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AGENDA OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

To be held on Monday 25 October 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 راجع اجتماع المجلس المحلي لوصول عمل من اعرفني أي من المواد محاضر 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 ਵੈੱਸਲ 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۔ 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

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 September 2021 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 or make a Comment or Submission prior to a specific item listed on the Agenda of 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.

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

Questions from the gallery must be submitted in writing to the Council Officer in attendance in the gallery prior to the commencement of the 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 Governance 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 in reports listed in the agenda

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question at an Ordinary Council Meeting may register their question 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 2021–22 QUARTER ONE COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT INCLUDING PROJECT REPORT

Author: Coordinator Corporate Strategy

Reviewed By: General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report (**Appendix A**) provides an overview of Council's performance in delivering the year one actions, that will contribute to achieving the four-year strategic actions of the Council Plan 2021-25. Also included in the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report is a high-level progress update for the capital works program and summary of Council resolutions. The Financial Report is typically part of this report, however, will be provided when available.

Key progress outcomes for the first quarter are;

- 2.4% (7) of year one actions have been completed.
- 76.6% of year one actions have commenced as planned
- Approximately 7% of year one actions have not started (20 actions)
- Of the actions that have not yet started, 18 were not started due to either preliminary work needing to be completed or the work was not planned to commence until later in the financial year
- Approximately 13.6% of year one actions have been deferred to year two (39 actions) as a result of the need to divert resources to the pandemic response*
- One action (0.04%) has been discontinued.

*The ongoing impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic have significantly and directly affected the operations of the organisation. At the time of writing, metropolitan Melbourne has been in more than 80 days of Stage 4 lockdown restrictions and record case numbers are being reported (up to approx. 2000 per day). Almost 50% of Victoria's COVID-19 cases are located in Melbourne's northern suburbs (particularly Hume, Whittlesea, Moreland and Darebin).

*Case numbers in the Darebin community have been relatively high for an extended period of time. At the same time, until very recently, community vaccination rates have been lower than the metropolitan average.

Significant organisational resources have been redirected to efforts aimed at responding to this community health crisis. Whilst this effort strongly aligns with the Council Plan objectives, the specific activities are not included in the deliverables and so are additional. Further details regarding these efforts are outlined in this report. This effort is expected to be required for the foreseeable future and will continue to impact delivery of other projects. As a result, a number of Council Plan actions will be deferred to the planning process for the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.

Council has committed \$62 million to the 2021-22 Annual Capital Works Program. As of the 30 September 2021 all 61 projects were on track. See (**Appendix A**) for the overview of the

capital works projects.

Since the 1 July 2021, 45 Council resolutions have been made by Council and its Delegated Committees. Of these 45, 21 resolutions have been completed (47%) and 24 are in progress (53%). See **(Appendix A)** for further information.


Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report including Project Report **(Appendix A)**
 - (2) Notes the deferred actions in the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report including Project Report **(Appendix A)** and refers the actions to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan planning process.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 is the first year of the Council Plan 2021-25.

Embedded into the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 is the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. Actions that align to the health and wellbeing component of the Council Plan are identified as health and wellbeing initiatives with a heart symbol . These actions are focused on enabling residents the opportunity to improve their health and wellbeing and are centred on a collaborative delivery approach with health care providers. There are 171 year one, health and wellbeing actions, which is 60% of all the year one actions.

For most of quarter one (July-September) Victoria has been in a Covid lockdown with significant restrictions placed on organisations including Darebin Council.

It is important to recognise that the cumulative impact of twenty months of pandemic activity has had and will continue to have a big impact on Councils workforce. In addition to a number of staff being redirected from their usual duties to working directly to respond to the pandemic, hundreds of other staff have been required to work from home often balancing home schooling and primary caring responsibilities. Only permitted workers authorised to provide services deemed “essential” by the Chief Health Officer have been able continue to work consistently in their usual roles in the community.

Whilst the organisation has successfully adapted many service offerings and demonstrated real agility during this period, it is estimated that approximately 15% of the planned year one Council Plan activities will not be delivered this year. These will be deferred and referred to the 2022-23 Council Plan Action development process.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting on 26 July 2021, Council resolved:

That Council:

- (1) Note that Council has received confirmation of the exemption from complying with Section 26 (2) of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, relating to the preparation of a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, from the Secretary Department of Health approved subject to amendments including:
 - a) Developing an action plan for the health and wellbeing priorities that links strategies to actions and identifies progress measures.
 - b) Annual action plans should be referenced in your *2021–2025 Council Plan* and be publicly accessible.

- c) A description of how Council will work with partners and community to develop and implement the action plan for health and wellbeing priorities and measure progress is also required.
- (2) Note the changes made to the adopted 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) at **Appendix A** to incorporate the feedback from the Secretary Department of Health.
- (3) Note the changes made to the Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 at **Appendix B** to incorporate the feedback from the Secretary Department of Health.
- (4) Adopts the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 at **Appendix C**

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

This report provides a holistic overview of all Strategic Objectives and Strategic Actions contained within the 2021-25 Council Plan.

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

This report provides a holistic overview on all Council Plan 2021-25 and Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 actions. It includes all Council Plan Strategic Objectives and Strategic Actions

DISCUSSION

COVID-19 Pandemic Response

The ongoing impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic have significantly and directly affected the operations of the organisation. At the time of writing, metropolitan Melbourne has been in more than 80 days of Stage 4 lockdown restrictions and record case numbers are being reported (up to approx. 2000 per day). Almost 50% of Victoria's COVID-19 cases are located in Melbourne's northern suburbs (particularly Hume, Whittlesea, Moreland and Darebin).

Case numbers in the Darebin community have been relatively high for an extended period of time. At the same time, until very recently, community vaccination rates have been lower than the metropolitan average.

Significant organisational resources have been redirected to efforts aimed at responding to this community health crisis. Whilst this effort strongly aligns with the Council Plan objectives, the specific activities are not included in the deliverables and so are additional and unplanned.

The following key activities dominate organisational effort in relation to the pandemic currently;

1. Community support and outreach

Including providing direct support to members of our vulnerable community who are in isolation or unwell. This complex outreach work is coordinated with State agencies, local health providers, Council and community leaders. It is currently being provided 7 days per week including evenings and includes support for emergency supplies, housing, culturally appropriate meals, food and other services.

Demand for this support is variable but is expected to continue for some time.

2. Support for community vaccination

Vaccine supply and access is directed by the State and Federal governments and is a key variable in vaccination take-up rates locally.

Notwithstanding this, due to concerns regarding local vaccination rates, Council has redirected a large number of staff at all levels to work which at its centre aims to increase our community vaccination take-up.

This effort takes many forms and includes;

- Senior level advocacy and partnerships to secure support for additional testing and vaccination clinics across Darebin, particularly for our diverse multicultural community members and other 'harder to reach' groups in the north
- Daily participation in State Government regional emergency management planning
- Working in partnership with our local health providers to reduce access barriers and support vaccination delivery
- Making available Council facilities for use as vaccination clinics across the municipality
- Direct support for large scale and pop up vaccination and testing sites across the city including providing on the ground support and Council staff redeployed to work at vaccination clinics and testing sites
- Community based outreach to key community leaders aimed at increasing the community take-up
- A coordinated communications and community development campaign to support Darebin's diverse community to get vaccinated. The campaign includes a public-facing branded campaign, coupled with a very targeted response to various groups according to age, location or cultural background across the municipality, production of collateral in English and the top 12 community languages, social media engagement, video messages, stories with community leaders and letterbox drops promoting local pop up vaccination opportunities.

3. Managing service continuity

Like most large workplaces across Melbourne, it is necessary to carefully manage risks to service continuity when staff are required to isolate as a result of exposure to COVID. Whilst difficult to predict, this effort is expected to be required for the foreseeable future while the cases numbers are high irrespective of community vaccination rates.

4. CHO Directions

All workplaces in Victoria are subject to public health orders and directions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Victorian Government has announced its Roadmap, aligned to the National Roadmap, for reopening as well as vaccination requirements for specific industries and workplaces.

Work has commenced planning and implementing the re-opening of all council facilities including an informed and safe return of employees to the workplace and a safe return for the public, contractors and suppliers. This includes navigating the requirements for vaccinations via the development of a clear roadmap for reopening aligned to Victoria’s Roadmap to Deliver the National Plan and compliant with the Victorian public health directions

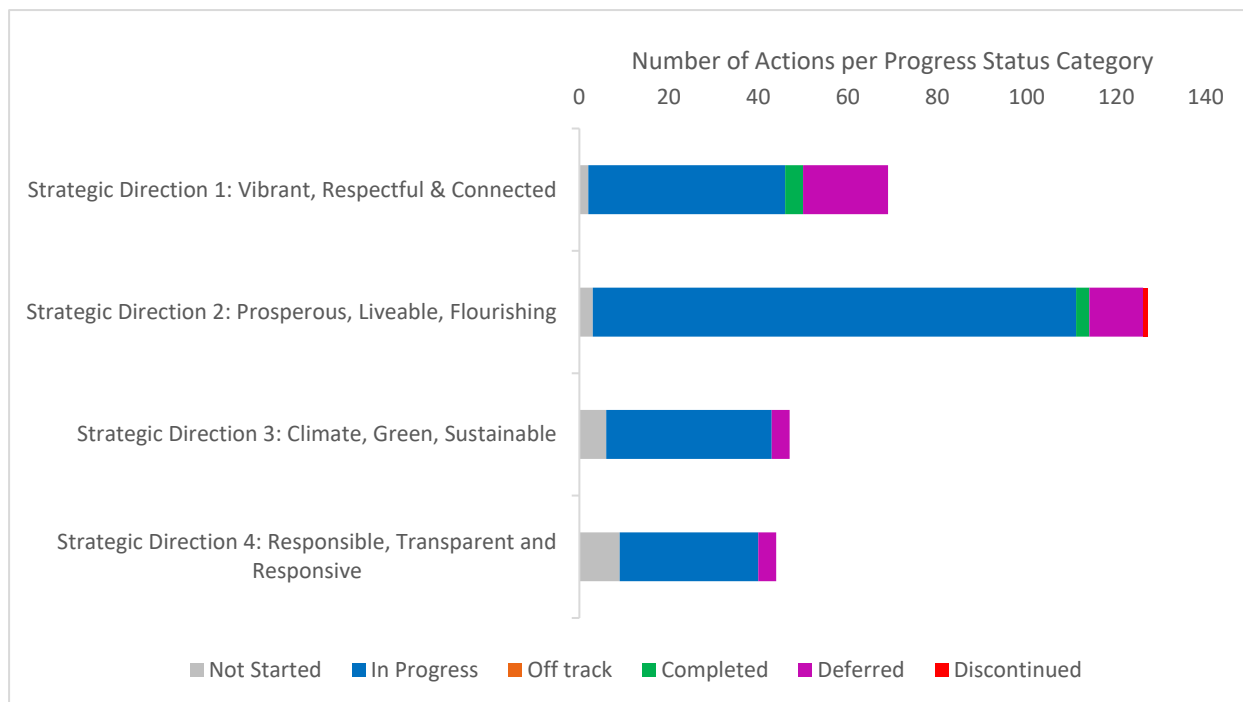
Overall First Quarter Results

Underpinning the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 is Darebin Community Vision 2041, Council Plan 2021-25 and the four strategic directions.

For 2021-22 there are a total of 287 year one actions across the four strategic directions.

As of the end of the first quarter, 30 September 2021, 2.4% (7 actions) were completed, 76.6% (220 actions) in progress, 7% (20 actions) not started, and 13.6% (39 actions) deferred and 0.4% (one action) discontinued.

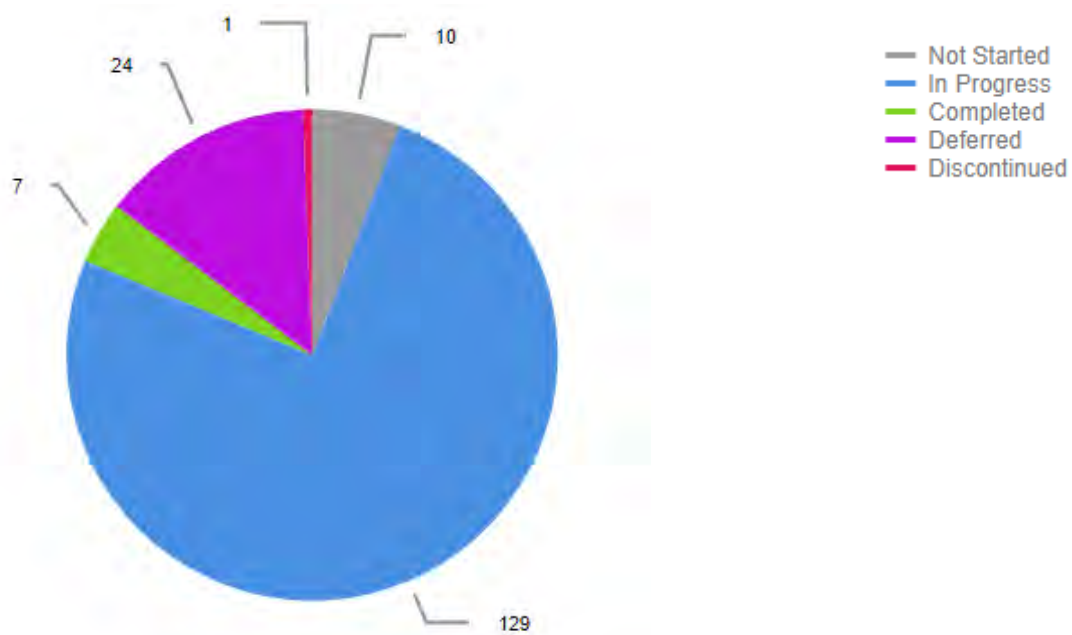
Figure 1: Compares each strategic direction and the action progress status breakdown



As part of the Council Plan 2021-25, Council has committed to the 10 Big Actions, these are the top priority areas that consist of a group of actions. See (**Appendix A**) for the 10 Big Action Progress Summary.

Embedded into the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 is 171 Health & Wellbeing actions of which 4% (7) have been completed.

Figure 2: Progress status of Health & Wellbeing actions



All seven completed actions are commented on in the below strategic direction discussions.

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic direction one is focused on the community and its people. The priority and four-year objectives are centred on improving the lives of the community by celebrating diversity, empowerment, supporting and preserving the past, while filling our spaces with vibrancy, amenities, and events for all. This strategic direction has eight strategic objectives, that span across the four years and 69 year one actions to deliver throughout 2021-22.

Figure 3: Q1 progress update on year one actions for Strategic Direction 1

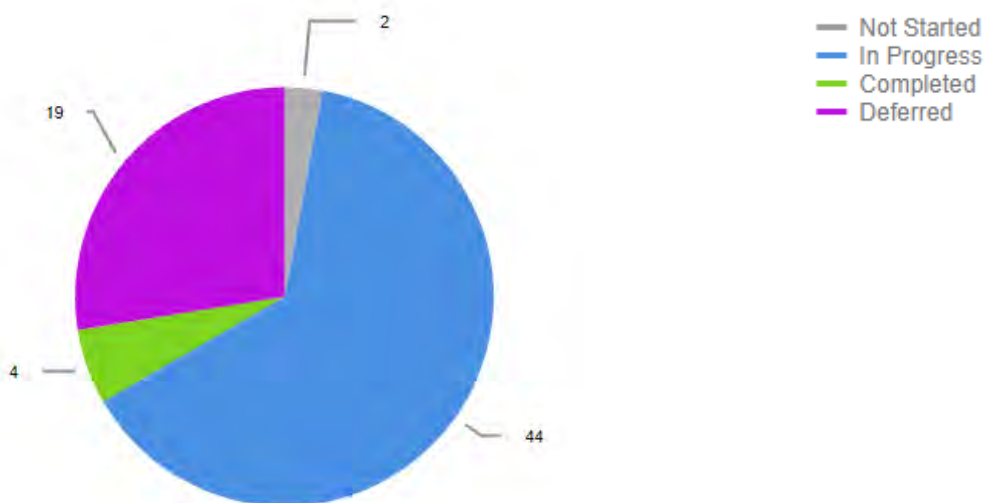


Figure three illustrates that 62% (44) of the year one actions connected to the strategic direction one, are in progress.

There have been four actions completed this quarter, these key achievements mean that Council has:

- Taken vital steps towards improving our communities, and visitors' disability access to our services and infrastructure through establishing the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-26. This achievement will help build an inclusive and empowered community by fostering social cohesion and community harmony for all.
- Provided financial and in-kind support to neighbourhood houses by processing all the funding agreements with Darebin's Neighbourhood House Network (NSN) for 2021-22 and has also provided additional funding to deliver joint projects in partnership with the NSN. This is working towards ensuring that everyone in our community is not left behind.
- Increased accessibility to Darebin's libraries on Sundays and through delivering the Libraries After Dark program is helping improve social connection and increasing positive mental wellbeing especially important during Covid.

This quarter 44 actions commenced; some highlights include:

- Developing a Memorandum of Understanding and action plan in partnership with Aboriginal Housing Victoria. Building relationships and formal partnerships with several local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, such as David Munwurrow, the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service, Wurundjeri Woi- Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Aboriginal Housing Victoria and with 3KND Radio Station. Driving these partnerships with key organisations in the community improve inclusion by valuing all people from multi-cultural and diverse backgrounds.
- Council has also partnered with the Islamic Society of Victoria (Preston Mosque) and a range of agencies to provide key health information to promote Covid safety and vaccination uptake. This is important work to increase social connection and support positive mental health during the Covid lockdowns.
- Council has delivered the FUSE digital spring program in September, opened by Ganbu Gulin and featured a special musical performance by First Nations songwriter Pirritu. Council also held a flag raising event at Bundoora Park to celebrate NAIDOC Week which included a Welcome to Country and guided walk by Wurundjeri Woi- Wurrung Elder, Uncle Bill Nicholson. These events provide a respectful platform to hear and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Strategic direction one has 19 actions deferred to 2022-23. All these actions have been unable to commence or progress this financial year due to the impact and disruptions of the Covid outlined previously.

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Strategic direction two is focused on creating infrastructure, and spaces for the community to feel safe, respected and welcomed and developing partnerships to support local businesses and community to drive growth and economic sustainability. This strategic direction has 11 strategic objectives, that span across the four years and 127 actions to deliver throughout 2021-22.

Figure 4: Q1 progress update on year one actions for Strategic Direction 2

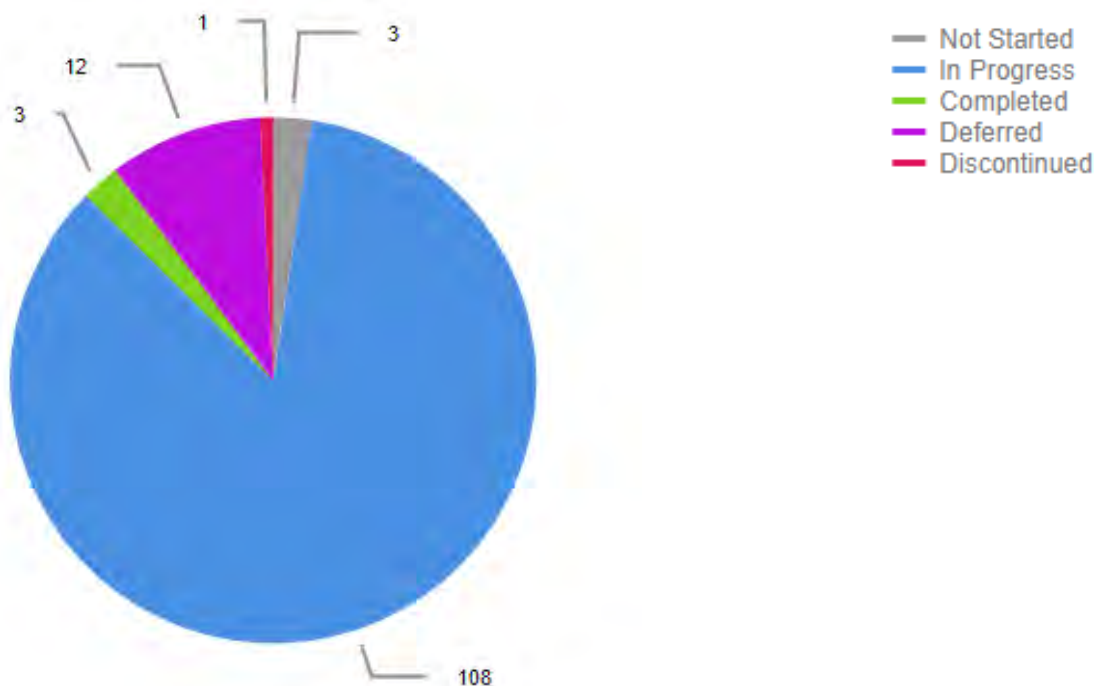


Figure four illustrates that 85% (108) of the year one actions connected to the strategic direction two, are in progress.

The three actions completed this quarter were all focused on delivering financial relief to the community and local businesses by: deferring rate payments until June 2022, waiving food and health registration renewals for the three months (July-September 2021) and waiving footpath trading fees until 30 June 2022. Delivering this financial support to residents and local business demonstrates Council's commitment to supporting our local business and industries, particularly during the Covid pandemic.

Highlights of the 108 actions in progress include:

- The construction of the Narrandjeri Stadium is presently at 70% complete. Once complete the Narrandjeri Stadium will be a place of equitable and accessible sporting infrastructure for the community to use.
- The draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan was in endorsed in August and will be released for public consultation soon.
- The Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre construction contract has been awarded, with construction commencing shortly.
- The planning for Town Hall Ave social housing development is progressing well, with construction estimated to commence in December 2021. This development will provide more affordable social housing to help meet the community's needs.

Similar to Strategic Direction one, 12 actions under Strategic Direction two have been unable to commence or be delivered during 2021-22 and have been deferred to 2022-23. All these actions have been deferred because Covid restrictions have in some instances prevented events and limited community, and business engagement.

Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

Strategic Direction three is focused on building and ensuring the community and Council owned infrastructure is resilient to climate change, increasing canopy cover over Council managed land, improving water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, improving air water by reducing carbon emissions through renewable energy and reusing waste to stimulate a local circular economy. This strategic direction has five strategic objectives, that span across the four years and 47 actions to deliver throughout 2021-22.

Figure 5: Q1 progress update on year one actions for Strategic Direction 3

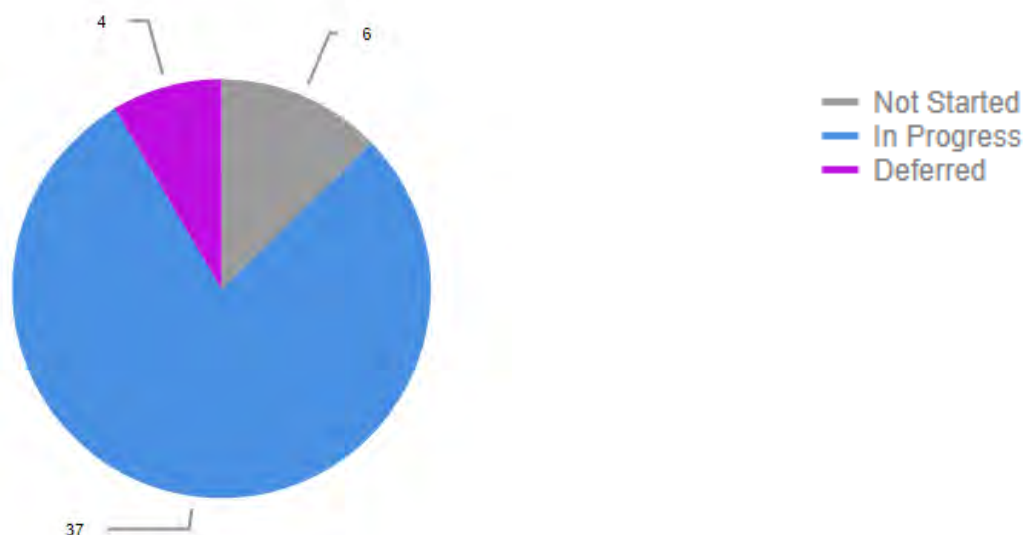


Figure five illustrates 79% (37) of the year one actions connected to the strategic direction three, are in progress. Key highlights of these actions are:

- Purchased 100% renewable energy for all large Council buildings and streetlights as part of the Victorian Energy Collaboration. Through purchasing renewable energy for Council owned infrastructure will assist in reducing carbon emissions for the Darebin community.
- Provided two workshops with community service providers as part of Darebin's Climate Resilience and Fuel Poverty program. These workshops helped identified strategies to help prevent heating and freezing and will be used to deliver broader community communities. Long term these workshops and strategies will help build a resilient community responding to climate change.
- Established the Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce which includes key stakeholders and industry professionals tasked with driving key quality water outcomes. Long term this work will help drive positive improvement in the water quality throughout Darebin.
- More than 12,000 indigenous grasses, groundcover sedges and rushes as well as an additional 125 semi mature native trees have been planted in and around Edwardes Lake. Increasing and providing diverse plants will help support biodiversity at Edwardes Lake, having flow on affects for the rest of Darebin's environment.

Strategic Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

Strategic direction four is focused on transparent and accountable decision making, to ensure that the organisation is financially responsible, managing our resources to ensure that our services current and future, meet the needs of our community as well as planning and

supporting our community through change. This strategic direction has five strategic objectives, that span across the four years and 44 actions to deliver throughout 2021-22. One Council Plan Action Plan action around the rate increase has been identified as an error and will be removed from the Council Plan Action Plan.

Figure 6: Q1 progress update on year one actions for Strategic Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

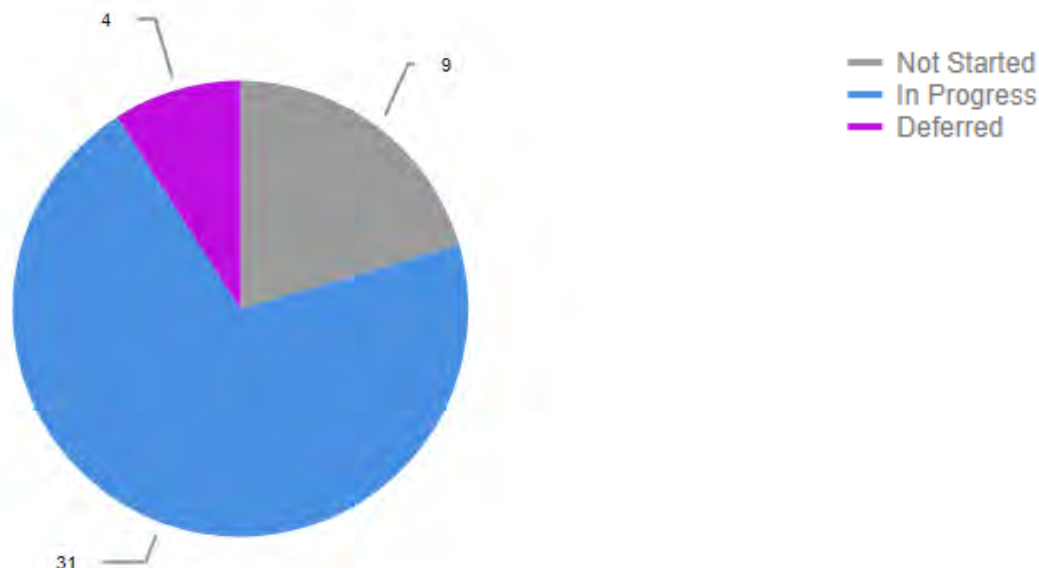


Figure six illustrates 70% (31) of the year one actions connected to the strategic direction four, are in progress. Key highlights of these actions are:

- Council has been continuing to advocate for protecting Preston Market.
- Work has continued with the Planning Panel considering the Development Contributions Overlay. Community consultation is currently in progress for the Thornbury Park Estate heritage overlay and for the Open Space Levy. Undertaking major planning reform such as these pieces of work will assist in improving the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land across Darebin.

Of the nine actions not started, over 50% of the actions were not planned to commence until Quarter two.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The Financial Report typically in this report will be provided when available.

Community Engagement

The preparation of the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report was supported and involved detailed discussions with all senior leaders, project managers and responsible officers.

The community will be informed of the content of this report when it is published on the Darebin Council website and through Darebin's 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 Council Plan 2021-25 strategic direction three addresses Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and has specific year one actions allocated to environmental sustainability consideration. The progress of these actions is included in the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The Municipal Health & Wellbeing Plan is embedded into the Council Plan 2021-25 and the actions in the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The Council Plan 2021-25 strategic direction one and two addresses economic development and cultural considerations and is detailed in specific year one actions. The progress of these actions is included in the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report.

Legal and Risk Implications

Undertaking this first quarter progress report allows the identification of known and potential issues that may affect the delivery of the Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22 and allows those issues to be addressed to minimise the impact on the community and Council.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Once formally noted by Council, the 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report will be accessible to the community via the Darebin website, and social media.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Plan Action Plan 2021-22

Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25

2041 Darebin Community Vision

Attachments

- 2021-22 Quarter One Council Plan Action Plan Progress Report Including Project Reprt (**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 2021-2022 PROGRESS REPORT Q1



the place
to live



INTRODUCTION

Welcome

Guiding the way Council delivers its services and plans for the future is the Council Plan 2021–25. 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 and using social media.

Council has committed to four directions that will guide our actions and resources over the next four years:

1. Vibrant, Respectful and Connected – making sure our community is one where all our people are valued, and no one is left behind
2. Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing – building on Darebin’s strengths in relation to business, services and industry, and creating a city where all services and facilities to support a balanced, healthy life are easily accessible to our residents
3. Climate, Green and Sustainable – ensuring Darebin is a leader in responding to the climate emergency, and our natural environment is protected and enhanced
4. Responsible, Transparent and Responsive – recognising we are here to serve our community, in all its diversity, and that we govern transparently and accountably.

For more detail on the Council Plan, go to www.darebin.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Council-structure-and-performance/Council-plan

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.

We invite you to read on to see what we’ve done to implement the Council Plan in the first quarter of the 2021–22 financial year.

INTRODUCTION

How to Read This Report

This document outlines our progress in completing the Council Plan Action Plan 2021–22.

There are four sections to this report:

The first section provides an overview of the 10 Big Action themes, specific links to the individual actions and an aggregated percentage of the progress completed to achieve the big action theme.

Section two provides the quarter one action commentary and progress status for the 287 actions from the 2021–22 Council Plan Action Plan. The actions are arranged by Council Plan strategic direction/objective and have commentary that outlines the progress against that action as 30 September 2021.

Section three is the Capital Works Summary dashboard that provides an update for each individual project.

Section four is the status of Council Resolutions report which provides a summary of the organisation's progress in implementing Council's decisions from the 2021–22 financial year.

Darebin at a Glance

The City of Darebin is located between five and 15 kilometres north of Melbourne's central business district.

It has been home to the Wurundjeri people for many thousands of years.

Our city covers 53 square kilometres of land stretching from the inner northern suburbs of Northcote and Fairfield, to Reservoir and Bundoora.

We are growing: in 2019, our city's population was 164,184 people, and this is expected to increase to 230,118 by 2041.

We are home to one of Victoria's largest and most diverse communities in the realms of culture, language, religion, socioeconomic background, employment status, occupation and housing need. In 2016, 48,842 of our residents were born overseas; 25 per cent had arrived in Australia in the five years prior.

We have a diverse mix of properties – with 67,051 residential properties, 4,637 business properties and 530 mixed-use properties. Our largest industries are education and training, retail, manufacturing, health care and social assistance.

As a Council, we are responsible for a large part of our city's infrastructure and natural habitat. We own, manage or maintain 333 buildings, 930 hectares of open space (including parks and gardens), 509 km of roads, 30 km of shared paths, 1,035 km of footpaths, 13 road bridges, 52-foot bridges, 614 km of stormwater drains, 23,370 stormwater pits, and 30 gross pollutant traps (structures that trap solid waste such as litter).

While our city's social and economic prosperity is changing, with more of our residents earning higher incomes, we still have many of our residents experiencing disadvantage.

The Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) score ranks areas based on indicators that contribute to disadvantage (including unemployment and income). In 2016, Darebin's SEIFA disadvantage score was 1,004, lower than Greater Melbourne at 1018, and Victoria at 1,010. This indicates Darebin is still relatively disadvantaged, compared to Greater Melbourne and Victoria.

In March 2021, our unemployment rate was 7.7 per cent. This is slightly higher than Greater.

10 BIG ACTIONS

Big Action Number	Council Plan Strategic Action Numbers	Big Action Description	Collective Action Progress Towards Year-One Goals:
BA1	2-9 2-11 2-26	Build Infrastructure for the future by developing Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, redeveloping BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir, and building Darebin Intercultural Centre in Preston.	In progress (33%) <i>across four year-one actions</i>
BA2	2-2 2-3 2-6 2-23	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.	In progress (18%) <i>across nine year-one actions</i>
BA3	2-16 3-1 3-2 3-19 3-24	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 programs aimed to improve safety for people cycling, walking and wheeling, increasing active travel which will also reduce transport emissions.	In progress (11%) <i>across 14 year-one actions</i>
BA4	1-32	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.	In progress (15%) <i>across two year-one actions</i>
BA5	1-22 1-24 2-44 2-47	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.	In progress (22%) <i>across five year-one actions</i>











10 BIG ACTIONS







Big Action Number	Council Plan Strategic Action Numbers	Big Action Description	Collective Action Progress Towards Year-One Goals:
BA6	2-15 2-41 2-59	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.	In progress (15%) <i>across four year-one actions</i>
BA7	1-9 1-13 1-44	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 LBTQIA+ inclusion) for our services and activities.	In progress (28%) <i>across seven year-one actions</i>
BA8	2-37 4-18 4-19	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 to amend our Parking Permit Policy.	In progress (29%) <i>across five year-one actions</i>
BA9	3-7 3-8 3-13	Protect our natural environment and biodiversity by significantly improving water quality in Edwardes Lake, increasing tree canopy coverage in our parks, residential areas and retail precincts, and enhancing understorey planting.	In progress (16%) <i>across five year-one actions</i>
BA10	1-19 2-6	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 a home care package provider.	In progress (22%) <i>across five year-one actions</i>


Council Plan

1.0: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

1.1: 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

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-1] Develop a partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria to deliver artistic opportunities for Darebin's communities	Review and update the partnership agreement with Multicultural Arts Victoria, to benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from multicultural and diverse backgrounds	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-2] Support and promote a significant increase in participation in Darebin's sports clubs, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Gather baseline data of current diversity of participation rates in Darebin's sports clubs	A methodology has been developed regarding sports club participation data based on diversity which will be used to gather this data from sports clubs when they reopen.	
		Support sports clubs to develop and deliver a Diversity Action Plan	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Apply an Equity Impact Assessment to all sporting infrastructure projects in 21/22 Capital Work Plan	Equity Impact Assessments (EIA) have been completed for the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre redevelopment and the ongoing Narrandjeri Stadium project. The requirement for an EIA is embedded into our current operations and processes.	
	[1-3] Encourage and reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that use Council's recreation spaces, by reducing user fees to those that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Develop a Plan for implementation in 2022/2023 (Year 2), in consultation with sporting clubs, to reward sporting and leisure groups/sporting teams that demonstrate inclusion for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, women, girls, people of all abilities, and multicultural and diverse communities	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-4] Develop a memorandum of understanding with Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV)	Collaborate with Aboriginal Housing Victoria to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Council	A Memorandum of Understanding and action plan has been drafted in partnership with Aboriginal Housing Victoria and is being reviewed. The final version of the Memorandum of	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			Understanding and action plan will be put to Council for endorsement in December 2021.	
	[1-5] Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to progress “decolonising” Bundoora Park, including the farm and homestead	Develop a Plan of initiatives to decolonise Bundoora Park, in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for Bundoora Park	The work around decolonising Bundoora park has commenced. This includes the installation of six flag poles across the site to fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and a flag raising event as part of NAIDOC week in July, and an exhibition at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre of paintings by Koorie Elder Uncle Brian Birch. The Wurundjeri Narrap Rangers have commenced working alongside Council staff in park management and a draft action plan has been developed in partnership with Wurundjeri Woi wurrung Elders to guide future work.	
	[1-6] Develop partnerships with local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to enhance our work towards mutual goals	Identify opportunities and establish partnerships with local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations with mutual goals	Council continues to build relationships with a number of local Aboriginal community-controlled organisations and meet with organisations such as Dardi Munwurrow, the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service and other organisations to discuss potential areas for collaboration. This is in addition to the formal partnerships Council is pursuing with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal Housing Victoria and with 3KND Radio Station.	
	[1-7] Work with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC), the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and local Aboriginal organisations, to respond meaningfully and comprehensively to the six key requests of DAAC's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council	Develop a Response Plan to the six key requests of Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee's Our Black Lives Matter statement to Council, in partnership with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and local Aboriginal organisations	Council has commenced discussion with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee about Council's intention to respond to the six key requests of Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee's Our Black Lives Matter statement, which will be responded to through the actions contained in the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan. Further consultation will occur throughout the development of the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan to respond to these requests.	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-8] Partner with Bowel Cancer Screening, Cancer Council Victoria and local community organisations to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding, including for Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening	Identify local partners and support the delivery of two initiatives to increase awareness of bowel cancer and improve community understanding of the benefits of screening, with a particular focus on underrepresented groups undertaking bowel cancer screening	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	








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1.2: We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-9] Develop the Disability Action Plan to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors	Establish the Disability Action Plan, to improve access to services and infrastructure for our residents and visitors	The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2021 - 2026 has been co-designed with community members with a lived experience of disability. This document outlines goals for improving access and inclusion in Darebin. An associated action plan has also been developed. These documents will be made available online in the coming quarter.	
		Commence actions towards Implementation of the Disability Action Plan	Implementation is underway. The plan details 62 actions being delivered by teams across Council to improve access and inclusion for people with a disability.	
	[1-10] Develop programs to support international students living in Darebin	Develop a Project Plan to implement programs to support international students living in Darebin	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-11] Develop a program to support middle years students (later primary school, and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together, to support student voices	Develop a four-year Program to support middle years students from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on systemic racism issues together	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-12] Develop a Cultural Diversity Action Plan to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for multicultural communities	Develop the Cultural Diversity Action Plan, including an implementation plan for 2022-25, to significantly improve access to services and infrastructure for multicultural communities	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	

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1.3: We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind - by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity











	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-13] Work towards the Rainbow Tick accreditation (best practice in LGBTQIA+ inclusion) for Council's services and activities	Develop a Project Plan to achieve Rainbow Tick accreditation for Council's services and activities	A project plan is being prepared. This has been informed by consultations held with neighbouring Councils who have Rainbow Tick accreditation achieved or underway. Internal consultations will inform the scope of Council services to be included in the first stage of the accreditation process.	
		Commence actions towards Rainbow Tick accreditation	A project plan is being prepared. This has been informed by consultations held with neighbouring Councils who have Rainbow Tick accreditation achieved or underway. Internal consultations will inform the scope of Council services to be included in the first stage of the accreditation process. Recruitment, selection & recommendation of new Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee members has been completed.	
	[1-14] Offer co-working spaces at our arts centres in Darebin	Identify and implement co-working spaces at our arts centres, through licenced spaces and artistic residences	Co-working spaces have already been delivered at Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre and Darebin Arts Centre (DAC) through licences with Multicultural Arts Victoria and Speak Percussion. New opportunities to support in-house artist residencies and hot desking for artists and producers engaged in the FUSE Festival program is in development. The COVID lockdown throughout Q1 has meant that all arts venues have been closed and DAC has been used as a COVID Testing Site by State Government for our community.	
	[1-15] Support social enterprises that wish to work in our city, and with our Council - one per year	Support at least one social enterprise to establish in, or re-locate to, Darebin	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan. The ability for a new social enterprise to establish itself during the pandemic is problematic. However, Council continues to connect existing and growing social enterprises and existing social enterprises continue to be invited to significant events.	
	[1-16] Provide financial and in-kind support to neighbourhood houses that	Provide funding and in-kind support against key deliverables - designed in	All funding agreements with the Darebin Neighbourhood House Network for 21/22 have been processed and annual projects established. Council has also provided the	







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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	bring our diverse people together	partnership with neighbourhood houses	Neighbourhood House Network with additional funding to deliver joint projects that that bring our diverse people together.	
	[1-17] Launch Council's new website, with improved access functionality for people from diverse communities	Develop and implement a Project Plan for the launch of Council's new website, highlighting improved access functionality for people from diverse communities	The project plan has been established and implementation commenced. The new Council website was launched in late July 2021, supported by an external communications plan to promote the new accessibility features to support people from diverse communities. Key features include the Google Translate functionality that provides translation into 109 languages, audio translation for community members who prefer this model of information sharing, and accessibility features for increased / decreased text sizing. The next milestone is user testing with culturally and linguistically diverse groups and accessibility testing to ensure the website reflects an excellent customer experience for Darebin's diverse communities.	
	[1-18] Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia	Develop a Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan, (including an implementation plan), to support the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities and work to combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia	The development of the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan will be extended into 2022/23, with the plan to be presented for Council for endorsement in December 2022. This will provide sufficient time for the new Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee to guide development of the action plan once the Committee commences in November 2021. It will also provide time for face-to-face community engagement and consultation to inform the action plan.	







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1.4: We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health




	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-19] Deliver Age Friendly Darebin, expand aged care direct services, and register Council to become a home care package provider	Undertake a Feasibility Study to inform the planning for Council becoming a home care package provider, including the model to be implemented.	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan. Council's ongoing response to COVID 19 and ensuring continuity of essential existing services in a COVID safe manner has been a priority.	
	[1-20] Facilitate and support volunteer opportunities with Council across our diverse communities, to strengthen community connection and skills development	Develop a Four Year Volunteer Program to facilitate an increase in connectedness of our diverse communities and to provide opportunities for participants to develop new skills	A Volunteering Policy has been established and endorsed by the CEO. A Volunteer Programs Officer position has been established and recruitment is underway. Development of the four-year program will commence upon appointment to this position.	
		Deliver a pilot project to increase community volunteering in East Preston and East Reservoir and to inform future year activities	Work to develop this pilot project has been delayed due to the impact of Covid and priorities of the Equity and Wellbeing Department in responding to community priorities during this period.	
	[1-21] Increase the access of culturally and linguistically diverse and diverse communities to Council venues, and encourage participation in Council services (where participation rates are low)	Collect demographic data to establish a baseline data set of the current user groups of Council venues	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Identify and implement initiatives to increase the number of culturally and linguistically diverse people using Council services and venues	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-22] Work in partnership to address the digital divide for public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups, including those impacted by COVID-19	Conduct a pilot Digital Divide Program to increase inclusion, and address the digital divide, of public housing and high-risk accommodation residents, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and other excluded groups, including those impacted by COVID-19, in the East Preston area	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-23] Provide grants, and deliver and facilitate programs, services, and events that address loneliness, through supporting socialconnectedness and positive mental health	Design and deliver two projects, and two service partnerships, to provide programs and services that support mental wellbeing and address social isolation	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-24] Work with our sporting and recreation clubs to increase access and participation of people from culturally diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds	Gather baseline data of current participation rates in sporting and recreational clubs	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Support sporting and recreational clubs to implement initiatives to increase access and participation of people from culturally diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds	Sports Club grants with a focus on inclusive participation initiatives have closed, with 33 applications received. These are currently being assessed. Council conducted a recent sporting club survey, with the results indicating that clubs would like more education regarding inclusive participation opportunities. Officers will now plan initiatives to respond to this need.	
	[1-25] Increase the opening hours of Reservoir Library to include Sundays (to align with the opening hours of Northcote and Preston libraries)	Implement the Library and Learning Strategy to extend the opening hours at Reservoir Library to include Sundays	Sunday opening hours were implemented at Reservoir Library in July 2021. All libraries are closed on Sundays due to the impact of Covid restrictions, Sunday opening hours will resume as soon as Covid restrictions allow. Click and Collect services are available at all libraries Mon-Sat.	
	[1-26] Provide the Libraries After Dark program at Reservoir and Preston libraries	Deliver the Libraries After Dark program at Reservoir and Preston libraries	Libraries After Dark commenced at Reservoir Library and continued at Preston Library in July 2021. The program was suspended in August due to the impact of COVID restrictions and will resume as soon as restrictions allow.	
	[1-27] Provide sports grants to encourage increased participation of women, girls, people of all abilities, multicultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, in community sports	Implement the new sports grants as part of Council's Annual Grants Program	The sports grants closed on 27 September with 33 applications received, which are currently being reviewed.	
	[1-28] Advocate to state and federal governments to increase investment in early	Develop and deliver three advocacy initiatives, with partner organisations, to state	This quarter, advocacy for an increased investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services was	





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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	intervention and tertiary mental health services	and federal governments to increase investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services with partner organisations	incorporated into three advocacy activities. These included Council's response to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans, a Community Resilience Briefing Paper informing M9's (a group of inner-city Councils) advocacy positions and a submission to DELWP on the Northern Metropolitan Land Use Framework Plan.	
	[1-29] Work with other organisations to provide health information to communities on health and wellbeing issues including alcohol and other drugs, gambling, mental health support, and family violence	Identify partner organisations and support the delivery of two initiatives provide health information to communities	The focus this quarter has been partnering with organisations to provide information to promote covid safety and promote vaccine uptake. Council has partnered with the Islamic Society of Victoria (Preston Mosque) and a wide range of multicultural and other partner agencies to provide this information and support to communities across Darebin.	
	[1-30] Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, through awareness and education	Identify partners and support the delivery of two initiatives that reduce the stigma associated with mental ill-health, through awareness and education	Council is partnering with four schools in Darebin to deliver Youth Mental Health First Aid training for teachers and students. Initial planning and engagement with schools and mental health training providers has commenced, with first sessions due to be delivered in December. Council also partnered with Berry Street to deliver an online mental wellbeing workshop to support teachers and parents with practical skills.	

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1.5: We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-31] In consultation with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, continue to implement and expand our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan	Continue to implement the existing initiatives in our Aboriginal Employment Strategy and Aboriginal Action Plan	The Aboriginal Employment Strategy Action Plan has been updated with a refreshed set of actions to deliver over the next two years. Council hosted a jobs forum which focused on the challenges and opportunities in accessing employment for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and those from a multicultural background.	
		Consult with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee to identify new opportunities to support pathways to employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the municipality	This continues to be an area of focus for the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC) and will continue as a standing agenda item. The new Advisory Committee met for the first time in September and appointed a Co-Chair to participate in the Aboriginal Employment Strategy working group to guide this work and act as a conduit between the working group and the Committee.	
	[1-32] Develop a partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to support the delivery of mutual goals	Initiate, and jointly design, a respectful partnership engagement approach with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	The relationship with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation continues to progress with identifying mutual goals and priority areas that potentially will form the basis of the future partnership memorandum of understanding. Council's CEO continues to meet with the Co-Chairs of the Corporation to build a strong and lasting relationship between Council and the Corporation. Specific initiatives are underway through a number of projects, such as the naming of key sites and facilities, decolonising Bundoora Park, continuing involvement in the Intercultural Centre program development, and progressing discussions regarding Northcote Golf Course.	
		Work with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to determine resources and support to enable its independent engagement with potential partners	The relationship with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation continues to progress with identifying mutual goals and priority areas that potentially will form the basis of the future partnership memorandum of understanding. Council's CEO continues to meet with the Co-Chairs of the Corporation to build a strong and lasting relationship between Council and the Corporation. Specific initiatives are	







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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			underway through a number of projects, such as the naming of key sites and facilities, decolonising Bundoora Park, continuing involvement in the Intercultural Centre program development, and progressing discussions regarding Northcote Golf Course.	
	[1-33] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, begin discussions with Traditional Owners to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management	Initiate, and jointly design, a respectful partnership engagement approach with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, to understand the feasibility and resources required for Council to hand back land and responsibility for land management	Preliminary discussions with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation are in motion. Council Natural Resource Management Officers are now working alongside Wurundjeri Narrap Rangers at Bundoora Park and building strong relationships.	
	[1-34] Deliver initiatives that support truth telling, and provide opportunities for culturally diverse communities, and our broader Darebin community, to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history	Deliver two events to support truth telling, and provides opportunities for our culturally-diverse, and broader, community to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history, including the annual Ganbu Guilin One Mob project	Ganbu Gulin opened FUSE Digital's Spring program in September and features a special musical performance by First Nations songwriter Pirritu. Council also held a flag raising event at Bundoora Park to celebrate NAIDOC Week, which included a Welcome to Country and guided walk by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elder Uncle Bill Nicholson.	
		Deliver the Schools' Yarning Conference	Darebin Schools' Yarning Conference on the NAIDOC theme of Heal Country! will take place in October 2021 in a digital format. Year Five students from 16 local schools will view a series of short films/videos from First Nations cultural educators, Elders, writers and artists. Supporting Darebin's Rewilding program, 2000 indigenous plants will be distributed for students to re-wild a small part of their school, through the advice and teachings of the Narrap Rangers, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation Land Management and Conservation Team.	

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1.6: We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to, and value the diverse needs and aspirations of, our community

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-36] Initiate an annual cultural diversity and social cohesion oration as part of the FUSE festival	Deliver a Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion Oration as part of the FUSE festival	Planning for this event is underway, with the proposed date of 11 March 2022 to be the start of FUSE Autumn 2022. Currently a list of potential speakers is being developed in consultation with Council's Women's Advisory Committee and the Molly Hadfield family.	
	[1-37] In Partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV), deliver a closing event for the Spring FUSE Festival at Edwardes Lake Park that showcases culturally diverse artists, music and performances	In Partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria, deliver a closing event for the Spring FUSE Festival at Edwardes Lake Park	Due to COVID lockdown and restrictions throughout Q1, the Out of the Park Picnic presented by FUSE and Multicultural Arts Victoria was postponed. Instead, planning is underway for this event to become the FUSE Autumn closing party happening on the 20 March 2022.	

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17

1.7: We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity










	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-38] Continue to implement and evolve our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach	Implement and expand our Gender Equality and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan, using an intersectional approach	Key actions for this quarter include planning for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the Week Without Violence and the Molly Hadfield Social Justice Oration 2022. Council has also integrated the Gender Impact Assessment into the Equity Impact Assessment to apply a gender lens across Council's programs, projects and services. Council continues to participate in regional and State partnerships aimed at the prevention of gender-based violence and respond to the requirements of the Gender Equality Act (2020).	
	[1-39] Implement our responsibilities under the Gender Equality Act 2020	Develop a Gender Equality Action Plan to respond to our responsibilities under the Gender Equality Act 2020	An information workshop with all Department Managers was held in July 2021 to present an overview of the Gender Equality Act. A session on the Gender Equality Act was delivered by Dr Niki Vincent - Gender Equality Commissioner who presented to Managers and the Executive Management Team, responding to questions on the Gender Equality Audit Completed. Development of the Gender Equality Action Plan is aligned with the Workforce Plan required by the Local Government Act 2020. Work is on track for delivery against the extended deadline of March 2022.	
Establish a method to develop capability for completing the Gender Impact Assessment		The Equity Impact Assessment process was reviewed to incorporate gender impact.		
Identify key policies, programs and services to undertake a Gender Impact Assessment		Equity Impact Process review completed in Q1. Review of key organisational strategies, plans and policies that will be subject to Gender Impact Assessment. The extended date for completion of Gender Equality Action Plan is now March 2022.		
Implement the Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan		Key actions for this quarter include planning for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the Week Without Violence and the Molly Hadfield Social Justice Oration 2022. Council has also integrated the Gender Impact Assessment into the Equity Impact Assessment to apply a gender lens across Council's programs, projects and services.		

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 Off Track
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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			Council continues to participate in regional and State partnerships aimed at the prevention of gender-based violence and respond to the requirements of the Gender Equality Act (2020).	
	[1-40] Apply a Gender Impact Assessment to our Council policies and programs, as part of the Towards Equality Framework, and continue to gather data about gendered experience in public spaces, and use this to inform community safety initiatives	Continue to gather data about gendered experience in public spaces and use this to inform community safety initiatives	Council has used data about gendered experiences in public spaces to guide the planning of community safety infrastructure projects and inform the design of the public drinking outreach program in Reservoir. This action is underway but community consultation will be delayed due to lockdown until 2022 at the earliest. The community safety improvement infrastructure projects will be impacted by lockdowns and construction impacts. However, these projects are expected to be delivered.	
		Incorporate the Gender Impact Assessment into the Equity Impact Assessment	The Gender Impact Assessment has been incorporated into the Equity Impact Assessment and a new model created to capture the requirements of both the Gender Equality Act and Towards Equality Framework. The new process will be formally launched in the second quarter.	
	[1-41] Identify opportunities to support the economic participation of women, as part of Council's COVID-19 recovery initiatives	Deliver two initiatives that focus on empowering and celebrating the economic participation of women, as part of Council's COVID-19 recovery initiatives	Initiatives are in early stages of planning and will occur in Q3 and Q4	
	[1-42] Continue to support regional work to promote women's sexual and reproductive health, and advocate for a dedicated sexual and reproductive health service in the Northern region	Deliver three advocacy initiatives and support one regional project in line with Women's Health In the North's (WHIN) regional strategy, to promote women's sexual and reproductive health	Council has met with Women's Health in the North (WHIN) to discuss potential advocacy initiatives and partnerships to be delivered as part of the 2021-2025 Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan for the Northern Metropolitan Region. These will be further developed over the second quarter.	

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1.8: We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage







	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[1-43] Continue to implement our Towards Equality Framework and Equity Impact Assessment to address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised	Review and update the Equity Impact Assessment into a three-tiered approach	A review of the Equity Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed and a new model created to incorporate the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) requirements as part of the Gender Equality Act 2020 (Vic). This includes: a new online EIA form for small, medium and high tiers, reflecting organisational requirements under the Towards Equality Framework 2019-2029 and legislative requirements for the GIA under the Gender Equality Act. This approach is currently being piloted and expected to formally launch in the second quarter.	
		Continue to implement Equity Impact Assessments for applicable projects and policies, to address inequities in the distribution of resources, and ensure the needs of our most vulnerable people are prioritised	This quarter, ten Equity Impact Assessments, including Gender Impact Assessments, were undertaken on a broad range of topics, such as internal practices, environmental programs, asset management strategy and early years infrastructure plan and the Domestic Animal Management plan. Six small scale assessments were undertaken relating to community engagement processes and lower impact projects.	
	[1-44] Work with the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, our community, and local organisations, to create projects twice a year that foster respect and address systemic racism	Develop a baseline data set regarding the experience of racism in Darebin	An Anti-Racism Program Officer role has been advertised and appointment is expected in the second quarter. This role will commence the development of a baseline dataset once appointed.	
		Design a four-year program to address systemic racism and discrimination	An Anti-Racism Program Officer role has been advertised and appointment is expected in the second quarter.	
		Design and implement four Council-led events to directly target the building of respect, and addressing systemic racism	An Anti-Racism Program Officer role was advertised and appointment is expected in the second quarter.	
	[1-45] Continue to implement the Welcoming Cities Standard, with the aim of becoming a 'Mentoring' level Council	Take actions towards achieving the Welcoming Cities Standard 'mentoring' level by June 2022	Council has commenced the accreditation process. Council is required to achieve the 'Advanced' level prior to mentoring. This year Council will work towards achieving the 'Advanced' standard by June 2022, and will then	

● Not Started ● Completed ● In Progress ● Deferred ● Off Track ● Discontinued

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			work towards achieving the 'Mentoring' level by June 2023.	
		Establish design principles to: a) ensure Council buildings and facilities meet the needs of culturally diverse communities by June 2022, and b) implement for all future and where possible current Council buildings	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Deliver two new projects that respond to the Welcoming Cities Standard	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[1-46] Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities	Work with our local organisations to create an active Community Leader network comprising community leaders from our culturally diverse communities	Council's focus this quarter has been working with community leaders from culturally diverse communities to promote COVID-19 vaccine uptake and COVID safe behaviour. Further work will be undertaken in the second quarter to expand on and formalise this network.	
	[1-47] Through our Youth Strategy, develop and implement programs to support the participation and leadership of young people from disadvantaged, and culturally diverse, backgrounds	Support 20 young people to develop their leadership skills through Darebin Speak	Council delivered two Darebin Speak programs in local schools (The Pavilion and Charles Latrobe) which supported 45 young people from disadvantaged, culturally diverse and/or marginalised communities to build their leadership skills and community connections. The programs focused on empowering and building skills to take direct action, leadership on equity and recognise that our diverse community is our greatest asset for solving future challenges. These outcomes were achieved through activity-based weekly workshops that connected young people to Council and local community organisations.	
		Deliver two, formal leadership programs during school holidays, targeted at disadvantaged and culturally diverse young people, as part of our Youth Training and Development Program	Council delivered six-skills based leaderships programs (Big Sister Experience and Podcast Program) in the July and September school holidays. Forty-nine young people attended from disadvantaged, culturally diverse and/or marginalised communities. The programs focused on developing young	


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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			people's skills and confidence to have a voice, build connections within their community and achieve their goals and aspirations. The programs provided a platform for their diverse voices and lived experiences to be heard, calling out injustice, challenging racism and other forms of discrimination, and reshaping the cultural narrative in society.	
	[1-48] Mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of our disadvantaged communities	Identify and deliver initiatives to raise awareness of the health impact of heatwaves in the community, with a focus on vulnerable population groups	This action will commence in the second quarter and will deliver initiatives to raise awareness of the health impact of heatwaves in the community, in line with Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan and sub-plans.	
		Deliver two initiatives to reduce heat vulnerability and build resilience in communities and areas identified as 'high risk'	Significant tree planting in streets will be completed this year. Streetscape tree planting will also be undertaken in the next planting season.	
	[1-49] Partner with our community organisations to support Welcoming Community meals	Deliver monthly Welcoming Community meals in East Preston and East Reservoir, in partnership with local emergency relief and social support services	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	


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2.0: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

2.1: We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-1] Complete construction, and commence operation of the Multi Sport Stadium in Thornbury	Conduct a public tender for the operational management of the Narrandjeri Stadium (Multi Sports Stadium) and set performance targets in line with Council's performance principles.	The tender process for the management of both stadiums has closed with the awarding of the contract to be considered at the October Council meeting.	
		Complete construction of Narrandjeri Stadium (Multi Sports Stadium)	The construction of the Narrandjeri Stadium is presently 70% complete. The recent COVID-19 construction restrictions have impacted progress. The contractor is now aiming for completion in early 2022.	
	[2-2] Redevelop Reservoir Leisure Centre, incorporating opportunities to enhance health, wellbeing and socioeconomic outcomes	Undertake planning and the first year of implementation of the Reservoir Leisure Centre redevelopment, incorporating changes to the infrastructure and operations to support health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes for our community	Planning the future redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre through feasibility studies and health and wellbeing reports is progressing.	
	[2-3] Invest in the Edwardes Lake Boathouse in Reservoir to support a long-term lease arrangement	Invest in the renewal of the Edwardes Lake Boathouse to attract a long-term tenant	Project scoping has commenced to support the change of use and re-leasing of the boathouse.	
		Establish an Edwardes Lake Precinct Task Force	The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce is about to commence with the primary focus of improving water quality. Through additional aquatic planting there will also be significant improvements to the biodiversity values of the site.	
		Undertake works to improve water quality and increase biodiversity across the Edwardes Lake precinct	The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce is about to commence with the primary focus of improving water quality. Through additional aquatic planting there will also be significant improvements to the biodiversity values of the site.	
	[2-4] Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land	Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land and present a future options report to Council	Initial consultation with Traditional Owners has commenced. Consultation is expected to begin in October 2021.	



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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-5] Establish the new Ruthven Playspace in Reservoir	Construct a nature-based Ruthven Playspace in line with the design developed (in 2020-2021) through community consultation	Request for quotation has been completed. Delays in the supply of materials will result in construction works beginning in early 2022.	
	[2-6] Expand funded 3-year-old kindergarten	Develop an Early Years Infrastructure Plan	Council endorsed the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan at the August Council meeting as a draft for public consultation. The Plan is a strategic plan for the buildings and spaces that will be required so that young children and families can get the services they need over the next 20 years. The public consultation was launched at the end of September and will run until mid-November.	
		Work with the State Government to determine a pipeline of projects to expand our city's kindergarten capacity	Council is involved in ongoing negotiations with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) to develop a Building Blocks Partnership Agreement. This will be an in-principle agreement between Council and DET for co-investment in a pipeline of projects over several years to increase the number of kindergarten places available in Darebin. Council has also been working with DET and Reservoir East Primary School on planning for a new kindergarten on the school site which will open in 2023.	
		Complete investigation, feasibility assessment, consultation and concept designs for potential extensions of kindergarten/child care sites in our city	Council shortlisted four community-managed kindergarten and childcare facilities for inclusion in the 3-year-old kindergarten expansion project. The project will identify design options to expand kindergarten capacity at the four sites. Directors and Committee of Management members for each of these services were consulted in the development of Request for Quote (RFQ) documentation to engage architects to undertake this work. The RFQ was released to market in September.	
		Provide change management support to early years services in Darebin, to support the expansion of 3-year-old kindergarten programs	Council continued to work in close partnership with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) to support early years services to prepare for the roll-out of funded 3-year-old kindergarten in Darebin from 2022 onwards. This included: regular	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			dissemination of information and resources; facilitating discussions and providing information at network meetings; targeted support to services seeking to plan for expansion and adapt their service models, including support with applying for DET grants; and targeted communications and engagement support to services identified as being at risk of low three-year-old kindergarten enrolments for 2022.	
	[2-7] Improve physical access for our residents and visitors to Council-owned community buildings - at least five buildings per year	Deliver approximately five building renewal projects (as part of our Capital Works programs) to improve physical access for our residents and visitors	Works are under construction at BT Connor to provide improved access and accessible bathrooms for the sports pavilion. Designs are underway to improve accessibility to the Mayer Park Pavilion and kitchen. Works have occurred to install temperature controls to the Reservoir Leisure Centre bathrooms to prevent accidental scalding. Designs have been completed for the Intercultural Centre, which include a range of accessible elements, including ramps, tactiles, signage and amenities.	
	[2-8] Commence design work for the construction of Darebin Creek Bridge at Bundoora Park	Deliver a detailed design for a new bridge over Darebin Creek at Bundoora Park	The project is currently out to market to engage a consultant to design the Darebin Creek Bridge. It is anticipated that the contract for the design works will be awarded in October, with design work to commence in November 2021.	
	[2-9] Redevelop BT Connor Pavilion in Reservoir	Construct a new senior soccer pavilion at BT Connor Reserve	The construction of the new senior pavilion at BT Connor Reserve is 75% complete, with works expected to be completed by January/February 2022, due to the impact of COVID restrictions on the construction schedule.	
	[2-11] Redevelop the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre	Appoint a contractor to begin the construction of the new aquatic and recreation centre	Kane Constructions was awarded the contract to construct the new Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre. The anticipated completion date is June 2023.	
	[2-12] Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy	Develop an Integrated Families, Youth and Children Strategy (to supersede the current Youth Services Strategy and Early Years Strategy), including an implementation plan	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan. Significant community engagement with children, young people	







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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			and families is required to develop this strategy. Meaningful engagement has not been achievable due to the prolonged lockdown, with schools, early years services and other key services closed.	
	[2-13] Rejuvenate and beautify Cheddar Road in Reservoir, in collaboration with stakeholders	In collaboration with Melbourne Water, begin the re-wilding of Cheddar Road to improve biodiversity and amenity outcomes	A lot of work has been undertaken for Council and Melbourne Water to reach an agreement in regard to 'Rewilding' sections of Cheddar Rd, Reservoir. Final approval is imminent, with 25,000 indigenous grasses, ground covers and wildflowers already programmed for sections of Cheddar Rd in the first part of the 2022 planting season.	
	[2-14] Plan for the redevelopment of John Hall pavilion and public toilet in Kingsbury	Develop a Plan for the renewal of the John Hall pavilion	Work on this action is yet to commence.	






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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

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-15] Improve road safety, and the cycling, walking and wheeling network, by constructing high priority improvements	Construct projects in the Safe Travel, Walking and Cycling Improvements programs, to improve the safety of the road environment.	Works are underway on projects relating to improving the safety of the road environment, with locations confirmed and scoping underway. The works include construction of a raised pedestrian crossing on Boldrewood Parade near Broadway, construction of Edwardes Street Signalised Pedestrian Crossing near Harbury Street, upgrading of footpaths, pedestrian crossings and road surface at Radford Road / Broadhurst Ave roundabout, including a path through the adjacent park. The first round of projects are scheduled to commence construction from November 2021.	
		Undertake a minimum of four community safety audits, and use recommendations to inform upgrades and improvements	Council's ability to undertake community safety audits have been impacted by the current COVID restrictions. Planning is underway to be able to deliver audits online, with the first location to be the Reservoir Activity Centre early in the second quarter.	
	[2-16] Investigate and prioritise road safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling improvements across Darebin by using a Local Area Placemaking approach - where one third of the city is reviewed, with community involvement, each year	Conduct a review of transport improvement priorities (road, safety, accessibility, cycling, walking and wheeling) across one third of the municipality, in consultation with the community	Council has endorsed the 'Your Street, Your Say' program - a Local Area Placemaking approach to working with our community. Consultation with the north-west Darebin community started on 12 October. An easy-to-use, interactive map has been created for community members to let us know what their transport needs and ideas are. Reaching our diverse community is a priority.	
		Provide a report to Council for consideration of implementation of the priorities identified in the 2022/23 financial year	Council is investigating improvements in the north-west Darebin community in 2021-22. Community consultation started on 12 October.	
	[2-17] Conduct a community advocacy campaign on key transport priorities, including new bus routes, walking, wheeling and cycling improvements, extension to Tram 11, and the suburban rail loop	Develop an Advocacy Plan for transport priorities, including new bus routes, walking, wheeling and cycling improvements, extension to Tram 11, accessible stops, and the suburban rail loop	Alongside the work to establish a lead position on advocacy, an advocacy plan for transport priorities has been drafted in readiness for review and approval.	





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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	accessible stops, and the suburban rail loop	Implement Year 1 actions of the Advocacy Plan	This action has not yet started and will commence once the Advocacy Plan has been endorsed.	
	[2-18] Develop and implement a Community Safety Framework	Develop a Community Safety Framework in consultation with the community	Development of the framework is underway and a draft has been prepared based on existing data and information. However, community and stakeholder consultation has been delayed due to lockdown and will commence in early 2022. The framework will be delayed and is expected to be developed and endorsed by Council by December 2022.	
		Develop an Implementation Plan for Community Safety Framework (for Council Plan years 2-4 actions)	Development of the framework is underway and a draft has been prepared based on existing data and information. However, community and stakeholder consultation has been delayed due to lockdown and will commence in early 2022. The framework will be delayed and is expected to be developed and endorsed by Council by December 2022.	
	[2-19] Improve disability access at Bundoora Park Farm	Construct a shared path at the Bundoora Park Farm	Following the completion of designs for a network of accessible paths within the Bundoora Farm last financial year, budget has been allocated to start building priority sections this financial year. Discussions have occurred to confirm the priority sections of the paths, and now the project documentation is being prepared to take to market for contractor pricing. It is anticipated the project pricing will occur in October-November 2021.	
	[2-20] With State Government approval, reduce the speed limit in more local streets across our city	Develop an Advocacy Plan for speed reduction in more local streets across Darebin	Council has two requests for speed reductions currently with the State Government for approval. Officers are advocating for these to the Department of Transport. Council is investigating what further speed reductions are needed in the Northwest of the City at the moment. It started community consultation on 12 October as part of the 'Your Street, Your Say' program.	
		Implement Year 1 actions of the Advocacy Plan	Council has two requests for speed reductions currently with the State Government for approval. Officers are advocating for these to the Department of Transport. Council is investigating what further speed reductions are	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			needed in the North-West of the City at the moment. It started community consultation on 12 October as part of the 'Your Street, Your Say' program and will plan advocacy to support the local speed reduction priorities when they've been confirmed.	
		Implement speed reductions in areas that achieve State Government approval	Council has submitted two applications to the Department of Transport to reduce speeds. These are in the local streets near the Mernda rail-line through Northcote and Thornbury, and in Northcote between Clarke Street and Separation Street. At this stage it is likely that changes to the speed limit in these areas will take place in early 2022.	
		Apply for further speed reductions arising from investigations of traffic safety in a third of the city, as part of our Local Area Placemaking Program	The 'Your Street, Your Say' program currently underway in the north-west of Darebin will identify new priority areas for reducing speed zones. Community consultation started on 12 October.	
	[2-21] Continue to implement our Graffiti Management Strategy to prevent, remove and reduce the reoccurrence of illegal graffiti, and support the launch of a graffiti tag app	Investigate graffiti removal partnerships for State assets in Darebin, such as rail corridors	Discussions are underway with State agencies including Vic Track and Metro Trains. Until an agreement is reached, officers will continue to report graffiti to these agencies for urgent removal.	
		Continue to implement crime prevention measures - through Environmental Design Principles Safer Design Guidelines - into the design of the public realm, Council projects and planning schemes	'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' will be incorporated into all public space design work in the current year. This year, the design for the Retail Activity Centres improvements program will incorporate this as a key approach.	
		Undertake actions to prevent, remove and reduce the recurrence of illegal graffiti	Officers have divided the city into four and currently have four contractors removing graffiti at a steady rate and currently have removed 8,000m ² . Each contract has been allocated a section of the city to ensure a prompt removal of graffiti.	
		Support the launch and implementation of a graffiti tag app	The graffiti tag app has been placed on hold due to COVID as the system needs to be installed by technicians from NSW. Officers will continue to monitor the current situation and action this as soon as borders are re-opened.	



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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-22] Identify creative opportunities to reflect Darebin's different cultures in the built environment across our city	Deliver two creative projects that reflect Darebin's different cultures	<p>In FUSE Spring 2021, there were a number of projects reflecting Darebin's different cultures including: 'Ganbu Gulin' featuring a range of First Nations artists including: A Welcome to Country by Uncle Bill Nicholson, Djirri Djirri Dancers and Pirritu. Another creative project was one of our FUSE Fund artists creating "Spaced"- an online performance and zine led and created by ten Deaf and Disabled artists representing The Waiting Room Arts Company under the direction of disabled artist Jess Kapusinski- Evans. Another was "The Market Record" where artists created a solo audio experience where audiences could do their weekly shop while listening to stories about Preston Market. This was created by award winning artists Dan Koop and Katerina Kokkinos- Kennedy.</p> <p>For FUSE Autumn 2022, works include a podcast for children from East Reservoir Neighbourhood House and a documentary about the demolition of the Housing Commission flats in Westgarth.</p>	
		Support community organisations funded to deliver public events that celebrate culture	The Festivals and Events team continues to work with community-based organisations to develop and deliver the FUSE Festival. Creative collaborations and partnerships are confirmed with Multicultural Arts Victoria - Out of the Park Picnic Closing Party, East Reservoir Neighbourhood House to deliver a podcast project with children, Latrobe University working with students to produce a mini film festival at Thornbury Picture House, and the Flow Festival Australia to deliver a Deaf Arts festival.	
		Deliver two public cultural events, including a Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion Oration as part of the FUSE festival	FUSE Spring 2021 public events included Ganbu Gulin, which was planned as a live event. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, it was pivoted to an online event. In addition, the following are in development: The Song Writers Award, and Fuse funded events including Spaced, Wear in the Wild, The Market Record and a partnership with Latrobe University Film students. The annual Social Justice Oration is planned to be	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			delivered on 11 March 2022 (live and live streamed) involving a range of community organisations and community leaders.	
	[2-23] Consider the development of a Global Learning Hub in the Preston Civic Precinct that incorporates library and community spaces, and looks at options to include social housing	Develop options for Council to consider how to best progress the development of a Global Learning Hub in the Preston Civic Precinct - a significant, multi-year project	Internal stakeholder engagement workshops and consultations have commenced.	
	[2-24] Significantly increase funding to our Roundabout Renewal program across our city	Implement the renewing roundabouts program to provide better amenity, including planting	65% of proposed sites across the municipality have been identified. At this stage, Council anticipates that all preparation works will be complete in order to plant during planting season (April-June). Any renewal works will be undertaken before the next planting season.	
	[2-25] Develop a Community Infrastructure Plan to inform Council's decision making on the future of our assets, based on service needs across our city for the next 10 years	Establish a Community Infrastructure Plan, including implementation plan	Work has commenced to collate the existing direction of Council (related Infrastructure Strategies) to inform the Community Infrastructure Plan. The approach to the engagement of a consultant to lead this work has commenced, considering scope of work and critical timelines to inform the 10-year Asset Plan. Consultation with internal stakeholders is planned to commence in the second quarter.	
	[2-26] Build new Intercultural Centre at Preston Civic Precinct	Commence construction of the new Intercultural Centre	The new Intercultural Center project has been tendered with pricing received in late September. Tender evaluation is currently in progress and the contract award is planned to proceed to the November Council Meeting. Preparations to manage the impacts of the construction work on Council operations are underway, including seeking alternative locations to the Shire Hall for the community immunisation program.	
		Collaborate with user groups and key stakeholders to co-create the Intercultural Centre's programming	An Intercultural Centre Programming Think Tank has been established to prepare and establish a vision, objectives and strategies on future programming for the new Intercultural Centre. Design and planning for the construction of the centre is underway.	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-27] Update flood risk assessments across Darebin, and incorporate them into our Darebin Planning Scheme	Undertake flood modelling across Darebin, in partnership with Melbourne Water	Meetings with Melbourne Water (MW) have commenced to discuss the progress of data reviews. Council will receive results for flood model analysis from MW in December 2021. The next phase of the project is scheduled to commence in January 2022.	
		Undertake specialist technical analysis to update flood modelling and mapping related to private land in our city, to account for updated future rainfall forecasts	Meetings with Melbourne Water have commenced to discuss the progress of data review.	
	[2-28] Continue our Traffic Blackspot Design and Construction Program	Design and construct any successful project applications for several sites across Darebin, based on safety priority	A range of transport-related projects are scheduled for design or construction for this program. It is anticipated approximately 40 projects will be completed, including improved lighting and safety for people walking, wheeling, cycling and driving. It includes the externally funded Blackspot Program for three traffic signal upgrades. Several projects have been completed, with a range of projects in the tendering stage.	
	[2-29] Install new lighting at GH Mott Reserve in Preston	Deliver the lighting improvement project at GH Mott Reserve	Detailed design and tender documentation for construction of sports-field lighting at GH Mott Reserve were taken to the market in September. The works package includes civil and electrical services to install four new lighting poles, fittings and LED luminaries. Submissions are currently being evaluated with award scheduled for early October.	
	[2-30] Review our Transport Strategy and refresh our Bicycle Strategy	Review our Darebin Transport Strategy to refresh it in context of the pandemic and emerging technologies, and to integrate cycling.	Preparation has commenced for the Transport Strategy Refresh. This includes research to understand trends arising from COVID and reviewing recent community feedback.	
		Update our Darebin Bicycle Strategy Network Plan	Preparation has commenced for the Cycling Network Plan update. This includes research on changing needs arising from COVID, and review of recent community feedback.	
	[2-31] Implement the Reservoir Revitalisation Project	Implement actions as per the Reservoir Revitalisation Project	Contractor and consultant briefs are being finalised for those projects approved by the Reservoir Revitalisation Board. An additional Council project was approved by the Board at its September	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			meeting and will be completed in the current financial year.	
	[2-32] Establish an Asset Management Plan for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning	Review and finalise service levels for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning	Work has not yet commenced to develop and establish service levels for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning.	
		Develop an Asset Management Plan for shopping precincts' infrastructure and cleaning	Work has commenced to gather background information for the Asset Management Plan for Shopping Precincts infrastructure and cleaning. Internal stakeholder consultation is planned to commence in the second quarter.	
	[2-33] Advocate to the State Government to increase annual funding for road safety infrastructure, driver behaviour campaigns, and law enforcement, and work collaboratively with other local governments to implement the Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030	Delivery of advocacy actions relating to road safety	Darebin is leading discussions with other local governments about collective advocacy on road safety through the Metropolitan Transport Forum. Council officers have started advocacy to the State Government for increased road safety enforcement and education campaigns.	
		Work with State Government to advocate to provide a safe pedestrian crossing with traffic lights, at the corner of Wingrove Street and Station Street in Fairfield.	Council has met with the Department of Transport regularly to advocate for this. In the meantime, some improvements in the area have improved safety. These include the pop-up bicycle lanes on Station Street which included painted areas to minimise turning vehicle speeds and provide better visibility of people riding bikes through the area.	
	[2-34] Work in partnership to deliver initiatives that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime	Identify partners, and support the delivery of two initiatives that improve perceptions of safety and reduce the opportunity for crime	Two initiatives that will aim to improve perceptions of safety are underway. The projects will include additional lighting in TW Andrews Reserve, Reservoir, and improvements to street lights in streets across East Preston and East Reservoir.	

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2.3: We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin, to meet our community's needs

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-35] Enable and facilitate more affordable and social housing across our city	Commence preliminary assessment to identify one or more Council-owned sites suitable for social housing, including progressing actions through the formal Council process for use of land and seeking partners	Work is underway to select a site to be used for social housing and Council is exploring opportunities to work with Aboriginal Housing Victoria. The majority of this project is scheduled for between January and June 2022.	
		Progress Town Hall Ave social housing development via lease and commence Pre-construction phase.	Housing Choices Australia has received funding from the State Government to develop the site and will shortly commence consultation on the planning permit application. Construction is due to commence in December.	
		Establish a 'fast track' stream that prioritises social housing planning permits and development proposals in Darebin	A Priority Development Team, dedicated to providing high-quality service to social housing applications, has been created, and a Coordinator Priority Development and Priority Development Planner have now been appointed.	
		Progress opportunities for more social housing on Council-owned and managed land, in partnership with Aboriginal Housing Victoria	Council continues to work with Aboriginal Housing Victoria to explore development opportunities, including on Council land.	
	[2-36] Partner with the State Government to ensure its social and public housing investment meets our community's needs, and creates liveable, connected communities through appropriate design and construction	Develop a Plan for how Council and the State Government will work in partnership to achieve shared social and public housing goals over the next four years	Council is strengthening its relationship with Homes Victoria and regularly meets to discuss current projects. Development of this plan will commence in the next quarter.	



2.4: 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

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-37] Review to amend the Parking Permit Policy to:(i) to improve access for people with special needs(ii) to allow owners of single lot dwellings that exist on their own Torrens title, the option to have an additional residential parking permit at the same price as current parking permits(iii) to allow single lot dwellings built after December 2004 that are greater than 300sqm property with three or more bedrooms and that exist on their own Torrens title (even if the property was previously subdivided), to have the same entitlements to parking permits as dwellings built before December 2004(iv) to ensure that renovations of a property that is still a single lot on its own Torrens title and is greater than 300sqm with three or more bedrooms are still entitled to parking permits	Undertake community engagement to inform a review and amendment to the Parking Permit Policy	Research and analysis of parking needs and parking permit policy options is in progress.	
	[2-38] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, increase shade in our business activity centres to support footpath trading	Update footpath trading communications and guidelines, to encourage shade in our business activity centres to support footpath trading	This action will be completed as a component of Council's ongoing tree planting and retail activity centre programs.	
		Identify opportunities for additional trees to provide shade in our business activity centres	All vacant naturestrips have been planted as part of RAPID Canopy. Focus will now shift to the creation of new additional planting locations to support business activity centres. This will include cutouts in footpaths, road outstands where applicable and planter boxes in locations with less available space. Planning has commenced for a number of these locations with new trees to be included as part of the 2022 planting season.	

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 Off Track
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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
		Develop a Shade Policy	A draft shade policy is being prepared and will be presented to Council for consideration when it is complete.	
	[2-39] Keep our business activity centres clean and well maintained, with a focus on reducing cigarette litter	Provide an ongoing Council cleaning and maintenance program for our business activity centres, including responding to community reports	Officers have increased the cleaning frequency of our activity centres and introduced the high pressure cleaning of street furniture and footpaths within these activity centres.	
		Assist businesses to educate customers, and provide bins and signage, to increase the correct disposal of cigarette butts litter in activity centres	Officers are developing a location plan for the cigarette disposal units and are engaging with suppliers to supply and install these units.	
	[2-40] Develop a policy setting the basis for how Council may permit commercial or private Electronic Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets	Develop a policy for how Council may permit commercial or private Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure on our public streets	Research is in progress including best practice in other jurisdictions, discussions with stakeholders and evaluating existing community feedback.	
	[2-41] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, improve streetscapes to support COVID-19 recovery	Implement street tree planting, planter boxes, and renewed and replanted garden beds	This work is being undertaken as part of the Retail Activity Centre upgrade program. Works are underway and will continue throughout the year.	
	[2-42] Continue to implement our Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program	Deliver street furniture improvements across our city, including bins, seats, bike hoops, and other street asset improvements	Officers have undertaken footpath replacement works, replacement of street furniture (bin surrounds, bike hoops, seats and benches etc) and are currently working on the next stage of these projects to include line marking and replacement of outdated signs.	

2.5: We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-43] Create two additional accessible car parking spaces in our city each year	Create two additional accessible car parking spaces	Designs are complete and a contractor appointed to construct accessible car parking spaces at St Gabriel's Primary School and Penders Grove Primary School. Works are scheduled to be completed in the school holidays to minimise impact to the community.	









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2.6: We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-44] Expand our Assertive Outreach Program to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness	Expand our Assertive Outreach Program to support people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness	The Darebin Assertive Community Outreach program delivered by Merri Outreach Support Service has been expanded to include additional staff and brokerage funding to provide practical and essential support to rough sleepers. The program continues to provide essential support for people experiencing homelessness and help find long term, sustainable pathways out of homelessness.	
	[2-45] Expand our Shower Access Program and support access to Council services and programs for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness	Expand our Shower Access Program and support access to Council services and programs for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness	The Community Shower Access Program (CSAP) continues to be delivered at Reservoir Leisure Centre at reduced capacity due to COVID restrictions. The program is currently not available at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre due to the redevelopment of the site. Further work will be done with Merri Outreach Support Service to determine whether they have capacity to support a trial CSAP expansion at a new location in Darebin. Council has also worked to provide emergency food and material aid support for people sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness who are in COVID-19 isolation.	
	[2-46] Continue to support the High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR), focusing on the coordination, support and funding of high risk accommodation settings and the emergency relief sector	Continue to support the High Risk Accommodation Response (HRAR) through coordination, support and funding, focusing on high risk accommodation settings and the emergency relief sector	Council continued to support the High Risk Accommodation Program at a local level. This included a focus on COVID-19 vaccine uptake and supporting residents in high risk housing to obtain emergency relief support.	

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2.7: We will work in partnership to address place-based socio-economic disadvantage and health inequity in East Preston and East Reservoir

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-47] In partnership with the community, deliver four place-based projects each year that respond to local community issues and need	Implement four place-based projects, co-created with the community, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address low perceptions of safety, and improve amenity Encourage active living and physical activity Encourage community participation (social connection and volunteering) Lift the health and wellbeing of residents 	A procurement process is currently underway to establish community partnerships to deliver place-based projects in East Reservoir and East Preston. Council has also provided funding to the Your Community Health Men's Shed in East Reservoir to continue and expand their activities and support the physical and mental wellbeing of men in the local community.	
	[2-48] Transition the East Preston Community Centre to a community organisation-led model, to support the needs of the surrounding community	Undertake an Expression of Interest process to transition the East Preston Community Centre to a community organisation-led model, to support the needs of the surrounding community	Preparations are being made to open the Expression of Interest (EOI). The opening of the EOI process will be delayed slightly in recognition of the impact that COVID-19 response and vaccine uptake work is having on the capacity of local community organisations.	
	[2-49] Identify opportunities to increase access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir	Collect baseline data on access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
Set targets for increased access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir		50% discounts were applied to casual concession entry fees for the Reservoir Leisure Centre and the Bundoora Park Farm from 1 July 2021. Services have been halted in line with COVID-19 restrictions but will resume as restrictions are eased. This action has been deferred to when Reservoir Leisure Centre and the Farm reopen and will be delivered in the second half of FY22.		
Identify partnerships and implement two initiatives to increase access to low cost and free physical activity in East Preston and East Reservoir		A procurement process is currently underway to establish community partnerships to deliver place-based projects in East Reservoir and East Preston. Council has also provided funding to the Your Community Health Men's Shed in East Reservoir to continue and expand their activities and support the physical and mental wellbeing of men in the local community.		






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2.8: We will advocate to reduce the harm associated with electronic machine gambling, alcohol and tobacco









	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-50] Implement public health approaches to address problematic public drinking, including advocating to the State Government to prioritise health and wellbeing impacts in planning applications, to reduce the saturation of packaged liquor outlets in our city	Undertake three advocacy actions to the State Government, to prioritise health and wellbeing impacts in planning applications, to reduce the saturation of packaged liquor outlets in our city	Council continues to participate in regional and state-wide networks to reduce alcohol-related harm, which includes advocacy activities. One Health and Social Impact Assessment was completed this quarter for 212 - 220 High Street, Northcote.	
		Conduct a Health and Social Impact Assessment for all applications for packaged liquor outlets in Darebin	One Health and Social Impact Assessment was completed this quarter. Council continues to participate in regional and state-wide networks seeking to reduce alcohol harm and participate in collective advocacy activities.	
	[2-51] Support partner and local community organisations, groups, and clubs, to deliver initiatives that encourage smoking cessation	Identify partners and support the delivery of two initiatives that encourage smoking cessation	Key partners to deliver this work have been identified. Council and proposed partners have been prioritising vaccination uptake and community support throughout the lockdown. Further planning and delivery will commence once COVID-19 restrictions have eased.	

2.9: We will focus on our economic assets and recovery to ensure Darebin is a great place to do business









	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-52] Develop an Economic Development Strategy, based on the principles of a circular economy, food, health, renewables, creative and digital industries, jobs of the future, and leveraging partnerships	Develop an Economic Development Strategy in consultation with Traditional Owners, businesses, industry, industry leaders, government and partners, that incorporates the identification of new opportunities, with a focus on food, health, renewables, creative, circular economy and digital industries	Preliminary scoping for this project is underway and the process of appointing a consultant will be completed in the second quarter.	
		Deliver an economic summit to understand the diversity, strengths and needs of our business and to inform the development of an Economic Development Strategy	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[2-53] Increase our investment in economic reactivation and recovery initiatives to support existing and new industries, to ensure Darebin's economy is robust and resilient	Provide \$1 million of business support and grants to assist with COVID recovery, focusing on sectors most in need	The scope for the next round of business grants is being developed, with the program to commence in October-November 2021.	
		Continue to provide COVID business information and support in key community languages	Council continued to promote and support businesses across many languages other than English throughout the lockdown. In addition to translated printed material, multi-lingual Council staff are contacting businesses directly and are working with the support of the State Government to ensure our business community has access to the best possible information.	

