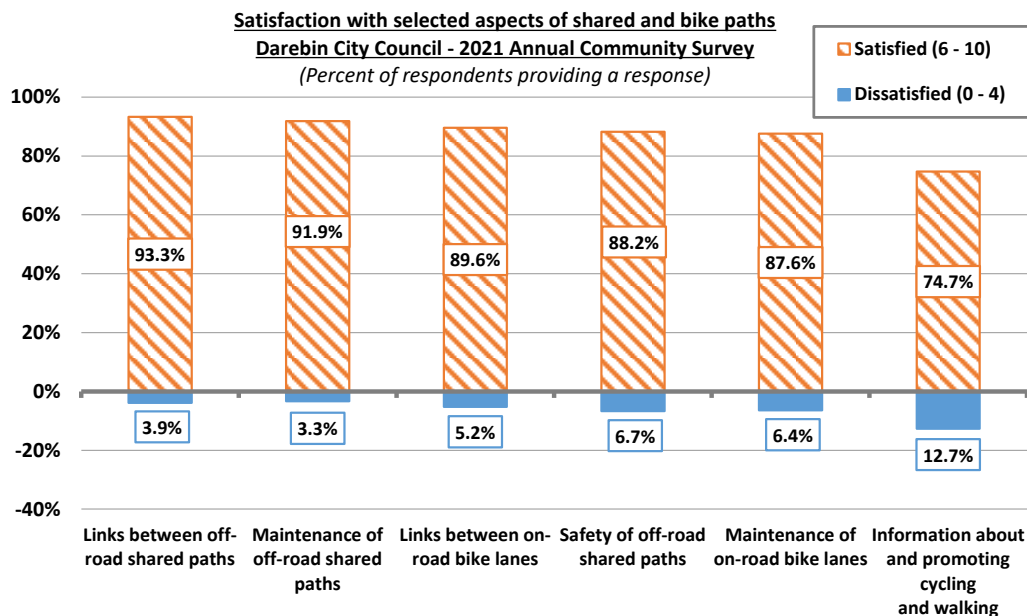




Consistent with the “very good” to “good” levels of average satisfaction with each aspect of bike and shared paths, approximately nine out of 10 respondents rating satisfaction with five of the six aspects of bike and shared paths were “satisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at six or more).

Less than seven percent of respondents were “dissatisfied” (i.e., rated satisfaction at less than five) with five of the six aspects of bike and shared paths.

It is noted that approximately three-quarters of respondents rating satisfaction with the aspect, were satisfied with Council providing information about and promoting cycling and walking, whilst 12.7% were dissatisfied.



Satisfaction with selected aspects of shared and bike paths
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Aspect	2021 Number	2021 Mean	2020	2018 - 2019	2017 - 2018	Moving average
Maintenance of off-road shared paths	753	7.43	7.44	7.39	6.91	7.29
Links between off-road shared paths	716	7.27	7.27	7.15	7.11	7.20
Links between on-road bike lanes	566	7.17	7.04	6.90	6.95	7.01
Maintenance of on-road bike lanes	597	7.16	7.09	7.23	6.92	7.10
Safety of off-road shared paths	752	7.14	7.12	7.17	6.93	7.09
Information about cycling and walking	704	6.56	7.00	7.01	6.43	6.75
<i>Average satisfaction</i>		<i>7.12</i>	<i>7.16</i>	<i>7.14</i>	<i>6.88</i>	<i>7.06</i>





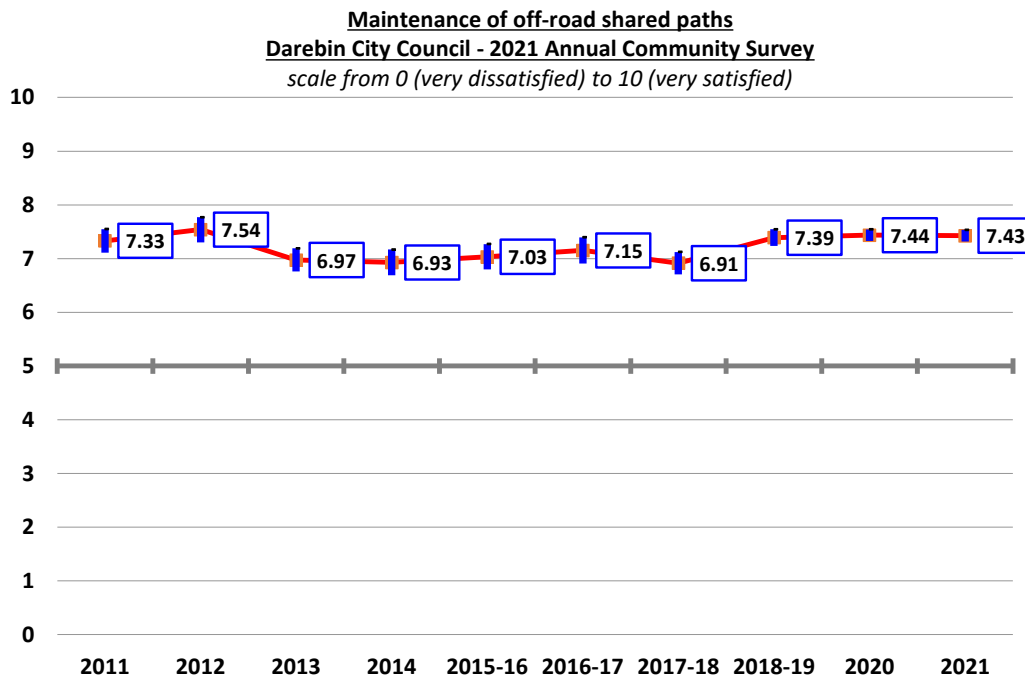
Satisfaction with selected aspects of shared and bike paths
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Aspect	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say
Links between off-road shared paths	3.9%	2.8%	93.3%	284
Maintenance of off-road shared paths	3.3%	4.8%	91.9%	247
Links between on-road bike lanes	5.2%	5.2%	89.6%	434
Safety of off-road shared paths	6.7%	5.1%	88.2%	248
Maintenance of on-road bike lanes	6.4%	6.1%	87.6%	403
Information about cycling and walking	12.7%	12.6%	74.7%	296

Maintenance of off-road shared paths

Satisfaction with the maintenance of off-road shared paths remained essentially stable again this year at 7.43, or a “very good” level of satisfaction.

This result remains comfortably above the long-term average satisfaction since 2011 of 7.21.

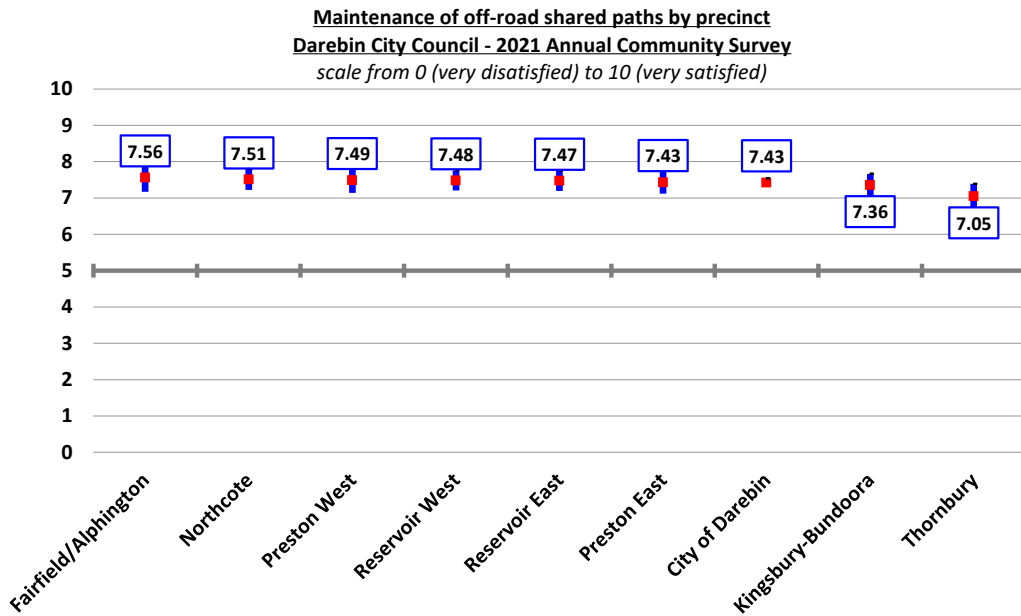


There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the maintenance of off-road shared paths observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.





It is, however, noted that respondents in Thornbury were somewhat, albeit not measurably less satisfied than average and at a “good” rather than a “very good” level.



The following table outlines the reasons why the 61 respondents were not satisfied with the maintenance of off-road shared paths.

The most common reasons why respondents were not satisfied was a perception of insufficient lighting and some concerns around maintenance.

It is noted that several respondents raised other issues not directly related to maintenance, including comments both in support of and opposition to more shared paths.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with maintenance of off-road shared paths less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Not enough lighting and tall grass	3
Not maintained properly, better maintenance required	2
Really happy and need more of them	2
Accidents happen	1
Allow dogs to be unleashed	1
Could be widened	1



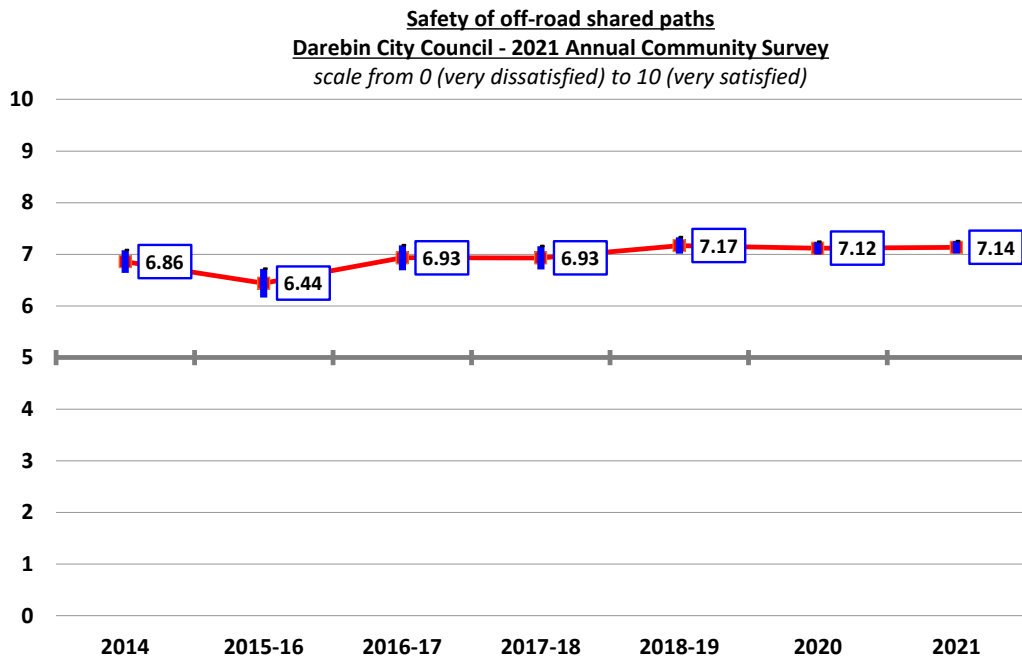
Cycling is more prioritised than car	1
Don't approve	1
Elm St has trucks entering and caused cars damaged and hard for bikes to move around	1
Gardening, weeding required along the bike path on St George's Rd	1
General concern	1
Have a sealed pathway instead of land of landscape pathway	1
I tripped over uneven surface	1
Inconsiderate to pedestrians	1
Incredibly patchy pavements	1
It is dangerous	1
Litter and weeds need to be removed on Merri Creek; native trees needed to be planted	1
More signage, more monitoring of dogs off-leash	1
Poor condition, narrow, slow the other walkers	1
Poor maintenance of Gresswell Forest	1
Separation St doesn't have allocated paths	1
St George's Rd near Northcote High is bumpy and narrow	1
Terrible	1
The bikers have shared paths and they are causing inconvenience to the pedestrians and the cars	1
The roads are bumpy and not safe to walk on	1
There should be more of them. Get bicycles off the road	1
There shouldn't be that many bike lanes	1
Too many cracks	1
Total	32

Safety of off-road shared paths

Satisfaction with the safety of off-road shared paths remained essentially stable this year, up less than one percent to 7.14, which remains a "good" level of satisfaction.

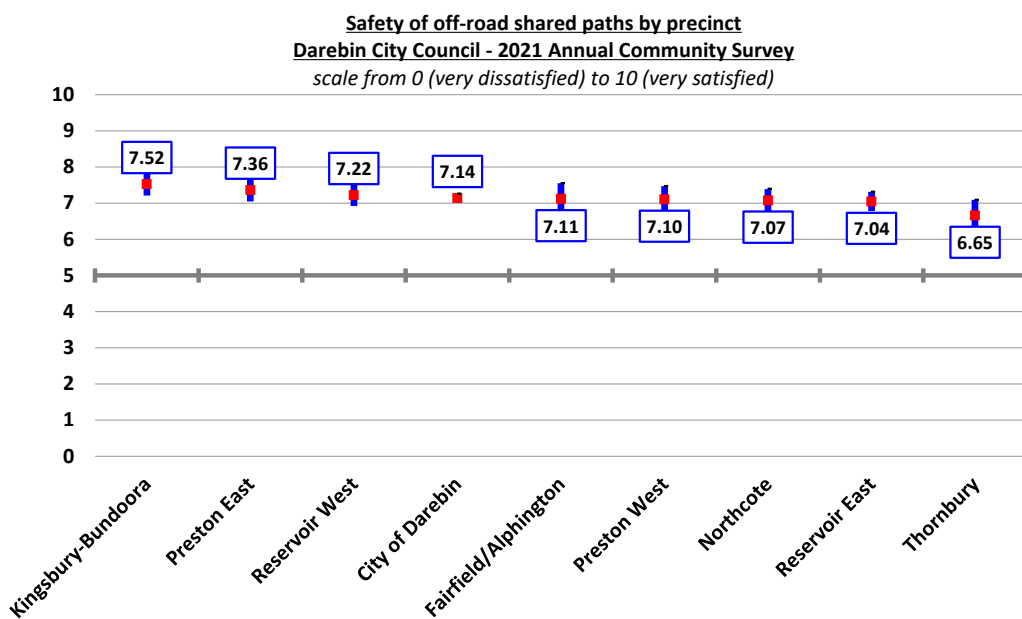
This result remains above the long-term average satisfaction since 2014 of 6.94.





Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the safety of off-road shared paths observed by precinct, it is noted that:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.
- **Thornbury** – respondents were notably but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average.



The following table outlines the reasons why the 89 respondents were not satisfied with the safety of off-road shared paths.

The most common reasons why respondents were not satisfied were concerns around the behaviour of cyclists, concerns around lighting, a general perception that it is not safe, and a range of other issues.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with safety of off-road shared paths less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Cyclists too fast and may bump into the pedestrians	7
Could do with more lighting	2
Darebin Creek is very rocky	2
I don't think it's safe	2
Inconsiderate cyclists	2
Not enough lights, need more	2
Not wide enough, should be lanes	2
The bike and pedestrian path is too narrow, could be wider	2
A lot of accidents	1
Better lighting required around Darebin Creek near skate ring	1
Cycling going around corners	1
Don't think very safe at all, based on past accidents	1
Elm St been has trucks entering and caused cars damaged and hard for bikes to move around	1
Heidelberg Rd	1
Issue with the bikers. Because of the Corona virus there is not enough space to maintain 1.5 meters distance	1
Merri Creek Trail is popular for attacks	1
Poor maintenance of Gresswel Forest	1
Scary paths along Heidelberg Rd and Westgarth St	1
Shady and dodgy people lurking around north of Darebin Creek	1
The cracks are hazardous	1
The safety would be better if cyclists were more cautious, ringing their bells	1
The sign and roads need to be maintained	1
There should be limit on how fast the cycles ride when there are kids walking	1
There's everything on one way. Dogs, cyclists, pedestrians. Not a good mix	1
They aren't well maintained	1
Too much traffic on Merri Creek Trail	1
Trip hazards due to patches	1
Very dangerous	1
Total	41



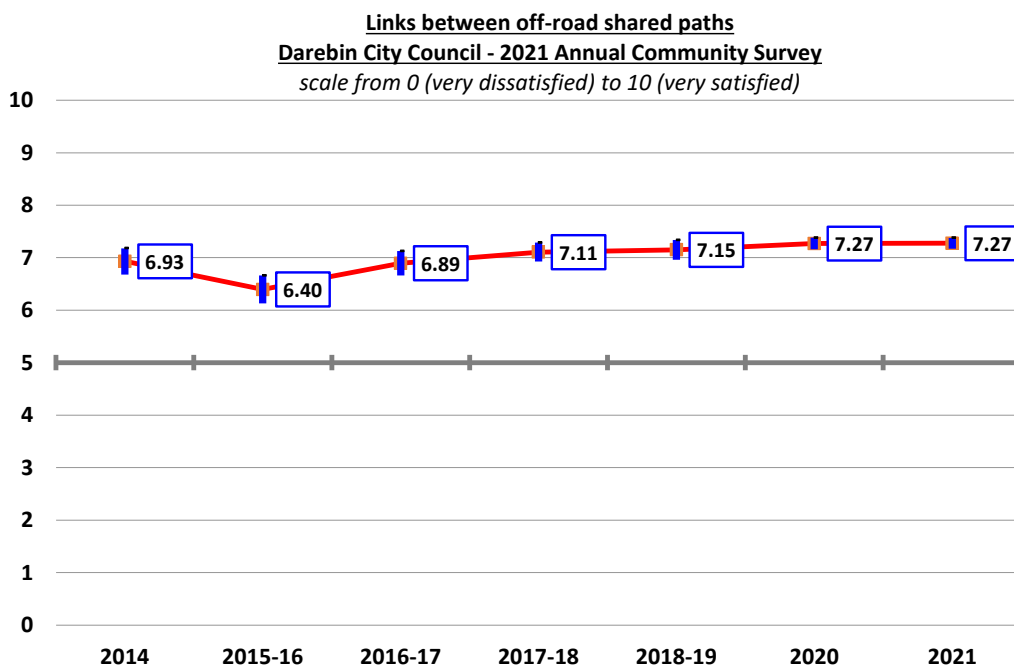


Links between off-road shared paths

Satisfaction with the links between off-road shared paths remained stable this year at 7.27, or a “very good” level of satisfaction.

This remains the highest level of satisfaction recorded for this aspect of bike and shared paths recorded since it was first measured in 2014.

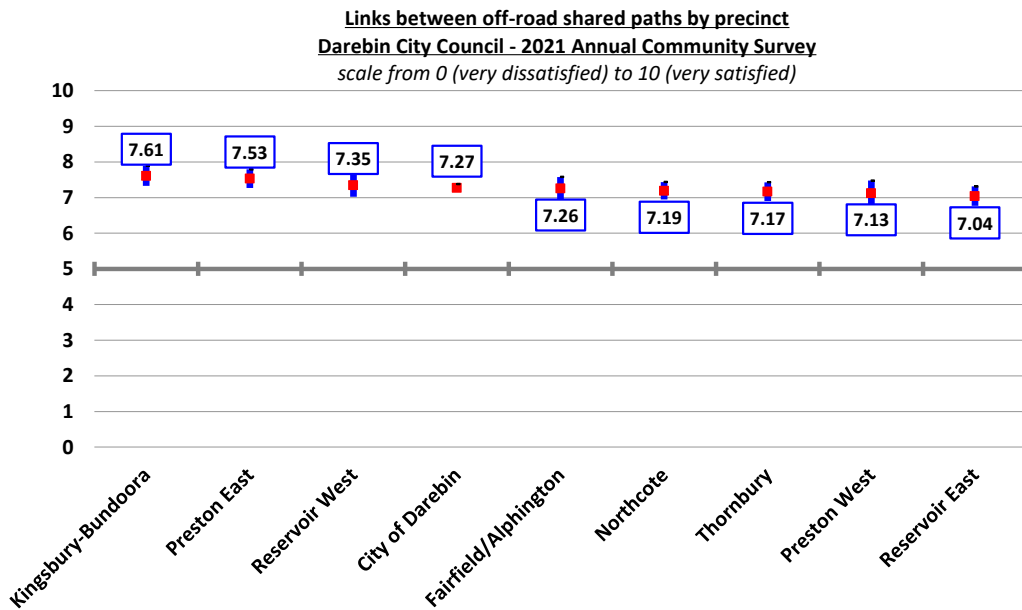
This result is above the long-term average since 2014 of seven.



Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the safety of off-road shared paths observed by precinct, it is noted that:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.





The following table outlines the reasons why the 48 respondents were not satisfied with the links between off-road shared paths.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with links between off-road shared paths less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

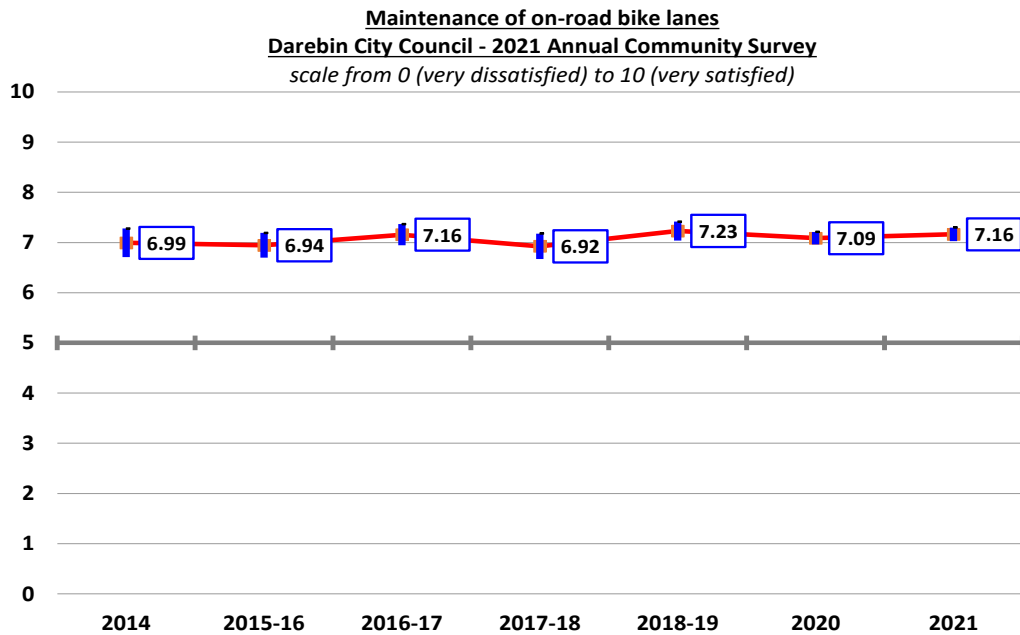
Response	Number
Could improve / do better	3
There is a lot of congestion caused	2
Bikes are parked unaccounted for	1
Can be a bit confusing	1
Don't know any information, great to have flyers about parks	1
Elm St had trucks entering and caused cars damaged and hard for bikes to move around	1
Grass is too high. So, view is blocked at a few places	1
Heidelberg Rd, St George's Rd, Westgarth. Not good paths, bad quality and close to dangerous roads	1
Need more paths, not just building buildings	1
Needs more signage	1
Should be on the back roads	1
There is a missing link between Russell station and bike paths	1
Total	15





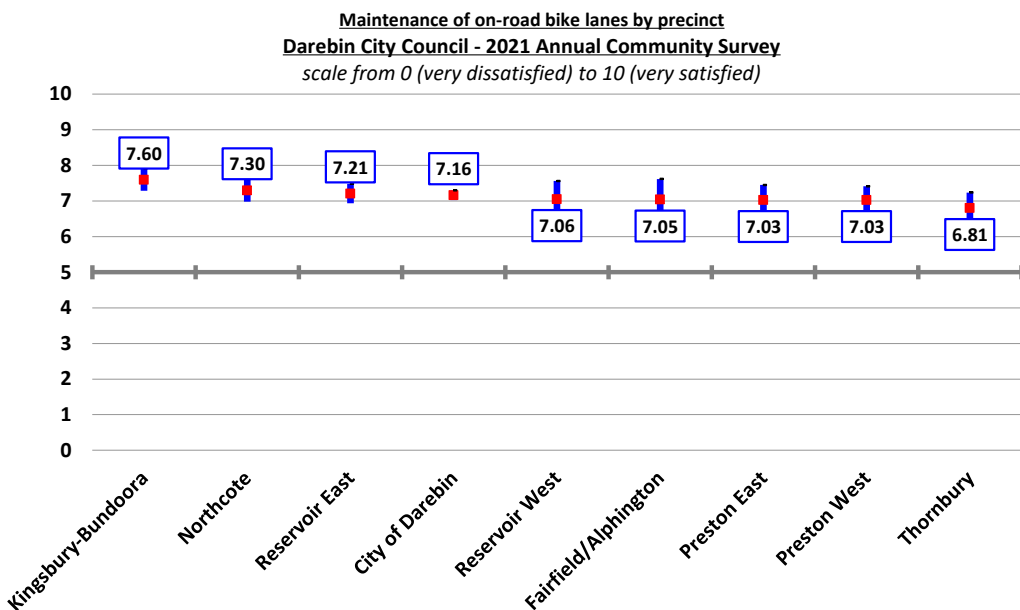
Maintenance of on-road bike lanes

Satisfaction with the maintenance of on-road bike lanes increased marginally but not measurably this year, up less than one percent to 7.16, although it remains at a “good” level. This result remains above the long-term average since 2014 of 7.07.



Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the maintenance of on-road bike lanes observed by precinct, it is noted that:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” level.



The following table outlines the reasons why the 61 respondents were not satisfied with the maintenance of on-road bike lanes.

A range of issues were raised by a small number of respondents, including concerns around the maintenance of the surface.

It is noted that several respondents provided responses not directly related to the maintenance of the bike lanes, including a generalised concern that the bike lanes are not safe.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with maintenance of on-road bike lanes less than 6 and locations of concern

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

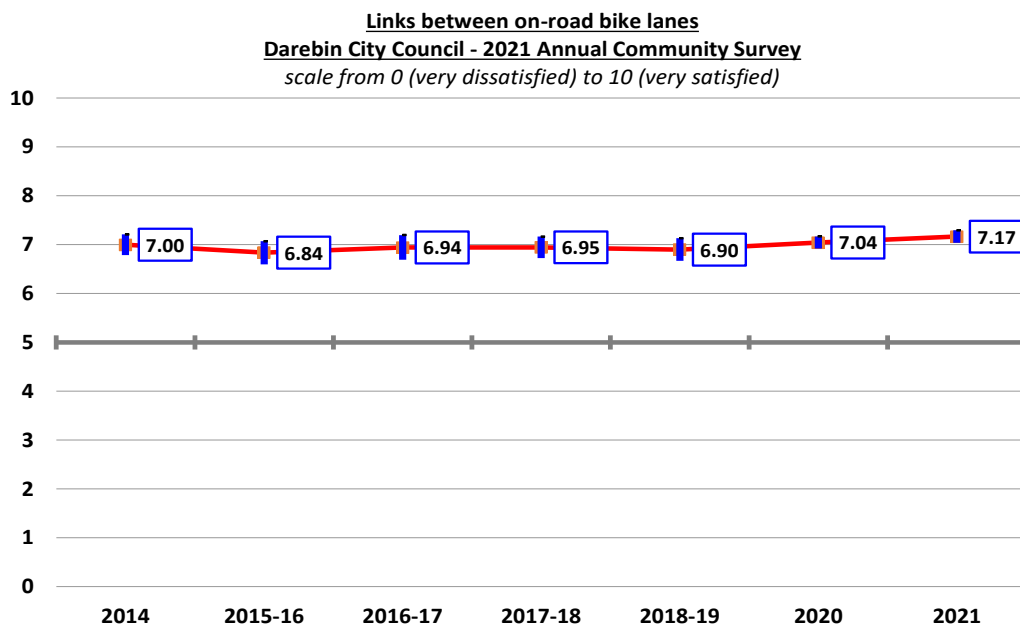
<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Dangerous	2
Not big enough, not safe	2
There don't need to be too many bike lanes, stop making road smaller	2
Could be better	1
Could be safer	1
Debris on bike lane	1
Don't approve	1
It causes most of the cars to backup	1
Lanes disappears in the middle of the road	1
Links not adequately signed	1
More clearly marked and should be visible for driver	1
More of that	1
Not enough space for cars to drive	1
Should have wider and further bike lanes for safety	1
The bikers are really fast there should be signals / lights	1
The new ones are ridiculous	1
The whole bike lanes not accessible	1
They're taking up too much space	1
Uneven and bumpy roads into the gutter	1
Uneven and poorly laid surfaces, bike lanes need to be more obvious and repainted	1
Unlevelled	1
Way too many bike lanes	1
<i>Specific locations</i>	
Could be improved, particularly up High St near Clifton Hill	1
Bike lanes aren't obvious enough on roads on High St	1
Doesn't feel safe riding bike on High St	1
Edward St and Gilbert Rd	1
It's too narrow for bikes Victoria Rd	1



Lane disappears in the middle of Victoria Rd	1
South Cres bike path takes away parking	1
St Georges Rd bike lane needs to be investigated	1
The lane on Albert St Fairfield Rd the connecting is poor needs maintenance	1
They are taking lanes out of Heidelberg Rd at the expense of much needed car lanes	1
Westgarth St	1
The Midlands area, along High St	1
Too many bike lanes from Clifton Hill	1
Uneven lanes around Preston	1
Victoria St is very poor	1
Total	40

Links between on-road bike lanes

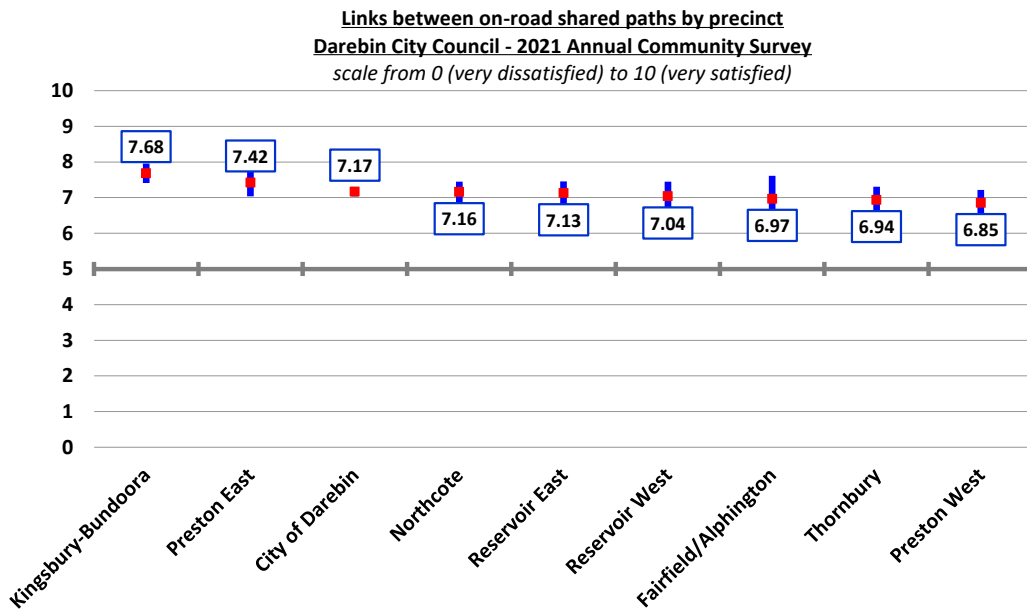
Satisfaction with the links between on-road bike lanes increased marginally but not measurably this year, up 1.8% to 7.17, although it remains at a “good” level. This result remains above the long-term average since 2014 of 6.98 and is the highest score.



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the links between on-road bike lanes observed by precinct, it is noted that:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” level.





The following table outlines the reasons why the 59 respondents were not satisfied with the links between on-road bike lanes.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with links between on-road bike lanes less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Elm St has trucks entering and caused cars damaged and hard for bikes to move around	1
Heidelberg Rd on-road bike lanes disrupt the flow of traffic	1
Murray St, St George's St intersection	1
Not adequately indicated	1
Not enough	1
Not equipped for cyclists	1
Not sufficient room	1
Reducing streets lanes for bikes, at the expense of drivers	1
The paths aren't well maintained	1
Their placing on the roads is clearly not considered, there are more people in cars than the bikes. Why do they keep installing bike lanes when there are more cars?	1
Total	10

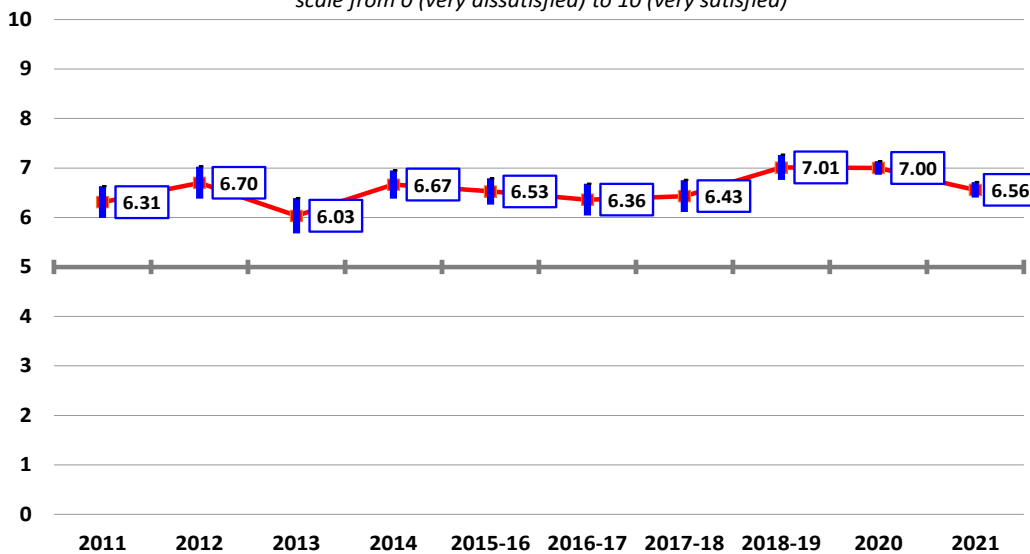




Information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin

Satisfaction with Council providing information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin declined measurably this year, down 6.3% to 6.56, although it remains at a “good” level. This result is identical to the long-term average since 2011.

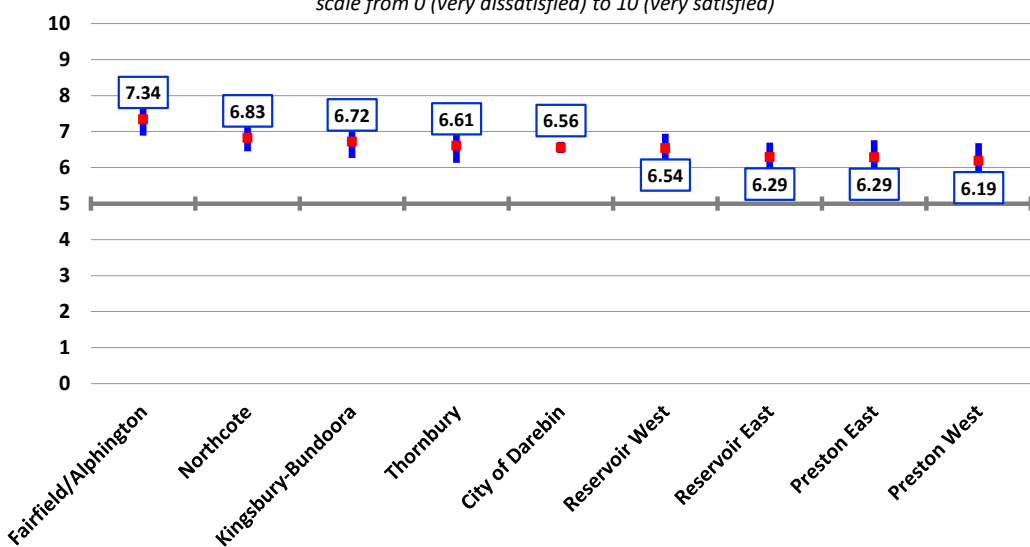
Information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin
 Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was statistically significant variation in satisfaction with this aspect observed by precinct, it is noted that:

- **Fairfield/Alphington** – respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” level.

Information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin by precinct
 Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



The following table outlines the reasons why the 178 respondents were not satisfied with Council providing information on and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin.

The most common reasons why these respondents were not satisfied was a perception that they had not seen anything or were not aware of it.

Reasons for rating satisfaction with Council providing information on and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin less than 6 and locations of concern
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Haven't seen anything about it / not aware	18
They haven't provided enough information to the residents	9
Better communication and promotions required	7
Didn't receive any information from the Council	3
I haven't observed communication or promotion in any form by the Council	3
Do not have flyers or information about parks	2
I haven't seen any such initiatives taken by the Council	2
Need more information about walking	2
Bike paths are hard to understand, navigating routes to work are difficult	1
Could be a bit more	1
Didn't inform or consultation about bike lane pop ups	1
Need to maintain in promotion of cycling, done well in the past	1
No use in the local newspaper	1
Not enough information or letters	1
Nothing within easy view	1
Poor	1
Promote bike but not at the detriment of cars	1
Separate path for walking and cycling	1
They haven't provided enough information to the residents in the East area	1
They need to take more initiatives to provide information to promote walking	1
Too much	1
Total	59





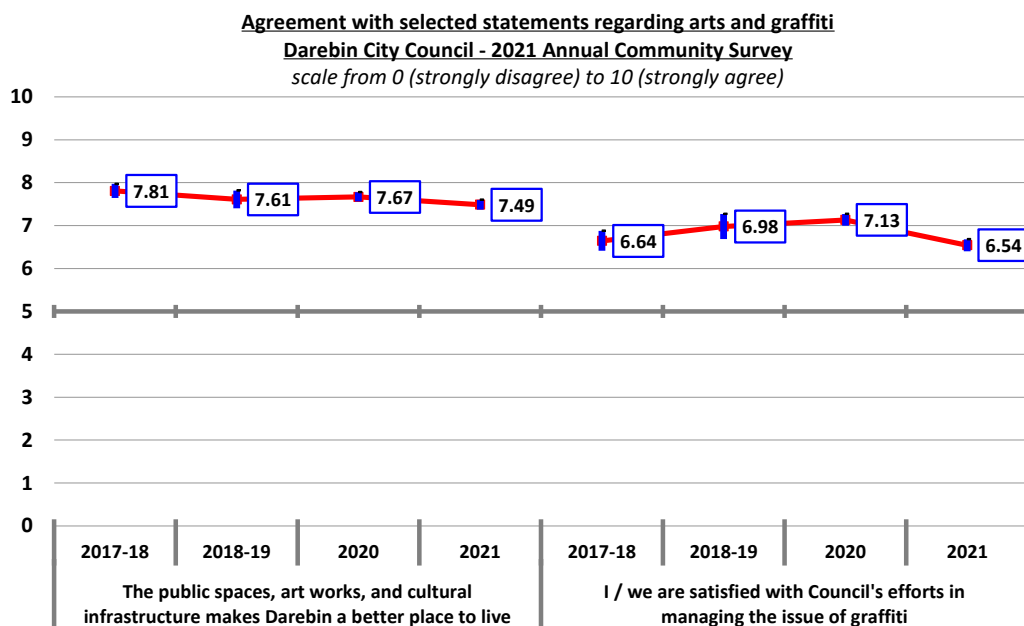
Arts and graffiti

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your level of agreement with the statement about arts and graffiti?”

There was a notable but not measurable decline in agreement that “the public spaces, art works and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live” this year, down 2.3% to 7.49, although it remains a “strong” level of agreement.

There was a larger, statistically significant, decline in agreement that “I / we are satisfied with Council’s efforts in managing the issue of graffiti” recorded this year, down 8.3% to 6.54. This is now a “moderate” rather than a “strong” level of agreement.

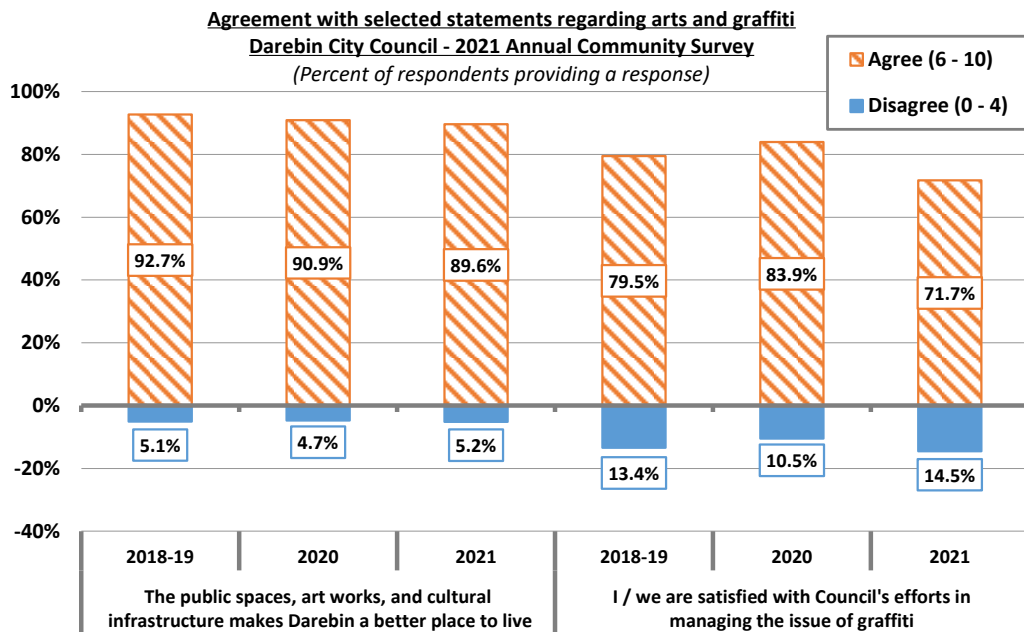


Consistent with the strong average agreement, approximately four-fifths of respondents providing a response to this question, “agreed” (i.e., rated agreement at six or more) that “the public spaces, art works, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live”, whilst 5.2% “disagreed” (i.e., rated agreement at less than five).

There was a decline this year, in the proportion of respondents who “agreed” that they “are satisfied with Council’s efforts in managing the issue of graffiti”, down sharply from 83.9% last year to 71.7% this year.

There was a smaller but still notable increase in the proportion of respondents who disagreed with this statement, up from 10.5% to 14.5%.





Agreement with selected statements regarding arts and graffiti
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Aspect	Year	Disagree (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Agree (6 - 10)	Can't say
The public spaces, art works, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live	2017-18	3.9%	2.7%	93.4%	99
	2018-19	5.1%	2.3%	92.7%	254
	2020	4.7%	4.4%	90.9%	88
	2021	5.2%	5.2%	89.6%	61
I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti	2017-18	15.3%	7.0%	77.7%	117
	2018-19	13.4%	7.1%	79.5%	255
	2020	10.5%	5.6%	83.9%	105
	2021	14.5%	13.8%	71.7%	85

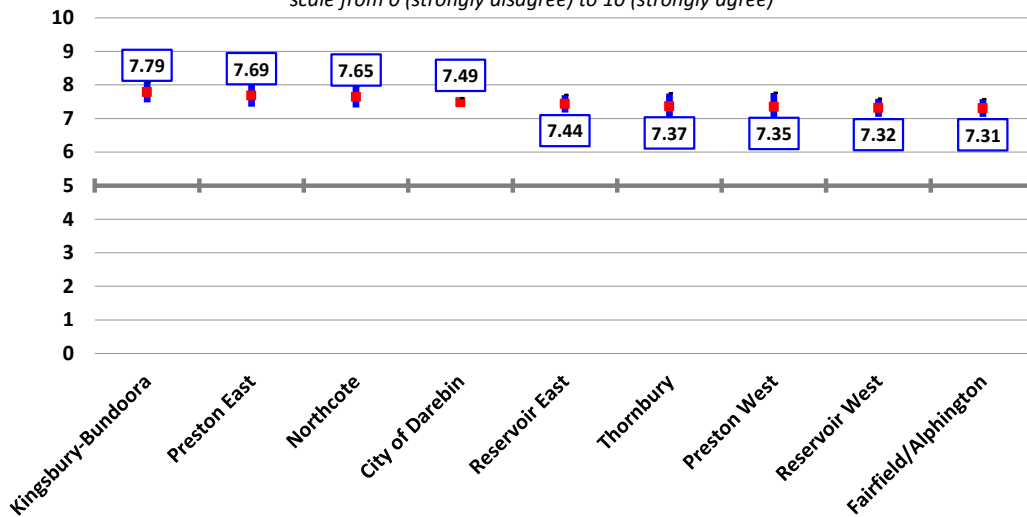
The public spaces, art works, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live

There was no statistically significant variation in average agreement that “the public spaces, artworks, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live” observed across the municipality.





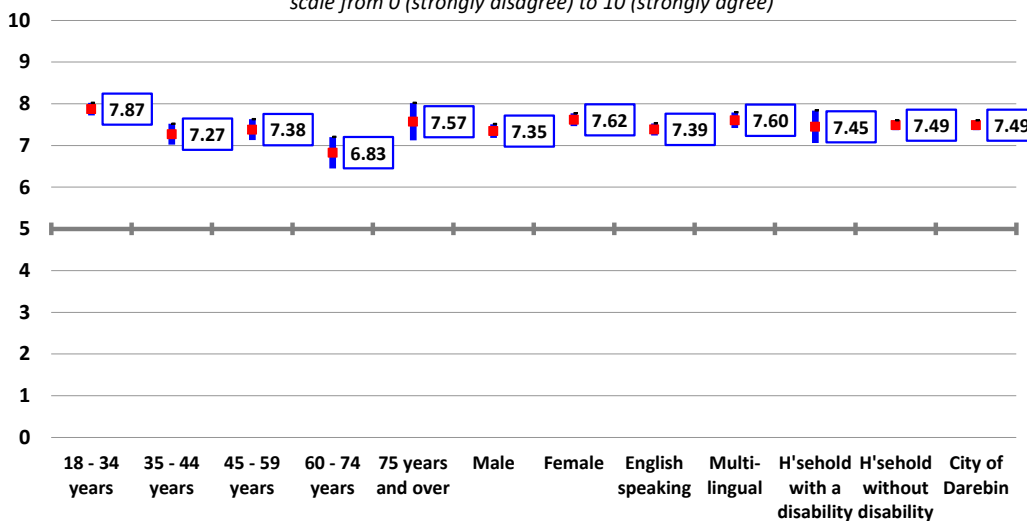
Agreement that "The public spaces, art works and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live" by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



There was measurable variation in average agreement with this statement observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Young adults (aged 18 to 34 years)** – respondents were measurably more in agreement than the municipal average.
- **Older adults (aged 60 to 74 years)** – respondents were measurably less in agreement than the municipal average.

Agreement that "The public spaces, art works and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live" by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



The following table outlines the other comments provided by respondents in relation to public spaces, art works, and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live.

The most common responses were a perception that Council spends too much money on public art, a perception that it is a politicised message, or that there is too much public art.

Comments about public spaces, arts works and cultural infrastructure in Darebin

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
They waste money on that	3
Highly politicised sending a message rather than art	2
I have not seen or noticed any public art in Darebin	2
There isn't enough public art, want more	2
Cultural art	1
Don't support baseball community that's not right	1
Don't like them	1
Graffiti is not art work	1
I think Council spend too much money on this thing, they should spend more money on core services, like footpaths	1
I'm a big fan of it	1
Lots room for improvement	1
Money must be spent on better things instead of art works	1
More inclusive and diverse cultural spaces required	1
Mural artwork on Olive St is unsafe and dangerous	1
Need more along Merri Creek Trail	1
Need more urban planning	1
Not attractive or artistic enough	1
There should be more graffiti	1
Too much effort is invested into public arts	1
Too much graffiti	1
Very horrible colours and ugly in public corners or public spaces	1
Very powerful but not working well in Darebin can be very very important	1
Want more parks instead of artworks	1
We would some better art works and public displays	1
Total	29

I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti

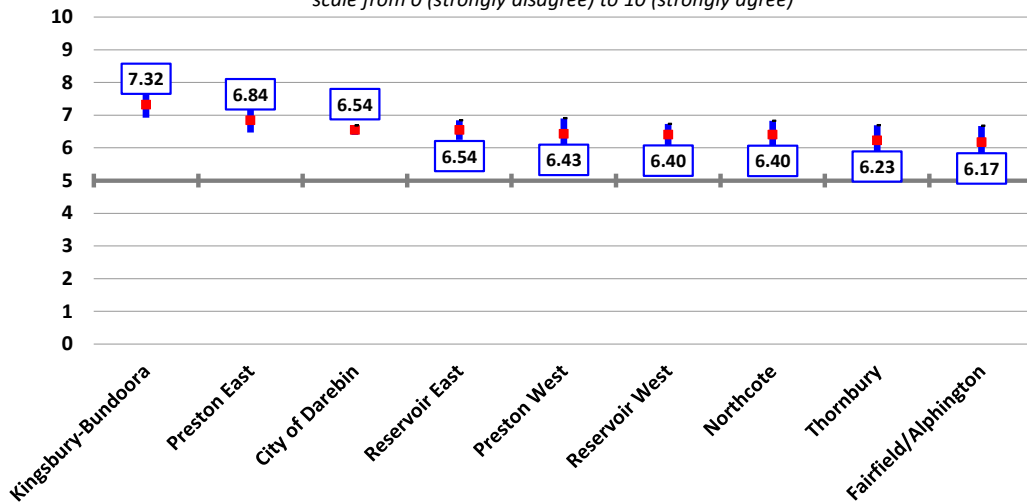
There was statistically significant variation in in agreement that "I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti" observed by precinct, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more satisfied than average.





Agreement that "I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti" by precinct

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)

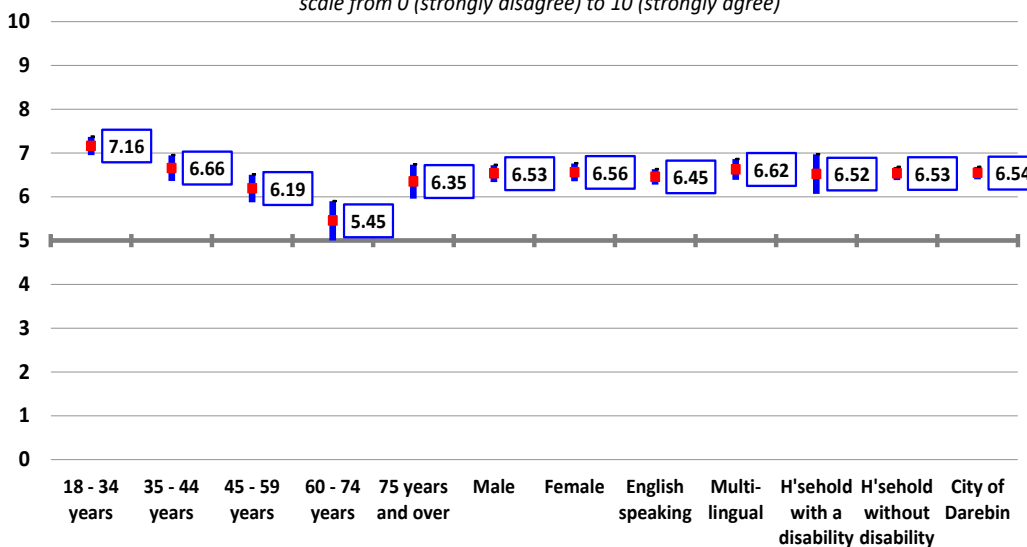


There was measurable variation in average agreement with this statement observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Young adults (aged 18 to 34 years)** – respondents were measurably more in agreement than the municipal average.
- **Older adults (aged 60 to 74 years)** – respondents were measurably less in agreement than the municipal average.

Agreement that "I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti" by respondent profile

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)



The following table outlines the other comments made by respondents in relation to Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti.



The most common responses related to a perception that there is too much graffiti in Darebin, as well as a perception that Council could manage the issue better.

Comments about Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number of responses)

<i>Response</i>	<i>Number</i>
Too much graffiti in the area	21
Can do a better job	9
Need to do more to remove it	7
Train station and train lines	5
Not taken care of at all	4
Too much graffiti on empty buildings and fences in the area	4
Needs improvement, there still is in many places	2
Not aware of what they are doing	2
Our laneway is heavily graffitied	2
Some graffiti is nice. Street art is nice	2
The graffiti is horrible and too much in number. Not maintained / managed well enough	2
Adds to cultural value of Council	1
Appalling. The whole building is filled with it	1
Continually seeing graffiti in playgrounds	1
Council can't do much	1
Council is doing what they can	1
Don't see graffiti around much	1
Even graffiti cleaned up still show up again next day	1
Graffiti is not art, needs to remove	1
I buy some stuff myself to clean the wall of my property	1
I think Council spend too much money on graffiti removal and need to do more for footpaths etc.	1
If its cleaned quickly sends message	1
It has potential to get out of hands very quickly	1
Its gets worse and worse	1
Leave the graffiti	1
Needs to manage ugly graffiti issues in Council owned laneways at the back of a few residential buildings	1
Not the Council's problem	1
Prefers more art work in public areas	1
Should remove tags on walls	1
They need to stop building structures that attracts graffiti	1
Too much graffiti on fences in the area near railway lines	1
Ugly looking graffiti everywhere	1
With so many stations around the area, much of graffiti is still there. Not enough patrolling	1

Specific locations



There's a lot in Reservoir	2
Too much graffiti in the area, and fences near Alphington station	2
Could be improved on Roseberry Ave	1
Go to the back lane Westgarth St see for yourself	1
House at the end of Rathcown Rd close to Bundoora Park	1
Lot of graffiti around Northcote station	1
Lots of graffiti on Coles walls	1
Lots of graffiti on Edward St	1
More graffiti should be there near Separation St	1
Off Gilbert Rd a lot of graffiti	1
See the graffiti around so not sure how much they graffiti near Preston station	1
Shops down High St	1
St George's Rd, parks on High St are filled with it	1
The graffiti in the Northcote Plaza is bad. Maybe try installing surveillance cameras and security in the area	1
too much graffiti in the area, and fences near Merri Creek	1
Unappetising and disgusting graffiti on Arthurton road and Northcote train station	1
Total	100

Planning and development

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), please rate your satisfaction with the following aspects of planning and development in the City of Darebin?”

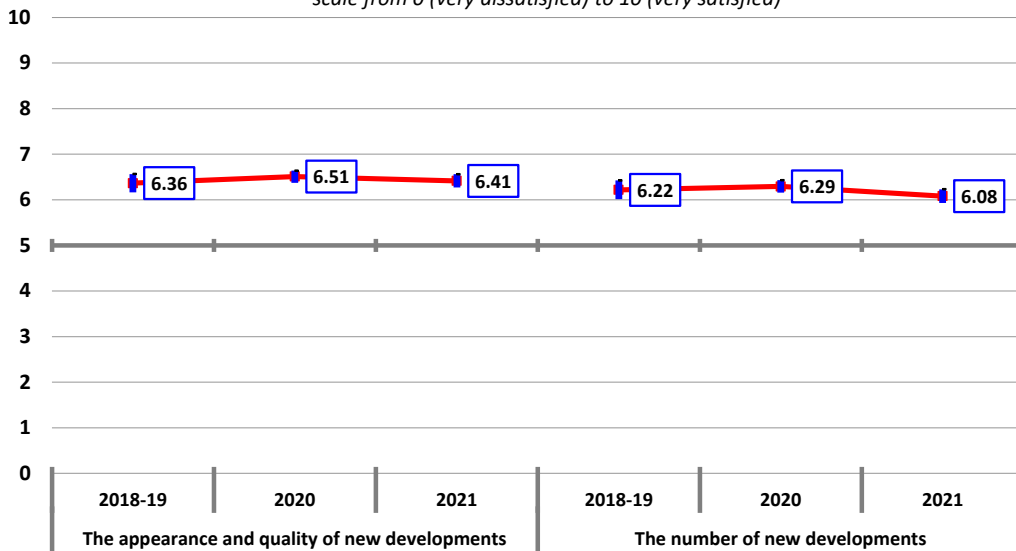
Respondents were again in 2021, asked to rate their satisfaction with two planning and development outcomes in the City of Darebin: “the appearance and quality of new developments” and “the number of new developments”.

Satisfaction with both aspects declined marginally, but not measurably this year, down 1.5% and 3.3% respectively, and both are now at a “solid” level of satisfaction.





Satisfaction with aspects of planning and development
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with planning and development outcomes, particularly the number of new developments and the appearance and quality of new developments has declined in 2021 in a number of municipalities.

By way of comparison, the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments declined 3.5% this year, as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

Attention is drawn to the fact that during COVID-19, there have been significantly fewer “new residents” (i.e., less than one year in the City of Darebin), because people had been unable to move due to the lockdowns and uncertainty. This has had a measurable impact on satisfaction with a number of aspects of satisfaction both last and this year, including satisfaction with planning and development outcomes.

Respondents who had lived in the municipality for less than one year have always reported measurably higher than average satisfaction with planning and development outcomes, and that the lack of new residents will be a factor influencing the decline in satisfaction with planning and development recorded this year.

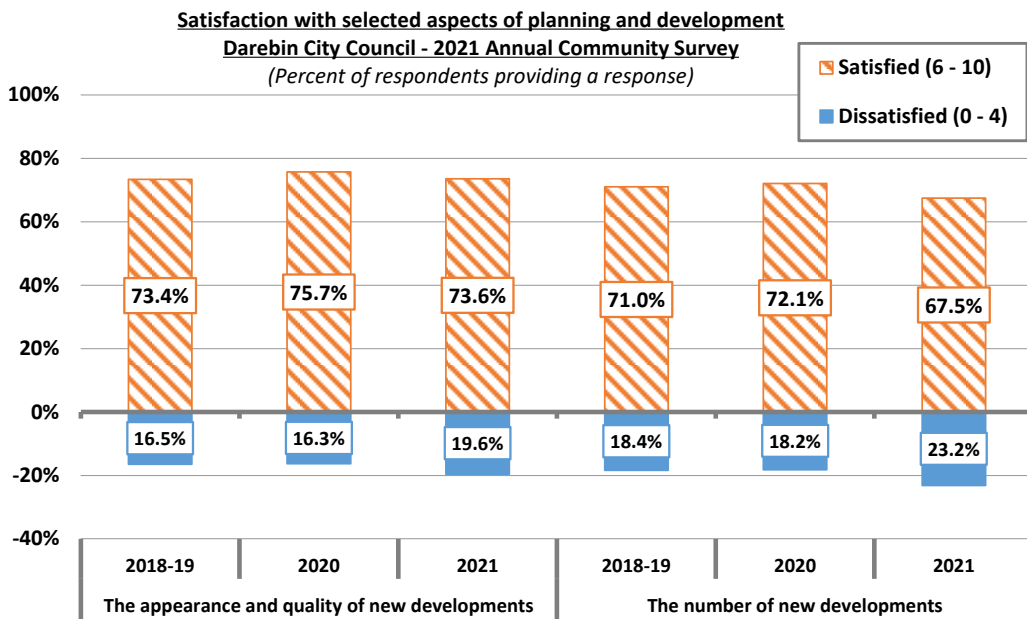
Anecdotal feedback from some municipalities across metropolitan Melbourne referenced the fact that some residents had been spending more time in their local area over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, and both being more aware of construction going on (due to issues such as noise), as well as being out and about walking in their local community and taking a closer interest in new developments occurring locally.





Consistent with the small decline in average satisfaction, there was a small decrease in the proportion of respondents “satisfied” (rated satisfaction at six or more) with both aspects declined marginally.

It is noted that the proportion of respondents “dissatisfied” (rated satisfaction at less than five) with the number of new developments increased notably this year, up from 18.2% in 2020 to 23.2% this year.



Satisfaction with selected aspects of planning and housing development

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Aspect	Year	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say
The appearance and quality of new developments	2014-15	23.2%	12.6%	64.2%	26
	2015-16	30.4%	11.8%	57.8%	45
	2016-17	36.1%	15.1%	48.8%	61
	2017-18	26.3%	11.2%	62.5%	50
	2018-19	16.5%	10.1%	73.4%	42
	2020	16.3%	8.0%	75.7%	70
The number of new developments	2021	19.6%	6.9%	73.6%	74
	2014-15	27.3%	14.7%	58.0%	32
	2015-16	31.1%	9.9%	59.1%	48
	2016-17	35.5%	14.1%	50.4%	77
	2017-18	29.0%	11.0%	60.0%	78
	2018-19	18.4%	10.6%	71.0%	49
	2020	18.2%	9.7%	72.1%	96
2021	23.2%	9.3%	67.5%	108	

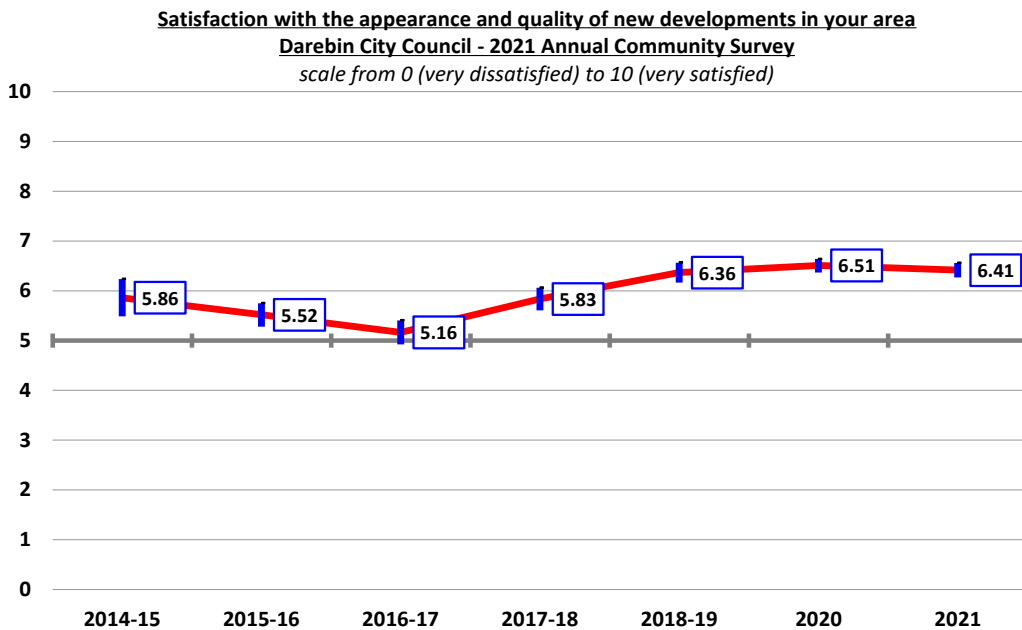




The appearance and quality of new developments

Satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments declined marginally but not measurably this year, down 1.5% to 6.41, which is a “solid”, down from a “good” level of satisfaction.

Despite the decline, this result remains above the long-term average since 2014-15 of 5.95.



This result was marginally, but not measurably, lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.68.

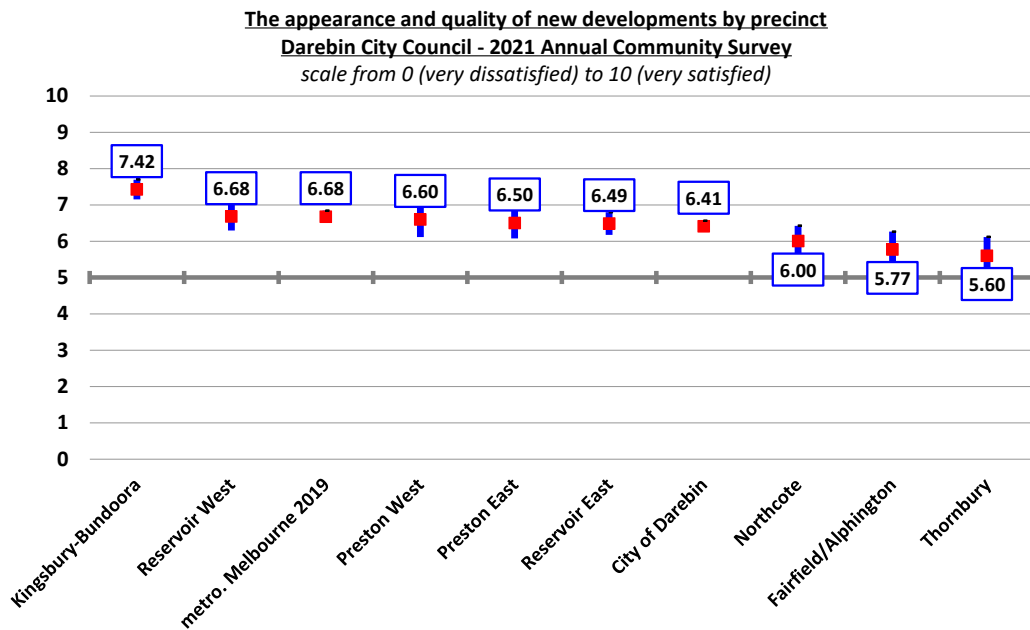
There was measurable variation in average satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very good” rather than a “solid” level.
- **Fairfield/Alphington and Thornbury** – respondents were measurably and significantly less satisfied than the municipal average and at “poor” rather than “solid” levels.

Metropolis Research notes that the precinct variation in satisfaction with this aspect of planning and development remains consistent with recent years.

Respondents in Kingsbury/Bundoora have consistently reported measurably higher than average satisfaction, whilst respondents from Thornbury and Fairfield/Alphington have tended to report lower satisfaction.





There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the number of new developments observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Notably more satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), respondents from multi-lingual households, rental households, and newer and medium-term residents (i.e., five to less than 10 years in Darebin).
- **Notably less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years), respondents from English speaking households, homeowner and mortgagee households, and long-term residents (10 years or more in Darebin).

Metropolis Research notes that there is only a small sample of only 10 respondents who had lived in the City of Darebin for less than one year. This is reflected in the extremely large 95% confidence interval for their average satisfaction.

This average satisfaction for new residents is therefore not statistically reliable.

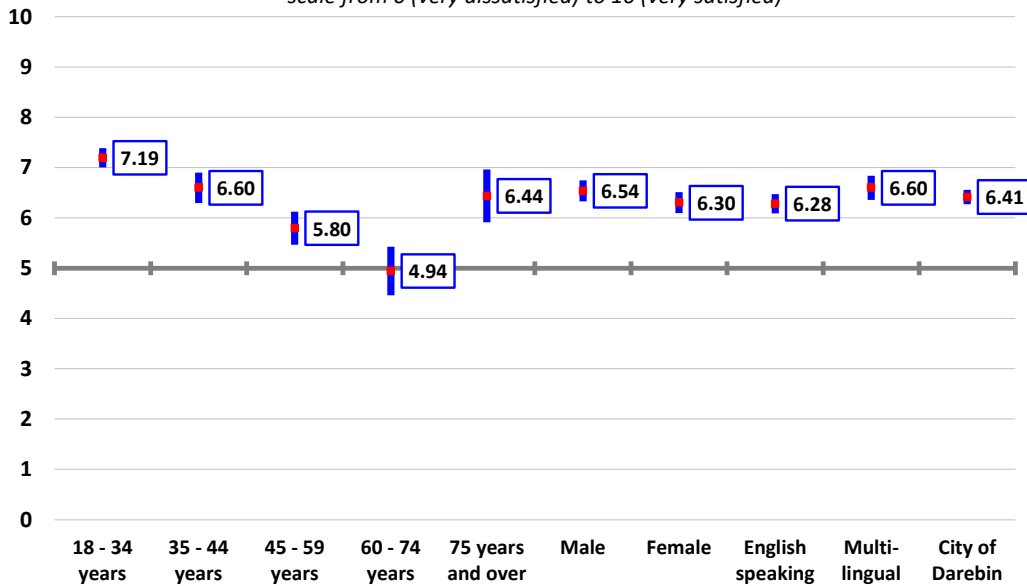




The appearance and quality of new developments by respondent profile

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

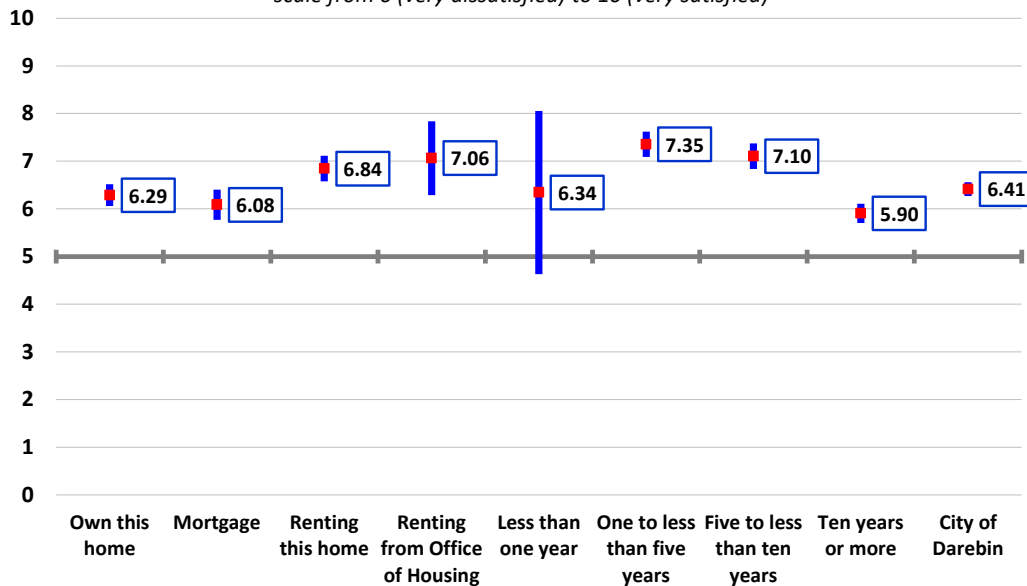
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



The appearance and quality of new developments by housing profile

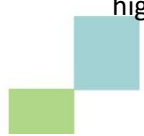
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



The following table outlines the reasons why the 182 respondents were dissatisfied with the appearance and quality of new developments, as well as examples of developments of concern to these respondents.

As is clear in the table, the most common concerns relate to the extent of development in the area, the aesthetics and quality of developments, with a particular emphasis on higher-density developments.



Reason for rating satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new development less than 5
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number of responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
Overdeveloped	16
Ugly developments	15
High-rises / apartments	14
High-rises are too much. Now, there's very less parking and more traffic congestion	14
A lot of poor-quality developments	11
Too many apartments with no parking, more traffic	11
Doesn't match with current character, landscape, and aesthetics of the neighbourhood	6
Significant historical and heritage buildings / old houses are being pulled down to build ugly looking high-rises	6
Building low cost / cheap materials	5
Excessive high-density housing	5
Heights of these / too tall	4
Multi-dwellings in small area / too many units, townhouses	3
So many townhouses / units - no parking, more traffic congestion	3
Too many apartments with no parking, not safe to enter the street	3
Hard to find parking	2
High-rise buildings, destroy character	2
Poor / no communication and consultation	2
Poorly planned and designed	2
There is too much new block to block housing being constructed	2
Way too many approvals that don't suit the area	2
Absolutely disgusting no idea of design it's from 19th Century	1
All new high-rises are ugly, lazy architecture	1
All the high-rises, no longer a village atmosphere. Too much concrete	1
All the townhouses are ugly	1
Any modern development	1
Cutting trees	1
Doesn't add high value to the neighbourhood	1
Far too much going on	1
Generally,	1
Inappropriate development and style	1
Lack of planning for facilities while planning new developments	1
Less green area left	1
More around the heritage buildings - they don't maintain it	1
More greenery around developments needed	1
More traffic around school	1
New developments ruining the heritage of the neighbourhood	1
No consultation has been organised regarding public spaces developments	1
No respect for heritage	1
No say in anything all money driven	1
Please don't approve new apartments blocks	1
Poor town planning, not happy with planning regulations	1
Reservoir junction overpass is hideous	1

Some are good and some are bad	1
The housing developments are taking space like units and townhouses	1
The multistorey buildings coming in between single storey	1
The new 3 storey residential developments are compromising the green spaces	1
The new town houses aren't built with good environmental practices	1
The new women sports stadium - the level information provided was minimum	1
The social housing planning is bad and needs improvement. A lot of these houses are only built in Reservoir, that's not right. There should be something done about it	1
There is high density of cars, clogged up streets	1
There not considering residents needs	1
There should be restriction on the height of levels	1
They need to be medium density and fully consulted with Darebin nearby	1
Too close	1
Unnecessary ones are being built	1

Specific sites identified by respondents

High St	5
Developments / apartments on High St	3
Along Bell St, too many developments, too high	2
Preston Market area	2
St George's Rd	2
All along Plenty Rd, too many big commercial outlets like Aldi	1
Clarendon St	1
Coburg Hill	1
David St	1
Disappointed, local Christian private school	1
Everyone around and along High St are too high	1
High-rises are ugly and too many in High St	1
Houses around Clarke and Bryan St	1
Lot of big homes blocking small home Preston Primary School	1
Near train line, tall buildings are just monstrous	1
New private residential houses Lily St	1
Northcote Plaza still on planning process	1
Overdevelopment and poor design in St George's Rd	1
Plenty Rd development 6 storey building	1
Station St. A bit over the top	1
Stop over developing, Bell St and further till St George's St	1
The AMCOR sites and other apartments blocks are low quality and ugly and Bishop's corner it's already detonated	1
The development and styling of the high-rise building on High St is not well done	1
The developments in High St have no public amenities and poor visual	1
The high-rise buildings coming up in Central Preston	1
The junction has low-cost apartment building poor design and no public space	1
The medium and high-density buildings near Preston South junction and lack of parking near them	1
The medium density buildings along St George's Rd are poorly developed	1
The new townhouses coming up in Goldsmith Ave	1
The Nightingale development is too tall	1
Townhouses on Christmas St	1
Ugly looking apartments, poor quality on St George's Rd	1

Total

204

160

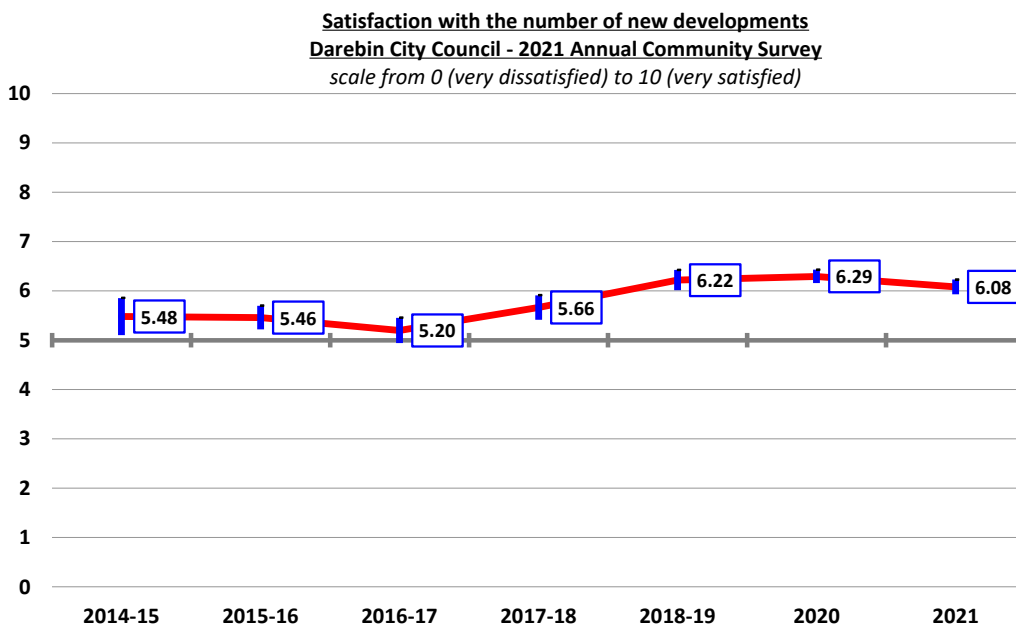
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The number of new developments

Satisfaction with the number of new developments declined notably but not measurably this year, down 3.3% to 6.08, although it remains at a “solid” level of satisfaction.

Despite the decline this year, this result remains above the long-term average for this aspect of planning and development since 2014-15 of 5.77.



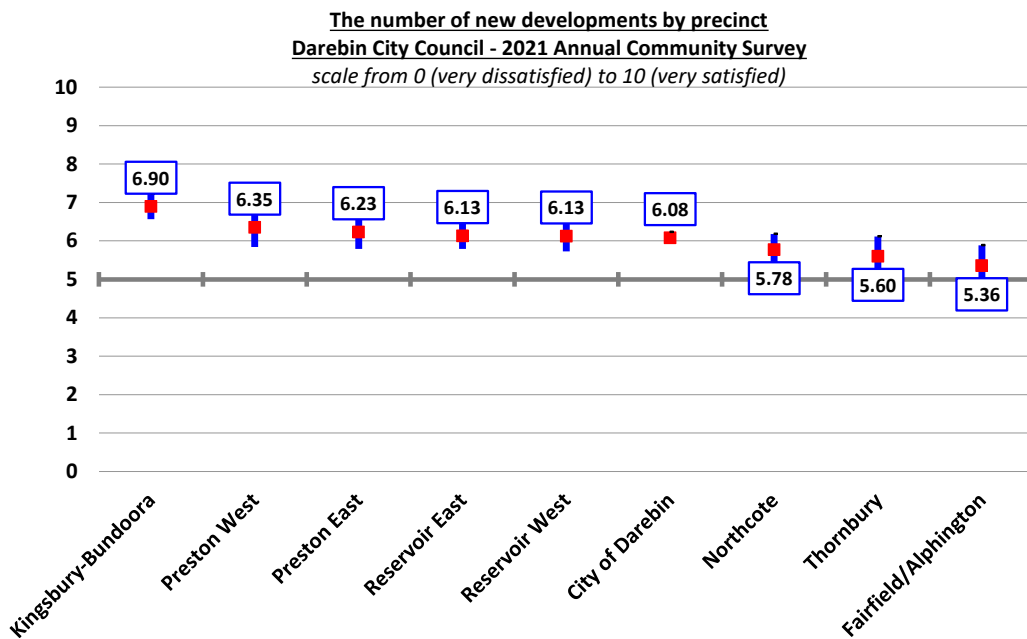
There was measurable variation in average satisfaction with the number of new developments observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than the municipal average and at a “good” rather than a “solid” level.
- **Northcote and Thornbury** – respondents were notably but not measurably less satisfied than the municipal average and at “poor” rather than “solid” levels.
- **Fairfield/Alphington**– respondents were measurably and significantly less satisfied than the municipal average and at a “very poor” rather than a “solid” level.