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2.10: We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin’s growth and sustainability

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-54] Develop and implement an advocacy strategy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the minimum wage, and increase Job Seeker payments • Partner with other levels of government to lift their commitment to the sustainable economy, particularly in sustainable transport and sustainable skill development • Encourage federal and state governments to invest in the sustainable economy, as major generator of jobs • Secure manufacturing investment in Darebin through the North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan 2020-2040 	Develop and implement an Advocacy Plan for increasing the minimum wage and increasing Job Seeker payments,	Alongside the work to establish a lead position on advocacy, an advocacy plan for increasing the minimum wage and increasing Job Seeker payments is being drafted in readiness for review and approval.	
		Develop an Advocacy Plan to lobby other levels of government to lift their commitment to the green economy, particularly in the areas of green transport, green skill development, and investment in the green economy as major creator of jobs, and implement Year 1 actions	Areas of focus will include green transport, green skill development, and investment in the green economy as a major creator of jobs.	
		Develop an Advocacy Plan for manufacturing investment within Darebin, and implement Year 1 actions	Development work is underway.	
	[2-55] Establish a regional alliance of government, business and community organisations, to drive economic outcomes, including local, social, sustainable procurement	Form a regional alliance to increase procurement spend in Darebin through a compact, involving partners signing onto Council's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy	Planning has commenced for the approach to establishing a regional alliance and targeting priority partners in Darebin with aligned values. Early discussions have been held with other northern region Council procurement leads (Hume, Moreland, Banyule, Nillumbik, Mitchell Shire and Whittlesea) to explore a regional effort to benefit the north, in addition to a focus on Darebin based businesses and organisations.	
	[2-56] Continue to implement our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy to increase the engagement of Aboriginal-led businesses, and focus on job creation for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people	Promote and support Aboriginal-led businesses in the Darebin community as part of the Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy	The Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy was reviewed by Council in August 2021. Key changes included an increase in social and sustainable evaluation criteria to 25% (from 20%) as a minimum, with flexibility to determine how these outcomes will best be realised, depending on the procurement.	
		Drive procurement outcomes that increase local employment opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, and young people	The Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy was reviewed and adopted by Council in August 2021. Key changes included an increase in social and sustainable evaluation criteria to 25% (from 20%) as a minimum, with flexibility to determine how these outcomes will best be realised, depending on the nature	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			of the procurement. The policy also includes a youth dividend to drive an increase in youth employment.	
	[2-57] Promote to Darebin businesses the benefits of voluntary adoption of our Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy	Promote to, and educate Darebin businesses about the benefits of Council's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy	Work on this action has commenced.	
	[2-58] Build partnerships across all levels of government and the private sector, to attract new industries and investment into Darebin, to support its future growth	Develop partnerships with other governments and business, to advocate for investment in Darebin's priority industries	Council is working with other levels of government, community partners and our major activity centres to ensure a strong future for our business community. A new traders' association has been established in Preston Central and Council has received funding to complete an industry attraction plan for Reservoir that will set out the benefits of businesses moving to, and/or enhancing their presence in, Reservoir.	
		Identify key industries to attract, to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions	Council is undertaking research and analysis of both employment and industry across the municipality that will inform key directions in the Economic Development Strategy. The extended impact of the pandemic has meant that this analysis will occur early in 2022 as the impacts become more clear.	
	[2-59] Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce (or an equivalent body) to strengthen and support our business community	Establish a Darebin Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[2-60] Catalyse new jobs at scale in Darebin with businesses, new industry attraction and our partners - including Jobs Victoria Advocates - focusing on jobseekers facing multiple employment barriers including culturally and linguistically diverse peoples, young people, women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	Hold a minimum of two employment forums focusing on opportunities for job seekers	Council hosted the first jobs forum in July 2021 (held virtually) and planning is underway for a second to be hosted on 26 October 2021 (also to be held virtually).	
		Map support services offered to employers and job seekers in Darebin	Council has engaged with all known new and existing service providers and is hosting multiple networking meetings to bring these service providers together. In response to community feedback, Council will invite neighbouring Councils to participate in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobs network.	







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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
		<p>Deliver, with partners, a minimum of one industry-based employment and training pilot program</p>	<p>Council is working with local and regional partners including local jobs coordinator Learn Local, jobactive (a Federal Government program), and members of the local hospitality industry to deliver pilot pre-employment training.</p>	
		<p>Develop a jobs target to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions (using external evidence)</p>	<p>Preliminary data collection and research has commenced.</p>	
	<p>[2-61] Implement measures to increase digital capability for our businesses, including local, regional and global connectivity</p>	<p>Develop a Smart City Strategy for Darebin.</p>	<p>A component of building the Smart City Strategy is an assessment of our current Smart Cities maturity/baseline level. Work has commenced to evaluate the available maturity assessment tools and to confirm an appropriate tool to commence the assessment process. Further consideration has commenced on the action established for 2021/22 to ensure that it best addresses the opportunity to increase digital capability for businesses, including local, regional and global connectivity. Key elements include the approach to advocacy required and alignment with the Economic Development Strategy.</p>	
		<p>Commence the establishment of the Internet of Things (IOT) network across Darebin.</p>	<p>Council has commenced research and planning into the establishment of a digital network in which Internet of Things (IOT) devices can be utilised.</p>	
		<p>Survey businesses to identify digital capability issues and opportunities, to inform the development the Economic Development Strategy's future actions</p>	<p>Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.</p>	
		<p>Undertake a demonstration project, in partnership with Education and Industry, to showcase the benefits of new technology</p>	<p>Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.</p>	



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2.11: We will support, promote, and attract diverse local businesses and industries

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[2-62] Deliver programs and services to build skills and resilience across a range of industries	Provide a business concierge service to assist businesses with minor permits	Council continues to support businesses with minor permit requests and improve the experience of working with Council.	
		Develop a welcome kit provided to businesses, that includes information about Council support in key community languages	A welcome kit for businesses is in development and will be delivered on schedule.	
	[2-63] Promote, support, and market Darebin's diverse business community and precincts, including our multicultural businesses and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses	Develop a Promotion Plan and support Darebin's diverse business community and precincts, including culturally diverse, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, businesses	<p>Council regularly engages with almost 3,000 businesses via its electronic direct mail, its Facebook page and the YourSay Darebin web page. As part of the Love Local Card program, Council has also made direct contact with more than 1,000 eligible businesses, promoting the benefits of the program and encouraging their participation. Council also has multi-lingual staff supporting businesses through the impacts of the pandemic.</p> <p>Through its Jobs for the Future program, Council has an established relationship with the Kinaway Chamber of Commerce, whose purpose is to provide business support and advice to Victorian Aboriginal business people and help improve the visibility and networks of Aboriginal businesses.</p>	
		Identify the unique characteristics and experiences of individual shopping centres across our city	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[2-64] Attract and support innovation businesses, entrepreneurship, creative industries, and the tech start up ecosystem	Undertake research to understand, attract and support Darebin's entrepreneurial ecosystem, to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions	Preliminary work has commenced on a Youth Entrepreneur's program in Reservoir as part of the Reservoir Revitalisation project.	
	[2-65] Implement a Destination Marketing campaign to position Darebin as a natural, cultural and event destination, and including an	Develop a four-year Destination Marketing Plan to inform the Economic Development Strategy's future actions	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to	






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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	annual city-wide calendar of events		the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Deliver one city-wide marketing campaign and support two precinct marketing campaigns	Council has widely promoted the Love Local Card program which will inject significant money into the local economy through \$30 and \$50 cards issued to eligible residents and spent across more than 400 registered businesses. Council has supported the Fairfield traders association to develop the Fairfield Village app and is delivering the FUSE festival as part of the Reservoir Revitalisation Board program. Due to the impacts of the pandemic, FUSE will now take place in Autumn 2022.	
		Develop a calendar to showcase events and festivals held in Darebin	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[2-66] Deliver an expanded Activity Centres-focused program that leverages State Government funding to shape our city of the future, including revitalisation, outdoor dining and parklets, shade, cleanliness, pride, place activations and programs, and thriving retail centres	Develop and commence implementation of a Plan for an expanded Activity Centres-focused program, identifying the priority areas for roll-out based on evidence such as percentage of shop vacancies and socio-economic need	A program of Retail Activity Centre improvements has been developed with more than 20 sites benefiting from works in 2021/22, while planning will commence this year for further investment at key sites in 2022/23. Council has also reached an agreement with the State Government to fund a number of projects in Reservoir following the Level Crossing Removal Project.	
		Continue support for outdoor dining and expand the active spaces program	Council continues to expand outdoor dining opportunities across Darebin and is investigating options to extend the existing parklet program into 2022.	
	[2-67] Finalise Service Level Agreements with Darebin's four main traders associations to partner in the management of graffiti, maintenance and weeding	Finalise Service Level Agreements with Darebin's four main traders associations to partner in the management of graffiti, maintenance and weeding	Preliminary research will be undertaken before undertaking consultation with traders associations in 2022.	
	[2-68] Create a portal for our business community to use to connect with each other,	Undertake research, including business engagement, to develop an online portal for our business community to	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	collaborate and promote their offerings	use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings	the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[2-69] Support our businesses to leverage the sustainable economy, including providing education for businesses and customers, and assisting businesses to set and achieve sustainability targets	Support and promote businesses to take advantage of, and leverage, the sustainable and circular economy	A scheme linking businesses and community to re-use discarded paper is in development.	
		Educate businesses and consumers to allow them to leverage the sustainable economy	Local businesses have been supported to leverage the sustainable economy through the Light\$mart program (10 businesses), Small Business Energy Saver (26), Efficiency and Sustainability Health Checks (2) and the Sustainable Leaders Program (4).	
		Deliver events and education to encourage businesses and community to support the circular economy	Council continues to offer education and support through the sustainable business program. The program has been successful in further embedding the circular economy in Darebin by brokering a new partnership between business and community and by continuing to promote innovative solutions generated by small businesses.	
	[2-70] Provide financial relief initiatives for our community by extending deferral of rate payments for our residents for 12 months (until June 2022)	Extend deferral of rate payments for our residents for 12 months (until June 2022)	The option to defer rates payments for 12 months until June 2022, with no interest applied in the current financial year, has been communicated to all residents through the 2021/22 Rates Notices. The Customer Service team and Revenue team have been briefed to ensure a full understanding to enable their response to enquiries, requests or hardship concerns.	
		Provide Shop Local vouchers - \$30 vouchers for residential property owners and \$50 vouchers for pensioner property owners	Financial relief through the Shop Local vouchers is significantly progressed in terms of establishing the governance and model of delivery for this innovative relief measure. A contract with a values-aligned vendor has been established and more than 370 businesses have applied to be part of the program. This initiative has been delayed due to the number of businesses closed due to State Government restrictions. This has impacted the ability of businesses to apply to participate and the ability to launch the program. The distribution of	

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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			Shop Local cards to eligible ratepayers has been delayed until October when it is anticipated that State Government restrictions will permit the re-opening of businesses.	
		Waive food and health business registration renewals for three months	Financial relief has been implemented for food and health businesses with registration renewal fees waived and not charged for the July to September 2021 period.	
		Provide a Job Seeking Voucher Reimbursement Scheme	Financial relief through the Shop Local vouchers for job seekers is significantly progressed in terms of establishing the governance and model of delivery for this innovative relief measure. A contract with a values-aligned vendor has been established and more than 370 businesses have applied to be part of the program. This initiative has been delayed due to the number of businesses closed due to State Government restrictions. This has impacted the ability of businesses to apply to participate and the ability to launch the program. The distribution of Shop Local cards to eligible ratepayers has been delayed until October when it is anticipated that State Government restrictions will permit the re-opening of businesses.	
		Waive footpath trading permits for 12 months	Footpath trading fees have been waived until 30 June 2022.	
		Provide a discount on pet registration fees	As part of confirming fees and charges in its Annual Budget, Council has established free first pet registration for pensioners, and discounts for pensioners for subsequent animals. Council also reduced most of its pet registration fees for 2021–22 compared to 2020-21. Pet registration renewals are sent each year in April.	
		Defer any rates increases until end of June 2022	This action is an error and will be removed from Council Plan Action Plan. Council resolved at its meeting on 28 June 2021 to apply a 1.5% increase to general rates.	
		Provide vouchers and discounts to our leisure and recreation facilities	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has	











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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			been deferred to when Reservoir Leisure Centre and the Farm reopen, and will be delivered in the second half of FY22.	






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 Off Track
 Discontinued

3.0: Climate, Green and Sustainable

3.1: 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

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-1] Through our Solar Saver 4-year program, support solar installation and energy efficiency retrofits for our vulnerable households, including public and social housing, and renters	Establish supply contract for Solar Saver program	Program design and planning for the supply contract is well underway.	
		Install solar panels or other energy efficiency installs (through Special Charge) for 100 households	Council is currently focused on procuring new supplier/s. Solar panel installations will start after the procurement process is complete.	
		Achieve 100 bulk buy customers	The delivery of this program was paused for this reporting period due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Installations will recommence for residents currently in the pipeline of their installation process as soon as the lockdown is over. Expressions of Interest for new customers will reopen on Council's website at the end of this year.	
		10 social housing upgrades completed	Conversations are underway with community housing providers to explore opportunities.	
	[3-2] Review our Climate Emergency Plan, including in-depth engagement with our community	Undertake community engagement to inform the review of our Climate Emergency Plan	Review of the current Climate Emergency Plan is underway. COVID-19 has impacted this project, and community engagement will now occur in 2022-23. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Review our Climate Emergency Plan	The review of the Climate Emergency Plan is underway. This will assess progress and analyse climate risks.	
		Develop and implement a communications and consultation strategy on the review of the Climate Emergency Plan	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Climate Action Plan that has clear pathway to zero emissions developed	A pathway to zero emissions will be incorporated in the Climate Emergency Plan. Technical analysis is expected to be completed in 2021-22 and community engagement will take place in the following year.	

● Not Started
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 ● Off Track
 ● Discontinued

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-3] Support our community members experiencing fuel poverty, to prevent heating and freezing	Identify priority needs of community members experiencing energy poverty, to support the development of initiatives to prevent heating and freezing	Darebin's Climate Resilience and Fuel Poverty program is progressing well. Two workshops with community service providers have been delivered, which identified strategies to help their clients. These strategies will be used to deliver broader community communications.	
	[3-4] Assess the current and future climate risks facing our community, and identify actions Council and other levels of government can take to provide maximum protection for people, property and the natural environment, in response to the assessed climate risks	Undertake an assessment of current and future climate risks facing the Darebin community	Council has started work to review climate risk as it relates to community, and also to review risk management related to its organisational responsibilities. Community risk assessment and management will be integrated into the Climate Emergency Plan review. Council aims to build on its work to date in addressing climate risk, take stock of new understanding of climate change and solutions, and identify any gaps.	
	[3-5] Develop a program to support middle-years students (later primary school and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on climate and waste issues together, to support student voices	Co-design Education Program aimed at middle-years students (later primary school and early secondary school-aged) from Darebin schools to connect with each other, and take action on climate and waste issues together	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
		Implement pilot program activities	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	[3-6] Undertake a whole of Council review of existing policies and practices to identify where climate emergency outcomes could be achieved in the areas of mitigation, resilience, education and advocacy	Undertake an initial Council-wide assessment, and complete detailed review for at least one service area	Council will identify the priority policies for review following its initial operational climate risk review. Council will prioritise policies for review that could have most impact in relation to cutting emissions or helping build resilience to climate change. The review of climate risk is in progress.	
		A whole of Council review of existing policies and practices to identify where climate emergency outcomes could be achieved in the areas of mitigation, resilience, education and advocacy	Council will identify the priority policies for review following its initial community climate risk review. Council will prioritise policies for review that could have most impact in relation to community resilience. The review of climate risk is in progress.	

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3.2: Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-7] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, continue to deliver the Street Tree Planting Program, prioritising areas without coverage, areas with people experiencing disadvantage, and business activity centres	Continue to deliver the Street Tree Planting Program, prioritising areas without coverage, areas with people experiencing disadvantage, and business activity centres	Council's 6,000 tree planting program will be completed this calendar year. Additional tree planting opportunities are being considered for next planting season commencing in April 2022.	
	[3-8] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, create a roadmap to reach 40 per cent canopy cover of the city by 2050 (prioritising areas with poor coverage), and develop a Community Planting Guide in partnership with the Darebin Nature Trust	Create a roadmap to reach 40 per cent canopy cover of the city by 2050 (prioritising areas with poor coverage)	Work is underway on the roadmap. The initial work has commenced and a draft plan will be prepared for consideration in 2022.	
		Develop a Community Planting Guide in partnership with the Darebin Nature Trust	A planting guide has been prepared as part of the Gardens for Wildlife program. Further engagement with the Darebin Nature Trust (DNT) will occur once the DNT advisory committee has been approved by Council.	
	[3-9] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, prioritise rehabilitating existing grasslands with cool burns	Continue Council's cool burn practice with partners including Merri Creek Management Committee	Initial discussions have been held with the Wurundjeri Narrap team and preparation is underway into identifying priority locations for season 2022.	
	[3-12] Acquire land to create new parks	Undertake a strategic review of our city to confirm areas where land is required for new parks	A strategic review of open space needs was undertaken by Council and a number of gaps were identified under the Breathing Space Policy. Work is taking place to evaluate appropriate acquisition approaches.	
		Commence acquisition of any appropriate land parcels	A strategic review of open space needs was undertaken by Council and a number of gaps were identified under the Breathing Space Policy. Work is taking place to evaluate appropriate acquisition approaches.	

3.3: We will drive significant improvements in water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, designating Edwardes Lake as a flagship project to demonstrate water recreation (in the long term)




	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-13] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, establish partnerships to improve the Edwardes Lake Park precinct in Reservoir, including water quality, and the quality of water across our city	Establish the Edwardes Lake Taskforce, to begin improving the water quality of the lake	The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce is about to commence. A lot of work has been done to identify key stakeholders, engage with industry professionals and resource the Taskforce to help it deliver key water quality outcomes for Edwardes Park Lake. The inaugural meeting of the Taskforce will occur after Council approves the membership.	
		Develop Advocacy Strategy to Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Discussions are underway with senior and local members of the Environment Protection Authority. The advocacy strategy will help identify shared priorities including to improve the water quality at Edwardes Lake.	
	[3-14] Through the establishment of our Darebin Nature Plan, rehabilitate Edwardes Lake and re-forest Edgars Creek in Reservoir, to achieve significant and measurable improvements in biodiversity by 2025	Successfully partner with Melbourne Water to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out weed management and revegetation works in Edgars Creek Extend public access through the Melbourne Water-owned reaches of Edgars Creek 	Opportunities to partner further with Melbourne Water on large scale weed reduction projects will be established through the Edwardes Lake Taskforce. Weed control has remained a focus in the Edgars Creek Corridor this season with Blackberry, Jerusalem Artichoke and Epilobium species high priority targets.	
		Plant 10,000 indigenous, aquatic and riparian plants in Edgars Creek on Council-owned land, by December 2022.	More than 12,000 indigenous grasses, groundcover, sedges and rushes have been planted in and around Edwardes Lake this financial year. Additional aquatic planting is programmed for the first half of the 2022 planting season which will provide significant biodiversity, amenity and habitat values to the Edgars Creek Corridor. An additional 125 semi-mature native trees have been planted at Edwardes Lake in the past month significantly increasing future canopy cover and habitat values of the site.	
	[3-15] Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to significantly improve the water quality and amenity of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Establish and adequately resource the Edwardes Lake Taskforce to advise Council on how the water quality of Edwardes Lake can be improved	The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce is about to commence. A lot of work has been done to identify key stakeholders, engage with industry professionals and resource the Taskforce to help it deliver key water quality outcomes for Edwardes Lake. The inaugural meeting of the Taskforce will	



● Not Started
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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			occur once Council approves membership.	
		Support the Taskforce to meet four times a year	The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Taskforce is about to commence. A lot of work has been done to identify key stakeholders, engage with industry professionals and resource the Taskforce to help it deliver key water quality outcomes for Edwardes Lake. The inaugural meeting of the Taskforce is proposed to occur later in 2021 with a total of five meetings programmed for this financial year.	
	[3-16] Advocate with Melbourne Water to secure funding to improve the water quality of Edwardes Lake in Reservoir	Continue Council's successful relationship with Melbourne Water on mutual goals, including improvements to the water quality at Edwardes Lake	Council has continued to strengthen its partnership with Melbourne Water through a number of key initiatives. This partnership will continue to build as the Edwardes Lake Taskforce is initiated later this calendar year.	
		Council submits grant applications as they arise, to improve water quality outcomes at Edwardes Lake	The Edwardes Lake Taskforce is close to being initiated and all available grant opportunities will be explored. Melbourne Water will be a key stakeholder in the Taskforce and will be able to keep Council informed of upcoming opportunities in this space.	
	[3-17] Partner with our community and stakeholders to advocate to ensure the protection of Strathallan as public land for the long term, and to enable better management of the kangaroo population	Develop an Advocacy Plan for the protection of Strathallan as public land for the long term, and to enable better management of the kangaroos population	Work on this action is yet to commence.	
		Implement Year 1 actions of the Advocacy Plan	Work on this action is yet to commence.	

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3.4: We will reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy on a large scale for Council buildings and through community focused initiatives







	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-18] Progressively install solar panels and batteries, and introduce other energy efficiency initiatives, into our Council buildings	Commence new electricity contract for 100% renewables	Council commenced purchasing 100% renewable energy for all large Council buildings and streetlights from 1 July 2021 as part of the Victorian Energy Collaboration. Small sites will join the contract in January 2022, at the end of the current contract.	
		Increase solar power installed on Council facilities	Projects currently under construction, including Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre, BT Connor Pavilion and Narrandjeri Stadium all have solar panel systems being installed. Installation of solar systems were recently completed at Darebin Community Sport Stadium and Thornbury Family Services. The designs currently being developed for the Bill Lawry Pavilion redevelopment include a solar panel system.	
		Improve energy efficiency of Council buildings	The Narrandjeri Stadium and BT Connor Pavilion, both under construction, incorporate a range of energy efficient measures, including LED lights, solar panels, double glazing and insulation. A program of works has been developed to transition from gas to electricity for heating and cooling as well as appliances. Works have occurred so far at Preston Maternal Child Health and will shortly be undertaken at Preston City Hall. Improvements to the heating and cooling plant, LED lighting replacement and installation of motion sensors for hot water systems will commence shortly at Reservoir Leisure Centre.	
	[3-19] Develop and offer to our businesses a Group Power Purchase Agreement	Commence the establishment of a buyers group of Darebin businesses for a Group Power Purchase Agreement	Darebin is working with City of Yarra, Moreland, Port Phillip, Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action and City of Melbourne to develop a pathway for businesses to purchase 100% renewable via a cross-council Power Purchase Agreement.	
		Conduct a market sounding process to identify potential suppliers for a Group Power Purchase Agreement	Market sounding activities will commence once a buyers group has been established, and the needs of the project partners are understood.	
	[3-20] Develop an advocacy strategy to drive community	Develop an Advocacy Plan to drive community and business	An advocacy plan to drive community emissions reductions has been drafted in	


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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	and business use of solar panels and batteries, and other energy efficiency initiatives	use of solar panels and batteries, and other energy efficiency initiatives	readiness for review and approval. Work has continued with other Councils and the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances (VGAs) to advocate to other levels of government on climate action. In August 2021 the VGAs submitted a paper to the consultation on Victoria's Gas Substitution Roadmap on behalf of Victorian councils.	
		Advocacy Strategy Year 1 actions implemented	An advocacy plan to drive community emissions reductions is being drafted in readiness for review and approval. We continue to work with other Councils and the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances (VGAs) to advocate to other levels of government on climate action. For example, in August 2021 the VGAs submitted a paper to the consultation on Victoria's Gas Substitution Roadmap on behalf of Victorian councils.	
	[3-21] Investigate and establish programs to achieve an increase in the uptake of renewable energy sources by our community and businesses	Investigate programs to achieve an increase in the uptake of renewable energy sources by our community and businesses - including the establishment of community batteries, a virtual power plant, facilitation of solar on large roofs, and opportunities for 'off-grid' renewable power networks	Council and Village Power are working together to investigate how to successfully install a community battery within Darebin. The project received funding through the State Government's Neighborhood Battery Initiative program. Council has applied for a grant on behalf of 16 community groups that lease Council-owned buildings to enable them to undertake energy audits and to help them consider installing solar and improve energy efficiency.	

3.5: We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-22] Develop a plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land	Develop a Management Plan to respond to new State Government requirements for contaminated land	A review of the new Environment Protection Act and implications for Council has been completed. Early project development work for a contaminated land management plan is underway.	
	[3-23] Increase food waste recycling through Council's food and garden waste service	Develop actions to increase food waste recycling through Council's food and garden waste service	Options for increasing food and garden waste recycling, including promotion of the service and education to encourage users to put more food waste in the FOGO bin, are being developed.	
	[3-24] Undertake waste reform and take action towards establishing a circular economy	Develop a new Education and Communications campaign about our Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) service, including how to use it	Preparations for the food waste recycling communication and education campaign has commenced, based on the findings of latest waste audit and resident feedback. The campaign aims to help residents use the food waste recycling service.	
		Develop Food Organic and Garden Organics (FOGO) options for MUDs	Council successfully secured a State Government 'Recycling Victoria Councils' Grant to identify best ways to reduce waste going to landfill from apartments. Food waste recycling is a priority. Darebin is leading this project, which is a collaboration between 10 metropolitan councils involving 60 multi-unit dwellings.	
	[3-25] Undertake waste charge reform in response to changing legislation and future operational requirements	Develop a program and consultation plan for undertaking Waste Charge Reform	Work on this action has progressed and will be reported to Council for decision in the second quarter.	
		Consult with community on the approach to Waste Charge Reform	A proposal will be reported to Council for decision in the second quarter.	
		Provide a Waste Charge Reform proposal to Council for consideration	Progressed. To be reported to Council for decision in second quarter.	
		Implement Waste Charge Reform outcomes as determined by Council	A proposal will be reported to Council for decision in the second quarter.	






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	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[3-26] Reduce the impact of illegal dumping in our city	Review Council's illegal dumping service to identify opportunities to improve effectiveness	Council has installed illegal dumping signs at several dumping hotspots that will be monitored on their effectiveness to reduce illegal dumping. Council is also working on large decals for the side of our waste trucks to promote the cost impact of illegal dumping.	






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 Off Track
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4.0: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive



4.1: We will ensure balanced and responsible financial decision making that meets the needs of our community now and into the future

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-1] Plan for adjustments in waste services due to the landfill levy and landfill gate fee increases (from 1 July 2021)	Plan for adjustments in waste services due to the landfill levy and landfill gate fee increases	Council is currently discussing the delivery method of its in-house services to ensure they are being delivered as efficient as possible. Council is currently reviewing the waste runs and dumped rubbish hot spots to ensure the best possible outcome is being delivered.	
	[4-2] Develop and implement an Advocacy Framework and four year Advocacy Plan, informed by our Council Plan priorities, aimed at influencing public policy change and attracting support and funding for our priorities	Develop an Advocacy Framework	A draft Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan is being prepared, informed by the completion of the suite of Advocacy Plans identified in the Council Plan.	
		Map Council's stakeholders and relationship leads, and identify gaps in stakeholder management and relationship	A draft Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan is being prepared, informed by the completion of the suite of Advocacy Plans identified in the Council Plan.	
		Develop a four year Advocacy Plan for each Advocacy Priority included in Council Plan	A draft Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan is being prepared, informed by the completion of the suite of Advocacy Plans identified in the Council Plan.	
		Identify events and opportunities that align to the Advocacy Plan	A draft Advocacy Framework and four-year Advocacy Plan is being prepared, informed by the completion of the suite of Advocacy Plans identified in the Council Plan.	










4.2: We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community







	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-5] Review our Asset Portfolio, to ensure maximum benefit for our community is being realised, including the occupancy of unused and under-utilised Council buildings	Develop a Property Strategy that sets a roadmap of action for our property portfolio	A draft Property Strategy has been prepared and will be further refined and linked to Council policy prior to being circulated for consultation and Council endorsement. Once in place, the strategy will be the underpinning document which influences all future property acquisition and sale reports	
		Secure tenant occupancy and use of the Edwardes Lake Boathouse	Work has been undertaken to develop an approach to an Expression of Interest (EOI) that will attract interest to secure occupancy of the Edwardes Lake Boathouse. Key to this has been the budget established for base infrastructure works, plans to lead toward a planning permit application to enable a balcony extension to suit cafe or restaurant use, redevelopment within existing building and relevant license approvals. A full review of previous EOI processes has been undertaken to inform a fresh approach that will secure a tenant. The current climate for hospitality business trade has delayed progress and an approach to market to seek EOIs will be timed to coincide with hospitality sector recovery.	
		Establish the future direction of the former Reservoir Police Station at 25 Edwardes Street, Reservoir	Demolition of the Victoria Police part of the building was scheduled to be completed during the 1st Quarter. A review has been undertaken by Quantity Surveyors to guide Council on the investment required to bring Council's building on this site up to standard for community use or office accommodation use. Internal discussions commenced regarding the short term activation of this property and the long term strategy.	
		Establish the future direction of the former Reservoir Library site	Work has been undertaken to establish Quantity Surveyor review and estimates for work required to bring the building to standard for occupation. The Property Assessment Committee has considered the future strategic use of this site to meet the strategic needs of the Reservoir community and the short term activation opportunities. Work has commenced to consider how to	


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  In Progress
  Deferred
  Off Track
  Discontinued

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
			optimise the use of this site, including briefings with the Executive Management Team.	
		Undertake an Equity Impact Assessment process in line with our Council's policy and commitments to equity, human rights and diversity	Work has been undertaken to establish a review of Council's unoccupied and under-utilised properties. Further work is required to establish a Property Strategy in the coming months to set future direction which would be subject to an Equity Impact Assessment. An Equity Impact Assessment will commence in the 2nd or 3rd Quarter once sufficient information is established and direction can be set for future use.	●
		Collect baseline data on the usage of Council spaces and services, with a focus on improving access to, and participation of, under-represented and disadvantaged communities	Work is planned to commence in the second quarter.	●
		Identify options for buildings to be offered to community groups that promote the diversity of our community, and undertake an Expression of Interest process	This work will commence in the second quarter.	●
	[4-6] Explore opportunities for Council owned and managed land (including airspace) to be used as temporary housing for people at risk or who are experiencing homelessness	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services	Council is reviewing properties which are leased, unused and considered 'under-utilised'. This does not extend to all Council owned properties that do not fall into each of the three categories. If a property is to be made available, any prospective use will be presented to the Property Assessment Committee for determination. If a property is deemed to be 'under-utilised', any additional use must be reviewed in terms of the building's ability to comply with the Building Code of Australia and the Disability Discrimination Act, as well as how the shared use will be administrated.	●
	[4-7] Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services, and develop strategies to increase the participation of	Conduct an audit of the users of Council spaces and services	Planning for this work will begin in the second quarter when users are able to return to Council spaces and services re-commence upon the easing of restrictions.	●

● Not Started ● Completed ● In Progress ● Deferred ● Off Track ● Discontinued








Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
underrepresented groups in our community	Develop a Strategic Plan to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in our community	Work on this action will commence in the second quarter.	
[4-8] Develop specific strategies to increase the participation of under-represented groups and develop responses to support greater inclusion where audit data collected indicates low participation rates	Design and implement an audit of services	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	Establish a baseline data set of participation	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	Identify gaps in representation, to design strategies to increase participation of under-represented groups	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
	Develop an Action Plan to increase participation of under-represented groups	Key work to deliver this action is unable to be completed in 2021–22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This action has been deferred and will be referred to the development of the 2022-23 Council Plan Action Plan.	
[4-9] Explore the opportunities to offer a Council building space each year to one community group or organisation, to promote cultural diversity and diversity	Identify and offer spaces to community group or organisation	This work is underway.	
[4-10] Improve delivery of our services to our community by developing an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, establishing a level of service for each class of our assets, and collecting data on our drainage assets	Establish service levels for each class of asset	Background Information collection for the Asset Management Plan has commenced and will be followed by internal stakeholder consultation.	
	Develop an Asset Management Plan for Open Space, informed by consultation	Background Information collection for the Asset Management Plan has commenced and will be followed by internal stakeholder consultation.	
	Collect and analyse drainage data for Council's drainage assets	Data analysis is in progress. This will determine the actions required for collection of data.	







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  In Progress
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  Off Track
  Discontinued

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-11] Develop a 10 year Asset Plan in compliance with Local Government Act 2020 requirements	Develop a 10-year Asset Plan	Background Information collection for the Asset Management Plan has commenced and will be followed by internal stakeholder consultation. Work is also being done with Local Government Victoria to establish a template.	

Not Started
 Completed
 In Progress
 Deferred
 Off Track
 Discontinued





4.3: We will transform our services and service delivery models to ensure they meet the current, emerging and future needs of our community

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-12] Transform our models of service delivery through service reviews, to improve and ensure accessibility and consistency of our customer experience	Develop a Plan for a three year program of service reviews, to be undertaken in Years 2-4 of this Council Plan	Investigation of program requirements has commenced. This includes an appraisal of current review activities, management requirements and a benchmark survey with the sector to explore methodologies.	
	[4-13] Develop a Communications Strategy that ensures our printed and digital publications feature images of people that reflect the diversity of our community, and that our Darebin Community News includes a diverse mix of language and cultural content	Develop a four year Communications Strategy that ensures strategic planning of effective and reflective communications across our diverse community	Work has commenced, including the embedding of the Google Translate feature into the new Council website and a translated article in language in the Darebin Community News. The Winter edition had an article translated into Vietnamese and the design of the Spring edition features an article in Italian. A process has also begun to update Council's image library to reflect the diversity of the community. These images are used in printed and online publications, as well as social media and the Darebin website.	
		Commence implementation of the Communications Strategy	Implementation is planned to commence in the second quarter.	
	[4-14] Review and develop a new Domestic Animal Management Plan	Review, consult and develop a new Domestic Animal Management Plan, in accordance with State Government timeline requirements	Council is currently drafting a Domestic Animal Management Plan based on community consultation in early 2021. The next steps will be to share the draft plan with community for feedback. Council will then consider community comments and finalise the plan.	
	[4-15] Develop a Leisure Strategy for our city	Develop a Leisure Strategy for our city, informed by community consultation and engagement with key community stakeholders	The preliminary Leisure Strategy findings report is being completed to be presented to Council at the November 2021 meeting. At this meeting, approval will be sought to commence development of the new draft strategy, utilising the findings from the consultation undertaken for the Council and Health and Wellbeing Plan.	
	[4-16] Undertake a review of the General Local Law	Develop proposal for improvements to the General Local Law including consultation with community.	Council's team is developing options to improve the General Local Law to better support community. Council plans to consult this financial year on a draft new General Local Law but will confirm consultation timing in early 2022 when the impact of COVID disruption is clearer.	

 Not Started  Completed  In Progress  Deferred  Off Track  Discontinued

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4.4: We will ensure major changes in our city achieve significant improvements in our City

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-17] Support our community and businesses during the construction phase of the Preston Level Crossing project	Support our community and businesses during the construction phase of the Preston Level Crossing project, including support for businesses to attract customers during disruption, helping continue to make the area accessible, and facilitating increased support from the State Government	Business and Council operations have been affected by COVID restrictions during this quarter, and Council has prioritised public health messaging. Traders and community members have been updated on service disruptions by text from the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) and via Darebin Business initiatives. Council has advocated to LXRP to minimise disruption and they have implemented effective measures, such as careful scheduling so any road closures are off peak, and always keeping at least one key East-West road open.	
	[4-18] 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	Represent Council through the formal planning process for Preston Market, including at the State Government's standing advisory committee	A detailed submission on the Preston Market Precinct draft plans was made to the Victorian Planning Authority in early July, along with continued advocacy and meetings with Members of Parliament to best represent Council's position. Council has started preparing for the Standing Advisory Committee process, which is expected early next year and has engaged a range of experts and legal counsel to put Council in a strong position to prosecute its submission.	
		Undertaking communications with our community on what Council is advocating for, and how they can participate in any State Government consultation	This has been and will continue to be a major focus of effort for Council. So far this year Council has undertaken extensive communications and advocacy in relation to the Preston Market and there are now over 10,000 community members that have signed Council's petition. Communications include: Sending thousands of letters to businesses and residents around the market to encourage submissions; a Mayor's information session held on 1 July with market traders; a social media campaign; the translation of information on how to make a submission into 12 languages. Council will focus next on encouraging the community to participate in the upcoming Standing Advisory Committee process and any future advocacy.	

Not Started
 Completed
 In Progress
 Deferred
 Off Track
 Discontinued

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

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	[4-19] Progressively improve our Darebin Planning Scheme, establishing a new Municipal Planning Strategy and undertake two new major planning reform projects	Draft a new Municipal Planning Strategy update	Drafting of a new Municipal Planning Strategy is on track for the current financial year, but the main work involved is scheduled for a later period.	
		Long term program of planning scheme reform priorities developed.	Development of a draft long term program is well advanced and on track for completion by the end of financial year. Council will review and set priorities annually as part of its budget process.	
	[4-20] Review our Housing Strategy and planning zones including engaging with our community on where housing and development should be, and strengthening neighbourhood character provisions	Undertake Neighbourhood Character Study across our city	Council has appointed a consultancy which has prepared an initial draft of a new neighbourhood character study for all residential land in the municipality. This work will undergo community consultation in early 2022 and then inform the new housing strategy.	
		Undertake community engagement on housing growth and development	Council is preparing to engage with the community on housing and development. Consultation is expected to start in early 2022.	
	[4-21] Advocate for higher and mandatory Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) standards in building and planning controls	Review proposed changes to the State Government's ESD policy (expected to be released in late 2021) and advocate for stronger controls, if needed	The State Government has not yet released its reformed Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) policy, although it has announced that it will require 7-star minimum energy efficiency standards, which will be an important step when it is implemented. Darebin, as part of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE), is moving forward with policy development of improved local ESD controls. If needed, local governments may commence a planning scheme amendment to cover matters not addressed by the State Government.	
		Advocate for stronger building controls to increase the requirements from 6 star energy efficiency to 7 or higher	Through its participation in the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE), Council continues to advocate for improved ESD policy provisions and energy efficiency performance standards.	
		Advocate for minimum energy efficiency standards for all rental properties	Early work has started on Environmentally Sensitive Design advocacy, including submitting to the National Construction Code 2022 review.	
	[4-22] Complete major planning reform work to:•	Progress major planning reform work to:	All four planning reform projects are in progress. Community consultation is in	

● Not Started ● Completed ● In Progress ● Deferred ● Off Track ● Discontinued

	Strategic Action	Year 1 Action	Comments	Status
	Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce an open space levy to fund open spaces in our city • Introduce a Developer Contributions Scheme to help fund infrastructure for our growing population • Establish Heidelberg Road Corridor controls • Establish Thornbury Park Heritage Estate controls 	progress in relation to the Open Space Levy and Thornbury Park Heritage Estate planning controls. Consultation was recently completed for the Heidelberg Road Corridor controls. Council will soon consider a report from the Planning Panel that considered the Developer Contributions Scheme.	
		Represent Council at planning panels for the four reforms	A Planning Panel has now considered the Development Contributions Overlay and Council will soon consider its recommendations. Public consultation is in progress for Thornbury Park Estate heritage overlay and for the Open Space levy. After consultation Council will consider community feedback. Public consultation relating to the Heidelberg Road Corridor project is now complete. Council has determined to proceed with heritage controls and these will now be referred to a Planning Panel. Council will soon consider community feedback on other matters.	
	[4-23] Complete our Central Preston Structure Plan	Complete drafting of a built form layout for our Central Preston Structure Plan	Council has received a preliminary Future Preston Central Built Form Framework and this is now undergoing testing. The draft framework is expected to be ready in early 2022.	
		Consult with the planning, growth and development community to inform our Central Preston Structure Plan	Planning and preparation for community and stakeholder engagement activities will commence in late 2021, followed by engagement in early 2022.	

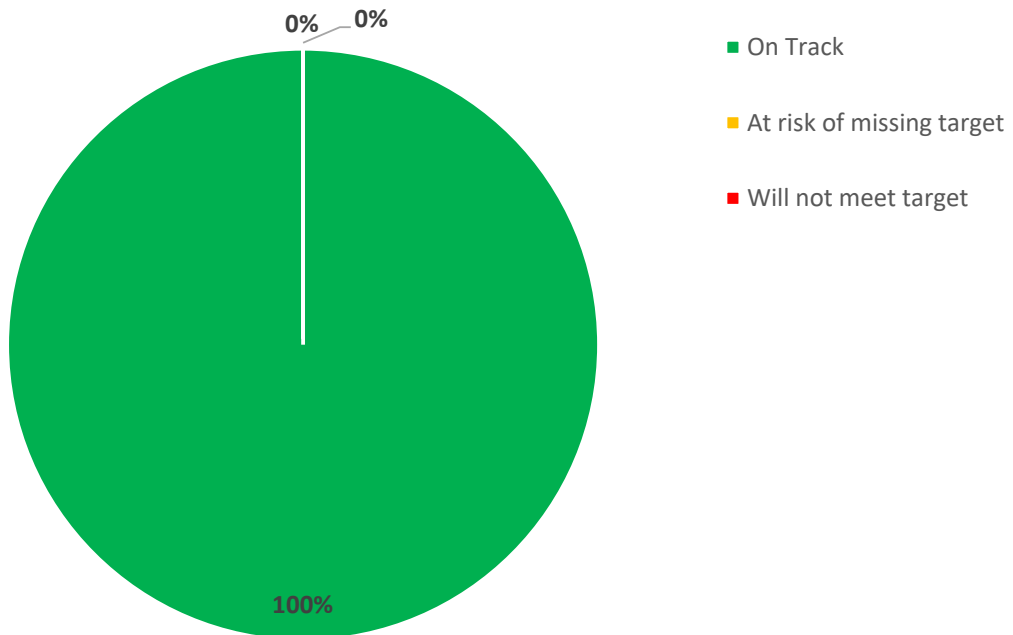
Not Started
 Completed
 In Progress
 Deferred
 Off Track
 Discontinued

CAPITAL WORKS

This is the first year of the Council Plan 2021–25. Darebin’s capital works program continues Council’s strong investment in new and renewed infrastructure. In the Annual Adjusted Budget 2021–22, Council committed \$62.2 million to its 2021–22 capital works program of 61 projects and programs of work.

As 30 September 2021, all projects are on track. Council is working to ensure a successful delivery of these projects within the 2021-22 Financial Year. Some of these projects are being delivered over several financial years.

Figure One: Progress Status of 61 projects



CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Total Budget	Progress	Comment
Buildings			
Narrandjeri Stadium 2021-22	\$14,923,000	●	On track
Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre Redevelopment 2021-22	\$14,000,000	●	On track
Building Renewal Program 2021-22	\$4,200,000	●	On track
BT Connor Pavilion Redevelopment 2021-22	\$2,200,000	●	On track
Reservoir Leisure Centre 2021-22	\$1,000,000	●	On track
Darebin Resource Recovery Centre Retaining Wall 2021-22	\$800,000	●	On track
Bill Lawry Oval Pavilion 2021-22	\$721,000	●	On track
Funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Northcote Senior Citizens Roof Renewal 2021-22	\$150,000	●	On track
Merri Community Child Care and Kindergarten 2021-22	\$100,000	●	On track
Building Essential Safety Measures Program 2021-22	\$50,000	●	On track
Carbon Management- Solar Installation 2021-22	\$50,000	●	On track
Alfred Nuttall Memorial Kindergarten 2021-22	\$30,000	●	On track
Drainage			
Kerb and Channel Renewal Program 2021-22	\$400,000	●	On track
Drainage Renewal Program 2021-22	\$250,000	●	On track
Stormwater Pipe Relining Program 2021-22	\$177,000	●	On track
Footpaths and Cycleways			
Cycling Program 2021-22	\$920,000	●	On track
Walking Program 2021-22	\$600,000	●	On track
Shared Path - Parks Renewal Program 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Pit lid replacement Program 2021-22	\$80,000	●	On track
Information Technology			
IT Strategy Implementation Program 2021-22	\$1,520,000	●	On track
IT Infrastructure Program 2021-22	\$960,000	●	On track
Darebin Libraries Technology Action Plan 2021-22	\$164,000	●	On track
Land			
Land Acquisition to Create New Parks	\$1,000,000	●	On track
Library Books			
Library Collections 2021-22	\$800,000	●	On track

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Total Budget	Progress	Comment
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes			
Streetscape improvements COVID recovery 2021-22	\$2,000,000	●	On track
Catalyst Project - Preston Civic Precinct 2021-22	\$1,200,000	●	On track
High on Broadway 2021-22	\$715,000	●	On track
Playspace Renewal Program 2021-22	\$500,000	●	On track
Sportsfield Lighting - WH Mott 2021-22	\$300,000	●	On track
Sportsground Sub-surface Drainage Program 2021-22	\$293,000	●	On track
Oval and Sportground Renewal and Upgrade Program 2021-22	\$268,000	●	On track
Park Asset Renewal Program 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Community Safety Upgrade Improvements 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Bike it Rezza 2021-22	\$135,000	●	On track
Plenty Tyler Lighting Improvements 2021-22	\$135,000	●	On track
Irrigation Upgrades and Renewals Program 2021-22	\$114,000	●	On track
Greening Reservoir 2021-22	\$91,115	●	On track
Oakover Road, Preston - Solar Lights Installation 2021-22	\$80,000	●	On track
John Hall Oval Lighting Upgrade 2021-22	\$68,000	●	On track
Reservoir Blitz 2021-22	\$61,922	●	On track
Street Furniture and Equipment Renewal Program 2021-22	\$50,000	●	On track
Synthetic Cricket Wicket Installation 2021-22	\$50,000	●	On track
Plant, Machinery and Equipment			
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Heavy Vehicles 2021-22	\$2,000,000	●	On track
Replacement of Mobile Garbage, Green Waste and Recycling Bins 2021-22	\$300,000	●	On track
Vehicular Plant Replacement - Light Vehicles 2021-22	\$250,000	●	On track
Arts Venues & Hubs Plant & Equipment Program 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Food Waste Into Green Bin Introduction 2021-22	\$200,000	●	On track
Youth Services Asset Renewal Program 2021-22	\$68,000	●	On track
Reservoir Leisure Centre Gym Equipment and Group Exercise Equipment 2021-22	\$40,000	●	On track
Art Collection Acquisitions - Bundoora Homestead Art Centre 2021-22	\$36,000	●	On track

CAPITAL WORKS

Project by Asset Class	Total Budget	Progress	Comment
Recreation, Leisure and Community Facilities			
Open Space Program 2021-22	\$1,375,000	●	On track
Sportsfield Lighting Program 2021-22	\$1,238,000	●	On track
Bundoora Park Farm Pathway Safety & DDA 2021-22	\$100,000	●	On track
Roads			
Road Rehabilitation Design & Construction Program 2021-22	\$1,750,000	●	On track
Road Resurfacing Program 2021-22	\$900,000	●	On track
Blackspot Design and Construction 2021-22	\$762,000	●	On track
Safe Travel Program 2021-22	\$730,000	●	On track
Right of Way Rehabilitation Program 2021-22	\$167,000	●	On track
Roundabout Renewal Program - 2021-22	\$100,000	●	On track
Accessible Parking Bays 2021-22	\$50,000	●	On track

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 Local Law and the Councillor Code of Conduct. These decisions are recorded in the form of resolutions, which are enacted by the Council administration.

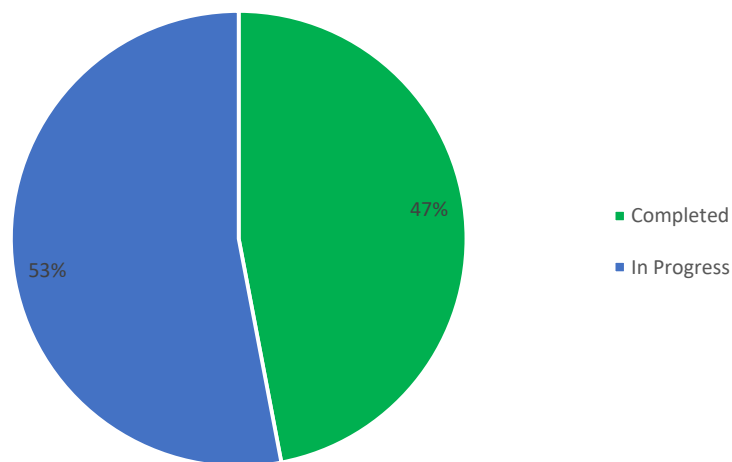
Resolutions, once recorded, take effect immediately. They can vary greatly in scale from writing a letter to communicate Council’s position on a matter, to delivery of a complex capital project. Darebin City Council records and monitors the progress made on the implementation of Council resolutions.

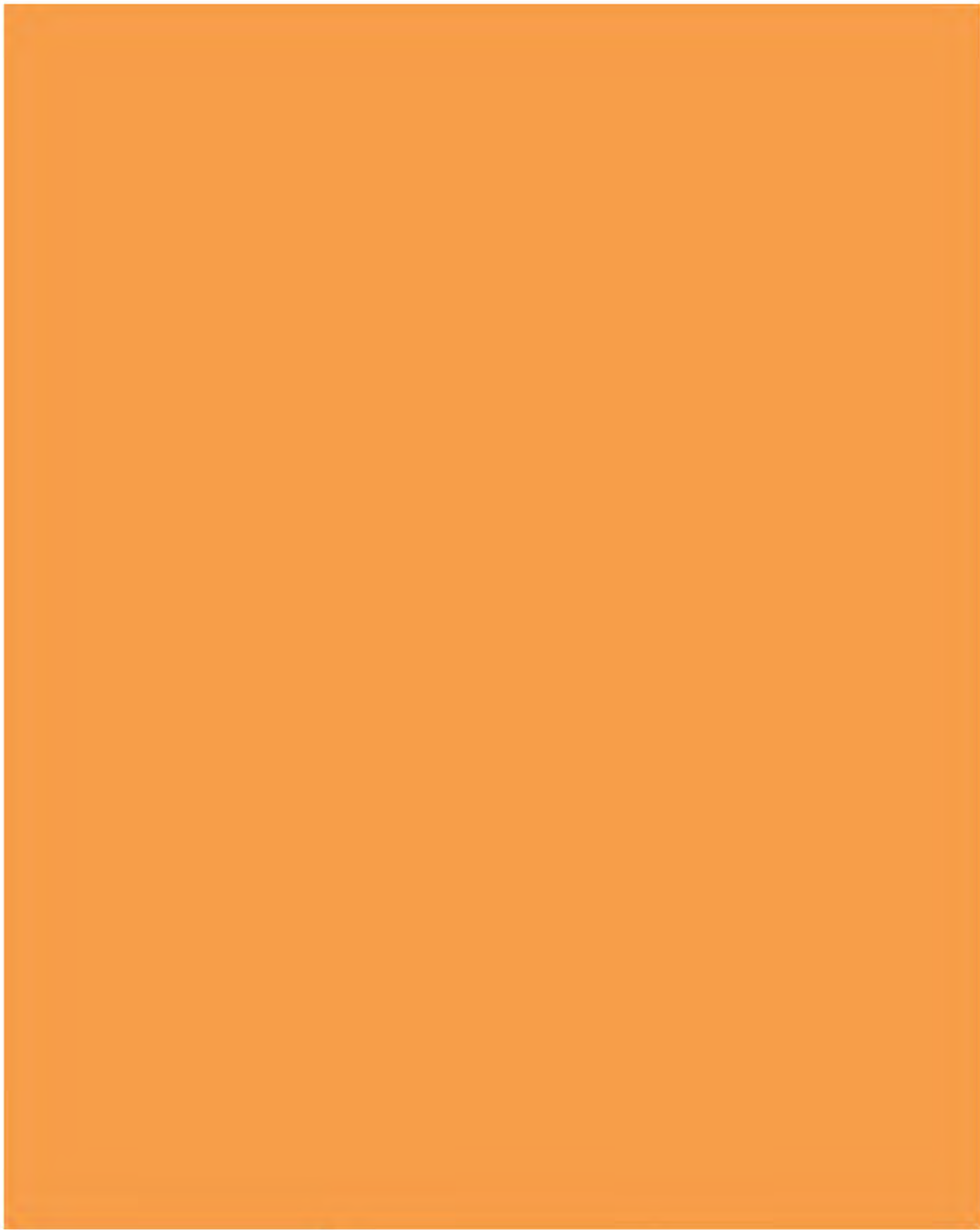
In the first quarter of the Financial Year to date, 21 resolutions have been completed and 24 resolutions are in progress. Due to the complexity of some of the resolutions, they may span multiple years and can be superseded or updated as the initiatives progress.

The status of the 45 resolutions made by Council and its Delegated Committees since the 1 July 2021 is:

- 47% completed
- 53% in progress

Figure One: Progress Status of 45 Council resolutions





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हिंदी	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	Tiếng Việt

8.2 DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (DAMP)**Author:** Acting Manager City Safety & Compliance**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act) requires all councils in Victoria to develop a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP). The DAMP must outline council services, council programs and policies established to address the administration of the Act and council's management of cat and dog issues in the community.

This plan is the overarching strategic document relating to domestic animals and is to be prepared at 4-year intervals. The current DAMP 2017-2021 is due to expire at the end of 2021, therefore a new DAMP must be developed, adopted by Council, and submitted to Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions Secretary in order to commence in 2022.

A draft DAM Plan 2022-2025 has been prepared and is presented to Council to consider releasing it to community for consultation. At the conclusion of the public consultation period feedback will be considered and amendments made to the draft if required. The final draft will then be presented to the December Council meeting for endorsement.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) That Council endorses the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022-2025 for community consultation for the period 26 October – 23 November 2021
 - (2) Thanks community members who provided feedback to Council to help it develop the draft DAM Plan.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Council has long collaborated on animal management work in partnership with the City of Moreland and the City of Whittlesea.

To develop the DAM Plan, the councils jointly engaged a consultant to engage with the local community and prepare individual yet interlinking plans so that animal management in the region could be considered in a consistent and regional way. It also was cost effective.

While much of the work has been done together, it is intended that each Council develop its own DAM Plan consistent with the feedback from each respective community and to meet local needs.

A Domestic Animal Management Plan must meet the requirements of the DAM Act and specifically address the following elements:

- a) Set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by the Council in its municipal district are adequate to give effect to the requirements of this Act and the regulations; and
 - b) Outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district; and
-

- c) Outline programs, services, and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district—
- i. To promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 - ii. To ensure that people comply with this act, the regulations and any related legislation; and
 - iii. To minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and
 - iv. To address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 - v. To encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 - vi. To minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 - vii. To effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this act and the regulations; and
- d) Provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and
- e) Provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and
- f) Provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan.

There are three additional objectives this plan incorporates that arise from Darebin's Community Vision, Council Plan and strategic goals

- g) Contribute to protecting local biodiversity including wildlife through Council's animal management functions
- h) Support community wellbeing by enabling people to access companion animals and the benefits for physical wellbeing, social connection and companionship
- i) Ensure that this community function of Council is run in an inclusive and accessible way

(1) Previous Council Resolution

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

(2) ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

(3) 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 Domestic Animal Management Plan aims to deliver a responsive and proactive service to the community that accommodates cultural diversity and an increasing number of animals within the municipality.

DISCUSSION

Successful strategies proposed to continue

Generally, the indicators show fewer impounded animals, reduced number of stray animals in Darebin and higher percentage rehoming in 2020-21 compared to 2019-20. This also translates into better animal welfare and fewer issues relating to nuisance. This suggests that the approach Council has been taking has been progressively achieving the objectives. Many of these successful approaches are proposed to continue in the draft DAM Plan.

Council also introduced a Cat Curfew in 2020, which may have contributed to fewer complaints regarding Nuisance.

Proposed changes in the draft DAM Plan

The draft DAM Plan notes that Council is currently undertaking a mid-term review of the RSPCA contract. The aim of this review is to consider if this service model, or an alternative, remains the best for Council considering its animal management objectives and policy to rehome all treatable animals, and considering best value for community.

There are a number of other objectives that Council will consider in this review with the aim of improving them via whichever service model it decides to proceed with. These objectives include:

- maximizing involvement of community rescue groups and volunteers, including building on existing relationships and networks
- maximising success of treatment for animals including through innovation
- building community and sector connections and capability (for example, working with universities, local vets, community and volunteer organisations)
- flexibility to adjust the service in future to meet changing needs or priorities.

Policy

The DAM Plan, incorporates and confirms Council's policy to rehome all treatable animals. It incorporates a number of actions to ensure that Council continues to innovate to further increase treatment and rehoming rates.

Stage two community consultation will aim to target underrepresented groups

The draft DAM Plan has been developed considering community views and feedback from a first stage of community consultation, however participation in street pop ups was small due to limited people in streets due to COVID-19. There were also some demographic groups that were not well represented in this first stage of community feedback and additional work will be done to seek feedback from these community members during consultation on the draft DAM Plan

Exclusions

The DAM Plan does not propose investigation or introduction of Trap, Neuter and Release programs because of the impacts on biodiversity. TNR schemes are illegal in Victoria under the DAA, as releasing an unowned cat back onto the streets is considered to be abandonment.

During consultation some community members asked Council to pilot or advocate for Trap Neuter and Release programs for cat management. This approach traps cats, neuters them so they can't reproduce and then releases them to the wild.

The recent Federal Government *“Inquiry into the problem of feral and domestic cats in Australia”* looked at this matter and their December 2020 Report concluded (section 6.33):

“Some inquiry submitters asked the Committee to consider the trap, neuter release (TNR) technique as a way of managing feral cats. While the Committee acknowledges that the use of this technique has been successful overseas, it is clear that the evidence does not support a similar conclusion for Australia. In particular, the Committee notes that proponents of TNR fail to consider the ongoing impacts to native wildlife when cats are released after having been desexed. Given the significant impact of feral cats on native wildlife, the Committee does not support TNR as a credible technique in Australia. The Committee believes that the Australian Government, working with states and territories, should seek to limit the use of the TNR control method to situations where impacts on Australian native wildlife are negligible. “

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The actions in the DAMP 2022-2025 are broken down by year. Actions have been set to be accommodated within a similar budget envelop as Council’s current year budget for Animal Management Functions.

Detailed project, service and cost planning will be done annually as part of Council’s Annual Budget development.

Community Engagement

Engagement to Date

Darebin City Council, Moreland City Council and the City of Whittlesea (partner Councils) partnered to engage with their communities about domestic animal management.

Conversation Caravan was engaged by the partner Councils to undertake a comprehensive engagement program which aimed to capture community views regarding animal management, specifically cats and dogs. The engagement program was used to prepare a DAMP for each Council, while leveraging the efficiencies of working together. This sector-leading project delivered an engagement program that helped inform the development of each Council’s separate DAMP.

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- inform a new DAMP for each municipality
- understand the needs of the community regarding animal management
- understand the competing community priorities regarding animal management
- identify potential activities for the DAMP
- identify potential partners for delivery of DAMP actions.

The engagement is being phased across three stages. Each stage follows and builds on the previous stage, both in the data collected and the level of engagement. The stages of engagement are:

- Stage 1: March – April 2021 wider community engagement
- Stage 2: March – May 2021 key stakeholder engagement

- Stage 3: June – November 2021 draft DAMP development and testing with the wider community through a public exhibition process.

The three stages are focused on obtaining feedback from the community and stakeholders.

Stage 1 and 2 engagement activities were undertaken between March and May 2021 and consisted of an online and paper survey, 15 place-based pop-ups and 10 phone interviews with key stakeholders.

The following locations in Darebin were chosen as community because of their community appeal:

- Darebin City Council, High Street, Preston
- Reservoir Library, Edwardes Street, Reservoir
- All Nations Park, Northcote

Ten phone interviews were conducted with key stakeholders. The one-hour interviews sought to gather expertise from key organisations identified by the partner councils. Interviews were conducted with the following stakeholders:

- Maneki Neko Cat Rescue
- Friends of Merri Creek
- Wiltja Dog Obedience Club
- Reservoir Vet Clinic
- Wildlife Victoria
- Cat Protection Society
- RSPCA (Epping Animal Welfare Facility)
- Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group
- Bundoora Vet Clinic and Hospital
- Pascoe Vale Veterinary Clinic

Community participation was supported through engagement portals on each Council's website; communications campaigns including social media, signage in customer service centres and libraries; leveraging Council Officers' connections with existing networks; translated materials at the pop-ups, information and the survey into Greek, Arabic, Italian and Simplified Chinese; and going to places that typically attract foot traffic and a cross-section of the community, for example Reservoir Library and All Nations Park.

A total of 3049 contributions were received in Stage 1 and 2 of the engagement. These contributions came from approximately 1624 people who live, work or visit one of the partner Councils, and who participated in various engagement activities. The contributions were made up of 1255 surveys, 369 participants at the community pop-ups and 10 key stakeholder interviews.

In terms of connection with animal management, 47 per cent of respondents were dog or cat owners; 38 per cent were users of local parks, reserves or playgrounds, 1 per cent were veterinarians or vet nurses; 4 per cent members of animal advocacy/rescue groups; 4 per cent members of a wildlife/environmental group; 4 per cent were sports club members/players /volunteers; 1 per cent were animal business operators (animal behaviouralist/trainer/walker)

Interestingly, 7.9 per cent of participants said they feed a community cat, also known as a neighbourhood cat. Those that feed community cats report feeling responsibility towards the cats and sometimes facilitate and pay for their veterinary care.

An exploration of the data collected from the engagement program identified key themes, these include:

- Responsible pet ownership
- Dog attacks
- Overpopulation of cats and dogs
- Registration and identification of cats and dogs
- Protection from nuisance dogs and cats
- Dangerous and restricted dogs
- Review of Council services
- Training for authorised officers

The data collated during the engagement project has been analysed and has informed the development of the draft DAMP. Each partner Council has developed its own DAMP which addresses issues and matters specific to that municipality whilst also identifying partnership opportunities. The draft DAMP is broken up by theme, objectives and activities to address the objectives. The draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022-2025 is at **Appendix A**.

Community impact

Whilst the DAMP is focused primarily with the management of dogs and cats, pet ownership has a range of positive outcomes for the ongoing physical and mental health of community members. Pets are often identified as extended members of the family and can provide great companionship, affection and joy. This was evidenced in the engagement where 98 per cent of respondents agreed that pets give great comfort and support to many people in the community; 86 per cent agreed that pets are an important part of the family; and 85 per cent agreed that our pet gives us great comfort and support; 56 per cent agreed we exercise more because we have a dog; and 56 per cent agreed we talk to more people because we have a dog.

Participants were asked their biggest concerns about dogs and cats in their community. In relation to dogs, the biggest concerns were responsible dog ownership, dog on/off leash areas, dog poo, welfare of dogs, attitude/behaviour of owners, barking dogs, dangerous dogs, nuisance and dog attacks. The top three common negative observations of dogs were: dog poo left on the ground (53 per cent), dogs off-leash when they shouldn't be (40 per cent) and dogs with owners away/absent (26 per cent).

In relation to cats, the biggest concerns were stray/unowned cats, nuisance, impact on wildlife, cat curfew, responsible cat ownership, welfare of cats, cat poo, attitude/behaviour of owners, cats remaining on their own property, registration and over-population/euthanasia of cats. The top three common negative observations of cats were: cats in the street at night (52%), cats preying on wildlife (26 per cent) and cats appearing to be unowned (25 per cent).

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;

Public Transparency Principles

- (d) Public awareness of the availability of Council information must be facilitated

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 Draft DAMP (**Appendix A**) has been expanded from the State template to include biodiversity considerations as domestic animals (particularly cats) are known to have detrimental impacts on native fauna.

Amongst other things, the Council has a cat curfew in place and the draft DAMP proposes that this continue, which reduces the impact of cats as hunters.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

An Equity Impact Assessment was undertaken on 2 September 2021 with main discussion points as follows:

- A targeted locational approach to delivery of the plan (Establishing target data is within year 1 of the plan)
- Engage with Aboriginal Housing Victoria in the delivery of the plan to establish any targeted activities (as per Year 1) of pet ownership in Aboriginal communities.
- Continue with discount registrations and/or desexing programs for vulnerable communities
- Acknowledging assistance animals are guided by separate legislation, consider what benefit the DAMP can have to residents with assistant animals
- Continuing to establish a multi-cultural workforce

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

A Year 2 activity is the establishment of agreements with rescue and fostering networks to improve the rehoming rate of animals. These agreements will be established with local providers who are often non-profit entities.

Domestic Animal Businesses (DABs) form part of Council's requirement under the *Domestic Animals Act*. Support for local DABs through inspections and monitoring will enable the businesses to be compliant with standards and legislative requirements. Activities relating to DABs are annual.

Operational Impacts

Generally the draft plan can be delivered within the existing operational resources and budget. Some operational improvements may be made within the current operations and budgets and will be on an as needs basis.

Legal and Risk Implications

None

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

- 25 October 2021 – Council consider the release of draft Plan for community consultation
- November 2021 – Community consultation
- November/December 2021 – Council consider community feedback and adoption of a Plan

- December 2021/January 2022 – Council provides the Secretary with a copy of the final Domestic Animal Management Plan

Attachments

- Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2022-2025 (**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.

City of Darebin

Domestic Animal Management Plan

2022-2025

DRAFT

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1. INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

1.1 PURPOSE OF DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act) requires councils in Victoria to develop a domestic animal management plan (DAMP), every four years. The DAMP must outline council services, council programs and policies established to address the administration of the Act, and councils' management of cat and dog issues in their community. Councils must review their DAMPs annually and publish an evaluation of the implementation of the past year's actions in their Annual Report.

DAMPs should cover the following issues:

- Ensure that people comply with the Act, the regulations and any related legislation
- Minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals.
- Address any overpopulation and high euthanasia rates for cats and dogs.
- Encourage the registration and identification of cats and dogs.
- Minimise the potential for cats and dogs to create a nuisance.
- Effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulation.
- Provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of cats and dogs in the municipal district are desirable.
- Provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of cats and dogs in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary.
- Provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan.

The benefits of pet ownership for people's health and wellbeing are well established. Whilst Domestic Animal Management Plans are concerned primarily with the management of cats and dogs within the community, it is important to note that pet ownership has a range of positive outcomes for the ongoing physical and mental health of community members, including:

- preventing loneliness
- motivating people to exercise regularly
- creating opportunities to meet people and make new friends
- teaching responsibility, as pets require ongoing care.

Pets are often viewed as extended members of the family and can provide great companionship, affection and joy.

The rights of assistant animal users are covered under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* and the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*

1.2 PROCESS APPLIED IN DEVELOPING THE PLAN

City of Darebin's DAMP was developed through a sector-leading approach in partnership with neighbouring Councils, Moreland and Whittlesea. An inter-organisational working group was developed to encourage partnerships and lead best practice. The development of the DAMP was driven by the working group and through four specific stages.

Stage 1: Background Research and Analysis

A detailed background report was developed which outlined: an overview of the local government area; relevant state and local policies; an analysis of Council's current DAMP; emerging issues in domestic animal management; internal staff consultation and current animal management statistics.

Stage 2: Community Consultation

A detailed community engagement program was delivered to encourage the community to have their say on domestic animal management issues. Approximately 1,624 people who live, work or visit the Cities of Darebin, Moreland and Whittlesea provided feedback. Feedback was gathered through three methods: a detailed online survey which was available through a dedicated project webpage; community pop-ups held at key venues and locations across the local government areas; and telephone interviews conducted with key stakeholders.

Online Survey	12 Community Pop-ups	Key Stakeholder Interviews
1255 surveys completed	369 participants	
1763 unique comments received	1286 unique comments received	10 key stakeholders interviewed

The feedback received from community members has been used to help develop the plan including helping to propose priorities and actions. A full engagement report which outlines the community feedback is also available, the key themes found across the engagement program are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Key community feedback themes across the engagement program

DAMP Theme	Key sub-theme
Responsible pet ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve owner behaviours and control of animals ● Increase community education and training
Dog attacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve safety at dog parks
Overpopulation of cats and dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase cat desexing ● Consider introducing cat trap, neuter, release program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce stray cats
Registration and identification of cats and dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce registration fees ● Provide free/reduced microchipping ● Review the ease of registering a pet ● Allow vets and Council to check pet's microchip before taking animal to the pound
Protection from nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Address dog poo in public places ● Address cat poo in private properties ● Address excessive noise from dog barking and cats fighting ● Increase the provision of dog poo bags and bins ● Address stray cats to protect wildlife ● Enforce cat curfews
Dangerous and restricted dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve signage ● Address aggressive dogs in off-leash parks ● Address specific needs of greyhounds
Review of Council services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve/increase relevant signage ● Increase park patrols and Officer visibility ● Increase community education ● Increase dog off/on-leash areas ● Improve safety of Council parks ● Improve and maintain fencing at fenced in dog parks ● Increase fines for people doing the wrong thing ● Undertake a mid-term contract review of Council's pound service provider
Training for authorised officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide training to encourage positive interactions with the community

Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group (DDAMRG)

Council has run an advisory group to tap into advice from community members and specialists involved in animal management. Over time the group has worked on topics such as various models for desexing programs, open space planning and dog parks, cat curfew, euthanasia of cats and rescue options, affordability challenges for pet owners. Members of the advisory group were consulted to seek feedback to help develop the DAMP.

Stage 3: Joint council planning

Relevant Council officers from Darebin, Moreland and Whittlesea participated in a joint Council planning session to analyse the community feedback, determine appropriate actions for the respective DAMPs and identify opportunities for partnership and cost-savings.

Stage 4: Public exhibition

This section will be completed once the draft has been endorsed by Council at the 25 October 2021 Council meeting.

1.3 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF COUNCIL

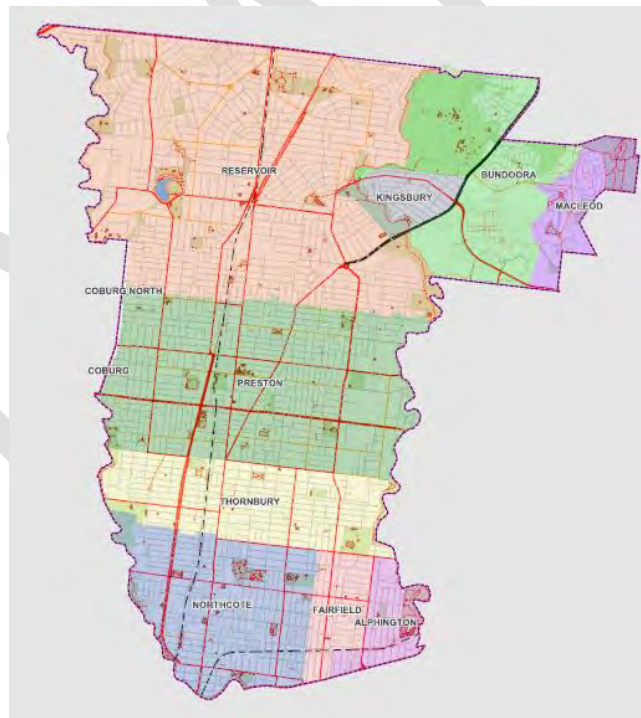
The City of Darebin is located in the northern suburbs of Melbourne, about 5km from the Central Business District (CBD). It covers about 54 square kilometres and is made up of the suburbs:

- Alphington (part)
- Bundoora (part)
- Coburg (part)
- Fairfield (part)
- Kingsbury
- Macleod (part)
- Northcote
- Preston
- Reservoir
- Thornbury

The estimated population for 2020 is 166,430. This is expected to grow to 230,118 by 2041. The community is slightly younger than average, with the largest age groups being 25-29 years and 20-34 years (9.7% each), compared to 8.1% and 8.2% respectively throughout Greater Melbourne.

Darebin is a multicultural municipality, in 2016, nearly 37% of residents spoke a language other than English at home. The most common languages, other than English are Italian, Greek, Mandarin and Arabic. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is around 1,165 people or (0.7%), higher than the Greater Melbourne population of 0.5%.

Figure 1: Map of City of Darebin Municipality



1.4 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Animal management services at Darebin are conducted by the City Safety and Compliance Department.

Darebin's animal management services are managed in-house with the provision of an animal pound being managed by an external service provider. After-hours collection services are managed by Council's animal management team. Council has a holding facility located in Reservoir which is used to hold animals before being transported to the Epping Animal Welfare Facility where they are then housed.

The purpose of Darebin City Council's animal management service is to:

- Implement Council's responsibilities under the Act and the General Local Laws.
- Promote the welfare of cats and dogs.
- Inform and educate the community about the benefits associated with pets, responsible pet ownership and the needs of companion animals.
- respond to issues raised by the community about nuisance animals, e.g. barking dogs.
- provide programs and services to support the community to be responsible pet owners, such as free desexing programs, education campaigns and park patrols.
- Provide animal welfare services through the Epping Animal Welfare Facility in partnership with City of Moreland and City of Whittlesea.

Council provides a wide range of educational, promotional and compliance activities. These include:

- Providing animal management information
- Engaging with owners and their pets
- Providing discounted desexing opportunities
- Developing collaborative partnerships with animal rescue organisations
- Providing appropriate signage
- Investigating complaints
- Patrolling dog parks

1.5 DOMESTIC ANIMAL STATISTICS

A high - level summary of the current population and service numbers for domestic animals in Darebin is outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Current population and service numbers for domestic animals

Program/Service:	Service Level/ Numbers:
Identification & Registration	10,980 dogs 5,272 cats
Identification & Registration- doorknock campaigns	Restricted activity over 2020/2021 due to COVID-19 lockdowns
Domestic animal complaints	Within 2-4 hours
Dangerous dog complaints	Immediate response within 0-30 mins
Routine park patrols	120 patrols per month or 4-6 parks per day
Epping Animal Welfare Facility	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11am - 7pm Tuesday and Thursday 7am - 3pm Saturday and Sunday 9am - 4pm
Animals reclaimed	213
Animals rehomed	288
Animals euthanased	157
Declared dogs	15
Registered domestic animal businesses	Ten in total. Four pet shops, five dog training establishments and one boarding establishment
Microchipping and/or desexing programs	Restricted activity over 2020/2021 due to COVID-19 lockdowns
RPO School information sessions	Restricted activity over 2020/2021 due to COVID-19 lockdowns
After hours emergency service	7pm - 7am

2. TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

In order to deliver animal services that meet the requirements of the Act, to the level that the community expects, it is crucial to ensure that all authorised officers are appropriately trained and can participate in a robust training program.

The community engagement program illustrated a growing community expectation that Council officers should be fostering partnerships, supporting community education initiatives and facilitating positive interactions with the community.

2.1 Context and Current Situation

Darebin's Animal Management / Local Laws Team is made up of authorised officers. It is a requirement that all authorised officers have, at minimum, Certificate IV in Animal Control and Regulation (or worked within the industry more than 4 years) and undertake all Council required training programs, outlined in Table 3.

Each officer has an individual annual performance plan, which includes a section related to training and development. Plans are reviewed regularly, with training requirements and suggestions being updated at those times. Responsibility for ensuring that nominated training is completed is a shared responsibility for the individual officer and their supervisor.

Table 3: Planned training of Authorised Officers for the 2021-2025 period

Planned Training (2021-2025)	Expected Timeframe
OH&S <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with aggressive customers Working alone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly Yearly
Industry Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal handling Animal assessment Prosecutions Statement taking Evidence gathering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly 2 yearly (DEDJTR) As required 2 yearly 2 yearly
Restricted Breed Dog Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 yearly (DEDJTR)
Council e-learning opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly
Cert IV in Animal Control and Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required
Cert IV in Local Government (Regulatory Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required
Cert IV in Companion Animal Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required
Certificate IV in Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required

Investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 yearly
Training on handling pets in emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 yearly
Australian Institute of Animal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required
Management seminars/conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required
Animal Welfare Victoria seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As required

3. PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Responsible pet ownership was a key theme that emerged from community consultation. There was a strong desire from the community to address: the attitude or behaviour of owners, welfare concerns for cats and dogs, veterinarian and pound practices and developing partnerships with community groups and advocacy groups.

3.1 Context and Current Situation

Council works to educate the community about responsible pet ownership and has several initiatives that are working to reduce the number of dog attacks, increase the proportion of pet registered and microchipped and reduce euthanasia rates. Council's initiatives include:

- A lost and found Facebook page that is helping to reunite owners with their pets - Darebin Lost Animals.
- Partnering with rescue organisations to assist with animal rehabilitation and rehoming
- Educating the community about responsible pet ownership, including the benefits of desexing, registration and microchipping.
- Temporary accommodation of residents' pets to support family violence victims or survivors in an emergency or crisis at the Epping Animal Welfare Facility

COVID-19 Impacts

COVID-19 has had significant impacts on the community, including animals. There was an unprecedented demand to foster and adopt pets during stay at home orders, reported by many animal rehoming agencies, including by Council's own pound provider.

With many community members adopting and acquiring puppies during these periods, many dogs and their owners have missed opportunities to attend training/obedience classes and socialisation opportunities in a controlled environment. Council saw an increase in reports relating to dog incidents during this time where many people and their dogs had increased opportunities to exercise.

Animal rescue partnerships

Council has developed partnerships with a number of community animal rescue organisations to support the most vulnerable animals. After identifying a need for specialist care for young kittens, Council implemented a Neonate Program in partnership with local cat rescues for orphaned kittens

weighing 500 grams or less. Once old enough, the kittens receive all the required veterinary treatments, then made available for adoption via the rescue organisation.

Residents that surrender their pets to Council as they can no longer care for them are offered to our community rescue group partners where appropriate for a safe and smooth transition into a new home.

Pets in the park

Council provides information about which parks have allocated dog exercise spaces with 39 off-lead and 70 on-lead parks available throughout the municipality.

Cat curfew

Council introduced a night-time cat curfew (7pm -7 am) on 1 January 2021, meaning residents must keep their cats confined within their property boundary during this time. The curfew was introduced to protect cats' own health and safety, to limit the impacts of cats on wildlife and the environment and to address complaints of cats trespassing and nuisance experienced on private properties.

The City of Darebin offers services surrounding the following educational and promotional activities:

- Promoting information on responsible pet ownership via brochures, website, social media
- Developing collaborative partnerships with animal rescue organisations
- Providing signage related to control of dogs and removal of dog faeces in parks

Dog off-leash Policy

There was strong support from Darebin residents, 81% for Council to develop a dog off-leash policy which describes how new off-leash areas could be declared and managed.

3.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Orders:

- Section 23 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* - it an offence for a cat to remain on private property without permission, and landowners or occupiers may trap cats (both owned and unowned) found trespassing on their property.
- Section 25 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* – Darebin Council requires cats to be confined to their owners' premises and not be at large outside of those premises between 7pm and 7am effective from 1 January 2021.
- Section 26 *Domestic Animals Act 1994* - all dogs must be on a leash in public places throughout the municipality unless in a designated off-leash area.

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Animal Management in Public Places – Darebin Council requires persons with the care and control of animals to collect and properly dispose of animal excrement in a bin; and persons must not leave food for animals in a public place.
- General Local Law Animal Management on Private Land – Darebin Council requires permits where the number of animals exceeds the allowed amounts; and defines nuisance and neighbourhood amenity (regarding animals).

- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals – Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.

Compliance Activities:

- Enforcement using infringement notices and, where required, court prosecution
- Officer visits to properties of non-renewed pet registrations
- Follow up of notifications from pet welfare agencies of claimed or rehoused pets which are sold within the municipality
- Provision of cat traps to complainants in cases where education and advice has failed to prevent cat trespass
- Where unregistered and unidentified dogs or cats are found wandering, collect and send to Council's pound
- Complaint investigation
- Patrols of dog parks, including off-leash parks, fenced dog parks and nearby streets to remind owners of their responsibilities, and where required, issue infringement notices, maintenance of the holding facility at Council's Operations Centre in Reservoir

4. PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION RATES AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA RATES

The presence of dogs and cats in the community can lead to issues such as impacting wildlife populations as well as people and their pets. The welfare of dogs and cats is also compromised if they find themselves stray, semi-owned or unowned. In particular, the overpopulation of cats within the community leads to challenges with high rates of euthanasia due to a large volume of cats and unmatched rehoming rates.

Council has an established policy to rehome all treatable animals and the DAMP proposes a number of strategies and actions to innovate and see if there are further ways to increase treatment. During the community engagement program, the community feedback was that euthanasia should be a very last resort in untreatable cases. There was also a desire to explore mandatory desexing to address overpopulation issues. The population and euthanasia rates are demonstrated in Table 4.

There has been a 35% decrease in the number of dogs impounded from 2019/20 to 2020/21. During the same period a 3% increase in the number of dogs reclaimed from the shelter can be seen, as well as 7% increase in the number rehomed and a slight decrease in dogs euthanised (3%)

4.1 Context and Current Situation

Table 4: Numbers of cats and dogs impounded and subsequent outcomes

	2017/2018 **	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Dogs				
Impounded	311	458	346	223
Reclaimed from shelter	215	328	227	153
Euthanasia	10	29	24	12
Rehomed	62	77	60	40
Cats				
Impounded	687	747	748	532
Reclaimed from shelter	38	56	61	60
Euthanasia	108	222	208	145
Rehomed	157	429	499	244

** Data from October 2017- June 2018

There has been a 28% decrease in the number of cats impounded between 2019/20 and 2020/21, and a 21% decrease in the number of cats rehomed. A total of 27% of impounded cats were euthanased in 2020/21.

Animals that are not reclaimed are offered for rehoming if they meet temperament and health requirements. Animals may be euthanased if they have an untreatable condition.

City of Darebin's current educational and promotional activities include:

- Offering free initial registration for animals rehomed from animal rescue organisations in the Municipality.
- Providing a 33% discount desexing voucher for pet owners with a concession or pension card
- Deploying a mobile desexing van and engaging with local vet clinics to provide low cost desexing for cats
- Distributing relevant information to residents in areas where issues are identified
- Charging owners of animals that are not desexed a full registration fee. This is intended to provide a further incentive for owners to desex their pets.

4.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Animal Management in Public Places - Darebin Council requires persons with the care and control of animals to collect and properly dispose of animal excrement in a bin; and persons must not leave food for animals in a public place.
- General Local Law Animal Management on Private Land - Darebin Council requires permits where the number of animals exceeds the allowed amounts; and defines nuisance and neighbourhood amenity (regarding animals).
- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals - Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.

Compliance Activities

- Investigation of reports of animal hoarding
- Enforcement of registration, microchipping and tag-wearing requirements
- Issuing infringement notices for cats and dogs found at large

5. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

Registration and the requirement to be microchipped is a legislative requirement which provides Council with an understanding of the level of pet ownership and allows for the development of relevant services and programs. It also assists in the safe and quick return of any lost cats and dogs to their owners.

Key suggestions were provided on registration and identification through the community engagement program; around ensuring the registration process is easy and there is help available, increasing education on the benefits of registration and providing cost incentives.

5.1 Context and Current Situation

There are currently 10,980 registered dogs and 5,272 registered cats in Darebin. It is difficult to capture data on the actual ownership population of animals, as we know that not all cats and dogs are registered. There has been a slight decrease in the number of dogs (2%) and cats (5%) registered in the City of Darebin 2020/21.

Darebin implemented software to enable residents to apply to register their animals online in 2016 as well as residents being able to receive their renewals by email and renew online.

Table 5: Registration and microchipping numbers of cats and dogs

	Dogs	Cats
Registration Numbers	10,980	5,272
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New ● Renewal 	1,848 9,132	970 4,302
Offenses/prosecutions for unregistered animals Not pursued during 2020/2021 due to COVID-19 lockdowns and hardships faced by community	1 (first notice only)	N/A

Darebin provides the following educational and community awareness activities:

- Providing half price registrations for new applicants from 10 October each year until 9 April.
- Following up registrations for cats and dogs purchased from pet shops and shelters
- Utilising microchip scanners on patrols
- Providing first year free registrations for animals rehomed from animal rescue organisations
- Providing promotional material and reminders via: postal mail; text messaging; officers on patrol; corporate communications such as the Darebin Community News, local newspapers and 'Messages on Hold'; website; Customer Service Centres
- Requiring all domestic animal businesses to carry registration application forms

5.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals - Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.

Policies and Procedures:

- Application for registration and renewal of registration of cats and dogs.
- Procedure for seizing and impounding unregistered and/or unidentified cats and dogs.
- Process for issuing notices to comply, infringement notices and filing charges for prosecution.
- Process for yearly follow-ups on unpaid renewals.

Compliance Activities:

- Regular park patrols, including random checks of registration and tag details
- Use of microchip scanners on patrols
- Issuing a registration renewal notice in advance of the due date each year
- A reminder text followed by a reminder notice for unpaid registrations after this date
- A final notice. If the final notice is not paid within the allotted time and the pet owner still resides at the address, infringement notices may be issued

6. NUISANCE

Community feedback demonstrated key nuisance themes, particularly relating to barking dogs, cat and dog waste, cat and dog impacts on wildlife, issues with dogs in open space and cats out at night. Council has a role in protecting the community from unnecessary nuisance from cats and dogs through their services and community education.

6.1 Context and Current situation

The data in Table 6 illustrates the number of contacts received by Council from customers in relation to nuisance caused by cats and dogs. While complaints to Council about barking dogs, cat and dog collection, dog roaming have all declined in 2020/21, dog attacks on person and animal have increased in that time. It could be surmised that the increase in residents working from home has had a positive impact on cats and dogs while owners are at home during the day. The increase in dog attacks could be explained by the fact more residents are walking their dogs in the parks and encountering other dogs, contributing to an increase in incidents in the past year.

Table 6: Cat and dog complaints to Council from 2018/19 to 2020/21

Nature of Complaint	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Barking dogs	100	88	56
Cat collection and afterhours (AH)	435 (+40 AH)	371 (+49 AH)	299 (+49 AH)
Dog collection and afterhours (AH)	315 (+181 AH)	265 (+173 AH)	160 (+137 AH)
Roaming dog report and afterhours (AH)	179 (+43 AH)	146 (+49 AH)	105 (+41 AH)
Other animal collection	48	47	33
Cat nuisance requests	255	238	232
Dog attacks on person	62	40	49
Dog attack on animal	70	61	97
Aggressive dog (scare/rush/chase)	70	78	72
Other animal complaints (includes unregistered dog/cat, defecating, off-leash in park/reserve, roosters/birds, other animal scares and excessive animals)	306	317	458

City of Darebin's current educational and promotional activities include:

- Providing information and advice on methods for resolving nuisance in the community
- Encouraging complainants to speak to the owner of the animal causing the nuisance directly and as early as possible
- Providing a barking dog diary and noise nuisance complaint form
- Providing cat cages where cat nuisance issued cannot be solved by other methods

At the 17 August 2020 Council Meeting Darebin Council made the decision to formally adopt a night-time cat curfew (7pm - 7am), which came into effect from 1 January 2021. During community consultation for the 2022-2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan, residents were asked to provide feedback regarding any observed impact of the cat curfew responding to the open question 'Have you noticed any changes in your neighbourhood since the night-time curfew was introduced in January this year?'

Just over half of the respondents said they had not noticed any changes (56 respondents, 55%). There was mixed feedback about the observed changes with 22% reporting that the cat curfew was not effective as cats were still roaming at night, and 16% reporting that there had been positive changes with fewer cats out at night. A small number of survey respondents said that they didn't know the curfew existed, or that there were negative impacts of the curfew.

6.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Orders:

The Act requires all domestic animal businesses to notify Council within seven days of selling an animal. This information could be used to follow up animal registration and to refer new pet owners to Council's information and services.

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Animal Management in Public Places - Darebin Council requires persons with the care and control of animals to collect and properly dispose of animal excrement in a bin; and persons must not leave food for animals in a public place.
- General Local Law Animal Management on Private Land - Darebin Council requires permits where the number of animals exceeds the allowed amounts; and defines nuisance and neighbourhood amenity (regarding animals).

Compliance Activities

The Animal Management team currently responds to complaints by undertaking investigation, community education, infringement and, when necessary, prosecution services.

Council's Local Law Officers patrol on and off-leash areas in parks and nearby streets daily, including weekends and evenings during daylight savings. They provide education and enforcement of local laws to reduce the incidence of animal nuisance and dog attacks.

7. DOG ATTACKS

Dog attacks against people and other animals, unfortunately, do occur in the local area. Community feedback indicated public dog parks are an area of concern and owner behaviours and understanding of responsibilities needs to be addressed.

7.1 Context and Current Situation

During 2020/2021 Council received 310 dog attack complaints, with 97 of these attacks on animals, 49 attacks on people and 146 not specified. Two of these complaints led to prosecutions. There are currently 15 declared menacing dogs in the City of Darebin.

During 2020/21 there has been a 37% increase in complaints and incidents regarding dog attacks in Darebin, particularly in the dog attack on animal category. This increase can be associated with Covid-19 lockdowns, leading to increased physical activity of people and their dogs. Council published a series of social media posts regarding dog owner responsibilities, having effective control over dogs in public places and dog attacks in the second half of 2020 as a result of this increase, however there is more to be done in this space regarding community education, awareness and training.

Table 7: Dog attacks in City of Darebin

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Dog attacks on animal	73	70	61	97
Dog attacks on person	52	62	40	49

Current activities undertaken by Council to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals include:

- Providing community education about dangerous/restricted breed dogs and containment of dogs (fact sheets, online)
- Conducting proactive park and street patrols
- Contacting dog owners to provide information or follow-up
- Inspecting properties where dangerous and restricted breed dogs reside
- Responding promptly to complaints about dog attacks
- Visiting schools to educate children about responsible pet ownership
- Investigating dog attack reports and taking an appropriate course of action

7.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Animal Management in Public Places - Darebin Council requires persons with the care and control of animals to collect and properly dispose of animal excrement in a bin; and persons must not leave food for animals in a public place.

- General Local Law Animal Management on Private Land - Darebin Council requires permits where the number of animals exceeds the allowed amounts; and defines nuisance and neighbourhood amenity (regarding animals).
- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals - Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.

Policies and Procedures:

- Destruction of Dangerous Dogs Policy 2014.

Compliance Activities:

Council is responsible for the investigation of dog attack and incident reports. If the investigation provides evidence of an attack, possible courses of action Council may take include:

- Infringements (where non-serious injuries sustained)
- Menacing/Dangerous Dog Declaration
- Prosecution in Magistrates' Court
- Seek destruction/compensation orders by Magistrate
- Seek mediation between parties for resolution of medical and/or veterinary costs
- No action

These actions are dependent on identification of an owner of the offending dog. Owners cannot always be identified and located depending on where an incident has occurred and whether they have provided their information for follow-up.

8. DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS

The community's understanding of what constitutes a dangerous or restricted dog may not broadly align with the classifications as per the Act, however it was clear from the community engagement program that there was some community concern about dangerous dogs in the community (particularly at off-leash dog parks) and poor management by owners.

8.1 Context and Current Situation

The City of Darebin currently has 23 declared dogs as shown in Table 8. This is an increase since 2016/17 where there were seven dogs registered as either dangerous, restricted breed or menacing.

Table 8: Declared dogs in the City of Darebin

Information	Number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dogs declared dangerous • Dogs declared menacing • Restricted breed dogs • Guard dogs • Total 	<p>0 15 0 8 23</p>
Complaints received re: dangerous dogs	310
Courts cases re: dangerous dogs	0

Prosecutions re: dangerous dogs	0
Audits conducted re: dangerous dogs	10

City of Darebin's current education/promotion activities include:

- Providing fact sheets and Animal Welfare Victoria brochures on dangerous/restricted breed dogs;
- Implementing educational activities at local events; and
- Providing information via the Council website, social media and traditional media.

8.2 Our Current Policies and Procedures

City of Darebin's registration application and renewal forms require all owners to declare if their dog is a restricted breed, has been declared menacing or is a dangerous dog as required by the Act.

Compliance Activities:

- Annual and unscheduled inspections of properties housing declared dangerous, restricted-breed and menacing dogs
- Patrols by Officers of all areas and parks to monitor dog behaviour
- Maintenance of data on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry
- Investigation of reports of restricted breed dogs.

9. DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

All Domestic Animal Businesses must register with their local council. Under current legislation (Domestic Animals Act 1994), local council has the authority to:

- refuse registration of a business if they fail to comply with the legislation and relevant code of practice
- set special conditions on the registration of any Domestic Animal Business.

9.1 Context and Current situation

There are ten registered Domestic Animal Businesses within the City of Darebin, comprising: four pet shops; five dog training establishments; and one boarding establishment. Table 9 provides additional information about the Domestic Animal Businesses.

Table 9: Domestic Animal Businesses in Darebin

Domestic Animal Business Statistics	Number
Registered Domestic Animal Businesses	10
Identified non-registered Domestic Animal Businesses	0

Complaints regarding Domestic Animal Businesses	0
Prosecutions related to Domestic Animal Businesses	0
Notices to comply related to Domestic Animal Businesses	0

Current educational, promotional and compliance activities include:

- Providing all Domestic Animal Businesses with the relevant Code of Practice;
- Providing Animal Welfare Victoria fact sheets on Domestic Animal Businesses to registered businesses.
- Registering all Domestic Animal Businesses;
- Conducting annual audits of each Domestic Animal Business
- Follow up any non-compliance as required;
- Regular patrols for new/non-registered Domestic Animal Businesses.

9.2 Our Current Policies and Procedures

- Darebin's new Council Plan 2021-2025 (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) was endorsed 28th June 2021 (final document not yet available).

10. OTHER MATTERS

10.1 Context and Current Situation

The Epping Animal Welfare Facility (EAWF) was funded by Whittlesea, Darebin and Moreland Councils and opened in October 2017. The operation of the EAWF is currently managed by RSPCA Victoria.

Impounded cats and dogs are housed at the EAWF and kept for the statutory period, during which time the RSPCA is required to make every effort to reunite the animal with its owner. RSPCA is contracted to provide pound management services on behalf of Council at the EAWF.

During the key stakeholder interviews there were concerns raised regarding the current practices at the EAWF in terms of re-homing animals and euthanasia. There were suggestions to improve partnerships with community rescue organisations to improve outcomes for animals.

10.2 Our Current Policies and Procedures

The EAWF is operated by an external service provider who is bound by Council policies and procedures with respect to the management of animals impounded to the EAWF inclusive of Darebin's position to rehome all treatable animals.

11. BIODIVERSITY

Council has set strong strategic direction in a range of strategies including its Council Plan and Open Space Strategy to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including local flora and fauna.

To achieve this direction the Domestic Animal Management Plan includes an objective to “contribute to protect local biodiversity including wildlife through Council’s animal management functions”

11.1 Context and Current Situation

There are three main ways that Animal Management can impact local biodiversity which are hunting by cats, dog poo or plastic poo bags polluting creeks, or damage of sensitive creek or bush areas by dogs.

Domestic, uncontrolled and feral cats can all have a significant impact on fauna and have been shown to kill many birds and reptiles, whether hungry or not. Cats are particularly active at dawn, dusk and night. Currently there is not locally specific data about the impact of cats on local biodiversity. There is research at a wider level including a recent CSIRO study into the [Impact of Cats on Australian Wildlife](#) and a book published in 2019 titled [Cats in Australia: Companion and Killer](#), which provides comprehensive documentation of the impacts of cats on Australia’s biodiversity.

Dogs poo in public places, when incorrectly disposed of, contributes to pollution of local creeks and Port Philip bay with detrimental impacts on local wildlife as well creating risk to human health at sometimes of the year. Specific local data is not available about this, however Melbourne water reports e-coli levels in waterways which indicates to some degree the contribution of dog faeces. Dog poo is not the only source of e-coli in waterways.

There is also a risk that dogs can damage sensitive creek fauna or flora by swimming or playing in these areas.

11.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

In the last Council Term, council made a significant change to improve biodiversity protection by introducing a cat curfew from 7pm to 7am. Several core animal management functions also play important roles in protecting biodiversity including:

- Registration of animals
- Education on responsible pet ownership
- Defined off-leash areas and park patrols by animal management officers
- Provision of bins in parks
- Stray cat trapping functions

Current Orders

- Council has established a cat curfew from 7pm at night to 7am in the morning that requires cats to be contained inside.
- Designated off-leash areas have been established.

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals - Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.

Policies and Procedures:

- Procedure for seizing and impounding unregistered and/or unidentified cats and dogs.
- Process for issuing notices to comply, infringement notices and filing charges for prosecution.

Compliance Activities:

- Cat trapping service
- Proactive park patrols in open spaces including enforcement of unregistered animals and dogs off leashes in leashed areas.

Infrastructure and management activities

- Rubbish bins provided in Council's open space network to make disposal of dog poo easier for residents.
- Dog waste collection bags provided in some parks to make disposal of dog poo easier for residents.

12. COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Council has set strong strategic direction in a range of strategies including its Council Plan which is also its Health and Wellbeing Plan to support community wellbeing.

To achieve this direction the Domestic Animal Management Plan includes an objective to *"Support community wellbeing by enabling people to access companion animals and the benefits for physical wellbeing, social connection and companionship"*

12.1 Context and Current Situation

There are three main ways that Animal Management can support community wellbeing by enabling people to access companion animals.

Dogs can help people stay physically active which can improve both physical and mental health outcomes. They can also help build social connections through dog walking and improve inclusion and reduce risk of isolation.

Many types of animals can provide companionship and improve mental health and reduce risk of isolation.

Many people in our community also contribute to animal welfare as volunteers with rescue groups or welfare agencies such as the Lost Dog's Home or RSPCA and contributing as a volunteer is also known to bring community health and wellbeing benefits.

12.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

In the last Council Term, registration of animals increased significantly, suggesting more residents have companion animals. Registration was also made easier through increase animals coming from rescue networks where animals are not released until registered. Several core animal management functions also play important roles in enabling wellbeing outcomes:

- Defined off-leash areas that enable dogs to interact and owners to socially interact.
- Education on responsible pet ownership, which helps support friendly interactions
- Programs to help those in hardship care for animals including:
 - Desexing vouchers
 - Reduced fee registration
 - Emergency boarding in crisis scenarios
 - Reduced microchipping and vaccinations
 - Linking residents with animal support agencies
- Operation of foster and volunteer networks as part of rehoming lost or stray animals

Current Orders

- Designated off-leash areas have been established that allow for social engagement of animals and people.

Compliance Activities:

- Proactive park patrols to ensure responsible dog behaviour
- Notices and Infringements for dogs off leash in leashed areas.

Infrastructure and management activities

- Council has been undertaking a mid-term review of its pound management contract to ensure that that rehoming of animals is maximised that aids with people receiving companion animals for wellbeing.
- Council has established relationships with several community rescue groups to support rehoming of animals.

13. INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING SERVICE FOR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Council has set strong strategic direction in a range of strategies including Council Plan and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

To achieve this direction the Domestic Animal Management Plan includes an objective to *“Ensure that this community function of Council is run in an inclusive and accessible way”*

13.1 Context and Current Situation

There are three main ways that the Animal Management function can contribute to community inclusion and support our diverse community.

Communicating in a friendly and welcoming way with community members can help community inclusion. Council’s animal management team currently has a range of speakers of other languages in the team which cover the following community languages: Arabic, Punjabi, Mandarin and Afrikaans. Council officers also use translators if needed in communicating with staff. Responsible pet ownership information on council’s website is also offered translated online.

A key consideration for staff that undertake patrols and onsite community education and enforcement is contributing to community safety in public spaces. Patrols in and of themselves contribute to safety by improving responsible dog ownership. Enforcement staff are trained specifically in how to deal with difficult circumstances and to deescalate if needed.

13.2 Our Current Orders, Local Laws, Council Policies and Procedures

In the last Council Term, there has been a significant improvement to enable translation of all Council’s web based information into community languages. Many of council’s core functions play a key role in creating an inclusive service:

- Park patrols can help community feel safe and welcome in public spaces
- Customer service via the phone and in person on registration and other matters can help community feel connected
- Providing translation services, speaking in community’s preferred languages and providing materials in multiple community languages can also help community feel welcome and include

Local Laws:

- General Local Law Responsible Breeding of Animals - Darebin Council has requirements for sale or donation of animals.
- The rights of assistant animal users are covered under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*

14. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING

In line with the Domestic Animals Act, Council must review its DAMP annually and amend the plan, as needed. The following activities outline how the Council will meet these requirements.

14.1 Our Plan

Table 10 shows the activities, timeframe and method of evaluation to meet each activity under Section 11 Objective 1.

Table 10: Activities under Section 11 Objective 1

Objective 1: Comply with Section 68A(3)		
Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan.	Commencement and as required if amendments	Copy provided to Secretary

Review the Domestic Animal Management Plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan.	Annually	Plan reviewed annually
Publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in Council’s Annual Report.	Annually	Evaluation report published
Council will undertake a major review of the plan after four years.	2025	Major review undertaken

15. ACTIVITIES & ACTIONS

15.1 ANNUAL ACTIONS – 2022-2025

ANNUALLY – 2022-2025	
TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS	
Objective 1: Ensure animal management officers have the skills necessary to support the community and effectively perform their regulatory role	
Activity	Evaluation
Maintain a training register for individual officers detailing completed and proposed training.	Review of training register Training completed in line with register
Review induction process for new staff	Induction process reviewed
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to develop and deliver an annual Animal Management Team Development Day.	Animal Management Team Development Day delivered
PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION	
Objective 1: Increase education, knowledge and support of the cat curfew.	
Activity	Evaluation
Audit the amount of cat cages available to residents and see if supply is sufficient to meet need	Waiting time for cat cage availability

Objective 2: Promote responsible cat and dog ownership	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with local dog training businesses to encourage puppy/dog training and behaviour correction.	Number of participants
Include Information with registration renewals encouraging responsible pet ownership.	Reach of information provided
Host two meet your local law officer time slots in various dog parks around the Municipality.	Number of participants
PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA	
Objective 1: To decrease the number of strays, abandoned and unwanted cats.	
Activity	Evaluation
Operate a desexing voucher or booking system through Epping Animal Welfare Facility and local vet clinics in partnership with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea.	Number of animals desexed Number of clinics participating
Identify and report illegally operating breeding establishments in the municipality, assisting with Victoria Police, RSPCA, Microchip database and Animal Welfare Victoria.	Number of investigations Number of establishments closed as a result of investigations
Objective 2: To minimise the number of animals euthanised.	
Activity	Evaluation
Establish partnerships between the Epping Animal Welfare Facility and rescue groups through 84Y agreements to maximise fostering of animals.	Increase in number partnerships Increase in number of animals transferred to rescue groups Monitoring of outcomes for animals managed via EAWF and via rescue groups to help inform future innovation and improvements.
REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION	
Objective 1: Ensure all eligible cats and dogs are registered	
Activity	Evaluation
Conduct phone, email or social media engagement with pet owners who have not re-registered their pets.	Total number of pets registered Number of owners contacted

	Number of pets registered through contacts
Partner with vets and key stakeholders to provide information to the community on the benefits of registration and microchipping.	Number of stakeholders engaged
Promote registration discounts and concessions available for desexing and microchipping animals.	Number of discounted registrations
NUISANCE	
Objective 1: Reduce the number of instances of dog faeces being deposited in public space	
Activity	Evaluation
When parks are created or renewed, provision of bins will be considered to make responsible dog poo management easier for residents. Refer also to Promotions objective 2, which supports this objective.	Number of bins available in parks
DOG ATTACKS	
Objective 1: Decrease the number of reported dog attacks in the community	
Activity	Evaluation
Provide proactive and visible patrols at dog off-led parks and along Council borders	Number of patrols at off-lead parks Number of official warnings/infringements issued
Sharing enforcement briefs/animal management plans for best practice with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea.	Resources shared
Encourage community to choose the right type of dog for their lifestyle and to minimise risk of aggression	Reach of promotions
Objective 2: Increase community awareness of how to report dog attacks	
Activity	Evaluation
Council to provide dog attack information to vets to pass on to clients whose pets are dog attack victims	Material developed and provided to all local vet clinics

DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS	
Objective 1: Identify and register all declared dogs in Darebin	
Activity	Evaluation
Cross-reference microchip database, Central Animal Records (CAR) information with current Council registration database for potential restricted breed dogs.	Number of dogs identified
Ensure all declared dogs are recorded on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry (VDDR) and the VDDR is kept up to date	Number of dogs recorded v Number of dogs declared
Objective 2: Ensure all declared dogs are compliant to relevant legislation and regulations	
Activity	Evaluation
Conduct random property inspections of declared dogs to ensure compliance	Number of random property checks
DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES	
Objective 1: Identify and register all Domestic Animal Businesses in the municipality	
Activity	Evaluation
Review all businesses that should be registered DABs in the municipality and determine their registration status.	Number of DABS registered (100%)
Objective 2: Annually inspect and audit all registered DAB's	
Activity	Evaluation
Conduct annual audits of all Domestic Animal Businesses within Darebin.	Number of audits conducted (100%)
Where required, act promptly to address matters of noncompliance.	Number of reports investigated (100%)
Investigate and act upon public complaints about Domestic Animal Businesses.	Number of reports investigated (100%)

OTHER MATTERS: EPPING ANIMAL WELFARE FACILITY	
Objective 1: Review the operation of the EAWF to ensure it is achieving best practice	
Activity	Evaluation
Complete mid-term review in 2021 of the 10-year contract with RSPCA for the Epping Animal Welfare Facility	Review completed
OTHER MATTERS: BIODIVERSITY	
Objective 1: Reduce Domestic Animal Impact to Native Flora and Fauna	
Activity	Evaluation
<p>Continue to deliver council's core animal management functions that protect biodiversity including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of animals • Managing off-leash areas and park patrols by animal management officers • Provision of bins in parks • Stray cat trapping functions • Improvements in sensitive creek areas to minimise impact of dogs 	<p>Stray cat reports from community (as an indicator of the number of strays)</p> <p>Stray cats trapped</p> <p>Number of bins available in parks</p> <p>Number of park patrols completed</p> <p>For any park improvement projects in sensitive creek land areas completed in the financial year, improvements reduce risk of dogs damaging area.</p>
<p>Responsible pet ownership education activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping cats in at curfew • Responsibilities regarding dog poo • Requirement to register cats 	<p>Number of people reached through education program</p> <p>Number of reports of animals out after curfew</p>
When parks are created or renewed, provision of bins will be considered to make responsible dog poo management easier for residents.	Number of bins available in parks
OTHER MATTERS: COMMUNITY WELLBEING	
Objective 1: Support Residents to Engage and Maintain Pet Ownership	
Activity	Evaluation
Increase the involvement of volunteers in animal fostering as part of the rehoming of animals in Darebin.	<p>Number of animals fostered by volunteers</p> <p>Number of 84Y agreements with volunteer agencies</p>

Supporting people in hardship to reduce barriers to companion animals including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desexing vouchers • Reduced fee registration • Emergency boarding in crisis scenarios • Reduced cost of microchipping and vaccinations • Linking residents with animal support agencies 	Number of vouchers Number of reduced fee registrations Number of emergency boarding
OTHER MATTERS: INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING SERVICE FOR DIVERSE COMMUNITY Objective 1: Increase access to information in community’s preferred language	
Activity	Evaluation
Continue to seek officers with languages other than English during recruitment for customer facing animal management roles Continue to make translation services available whenever needed	Languages spoken by team
ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTING Objective 1: Comply with Section 68A(3) of Domestic Animals Act 1994	
Activity	Evaluation
Provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan.	Copy provided to Secretary
Review the Domestic Animal Management Plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan.	Plan reviewed annually
Publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in Council’s Annual Report.	Evaluation report published

15.2 YEAR ONE – 2022

YEAR ONE - 2022	
Objective 2: Promote responsible cat and dog ownership	
Activity	Evaluation
<p>Undertake a review of available data to gain a greater understanding of areas within in the municipality that have higher levels of reports of anti-social behaviour from animals and owners and dog attacks.</p> <p>Utilise this data to create targeted promotions and education campaign to assist with responsible pet ownership including consideration of CALD groups. Messaging should cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for dogs to be socialised and receive training • Requirement for cats to remain in owner property boundaries • The importance of picking up after dogs 	<p>Reach of targeted promotions campaigns including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media reach • Direct communications reach <p>Reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour from dogs (per 100 registered dogs)</p> <p>Reduction in complaints</p>
PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA	
Objective 1: To decrease the number of strays, abandoned and unwanted cats.	
Activity	Evaluation
<p>Explore with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to seek partnership/funding to conduct a mobile desexing program.</p>	<p>Number of animals desexed</p>
REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION	
Objective 1: Ensure all eligible cat and dogs are registered	
Activity	Evaluation
<p>Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to provide information on registration and microchipping in multiple languages.</p>	<p>Number of translated resources provided</p>
<p>Partner with vets and key stakeholders to provide information to the community on the benefits of registration and microchipping. Consider microchipping discount scheme.</p>	<p>Number of stakeholders engaged</p> <p>Consideration of microchip discount</p>

DOG ATTACKS	
Objective 1: Decrease the number of reported dog attacks in the community	
Activity	Evaluation
Provide education to the community regarding choosing the right type of dog for them	Number of education materials developed Reach of promotion
Review Destruction of Dangerous Dogs Policy 2014	Completion of review
Objective 2: Ensure all declared dogs are compliant to relevant legislation and regulations	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to develop a consistent approach to declarations using the same point scoring matrix – in conjunction with review of Destruction of Dangerous Dogs Policy	Approach developed
OTHER MATTERS: EPPING ANIMAL WELFARE FACILITY	
Objective 1: Review the operation of the EAWF to ensure it is achieving best practice	
Activity	Evaluation
Implement any decisions arising from the mid-term review of the 10-year contract with RSPCA for the Epping Animal Welfare Facility	Recommendations implemented
OTHER MATTERS: INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING SERVICE FOR DIVERSE COMMUNITY	
Objective 1: Increase access to information in community's preferred language	
Activity	Evaluation
Translate responsible pet ownership brochure into 12 community languages and make it available online.	Translations completed and online
Audit animal management forms to check that they are inclusive regarding any information required related to gender or culture, and make any adjustments needed	Forms updated

15.3 YEAR TWO – 2023

YEAR TWO - 2023	
PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION	
Objective 1: Increase education, knowledge and support of the cat curfew.	
Activity	Evaluation
Run a campaign promoting the benefits and requirements of the cat curfew including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information with registration renewals • Website review • Social media posts 	Number of promotions
Objective 2: Promote responsible cat and dog ownership	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore for promoting or sharing webinars/educational videos on responsible pet ownership including exploring partnerships with Moreland and Whittlesea as well as vets, Wildlife Victoria, Rescues and Shelters.	Distribution of videos
Conduct a campaign about picking up after your dog in parks and footpaths	Reach of communications
Promote the requirement for cats to remain within owner property boundary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website review • Social media posts 	Number of promotions Social media reach
PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA	
Objective 1: To decrease the number of strays, abandoned and unwanted cats.	
Activity	Evaluation
Establish partnerships between EAWF and rescue groups through 84Y agreements.	Increase in number partnerships Increase in number of animals transferred to rescue groups
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to advocate to the State government for grants and State-wide desexing programs.	Number of advocacy actions/grants received

Promote the benefits of obtaining a pet from an animal shelter or rescue group	Number of materials developed and disseminated Number of promotions
Objective 2: To minimise the number of animals euthanised	
Partner with Moreland City Council, City of Whittlesea, EAWF and animal rescue groups to provide a neonatal program.	Number of kittens referred to program
NUISANCE	
Objective 1: Reduce the number of nuisance complaints that arise in the Municipality	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore running Council-run dog training through a procurement process	Number of dog complaints/incidents Number of participants
Provide information about nuisance cats and dogs in animal registration including exercising to reduce barking complaints	Information included in registration renewals
DOG ATTACKS	
Objective 1: Decrease the number of reported dog attacks in the community	
Activity	Evaluation
Educate the community on dog behaviour to help them read dog body language via educational videos, social media	Number of educational materials developed and disseminated
Objective 2: Increase community awareness of how to report dog attacks	
Activity	Evaluation
Conduct an education campaign of what a dog attack is and how to report and potential penalty.	Education campaign developed Number of reports pre and post awareness campaign
OTHER MATTERS: EPPING ANIMAL WELFARE FACILITY	
Objective 1: Review the operation of the EAWF to ensure it is achieving best practice	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea in consideration to install bird housing at the EAWF	Installation of bird housing

15.4 YEAR THREE – 2024

YEAR THREE - 2024	
Objective 2: Promote responsible cat and dog ownership	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with local dog training businesses to encourage puppy/dog training and behaviour correction.	Number of participants
Conduct a campaign on social media about picking up after your dog, in parks and footpaths	Number of posts Social media reach Complaint numbers
PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA	
Objective 1: To decrease the number of stray, abandoned and unwanted cats.	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to develop a strategy to manage cat hoarding	Strategy developed
REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION	
Objective 1: Ensure all eligible cat and dogs are registered	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore incentive of free registration on adoptions for the first year.	Number of registrations
NUISANCE	
Objective 1: Reduce the number of instances of dog faeces being deposited in public space	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to develop a responsible pet ownership resource regarding dog waste in the community.	Decrease in number of complaints

Objective 3: Make it easier to report animal management issues to Council	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore service improvement options to better manage barking complaints.	Completion of research and conclusion reached
DOG ATTACKS	
Objective 1: Decrease the number of reported dog attacks in the community	
Activity	Evaluation
See annual activities	
DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS	
Objective 2: Ensure all declared dogs are compliant to relevant legislation and regulations	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to develop a standard operating procedure for checking property compliance and what to do if non-compliant	Procedure developed
DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES	
Objective 2: Annually inspect and audit all registered DAB's	
Activity	Evaluation
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to review current audit templates.	Templates reviewed
Consideration of using same template across all Councils.	Template updated
OTHER MATTERS: EPPING ANIMAL WELFARE FACILITY	
Objective 1: Review the operation of the EAWF to ensure it is achieving best practice	
Activity	Evaluation
Review rescue program	Review completed Number of recommendations developed and implemented
Review the foster and volunteer programs provided	Track number registered foster carers and volunteers

	Number animals rehomed or fostered
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15.5 YEAR FOUR – 2025

YEAR FOUR - 2025	
PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION	
Objective 1: Increase education, knowledge and support of the cat curfew.	
Activity	Evaluation
Run a further social media campaign to educate the community about the cat curfew.	Campaign reach Reduction in number cats collected from cages Number of nuisance cat reports
PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVERPOPULATION AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA	
Objective 1: To decrease the number of stray, abandoned and unwanted cats.	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore benefit of introducing mandatory desexing for cats and present findings to Council	Number of recommendations
NUISANCE	
Objective 3: Make it easier to report animal management issues to Council	
Activity	Evaluation
Explore using external services to manage barking complaints.	Completion of research and conclusion reached
Partner with Moreland City Council and City of Whittlesea to consider the purchase of recording devices to provide independent proof of dog barking	Purchase of device Number of times device used

OTHER MATTERS: EPPING ANIMAL WELFARE FACILITY	
Objective 1: Review the operation of the EAWF to ensure it is achieving best practice	
Activity	Evaluation
Review standards for animal housing of poultry and pocket pets	Review of animal housing standards Number recommendations developed and implemented
Objective 1: Comply with Section 68A(3)	
Activity	Evaluation
Council will undertake a review of the plan after four years with drafting of 2026-2029	Review undertaken inclusive of community consultation and submission to secretary

DRAFT

8.3 NORTHCOTE GOLF COURSE CONSULTATION**Author:** General Manager Operations and Capital**Reviewed By:** Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021-2025 Council Plan (incorporating our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) is Council's key strategic document for the next four years.

"Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing" is Strategic Direction 2 of the Council Plan. This Strategic Direction includes an action to "*Undertake community consultation about the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course land*".

This report builds on previous Council decisions in December 2020 and March 2021 and recommends that Council commence community consultation to inform the development of a plan for the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Commences community consultation and invite community feedback regarding the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course
 - (2) Notes that community consultation will occur for 5 weeks starting in late October 2021.
 - (3) Invites those who have provided feedback as part of the consultation to be heard in support of their response at a meeting of councillors at a date to be determined in early 2022.
 - (4) Notes that in parallel, Council officers will progress discussions with Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation regarding any options relating to future co-management options of the site.
 - (5) Receives a report making recommendations on the future shared use of the Northcote Public Golf Course in March 2022.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Early in its new term, Council resolved to seek to understand how the Northcote Public Golf Course might be opened up for broader community use. Council also resolved to seek the views of a broad range of stakeholders via community engagement which was originally planned to begin early in the new financial year.

Discussions have commenced with the Traditional Owners of the land through the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to explore options for future joint management. It is proposed that these discussions continue in parallel with consultation with the broader community.

Previous Council Resolution

A Notice of Motion was passed by Council on 7 December 2020;

That Council receives a report no later than the March 2021 Council Meeting on options for an inclusive and deliberative process of community consultation regarding opportunities for broader community use of Northcote Golf Course, including multi-use, improve biodiversity and additional improved facilities for community use. The report should outline:

- 1) *Getting financial support from the State Government to undertake a usage, facilities, site and environmental assessment of the Northcote golf Course to inform any future decision-making in respect of the site.*
- (4)
- 2) *The costs and timeframes of the consultation options to ensure that all stakeholders, including golf club(s) and golf users, current course management, community groups, "We Play Golf at Northcote", Merri Creek Management Committee, Traditional Owners, the local community and the State government are appropriately engaged.*
- 3) *Any consultation that needs to be undertaken with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Elders as the Traditional Owners.*
- (5)
- 4) *Consider actions the Council can take that will allow golfing to continue while enabling broader community use of the Northcote Golf course in the interim.*
- 5) *Opportunities to make the activity of golf more accessible to women, young people, people from diverse backgrounds and of all abilities, and those with less recreational time.*

On 22 March 2021, Council resolved:

1. *Notes the report.*
2. *Upon the adoption of the 2021/22 budget, immediately commences community consultations by adopting a Collaborative model of consultation to assist Council in developing a vision and plan for the future shared use of the Northcote Golf Course.*
3. *Receives a Council report no later than December 2021 on a future vision and plan for the shared use of the Northcote Golf Course after a period of community consultation with the range of key stakeholders as listed in the officer's report, and community members.*

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1.5 We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin

The Council Plan prioritises a number of actions that directly relate to this report. In particular, the future shared use of the golf course is a specific action, while consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation about a range of initiatives (including future co-management of open space) is also relevant to this report.

DISCUSSION

Officers had indicated that it would be in a position to begin broad community consultation on the future shared use of the Northcote Public Golf Course starting from July 2021. Two factors have delayed broad community consultation:

1. In discussion with councillors, it was agreed that preliminary discussions with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation should occur before officers commence consultation with other stakeholders.
2. COVID restrictions have prevented the type and depth of consultation that was originally planned and outlined in the report of March 2021.

Officers are now proposing to consult the community, including the list of stakeholders highlighted in the earlier report, starting in late October and concluding in early December 2021.

Officers will consult the community for 5 weeks via Your Say page, social media posts, direct contact with stakeholders listed in the March 2021 report and will include translated materials. Consultation will focus around questions relating to Council's resolution of March 2021 including:

- What does sharing the space at Northcote Public Golf Course look like to our community?
- How does the community see the space being shared between the general public uses and a golf course?
- What options can the community imagine for shared use?

Once feedback has been received, it is proposed that councillors consider these views at a meeting in early 2022 (date still to be determined) prior to making a final decision in March 2022. Those who provide feedback will be invited to speak to their submission.

Discussions with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation regarding future co-management possibilities of the site will continue in parallel to this broader consultation with the community.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The immediate financial impacts and consequences of the recommendations in this report have already been adequately resourced by Council through its 2021/22 budgets. The consultation costs and the staffing resources required to undertake the consultation have been provided for and are sufficient to undertake the next phase of the project.

Subject to Council's decision in March 2022 about the definition of shared use of the golf course, additional resources may be required. Financial consequences may include:

- Operational management of the course given the current contract with the operator is due to expire in June 2022.
- Capital investment into the golf course to deliver on any shared use position Council takes.

Council's resolution of March 2021 also seeks State Government financial support for any future project. Officers will write to the relevant State Government departments in November 2021, seeking a financial contribution towards a facility assessment as outlined in the resolution.

Community Engagement

Officers are proposing an intense 5-week period of broad community consultation in October and November 2021 on the future shared use of the golf course. The stakeholders that officers will directly contact include (as listed in the March 2021 report):

- Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to run in parallel to the broader consultation
- State Government
- Golf club and golf users
- Golf Australia
- Operator of the NPGC, LMS
- "We Play Golf at Northcote"
- Unlock Northcote Golf Course
- Merri Creek Management Committee
- The local community
- State Government
- Golf Australia
- Moreland Council
- Darebin Nature Trust
- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Other individuals and stakeholders who have contacted Council on this matter in 2021

Given the delayed start to the consultation period, the ongoing restrictions posed by COVID lockdowns and the imminent decision required on the golf course management contract, officers believe that an intense period of consultation in November 2021 is an appropriate period to seek and receive community sentiment on the future of the golf course. Many of the stakeholders with an interest in the topic are aware of the imminent consultation period, are clear on their position in relation to the golf course and are ready to provide feedback on Council's resolution.

Other Principles for consideration

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;

Public Transparency Principles

- (c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;

Strategic Planning Principles

(b) strategic planning must address the Community Vision;

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)**

There are no direct consequences on environmental sustainability considerations of this report given it is largely flagging an intense period of consultation in October and November 2021 on the future shared use of the golf course. However, any subsequent Council decision can directly contribute to mitigating the climate emergency through, for example, rewilding, tree planting, joint waterway management (with Melbourne Water), weed management and cultural Caring for Country with Traditional Owners.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

Officers are developing an equity impact assessment as part of a broad communications and implementation plan. This will ensure that all interested voices of the community are heard as part of this process and that barriers to participation in this process will be eliminated as much as they can be.

Council's resolution of March 2021 responds directly to this goal - *Opportunities to make the activity of golf more accessible to women, young people, people from diverse backgrounds and of all abilities, and those with less recreational time.*

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Economic development opportunities, particularly as they relate to local procurement and local jobs, will be explored through any decision Council makes on the future of the golf course in early 2022.

In relation to cultural considerations, recent discussions with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation provides an opportunity for Council to negotiate to enter into a joint management arrangement with the Traditional Owner (possibly through its land care team Narrup). As these discussions with the Wurundjeri Board are ongoing, it would be premature to make a determination.

Operational Impacts

Council has adequately resourced the consultation which is planned for October and November 2021. Further advice will be provided to Council in the report in early 2022 outlining operational impacts of any recommendations stemming from the community consultation.

Legal and Risk Implications

An immediate risk to implementing Council's decision of March 2021 is in relation to contractual arrangements with the course management operator LMS. The contract to manage the course expires in June 2022 and a new management contract needs to be tendered - either in operational parts or as an entire management package. Officers are confident that the timelines listed in this report permit enough time to ensure a new operational and management arrangement can be established prior to 1 July 2022 (and which complies with any shared use arrangement Council approves).

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The following consultation process is proposed.

Phase	Indicative Date
Council report to consider consultation period	25 October 2021
Broad community consultation	26 October 2021 – 3 December 2021
Parallel consultation with Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation regarding co-management	Continuing
Officer analysis of feedback	6 December 2021 – 22 December 2021
Councillors hear from community members at a meeting in support of their feedback.	February 2022 (date TBD)
Council decision	March 2022

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil

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.

8.4 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT NORTHERN METRO LAND USE FRAMEWORK PLAN

Author: Senior Urban Designer/Strategic Planner

Reviewed By: General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State Government is currently consulting on the draft Northern Metro Land Use Planning Framework (Northern LUPF), along with five other regional LUPFs covering metropolitan Melbourne. The Northern LUPF is intended to help implement the metropolitan strategy 'Plan Melbourne 2017-2050' for the northern metropolitan region of Melbourne. This report seeks Council's endorsement of the draft Submission (**Appendix A**).

The LUPF sits under and implements the strategic directions of the State's metropolitan planning strategy, Plan Melbourne 2017-50 at a regional level. The Northern LUPF is a 30-year strategic land use and infrastructure plan. It provides regional context, directions, and strategies for the State, identifies regionally significant projects and objectives to meet Plan Melbourne's goals. The LUPFs are proposed to be implemented through the state/regional planning policies within local planning schemes, along with further works identified in the action plan.

Officers from across Council have assessed the Northern LUPF against Council Plan (**Appendix B**), the Community Vision as well as Council's other adopted strategies and prepared a draft submission. Many directions in the Northern LUPF align with Council's goals, including climate change resilience, urban heat island mitigation, supporting economic activity, creative precincts, and employment, improving transport connections and social infrastructure, expanding tree canopy coverage, improving networks of open space, and protecting waterway corridors and biodiversity.

Council's draft submission identifies many ways the Plan can be further improved to meet these goals, ranging from changes and additions to the Northern LUPF to broader state government reform. The key recommendations in Council's submission include:

- **Productivity:** Consider industries that promote sustainability, such as urban agriculture, and strategies to achieve a circular economy. Greater emphasis should also be given to fostering creative sectors of the economy.
- **Housing:** Removing some identified housing change areas within Darebin due to local constraints and existing policy. Consider conflicting policies for significant housing intensification of inner areas with urban greening targets.
- **Integrated Transport:** Adding greater emphasis on sustainable modes of transports and improving east-west links, and better connection between activity centres and La Trobe NEIC and adding potential future tram extensions.
- **Liveability:** Recognising additional key areas of biodiversity, open space, and areas of cultural/creative significance not already identified in the Plan. Ensuring biodiversity values are preserved in urban renewal areas.
- **Strong Communities:** Addressing known regional gaps and future-proofing health, education and community infrastructure needs of communities experiencing growth in the inner region with an increased focus on areas already experiencing disadvantage.

- Sustainability & Resilience:** Strengthening climate mitigation and adaptation strategies to include transforming existing (old) energy networks and future-proofing existing buildings/infrastructure. Considering additional waste recovery sites/facilities for the region.

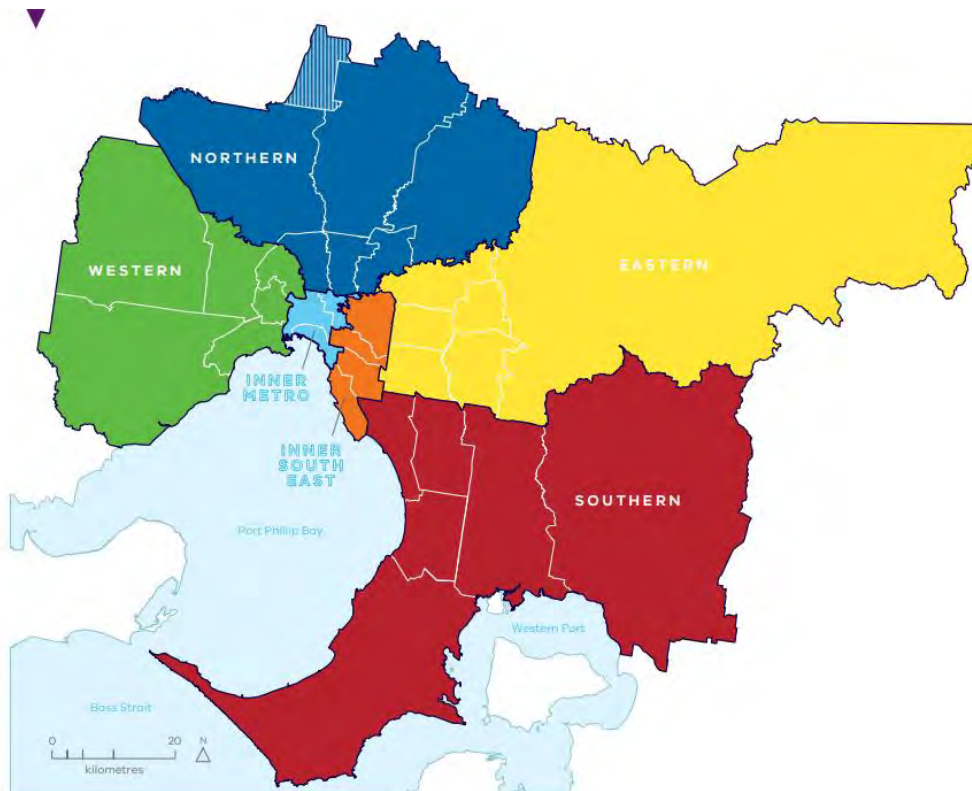
Officer Recommendation

That Council Endorse the draft Submission (**Appendix A**) and submit it to the Victorian Government in response to their consultation on the Draft Northern Metropolitan Land Use Framework Plan.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In addition to community engagement and local conditions, land use and infrastructure planning at the local council level needs to have regard to metropolitan and State Government plans and policies.

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 is the Victorian Government’s long-term metropolitan plan that seeks to guide the growth of Melbourne over the next 35 years. Plan Melbourne identifies six metro regions, as shown in **Figure 1**. Each metro region forms the basis for the convening of Metropolitan Partnerships and the preparation of 30-year regional Land Use Framework Plans (LUFs). The Northern region consists of the local government areas of Banyule, Darebin, part of Mitchell, Moreland, Nillumbik, and Whittlesea.



Melbourne Metropolitan Regions
 Local Government Area boundary Metropolitan Region boundaries Part of Mitchell Shire

Figure 1: Location of the Northern Metro Region (shown in blue)

The LUFPs are statements of policy intent and cover the following themes - Productivity, Housing Choice, Integrated Transport, Liveability, Strong communities, Sustainability and Resilience, each corresponding to an identified outcome in Plan Melbourne. Each LUFP has individual chapters addressing each theme. The LUFPs also include a 30-year vision for each region and an implementation framework consisting of a five-year regional action program. The implementation of the LUFPs is outlined in Figure 2 below:

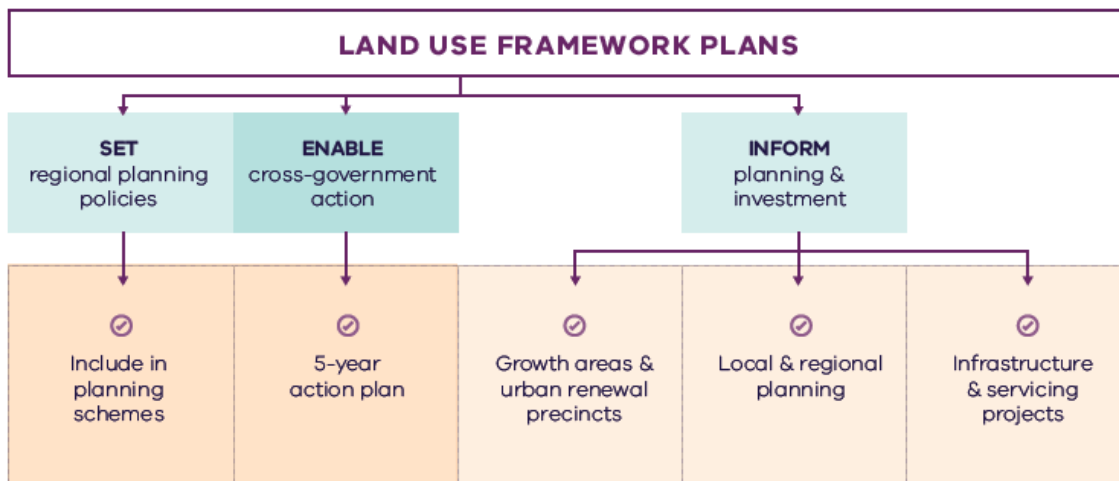


Figure 2: Implementation of Land Use Framework Plans (Source: Figure 26, Chapter 10-Implementation, Draft Northern LUPF)

DELWP’s timelines for Land Use Framework Plans

The LUFPs were identified as a priority action in Plan Melbourne 2017-2050. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has led the development of the LUFPs for each region supported by six Economy and Planning Working Groups (EPWGs), each chaired by a chief executive officer from a council within each region and including senior representatives from the region’s local councils, DELWP, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) and the Department of Transport (DoT). Darebin Council officers have provided feedback consistent with Council’s adopted policies throughout the process as part of their participation in EPWGs and through an early submission to DELWP in late 2020.

DELWP is currently undertaking community consultation on the draft LUFPs from 24 August - 24 October 2021. Darebin City Council has been granted an extension of time to make its submission.

Officers from across Council including Strategic Planning, Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport, Parks and Open Spaces, Economic Recovery and Resilience, and Equity and Wellbeing, have reviewed the draft Northern LUPF to assess its alignment with Council Plan, the Community Vision, and other adopted policies. Based on this review the attached draft Submission (**Appendix A**) has been prepared for Council’s consideration.

Following consultation, the Minister of Planning will consider feedback and the LUFPs will be updated and approved. The LUFPs are anticipated to be finalised and implemented in 2022.

Previous Council Resolution

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

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

The draft Northern LUPF supports the implementation of ‘Plan Melbourne 2017-2050’ whose overarching principles and outcomes are consistent with the strategic directions within the 2041 Darebin Community Vision. Consequently the overall policy intent of the draft Northern LUPF is aligned with the 2041 Darebin Community Vision. The changes sought in Council’s

draft submission (**Appendix A**) will assist in making the Northern LUPF and Darebin a more equitable, vibrant, respectful, and connected community, mitigate the climate emergency, enhance liveability, and create prosperity for current and future generations.

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing

Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable

Strategic Direction 4 Responsible, Transparent and Responsive

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Northern LUPF is aligned to multiple strategic objectives within the Council Plan including, but not limited to:

- Integrated planning to inform strategies and plans,
- Working in partnership with the community and various stakeholders,
- Facilitating growth and economic investment in the municipality,
- Facilitating affordable and social housing,
- Promoting safe and sustainable transport across the city,
- Future-proofing our infrastructure needs,
- Delivering health, education and social infrastructure needs of the growing population,
- Protecting our natural environment and biodiversity,
- Strengthening and creating safe, welcoming, and respectful public spaces,
- Being a 20-minute city with access to amenities and services close to home,
- Responding to the climate emergency, and
- Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and values.

A more detailed assessment of the Northern LUPF against Council Plan is included in (**Appendix B**). The draft Submission further advocates for broader policy reforms to amplify the voices of First Nations people, deepen responses to the climate emergency, support economic recovery, and support vulnerable members of our community in line with Council Plan Strategic Objectives.

DISCUSSION

The Northern LUPF is a high-level regional policy document that includes a vision, strategies, and directions to guide the region to grow in a more sustainable, productive, and liveable way. The strategic directions will be incorporated into the Darebin Planning Scheme and will inform further local strategic work, such as updating housing strategies, or undertaking work in consultation with regional stakeholders.

The Northern LUPF identifies priority areas for state-led planning and future partnership with local councils to develop or implement strategic plans and identify important programs that may support growth or attract investment in the municipality.

Feedback on the Draft Northern LUPF

On the basis of the internal review, the key regional issues and priorities, directions and strategies that sit under each chapter in the draft Northern LUPF appear to be reasonable and generally align with Council's strategic objectives. Some changes and additions have been requested and some opportunities for better aligning the Northern LUPF for improved social, economic, and environmental outcomes have been identified. The attached Submission (**Appendix A**) identifies those opportunities.

As general observation, although many of the strategies appear reasonable, there is a lack 'statutory teeth' to implement their objectives via the planning system or otherwise. In response, Council's draft Submission incorporates recommendations for broader policy reforms and areas for further regional research/investigations. These form part of Council's advocacy to influence long term land use and infrastructure planning outcomes at the State level and are not anticipated to require changes within the Northern LUPF.

The key assessment of each section and recommended changes to the Draft Plans in the draft submission are outlined below.

Housing

Key directions on 'Housing' in the Northern LUPF include increasing the supply of housing, prioritising housing growth in areas with access to jobs, service and good public transport and increasing the supply of social and affordable housing. All directions are strongly supported and align with the Council Plan Strategic Direction 2: 'Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing city'.

Key recommendations in Council's draft submission include:

- The extent of housing change areas identified in the LUPF appears greater than demand. The submission nominates the following Housing Investigation Areas for removal due to local constraints and current policy: Alphington, Bell, Croxton, Fairfield, and Westgarth.
- Removing the nomination of the Junction (South Preston), Reservoir Station and Bell Street (Bell Station) as urban renewal sites as they already allow for higher density mixed-use development under other planning settings.
- Increased focus on social and affordable housing in areas like Darebin and how it can be implemented beyond the voluntary system. Provision of affordable housing should be strengthened through the introduction of mandatory affordable housing contributions.
- Consider the clash between the desire for significant housing change and greening the city and the planning reform required to deal with this potential clash.

Productivity

The Northern LUPF seeks to facilitate the development of the significant La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Centre (NEIC), a strong network of activity centres, and protecting significant industrial and commercial precincts for increased economic activity, employment, and growth. These key directions are sound, well supported and are aligned with the Council Plan direction of creating a prosperous, liveable, and flourishing city.

Key recommendations in Council's draft submission include:

- State-led planning for Council's major activity centres - including Preston-High Street, Preston-Northland, Reservoir and Northcote - is not supported, but state funding and assistance is welcomed. State and local government partnership to coordinate and manage land use planning for the La Trobe NEIC is also welcomed.
- Increased emphasis is required on promoting the circular economy and transition to new zero emissions.

- Clearer strategies are required to promote creative industries and innovation uses, in both state, regional and Darebin-specific areas.
- Nominating and promoting key creative clusters as the focus of new public transport investment is required.
- New strategies are required to encourage a diversity of industrial uses in the regionally significant industrial precincts.

Integrated Transport

The high-level directions of the Plan are sound, with the focus on public transport (including improved east-west connections and access for employment areas and activity centres) and active transport particularly welcomed.

Key recommendations in Council's draft submission include:

- A need to strengthen the focus on improving east-west connections and increasing north-south corridor capacity, providing new connections for areas marked for change before or alongside the development.
- Maximise integration of the Suburban Rail Loop with land use and wider transport network.
- Fund and work in partnership to roll out regional cycling corridors through the existing Northern Horizon Strategy.
- Implementing and prioritising walking and cycling-friendly neighbourhoods.
- Clearer strategies concerning the integration of public transport, activity centres, La Trobe NEIC and active transport.
- Moving bulk freight onto rail and off roads to reduce amenity and traffic impacts on local communities.
- Planning for future/emerging transport technologies and behaviours.

Liveability

Directions and strategies in the Northern LUFPP to make the region more liveable by protecting natural, built, and cultural heritage areas are welcomed. The directions and strategies to preserve and enhance regions network of waterways and protecting biodiversity are supported and strongly align with the Council Plan. Strengthening the network of open spaces and connections is also aligned with Council's open space strategies.

Key recommendations in the draft Council submission include:

- Creating additional regionally significant open spaces, such as Bundoora Park, All Nations Park, Edwards Lake Park and Aboriginal Spiritual and Healing Trail (also a marker of Aboriginal cultural significance).
- The identification of the following key assets within Darebin as regionally significant landscape and biodiversity areas: Cherry Street Grasslands, Bundoora Park Grasslands and Central Creek Grasslands.
- Strengthening the framework to protect areas of landscape and biodiversity value in the Northland Urban Renewal and La Trobe NEIC.
- Incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives when designing the built environment and public realm to deepen commitment to truth and justice for First Nation's Communities.
- Recognise the 'fine-grain' creative industries/cultural clusters within Darebin and across the wider region as regionally significant areas.

- A greater focus on strengthening access to open spaces, particularly for those already experiencing disadvantage is required.

Strong Communities

Key directions to create inclusive, vibrant, and healthy communities are planning for social infrastructure at a regional level, delivering health and education services in strategic locations and support a network of neighbourhood centres to anchor 20-minute neighbourhoods.

These directions resonate with the Darebin Council Plan (2021-2025), which seeks to improve equitable access to primary health, education, recreation, and other community services to achieve its community's physical, social, and mental wellbeing.

Key recommendations in the draft Council submission include:

- Strengthen the focus to improve the availability and quality of services for non-growth areas, particularly areas already experiencing disadvantage.
- Planning for additional health, education, sports, and recreation for inner areas experiencing growth to future proof and address gaps.
- Adopting a place-based approach for achieving 20-minute neighbourhoods, including around future SRL station precincts.
- Ensuring equitable and accessible infrastructure for diverse member of the community should be recognised as an overarching direction.

Sustainability and Resilience

Support is provided for the following strategies within the Northern LUPF:

- The transformation of the energy supply network,
- Increasing the network of cool places, particularly in areas with communities vulnerable to urban heat and areas with high urban heat,
- Increasing urban tree canopy to achieve 27 per cent coverage across the Northern Region by 2027, and
- Responding to regional climate emergency issues.

These strategies align with Council Plan strategic objective 3 which seeks to adapt to climate change, increase tree canopy cover and reduce carbon emissions. Darebin is currently developing integrated water management plans on a catchment basis.

Key recommendations in the draft Council submission include:

- A greater focus on the transformation of existing energy supply networks in established areas.
- Provide clarity between competing priorities for urban heat island response and increasing tree canopy cover.
- Need for identification of additional capacity for resource recovery, including organic waste, and support for building state-of-the-art facilities based on advanced waste and waste-energy technologies
- A co-ordinated regional approach to managing and sharing infrastructure may support mitigation and adaptive responses to natural hazards and climate impacts.

Broader policy reform advocacy

Some key areas identified for broader policy reform advocacy, which are beyond the scope of the Northern LUPF, include:

- Strengthening climate adaptation and mitigation actions to enable a circular and net-zero emissions economy.
- Strengthening delivery of greater choice and diversity of housing through changes to the Victorian Planning Provisions.
- Recognition of Traditional Owners and centring the voice of First Nations people.
- Community safety and gender-sensitive design.
- Food security and opportunities for urban agriculture.
- Equitable provision of health, education, and social infrastructure.
- Support a decentralised energy system with a more user-focused supply and generation system.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

Each action identified in the 5-year action plan within the Northern LUFPP has been assigned to a lead agency and implementation partners. Actions requiring Council budget allocations would need to be considered as per normal budget processes. Some of these actions can be incorporated into current Council Plan projects and will not have any significant financial impact.

Community Engagement

The preparation of the six Draft Land Use Framework Plans is led by the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) supported by six Economy and Planning Workshop Groups (EPWGs), consisting of senior representatives from the region's local councils and other state departments and agencies. The community engagement and consultation processes are also led by the Department, including community information sessions.

Darebin would have ordinarily assisted in encouraging community participation into the state-led plans through social media posts. Considering the high importance of public health messaging to deal with COVID-19 pandemic, there is currently a temporary hold on any social media post that is non-COVID related.

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- (h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;

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

- (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 aspects of climate emergency, including strategies for responding to energy supply networks and reducing rising urban temperatures, are covered in Chapter 9 '*Sustainability and Resilience*' of the draft Northern LUPF.

The Draft LUPF has been reviewed from a climate emergency and sustainability lens, including inputs from the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport, and Parks and Open Spaces teams.

Key recommendations in the Submission are:

- Including strategies on urban agriculture
- Greater focus on climate actions for settlement planning
- Prioritising active and sustainable transport options
- Facilitating new energy transitions to renewable energy in inner city areas and improving funding for new open spaces, and
- Resolving identified higher level of housing across Darebin against greening requirement to combat climate change.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The matters of equity, inclusion, wellbeing, and human rights consideration in land use planning are addressed in the draft Northern LUPF, particularly in Chapters 5 '*Housing Choice (supply of diverse and social and affordable housing)*', Chapter 07 '*Liveability (open spaces, cultural heritage-including aboriginal culture)*', Chapter 08 '*Strong Communities (health, education, recreation and other social infrastructure)*'. The Equity and Wellbeing team has reviewed the draft Northern LUPF to ensure the plan supports gender equity, addresses discrimination and disadvantage, supports environments for health and fosters and promotes human rights.

Key recommendations in the Submission are:

- Greater focus on transforming existing social housing
- Deepening recognition of Traditional Owners and centring the voice of First Nations people, and
- Promoting food security and strengthening strategies to increase availability and quality of services in non-growth areas, particularly in areas experiencing greater disadvantage.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The employment and activity centre framework for the Northern Metro Region is contained in Chapter 04 '*Productivity of the draft LUPF*'. The plan contains directions and strategies for state significant La Trobe NEIC within Darebin and other regionally significant commercial and industrial lands in the region. Economic Development has been consulted and their recommendations have been incorporated into the Submission.

The economic development and cultural recommendations include:

- Monitoring office floorspace demand considering the impacts of pandemics and the increased tendency for work-from-home
- Ensuring planning for Major Activity Centres is Council-led
- Strategies for implementing innovation uses and activities in the La Trobe NEIC; and

- Ensuring that industrial precincts support a diversity of economic activities including creative industries.

Operational Impacts

The Northern LUPF is a regional policy that will be primarily implemented by the Victorian Government, including through the Darebin Planning Scheme.

The implications of the regional policy framework on Darebin's strategic planning, infrastructure and servicing projects may have some operational consequences, however these are considered to be relatively minor and can be accommodated within current frameworks.

Legal and Risk Implications

The LUPF, when finalised, will influence Darebin Council's planning projects, local planning and infrastructure and servicing projects. Teams across Council have provided feedback on the draft LUPF, and their recommendations are attached for Council's consideration to improve decision making and to ensure Council's objectives and strategic priorities are delivered.

There are no significant legal or risk implications for Council arising from this item, as the Northern LUPF is a Victorian Government policy document. Making a Submission may reduce the likelihood that the regional policies within the LUPF do not align with the Darebin communities' aspirations and Council's objectives.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The Submission will be considered by Council at its 25th October meeting. The endorsed Submission incorporating Council's feedback will be submitted to DELWP following the Council Meeting.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Plan Melbourne 2017-50

Attachments

- Draft City of Darebin Submission Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan Aug 2021 (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
- Assessment of the Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan against the Council Plan 2021-25 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)
- Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan Summary (**Appendix C**) [↓](#)
- Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan Full Document (**Appendix D**) [↓](#)
- Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan - A3 Maps (**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.



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Darebin's Submission to the Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan 2050

October 2021

Council Meeting: Monday 25 October 2021

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City of Darebin's Submission- Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Darebin is pleased to provide the following Council endorsed Submission in response to the Victorian Government's Public consultation on the draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan (Northern LUF), which covers the local government areas of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and part of Mitchell. This Submission provides Council's feedback on the Plan.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. Overall the draft Northern Metropolitan Land Use Framework Plan provides a useful regional lens on longer term planning strategies and directions for land use and infrastructure planning to 2050. The strategies will help guide the region to grow in a more sustainable, productive and liveable way.
- 2.2. Many directions in the Northern LUF align with Council's goals, including climate change resilience, urban heat island mitigation, supporting economic activity, creative precincts and employment, improving transport connections and social infrastructure, expanding tree canopy coverage, network of open space and protecting waterway corridors and biodiversity.
- 2.3. There are some regional opportunities that could be further realised, including addressing climate change resilience, facilitating innovative and sustainable economies, and providing statutory teeth to deal with the issues it raises, and implement the strategic directions.

Productivity

- 2.4. Generally support:
 - development of the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Centre (NEIC)
 - a strong network of activity centres
 - protecting significant industrial and commercial precincts for economic activity, employment and growth
 - protecting creative industries.
- 2.5. Improve / reform:
 - Strategies to support innovation (circular economy, urban agriculture) and creative sectors

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- nominate further creative precincts in Darebin and greater emphasis on fostering creative sectors of the economy (particularly post-pandemic)
- review NURP boundaries as these will change
- consider transformative impacts of pandemic on the way we work and shop.

Housing

2.6. Generally support:

- Increase housing supply in sustainable locations close to public transport, services, amenities
- Increase social & affordable housing

2.7. Improve:

- review/remove some Housing Investigation Areas due to local constraints and existing policy
- Review Darebin's higher share of regional housing distribution (compared to neighbouring metro councils)
- Review Darebin's higher share of regional housing distribution (compared to neighbouring metro councils)
- Remove identification of urban renewal sites within Preston that have already been through the planning process and are mature.
- Consider conflicting policies for significant housing intensification of inner areas with urban greening targets

2.8. Reform:

- Introduce inclusionary zoning to achieve affordable housing aim
- Broader planning reform on high density green city (e.g. lot consolidation requirement to develop at higher densities with ground floor greening).

Integrated Transport

2.9. Generally support:

- Improve public and active transport in NEIC and activity centre
- Improve bus service and connectivity (review bus network)
- Plan for SRL to maximise transport connections

2.10. Improve:

- Improve East-West links for road, rail and bus
- Increase north-south corridor capacity (prioritise public transport/active transport)
- Timely infrastructure planning and delivery

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- Jointly fund cycling corridors with local government
- Add potential future tram extensions to map

2.11. Reform:

- Plan for future emerging technologies (EV infrastructure)
- Reform to consider more sustainable parking rates
- Remove bulk freight off roads and onto rail
- Linking public transport between NEICs and activity centres

Liveability & Strong communities**2.12. Support:**

- Protecting natural, built and cultural heritage areas
- Enhance network of waterways, open spaces & protect biodiversity
- Plan for social, health and education infrastructure at regional level
- 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Nominates heritage and tourism places

2.13. Improve:

- Suggest recognising additional key areas of biodiversity, open space, cultural/creative significance not already identified in the Plan
- ensuring biodiversity values are preserved in urban areas
- Addressing known regional gaps and future-proofing health, education and community infrastructure needs in inner region
- Incorporate aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into our planning for natural environment, public spaces and new built environment

2.14. Reform / Research

- Plan for additional health, education and sports gaps
- Equitable and accessible infrastructure lens included for state funded infrastructure

Sustainability & Resilience**2.15. Support:**

- Increasing tree canopy target (but could go further)
- Policies on greening and cooling
- Recognising transformation on energy network

2.16. Improve:

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- Greater focus on transforming energy supply in established areas
- Consider clash in greening and growth policies in metro areas
- implementing a co-ordinated regional approach to managing and sharing infrastructure to mitigate natural hazards and climate impacts

2.17. Reform / Research

- Introduce electric vehicle charging requirements in planning system
- Identify additional capacity for resource recovery and organic waste in region
- Planning support for building state-of-art facilities in region

3. VISION

- 3.1. The vision statement "*The region is an attractive and affordable place to live and work that has transitioned from a traditional manufacturing area to a region of highly-skilled employment opportunities.*" should be changed to "...has transitioned from a traditional manufacturing area to a region of a diverse urban economy with highly skilled employment opportunities."
- 3.2. This original statement in the vision appears to point towards economic and social geography characterised by the dominance of employment in high skilled occupations. The Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) identifies highly skilled employment opportunities at skill level 1 and 2. The projected employment growth for the Northern Metro Region 2016-2031 shows the maximum increase in the Health Care and Social Assistance, Education and Training, Retail Trade, and Manufacturing and Construction sectors, which are likely to include employment opportunities outside Skills levels 1 and 2. Acknowledging a "diverse urban economy" recognises the various projected economic sectors of the Northern Region and, as a vision, means also creating opportunities for disadvantaged and less well-educated people by providing well-paid jobs with benefits and possibilities for advancement.
- 3.3. The vision is also notes that '*By 2050, the local urban environment is cooler with more tree canopy, and new public and private development is environmentally sustainable.*' It is not clear from the statement above what baseline temperature scenario is being used to compare the 2050 urban environment. A greater recognition of the urban warming scenario and the need to adapt is also required and not just urban cooling. Moreover, the focus of environmentally sustainable developments can be construed to be 'new developments' from the above

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statement. There appears to be a lack of focus on retrofitting the existing public and private developments which are critical to climate adaptation/mitigation in the vision.

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4. PRODUCTIVITY (JOBS AND INVESTMENTS)

4.1. PRODUCTIVITY - FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL DIRECTIONS AND STRATEGIES

- 4.1.1. Council is generally supportive of the Plan's directions and strategies to protect significant commercial and industrial land, to facilitate the development of the La Trobe NEIC, and to reinforce a successful network of activity centres.
- 4.1.2. The Plan mentions the significant impacts of the pandemic on economic and demographic trends in Melbourne, however it does not adequately consider the longer-term implications for the way we work and live - particularly given that Melbourne is the city that has faced the longest lock-down in the world.
- 4.1.3. For instance, the retail and office floorspace projections cited in the Plan will likely require updating in response to long term shifts to work-from-home and a greater and sustained uptake of online retail habits. Suburban and regional office space could become more in demand, if companies are down-sizing longer term and shifting out of CBD locations.
- 4.1.4. There are also more people relying on their local and neighbourhood activity centres, which may have implications for floor space needs and pressure on infrastructure (and possibly even longer-term shifts in the activity centre hierarchy). Council recommends a review post-pandemic in about a year (see action recommendations).
- 4.1.5. Economic land use planning at the state and regional level has a substantial role to play in addressing the climate crises. It is imperative that the Plan identifies strategies and new policies for land use and infrastructure across the region that promote and facilitate a circular economy, transition to zero emissions, and employment opportunities in green industry.
- 4.1.6. It is noted that food security is not mentioned in the Plan. The northern metro region is strategically suited to addressing food insecurity, given the extent of significant industrial land, strategic transport connections, and the La Trobe NEIC (including the La Trobe University's specialisation in agricultural research).
- 4.1.7. The Plan needs to clarify the way it describes the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct that sits within the East Preston Industrial Precinct, as a regionally-significant industrial precinct within the NEIC that has a diversity of lot sizes suitable for creative industries. Strategies should state that urban renewal potential in this area must be further investigated, giving prominence to employment generating uses.

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4.1.8. To support innovation and creative industries, the Plan should:

- include a strategy for supporting innovation and creative industries in nominated regionally significant creative precincts including East Preston Industrial Precinct (south of Bell St), Fairfield, Reservoir and Anderson Road precincts.
- explore opportunities for an enterprise precinct in regionally significant industrial land.
- identify opportunities for supporting innovation uses in state- and regionally significant employment land, particularly in NEIC's through enabling planning policies/mechanisms that streamline temporary planning permits, enabling co-sharing spaces, and encouraging employment-led mixed use.
- nominate key creative clusters as the focus of new public transport investment (for poorly serviced industrial hubs) and preferred locations for supporting infrastructure like arts hub/s, live-work spaces and affordable housing to support low-income artists/makers.

4.1.9. Strategy 11 could be strengthened to support creative industries as follows:

"identity and plan for regionally significant industrial precincts that ~~could~~ support **other employment uses, such as** creative industries, **in areas that** ~~or~~ are well connected to adjacent employment uses ~~or and~~ transport infrastructure."

4.1.10. The Plan should include greater recognition of the role of the Melbourne Innovation Centre as a regionally significant business incubator. The incubator location in Table 6 should be updated to Alphington (currently identified as an incubator in Northcote, however this is no longer the case).

4.1.11. The Plan lacks policies on the regionally significant industrial precinct - West Reservoir and Newlands Road Industrial precinct (identified in Table 4).

4.1.12. Council supports Strategy 10 to limit and discourage subdivision in state significant industrial precincts that lead to the creation of small lots. However, there should be an additional strategy to ensure diversity of industrial uses and not just warehousing in all identified industrial precincts.

4.1.13. There is potential for the Plan to integrate with economic development measures that go further than static land use policies, into more proactive business attraction and partnership opportunities to attract key anchors.

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4.2. PRODUCTIVITY - MAPS FEEDBACK

- 4.2.1. Map 2: Northern Metro Region productivity 2050-The Major Activity centres (established in Plan Melbourne) should be shown with a symbol to make them clearer.
- 4.2.2. Nominate creative sectors on maps including East Preston Industrial Precinct (south of Bell St), Fairfield, Reservoir and Anderson Road precincts.
- 4.2.3. Reservoir Regionally Significant Industrial precinct is not visible, it needs to be clearer. This would be achieved if the inner metro region (Moreland, Darebin and Banyule) had a separate zoomed in map.

4.3. PRODUCTIVITY - NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT REFORMS

- 4.3.1. The Plan should identify opportunities to strengthen urban agriculture through zoning and policy reform.
- 4.3.2. Review planning controls that prohibit, rather than encourage urban agricultural uses in strategically suitable metropolitan areas, as well as other strategies to support backyard food gardens and community gardens which, while small in scale, have a cumulative positive effect.
- 4.3.3. Example of café seeking dehydrator onsite to help process compost waste (with minimal offsite impacts) which was prevented due to the Commercial 1 Zone default prohibition.

4.4. PRODUCTIVITY - NEED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION/ACTION

- 4.4.1. Actions could include creating a partnership of northern region Councils and state government to plan for sustainable infrastructure, production and investment. The LUFPP presents an important opportunity to meaningfully respond to the climate emergency and to holistically plan for and promote food security in northern region LGAs and even in greater metro Melbourne.
- 4.4.2. Further analysis is required of the long-term impacts and implications of the pandemic on economic land use planning, in particular with respect to office and retail floor space, and infrastructure needs.

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5. HOUSING CHOICE

5.1. HOUSING - FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

General comments on housing

- 5.1.1. Projects the population in Darebin LGA to increase by around 35-40% (2016-2036) and notes that the short-term interruption to growth due to coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) is not expected to change the long-term future directions of Melbourne. The report also acknowledges that the global pandemic has had a significant impact on many industry sectors and shifts in living and working patterns. This should be monitored to ensure the forecasts are appropriate.
- 5.1.2. The housing area 70/30 redistribution of 1,500 dwellings to Darebin is broadly considered reasonable, however, it is unclear why Darebin has a much higher share of regional redistribution than its neighbouring municipalities Moreland and Banyule (1000 respectively), which have similar characteristics. This should be reviewed with Darebin's response to Housing Investigation Areas in mind.
- 5.1.3. Based on projected housing requirements and aspirational housing targets to achieve 70 per cent dwelling redistribution in established areas, Darebin is forecasted to require 21,600 additional dwellings by 2036. Council undertook a housing demand and supply analysis in 2020, which found that Darebin has very high levels of existing housing capacity, and Council's current policy approaches are already facilitating diverse types of housing development in line with modelled demand.
- 5.1.4. The regional redistribution within metropolitan LGAs appear relatively arbitrary. Acknowledging many LGAs have different characteristics and constraints, the Plan does not give confidence these have been the driving force in the decision making and further justification is required for Darebin's comparatively high number. When viewed as a portion of projected dwelling forecast there is a noticeable lower percentage for the inner south municipalities (see Table below).
- 5.1.5. Regional redistribution should be reviewed for Darebin given the extent of housing change areas identified in the LUFPP appears greater than demand (see next section).
- 5.1.6. The dwelling forecasts and VIF data should also be updated to more recent figures given these were pre-covid and the VIF data assumes strong migration which has been significantly affected by the pandemic.

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Regional redistribution table of similar LGAs

LGA	VIF2019 new dwelling forecast to 2036	70/30 Dwelling redistribution – proposed additional dwellings with LUFPP policy target	Extra dwellings as proportion of projected growth to 2036
Hobsons Bay	46,900	900	1.9%
Maribyrnong	65,000	1200	1.8%
Moonee Valley	76,100	2,200	2.9%
Banyule	61,700	1,000	1.6%
Darebin	90,500	1,500	1.7%
Moreland	103,600	1,000	1%
Yarra	69,200	800	1.2%
Manningham	57,800	600	1%
Whitehorse	89,000	1,400	1.6%
Monash	91,300	1,600	1.8%
Boroondara	87,700	400	0.5%
Stonnington	74,900	600	0.8%
Glen Eira	82,900	700	0.8%
Bayside	51,900	700	1.3%
Kingston	67,100	1,300	1.9%

New Housing Investigation Areas (HIA)

5.1.7. Identifies the following additional 'Housing Investigation' areas within an 800 m walkable catchment around existing train stations that have the potential to support medium and higher density housing development: Alphington Station, Bell Station, Croxton Station, Dennis Station (Northcote), Fairfield Station, Regent Station, Thornbury Station and Westgarth Station(Northcote). The following are not supported based on analysis shown in the Table below: **Alphington, Bell, Croxton, Fairfield, Westgarth Housing Investigation Areas**. These areas do not align with current planning settings and constraints and duplication of policy. We note the purpose of the LUFPPs is to inform not override local housing strategies.

Table 1: Assessment of Housing Investigation Areas (HIA) within Darebin

LUFPP Proposed HIA	Existing Housing Policy	Constraints	Development Potential	Commentary
Alphington Station	Minimal Change	Heritage Overlay to land south of the station. NRZ1 to land north	Limited developable land in proximity to the station. Further south along Heidelberg Road there are large, commercially	Not supported Council does not support this area being identified as a HIA due to the heritage constraints

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LUPP Proposed HIA	Existing Housing Policy	Constraints	Development Potential	Commentary
		and south of the station.	zoned sites that can be higher density. Council currently drafting built form controls.	and limited development potential.
Bell Station	Substantial Minimal Incremental	Heritage overlay on residential streets to the east and NRZ1 to the east and north of the station.	In general, all of the sites with development potential are already zoned for higher densities (except the College). Some large sites in Priority Development Zone Schedule 2. Sites on St Georges Road in RGZ.	Duplicates existing policy Supports this area supporting increased housing supply and this is reflected in the existing Preston Central Structure Plan and the application of the Priority Development Zone. It is therefore unnecessary to designate this area as a HIA.
Croxton Station	Minimal and incremental	Heritage Overlay and Neighbourhood Residential Z1 to the west and south. Small lot sizes, consistent subdivision pattern and scale of development.	Small lots. GRZ to the east of the station. C1Z land along High Street (already impacted by High Street policy and built form controls)	Not supported Limited development capacity and existing Heritage Overlay and NRZ1. C1Z land covered by existing policy that encourages growth.
Dennis Station	Incremental	Heritage Overlay and NRZ1 to the west of the station. Potential gap area for further heritage investigation.	GRZ2 surrounding the station. Relatively small lots, some government-owned parcels.	Not supported Limited development capacity with small lots and distinct neighbourhood and heritage character.

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LUPP Proposed HIA	Existing Housing Policy	Constraints	Development Potential	Commentary
Fairfield Station	Incremental and substantial	Heritage overlay area surrounding station and long Station Street. Some NRZ1 north of the station.	Identified as Neighbourhood Activity Centre. C1Z and RGZ apply along Station Street.	Duplicates existing policy Supportive of increased housing in this area, but also an activity centre, so should need to be specially nominated.
Regent Station	Incremental	Small area of heritage overlay and NRZ1 to the north.	GRZ2 surrounding. MUZ along High Street. Some large government-owned parcels.	Support Opportunity for development of government land and in GRZ2 area. Lot consolidation/ rezoning required for significant development of GRZ2 lots.
Thornbury Station	Potential future substantial change	Area of heritage overlay and NRZ1 to the east of the station.	GRZ2 surrounding. Lot size varies. Some existing medium density development.	Support Opportunity for further development of GRZ2 land.
Westgarth Station	Minimal	Heritage overlay and NRZ1 to the north, south, east and west of the station.	Minimal large lots. Properties along High Street are C1Z and part of the Westgarth NAC.	Not supported Significant heritage constraints all around the station and a lack of development opportunities.

5.2. HOUSING- MAPS FEEDBACK

Urban Renewal Areas

5.2.1. A number of the nominated urban renewal areas within Darebin- The Junction South Preston, Reservoir Station, and Bell Street (Bell Station), Preston are locations with planning settings that already allow for high-density mixed-use growth so should not be nominated as renewal areas.

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- 5.2.1.1. **Northland Urban Renewal Precinct** - Suggest keeping it as a renewal area but making boundaries less defined and smaller. NURP is within the East Preston Industrial Precinct is a regionally-significant industrial precinct (Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan (MICALUP)) and its nomination for a precinct this size should be reviewed. Further economic and development assessment is required to assess the urban renewal study area, and it's more likely to be much smaller and closer to Northland shopping centre.
- 5.2.1.2. **Bell Street (Bell Station)**- Suggest removing it as renewal area. Bell Street is also identified as a housing investigation area. It also forms part of the Preston major activity Centre and is identified as an area of substantial change in the existing Preston Central Structure Plan and the application of the Priority Development Zone.
- 5.2.1.3. **Reservoir Junction**- Suggest removing it as renewal area. Known as Reservoir Activity Centre - is already a Major activity Centre, and there's a 2012 Structure Plan supporting intensification.
- 5.2.1.4. **The Junction South Preston** - Suggest removing as renewal area. This is also a Major Activity Centre, and Council has already undertaken the planning work for this redevelopment precinct and a Design and Development Overlay is already in place for the commercial land, and Development Plan Overlays and Mixed Use Zone is already in place for other large redevelopment sites like Oakover Village.
- 5.2.2. Remove some Housing Opportunity and Housing Investigation Area circles (See recommendations for removal of HIA circles in **Table 1** above)

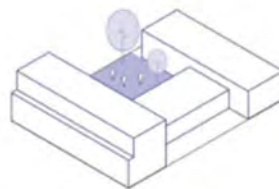
5.3. HOUSING- NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT REFORMS

- 5.3.1. There is substantial unmet demand for Social and Affordable housing of around 7143 dwellings in 2016, which will increase to between 8975-12861 dwellings in 2036. This means that about 33-48% of all forecast new dwellings would need to be affordable/social to bridge the gap. There is a lack of clarity on how increasing affordable housing in targeted areas like Darebin can be implemented with a voluntary system.
- 5.3.1.1. **Reform Request** - We need the State to implement inclusionary zoning to see this Plan's targets are achieved.
- 5.3.2. There is a glaring clash in the LUFP between the desire for significant housing change at high densities in established area and greening the City – lack of clarity

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around how this would be managed with commercial and apartment developments, with relatively superficial greening reform provided by the recent Better Apartment Design Standards (BADs).

- 5.3.2.1. **Reform Request** - Further investigation should be given to creating state planning controls that require lot consolidation as a condition to develop at high densities (similar to NSW model) to allow more innovative building layouts that including mandatory green space on the ground floor (e.g. Courtyard or U-shaped buildings). Ground level greening is important for improved greening and climate mitigation outcomes (compared to green roofs or walls) and improved liveability.



Landscaped courtyard for communal open space.

Figure 1: Darebin Good Design Guide - Apartment Developments: Courtyard building

- 5.3.3. Council supports the delivery of high-quality affordable housing in Darebin and notes that new public housing should be a higher focus for the State government.
- 5.3.4. Darebin also notes that transforming existing social housing is also of high priority. Local community organisations and community members in Darebin have consistently expressed that urgent action is needed to ensure upgrades to existing public housing. Existing public housing are vulnerable to extreme weather events (exacerbated by the climate emergency) and impacting on the physical and mental health and social and economic wellbeing of those residents. For social housing tenants, the impact of the digital divide is profound and has been exacerbated by COVID-19. Many public housing residents were without access to affordable digital devices or internet throughout the pandemic and were left unable to access internet at libraries and community centres due to lockdowns. Public housing infrastructure must consider access to free Wi-Fi as a means for address the digital divide and support tenants to engage in work, education, healthcare and connect socially.

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6. INTEGRATED TRANSPORT

The high-level directions and strategies of the Plan are sound, with the focus on public transport (including improved east-west connections and improved access for employment areas and activity centres) and active transport particularly welcomed. However, greater direction and policy emphasis is needed on how to achieve a substantial transition to sustainable transport modes to address climate change.

6.1. TRANSPORT - FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

- 6.1.1. Plan Melbourne shows that the transport sector has the second largest end-use energy emissions. The strategic direction about improving sustainable transport should be expanded to emphasise the significant role of sustainable transport in responding to climate emergency and supporting community health and wellbeing. The direction should be for an integrated sustainable transport system that has the aim of taking climate action by reducing car dependency and emissions, with accompanying targets in place. This direction should also include strategies to plan for future/emerging sustainable transport technologies and behaviours.
- 6.1.2. The Plan should aim to increase and improve east-west transport connections in the inner metro region (road, rail and bus) and increase north-south corridor capacity by prioritising on-road public transport along key transport corridors and providing new connections for areas marked for change alongside or before development rather than years afterwards. Strategies to increase the capacity of north-south transport corridors should focus on active travel and public transport, including capacity improvements for radial tram and train lines. In terms of rail corridor capacity, this is important for the Mernda/Hurstbridge lines which do not get capacity gains from the Melbourne Metro Tunnel project.
- 6.1.3. Tram routes should be considered for extensions (No.11) and greater on-road priority to improve efficiency. This is more important than even to improve north south capacity given the growth expected in Reservoir.
- 6.1.4. The Plan should embed the State Government's Movement & Place Framework into land use planning to ensure integration from the very earliest stages of development and master-planning.
- 6.1.5. The Plan should prioritise walking & cycling friendly neighbourhoods to provide a safer, healthier and more efficient movement and place network. The strategies talk about creating pedestrian friendly neighbourhoods; however, they do not address Principal Pedestrian Networks (PPN). The Plan should make provision for

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the delivery of PPN priorities. Permeability and walkability of neighbourhoods – particularly new ones – should be explicitly provided for in this Plan (Darebin has completed its PPN).

- 6.1.6. Strategy 44 (Support cycling for transport through the development of Strategic Cycling Corridors in the Northern Metro Region) - there is already a regional approach to shared bicycle networks - through the Northern Trails Strategy (off-road) and the Strategic Cycling Corridors and Resilient Melbourne work (on-road). Therefore, the Plan should include strategies to fund and work in partnership with local governments and other stakeholders to roll out cycling corridors rapidly.
- 6.1.7. At present, 99% of bulk freight is carried on the road, which is unsustainable into the future – especially with large bulk freight developments proposed in the Northern Region. Councils like Darebin cannot support expanded heavy freight vehicles using roads and streets through inner and middle suburban residential or retail areas. The Plan needs discussion and recognition of moving bulk freight onto rail and off roads to reduce amenity and traffic impacts on local communities. The Plan also needs to recognise and address the impact of 'last kilometre' freight on local transport networks – particularly for activity centres.
- 6.1.8. To reduce impacts of congestion on middle and inner ring councils like Darebin, the Plan must provide for quality public and active transport connections in outer suburban and growth areas to reduce car dependence and the resultant through-traffic impacts.
- 6.1.9. Recognition of the need to provide integrated public transport connections between Melbourne Airport and La Trobe NEIC is important, but this priority should be broadened to target increased access to the La Trobe NEIC from elsewhere in the region and NEICs in other metropolitan sub-regions (e.g. Monash).

6.2. TRANSPORT - MAPS FEEDBACK

- 6.2.1. Add potential future extension and improvements to Tram routes 11 and 86, and a tram stop at Oakhill.

6.3. TRANSPORT - NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT REFORMS

- 6.3.1. Planning reforms to require EV infrastructure in new development.
- 6.3.2. Parking reforms to consider more sustainable parking rates in new development.

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6.4. TRANSPORT - NEED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION/ACTION

- 6.4.1. Fund and work in partnership with local governments and other stakeholders to rapidly roll out regional cycling corridors through the existing Northern Trails Strategy.
- 6.4.2. Consider/include in Annexure - the North West City Deal Plan which proposed key transport projects for the region, and The Northern Integrated Transport Strategy being prepared through the Northern Metropolitan Partnership.
- 6.4.3. Establish a plan for moving bulk freight onto rail and off roads to reduce amenity and traffic impacts on local communities.
- 6.4.4. Create integrated public transport connections between the La Trobe NEIC and other metropolitan NEICs, for improved connectivity and productivity gains at a broader metropolitan level.

7. LIVEABILITY

7.1. LIVEABILITY- FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

- 7.1.1. Council supports the directions and strategies in the Northern LUF to make the region more liveable by protecting areas natural, built and cultural heritage. They are aligned with the Council's vision and strategic objectives for the municipality. The direction and strategies to protect and enhance the region's network of waterways and protecting biodiversity are strongly supported in the Council Plan.
- 7.1.2. The Northern LUF is generally aligned with Darebin's recently adopted Open Space Strategy-Breathing Space: The Darebin Opens Space Strategy, which provides the framework for improving open space planning in Darebin, including to meet open space needs, rewilding Darebin and creating a green streets network.

Landscape and biodiversity

- 7.1.3. The Darebin Natural Heritage Strategy 2015-2025 articulates Council's vision and identifies Darebin's significant assets and a range of actions to protect and enhance Darebin's natural heritage assets over the next ten years. The Northern LUF should recognise the following key assets within Darebin as regionally significant landscape and Biodiversity areas: Cherry Street Grasslands, Bundoora Park Grasslands and Central Creek Grasslands. Ngarrri Djarrang (Central Creek Grasslands) are home to endangered species.

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- 7.1.4. Merri Creek is included in Table 14 as a key landscape and biodiversity area in the Northern Metro Region. Edgar Creek, a significant tributary of Merri creek should also be included as a regionally important waterway.
- 7.1.5. Northern LUFPP includes a strategy to ensure adequate buffers in growth areas/green wedges to protect biodiversity values. Adequate buffers for biodiversity areas need to be considered in urban renewal precincts adjacent to metropolitan creeks, and funding streams to acquire land around creeks would be useful.
- 7.1.6. The Northern LUFPP recognises that 'protection and enhancement of the Darebin Creek within the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct should be prioritised in planning and development, as well as protection and enhancement of wetlands and vegetation in and around the La Trobe NEIC'. The Framework should be strengthened by including a strategy to that end.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- 7.1.7. Darebin is considered an important area of Aboriginal history, and it has the second-largest community of First Nations people within the Melbourne metropolitan area. Significant Aboriginal social and political landmarks in the region not protected under the Aboriginal Heritage Act should be considered in the planning and designing of places. It is also critical to incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives when designing the built environment and public realm.

Heritage and visitor places

- 7.1.8. The Darebin arts, culture and tourism scene can be described as 'fine grain' - with many events occurring at a small scale throughout the City regularly, and spatially forming creative/cultural clusters of regional significance. It's worth noting that identifying only individual tourism sites in the LUFPP map can be problematic because the cumulative cultural value of many places is not represented. Suggest changing focus to nominating entertainment precincts, and major individual sites.
- 7.1.9. The Westgarth - Preston High Street spine is part of a creative/cultural cluster featuring many important music venues and culture/tourism sites anchored by the Northcote Town Hall to the south and Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre and Gertrude Contemporary to the north. This cluster (or 'spine') is an intangible cultural asset that should be noted in the Northern LUFPP as a regionally significant area. Other (individual) regionally significant cultural and tourism sites that should be recognised in the Northern LUFPP are listed in section 6.2 below.

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- 7.1.10. The impacts of COVID-19 have amplified existing inequalities and vulnerabilities within the Darebin community and increased the need for equitable access to environmental infrastructure, particularly open spaces. One example is residents of public housing, who often lack access to private open space and rely more on the public realm. A greater focus on strengthening access to open spaces, particularly for those already experiencing disadvantage, is required.
- 7.1.11. Darebin has many large open spaces of regional importance and draw visitors beyond the municipality but have not been recognised as regionally significant open spaces. It is not clear what criteria has been adopted for identifying the regionally significant open spaces by the State Department. The LUFP should include a definition of a regionally significant open space. (also see point under section 6.2 below)

7.2. LIVEABILITY- MAPS FEEDBACK

- 7.2.1. The representation of waterways and significant open spaces should be made clear by incorporating a zoomed-in section for the metro area. Inner metropolitan open spaces are smaller when compared to the outer metro region but are essential due to communities' reliance on them.
- 7.2.2. The Framework should include additional regionally significant open spaces within Darebin:
- Bundoora Park (Approx. 190 ha)
 - Darebin Parklands (Aboriginal Spiritual and Healing Trail)
 - All Nations Park (Approx. 13 ha)
 - Edwards Lake Park (Approx. 26 ha)
- 7.2.3. Other significant markers of cultural significance to Aboriginal people that should be recognised in the Framework and its maps include:
- The Spiritual Healing Trail
 - The Aboriginal Advancement League
 - Northcote Koori Mural (The Aboriginal Advancement League)
 - Stolen Generation Marker - Empty Coolamon
- 7.2.4. Additional community/tourist sites of regional significance that should be recognised on the Map are:
- Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre
 - Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre

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- Bundoora Homestead
- Gertrude contemporary
- Islamic Museum

7.2.5. The Northern LUF should identify the following additional places protected by the Victorian Heritage Register in text and on the Map:

- Bundoora Park
- Bundoora Homestead
- Northcote Theatre
- Northcote Cable Tramway
- Mont Park Hospital
- Avenue of Honour Macleod.

7.3. LIVEABILITY - NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT REFORMS**Recognition of Traditional Owners and centring the voice of First Nations people in planning**

7.3.1. Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents' and communities' strengths, resilience, cultural rights and values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual, physical and cultural connection to the land and waters and their right to self-determination. The Victorian Government's policies, practices and legislation exist within a broader context of ongoing colonisation and dispossession of land, water and culture. As such, the Framework should recognise the critical importance and value of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' wisdom, observations, insights, and knowledge.

7.3.2. The current draft Framework does not adequately centre Aboriginal self-determination and Traditional Owners. Recognition of Traditional Owners is largely isolated to the chapter "Liveability". Council strongly recommends that the State Government consider how they can better meaningfully reflect the principles of truth-telling and self-determination throughout the Framework. The treaty process being undertaken by the State Government marks an opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal cultural rights and history in Victoria and a step towards true self-determination. The Framework provides an opportunity to better reflect the principles and intent of the treaty, which is vital for proper alignment with the principle of self-determination in the context of land use.

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- 7.3.3. Council strongly urges the State Government to seek direction and leadership from the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and provide adequate compensation for their support.
- 7.3.4. In addition to consultation on the building of new developments, the State Government should also consider how they can work with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal to support efforts to decolonise Government owned land, particularly those with ties to early white settlement. For example, Darebin City Council has committed to working with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to progress decolonising Bundoora Park, including the farm and homestead. This is in the spirit of supporting truth telling and disrupting colonial narratives.
- 7.3.5. The Framework references ongoing partnership opportunities with Traditional Owners and the process that will determine the preferred involvement and level of influence Traditional Owners would like to have in shaping the outcomes and implementation of the Land Use Framework Plan. It's vital to recognise that the Northern region of Melbourne is also home to a large number of the Victorian Aboriginal population, with Hume, Whittlesea and Darebin being some of the Local Government Areas with the highest Aboriginal population in Victoria. There are also many Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations located in the region, including (but not limited to) the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS), Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS), the Aborigines Advancement League and the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Association (VACCA). Concerted efforts to engage with Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations and the Victorian Aboriginal community is essential.