Metropolis Research notes that the precinct variation in satisfaction with this aspect of planning and development remains consistent with recent years.

Respondents in Kingsbury/Bundoora have consistently reported measurably higher than average satisfaction, whilst respondents from Thornbury have tended to report measurably lower satisfaction.





There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the number of new developments observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Notably more satisfied than average** – includes young adults (aged 18 to 34 years), respondents from multi-lingual households, private rental household respondents, and newer and medium-term residents (i.e., less than ten years in Darebin).
- **Notably less satisfied than average** – includes middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years), respondents from English speaking households, homeowner and mortgagee households, and long-term residents (10 years or more in Darebin).

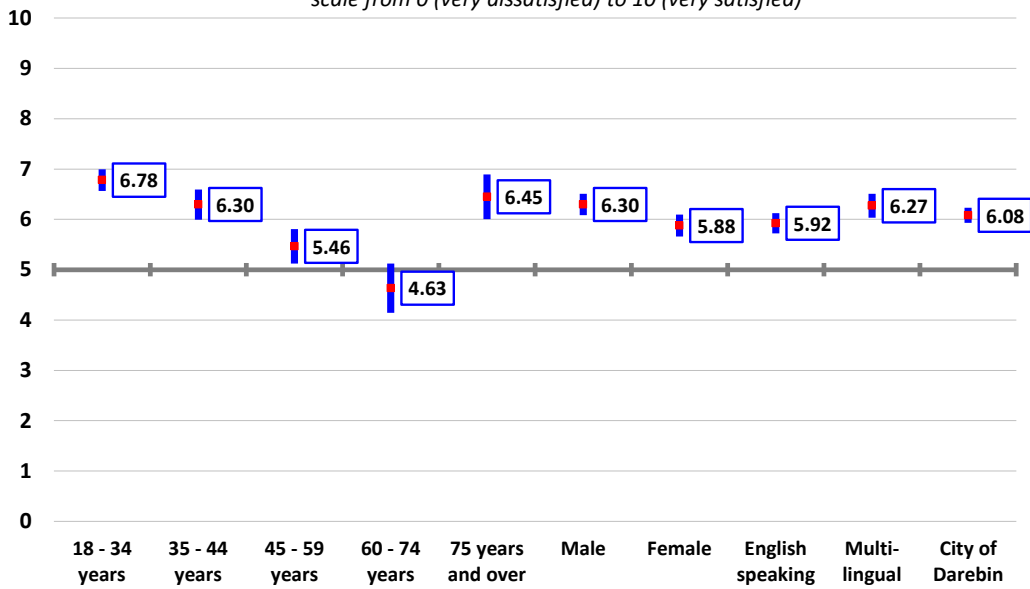
Metropolis Research notes that there is only a small sample of only 10 respondents who had lived in the City of Darebin for less than one year. This is reflected in the extremely large 95% confidence interval for their average satisfaction.

This average satisfaction for new residents is therefore not statistically reliable.

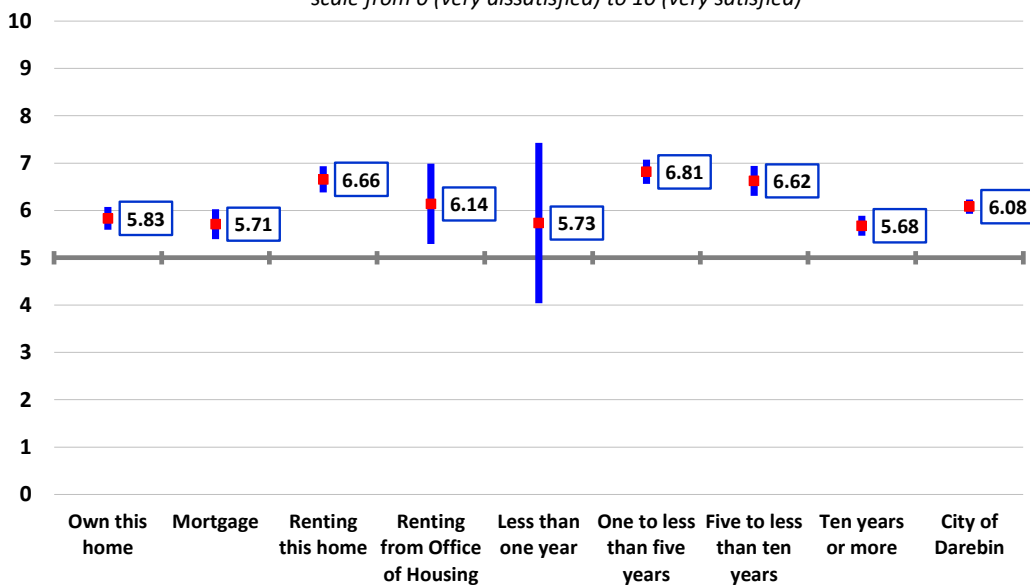




The number of new developments by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



The number of new developments by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





Contact with Council

Contact with Council in last twelve months

Respondents were asked:

“Have you contacted Darebin City Council in the last 12 months?”

In 2021, a little less than one-third (30.8%) of respondents reported that they had contacted Council in the last 12 months, a decline on the 40.1% from 2020.

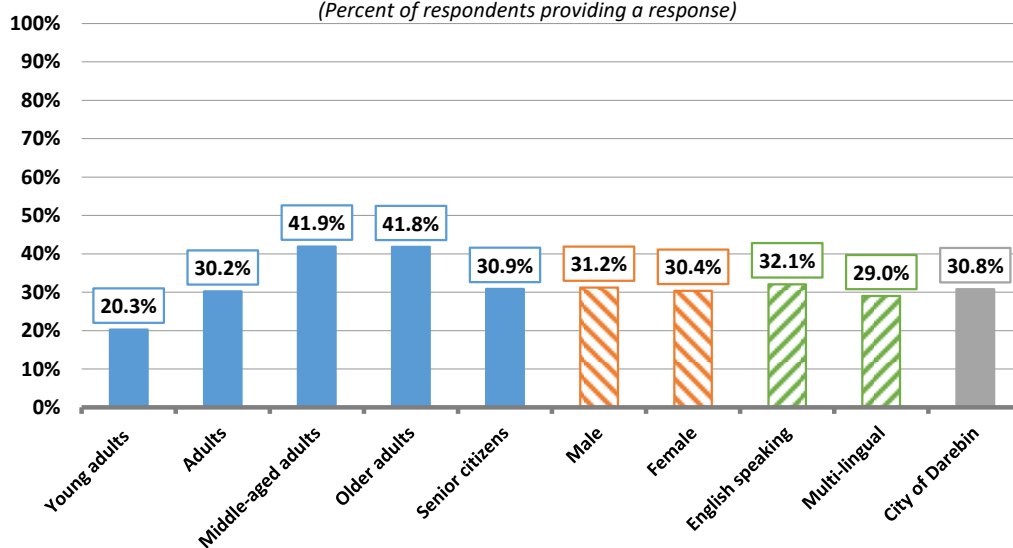
Contacted Council in the last 12 months
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Response	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Yes	308	30.8%	40.1%	32.1%	40.6%	41.7%	40.4%
No	691	69.2%	59.9%	67.9%	59.4%	57.8%	59.6%
Not stated	1		3	3	0	0	2
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000

There was some variation in the proportion of respondents who had contacted Council in the last 12 months observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Age structure** – middle-aged and older adults (aged 45 to 74 years) were measurably more likely to have contacted Council in the last 12 months than other respondents.

Contacted Council in the last 12 months by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Percent of respondents providing a response)





Resolving the query

The following set of questions focusing on how Council informed and followed through on the timeframes and contacts required to resolve the query were included for the first time in the survey program in 2021.

Given clear timeframes and a point of contact

Respondents who contacted Council were asked:

“Were you given clear timeframes and a point of contact?”

A little less than three-quarters (70.4%) of respondents who had contacted Council in the last 12 months had been “given clear timeframes and a point of contact”.

Given clear timeframes and a point of contact
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council providing a response)

Response	2021	
	Number	Percent
Yes	216	70.4%
No	91	29.6%
Not stated	1	
Total	308	100%

Number of contacts required to resolve the query

Respondents who contacted Council were asked:

“How many times did you contact Council to resolve your query?”

The overwhelming majority (83.7%) of respondents reported that the query was resolved after either one (42.0%) or two to three (41.7%) contacts with Council.

Number of contact required to resolve the query
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council providing a response)

Response	2021	
	Number	Percent
Once	129	42.0%
2 to 3 times	128	41.7%
4 to 5 times	26	8.5%
More than 5 times	24	7.8%
Not stated	1	
Total	308	100%





Query resolved in the provided timeframe

Respondents who contacted Council were asked:

“Was your query resolved in the timeframes provided?”

Approximately two-thirds (64.7%) of respondents who had contacted Council in the last 12 months reported that their query was resolved in the timeframes provided by Council when they first contacted Council.

Query resolved in the timeframes provided
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council providing a response)

Response	2021	
	Number	Percent
Yes	196	64.7%
No	107	35.3%
Not stated	5	
Total	308	100%

Satisfaction with customer service

Respondents who contacted Council were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest), with five being neutral, how satisfied were you with the following?”

Respondents who had contacted Council in the last 12 months were asked to rate their satisfaction with two aspects of customer service: their overall satisfaction with the customer service experience, and their satisfaction with the final outcome.

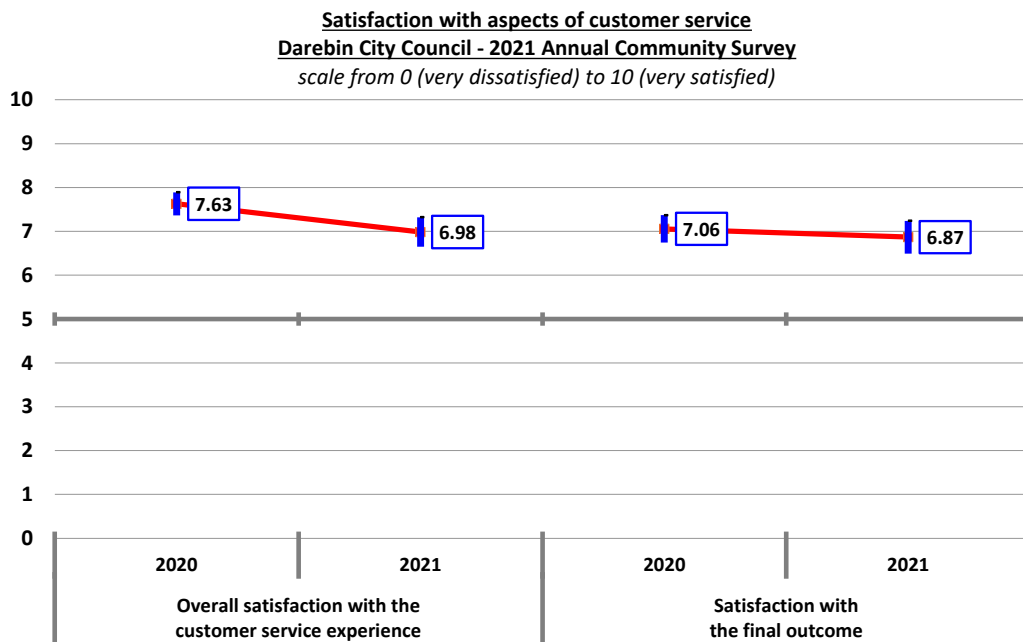
Satisfaction with both the overall customer service experience (down a statistically significant 8.5%) and with the “final outcome” (down 2.7%) both declined notably this year.

Metropolis Research notes that the previous set of questions focusing on how Council informed, and then followed through on the timeframes and contacts required to resolve the query were included in the survey immediately prior to asking these two satisfaction questions.

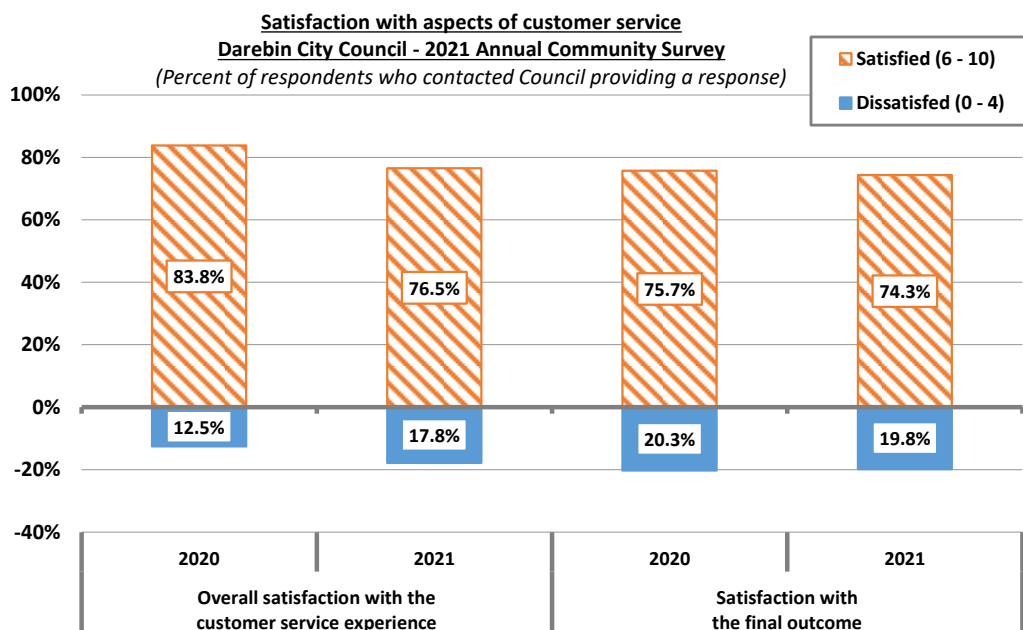




It cannot be discounted that the inclusion of these additional questions which focused the respondents’ thoughts on timeframes for resolving the query may have impacted on overall satisfaction with the customer service experience score when compared to results from previous years when these questions were not included in the survey.



Consistent with the measurable and significant decline in overall satisfaction with the customer service experience, the proportion of respondents “dissatisfied” with this variable increased notably, up from 12.5% to 17.8% this year.





Satisfaction with aspects of customer experience

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

(Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council providing a response)

Aspect	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say
Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience	17.8%	5.7%	76.5%	9
Satisfaction with the final outcome	19.8%	5.9%	74.3%	26

Satisfaction with the “final outcome” by respondent profile

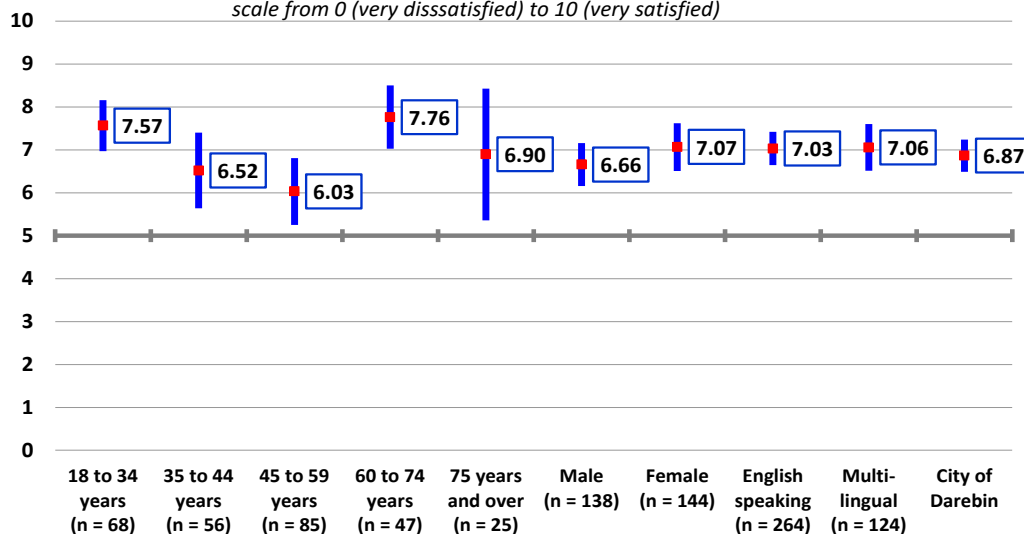
There was notable variation in average satisfaction with the “final outcome” of the query observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years)** – respondents were measurably less satisfied with the “final outcome” than the municipal average and at a “solid” level of satisfaction.
- **Gender** – female respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied with the “final outcome” than male respondents.
- **Language spoken at home** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with the “final outcome” observed between respondents from English speaking and multi-lingual households.

Satisfaction with the “final outcome” by respondent profile

Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey

scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)

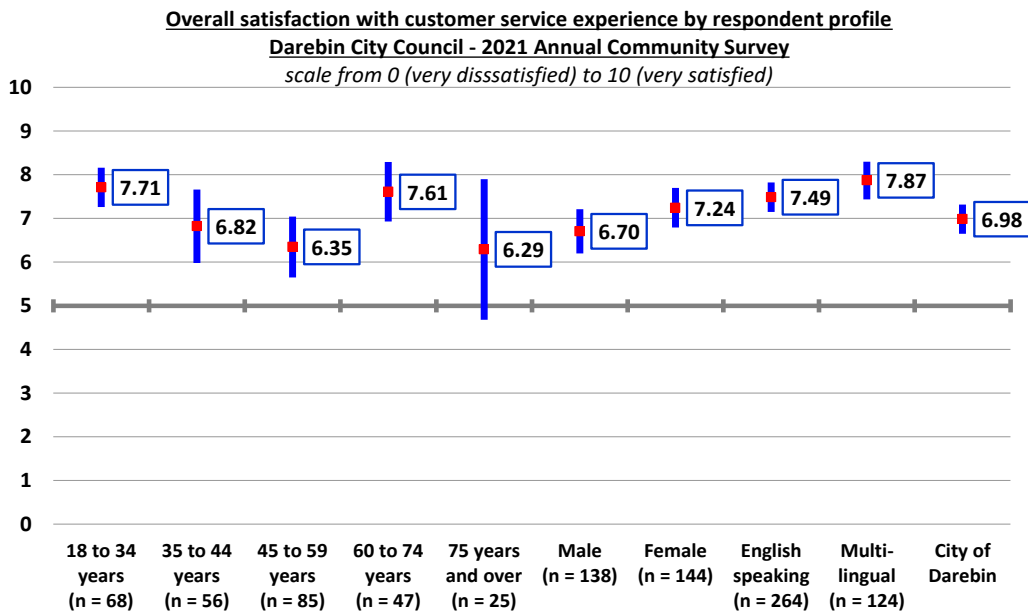




Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience by respondent profile

There was notable variation in average satisfaction with the “final outcome” of the query observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years)** – respondents were measurably less satisfied with the “final outcome” than the municipal average and at a “solid” level.
- **Gender** – female respondents were notably but not measurably more satisfied with the “final outcome” than male respondents.
- **Language spoken at home** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with the “final outcome” observed between respondents from English speaking and multi-lingual households.



Perception of safety in public areas of the City of Darebin

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest), how safe do you feel in public areas in the City of Darebin?”

Respondents were again in 2021, asked to rate their perception of how safe they feel in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day and at night.





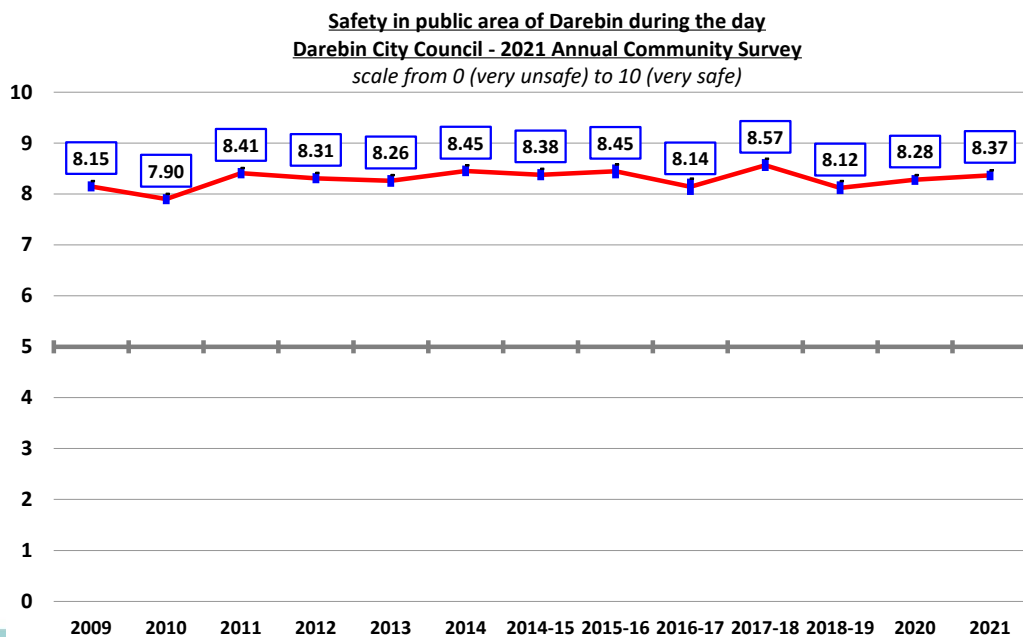
Safety in public areas of Darebin
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Aspect	Year	Unsafe (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Safe (6 - 10)	Can't say
During the day	2014-15	2.5%	2.4%	95.0%	11
	2015-16	1.8%	1.8%	96.4%	8
	2016-17	4.9%	4.4%	90.7%	11
	2017-18	0.9%	2.2%	97.0%	5
	2018-19	1.1%	3.9%	95.0%	507
	2020	2.5%	2.7%	94.8%	38
	2021	2.6%	2.8%	94.6%	17
At night	2014-15	17.3%	9.6%	73.1%	37
	2015-16	12.4%	9.3%	78.2%	29
	2016-17	19.8%	8.9%	71.3%	26
	2017-18	13.3%	6.1%	80.7%	14
	2018-19	11.5%	7.8%	80.7%	15
	2020	16.8%	9.6%	73.6%	109
	2021	14.2%	8.6%	77.2%	67

Perception of safety during the day

The perception of safety during the day increased again this year, up 1.1% to 8.37. This result is marginally higher than the long-term average since 2009 of 8.29.

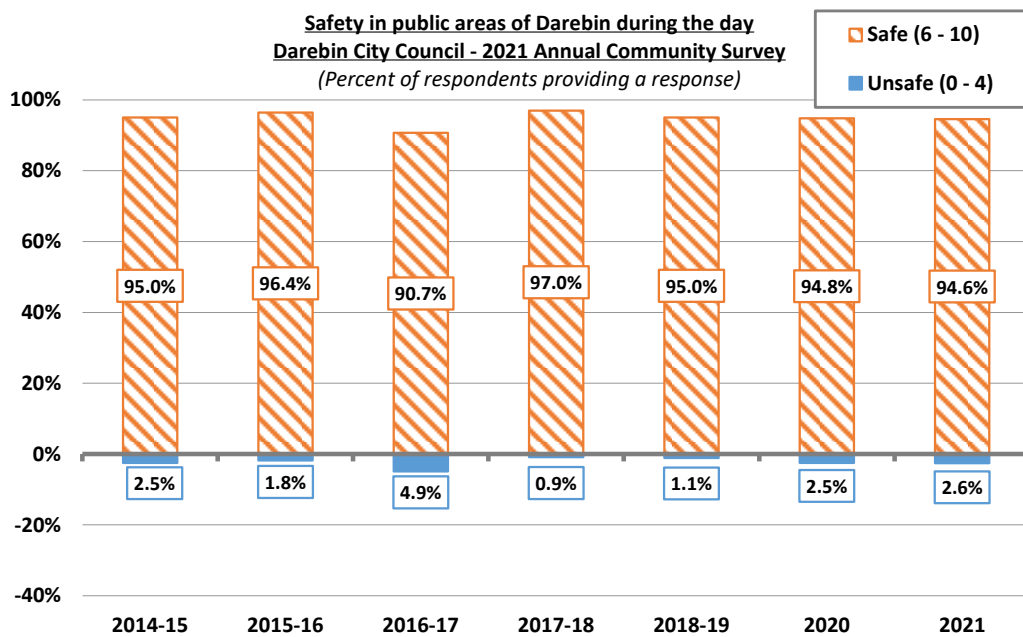
The perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin has remained at a strong level over an extended period.





By way of comparison, this result was measurably but not significantly lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average perception of safety of 8.71, as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.

Consistent with the high average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day, 94.6% of respondents providing a response to this question felt “safe” (i.e., rated safety at eight or more), whilst just 2.6% felt “unsafe” (i.e., rated safety at less than five).

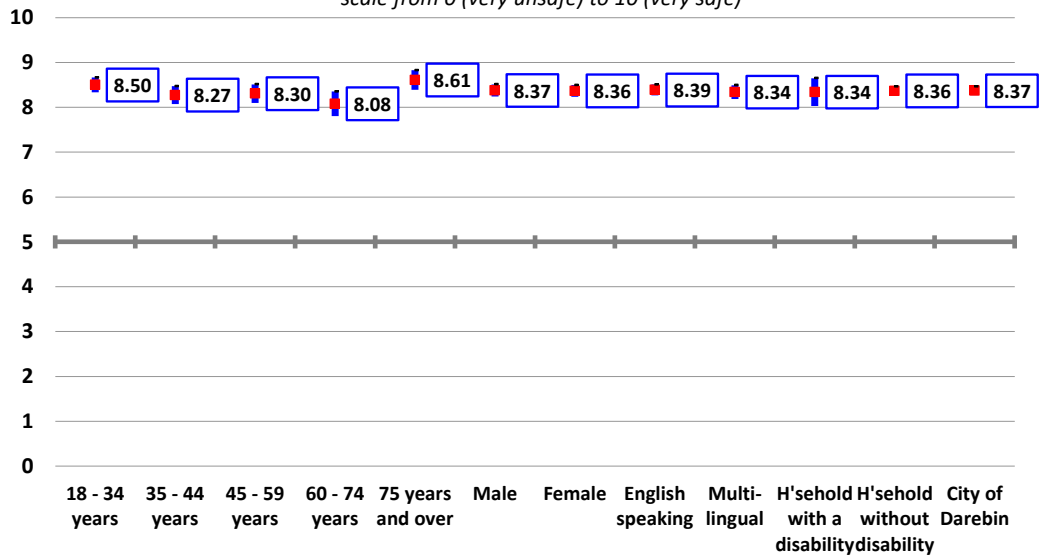


There was no statistically significant or meaningful variation in the average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day observed by respondent profile, including age structure, gender, language spoken at home, or household disability status.





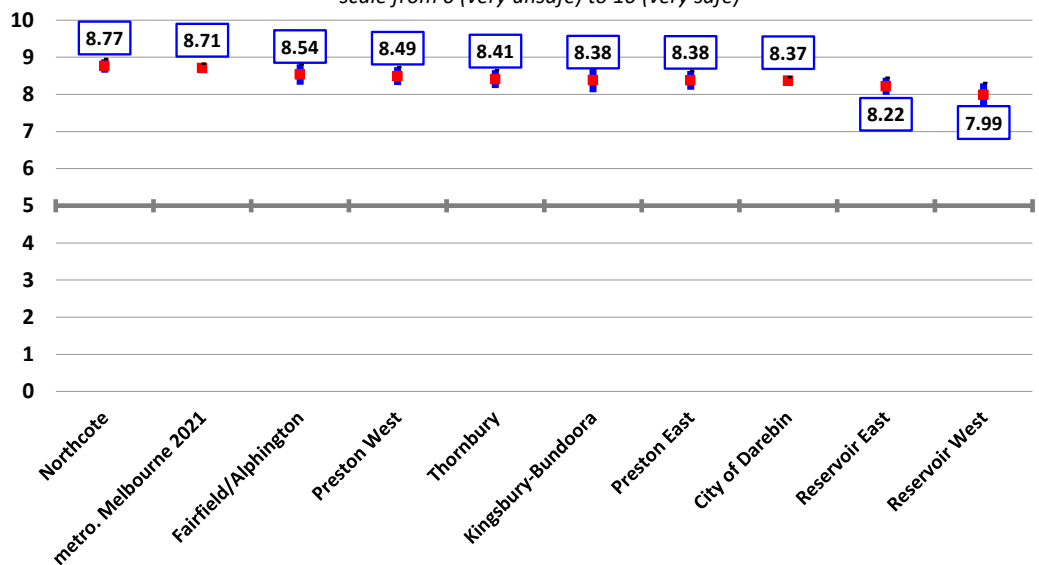
Safety in public areas of Darebin during the day by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very unsafe) to 10 (very safe)



There was, however, some measurable variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day observed across the municipality, as follows:

- **Northcote** – respondents felt measurably safer in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day than the municipal average.
- **Reservoir East and Reservoir West** – respondents felt notably, but not measurably less safe than the municipal average.

Safety in public areas of Darebin during the day by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very unsafe) to 10 (very safe)



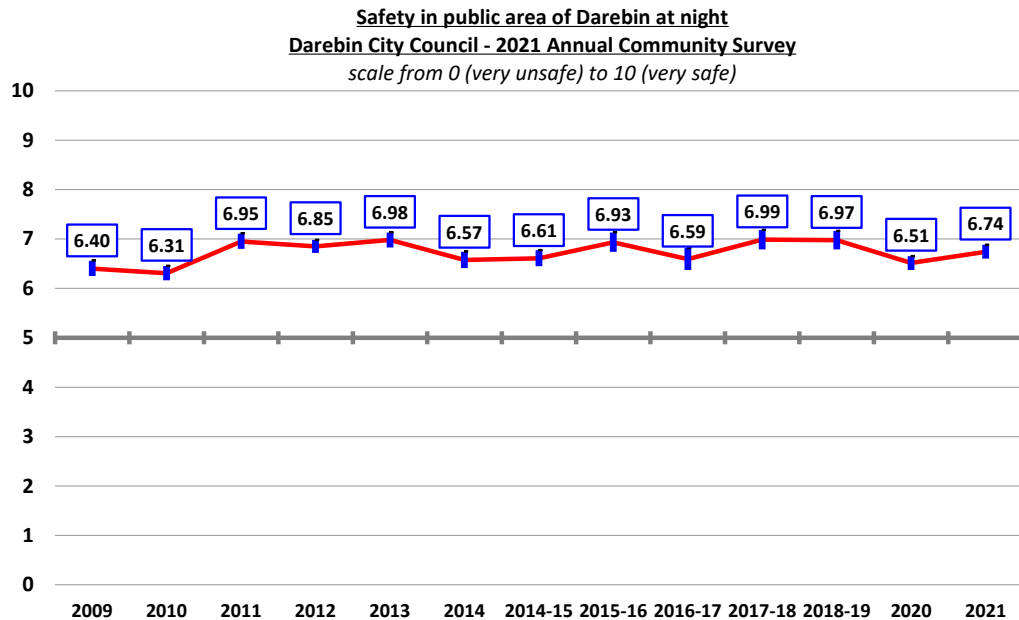


Perception of safety at night

The perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night increased measurably this year, up 3.5% to 6.74 this year.

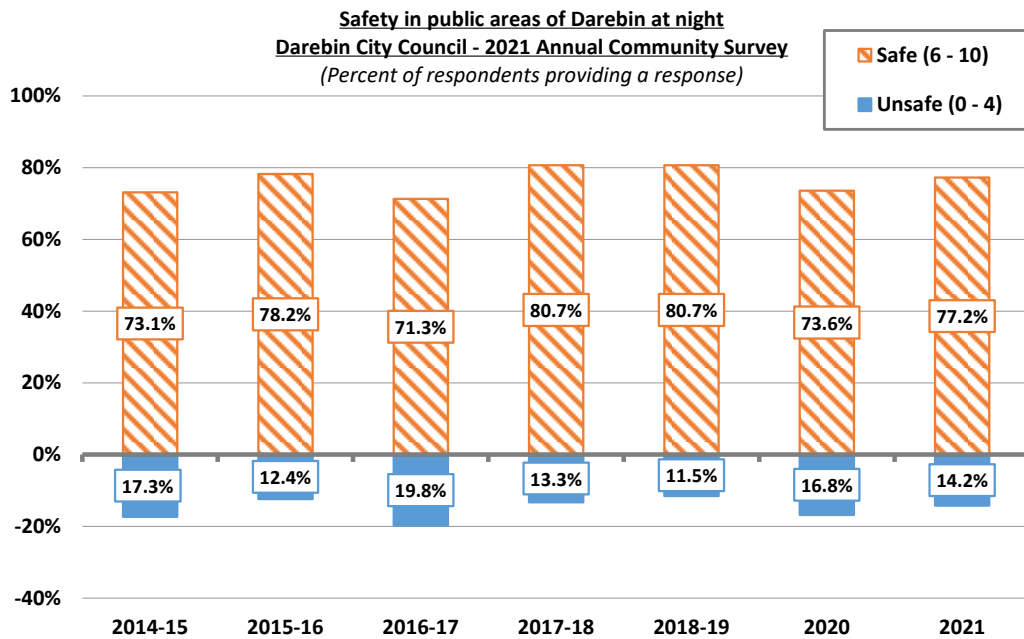
This result is now marginally above the long-term average result since 2009 of 6.72.

By way of comparison, this result was notably but not measurably lower than the metropolitan Melbourne average perception of safety of 6.98, as recorded in the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021.



Consistent with the increase in average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night, there was a small increase in the proportion of respondents who felt safe (i.e., rated safety at six or more), up from 73.6% to 77.2%, and a commensurate decrease in the proportion who felt unsafe (i.e., rated safety at less than five), down from 16.8% to 14.2%.





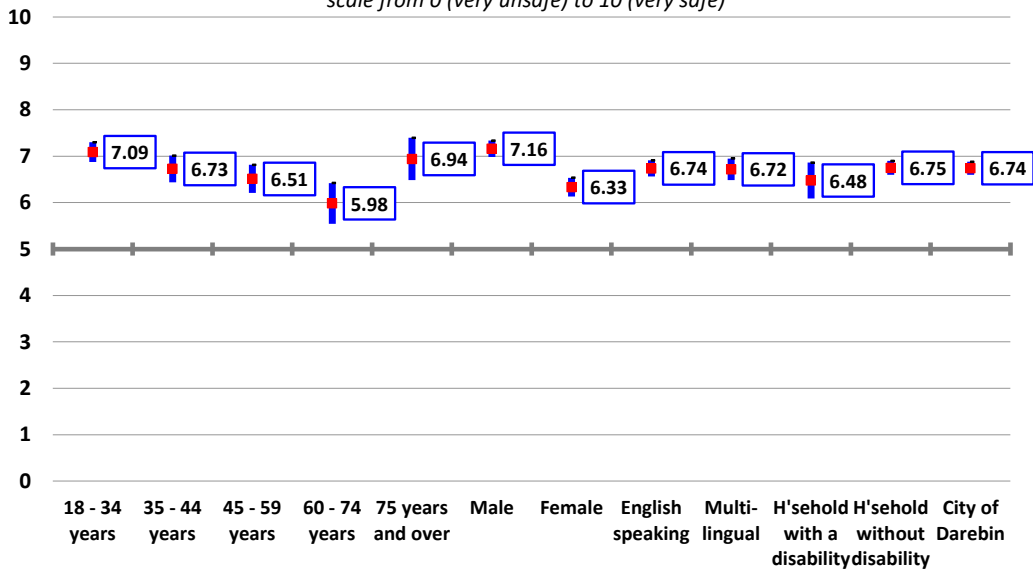
There was notable variation in the average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night observed by respondent profile, as follows:

- **Age structure** – the perception of safety in the public areas of the municipality at night decreased with the respondents’ age, from a high of 7.09 for young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) to a low of 5.98 for older adults (aged 60 to 74 years). Consistent with historical results, senior citizens (aged 75 years and over) felt notably safer than the average.
- **Gender** – female respondents felt measurably and significantly (11.6%) less safe in the public areas of the municipality at night than male respondents.
- **Language spoken at home** – there was no meaningful variation observed between respondents from English speaking and multi-lingual households.
- **Household disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability, on average, felt notably but not measurably less safe than respondents from other households.





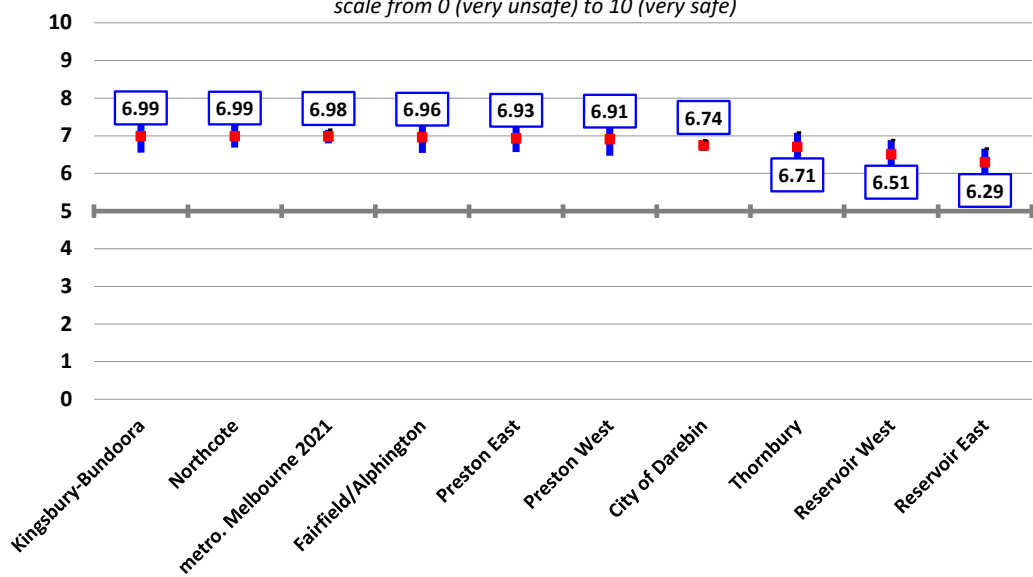
Safety in public areas of Darebin at night by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very unsafe) to 10 (very safe)



Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night observed across the eight precincts, attention is still drawn to the following:

- **Reservoir West and particularly Reservoir East** – respondents felt notably, but not measurably less safe in the public areas of the municipality at night than the municipal average.

Safety in public areas of Darebin at night by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
scale from 0 (very unsafe) to 10 (very safe)





Reasons for not feeling safe in the public areas of the City of Darebin

The following tables outline the reasons why respondents did not feel safe in the public areas of the City of Darebin either during the day or at night.