Gentrification

- 7.3.6. No reference to gentrification is made in the Framework, despite the fundamental role gentrification plays in perpetuating inequality.

“Understanding the impact of gentrification and the role that Council's structures and processes play is also critical to ensure that these structures and processes do not inadvertently entrench disadvantage and inequality. This is particularly relevant when considering the effects of planning approaches for the built environment, public places and open space.” Towards Equality Framework (2019)

Gentrification acts as a cause and consequence of further entrenching inequalities and can amplify stressors with regard to the provision of social

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infrastructure This includes ideas about who is privileged in the design of public spaces and social infrastructure and benefiting from the infrastructure.

- 7.3.7. The Plan should play a greater part in considering the City can grow more equitably by considering the socio-economic disadvantage within the region, and how poverty and disparity can be alleviated beyond identifying affordable housing and community facilities. There should be strategies explicitly linked to addressing socio-economic disadvantage, rather than just mapping SEIFA in the state of play section.

7.4. LIVEABILITY- NEED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION

- 7.4.1. Develop a methodology for allocation of street spaces in activity centres, including the provision of pathways and cycleways, to meet the objective of active transport and enhance place quality and urban vitality.
- 7.4.2. Incorporating innovative and environment sensitive design (ESD) principles to achieve design excellence, circular economy and net zero emissions for urban renewal areas such as SRL precincts.
- 7.4.3. There is an opportunity to invest in walking and cycling trails that are also cultural trails to connect important cultural assets of the region such as Bundoora Homestead, La Trobe University Sculpture Park, The Heidelberg School historic sites and benefit any new cultural development in the area (A recommendation of The Northern Horizons 2020 Evidence Report).
- 7.4.4. Reviewing residential amenity and shared space standards in medium and high-density residential developments considering changes to social practices, such as the increased amount of time spent at home living and working, due to COVID-19 pandemic,
- 7.4.5. With people spending more time locally, there is an opportunity to create more regionally- and locally- significant cultural/tourist routes recognising places of regional/local importance through effective wayfinding, promoting front yard/porch level place making and incorporating walking/cycling trails. This is an additional lens through which cycling/walking corridors could be analysed and active transport infrastructure prioritised.
- 7.4.6. Darebin City Council has developed a Creative and Cultural Infrastructure Framework to ensure the needs of the local creative industry continue to be a key focus as the city changes over time. Recognise further opportunities to create cultural precincts to facilitate infrastructure to support outdoor performances

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(pandemic resilient) and investigate innovative opportunities to support creative and cultural economic sectors.

8. STRONG COMMUNITIES

8.1. STRONG COMMUNITIES- FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

- 8.1.1. The Northern LUF is aligned with the Darebin Council Plan (2021-2025), which seeks to improve equitable access to primary health, education, recreation and other community services to achieve physical, social and mental wellbeing for its community.
- 8.1.2. Council supports planning for social infrastructure at a regional level, delivering health and education services in strategic locations and supporting a network of neighbourhood centres to anchor 20-minute neighbourhoods.
- 8.1.3. Impacts of COVID-19 have amplified existing inequalities and vulnerabilities within the community and increased the need for equitable access to environmental infrastructure. The Northern Framework should strengthen its focus to improve the availability and quality of services for non-growth areas where residents continue to experience disadvantages compared to other regions.
- 8.1.4. Council welcomes a regionally coordinated approach to planning for the 'whole of life cycle' social infrastructure to ensure adequate social infrastructure provision across the Northern Metro region. For example, East Reservoir has historically lacked the infrastructure that can respond to both children and young people, in addition to the ageing population. The lack of adequate childcare has been an ongoing concern, and while two new childcare centres have recently been developed to meet this need, adequate life-course centred planning could avoid this retrofitting approach.
- 8.1.5. Council also strongly supports regional planning that will provide for a range of sporting and active recreation facilities to meet the needs of the growing population within the region. The Darebin Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Priority Plan report identifies that by 2041 there will be a shortfall of 8 grounds (ovals and square fields) in Darebin alone. Early consultation and participation in developing a sport and recreation facilities plan for the Northern Metro Region with Council is requested.

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- 8.1.6. Council also strongly supports directions and strategies to assist in creation of a network of 20-minute Neighbourhoods, particularly through place-based community partnership approaches.

Community Safety

- 8.1.7. The Plan should recognise community safety as a key component of the 20-minute City. Darebin community members highlighted Community Safety as one of the top three areas of concern for health and wellbeing in Darebin Council's consultation for the 2021 Council Plan. When people have lower perceptions of safety in their neighbourhoods, social connections and interactions are reduced and they may experience higher levels of anxiety and engage less with community life. Neighbourhoods which are perceived as safe foster community participation and encourage physical activity, and community connectedness.
- 8.1.8. Within Darebin, there are significant inequities in people's perceptions of safety based on location and demographic profiles. Local data shows that perceptions of safety are lower for East Preston and East Reservoir residents than the Darebin and Victorian average. Best practice and innovative approaches to securing environmental and social infrastructure centre community voices, including marginalised. Darebin advocates for a community development approach in realising this objective.

Case study - T.W Andrews Community Safety Project

For example, residents in East Reservoir, supported by Council, advocated for improvements to TW Andrews Reserve after residents reported feeling unsafe in the park at night. Council worked with the community to understand how Council could support residents to feel safer. As a result of the community advocacy, Council sought external funding and committed a budget to an improvement project directly informed by the experiences of local residents. Upgrades to TW Reserve included a new meeting space, and better lighting, paths and more trees. The success of this initiative was due to established strong relationships between local residents and community development workers.

Food Security

- 8.1.9. Food insecurity is not mentioned in the Framework. There is an opportunity to consider how the State Government can address food insecurity through future planning.

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- 8.1.10. There has been a significant increase in households that require emergency food relief due to COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of whom are located in the north of the municipality. The impacts of climate change are likely to increase food and water insecurity and lead to increases in the cost of food, further compounding food security issues for this cohort.
- 8.1.11. For those without access to home gardens to grow food, community gardens offer an opportunity to make food growing accessible. Community gardens can also encourage the intergenerational and intercultural sharing of knowledge and skills, foster social connections and reduce social isolation. Increasing opportunities for new community gardens in Northern Metro by working alongside community organisations (including Neighbourhood houses) are one way to realise multiple outcomes relating to health and wellbeing while addressing food insecurity.

8.2. STRONG COMMUNITIES- MAPS FEEDBACK

- 8.2.1. *Map 7: Northern Metro Region liveability 2050 and Table 13: State Significant and regionally-significant health and/or education precincts* - add Northern College of Arts and Technology (next to Preston Northland) as a regionally significant education precinct (is shown on La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster Map) and should be included in Table 13 and Map 7.
- 8.2.2. Preston City Oval and Bill Lawry Oval, which host premier cricket and men and women's Victorian Football League (VFL), should also be identified as regionally significant recreation facilities.

**8.3. STRONG COMMUNITIES - NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT
REFORMS****Gender-sensitive design**

- 8.3.1. Gender also drastically impacts how people experience and engage in public spaces. Local Darebin data indicates that women feel more unsafe in the municipality, particularly at night. Implementing gender-sensitive design principles is imperative in supporting equitable community participation for all genders, and when based on intersectional practice, it can also be of mutual benefit to all cohorts.
- Gender Impact Assessments (GIAs) required under the Gender Equality Act (2020) are a crucial mechanism supporting gender-sensitive design for the

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development and redevelopment of places and spaces. As public entities increasingly enter the realm of gender-sensitive design, it is recommended that the State Government look to best practice examples to ensure gender-inclusive design and planning. In addition, the State Government should consider how it can influence partnerships with private providers to deliver regional-scale infrastructure while also incorporating gender-sensitive design principles.

- 8.3.2. The State Government should consider how it can influence partnerships with private providers to deliver regional-scale infrastructure while also incorporating gender-sensitive design principles.

Mental Health

- 8.3.3. The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the risk factors generally associated with poor mental health, including financial insecurity, unemployment, social isolation and fear. Simultaneously, protective factors, including social connection, employment and educational engagement, access to physical exercise, daily routine and access to health services were reduced for many due to COVID-19. Local consultation identified that COVID-19 contributed to and exacerbated mental ill-health for the community, particularly for those already experiencing disadvantage and young people.
- 8.3.4. The Darebin community has expressed the growing urgency of inadequate and insufficient mental health services and the need to increase investment in early intervention and tertiary mental health services in the Northern metro region. The Council Plan 2021 -2025 reflects this and includes several strategic actions and objectives that seek to improve mental health by increasing social connections. The State Government's plans for the development of infrastructure that supports access to health services must consider the current shortage of mental health care services and seek to address this gap.

8.4. STRONG COMMUNITIES - NEED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION/ACTION

9. There is a particular need for an additional general hospital in the Hume corridor (Northern Horizon 2020). Investigate and plan for a new regional level hospital in the North Metro region to serve the Hume corridor, and establish links with the region's universities to train the local clinical workforce (a recommendation of Northern Horizon 2020).

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10. SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

**10.1. SUSTAINABILITY - FEEDBACK ON REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND
STRATEGIES**

- 10.1.1. Broadly speaking, LUFs across Melbourne are not taking into account sufficiently the major impacts of climate over the next 100 year in regard to settlement patterns near the coast and near bushfire risk areas.
- 10.1.2. Darebin Council is committed to accelerating meaningful action to restore a safe climate for all. Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 Towards Equality recognises that climate change and inequality are intrinsically linked and that we need to support the development of rights-based, socially-just responses to climate change, particularly in light of the climate emergency.
- 10.1.3. Climate change is as much a symptom of inequality as it is a force that exacerbates it. A recognition of the link between climate change and inequality is required within LUFs. The directions and strategies appear to be more focussed on growth areas and there is a need to facilitate the transformation of existing developments and infrastructure which are critical to climate adaptation/mitigation.
- 10.1.4. Embed Climate actions/sustainability across all themes of the Plan and make it explicit rather than implicit throughout the Plan.

Sustainability in the built environment

- 10.1.5. The Plan should address the sustainability impacts of the built environment. The Plan should include strategies which transition new and existing developments to low to zero greenhouse gas emissions and address resource security risks for urban areas.
- 10.1.6. Considering that significant parts of Darebin have been identified for higher levels of housing, 'Strategy 82: Retain more trees on private land outside locations identified for higher level of housing and mixed-use change' to meet the aspirational tree cover targets will preclude areas of Darebin that are particularly vulnerable to urban heat issues. A reassessment of how urban areas are designed and developed to respond to known climatic impacts would be a more responsive approach to addressing urban heat conditions (see Housing state reform section - facilitating courtyard buildings).

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- 10.1.7. Support increasing the tree canopy target to at least 27%, but note that this could be increased for a more ambitious target for the climate emergency – also noting Councils are already doing a lot of this work for public land.
- 10.1.8. High urban heat locations in Darebin LGA should also be added as priority locations for increasing tree canopy in Strategy 83. Lighter coloured rooftops should be specifically encouraged in high heat urban locations to mitigate heat absorption.
- 10.1.9. Darebin is currently developing integrated water management plans on a catchment basis. The time frames of the targets are aligned with the Northern LUF and the VPP has guidance on stormwater management, but implementation is challenging on smaller infill sites/redevelopments.
- 10.1.10. Ensure community values, including Traditional Owners perceptions, can be reflected in place-based Integrated Water Management planning.
- 10.1.11. A strategy should be included which recognises that alternative water supply may be required for more than water supply to green wedges to provide for agriculture; future proofing access to clean water through water harvesting and other methods is also required for urban uses (including health services, urban agriculture, manufacturing).
- 10.1.12. The Plan should seek to support and protect onsite renewables, there is great potential in large scale PV rollout projects on commercial and industrial roofs.

Natural hazards - flooding

- 10.1.13. Climate breakdown will damage infrastructure and assets, and so infrastructure needs to be designed and located for maximum climate resilience. A co-ordinated regional approach to managing and sharing infrastructure may support mitigation and adaptive responses to natural hazards and climate impacts. A Direction which seeks to address major risks and impacts on public infrastructure is recommended.
- 10.1.14. The Plan should specifically nominate Edwards Lake Park Lake (which is a regional catchment) as a priority for clean up of water quality. This is a significant environmental issue for Darebin, however it needs a whole-of-catchment solution, and state funding.

Energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption

- 10.1.15. The strategy for responding to the transformation of the energy supply network is focussed on new subdivision for growth area development, this does not take into account existing established areas of metropolitan Melbourne or new higher

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density development.

10.1.16. The Plan should provide guidance for addressing the energy transition needs of established areas, including the infrastructure requirements for emerging technological trends (for example autonomous vehicles), guidance in securing reliable and stable energy for diverse land uses, including health, education and research facilities, manufacturing and employment precincts.

10.1.17. The Plan should seek to facilitate regional efficiencies in renewable energy generation and distribution, to support resilience in withstanding energy crises. Facilitating new energy transitions to renewable energy, such as supporting microgrids, transmission infrastructure, batteries, PV, electric vehicle charging, is also required.

Resource efficiency and waste and resource recovery

10.1.18. The Bulla waste recovery facility does not have enough capacity for the region to 2050. There is a need for identification of additional sites, including building additional state of the art facilities based on advanced waste and waste energy technologies such as anaerobic digestion to fulfil demand to 2050.

10.1.19. The Plan should adopt circular economy principles to reduce the environmental impact and embodied emissions from products, materials and buildings.

10.1.20. The Plan should encourage waste and resource recovery facilities to be located in proximity to other related facilities and to materials' end-market destinations to reduce the impacts of waste transportation and improve the economic viability of resource recovery.

10.2. SUSTAINABILITY - MAPS FEEDBACK

10.2.1. The concept and distinction between Priority-urban heat response and Priority-expand urban tree canopy cover is not very clear.

10.2.2. Consider identifying high risk flood areas in the mapping. The static approach to the mapping of flood prone areas can be problematic, online mapping tools which ensure ongoing "live data" may be useful to support accuracy in determining risk and impact.

10.3. SUSTAINABILITY - NEED FOR BROADER STATE GOVERNMENT REFORMS

10.3.1. State Government should introduce it's planned Environmentally Sustainable Development controls into the planning system to improve the standard of ESD in

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new buildings. These should align as much as possible with the elevated ESD targets being pursued by CASBE. Buildings being built now will still be around in 2050.

- 10.3.2. Need to introduce state-wide electric vehicle charging requirements in the planning system new development.
- 10.3.3. To support the transformation of the energy supply network more detailed consideration of what is required to implement these changes are required.
- 10.3.4. The need for established areas to transition towards decentralised renewable energy systems and the challenges faced in retrofitting existing infrastructure and multiple land ownership.

10.4. SUSTAINABILITY - NEED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION/ACTION

- 10.4.1. There is also insufficient organic waste recovery capacity identified across metropolitan Melbourne. Support for increased organic resource recovery in the Northern Region is required. Investigation for sites and feasibility of waste to energy generation is recommended.
- 10.4.2. The linkages between evidence-based research and the directions/strategies are required, to ensure the most up to date information is utilised to inform decision making.

11. FEEDBACK ON STRUCTURE

- 11.1. The distinction between 'Directions' and 'Strategies' is not clear. In some cases, the strategy repeats the Direction, or does not provide a clear indication of how the Direction will be achieved. The beginning of the document should provide a guide to interpret and understand the document, including the Directions, Strategies and Actions.
- 11.2. Many of the Strategies are vague and do not provide detail on how they will be implemented. Without changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions, many of these strategies will fail.
- 11.3. Far greater detail and clarity is needed in terms of the actual delivery of the Directions and Strategies, and the tools and mechanisms that will be introduced to enable them. These Directions risk being meaningless without adequate implementation measures.
- 11.4. It is not clear why some of the actions in Plan Melbourne are considered relevant to the regional framework while others are not. For example, it appears that Plan

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Melbourne Action 91: Whole-of-Government Approach to cooling and greening Melbourne is translated at the regional level, whereas Plan Melbourne Action 86: Whole-of-settlement adaptation and risk-mitigation strategies do not have regional strategy.

11.5. It would be helpful to have zoomed-in maps for the inner metro council areas as it is hard to read them and unable to place sufficient information on them.

12. IMPLEMENTATION - ACTIONS**Action 3 - State led planning for activity centres and urban renewal areas**

12.1. **Do not support** state-led planning for activity centres and urban renewal areas unless formally requested or agreed by Council in the first instance. Local government is best placed to understand local issues and community need. There's no need for state intervention to lead these projects, however funding and support should be provided.

Action 3 - Update planning schemes to align with LUFPP directions on housing supply and housing investigation areas

12.2. While we support LUFPP guiding the future direction of local housing strategies, the wording of this action to update planning schemes to **align with housing policies in Northern Metro LUFPP** should be softened. LUFPP should be used as a direction only as further investigation may rule out the need for intervention (e.g. see housing section for investigation areas that Council suggests should be removed).

Action 6/7 - Identify underutilised government land that has potential to deliver social housing.

12.3. This action should be expanded to include local government land, with Councils as responsible for implementation too. Darebin already has a work program underway to identify council owned sites for potential affordable housing developments. Council has recently been successful in leasing a site to an affordable housing association to build social housing at Townhall Avenue, Preston.

Action 9 - Undertake a review of the regional bus network

12.4. A review of the regional bus network should:

- increase reliability and efficiency of bus routes by allocating on-road priority,
- conduct, implement and fund bus service reviews to improve trunk and local services,

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- align east west bus services with rail services where applicable and enhance interchange experience and efficiency.

Action 13 - Review biodiversity in local planning schemes

12.5. This action is broadly supported, however each council may have different needs.

Darebin's planning scheme has already protected its waterway corridors. It's unclear what further action this refers to, and needs more detail - is this about tree protection controls? Municipal-wide biodiversity studies? These are expensive for Councils and state funding should be made available.

Action 14 - Develop a methodology for a social infrastructure strategy for the Northern Metro Region. This would consider social infrastructure such as libraries, multi-use community and recreation facilities and assess how they can be used more flexibly and intensively. This could be a pilot project suitable for other regions.

12.6. Council strongly supports the development of a methodology for a social infrastructure strategy for the Northern Metro Region. There is a need to future proof provision or address gaps in the provision of social infrastructure in the inner metro region to provide for a growing population. The action should be strengthened to consider community centres and sports fields, childcare centres and kindergartens, aged care facilities and future hospital bed needs. It should apply a 'whole of life cycle' planning approach to ensure adequate social infrastructure provision across the Northern Metro region. It must be reworded to provide clarity and certainty on its scope.

New Action Suggested - Liveability

12.7. The 5-year action program should include a new action to address gaps in open spaces provision and accessibility in established areas experiencing significant growth and areas with limited access to open space (none within 500m). It should enable ease of purchasing land for those priority areas or additional funding streams to improve purchased spaces – like the Suburban Parks Program (DELWP).

New Action Suggested - Pandemic review

12.8. Action to investigate the impacts of the pandemic in one year and update the LUFPP where necessary to account for transformative impacts in the way we live and work.

New Action Suggested - Regional + state partnership on Sustainable infrastructure

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12.9. Actions could include creating a partnership of northern region Councils and state government to plan for sustainable infrastructure, production and investment (urban agriculture, new sustainable technologies and energy systems and retrofit). Regional climate adaptation and mitigation could be part of this.

New Action Suggested - Regional partnership for cycling corridors and funding

12.10. The Plan should include strategies to fund and work in partnership with local governments and other stakeholders to roll out cycling corridors rapidly.

New Action - Aboriginal cultural heritage and naming

12.11. For all Councils to investigate and protect post-contact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders heritage and seek ways to embed First Nation people's perspective in the planning and design of places.

12.12. The Framework refers to significant growth in the Northern region. As part of this process, the State and local governments should consider place-naming and how they privilege the voices, culture and history of Traditional Owners and all Aboriginal Victorians.

Case Study – Place-naming in Darebin

Darebin City Council has identified priorities for place-naming in Darebin that makes concerted efforts to realise this aim in *Breathing Space: The Darebin Opens Space Strategy*. Relevant actions include:

A2.1 Naming at least 50% of new public open spaces for significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, figures, symbols or items, with particular attention to Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners

A2.2 Engaging with Registered Aboriginal Parties when creating strategies and master plans on culturally significant land

A2.3 Designing public open spaces and streetscapes to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage

A2.4 Further developing existing and new Aboriginal tourism experiences including the Spiritual and Healing Trail, Merri Creek, the Koori Mural, the site where the Batman "Treaty" was first "signed", and contemporary experiences, in consultation with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung elders and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders particularly the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC).

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Council thanks the Victorian Government for this opportunity to contribute and welcomes further discussion on the points made in this submission.

End of submission

DRAFT

APPENDIX B -Assessment of the Draft Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan (Northern LUFF) against Darebin Council Plan (2021-2025)

(Note: D represents the Direction number in LUFF; (✓) shows alignment; (+) shows changes/ recommendations)

Draft Northern LUFF Theme	Council Plan Strategy Direction	Relevant Council Plan Strategic Objective	Alignment of Northern LUFF to Council Plan
<p>Productivity:</p> <p>D1. Facilitate the development of the La Trobe NEIC as a primary provider of tertiary education and health services supported by increased transport connectivity;</p> <p>D3. Support the development of a strong network of activity centres to provide jobs closer to where people live;</p> <p>D4. Manage and plan for industrial precincts in the Northern Metro Region to be continued generators of economic activity and employment;</p>	Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing	2.9 We will focus on our economic assets and recovery to ensure Darebin is a great place to do business	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>Directions on economic development are overall aligned with the Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>However, they should be strengthened to include strategies for promoting circular economy, urban agriculture, innovation, and creative sector of the economy and focus more on economic recovery.</p>
		2.10 We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin's growth and sustainability	
		2.11 We will support, promote, and attract diverse local businesses and industries	
<p>Housing:</p> <p>D7. Increase the supply of housing in the Northern Metro Region;</p> <p>D8. Prioritise housing growth in areas with access to jobs, services and good public transport;</p> <p>D9 Provide greater choice and diversity of housing in the Northern Metro Region;</p> <p>D10. Increase the supply of social and affordable housing</p>	Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected	1.2 We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>High-level Housing Directions are strongly aligned with Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>But changes are required to resolve the mismatch between certain identified housing change areas within Darebin, considering local constraints and existing policy. Clearer strategies are required for creating a diversity of housing, including social and affordable housing.</p>
		1.3 We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind - by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity	
	Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing	2.3 We will facilitate more affordable, social and public housing in Darebin, to meet our community's needs	
		2.6 We will support the human rights, housing and wellbeing needs of our people experiencing homelessness	
Strategic Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive	4.5 We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city		

Draft Northern LUFF Theme	Council Plan Strategy Direction	Relevant Council Plan Strategic Objective	Alignment of Northern LUFF to Council Plan
<p>Integrated Transport:</p> <p>D12.Improve transport connections to support the productivity of the Northern Metro Region;</p> <p>D13. Improve public and active transport access for the La Trobe NEIC, metropolitan and major activity centres;</p> <p>D14.Improve transport connectivity in the Northern Growth Corridor and outer suburbs;</p> <p>D15.Improve active and public transport options to promote mode shift and support 20-minute neighbourhoods;</p> <p>D16.Protect and grow the Northern Metro Region’s comparative advantage in freight and logistics</p>	<p>Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing</p>	<p>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</p> <p>2.4 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>2.5 We will invest in services and the built environment to improve access for our residents and visitors</p> <p>2.10 We will leverage investment, partnerships and advocacy to drive Darebin’s growth and sustainability</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>Transport directions are also aligned with the Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>However, greater emphasis is required for public and active transport priorities and integrating emerging technologies.</p>
<p>Liveability:</p> <p>D17.Protect and enhance the region’s network of waterway corridors;</p> <p>D18. Protect and enhance the landscapes and biodiversity of the Northern Metro Region;</p> <p>D19. Strengthen the network of open spaces and trail connections across the Northern Metro Region;</p> <p>D20.Create a legacy of great civic places</p>	<p>Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected</p> <p>Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing</p>	<p>1.1 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>1.5 We will prioritise and respect the voices and aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin</p> <p>2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well</p> <p>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</p> <p>2.4 We will foster local urban streetscapes and activity centres that connect our</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>Overall, Directions to create a liveable city are strongly aligned with the Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>They should be strengthened to promote equitable access to open space. There is also an opportunity to deepen the voices of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.</p>

Draft Northern LUFF Theme	Council Plan Strategy Direction	Relevant Council Plan Strategic Objective	Alignment of Northern LUFF to Council Plan
<p>Liveability:</p>		community, support economic recovery, and encourage people to live, work and play locally	
	Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable	3.2 Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas	
		3.3 We will drive significant improvements in water quality and biodiversity across Darebin, designating Edwardes Lake as a flagship project to demonstrate water recreation (in the long term)	
	Strategic Direction 4: Responsible, Transparent and Responsive	4.5 We will improve the sustainability, accessibility, and design of development on private land in our city	
<p>Strong Communities:</p> <p>D21. Plan for major social infrastructure at a regional level;</p> <p>D22. Deliver health and education services in strategic locations;</p> <p>D23. Support a network of neighbourhood activity centres to anchor 20-minute neighbourhoods;</p>	Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected	<p>1.1 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>1.2 We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered</p> <p>1.3 We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind - by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity</p> <p>1.4 We will increase social connection to reduce isolation and loneliness, and support positive mental health</p> <p>1.6 We will ensure our festivals, events and functions are inclusive and respond equitably to, and value the diverse needs and aspirations of, our community</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>The Directions to promote inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods are aligned with the Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>They should be expanded to promote community safety, mental health, gender-sensitive design and food security. Greater attention is also required to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged communities.</p>

Draft Northern LUFF Theme	Council Plan Strategy Direction	Relevant Council Plan Strategic Objective	Alignment of Northern LUFF to Council Plan
<p>Strong Communities:</p>		1.7 We will continue to be a local government leader in the prevention of violence against women, and gender equity	
		1.8 We will work towards a discrimination-free, and systemic racism-free Darebin, and reduce the impact of poverty and disadvantage	
	Strategic Direction 2: Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing	2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well	
		2.7 We will work in partnership to address place-based socio-economic disadvantage and health inequity in East Preston and East Reservoir	
<p>Sustainability and Resilience:</p> <p>D24. Respond to the transformation of the energy supply network;</p> <p>D25. Increase the network of cool places, particularly in areas with communities vulnerable to urban heat and areas with high urban heat;</p> <p>D26. Increase urban tree canopy across the Northern Metro Region to achieve 27 per cent coverage by 2050;</p> <p>D27. Increase the retention and reuse of water in the urban environment;</p> <p>D29. Protect sites of strategic importance for recycling and plan for the expansion of key sites for future resource recovery needs</p>	Strategic Direction 3: Climate, Green and Sustainable	3.1 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 style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>The Directions to promote sustainability and resilience are strongly aligned with the Council Plan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p>However, more work is needed to acknowledge the wider impacts of climate change, ensure enough waste recycling capacity in the region, transform the existing energy network and increase the tree cover in areas anticipated to undergo the higher intensity of development.</p>
		3.2 Aim to achieve 12% canopy cover on Council owned and managed land by 2025, prioritising catchment biodiversity and shopping areas	
		3.4 We will reduce carbon emissions by switching to renewable energy on a large scale for Council buildings and through community focused initiatives	
		3.5 We will reduce waste and stimulate a local circular economy, where waste resources are re-used rather than discarded	

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050
**DRAFT NORTHERN
METRO LAND USE
FRAMEWORK PLAN**
SUMMARY

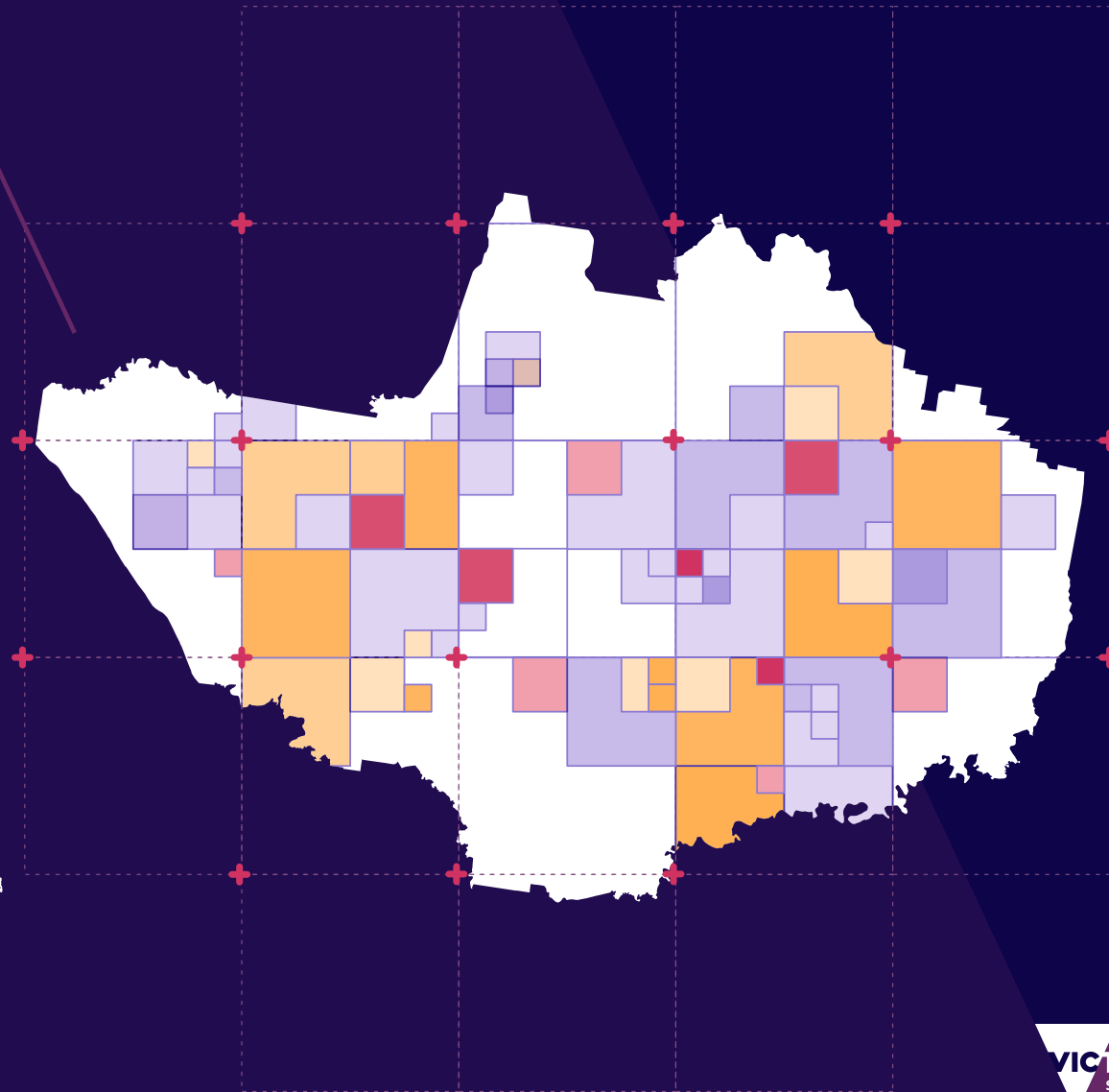




Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

Photo credit: Diana Snape

Photo credit: Department of Jobs Precincts and Regions

Great cities aren't born. They're made.

Melbourne is a great city. It's a great place to live, work and raise a family. It's a great place for investment and creativity. It's a great place to visit and enjoy.

The Victorian Government has developed land use framework plans for each of the six metropolitan regions that are all about ensuring Melbourne remains a great city as it grows.

These plans mark a new era in the planning of Melbourne, building on the efforts of generations of Victorians to shape the way land is used around Port Phillip Bay.

The Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan is a 30-year strategy for action across seven local government areas – Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and part of Mitchell.

It's about making the long-term plans and investments that protect and enhance local areas and communities while ensuring Melbourne's north grows more prosperous, liveable, affordable and sustainable.

The Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan is also about maximising the social, economic and environmental benefits of transformational city-shaping investments like the Metro Tunnel, West Gate Tunnel, Melbourne Airport Rail and Suburban Rail Loop.

This plan is all about keeping northern Melbourne marvellous – from its established suburbs and industrial areas to its green wedge areas and growth corridors. It's also about building the best possible future for the Northern Metro region.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

Photo credit: Department of Jobs Precincts and Regions

WHAT THE NORTHERN METRO LAND USE FRAMEWORK PLAN MEANS FOR YOU



- You will see economic activity around the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster (NEIC) and activity centres such as Broadmeadows, Epping and Lockerbie.
- You will see jobs created in the food and beverage, agriculture and food science, advanced manufacturing, health and logistics industries.
- You will see thriving creative precincts in Brunswick and Northcote as well as some outer areas.
- You will see the development of key industrial precincts such as the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable and Flower Market and the proposed Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal.



- You will see the region remain Victoria’s interstate and international gateway for passenger travel, freight and logistics.
- You will see cycling and pedestrian networks that support 20-minute neighbourhoods.



- You will see that green wedge land and heritage is valued and protected.



- You will see more trees across the region to help with urban greening and cooling, and improved biodiversity.

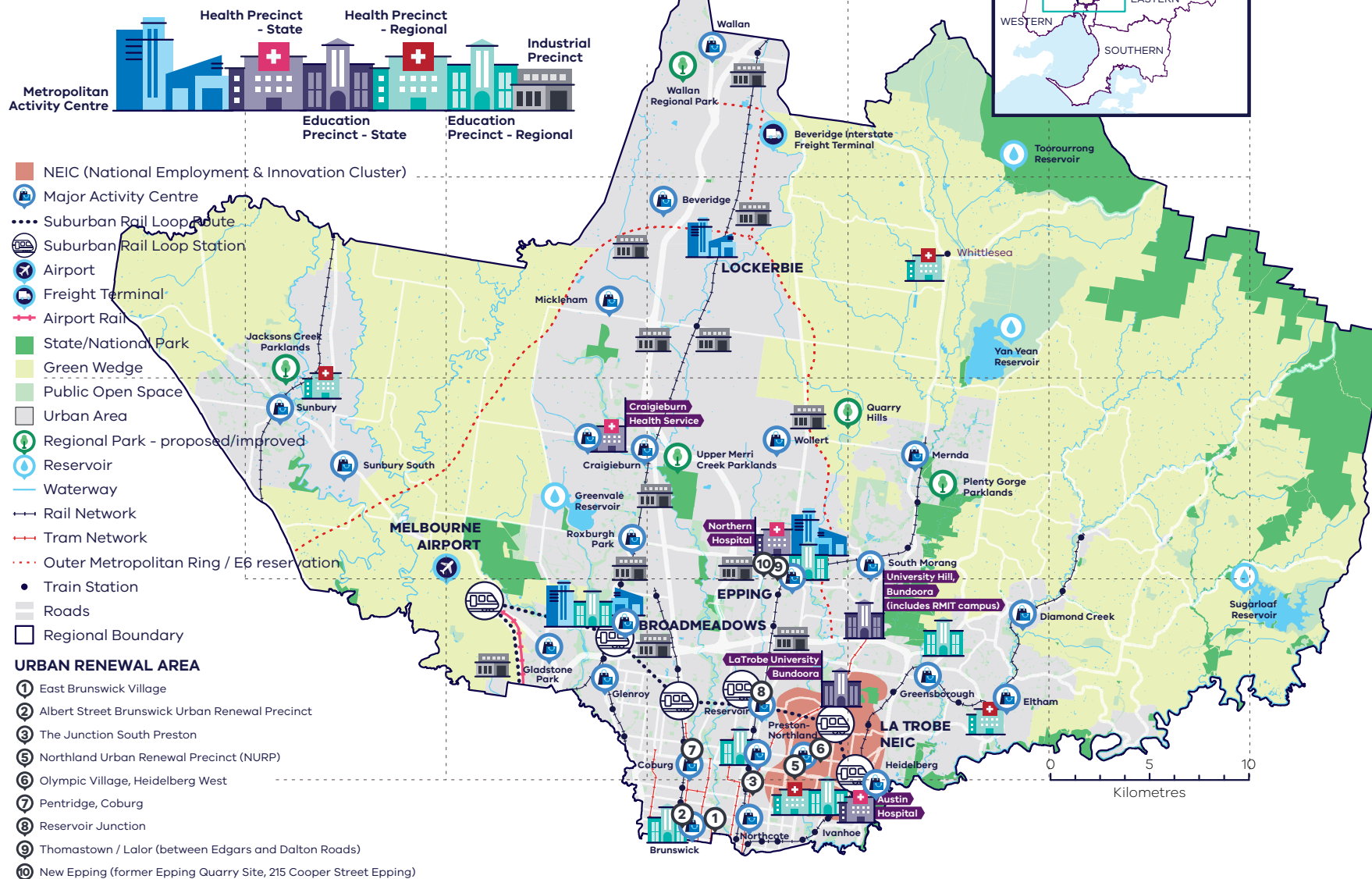


- You will see a diversity of high-quality, affordable housing that is close to good public transport, services and amenities.



- You will see people living and working in 20-minute neighbourhoods.

NORTHERN METRO LAND USE FRAMEWORK PLAN REGIONAL 2050 VISION



WHAT IS THE NORTHERN METRO LAND USE FRAMEWORK PLAN?

The Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan is an extension of Plan Melbourne 2017-2050.

Plan Melbourne is a blueprint to ensure Melbourne grows more sustainable, productive and liveable as its population approaches 8 million by 2050. It includes nine principles that outline the Victorian Government’s vision for the future of the city that *Melbourne will continue to be a global city of opportunity and choice.*

1. **A distinctive Melbourne**
2. **A globally connected and competitive city**
3. **A city of centres linked to regional Victoria**
4. **Environmental resilience and sustainability**
5. **Living locally in 20-minute neighbourhoods**
6. **Social and economic participation**
7. **Strong and healthy communities**
8. **Infrastructure investment that supports balanced city growth**
9. **Leadership and partnership.**

Plan Melbourne also divides the city into six metro regions:

- Inner
- Inner South East
- Eastern
- Southern
- Western
- Northern

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is leading the development of land use framework plans. The purpose of the plans is to guide the application of Plan Melbourne’s nine principles, seven outcomes, 32 directions and 90 policies at a regional and local level.

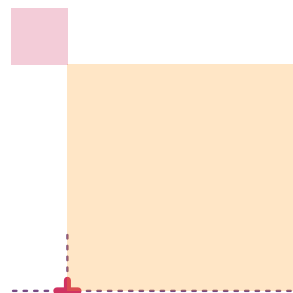
The plans will support a regional approach to planning across state and local government.

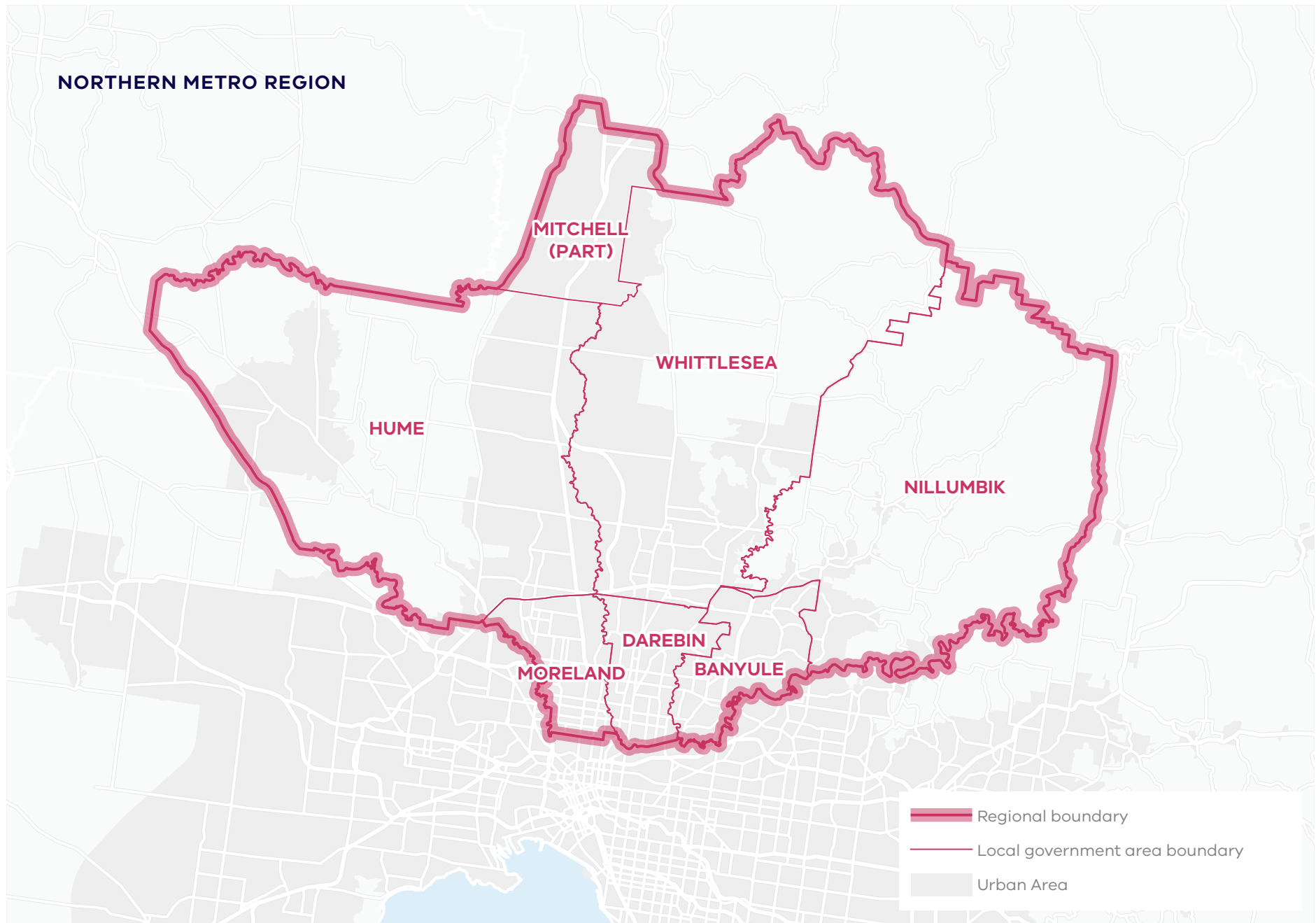
This document summarises how the Northern Metro Land Use Framework Plan will:

- Shape population and industry growth
- Inform plans for service and infrastructure development
- Guide public and private investment
- Protect the distinctive and historic characteristics of the Northern Metro region
- Improve environmental resilience.

The plan covers six themes:

- Productivity
- Housing
- Integrated transport
- Liveability
- Strong communities
- Sustainability and resilience.





ABOUT THE NORTHERN METRO REGION

The Traditional Owners of the Northern Metro region are the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation.

The Northern Metro region is transitioning from a strong manufacturing-based economy towards an economy with highly-skilled and creative jobs.

It has some of the city's newest, most dynamic and diverse communities – from the inner suburbs of Brunswick and Northcote out to the growth areas of Sunbury, Craigieburn, Mernda and Wallan. It has green wedges, farmland, river corridors and water catchments, eucalypt forests and ancient river red gums. And it is home to Melbourne Airport.

Urban areas include:

- Sunbury – a regional centre and growth corridor
- The Hume (Craigieburn-Donnybrook) and Whittlesea (Epping-Wollert, Mernda/Doreen) growth corridors
- The Wallan township and surrounding growth areas
- Older established areas along the outer metropolitan ring (Broadmeadows/Glenroy, Thomastown/Lalor)
- Established inner areas with fine-grain development and larger urban renewal sites with higher development densities along the north-south rail and tram spines (Brunswick, Coburg, Northcote, Preston, Heidelberg)
- Leafy suburbs along the Yarra and Plenty rivers (Ivanhoe, Rosanna, Greensborough, Eltham).

By 2051, the Northern Metro region's population is projected to increase by 73 per cent from around 1.05 million to 1.82 million. The number of dwellings is projected to almost double from 355,630 in 2016 to 707,830 in 2051. By 2031, employment is projected to increase from 321,200 to 459,200 jobs.

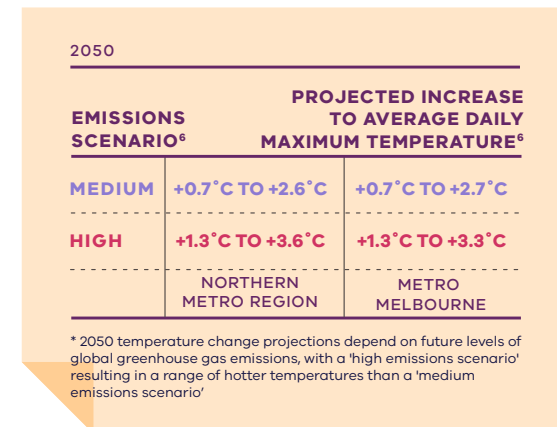
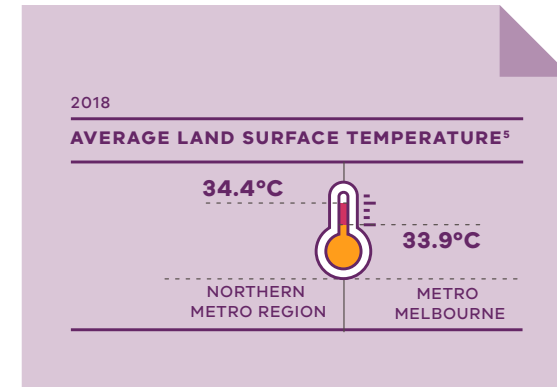
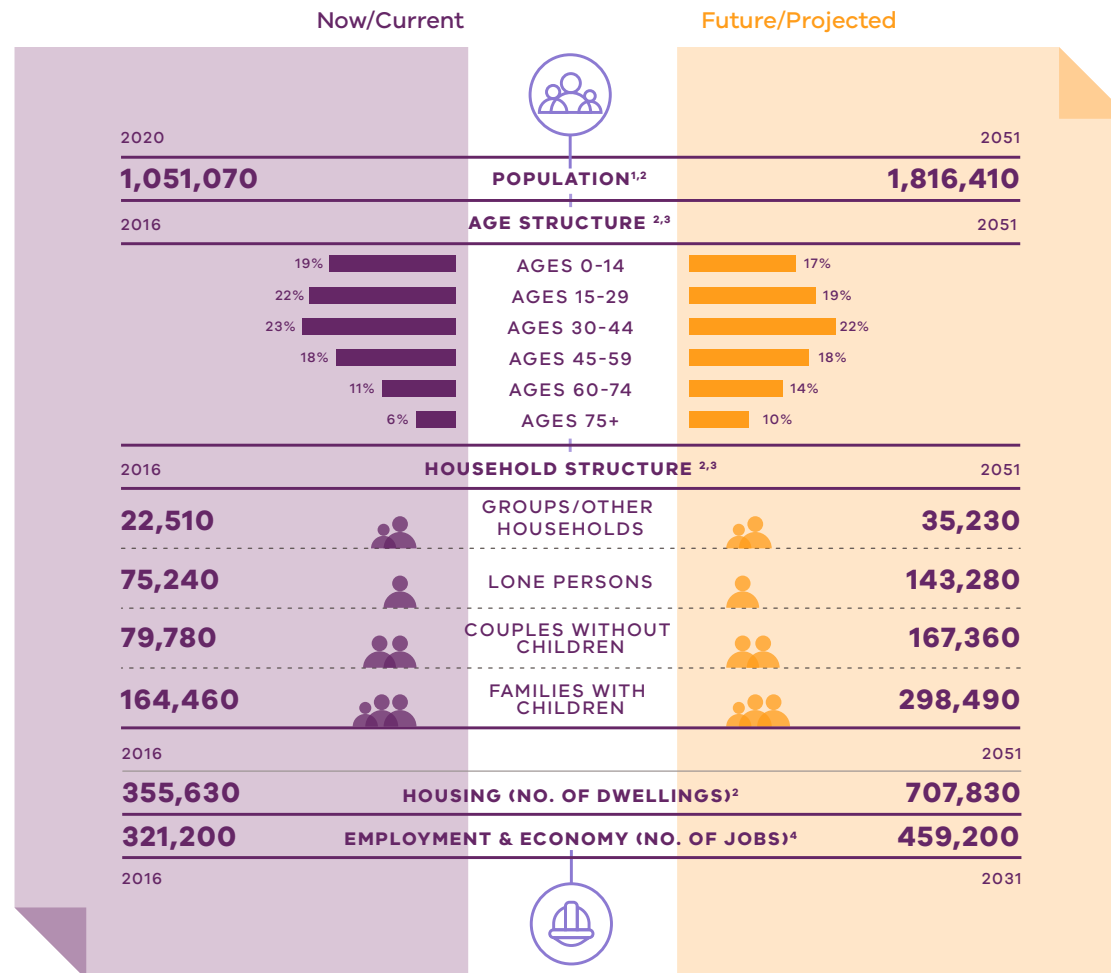
Geographically
its footprint covers 19 per cent of metropolitan Melbourne, with more than 50 per cent designated as green wedge.

Demographically
22 per cent of Melburnians, more than 1.05 million people, live in the region.

Economically
it generates \$42 billion a year in economic activity and employs more than 321,200 people.

Environmentally
it has 22.6 per cent of metropolitan Melbourne's open space and 12.1 per cent urban tree canopy cover.

NORTHERN METRO REGION - REGIONAL SNAPSHOT



(1) Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) Regional Population 2019-20 financial year, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, Australia.
 (2) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2019) *Victoria in Future 2019*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Melbourne, Australia.
 (3) Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016) *Census of Population and Housing*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, Australia.
 (4) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2020) *Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
 (5) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2018) *Land Surface Temperature Data*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
 (6) Clarke JM, Grose M, Thatcher M, Hernaman V, Heady C, Round V, Rafter T, Trenham C & Wilson L. (2019). *Victorian Climate Projections 2019 Technical Report*, CSIRO, Melbourne, Australia.

CITY-SHAPING PROJECTS

The Victorian Government is currently implementing the largest transport infrastructure program in the state's history.

City-shaping projects include:

- The West Gate Tunnel – creating a second river crossing to link the Western Metro region with the Port of Melbourne, CityLink and the CBD, and taking traffic pressures off the West Gate Bridge
- Level crossing removals including along the Werribee, Williamstown and Geelong-Ballarat railway lines, reducing congestion and unlocking land for development
- Metro Tunnel – linking Melbourne's south-east and Gippsland to the Sunbury line in Melbourne's west and north-west
- North East Link – connecting Melbourne's south-east to the

Eastern Freeway, the Western Ring Road and Hume Freeway

- Melbourne Airport Rail – connecting Melbourne Airport to Victoria's regional and metropolitan train network
- Suburban Rail Loop – connecting every major passenger railway line in Melbourne from the Frankston line in the south to the Werribee line in the west.

These city-shaping projects will improve access to jobs, education and social opportunities for residents in the Northern Metro region. They will better connect the region with other areas of Melbourne and Victoria. They will also create opportunities to maximise social, economic and environmental benefits.

Socially – bring jobs, services and leisure opportunities closer to where people live.




Economically – reduce transport congestion, boost productivity and create jobs.

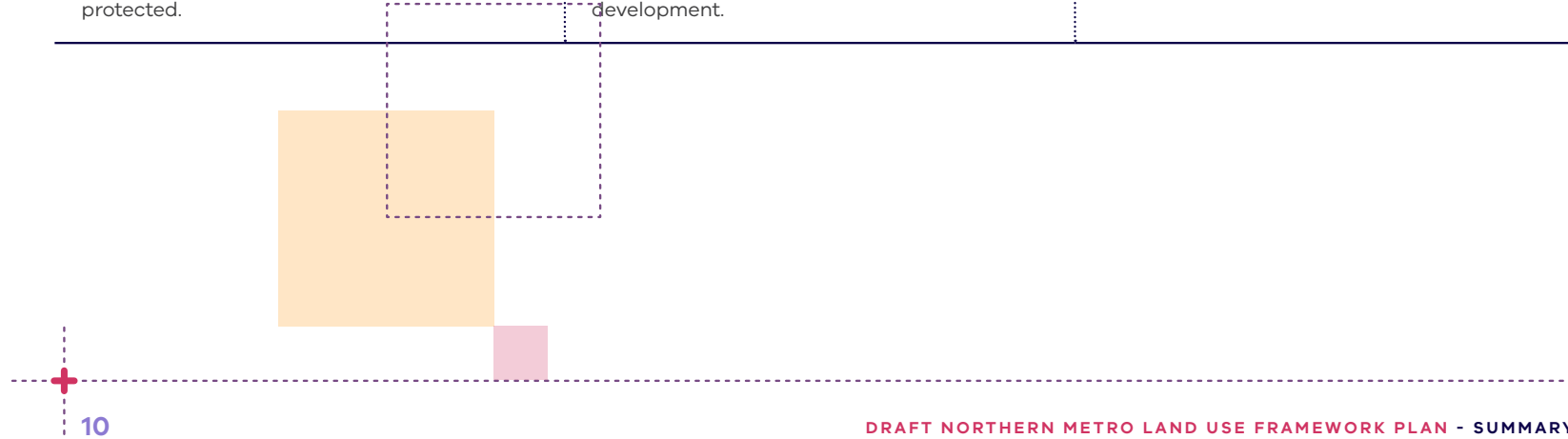
Environmentally – cut commuting times, reduce transport emissions, promote public and active transport use, and create 20-minute neighbourhoods.



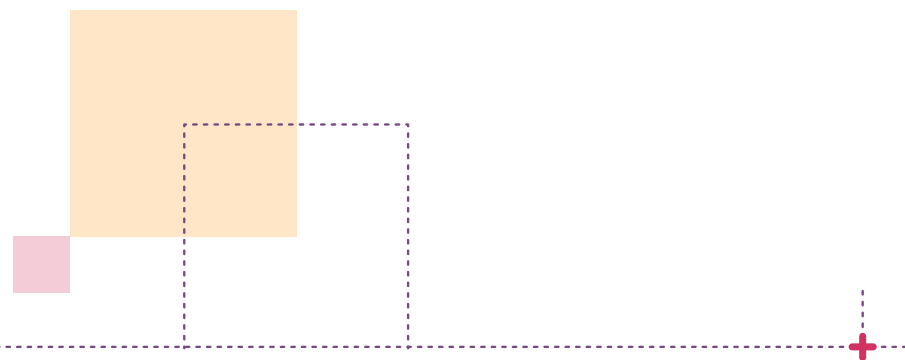
Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

NORTHERN METRO REGION STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES

		
<p>Productivity</p> <p>As Victoria's interstate and international gateway, the region is a leader in logistics and freight. It's also a hub for agribusiness, manufacturing, health, education and research. There is growing demand for industrial land, however industrial land supply is limited. Extractive resources must also be protected.</p>	<p>Housing Choice</p> <p>The Northern Metro region is well-placed to cater for population growth within established suburbs and the growth corridor. It needs to ensure housing supply and infrastructure keeps up with growth, including more affordable housing. There is also a need to balance residential and industrial development.</p>	<p>Integrated Transport</p> <p>The region has a good road network and will benefit from the Suburban Rail Loop. However, congestion is an increasing issue and there is a need for more public transport, as well as improved connections for cyclists and pedestrians.</p>



		
<p>Liveability</p> <p>The Northern Metro region has an established network of open spaces and parks, as well as opportunities to develop cultural and tourist attractions. However, there is a need to develop more open space, improve cycling and pedestrian trails, and protect its landscapes and heritage from development.</p>	<p>Strong Communities</p> <p>A good network of activity centres and community infrastructure for health, education and recreation exists in the region. However, there are service gaps and areas of disadvantage. Growth areas also need more services and facilities.</p>	<p>Sustainability and Resilience</p> <p>The green wedges and north-eastern suburbs have extensive natural assets and a good tree canopy. However, the region faces increased risks of flooding and bushfire. In addition, communities with low tree canopy are vulnerable to high urban heat. There is a need for more recycling and resource recovery.</p>



PLANNING FOR THE NORTHERN METRO REGION



Productivity

- Develop the La Trobe NEIC as a primary provider of tertiary education and health services supported by good transport connections.
- Protect the development of Melbourne Airport.
- Develop a strong network of activity centres to provide jobs closer to where people live.
- Manage the ongoing development of industrial precincts as generators of economic activity and employment.
- Ensure planning of the Northern Growth Corridor includes industrial and commercial development.
- Protect green wedges to ensure the sustainability of agriculture, extractive resources, tourism, biodiversity and state infrastructure.



Housing Choice

- Secure a 15-year supply of housing across the Northern Metro region.
- Ensure new housing is well-designed, high-quality, climate change resilient and in keeping with neighbourhood character.
- Deliver a pipeline of social and affordable housing near jobs, transport and services.
- Develop a mix of medium- and higher-density dwellings suitable for singles, older residents and families.
- Limit housing growth in the green wedge and areas at risk of natural hazards such as bushfire.





Integrated Transport

- Improve connections within the region and to peri-urban and regional areas.
- Improve public transport connections and cycling and pedestrian access to the La Trobe NEIC and activity centres. Suburban Rail Loop (Box Hill to Airport) will improve east – west public transport connections’
- Improve the road network in the Northern Growth Corridor and outer suburbs.
- Support the development of 20-minute neighbourhoods by prioritising active and public transport.
- Grow the region’s comparative advantage in freight and logistics by protecting freight corridors from encroachment or conflicting land-uses.

Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



Liveability

- Protect the region’s waterways, landscapes and biodiversity.
- Create great civic places that reflect the region’s environment and history – including the heritage of Aboriginal communities.
- Expand the network of open spaces and trails, linking biodiversity areas, waterways and urban areas.

Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

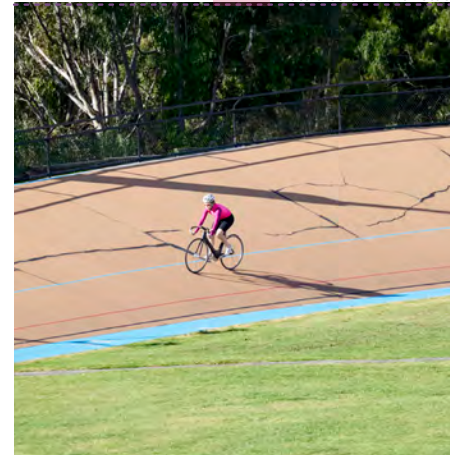


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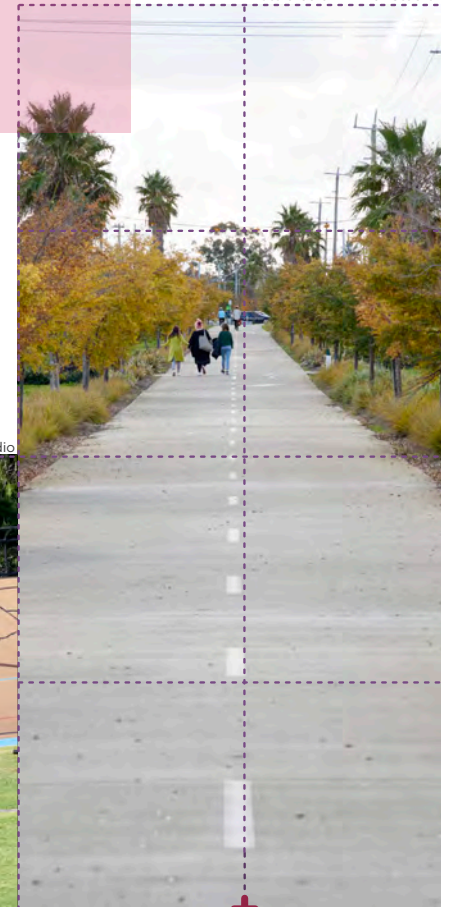


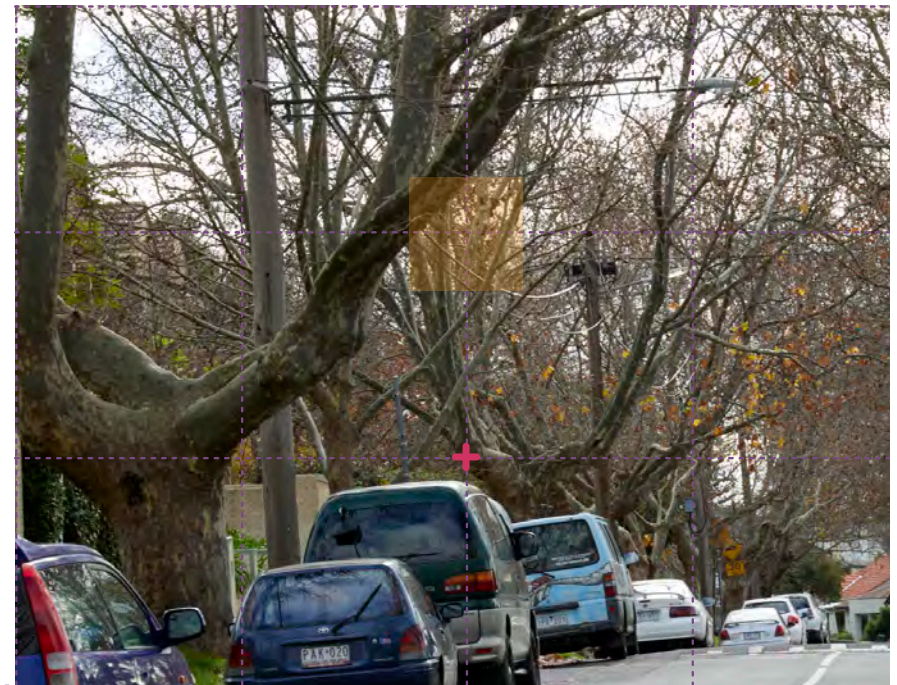


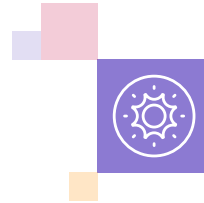
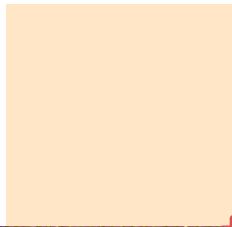
Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



Strong Communities

- Plan for major social infrastructure (libraries, recreation facilities, cultural centres and community hubs).
- Expand the network of accessible health and education facilities and precincts – including health and education services in the Northern Growth Corridor.
- Create 20-minute neighbourhoods around activity centres and in close proximity to public transport.

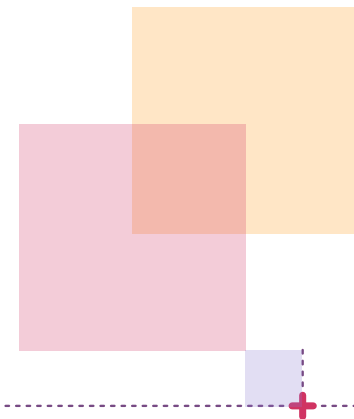
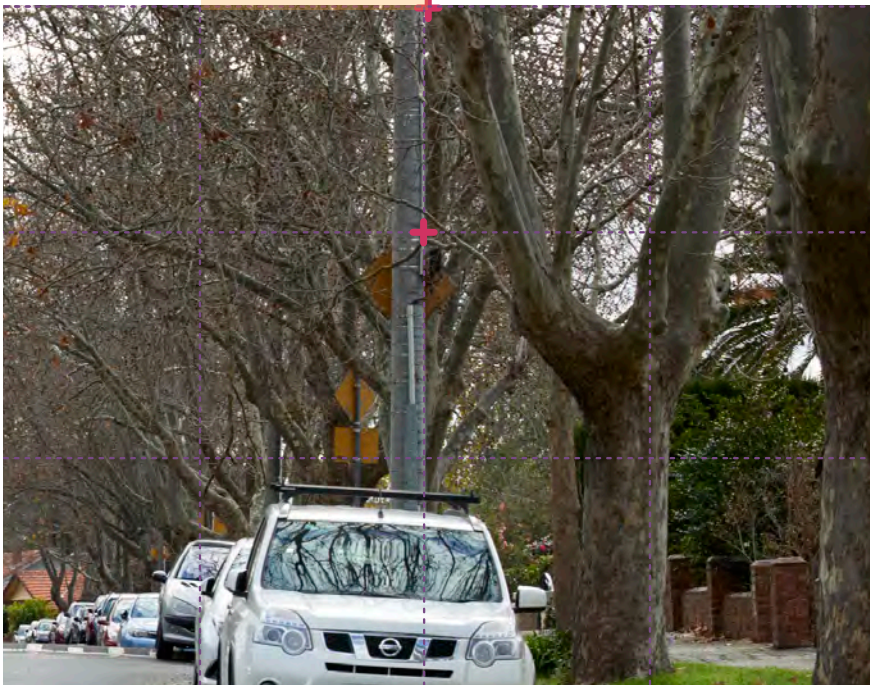




Sustainability and Resilience

- Prepare a regional bushfire plan to minimise risk to suburban and peri-urban communities.
- Investigate options for a resource recovery centre and transfer station.
- Ensure development supports the changing energy supply network.
- Increase the tree canopy to 27 per cent and harvest and reuse stormwater.

Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

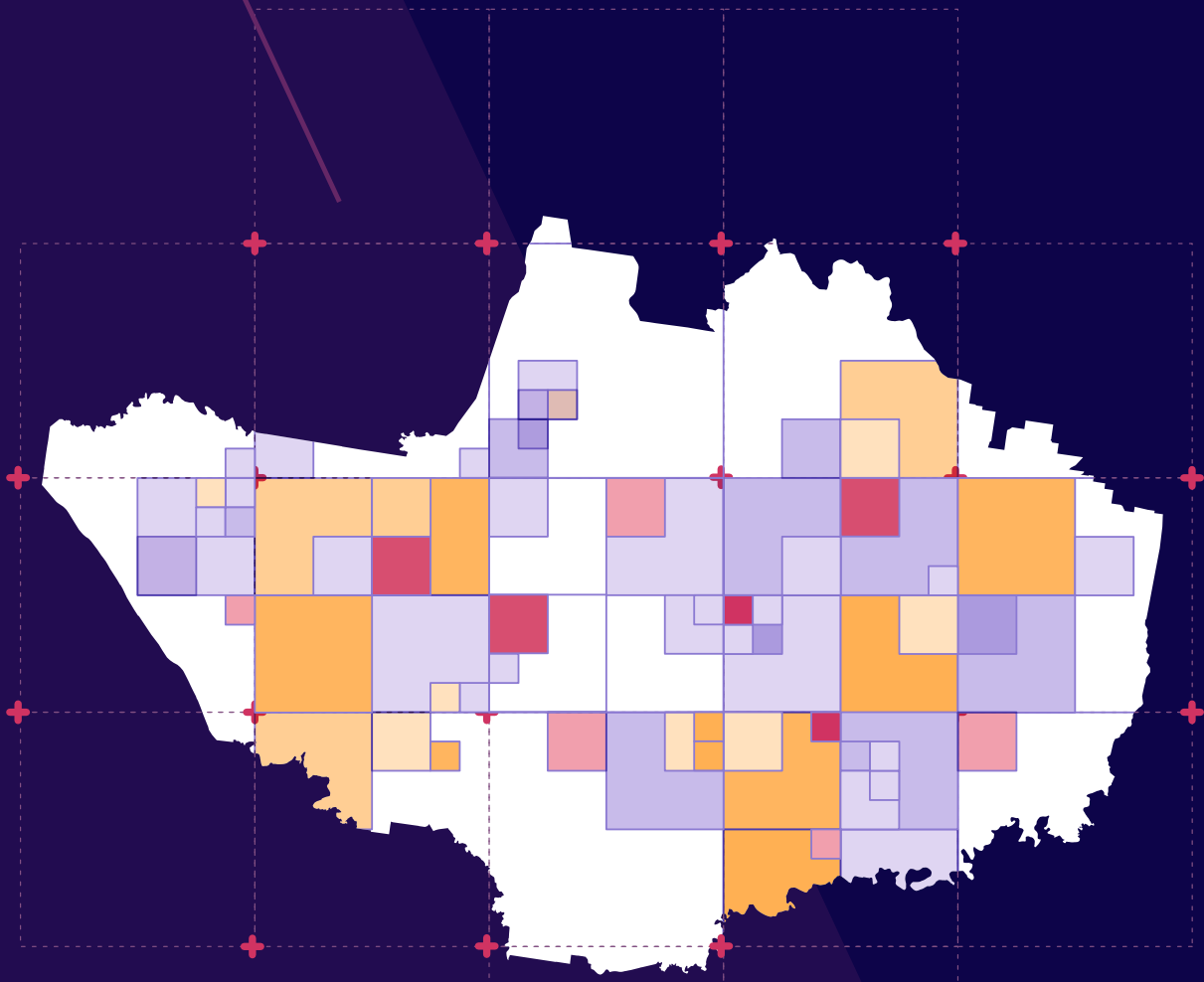


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Submissions can be made online at
engage.vic.gov.au

For any questions or assistance
please contact **lufp@delwp.vic.gov.au**

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050
DRAFT NORTHERN METRO
LAND USE FRAMEWORK PLAN



Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of Victoria's lands and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner and meaningfully engage with Traditional Owners to support the protection of their Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



Aboriginal self-determination

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu - Wadi Wadi and Mutti Mutti language for 'Owning Our Future' - is DELWP's *Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025*. As the framework for supporting and enabling Aboriginal self-determination for all DELWP projects, **Pupangarli Marnmarnepu** forms the basis of an ongoing dialogue and partnership with Traditional Owners to influence metropolitan planning and the implementation of *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050* in each of the six metropolitan regions.

Ongoing partnership opportunities with Traditional Owners are currently being explored. This process will determine the preferred involvement and level of influence Traditional Owners would like to have in shaping the outcomes and implementation of the Land Use Framework Plans.

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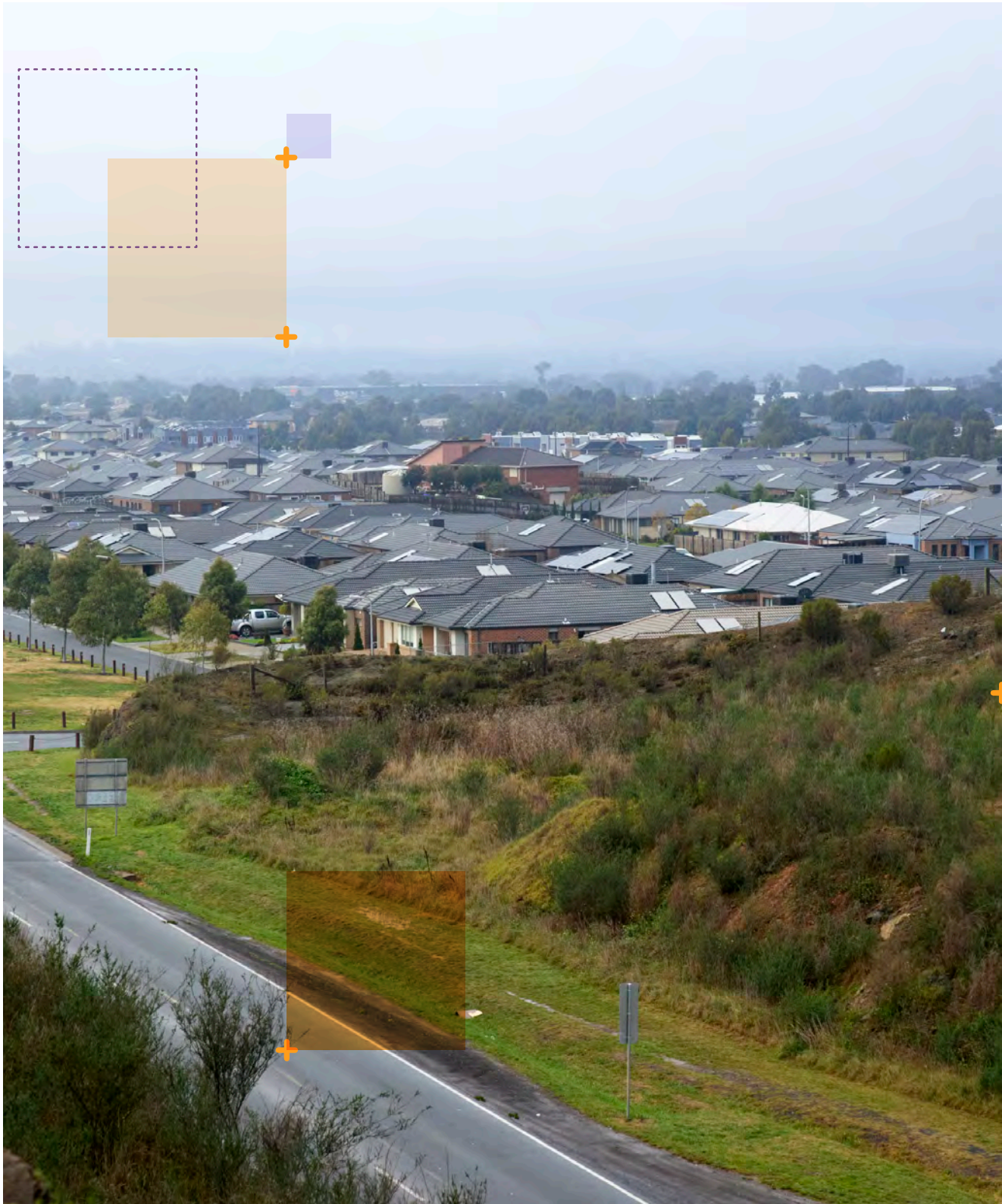


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

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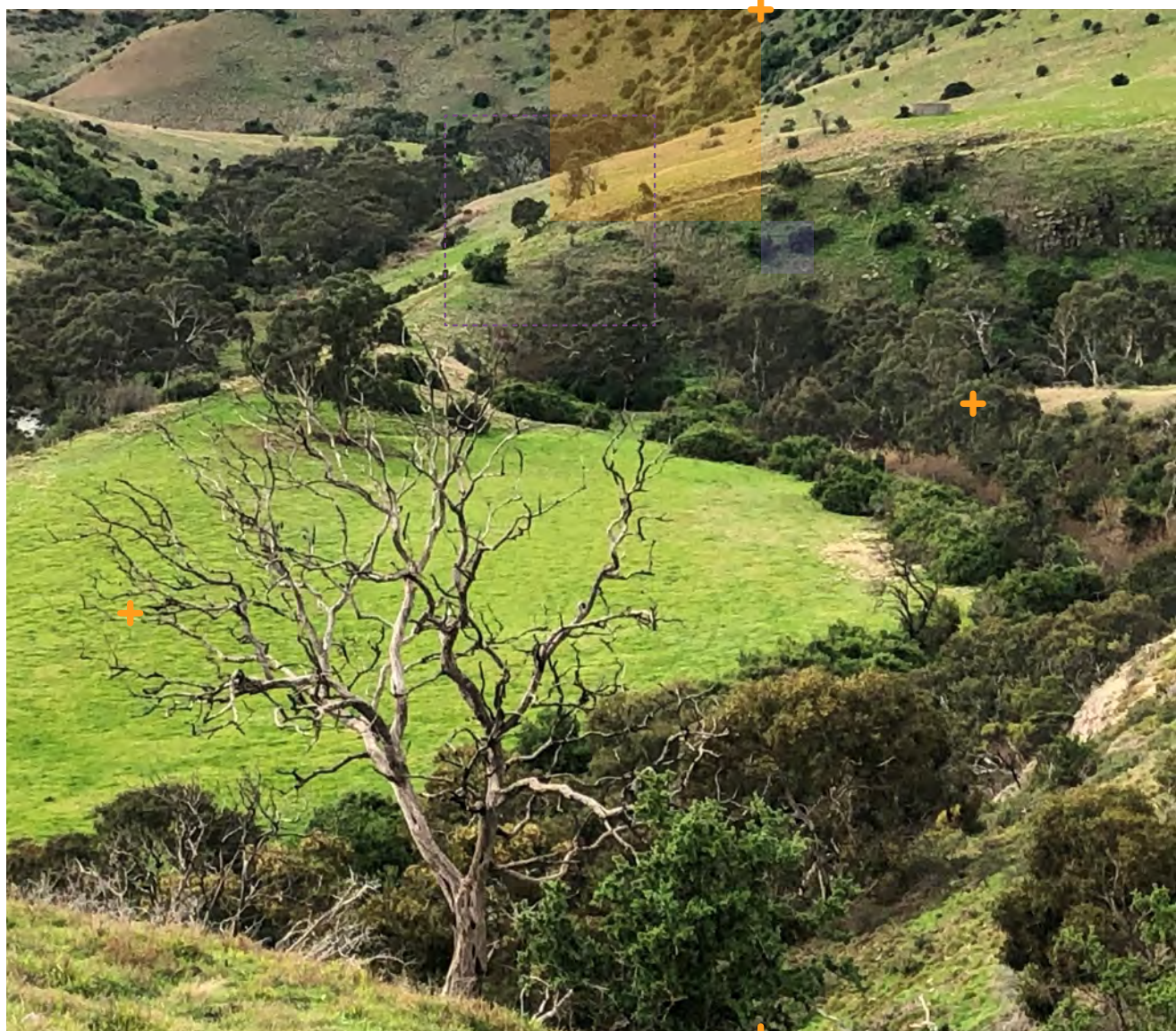
ABBREVIATIONS

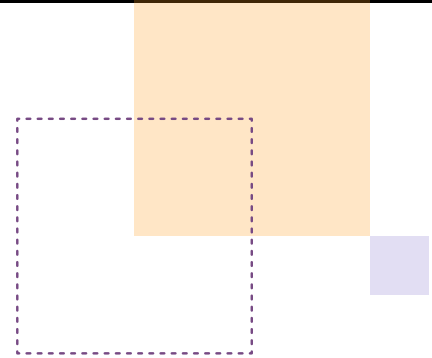
ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	NEIC/s	National Employment and Innovation Cluster/s
BIFT	Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal	OMR	Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 Transport Corridor
BMO	Bushfire Management Overlay	PBN	Principal Bicycle Network
BPA	Bushfire Prone Area	PFN	Principal Freight Network
CBD	Central Business District	PPTN	Principal Public Transport Network
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	PSP/s	Precinct Structure Plan/s
DJPR	Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	RSIP	Regionally-Significant Industrial Precinct
DoT	Department of Transport	SBO	Special Building Overlay
EIIA/s	Extractive Industry Interest Area/s	SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
EPWG	Economy and Planning Working Group	SERA/s	Strategic Extractive Resource Area/s
ESD	Environmentally Sustainable Development	SRL	Suburban Rail Loop
GRP	Gross Regional Product	SRLA	Suburban Rail Loop Authority
HVI	Heat Vulnerability Index	SSIP	State-Significant Industrial Precinct
LGA	Local Government Area	TAFE	Technical and Further Education
LSIO	Land Subject to Inundation Overlay	UDP	Urban Development Program
LST	Land Surface Temperature	UGB	Urban Growth Boundary
LUFP	Land Use Framework Plan	VIF	Victoria In Future
MICLUP	Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan	VPA	Victorian Planning Authority
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility	WIFT	Western Interstate Freight Terminal

CHAPTER 01 INTRODUCTION

Melbourne is the fastest growing city in Australia. The city's population is projected to reach 8 million by 2050. This growth, in combination with a changing climate, increased globalisation and congestion, is testing the resilience of Melbourne's built and natural environment. Victoria needs to plan for this growth and change. That is why *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050* is important.





Plan Melbourne has a clear vision:

‘Melbourne will continue to be a global city of opportunity and choice.’

What this vision demonstrates is that Plan Melbourne is more than a planning document. It is a blueprint guiding the actions of planners, councils, landowners, and developers – ensuring Melbourne grows more sustainable, productive and liveable.

Plan Melbourne seeks to deliver seven outcomes. How these will be delivered in each of the six metropolitan regions is the subject of the Land Use Framework Plans (LUFs).

Outcome 1	Melbourne is a productive city that attracts investment, supports innovation and creates jobs
Outcome 2	Melbourne provides housing choice in locations close to jobs and services
Outcome 3	Melbourne has an integrated transport system that connects people to jobs and services and goods to market
Outcome 4	Melbourne is a distinctive and liveable city with quality design and amenity
Outcome 5	Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods
Outcome 6	Melbourne is a sustainable and resilient city
Outcome 7	Regional Victoria is productive, sustainable and supports jobs and economic growth

Land use framework plans

Plan Melbourne identifies six metro regions within the city as illustrated in Figure 1:

- Inner (Melbourne, Port Phillip and Yarra Local Government Areas or LGAs)
- Inner South East (Bayside, Boroondara, Glen Eira and Stonnington LGAs)
- Eastern (Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges LGAs)
- Southern (Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston and Mornington Peninsula LGAs)
- Western (Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham LGAs)
- Northern (Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Mitchell, Moreland, Nillumbik and Whittlesea LGAs).

The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has led the development of a LUF for each region, supported by six Economy and Planning Working Groups (EPWGs).

The six EPWGs are chaired by a chief executive officer from a council within each region and include senior representatives from the region’s local councils, DELWP, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) and the Department of Transport (DoT).

Through the EPWGs, local councils have helped shape the vision for their regions – providing local insight into the regional opportunities and challenges that require joint action by state and local government.

CHAPTER 01

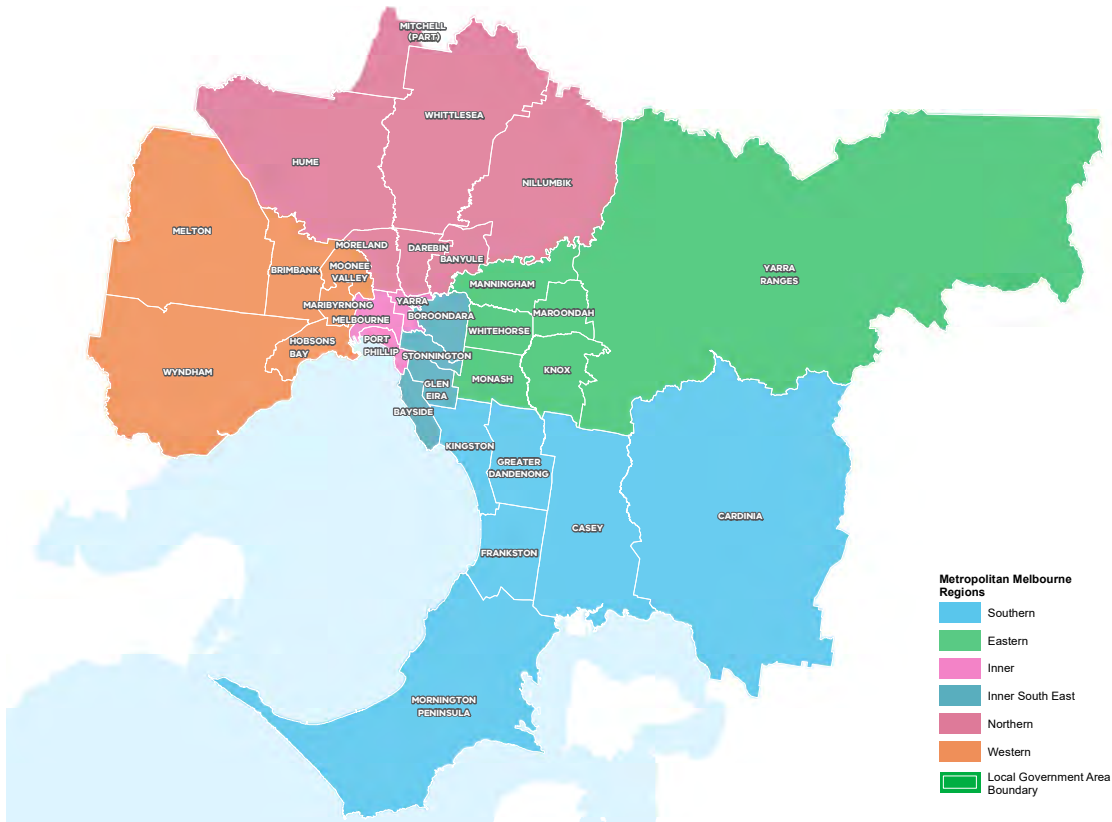
Responding to these regionally-specific opportunities and challenges, the LUFs:

- are 30-year strategic land use and infrastructure plans for Melbourne’s six metropolitan regions
- provide a common long-term framework to manage growth and land use pressures in each region
- are spatial plans that translate Plan Melbourne and the Plan Melbourne Addendum to the regional level
- focus on resolving metropolitan regional issues
- provide context for planning at the precinct or local level
- ensure the review and update of local planning schemes align with Plan Melbourne

- provide directions and strategies for state- and regionally-significant projects that are implemented through state planning policy and local planning schemes
- drive the accommodation of the majority of Melbourne’s growth into established areas through a land use framework that identifies places of state and regional significance, and integrate greenfield growth area planning with wider metropolitan planning.

The LUFs support the implementation of Plan Melbourne – guiding the implementation of Plan Melbourne’s nine principles, seven outcomes, 32 directions and 90 policies at a regional and local level.

FIGURE 1. Location of the Northern Metro Region



How will the land use framework plans be used?

The LUFs will be used to:

- Drive the majority of Melbourne’s population growth into established areas through a land use framework that identifies places of state and regional significance
- Guide the strategic integration of land use and infrastructure (including housing and jobs aspirations) in key areas and precincts
- Guide the development of Melbourne’s greenfield growth areas
- Facilitate collaboration by state and local government, key agencies and partners on regional planning and regional priorities
- Inform priority places for state-led planning
- Enable metropolitan councils to update their municipal strategies and policies within a clearly defined land use framework.

The LUFs will set regional-level planning policy to be implemented into planning schemes. They will inform local councils in decision-making for precinct planning, local and regional planning strategies, and infrastructure and servicing projects.

The LUFs include a number of short- to medium-term actions for state and local government, which will contribute to planning outcomes in each region alongside existing actions under Plan Melbourne and other government programs and initiatives. Action monitoring will be led by DELWP in

partnership with the metropolitan region through the EPWGs, and the actions will be formally reviewed every five years in conjunction with *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 Five-Year Implementation Plan*.

Annual progress reports outlining the status of actions will be published by DELWP as a part of Plan Melbourne monitoring. These progress reports will be publicly available.

The chapter on implementation provides further details on how the LUFs will be used to deliver Plan Melbourne outcomes across the regions.

Appendix 01 identifies the range of related initiatives already underway by state and local government to support the implementation of Plan Melbourne. The LUFs are designed to complement these initiatives.

The land use framework

The LUFs establish a common land use framework across the regions (Table 1). This common framework confirms places of state significance as identified in Plan Melbourne and introduces places of regional significance for each metro region.

The land use framework will direct land use decisions and investment, better align state and local government planning, and inform the development of local council planning strategies (including housing strategies). In the process, this common framework will also ensure land use, planning and development all support the vision of Plan Melbourne.

TABLE 1. The land use framework

PLACES OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE (AS IDENTIFIED IN PLAN MELBOURNE)	PLACES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central City • National employment and innovation clusters (NEICs) • Metropolitan activity centres • State-significant industrial precincts (SSIPs) • Transport gateways • State-significant health and/ or education precincts • Major urban renewal precincts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major activity centres • Activity corridors • Regionally-significant industrial precincts (RSIPs) • Enterprise precincts • Regionally-significant health and/ or education precincts • Inter-regional environmental features • Regional open space • Greenfield growth areas • Urban renewal areas • Housing opportunity and investigation areas • Green wedges

CHAPTER 01

Regional planning and collaboration

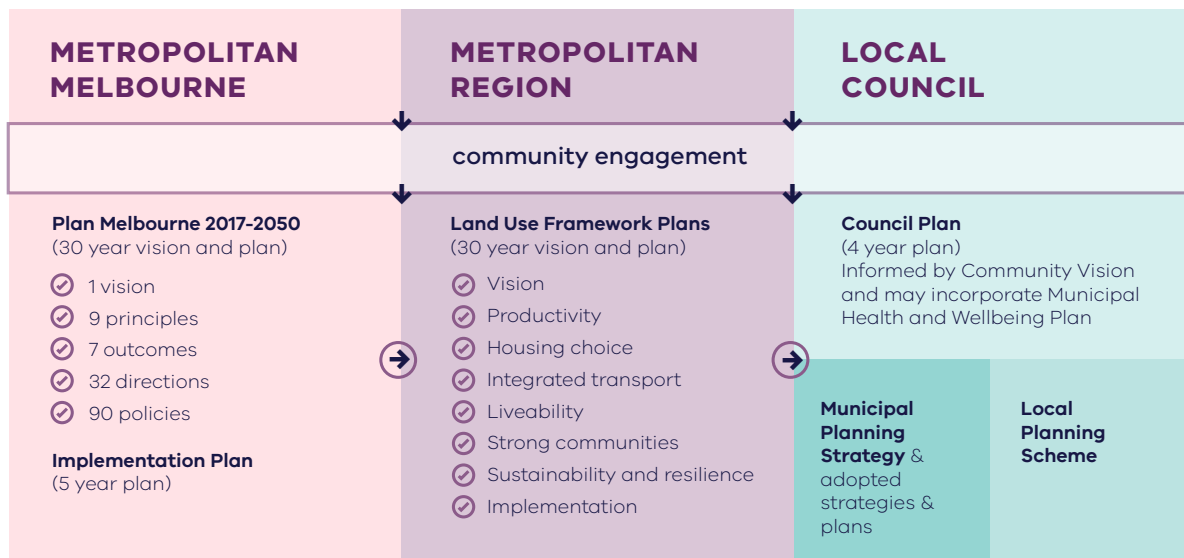
Planning at a regional level is an opportunity for state and local governments to work together to manage long-term growth and change across Melbourne (Figure 2).