A total of 98 responses were received from respondents, with the key issues as follows:

- Perception of safety at night – 34 responses
- Crime and policing – 17 responses
- Drugs and alcohol – 14 responses
- Issues with people - gangs, youths, "louts" etc. – 13 responses
- Incidents / experiences - 11 responses
- Being female – 5 responses
- General perception of safety – 3 responses
- Other – 1 response

Reasons for rating safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin less than 5
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number of total responses)

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Perception of safety at night</i>	
Not enough / poor lighting	10
It's dark and don't feel safe	3
Too dark and no proper lighting on the streets	3
I just don't feel safe in some areas at night	2
More streetlights	2
No lighting around the parks	2
Bad street lighting off main roads	1
Dangerous to hang out at night	1
Darebin Parkland not well lit	1
It's a bit dodgy at night	1
Keon Park railway station not safe at night	1
Not safe for children to walk in the dark or take transportation	1
On the entertainment areas around the upper end of High St, there isn't enough lighting	1
Plaza is dodgy not enough lighting	1
Poor street lighting around train stations	1
The lack of street lighting	1
There is less lighting and the dangerous footpaths	1
There are no lighting big nature strips trees are covering streetlights	1
Total	34

176





Crime and policing

Not enough patrolling	6
Lack of security cameras, need more	4
No security	3
No police	1
Not at train stations - police are not always on the train line and at night its very scary	1
Not monitored properly	1
Responsiveness of police	1
Total	17

Drugs and alcohol

Drug users / junkies	4
A lot of drunk people around the street shouting and feeling unsafe to walk around	1
Alcohol consumption on Edwardes St, Lake	1
A lot of alcohol and drug affected people nearby schools	1
Drug dealings	1
Drug dealings happening in department housing and near Penders Park	1
Lot of drunken people	1
Rowdy parties, alcohol and drug consumption, sexual activities happening in Batman Park at night	1
There are more bottle shops. That attracts drunk crowds	1
There are very dark laneways full of potholes. Drunk people are there. So don't feel safe there anymore	1
Trams feel unsafe. In trams, homeless and druggie people are there. Have heard racial slurs. Same near train station	1
Total	14

Issues with people - gangs, youths, "louts" etc

Shady people lurking around	3
Homeless people coming on to people around Woolworths, near Preston market	1
Criminal people roaming around	1
I don't feel safe due to people in general in the local area	1
It's the social economic group	1
People that go around at night	1
Shady people around Regent St and High St	1
Shady people near Merri Creek	1
Strangers	1
Too many beggars	1
Too many homeless people around all Nations Park	1
Total	13





Incidents / experiences

Robberies in the area	2
Harassment of people	1
Break-ins	1
Murders and crimes around the Polaris area	1
Neighbours giving life threatening and have emailed before	1
Quiet areas are unsafe. Got robbed 3 times	1
Robberies and burglaries on Miranda Rd	1
The Mayor Park has less lightning and noted a lot of sexual assaults. There are less police patrolling in the area	1
The number of recent attacks	1
Criminal activities nearby Plenty Rd	1
Total	11

Being female

Because I am female	3
There have been few occurrences and incidents in last few years, not for safe women	1
Because I am female and there has been lot of incidents against women	1
Total	5

General perception of safety

I don't feel safe in the local area in general	1
It's a dangerous time	1
Walking makes me feel unsafe	1
Total	3

Other

There is a long distance to public transport so that's why its unsafe	1
Total	1
Total	98





Getting around in the local area

Respondents were asked:

“On a scale of zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements regarding getting around in your local area?”

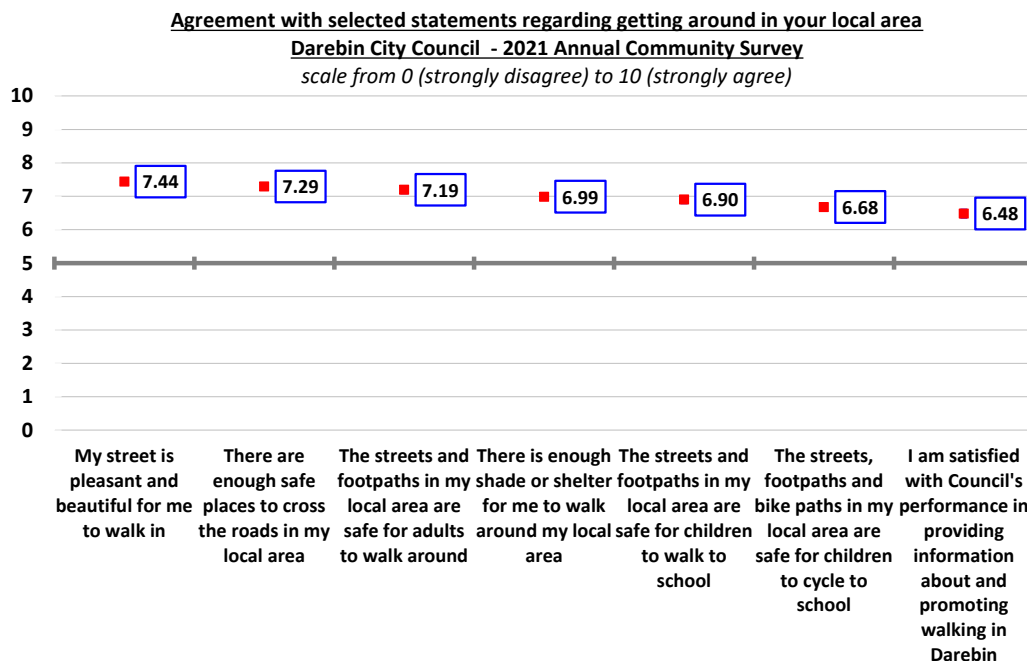
This set of questions focused on getting around in the local area were included in the survey program for the first time this year.

Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with seven statements about getting around in the local area, on a scale from zero (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree).

On average, respondents strongly agreed with five of the seven statements, and moderately agreed with two (safe for children to cycle to school and satisfied with Council providing information on and promoting walking in Darebin).

It is noted that agreement that “my street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in” was measurably higher than agreement with all but one of the other six statements.

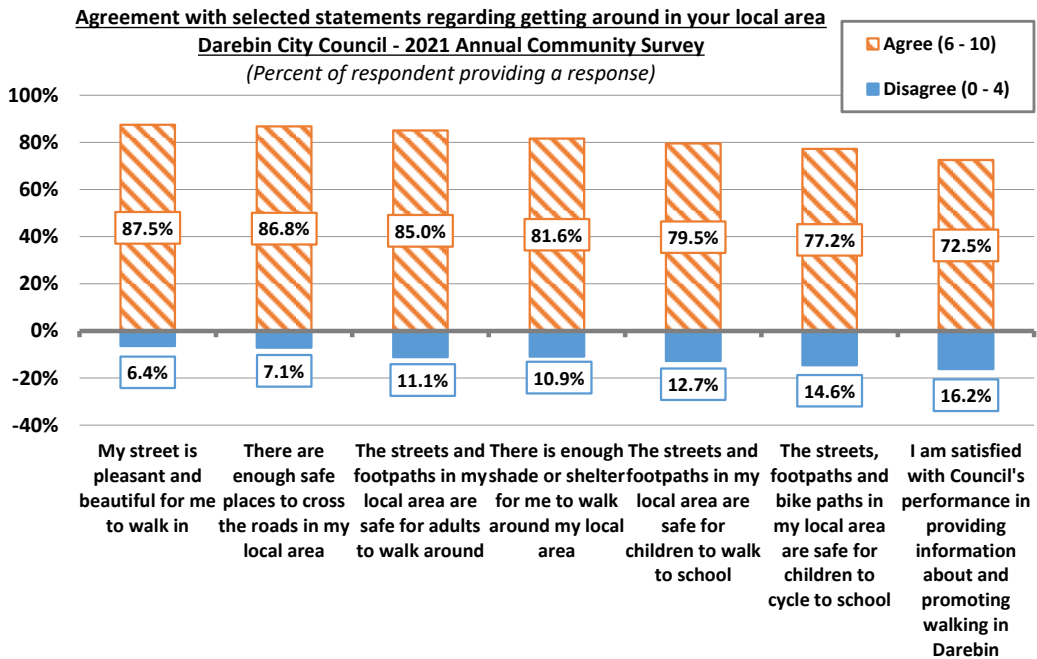
It is also noted that agreement that “I am satisfied with Council’s performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin” was measurably lower than agreement with all but one of the other six statements.



Consistent with the moderate to strong levels of average agreement with these seven statements, it is noted that approximately three-quarters or more of respondents who provided a response to this set of questions “agreed” with each statement (i.e., rated agreement at six or more).



Attention is drawn to the fact that 14.6% of respondents disagreed (i.e., rated agreement at less than five) that “the streets footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school”, and that 16.2% disagreed that “I am satisfied with Council’s performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin”.



Agreement with selected statements regarding getting around in your local area
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

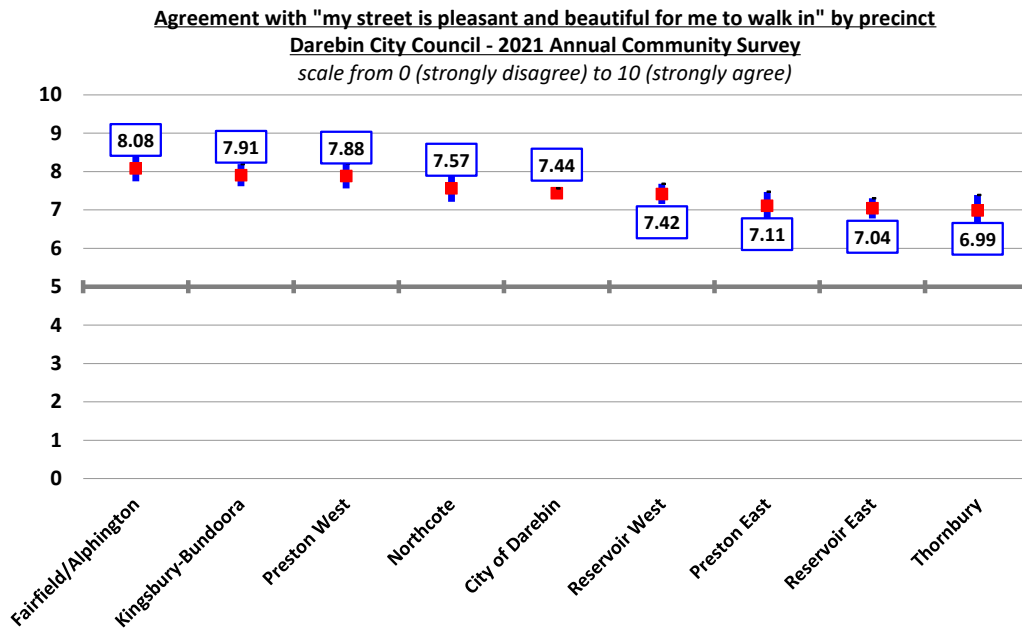
Response	Disagree (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Agree (6 - 10)	Can't say
My street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in	6.4%	6.1%	87.5%	63
There are enough safe places to cross the roads in my local area	7.1%	6.1%	86.8%	68
The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for adults to walk around	11.1%	3.9%	85.0%	66
There is enough shade or shelter for me to walk around my local area	10.9%	7.4%	81.6%	86
The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for children to walk to school	12.7%	7.8%	79.5%	126
The streets, footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school	14.6%	8.2%	77.2%	158
I am satisfied with Council's performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin	16.2%	11.3%	72.5%	171



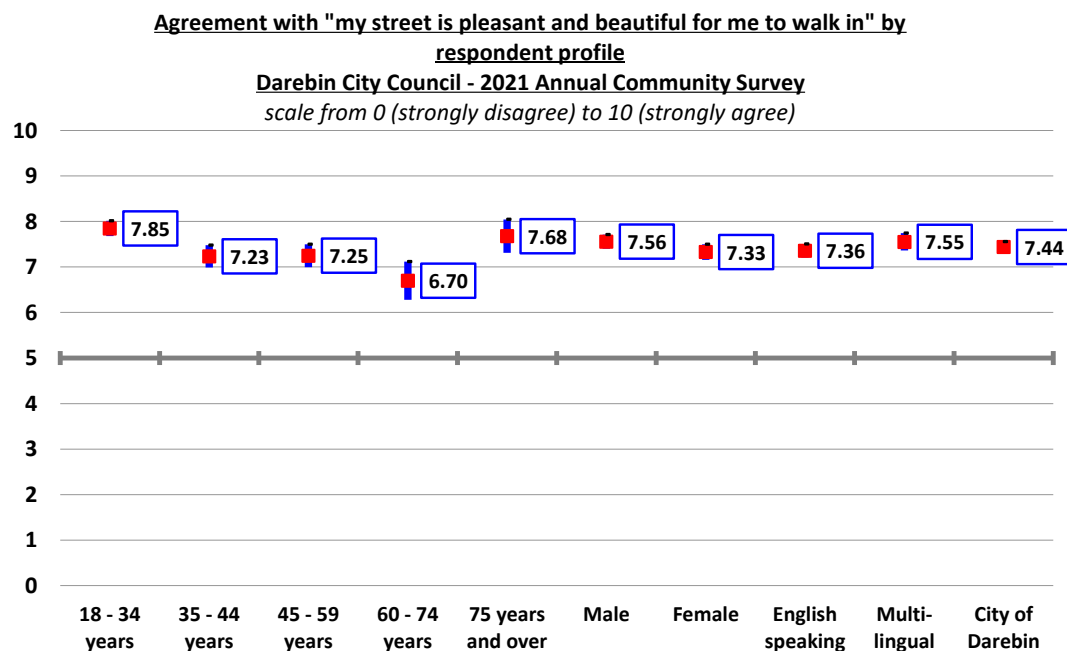


My street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in

There was measurable variation in average agreement that “my street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in” observed across the municipality, with respondents from Fairfield/Alphington, Kingsbury/Bundoora, and Preston West measurably more in agreement than the municipal average, and respondents from Thornbury less.

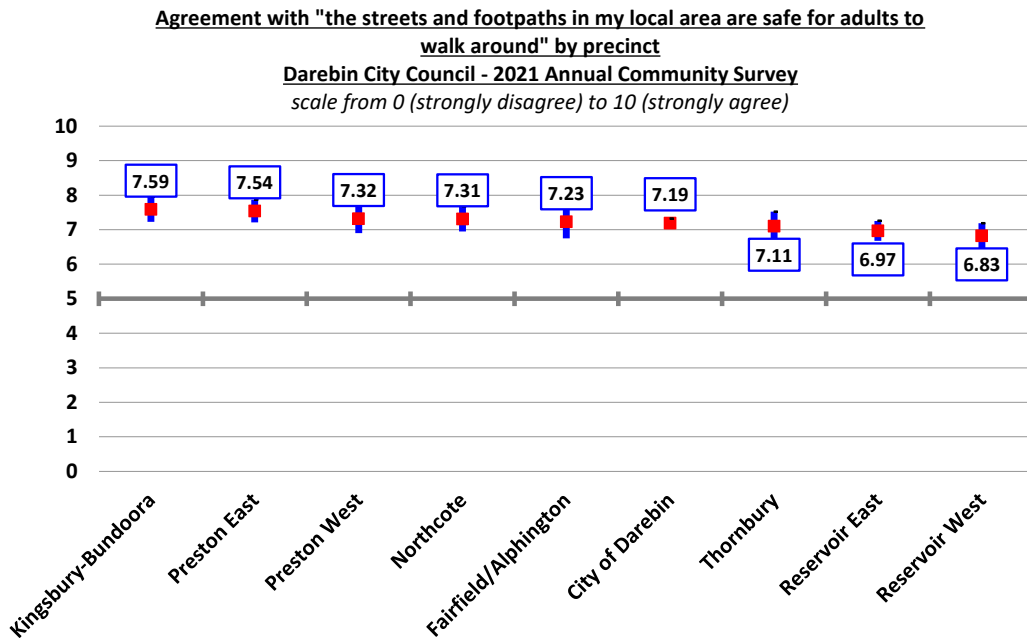


There was also some measurable variation in average agreement with this statement observed by respondent profile, with young adults (aged 18 to 34 years) measurably more in agreement, and middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years) measurably less.

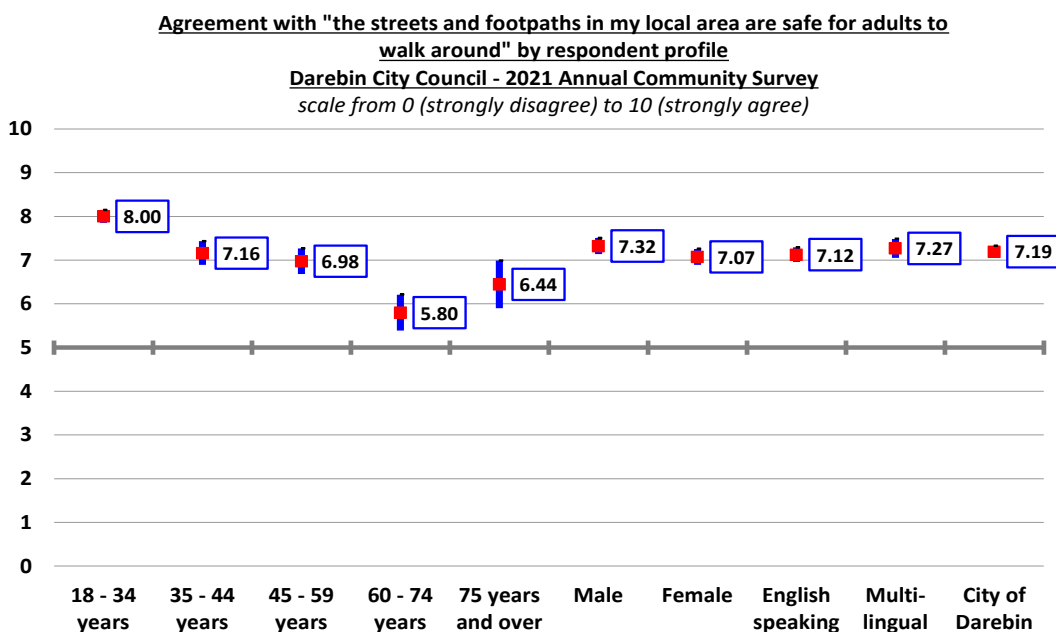


The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for adults to walk around

There was no statistically significant variation in average agreement that “the streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for adults to walk around” observed across the municipality, although respondents from Reservoir East and West were somewhat, but not measurably less in agreement than the municipal average.



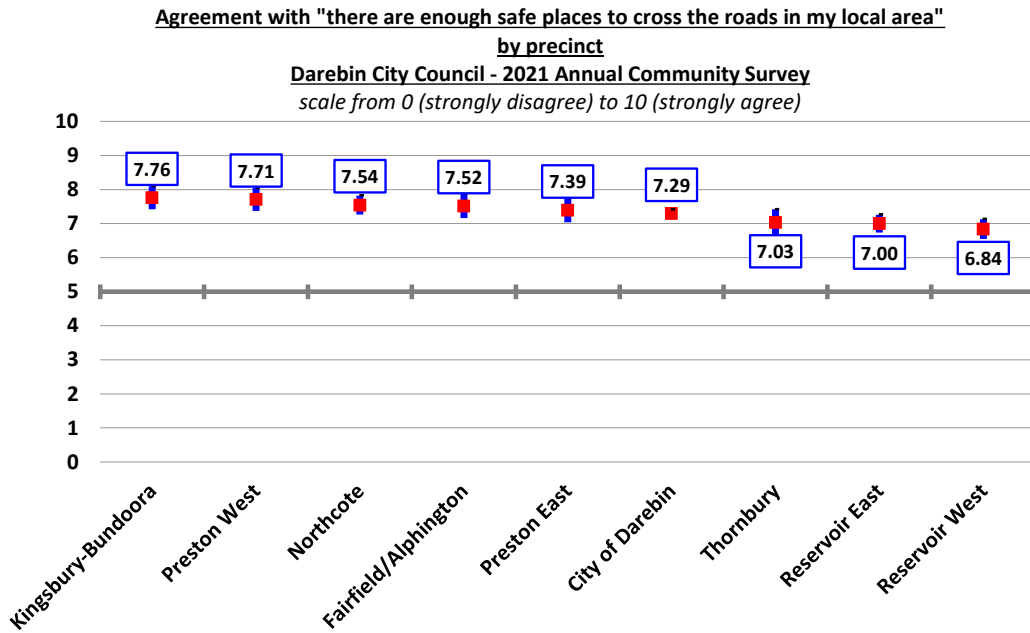
There was, however, measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults and senior citizens measurably less.



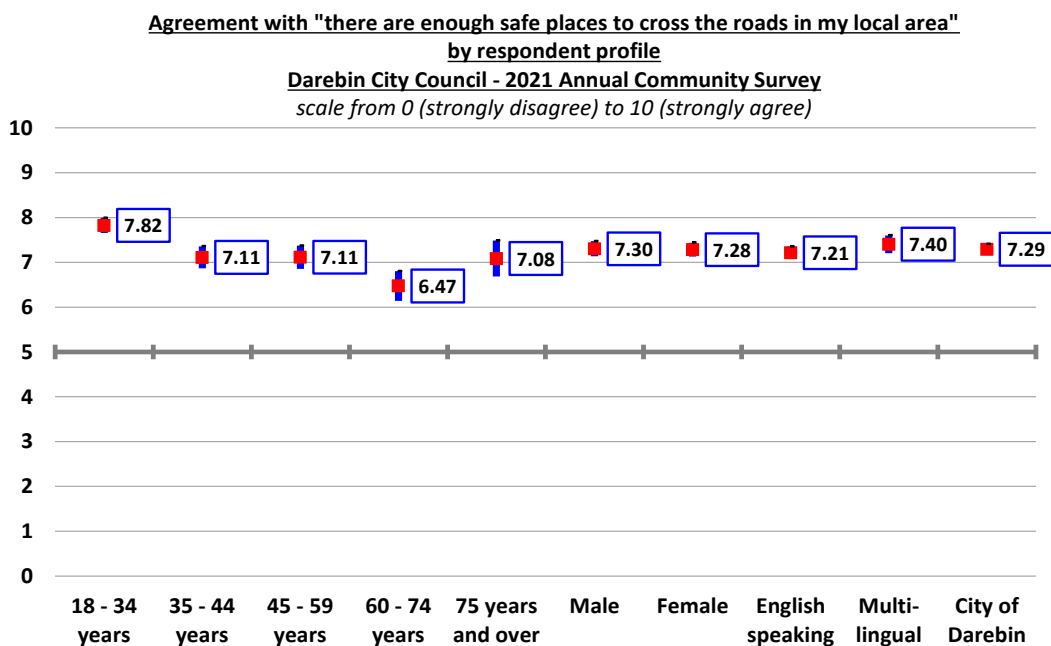


There are enough safe places to cross the roads in my local area

There was measurable variation in average agreement that “there are enough safe places to cross the roads in my local area” observed across the municipality, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more in agreement and respondents from Reservoir West measurably less.

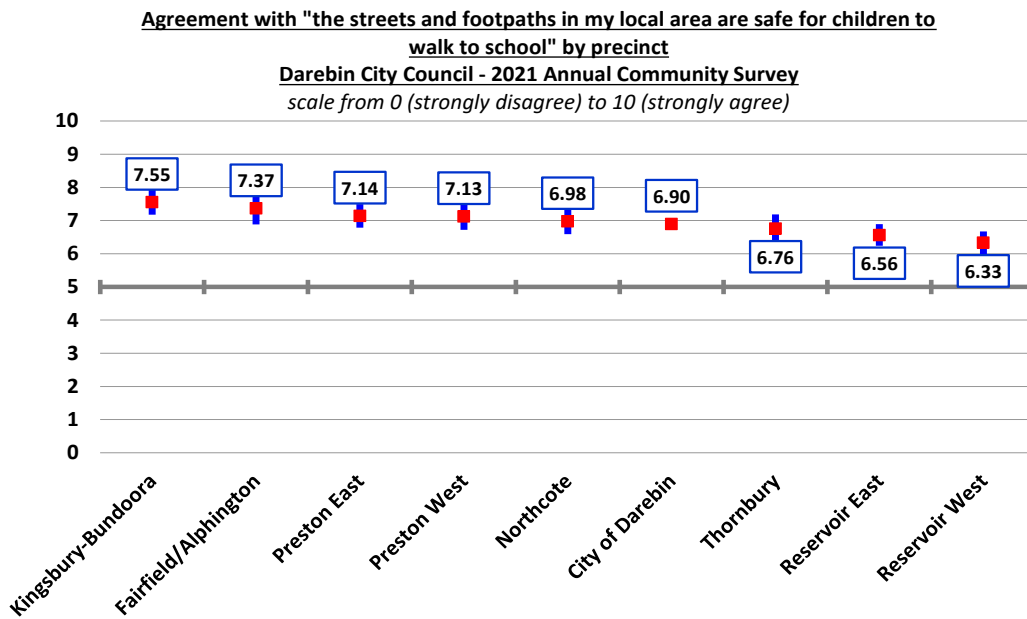


There was measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults measurably less.

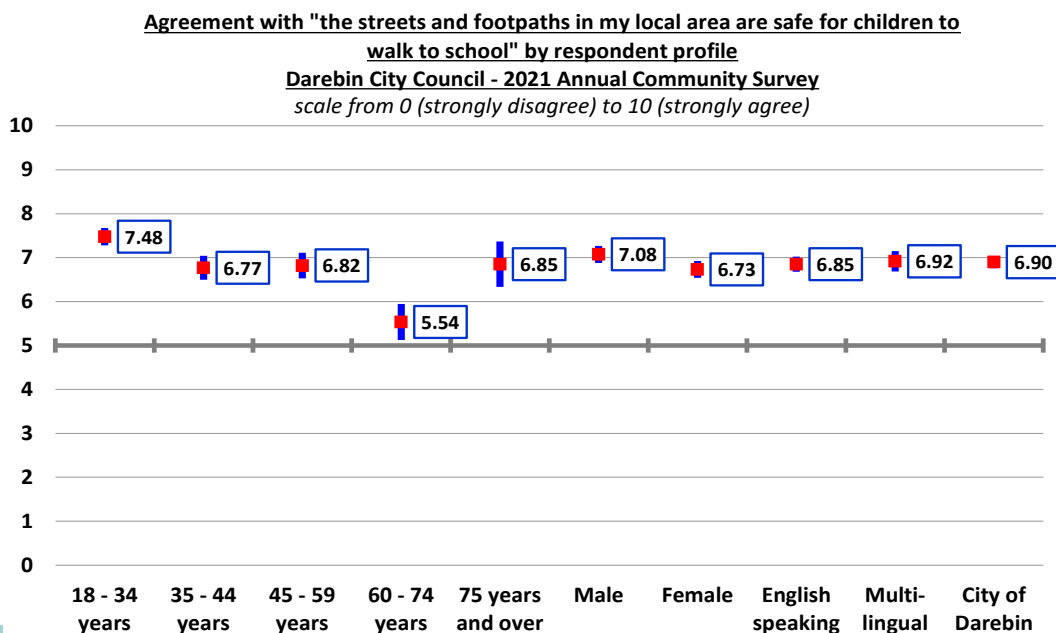


The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for children to walk to school

There was measurable variation in average agreement that “the streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for children to walk to school” observed across the municipality, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more in agreement and respondents from Reservoir West measurably less.



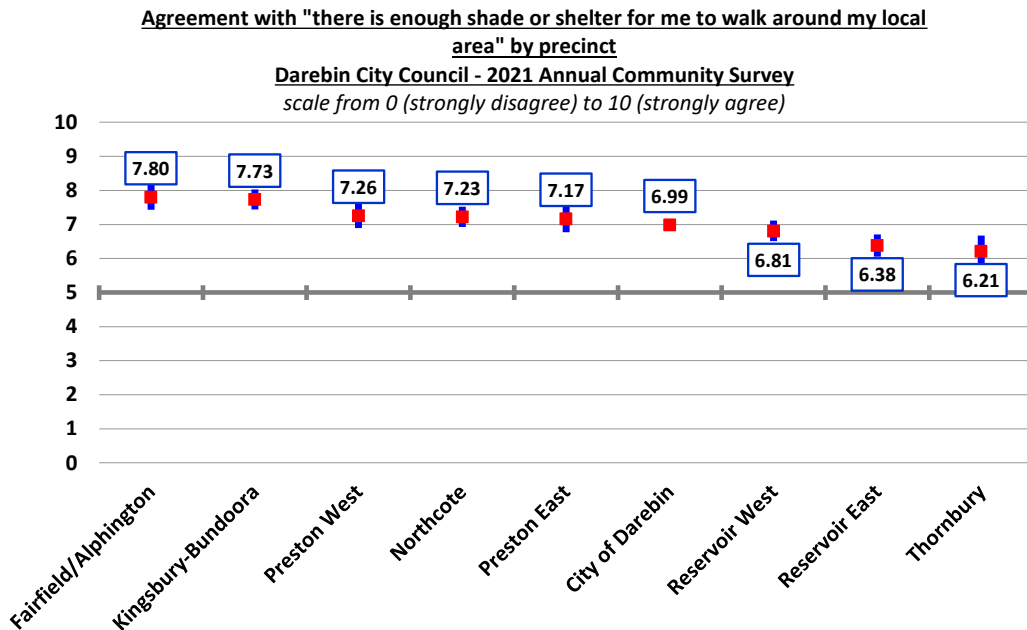
There was measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults measurably less. Female respondents were measurably less in agreement with this statement than male respondents.



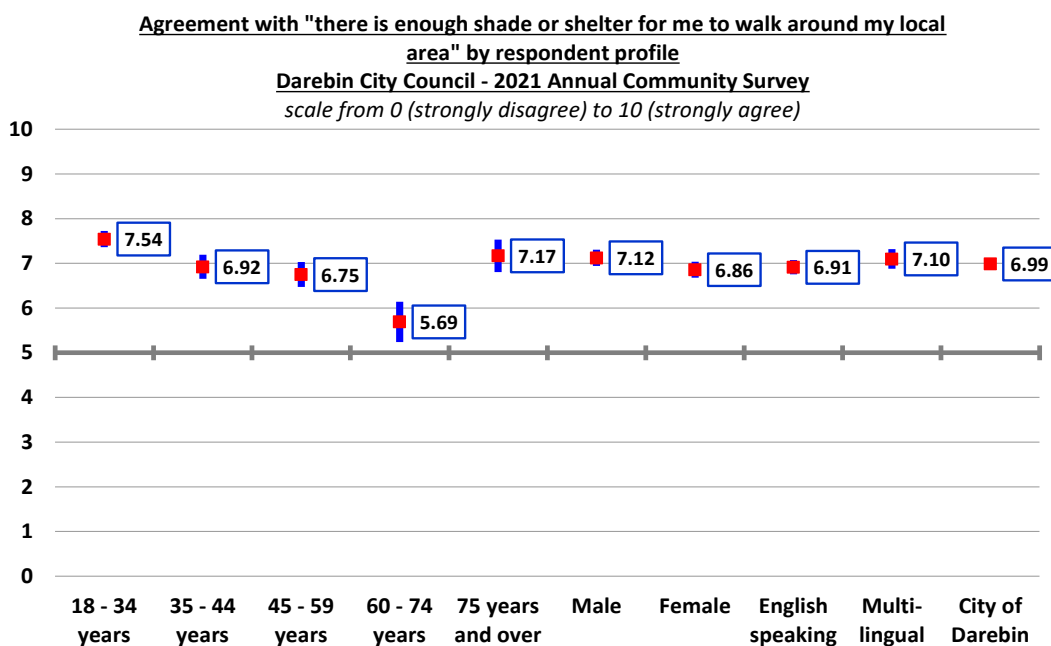


There is enough shade or shelter for me to walk around my local area

There was measurable variation in average agreement that “there is enough shade or shelter for me to walk around my local area” observed across the municipality, with respondents from Fairfield/Alphington and Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more in agreement and respondents from Reservoir East and Thornbury measurably less.

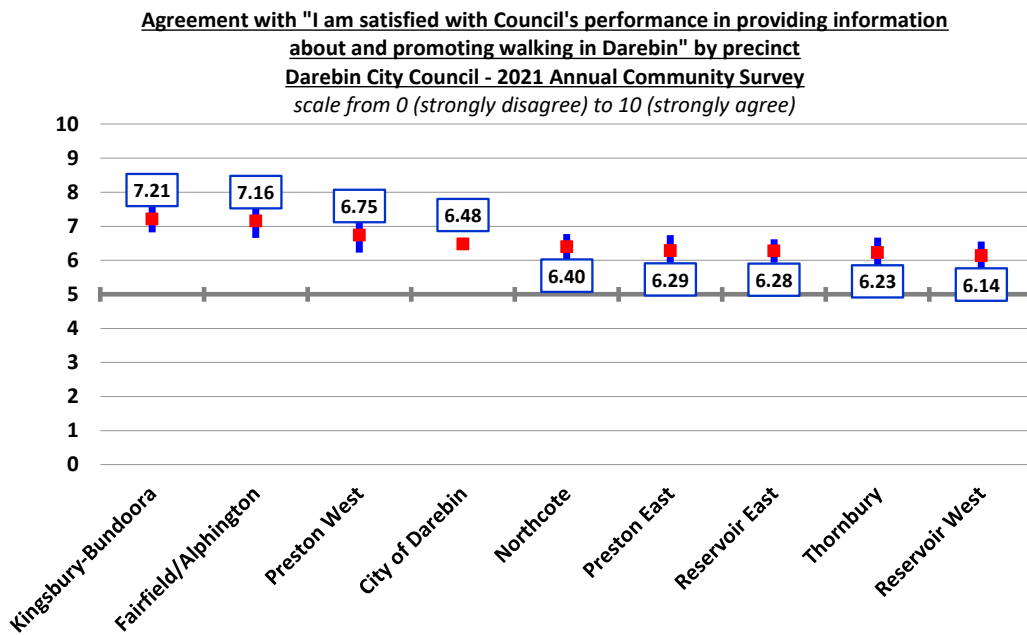


There was measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults measurably less. Female respondents were notably less in agreement with this statement than male respondents.

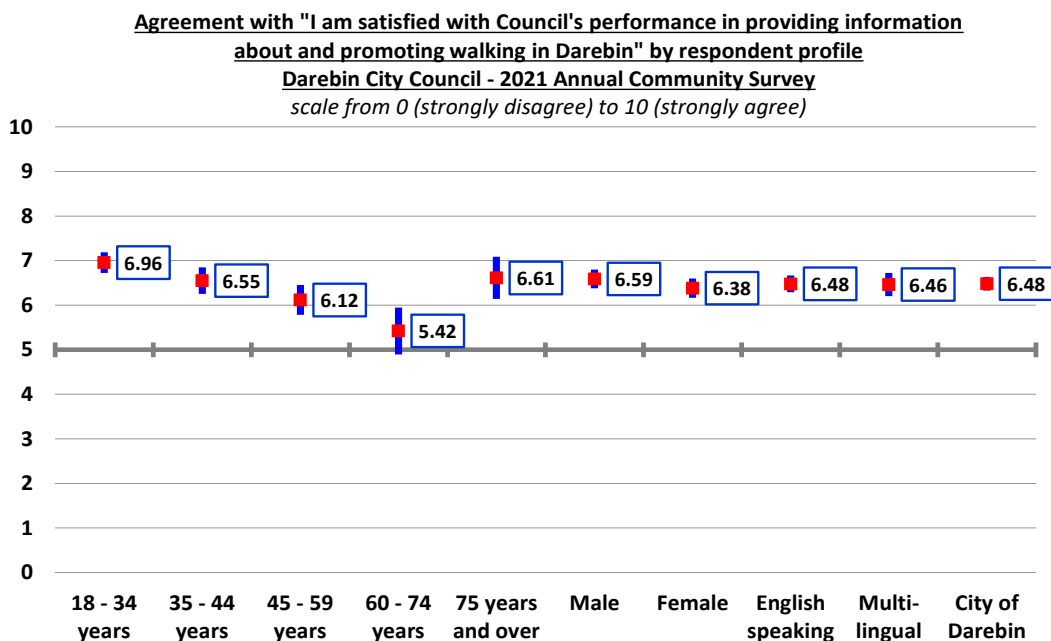


I am satisfied with Council's performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin

There was measurable variation in average agreement that "I am satisfied with Council's performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin" observed, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora and Fairfield/Alphington measurably more in agreement.



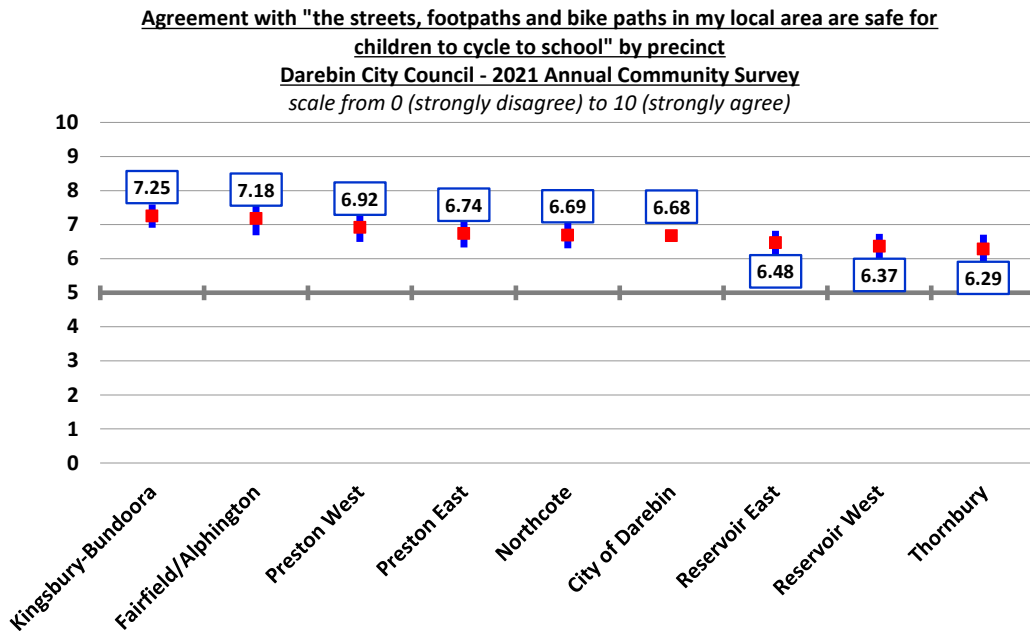
There was measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults measurably less.