While the Northern Metro Region has many unique opportunities and challenges, there are some opportunities and challenges common across all metropolitan regions, such as ensuring jobs are

available close to public transport; increasing housing supply in areas with access to jobs, services and public transport; and mitigating and adapting to climate change. The LUFP allows for these differences and recognises regional initiatives already underway.

The LUFPs will guide regional planning and collaboration vertically (between state and local government) and horizontally (across local councils in partnership with other stakeholders, including Traditional Owners).

FIGURE 2. Inter-relationship between state and local planning



State-led planning

The Victorian Government has identified priority areas for state-led planning. The purpose of state-led planning in those areas is to maximise land use and infrastructure integration, attract investment, and deliver housing, jobs and services within established urban areas (Table 2).

State-led planning often involves the Victorian Government partnering with local councils and other stakeholders to develop or implement strategic plans, plan for change or respond to an investment, and/or identify key catalyst projects or programs that support growth and attract investment.

TABLE 2. Current places for state-led planning in the Northern Metro Region

PLACES OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE
<p>National employment and innovation clusters La Trobe</p>
<p>Metropolitan activity centres Broadmeadows Epping Lockerbie</p>

Growth area planning

The LUFPs provide a strategic planning framework to guide future development of Melbourne’s three growth corridors – Northern, Western and South Eastern. The LUFPs incorporate and update information from the growth corridor plans prepared by the former Metropolitan Planning Authority, now the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA).

The growth corridor plans set the strategic direction for future urban development in the growth areas, including:

- Areas suitable for urban development and the broad form of development (residential, industrial, commercial)
- Areas of high environmental or landscape value that must be protected from development
- The integrated open space network
- Strategic transport infrastructure and options for further investigation
- Locations suitable for a wide range of employment uses.

The following principles underpin the growth corridor plans and are reflected in Plan Melbourne and the LUFPs:

Principle 1	Create diverse and vibrant new urban communities
Principle 2	Integrate transport and land use planning
Principle 3	Plan for local employment creation
Principle 4	Create growth corridors with high amenity and character
Principle 5	Protect biodiversity, waterways and cultural heritage values
Principle 6	Create integrated open space networks
Principle 7	Plan for environmental sustainability
Principle 8	Stage development to ensure the efficient and orderly provision of infrastructure and services

This Northern Metro Region LUFP replaces the North and Sunbury/Diggers Rest growth corridor plans.

The Northern Metro Region LUFP will guide and inform the preparation, completion and implementation of the remaining Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) in these growth areas.

This LUFP does not commit the Victorian Government to specific infrastructure, development projects or levels of service provision within the Northern Metro Region. Information included in this LUFP is intended to guide planning for future development; however it should not be interpreted as a delivery mechanism or program committing the Victorian Government to specific infrastructure or development projects or specific levels of service provision.

The broader context

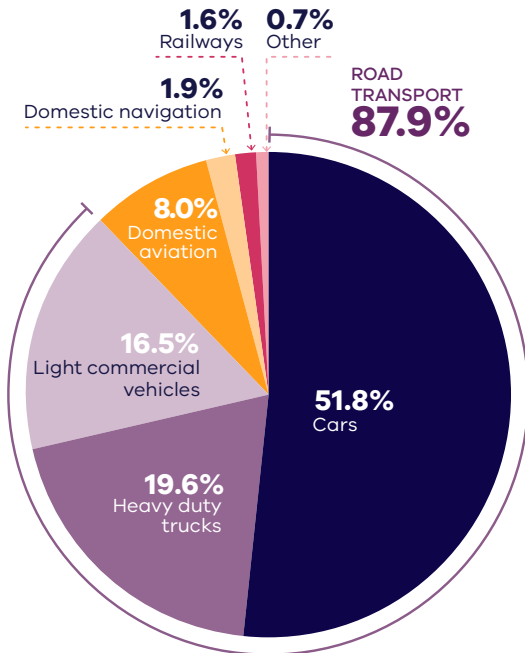
Climate change – the need for both mitigation and adaptation

Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy (2021) translates the *Climate Change Act 2017* into concrete action by introducing ambitious but achievable interim emissions reduction targets to keep Victoria on track to net zero emissions by 2050. The Strategy includes actions to reduce emissions now and lay the foundations for future reductions across the economy, including but not limited to the following: continuing the transition to clean, renewable energy production; establishing a light vehicle sales target of 50 per cent zero emissions vehicles by 2030; investing in land restoration and carbon farming initiatives; supporting Victorian farmers to respond to the impacts of climate change; and creating new jobs by promoting growth within the waste recycling and renewable energy sectors. These measures will help reduce the size of Melbourne’s carbon footprint and improve its resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Land use and transport integration – such as locating homes close to public transport and bike and walking paths – is critical to achieving net-zero emissions. In 2018, cars made up just over half of all transport emissions, with road vehicles responsible for almost 90 per cent of those transport emissions. Transport emissions by mode and road transport sub-categories are shown in Figure 3.

CHAPTER 01

FIGURE 3. Transport emissions by mode and road transport sub-categories – Victoria 2018



Source: DELWP (2020) Victorian Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 2018, State of Victoria: Melbourne, Australia.

In Melbourne, despite increased public transport usage and significant public transport investment, cars remain the dominant mode of transport. In 2016, for example, private vehicles accounted for 67 per cent of trips in Melbourne. To achieve net-zero emissions, Victoria’s private vehicle use must be dramatically reduced.

The Victorian Government is working towards a more sustainable built environment through reforms to construction, planning and energy provision across metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria. These regulatory reforms will reduce the energy consumption of appliances, require improved environmentally sustainable development (ESD) outcomes in new buildings and subdivisions, and improve the efficiency of energy production and distribution.

The Victorian Government recently released its *Environmentally Sustainable Development of Buildings and Subdivisions – A Roadmap for Victoria’s Planning System* (the Roadmap). This document outlines updates to the planning system that support broader, state-level ESD policy objectives. It sets out additional ESD objectives and standards for the design of new buildings, as well as the layout of large-scale residential subdivisions proposed through the Victoria Planning Provisions.

The Roadmap also sets out other initiatives, including new approaches to energy management – such as renewable and distributed energy technologies, microgrids and battery farms, better stormwater management, increased landfill diversion practices, and the promotion of sustainable modes of transport.

Victoria is actively decarbonising the energy sector through the construction of better buildings and the transition to renewable energy generation (including onsite solar photovoltaic and large-scale renewable energy projects). Victoria’s planning policies will also facilitate appropriate development of low emission and zero emission energy supply infrastructure.

Good precinct structure planning can also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make communities more climate resilient. That is why affordable and clean energy infrastructure should be used to support sustainable development and sustainable transport.

20-minute neighbourhoods

The LUFs aim to create more 20-minute neighbourhoods in Melbourne’s six metropolitan regions by planning for established areas, growth areas and major transport infrastructure projects. The LUFs also provide the regional direction and strategies to inform the delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods through structure planning.

Future PSPs in growth areas will be guided by the 20-minute neighbourhoods principle and the Victorian Planning Authority’s guidelines for precinct structure planning.

City-shaping transport projects

The Victorian Government is currently implementing the largest transport infrastructure program in the state’s history. City-shaping projects (Figure 4) include:

- The West Gate Tunnel – creating a second river crossing to link the Western Metro Region with the Port of Melbourne, CityLink and the Central Business District (CBD), and take traffic pressures off the West Gate Bridge
- Level crossing removals including along the Hurstbridge, Mernda and Upfield railway lines, reducing congestion and unlocking land for development
- Metro Tunnel – linking Melbourne’s south-east and Gippsland to the Sunbury line in Melbourne’s west and north-west
- North East Link – connecting Melbourne’s south-east to the Eastern Freeway, the Western Ring Road and Hume Freeway

INTRODUCTION

- Melbourne Airport Rail – connecting Melbourne Airport to Victoria’s regional and metropolitan train network
- Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) – connecting every major passenger railway line in Melbourne from the Frankston line in the south to the Werribee line in the west. SRL East (Cheltenham to Box Hill) is scheduled to begin in 2022. SRL East will also connect key employment and education precincts, facilitate uplift and intensive development of station precincts.

These city-shaping projects will improve access to jobs, education and social opportunities in the Northern Metro Region. They will also connect the Northern Metro Region with other areas of Melbourne and Victoria. In addition, they are also creating opportunities to make the Northern Metro Region more prosperous, sustainable and liveable through the integration of land use and transport planning.

The purpose of integrated land use and transport planning is to bring jobs, services and leisure opportunities closer to where people live. This means shorter trips, the option to use active transport, and less time spent travelling – leading to a better quality of life and the creation of 20-minute neighbourhoods. In addition, this integrated approach also frees up capacity for freight, public transport and active transport journeys – reducing transport emissions.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) impacts

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is having dramatic impacts on Victoria’s population, economy and society.

With movement restricted, migration to Victoria has been reduced almost to zero. The Australian Government’s expectations for overseas migration losses will see Victoria’s population decline slightly in 2020-21, compared with average growth of 2 per cent for most of the previous decade. International migration is expected to resume within one to two years but not return to normal until the mid-2020s at the earliest.

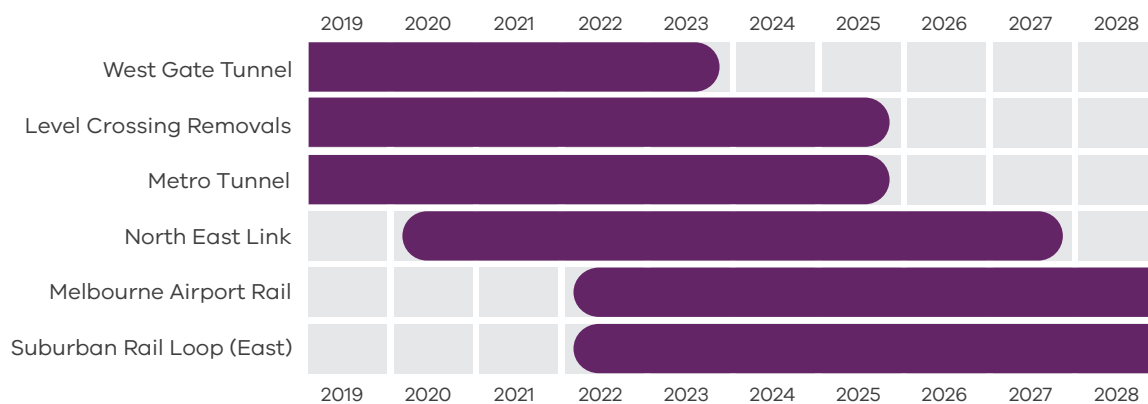
This interruption to growth is not expected to change the long-term future direction of Melbourne.

However, the global pandemic has had significant impacts. This includes the shift to work-from-home arrangements for large parts of the metropolitan workforce, a greater uptake of online retail services and a shift to local living, with more people are relying on their activity centres and neighbourhoods to meet their day-to-day needs. Many industry sectors impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, including tourism, the arts and international education, are still recovering.

The LUFPs will help Melbourne’s metropolitan regions manage the economic and social impacts of the pandemic especially in specific areas such as Melbourne’s CBD and the Monash and Bundoora education precincts.

The progress of each LUFP will be monitored and revisited to ensure each regional land use pathway continues to contribute to Plan Melbourne’s outcomes.

FIGURE 4. City-shaping transport projects

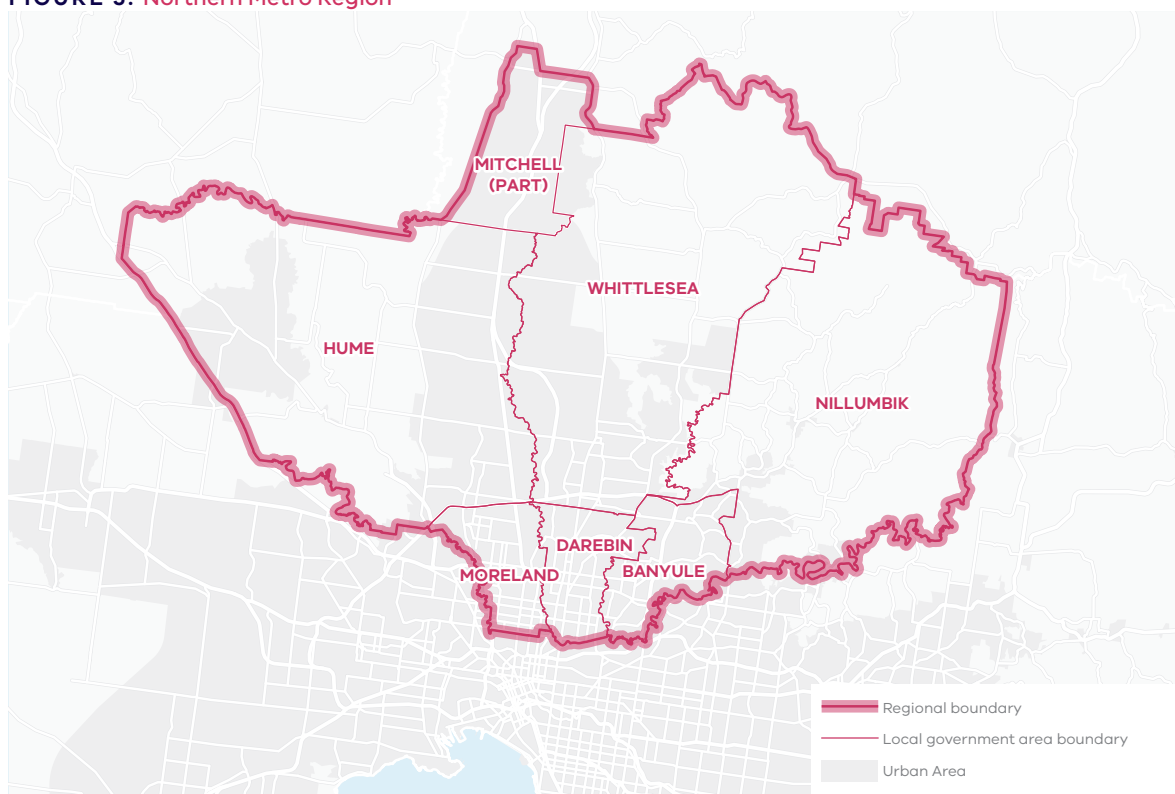


Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2021

CHAPTER 02 REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

The Northern Metro Region includes the local government areas (LGAs) of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Mitchell (part), Moreland, Nillumbik and Whittlesea.

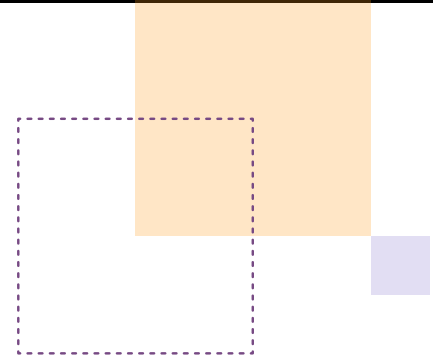
FIGURE 5. Northern Metro Region



TOTAL AREA: 167,350HA

19% OF METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE

Over 50% of the region is designated green wedge land



The region extends from the inner suburbs of Brunswick, Coburg, Preston, Northcote, Heidelberg and Ivanhoe to some of the city’s newest communities in Sunbury, Craigieburn, Mernda and Wallan. **Figure 5** shows the total area of the Northern Metro Region in hectares and its percentage of metropolitan Melbourne.

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation are the Traditional Owners of the lands that now make up the Northern Metro Region of Melbourne whose ancestors lived on the land for millennia.

Urban structure

The Northern Metro Region’s urban geography and structure is defined by river corridors, treed suburbs and rural landscapes in the east, volcanic plains with dormant volcanic cones and new urban growth in the north and west with views to the Great Dividing Range. The urban structure corresponds to three concentric bands of development – inner suburbs, middle ring suburbs and outer suburbs. The satellite towns of Sunbury and Wallan, which are the exceptions to this evolution of development, function as both outer suburban areas as well as regional centres. A central spine of industrial land clustered around the Hume Freeway separates the growth areas of Hume and Whittlesea.

Green wedges, beyond the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), include Melbourne Airport to the west. They also include incised valleys, agriculture, grassy eucalypt woodlands and scattered old river red gums to the north, as well as bushland and reservoirs. Settlements in the green wedges include Whittlesea, Panton Hill and St Andrews.

The Northern Metro Region comprises very distinct and often physically separated suburbs – some of which are well established, some which are growing rapidly and some which are planned. These include:

- Sunbury – an existing regional centre and growth corridor
- Growth corridors – Hume (Craigieburn-Donnybrook) and Whittlesea (Epping-Wollert, Mernda/Doreen)
- The Wallan township and surrounding growth areas

- Older established areas along the Metropolitan Ring Road (OMR) – Broadmeadows/Glenroy, Thomastown/Lalor
- Inner areas with older, fine-grain development and pockets of larger urban renewal sites with higher development densities along the north-south rail and tram spines – Brunswick, Coburg, Northcote, Preston, Heidelberg
- Suburbs in a treed landscape along the Yarra and Plenty rivers – Ivanhoe, Rosanna, Greensborough, Eltham.

Population and demographics

The Northern Metro Region has played a major role in accommodating Melbourne’s recent population growth amid significant change and transformation in its industry structure, employment and demographic profile.

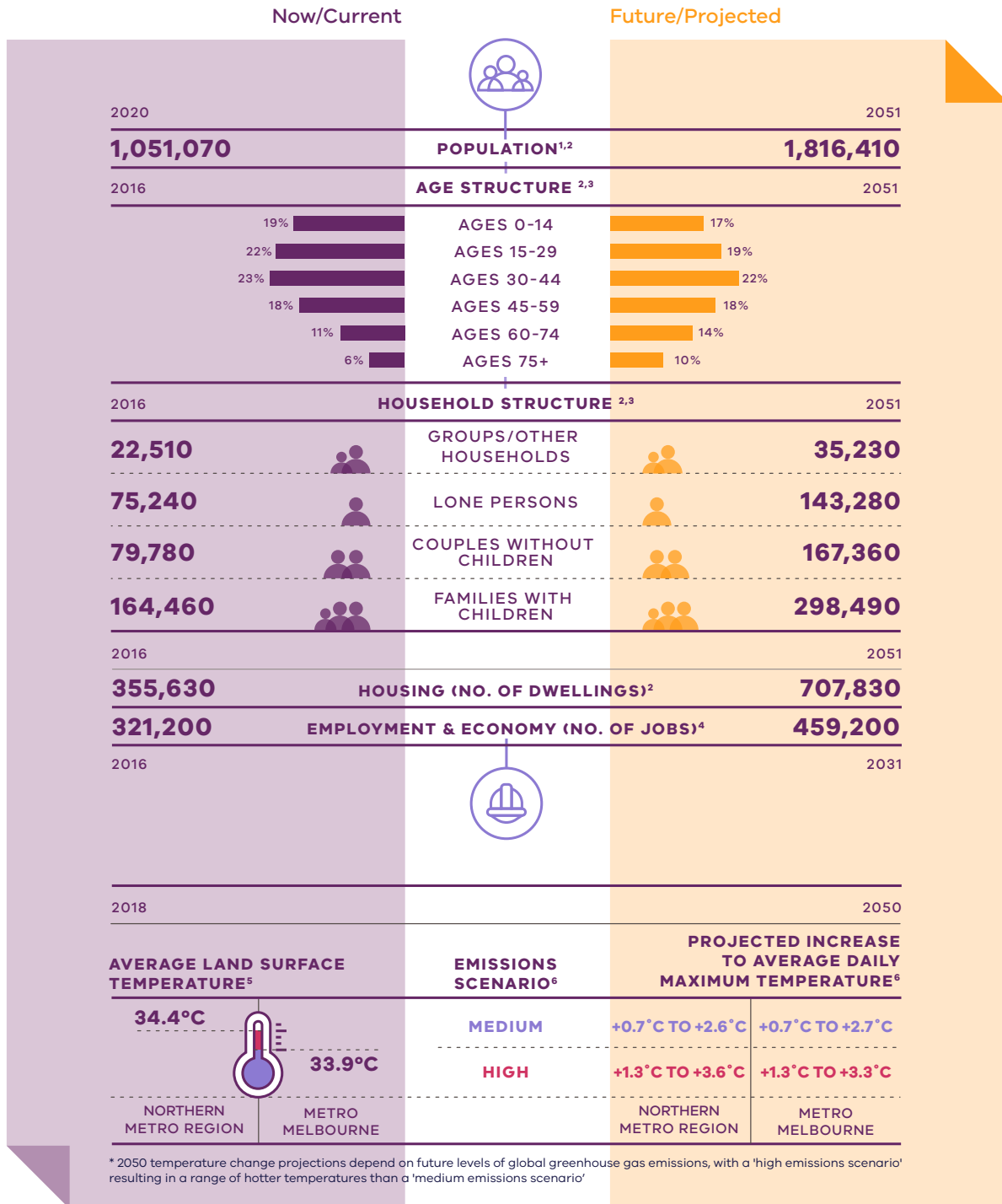
The region’s population is expected to grow by around 765,000 people between 2020 and 2051 to a total population of 1.8 million people or 22 per cent of Melbourne’s total population.

Future population projections and industry trends suggest Melbourne’s north will continue to undergo significant growth and change as it transitions from traditional manufacturing to a more diverse and technology-focused industry base.

The most prevalent household type in the Northern Metro Region is couples with children and the largest age group is the 30-44 year olds. This age group is projected to remain the largest age group in 2051 indicating the potential for a growth in young families.

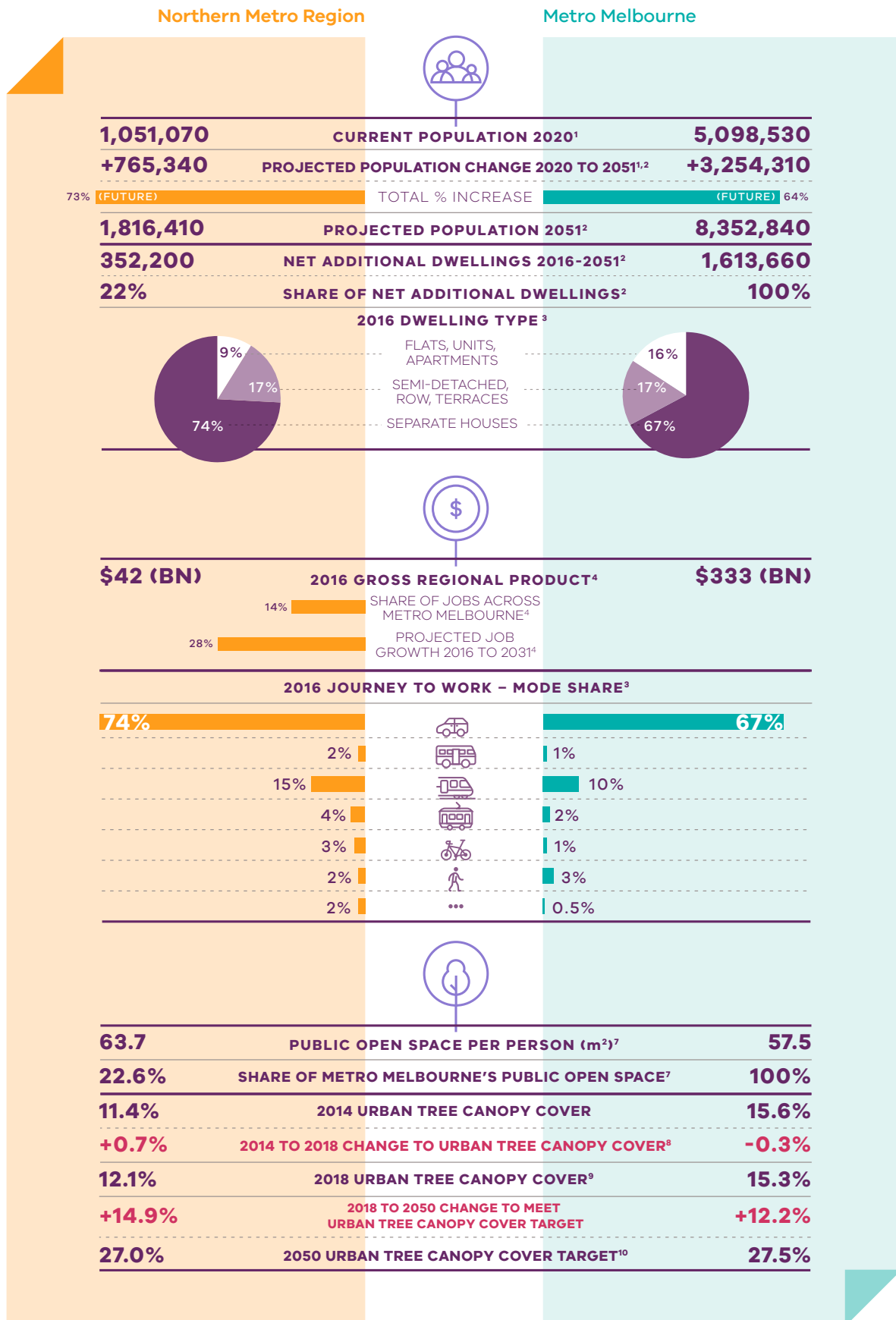
Outlined below are some of the key demographics and land use features of the Northern Metro Region.

NORTHERN METRO REGION - REGIONAL SNAPSHOT



(1) Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) Regional Population 2019-20 financial year, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, Australia
 (2) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2019) *Victoria in Future 2019*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Melbourne, Australia.
 (3) Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016) *Census of Population and Housing*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, Australia.
 (4) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2020) *Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
 (5) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2018) *Land Surface Temperature Data*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
 (6) Clarke JM, Grose M, Thatcher M, Hernaman V, Heady C, Round V, Rafter T, Trenham C & Wilson L. (2019). *Victorian Climate Projections 2019 Technical Report*, CSIRO, Melbourne, Australia.
 (7) Victorian Planning Authority (2017) *Metropolitan Open Space Network - provision and distribution*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
 (8) Hurley, J., Saunders, A., Both, A., Sun, C., Boruff, B., Duncan, J., Amati, M., Caccetta, P. and Chia, J. (2019) *Urban Vegetation Cover Change in Melbourne 2014 - 2018*, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.
 (9) Hurley, J., Saunders, A., Amati, M., Boruff, B., Both, A., Sun, C., Caccetta, P., and Duncan, J. (2019) *Melbourne Vegetation Cover 2018, Northern Region*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Melbourne, Australia.
 (10) The Nature Conservancy and Resilient Melbourne (2019) *Living Melbourne: Our Metropolitan Urban Forest*, The Nature Conservancy and Resilient Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.

NORTHERN METRO REGION VS METRO MELBOURNE



CHAPTER 03 VISION: NORTHERN METRO REGION IN 2050

The Northern Metro Region has a significant and unique role in ensuring that *“Melbourne will continue to be a global city of opportunity and choice.”*

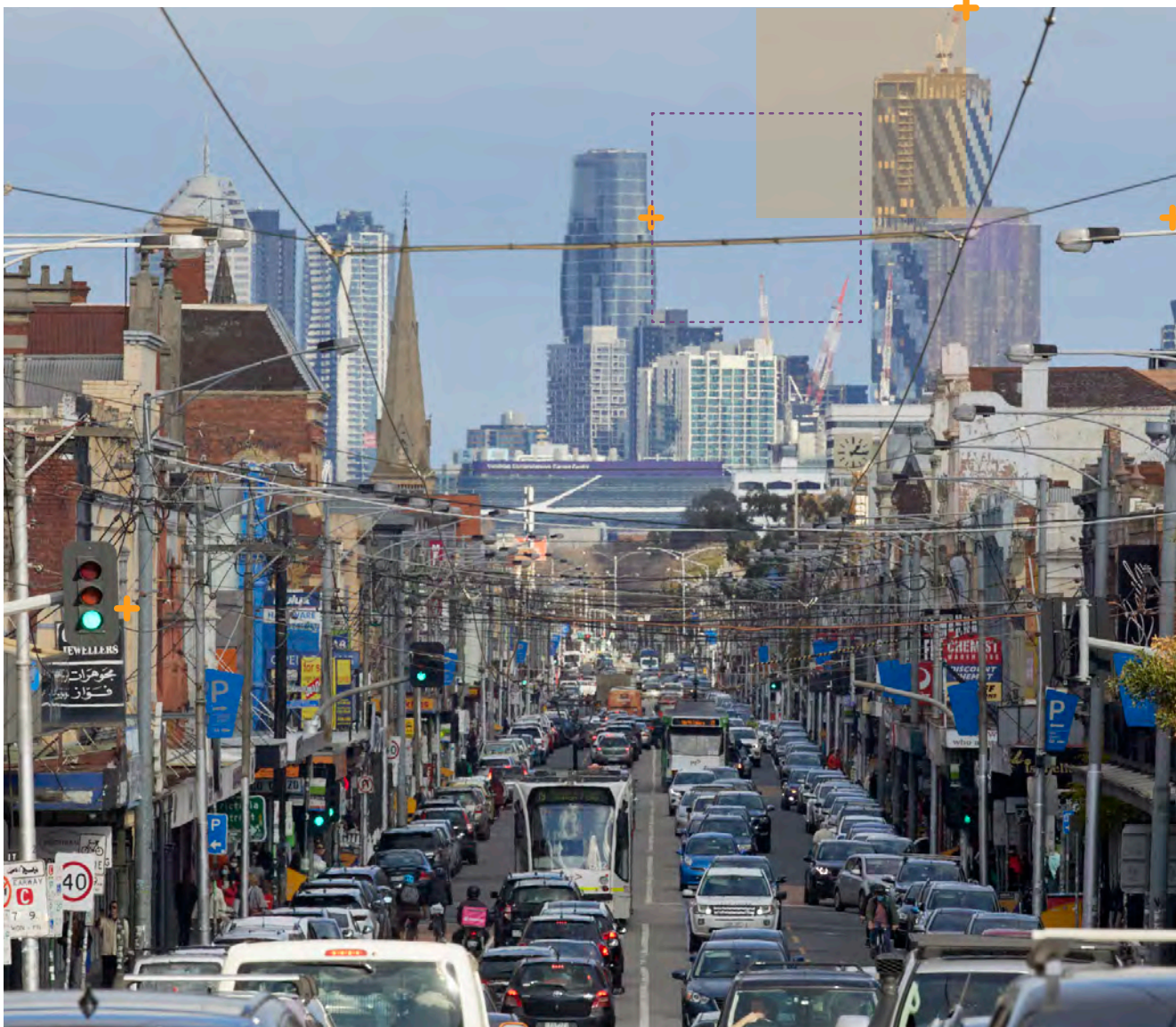


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

The Northern Metro Region is Victoria’s interstate and international gateway with communities well connected to jobs, activity centres, and the broader region by a high-quality transport network. The region is an attractive and affordable place to live and work that has transitioned from a traditional manufacturing area to a region of highly-skilled employment opportunities. By 2050 the Northern Metro Region will experience significant planned change including:

- Confirmation of the region as Victoria’s interstate and international gateway, with strategic connections through Melbourne Airport, the Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal, the Hume Freeway, the Melbourne-Sydney-Brisbane rail line and interstate rail and logistics hubs.
- Protected and well-planned industrial precincts continue to attract strong economic investment and are integrated through the road and rail network and significant hubs including the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable and Flower Market and the Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal.
- The La Trobe NEIC as the region’s economic focal point supported by a network of vibrant and attractive activity centres anchored by Broadmeadows, Epping and Lockerbie, each containing well-developed health, education, retail and commercial assets delivering significant employment growth.
- Thousands of jobs created in the food and beverage industry, agriculture and food science, advanced manufacturing, health and logistics industries, attracted by Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable and Flower Market and La Trobe University’s established food and agriculture capability. Creative precincts thrive in and around Brunswick, Northcote and in some outer suburban and green wedge areas.
- The region has high-quality, affordable housing with most housing in well-designed activity centres and locations with good public transport, services and amenities. A diversity of housing and lifestyle opportunities from inner urban living, bush and rural settings to greenfield areas. Its outer areas are vibrant, well-serviced communities each with a distinct character defined by its natural setting – the foothills, woodlands, creeks and waterways.
- Residents and workers enjoy public spaces and cycling and pedestrian networks that support 20-minute neighbourhoods. The open space network has more accessible passive and active open space and is interconnected across the region. By 2050, the local urban environment is cooler with more tree canopy, and new public and private development is environmentally sustainable.
- Communities are well-connected to jobs and activity centres and the Northern Metro Region boasting a new, high-quality transport network.

The region’s green wedge land including farmland, natural habitats, significant grasslands and waterways are valued and protected. The Yarra River creek corridor network with its characteristic river red gums, enhance the region’s distinctiveness, liveability, biodiversity and resilience to climate change.

For a more detailed picture of how land use in the Northern Metro Region is expected to change by 2050 refer to Map 1.

MAP 1. Northern Metro Region 2050 Plan

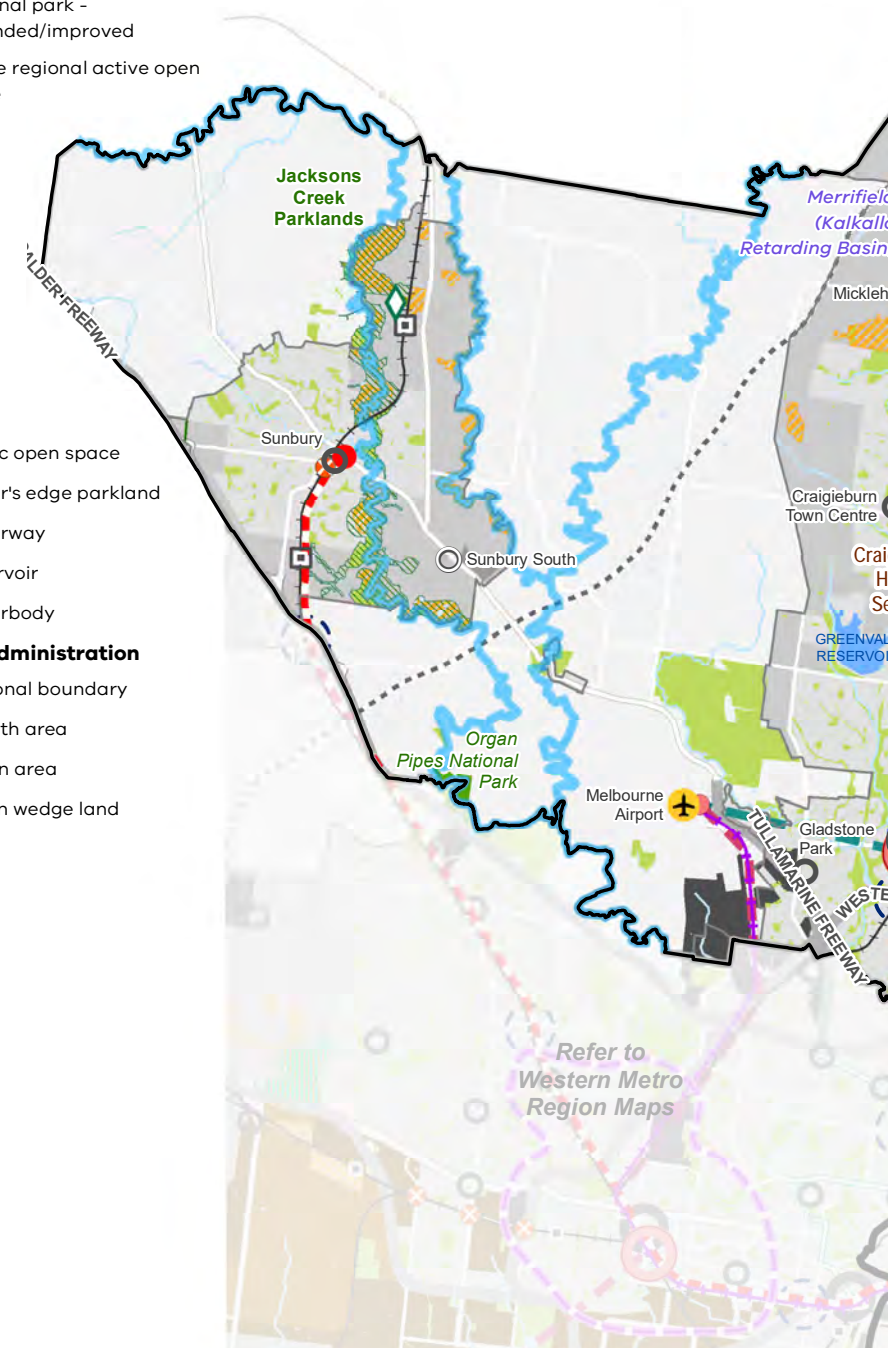
- Precincts and Activity Centres**
- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
 - Metropolitan activity centre
 - Metropolitan activity centre (future)
 - Major activity centre
 - Major activity centre (future)
 - Housing investigation area
 - Health precinct (state)
 - Education precinct (state)
 - Health & education precinct (regional)
 - Health precinct (regional)
 - Education precinct (regional)
 - State-significant industrial precinct - existing
 - State-significant industrial precinct - future
 - Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
 - Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
 - Urban renewal area

- Transport**
- Transport Gateway - Airport
 - Interstate Freight Terminal (Indicative)
 - Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and Potential
 - State-significant road corridor
 - Road network
 - Train station
 - Potential station
 - Rail network
 - Tram network
- Suburban Rail Loop**
- SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
 - SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
 - SRL - interchange station
 - SRL - station

- Transport projects - committed**
- Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
 - Melbourne Airport Rail
 - North East Link
 - Level crossing removal site
- Transport projects - potential future**
- Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 reservation
- Environment**
- Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
 - Conservation reserve - proposed
 - National park/state park
 - Regional park - expanded/improved
 - Future regional active open space

- Public open space
 - Water's edge parkland
 - Waterway
 - Reservoir
 - Waterbody
- Land use Administration**
- Regional boundary
 - Growth area
 - Urban area
 - Green wedge land

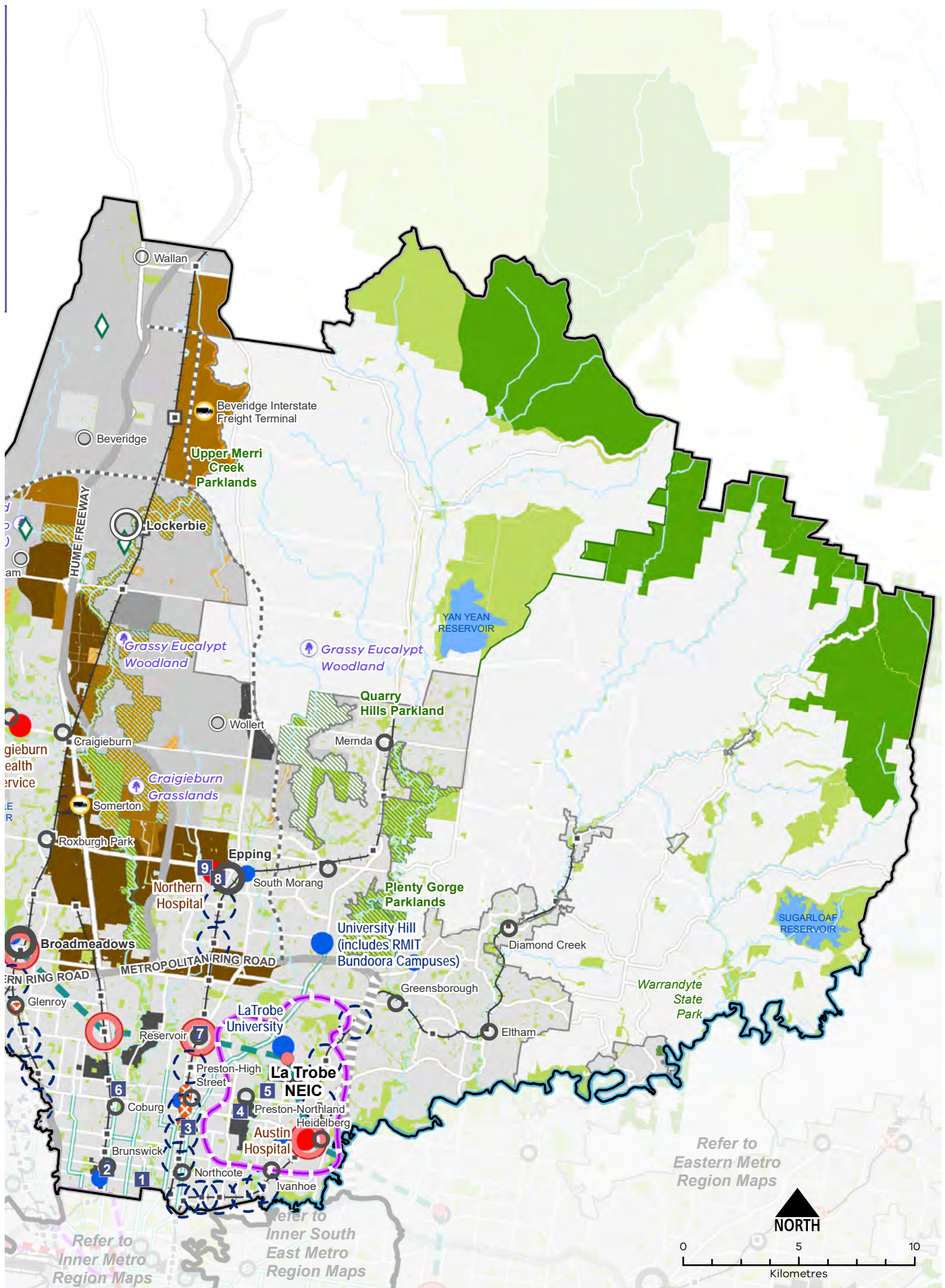
Map ID	Urban renewal area
1	East Brunswick Village
2	Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct
3	The Junction South Preston
4	Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP)
5	Olympic Village, Heidelberg West
6	Pentridge, Coburg
7	Reservoir Junction
8	Thomastown / Lalor (between Edgars and Dalton Roads)
9	New Epping (former Epping Quarry Site, 215 Cooper Street Epping)



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.

Note: Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.





CHAPTER 04 PRODUCTIVITY

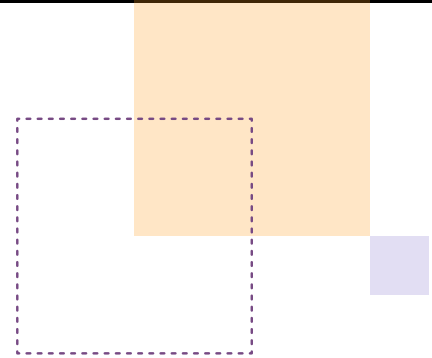


Plan Melbourne Outcome 1:
Melbourne is a productive
city that attracts investment,
supports innovation and creates
jobs

The Northern Metro Region is Victoria's interstate and international gateway providing strategic connections through Melbourne Airport, the Hume Freeway and via rail to existing and proposed freight and logistics hubs within and beyond the region. The Northern Metro Region contributes \$42 billion to the Victorian economy which amounts to 13 per cent of metropolitan Melbourne's Gross Regional Product (GRP).



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



With connections into Victoria's agricultural regions, the Northern Metro Region is a leader in innovation in the food and beverage industry across production, manufacturing, distribution, education and research.

Established health precincts and partnerships generate significant employment in the Northern Metro Region as well as opportunities to strengthen links between education and clinical research to support investment and innovation.

Plan Melbourne creates a city structure that strengthens Melbourne's competitiveness for jobs and investment. It identifies national employment and innovation clusters (NEICs), state-significant industrial precincts (SSIPs), a network of metropolitan and major activity centres, transport gateways and state-significant health and education precincts to ensure employment growth occurs outside of the Central City linked by transport. The Northern Metro Region can be guided by this structure and has a strong basis from which to grow.

State of play

The employment and activity centres framework for Melbourne's Northern Metro Region comprises the following major elements:

- The La Trobe NEIC, including La Trobe University, Northland Major Activity Centre, Austin Biomedical Alliance Precinct and the Heidelberg Major Activity Centre
- Metropolitan activity centres at Broadmeadows, Epping and Lockyerbie (future)
- Melbourne Airport
- Northern SSIP
- Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal (BIFT)
- Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market
- Important waste and resource recovery facilities including the Cooper Street Waste and Resource Recovery Hub
- A network of 19 existing and five future major activity centres generally located on public transport corridors

- Older industrial and employment precincts, which are undergoing considerable change but still play an important role in providing affordable locations for new businesses and emerging industries
- Newer and planned employment precincts located along the Hume Freeway and Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 transport corridor (OMR).

There is a large amount of industrial and commercial land across the Northern Metro Region providing state-, regionally- and locally-significant employment and economic functions. The region includes the Northern Growth Corridor which makes significant provision for future industry and housing.

A significant proportion of the region is green wedge land where there is a strong focus on productive land, landscape and open space and environment and biodiversity protection.

The region features the Sunbury, Whittlesea and Nillumbik green wedges. It also has substantial areas identified as containing stone resources that could sustain quarrying operations. These areas include sections within the Sunbury and Whittlesea green wedges, as well as an extensive portion within the UGB.

Key food and beverage facilities in the Northern Metro Region include the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market in Epping, La Trobe University's established food and agriculture capability, RMIT University's Food Research and Innovation Centre and Melbourne Polytechnic's School of Food, Plant and Animal Industries.

The region has good connections to transport gateways such as the Port of Melbourne, Melbourne and Essendon airports, and the freight network along key roads and railway lines, with excellent access to the eastern seaboard.

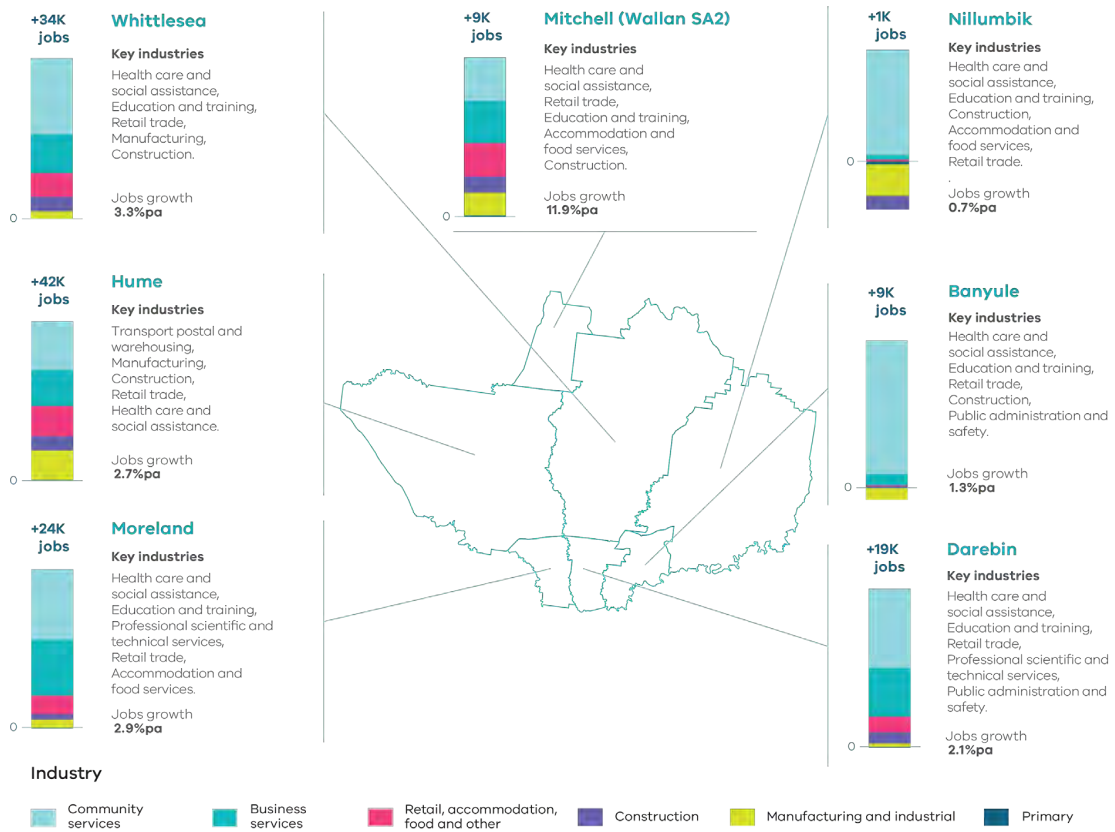
In 2016, the region supported around 14 per cent of all employment across the metropolitan area, or 321,200 jobs. By 2031, approximately 138,000 additional jobs will be located across the region, with over half of these new jobs expected to be in Hume and Whittlesea LGAs. Industries expected to experience the strongest growth are healthcare and social assistance, education and training, retail trade, manufacturing and construction (Figure 6).

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The Northern Metro Region has around 4960 hectares of land currently zoned for industrial uses. About a quarter of this land is vacant to accommodate future industrial uses. Based on the 2017-18 industrial land consumption rate of 52 hectares, there is an estimated 24 years' supply of zoned industrial land in the region. An additional 2867 hectares is identified for future industrial purposes that is yet to be rezoned, which will add an additional 12 years of unzoned future industrial land supply (accounting for the land set aside for the proposed BIFT and its ancillary uses).

Regarding commercial floorspace, based on projected growth, by 2031 it is anticipated that approximately 1.4 million square metres of additional floorspace will be required across the Northern Metro Region. Approximately 800,000 square metres will be required for office uses and 600,000 square metres will be required for retail (DELWP, 2020a).

FIGURE 6. Projected employment growth for the Northern Metro Region 2016 to 2031



Source: Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan, DELWP, 2020

Regional strengths

- A strong network of major economic assets of Melbourne Airport, La Trobe NEIC, Broadmeadows and Epping metropolitan activity centres, and the future metropolitan activity centre at Lockerbie will attract investment and jobs.
- There is an important regional role for freight and logistics, particularly the future BIFT.
- Opportunities presented by SRL include the development of new stations or interchange stations as hubs for new activity.
- Creative industries in areas such as Brunswick and Northcote are a growing aspect of the region's economy.
- The region's green wedge includes important agricultural land, as well as a range of cultural and recreational assets that support the visitor economy, including tourism and agribusiness opportunities.
- Significant opportunities exist for economic, health and community activity from public transport improvements across the region.
- Growth areas will provide new employment and increase the containment of jobs, including opportunities to accommodate a diversity of uses.

Regional challenges

- Existing and proposed employment land needs to be protected from conversion to residential uses.
- Encroachment of sensitive uses must be managed, while growing and expanding the state-significant transport gateways and industrial precincts to attract higher order jobs.
- Extractive resources in the region, within and outside the UGB, require protection.
- A diversity of industrial land lot sizes should be provided, while responding to demand for large sites that can provide large-format uses or freight and logistics.
- There is a limited supply of employment and industrial land in the region.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of Productivity and Outcome 1 of Plan Melbourne are:

Direction 1	Facilitate the development of the La Trobe NEIC as a primary provider of tertiary education and health services supported by increased transport connectivity
Direction 2	Protect and support the development of Melbourne Airport
Direction 3	Support the development of a strong network of activity centres to provide jobs closer to where people live
Direction 4	Manage and plan for industrial precincts in the Northern Metro Region to be continued generators of economic activity and employment
Direction 5	Ensure the Northern Growth Corridor accommodates longer-term industrial and commercial development opportunities
Direction 6	Ensure protection of green wedges and support their role to provide agriculture, extractive resources, tourism and state infrastructure for the long-term benefit of all Victorians

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUFPP.










Map 2 shows how productivity will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.

MAP 2. Northern Metro Region productivity 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Health precinct (state)
-  Education precinct (state)
-  Health & education precinct (regional)
-  Health precinct (regional)
-  Education precinct (regional)
-  State-significant commercial land*
-  State-significant commercial land - future*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land - future*
-  State-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  State-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Extractive Industry (temporary land use)





Transport

-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
-  Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and Potential
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Potential station
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Strategic Cycling Corridor




Principal Freight Network

-  PFN road
-  PFN rail

Suburban Rail Loop

-  SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
-  SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
-  SRL - interchange station
-  SRL - station


Transport projects - committed

-  Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
-  Melbourne Airport Rail
-  North East Link








Transport projects - potential

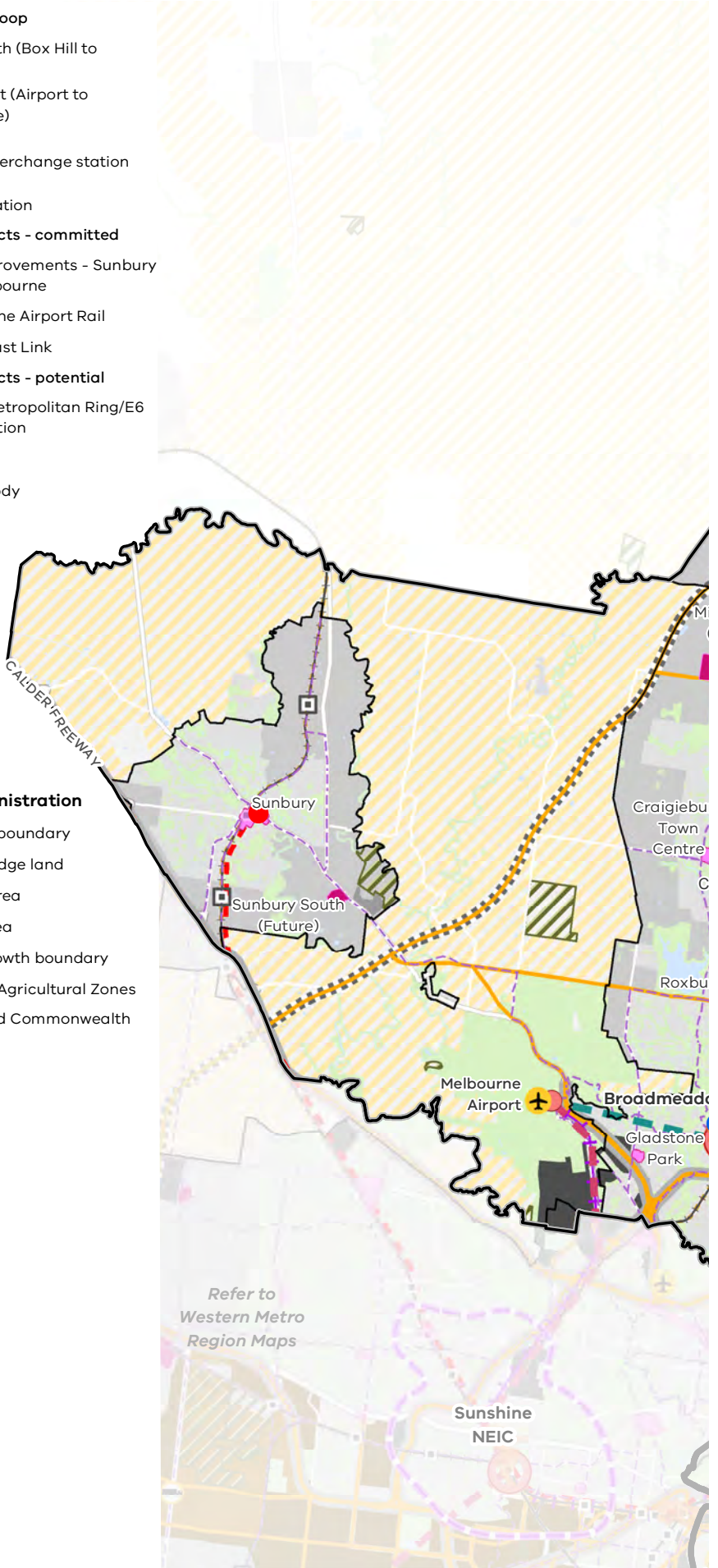
-  Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 Reservation

Environment

-  Waterbody

Land use/Administration

-  Regional boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Principal Agricultural Zones
-  Public and Commonwealth Land

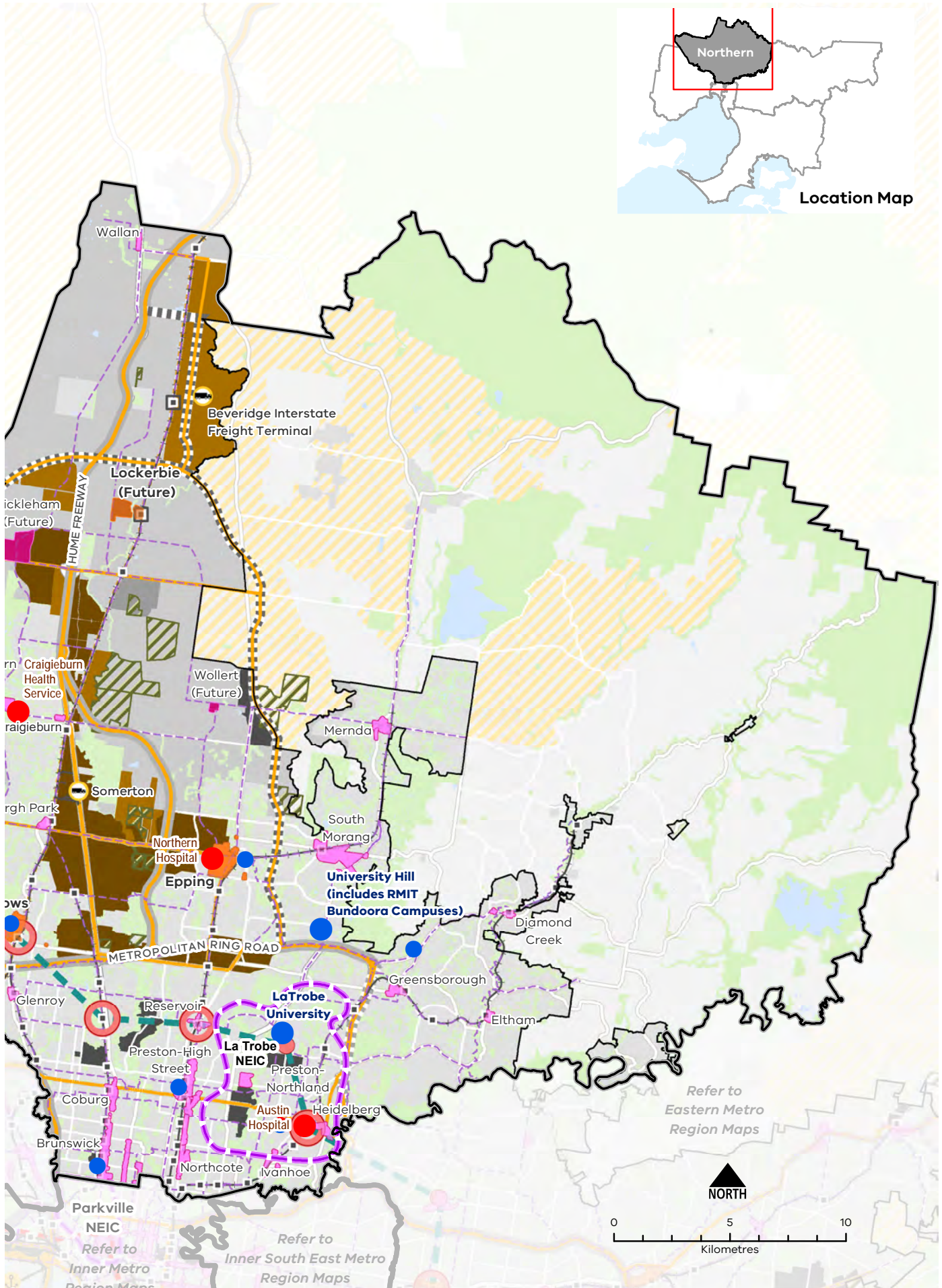


*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MICALUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.

Note:
 The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.

Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.

Refer to
Western Metro
Region Maps



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DIRECTION 01.**Facilitate the development of the La Trobe NEIC as a primary provider of tertiary education and health services supported by increased transport connectivity**

Each NEIC identified across Melbourne is anchored by a specialised activity that provides the foundations for future economic specialisation and growth. The La Trobe NEIC's strengths are in education, agricultural and health research, healthcare provision and retail (Figure 7).

To attract investment to La Trobe NEIC, high levels of amenity and improved connectivity will be needed as well as effective governance arrangements. Land use planning should ensure specialised activity within the NEIC is protected and able to grow, and that connections with complementary regional economic assets are strengthened, particularly the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market in Epping and the proposed Epping Food Hub.

A planned approach to integrated transport needs to occur within the La Trobe NEIC. Early land use and infrastructure planning, including bus access improvements, should be undertaken to support La Trobe NEIC and to maximise opportunities for land use and economic intensification. This could be unlocked through improved public transport connectivity arising from SRL, as well as access into the centre from the North East Link.

La Trobe University, Bundoora and its Research and Innovation Precinct is an integral part of the La Trobe NEIC. Its large land area, education and health role, and regional and inter-regional relationships are a significant opportunity for the future of the NEIC. Their close proximity to the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market at Epping and the proposed Epping Food Hub further enhances Victoria's agriculture, food and fibre value chain, particularly in post-farm gate activities. Stronger university-industry links should be encouraged within the NEIC, including stronger connections to Heidelberg.

The Heidelberg Health Precinct is Victoria's second largest medical precinct. It has significant capability in health services, training and research including Austin Health. The precinct and its supporting industries and services will continue to expand to deliver high-end health outcomes and boost innovation and employment diversity at the La Trobe NEIC. Co-location and clustering of allied health, research and education activities should be encouraged within the NEIC's established institutions.

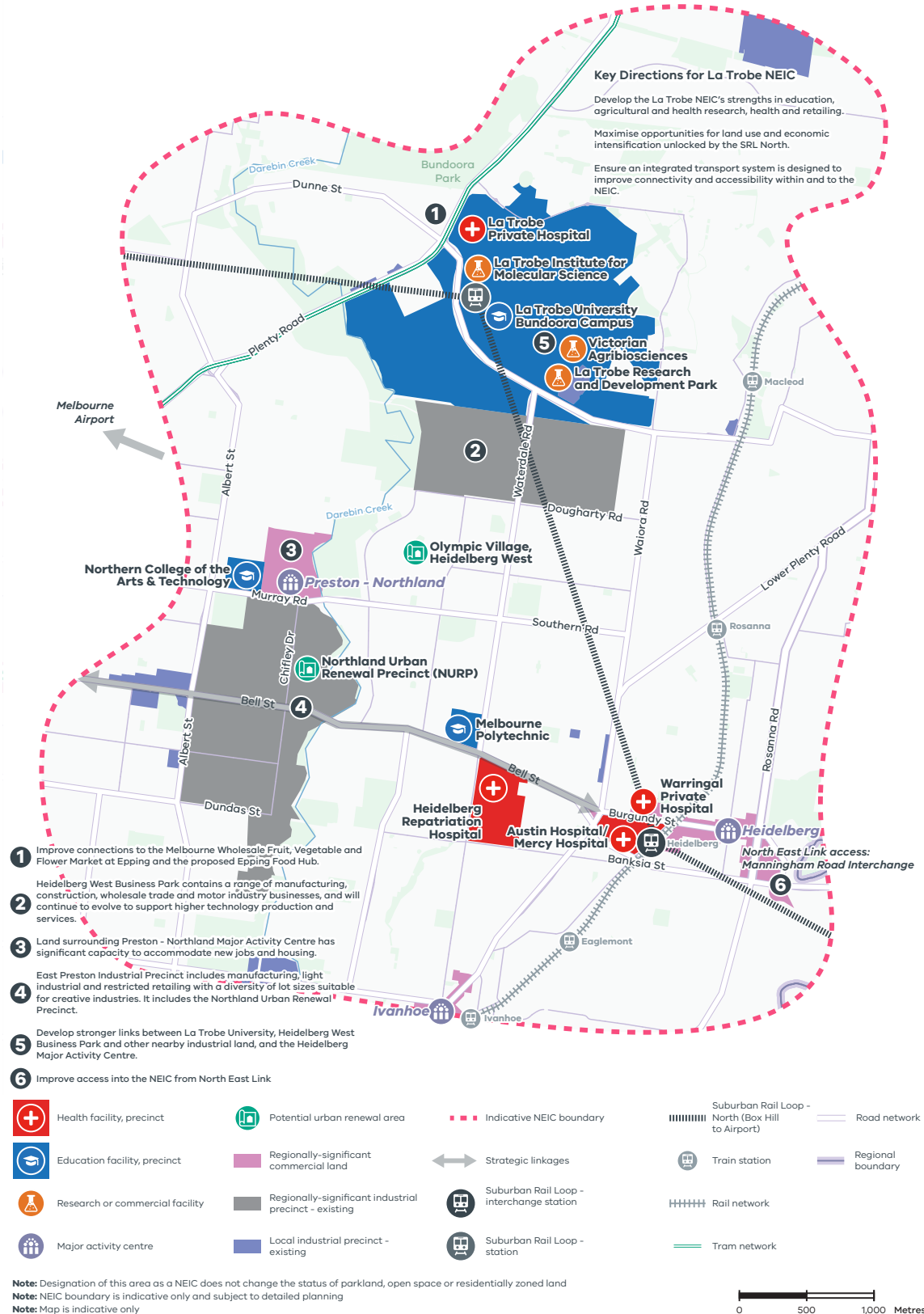
The East Preston Industrial Precinct, which is included in the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct, is a regionally-significant industrial precinct within the NEIC and has a diversity of lot sizes suitable for creative industries. The Heidelberg West Business Park, adjacent to La Trobe University and within the La Trobe NEIC, houses a range of manufacturing, construction, wholesale trade and motor industry businesses. It can continue to evolve to support higher technology production and services.

STRATEGY 01. Strengthen La Trobe NEIC as the pre-eminent healthcare, education, agriculture and health research provider and activity cluster in the Northern Metro Region.

STRATEGY 02. Facilitate land use and economic intensification of the La Trobe NEIC to leverage transport infrastructure investment and improved public transport connectivity.

STRATEGY 03. Encourage manufacturing, research and development, education and logistics uses in the Epping Food Hub to strengthen its role as an export and innovation food hub.

FIGURE 7. La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster



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DIRECTION 02.
Protect and support the development of Melbourne Airport

Melbourne Airport will continue to provide an important role as the primary gateway for air passengers and air freight for Melbourne over the coming decades. In 2016-2017 the 2663-hectare site contributed \$17.6 billion to the state economy and moved about 463,000 tonnes of freight (Melbourne Airport, 2018).

Melbourne Airport is the biggest employment hub in the Northern Metro Region. There is forecast to be an increase of 23,000 jobs at the airport by 2033, an increase in air freight by 30 per cent (to 900,000 tonnes) and doubling of passenger movement by 2038 (DELWP, 2020a) (Melbourne Airport, 2018). Apart from aviation uses, the airport consists of four employment precincts with primary uses for distribution and industrial warehouses, storage facilities, logistics, commercial facilities including showrooms, and ancillary services such as childcare centres and hotels. The 24-hour status of Melbourne Airport needs to be retained.

Access to the airport is primarily reliant on the Tullamarine Freeway and a lack of public transport or continuous cycling routes is the key challenge to its growth. An opportunity to connect to Essendon Airport by an airport corridor would enhance its location as a transport and logistics hub.

Melbourne Airport will benefit from improved access, particularly by public transport to Melbourne and the Region. SRL and the proposed Melbourne Airport Rail will underpin further development of the airport. These improved connections offer an important opportunity for further land use change.

Planning for Melbourne Airport should ensure land is made available for major industrial and commercial development, particularly for uses that require immediate access to the airport as a transport gateway. While the Australian Government oversees the development of the airport, it will be important to support future development through new infrastructure projects such as Melbourne Airport Rail, upgrades to the road freight network and by avoiding conflicts with neighbouring land uses that may compromise airport's operations.

Supporting Melbourne Airport will impact on broader land use change around key flight paths in the surrounding area, including potential new development in the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre. Any new use or development should not prejudice the optimum usage of Melbourne Airport.

STRATEGY 04. Support the role and operation of Melbourne Airport with appropriate land use planning.

STRATEGY 05. Ensure planning for Melbourne Airport maximises opportunities from the proposed Suburban Rail Loop and Airport Rail Link.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

DIRECTION 03.

Support the development of a strong network of activity centres to provide jobs closer to where people live

The Northern Metro Region’s network of metropolitan and major activity centres creates opportunities for residents to access a diverse range of goods and services, jobs, and housing. Some centres also include state-significant health or education precincts.

Many parts of the region have low levels of local job availability compared to population numbers and are also considered some of the most disadvantaged in metropolitan Melbourne. Activity centres will play an important role in addressing this and providing floorspace to increase regional job generation and improve access to a variety of jobs (Figure 8). They will also play an important role in the creation of 20-minute neighbourhoods, particularly in growth areas, through providing more local commercial and employment opportunities. The activity centres have varying capacities and opportunities for growth which are detailed in Table 6.

Broadmeadows and Epping metropolitan activity centres present significant opportunities for urban renewal and increased density and diversity of uses.

Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre is planned to be the largest retail and employment centre in the region. Significant planning and investment has been made in the centre including civic and community facilities and a freestanding shopping centre. Increasing fine-grain development and completion of upgrades to the train station and bus interchange will support this growth. There is significant opportunity for expansion and urban renewal to the east of the existing centre and on the proposed alignment of SRL.

A major employment hub for the Northern Metro Region, Epping Metropolitan Activity Centre includes the Northern Hospital (a state-significant health precinct), Melbourne Polytechnic and the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market. The centre is well served by public transport but has poor walking and cycling access due to low connectivity between key nodes. Connections between the centre and the adjacent Cooper Street Employment Area could be improved as well as to the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market to the west. The centre could develop a focus on food and health with the delivery of the Epping Food Hub and expansion of the health precinct around the Northern Hospital.

There are 19 existing major activity centres, and five future major activity centres in the Northern Growth Corridor. These centres vary in size, role and function, and their potential for growth. Some are limited in size with minimal prospects for growth while others provide substantial opportunities. Table 6 outlines activity centres within the Northern Metro Region as well as information about their current composition and future strategic role.

By 2031, an additional 492,000 square metres of commercial floorspace will be required within Moreland, Darebin, Banyule and Nillumbik LGAs in established areas of the region. These LGAs will need to look at ways to accommodate projected demand, as well as considering areas that could accommodate future floorspace requirements.

Local councils have undertaken strategic work, including detailed structure plans, to guide and support the Northern Metro Region’s activity centre network. There is a need to refocus efforts on structure planning for centres that do not have them over the next five years and update local policies to align with Plan Melbourne. Centres should be prioritised for structure planning based on state investment such as transport infrastructure, capacity for growth and their role and function.

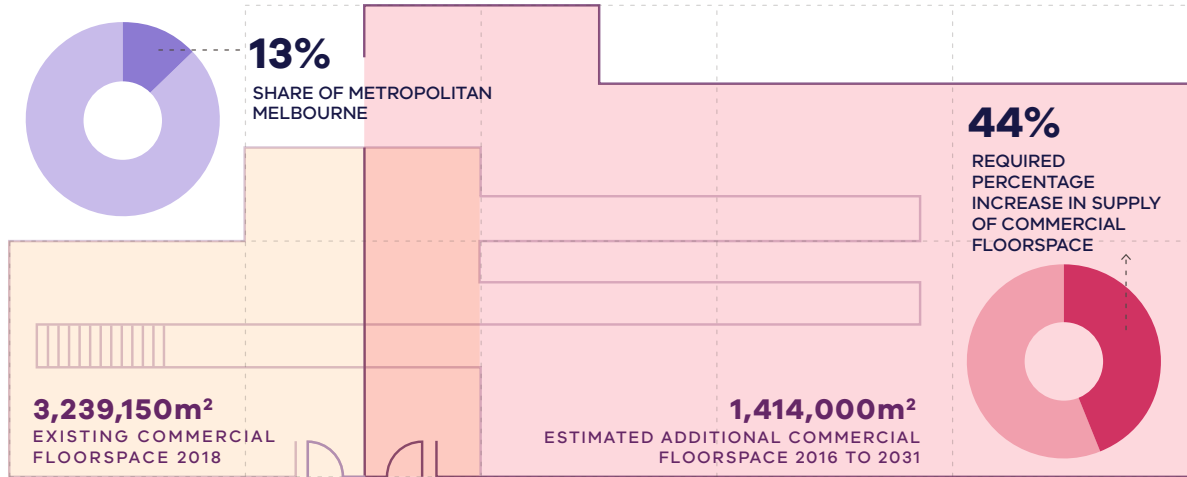
These centres also need to be supported by next generation telecommunications infrastructure to ensure the region remains globally competitive and continues to leverage its existing knowledge economy. Investment in new telecommunications infrastructure will need to take place in areas of the region with poor coverage, such as the outer north.

STRATEGY 06. Encourage the diversity of employment and economic activity in the Broadmeadows and Epping metropolitan activity centres.

STRATEGY 07. Retain existing commercial zoned land and identify areas that can support future demand for commercial floorspace and new investment with a focus on metropolitan and major activity centres.

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FIGURE 8. Existing and future commercial floorspace requirements for the Northern Metro Region



Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2020) *Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan*, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.



DIRECTION 04.
Manage and plan for industrial precincts in the Northern Metro Region to be continued generators of economic activity and employment

The Northern Metro Region contains metropolitan Melbourne’s third largest holding of industrial land providing state, regional and locally-significant employment and economic functions.

Melbourne’s second largest SSIP, the Northern SSIP comprises around 5773 hectares of existing and future zoned and unzoned land identified for industrial purposes across Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell LGAs (Figure 9). The Northern SSIP provides strategically located land for major industrial development linked to the Principal Freight Network (PFN) and transport gateways including the proposed BIFT. It will be protected from incompatible land uses to allow for continued growth in freight, logistics and manufacturing investment. Future expansion of the SSIP has also been identified in areas around Craigieburn, Donnybrook and Mickleham.

The Northern SSIP comprises several distinct precincts as shown in Table 3. A breakdown of the quantum of industrial land supply for the region is also detailed in the Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan.

While the region has substantial land set aside for future industrial purposes, site fragmentation, the disjointed nature of precincts and poor site access often limits the ability to secure suitable larger sites. Industries operating large format uses or freight and logistics may find it difficult to secure a site.

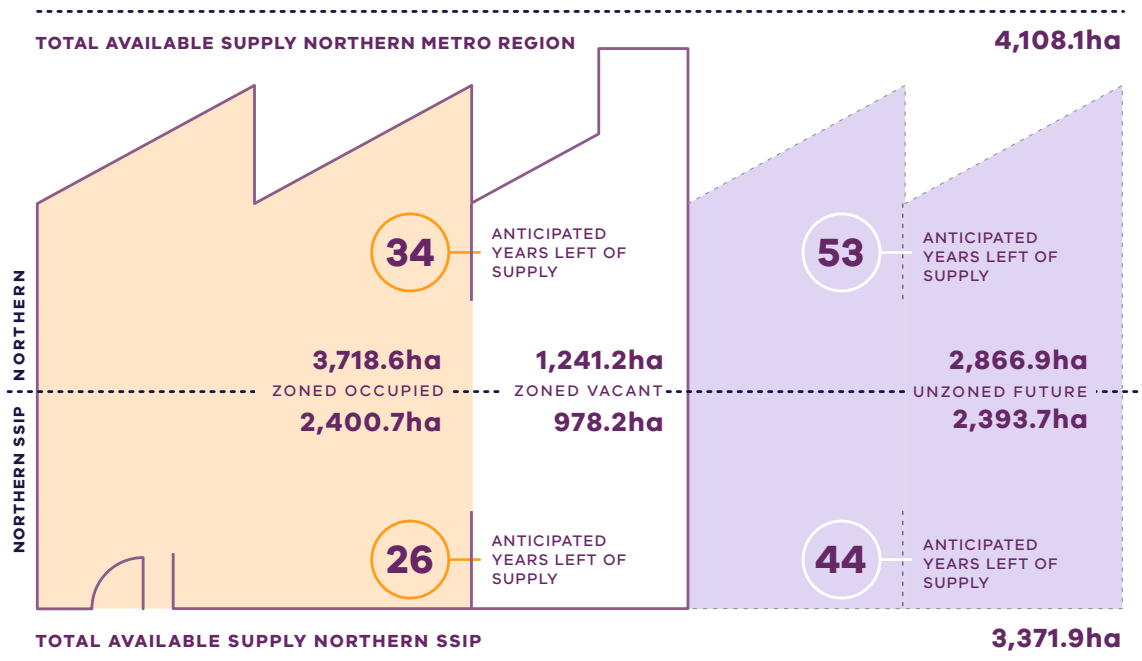
Existing and future regionally-significant industrial land also contributes to local and regional economies. These areas will be retained and planned to allow for a range of industrial land and other employment uses, and where appropriate, new and emerging types of businesses that require access to affordable, well-located land to grow and innovate. Future industrial land in Sunbury/Diggers Rest (part of the Northern Growth Corridor) will play an important role in providing affordable industrial land, which has been a considerable competitive advantage for Melbourne in the past. It is important for these opportunities to be captured in the precinct structure planning process to ensure land is safeguarded and secured to fulfil its strategic purpose.

Regionally-significant industrial precincts identified in the Northern Metro Region are shown in Table 4. The Northland Urban Renewal Precinct, which forms part of the East Preston Industrial Precinct, may require subsequent changes to the current extent of identified regionally-significant industrial due to strategic planning work being led by the City of Darebin at a larger precinct scale.

- STRATEGY 08.** Ensure the supply of and access to industrial land in the Northern SSIP can support industries with large lot and land area needs.
- STRATEGY 09.** Retain regionally-significant industrial land by managing encroachment by other uses that would cause fragmentation and may compromise the development and efficient operation of existing businesses.
- STRATEGY 10.** Limit and discourage subdivision in the Northern SSIP that leads to the creation of small lots.
- STRATEGY 11.** Identify and plan for regionally-significant industrial precincts that could support other employment uses, such as creative industries, or are well connected to adjacent employment uses or transport infrastructure.
- STRATEGY 12.** Plan for the north of Melbourne to become a national logistics hub, including the future development of the Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal, and leverage both local and regional economic growth opportunities from this investment.

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FIGURE 9. Existing and future industrial floorspace requirements for the Northern Metro Region



Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2020) Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.

TABLE 3. State-significant industrial precincts within the Northern Metro Region

EXISTING PRECINCTS	FUTURE/EMERGING PRECINCTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomastown Cooper Street Employment Precinct Campbellfield Somerton (including an intermodal freight terminal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craigieburn North Employment Precinct Donnybrook Mickleham (including Merrifield Business Park) Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal (proposed) Craigieburn South Employment Precinct

Source: Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan, DELWP, 2020

TABLE 4. Regionally-significant industrial precincts within the Northern Metro Region

EXISTING PRECINCTS	FUTURE/EMERGING PRECINCTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heidelberg West Business Park East Preston Industrial Precinct West Reservoir and Newlands Road Industrial Precinct North Coburg Brunswick Shenstone Park Wollert Sunbury South 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donnybrook Road Industrial Precinct

Source: Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan, DELWP, 2020

DIRECTION 05.**Ensure the Northern Growth Corridor accommodates longer-term industrial and commercial development opportunities**

There is a need to support the creation of jobs in the Northern Growth Corridor and make it easier for people who live in the north to access jobs in established middle and inner areas. This could be achieved by:

- Encouraging investment in areas identified for industrial uses
- Protecting industrial and employment land for the longer-term
- Supporting the establishment of small- and medium-size businesses in the outer suburbs and growth areas
- Creating flexible spaces for business to grow.

By 2031, just under 60 per cent of additional commercial floorspace will be needed in the growth area LGAs of Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell. Each of these local councils has identified land for future commercial purposes. If this additional floorspace is not able to be provided across new future activity centres, consideration will need to be given to additional opportunities for commercial development or increased density of commercial development.

Careful consideration will be required through the precinct structure planning process to ensure adequate provisions are made to accommodate medium and longer-term commercial development. Approaches that support the delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods should be used to create a finer grain network of activity centres.

The future Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre provides significant economic opportunities, along with the BIFT, for a regional economic centre to service the north of the region.

Lockerbie is located along the Melbourne-Sydney railway line which will service the northern parts of Hume and Whittlesea and the southern part of Mitchell. Future planning of the centre and surrounding area needs to ensure Lockerbie is adequately serviced by regional-level community and public transport infrastructure and can develop a health and education focus. The centre's growth will be supported by the proposed OMR and a proposed train station. The existing town centre is adjacent to the Merri Creek and careful design will be required to ensure that biodiversity and amenity issues are addressed while also creating a strong link between the town centre and the proposed station.

Lockerbie is located on the boundary of three municipalities requiring a joint state and local government partnership to prioritise planning and infrastructure provision. Complementary planning for a network of activity centres nearby will also be required to realise Lockerbie's potential. A proposed high-capacity public transport route along Aitken Boulevard will link Lockerbie and its future train station with Mickleham, Beveridge, Wallan and Craigieburn major activity centres and significant employment areas identified north and south of Merrifield. This network will also support the BIFT.

Improving connections from the growth areas to La Trobe NEIC, Melbourne Airport and other established employment areas within the region will also provide residents with greater employment options.

STRATEGY 13. Consider the future demand and need for commercial and employment land across the Northern Growth Corridor and ensure that Precinct Structure Plans make sufficient provision to accommodate longer-term commercial and employment needs.

STRATEGY 14. Facilitate investment in the Northern Growth Corridor to increase local access to employment.

STRATEGY 15. Ensure planning for the Northern Growth Corridor provides sufficient land and infrastructure provision to accommodate longer-term commercial and employment needs.

STRATEGY 16. Enable Lockerbie's development as a metropolitan activity centre with early planning and ensuring infrastructure provisions are in place.

DIRECTION 06.**Ensure protection of green wedges and support their role to provide agriculture, extractive resources, tourism and state infrastructure for the long-term benefit of all Victorians**

Green wedges are beneficial for all Victorians due to their agricultural, tourism, recreation, environmental, biodiversity and water supply roles. Each green wedge provides employment across multiple sectors.

Cropping, orcharding, grazing, dairying, viticulture, equine uses and animal husbandry occur in these green wedge areas. A range of parks, reserves, cultural heritage sites, local food producers and a network of trails contribute to the region's visitor economy. Other important economic sectors in the region's green wedges include freight and logistics, manufacturing, waste management, and resource extraction.

Agriculture in Melbourne's green wedges and peri-urban areas is under threat from pressure to convert land to other uses including housing and smaller non-agricultural uses. The viability of farming is also being impacted by changing markets and consumer preferences, advances in technology and innovation, declining terms of trade, and government and investment decisions.

The Northern Metro Region's green wedges provide an important infrastructure function for Melbourne that includes freight and transport corridors, waste management facilities and resource extraction. They also provide opportunities for local and international tourism in close proximity to Melbourne. In the future, it is possible the Northern Metro Region green wedges could play a key role in energy production and storage. These important functions must be balanced with other green wedge priorities.

The region's green wedges also play an important role in providing a transition and urban-rural interface with landscape buffers to protect areas and corridors with biodiversity and landscape values.

The green wedges are protected from urban encroachment by the UGB and planning controls are in place to protect identified environmental and landscape values.

Extractive Resources

Extractive resources are essential for the development of housing and infrastructure. Construction materials such as concrete, bricks, asphalt, paving, road base and aggregates are made from resources extracted from quarries across Victoria. Extractive resources need to be secured close to where they are used to maintain cost competitiveness for construction, particularly as demand for these resources is expected to double by 2050 (PwC, 2016).

Mitchell and Whittlesea LGAs are among the top strategic resource locations that supply a relatively significant proportion of the state's total extractive resources. Hume, Whittlesea and Moreland LGAs are among the top municipalities that will require a large quantity of extractive resources in the future to sustain growth. Given this, strategic extractive resource locations in the Northern Metro Region warrant increased policy focus to protect existing resources and facilitate licensing of new quarries in the area.

Existing approved and operational quarries should be protected from encroachment by sensitive land uses. Designated industrial or commercial development activities located adjacent to existing quarry sites within/adjacent to the UGB would be rezoned to Urban Growth Zone. Any proposed uses or development in these precincts proximate to the title boundary of such quarries should be subject to appropriate risk assessments.

Extractive Industry Interest Areas (EIAs) have a longstanding designation in the Northern Metro Region (Figure 10). They were established to identify land located in reasonable proximity to major population centres that is likely to contain commercially viable stone resources, and where the extractive industry is more likely to be established.

Since the identification of EIAs, demand for resources has increased and other land use pressures have emerged. In the Northern Metro Region, opportunities for extractive industries to establish in EIAs have been foregone due to new housing developments or other uses establishing. This includes policy tension between land within the UGB and EIA designated land.

PRODUCTIVITY

EIIAs in the Northern Metro Region need to be refreshed and refocused to give recognition to these important resource locations. There are also extractive industries currently operating outside of EIIAs that require long-term protection from incompatible land uses.

The Victorian Government has established the concept of strategic extractive resource areas (SERAs), which will assist in providing greater planning certainty for the continued extraction of critical resources in identified strategic areas. They were established to provide stronger protection for strategic extractive resources.

There is an opportunity to identify and implement a SERA in the Northern Metro Region for areas of strategic importance.

It is also important that post-quarrying land uses provide beneficial outcomes for local communities and the region. Post-quarrying land uses can improve the amenity and lifestyle of locations. They can make a valuable contribution towards enhancing networks of open space as well as providing important habitats for threatened species. Innovative end land use options and progressive rehabilitation should be encouraged and developed in consultation with local communities.

STRATEGY 17. Protect the operation of state-significant infrastructure assets such as freight and transport corridors, waste management facilities, and resource extraction.

STRATEGY 18. Protect and support agriculture as a primary land use in the Northern Metro Region's green wedges, including their key role in protecting the curfew-free status of the airport, protecting landscape and biodiversity values, and marginal opportunities for agriculture.

STRATEGY 19. Ensure the ongoing operation, expansion, or development of new state-significant infrastructure assets avoids or minimises impacts on other green wedge priorities such as agriculture and biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage, landscape and environmental values.

STRATEGY 20. Support sustainable tourism and recreation opportunities that complement key green wedge values and land uses including biodiversity, open space and trail networks, cultural heritage, agriculture, and scenic rural landscapes.