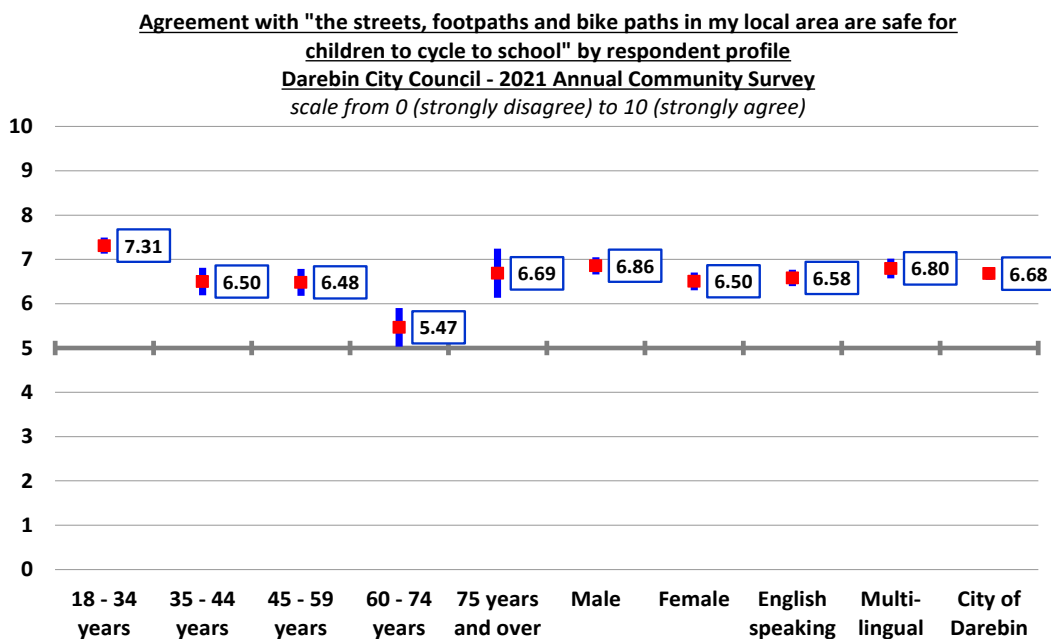


The streets, footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school

There was measurable variation in average agreement that “the streets, footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school” observed, with respondents from Kingsbury/Bundoora measurably more in agreement.



There was measurable variation observed by respondent profile, with young adults measurably more in agreement, and older adults measurably less. Female respondents were measurably less in agreement with this statement than male respondents.



Current issues for the City of Darebin

Respondents were asked:

“Can you please list what you consider to be the top three issues for the City of Darebin at the moment?”

Respondents were asked to nominate what they considered to be the top three issues for the City of Darebin “at the moment”.

A little less than half (47.2%) of respondents nominated an average of approximately two issues each. This is a decline on the approximately two-thirds (66.9%) of respondents who had nominated at least one issue in 2019 and the 54.7% in 2020.

The decline over the last two years is likely due, at least in part, to the change in methodology from face-to-face interaction to telephone survey in 2020 due to COVID-19. Telephone surveys do not receive the same level of engagement that can be achieved face-to-face, and this will impact on the response to these large open-ended style questions.

It is also possible that the COVID-19 pandemic may well have had a continued impact on respondents’ capacity to consider other issues as important this year, or issues may have diminished due respondents spending more time at home (e.g., traffic management issues).

It is important to bear in mind that these responses are not to be read only as a list of complaints about the performance of Council, nor do they reflect only services, facilities, and issues within the remit of Darebin City Council. Many of the issues raised by respondents are suggestions for future actions rather than complaints about prior actions, and many are issues that are principally the responsibility of the state government.

Metropolis Research notes that the most raised issues to address for the City of Darebin this year remain consistent with those from previous years, including “building, housing, planning, and development”, “parks, gardens, and open spaces”, and “traffic management”.

The following variations of note were observed:

- **Notable increase in 2020** – there were no issues to report a notable increase this year.
- **Notable decrease in 2020** – there was a notable decrease this year in the proportion of respondents raising traffic management (5.8% down from 8.2%), parking (3.9% down from 7.6%), and “safety, policing, and crime” (3.4% down from 6.3%).

Attention is drawn to the fact that just 2 respondents, representing just 0.2% (down from 1.9%) of the total sample, raised issues around COVID-19 in 2021.





When compared to the metropolitan Melbourne results from the 2021 *Governing Melbourne* research, which was conducted independently by Metropolis Research in January 2021, the following variations of note were observed:

- ***Notably more prominent in Darebin*** – includes building, housing, planning, and development (9.6% compared to 4.1%).
- ***Notably less prominent in Darebin*** – includes parks, gardens, and open spaces (5.9% compared to 9.2%), traffic management (5.8% compared to 13.4%), parking (3.9% compared to 7.2%), and road maintenance and repairs (2.6% compared to 7.0%).

As discussed in more detail in the [Issues and overall satisfaction](#) section of this report, the issues that appear to be negatively associated with satisfaction with Council's overall performance include bicycles and bike tracks, traffic management, street cleaning, parks, gardens, and open spaces, street lighting, footpaths, building, housing, planning, and development, communication, roads, and parking.

In other words, for the respondents who raise these issues, they appear to exert a negative influence on their satisfaction with Council's overall performance.



Top issues for Council to address at the moment
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of total respondents)

Issue	2021		2020	2018	2017	2021
	Number	Percent		- 2019	- 2018	Metro.*
Building, housing, planning and development	96	9.6%	10.0%	10.5%	15.4%	4.1%
Parks, gardens, open spaces	59	5.9%	4.5%	5.7%	8.7%	9.2%
Traffic management	58	5.8%	8.2%	22.5%	26.6%	13.4%
Street lighting	40	4.0%	5.1%	4.7%	5.1%	4.8%
Street trees	40	4.0%	3.3%	4.6%	4.9%	2.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	39	3.9%	3.5%	6.1%	6.1%	5.7%
Parking	39	3.9%	7.6%	14.1%	11.4%	7.2%
Consultation, commun. and prov. of information	35	3.5%	4.6%	2.4%	2.6%	3.0%
Safety, policing and crime	34	3.4%	6.3%	6.6%	7.0%	3.3%
Roads maintenance and repairs	26	2.6%	4.5%	4.9%	7.4%	7.0%
Street cleaning and maintenance	24	2.4%	1.4%	3.2%	1.8%	2.1%
Bicycles and bike tracks	23	2.3%	3.5%	2.5%	2.1%	3.7%
Hard rubbish collection	19	1.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	2.7%
Rates / fees	19	1.9%	1.5%	2.1%	0.0%	2.5%
Graffiti / vandalism	18	1.8%	1.9%	0.5%	2.3%	1.9%
Environment, conservation and climate change	16	1.6%	2.7%	6.0%	4.4%	2.4%
Cleanliness and maintenance of area	15	1.5%	2.1%	2.3%	2.5%	2.9%
Council financial management / governance	15	1.5%	1.6%	1.9%	0.2%	0.3%
Services and facilities for the elderly	15	1.5%	0.8%	1.0%	1.5%	1.0%
Recycling collection	14	1.4%	0.4%	2.4%	1.2%	1.3%
Rubbish and waste including garbage collection	14	1.4%	0.9%	2.9%	5.3%	3.3%
Public housing / homeless issues	13	1.3%	2.7%	1.6%	1.4%	0.3%
Quality and provision of local shops	11	1.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
Animal management	10	1.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%
Housing affordability	9	0.9%	0.4%	0.1%	1.8%	0.4%
Preston market	8	0.8%	2.7%	1.1%	1.4%	n.a.
Public transport	8	0.8%	1.5%	2.2%	6.0%	0.6%
Dumped / illegal rubbish	7	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.5%	n.a.
Multicultural issues / cultural diversity	7	0.7%	1.0%	0.9%	1.4%	1.9%
Drug and alcohol issues	4	0.4%	1.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%
Drains maintenance and repairs	4	0.4%	0.8%	1.7%	2.5%	2.2%
Green waste collection	4	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.3%	1.0%
Council customer service and responsiveness	3	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	1.0%
Promoting comm. atmosphere, arts and culture	3	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%	0.9%	2.2%
COVID-19 issues	2	0.2%	1.9%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Nature strips	2	0.2%	0.5%	n.a.	n.a.	2.5%
All other issues (37 separately identified)	87	8.7%	7.8%	8.2%	11.2%	14.1%
Total responses	840		984	1,302	1,541	699
<i>Respondents providing at least one issue</i>	472 (47.2%)		549 (54.7%)	670 (66.9%)	751 (75.1%)	395 (62.9%)

(*) 2021 metropolitan Melbourne average from Governing Melbourne



Whilst there was no statistically significant variation in these results observed across the municipality, attention is drawn to the following variations of note:

- **Reservoir West** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate consultation, communication, and the provision of information.
- **Preston East** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate cleanliness and maintenance of the local area.
- **Preston West** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate street lighting, services and facilities for the elderly, and bicycles and bike tracks.
- **Northcote** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development, environment, conservation, and climate change, consultation, communication, and the provision of information, and bicycles and bike tracks.
- **Thornbury** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development and road maintenance and repairs.
- **Kingsbury/Bundoora** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate safety, policing, and crime.
- **Fairfield/Alphington** – respondents were notably more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development.



Top issues for Council to address at the moment by precinct
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Percent of total respondents)

Reservoir East		Reservoir West	
Building, housing, planning, development	8.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	9.0%
Traffic management	8.4%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	7.2%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.3%	Building, housing, planning, development	6.0%
Street trees	6.3%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.4%
Parks, gardens, open space	4.2%	Safety, policing and crime	5.4%
Recycling collection	3.7%	Traffic management	4.2%
Roads maintenance and repairs	3.1%	Parking	2.4%
Hard rubbish collection	2.6%	Street lighting	2.4%
Street lighting	2.6%	Rubbish and waste incl. garbage collection	2.4%
All other issues	36.6%	All other issues	20.4%
Preston East		Preston West	
Parks, gardens, open space	6.7%	Building, housing, planning, development	9.2%
Building, housing, planning, development	6.7%	Street lighting	9.2%
Street lighting	5.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	8.3%
Street trees	5.9%	Services and facilities for the elderly	5.5%
Parking	5.0%	Parking	5.5%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	5.0%	Safety, policing and crime	5.5%
Street cleaning and maintenance	4.2%	Traffic management	5.5%
Traffic management	4.2%	Bicycles and bike tracks	4.6%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.4%	Roads maintenance and repairs	3.7%
All other issues	27.7%	All other issues	45.0%
Northcote		Thornbury	
Building, housing, planning, development	14.8%	Building, housing, planning, development	12.2%
Parks, gardens, open space	8.1%	Traffic management	7.1%
Environment, conservation, climate change	7.4%	Parks, gardens, open space	6.1%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	6.7%	Parking	5.1%
Traffic management	6.7%	Roads maintenance and repairs	5.1%
Bicycles and bike tracks	5.4%	Street trees	4.1%
Parking	4.7%	Rates / fees	3.1%
Public housing / homeless issues	4.7%	Council financial management / governance	3.1%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.0%	Street cleaning and maintenance	3.1%
All other issues	61.7%	All other issues	39.8%
Kingsbury-Bundoora		Fairfield/Alphington	
Street lighting	6.3%	Building, housing, planning, development	22.2%
Safety, policing and crime	6.3%	Parking	8.3%
Street trees	6.3%	Traffic management	8.3%
Parking	3.1%	Street cleaning and maintenance	6.9%
Building, housing, planning, development	2.1%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.6%
Animal management	2.1%	Rates / fees	4.2%
Parks, gardens, open space	1.0%	Hard rubbish collection	4.2%
Public transport	1.0%	Safety, policing and crime	4.2%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	1.0%	Noise	2.8%
All other issues	5.2%	All other issues	29.2%



There was also some variation observed by respondents' age structure, as follows:

- **Adults (aged 35 to 44 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate bicycles and bike tracks.
- **Middle-aged adults (aged 45 to 59 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development, and parking related issues.
- **Older adults (aged 60 to 74 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development, parking, graffiti / vandalism, and Council financial management and governance related issues.
- **Senior citizens (aged 75 years and over)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to nominate building, housing, planning, and development, footpath maintenance and repairs, services and facilities for the elderly, street trees, and rates and fees related issues.
- **Gender** – there was no meaningful variation observed between male and female respondents.
- **English speaking household** – respondents were somewhat more likely than respondents from multi-lingual households to nominate building, housing, planning, and development related issues.
- **Multi-lingual household** – respondents were somewhat more likely than respondents from English speaking households to nominate parks, garden, and open space related issues.
- **Household disability status** – there was no meaningful variation observed between respondents from households with a member with a disability and other respondents.



Top issues for Council to address at the moment by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Percent of total respondents)

18 - 34 years		35 - 44 years	
Parks, gardens, open space	6.9%	Building, housing, planning, development	9.4%
Street lighting	6.4%	Parks, gardens, open space	7.8%
Building, housing, planning, development	5.0%	Traffic management	4.7%
Traffic management	5.0%	Parking	4.7%
Safety, policing and crime	4.4%	Bicycles and bike tracks	4.2%
Street trees	3.9%	Street cleaning and maintenance	3.6%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.1%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.1%
Hard rubbish collection	2.5%	Street lighting	3.1%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	1.9%	Street trees	3.1%
All other issues	21.9%	All other issues	42.2%

45 - 59 years		60 - 74 years	
Building, housing, planning, development	12.6%	Building, housing, planning, development	15.5%
Traffic management	7.6%	Parking	10.1%
Parking	7.6%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.2%
Parks, gardens, open space	5.4%	Traffic management	6.2%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	5.4%
Roads maintenance and repairs	4.0%	Graffiti / vandalism	5.4%
Street lighting	4.0%	Safety, policing and crime	4.7%
Street trees	4.0%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.9%
Bicycles and bike tracks	4.0%	Council financial management, politics,	3.9%
All other issues	50.7%	All other issues	42.6%

75 years and over		City of Darebin	
Building, housing, planning, development	12.5%	Building, housing, planning, development	9.6%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	10.4%	Parks, gardens, open spaces	5.9%
Services and facilities for the elderly	7.3%	Traffic management	5.8%
Street trees	7.3%	Street lighting	4.0%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	5.2%	Street trees	4.0%
Roads maintenance and repairs	5.2%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.9%
Traffic management	5.2%	Parking	3.9%
Rates / fees	5.2%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.5%
Hard rubbish collection	2.1%	Safety, policing and crime	3.4%
All other issues		All other issues	40.0%



Top issues for Council to address at the moment by respondent profile
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Percent of total respondents)

Male		Female	
Building, housing, planning, development	10.3%	Building, housing, planning, development	9.0%
Traffic management	6.5%	Parks, gardens, open space	5.9%
Parks, gardens, open space	5.7%	Traffic management	5.2%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.8%	Parking	4.6%
Street trees	4.4%	Street lighting	4.6%
Safety, policing and crime	3.8%	Street trees	3.6%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.4%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	3.4%
Street lighting	3.4%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.1%
Parking	2.9%	Safety, policing and crime	2.9%
All other issues	40.5%	All other issues	38.5%

English speaking		Multi-lingual	
Building, housing, planning, development	10.8%	Parks, gardens, open space	7.8%
Traffic management	4.9%	Building, housing, planning, development	7.8%
Parks, gardens, open space	4.7%	Traffic management	6.8%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.6%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	6.3%
Parking	3.6%	Street trees	6.3%
Safety, policing and crime	2.9%	Street lighting	6.0%
Street cleaning and maintenance	2.9%	Parking	4.4%
Street trees	2.7%	Safety, policing and crime	4.4%
Bicycles and bike tracks	2.7%	Roads maintenance and repairs	3.1%
All other issues	40.4%	All other issues	38.1%

Household members with a disability		Household members without a disability	
Traffic management	8.9%	Building, housing, planning, development	10.2%
Consultation, commun., provision of info.	8.1%	Parks, gardens, open space	6.6%
Building, housing, planning, development	6.7%	Traffic management	5.4%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.9%	Street trees	4.3%
Safety, policing and crime	5.9%	Street lighting	4.2%
Services and facilities for the elderly	4.4%	Parking	4.0%
Environment, conservation, climate change	3.7%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.7%
Parking	3.7%	Safety, policing and crime	3.0%
Street cleaning and maintenance	3.7%	Consultation, commun., provision of info.	2.9%
All other issues	43.0%	All other issues	38.5%





Respondent profile

The following section of this report provides details as to the demographic profile of the respondents to the survey. These results do show that the survey methodology has obtained a sample of residents that is both highly consistent over time, as well as being reflective of the underlying population of the City of Darebin.

Age

Because the survey was conducted using a telephone survey methodology this year rather than the door-to-door methodology, the age structure of the respondents was less reflective of the underlying community. Consequently, the database was weighted by age and gender to ensure the final sample reflected the *Census* demographic profile. It is noted that the underlying sample did meet the 40% requirement of the Performance Reporting Framework prior to the weighting.

Age structure
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Age group	2021 (unweighted)		2021 (weighted)	2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
	Number	Percent					
18 - 19 years	11	1.1%	2.7%	2.7%	3.1%	2.8%	2.0%
20 - 34 years	146	14.6%	33.3%	33.3%	27.7%	29.1%	25.5%
35 - 44 years	275	27.5%	19.2%	19.2%	22.1%	21.6%	25.2%
45 - 59 years	450	45.0%	22.3%	22.4%	26.1%	24.7%	26.1%
60 - 74 years	79	7.9%	12.9%	12.9%	15.3%	15.9%	14.9%
75 years and over	39	3.9%	9.6%	9.6%	5.8%	5.8%	6.2%
Not stated	0		0	0	12	2	1
Total	1,000	100%	1,000	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000

Gender

The sample was weighted by age and gender to reflect the 2016 Census results.

Gender
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Gender	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Male	476	47.6%	47.7%	50.8%	45.1%	46.1%	48.1%
Female	524	52.4%	52.3%	49.1%	54.5%	53.5%	51.8%
Other	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%
Not stated	0		0	17	16	2	7
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1000



Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

Consistent with previous years, approximately one percent of the sample identified as Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander.

Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Response	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Yes - Aboriginal	6	0.6%	0.9%				
Yes - Torres Strait Islander	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%
Yes - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	2	0.2%	0.1%				
No	964	99.2%	99.0%	99.4%	98.6%	98.7%	98.9%
I prefer not to say	28		20	21	16	13	8
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000

Sexuality

Consistent with the results recorded in 2020, approximately five percent of respondents identified as LGBTIQ.

Sexuality
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Response	2021		2020
	Number	Percent	
Heterosexual	818	94.1%	96.9%
Bisexual	21	2.4%	1.1%
Gay	15	1.7%	1.1%
Lesbian	7	0.8%	0.7%
Queer	5	0.6%	0.2%
Pansexual	2	0.2%	n.a.
Asexual	1	0.1%	n.a.
I prefer not to say	131		108
Total	1,000	100%	1,003





Disability

Consistent with previous years, a little more than 10% of respondents were from households with a member identifying as having a disability.

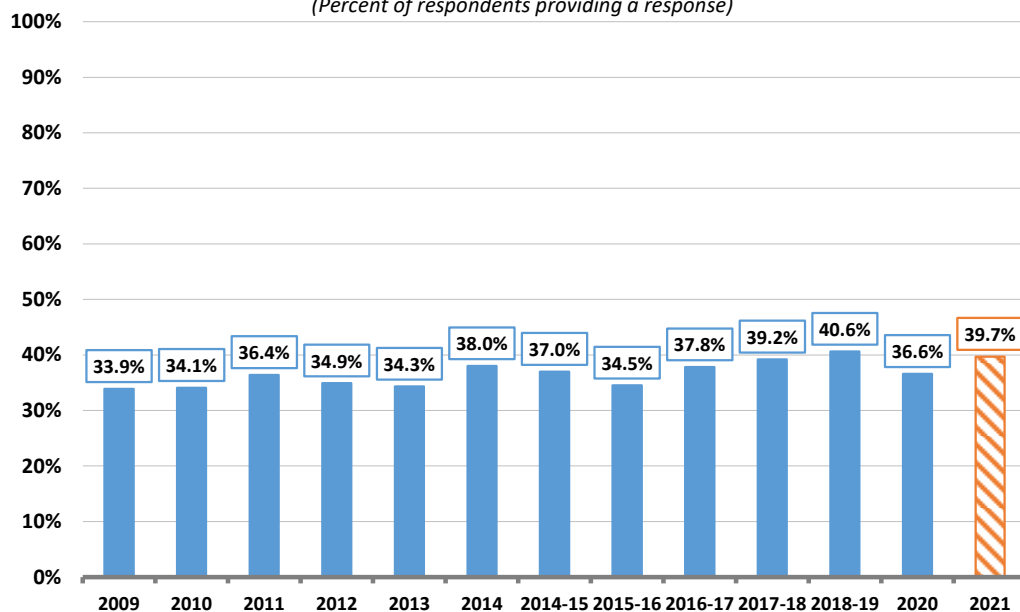
Household members identified as having a disability
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Disability	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Yes	135	13.9%	15.2%	8.7%	10.5%	13.1%	10.2%
No	833	86.1%	84.8%	91.3%	89.5%	86.9%	89.8%
Not stated	32		28	18	7	9	7
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000

Language

In 2021, 39.7% of respondents were from households that speak a language other than English at home. This result is consistent with the long-term average since 2009 of 36.7%.

Multi-lingual household
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
(Percent of respondents providing a response)



Language spoken at home**Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

Language	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
English	591	60.3%	63.4%	59.4%	60.8%	62.2%	65.6%
Italian	87	8.9%	8.6%	8.3%	6.3%	7.9%	6.7%
Greek	53	5.4%	5.4%	4.9%	5.4%	5.8%	5.2%
Hindi	48	4.9%	2.5%	3.0%	1.8%	2.0%	1.5%
Mandarin	23	2.3%	1.7%	2.5%	2.0%	2.0%	1.5%
Arabic	18	1.8%	2.7%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%
Bengali	9	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%
Macedonian	9	0.9%	0.5%	1.2%	1.2%	2.2%	1.3%
Tamil	8	0.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%
Vietnamese	8	0.8%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%	2.1%	1.6%
German	6	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	1.0%	0.7%
Spanish	6	0.6%	1.5%	1.4%	2.3%	0.6%	0.7%
Cantonese	5	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.3%	0.2%
Chinese n.f.d.	5	0.5%	0.4%	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%
Maltese	5	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
Nepali	5	0.5%	0.9%	0.7%	1.3%	0.5%	0.2%
Portugese	5	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Thai	5	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Punjabi	4	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%
Romanian	4	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Croatian	3	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Korean	3	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Polish	3	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%	0.2%
Somali	3	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Teluga	3	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Indonesian	2	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Sinhalese	2	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%
Tagalog (Filipino)	2	0.2%	1.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%
Urdu	2	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Multiple	2	0.2%	0.0%	3.7%	4.0%	2.2%	2.4%
All languages (49 separately identified)	51	5.2%	4.2%	5.0%	5.1%	4.5%	5.2%
Not stated	20		11	10	12	5	15
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000

Current housing situation

Consistent with previous results, a little less than half of the respondents were homeowners, a little less than one-quarter were mortgagee households, and a little more than one-quarter were rental households.





Housing situation
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Situation	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Own this home	437	47.1%	48.3%	50.7%	48.1%	43.9%	42.5%
Mortgage	211	22.8%	19.1%	14.2%	16.3%	24.0%	25.5%
Renting this home	255	27.5%	30.1%	32.0%	31.7%	27.5%	28.2%
Renting (Office of Housing)	17	1.8%	1.1%	2.3%	2.9%	3.5%	2.8%
Other arrangement	7	0.8%	1.4%	0.8%	0.9%	1.1%	1.0%
Not stated	73		61	33	14	13	10
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000

Period of residence

Attention is drawn again this year to the fact that less than two percent of respondents had lived in the City of Darebin for less than one year (“new residents”).

Metropolis Research notes the significant factor underpinning this low result this year for new residents, is that it was not possible for many in the community to move from one residence to another through most of 2020. This effect has been observed in all councils for which Metropolis Research has conducted this survey in 2020 and 2021.

This variation will have negatively influenced the satisfaction with the overall performance of Council, as newer residents have historically reported measurably higher than average satisfaction results.

Period of residence in the City of Darebin
Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey
 (Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Period	2021		2020	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
	Number	Percent					
Less than 1 year	12	1.2%	1.4%	10.8%	12.0%	10.5%	9.4%
1 to less than 5 years	156	16.2%	14.6%	23.5%	23.6%	22.6%	23.2%
5 to less than 10 years	187	19.4%	16.4%	16.4%	17.2%	14.5%	15.2%
10 years or more	609	63.2%	67.6%	49.2%	47.2%	52.4%	52.2%
Not stated	36		34	11	7	3	1
Total	1,000	100%	1,003	1,002	1,000	1,000	1,000





General comments

Respondents were asked:

“Do you have any further comments you would like to make?”

The following table outlines the 134 further comments received from respondents at the conclusion of the survey this year.

These comments are presented verbatim in the following table, broadly categorised as follows:

- Council services and facilities (20 responses)
- Traffic, roads, parking (16 responses)
- Parks, gardens, trees, and open spaces (13 responses)
- Waste management (13 responses)
- Council governance, management, and responsiveness (12 responses)
- General positive (10 responses)
- Communication, consultation, and engagement (10 responses)
- Social justice / multicultural issues (7 responses)
- Rates / financial management (5 responses)
- Planning and development (5 responses)
- Comments about the survey (5 responses)
- General negative (3 responses)
- Street lighting (3 responses)
- Safety, crime, and policing (2 responses)
- Shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues (1 response)
- Footpaths (1 response)
- Public transport (1 response)
- Other (7 responses)



General comments**Darebin City Council - 2021 Annual Community Survey***(Number of responses)*

<i>Comment</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Council services and facilities</i>	
Council must focus on providing services for elderly like home care services, home maintenance	4
Mental health and support are terrible, it is a big concern now	2
Cleanliness of toilets in the railway station and quality of them	1
Council must focus on providing services for elderly like clubs	1
Do more activities in Reservoir	1
Have better Christmas carols during Christmas	1
Have services for elderly, especially widowed men, as they don't know how to cook and do a lot of things	1
Improve the Reservoir community	1
More in person services instead of online	1
Need to look at indigenous issues. Drug overload issues	1
Pet registration is expensive and do not give any services in return	1
Population is getting older, so it is better to have more services for older residents	1
Reservoir leisure centre the gym and swimming pool is in good condition	1
There are lot of homelessness people here near shopping centre	1
They need to pay more attention on core services i.e., footpaths and car parking	1
Toy library should have more toys and long hours of opening	1
Total	20
<i>Traffic, roads, parking</i>	
Because of high-rise development there is not much car parking space left	1
Build an overpass near the Fairfield station to avoid traffic congestion	1
Cars speeding too much. No control over them	1
Fix the traffic lights on St George's Rd	1
Focus more on road development less on climate change	1
Gilbert Rd safety is concern there are lot of road safety concern tram intersection car and pedestrian we need to develop a proper road safety	1
I like the change of 40 km/h	1
Only left-hand turn at end of Herbert St and Bent St all the locals dislike it	1
Parking needs to have dedicated and clear lanes, Main Dr	1
Roundabout near Dalton Rd is dangerous, needs to be maintained	1
Stop parking inspectors from stalking	1
Street parking is getting out of control due to high-rise development and there is traffic congestion	1
The Herbert St and Elm St, there is a traffic island is confusing causing a lot of accidents	1
There is no room for movement for cars	1
Traffic congestion	1
Traffic lights in Reservoir is very hard, it's not safe for the students to cross the roads, Council needs to put some lines or some speed bumps to slow down the driver	1
Total	16
<i>Parks, gardens, trees, and open spaces</i>	



Cut the tree in Tunaley Pde	1
Edwardes Lake Park, the toilets are dirty	1
Grass not maintained	1
I am concerned about nature strip trees they are overgrown and creating havoc with that they are causing many problems like covering streetlights which can compromise safety	1
I would like to see more gardens	1
No shade at all except trees	1
Overgrowing trees	1
Playground upgrade in Bundoora Park and barbeque is also too old in the park	1
Please change trees and replace them with better ones	1
Spring St is dangerous there is lot of overgrown vegetation unsafe for children	1
The litter around parks should be cleared	1
There should be some good attraction in this side of Preston like Edwardes Park Lake	1
Trees must be replaced after being cut down. More native trees must be protected and planted to accommodate to native birds	1
Total	13

Waste management

After they collect the bins, they dump them in the middle of the driveway. Can't get out	1
Hard rubbish should be collected twice in a year	1
I think what Council is doing with recycling is great, but they could still improve	1
I was very impressed they took my garbage away when my daughter forgot to put it out	1
I would like to see change in recycling collection frequency I want it on weekly basis instead of fortnightly	1
More green waste disposal	1
More hard rubbish collection	1
More services for older people	1
Please give us individual recycling bins for plastic, glass, and paper	1
Small bins should always have weekly collection	1
Better recycling for soft plastics	1
Larger green bin required	1
The hard rubbish should be collected more than the year. It can be charged no issues with that	1
Total	13

Council governance, management, and responsiveness

Action speaks louder than words, so I don't care with all the fancy political agendas put out unless I see them in actions	1
Councillor *Name removed* - Facebook page - she has blocked me and other 10 - 20 residents of Westwood just because we ask questions. Nothing inappropriate just questions about the activities or events on her page	1
Darebin Council should up their act	1
Do better job	1





I think Reservoir gets neglected	1
One of the strategies by the government should be around employment	1
The objectives that the Council is planning for the next 4 years. The Council needs to be more transparent about their plan and in providing information to the residents	1
The people in power should live in the real world, I don't know which world they live in	1
The people who are making decisions in their office they should get on ground and see for themselves and then make decisions	1
They really do improve their performance and focus on issues that happen in our day to day lives	1
We should have Darebin City Council become a green council	1
Would like to see full transparency with community consultation and Council programs	1
Total	12

Communication, consultation, and engagement

Bring back the local newspaper back	1
Cars drive too fast near schools	1
I would like if Council can contact me regarding green bin issue	1
I would like *name removed* from Council to contact me	1
I would really love to see the City of Darebin listening to their local people	1
More communication with the residents, which can let us know what happened	1
More information be available where they can how they can help and where they can help	1
The biggest problem with Council is communication	1
The Council needs to be more responsive to the community queries	1
Used to get rubbish calendar could be included in December issue of newsletter	1
Total	10

Social justice / multicultural issues

Discrimination is there	1
Public history is very important and should be celebrated more	1
We are very refugee friendly and multicultural	1
Family violence	1
They should help some asylum seekers	1
They are turning this city for homosexual people	1
They need to be more inclusive and hire people from the minority as well	1
Total	7

Rates / financial management

Reduce rates. It's getting higher way too much	1
Council wastes money in many useless initiatives. Need to focus on what's important	1
Councillors need to drop their salary to give more money on elderly	1
Don't spend 65 million dollars on Northcote	1
Stop spending money on grants	1
Total	5





Planning and development

Being mindful of townhouses being made in Darebin it's a revenue making stream its causing a huge mess	1
Council should focus on planning development and raise these issues to other levels of the government	1
Hoping to apply for building permit and am scared for the results	1
I'm very worried about the high-rise developments being constructed	1
They really need to focus on urban development and Preston Market	1
Total	5

Survey

Don't ask invasive questions	2
I'm glad that Council is doing this survey	1
Improve the language of the questions	1
Surveys should be emailed out to people rather than calling people	1
Total	5

Street lighting

Lighting	1
More lighting at All Nations Park	1
Streetlights are dim in the area, feel unsafe to walk in the dark	1
Total	3

Safety, crime, and policing

Concerns about safety	1
To make public spaces safe	1
Total	2

Shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues

Farmer markets should be promoted	1
Total	1

Footpaths

Footpaths High St Thornbury	1
Total	1



<i>Public transport</i>	
Provide more shade and seats at bus stations around Darebin. Elderly people must stand in rains waiting for buses	1
Total	1
<i>General negative</i>	
I am not very happy with Darebin Council, and I have lived here for a very long time	1
I just hate Darebin	1
The Council could do more	1
Total	3
<i>General positive</i>	
Everything is good in Darebin	1
I like Darebin Council's progressive stand on climate change and standing up for climate change and looking after nature	1
I think that Council looks after culturally vulnerable communities a lot	1
Keep improving	1
Love living in Reservoir	1
Thank you for calling	1
The Darebin Council are doing a good job overall, especially with the circumstances right now	1
Wonderful suburb	1
I'm happy with Fiddes St	1
The age care is good in Reservoir	1
Total	10
<i>Other</i>	
Council should not interfere in the matters of State and Federal government	1
I do not support removal of Darebin Golf Club course	1
Is there any gift voucher I will get in mail or a prize ?	1
Make public golf course open to public	1
No bypass for cyclists	1
Not lot of people have internet here	1
Unaffordable to live	1
Total	7
Total	134





Appendix One: survey form





**Darebin City Council
2021 Annual Community Survey**



Hello, my name is _____, and I am from Metropolis Research. We are a research company in Melbourne, and we are calling residents of the City of Darebin to complete a survey on behalf of Darebin Council.

The Council is required by government regulations to conduct a community satisfaction survey every year, and we would welcome your feedback on the performance of the Council.

We recognise that this is a difficult time for the community, so this year we are also asking a few questions about the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the ways in which Council may assist the community at this time.

The survey is completely confidential and voluntary, and it takes approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions about the survey, you may contact Darebin Council on 8470 8888 for more information.

Do we have your consent to go ahead?

Firstly, is there anyone between the ages of 15 and 34 years of age who could do the survey? If not, I'm happy to conduct the survey with you.

If questioned is this a scam?

No, I am from a Melbourne research company Metropolis Research undertaking a survey on behalf of Darebin Council.

If you would like to verify, please contact Darebin Council on 8470 8888.

If you are happy for me to call you back tomorrow once you have verified the survey I am happy to do so. If you would prefer not to participate, that is fine. Thank you for your time.

1 **Have you contacted Darebin City Council in the last twelve months?**

Yes (*go to Q.2*) 1 No (*go to Q.7*) 2

2 **Were you given clear timeframes and a point of contact?**

Yes 1 No 2

3 **How many times did you contact Council to resolve your query?**

Once 1 4 to 5 times 3
 2 to 3 times 2 More than 5 times 4

4 **Was your query resolved in the timeframes provided?**

Yes 1 No 2

5 **On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, how satisfied were you with the following aspects of service when you last contacted Darebin Council?**

1. Satisfaction with the final outcome	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
2. Overall satisfaction with the customer service experience	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99

Reasons for rating your overall experience when you last contacted Council?

6

On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with each service/facility?

1. The condition of sealed local roads	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>Prompt if necessary: this includes local streets & roads managed by Darebin but excludes highways & main roads that are managed by VicRoads</i>												
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any roads of concern?</i>												
2. Maintenance of parks, reserves and the open space areas (including litter in parks)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any specific open spaces of concern?</i>												
3. Footpath maintenance and repairs	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?</i>												
4. Weekly garbage collection	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
5. Litter collection in public areas	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?</i>												
6. Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?</i>												
7. The level of street lighting	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any streets of concern?</i>												
8. Street sweeping	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
9. The level of dumped rubbish	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?</i>												
10. The type / species of street trees	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
11. Regular recycling (e.g. paper, cardboard, bottles and cans)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
12. Green waste recycling	Use				Yes				No			
<i>Satisfaction</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												

6

13. The availability of bicycle parking	Use				Yes				No			
<i>Satisfaction</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, are there any locations of concern?</i>												
14. Darebin Libraries services	Use				Yes				No			
<i>Satisfaction</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
15. Council festivals and events (<i>including FUSE, Meet the Makers, Backyard Harvest</i>)	Use				Yes				No			
<i>Satisfaction</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												

7

On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the following aspects of bike and shared paths?

1. The maintenance of off-road shared paths (<i>e.g. St. Georges Rd shared path or Merri Creek Trail</i>)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												
2. Safety of off-road shared paths	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												
3. Links between off-road shared paths	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												
4. Maintenance of on-road bike lanes (<i>e.g. Victoria Street, Regent Street</i>)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												
5. Links between on-road bike lanes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												
6. Council's performance providing information about and promoting cycling and walking in Darebin	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that, and are there any locations of concern?</i>												

8

On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest) can you please rate your level of agreement with the following statements?

1. The public spaces, art works, arts and cultural infrastructure makes Darebin a better place to live	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>Do you have any comments to make about public art in Darebin?</i>												
2. I / we are satisfied with Council's efforts in managing the issue of graffiti	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>Do you have any comments to make about graffiti in Darebin?</i>												

9

On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the following?

1. Council's support of diversity, inclusion and fairness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
2. Council's performance in communicating its programs and services	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
3. Council's performance in community consultation and engagement <i>(e.g. seeking opinion and engaging with the community on key local issues requiring decisions by Council)</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
4. Council's performance in making decisions in the interests of the community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												
5. Council's performance in lobbying and making representations on key issues that affect the local community	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
<i>If rated less than 6, why do you say that?</i>												

10 On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), please rate your satisfaction with the following aspects of planning and development in the City of Darebin.

1. The appearance and quality of new developments in your area	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
If rated less than 5, why do you say that, and are there any specific locations or developments of concern?												
2. The number of new developments	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99

11 On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the performance of Council across all areas of responsibility?

1. Overall performance of Council	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
Why do you say that? (surveyor note: ask this for all respondents regardless of rating)												
<input type="text"/>												
<input type="text"/>												
<input type="text"/>												

12 On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), how safe do you feel?

1. In public areas of the City of Darebin during the day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
2. In the public areas of the City of Darebin at night	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
If rated less than five, why do you say that?												
<input type="text"/>												
<input type="text"/>												

13 Can you please list what you consider to be the top three issues for the City of Darebin at the moment?

Issue One:	<input type="text"/>
Issue Two:	<input type="text"/>
Issue Three:	<input type="text"/>

14

On a scale of zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements regarding getting around in your local area.

1. My street is pleasant and beautiful for me to walk in	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
2. The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for adults to walk around	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
3. There are enough safe places to cross the roads in my local area	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
4. The streets and footpaths in my local area are safe for children to walk to school	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
5. There is enough shade or shelter for me to walk around my local area	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
6. I am satisfied with Council's performance in providing information about and promoting walking in Darebin	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99
7. The streets, footpaths and bike paths in my local area are safe for children to cycle to school	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	99

15

Please indicate which of the following age groups best describes you?

15 - 19 Years	1	45 - 59 Years	4
20 - 34 Years	2	60 - 74 Years	5
35 - 44 Years	3	75 Years or Over	6

16

What is your gender?

Male	1	I identify as _____	3
Female	2	I Prefer not to say	9

17

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

Yes - Aboriginal	1	No	4
Yes - Torres Strait Islander	2	I prefer not to say	9
Yes - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	3		

18

In terms of sexuality, do you think of yourself primarily as?

Heterosexual	1	Queer	5
Lesbian	2	I identify as _____	6
Gay	3	I prefer not to say	9
Bisexual	4		

19

Do any members of this household speak a language other than English at home?

English only	1	Other : _____	2
--------------	---	---------------	---

20	Do any members of this household identify as having a disability?			
	Yes	1	No	2

21	Which of the following best describes the current situation of this household?			
	Own this home	1	Renting from the Office of Housing	4
	Mortgage (<i>paying-off this home</i>)	2	Other arrangement	5
	Renting this home	3	Can't say	9

22	How long have you lived in the City of Darebin?			
	Less than 1 year	1	5 to less than 10 years	3
	1 to less than 5 years	2	10 years or more	4

23	Do you have any other comments you would like to make?		

Thank you for your time
Your feedback is most appreciated

Council will publish the full results of this survey on its website in a few months.



 <p>CITY OF DAREBIN</p> <p>274 Gower Street, Preston PO Box 91, Preston, Vic 3072 T 8470 8888 F 8470 8877 E mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au darebin.vic.gov.au</p> <p>the place to live</p>	<p>CITY OF DAREBIN</p> <p>274 Gower Street, Preston PO Box 91, Preston, Vic 3072 T 8470 8888 F 8470 8877 E mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au darebin.vic.gov.au</p>	 <p>National Relay Service</p> <p>TTY dial 133 677 or Speak & Listen 1300 555 727 or iprelay.com.au then enter 03 8470 8888</p>	 <p>Speak your language</p> <p>T 8470 8470</p> <table border="0"><tr><td>العربية</td><td>Italiano</td></tr><tr><td>繁體中文</td><td>Македонски</td></tr><tr><td>Ελληνικά</td><td>Soomalii</td></tr><tr><td>हिंदी</td><td>Tiếng Việt</td></tr></table>	العربية	Italiano	繁體中文	Македонски	Ελληνικά	Soomalii	हिंदी	Tiếng Việt
العربية	Italiano										
繁體中文	Македонски										
Ελληνικά	Soomalii										
हिंदी	Tiếng Việt										

8.11 GOVERNANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021**Author:** Senior Council Business Officer**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The matters covered under the Governance Report for the month of September 2021 are:

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors;
- Reports by Mayor and Councillors;
- Responses to any questions taken on notice during Public Question Time at the Council Meeting held on 23 August 2021;
- Proposal to hold a Hearing of Submissions Committee on Monday 11 October 2021 at 5.30 pm virtually or at the Preston Town Hall, 284 Gower Street, Preston.
- Review of Council existing S5 and S6 Instruments of Delegations.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – September 2021.
- (2) Notes the summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings and other Informal Meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
- (3) Notes that reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Resolves to hold a Hearing of Submissions Committee on Monday 11 October 2021 at 5.30 pm virtually or at the Preston Town Hall, 284 Gower Street, Preston.
- (5) In the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the attached Instruments of Delegation, resolves:
 - a) To delegate to the person holding the position, acting in or performing the duties of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the '*Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer (S5)*' (**Appendix B**) subject to the conditions and limitations specified in the Instrument of Delegation.
 - b) To delegate to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the officers or positions referred to in the '*Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, (S6)*' (**Appendix C**) the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.

- c) To delegate to the Planning Committee the powers, duties and functions set out in the 'Instrument of Delegation to the Planning Committee (**Appendix D**), subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
 - d) To delegate to the Hearing of Submissions Committee the powers, duties and functions set out in the 'Instrument of Delegation to the Planning Committee (**Appendix E**), subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
 - e) That these instruments come into force immediately the Common Seal of Council is affixed to each instrument
 - f) That on the coming into force of each instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer and staff are revoked.
- (7) Notes that the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 47 of the Act may by instrument of delegation delegate any power, duty or function of Council that has been delegated to the Chief Executive Officer by the Council to (a) a member of Council staff, or (b) the members of a Community Asset Committee
- (8) Adopts and affix Council's Common Seal to the Instruments of Delegation provided as attachments to this report, specifically:
- Instrument of Delegation from Council to the CEO (S5) (**Appendix B**);
 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to members of Council Staff (S6) (**Appendix C**);
 - Instrument of Delegation to Planning Committee (**Appendix D**);
 - Instrument of Delegation to Hearing of Submissions Committee (**Appendix E**)
- (9) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to update the Instrument of Delegation to staff as and when relevant legislation is amended or introduced.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020, the agenda for each Ordinary Meeting is required to list certain governance / administrative matters in addition to other specified items. These include the Reports of Standing Committees (for example the Hearing of Submissions Committee), Summary of Meetings (for example Briefings, Advisory Committee), responses to Public Questions taken on notice and reports by Mayor and Councillors

Instead of having multiple reports for these governance / administrative matters on each agenda, it is considered appropriate to consolidate these matters in one single standing report to provide a single reporting mechanism for a range of statutory compliance, transparency and governance matters.

This is in accordance with best practice, good governance principles, transparent and accountable reporting of governance activities and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act, Council's Governance Rules and related regulations. This report

additionally incorporates matters including but not limited to reporting of advisory committees, items relating to the delegation of Council powers, policy and strategy reporting, and the reporting on Councillors expenses.

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

DISCUSSION

The matters covered under Governance Report for the month of September 2021 are:

Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020 for any meeting of an Advisory Committee established by Council attended by at least one Councillor or a scheduled or planned meeting to discuss the business of Council or to brief Councillors, and which is attended by at least half of the Councillors and one member of Council staff and which is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the meeting is:-

- a) Tabled at the next convenient Council meeting; and
- b) Recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

The summary of the meeting should include a) the time, date and location of the meeting, b) the Councillors in attendance, c) the topics discussed, d) the positions of Council officers in attendance, e) the organisation that any attendees external to council are representing and f) any conflicts of interest declared, including the reason.

A Summary of the following Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefings or other Informal Meetings of Councillors are attached at **Appendix A** to this Report:

- Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee – 17 August 2021
- Darebin Interfaith Council Advisory Committee – 26 August 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 30 August 2021.
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee – 6 September 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 6 September 2021
- Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee – 9 September 2021
- Audit and Risk Committee – 13 September 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 13 September 2021.
- Councillor Briefing Session – 20 September 2021

Reports by Mayor and Councillors

The Mayor and Councillors submit their monthly report by 4.00pm on the day of each Ordinary Council Meeting, detailing their attendance at various functions and activities since the last Council Meeting. Reports submitted by Mayor and Councillors will be recorded in the minutes of this meeting.

Responses to Public Questions taken On Notice – Council meeting 23 August 2021

Pursuant to the Councils Governance Rules the response to a question from the public taken on notice must be recorded in the minutes of the next Ordinary Council meeting. No questions were taken on notice at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 August 2021.

Setting a Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting on Monday 11 October 2021 at 5.30 pm

The Hearing of Submissions Committee is a Delegated Committee established by Council to exercise the Council's powers, functions and duties relating to the hearing of submissions received in accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)

The Committee comprises of all Councillors with the Mayor as Chairperson and meets as and when required by resolution of Council.

A matter that has afforded the right of persons to submit submissions pursuant to Section 223 of the Act is currently underway and has reached the stage where the convening of the Hearing of Submissions Committee is required. The matter is:

Road Management Plan 2021

Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to release the draft 2021 Road Management Plan for community consultation at its Council Meeting on 26 July 2021. The Road Management Plan, under the Road Management Act 2004, is Council's policy that articulates the levels of service provided to inspect and repair Council's road assets, ensuring that these assets are safe for all road users. Council must review the Road Management Plan every four years in line with Council elections.

Public notice was given in the Government Gazette and The Age on 20 & 26 August 2021. Till now 3 submission has been received. Two submitters have requested to be heard by Council in support of their submission. One submitter has not expressed interest to be heard by Council in support of their submission.

A formal agenda with a detailed report on the matter will be prepared and distributed in accordance with normal timeframes.

It is proposed to seek a Council resolution to hold a Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting on Monday 11 October 2021 at 5.30 pm.

It is important to note that the Hearing of Submissions Committee functions only as a forum for submitters to these matters to formally address the Committee and speak in support of their submission. No decision other than to receive the verbal presentations is made by the Committee and a separate report on each matter heard by the Committee will be submitted to Council for determination.

Review of Council Existing Delegations

In accordance with Section 11(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council must review within the period of 12 months after a general election the delegations including the S5 and S6 Instruments of Delegation and the Instruments of delegation to delegated committees (Planning Committee and Hearing of Submissions Committee).

The Act enables Council to delegate to officers of Council (Section 11(1)(b)) and to any Delegated Committee it has established (Section 11(1)(a)). In both circumstances this is done through Instruments of Delegation which record how specific powers, duties and functions, or legislative provisions, are assigned to Council officers or the Delegated Committee.

It is essential and in the interests of effective governance to encourage the delegation of decision making to the lowest competent level within the organisation. This will achieve the best use of the abilities of elected Councillors and Officers, ensure cost effective use of resources, and promote the development of efficient and effective management.

Authority and responsibility are inseparable. Those with responsibility for a task or function should always have the authority to carry it out effectively. Those with authority should always be responsible for its wise and prudent use. Delegations cannot, however, remove from the Council and senior management the ultimate accountability for the affairs of Council.

Those with delegated authority should willingly accept authority and responsibility for decision making in the certain knowledge that their decisions, if made in a full, fair and objective manner, will help achieve the strategic outcomes of the organisation as set out in both the Local Government Act 2020 and the Council Plan 2021 - 2024.

The review of Councils delegation regime has been undertaken over the last three months to coincide with the July release of the updated Instruments of Delegation – from the Maddocks Delegation and Authorisation Service.

Through a coordinated review process involving staff from across the organisation all delegations (existing and new) expressed through Instruments of Delegation have been checked for accuracy, the appropriateness of the delegation and alignment with the organisational structure.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES**Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles**

- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Public Transparency Principles

- (a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Nil

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

Nil

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Nil

Operational Impacts

Nil

Legal and Risk Implications

The review of Council delegations is a legislative requirement that provides the opportunity for the Council to carefully consider the delegation regime that exists and to be confident that the powers, duties and functions that are vested in Council through both State and Federal legislation are being exercised by the Chief Executive Officer and staff in an ordered and appropriate manner.






IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The use of delegations across the organisation is fundamental to the efficient and effective conduct of Council responsibilities. Copies of the executed Instruments of Delegation will be published on the Darebin website, in accordance with the Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments

- Summary of Advisory Committee Meeting, Councillor Briefing Summary of Advisory Committee Meeting Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors - 27 September 2021 (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 
- Draft S5 - Instrument of Delegation Council to CEO - September 2021 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#) 
- Draft S6 - Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff - September 2021 (**Appendix C**) [↓](#) 
- Instrument of Delegation Planning Committee - September 2021 (**Appendix D**) [↓](#) 
- Instrument of Delegation Hearing of Submission Committee - September 2021 (**Appendix E**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee
	Date:	Tuesday 17 August 2021
	Location:	Online via Microsoft Teams
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor) Cr. Tom Hannon Cr. Trent McCarthy (chair)
	Council Staff:	Sam Hewett, Rachel Ollivier, Steve Tierney, Lee McKenzie, Stevie Meyer, Sophie Jordan
	Other:	Seven community members of the Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee
APOLOGIES:		N/A

The Meeting commenced at 6.30pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	General Introduction – Agenda changes	No disclosures were made.
2	Breathing Space Implementation Plan and Open Space Levy	No disclosures were made.
3	Darebin’s Advisory Committees	No disclosures were made.
4	Darebin Nature Plan	No disclosures were made.
5	Volunteer Policy	No disclosures were made.
6	Rewilding Darebin	No disclosures were made.
7	Biodiverse Darebin	No disclosures were made.
8	Parks and Open Space Restructure	No disclosures were made.
9	Other business	No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 830pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Andrea Canzano
	Officer Title:	Senior Biodiversity Officer

This form is to be completed by the nominated Council Officer and returned to the Council Business Team within 3 working days for inclusion the agenda of the next Council meeting and in the register available for public inspection.



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Interfaith Council Advisory Committee
	Date:	Thursday 26 August 2021
	Location:	Microsoft Teams online meeting
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Councillor Gaetano Greco
	Council Staff:	Teneille Summers, Celia Chang, Kristie Dunn
	Other:	Members of the Darebin Interfaith Council (5), Guest Speaker (1)
APOLOGIES:		Members of the Darebin Interfaith Council (4) Record the names of Councillors who have submitted apologies for inability to attend

The Meeting commenced at 5.30pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Previous minutes, action items and updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions of Interest for new members – closed. Assessment of applications in progress. • COVID-19 community information sessions in collaboration with Council. • Advocacy from Council on the impact on religious organisations being excluded from financial support – letter from Mayor sent to MPs Robin Scott, Kat Theophanous and Ged Kearny 	No disclosures were made.
2.	Matters of interest, challenges, feedback and support needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observations of the impacts of COVID-19 lockdown in the community were shared. 	No disclosures were made.

SUMMARY OF COUNCILLOR MEETINGS – CONT.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
3.	Interfaith project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Tour to Places of Worship – to be postponed to February. 	No disclosures were made.
4.	Climate Resilience and Fuel Poverty project presentation	No disclosures were made. Cr. Greco left the meeting at 6.30pm. Meeting chaired by Teneille Summers for items 5 and 6.
5.	Upcoming events and activities	No disclosures were made.
6.	Acknowledgement of all members for their contribution to the Advisory Committee	No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 6.55pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Celia Chang
	Officer Title:	Community Development Officer - Interfaith & Multicultural

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Monday 30 August 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Messina, Cr. Greco, Cr. Hannan, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Williams Cr. Newton and Cr. Dimitriadis joined the briefing at approximately 2.20pm Cr. Laurence joined the briefing at approximately 2.25pm Cr. McCarthy joined the briefing at approximately 4.59pm
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, CEO Jodie Watson, GM Governance & Engagement Sam Hewett, GM Operations and Capital Rachel Ollivier, GM City Sustainability and Strategy Kerry McGrath, GM Communities Brett Gambau, Manager City Works (Item 1) Casey Ward, Project Manager (Item 1) Vanessa Petrie, Manager Climate Emergency & Strategic Transport (Item 1) Brendan Moore, Coordinator Graffiti and Waste (Item 1) Felicity Leahy, Manager Recreation and Libraries (Item 2 & 5) Justin Hanrahan, Manager Economic Recovery and Resilience (Item 3) Wendy Dinning, Senior Economic Recovery and Strategic Partnerships (Item 3) Anika Labadie, City Design Coordinator (Item 3) Lizzie Skinner, A/Coordinator Buildings and Leisure (Item 3) Stevie Meyer, A/Manager City Futures (Item 3 & 4) Sophie Jordan, Principal Strategic Planner (Item 4) Dominique Aloisio, Strategic Planner (Item 4) Steve Tierney, Manager Parks and Open Space (Item 5)

SUMMARY OF COUNCILLOR MEETINGS – CONT.

APOLOGIES:	Other:	-
		-

The briefings commenced at 2.00 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Darebin Resource and Recovery Centre	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	John Cain Memorial Park State Agreements	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	Retail Activity Centres Economic Recovery Program	No disclosures of conflict were made
4	Permanent Heritage Controls for Heidelberg Rail Corridor	No disclosures of conflict were made
5	General Business Northcote Golf Course	No disclosures of conflict were made
6	Community Engagement for Your Street, Your Say	No disclosures of conflict were made

The briefing concluded at 7.19 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance & Engagement

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Monday 6 September 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Greco, Cr. Dimitriadis, Cr. Hannan, Cr Newton, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Williams Cr. McCarthy joined the briefing at approximately 3.57pm Cr. Messina joined the briefing at approximately 4.02pm
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, CEO Jodie Watson, GM Governance & Engagement Sam Hewett, GM Operations and Capital Rachel Ollivier, GM City Sustainability and Strategy Kerry McGrath, GM Communities Karen Leeder, Manager City Development (Item 1 & 2) Daniel Murphy, Planning Appeals Advocate (Item 1) Chad Griffiths, Manager City Futures (Item 1 & 2) Deniz Yener-Korematsu, Principal Planner (Item 1) Joylon Boyle, Coordinator Statutory Planning (Item 1) Vanessa Petrie, Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport (Item 2 & 5) Kevin de Leeuw, Senior Transport Engineer (Item 2) Enna Giampiccolo, Manager Communications and Engagement (Item 3 & 4) Sarah-Jade Chung, Coordinator Community Engagement and Demographics (Item 3) Felicity Leahy, Manager Recreation & Libraries (Item 6) Casey Ward, Project Manager Assets and Capital Delivery (Item 6)
	Other:	-
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Laurence

The briefings commenced at 3.39 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED	DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
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SUMMARY OF COUNCILLOR MEETINGS – CONT.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Northcote Plaza Redevelopment – Revised Proposal	No disclosures of conflict were made
2	Resident Parking Permit Policy	No disclosures of conflict were made
3	2021 Darebin Annual Community Survey Results	No disclosures of conflict were made
4	General Business MAV State Council Meeting Workforce Diversity and Inclusion COVID Update	No disclosures of conflict were made
5	Northern Councils Alliance Northern Region Transport Strategy	No disclosures of conflict were made
6	Bill Lowry Oval Update	No disclosures of conflict were made

The briefing concluded at 7.10 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance & Engagement

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
	Date:	6 September 2021
	Location:	MS Teams online
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Councillor Julie Williams
	Council Staff:	Jess Fraser, Manager Equity and Wellbeing Shadi Hanna, Manager Aged and Disability Gillian Damonze, Coordinator Community Participation and Development Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion Jade Myconos, Community Development Officer Economic Participation.
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Edward Manuel (community member), George Jiang (carer), Katherine Kiley, Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion

The Meeting commenced at 11.05am

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Present and apologies	No disclosures were made.
2	Matters arising from previous minutes / drop off zone items	No disclosures were made.
3	Round table check in	No disclosures were made.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS – PUBLIC RECORD (CONT)

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4	Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan 2021 - 2026	No disclosures were made.
5	Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) and DDAC ToR	No disclosures were made.
6	DDAC Recruitment update	No disclosures were made.
7	Work experience project	No disclosures were made.
8	General Business	No disclosures were made.
9	Meeting feedback	No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 1.05 pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Ania Sieracka Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion
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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee
PRESENT:	Date:	Thursday 9 September 2021
	Location:	Zoom
	Councillors:	Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)(Chair), Cr. Julie Williams (arrived 4.31pm), Cr. Susan Rennie (arrived 5.08pm)
	Council Staff:	Kerry McGrath, Shadi Hanna, Karlee Ferrante
	Other:	Win Stenton, Anne Learmonth, Nick Nicolaou, Marika Bosinova
APOLOGIES:		

The Assembly commenced at 4.03pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Update on Royal Commission and Federal Aged Care Reforms	No disclosures were made.
2	Advisory committee’s recruitment update	No disclosures were made.
3.	Acknowledgement of retiring committee members	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 5.16pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Karlee Ferrante
	Officer Title:	Acting Coordinator Departmental Administration

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Monday 13 September 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Messina, Cr. Greco, Cr. Hannan, Cr. Dimitriadis, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Newton, Cr. Laurence, Cr. McCarthy Cr Williams joined the meeting at 3.28pm.
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, CEO Jodie Watson, GM Governance & Engagement Sam Hewett, GM Operations and Capital Rachel Ollivier, GM City Sustainability and Strategy Kerry McGrath, GM Communities Chad Griffiths, Manager City Future (Item 4.1 & 4.2) Stevie Meyer, Manager Strategic Futures (Item 4.1 & 4.2) Alia Slamet, Principal Strategic Planner (Item 4.1 & 4.2) Tejas Deshmukh, Strategic Planner (Item 4.1) Karen Leeder, Manager City Development (Item 4.3) Justin Hanrahan, Manager Economic Resilience and Recovery (Item 4.4) Damian Hogan, Manager Finance (Item 4.4) Srini Vasan, A/Manager Finance (Item 4.4) Matt Doherty, Coordinator Health Protection (Item 4.5)
	Other:	-
APOLOGIES:		-

The briefings commenced at 2pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.1	Strategic Planning Workshop 1 – Planning Reform	No disclosures of conflict were made
4.2	Preston Market – Verbal Update	No disclosures of conflict were made

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS – CONT.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.3	Statutory Planning Service Improvement Update (Verbal)	No disclosures of conflict were made
4.4	Update on the Love Local Card Program	No disclosures of conflict were made
4.5	Epping Animal Welfare Facility Mid Term Contract Review	No disclosures of conflict were made
4.6	M9 Strategic Priorities	No disclosures of conflict were made
4.7	General Business	No disclosures of conflict were made
5	For Information	No disclosures of conflict were made
5.1	Darebin Libraries and Learning Strategy – Annual Progress Report 2020 - 21	No disclosures of conflict were made
5.2	2021/22 Small, Medium and Three-Year Partnership Grant Outcomes	No disclosures of conflict were made

The briefing concluded at 7.02pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance & Engagement

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title	Darebin Audit and Risk Committee
	Date	13 September 2021
	Location	virtually, via MS Teams
PRESENT	ARC Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)(Chairperson) • Craig Geddes (Independent External Member) • Dr. Marco Bini (Independent External Member) • Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor and Committee Member) • Cr. Tom Hannan (Committee Member)
	Council Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Wilkinson (Chief Executive Officer) • Jodie Watson (General Manager Governance & Engagement) • Anthea Kypreos (Acting Manager Property & BusinessImprovement) • Gideon VanDerWesthuizen (Coordinator Risk &Improvement) • Rebecca Ristevski (Audit & Compliance Officer)
	Other	<p>Internal Auditor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kapil Kukreja (Director – Risk, Assurance & Advisory HLB Mann Judd) <p>External Auditor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanchu Chummar (Acting Sector Director, Local Government, VAGO) • Kevin Chan (Acting Senior Manager, Data Analytics,VAGO) <p>Invited Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claudio Cavallo (Manager, Information Services) • Damian Hogan (Manager, Finance) • Srinu Vasan (Acting Manager, Finance) • Michael O’Riordan (Coordinator, Finance) • Sarah Noel (Manager, People and Culture) • Sam Hewett (General Manager, Operations & Capital)
APOLOGIES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Holloway (Partner – Risk, Assurance & Advisory HLB Mann Judd)

In-camera discussion was held from 10:30 - 10:53AM

The Meeting commenced at 10:53AM

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	
2	Membership	
3	Apologies	
4	Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest	
5	Approval of previous minutes	
6	Quarterly CEO update	Verbal report delivered
7	Standing Reports	
7.1	Actions arising from previous meeting	
7.2	Committee Work Plan Report	
7.3	Information Services Report	
7.4	VAGO Sexual Harassment Survey Outcomes and Actions update	
8	Financial Reports	
8.1	Draft 2020-21 Finance Statement & Performance Report	
8.2	VAGO Closing Report, Draft Management Representative Letter & Final Management Letter for the year ended 30 June 2021	
8.3	Governance & Management Checklist	
9	Risk Management	
9.1	Quarterly Risk Management Report	
9.2	Quarterly Safety Report	
10	Internal Audit	
10.1	Internal Audit Program Status and Audit Scopes for Approval	
10.2	Completed Internal Audits Report	
10.3	Outstanding Audit Actions Status Report	
10.4	Recent Report & Publications	

11	Governance	
11.1	Committee Management Report	

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
12	Other Business	
13	Next Meeting	Monday 6 December 2021
14	Close of Meeting	

The Meeting concluded at 1:43pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Rebecca Ristevski
	Officer Title:	Audit and Compliance Officer

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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing Session
	Date:	Monday 20 September 2021
PRESENT:	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
	Councillors:	Cr. Messina, Cr. Greco, Cr. Hannan, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Newton, Cr. Laurence, Cr. McCarthy Cr Williams arrived at 2.07pm Cr Dimitriadis arrived 2.20pm
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, CEO Jodie Watson, GM Governance & Engagement Sam Hewett, GM Operations and Capital (Item 4.2) Rachel Ollivier, GM City Sustainability and Strategy Kerry McGrath, GM Communities Chad Griffiths, Manager City Futures (Item 4.1) Stevie Meyer, Manager Strategic Futures (Item 4.1) Sophie Jordan, Principal Strategic Planner (Item 4.1) Tejas Deshmukh, Senior Strategic Planner (Item 4.1) Karen Leeder, Manager City Development (Item 4.1) Steve Tierney, Manager, Parks & Open Space (Item 4.3, 4.4) Romina Atai, Coordinator, Parks Strategy & Special Projects (Item 4.3) Anthea Kypreos, A/Manager Property and Business Improvement (Item 4.4, 5.3, 5.4)
APOLOGIES:	Other:	-
		-

The briefings commenced at 2.00pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.1	Strategic Planning Workshop 2 – Planning Reform	No declarations

SUMMARY OF COUNCILLOR MEETINGS – CONT.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.2	Beautification around Ruthven station	No declarations
4.3	Gellibrand Crescent Reserve	No declarations
4.4	General Business	No declarations
	Clements Reserve	No declarations
5.1	Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Annual Implementation Report	No declarations
5.2	Contract Award for Operational Management of Narrandjeri and Darebin Community Sports Stadium	No declarations
5.3	Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Policy	No declarations
5.4	Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy Review	No declarations
5.5	Review of Council Delegations	No declarations

The briefing concluded at 6.12pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance & Engagement

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Instrument of Delegation to Chief Executive Officer

Darebin City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

The Chief Executive Officer

Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the power conferred by s 11(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (**the Act**) and all other powers enabling it, Darebin City Council (**Council**) delegates to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the position of Chief Executive Officer, the powers, duties and functions set out in the Schedule to this Instrument of Delegation.

AND declares that

- 1. this instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on _____ 2021.
- 2. the delegation
 - 2.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;
 - 2.2 revokes the delegation issued by the Council on 17 August 2020
 - 2.3 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule;
 - 2.4 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
 - 2.5 remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it.
- 3. The member of Council staff occupying the position or title of, or acting in the position of, Chief Executive Officer may delegate to a member of Council staff any of the powers (other than the power of delegation conferred by section 11(3) of the Act or any other powers not capable of sub-delegation) which this Instrument of Delegation delegates to him or her.

The COMMON SEAL of)
 DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL)
 was affixed on _____)
 with the authority of the Council:)

Signed by the Chief Executive Officer of Council in the presence of)
)

Witness

Date:

Signed by the Mayor in the presence of)
)

Witness

Date:

SCHEDULE

The power to

1. determine any issue;
2. take any action; or
3. do any act or thing

arising out of or connected with any duty imposed, or function or power conferred on Council by or under any Act.

Part 1 - Conditions and Limitations

The delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing.

4. If the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which involves:
 - 4.1 entering into a contract exceeding the value of \$750,000 (including GST)
 - 4.2 making any expenditure that exceeds \$ 750,000 (unless it is expenditure made under a contract already entered into or is expenditure which Council is by or under legislation required to make in which case it must not exceed \$ 750,000)
 - 4.3 appointing an Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period exceeding 28 days.
 - 4.4 electing a Mayor or Deputy Mayor.
 - 4.5 granting a reasonable request for leave under section 35 of the Act.
 - 4.6 making any decision in relation to the employment, dismissal or removal of the Chief Executive Officer.
 - 4.7 approving or amending the Council Plan
 - 4.8 adopting or amending any policy that Council is required to adopt under the Act.
 - 4.9 adopting or amending the Governance Rules.
 - 4.10 appointing the chair or the members to a delegated committee.
 - 4.11 making, amending or revoking a local law
 - 4.12 approving the Budget or revised Budget
 - 4.13 approving the borrowing of money.
 - 4.14 subject to 181H(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declaring general rates, municipal charges, service rates and charges and specified rates and charges;
 - 4.15 adoption of the Auditor's report, Financial Statements, Standard Statements and Performance Statement under Part 6 of the Act;
 - 4.16 appointment of Councillor or community delegates or representatives to external organisations; or
5. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which is required by law to be done by Council resolution;
6. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;

7. if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a
 - 7.1 policy; or
 - 7.2 strategyadopted by Council;
8. if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation, whether on account of s11(2)(a)-(n) (inclusive) of the Act or otherwise; or
9. the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

Part 2 – Emergency Powers

10. Where a State of Emergency is in force after having been declared by the Premier of Victoria under the provisions of the Emergency Management Act 2013 or other relevant legislation and a quorum of Council or the Planning Committee cannot be formed or the convening of a meeting represents in the view of the Chief Executive Officer an unacceptable risk to public health and safety, the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Mayor may make any decision on any matter, (with the exception of those matters they are explicitly prevented from determining under the Act) as required to continue the good governance and operation of Council, which would normally be subject of a resolution of Council.
11. The Chief Executive Officer may only exercise the power as referred to in clause 10 if, they believe that the powers they are exercising are in the best interests of the City of Darebin.
12. Any decision taken by the Chief Executive Officer under this Part will in a timely manner be communicated to Councillors and is required to be subject of a report to the next available Council Meeting.



S6 Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff

Darebin City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

Members of Council Staff



INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL STAFF

In exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Schedule, the Council:

1. delegates each duty and/or function and/or power described in column 1 of the Schedule (and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule) to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the office or position described opposite each such duty and/or function and/or power in column 3 of the Schedule;
2. record that reference in the Schedule are as follows:

Acronym		Title
Admin – P&B	means	All Administration Staff – Planning and Building
BSO(B&P)	means	Business Support Officer (Business and Performance)
BSO(HP)	means	Business Support Officer (Health Protection)
CEO	means	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Means	Chief Finance Officer
CAP	means	Coordinator Asset Planning
CHP	means	Coordinator Health Protection
CI&FM	means	Coordinator Infrastructure and Fleet Maintenance
CSP	means	Coordinators Statutory Planning
CSTP	means	Coordinator Strategic Planning
CTE	Means	Coordinator Transport Engineering
CG&WO	means	Coordinator Graffiti and Waste Operations
COC&C	means	Coordinator Operations Contracts & Compliance
EHT	Means	Environmental Health Technician
GMC	means	General Manager Community
GMCS&S	means	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
GMG&E	means	General Manager Governance and Engagement
GMO&C	means	General Manager Operations and Capital
HPO	means	Health Protection Officer
MA&CD	means	Manager Assets and Capital Delivery

Acronym		Title
MBS	means	Municipal Building Surveyor
MCD	means	Manager City Development
MCF	means	Manager City Futures
MCS&C	means	Manager City Safety and Compliance
MCW	means	Manager City Works
MCE&ST	means	Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport
MG&CS	means	Manager Governance and Corporate Strategy
MPBI	means	Manager Property & Business Improvement
PIO	means	Planning Investigation Officer
PSP	means	All Principal Statutory Planners
Service Manager or Coordinator	means	The Manager or Coordinator responsible for Council service or facility
SHPO	means	Senior Health Protection Officer
SO	means	Subdivision Officer
SP	means	All Statutory Planners
SPA	means	Statutory Planning Assistants
SPIO	means	Senior Planning Investigation Officer
SSP	means	All Senior Statutory Planners
STP	means	All Strategic Planners
TLB&P	means	Team Leader Business and Performance
TLLL	means	Team Leader Local Laws
TE	means	All Transport Engineers including Senior Transport Engineers

3. declares that:

3.1 this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on _____; and

3.2 the delegation:

3.2.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;

3.2.2 revokes the delegation issued by Council on 17 August 2020;

3.2.3 remains in force until varied or revoked;

3.2.4 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in sub-paragraph 3.3, and the Schedule; and

3.2.5 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and

3.3 the delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing:

3.3.1 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;

3.3.2 if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a:

(a) policy; or

(b) strategy

adopted by Council;

3.3.3 if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation; or

3.3.4 the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff or delegated committee.

The COMMON SEAL of)
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL)
was affixed on _____)
with the authority of the Council:)

Signed by the Chief Executive Officer of Council in the presence of)
)

Witness

Date:

Signed by the Mayor in the presence of)
)

Witness

Date:

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DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
s.41A(1)	power to declare a dog to be a menacing dog	GMCS&S, MCS&C, TLB&P, TLLL	Council may delegate this power to a Council authorised officer.

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.19(2)(a)	power to direct by written order that the food premises be put into a clean and sanitary condition	CHP, SHPO, HPO	If s 19(1) applies.
s.19(2)(b)	power to direct by written order that specified steps be taken to ensure that food prepared, sold or handled is safe and suitable	CHP, SHPO, HPO	If s 19(1) applies.
s.19(3)	power to direct by written order that the food premises not be kept or used for the sale, or handling for sale, of any food, or for the preparation of any food, or for any other specified purpose, or for the use of any specified equipment or a specified process	CEO	If s 19(1) applies. Only in relation to temporary food premises or mobile food premises.
s.19(4)(a)	power to direct that an order made under section 19(3)(a) or (b): (i) be affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises, and (ii) inform the public by notice in a published newspaper or otherwise	GMCS&S, CHP, SHPO, HPO	If s 19(1) applies.
s.19(6)(a)	duty to revoke any order under s 19 if satisfied that an order has been complied with	SHPO, HPO, CHP	If s 19(1) applies.
s.19(6)(b)	duty to give written notice of revocation under s 19(6)(a) if satisfied that an order has been complied with	CHP, SHPO, HPO	If s 19(1) applies.
s.19AA(2)	power to direct, by written order, that a person must take any of the actions described in (a)-(c).	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19AA(4)(c)	power to direct, in an order made under s19AA(2) or a subsequent written order, that a person must ensure that any food or class of food is not removed from the premises	Not delegated	Note: the power to direct the matters under s 19AA (4) (a) and (b) is not capable of delegation and so such directions must be made by a Council resolution.
s.19AA(7)	duty to revoke order issued under s 19AA and give written notice of revocation, if satisfied that that order has been complied with	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19CB(4)(b)	power to request a copy of records	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT,	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19E(1)(d)	power to request a copy of the food safety program	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.19GB	power to request a proprietor to provide written details of the name, qualification or experience of the current food safety supervisor	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19M(4)(a) & (5)	power to conduct a food safety audit and take actions where deficiencies are identified	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19NA(1)	power to request food safety audit reports	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19U(3)	power to waive and vary the costs of a food safety audit if there are special circumstances	CHP	
s.19UA	power to charge fees for conducting a food safety assessment or inspection	CHP	Except for an assessment required by a declaration under s 19C or an inspection under s 38B(1)(c) or 39.
s.19W	power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to comply with any requirement under Part IIIB	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19W(3)(a)	power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have staff at the premises undertake training or instruction	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.19W(3)(b)	power to direct a proprietor of a food premises to have details of any staff training incorporated into the minimum records required to be kept or food safety program of the premises	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
---	power to register or renew registration	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority. Refusal to grant/renew/ registration must be ratified by Council or the CEO (see section 58A (2)).
s. 36A	power to accept an application for registration or notification using online portal	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP)	Where Council is the registration authority
s.36B	duty to pay the charge for use of online portal	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority
s.38AA(5)	power to (a) request further information or (b) advise the proprietor that the premises must be registered if the premises are not exempt	Not delegated	Where Council is the registration authority. Fees are determined by Council in the annual budget process
s.38AB(4)	power to fix a fee for the receipt of a notification under s 38AA in accordance with a declaration under s 38AB(1)	CHP	Where Council is the registration authority.

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.38A(4)	power to request a copy of a completed food safety program template	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38B(1)(a)	duty to assess the application and determine which class of food premises under section 19C the food premises belongs	CHP, SHPO, HPO,EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38B(1)(b)	duty to ensure proprietor has complied with requirements of s 38A	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38B(2)	duty to be satisfied of the matters in s 38B(2)(a)-(b)	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38D(1)	duty to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of s 38C and inspect the premises if required by s 39	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38D(2)	duty to be satisfied of the matters in section 38D(2)(a)-(d)	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38D(3)	power to request copies of any audit reports	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP)	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38E(2)	power to register the food premises on a conditional basis	CHP	Where Council is the registration authority. Not exceeding the prescribed time limit defined under S 38E(5)
s.38E(4)	duty to register the food premises when conditions are satisfied	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.38F(3)(b)	power to require proprietor to comply with requirements of this Act	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s. 38G(1)	power to require notification of change of the food safety program type used for the food premises	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority
s. 38(G)(2)	power to require the proprietor of the food premises to comply with any requirement of the Act	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority
s.39A	power to register, renew or transfer food premises despite minor defects	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT	Where Council is the registration authority. Only if satisfied of matters in s 39A(2)(a)-(c)

FOOD ACT 1984			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.40(2)	power to incorporate the certificate of registration in one document with any certificate of registration under Part 6 of the <i>Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i>	CHP	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.40C(2)	power to grant or renew the registration of food premises for a period of less than 1 year	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.40D(1)	power to suspend or revoke the registration of food premises	CHP	Where Council is the registration authority. In consultation with the GMSC&S. Action must be ratified by Council.
s. 40F	power to cancel registration of food premises	CHP, SHPO, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP)	Where Council is the registration authority
s.43F(6)	duty to be satisfied that registration requirements under Division 3 have been met prior to registering, transferring or renewing registration of a component of a food business	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.43F(7)	power to register the components of the food business that meet requirements in Division 3 and power to refuse to register the components that do not meet the requirements	CHP, SHPO, HPO	Where Council is the registration authority.
s.46(5)	power to institute proceedings against another person where the offence was due to an act or default by that other person and where the first person charged could successfully defend a prosecution, without proceedings first being instituted against the person first charged	CHP, SHPO	Where Council is the registration authority. In consultation with the GMCS&S.

HERITAGE ACT 2017			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.116	power to sub-delegate the Executive Director's functions, duties or powers	MCD	<p>Must first obtain the Executive Director's written consent.</p> <p>Council can only sub-delegate if the instrument of delegation from the Executive Director authorises sub-delegation.</p> <p>'Executive Director' means the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria.</p>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.185L(4)	Power to declare and levy a cladding rectification charge	CEO ²	Council has not entered into any cladding rectification charge agreements.

² The only member of staff who can be a delegate in Column 3 is the CEO.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.4B	power to prepare an amendment to the Victorian Planning Provisions	MCD, MCF, CSTP	If authorised by the Minister.
s.4G	function of receiving prescribed documents and a copy of the Victorian Planning Provisions from the Minister	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.4H	duty to make amendment to the Victorian Planning Provisions available in accordance with public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.4I	duty to keep the Victorian Planning Provisions and other documents available in accordance with public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP	
s.8A(2)	power to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme where the Minister has given consent under s 8A	MCF, CSTP	
s.8A(3)	power to apply to the Minister to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme	GMCS&S, MCF, MCD	
s.8A(5)	function of receiving notice of the Minister's decision	GMCS&S, MCF, MCD	
s.8A(7)	power to prepare the amendment specified in the application without the Minister's authorisation if no response received after 10 business days	MCF, CSTP	
s.8B(2)	power to apply to the Minister for authorisation to prepare an amendment to the planning scheme of an adjoining municipal district	Not delegated	
s.12(3)	power to carry out studies and do things to ensure proper use of land and consult with other persons to ensure co-ordination of planning scheme with these persons	MCF, CSTP	
s.12A(1)	duty to prepare a municipal strategic statement (including the power to prepare a municipal strategic statement under s 19 of the <i>Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996</i>)	MCF, CSTP	
s.12B(1)	duty to review the planning scheme	MCF, CSTP	
s.12B(2)	duty to review planning scheme at direction of the Minister	MCF, CSTP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.12B(5)	duty to report findings of a review of the planning scheme to the Minister without delay	MCF, CSTP	
s.14	duties of a Responsible Authority as set out in s 14 (a)-(d)	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.17(1)	duty of giving a copy of an amendment to the planning scheme	MCF, CSTP, STP, Admin - P&B	
s.17(2)	duty of giving a copy of a s 173 agreement	MCD, MCF, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, STP	
s.17(3)	duty of giving a copy of amendment, explanatory report and relevant documents to Minister within 10 business days	GMCS&S, MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.18	duty to make an amendment etc. available in accordance with public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.19	power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice of amendment to a planning scheme and to exercise any other power under s 19 to a planning scheme	MCD, MCF	
s.19	function of receiving notice of preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme	GMCS&S, MCF, MCD	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.
s.20(A)	Power to apply to Minister to prepare an amendment in a prescribed class	GMCS&S	To allow officers to apply to Minister to carry out an amendment to the Darebin Planning Scheme for prescribed classes of fix ups to the Darebin Planning Scheme These are always administrative and minor in nature and require no notice through the Act.
s.20(1)	power to apply to Minister for exemption from the requirements of s 19	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.20(2)	Power to apply to Minister for a planning scheme amendment exemption from the requirements of s 19	GMCS&S	To allow officers to apply to Minister to carry out an amendment to the Darebin Planning Scheme for fix-up amendments that require no notice.
s.20(4)	Power to apply to Minister to prepare a planning scheme amendment to exempt themselves from notice requirements of s 19	GMCS&S	To allow officers to apply to Minister to carry out Ministerial amendment for an interim heritage overlay, where Council has already resolved to seek an interim heritage overlay.