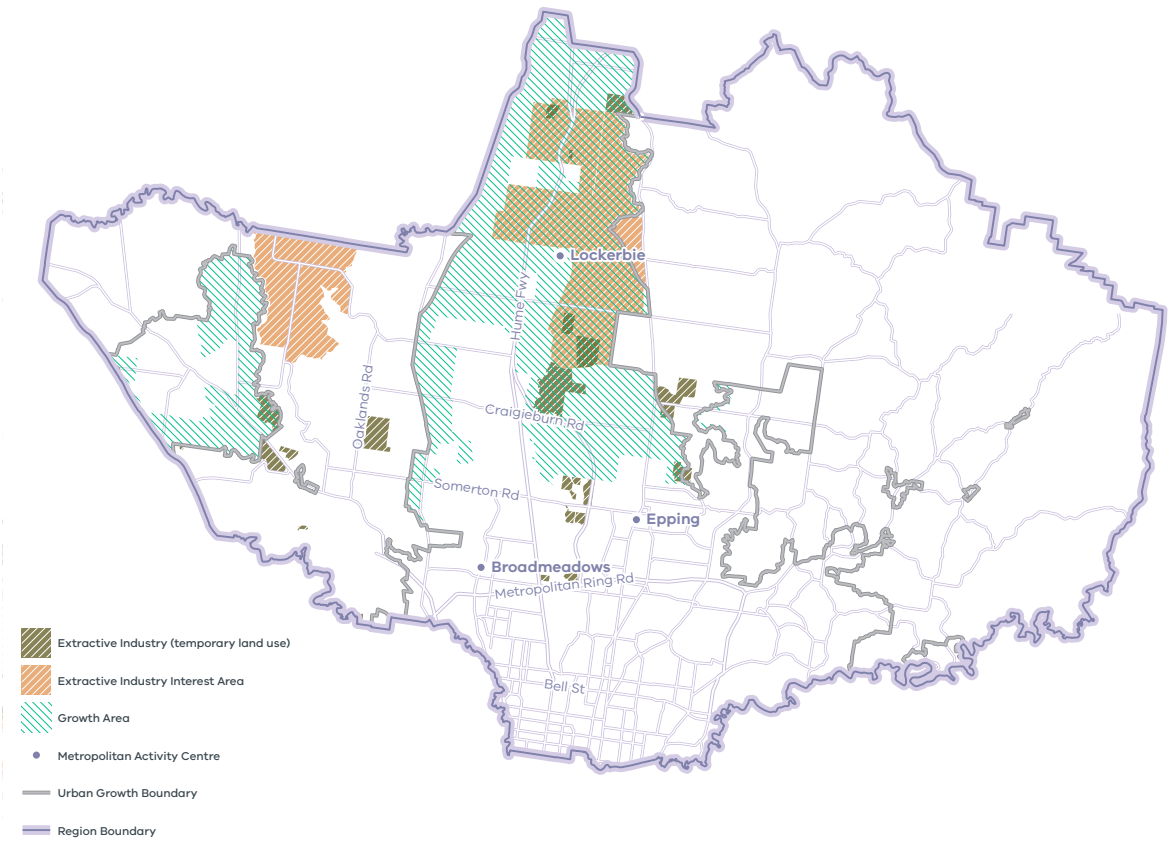
STRATEGY 21. Ensure there are adequate extractive resources to support the cost-effective development of housing and infrastructure.

STRATEGY 22. Protect existing quarries from incompatible development to maintain supply of extractive resources.

STRATEGY 23. Identify and manage long-term strategic extractive resources in the Northern Metro Region.

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FIGURE 10. Extractive Industry Interest Areas in the Northern Metro Region



Note: EIAs were established in the 1990s by the Geological Survey of Victoria following an assessment of land where extractive industry operations were more likely to be established, both for reasons of resource availability and where there are potentially fewer land use planning constraints. EIAs serve as a geographic indicator in the planning scheme for the purpose of referral of planning permit applications only. EIAs do not imply that a quarry can be established 'as-of-right' in these areas, nor do they preclude extractive industry from being established outside EIAs. In growth areas, the EIAs provide a guide to ensure the location of earth resources and the need for extractive resources to support the long-term growth of Melbourne is strategically considered in the development of Precinct Structure Plans. The EIAs require ongoing review and refinement as demand for resources increases and other land use pressures emerge.

TABLE 5. Green wedges: current role and strategic opportunities

GREEN WEDGE	CURRENT ROLE	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Nillumbik Green Wedge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape and open space • Environment and biodiversity • Water supply and catchments • Agriculture • Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the natural environment, particularly the flora and fauna links within the Yarra River corridor • Retain the Skyline Road and St Andrews land system for environmental conservation. These areas should only be used for agriculture where the use or development proposed does not compromise the quality of the environment • Protect Sugarloaf Reservoir, a key state asset nestled in Christmas Hills that has been supplying water to metropolitan Melbourne since 1980 • Protect and support existing agricultural activities and soil. Encourage agriculture to make the most of its proximity to Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market at Epping and also consider other forms of productivity including agricultural tourism • Focus economic activity within the green wedge in Hurstbridge, St Andrews and Panton Hill • Maintain and enhance Nillumbik's trail network with an emphasis on Diamond Creek Trail, Maroondah Aqueduct and Pipeline Trails, Kangaroo Ground to Panton Hill Trail • Continue to align tourism work as a mechanism for cooperation and efficiency. Encourage environment and agriculture-based tourism and small-scale cafes where they demonstrate environmental, social and economic benefits

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GREEN WEDGE	CURRENT ROLE	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
<p>Sunbury Green Wedge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape and open space • Environment and biodiversity • State-significant infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the urban-rural interface around Sunbury and the conservation and landscape buffer in Mickleham • Protect the following view lines from inappropriate development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – from Organ Pipes National Park across grassy plains and rocky outcrops – across Maribyrnong Valley to mountain ranges from Sydenham Park • Develop a habitat corridor along Maribyrnong River and protect remnant grasslands at McNabbs Weir, Sydenham Park and Organ Pipes National Park • Investigate potential recycled water opportunities including a pipeline from Sunbury to Melbourne Airport, and a pipeline to follow the OMR corridor to bring recycled water from eastern urban catchments or from Sunbury recycled water plant • Discourage inappropriate development in agricultural areas including non soil-based agriculture in areas with high soil quality. It is also important to reinforce the agricultural role of Keilor Market Gardens • Support tourism uses focused on local produce and eco-tourism • Promote open space/recreation corridor connecting Brimbank Park to Organ Pipes National Park and between Maribyrnong River and Kororoit Creek • Maintain Melbourne Airport buffer and curfew
<p>Whittlesea Green Wedge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape and open space • Environment and biodiversity • Waterways and catchments • Agriculture • Extractive industries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect identified visual character areas of Plenty Valley, Plenty Ranges, The Hills and the Western Plains • Minimise vegetation removal which contributes to salinity and bushfire and protect river red gum habitat in order to maintain biodiversity and increase the connectivity of habitat areas • Improve environmental water quality and health of rivers, creeks and waterways by managing development of adjacent to waterways • Use buffers to safeguard the amenity and environment of land surrounding extractive industries

PRODUCTIVITY

**ACTIONS –
Productivity**

ACTION 1. Establish a long-term state and local government partnership to prioritise planning and infrastructure provision for Lockerbie as a metropolitan activity centre for the Northern Growth Corridor.

ACTION 2. Establish a state and local government partnership to coordinate and manage land use planning for the La Trobe NEIC.

ACTION 3. Implement a program of State Government-led planning projects, in partnership with local government, to ensure metropolitan and major activity centres and urban renewal areas maximise their respective strategic opportunities. Priority will be given to those which deliver significant jobs and housing; leverage investment in state infrastructure; and play an important role in the growth corridor and/or region. State-led planning for these state- and regionally-significant places will contribute to creating liveable communities and achieving more dwellings and jobs in established areas, and identify implementation and coordination actions that support growth and economic investment.

ACTION 4. Identify and implement a SERA in the Northern Metro Region in partnership with local government.

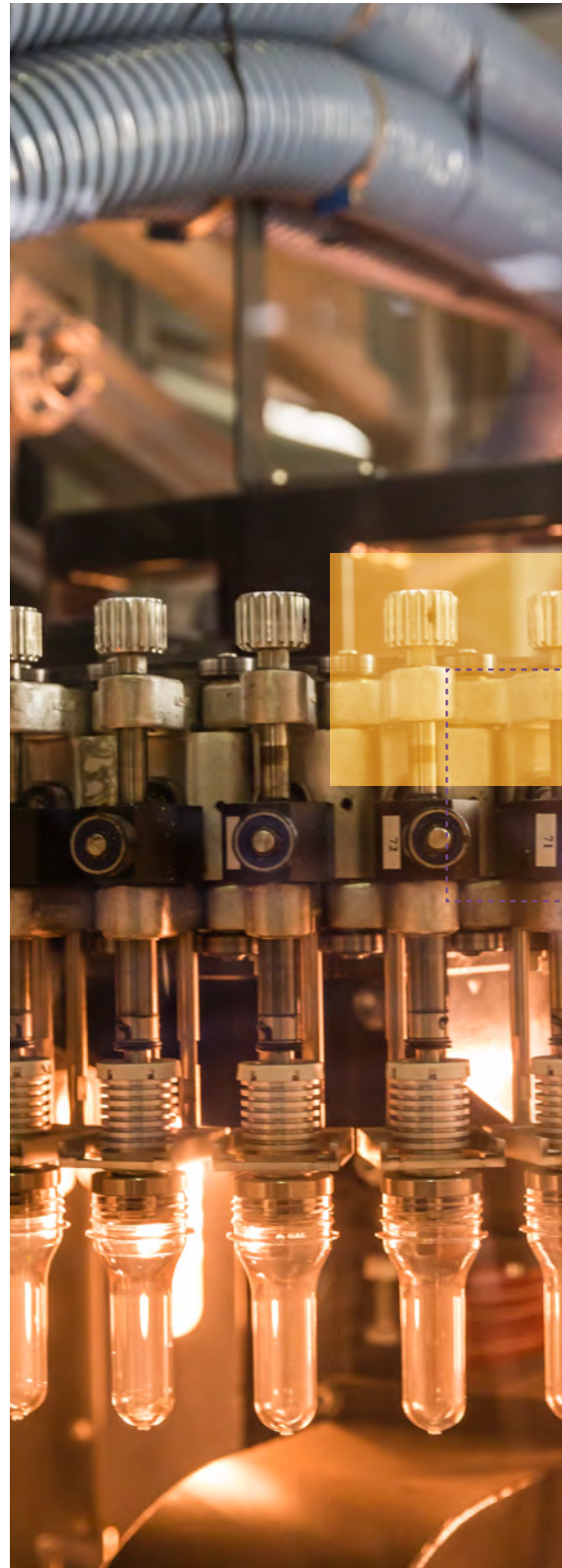
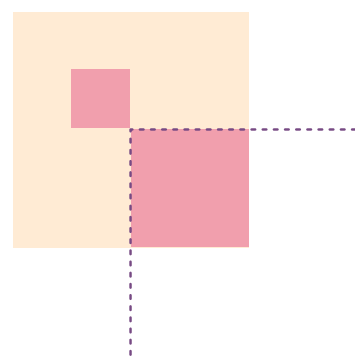


Photo credit: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

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TABLE 6. Metropolitan and major activity centres: existing attributes and strategic opportunities

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Metropolitan Activity Centres		
Broadmeadows (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freestanding shopping centre based around Pascoe Vale Road, Johnstone Street and Camp Road • Plays a major service delivery role, including government, health, justice and education services, as well as retail and commercial opportunities • A retail and commercial focus with some leisure and entertainment, community, and civic functions including Hume Global Learning Centre • Regionally-significant education precinct at Kangan Batman TAFE • State-significant commercial land • Train (Broadmeadows Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-significant industrial land to the east • Future SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) interchange station • Upgrades to Broadmeadows Station • Barrier of Pascoe Vale Road • Key flight paths to and from Melbourne Airport which may impact land use changes and building heights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen role as major anchor for the region to support the emerging growth in Northern Growth Corridor • Intensify mixed-use development within the core of the activity centre • Provide a diversity of uses including offices, higher-density housing and a range of leisure, entertainment and cultural facilities • Balance planning for bulky goods retailing to also allow intensive fine-grain uses to continue to develop • Strengthen civic services and expand existing health facilities • Mitigate east-west divide created by the railway line and Pascoe Vale Road



EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Epping (Whittlesea)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freestanding shopping centre based around High and Cooper streets • Plays a major service delivery role, including government, health, justice and education services, as well as retail and commercial opportunities • A focus on retail, commercial, education and health with Melbourne Polytechnic and Northern Centre for Health and Education Research • State-significant health precinct at the Northern Hospital • Specialist food focus at the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market and Cooper Street Employment Precinct • State-significant industrial land • Train (Epping Station) and SmartBus services • PPTN interchange at Epping Plaza Shopping Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Epping Food Hub • New Epping and Thomastown/Lalor urban renewal areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop a regional role for the activity centre • Intensify mixed-use development within the core of the activity centre • Focus on healthcare and allied science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics research/innovation, with a new medical precinct to play a major employment-generating role • Expand and redevelop existing shopping centre into mixed-use precincts • Accommodate expanding office and retail uses • Improve connectivity within the activity centre
Lockerbie (Hume/Whittlesea/Mitchell) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future metropolitan activity centre based around Cloverton Boulevard • Future state-significant commercial land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation area, based on the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne’s growth areas, to the east • Adjacent to the Merri Creek open space corridor • Proposed Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal to the north • Potential train station • Potential high-capacity public transport route linking to other proposed activity centres in the growth corridor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support future role as an activity centre with an employment focus to service the outer area of the Northern Metro Region • Play a major service delivery role, including government, health, justice and education services, as well as retail and commercial opportunities • Intensify mixed-use development within the core of the activity centre • Develop as a destination for retail, entertainment and civic purposes • Develop as a health and education centre with a regional focus • Create a strong link between the town centre and proposed train station

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EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Major Activity Centres		
Beveridge (Mitchell) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future major activity centre to the west of the existing Beveridge township, and the Hume Freeway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal located to the east • Potential Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 transport corridor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide higher-order services, retail and employment • Rapid increase in residential growth • Provide social and community facilities for future residents
Brunswick (Moreland)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strip-based centre on three parallel roads – Sydney Road, Lygon Street and Nicholson Street • Diverse commercial and retail uses and civic functions • Regionally-significant education precinct at RMIT University (Brunswick) • Regionally-significant industrial land west of Sydney Road, creative/enterprise precinct located at Brunswick Creative Hub • CERES Community Environment Park located at the northern edge • Train (Brunswick, Moreland, Anstey and Jewell stations) and tram services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coburg Major Activity Centre located to the north • Urban renewal areas – Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct and East Brunswick Village • Heritage significance of Sydney Road, Lygon Street and Nicholson Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain industry and employment uses while supporting a range of creative industries • Redevelop sites that are former industrial transition areas
Coburg (Moreland)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strip-based centre on Sydney Road and Bell Street • Commercial and retail with some civic uses • Regionally-significant industrial land • Train (Coburg, Batman and Moreland stations), tram and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regionally-significant industrial land to the north-west • Level crossing removals at Bell Street, Moreland Road, Reynard Street and Munro Street • Brunswick Major Activity Centre to the south • The Coburg Initiative and Pentridge urban renewal areas • Heritage significance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain industry and employment uses while supporting a range of creative industries • New hospital or major health facility as part of Coburg Initiative urban renewal area • Maximise urban renewal opportunities from level crossing removals along the Upfield railway line

PRODUCTIVITY

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Craigieburn (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid centre with both freestanding and enclosed shopping at the intersection of the Hume Highway and Craigieburn Road Retail and local services State-significant industrial land to the east Train (Craigieburn Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future state-significant industrial precinct to the east Craigieburn Town Centre Major Activity Centre to the west 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate local retail and service role Maximise opportunities for medium- and higher-density housing near train station
Craigieburn Town Centre (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freestanding shopping centre at the intersection of Craigieburn Road and Aitken Boulevard Retail, including bulky goods retailing, recreation and substantial civic services State-significant health precinct at Craigieburn Health Services Regional recreation facility at Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craigieburn Major Activity Centre and Craigieburn Station to the east Potential high-capacity public transport route identified along Aitken Boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate growth to meet employment needs and provide retail, leisure, health and services to surrounding growth areas Focus on future role as a regional health precinct with supplementary education uses
Diamond Creek (Nillumbik)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on Main Hurstbridge Road and Chute Street dissected by Hurstbridge train line Retail and commercial with some local industrial land Diamond Creek runs north, and trails and public open space are located to the west Train (Diamond Creek Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant habitat for local flora and fauna Semi-rural township character Located in a bushfire risk area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to consolidate local retail and service role, and potential tourism opportunities Develop a retail-focused compact core east of the train line on Main Hurstbridge Road

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EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Eltham (Nillumbik)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on Main Road between Dudley Street and Luck Street Diamond Creek runs west of the train station with trails and public open space between the creek and train station Train (Eltham Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village and landscape character Eltham Gateway is a significant landscape area Located in a bushfire risk area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to consolidate local retail and service role including community and professional services Increase retail floorspace to serve increased demand and a growing population
Gladstone Park (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A freestanding shopping centre at the intersection of Tullamarine Freeway and Mickleham Road Retail, commercial and community facilities Regionally-significant industrial land SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proximity to Melbourne Airport which limits development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service the local population and surrounding area, improve retail offering and local economy Enhance connections between shopping centre and surrounding residential and employment areas
Glenroy (Moreland)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy Road, Wheatsheaf Road and Hartington Street Retail, commercial and community facilities Train (Glenroy Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level crossing removal at Glenroy Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service the local population and surrounding area, improve retail offering and local economy Provide a broad mix of retail uses, commercial and cultural activities, employment options, and administrative and civic functions
Greensborough (Banyule)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid centre with freestanding shopping centre and strip-based retail along Main Street, Grimshaw Street, The Circuit and Para Road Retail, commercial and community facilities Civic and recreational functions including WaterMarc regional recreation facility Train (Greensborough Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelopment of Greensborough Station Connection to Plenty River Valley and vegetation protection Proposed North East Link to the west along Grimshaw Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate regional role for shopping, business and entertainment for the north-east of the Northern Metro Region Provide a range of residential, leisure, recreational, retail, health and wellbeing, and commercial opportunities Maximise transit-oriented development opportunities around Greensborough Station Support emerging medical precinct

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Heidelberg (Banyule)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid centre consisting of both strip-based retail and a freestanding shopping centre around Burgundy Street and Rosanna Road extending on the western end into Bell Street Part of the Latrobe NEIC Prominent health and education focus with large employment-generating function State-significant health precinct at Austin Hospital and Warringal Private Hospital Retail and commercial uses, and some civic and community uses Train (Heidelberg Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRL station/interchange – future SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) Proposed North East Link which intersects with Banksia Street Proximity to La Trobe University, Heidelberg West Industrial Precinct and Preston-Northland Major Activity Centre, as part of the La Trobe NEIC Links to Bell Street commercial, health and education uses to the west including Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital Preferred location for higher-density development in Banyule LGA Traffic congestion from health precincts and retail uses Undulating and vegetated urban landscape with mature trees on ridgelines and in streets Network of small civic spaces around Burgundy Street Regional parklands and recreational spaces along Yarra River are highly valued, and warrant protection and enhancement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate regional role for shopping and employment, and promote cultural and entertainment opportunities Intensify mixed-use development within the core of the activity centre and residential development along Bell Street Strengthen role as a health precinct while also developing commercial and administrative uses
Ivanhoe (Banyule)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on Upper Heidelberg Road Diverse commercial and retail uses with civic precinct Train (Ivanhoe, Eaglemont and Darebin stations) services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage significance of Upper Heidelberg Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service the local population and surrounding area Accommodate growth in housing, commercial activity and community facilities

CHAPTER 04

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Mernda (Whittlesea)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid centre at the intersection of Plenty Road and Bridge Inn Road and adjacent to Mernda Station Proposed retail and commercial uses, and some civic and community uses Train (Mernda Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native vegetation protection applies across this part of Plenty Valley Several sites have identified heritage significance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support role as a regional activity centre and transport hub Increase growth in employment-generating uses, new centre with significant future growth potential and mixed-use development Deliver community facilities such as higher education campus or health facility
Mickleham (Hume) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A future major activity centre on Donnybrook Road with a focus on commercial and industrial employment uses Under development Part of the Northern Industrial Precinct (SSIP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating town centre with residential areas to the west, employment areas to east and Merrifield Park to north Proximity to the Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre (future) Close to future state-significant industrial land identified for expansion of the Northern SSIP Potential high-capacity public transport route identified along Aitken Boulevard connecting to Beveridge and Lockerbie to the north and Craigieburn to the south Proximity to the Kalkallo Retarding Basin and potential sports and leisure hub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serve the growth area north of Mount Ridley Road as an employment-focused centre Provide regional health and education services as well as large-scale office development and community facilities Develop street-based hospitality and speciality retail surrounding enclosed shopping/entertainment facilities in the town centre core

PRODUCTIVITY

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Northcote (Darebin)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on High Street between Darebin Road and Clarke Street Diverse commercial and retail uses with focus on live music venues and arts culture Cluster of creative industries with business incubator at Melbourne Innovation Centre Westgarth Cinema to the south Train (Northcote, Croxton, Merri and Westgarth stations) and tram services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage significance of High Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a mix of uses, services and facilities to enhance economic, social and environmental viability Encourage diverse living and working opportunities with a focus on maintaining and providing affordable housing and employment spaces Encourage retention of industrial land to support creative industries Develop regional arts and culture node with range of visual arts and live music venues, and support services for the arts and design community
Preston – High Street (Darebin)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre along High Street, Bell Street and St Georges Road Business and retail with Preston Market at its core, and civic, community and recreation uses Regionally-significant education precincts at RMIT Brunswick campus and Melbourne Polytechnic Train (Preston, Bell and Regent stations), tram and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level crossing removals at Murray Road, Cramer Street, Bell Street and Oakover Road The Junction South Preston urban renewal area Heritage significance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide regional retail, service, office, business, entertainment and community services, and residential role Maintain Preston Market as a central community and shopping precinct Encourage multi-level mixed-use development
Preston – Northland (Darebin)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freestanding shopping centre on Murray Road Part of La Trobe NEIC Mixed-use with retail, commercial and entertainment uses Large format retailing on south side of Murray Road Regionally-significant industrial area extending south to Bell Street SmartBus services PPTN interchange at Northland Shopping Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northland Urban Renewal Precinct and Olympic Village, Heidelberg West urban renewal areas La Trobe University, a state-significant education precinct, to the north-east 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a range of retail, commercial, residential, leisure and other commercial activities Continue to intensify development and encourage mixed uses including commercial offices to support economic investment and employment growth in the Latrobe NEIC

CHAPTER 04

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Reservoir (Darebin)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre predominantly on Edwardes Street and Broadway A focus on retail, commercial and community and civic uses Train (Reservoir Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRL Reservoir Precinct - future SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) Proximity to the La Trobe NEIC Reservoir Junction urban renewal area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish as preferred location for higher-density residential development Provide a wide range of retail, employment, business, community, entertainment and transport services Maximise integration with SRL station (future SRL North), including transit-oriented development opportunities, and strengthen links to public and active transport networks
Roxburgh Park (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freestanding shopping centre on Somerton Road A focus on retail and community uses Industrial precinct to the south Train (Roxburgh Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately adjacent to the Northern Industrial Precinct (SSIP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidate local retail and service role for local employment areas Facilitate development that provides for an integrated activity centre, and improve pedestrian and cycling connections linking land uses and activity on both sides of Somerton Road
South Morang (Whittlesea)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freestanding shopping centre on McDonalds Road A focus on retail, entertainment, civic and community uses Train (South Morang Station) and SmartBus services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of existing vegetation (river red gum native species trees) Road improvements and connections required for new development within some parts Dispersed and fragmented with large terminal station to the north 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide significant retail, commercial, civic and community services Ensure land is not compromised for future higher-density residential development by incompatible non-residential uses or lower-density residential development Extend Civic Drive to facilitate higher-density development close to the train station

PRODUCTIVITY

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Sunbury (Hume)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid centre around Horne Street and Evans Street A focus on retail, medical and professional services and community and civic uses Regionally-significant health precinct at Sunbury Community Hospital Notable tourism site at Rupertswood Mansion Train (Sunbury Station) service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level crossing removal at Gap Road Connection to the potential Outer Metropolitan Ring/ E6 transport corridor Established township with historic and semi-rural character and natural setting to be preserved Jacksons and Emu creeks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop as a large regional hub with higher-order facilities to enable greater level of self-containment in retail, commercial, entertainment and leisure, education, health, recreation, community services and employment Complement a series of smaller town centres in the growth area that will meet local shopping and other needs of residents Provide higher-density residential and mixed uses to provide housing diversity Improve local transport links, including creek crossings, and improved capacity on the main approach roads to the activity centre are required Establish accessible open space along Jacksons and Emu creeks
Sunbury South (Hume) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A future major activity centre on Sunbury Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to future regionally-significant industrial land Buffers around existing landfill and extractive industry sites Proposed train station to the west near Vineyard Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a regional retail, commercial, employment and community services function, second only to the established Sunbury Major Activity Centre

CHAPTER 04

EXISTING ATTRIBUTES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED	FUTURE ROLE/STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES
Wallan (Mitchell) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strip-based centre on High Street A focus on retail and community uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to future state-significant industrial land, including the proposed Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal Train station located to the east away from the activity centre's core Flooding risk in parts of the activity centre Close interrelationship with Wallan South and Wallan East Precinct Structure Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play an anchoring role as the northern end of the Northern Growth Corridor serving the rural hinterland Support anticipated residential growth Cater to the retail needs of the growing population and retain role as retail destination for rural townships in Mitchell LGA Leverage employment opportunities arising from proximity to the proposed BIFT Develop Wallan as a key node for the Northern Growth Corridor, with improved transport connections
Wollert (Whittlesea) (Future)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A future major activity centre on Boundary Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionally-significant industrial precinct to the west adjacent to the proposed E6 road reservation Industrial land functions as a buffer to existing quarry and landfill sites and will also meet local and regional employment needs, and service local business uses and the freight-based industry Near potential high-capacity public transport connecting Epping to Craigieburn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop as a self-sustaining community defined by its urban villages, and provide retail, commercial, education and other community facilities

PRODUCTIVITY



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

CHAPTER 05 HOUSING CHOICE

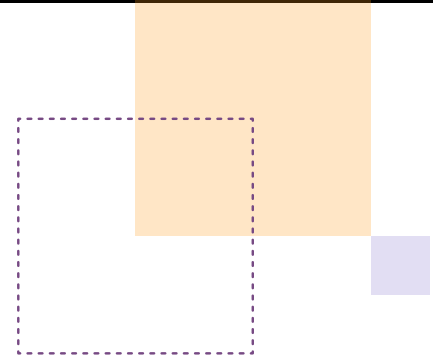


Plan Melbourne Outcome 2:
Melbourne provides housing
choice in locations close to jobs
and services

Plan Melbourne seeks to increase the supply of housing in established areas close to jobs, services and public transport to accommodate the anticipated increase in population over the next 30 years while ensuring Melbourne remains liveable, sustainable and accessible.



Photo credit: Craig Moodie Photography



The Northern Metro Region has a diversity of housing choices from established inner and suburban areas, to greenfield growth areas and emerging urban renewal precincts. It also provides housing options in rural and semi-rural locations and townships including Whittlesea. The region has an established network of metropolitan and major activity centres supported by neighbourhood activity centres, growth areas and urban renewal areas that will provide opportunities to increase the supply of housing.

SRL will enhance inter-regional connectivity in the future and create housing opportunities in proximity to the proposed train stations. Focusing new development in established areas, around the activity centre network and close to public transport will help maintain the UGB and protect environmentally sensitive areas.

State of play

Metropolitan Melbourne

Strong demand for housing in established inner areas, with good access to jobs, services and public transport, has led to increased competition for housing in inner and middle ring suburbs of Melbourne.

The residential development industry is responding to this higher demand by increasing supply across Melbourne. The amount and location of additional housing developed depends on the availability and suitability of land and the willingness of households to pay for it. Melbourne is seeing a significant number of homes developed in growth areas, in part due to the relative availability of zoned land which has enabled residential developers to meet demand for relatively affordable housing.

There has also been an increase in the supply of apartments in the Central City – and increasingly in inner suburbs of Melbourne – driven by investors purchasing apartments to meet increased demand for rental accommodation in the inner city. In other areas, particularly middle ring suburbs, housing supply has been less responsive to increasing demand, leading to increasing competition for what is in some cases a relatively fixed supply of housing.

Northern Metro Region

Regional demographics

In 2020 the population of the Northern Metro Region was 1,051,070 people, which accounted for 21 per cent of the metropolitan Melbourne population. Between 2020 and 2051 the region’s population is projected to increase by more than 765,000 people to a total of 1,816,410, which will account for 22 per cent of metropolitan Melbourne’s projected population. The annual rate of growth in the region is expected to be 1.8 per cent, which is 0.3 per cent higher than metropolitan Melbourne’s expected annual growth. The Northern Metro Region is projected to grow 0.3 per cent less than the fastest growing region, the Western Metro Region.

Population growth differs between LGAs within this region as shown in Table 7. Between 2016 and 2036, the populations of Hume and Whittlesea LGAs are projected to increase by around 65-75 per cent, whereas Moreland and Darebin LGAs are projected to increase by around 35-40 per cent. The population within that part of Mitchell LGA within the Northern Metro Region is projected to increase by around 280 per cent being largely growth area. The projected population increase is lower for the Banyule LGA, with a projected increase of 20 per cent, and Nillumbik LGA, which has a projected population increase of 10 per cent (DELWP, 2019b).

The Northern Metro Region has 355,630 dwellings and will require an additional 352,200 between 2016 and 2051 to accommodate projected population growth. This will double the existing number of dwellings to a projected total in 2051 to 707,830 (DELWP, 2019b).

The largest age group in the Northern Metro Region in 2016 was aged between 30 and 44 and this is projected to remain the same through to 2051. Notably, the number of people aged over 60 in 2016 was 163,290 or 17 per cent of the region’s population (DELWP, 2019b). The number of people aged over 60 is expected to more than double by 2051 to 428,080 people (Figure 11).

In terms of household type, families with children were the most prevalent in the Northern Metro Region in 2016 with over 48 per cent, while group/other households made up 7 per cent of the region’s households (DELWP, 2019b). This is consistent with the average across metropolitan Melbourne. By 2051, it is expected that families with children will remain the largest household type in the Northern Metro Region and across metropolitan

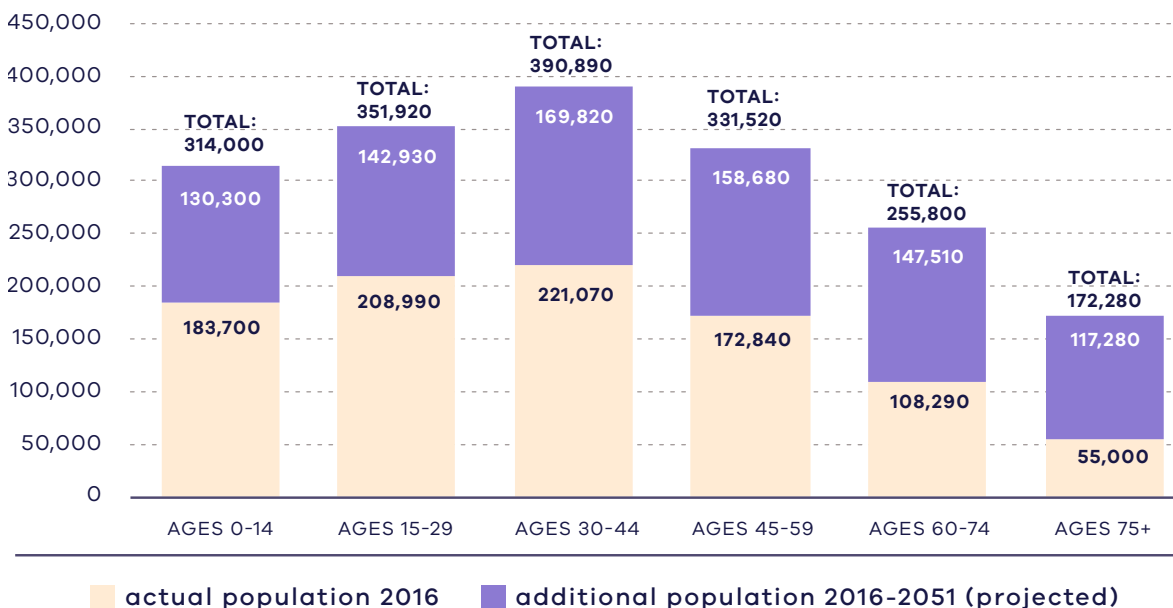
CHAPTER 05

TABLE 7. Actual and projected population by Local Government Area, 2016 - 2036

LGA	2016	2020	2026	2031	2036
Banyule	127,450	131,940	139,080	144,680	150,760
Darebin	155,130	166,430	182,410	196,030	210,650
Hume	207,040	241,190	286,530	316,240	343,990
Moreland	172,290	188,760	209,080	225,000	241,540
Nilumbik	64,170	65,220	66,760	68,410	70,310
Whittlesea	207,060	236,540	285,920	327,470	364,450
Mitchell (part)	16,750	20,990	33,080	47,160	64,020
Northern Metro Region	949,890	1,051,070	1,202,860	1,324,980	1,445,740

Source: Victoria in Future, DELWP, 2019 and Regional Population, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021

FIGURE 11. Regional actual and projected population by age, 2016 - 2051



Source: Victoria in Future, DELWP, 2019

HOUSING CHOICE

Melbourne despite an overall decrease in the proportion of households in the category. A larger increase of 3 per cent is expected in households of couples without children.

Housing stock

In 2016 separate houses make up 74 per cent of the housing stock in the Northern Metro Region, compared to 67 per cent for metropolitan Melbourne. Approximately 76 per cent of the dwellings in the region provide for three or four bedrooms compared to 73 per cent in metropolitan Melbourne (DELWP, 2019b).

Semi-detached, row and terrace housing make up 17 per cent of the region's housing stock, which is the same for metropolitan Melbourne. Flats, units and apartments make up 9 per cent of housing stock, 7 per cent less in comparison to 16 per cent of metropolitan Melbourne (DELWP, 2019b).

Projected housing requirements

Victoria in Future (VIF) projections are published at LGA level for a 20-year horizon from the most recent Census data – currently from 2016 to 2036. Beyond this period knowledge of land supply, dwelling construction and population distribution trends be less certain.

VIF projections indicate that based on the continuation of current trends, and knowledge of long-term greenfield land supply, approximately 66 per cent of net additional dwellings across metropolitan Melbourne are expected to be in established areas and 34 per cent in greenfield areas. The housing distribution figures between established areas and greenfield areas are shown in Table 8.

Plan Melbourne provides an alternate aspirational housing distribution scenario based on achieving 70 per cent of new housing in Melbourne's established areas and the remaining 30 per cent accommodated in greenfield areas. This scenario assumes a total of 70,000 dwellings across metropolitan Melbourne, which VIF 2019 projections allocated to greenfield areas, can be accommodated in established areas to realise the aspirational 70/30 distribution between 2019 to 2051 (Table 9).

The aspirational housing distribution scenario provides for a redistribution of 20,000 dwellings from greenfield areas in the Northern Metro Region to established areas. The region is projected to accommodate 15,000 dwellings in established areas of the region, while the remaining 5,000 dwellings will be distributed among other regions' established areas.

Table 10 shows the aspirational housing distribution scenario for each LGA to 2036. This is achieved by apportioning the net dwelling additions in the established area for each metropolitan region and distributing the amount between LGAs in the region. The aspirational scenario is based on the locations where most housing growth is anticipated across the established metropolitan area such as the Central City, NEICs, metropolitan and major activity centres, major urban renewal precincts and future SRL precincts. The 70/30 dwelling redistribution for the region will provide guidance for each LGA to accommodate housing growth that achieves the aspirational housing distribution for metropolitan Melbourne.

TABLE 8. Scenario 1 VIF 2019

REGION	NET DWELLING ADDITIONS 2016 TO 2051		
	Total	Established	Greenfield
Inner Metro	225,000	225,000	0
Western	412,000	177,000	235,000
Northern	352,000	167,000	185,000
Inner South East	119,000	119,000	0
Eastern	192,000	192,000	0
Southern	313,000	184,000	129,000
Total Melbourne	1,613,000	1,064,000	549,000
	100%	66%	34%

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TABLE 9. Scenario 2 Aspirational scenario

REGION	NET DWELLING ADDITIONS 2016 TO 2051		
	Total	Established	Greenfield
Inner Metro	235,000	235,000	0
Western	402,000	197,000	205,000
Northern	347,000	182,000	165,000
Inner South East	124,000	124,000	0
Eastern	202,000	202,000	0
Southern	303,000	194,000	109,000
Total Melbourne	1,613,000	1,134,000	479,000
	100%	70%	30%

Note: For the purpose of these figures, greenfield areas include land in a growth area council that is either currently under development or identified for future development

TABLE 10. Northern Metro Region 70/30 dwelling redistribution by LGA to 2036 (established areas only)

LGA	VIF2019 DWELLING WITHIN ESTABLISHED AREAS		INCLUDING 70/30 DWELLINGS 2036	70/30 DWELLING REDISTRIBUTION	SHARE OF REGIONAL REDISTRIBUTION
	2021	2036			
Banyule	53,800	61,700	62,700	1,000	13%
Darebin	71,400	90,500	92,000	1,500	20%
Hume	33,600	39,700	41,900	2,200	29%
Moreland	81,800	103,600	104,600	1,000	13%
Nilumbik	23,500	26,600	27,200	600	8%
Whittlesea	35,300	41,900	43,100	1,200	16%
Mitchell (part) ¹	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Metro Region	299,400	364,000	371,500	7,500	100%

¹For the purposes of this table there are no areas within Mitchell Shire within the UGB defined as established areas.

Locations for housing growth

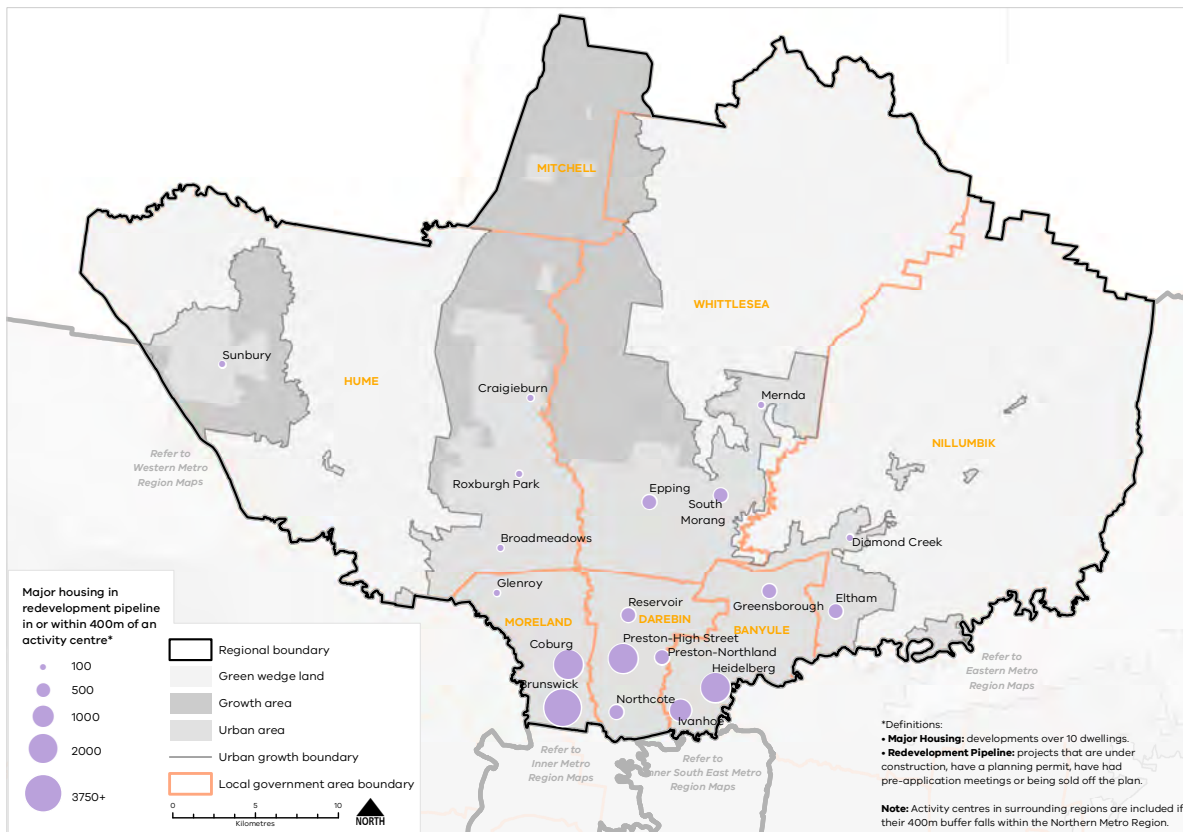
Housing supply in well-served areas, with good access to higher-paying inner-city jobs, has not kept pace with the demand in the Northern Metro Region. This is impacting on the price of dwellings, with price rises much greater in inner and middle ring suburbs than in outer suburbs and growth areas. To respond to the housing challenges in the Northern Metro Region, supply is needed in locations close to jobs, services and public transport.

Between 2005 and 2016, a total of 16,803 new dwellings were constructed in and within 400 metres of metropolitan and major activity centres in the Northern Metro Region. In the same period, 63,496 dwellings were constructed outside metropolitan and major activity centres. Of the new dwellings outside activity centres, 74 per cent were located in LGAs with growth areas (DELWP, 2018a).

Moreland LGA has the largest number of development approvals in the major housing redevelopment pipeline which accounts for projects with more than 10 dwellings. This has included over 5000 approvals across the three major activity centres of Brunswick, Coburg and Glenroy (Appendix O2 Table A2-1). Figure 12 shows the pipeline of major housing development in the Northern Metro Region is clustered in inner ring activity centres such as Brunswick, Coburg, Heidelberg and Preston-High Street.

A range of constraints can limit where dwellings and other land uses are accommodated. In the Northern Metro Region, planning controls associated with the protection of Melbourne Airport and its environs apply to some properties in the Hume and Whittlesea LGAs. These planning controls limit the capacity of these areas to accommodate certain land uses and development, including new dwellings.

FIGURE 12. Major housing in the redevelopment pipeline in or within 400 metres of an activity centre



Source: Urban Development Program 2019, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

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Housing demand and its impact on affordability

Housing affordability is an issue across metropolitan Melbourne. Moderate-income first home buyers are being increasingly priced out of the housing market in the inner and middle parts of the Northern Metro Region. The median price for detached houses in the region has been increasing between 2011 and 2017 while the median prices for apartments and units have been more stable. Housing is most affordable in the northern parts of the region, with Mitchell and Hume LGAs recording the lowest median detached house and apartment/unit prices across the region (DELWP, 2019b). However, for low- and very low-income, and prospective first homebuyers home ownership is still largely unattainable. Very low-income single person households are being increasingly priced out of the rental market.

A lack of social housing is also an issue for the region. Despite a higher proportion of social housing in Darebin and Banyule LGAs, compared to the metropolitan Melbourne average, the proportion of homeless people in the region is also high (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016). Those waiting for social housing in the region have a priority need due to homelessness, family violence, disability or other special housing needs.

There are several existing Victorian Government initiatives in place to improve the supply of affordable housing, including social housing. These include Victoria's Big Housing Build, the Social Housing Growth Fund, 1,000 Homes Initiatives and the Redevelopment of Public Housing Estates. Five of the six LGAs in the Northern Metro Region have been identified as priority council areas for projects to increase the supply of social and affordable housing as part of Homes Victoria's Big Housing Build program.

Regional strengths

- The Northern Metro Region has a diversity of housing choices from growth areas to emerging urban renewal areas and established inner and suburban areas.
- Opportunities exist to locate medium- and higher-density housing in and around metropolitan and major activity centres, the La Trobe NEIC, identified urban renewal areas, SRL precincts and in locations supported by good public transport.
- Greenfield development opportunities in the Northern Growth Corridor can accommodate housing supply and diversity to meet the needs of new and maturing communities.

Regional challenges

- The Northern Metro Region will experience high projected population growth to 2051 and will need to increase housing supply and diversity to provide for an increasing population.
- Housing development must be balanced with providing for employment uses, particularly around SSIPs and regionally-significant industrial precincts.
- The Northern Growth Corridor needs to provide more housing diversity and ensure infrastructure keeps pace with growth.
- The supply of affordable housing is disproportionate to the number of lower income residents in the Northern Metro Region, which is significantly higher than other metro regions.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of Housing choice and Outcome 2 of Plan Melbourne are:

Direction 7	Increase the supply of housing in the Northern Metro Region
Direction 8	Prioritise housing growth in areas with access to jobs, services and good public transport
Direction 9	Provide greater choice and diversity of housing in the Northern Metro Region
Direction 10	Increase the supply of social and affordable housing
Direction 11	Improve planning processes for growth areas to ensure the delivery of diverse and vibrant new communities

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUFP.

Map 3 shows how housing choice will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.
















Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

MAP 3. Northern Metro Region housing choice 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Walkable catchment - indicative*
-  Housing investigation area
-  State-significant commercial land*
-  State-significant commercial land (future)*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land (future)*
-  Urban renewal area






Transport

-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
- Principal Public Transport Network**
-  PPTN station
-  PPTN interchange
-  Bus
-  Tram
- Suburban Rail Loop**
-  SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
-  SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
-  SRL - interchange station
-  SRL - station

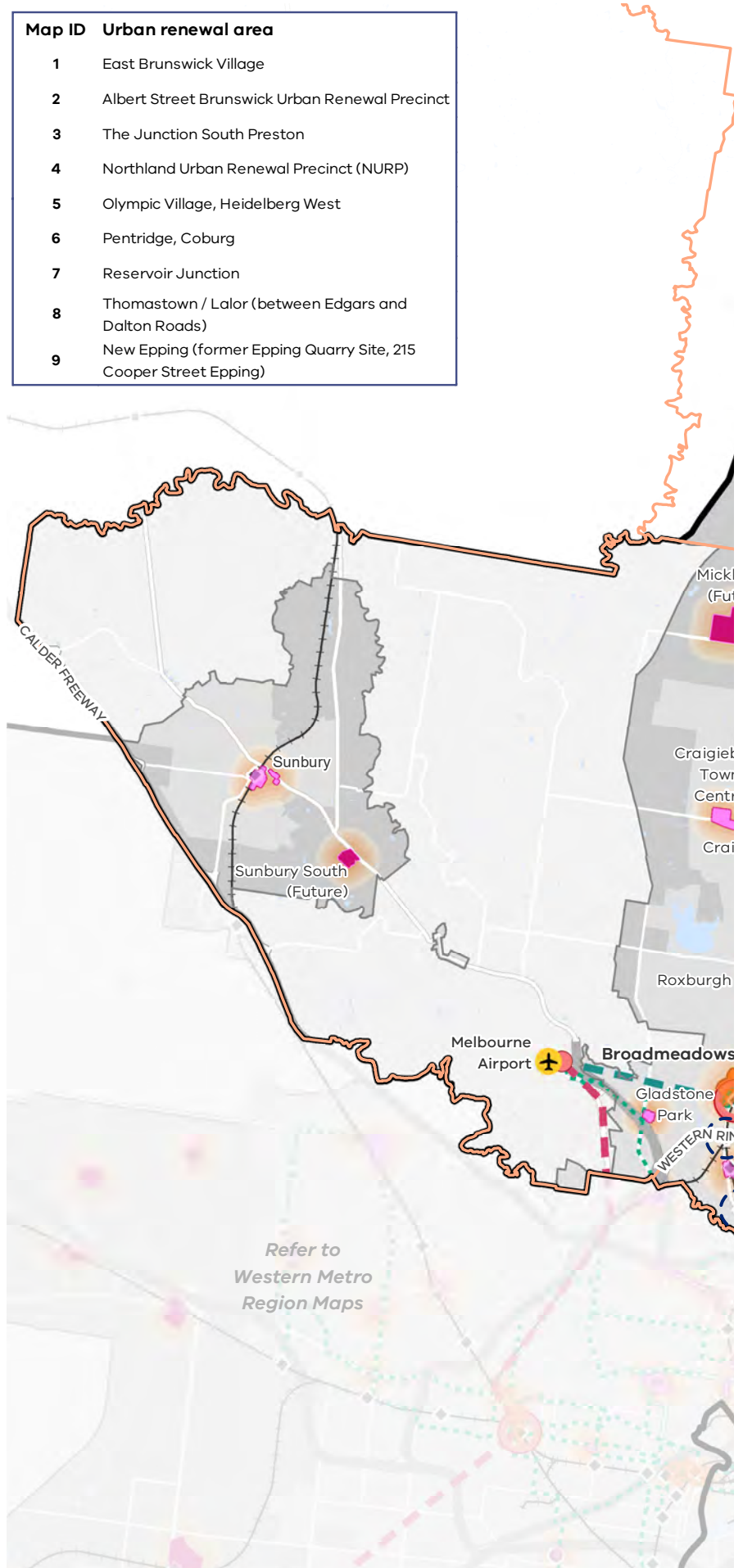
Environment

-  Waterbody

Land use/Administration

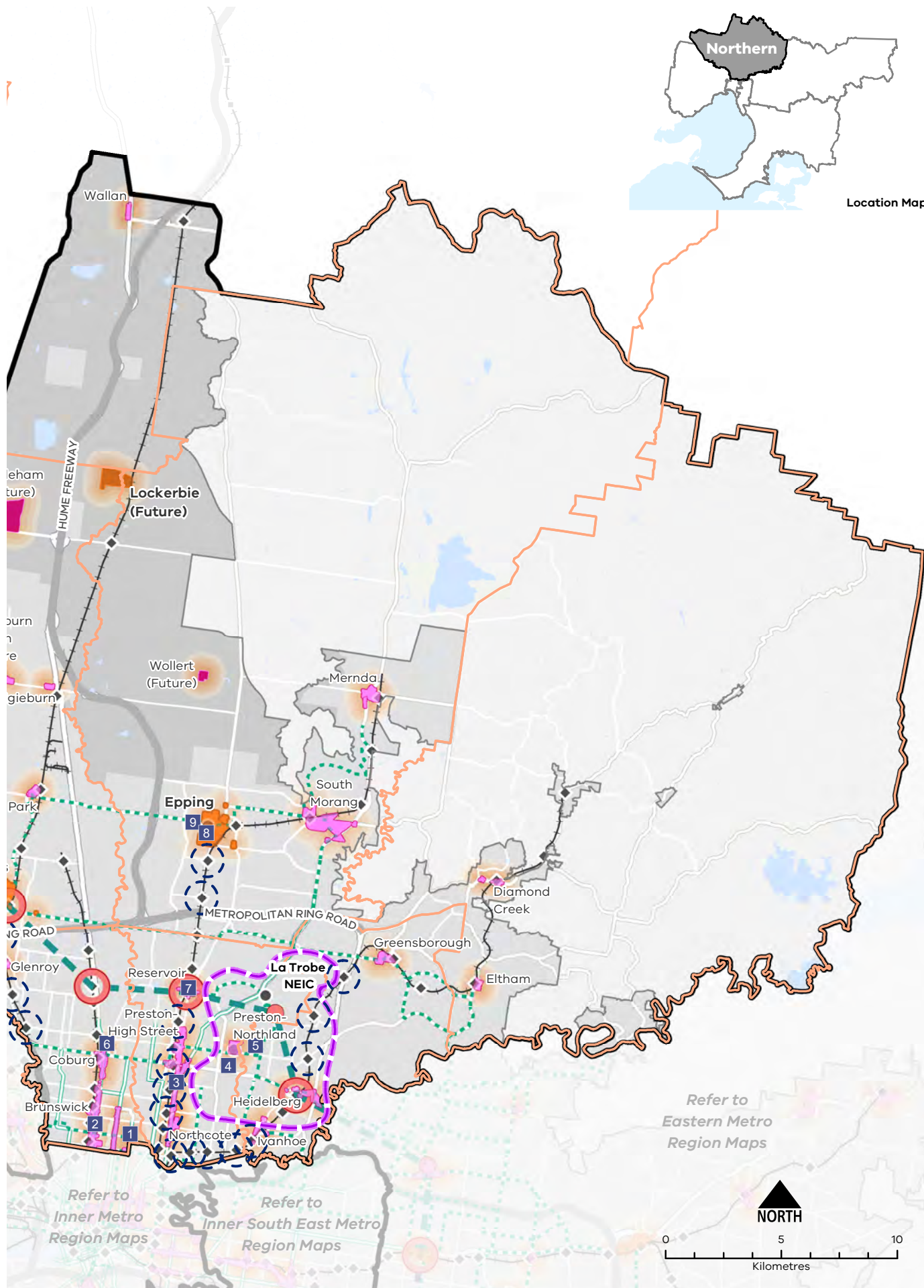
-  Regional boundary
-  Local government area boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary

Map ID	Urban renewal area
1	East Brunswick Village
2	Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct
3	The Junction South Preston
4	Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP)
5	Olympic Village, Heidelberg West
6	Pentridge, Coburg
7	Reservoir Junction
8	Thomastown / Lalor (between Edgars and Dalton Roads)
9	New Epping (former Epping Quarry Site, 215 Cooper Street Epping)



Refer to
Western Metro
Region Maps

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MICALUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.
 *Residential zoned land in these locations suitable for medium- and higher-density housing, subject to the provisions of any local council planning scheme or adopted municipal housing strategy.



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DIRECTION 07.

Increase the supply of housing in the Northern Metro Region

Plan Melbourne aims for 70 per cent of net additional dwellings to be provided in Melbourne’s established areas, with the balance provided in greenfield areas. The inner and middle ring suburbs of the Northern Metro Region provide opportunities for well-located, higher-density housing particularly around activity centres, the Principal Public Transport Network (PPTN), and in locally identified strategic sites and urban renewal areas. Future opportunities also exist in locations identified as SRL precincts as part of the later stages of SRL. The provision of housing in these areas will help achieve the overall aspiration of 70 per cent of new housing in established areas.

Substantial and incremental change areas will experience varying degrees of change relative to the existing context and not only increase the supply of housing, but also the diversity in housing types and built form outcomes. Lower density areas in the region are expected to accommodate housing growth within the context of the existing or preferred character. Minimal housing change areas are identified for their special characteristics such as neighbourhood, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics that should be protected.

Areas in the east of the urban area including South Morang, Mernda, Eltham, Heidelberg and Greensborough are covered by vegetation protection overlays, environmental significance overlays and significant landscape overlays. Some inner-region major activity centres such as Brunswick and Northcote include heritage values that require careful consideration in terms of the density or built form.

STRATEGY 24. Maximise housing development within the established areas of the Northern Metro Region to achieve the alternate aspirational housing distribution scenario for metropolitan Melbourne.

DIRECTION 08.

Prioritise housing growth in areas with access to jobs, services and good public transport

Plan Melbourne directs greater housing density development in the Northern Metro Region in and around the La Trobe NEIC, within metropolitan and major activity centres, in neighbourhood activity centres with good public transport access, and in urban renewal areas.

Between 2005 and 2016 the percentage of net new dwellings developed across the Northern Metro Region in and within 400 metres of activity centres varied across the region. Moreland, Darebin and Banyule LGAs provided 50 per cent of medium- and higher-density growth in and around activity centres. Whereas Whittlesea, Nillumbik, Hume and Mitchell LGAs provided only 10 to 20 per cent of dwellings in and around activity centres, the majority of net dwellings being located outside activity centres.

Increasing the supply of housing in and around existing activity centres and the La Trobe NEIC will result in people being closer to local jobs, services and good public transport. However, planning for increased densities in these locations will require a balanced approach so that land for employment and job opportunities in activity centres is not diminished. Consistent with the principle of 20-minute neighbourhoods, opportunities in an 800-metre walking catchment around activity centres exist to support medium- and higher-density housing in locations with job, services and access to public transport.

Housing supply should more effectively capitalise on close proximity to major public transport infrastructure. Planning for increased densities and transit-oriented development around the PPTN is a priority for the Northern Metro Region. SRL is not expected to impact the Northern Metro Region in the short- or medium-term with planning and construction of the new line and stations to occur in later stages of the project. SRL precincts have been identified in the region at Heidelberg (interchange), Bundoora, Reservoir (interchange), Fawkner (interchange) and Broadmeadows (interchange). There will likely be greater opportunities for medium- and higher-density development in these locations in the future. Planning in the short- and medium-term for these locations will need to be considerate of the future uses and opportunities for mixed-use and higher-density development.

HOUSING CHOICE

The region has also seen large infill housing development in middle ring suburbs in recent decades such as Gowanbrae in the west, Preston South and in Coburg North. Most of these types of opportunities are now exhausted. There are also greyfield areas in the region where housing stock is near, or has reached, the end of its useful life and could be redeveloped. Additional housing

in these established areas would help achieve Plan Melbourne’s overall aspirations by taking advantage of existing amenities and being close to job-rich locations, services and public transport.

Table 11 identifies locations for medium- and higher-density housing in the Northern Metro Region.

TABLE 11. Locations for medium- and higher-density housing in the Northern Metro Region

CLASSIFICATION	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
NEICs	La Trobe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEICs can provide housing opportunities in designated locations where it complements the NEICs’ primary role as a cluster of business activity of national significance La Trobe NEIC will have a future train station as part of SRL North. Better accessibility to the NEIC will maximise inter- and cross-regional opportunities for housing, employment, education and health services
Metropolitan activity centres	Broadmeadows Epping Lockerbie (future)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metropolitan activity centres are locations for medium- and higher-density housing and mixed-use development. Substantial housing change opportunities may extend to a walkable catchment of 800 metres around the centre (depending on the local context) based on the 20-minute neighbourhood principle of locating housing close to jobs, services, amenities and public transport Metropolitan activity centres play a major role in supporting a broad range of other uses such as retail, commercial, entertainment and community uses to a regional catchment. Housing development in and around metropolitan activity centres will be complementary to the existing and future jobs and employment role of the centres (Table 6) Structure planning will identify the preferred locations, densities and types for housing and development constraints or limitations in each centre Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre is identified as an interchange train station in SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) and higher-density development is supported

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CLASSIFICATION	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Major activity centres	Beveridge (future)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major activity centres are locations for medium- and higher-density housing and mixed-use development. Substantial housing change opportunities may extend to a walkable catchment of 800 metres around the centre (depending on the local context) based on the 20-minute neighbourhood principle of locating housing close to jobs, services, amenities and public transport While all major activity centres will accommodate housing change, the degree of change is relative to the existing context and characteristics of each major activity centre (Table 6) Structure planning will identify the preferred locations, densities and types for housing and development constraints or limitations in each centre Heidelberg and Reservoir major activity centres are designated as locations for SRL stations and will provide greater opportunities for housing change
	Brunswick	
	Coburg	
	Craigieburn	
	Craigieburn Town Centre	
	Diamond Creek	
	Eltham	
	Gladstone Park	
	Glenroy	
	Greensborough	
	Heidelberg	
	Ivanhoe	
	Mernda	
	Mickleham (future)	
	Northcote	
	Preston High Street	
	Preston Northland	
	Reservoir	
	Roxburgh Park	
	South Morang	
Sunbury		
Sunbury South (future)		
Wallan (future)		
Wollert (future)		
Neighbourhood activity centres		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some neighbourhood activity centres may be locations for mixed-use medium- and higher-density housing, particularly when they are serviced by good public transport. Housing opportunities may also extend to a walkable catchment of 800 metres around the centre (depending on the local context) based on the 20-minute neighbourhood principle of locating housing close to jobs, services, amenities and public transport Approved PSPs for the Northern Growth Corridor identify future neighbourhood activity centres that will accommodate medium- and higher-density housing Future PSPs in growth areas will be guided by the 20-minute neighbourhoods principle and the Victorian Planning Authority’s guidelines for precinct structure planning.

HOUSING CHOICE

CLASSIFICATION	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Urban renewal areas and greyfields	Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct Bell Street (Bell Station), Preston East Brunswick Village New Epping (former Epping Quarry Site, 215 Cooper Street Epping) Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP) Pentridge, Coburg Reservoir Junction The Junction South Preston The Coburg Initiative Olympic Village, Heidelberg West Thomastown / Lalor (Edgars to Dalton roads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban renewal areas identified in the LUFP are locations nominated by state and local government with opportunities for medium- and higher-density mixed-use development. These locations have regional value based on one or more the following characteristics: land size, proximity to the PPTN or future transport infrastructure, government-ownership, or require cross-municipal planning. These areas will be planned according to 20-minute neighbourhood principles. A coordinated approach to planning for these areas will maximise their development opportunity and any infrastructure needs
Suburban Rail Loop precincts	Heidelberg (interchange) Bundoora Reservoir (interchange) Fawkner (interchange) Broadmeadows (interchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRL precincts are opportunities for medium- and higher-density housing development due to their proximity to future SRL train stations. Housing development in SRL precincts will be supported by other uses such as commercial, retail and services and maximise their potential as transit-oriented development. They will undergo substantial change and will be subject to further detailed precinct planning

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CLASSIFICATION	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
Housing investigation areas	Alphington Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing investigation areas are areas within an 800 metre walkable catchment around existing and future train stations that have the potential to support medium- and higher-density housing development in line with maximising access to public transport and 20-minute neighbourhood principles. These areas are outside designated metropolitan and major activity centres and are based on their access to rail infrastructure, existing zones that allow residential development and the absence of 'special characteristics' such as heritage, landscape, bushfire values or airport environs A further assessment to determine locations within housing investigation areas suitable for substantial housing change and rezoning, in response to the local context, will be required
	Bell Station	
	Croxton Station	
	Darebin Station	
	Dennis Station (Northcote)	
	Donnybrook Station	
	Fairfield Station	
	Fawkner Station	
	Glenbervie Station	
	Hawkestone Station	
	Lalor Station	
	Jacana Station	
	Macleod Station	
	Middle Gorge Station	
	Oak Park Station	
	Pascoe Vale Station	
	Regent Station	
	Rosanna Station	
	Strathmore Station	
Thomastown Station		
Thornbury Station		
Westgarth Station (Northcote)		
Watsonia Station		
Greenfield growth area	Northern Growth Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth areas are designated to provide future supply of land for development in metropolitan Melbourne. A detailed PSP process will articulate the land uses and determine suitable locations for medium- and higher-density housing in the growth areas

- STRATEGY 25.** Increase the supply of medium- and higher-density housing around the La Trobe NEIC, in and around metropolitan and major activity centres, urban renewal areas, SRL precincts and in and around neighbourhood activity centres serviced by good public transport.
- STRATEGY 26.** Ensure new housing in and around the La Trobe NEIC does not encroach on the primary employment and innovation role of the NEIC.
- STRATEGY 27.** Support substantial housing change in locations where transport upgrades and improvements such as Suburban Rail Loop or level crossing removals create opportunities to locate housing closer to jobs, services and infrastructure.
- STRATEGY 28.** Maximise development potential in housing investigation areas around existing and proposed train stations to leverage access to the PPTN.

DIRECTION 09.**Provide greater choice and diversity of housing in the Northern Metro Region**

The Northern Metro Region, like metropolitan Melbourne, is mostly made of separate houses with 74 per cent of the housing stock. The percentage of flats, units and apartments in the region is 9 per cent, which is almost half of the metropolitan Melbourne average. A majority of the dwellings have three or more bedrooms. Between 2016 and 2050, families with children households are projected to increase by 134,030 in the Northern Metro Region. Continuing to provide dwellings with three or more bedrooms will accommodate this growth. There will be opportunities for three-bedroom apartments to also cater for this population growth in locations where higher-density development is appropriate.

The number of people aged over 60 in the Northern Metro Region is projected to increase by 162 per cent between 2016 and 2050. Although the overall percentage is in line with what is expected across metropolitan Melbourne, the demographic population change within the region is substantial and needs to be planned for now. The Northern Metro Region will require greater housing diversity by providing smaller dwellings, adaptable housing options, affordable arrangements, residential aged care facilities and retirement homes to cater for this increase in an older population. The Northern Growth Corridor also provides opportunities for additional residential aged care facilities to support the growing and ageing population in the outer areas of the region. The region should provide opportunities for residents to 'age in place' in their existing communities, with access to community services and public transport that meets their daily needs.

The Northern Metro Region has significant health and education industries with four state-significant health and/or education precincts. Providing an increased supply of student accommodation around education precincts and key worker accommodation near health precincts will better connect education and employment opportunities.

There is also an opportunity for a greater diversity of housing in the Northern Growth Corridor. Planning for the growth areas will provide for a variety of housing choices to meet the needs of new communities as they mature over time.

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- STRATEGY 29.** Encourage a genuine mix of dwelling types and sizes in the Northern Metro Region to accommodate the changing future needs of the region.
- STRATEGY 30.** Facilitate the development of housing that is adaptable and flexible to cater for changing demographics and to support ‘ageing in place’.
- STRATEGY 31.** Optimise the opportunities for student accommodation and key worker housing around health and/or education precincts in the Northern Metro Region.
- STRATEGY 32.** Ensure new residential development is well-designed, durable, resilient to climate change and built to a high-quality standard.
- STRATEGY 33.** Adopt a place-based approach to the delivery of infill housing developments to replace ageing housing stock, ensure a high-quality of design that is appropriate for the local context and contributes to housing supply and diversity.

DIRECTION 10.
Increase the supply of social and affordable housing

Affordable housing is defined in the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* as housing appropriate for the needs of very low-, low- and moderate-income households, and includes social housing provided by the government or a registered housing agency. Social housing also includes public housing and community housing to accommodate people who have experienced homelessness, family violence or have other special needs. The provision of more social and affordable housing requires a range of programs and measures across all levels of government.

Housing affordability is affecting an increasing number of residents across metropolitan Melbourne. Planning should facilitate the delivery of affordable housing in the Northern Metro Region by considering opportunities to develop under-utilised or disused government-owned land for social housing. Facilitating the supply of affordable housing in locations that are closer to jobs, services and public transport — in addition to sustainable design — will lower household costs, which is particularly important to the very low-, low- and moderate-income households. By strengthening the role of planning to facilitate and deliver affordable housing opportunities will contribute to continuing to make Melbourne a liveable city for all.

The social and affordable housing system, consisting of the government, community housing sector and industry, provides housing options for those unable to access the private housing market. There are currently 116,351 people living in social housing owned or managed by Homes Victoria (Director of Housing) or a registered housing corporation across Victoria. Victoria has the lowest proportion of social housing in Australia and will require 4000 homes per year for Victoria’s social housing to reach the national average of 4.2 per cent of social housing to total dwellings.

The Victorian Government’s Big Housing Build program aims to increase existing social housing stock across Victoria by 10 per cent and, in the next five years, over 12,000 new dwellings will be built. The program is Victoria’s largest investment in social and affordable housing and Homes Victoria has been established to deliver the program as well as ensure an ongoing pipeline of social and affordable housing development beyond the Big Housing Build. In addition, existing social housing dwellings will be upgraded, maintained or replaced under the program. The Victorian Government has identified 21 priority LGAs for social housing development of which Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Mitchell and Whittlesea are identified in the Northern Metro Region.

STRATEGY 34. Facilitate more affordable housing across the region, particularly in locations that have good access to jobs, services and public transport.

STRATEGY 35. Support the delivery of social housing, particularly in Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Mitchell and Whittlesea LGAs.

DIRECTION 11.
Improve planning processes for growth areas to ensure the delivery of diverse and vibrant new communities

Development of growth areas in the Northern Metro Region is guided by the Northern Growth Corridor Plan (Map 4). This plan outlines an overarching strategy for the development of Melbourne’s growth areas over the coming decades, which is then realised at a local level through PSPs. PSPs set out the preferred spatial location of key land uses and infrastructure to guide decisions on staging of development, subdivision permits, building permits and infrastructure delivery. They have a specific role to address matters within the scope of the planning system, ensuring they are consistent with the regulatory environment that operates in conjunction with the planning system.

Plan Melbourne highlights the importance of an integrated approach between land use and infrastructure delivery in growth areas to ensure residents have access to workforce opportunities, education, health services and other infrastructure. Policy 2.2.5 states that planning and development in growth areas should:

- Provide around 15 years supply of land approved for development (11.02-1S Victoria Planning Provisions)
- Over time, seek an overall increase in residential densities to more than 20 dwellings per hectare. Melbourne’s average housing density is currently 14 dwellings per hectare. Research shows that a minimum density of 25 dwellings per hectare is needed to support 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Be sequenced to ensure new precincts are contiguous with previously approved precincts.

2018 data estimates suggest that the Whittlesea growth area currently has 22 years of land supply and the Hume-Mitchell growth area has 30 years of supply. In 2018, lot densities in the Northern Metro Region were approximately 29 dwellings per hectare (DELWP, 2018e).

Existing townships in the Northern Growth Corridor such as Beveridge, Kalkallo and Donnybrook have established residential neighbourhoods. Planning will need to consider how to integrate these existing communities with new development as well as the provision of services and facilities including public transport. In Sunbury/Diggers Rest, Jacksons Creek is a defining landscape feature that also poses a challenge to connectivity and movement for new communities east of the creek. Linkages across Jacksons Creek will enable residents to access the facilities in the established parts of Sunbury including the proposed rail station.

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New master planned estates are typically developed in phases and therefore new residents do not have immediate access to many essential services such as hospitals and schools, community services and/or retail stores to meet their everyday needs and foster social cohesion. This is compounded by a lack of adequate public transport to connect people to nearby communities (Grodach, et al., 2019). Car dependency is also high due to poor provision of community infrastructure early in the development process. This car dependency often continues even after community infrastructure has been provided locally (Grodach, et al., 2019).

While the PSP process often articulates a desire to stage development and delivery of facilities and transport networks, and seeks to sequence development that ‘should have regard to’ the proximity of services, infrastructure and facilities, this does not explicitly require the delivery of services and infrastructure in a timely manner. Staging development in growth areas through the PSP process will help with the timely delivery of infrastructure and 20-minute neighbourhood features in these communities.

Due to highly erosive waterways in the upper catchment of the Northern Metro Region, development may also need to be carefully staged in some areas to allow for construction of appropriate stormwater management infrastructure. Construction of the proposed OMR will be a consideration in local stormwater management along the road’s alignment. Planning and development will need to consider and respond appropriately, including careful staging of development and construction of stormwater management infrastructure.

STRATEGY 36. Require development in growth areas to be sequenced and staged at a regional level to better link infrastructure delivery to land release.

STRATEGY 37. Facilitate the development of medium- and higher-density housing in the growth areas to provide greater housing diversity and create 20-minute neighbourhoods close to services, jobs and public transport.

HOUSING CHOICE

**ACTIONS –
Housing choice**

ACTION 5. Update planning schemes to align with housing policies in Plan Melbourne and the Northern Metro Region Land Use Framework Plan and the implementation of the reformed residential zones. This includes:

- Providing capacity for 15 years of regional housing supply focusing on locations identified for housing growth in the LUF
- Reviewing planning controls in housing investigation areas as potential locations for substantial or incremental housing change.

This may require strategic planning work to support these changes such as preparing or updating local housing strategies or preparing structure plans to further investigate where increased densities can be supported, and determine specific changes required to planning schemes.

ACTION 6. Identify underutilised and surplus government land that has potential to deliver additional social housing.

ACTION 7. In partnership with councils, identify a pipeline of sites in the Northern Metro Region for social and affordable housing.

ACTION 8. Develop a model and seek support for a whole-of-government approach to better sequence and prioritise locations for key services, social infrastructure and public transport access in the development of growth areas to better enable walkable 20-minute neighbourhoods.




















Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

MAP 4. Northern Growth Corridor Plan

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Health & education precinct (state)
-  Health precinct (state)
-  Education precinct (state)
-  Health & education precinct (regional)
-  Health precinct (regional)
-  Education precinct (regional)
-  State-significant commercial land*
-  State-significant commercial land (future)*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land (future)*
-  State-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  State-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Local industrial precinct - existing
-  Local industrial precinct - future
-  Emerging commercial area
-  Extractive Industry (temporary land use)

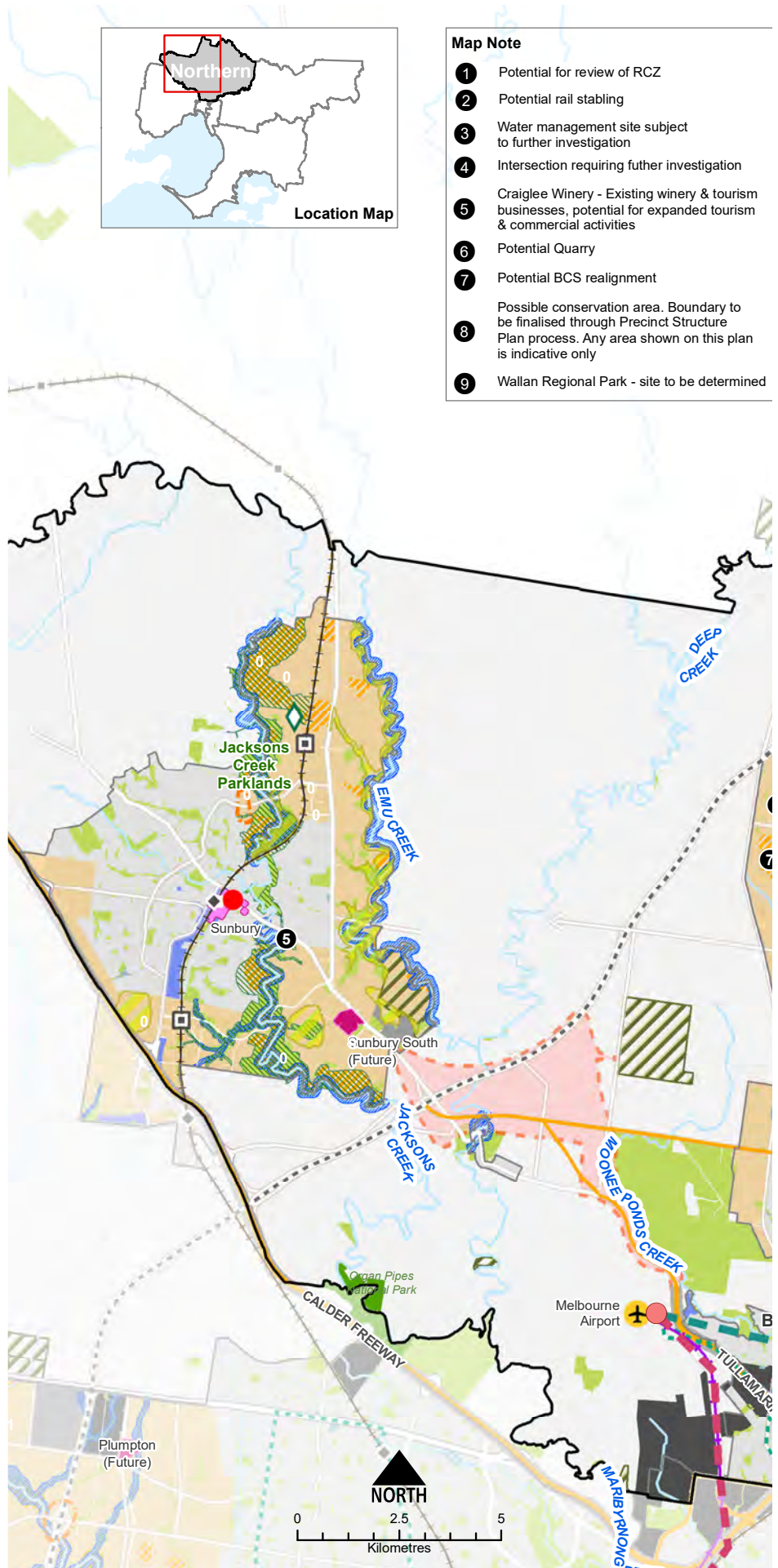
Transport

-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  Transport Gateway - Seaport
-  Transport Gateway - possible Airport (indicative)
-  Transport Gateway - possible Seaport (indicative)
-  Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
-  Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - existing and potential
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Committed station
-  Potential station
-  High capacity public transport
- Suburban Rail Loop**
-  SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
-  SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
-  SRL interchange station
-  SRL station



Map Note

- 1** Potential for review of RCZ
- 2** Potential rail stabling
- 3** Water management site subject to further investigation
- 4** Intersection requiring further investigation
- 5** Craiglee Winery - Existing winery & tourism businesses, potential for expanded tourism & commercial activities
- 6** Potential Quarry
- 7** Potential BCS realignment
- 8** Possible conservation area. Boundary to be finalised through Precinct Structure Plan process. Any area shown on this plan is indicative only
- 9** Wallan Regional Park - site to be determined





- Principal Public Transport Network**
- ◆ PPTN Station
 - PPTN Interchange
 - Bus
 - Tram
- Principal Freight Network**
- PFN road
 - - - PFN Rail
- Transport projects - potential**
- - - Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 Reservation
- Transport projects - committed**
- Melbourne Airport Rail
 - North East Link
 - Rail stabling facility
 - Investigation Area - link to Airport
 - Investigation Area
- Environment**
- Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
 - ◆ Future regional active open space
 - Conservation reserve - emerging
 - Conservation reserve - proposed
 - National park / state park
 - Public open space
 - Potential Biodiversity Link
 - Landscape values within growth corridor
 - Ramsar Site
 - Waterway corridor
 - Waterway
 - Waterbody
 - Retarding basin
- Land use/Administration**
- Regional boundary
 - Green wedge land
 - Urban area
 - Emerging urban area
 - Potential urban area
 - Urban growth boundary
 - Utilities

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state and regionally significant commercial land identified in MLCUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.

Notes: The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State – the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to the Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.

Inclusion of arterial roads in the plans does not indicate a commitment to funding or declaration as a state arterial road.

Infrastructure items shown are indicative and will require further investigation.

Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.

CHAPTER 06 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT

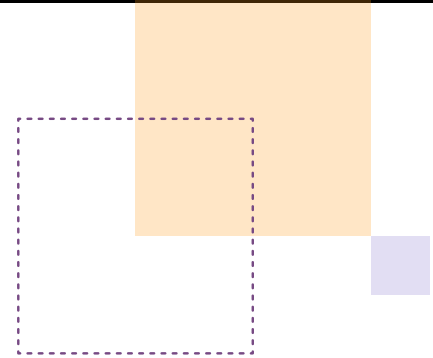


Plan Melbourne Outcome 3:
Melbourne has an integrated
transport system that connects
people to jobs and services and
goods to market.

As the Northern Metro Region grows, it will require better integration of land use and transport planning, better use of existing roads, and increased investment in public transport, walking and cycling. Making better use of transport infrastructure, complemented by good precinct design, can improve connections without necessarily the expense and disruption of delivering new infrastructure. Land use decisions, as well as mode shift opportunities, can significantly improve access and reduce transport-generated emissions.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



Transport in the Northern Metro Region is primarily provided by road and rail networks that radiate from the CBD, connecting through the region and onto the north of the state. However, connections are limited between residential areas and employment areas throughout the region.

The Northern Metro Region is home to the transport gateway of Melbourne Airport as well as the proposed BIFT, SRL and other committed road and rail projects will improve access within the region as well as better connecting the region to other parts of Melbourne and the state.

State of play

Map 5 outlines the current state of play for transport in the Northern Metro Region.

Road network

The region’s main north-south connection is the Hume Freeway, one of Melbourne’s most strategically important pieces of transport infrastructure, connecting the region with Melbourne’s CBD, regional Victoria and New South Wales. The M80 Ring Road is the critical east-west link across the region. The Calder Freeway connects to the M80 Ring Road, linking Sunbury and the north-west of Victoria. Melbourne Airport, a state-significant transport gateway, is connected to Melbourne’s CBD via the Tullamarine Freeway and CityLink. Both the Hume Freeway and Melbourne Airport are key economic regions and gateways for Australia’s national economy.

As the region grows, road congestion will increase, with the impact of congestion highest on residents in outer areas. By 2031, traffic volumes in the outer area of the Northern Metro Region will increase around 47 per cent from 2015 levels (KPMG & ARUP, 2017). Congestion hotspots include Epping Road and Plenty Road. The duration of morning and evening peak periods lengthens with distance from Melbourne’s city centre, and for outer regions, the morning peak is forecast to begin half an hour earlier by 2031 (KPMG & ARUP, 2017).

Public transport network

The Northern Metro Region has an established public transport network, especially in the southern part of the region as shown in Figure 15. The inner suburbs of the Northern Metro Region are well connected to Melbourne’s CBD by both train and tram. The region’s rail network includes:

- Metro passenger services to Sunbury, Upfield, Mernda, Hurstbridge and Craigieburn
- Regional passenger services to Bendigo, Albury and Shepparton
- Interstate passenger and freight lines from Melbourne to Sydney and Brisbane (via Albury).









The outer sections of all lines are limited by single tracks. The Upfield line connects to the Craigieburn line at Roxburgh Park but is not used for metropolitan passenger services beyond Upfield. Regional passenger services operate for the growth areas beyond Craigieburn to Wallan. The tram network extends to Coburg (three lines), Brunswick (two lines) and Bundoora.

The Northern Metro Region’s bus network is mainly concentrated in the southern LGAs. Three orbital SmartBus routes provide east-west connections. All existing activity centres and the La Trobe NEIC contain multi-modal transport interchanges.


















Figure 13 shows the accessibility to public transport for people who live within the region based on how far they need to walk to access train, tram and bus services. Whittlesea, Nillumbik and Hume LGAs have the lowest average hourly frequencies of public transport per stop compared to other local councils in the region. Congestion in the region’s inner suburbs is increasing, with more activity, traffic and freight movements, and limited north-south and east-west arterial corridors. Between the region’s radial rail corridors, public transport provision can be poor, with higher levels of car dependency and increasingly congested road networks.

MAP 5. Northern Metro Region integrated transport state of play

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Major activity centre
-  Major activity centre (future)
-  State-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  State-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future






Transport

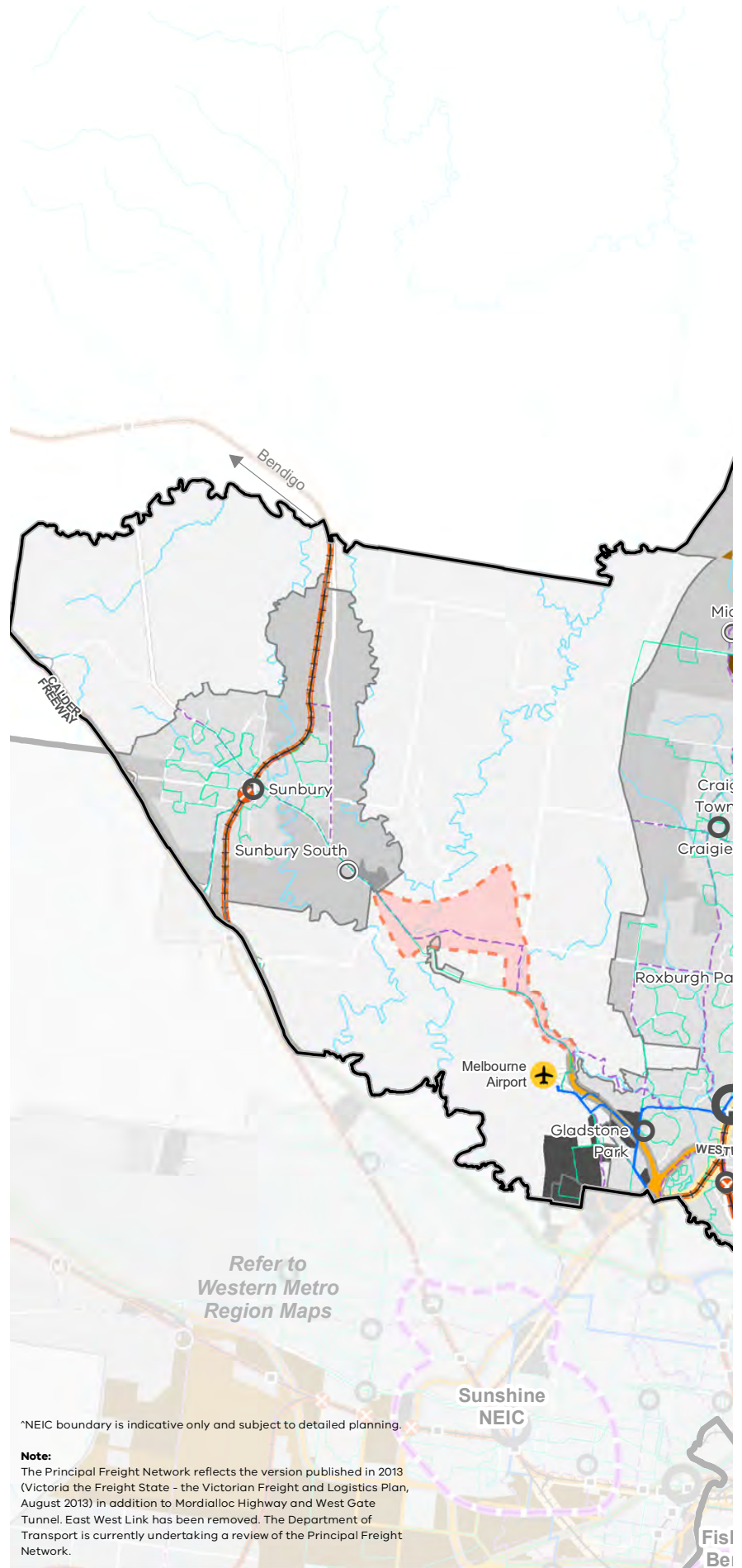
-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
-  Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - existing and potential
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Interstate rail network
-  Regional rail network
-  Tram network
-  Bus network
-  High frequency bus network
-  Strategic Cycling Corridor
-  Investigation Area - Link to Airport
- Principal Freight Network**
-  PFN road
-  PFN rail
- Transport projects - committed**
-  Level crossing removal site

Environment

-  Waterway

Land use/Administration

-  Regional boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary



Refer to Western Metro Region Maps

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.

Note:
The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.