			This is for the time before an interim heritage overlay is approved by the Minister, if any demolition requests come in where we need to lodge a fresh amendment request in order to suspend demolition S29A request under the Building Act.
s.21(2)	duty to make submissions available in accordance with public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP, STP	Relates to planning scheme amendments.
s.21A(4)	Duty to publish notice	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.22	duty to consider all submissions	Not delegated	Except submissions which request a change to the items in s.22(5)(a) and (b). Council/Planning Committee decision required.
s.23(1)(b)	duty to refer submissions which request a change to the amendment to a panel	MCF, CSTP,	
s.23(2)	power to refer to a panel submissions which do not require a change to the amendment	MCF, CSTP, STP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.24	function to represent Council and present a submission at a panel hearing (including a hearing referred to in s 96D)	MCD, MCF CSP, CSTP, PSP, SSP, SP, STP	
s.26(1)	power to make a report available for inspection in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act	MCD, MCF, CSP, CSTP, PSP, SSP, SP, STP	
s.26(2)	duty to keep the report of panel available in accordance with public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.27(2)	power to apply for exemption if panel's report is not received	MCD, MCF	
s.28 (1)	duty to notify Minister if abandoning an amendment	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	Note: the power to make a decision to abandon an amendment cannot be delegated.
s. 28(2)	duty to publish notice of the decision on Internet site	MCD	
s. 28(4)	duty to make notice of the decision available on Council's Internet site for a period of at least 2 months	MCD	
s.30(4)(a)	duty to say if an amendment has lapsed	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.30(4)(b)	duty to provide information in writing upon request	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.32(2)	duty to give more notice if required	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.33(1)	duty to give more notice of changes to an amendment	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.36(2)	duty to give notice of approval of amendment	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.38(5)	duty to give notice of revocation of an amendment	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.39	function of being a party to a proceeding commenced under s 39 and duty to comply with a determination by VCAT	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.40(1)	function of lodging copy of approved amendment	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.41 (1)	duty to make a copy of an approved amendment available in accordance with the public availability requirements during inspection period	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.41 (2)	duty to make a copy of an approved amendment and any documents lodged with it available in person in accordance with the requirements set out in s 197B of the Act after the inspection period ends	MCF, CSTP, STP	

s.42 (2)	duty to make copy of planning scheme available in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.46AAA	duty to prepare an amendment to a planning scheme that relates to Yarra River land that is not inconsistent with anything in a Yarra Strategic Plan which is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	Not applicable	Where Council is a responsible public entity and is a planning authority. Note: this provision is not yet in force, and will commence on the day on which the initial Yarra Strategic Plan comes into operation. It will affect a limited number of Councils.
s.46AW	function of being consulted by the Minister	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	Where Council is a responsible public entity.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.46AX	function of receiving a draft Statement of Planning Policy and written direction in relation to the endorsement of the draft Statement of Planning Policy power to endorse the draft Statement of Planning Policy	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	Where Council is a responsible public entity.
s.46AZC2	to prepare an amendment to a declared area planning scheme that is inconsistent with a Statement of Planning Policy for the declared area that is expressed to be binding on the responsible public entity	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CSTP	Where Council is a responsible public entity.
s.46AZK	duty not to act inconsistently with any provision of the Statement of Planning Policy that is expressed to be binding on the public entity when performing a function or duty or exercising a power in relation to the declared area	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CSTP	Where Council is a responsible public entity.
s.46GI(2)(b)(i)	power to agree to a lower rate of standard levy for a class of development of a particular type of land than the rate specified in a Minister's direction	GMCS&S, CFO	Where Council is the planning authority, the municipal Council of the municipal district in which the land is located and/or the development agency.
s.46GJ(1)	function of receiving written directions from the Minister in relation to the preparation and content of infrastructure contributions plans	GMCS&S, CFO	
s.46GK	duty to comply with a Minister's direction that applies to Council as the planning authority	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.46GN(1)	duty to arrange for estimates of values of inner public purpose land	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GO(1)	duty to give notice to owners of certain inner public purpose land	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.46GP	function of receiving a notice under s 46GO	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency.
s.46GQ	function of receiving a submission from an affected owner who objects to the estimated value per hectare (or other appropriate unit of measurement) of the inner public purpose land	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GR(1)	duty to consider every submission that is made by the closing date for submissions included in the notice under s 46GO	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CSTP	
s.46GR(2)	power to consider a late submission duty to consider a late submission if directed to do so by the Minister	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CSTP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.46GS(1)	power to accept or reject the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in a submission made under s 46GQ	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GS(2)	duty, if Council rejects the estimate of the value of the inner public purpose land in the submission, to refer the matter to the valuer-general, and notify the affected owner of the rejection and that the matter has been referred to the valuer-general	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GT(2)	duty to pay half of the fee fixed by the valuer-general for arranging and attending the conference	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GT(4)	function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written confirmation of the agreement between the planning authority's valuer and the affected owner's valuer as to the estimated value of the inner public purpose land	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GT(6)	function of receiving, from the valuer-general, written notice of a determination under s 46GT(5)	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	
s.46GU	duty not to adopt an amendment under s.29 to an infrastructure contributions plan that specifies a land credit amount or a land equalisation amount that relates to a parcel of land in the ICP plan area of the plan unless the criteria in s 46GU(1)(a) and (b) are met	Not delegated.	
s.46GV(3)	function of receiving the monetary component and any land equalisation amount of the infrastructure contribution power to specify the manner in which the payment is to be made	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GV(3)(b)	power to enter into an agreement with the applicant	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GV(4)(a)	function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the development agency
s.46GV(4)(b)	Function of receiving the inner public purpose land in accordance with s 46GV(5) and (6)	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GV(7)	duty to impose the requirements set out in s 46GV(3) and (4) as conditions on the permit applied for by the applicant to develop the land in the ICP plan area	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CSTP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.46GV(9)	power to require the payment of a monetary component or the provision of the land component of an infrastructure contribution to be secured to Council's satisfaction	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GX(1)	power to accept works, services or facilities in part or full satisfaction of the monetary component of an infrastructure contribution payable	GMCS&S, MCD, CSP	Where council is the collecting agency
s.46GX(2)	duty, before accepting the provision of works, services or facilities by an applicant under s 46GX(1), to obtain the agreement of the development agency or agencies specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	GMCS&S, MCD, CSP	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GY(1)	duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	GMCS&S, MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GY(2)	duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>	GMCS&S, MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency
s.46GZ(2)(a)	duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for plan preparation costs to the planning authority that incurred those costs	MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is that planning authority
s.46GZ(2)(a)	function of receiving the monetary component	MCD	Where the Council is the planning authority This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s.46GZ(2)(b)	duty to forward any part of the monetary component that is imposed for the provision of works, services or facilities to the development agency that is specified in the plan as responsible for those works, services or facilities	MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contribution plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency
s.46GZ(2)(b)	function of receiving the monetary component	MCD	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s.46GZ(4)	duty to use any land equalisation amounts to pay land credit amounts under s 46GZ(7), except any part of those amounts that are to be forwarded to a development agency under s 46GZ(5)	GMCS&S, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

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s.46GZ(5)	duty to forward any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land by a development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan to that development agency	GMCS&S, MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the relevant development agency
s.46GZ(5)	function of receiving any part of a land equalisation amount required for the acquisition of outer public purpose land	GMCS&S, MCD	Where Council is the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s.46GZ(7)	duty to pay to each person who must provide an infrastructure contribution under the approved infrastructure contributions plan any land credit amount to which the person is entitled under s 46GW	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZ(9)	duty to transfer the estate in fee simple in the land to the development agency specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan responsible for the use and development of that land	MCD, CFO	If any inner public purpose land is vested in Council under the <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i> or acquired by Council before the time it is required to be provided to Council under s.46GV(4) Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s.46GZ(9)	function of receiving the fee simple in the land	MCD	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s.46GZA(1)	duty to keep proper and separate accounts and records	MCD, CFO	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZA(2)	duty to keep the accounts and records in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>	MCD, CFO	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZB(3)	duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZB(3)(a)–(c)	CFO, MCD	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

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s.46GZB(4)	duty, in accordance with requirements of the VPA to report on the use of the infrastructure contribution in the development agency's annual report and provide reports on the use of the infrastructure contribution to the VPA	CFO, MCD, MG&CS	If the VPA is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZD(2)	duty, within 6 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(2)(a) and (b)	CFO, MCD	Where Council is a development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZD(3)	duty to follow the steps set out in s 46GZD(3)(a) and (b)	CFO, MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZD(5)	Duty to make payments under s 46GZD(3) in accordance with ss 46GZD(5)(a) and 46GZD(5)(b)	CFO, MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZE(2)	duty to forward the land equalisation amount back to the collecting agency within 6 months after the expiry date if any part of a land equalisation amount paid or forwarded to a development agency for acquiring outer public purpose land has not been expended by the development agency to acquire that land at the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the collecting agency
s.46GZE(2)	function of receiving the unexpended land equalisation amount	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This duty does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s.46GZE(3)	duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to follow the steps set out in s 46GZE(3) (a) and (b)	CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZF(2)	duty, within 12 months after the date on which the approved infrastructure contributions plan expires, to use the public purpose land for a public purpose approved by the Minister or sell the public purpose land	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan

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S.46GZF(3)	Duty, if land is sold under s 46GZF(2)(b), to follow the steps in s 46GZF(3)(a) and (b)	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the development agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZF(3)	S 46GZF(3)(a) function of receiving proceeds of sale	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collection agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan This provision does not apply where Council is also the development agency
s.46GZF(4)	duty to divide the proceeds of the public purpose land among the current owners of each parcel of land in the ICP plan area and pay each current owner a portion of the proceeds in accordance with s 46GZF(5)	MCD, CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZF6	duty to make the payments under section 46GZF(4) in accordance with s 46GZF(6)(a) and (b)	CFO, MCD	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZH	power to recover the monetary component, or any land equalisation amount of the land component, payable under Part 3AB as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction	CFO	Where Council is the collecting agency under an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.46GZI	duty to prepare and give a report to the Minister at the times required by the Minister	MCD, CFO	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s.46GZK	power to deal with public purpose land which has vested in, been acquired by, or transferred to, Council	MCD, CFO	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency
s.46LB(3)	Duty to publish, on Council's Internet site, the payable dwelling amount for a financial year on or before 1 July of each financial year for which the amount is adjusted under s 46LB(2)	MCD, CFO	
s.46N(1)	duty to include condition in permit regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP	
s.46N(2)(c)	function of determining time and manner for receipt of development contributions levy	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.46N(2)(d)	power to enter into an agreement with the applicant regarding payment of development infrastructure levy	MCD, MCF, CSP	

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s.46O(1)(a) & (2)(a)	power to ensure that community infrastructure levy is paid, or agreement is in place, prior to issuing building permit	MCD, MCF, CSP, MBS	
s.46O(1)(d) & (2)(d)	power to enter into agreement with the applicant regarding payment of community infrastructure levy	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.46P(1)	power to require payment of amount of levy under s 46N or s 46O to be satisfactorily secured	CHP, MCF, CSP	
s.46P(2)	power to accept provision of land, works, services or facilities in part or full payment of levy payable	MCD, MCF	
s.46Q(1)	duty to keep proper accounts of levies paid	MCD, MCF	
s.46Q(1A)	duty to forward to development agency part of levy imposed for carrying out works, services, or facilities on behalf of development agency or plan preparation costs incurred by a development agency	MCD, CSP	
s.46Q(2)	duty to apply levy only for a purpose relating to the provision of plan preparation costs or the works, services and facilities in respect of which the levy was paid etc.	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.46Q(3)	power to refund any amount of levy paid if it is satisfied the development is not to proceed	MCD, CSTP, CSP, MA&CD	Only applies when levy is paid to Council as a 'development agency'.
s.46Q(4)(c)	duty to pay amount to current owners of land in the area if an amount of levy has been paid to a municipal Council as a development agency for plan preparation costs incurred by the Council or for the provision by the Council of works, services or facilities in an area under s 46Q(4)(a)	MCD, CSP	Must be done within six months of the end of the period required by the development contributions plan and with the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister.
s.46Q(4)(d)	duty to submit to the Minister an amendment to the approved development contributions plan	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	Must be done in accordance with Part 3.
s.46Q(4)(e)	duty to expend that amount on other works etc.	MCD, MCF, MA&CD	With the consent of, and in the manner approved by, the Minister.
s.46QC	power to recover any amount of levy payable under Part 3B	MCD, MCF	
s.46QD	duty to prepare report and give a report to the Minister	GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	Where Council is a collecting agency or development agency.

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s.46V(3)	duty to make a copy of the approved strategy plan (being the Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan) and any documents lodged with it available	Not applicable	
s.46Y	duty to carry out works in conformity with the approved strategy plan	Not applicable	
s.47	power to decide that an application for a planning permit does not comply with that Act	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.49(1)	duty to keep a register of all applications for permits and determinations relating to permits	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.49(2)	duty to make register available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.50(4)	duty to amend applications	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.50(5)	Power to refuse to amend application	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.50(6)	Duty to make note of amendment to application in register	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.50A(1)	power to make amendment to application	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.50A(3)	power to require applicant to notify owner and make a declaration that notice has been given	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.50A(4)	duty to note amendment to an application in register	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin – P&B	

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s.51	duty to make a copy of an application available for inspection in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin – P&B	
s.52(1)(a)	duty to give notice of the application to owners/occupiers of adjoining allotments unless satisfied that the grant of permit would not cause material detriment to any person	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1)(b)	duty to give notice of the application to other municipal Council where appropriate	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1)(c)	duty to give notice of the application to all persons required by the planning scheme	MCD, CSPPSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1)(ca)	duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if may result in breach of covenant	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1)(cb)	duty to give notice of the application to owners and occupiers of land benefited by a registered restrictive covenant if application is to remove or vary the covenant	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1)(d)	duty to give notice of the application to other persons who may be detrimentally effected	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(1AA)	duty to give notice of an application to remove or vary a registered restrictive covenant	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.52(3)	power to give any further notice of an application where appropriate	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.53(1)	power to require the applicant to give notice under s 52(1) to persons specified by it	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.53(1A)	power to require the applicant to give the notice under s 52(1AA)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	

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s.54(1)	power to require the applicant to provide more information	CHP, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.54(1A)	duty to give notice in writing of information required under s 54(1)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.54(1B)	duty to specify the lapse date for an application	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.54A(3)	power to decide to extend time or refuse to extend time to give required information	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.54A(4)	duty to give written notice of decision to extend or refuse to extend time und s 54A(3)	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.55(1)	duty to give copy application, together with the prescribed information to every referral authority specified in the planning scheme	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.57(2A)	power to reject objections considered made primarily for commercial advantage for the objector	MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.57(3)	function of receiving name and address of persons to whom notice of decision is to go	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.57(5)	duty to make a copy of all objections available in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.57A(4)	duty to amend application in accordance with applicant's request, subject to s 57A(5)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.57A(5)	power to refuse to amend application	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	

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s.57A(6)	duty to note amendments to application in register	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.57B(1)	duty to determine whether and to whom notice should be given	CMCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.57B(2)	duty to consider certain matters in determining whether notice should be given	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.57C(1)	duty to give copy of amended application to referral authority	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.58	duty to consider every application for a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.58A	power to request advice from the Planning Application Committee	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.60	duty to consider certain matters	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s60(1A)	power to consider certain matters	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.60(1B)	duty to consider number of objectors in considering whether use or development may have significant social effect	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.61(1)	power to determine permit application, either to decide to grant a permit, to decide to grant a permit with conditions or to refuse a permit application	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	The permit must not be inconsistent with a cultural heritage management plan under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> . In accordance with Council's Planning Committee Charter.

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s.61(2)	duty to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant determining referral authority objects to grant of permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.61(2A)	power to decide to refuse to grant a permit if a relevant recommending referral authority objects to the grant of permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.61(3)(a)	duty not to decide to grant a permit to use coastal Crown land without Minister's consent	Not applicable	
s.61(3)(b)	duty to refuse to grant the permit without the Minister's consent	Not applicable	
s.61(4)	duty to refuse to grant the permit if grant would authorise a breach of a registered restrictive covenant	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(1)	duty to include certain conditions in deciding to grant a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(2)	power to include other conditions	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(4)	duty to ensure conditions are consistent with paragraphs (a),(b) and (c)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(5)(a)	power to include a permit condition to implement an approved development contributions plan or an approved infrastructure contributions plan	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(5)(b)	Power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided on or to the land or paid for in accordance with s 173 agreement	MCD	
s.62(5)(c)	power to include a permit condition that specified works be provided or paid for by the applicant	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	

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s 62(6)(a)	duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except in accordance with ss 46N(1), 46GV(7) or 62(5)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.62(6)(b)	duty not to include a permit condition requiring a person to pay an amount for or provide works except a condition that a planning scheme requires to be included as referred to in s 62(1)(a)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.63	duty to issue the permit where made a decision in favour of the application (if no one has objected)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.64(1)	duty to give notice of decision to grant a permit to applicant and objectors	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75
s.64(3)	duty not to issue a permit until after the specified period	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75
s.64(5)	Duty to give each objector a copy of an exempt decision	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit – see s 75
s.64A	duty not to issue permit until the end of a period when an application for review may be lodged with VCAT or until VCAT has determined the application, if a relevant recommending referral authority has objected to the grant of a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	This provision applies also to a decision to grant an amendment to a permit - see s 75A
s.65(1)	duty to give notice of refusal to grant permit to applicant and person who objected under s 57	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.66(1)	duty to give notice under s 64 or s 65 and copy permit to relevant determining referral authorities	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	

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s.66(2)	duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority objected to the grant of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the permit recommended by the recommending referral authority.
s.66(4)	duty to give a recommending referral authority notice a copy of its decision to refuse any permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the permit.
s.66(6)	duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 65	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the grant of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the permit.
s.69(1)	Function of receiving application for extension of time of permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.69(1A)	function of receiving application for extension of time to complete development	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.69(2)	power to extend time	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.70	duty to make copy permit available in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.71(1)	power to correct certain mistakes	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.71(2)	duty to note corrections in register	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.73	power to decide to grant amendment subject to conditions	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	In accordance with Council's Planning Committee Charter

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s.74	duty to issue amended permit to applicant if no objectors	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.76	duty to give applicant and objectors notice of decision to refuse to grant amendment to permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.76A(1)	duty to give relevant determining referral authorities copy of an amended permit and copy of notice	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.76A(2)	duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to grant an amendment to a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the responsible authority decided not to include a condition on the amended permit recommended by the recommending referral authority.
s.76A(4)	duty to give a recommending referral authority notice of its decision to refuse a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority objected to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority recommended that a permit condition be included on the amended permit.
s.76A(6)	duty to give a recommending referral authority a copy of any amended permit which Council decides to grant and a copy of any notice given under s 64 or 76	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	If the recommending referral authority did not object to the amendment of the permit or the recommending referral authority did not recommend a condition be included on the amended permit.
s.76D	duty to comply with direction of Minister to issue amended permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.83	function of being respondent to an appeal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.83B	duty to give or publish notice of application for review	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.84(1)	power to decide on application at any time after an appeal is lodged against failure to grant a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	In accordance with Council's Planning Committee Charter.

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s.84(2)	duty not to issue a permit or notice of decision or refusal after an application is made for review of a failure to grant a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.84(3)	duty to tell Principal Registrar if decide to grant a permit after an application is made for review of its failure to grant a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.84(6)	duty to issue permit on receipt of advice within 3 working days	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.84AB	power to agree to confining a review by the Tribunal	MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.86	duty to issue a permit at order of Tribunal within 3 working days	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.87(3)	power to apply to VCAT for the cancellation or amendment of a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.90(1)	function of being heard at hearing of request for cancellation or amendment of a permit	MCD, CSP, PSP, SPIO, PIO	
s.91(2)	duty to comply with the directions of VCAT	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.91(2A)	duty to issue amended permit to owner if Tribunal so directs	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.92	duty to give notice of cancellation/amendment of permit by VCAT to persons entitled to be heard under s 90	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.93(2)	duty to give notice of VCAT order to stop development	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPIO, PIO	
s.95(3)	function of referring certain applications to the Minister	GMCS&S, MCD, CSP	

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s.95(4)	duty to comply with an order or direction	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.96(1)	duty to obtain a permit from the Minister to use and develop its land	Relevant Service Manager	In consultation with the MPBI.
s.96(2)	function of giving consent to other persons to apply to the Minister for a permit to use and develop Council land	Relevant Service Manager	In consultation with the MPBI
s.96A(2)	power to agree to consider an application for permit concurrently with preparation of proposed amendment	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.96C	power to give notice, to decide not to give notice, to publish notice and to exercise any other power under s 96C	MCD, MCF, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.96F	duty to consider the panel's report under s 96E	MCD	
s.96G(1)	power to determine to recommend that a permit be granted or to refuse to recommend that a permit be granted and power to notify applicant of the determination (including power to give notice under s 23 of the <i>Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996</i>)	MCD, MCF, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.96H(3)	power to give notice in compliance with Minister's direction	MCD, MCF, CSP	
s.96J	power to issue permit as directed by the Minister	MCD, MCF, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.96K	duty to comply with direction of the Minister to give notice of refusal	MCD, MCF, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s. 96Z	duty to keep levy certificates given to it under ss. 47 or 96A for no less than 5 years from receipt of the certificate	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.97C	power to request Minister to decide the application	GMCS&S, MCD, CSP	
s.97D(1)	duty to comply with directions of Minister to supply any document or assistance relating to application	MCD, MCF, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.97G(3)	function of receiving from Minister copy of notice of refusal to grant permit or copy of any permit granted by the Minister	MCD, CSP	
s.97G(6)	duty to make a copy of permits issued under s 97F available in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA, Admin – P&B	
s.97L	duty to include Ministerial decisions in a register kept under section 49	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, , SO, SPA, Admin – P&B	
s.97MH	duty to provide information or assistance to the Planning Application Committee	MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.97MI	duty to contribute to the costs of the Planning Application Committee or subcommittee	MCD, CSP	
s.97O	duty to consider application and issue or refuse to issue certificate of compliance	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.97P(3)	duty to comply with directions of VCAT following an application for review of a failure or refusal to issue a certificate	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.97Q(2)	function of being heard by VCAT at hearing of request for amendment or cancellation of certificate	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.97Q(4)	duty to comply with directions of VCAT	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.97R	duty to keep register of all applications for certificate of compliance and related decisions	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin - P&B	
s.98(1)&(2)	function of receiving claim for compensation in certain circumstances	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.98(4)	duty to inform any person of the name of the person from whom compensation can be claimed	GMCS&S, MCD	

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s.101	function of receiving claim for expenses in conjunction with claim	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.103	power to reject claim for compensation in certain circumstances	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.107(1)	function of receiving claim for compensation	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.107(3)	power to agree to extend time for making claim	GMCS&S, MCD	
s.114(1)	power to apply to the VCAT for an enforcement order	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPIO, PIO	
s.117(1)(a)	function of making a submission to the VCAT where objections are received	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA	
s.120(1)	power to apply for an interim enforcement order where s 114 application has been made	MCD, CSP, SPIO, PIO	Subject to prior discussion with the GMCS&S.
s.123(1)	power to carry out work required by enforcement order and recover costs	MCD, CSP	
s.123(2)	power to sell buildings, materials, etc salvaged in carrying out work under s 123(1)	Not delegated.	Except Crown land.
s.129	function of recovering penalties	MCD, MCS&C, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SPIO, PIO, Admin – P&B, , TLB&P, BSO(B&P)	
s.130(5)	power to allow person served with an infringement notice further time	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SPIO, PIO, MH&C, MCS&C, TLB&P	
s.149A(1)	power to refer a matter to the VCAT for determination	MCD, CSP	
s.149A(1A)	Power to apply to VCAT for the determination of a matter relating to the interpretation of a s 173 agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP	

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987			
s.156	duty to pay fees and allowances (including a payment to the Crown under s 156(2A)), and payment or reimbursement for reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the panel in carrying out its functions unless the Minister directs otherwise under s 156(2B) power to ask for contribution under s 156 (3) and power to abandon amendment or part of it under s 156(4)	MCD, MCF, CSTP, STP	Where Council is the relevant planning authority.
s.171(2)(f)	power to carry out studies and commission reports	MCD, MCF, CSTP, STP	
s.171(2)(g)	power to grant and reserve easements	MCD, CSP	
s.172C	power to compulsorily acquire any outer public purpose land that is specified in the approved infrastructure contributions plan	Not delegated.	Where Council is a development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.172D(1)	power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land that is specified in the plan before the time that the land is required to be provided to Council under s 46GV(4)	Not delegated.	Where Council is a collecting agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.172D(2)	power to compulsorily acquire any inner public purpose land, the use and development of which is to be the responsibility of Council under the plan, before the time that the land is required to be provided under s 46GV(4)	Not delegated.	Where Council is the development agency specified in an approved infrastructure contributions plan
s.173(1)	power to enter into agreement covering matters set out in s 174	CEO, GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.173(1A)	power to enter into an agreement with an owner of land for the development or provision of land in relation to affordable housing	Not delegated.	Where Council is the relevant responsible authority
---	power to decide whether something is to the satisfaction of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> requires something to be to the satisfaction of Council or Responsible Authority	MCD, CSP, PSP	
---	power to give consent on behalf of Council, where an agreement made under s 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> requires that something may not be done without the consent of Council or Responsible Authority	MCD, CSP, PSP	
s.177(2)	power to end a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	CEO, GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	

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s.178	power to amend a s 173 agreement with the agreement of all those bound by any covenant in the agreement or otherwise in accordance with Division 2 of Part 9	CEO, GMCS&S, MCD, MCF	
s.178A(1)	function of receiving application to amend or end an agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO, Admin – P&B	
s.178A(3)	function of notifying the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal under s 178A(1)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178A(4)	function of notifying the applicant and the owner as to whether it agrees in principle to the proposal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178A(5)	power to propose to amend or end an agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178B(1)	duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to amend an agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178B(2)	duty to consider certain matters when considering proposal to end an agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	
s.178C(2)	duty to give notice of the proposal to all parties to the agreement and other persons who may be detrimentally affected by decision to amend or end	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178C(4)	function of determining how to give notice under s 178C(2)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178E(1)	duty not to make decision until after 14 days after notice has been given	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178E(2)(a)	power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	If no objections are made under s 178D. Must consider matters in s 178B.

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s.178E(2)(b)	power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	If no objections are made under s178D Must consider matters in s78B
s.178E(2)(c)	power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	If no objections are made under s178D Must consider matters in s.178B
s.178E(3)(a)	power to amend or end the agreement in accordance with the proposal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s.178B
s.178E(3)(b)	power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is not substantively different from the proposal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s.178B
s.178E(3)(c)	power to amend or end the agreement in a manner that is substantively different from the proposal	MCD, CSP	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s.178B.
s.178E(3)(d)	power to refuse to amend or end the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	After considering objections, submissions and matters in s.178B.
s.178F(1)	duty to give notice of its decision under s 178E(3)(a) or (b)	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178F(2)	duty to give notice of its decision under s 78E(2)(c) or (3)(d)	MCD, CSP	
s.178F(4)	duty not to proceed to amend or end an agreement under s 178E until at least 21 days after notice has been given or until an application for review to the Tribunal has been determined or withdrawn	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	
s.178G	duty to sign amended agreement and give copy to each other party to the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.178H	power to require a person who applies to amend or end an agreement to pay the costs of giving notices and preparing the amended agreement	MCD, CSP	

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s.178I(3)	duty to notify, in writing, each party to the agreement of the ending of the agreement relating to Crown land	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	
s.179(2)	duty to make a copy of each agreement available in accordance with the public availability requirements	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	
s.181	duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement and to deliver a memorial to Registrar-General	MCD, CSP	
s.181(1A)(a)	power to apply to the Registrar of Titles to record the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.181(1A)(b)	duty to apply to the Registrar of Titles, without delay, to record the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.182	power to enforce an agreement	MCD, CSP, PIO	
s.183	duty to tell Registrar of Titles of ending/amendment of agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA, SO	
s.184F(1)	power to decide to amend or end an agreement at any time after an application for review of the failure of Council to make a decision	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.184F(2)	duty not to amend or end the agreement or give notice of the decision after an application is made to VCAT for review of a failure to amend or end an agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.184F(3)	duty to inform the principal registrar if the responsible authority decides to amend or end an agreement after an application is made for the review of its failure to end or amend the agreement	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA	
s.184F(5)	function of receiving advice from the principal registrar that the agreement may be amended or ended in accordance with Council's decision	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SO, SPA, Admin – P&B	

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s.184G(2)	duty to comply with a direction of the Tribunal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, , SP, SO, SPA	
s.184G(3)	duty to give notice as directed by the Tribunal	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSPM, SP, SO, SPA, Admin – P&B	
s.198(1)	function to receive application for planning certificate	Not applicable.	In the metropolitan area, planning certificates are issued by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.
s.199(1)	duty to give planning certificate to applicant	Not applicable.	In the metropolitan area, planning certificates are issued by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.
s.201(1)	function of receiving application for declaration of underlying zoning	Not applicable.	
s.201(3)	duty to make declaration	Not applicable.	
-	power to decide, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, that a specified thing has or has not been done to the satisfaction of Council	MCD, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, SPA	
	power, in relation to any planning scheme or permit, to consent or refuse to consent to any matter which requires the consent or approval of Council	MCD, CSPPSP, SSP, SP, SPA	
	power to approve any plan or any amendment to a plan or other document in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme or condition in a permit	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SPA	
-	power to give written authorisation in accordance with a provision of a planning scheme	MCD, CSP, , PSP, SSP, SP, SPA	
s.201UAB(1)	function of providing the Victoria Planning Authority with information relating to any land within municipal district	MCD, MCF	
s.201UAB(2)	duty to provide the Victoria Planning Authority with information requested under S 201UAB(1) as soon as possible	MCD, MCF	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s. 91ZU(1)	Power to give renter a notice to vacate rented premises	MCD, CHP, SHPO	Where Council is a public statutory authority engaged in the provision of housing
s. 91ZZC(1)	Power to give a notice to vacate rented premises	MCD, CHP, SHPO	Where Council is a public statutory authority authorised to acquire land compulsorily for its purposes
s. 91ZZE(1)	Power to give a renter a notice to vacate rented premises	MCD, CHP, SHPO	Where Council is a public statutory authority engaged in the provision of housing.
s. 91ZZE(3)	Power to publish Council's criteria for eligibility for the provision of housing	MCD, CHP, SHPO	Where Council is a public statutory authority engaged in the provision of housing.
s.142D	function of receiving notice regarding an unregistered rooming house	MCD, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP), CHP, SHPO	
s.142G(1)	duty to enter required information in Rooming House Register for each rooming house in municipal district	MCD, HPO, EHT BSO(HP), SHPO	
s. 142G(2)	power to enter certain information in Rooming House Register	MCD, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP), SHPO	
s.142I(2)	power to amend or revoke an entry in Rooming House Register if necessary to maintain the accuracy of the entry	MCD, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP), SHPO	
s. 206AZA(2)	function of receiving written notification	MCD, HPO, EHT, BSO(HP), CHP, SHPO	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 1997			
s. 207ZE(2)	function of receiving written notification	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), EHT, CHP, SHPO	
s. 311A(2)	function of receiving written notification	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), EHT, CHP, SHPO	
s. 317ZDA(2)	Function of receiving written notification	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), EHT, CHP, SHPO	
s.518F	power to issue notice to caravan park regarding emergency management plan if determined that the plan does not comply with the requirements	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP, EHT	
s.522(1)	power to give a compliance notice to a person	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
s.525(2)	power to authorise an officer to exercise powers in s 526 (either generally or in a particular case)	GMCS&S	
s.525(4)	duty to issue identity card to authorised officers	MCD, GMCS&S	
s.526(5)	duty to keep record of entry by authorised officer under s 526	MCD, BSO(HP)	
s.526A(3)	function of receiving report of inspection	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), CHP, SHPO	
s.527	power to authorise a person to institute proceedings (either generally or in a particular case)	MCD	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
s.11(1)	power to declare a road by publishing a notice in the Government Gazette	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2).
s.11(8)	power to name a road or change the name of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	Not delegated	
s.11(9)(b)	duty to advise the Registrar	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C,MPBI	
s.11(10)	duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning of declaration etc.	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI	Subject to section 11 (10A).
s.11(10A)	duty to inform Secretary to Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning or nominated person	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.12(2)	power to discontinue road or part of a road	Not delegated.	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.12(4)	duty to publish, and provide copy, notice of proposed discontinuance	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI, MCE&ST	Power of the coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body. Unless s (11) applies.
s.12(5)	duty to consider written submissions received within 28 days of notice	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI, MCE&ST	Duty of the coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body. Unless s 12 (11) applies.
s.12(6)	function of hearing a person in support of their written submission	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI, MCE&ST	Function of coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body. Unless s 12 11) applies.
s.12(7)	duty to fix the day, time and place of meeting under s 12 (6) and to give notice	GMG&E, MPBI, MCE&ST	Duty of the coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body. Unless s 12 (11) applies.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
s.12(10)	duty to notify of decision made	GMG&E, MPBI, MCE&ST	Duty of coordinating road authority where it is the discontinuing body. Does not apply where an exemption is specified by the regulations or given by the Minister..
s.13(1)	power to fix a boundary of a road by publishing notice in Government Gazette	GMCS&S, GMG&E, GMO&C, MPBI	Power of the coordinating road authority and obtain consent under s 13(3) and s 13(4) as appropriate.
s.14(4)	function of receiving notice from the Head, Transport for Victoria	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	
s.14(7)	power to appeal against a decision of the Head, Transport for Victoria	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	
s.15(1)	power to enter into arrangement with another road authority, utility or a provider of public transport to transfer a road management function of the road authority to the other road authority, utility or provider of public transport	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.15(1A)	power to enter into arrangement with a utility to transfer a road management function of the utility to the road authority	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.15(2)	duty to include details of arrangement in public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	
s.16(7)	power to enter into an arrangement under s 15	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.16(8)	duty to enter details of determination in the public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	
s.17(2)	duty to register public road in public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.17(3)	power to decide that a road is reasonably required for general public use	GMCS&S, GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.17(3)	duty to register a road reasonably required for general public use in public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.17(4)	power to decide that a road is no longer reasonably required for general public use	GMCS&S, GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.17(4)	duty to remove road no longer reasonably required for general public use from public roads register	GMG&E, GMCS&S, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
s.18(1)	power to designate ancillary area	GMCS&S, GMO&C	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, and obtains consent in circumstances specified in s 18(2).
s.18(3)	duty to record designation in the public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.19(1)	duty to keep register of public roads in respect of which it is the coordinating road authority	GMG&E, MPBI	
s.19(4)	duty to specify details of discontinuance in public roads register	GMG&E, MPBI	
s.19(5)	duty to ensure public roads register is available for public inspection	GMG&E, MPBI	
s.21	function of replying to request for information or advice	GMG&E, MPBI, CAP	Obtain consent in circumstances specified in s 11(2).
s.22(2)	function of commenting on proposed direction	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.22(4)	duty to publish a copy or summary of any direction made under s 22 by the Minister in its annual report.	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.22(5)	duty to give effect to a direction under s 22.	GMCS&S, GMG&E	
s.40(1)	duty to inspect, maintain and repair a public road.	GMO&C, MCW, COC&C MPBI, CAP	
s.40(5)	power to inspect, maintain and repair a road which is not a public road	GMO&C, MCW, MPBI, CAP	
s.41(1)	power to determine the standard of construction, inspection, maintenance and repair	GMO&C, MPBI, CAP, MCW	
s.42(1)	power to declare a public road as a controlled access road	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	Power of coordinating road authority and Sch 2 also applies.
s.42(2)	power to amend or revoke declaration by notice published in Victoria Government Gazette	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	Power of coordinating road authority and. Sch 2 also applies.
s.42A(3)	duty to consult with Head, Transport for Victoria and Minister for Local Government before road is specified	GMG&E, GMCS&S, MPBI, MCE&ST	Where Council is the coordinating road authority. If road is a municipal road or part thereof.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
s.42A(4)	power to approve the Minister's decision to specify a road as a specified freight road	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	Where Council is the coordinating road authority. If road is a municipal road or part thereof and where the road is to be specified a freight road.
s.48EA	duty to notify the owner or occupier of land and provider of public transport on which rail infrastructure or rolling stock is located (and any relevant provider of public transport)	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MCW	Where Council is the responsible road authority, infrastructure manager or works manager.
s.48M(3)	function of consulting with the relevant authority for purposes of developing guidelines under s 48M	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCW, MCE&ST	
s.49	power to develop and publish a road management plan	MCW & MPBI	
s.51	power to determine standards by incorporating the standards in a road management plan	MCW & MPBI	
s.53(2)	power to cause notice to be published in Government Gazette of amendment etc of document in road management plan	GMO&C, MCW MPBI	
s.54(2)	duty to give notice of proposal to make a road management plan	GMO&C, MCW, MPBI	
s.54(5)	duty to conduct a review of road management plan at prescribed intervals	GMO&C, MCW	
s.54(6)	power to amend road management plan	GMO&C, MCW	
s.54(7)	duty to incorporate the amendments into the road management plan	GMO&C, MCW	
s.55(1)	duty to cause notice of road management plan to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette and newspaper	GMO&C, MCW, MPBI	
s.63(1)	power to consent to conduct of works on road	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW, MCE&ST, CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.63(2)(e)	power to conduct or to authorise the conduct of works in, on, under or over a road in an emergency	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW, CIM&S	Where Council is the infrastructure manager.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
s.64(1)	duty to comply with cl 13 of Sch 7	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager.
s.66(1)	power to consent to structure etc	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.67(2)	function of receiving the name & address of the person responsible for distributing the sign or bill	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCD, MCF, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.67(3)	power to request information	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCD, MCF, MCE&ST, MA&CD, CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.68(2)	power to request information	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCD, MCF, MCE&ST, MA&CD, CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
s.71(3)	power to appoint an authorised officer	CEO	
s.72	duty to issue an identity card to each authorised officer	GMG&E, MG&CS	
s.85	function of receiving a report from an authorised officer	GMCS&S, GMO&C	
s.86	duty to keep a register re s 85 matters	GMCS&S, GMO&C	
s.87(1)	function of receiving complaints	GMCS&S, GMO&C	
s.87(2)	duty to investigate complaint and provide report	GMCS&S, GMO&C	
s.112(2)	power to recover damages in court	GMCS&S, GMO&C	
s.116	power to cause or carry out inspection	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW	.
s.119(2)	function of consulting with the Head, Transport for Victoria	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, CTE, TE	

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
s.120(1)	power to exercise road management functions on an arterial road (with the consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria)	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW	
s.120(2)	duty to seek consent of the Head, Transport for Victoria to exercise road management functions before exercising power in s 120(1)	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW, MCE&ST, CTE, TE	
s.121(1)	power to enter into an agreement in respect of works	GMO&C, MA&CD, MCW, CIM&S, MG&P, MCE&ST, CTE	
s.122(1)	power to charge and recover fees	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM CTE, TE	
s.123(1)	power to charge for any service	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CIM&S, CTE	
Sch 2 CI 2(1)	power to make a decision in respect of controlled access roads	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM, CTE,	
Sch 2 CI 3(1)	duty to make policy about controlled access roads	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	
Sch 2 CI 3(2)	power to amend, revoke or substitute policy about controlled access roads	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	
Sch 2 CI 4	function of receiving details of proposal from the Head, Transport for Victoria	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	
Sch 2 CI 5	duty to publish notice of declaration	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MG&P	
Sch 7, CI 7(1)	duty to give notice to relevant coordinating road authority of proposed installation of non-road infrastructure or related works on a road reserve	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager.
Sch 7, CI 8(1)	duty to give notice to any other infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for any non-road infrastructure in the area, that could be affected by any proposed installation of infrastructure or related works on a road or road reserve of any road	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM, CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Sch 7, CI 9(1)	duty to comply with request for information from a coordinating road authority, an infrastructure manager or a works manager responsible for existing or proposed infrastructure in relation to the location of any non-road infrastructure and technical advice or assistance in conduct of works	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager responsible for non-road infrastructure.
Sch 7, CI 9(2)	duty to give information to another infrastructure manager or works manager where becomes aware any infrastructure or works are not in the location shown on records, appear to be in an unsafe condition or appear to need maintenance	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM, CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager.
Sch 7, CI 10(2)	where Sc 7 CI 10(1) applies, duty to, where possible, conduct appropriate consultation with persons likely to be significantly affected	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager or works manager.
Sch 7 CI 12(2)	power to direct infrastructure manager or works manager to conduct reinstatement works	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 12(3)	power to take measures to ensure reinstatement works are completed	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 12(4)	duty to ensure that works are conducted by an appropriately qualified person	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 12(5)	power to recover costs	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7, CI 13(1)	duty to notify relevant coordinating road authority within 7 days that works have been completed, subject to Sch 7, CI 13(2)	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the works manager.
Sch 7 CI 13(2)	power to vary notice period	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7, CI 13(3)	duty to ensure works manager has complied with obligation to give notice under Sch 7, CI 13(1)	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM CTE	Where Council is the infrastructure manager.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Sch 7 CI 16(1)	power to consent to proposed works	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 16(4)	duty to consult	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority, responsible authority or infrastructure manager.
Sch 7 CI 16(5)	power to consent to proposed works	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 16(6)	power to set reasonable conditions on consent	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 16(8)	power to include consents and conditions	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI17(2)	power to refuse to give consent and duty to give reasons for refusal	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CIM&S, CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 18(1)	power to enter into an agreement in relation to	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 19(1)	power to give notice requiring rectification of works	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7 CI 19(2) & (3)	power to conduct the rectification works or engage a person to conduct the rectification works and power to recover costs incurred	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004			
Sch 7 Clause 20(1)	power to require removal, relocation, replacement or upgrade of existing non-road infrastructure	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM , CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.
Sch 7A Clause 2	power to cause street lights to be installed on roads	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Power of responsible road authority where it is the coordinating road authority or responsible road authority in respect of the road.
Sch 7A Clause 3(1)(d)	duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting - where road is not an arterial road	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Where Council is the responsible road authority.
Sch 7A Cl 3(1)(e)	duty to pay installation and operation costs of street lighting – where road is a service road on an arterial road and adjacent areas	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Where Council is the responsible road authority.
Sch 7A Cl (3)(1)(f),	duty to pay installation and percentage of operation costs of street lighting – for arterial roads in accordance with cl 3(2) and 4	GMCS&S, GMO&C, MCE&ST, MA&CD	Duty of Council as the responsible road authority that installed the light (re: installation costs) and where Council is the relevant municipal Council (re: operating costs).

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r.6	function of receiving notice, under s 19(1)(c) of the Act, from a planning authority of its preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme.	GMCS&S, MCF, CSTP, STP	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.
r.21	power of responsible authority to require a permit applicant to verify information (by statutory declaration or other written confirmation satisfactory to the responsible authority) in an application for a permit or to amend a permit or any information provided under section 54 of the Act	MCD, MCF, CSTP, CSP, PSP, SSP, SP, STP	
r.25(a)	duty to make copy of matter considered under s 60 (1A)(g) available for inspection free of charge	MCD, MCF, CSTP, CSP, PSP, , SSP, SO, SP, SPA, STP	Where Council is the responsible authority.
r.25(b))	function of receiving a copy of any document considered under s 60(1A)(g) by the responsible authority and duty to make the document available for inspection free of charge	MCD, MCF, CSTP, CSP, PSP, , SSP, SO, SP, SPA, STP, Admin - P&B	Where Council is not the responsible authority but the relevant land is within Council's municipal district.
r.42	function of receiving notice under s 96C(1)(c) of the Act from a planning authority of its preparation of a combined application for an amendment to a planning scheme and notice of a permit application	MCF, CSTP, STP	Where Council is not the planning authority and the amendment affects land within Council's municipal district; or Where the amendment will amend the planning scheme to designate Council as an acquiring authority.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT (FEES) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
r.19	power to waive or rebate a fee relating to an amendment of a planning scheme	MCF, CSTP	
r.20	power to waive or rebate a fee other than a fee relating to an amendment to a planning scheme	MCD, CSP	
r.21	duty to record matters taken into account and which formed the basis of the decision to waive or rebate a fee under r 19 or 20	MCD, CSP	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2020			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r.7	Power to enter into a written agreement with a caravan park owner	MCD, CHP, SHPO	
r.10	Function of receiving application for registration	MCD, HPO, CHP, SHPO, BSO(HP)	
r.11	Function of receiving application for renewal of registration	MCD, HPO, CHP, SHPO, BSO(HP)	
r.2(1)	Duty to grant the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.12(1)	Power to refuse to renew the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.12(2)	Duty to renew the registration if satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.12(2)	Power to refuse to renew the registration if not satisfied that the caravan park complies with these regulations	MCD, CHP	
r.12(3)	Duty to have regard to matters in determining an application for registration or an application for renewal of registration	MCD, HPO, CHP, SHPO	
r.12(4) & (5)	Duty to issue certificate of registration	MCD, BSO(HP), CHP	
r.14(1)	Function of receiving notice of transfer of ownership	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), SHPO, CHP	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2020			
r.14(3)	power to determine where notice of transfer is displayed	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.15(1)	duty to transfer registration to new caravan park owner	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.15(2)	duty to issue a certificate of transfer of registration	MCD, CHP, BSO(HP)	
r.15(3)	power to determine where certificate of transfer of registration is displayed	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.16(1)	power to determine the fee to accompany applications for registration or applications for renewal of registration	MCD, CHP	
r.17	duty to keep register of caravan parks	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), CHP, SHPO	
r.18(4)	power to determine where the emergency contact person's details are displayed	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.18(6)	power to determine where certain information is displayed	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.22(1)	duty to notify a caravan park owner of the relevant emergency services agencies for the caravan park, on the request of the caravan park owner	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.22(2)	duty to consult with relevant emergency services agencies	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.23	power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display a copy of emergency procedures	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.24	power to determine places in which caravan park owner must display copy of public emergency warnings	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.25(3)	duty to consult with relevant floodplain management authority	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.26	duty to have regard to any report of the relevant fire authority	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	
r.28(c)	power to approve system for the collection, removal and disposal of sewage and waste water from a movable dwelling	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES (CARAVAN PARKS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS REGISTRATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS 2020			
r.40	function of receiving notice of proposed installation of unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	MCD, HPO, SHPO, CHP, BSO(HP)	
r.40(b)	power to require notice of proposal to install unregistrable movable dwelling or rigid annexe	MCD, CHP	
r.41(4)	function of receiving installation certificate	MCD, HPO, BSO(HP), CHP, SHPO	
r.43	power to approve use of a non-habitable structure as a dwelling or part of a dwelling	MCD, CHP	
Sch 3 cl 4(3)	power to approve the removal of wheels and axles from unregistrable movable dwelling	MCD, CHP	

RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES REGULATION 2021			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS
sch 4 cl 3(a)(iii)	Power to approve any other toilet system	CHP, SHPO, HPO	

ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r.8(1)	duty to conduct reviews of road management plan	GMG&E, MPBI, GMO&C, MCW	
r.9(2)	duty to produce written report of review of the road management plan and make report available	GMG&E, MPBI, GMO&C, MCW	
r.9(3)	duty to give notice where road management review is completed and no amendments will be made (or no amendments for which notice is required)	GMO&C, CI&FM, MCW, GMG&E, MPBI	Where council is the coordinating road authority
r.10	duty to give notice of an amendment which relates to standard of construction, inspection, maintenance or repair under s 41 of the Act	GMO&C, MCW, GMG&E, MPBI	
r.13(1)	duty to publish notice of amendments to road management plan	GMO&C, CI&FM, MCW, GMG&E, MPBI	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r.13(3)	duty to record on road management plan the substance and date of effect of any amendment	GMO&C, MCW, GMG&E, MPBI	
r.16(3)	power to issue a permit	MA&CD, MCW, CI&FM, MCE&ST, CTE, TE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r.18(1)	power to give written consent re damage to road	GMCS&S, MCE&ST	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r.23(2)	power to make a submission to Tribunal	GMCS&S, MCS&C, MCE&ST, CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r.23(4)	power to charge a fee for application under s 66(1) of the Road Management Act	GMCS&S, MCS&C, MCE&ST, CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority
r.25(1)	power to remove objects, refuse, rubbish or other material deposited or left on road	MCW, CWO, MCE&ST, CTE	Where Council is the responsible road authority
r.25(2)	power to sell or dispose of things removed from road or part of road (after first complying with regulation 25(3))	MCW, CWO, MCE&ST,	Where Council is the responsible road authority.

ROAD MANAGEMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2016			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r.25(5)	power to recover in the Magistrates' Court, expenses from the person responsible	MCW, CWO, MCE&ST, CTE	

ROAD MANAGEMENT (WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE) REGULATIONS 2015			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
PROVISION	THING DELEGATED	DELEGATE	CONDITIONS & LIMITATIONS
r.15	power to exempt a person from requirement under cl 13(1) of Sch 7 of the Act to give notice as to the completion of those works	MA&CD	Where Council is the coordinating road authority and where consent given under s 63(1) of the Act.
r.22(2)	power to waive whole or part of fee in certain circumstances	MA&CD, MCE&ST, CTE	Where Council is the coordinating road authority.



Instrument of Delegation (Planning Committee)

Darebin City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

Planning Committee



Instrument of Delegation

Darebin City Council (**Council**) delegates to the committee established under Section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and known as the "Planning Committee" (**the Committee**), the powers, discretions and authorities set out in the Schedule, and declares that:

1. this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on _____ 2021;
2. the delegation:
 - 2.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation and revokes the delegation issued by the Council on 7 December 2020;
 - 2.2 remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it; and
 - 2.3 is to be exercised in accordance with the exceptions, conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule and with the guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
3. all members of the Committee have voting rights.

DATED: _____ 2021

The COMMON SEAL of)
 DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL)
 was affixed on)
 with the authority of the Council:)

 Councillor

 Chief Executive Officer



SCHEDULE

Purpose

To exercise Council's powers, discretions and authorities to perform Council's functions under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* in accordance with relevant policies and guidelines of the Council and to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance those functions, duties and powers.

1. Powers and Functions

The Planning Committee (the Committee) is a ' Delegated committee ' with delegated powers appointed pursuant to section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), to assist Council in decision making on statutory planning matters (including considering and approving or rejecting applications for planning permits and on strategic planning matters including planning scheme amendments, planning policies, land use strategies and strategic development sites pursuant to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

2. Membership

The Committee comprises all Councillors.

3. Chairperson

The Mayor is the Committee Chairperson.

4. Meetings

The Committee will meet as determined by resolution of the Council.

5. Weekly Activity Reports on Planning Applications

Planning Committee Members will receive a weekly report on the following planning application types for each week from February to December in any year. The report shall include a clear description of the proposal and where it meets any of the following criteria:-

- (a) Any Planning applications which receive five or more objections.¹
- (b) Planning applications (excluding amendments, secondary consents or extensions of time for permits) where the development proposes 4 or more storeys.
- (c) Planning applications which fail to meet the objectives of adopted planning scheme amendments or Council policy included in the Darebin Planning Scheme.
- (d) Planning applications which, in the opinion of the Manager responsible for the Statutory Planning functions, raise major policy implications such as exceeding a height specified in the planning scheme and ought to be referred to the Councillors.
- (e) Any other applications for major developments or changes of use which, in the opinion of the Manager responsible for the Statutory Planning functions ought to be referred to Councillors.

¹ For the purpose of this Charter, multiple objections from one address will each be counted as a single objection.



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6. Matters that Must be Reported to the Planning Committee for Decision

- (a) Any decision to approve or reject a development plan or amendment to a development plan already approved.
- (b) Any decision on an application for planning permit including new applications, amendments to permits and extensions of time for electronic gaming machines.
- (c) Any decision on a planning application where the height specified in the planning scheme has a recommendation of support from officers.

7. Items can be Reported at the Discretion of the Relevant Manager and General Manager

- (a) Any other applications or changes of which, in the opinion of the Manager in consultation with the General Manager responsible for the Statutory Planning functions and the Chief Executive Officer ought to be referred to the Planning Committee for decision.

8. Matters can be Called Up for a Decision to the Planning Committee

- (a) Any application can be called up for a report to the Planning Committee through action by 2 or more Planning Committee Members through a written request to the relevant Manager and General Manager responsible for the Statutory Planning functions. A copy of the written request must also be provided to the Manager and General Manager responsible for the governance functions of Council. Such a call up is to be made no later than 5 business days after which the decision will be made under delegation by Council officers.
- (b) Any Planning Committee Member wishing to call-up an application for reporting to the Planning Committee must include in their written requests, reasons justifying why the broader interest of the community is served by the proposal being considered by the Committee. The request should also acknowledge there has been discussion with relevant officers and they are satisfied that they understand what the application proposes and the issues to be considered are relevant beyond the subject site and immediately adjoining properties.

9. Reporting

A report on the meetings and activities of the Planning Committee is to be prepared for inclusion in Council's Annual Report.

10. Submitters to Planning Committees

Statutory Planning Matters

Statutory Planning matters are defined as Planning Permit Applications and Development Plan Applications.

Persons who have made a written submission on a statutory planning matter listed on Planning Committee agenda may address the Planning Committee in accordance with the following process:-

- Order of Speakers
- The applicant (3 minutes)
- Any submitters who have registered with Council their request to address the Planning Committee (3 minutes each).



The Chairperson may, at their discretion, extend the time for an individual's submission.

Strategic Planning Matters

Submissions to the Planning Committee on strategic land use matters (i.e. a non-statutory matters) will be considered in line with the provisions of Council's Governance Local Law.

11. Delegated Authority

- (a) The Planning Committee has full delegated authority under section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to determine applications with five or more objections¹.
- (b) The Planning Committee has full delegated authority to consider and decide on strategic planning matters including planning scheme amendments, planning policies, land use strategies and strategic development site matters aligned with Council's role as Planning Authority as set out in the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
- (c) The Committee has discretion to refer matters to Council if considered appropriate.

¹ For the purpose of this Charter, multiple objections from one address will each be counted as a single objection.



Instrument of Delegation (Hearing of Submissions Committee)

Darebin City Council

Instrument of Delegation

to

Hearing of Submissions Committee



Instrument of Delegation

Darebin City Council (**Council**) delegates to the committee established under section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and known as the "Hearing of Submissions Committee" (**the Committee**), the powers, discretions and authorities set out in the Schedule, and declares that:

1. this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on ____ 2021;
2. the delegation:
 - 2.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;
 - 2.2 remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it; and
 - 2.3 is to be exercised in accordance with the exceptions, conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule and with the guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
3. all members of the Committee have voting rights.

DATED: _____ 2021

The COMMON SEAL of)
 DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL)
 was affixed on)
 with the authority of the Council:)

 Councillor

 Chief Executive Officer



SCHEDULE

1. Powers and functions

The Hearing of Submissions (the Committee) is a ' Delegated committee ' with delegated powers appointed pursuant to section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* to exercise Council's powers, functions and duties relating to the hearing of submissions received by Council in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (or under any other Act) including, but not limited to:

- a) review of Councillor and Mayoral allowances
 - b) making of local laws
 - c) the Council Plan
 - d) the Council Budget
 - e) the system of valuing land
 - f) special rates or charges
 - g) sale of land
 - h) lease of land
 - i) change of use of land
 - j) proposed works to concentrate or divert drainage
 - k) requiring drainage works on private land
 - l) fix and alter the level of roads
 - m) deviation of a road through private land or Crown land
 - n) discontinuance and sale of roads
 - o) fixing road alignment
 - p) narrowing or widening a road
 - q) placement of permanent barriers on roads
 - r) placement of temporary barriers for traffic diversion experiments
 - s) declaration of shopping malls
 - t) restricting the use of roads by vehicles of certain size or weight
 - u) declaration of a public highway; and
 - v) declaration of a road to be open to public traffic.
-



2. Membership

The Committee comprises all Councillors.

3. Chairperson

The Mayor is the Committee Chairperson.

4. Meetings

The Committee will generally meet as determined by resolution of the Council, but may, pursuant to Section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, also resolve to hold meetings.

5. Submitters to the Hearing of Submissions Committee

Submitters to the Committee include persons who have made a written submission to a matter and any other person determined by the Chairperson.

Submitters to the committee will be allocated 2 minutes to address the committee in support of their written submission.

The Chairperson at their discretion may extend the submission time limits in relation to a specific matter or person.

6. Reporting

The Committee reports as required to a subsequent meeting of the Council. A separate report on each specific matter heard by the Committee will also be submitted for formal determination by the Council.

A report on the meetings and activities of the Hearing of Submissions Special Committee is to be prepared for inclusion in Council's Annual Report.

8.12 PROPERTY MATTERS**Author:** Coordinator Property Services**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council approval to commence statutory procedures into the proposed sale of the parcel of land from previously discontinued rights of way/road, specifically:

- (1) Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir

Officer Recommendation

Recommendation 1:**Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir****1. That Council:**

Commences the statutory procedures under section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to;

- (a) Sell the land from the discontinued road adjoining the rear of 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir, shown as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in **Appendix A** to the owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir, by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy.
 - (b) Gives notice of its intention to sell the land on Council's website and in such notice states that Council proposes to sell the land from the former road to the owners of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir by private treaty and transfer to itself any land not sold, in accordance with Council policy.
 - (c) As part of its community engagement process, Council invites both written and verbal submissions on the proposed sale and deal with any submissions received in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.
 - (d) That any submissions received be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee on 8 November 2021 (5:30pm)
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Council is required to consider a range of property matters for decision. These include matters such as property acquisitions and disposals, statutory naming processes, Right of Way disposals and proposed Road declarations. In this case the matters specifically relate to the commencement of statutory procedures into the proposed sale of three separate parcels of land from previously discontinued rights of way/roads.

In accordance with best practice and good governance principles reporting of property matters has been consolidated into one single standing report.

Local Government Act

Section 189 (Restriction on power to sell land) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) was revoked on 1 July 2021 and replaced by Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is similar to section 189, however the exemption from compliance with section 223 (the right to make a submission) has been removed.

Because section 223 does not apply under the 2020 Act, from 1 July 2021, any sale of land from a discontinued road must first comply with the community engagement provisions of Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Accordingly, from 1 July 2021 Council will be required to undertake a 2 staged process of first resolving to discontinue a road and sell the land under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act and then propose the sale of the land under section 114 of the 2020 Act

The statutory procedures under section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that Council publish a notice of its intention to sell the Land on the Council's website and undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy.

In contrast to the now repealed s. 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* does not require Council to publish a public notice in a newspaper circulated within the municipality nor provide for the lodgement of submissions to Council and the consideration of those submissions, pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Nevertheless, in order to provide a mechanism for feedback from interested parties as part of Council's community engagement process, it is recommended that Council invite both written and verbal submissions on the proposal, and deal with any submissions received, in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Under the principles, the notice of intention to sell the Land will afford affected parties the right to lodge a written submission with Council. Submitters may request to be heard by Council prior to a decision being made to proceed or otherwise with the proposal. Any verbal submissions received will be considered by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 26 July 2021, Council resolved:

"That Council defer this item until contact is made with the owners at 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir, so that Council can ensure due process for all directly affect parties before any decision is made on this matter."

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

DISCUSSION

Council's property portfolio must meet current service needs while providing the flexibility to meet future requirements. Roads, reserves, revenge strips and other pieces of land of unusual shape and limited usefulness that are less than 200m² in area (collectively referred to as minor Council property assets) were originally set aside in early plans of subdivision for a particular purpose, such as access or drainage. In many cases these parcels of land are still required for and need to remain open and available to the public. In situations where a minor Council property asset is no longer reasonably required for that purpose or any other strategic purposes it may be considered surplus and suitable for sale.

At its meeting on 26 July 2021, Council resolved to defer this matter until contact had been made with the owner of 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir.

Officers have been working hard to establish contact the owners of 55 Dundee St. It is understood that this property is managed as an 'estate' and is currently vacant. Council's standard letter of offers have been sent (twice) seeking an agreement to express an interest in acquiring the land. Both remain unanswered. As does a further written request from Council's legal representatives. Phone calls to the owner (both landline and mobile) have remained unanswered or confirmed as disconnected. The one option we have not been able to exercise is to directly door knock the property personally, due to the most recent lockdowns.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The purchase price has been determined through an independent valuation and all associated transfer costs have been agreed with the Applicant through a signed letter of offer.

This work will be undertaken within current budget parameters.

Community Engagement

27 September	Decision to commence statutory process to sell this land
4 October	Notification of intention to sell this land on Council's website and to landowners who directly abut the subject land.
4 October	Consultation – Submissions open to community on the proposal to sell this land
1 November	Submissions close to the community on the proposal to sell this land
8 November	Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting to consider community submissions should submitters exercise this option
22 November	Report to Council for decision

Other Principles for consideration**Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles**

(a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;

Public Transparency Principles

(c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;

Strategic Planning Principles

(d) strategic planning must identify and address the risks to effective implementation;

Service Performance Principles

(a) services should be provided in an equitable manner and be responsive to the diverse needs of the municipal community;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)**

The land is currently occupied as passive open space and any future use of the land will be guided through planning and building regulations and controls.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

An Equity Impact Assessment (EIA) / Gender Impact Assessment has been conducted.

The proposed sale of land process undertaken was confirmed to accord with suitable EIA measures. This included that that all adjoining landowners were:

- afforded an equal opportunity to purchase the land
- had financial capacity to purchase
- protect their current and future property rights
- ensure that each adjoining landowner were not prohibited by language barriers or Covid related issues (which affected their ability to respond).

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

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

Operational Impacts

There are no operational impacts given the land is not actively managed as public open space and all drainage rights are reserved in favour of Yarra Valley Water.

Legal and Risk Implications

Any legal or risks and governance implications associated with the items will be documented in the options provided to Council.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Timeline

It is expected that all relevant actions will be affected within three months of this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy 2015

Attachments

- SUMMARY INFORMATION ON PROPERTY DISPOSALS (**Appendix A**) [↓](#) 

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of 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.

ITEM 1**Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir**

To contextualise this property matter:

- The Victorian Government Gazette notice is shown as **Figure 1**.
- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 2**.
- The Site Plan is shown in **Figure 3**.
- The Aerial view is shown in **Figure 4**.

Figure 1 - Victorian Government Gazette notice Discontinued road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir

Victoria Government Gazette

G 13 29 March 2007

533

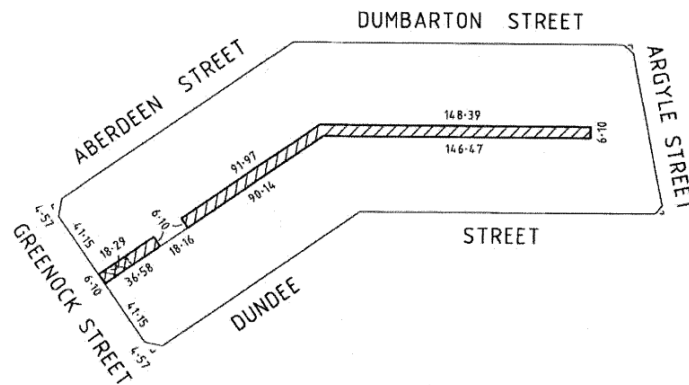
**GOVERNMENT AND OUTER BUDGET
SECTOR AGENCIES NOTICES**

**DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL
Road Discontinuance**

Pursuant to section 206 and schedule 10, clause 3 of the **Local Government Act 1989**, the Darebin City Council at its ordinary meeting held on 19 March 2007, formed the opinion that the road at the rear of 22 and 24 to 29 Aberdeen Street, 1 to 17 Dumbarton Street, 37, 39 and 43 to 65 Dundee Street and adjacent 14 Greenock Street, Reservoir, and shown by hatching and cross-hatching on the plan below, is not reasonably required as a road for public use and resolved to discontinue the road and to sell the land from the road by private treaty to the abutting property owners.

The section of the road shown hatched is to be sold subject to the right, power or interest held by Yarra Valley Water Limited, in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes under the control of that authority in or near the road.

The section of the road shown cross-hatched is to be sold subject to the right, power or interest held by both Yarra Valley Water Limited and the City of Darebin, in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes under the control of those authorities in or near the road.

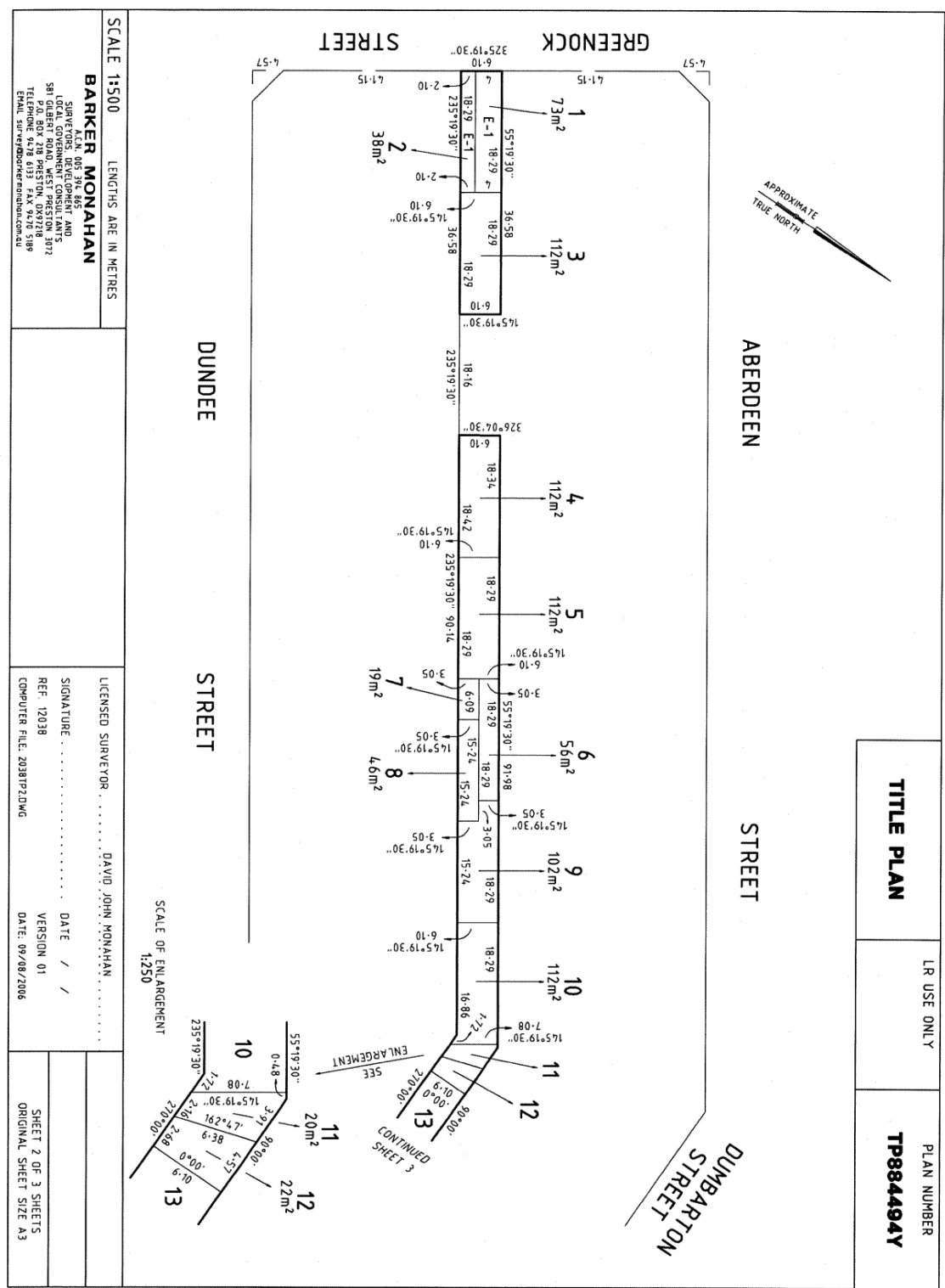


MICHAEL ULBRICK
Chief Executive Officer

Figure 2 – Title Plan road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir

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TITLE PLAN		LR USE ONLY EDITION 5		PLAN NUMBER TP884494Y
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH KEELBUNDORA TOWNSHIP - SECTION - CROWN ALLOTMENT - CROWN PORTION 14 (PART) LAST PLAN REFERENCE LP10498 DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY PARENT TITLE REFERENCE VOL 5622 FOL 243 MGA CO-ORDINATES E 325 750 ZONE 55 (APPROX. CENTRE OF LAND IN PLAN) N 5 825 420			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 A - APPURTENANT EASEMENT E - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT R - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)				THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR LAND REGISTRY FOR TITLE DIAGRAM PURPOSES. CHECKED BY A.M.B. DATE 27 / 06 / 2007 ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF TITLES
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	
ALL THE LAND IN THIS PLAN	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	6-10	SEC.207C LGA 1989	YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.
E-1	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	6-10	SEC.207C LGA 1989	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 9	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135416Y	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 10	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135448K	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 14	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135468D	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 19	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135544P	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 20	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135565F	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 18	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF135638E	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 17	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187476L	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 8	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187584H	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 6	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AF187617U	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 3	DRAINAGE	6.10	AH953463J	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 4	DRAINAGE	6.10	AH953492B	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 5	DRAINAGE	6.10	AJ64241S	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 11	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 12	DRAINAGE	SEE DIAG.	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN
LOT 13	DRAINAGE	6.10	AL572551A	CITY OF DAREBIN
SEE SHEETS 2 & 3 FOR DIAGRAM				
BARKER MONAHAN A.C.N. 005 394 865 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 581 GILBERT ROAD, WEST PRESTON 3072 P.O. BOX 218 PRESTON, VIC 3072 TELEPHONE 9478 6133 FAX 9470 5189 EMAIL survey@barkermonahan.com.au		GOVT. GAZ. NO.13 29/03/2007 PAGE 533 LICENSED SURVEYOR DAVID JOHN MONAHAN SIGNATURE DATE / / REF. 12038 COMPUTER FILE: 2038TP1DWG		FILE NO : AF135415B DEALING CODE : 207D SHEET 1 OF 3 SHEETS ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3



TITLE PLAN	LR USE ONLY	PLAN NUMBER TP8884494Y
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SCALE 1:500 LENGTHS ARE IN METRES

BARKER MONAHAN
 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND
 LICENSING CONSULTANTS
 581 GLENVIEW ROAD
 P.O. BOX 218 PRESTON, DUNFERMLINE
 TELEPHONE 9478 6133 FAX 9478 5189
 EMAIL: SURV@BARKERMONAHAN.CO.UK

LICENSED SURVEYOR: DAVID JOHN MONAHAN

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: / /

REF: 12038 VERSION: 01

COMPUTER FILE: 2020TP2.DWG DATE: 09/08/2006

SHEET 2 OF 3 SHEETS
 ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3

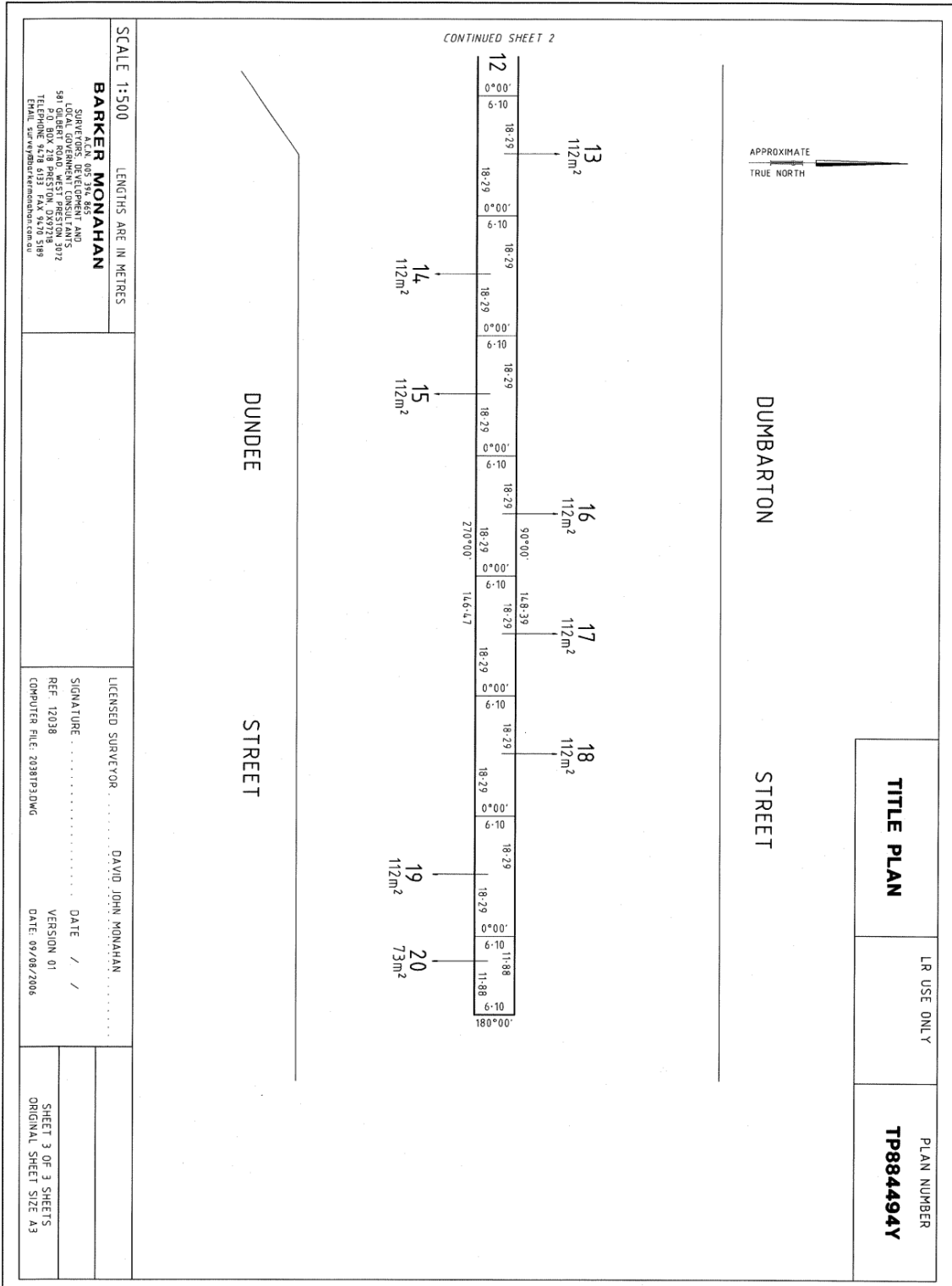


Figure 3 – Site Plan road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir



Figure 4 – Aerial View road adjoining 7 Dumbarton Street and 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir



Background information

On 19 March 2007, Council resolved to discontinue the road the rear of 22 and 24 to 29 Aberdeen Street, 1 to 17 Dumbarton Street, 37, 39 and 43 to 65 Dundee Street and adjacent 14 Greenock Street, Reservoir and to sell the land by private treaty in accordance with Council policy. The discontinuance was gazetted in the Victoria Government Gazette on 29 March 2007, shown in **Figure 1**.

In April 2021 Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner at 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir looking to purchase the land at the rear of that property, being part of the unsold land from the discontinued road. The land is known as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in **Figure 2**.

Investigations revealed that the parcel of land, shown hatched in the site plan in **Figure 11** remains unsold. The Land appears to have been enclosed within the adjoining property at 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir for many years, as shown in the aerial view in **Figure 12**.

Whilst numerous letters have been forwarded to the owner of 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir they have chosen not to respond and have remained silent. A further attempt to elicit a response will occur as part of the formal statutory procedures.

The owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir has agreed, in principle, to purchase the Land adjoining that property at market value as well as meeting all reasonable costs associated with the statutory process, should Council resolve to sell the Land. Council will transfer to itself any land that remains unsold, protecting its interest in the Land.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received.

The owner of 7 Dumbarton Street, Reservoir has confirmed an interest in acquiring the Land shown as Lot 15 on Title Plan TP884494Y in Appendix C at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council selling the Land.

Whilst a number of letters have been forwarded to the owner of 55 Dundee Street, Reservoir they have chosen not to respond. A further attempt to elicit a response will occur as part of the formal statutory procedures.

Internal Council departments and Service Authorities were consulted when the road was discontinued in 2007. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer in the Land and an easement was saved over the Land in favour of Yarra Valley Water at that time. Whilst Council currently does not have any assets within the Land, an easement for drainage purposes in favour of Council will be created over the Land to cater for the installation of drainage in the future.

In addition to the notice on Council's website, all abutting property owners will be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission.

At the conclusion of the above consultation, a further report will be presented to Council for a decision whether to sell the Land, part of the Land or not to sell the Land and whether or not to take title to any of the Land.

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 matters. This option would mean that the land would continue to remain vested in Council and with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the land. Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other parcels of land within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the statutory process for the sale of the land.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to commence the statutory procedures to potentially sell the land. This would extend the consultation to the wider community and enable all affected property owners a formal opportunity to make a submission. This option would assist Council in obtaining further insight into the overall consensus of surrounding property owners and the community in relation to the sale. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the proposed sale of the land from the former road. Benefits of commencing the statutory procedures, depend on Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in receipt of revenue from the sale of the land that is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Commence statutory process by giving notice of Council's intentions to sell the land on Council's website and written notification to adjoining property owners and occupiers.
- Report back to Council on the outcome of statutory

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

10. URGENT BUSINESS

11. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

In accordance with Section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council may resolve to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the following items, deemed to be confidential by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Act for the reasons indicated:

11.1 Epping Animal Welfare Facility - Mid Term Contract Review (Confidential)

This item is designated confidential because it contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, pursuant to Section 3(1) (g(ii)) of the Act.

11.2 Clements Reserve

This item is designated confidential because it is legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies, pursuant to Section 3(1) (e) of the Act.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Recommendation

That in accordance with section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the items designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on the basis that the matters are confidential in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Act.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING

Recommendation

That the meeting be re-opened to the members of the public.


12. CLOSE OF MEETING

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

274 Gower Street, Preston
PO Box 91, Preston, Vic 3072
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 **National Relay Service**
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