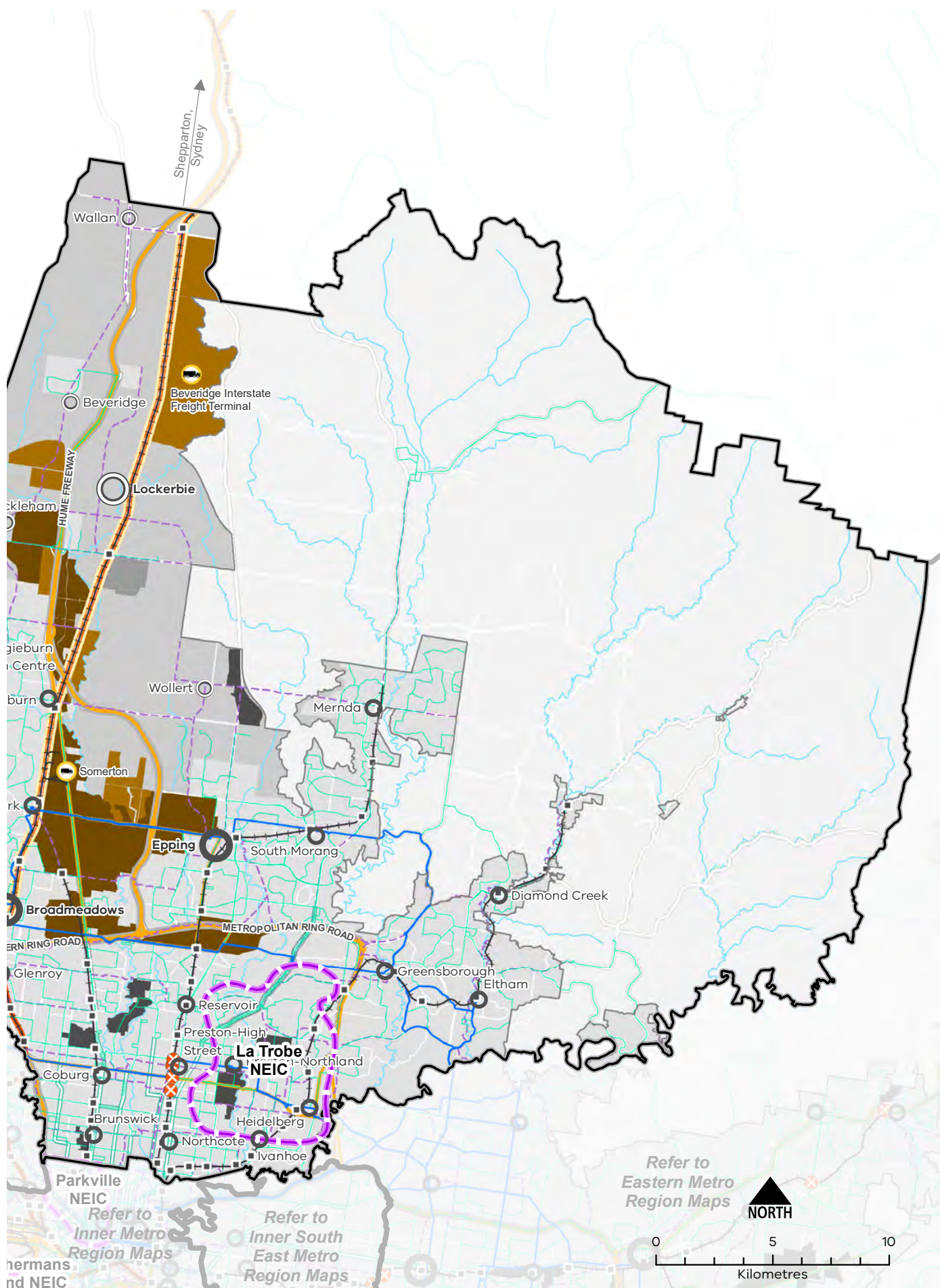
















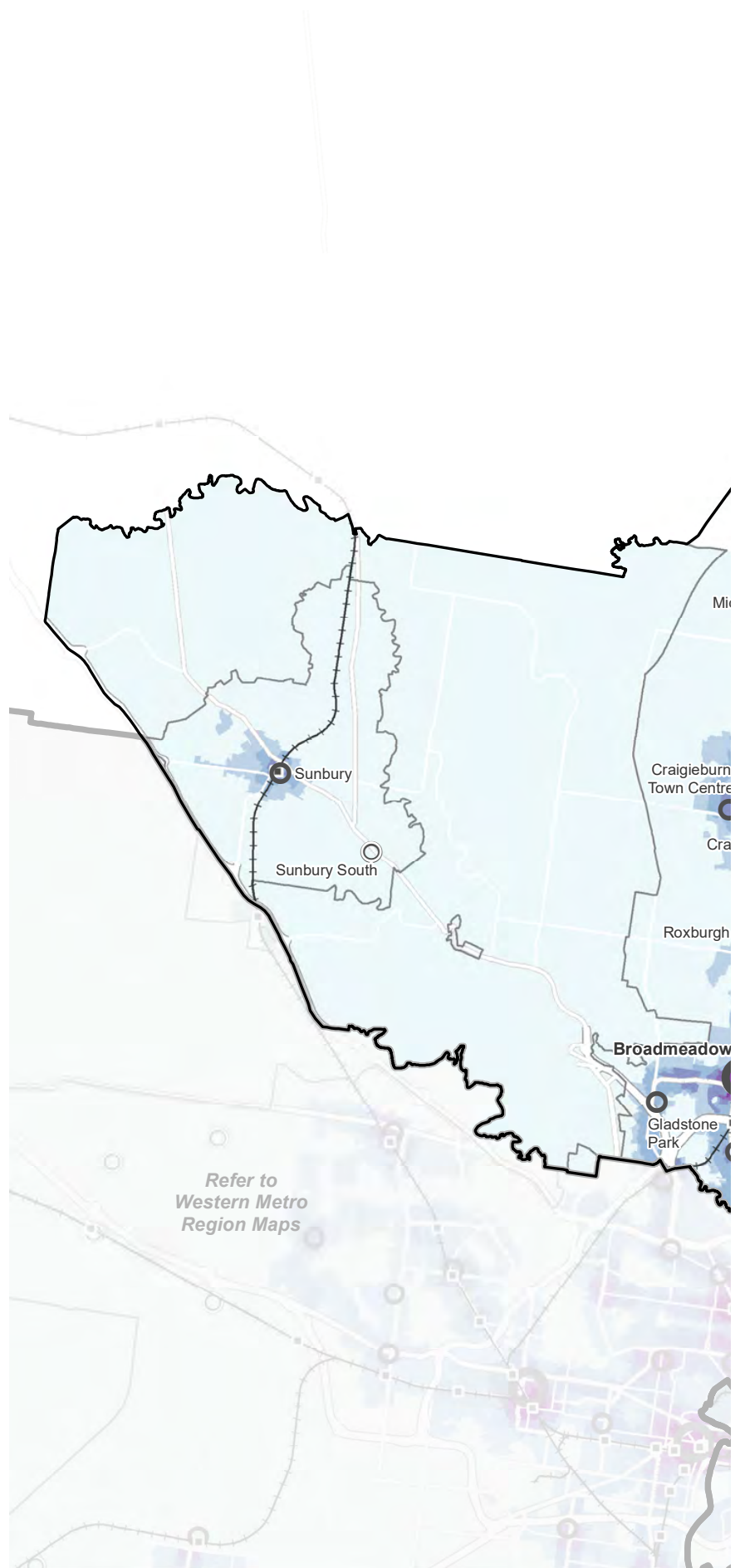


FIGURE 13. Public transport accessibility in the Northern Metro Region

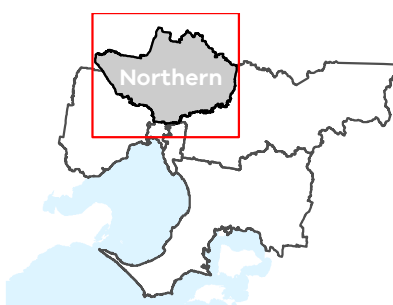
-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Metropolitan activity centre (future)
-  Major activity centre
-  Major activity centre (future)
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Road network
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Regional boundary

**Public transport accessibility
(train, tram and bus services)**

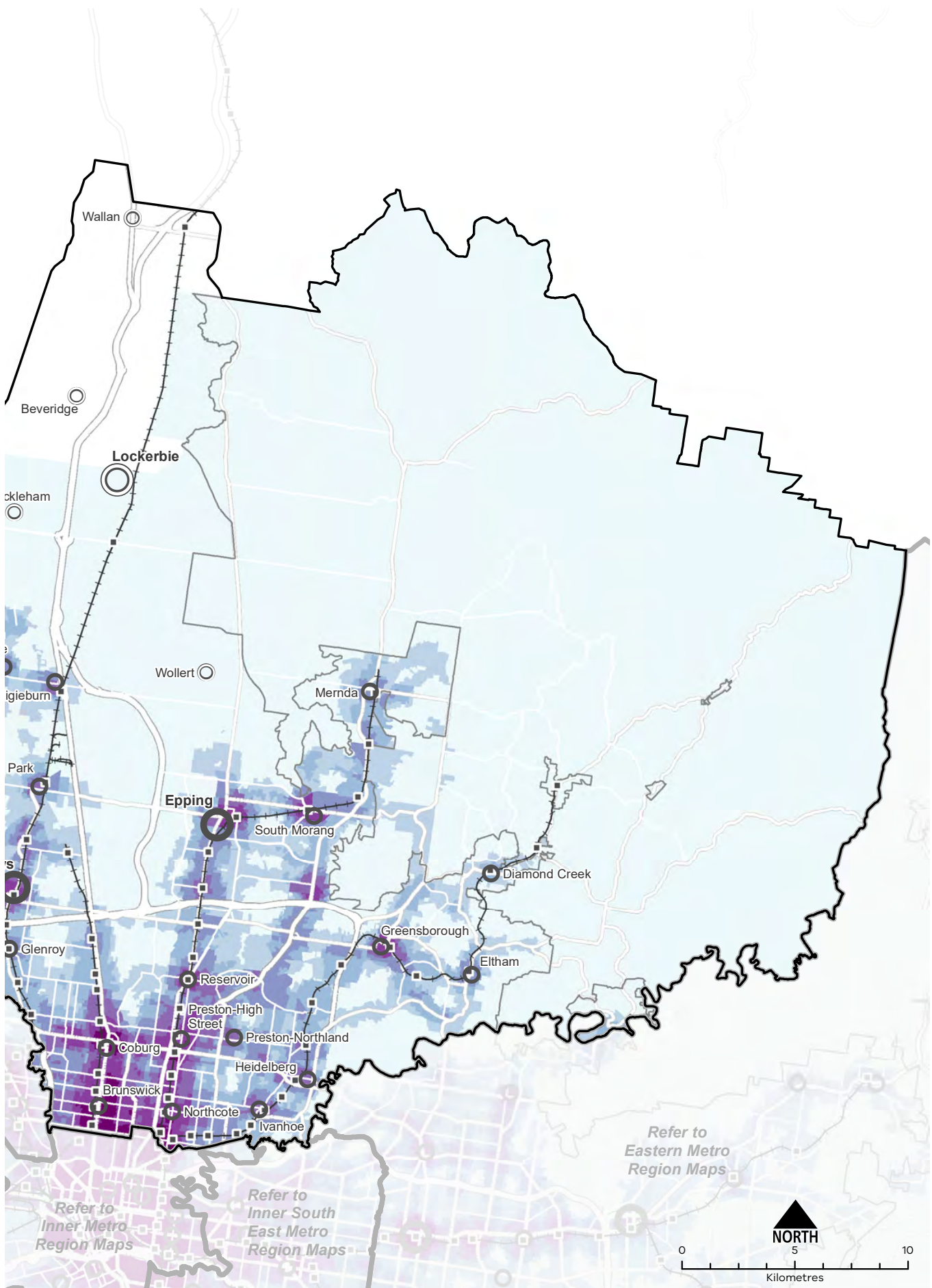
-  Very Low
-  Low
-  Low to Medium
-  Medium
-  Medium to High
-  High
-  Very High



Map derived from train, tram and bus services across the metropolitan area for the public transport timetables for the AM peak period (0700 – 0859) in October 2020



*Refer to
Western Metro
Region Maps*



CHAPTER 06

Active transport network

The cycling network is well developed in the southern, more populated part of the region, with established off road trails along waterway corridors and Strategic Cycling Corridors. These trails extend from Melbourne’s CBD to activity centres such as Broadmeadows, Coburg, Preston and Heidelberg and La Trobe University. However, further improvements are needed to make cycling a more attractive form of transport, particularly in the outer areas. In 2016, 3 per cent of residents cycled to work in the Northern Metro Region. This compares to 1 per cent for metropolitan Melbourne. 2 per cent of residents walked to work in the Northern Metro Region, which compares to 3 per cent for metropolitan Melbourne.

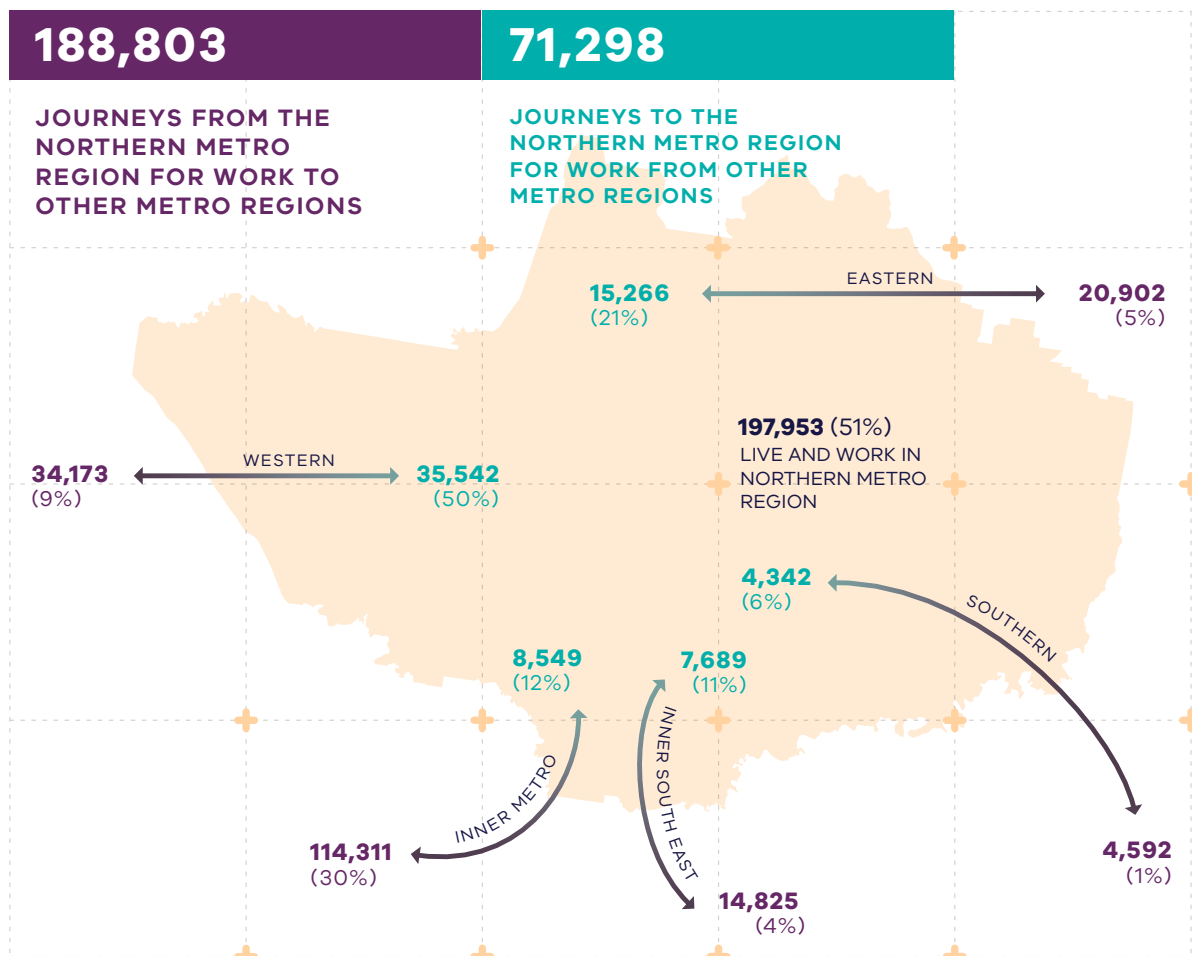
Regional access and movement

Around half of the residents of the Northern Metro Region also work in the region. Figure 14 shows

journeys in and out of the Northern Metro Region in 2016. The most common work destination for the Northern Metro Region after the region itself was the Inner Metro Region. The most common work destination for residents in 2016 was Melbourne LGA, followed by the local LGAs of Hume and Whittlesea (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016). Whittlesea and Hume were also the most common origin of people working in the region, followed by Banyule and Darebin LGAs. Workers also travelled from LGAs in the Western Metro Region, including Brimbank, Moonee Valley and Melton LGAs.

A substantial number of workers travel from outside the region, mainly from the Western Metro Region. After the LGAs within the Northern Metro Region, workers travel from Brimbank, Moonee Valley, Melton and Manningham LGAs for jobs located in the Northern Metro Region (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016).

FIGURE 14. Journey to work in and out of the Northern Metro Region



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016) Census of Population and Housing, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, Australia.

Regional strengths

- There are significant existing and future transport connections to regional Victoria, Melbourne Airport, other metro regions and the Central City which will improve access to jobs, services and infrastructure.
- The region benefits from a strong freeway, arterial road and freight network, including the proposed BIFT.
- The region will benefit from access improvements through the Suburban Rail Loop.
- The region is home to the transport gateway of Melbourne Airport which will become better connected to the rest of Melbourne via Melbourne Airport Rail.

Regional challenges

- There is a lack of capacity in many of the north-south corridors and a need to create better transport interchanges at key locations such as train stations in the Northern Growth Corridor.
- East-west connections across the region need to be increased and improved.
- The region has higher levels of car dependency and congested road networks, there is a need to increase the number of trips taken by walking, bicycle, and public transport.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of integrated transport and Outcome 3 of Plan Melbourne are:

Direction 12	Improve transport connections to support the productivity of the Northern Metro Region
Direction 13	Improve public and active transport access for the La Trobe NEIC, metropolitan and major activity centres
Direction 14	Improve transport connectivity in the Northern Growth Corridor and outer suburbs
Direction 15	Improve active and public transport options to promote mode shift and support 20-minute neighbourhoods
Direction 16	Protect and grow the Northern Metro Region’s comparative advantage in freight and logistics

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUFP.









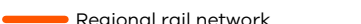



Map 6 shows how Integrated transport will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.

MAP 6. Northern Metro Region integrated transport 2050





Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  State-significant commercial land*
-  State-significant commercial land - future*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land - future*
-  State-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  State-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future

Transport

-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
-  Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and potential
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Potential station
-  Rail network
-  Regional rail network
-  High capacity public transport
-  Strategic cycling corridor
-  Investigation Area - link to Airport

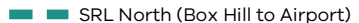
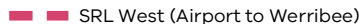


Principal public transport network

-  PPTN station
-  PPTN interchange
-  Bus
-  Tram


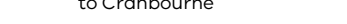
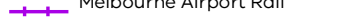
Principal freight network

-  PFN road
-  PFN rail

Suburban Rail Loop

-  SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
-  SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
-  SRL - interchange station
-  SRL - station

Transport projects - committed

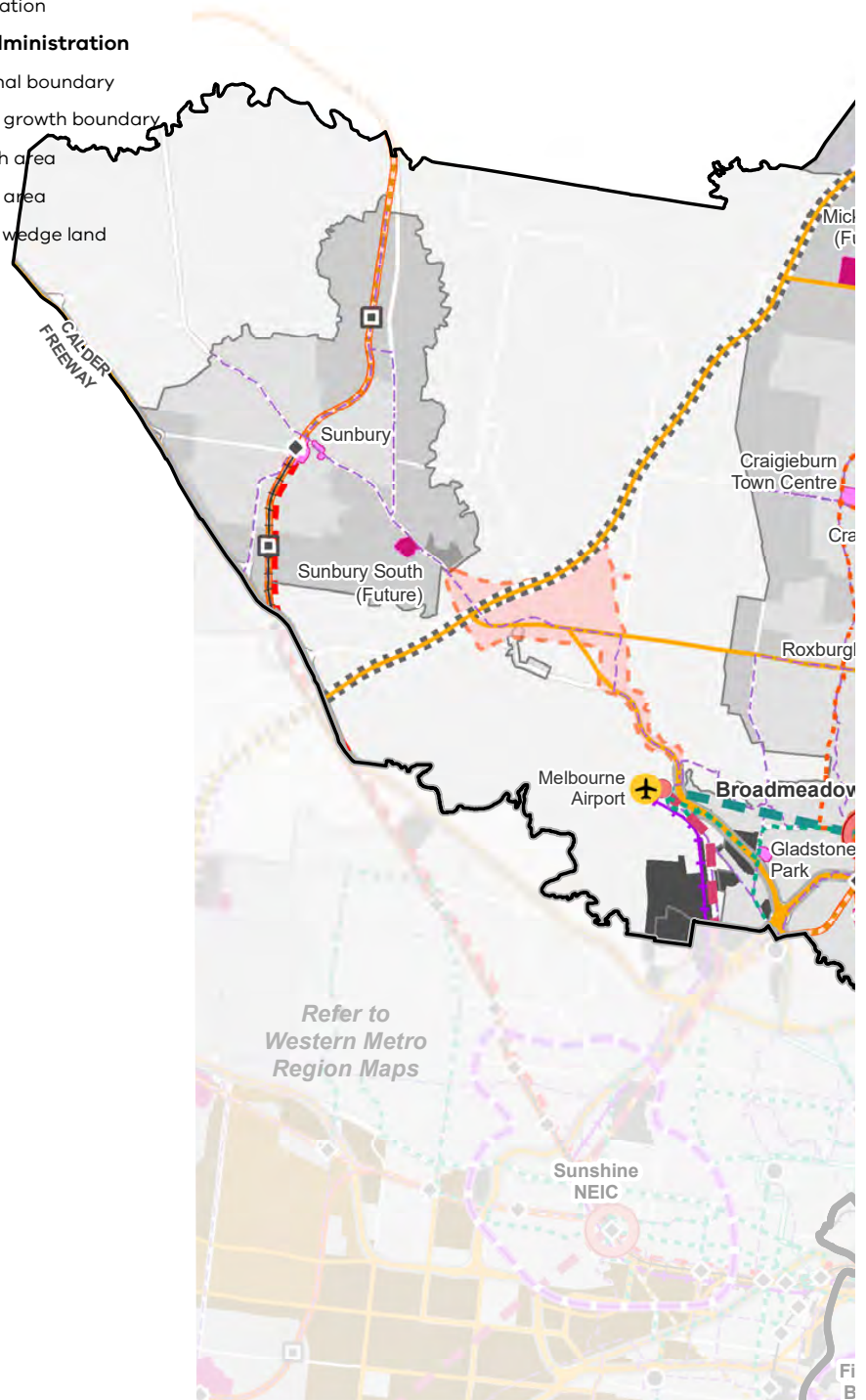
-  Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
-  Melbourne Airport Rail
-  North East Link

Transport projects - potential future

-  Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 reservation

Land use/Administration

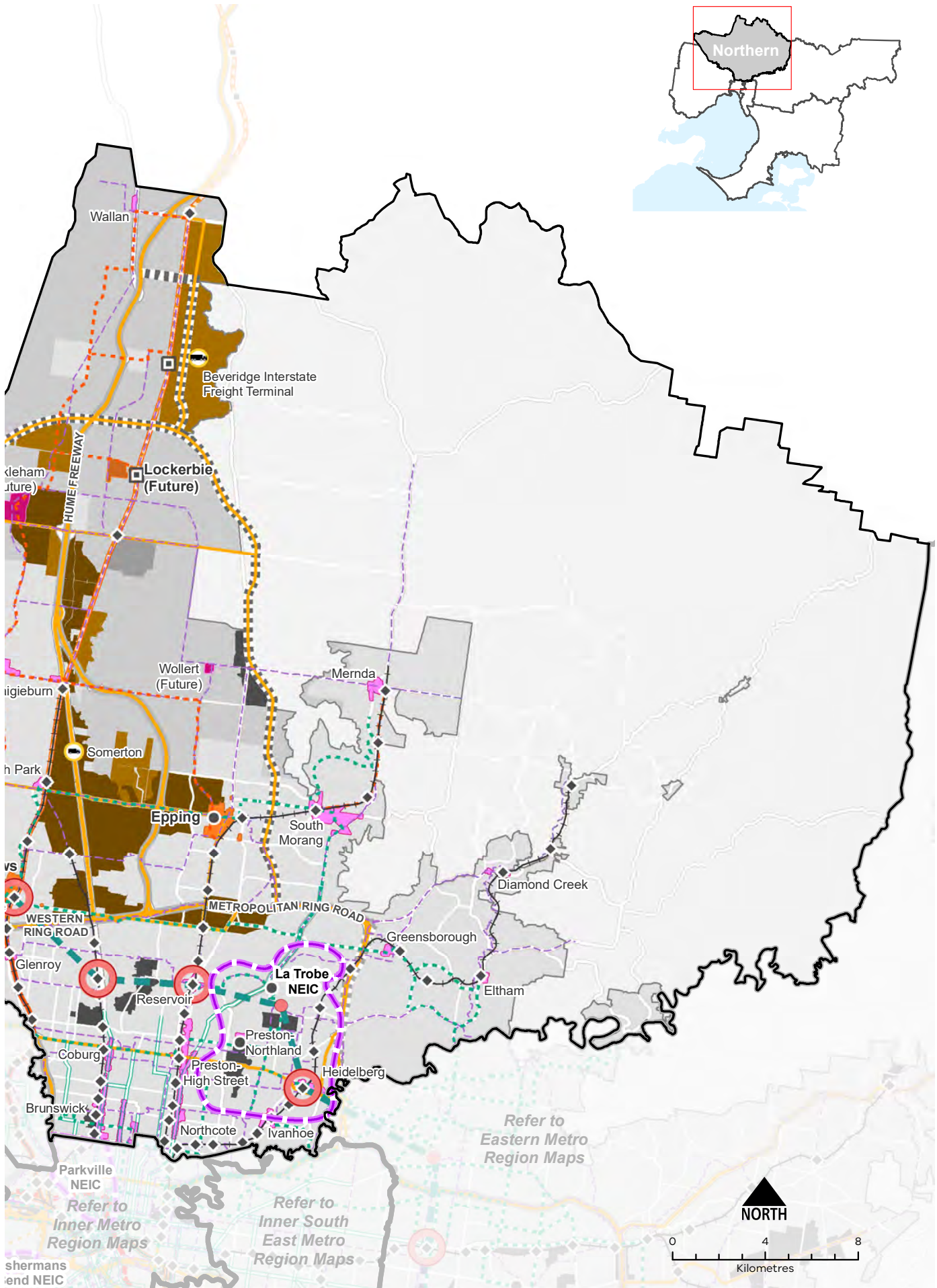
-  Regional boundary
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Green wedge land



Refer to Western Metro Region Maps

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MICALUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.

Note:
 The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.



CHAPTER 06

DIRECTION 12.
Improve transport connections to support the productivity of the Northern Metro Region

As Broadmeadows, Epping and other important employment centres across the Northern Metro Region grow, such as Lockerbie, Mickleham and Wollert, public transport connections to these centres will need to be expanded. They will also require active transport networks that logically connect with public transport nodes and improved transport interchanges. Train station master planning will be important at key locations such as metropolitan activity centres and train stations in the Northern Growth Corridor.

Improved east-west transport connections will support the development of regional employment opportunities reducing the need for long commutes. In established urban areas, existing public transport connections comprise bus routes on heavily congested roads. In the Northern Growth Corridor there are few east-west public transport options. It will become increasingly important to improve these connections to better link residents to jobs and services in key nodes such as the La Trobe NEIC, Melbourne Airport, Broadmeadows, Epping and Lockerbie metropolitan activity centres.

The key regional linkages are shown in **Figure 15**. Decisions regarding appropriate modes for these links should consider the capacity of existing infrastructure, ongoing sustainability and providing travel choices over a longer time period including evening and late-night travel.

Key east-west, multi-modal connections requiring further development are:

- Bell Street (through inner-middle Melbourne from the Tullamarine Freeway to Heidelberg and the southern part of the La Trobe NEIC connecting into SRL)
- M80 Ring Road and Mahoneys Road (linking Melbourne Airport through Broadmeadows and Thomastown, and La Trobe NEIC)
- Cooper Street and Somerton Road (linking Roxburgh Park to Epping, and connecting with the Hume Highway Corridor, Melbourne Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market and Epping)
- Donnybrook Road, Craigieburn East Road, Findon Road and the M80 Ring Road duplications (ultimately connecting the OMR from Mickleham Road in the west through Lockerbie and the proposed BIFT and to Plenty Road to the east).

The proposed OMR will improve access to Melbourne Airport, Epping and Lockerbie metropolitan activity centres and Sunbury Major Activity Centre.

Increasing the capacity of north-south corridors, in particular in the growth areas in Hume and Whittlesea LGAs, is critical to improve access and reduce travel time to Melbourne’s CBD and inner suburbs. This includes increasing rail capacity, completing the arterial road network and planning for its flexible use to accommodate active, sustainable modes of transport.

As the city grows, the links between the Northern Metro Region, peri-urban areas and central Victoria will continue to be important. Major activity centres such as Sunbury and Craigieburn in the region’s north will become stronger service hubs, while proposed employment centres such as Lockerbie and the BIFT will become job locations for residents in peri-urban and regional areas. This will require better connections between the Northern Metro Region and towns and centres in peri-urban and central Victoria, particularly by public transport.

Key metropolitan inter-regional linkages are from Melbourne’s north to western, eastern and southern economic nodes such as Sunshine, Ringwood, Box Hill, Clayton and Dandenong, and to the Melbourne CBD and Port of Melbourne.

The capacity of the regional bus network needs to be enhanced to improve integration with train and tram services and provide alternative high-capacity transport options in the growth areas. This will also increase public transport options to key locations in the short- to medium-term while longer-term transport projects are delivered such as North East Link and SRL.

Inner northern suburbs have recently transitioned to higher-density, compact suburbs with strong walking, cycling and public transport cultures. While there has been progress in implementing the Principal Bicycle Network (PBN) there is still a challenge to elevate cycling as a genuine alternative transport choice and introduce safer cycling routes to meet demand. Public and active transport access for workers to industrial precincts should also be improved to reduce car use and car parking demands in these locations.

Quality off-road and protected on-road bicycle connections are needed, especially to key destinations such as La Trobe NEIC and the Melbourne CBD.

Strategic Cycling Corridors will connect state-significant locations and activity centres. Priority active transport projects will promote increased safe use of the region’s cycling and walking network (**Figure 16**).

INTEGRATED TRANSPORT

Primary routes provide a core network of Strategic Cycling Corridors that connect places of state significance – the Central City, metropolitan activity centres and NEICs within metropolitan Melbourne. Main routes are Strategic Cycling Corridors that provide additional connections to state-significant destinations as well as connections to major activity centres and key train stations across metropolitan Melbourne.

STRATEGY 38. Provide high-quality public transport access to job-rich areas such as La Trobe NEIC, Broadmeadows and Epping metropolitan activity centres, and Melbourne Airport.

STRATEGY 39. Provide high-quality public transport connections to planned employment areas including Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre (future), Beveridge and Merrifield (Mickleham) major activity centres, significant employment areas identified north and south of Merrifield and the proposed BIFT.

STRATEGY 40. Improve east-west arterial road connections and east-west bus connectivity.

STRATEGY 41. Improve north-south transport connections including public transport provision and capacity, arterial road connections and supporting infrastructure including improved and integrated transport interchanges in metropolitan and major activity centres.

STRATEGY 42. Enhance public transport connections to peri-urban areas, Bendigo, Seymour and other centres in central and northern Victoria.





STRATEGY 43. Integrate major public transport with the activity centre and active transport network by connecting cycling and pedestrian links to major transport nodes.

STRATEGY 44. Support cycling for transport through the development of Strategic Cycling Corridors in the Northern Metro Region.

















Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

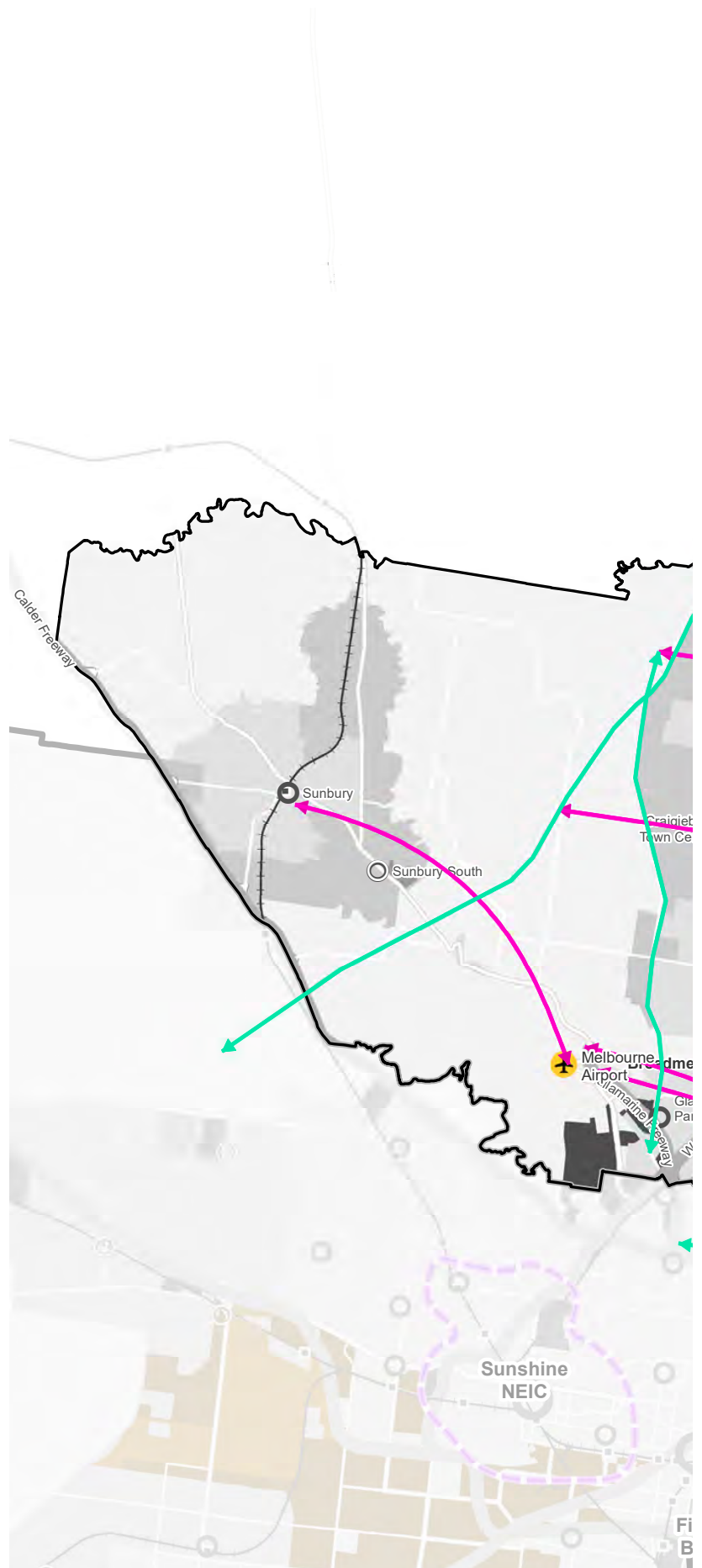
FIGURE 15. Key regional linkages – Northern Metro Region

-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Metropolitan activity centre (future)
-  Major activity centre
-  Major activity centre (future)
-  Regional boundary
-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
-  Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and potential

Key Regional Linkages

-  Inter-regional
-  Intra-regional
-  National Employment & Innovation Cluster (NEIC)[^]
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  State significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  State-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  State-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
-  Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Green wedge land

[^]NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.



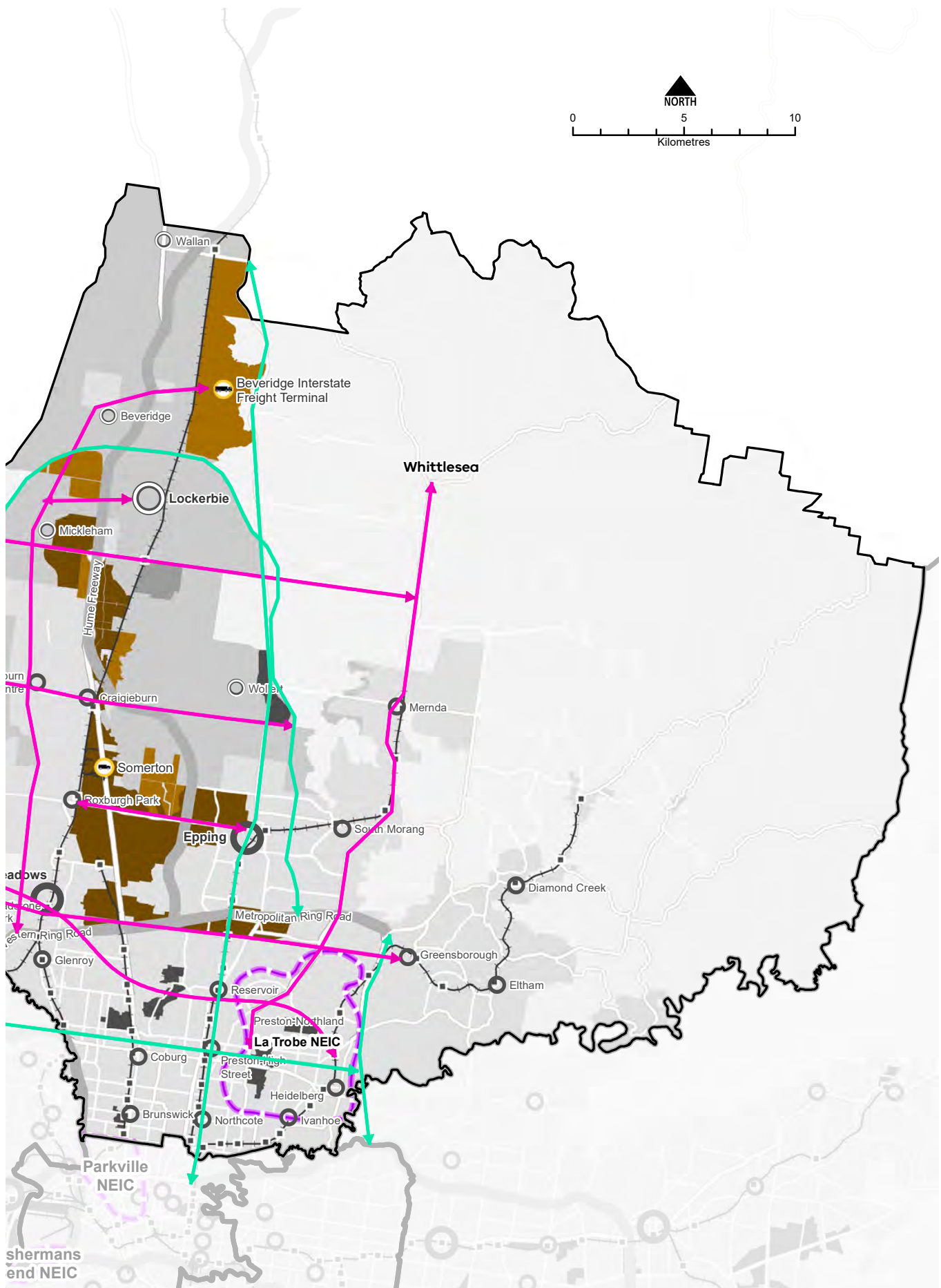
















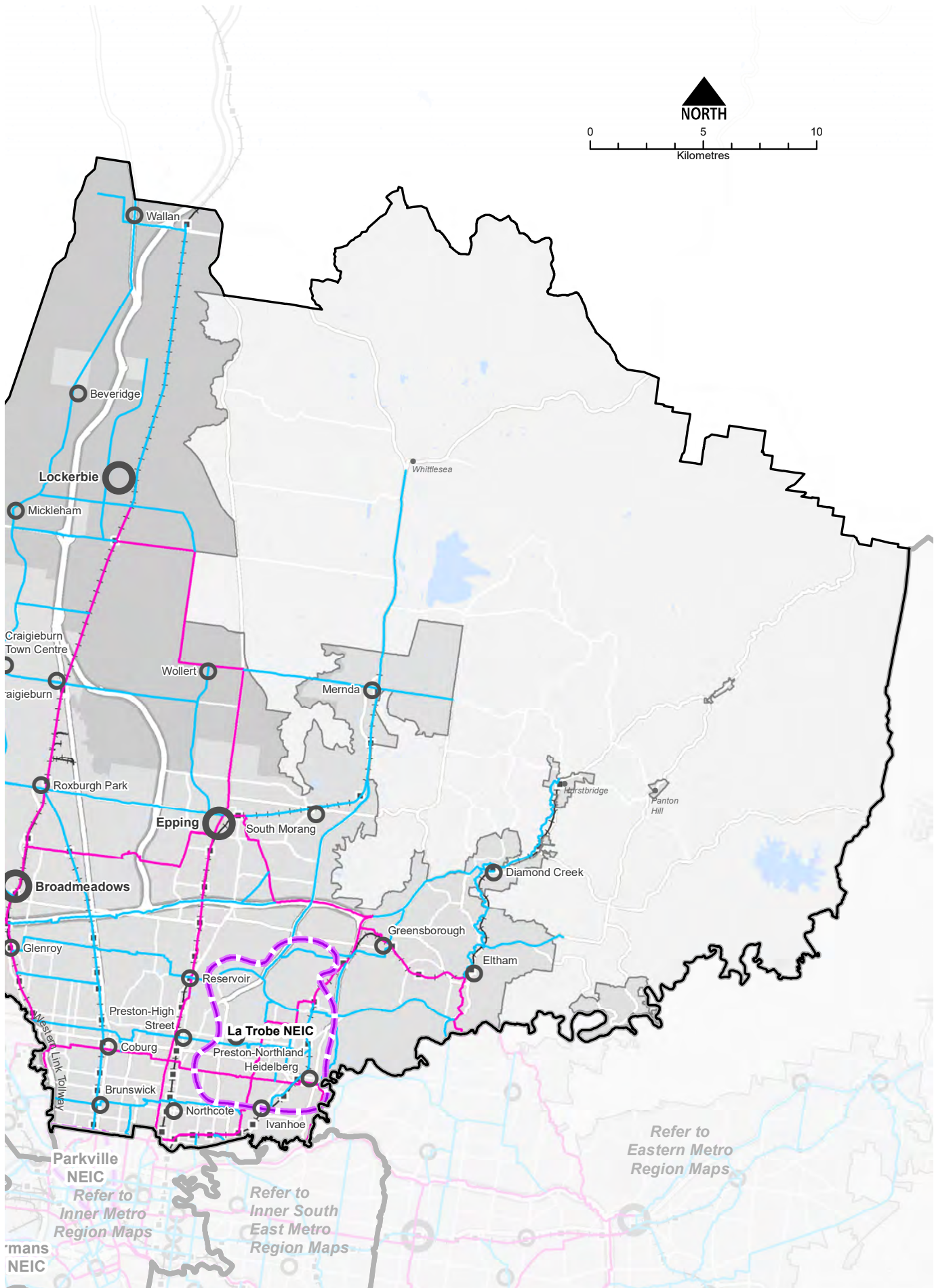
FIGURE 16. Strategic Cycling Corridor network – Northern Metro Region

-  National Employment & Innovation Cluster (NEIC)*
-  Metropolitan activity Centre
-  Major activity centre
- Strategic Cycling Corridor**
-  Primary route (C1)
-  Main route (C2)
-  State significant road corridor
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Road network
-  Regional boundary
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Growth area
-  Waterbody
-  Green wedge land



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.





CHAPTER 06

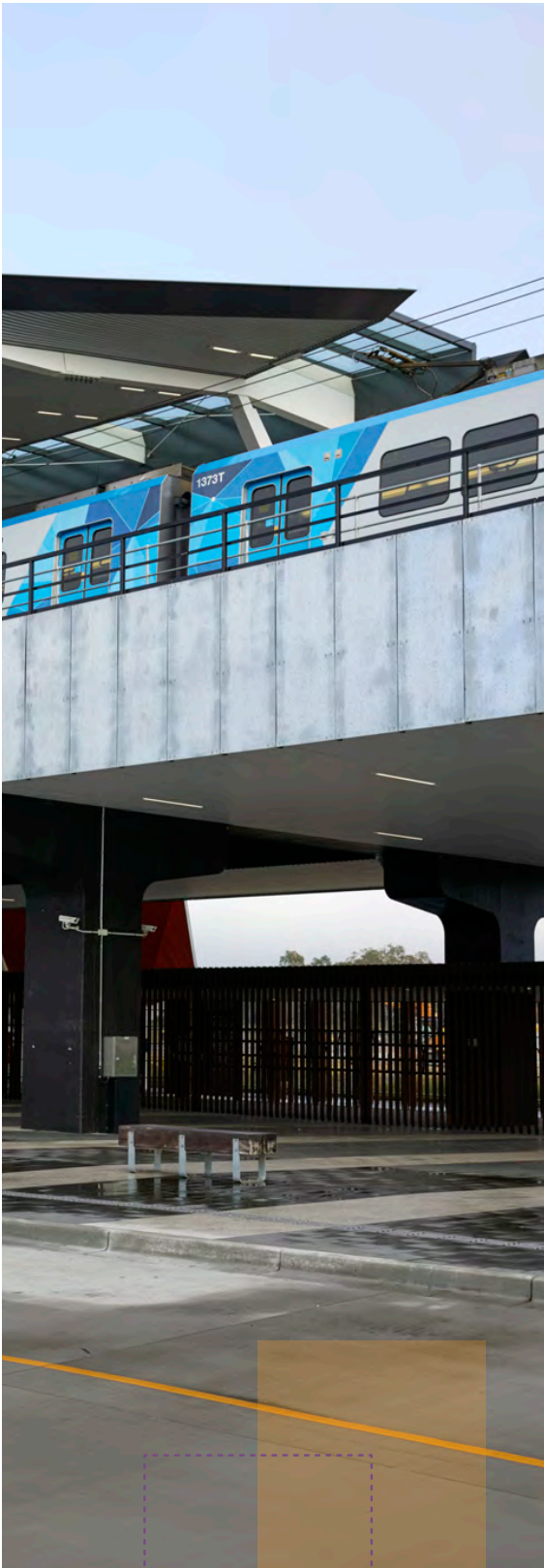


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

DIRECTION 13.
Improve public and active transport access for the La Trobe NEIC, metropolitan and major activity centres

Continuing to provide opportunities for public and active transport in and around the NEIC, metropolitan and major activity centres will be critical to improve the amenity of these centres and make them more attractive for business investment and local residents. In the longer term, SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) will improve east-west connectivity within the region by linking the La Trobe NEIC and activity centres within the region and also improving linkages with other regions. Melbourne Airport will connect to Broadmeadows, Fawkner, Reservoir, Bundoora, and onto Heidelberg and other activity centres in Melbourne. SRL will change the way people travel to and move around the Northern Metro Region.

The location and design of interchanges will link in closely with other public transport and active transport routes. It will also enhance access to centres to the north of SRL such as Epping. The train station interchanges offer opportunities to catalyse land use change, given the increased accessibility. The foundations for an improved bus network should complement the planned SRL upgrades to better move people around the NEIC and activity centres.

STRATEGY 45. Ensure the planning and design of Suburban Rail Loop maximises opportunities for public and active transport connections and links between key destinations and surrounding activity centres.

STRATEGY 46. Improve bus service connectivity prior to the delivery of Suburban Rail Loop.

DIRECTION 14.
Improve transport connectivity in the Northern Growth Corridor and outer suburbs

While rapid development in the Northern Growth Corridor is creating greater housing choice and opportunities, employment and services are mostly to the south, often meaning long travel times for residents.

High-capacity, interconnected public transport in the central part of the corridor, as well as its western and eastern flanks, is planned. This would initially be in the form of rapid bus transport on the arterial road network, supported by a network of local bus connections. A higher capacity public transport route is identified to run along Aitken Boulevard supporting Mickleham, Beveridge, Craigieburn and through the significant employment areas identified north and south of Merrifield. This would require dedicated bus lanes on existing or new roads and other infrastructure to support its delivery.

Extending and enhancing rail connections into the growth areas will also provide greater transport choices for residents, including upgrading of the Upfield Corridor with the duplication of the Upfield line between Gowrie and Upfield, the extension and linking of the Upfield and Craigieburn lines near Roxburgh Park, the electrification of the line between Craigieburn and Wallan and the potential extension of rail to Wollert. Providing these upgrades in a timely way will be in line with the objective of sequencing growth area planning with the provision of vital transport infrastructure in the north.

Key features of public transport network planning for the Northern Growth Corridor include planning for services and train station development along the Sydney-Melbourne rail line, including multi-modal integration, to support Donnybrook, Craigieburn and the future Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre, as well as strategically located park and ride facilities. Key land use considerations include the strategic allocation of land for public transport infrastructure and optimising interactions between key movements and modes.

Further development of the arterial road network will improve inter-regional connectivity and opportunity for an expanded regional and local bus network and will be delivered sooner with contiguous sequencing of land use planning and development.

The Northern Growth Corridor includes the existing townships and neighbourhoods of Beveridge, Kalkallo, Donnybrook and Mandalay. PSPs will need to carefully consider how these should be integrated with new development, and how services

and facilities, including public transport, are to be provided, and where, as part of emerging growth. It will be important that existing communities and networks are sustained and given the opportunity to be enhanced over time.

Wallan and Beveridge will require good transport connections to the services and facilities planned in the Northern Growth Corridor. Their communities will rely on connectivity to the growth areas for a range of employment, economic and community facilities. Wallan can be linked into the Corridor via public transport links into the Aitken Boulevard PPTN and Sydney-Melbourne railway line. Electrification of the northern end of the corridors rail infrastructure will assist. Additional arterial road connections are identified to link Wallan and the Northern Growth Corridor, in addition to the existing Hume Freeway and Northern Highway.

In the longer term, the OMR will provide additional road and rail access between Melbourne’s west and the Hume Freeway. A connection between Sunbury and Craigieburn which includes the Bulla Bypass as well as the possibility to utilise the OMR and an extended Tullamarine Freeway to provide the link is also identified for investigation.

Planning for the Northern Growth Corridor recognises the potential for additional access to the Hume Freeway, north and south of the OMR. It also recognises the need for further investigation of interchanges. There is a need to ensure this important national freight route does not become congested with local traffic as well as provide some additional access to the Hume Freeway for new communities.

STRATEGY 47. Maintain and further develop the arterial road network in the Northern Growth Corridor and outer suburbs to support improved travel times, safety and reliability.

STRATEGY 48. Provide north-south public and active transport connections between Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre and the proposed Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre and in the Epping corridor.

STRATEGY 49. Improve outer suburban public transport to ensure integration with sequenced land use planning and development.

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DIRECTION 15. Improve active and public transport options to promote mode shift and support 20-minute neighbourhoods

Access to public transport varies significantly across the Northern Metro Region. Improvements to local transport, such as bus, cycling and pedestrian routes, are needed to address gaps. Continued and innovative development of the bus network is a priority for communities with the least access to public transport.

Thirty-six per cent of people in the region used a car when making a short trip under 5 kilometres in the region, whereas 27 per cent of people walked, and only 3 per cent of people cycled for short trips. To reduce dependence on private vehicles, public transport, cycling and walking need to be more accessible. This means significant upgrades to public transport access, and improvements to pedestrian and cycling accessibility, better linking neighbourhoods to employment, and social and community services.

As development densities in Epping and Broadmeadows metropolitan activity centres increase, they will require active transport networks that logically connect to public transport nodes. In established, higher-density locations, networks should better connect to existing cycling and walking infrastructure to fill existing gaps.

A more cohesive network of active transport connections, including paths and trails, will be developed to prioritise connection between centres as part of the PBN. Priority active transport projects will promote safety and increased use of the region's cycling and walking network. Northern Metro Region local councils have undertaken significant work on regional trails. However, there are still opportunities to deliver connecting trails to join activity centres, existing trails along waterway corridors and open space. This could be achieved as part of major transport projects, open space improvements or through better use of government-owned land.

Decisions about the location of health and community services and sport and recreational facilities in the Northern Metro Region need to consider public access. Site selection should align with the existing public transport network to maximise its use wherever possible, and to ensure local communities are connected to their nearest regional social infrastructure. The full cost of providing access should be considered as part of the development of business cases.

STRATEGY 50. Create pedestrian-friendly neighbourhoods by enhancing major pedestrian links and expanding the network.

STRATEGY 51. Create a network of walking and cycling links for local trips that link to public transport.

STRATEGY 52. Improve active and public transport in the La Trobe NEIC, activity centres and health and education precincts to support higher-density mixed-use walkable precincts.

STRATEGY 53. Provide walking and cycling routes and drop-off zones to health and community services and recreation facilities.

DIRECTION 16.**Protect and grow the Northern Metro Region's comparative advantage in freight and logistics**

The Northern Metro Region's role as a critical gateway to domestic and international markets requires ongoing, integrated land use and transport planning to preserve and sustainably develop the region's freight and logistics sector.

The region is Victoria's domestic freight hub, connecting Victoria to key trade routes such as New South Wales and Queensland via the Hume Highway, Epping Market freight node and Somerton intermodal terminal. The proposed BIFT precinct will further contribute to this, providing an opportunity for state and local government to leverage private investment in the precinct and drive further economic growth.

The under-construction direct Port Rail Shuttle Link between Somerton Intermodal Hub and the Port of Melbourne is another significant investment in freight movement in Melbourne's north. Due for completion in 2022, the project will facilitate greater uptake of rail freight to reduce network congestion and make rail freight more cost effective. When completed, this will contribute to a fundamental shift in how freight moves in Melbourne via the Port Rail Shuttle Network. The Somerton Link alone will reduce trucks on suburban Melbourne roads by as much as 20,000 trips annually.

In addition, the 1700 kilometre Inland Rail alignment will link Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. The route uses the existing interstate line from Melbourne in Victoria to Illabo in New South Wales, which will be enhanced to accommodate double-stacked trains, allowing them to carry up to twice as many containers.

Metropolitan freight volumes are expected to grow at an average annual rate of 2.6 per cent each year between 2014 and 2051. The flow on effects of population growth and increased e-commerce could result in conflicting land use.

To support these investments in supply chain efficiencies and manage the growing freight task, coordinated state and local government planning is needed to balance and protect strategically significant freight precincts and corridors from sometimes competing economic, amenity and environmental considerations.

The PFN provides transparency to local government and community regarding the primary way goods will be moved throughout the region. This allows government to consider freight needs during the planning process to protect the end-to-end freight journeys from conflicting land uses or use tools to mitigate environmental or amenity risk through planning permit requirements.

The Northern Metro Region has a comparative advantage in freight and logistics linked to the location of Melbourne Airport and the Hume Freeway which act as gateways to interstate and international markets. Without undertaking the necessary planning and engagement as a priority, the future success of the BIFT and other regionally-significant industrial precincts could be undermined. Planning considerations include protecting end-to-end freight access routes from the encroachment of residential and other sensitive uses.

The regional road network planned to carry freight as a key function includes:

- The Hume Freeway
- The OMR/E6 Transport Corridor road reservation
- The proposed Melbourne Airport Rail/Bulla Bypass
- Donnybrook Road
- Somerton Road/Cooper Street
- The Metropolitan M80 Ring Road.

The region's rail freight network which extends from the Western and Inner metro regions includes:

- Tottenham-Jacana-Somerton-Beveridge corridor (including the Melbourne-Sydney-Brisbane mainline)
- Kensington-Essendon-Jacana corridor
- North Melbourne-Upfield-Roxburgh Park corridor.

The proposed BIFT site is ideally located considering its location alongside the Melbourne-Sydney-Brisbane railway line, Hume Freeway and proposed OMR.

Approximately 1500 hectares of land has been set aside for a major freight hub supporting a range of businesses such as distribution centres and warehousing. The terminal will play a vital role in enabling the transfer of interstate freight across Australia.

STRATEGY 54. Ensure the BIFT precinct and its connecting freight corridors are protected from encroachment of sensitive or conflicting land uses.

CHAPTER 06

**ACTIONS –
Integrated transport**

ACTION 9. Undertake a review of the regional bus network to support regional access and movement in the short- to medium-terms and to plan integration with major public transport changes including SRL.

ACTION 10. Review the Principal Public Transport Network for the growth areas.





Photo credit: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

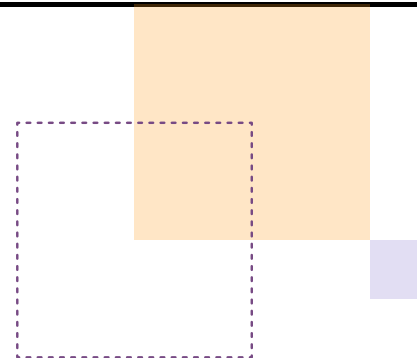
CHAPTER 07 LIVEABILITY



Plan Melbourne Outcome 4:
Melbourne is a distinctive and
liveable city with quality design
and amenity

‘Liveability’ is about the things that enhance people’s quality of life. For many years Melbourne has been regarded as one of the world’s most liveable cities due to its social and economic stability, diverse communities, distinctive heritage, high level of amenity and the opportunities it provides for a rich social and cultural life.





Plan Melbourne aims to maintain and extend the city’s liveability by celebrating its culture, diversity and distinctiveness. The challenge ahead is to design and plan for a future city that protects the best aspects of the natural and built environment, supports social and cultural diversity, and creates a strong sense of place.

The Northern Metro Region’s distinctive and diverse landscapes are formed around the corridors of its waterways, including the Yarra (Birrarung), Plenty and Maribyrnong rivers. Its green wedges and regional open spaces have high recreational and biodiversity value. The region has high cultural significance for Aboriginal people and a rich post-European settlement heritage.

State of play

Landscapes and biodiversity

The diverse landscapes of the Northern Metro Region range from the rolling hills in the region’s east to the volcanic plains in the west. The region’s landscapes are defined by waterways, remnant forests, grasslands and woodlands, volcanic cones and incised valleys. They are integral to its character and sense of place.

The region’s key landscapes and biodiversity areas are described in **Table 12**.

While much of the Northern Metro Region’s biodiversity has been altered through urbanisation, there are many important natural assets that support biodiversity and provide critical habitat for the survival of some of our most threatened species.

TABLE 12. Key landscapes and biodiversity areas in the Northern Metro Region

LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY AREA	SIGNIFICANCE, PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT
Waterways	The Yarra River flows into Melbourne from the Yarra Ranges, winding its way along the region’s southern boundary from Christmas Hills to Ivanhoe. The region’s major waterways of the Plenty River, Maribyrnong River, Moonee Ponds Creek, Diamond Creek, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek all flow into the Yarra River. Other waterways include Jacksons, Kalkallo, Emu and Steele creeks. The region’s waterways are an important aspect of its landscape and biodiversity, and offer the opportunity for regional habitat and parkland connections.
Regional parks	The Northern Metro Region’s north and north-east contain large areas of passive open space such as Quarry Hills Parkland, Plenty Gorge Park, the Organ Pipes National Park and Kinglake National Park which protect biodiversity and offer a connection to the underlying landscape.
Biodiversity areas	Sensitive ecosystems exist within grassy eucalypt woodlands throughout the region’s green wedges. Craigieburn Grasslands, Merrifield/Kalkallo retarding basin and land conserved around water reservoirs offer areas of high biodiversity value. Substantial areas of river red gums are also scattered across the landscape. The region’s waterways and green wedges provide highly significant areas of habitat for regional biodiversity, including endangered species such as the Growling Grass Frog and the Golden Sun Moth.

CHAPTER 07

Aboriginal cultural heritage

The lands that now make up the Northern Metro Region feature places and waterways of cultural significance and continuing connection for Traditional Owners as shown in **Figure 17**. The Wurundjeri people, represented by Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and as a Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP), have a responsibility for the protection and management of cultural heritage assets under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

The Taungurung people, represented by the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, are the recognised Traditional Owners of the lands to the north-east outside the Northern Metro Region boundary and have interest in the boundary area as shown in **Figure 17**.

The Yarra River has served and cared for people living in what we now call the Northern Metro Region for thousands of years. It is a sacred natural asset whose uncompromised health is everyone's responsibility (DELWP, 2018b). The Yarra River is paramount to the life of the Northern Metro Region and Melbourne. It is one of a number of waterways in the Northern Metro Region that is highly valued by the community and has continued significance for Traditional Owners.

The Yarra River is central to the lands of the Wurundjeri people. The *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act 2017* sets the foundation for Traditional Owner management of the river and its lands, and delivery on the aspirations of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation's *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)* water policy.

Heritage and visitor places

Protected heritage sites tell the story of the early European settlement and pastoral activity, including Ned Kelly's birthplace at Beveridge, Mickelham School and Post Office, Victoria Bridge at Kalkallo and Emu Bottom Homestead. Historic infrastructure such as the Yan Yean and Maroondah water supply systems and the Preston Tramway Workshops represent early phases of Melbourne's development.

Key visitor places in the Northern Metro Region's rural areas include Montsalvat artists' colony in Eltham, St Andrews weekend market and Rupertswood Mansion in Sunbury. Within urban areas, the region is renowned for its lively cultural precincts in Brunswick, Northcote, Preston and Thornbury which support numerous arts and creative industries. Creative places and spaces across the region contribute to its vibrant neighbourhoods and sense of place. Important community gathering places include the CERES environmental park in Brunswick, Preston Market, Westgarth Cinema and Thornbury Picture House.

Heritage protection is provided to individual properties, streets and precincts within the region and these places are integral to its character and identity today. There are over 100 places of state heritage significance listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, as shown in **Map 7**. These include a wide range of sites: major infrastructure, such as the Yan Yean water supply system; homesteads, pastoral runs and farm buildings, such as Emu Bottom Homestead and Rupertswood Mansion, Sunbury; stone bridges, trestle bridges and railway viaducts; churches, schools, civic buildings; and residential development including the Mount Eagle Estate, Eaglemont, designed by Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin.

FIGURE 17. Northern Metro Region Aboriginal cultural heritage

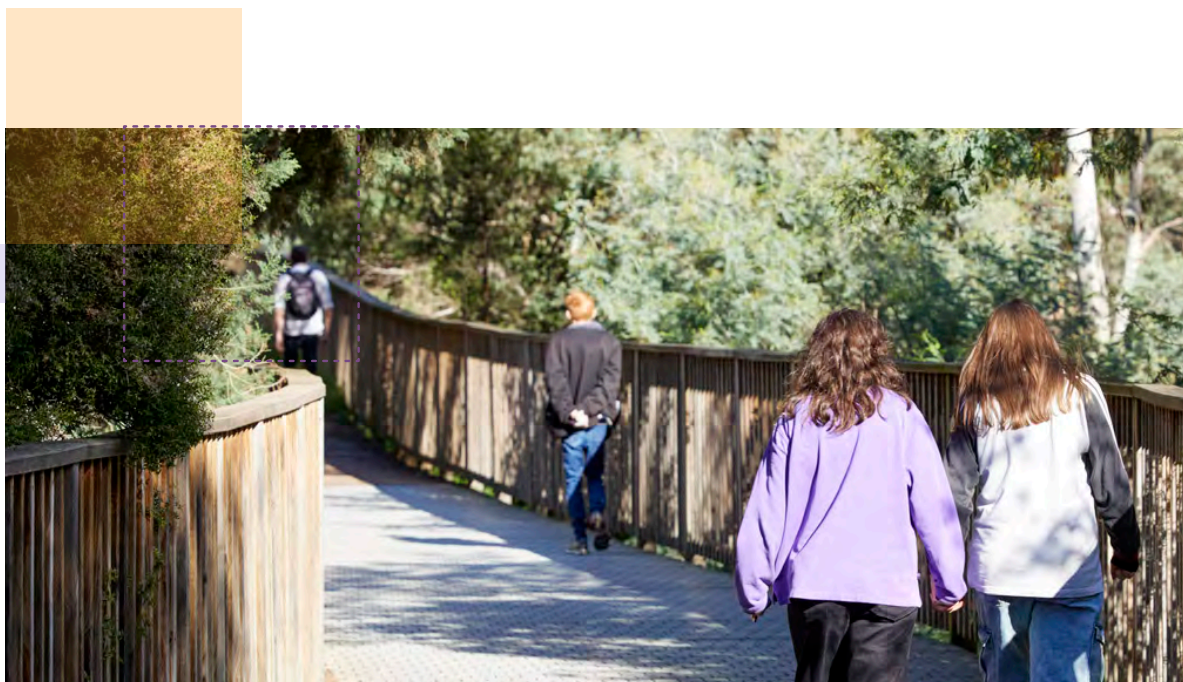
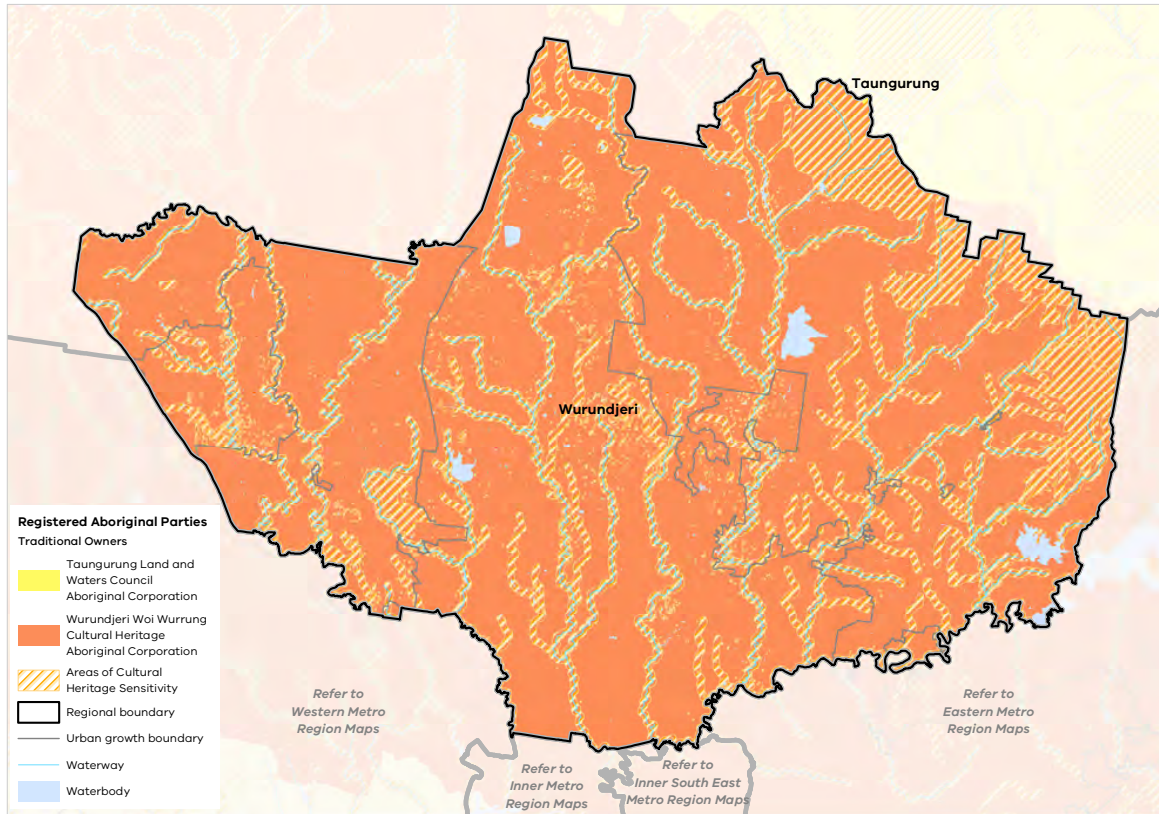
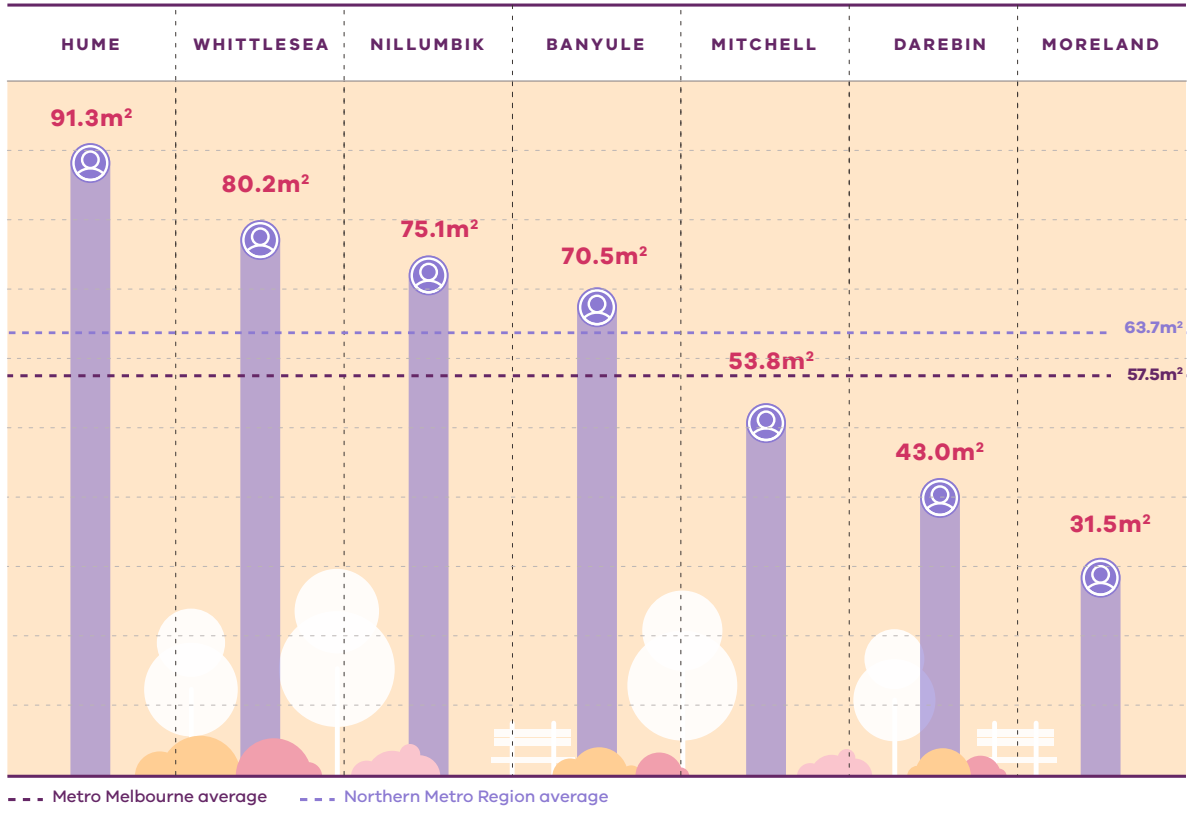


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

CHAPTER 07

FIGURE 18. Open space per person for Northern Metro Region LGAs



Source: Victorian Planning Authority (2017) Metropolitan Open Space Network: Provision and Distribution, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.

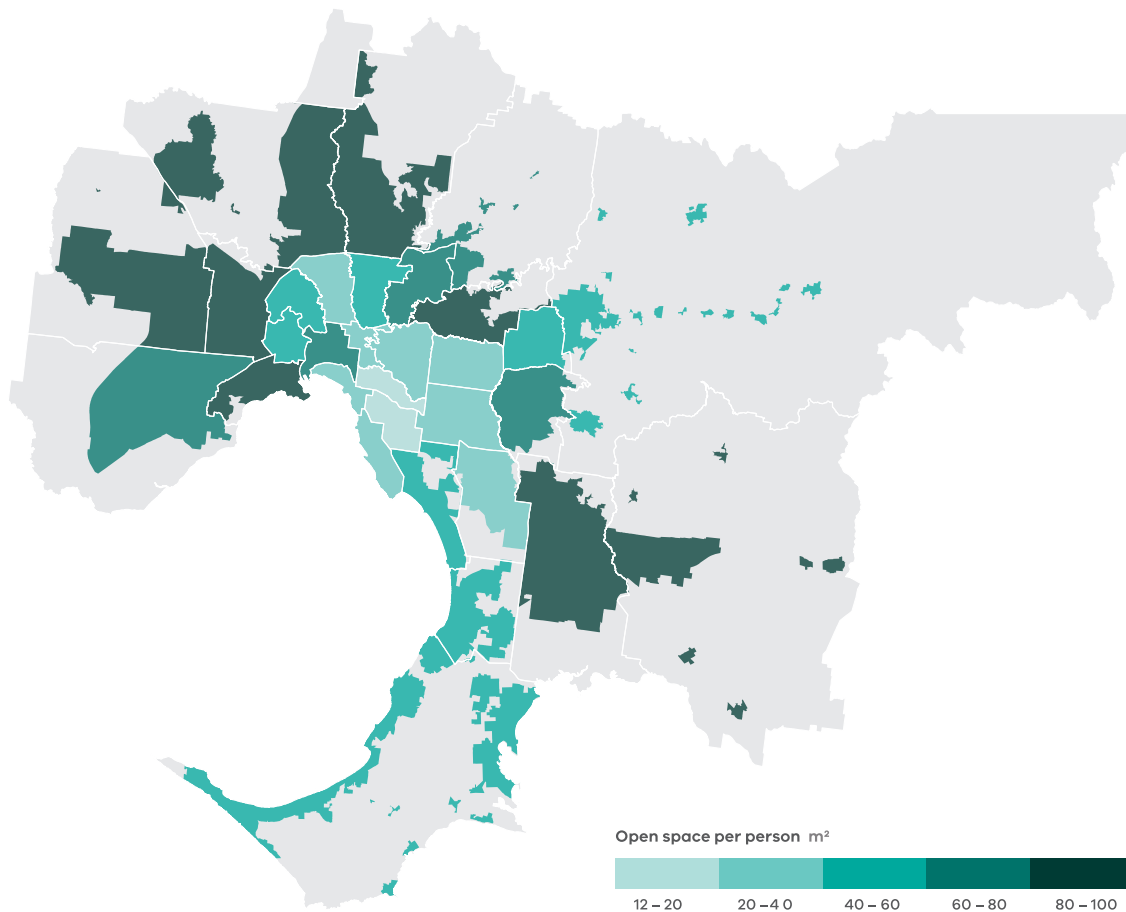
Open space and regional trails

Residents of the Northern Metro Region have varying levels of access to open space depending on where they live. Nillumbik, Hume, Banyule and Whittlesea provide between 70 and 91 square metres per capita, much higher than the metropolitan average of 57.5 square metres. However, the inner LGAs of Moreland and Darebin offer much less open space per capita of 31.5 square metres and 43 square metres respectively. Mitchell LGA is also below the metropolitan average providing 53.8 square metres per capita (Figure 18) (VPA, 2017). Open space per person across metropolitan Melbourne is shown in Figure 19. While the quantity of open space is one measure of provision, the function, mix, quality, accessibility and proximity of open space also need to be considered.

The Northern Metro Region contains large areas of passive open space including Quarry Hills Parkland, Plenty Gorge Park and Kinglake National Park. Within the region’s green wedges and growth areas, waterways such as Deep Creek, Jacksons Creek, Merri Creek and Emu Creek form existing and potential open space corridors. Within the inner areas, regional open spaces are formed along the Darebin and Merri creeks and the Yarra and Plenty river corridors.

Passive regional open space in outer LGAs, such as Whittlesea and Nillumbik, is not well served by public transport.

FIGURE 19. Open space per person for metropolitan LGAs



Source: Data from the Victorian Planning Authority Metropolitan Open Space Network portal, 2016
Note: only areas within the UGB were calculated and mapped in this figure. Areas outside the UGB are shown in grey.

CHAPTER 07

Open Space for Everyone: Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne 2020 identifies several major initiatives for the Northern Metro Region through its Suburban Parks Program:

- Creation of the Jacksons Creek Parklands, to extend from Diggers Rest to Sunbury and link up land across an area of around 1000 hectares, creating new open space and trail connections and areas for biodiversity
- Creation of the Upper Merri Creek Parklands, planned to extend from Campbellfield to Beveridge, which will also link up land across a significant area for recreation and biodiversity connections
- Feasibility study for the proposed 1000 hectare Wallan Regional Park, which will consider potential linkages with the proposed Upper Merri Creek Parklands
- Creation of the Quarry Hills Regional Park, which contains significant biodiversity, geological, cultural heritage and landscape values (project under development with Whittlesea LGA)
- Completion of the Plenty River Trail, including an extra 17 kilometres of walking and cycling trail from Mernda to the Western Ring Road at Greensborough
- Northern metropolitan trails project, encompassing new cycling and walking trails in the Banyule, Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Hume and Darebin LGAs.

There are several regional walking and cycling trails in the Northern Metro Region, some of which cross through the region or connect to adjoining regions, such as the Main Yarra Trail and Capital City Trail.

Regional strengths

- There are significant opportunities to work with Traditional Owners to protect and enhance the region's unique landscapes, cultural heritage, environmental assets and biodiversity values, including its waterway corridors and green wedge areas.
- Well-established open space networks of regional, state and national parks throughout the region preserve a rich biodiversity.
- There is potential for increased tourism and cultural development which will assist in creating vibrant, attractive urban environments.

Regional challenges

- Additional open space is required to meet the needs of the future population.
- Improved access to open space, particularly by walking, cycling and public transport will foster opportunities for more active living.
- Ongoing protection of the region's natural, built and cultural heritage is essential, given the pressure for development.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of Liveability and Outcome 4 of Plan Melbourne are:

Direction 17	Protect and enhance the region's network of waterway corridors
Direction 18	Protect and enhance the landscapes and biodiversity of the Northern Metro Region
Direction 19	Strengthen the network of open spaces and trail connections across the Northern Metro Region
Direction 20	Create a legacy of great civic places

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUFP.

Map 7 shows how liveability will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.








Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

MAP 7. Northern Metro Region liveability 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Major activity centre
-  Victorian Heritage Register Site
-  Community/tourism site
-  Areas of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity






Transport

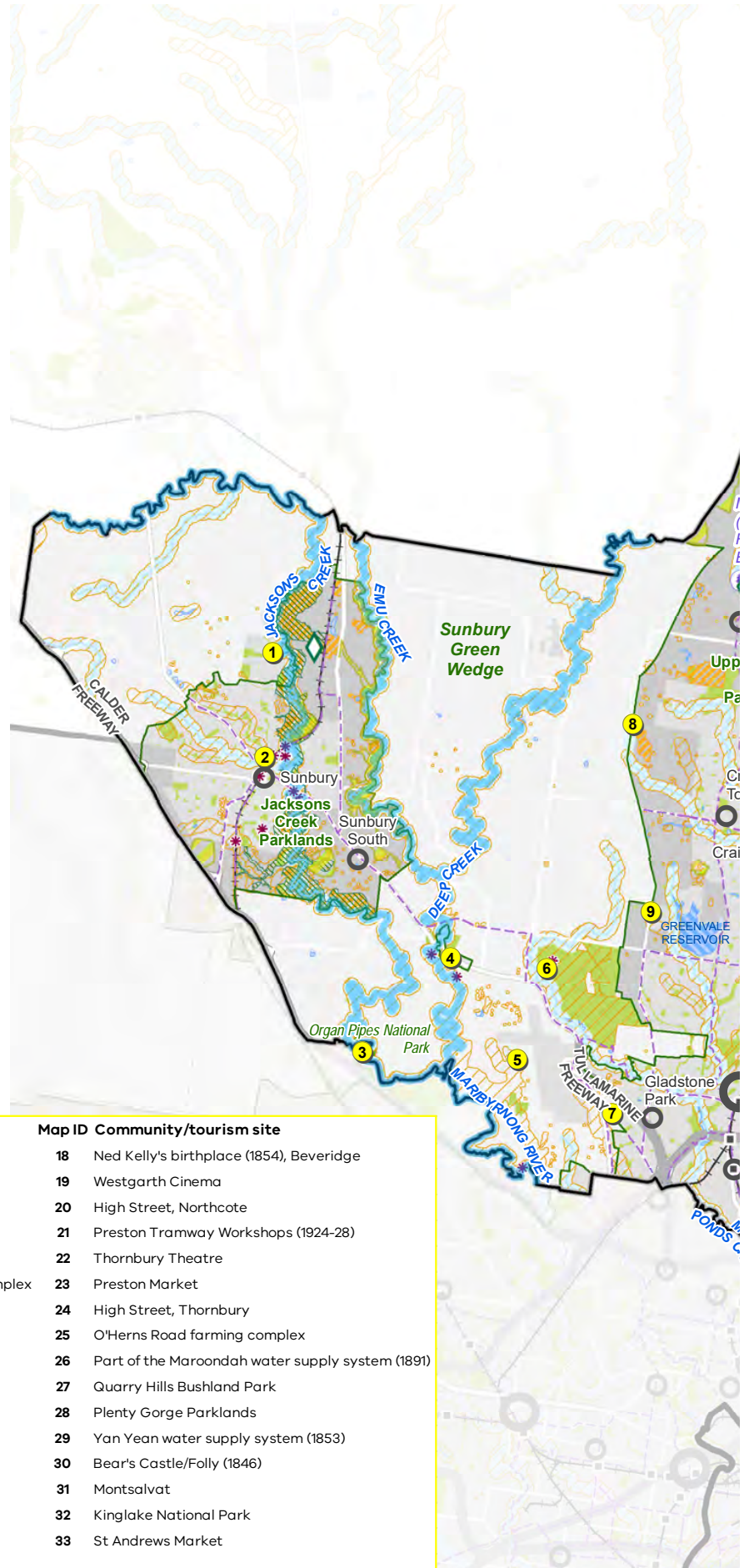
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Strategic Cycling Corridor

Environment

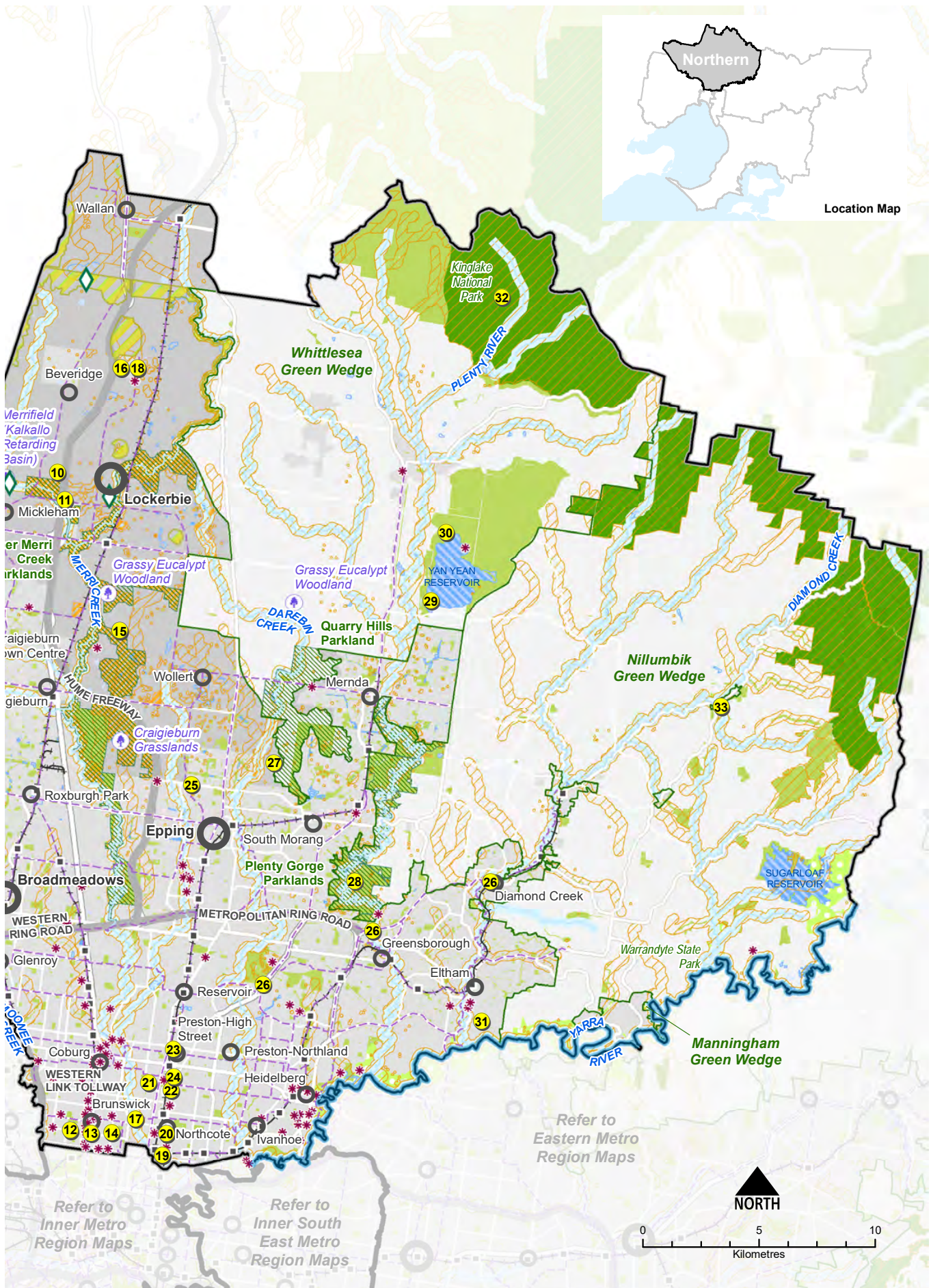
-  Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
-  Conservation reserve - proposed
-  National park/state park
-  Regional park - expanded/improved
-  Future regional active open space
-  Public open space
-  Yarra River land
-  Landscape values within growth corridor
-  Wetlands
-  Water's edge parkland
-  Waterway and waterway corridor
-  Reservoir
-  Waterbody

Land use/Administration

-  Regional boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary



Map ID	Community/tourism site	Map ID	Community/tourism site
1	Emu Bottom Homestead Sunbury	18	Ned Kelly's birthplace (1854), Beveridge
2	Rupertswood Mansion	19	Westgarth Cinema
3	Organ Pipes National Park	20	High Street, Northcote
4	Alistair Clarke Rose Garden Bulla	21	Preston Tramway Workshops (1924-28)
5	Melbourne Airport	22	Thornbury Theatre
6	Woodlands Historic Park and Homestead Complex	23	Preston Market
7	Urbnsurf Surf Park, Tullamarine	24	High Street, Thornbury
8	Mickleham State School No. 1051	25	O'Herns Road farming complex
9	Mickleham former post office	26	Part of the Maroondah water supply system (1891)
10	Victoria Bridge, Kalkallo	27	Quarry Hills Bushland Park
11	St John's Presbyterian Church, Kalkallo	28	Plenty Gorge Parklands
12	Sydney Road, Brunswick	29	Yan Yean water supply system (1853)
13	Mechanics Institute, Brunswick	30	Bear's Castle/Folly (1846)
14	Lyon Street, Brunswick	31	Montsalvat
15	Summerhill Homestead and Outbuildings	32	Kinglake National Park
16	Former Catholic church, Beveridge	33	St Andrews Market
17	CERES Community Environment Park		



CHAPTER 07

DIRECTION 17.
Protect and enhance the region’s network of waterway corridors

The rivers, creeks and drainage easements in the Northern Metro Region provide the opportunity to create a connected network of waterways, linking green spaces, wetlands and biodiversity areas. Part of this network already exists, as shown in **Map 7**. These natural features provide habitat for significant native flora and fauna including frog and fish species. They also have landscape, social, amenity and cultural heritage values. They also provide places for a diverse range of recreation and leisure experiences and an opportunity to connect with others and with nature.

Waterways need to be maintained and developed as movement and recreational corridors while protecting their environmental values and role as natural drainage systems.

The Metropolitan Trail Network connects the Moonee Ponds, Westbreen, Edgars, Darebin and Merri creeks to Quarry Hills Regional Park. In other parts of the region, Deep, Emu, Jacksons and Kalkallo creeks could offer additional waterway links to form part of the regional open space and biodiversity network. The Yarra River is a key waterway corridor in the southern part of the region.

Regional strategic projects, such as the *Healthy Waterways Strategies (Yarra and Maribyrnong)*, identify the need to protect the values of these waterways from urban development, from headwater streams to lower reaches, and recognised significant wetlands.

The Yarra River is paramount to the life of the Northern Metro Region and Melbourne. The *Yarra River Action Plan* and the *Yarra River Protection (Willip-gin Birrarung Murrn) Act 2017* recognises the Yarra River, and the many hundreds of parcels of public land it flows through, as one living, integrated natural entity for protection and improvement.

The *Waterways of the West Action Plan* (to be released in 2021) is a plan to protect and rehabilitate rivers, creeks and their parklands, including the Maribyrnong (Mirrangbamurn) and Moonee Ponds (Moonee Moonee) catchments within the Northern Metro Region.

STRATEGY 55. Protect and enhance the interconnected network of waterway and habitat corridors in the region and the diverse landscape, cultural, biodiversity and community values they provide.

STRATEGY 56. Retain natural wetlands and natural drainage networks in the planning of new greenfield neighbourhoods to achieve significant liveability and biodiversity outcomes and build resilient, sustainable, and liveable communities.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

DIRECTION 18.
Protect and enhance the landscapes and biodiversity of the Northern Metro Region

The Northern Metro Region’s natural assets and green wedges form the basis of its amenity and biodiversity values. A healthy natural environment provides life-sustaining services for humans and biodiversity. It underpins many of the activities that are fundamental to economic prosperity, and people’s physical and mental health (DELWP, 2017d). The region’s landscapes are also a key aspect of its sense of place and regional distinctiveness.

As part of supporting ecosystem resilience in a changing climate and reducing potential impacts from urban encroachment, a range of planning policies and protections apply to the Northern Metro Region’s green wedge areas. The landscape values of the region’s waterways, wetlands, ridgelines and key view corridors should also be protected from the visual impact of development or infrastructure.

The Melbourne Strategic Assessment is an agreement with the Commonwealth to set aside land with the highest biodiversity values from urban development within the Northern Growth Corridor. These Conservation Areas are listed in the *Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne’s Growth Corridors 2013* and protected through Commonwealth legislation (shown on Map 4). Their biodiversity values are managed for the long-term through the precinct structure planning process to preserve their intrinsic conservation and biodiversity values.

Preserving conservation areas of a sufficient size to support diverse species (and which are linked to other conservation areas) is often critical to biodiversity outcomes.

Within the Northern Growth Corridor areas of Lockyerbie, West Beveridge, Mickleham and Wollert, important landscape features should be retained and protected, including:

- Views to the hills and ridgelines that flank the Northern Growth Corridor to the west, north and east
- Distant views from the growth corridor to the Great Dividing Range to the north and north-east
- Red volcanic cones at Mount Frazer and Bald Hill, and the protection of vistas to these features from a range of vantage points across the Northern Growth Corridor
- The natural drainage system across the Northern Growth Corridor, which includes the Merri, Kalkallo and Darebin creeks.

Key landscape features of Sunbury/Diggers Rest include:

- Jacksons Hill, Mount Holden and Burke Hill in the established part of Sunbury or outside the Urban Growth Boundary
- The combination of steep hills, incised valleys and escarpment edges and elevated plateaus that provides a unique natural setting for Sunbury
- Emu Creek and its tributaries, which flank the eastern edge of Sunbury, and Jacksons Creek, which traverses Sunbury/Diggers Rest; both of which have deeply incised valleys and support tributaries and wetlands
- The semi-rural character to the main approach roads to Sunbury and Diggers Rest.

A 1200 hectare Grassy Woodland Reserve outside the Urban Growth Boundary, southwest of Whittlesea, will be created to protect highly valuable Grassy Eucalypt Woodland (DEPI, 2013). This reserve will be assembled over time through land acquisition.

Within urban areas, waterways and parklands provide key habitat links and places of recreation. It is essential that infrastructure and urban renewal projects enhance and link these areas. For example, protection and enhancement of the Darebin Creek within the Northland Urban Renewal Precinct should be prioritised in planning and development, as well as protection and enhancement of wetlands and vegetation in and around the La Trobe NEIC.

STRATEGY 57. Work with Traditional Owners to protect and enhance the landscape and conservation values of the distinctive hills and ridgelines, volcanic cones, waterways and grasslands of the Northern Metro Region and integrate these features into growth area planning.

STRATEGY 58. Ensure the design of new development within the region’s green wedges and growth areas responds to its landscape biodiversity values. Provide adequate buffers from areas of landscape or biodiversity sensitivity, including the rural character of land adjoining the Urban Growth Boundary.

CHAPTER 07

DIRECTION 19.
Strengthen the network of open spaces and trail connections across the Northern Metro Region

Open Space for Everyone: Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne 2020 establishes a vision of Melbourne as a city with a valued network of open spaces that are accessible to all, connected at the local and landscape scales. It focuses on innovation and adaptability in providing for a diversity of open spaces to meet the needs of the community, while protecting and optimising the region's existing open space assets. The strategy identifies opportunities to make better use of existing open space, including ways that existing public land could be opened up for broader recreational use.

Within the region's greenfield growth areas, integrated planning of active and passive open space networks can play a key role in protecting environmental, heritage and drainage values. Regional parklands can provide for a range of recreation needs of the community and help to establish the liveability and 'sense of place' of the growth areas.

Opportunities to use new open space to improve pedestrian access and recreational trail connections should be prioritised wherever possible, including linking existing open spaces or opening site frontages to a waterway or parkland.

Melbourne Water's proposed upgrade of the retarding basin at Kalkallo offers the potential for a regional recreation opportunity and conservation site in Melbourne's north, in addition to its primary role in floodway management.

With the inner LGAs of the Northern Metro Region offering relatively less open space per capita and the population forecast to increase, strategies are needed to better use existing open space to meet future demand for recreation opportunities. This could include high-quality maintenance of existing parks, targeted upgrading of facilities to meet current needs and improved connections to regional open spaces.

Options to create new public space within inner urban areas include re-purposing surplus public land, reclaiming road space, using rooftop space or providing open space within large redevelopment sites or urban renewal precincts. In some instances, new open spaces will be of a small scale and may also be privately owned or managed. It is essential that new open spaces are created in a meaningful way, with high design and amenity standards and as a positive contribution to the broader open space network.

Larger open space land holdings, such as golf courses, pipe tracks, easements and land used for public purposes such as schools, universities or cemeteries, may provide opportunities to address open space shortfalls in the region, by providing community access at times and in ways that do not jeopardise their primary purposes.

The proposed regional open spaces and trail connections identified in the Suburban Parks Program and Northern Regional Trails Strategy will significantly improve the regional network of open spaces and trail corridors. The draft *Yarra Strategic Plan* also addresses many of these movement, recreation and environmental challenges as part of continuing to develop this major river corridor.

STRATEGY 59. Increase access to a range of quality regional and local open space throughout the region.

STRATEGY 60. Identify opportunities to expand and better link the open space network through linear open space and trail connections and improved public transport accessibility.

DIRECTION 20.

Create a legacy of great civic places

There is a proud legacy of great civic places and precincts in the Northern Metro Region. Many activity centres, both large and small, include formal and informal places with high civic and natural values that help people better understand, orientate within, meet and enjoy the areas in which they live and visit.

The Northern Metro Region has places that provide public benefit and amenity including Sydney Road in Brunswick, Preston Market and High Street, CERES Community Environment Park, Hume Global Learning Centre in Broadmeadows, Plenty Gorge Parklands and Yan Yean Reservoir, Sunbury Town Centre and smaller towns such as Whittlesea and St Andrews. As the La Trobe NEIC develops it is expected to become a much-loved civic precinct.

St George’s Road is an established boulevard through the region’s inner suburbs which provides a wide, dedicated shared trail which is separated from car traffic and planted with avenue trees. Aitken Boulevard will be designed as a high amenity north-south roadway between the future Lockerbie Metropolitan Activity Centre and Mickleham, Beveridge and Craigieburn major activity centres.

The Northern Metro Region’s rich cultural heritage provides a strong legacy for creating distinctive places which foster community pride and a sense of place. The region’s post-settlement heritage has intrinsic value for residents and visitors as a symbol of a shared history and community-building. While extensive heritage controls are applied throughout the region, there are places and precincts of significance that still require protection and local councils are working to achieve this.

Ongoing population increases and economic growth presents a risk that assets from the early post settlement era are demolished or destroyed. In new suburbs there is an opportunity to protect and integrate these assets and provide a point of difference. In green wedge areas, assets should be preserved and, where relevant, recognised and celebrated as visitor attractions.

State and local government have a role to play in creating high-quality public places when planning for centres and other public areas for the longer term-through structure planning or precinct planning. Well designed public spaces, and utilising natural features to create a strong sense of place, should be integral to the future planning of Broadmeadows, Epping and Lockerbie as metropolitan activity centres. As these places are developed, a key consideration should be to provide an enduring civic legacy for future generations.

STRATEGY 61. Protect places and spaces that have high civic or public value, and which contribute to people’s understanding, interaction and enjoyment of the region.

STRATEGY 62. Ensure future planning for activity centres utilises natural features and public spaces to create a strong sense of place.

STRATEGY 63. Recognise the different layers and aspects of the region’s history in the design of new buildings, public spaces, infrastructure and public artwork.

STRATEGY 64. Support the development of Aitken Boulevard as a high-quality active transport link with high pedestrian and cycling amenity.

ACTIONS – Liveability

ACTION 11. Develop a plan to implement a publicly owned and managed network of regional trails and open spaces across the region’s growth corridors, utilising its natural drainage system where possible to link open spaces, biodiversity areas, waterways and urban areas.

ACTION 12. Prepare a regional biodiversity strategy to protect, manage and enhance habitat corridors and increase their interconnectivity across urban and rural areas.

ACTION 13. Review local planning schemes in the Northern Metro Region to ensure protection and enhancement of the landscape and biodiversity values of the region.

CHAPTER 08 STRONG COMMUNITIES

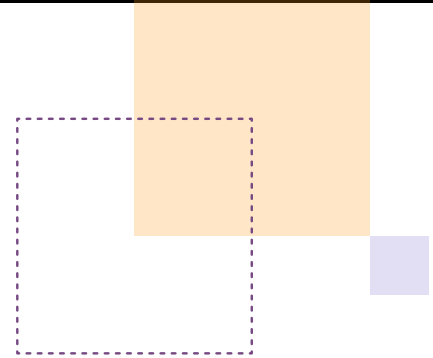


Plan Melbourne Outcome 5:
Melbourne is a city of
inclusive, vibrant and healthy
neighbourhoods

The Northern Metro Region has many of the key attributes of strong, inclusive and healthy communities. This plan will help to identify the community services, open space, hospitals, educational and cultural institutions, and transport infrastructure to keep pace with a projected increase in population of over 765,000 by 2051.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



Many middle ring communities in the region have high levels of disadvantage, and growth area communities have comparatively lower levels of accessibility to services.

Taking a regional approach to planning will ensure social infrastructure and open space services the widest possible catchment and cross-section of people. Plan Melbourne aims to build on the fundamentals of strong, healthy and sustainable neighbourhoods by improving access to and provision of amenity, social infrastructure, health and education, open space and the promotion of walking and cycling options.

Plan Melbourne advocates for the vision of a city of ‘20-minute neighbourhoods’ in which most everyday needs can be met within a 20-minute walk, cycle or local transport trip from home. The established suburbs within the southern part of the Northern Metro Region are well placed to achieve this vision. Realising the hallmarks of 20-minute neighbourhoods in the region’s growth areas will require integrated land use and infrastructure to support liveable, strong communities.

State of play

Community profile

The Northern Metro Region is a culturally diverse community. It has the highest Aboriginal population of the six metropolitan regions in metropolitan Melbourne, with more than 6200 Aboriginal people. Most people who identify as Aboriginal live in Darebin, Hume and Whittlesea LGAs (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016).

Approximately 34 per cent of the region’s population was born overseas. This is relatively consistent with metropolitan average (36.5 per cent) but lower than the Inner Metro Region where 46 per cent of residents were born overseas. India, Italy and the United Kingdom are the top three overseas origins in the region.

The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) ranks areas according to their relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The SEIFA rankings for the Northern Metro Region indicate some of the region’s older established areas in middle ring suburbs, such as parts of Broadmeadows, Thomastown, Fawkner, Lalor,

Campbellfield and Roxburgh Park, have higher levels of relative socio-economic disadvantage when compared to other parts of Victoria (Figure 20). Areas with higher levels of socio-economic disadvantage may have higher demand for community, education and health services.

In contrast, some areas in the region’s inner suburbs and further north-east along the Yarra and Plenty rivers, such as parts of Ivanhoe, Greensborough and Eltham, have higher levels of relative socio-economic advantage when compared to other parts of Victoria.

Health and education facilities

The Northern Metro Region is economically and socially diverse, encompassing many areas of high need and/or limited access to health and community services and long waiting lists for existing services.

The region has seven private hospitals (excluding private day hospitals) and 10 public hospitals (including public day hospitals).

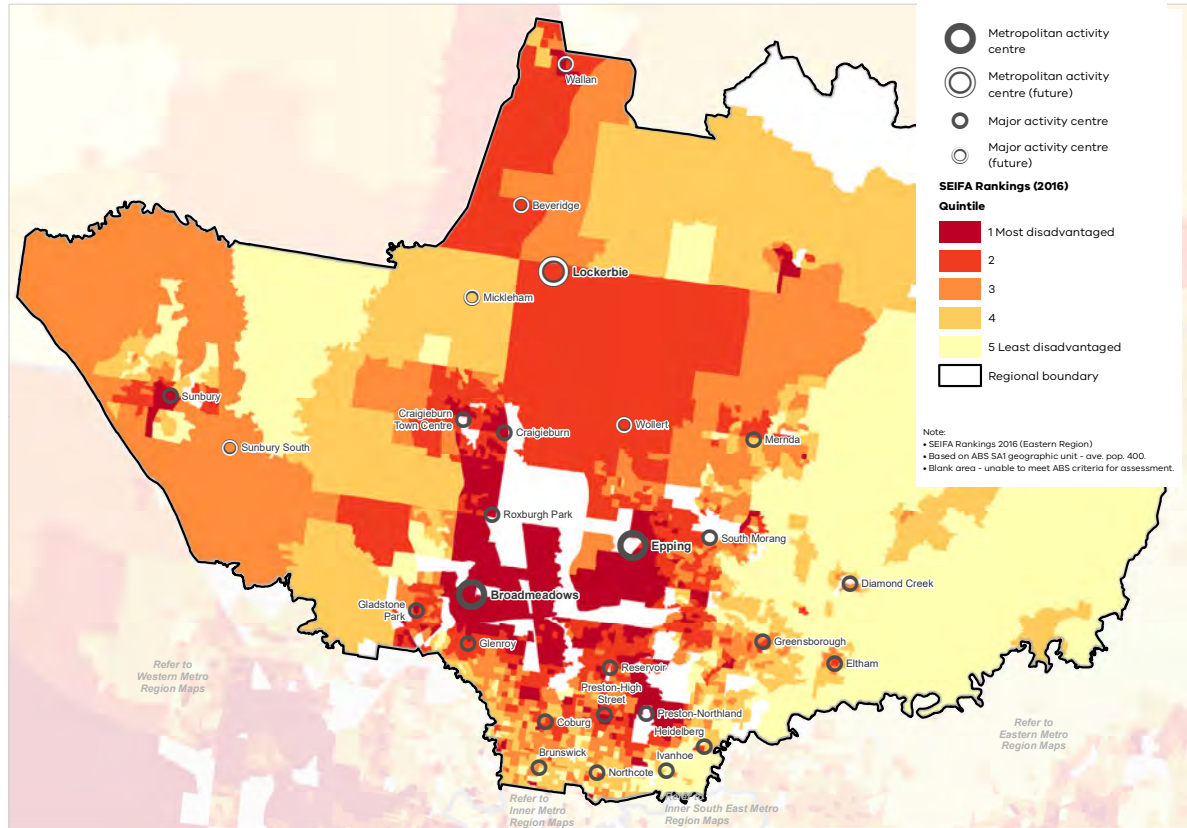
In terms of education, the Northern Metro Region also has 135 government primary schools and 33 government secondary schools (DELWP, 2017c).

Higher education providers with campuses in the Northern Metro Region include Latrobe University, RMIT, Kangan Institute, Melbourne Polytechnic and Northern College of the Arts and Technology in Preston.

People living in growth areas have lower rates of accessibility to these services compared to elsewhere in the region and metropolitan Melbourne. However, unprecedented population growth and an ageing population are also putting pressure on existing health and community services in established suburbs. Access to health and education services continues to be a focus for the region.

CHAPTER 08

FIGURE 20. SEIFA rankings (2016) in the Northern Metro Region



Social infrastructure

Social infrastructure includes all of the facilities, services and networks that help people to meet their social, cultural and community needs, in addition to health and education facilities.

Access to social infrastructure varies across the Northern Metro Region. The region’s structure is defined by the Hume Freeway and the M80 Ring Road, which dissect it into four quadrants. Regional facilities in one part of the region can be difficult for others across the region to access, affecting catchments for regional social infrastructure. The growth areas will house much of the region’s future population growth. As the population grows in inner areas such as Moreland and Darebin LGAs, there will be greater competition for community services and facilities.

A range of sport and recreation facilities are located across the region including local and regional indoor stadiums, aquatic and leisure centres, outdoor sport courts and sports grounds.

Major recreational facilities include: Darebin International Sports Centre in Thornbury which is a multi-sports complex for state lawn bowls, cycling and soccer; Epping Stadium; the Hangar in Tullamarine and CB Smith Reserve, Fawkner.

Other regional-scale active recreation facilities include La Trobe University Sports Park in Bundoora, WaterMarc in Greensborough, Splash Aqua Park and Leisure Centre in Craigieburn, and Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre in Greensborough. These facilities are located in the inner and middle ring suburbs, while there are no regional-scale, multi-use sporting facilities in the Northern Growth Corridor. Additional regional-scale, multi-use sporting facilities will be required to keep pace with population growth across the region.

Regional justice infrastructure within the Northern Metro Region includes two Magistrates’ Courts, four Community Corrections Locations, one Justice Service Centre and a Youth Justice location in Preston.

Regional strengths

- The region has established regional-level facilities for health, education, recreation and other social infrastructure that cater for a wide range of community needs.
- A strong network of activity centres exists within the inner suburbs, many of which are vibrant, accessible community focal points that achieve (or exceed) the principle of the 20-minute neighbourhood.

Regional challenges

- Adequate access to social infrastructure must be provided to service the growing population.
- Ensuring development in growth areas embeds the principle of the 20-minute neighbourhood is an ongoing challenge.
- Access to primary health, education, community services and sport and recreation facilities needs to be improved in established communities and growth areas.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of Strong communities and Outcome 5 of Plan Melbourne are:











Direction 21	Plan for major social infrastructure at a regional level
Direction 22	Deliver health and education services in strategic locations
Direction 23	Support a network of neighbourhood activity centres to anchor 20-minute neighbourhoods

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUIFP.










Map 8 shows how strong communities will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.

MAP 8. Northern Metro Region strong communities 2050





Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Major activity centre
-  Health precinct (state)
-  Education precinct (state)
-  Health & education precinct (regional)
-  Health precinct (regional)
-  Education precinct (regional)
-  Major recreational facility
-  Regional recreational facility





Transport

-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
-  Strategic Cycling Corridor
- Principal Public Transport Network**
-  PPTN station
-  PPTN interchange
-  Bus
-  Tram

Environment

-  National park/state park
-  Public open space
-  Waterway
-  Waterbody

Land use/Administration

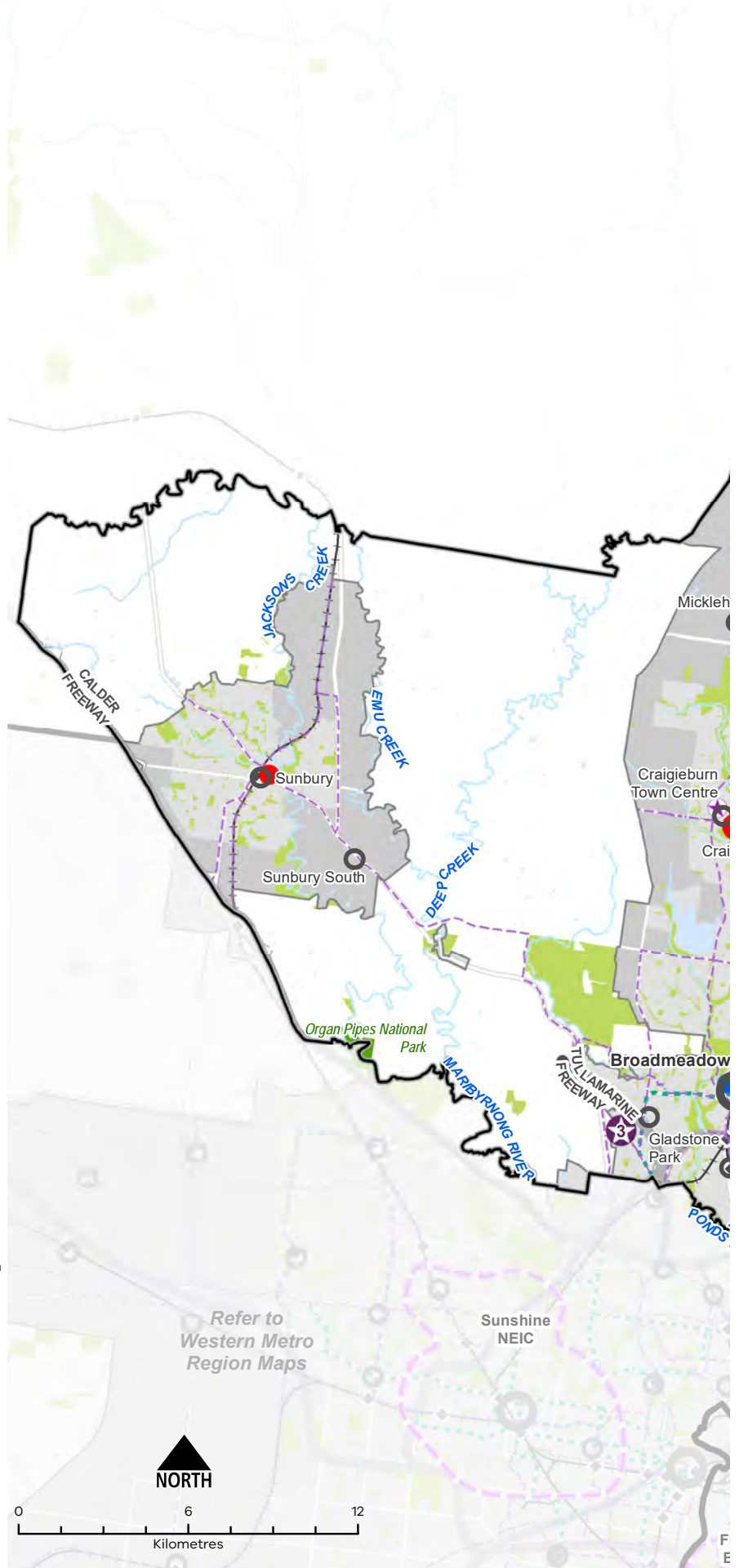
-  Regional boundary
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Growth area
-  Urban area

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.

Note:
Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.

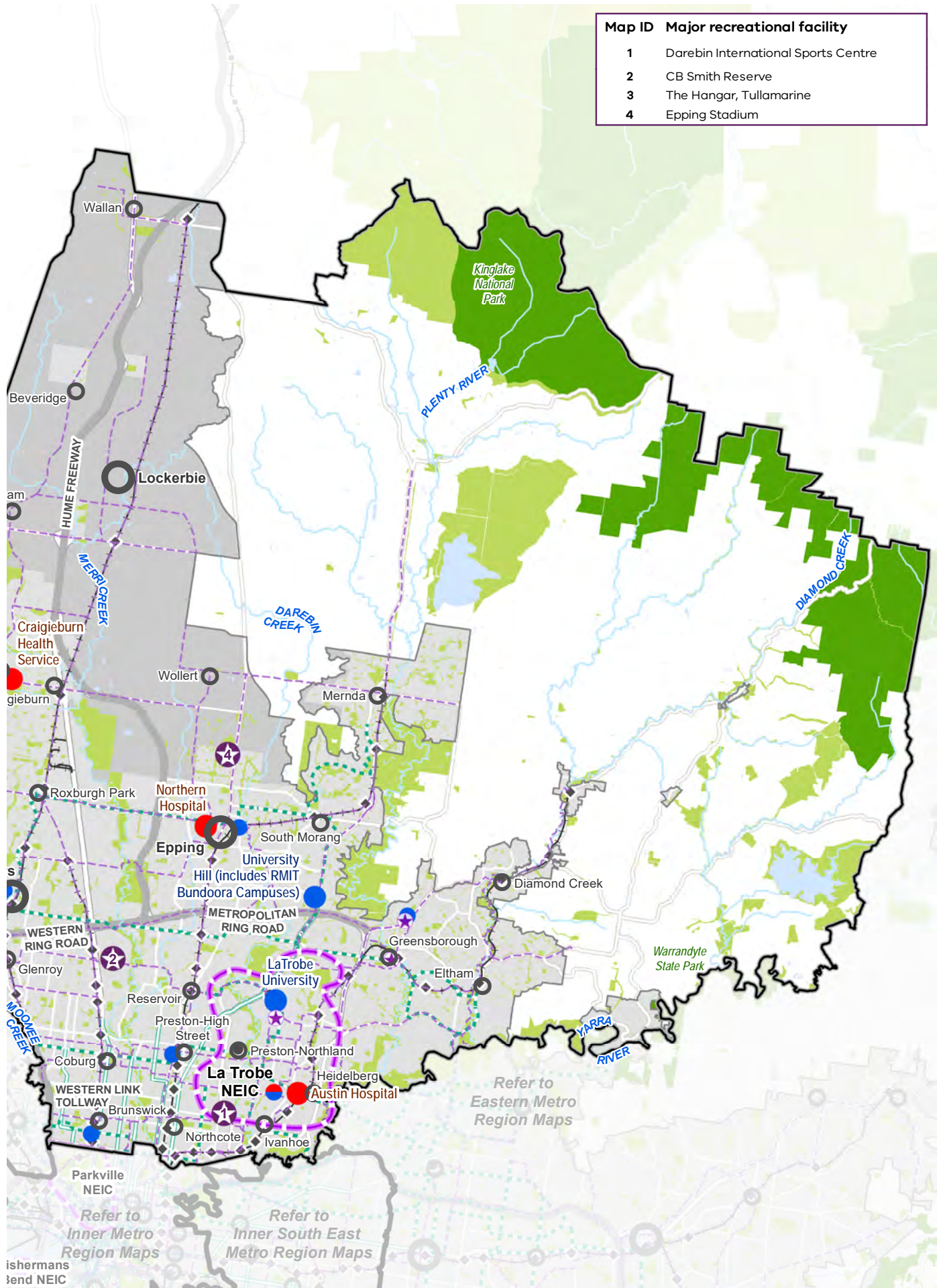


Location Map



Refer to
Western Metro
Region Maps

Sunshine
NEIC



CHAPTER 08

DIRECTION 21.
Plan for major social infrastructure at a regional level

In the Northern Metro Region, access to social infrastructure varies, with current shortfalls in community centre provision in Banyule, Darebin, Mitchell, Moreland and Whittlesea LGAs. This needs to be addressed to provide more equitable distribution of this infrastructure across the region. In addition, the scale of recent and forecast population growth, especially in the Northern Growth Corridor, poses social infrastructure and accessibility challenges.

The link between health, wellbeing and nature is reflected in many Victorian Government strategies including the *Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019–2023* and *Active Victoria – A Strategic Framework for Sport and Recreation in Victoria 2017–2021*. The creation of healthy living environments which have a high level of urban amenity, access to nature, opportunities for community connection and active transport options are also key elements of fostering community wellbeing.

Social infrastructure and community facilities – from maternal and child health to schools and aged care to cemeteries – should be considered and coordinated in PSPs for new communities within the growth areas as well as within existing activity centres. Higher-order social infrastructure should be regionally planned and, where appropriate, enhance and align with each activity centre’s identified role.

The Northern Metro Region has a limited number of regional-scale sporting and recreation facilities, particularly in the Northern Growth Corridor. The long-term need for sporting fields and specialist sporting facilities, accessible via a range of transport options, is not currently coordinated at a regional scale. Given the challenges associated with acquiring land and funding infrastructure, a regional approach to funding (through grants or developer contributions), planning and delivery of these facilities would be valuable.

As a part of this process, state and local government will work together to identify a location for a regional-scale sports precinct to serve established and new communities in the Northern Growth Corridor. Opportunities for new active and passive recreation facilities that could be delivered through developer contributions as a part of new open space, include:

- South of Wallan town centre
- Along Merri Creek, between Campbellfield and Beveridge
- Beveridge North West regional active open space

- Kalkallo retarding basin
- Sunbury, south of Emu Bottom wetlands, part of the Jacksons Creek parklands corridor.

STRATEGY 65. Support regional planning that will provide for a range of sporting and active recreation facilities to meet the needs of the growing population.

STRATEGY 66. Facilitate a regionally coordinated approach to planning for ‘whole of life cycle’ social infrastructure in order to ensure adequate provision of social infrastructure across the region.

STRATEGY 67. Support the upgrade and expansion of social infrastructure to enable it to diversify uses and be more flexibly and intensively used.

STRATEGY 68. Locate social infrastructure near activity centres and to be accessible by walking, cycling or public transport.

STRATEGY 69. Support a regional network of community hubs to anchor social infrastructure and services.

STRONG COMMUNITIES

DIRECTION 22.
Deliver health and education services in strategic locations

Access to health services varies substantially across the Northern Metro Region and is a key issue for the Northern Growth Corridor that has a lack of health and education precincts.

Local councils in the Northern Metro Region have expressed concern about a shortfall of hospital beds in the region. There is a need for equitable access to health and education services across the region and to better support residents with mental illness, children, youth, women at risk, Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders, migrants from refugee backgrounds, ageing residents and those at risk of chronic diseases, particularly obesity.

Improvements will be made to the delivery of public healthcare in suburban and regional Victoria by expanding the public hospital network through the Community Hospitals Program. In the Northern Metro Region this will involve upgrading and expanding existing community hospitals in Craigieburn and Sunbury and developing new community hospitals in the Whittlesea and Eltham areas. Community hospitals play an integral role in providing a broad range of ambulatory, community health and social services in one place.

In the Northern Metro Region there is an opportunity to connect health and education precincts to develop a regional network of facilities that addresses gaps in service provision and meets the needs of a growing population.

Plan Melbourne identifies state-significant health and/or education precincts to support health and education services that are well served by public transport in a range of locations across Melbourne. There is also a range of regionally-significant health and/or education precincts that complement these services (Table 13). This identification highlights their specialised economic functions and provides opportunities for the agglomeration of ancillary health and education services, retail, commercial and accommodation uses.

At the regional level, there is an opportunity to identify new and existing health and/or education precincts to enhance and broaden the role of health and education facilities to serve as regional focal points for a range of services.

Regionally-significant health precincts are accessible via a range of transport options, have an agglomeration of primary healthcare services, contribute to regional employment and where possible, seek opportunities to integrate with the education sector. Regionally-significant education precincts feature tertiary, TAFE or dual-use campuses accessible via a range of transport options. They also provide an agglomeration of

services to meet students’ and staff daily needs, contribute to regional employment and where possible seek opportunities to integrate with the health sector.

Planning should consider the need to upgrade existing facilities or relocate within health and education precincts that are accessible via a range of transport options. As health services are delivered by the private and public sectors, private health facilities should be encouraged to locate near major public health facilities. This will support synergies between different service providers and provide opportunities for connections between tertiary and TAFE facilities and health providers.

The identification and development of health precincts in growth areas will encourage an agglomeration of primary health services in line with population changes. Planning for the development of education precincts in the growth areas should prioritise locations accessible by public transport and provide a range of ancillary services.

STRATEGY 70. Strengthen the role of the health and/or education precincts of the Northern Metro Region by co-locating new health and/or education facilities within these precincts and encouraging an agglomeration of ancillary uses such as primary healthcare, retail and accommodation.

STRATEGY 71. Expand the network of health and/or education facilities and precincts across the region to meet the needs of the growing population. Ensure that these facilities and precincts are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.

STRATEGY 72. Support the upgrade of existing health and education infrastructure to allow for more intensive use of those services.

STRATEGY 73. Ensure the early provision of health and education facilities and precincts in the Northern Growth Corridor to support the needs of new communities. Locate these facilities or precincts within or near activity centres to maximise the benefits of colocation with ancillary land uses.

STRATEGY 74. Plan for more comprehensive and specialised education, health and community facilities in higher-order centres including Broadmeadows, Lockyerbie and Mickleham.

CHAPTER 08

TABLE 13. State-significant and regionally-significant health and/or education precincts

STATE-SIGNIFICANT HEALTH PRECINCT	REGIONALLY-SIGNIFICANT HEALTH PRECINCT
Austin Hospital (Heidelberg) Northern Hospital (Epping) Craigieburn Health Service	Sunbury Community Hospital Whittlesea Community Hospital (proposed) Eltham Community Hospital (proposed)
STATE-SIGNIFICANT EDUCATION PRECINCT	REGIONALLY-SIGNIFICANT EDUCATION PRECINCT
La Trobe University (Bundoora) University Hill (includes RMIT Bundoora campus)	Melbourne Polytechnic (Epping, Preston and Greensborough) Kangan Batman TAFE (Broadmeadows) RMIT University (Brunswick)
STATE-SIGNIFICANT HEALTH AND EDUCATION PRECINCT	REGIONALLY-SIGNIFICANT HEALTH AND EDUCATION PRECINCT
	Melbourne Polytechnic Heidelberg and Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital

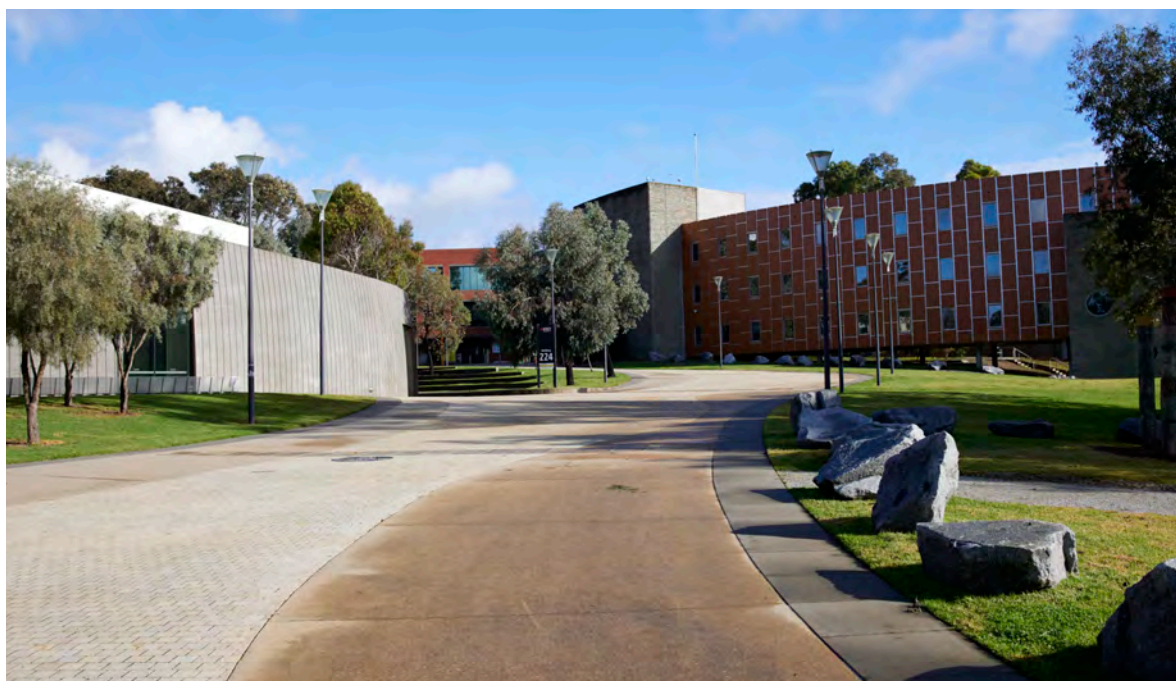


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

STRONG COMMUNITIES

DIRECTION 23.

Support a network of neighbourhood activity centres to anchor 20-minute neighbourhoods

All activity centres in the Northern Metro Region play a role in enabling a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods. While neighbourhood activity centres play a local role, larger metropolitan and major activity centres service a wider catchment and play a wider role in terms of providing more local jobs and services.

A regionally consistent designation of neighbourhood activity centres will enable a network of 20-minute neighbourhoods where gaps in service provision can be identified and planned for, allowing for the prioritisation of investment. This is particularly important where centres straddle regional or council boundaries.

The timely delivery of new infrastructure and services, including a coordinated effort across all tiers of government and partnerships with private providers to deliver regional-scale infrastructure in growth areas, will be critical to achieving 20-minute neighbourhoods. Place-based planning of local development, services, infrastructure and destinations will maximise the benefits of investment in the catchment of new transport infrastructure. These opportunities need to be carefully considered as part of the planning and delivery of the precincts around new and existing train stations on SRL.

A 20-minute neighbourhood pilot program initiated in 2020 identified place-based planning approaches and community partnerships as an important component of achieving the hallmarks of 20-minute neighbourhoods. Work is underway to develop guidance tools for local councils in designating neighbourhood activity centres.

STRATEGY 75. Support a consistent designation of neighbourhood activity centres and their role in the network of activity centres.

STRATEGY 76. Plan for existing and new activity centres to embed the 20-minute neighbourhood hallmarks, through a place-based, community partnership approach. In particular, this includes planning for new communities within the Northern Growth Corridor.

STRATEGY 77. Support the role of neighbourhood activity centres to provide retail, community and allied health services to their respective local catchments.

STRATEGY 78. Prioritise neighbourhood planning in activity centres within the catchment of major infrastructure projects.

**ACTIONS –
Strong communities**

ACTION 14. Develop a methodology for a social infrastructure strategy for the Northern Metro Region. This would consider social infrastructure such as libraries, multi-use community and recreation facilities and assess how they can be used more flexibly and intensively. This could be a pilot project suitable for other regions.

CHAPTER 09 SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE



Plan Melbourne Outcome 6:
Melbourne is a sustainable and
resilient city

Plan Melbourne recognises the need to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, reduce exposure to natural hazards, undertake whole of water cycle planning and design, and protect local waterway corridors. It also encourages resource efficiency and promotes the benefits of urban cooling and greening.

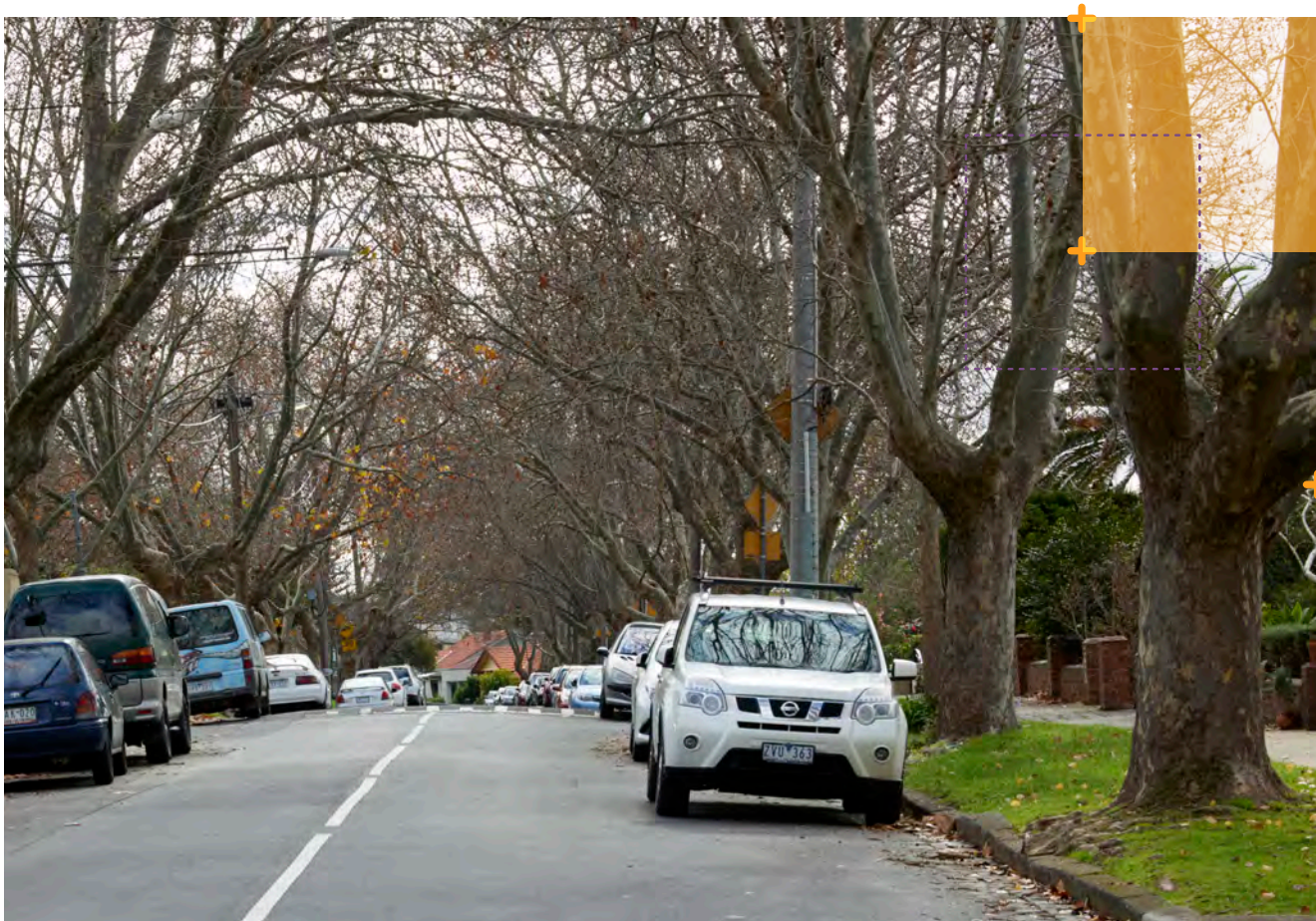
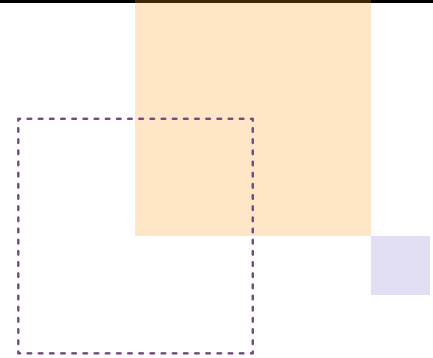


Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



Although heatwaves have a greater negative impact on population health than any other climate-related issue, the Northern Metro Region will also experience lower average annual rainfall and more frequent extreme rainfall events (DELWP, 2018b).

Coupled with urbanisation, increased temperatures and drier weather conditions (on average) will also put additional pressure on drinking water supplies and natural assets such as creeks, river corridors, parks and vegetation.

Responding to climate challenges and finite resources must be a central pillar of planning for liveable, vibrant, sustainable and resilient communities and environments, and reducing climate risk in the Northern Metro Region.

State of play

Energy networks

Melbourne’s energy grid is transforming. The city’s future grid will have a greater ability to export energy from individual properties or a local area, presenting a more flexible approach to energy production. It will be smarter, more reliable and provide greater energy security. Regional energy generation and storage is also a potential option, and the region’s green wedge areas could provide an opportunity to support these facilities subject to environmental and landscape considerations.

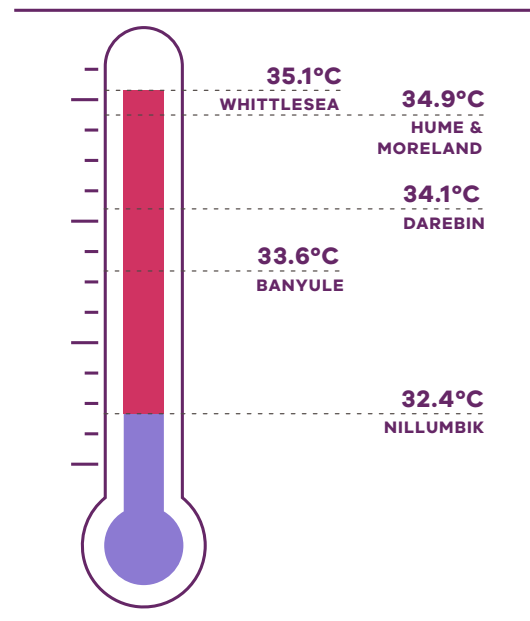
Urban heat environments

By 2050, the average daily maximum temperature for the Northern Metro Region is forecast to increase between 0.7° Celsius and 2.6° Celsius under a medium emissions climate scenario (Clarke, et al., 2019). As our climate warms, the number of people exposed to the risk of mortality from heatwaves will increase. In 2018, it is estimated that around 131,000 residents in the Northern Metro Region were exposed to high urban heat conditions (Ulrich & Hardy, 2020), particularly in inner areas and growth area communities.

In 2018, the average land surface temperature (LST) in the Northern Metro Region was 34.4°C – 0.5°C greater than the average LST for metropolitan Melbourne (DELWP, 2018d). LST was highest in Whittlesea LGA (35.1°C) and coolest in Nillumbik LGA (32.4°C) (Figure 21). The combination of

higher-density living, less trees and more hard surfaces means inner suburbs, along with Hume LGA, are exposed to higher urban temperatures during extreme and prolonged heat events (Figure 22). Older people, young children, people with underlying health issues and those with fewer resources to adapt are more at risk on hot days and in prolonged periods of hot weather.

FIGURE 21. Average land surface temperature by LGA, 2018



Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2018) Land Surface Temperature Data, State of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.

There are a variety of urban environments across the Northern Metro Region creating different urban heat outcomes. Inner, higher-density suburbs retain heat and are hotter during periods of hot weather. They have fewer canopy trees, more hard surfaces and greater levels of urbanisation than outer suburbs. Conversely, the region also features significant waterway corridors and areas with high levels of tree canopy which are cooler during periods of hot weather. This means individual suburbs perform differently and provide different levels of amenity on hot days.

CHAPTER 09

FIGURE 22. Heat vulnerability index map for the Northern Metro Region, 2018

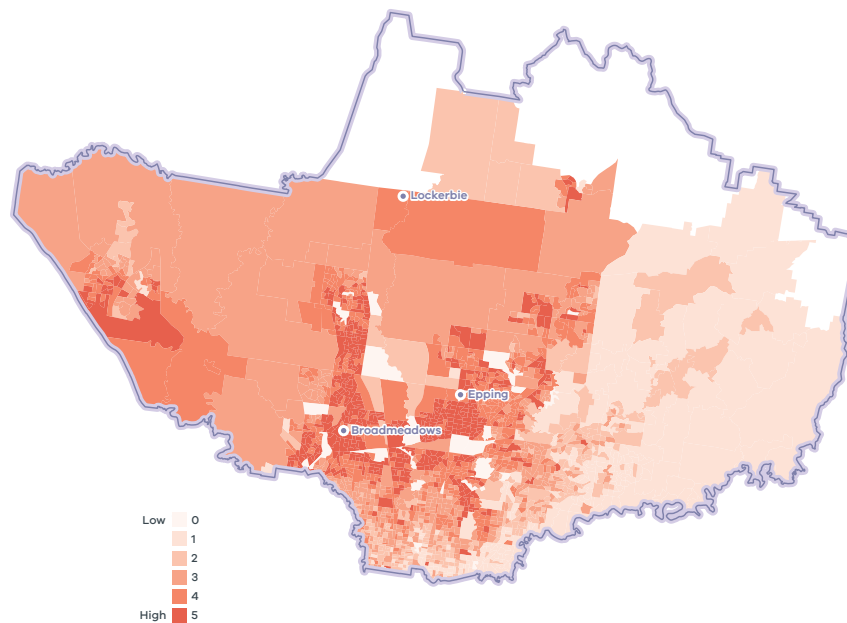
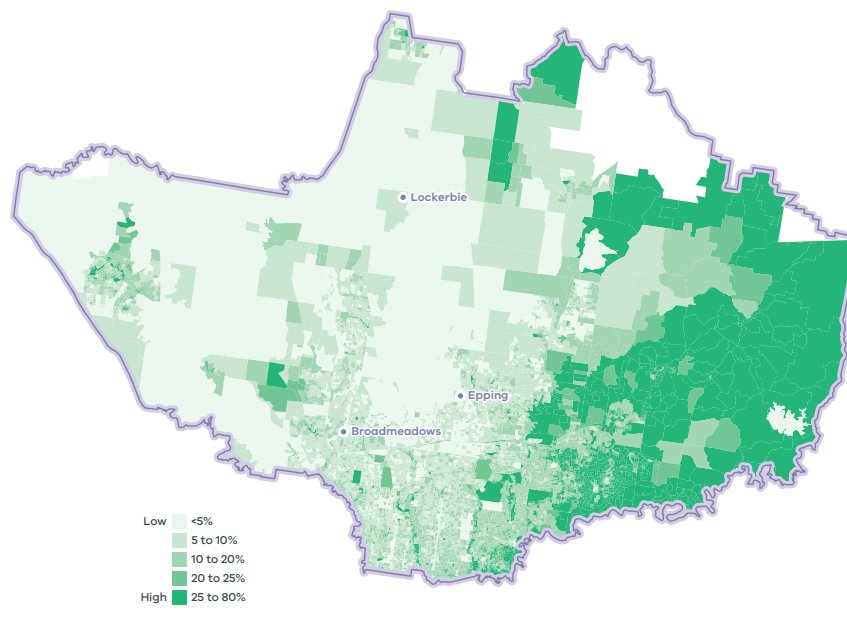


FIGURE 23. Northern Metro Region tree canopy cover 2018



As the frequency and duration of hot days increases, so too will the need for future urban environments to actively reduce heat and improve comfort – not only to support outdoor leisure and recreation, but also to reduce the likelihood of heat-related illness.

Active urban environments, characterised by higher-density development and limited physical space for canopy trees, will need to become ‘cooler urban environments’. These environments will need to apply a range of alternative measures to reduce urban heat, including water sensitive urban design (WSUD) to increase soil permeability and provide passive irrigation to landscaped areas, heat-reflective materials on building roofs and walls, shade structures to protect windows and open spaces, and alternative landscaping to maximise limited space such as roof gardens and green walls. The balance of land in less-dense urban environments must become ‘green areas’, where additional drought-tolerant vegetation is introduced, particularly canopy trees on both private and public property to provide shade and shelter.

Urban tree canopy

Across the Northern Metro Region tree canopy plays an important role in maintaining our water supply catchments, providing habitat and contributing to the character of parks and green wedges. In urban areas, trees also provide cooling, amenity, recreation and respite to residents. In 2018, the Northern Metro Region had 12.1 per cent of urban tree canopy cover which was lower than the metropolitan average of 15.3 per cent (Hurley, et al., 2019a). Tree canopy varies across the region. There are areas of greater coverage to the north-east of the region and along waterway corridors. Nillumbik LGA has the highest urban tree canopy coverage of 31.1 per cent while Hume LGA has the lowest urban tree canopy cover of 6.4 per cent (Figure 24).

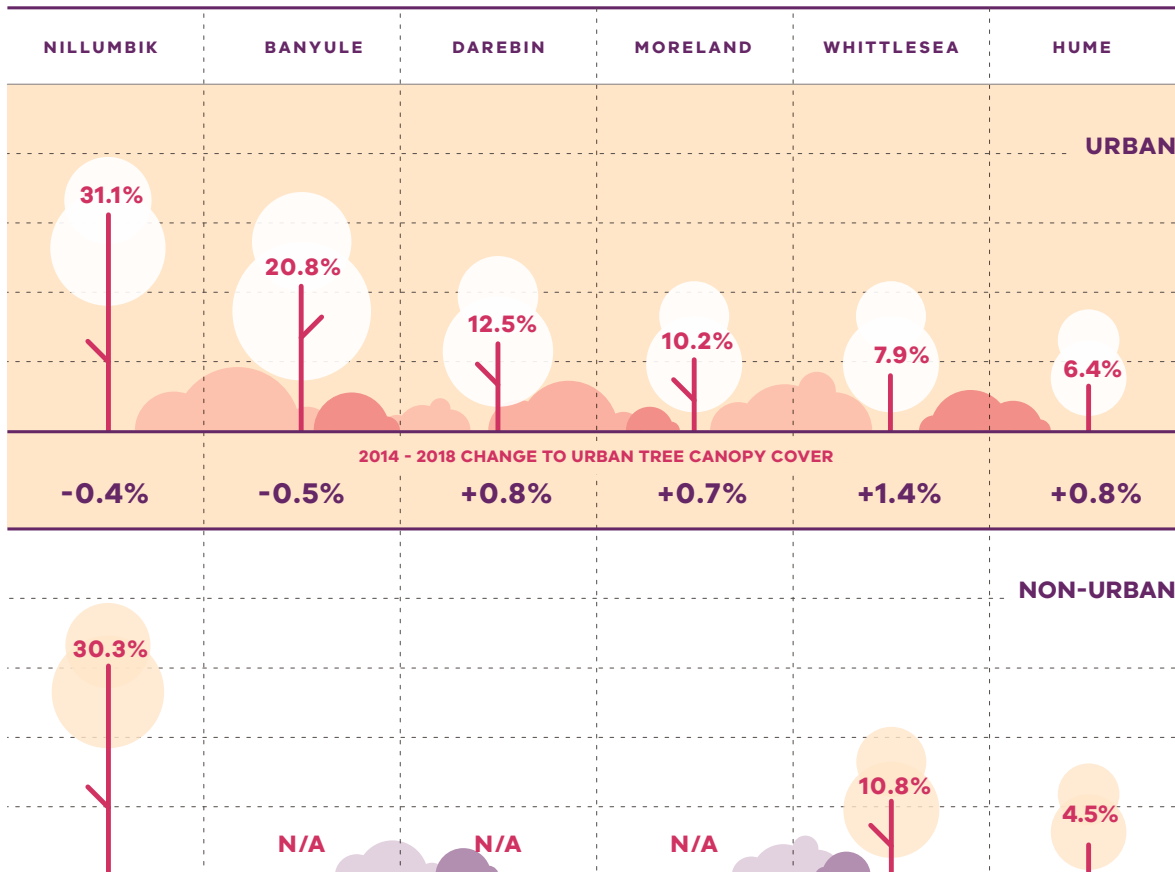
Across the Northern Metro Region most of the urban tree canopy is on residential land, parkland and linear infrastructure such as roads (Figure 25). This is due in part to large areas of land being used for residential and transport purposes.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

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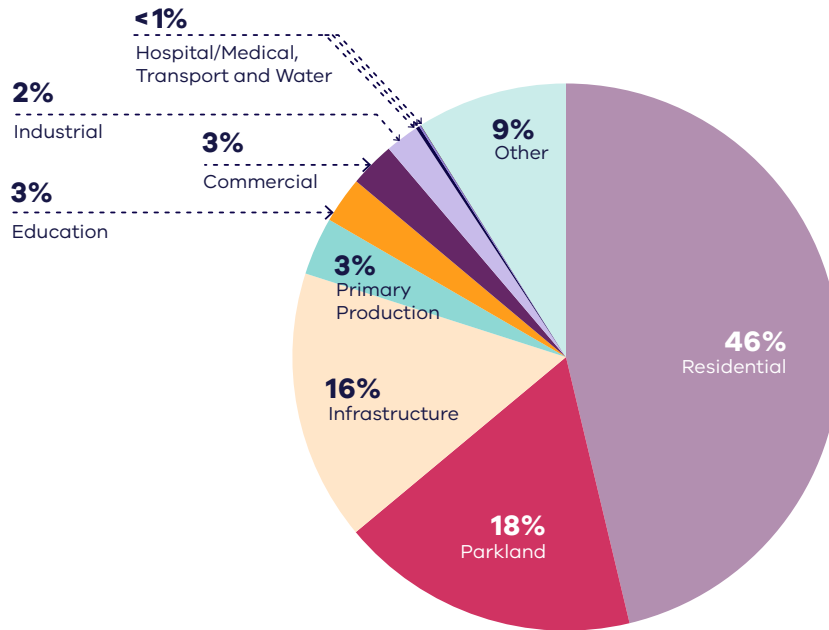
FIGURE 24. Tree canopy cover 2018, and tree canopy cover change 2014 to 2018, by LGA



Source: Hurley, J., Saunders, A., Amati, M., Boruff, B., Both, A., Sun, C., Caccetta, P., and Duncan, J. (2019) *Melbourne Vegetation Cover 2018, Northern Region*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Melbourne, Australia.

Hurley, J., Saunders, A., Both, A., Sun, C., Boruff, B., Duncan, J., Amati, M., Caccetta, P. and Chia, J. (2019) *Urban Vegetation Cover Change in Melbourne 2014 - 2018*, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

FIGURE 25. Urban tree canopy cover by land use, 2018



Source: Hurley, J., et al. (2019) Melbourne Vegetation Cover 2018, Northern Region, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Melbourne, Australia.

Natural hazards – flooding and bushfire

Stormwater flooding is prevalent in urban areas of the Yarra and Maribyrnong catchments in the Northern Metro Region. Higher volumes of stormwater during periods of heavy rain impact the health of rivers and their tributaries. While overall annual rainfall will reduce, the region is forecast to experience more frequent and intense rainfall events that will increase the risk of flooding as a result of climate change (DELWP, 2018c). Flooding may also be exacerbated by an increase in impervious surfaces and stormwater flows unless the risk is properly managed.

Inner areas of the Northern Metro Region, such as Darebin, Moreland and Banyule LGAs, have a high flooding risk. Conversely, outer areas of the region such as Nillumbik and Whittlesea LGAs, which have large urban and rural interfaces and high vegetation cover, have a high risk of bushfire (NAGA, 2014).

Resource efficiency and waste and resource recovery

In 2013-14 Greater Melbourne had a 73 per cent resource recovery rate, with 805,000 tonnes of food and garden waste sent to landfill. By 2042, it is projected waste volumes will grow by 63 per cent to

16.5 million tonnes each year. The most significant landfill in the Northern Metro Region, the Hanson Landfill in Wollert has all relevant approvals in place to meet forecast capacity, as does an inert landfill in Bulla (Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group, 2016).

Sustainability in the built environment

In 2013, residential buildings were responsible for nearly 12 per cent of Australia’s national greenhouse gas emissions, and commercial buildings contributed just over 11 per cent. The majority of these emissions were generated through the consumption of grid-supplied electricity to power appliances, lighting, and predominantly heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) systems (Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council, 2016).

As average temperatures rise due to climate change, greater numbers of people are expected to seek comfort indoors during periods of hot weather. This, combined with population growth and overall poor-performing building stock, means our city lacks energy efficiency and resilience on hot days. Maximising opportunities to incrementally improve the performance of buildings will reduce our reliance on appliances to cool buildings and contribute to a lower likelihood of blackouts during periods of hot weather.

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Local councils within the Northern Metro Region are active in adopting policies and strategies to reduce carbon emissions and improve the sustainability of the built environment. Many are innovators and leaders in Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) and are implementing new practices to improve the energy efficiency of civic buildings and reduce emissions from operations.

Several LGAs are members of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE), an association committed to designing and applying a range of practical methodologies to increase sustainability outcomes for new buildings. The Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard (BESS) is an online tool developed by CASBE that assesses the sustainability of proposed developments. It aims to reduce waste and improve energy efficiency from the outset of the construction phase, through to occupation. As well as onsite energy generation, BESS promotes the use of energy-efficient appliances, thermally-efficient glazing, wall cladding and insulation, water-efficient fittings and fixtures, thermal comfort and overall environmentally sustainable performance.

Other rating systems being increasingly utilised by the building design industry to measure and assess the performance of ESD principles include Green Star (Green Building Council of Australia, 2021), NatHERS (Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, 2021) and MUSIC (eWater, 2021).

Regional strengths

- The region has extensive natural assets and a well-established tree canopy, particularly in the north-east and parts of the green wedges.

Regional challenges

- Flooding poses a risk to people, property and infrastructure.
- Some urban areas have a low tree canopy and heat vulnerable communities.
- There are bushfire risks to the community, infrastructure and high-value native ecosystems at the urban-rural interface.
- There is a need for a new resource recovery centre and transfer station to advance resource efficiency and recycling.

Directions and strategies

The directions identified to achieve the 2050 vision for the Northern Metro Region in terms of Sustainability and resilience and Outcome 6 of Plan Melbourne are:

Direction 24	Respond to the transformation of the energy supply network
Direction 25	Increase the network of cool places, particularly in areas with communities vulnerable to urban heat and areas with high urban heat
Direction 26	Increase urban tree canopy across the Northern Metro Region to achieve 27 per cent coverage by 2050
Direction 27	Increase the retention and reuse of water in the urban environment
Direction 28	Minimise and reduce risk from bushfire in Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Hume and Mitchell
Direction 29	Protect sites of strategic importance for recycling and plan for the expansion of key sites for future resource recovery needs

Each direction is implemented through regionally-specific strategies identified in this LUFP.

Map 10 shows how sustainability and resilience will be enhanced across the Northern Metro Region by 2050 as a result of these directions and strategies, together with Plan Melbourne and other strategies and initiatives as outlined in Appendix 01.

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

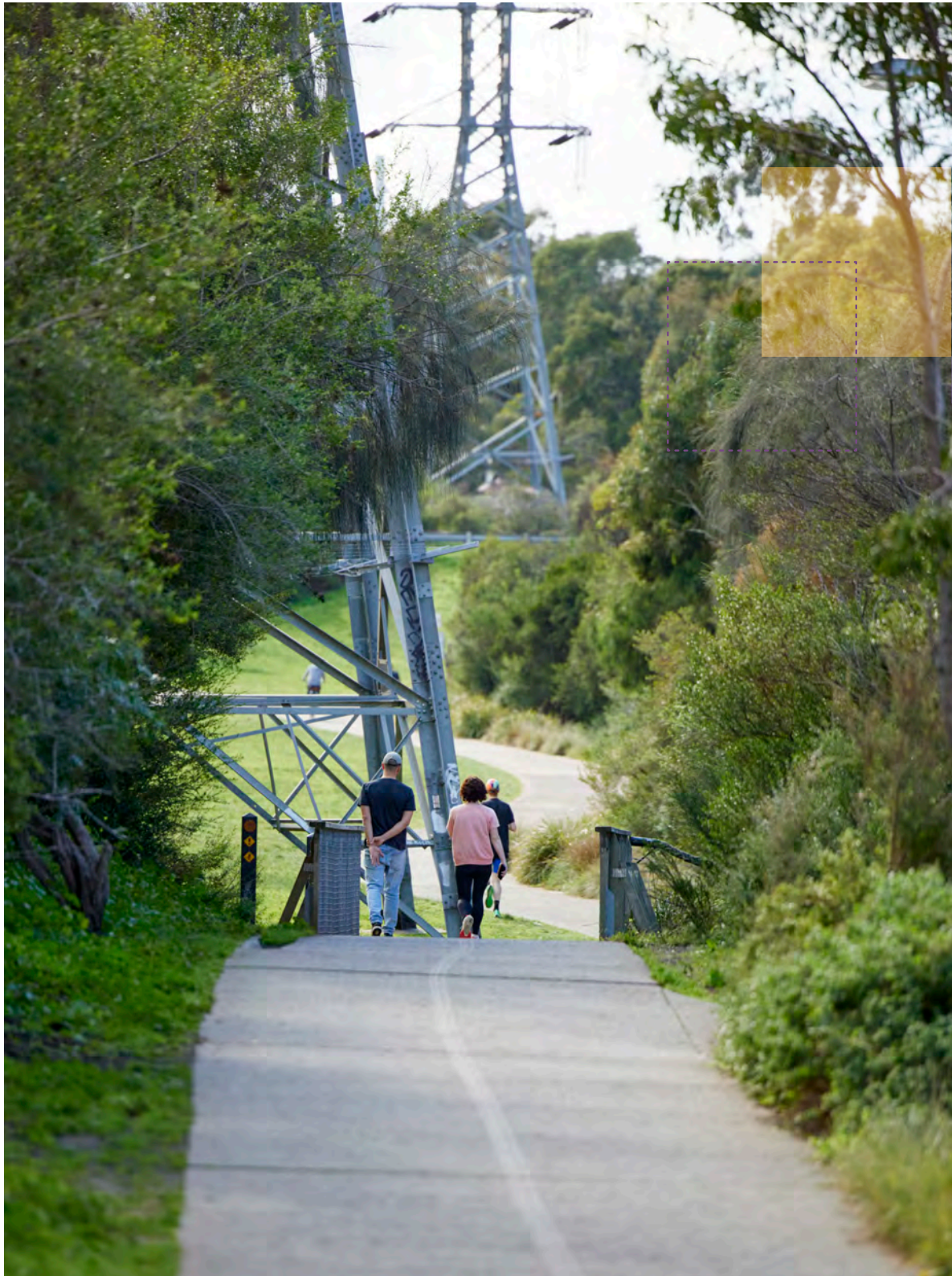











Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

MAP 9. Northern Metro Region sustainability and resilience state of play

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)^
-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Metropolitan activity centre (future)
-  Major activity centre
-  Major activity centre (future)






Transport

-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network

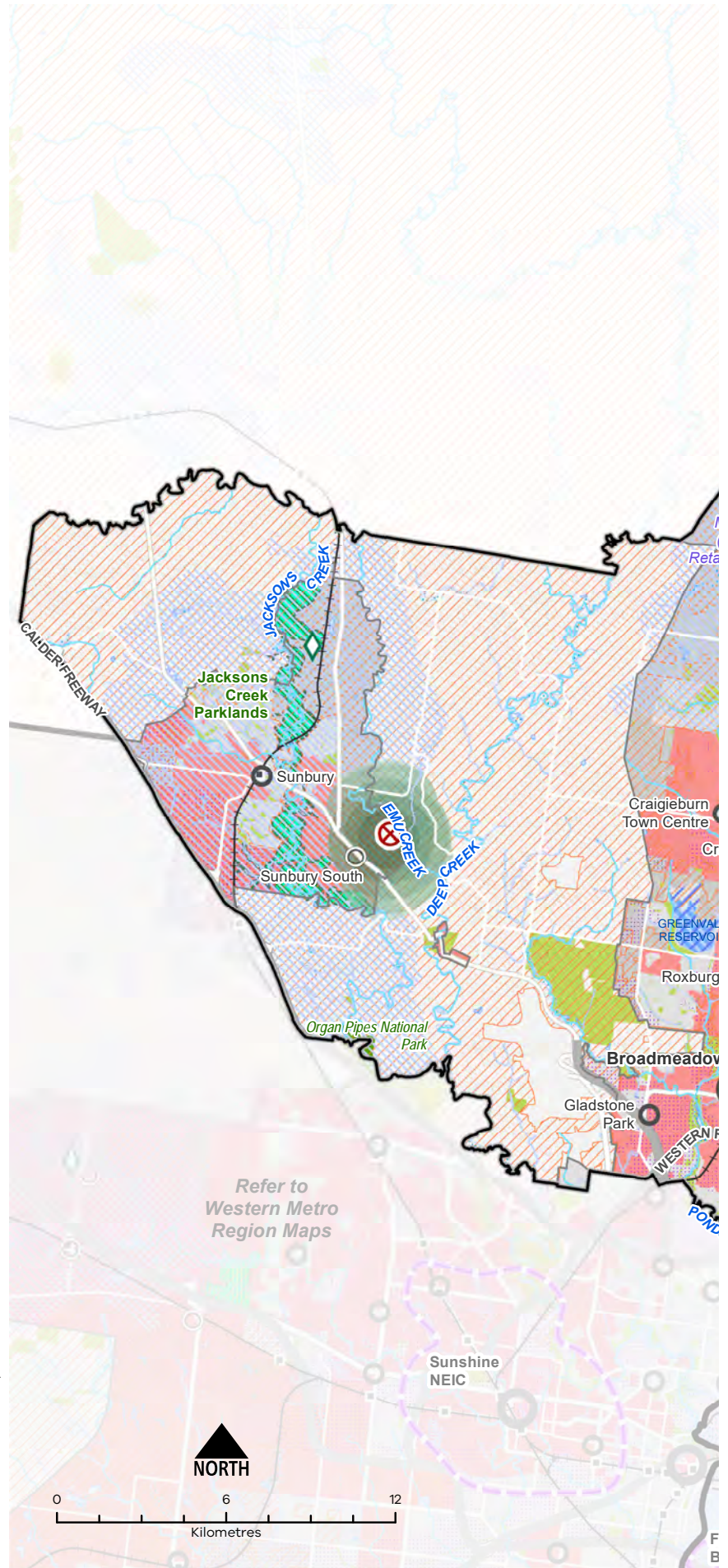
Environment

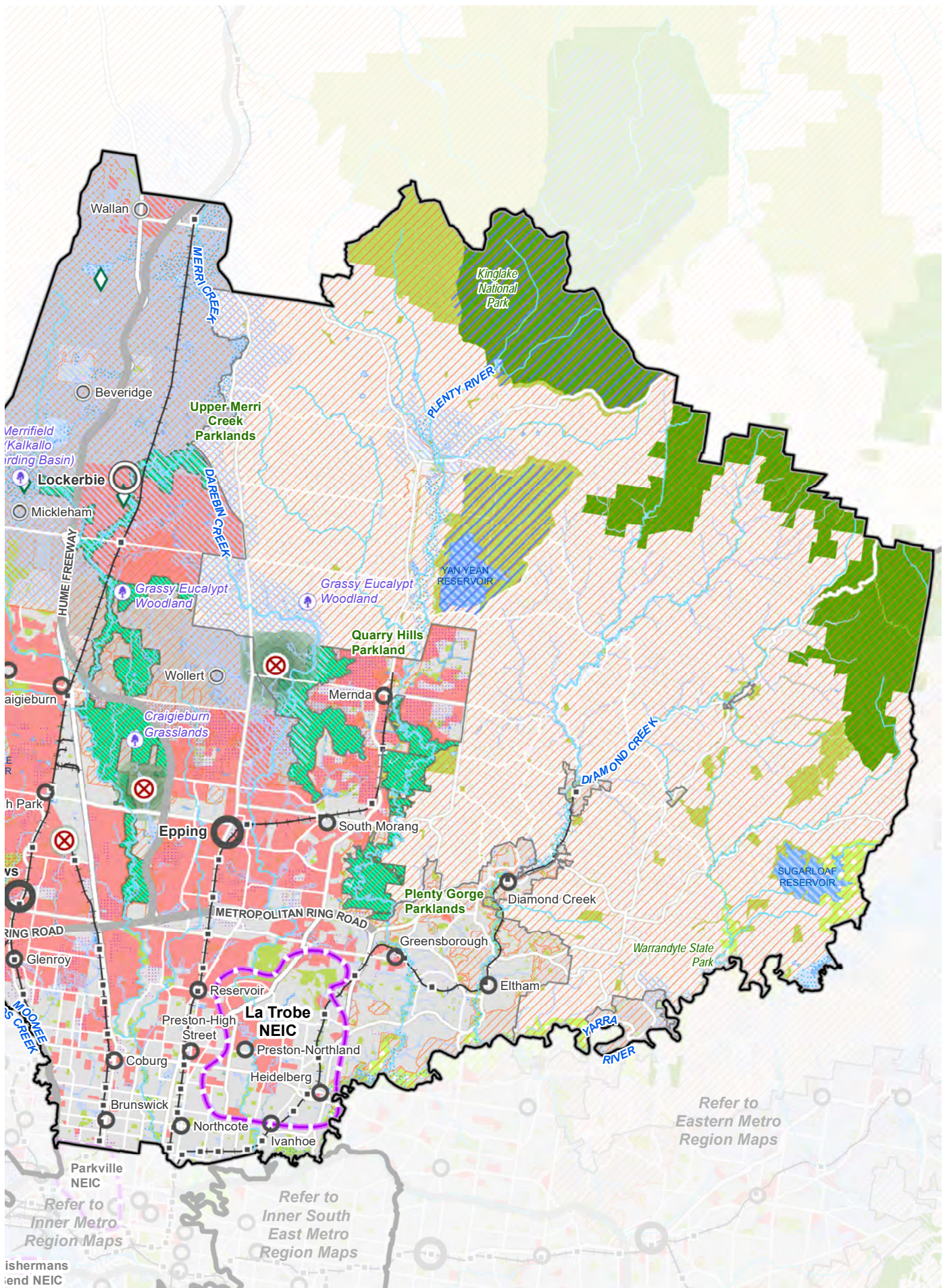
-  Conservation reserve - proposed
-  National park/state park
-  Regional park - expanded/improved
-  Future regional active open space
-  Public open space
-  Yarra River land
-  Wetlands
-  Waterway
-  Areas subject to flooding (existing planning controls)
-  Priority stormwater sub catchments
-  Water supply catchment (closed & uninhabited)
-  Waste facility
-  Reservoir
-  Waterbody
-  Bushfire risk area (Bushfire Management Overlay + bushfire prone area)
-  High heat vulnerability areas (HVI >3)
-  High land surface temperatures

Land use/Administration

-  Regional boundary
-  Urban growth boundary
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Green wedge land




^NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.









MAP 10. Northern Metro Region sustainability and resilience 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Metropolitan activity centre
-  Major activity centre




Transport

-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network






Environment

-  National park/state park
-  Public open space
-  Yarra River land
-  Waterway
-  Areas subject to flooding (Melbourne Water)
-  Priority areas for enhanced stormwater management
-  Priority waterways for enhanced vegetation
-  Water supply catchment (closed & uninhabited)
-  Reservoir
-  Waterbody
-  Waste facility

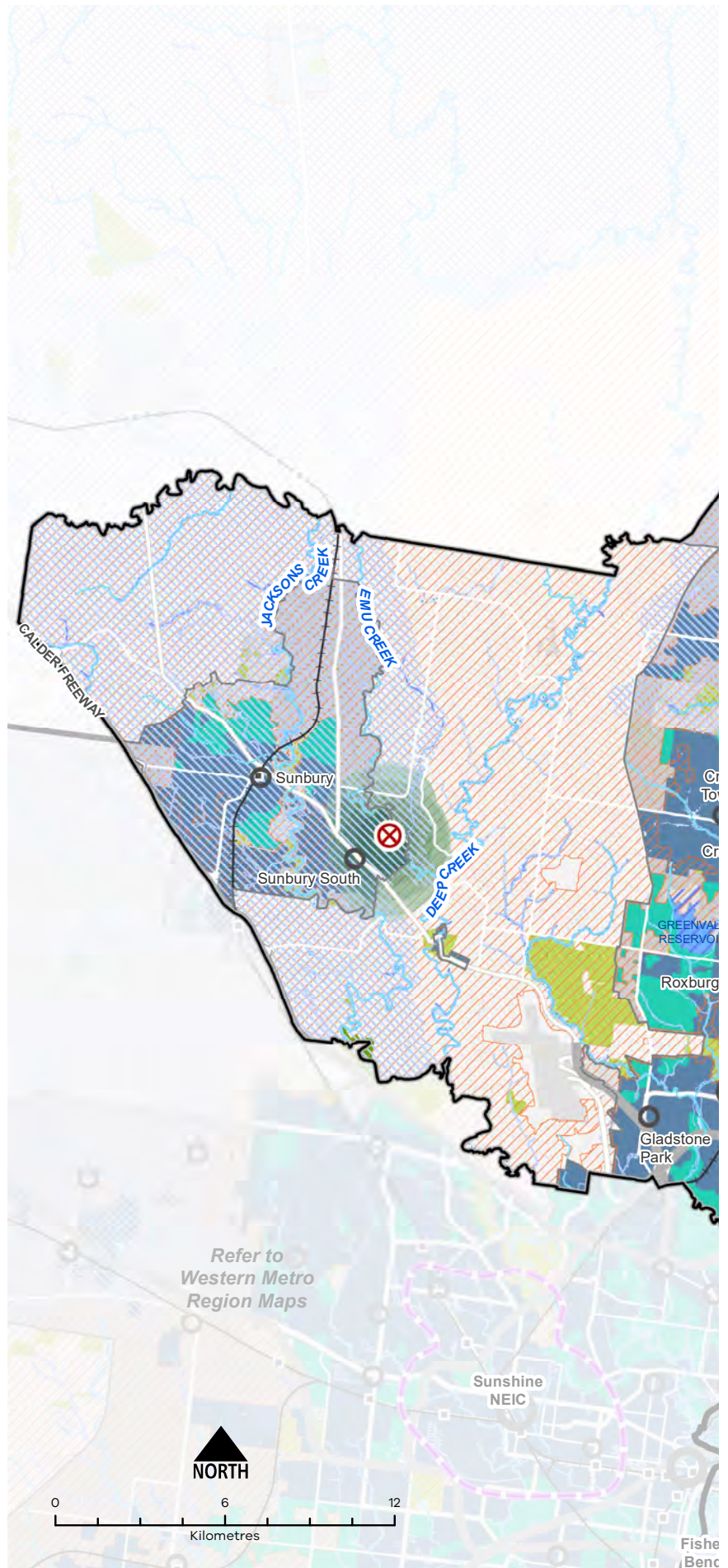
Environment

-  Bushfire risk area (Bushfire Management Overlay + bushfire prone area)
-  Priority - urban heat response
-  Priority - expand urban tree canopy cover

Land use/Administration

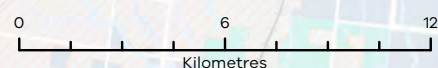
-  Regional boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary

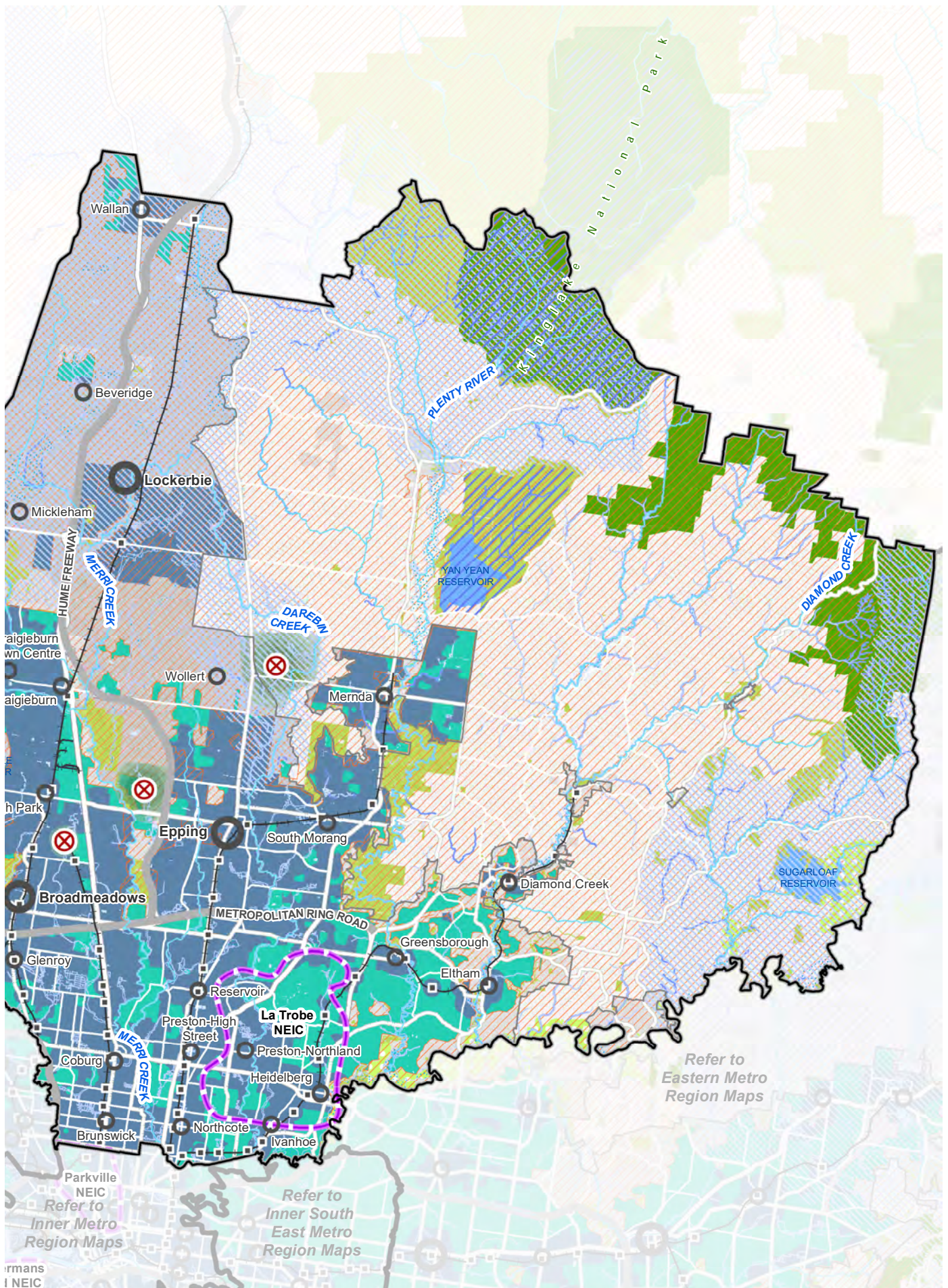
*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.



Refer to
Western Metro
Region Maps

Sunshine
NEIC





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DIRECTION 24.
Respond to the transformation of the energy supply network

In an increasingly decentralised energy system, future electricity networks will need to be responsive to changing demands from traditional services while enabling new opportunities for energy resource sharing and balancing. Millions of customers in Melbourne generate electricity, and over time they will store electricity too. These customers will be connected to the network and each other, enabling energy networks to act as platforms that match supply and demand and reduce the need for inefficient duplication of energy investments.

Large subdivisions, growth area development and urban renewal in the Northern Growth Corridor and large urban renewal areas should be planned to support this future energy network and avoid the need to retrofit energy infrastructure.

STRATEGY 79. Ensure subdivision and growth area development can support the emerging energy supply network.

DIRECTION 25.
Increase the network of cool places, particularly in areas with communities vulnerable to urban heat and areas with high urban heat

More tree canopy cover, permeable surfaces and water in the urban environment will help reduce urban temperatures and create comfortable local micro-climates in the Northern Metro Region.

Plan Melbourne notes that temperature decreases of between 1° Celsius and 2° Celsius can have a significant impact on reducing heat-related morbidity and mortality (DELWP, 2017a). Major activity centres and higher-density areas would benefit from a ‘cooling’ approach while lower-density areas would benefit from a ‘greening’ approach.

In addition to trees, green walls, shade structures and low heat absorbing materials can help reduce urban surface temperatures. These techniques will be important in inner areas of the region, activity centres, La Trobe NEIC, and around education and recreation facilities which have areas of high urban heat. Land uses frequented by older people and children will need to provide for more active cooling of outdoor environments.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio

Buildings with vegetation and roof gardens will need to be combined with onsite water harvesting and storage to ensure vegetation health and reduce potable water demand.

Epping, Broadmeadows and Lockyerbie metropolitan activity centres have communities vulnerable to urban heat, along with Brunswick, Coburg, Preston (High Street), Reservoir, Glenroy, Gladstone Park, South Morang, Roxburgh Park, Mernda, Craigieburn and Sunbury major activity centres. These communities are at a higher risk of heat-related illness during periods of multiple hot days (Sun & et al., 2019).

As shown in Figure 22, there are also large areas of high urban surface temperatures in the suburbs to the north and south of the Metropolitan Ring Road and suburbs around the Hume Freeway which absorb and retain heat.

STRATEGY 80. Design and develop outdoor spaces that are cool on hot days through materials, vegetation and water sensitive urban design in:

- Broadmeadows, Epping, and Lockyerbie metropolitan activity centres
- Coburg, Preston (High Street), Reservoir, Glenroy, Gladstone Park, South Morang, Roxburgh Park, Mernda, Craigieburn and Sunbury major activity centres
- Locations with high urban heat vulnerability and high urban heat.

STRATEGY 81. Encourage green roofs and green structures with climate resilient planting and irrigation on apartment developments, particularly in areas with high urban heat and large commercial and industrial sites.

DIRECTION 26.

Increase urban tree canopy across the Northern Metro Region to achieve 27 per cent coverage by 2050

Trees provide an essential service to the surrounding environment. In the absence of water, trees and in particular clusters of trees, make the greatest contribution to reducing surface temperatures, along with contributing to stormwater infiltration and amenity and biodiversity outcomes (Coutts & Tapper, 2017) (Sun & et al., 2019).

These important functions are vital for sustainability and resilience as our climate warms and the Northern Metro Region’s population grows.

All local councils in the region have adopted the *Living Melbourne Urban Forest Strategy (2019)*. This strategy specifies targets for the Northern Metro Region of 27 per cent total tree canopy and 39 per cent total tree and shrubs canopy by 2050.

The target of 27 per cent tree canopy coverage by 2050 is accompanied by an aspirational distribution of tree canopy across land uses to guide action in the Northern Metro Region (Table 14).

A key challenge for increasing tree canopy is the ability to retrofit existing urban areas for green infrastructure due to the availability of public and private space and the multiple functions of public land and publicly accessible places. For example, there are potential conflicts with electrical powerlines, underground cabling, gas and stormwater pipe works and regulation, and transport movement (Banyule City Council, 2014). Tree planting will need to avoid remaining areas of natural treeless grassland as these are some of the most precious remaining natural assets in the region.

The Greening the North program has recently been established between government departments, agencies and other stakeholders to coordinate and accelerate greening across the Northern Metro Region.

Most of the Northern Metro Region’s growth is expected to be accommodated in and around activity centres and areas with good access to existing services and transport infrastructure. Some of these sites will be less able to accommodate trees and a broader range of cooling and greening methods will be required.

Outside these locations are urban areas that are not as well located to infrastructure. In these locations, private land can retain more trees while development can provide higher levels of planting. In bushfire interface areas, planting should be managed so that it responds to potential bushfire risk.

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While some locations will be more constrained, tree planting may yield greater co-benefits, such as reducing urban temperatures, local climate regulation and stormwater benefits. Areas where many people are exposed to high urban heat environments, as well as areas with high surface temperatures in inner suburbs, should be a priority (refer to Priority Urban Heat Response areas in **Map 10**). Other priority locations for planting are activity centres and points of access to the PPTN.

Infrastructure, such as streets, rail corridors, new arterial roads and large at-grade car parks can play a multi-purpose role for both movement and greening to help achieve urban forest targets. Relocating powerlines underground in key locations should be considered to maximise the urban tree canopy. Transport corridors such as the Metropolitan Ring Road and Hume Freeway, as well as railway lines, also provide an opportunity to increase tree canopy.

All Northern Metro Region LGAs have endorsed the *Living Melbourne: Our Metropolitan Urban Forest* strategy, specifying a regional target of 27 per cent total tree canopy and 30 per cent combined tree canopy and shrubs by 2050 (The Nature Conservancy and Resilient Melbourne, 2019). To support this commitment, the tree canopy target is accompanied in **Table 14** by an aspirational distribution of tree canopy cover across four different land use types, adapted by DELWP from several related datasets (Hurley, et al., 2019a) (Ulrich & Hardy, 2020) (PSMA Australia Limited, 2021).

STRATEGY 82. Retain more trees on private land outside locations identified for higher levels of housing and mixed-use change.

STRATEGY 83. Increase tree canopy across the Northern Metro Region to 27 per cent coverage by 2050. Priority locations for this to be achieved are:

- Areas with high urban heat vulnerability in the Northern Growth Corridor
- High urban heat locations in Moreland, Hume, Whittlesea and Banyule LGAs
- Urban waterways and open spaces.

TABLE 14. Northern Metro Region tree canopy cover target and aspirational distribution

<p>2018 TREE CANOPY COVER: 12.1% 2050 TREE CANOPY COVER TARGET: 27% (+14.9% OR +8,505 HECTARES ADDITIONAL TREE CANOPY COVER)</p>	
Residential, commercial, industrial and primary production	55%
Streets, roads and rail	20%
Parks, open space and waterways	20%
Education and hospital/medical	5%

DIRECTION 27.**Increase the retention and reuse of water in the urban environment**

Integrated stormwater management, reducing runoff into waterways and wetlands, and water recycling will improve climate resilience and liveability. The Northern Metro Region is predicted to be 59 per cent more impervious within the next 50 years (Melbourne Water, 2018). This will increase rapid runoff and flooding, and negatively affect water quality and the health for aquatic life.

While some areas of the region are subject to flooding overlays, such as the Special Building Overlay (SBO) and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO), there is an opportunity to increase stormwater and floodwater harvesting capabilities. This is particularly important in developing urban centres where impervious surfaces and flooding can increase the risk and cost of property and infrastructure damage (DELWP, 2018c).

Urban stormwater management and water harvesting is needed in the Northern Metro Region to manage flooding risk to property and infrastructure, and to support green infrastructure.

Local stormwater capture, water recycling and greywater systems will improve the region's hydrological and ecological systems, along with restoration and revegetation of urban waterways, and WSUD in public realm projects, particularly in open spaces and new residential subdivisions.

Harvesting stormwater and increasing water infiltration is important in dense suburbs to reduce runoff and service vegetation. Harvested stormwater can help maintain water-reliant facilities and amenities such as sporting fields and gardens, contribute to more resilient vegetation, reduce demand on drinking water and improve the receiving environment of streams and rivers. Development can reduce the impacts of flooding, support healthy vegetation and prepare for drying conditions by increasing permeable areas, increasing proportions of green space, avoiding paved areas and passively irrigating vegetation.

Development also increases the quantity of wastewater generated in urban areas, which provides another opportunity to diversify water sources. For example, wastewater can be recycled and used to irrigate public open space and sporting grounds. This will help improve water security as the climate warms and overall rainfall decreases. Further, wastewater contains nutrients and organic matter that could be used to create valuable products such as fertilisers and energy sources. Given increasing limits in resource availability, this creates an opportunity to expand the benefits of wastewater management by exploring different options for resource recovery.

The Victorian Government's strategies *Water for Victoria* and *Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria* provide the strategic framework for water management in Victoria. At the regional scale, options to increase the retention and reuse of water in the urban environment should be based on the actions contained in the *Yarra and Maribyrnong Catchment Scale Integrated Water Management Plans*, flooding strategies, relevant sub-catchment integrated water management plans (including the Sunbury and Upper Merri Creek plans), and local council integrated water management plans.

These plans should be used as the basis to support governments and relevant agencies to prioritise and align water infrastructure needs and deliver integrated water management outcomes. This may include the preparation of appropriately-scaled integrated water management plans (i.e. sub-catchment, precinct or local scale) by the lead planning authority in collaboration with relevant referral agencies to guide sustainable water design and development decisions.

STRATEGY 84. Retain and harvest stormwater in priority sub-catchments and inner suburbs of the Northern Metro Region.

STRATEGY 85. Support the development of water sensitive neighbourhoods through precinct planning and IWM plans.

STRATEGY 86. Support opportunities to deliver alternative water supply to green wedges to provide for agriculture and minimise extraction from natural waterways.

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DIRECTION 28.
Minimise and reduce risk from bushfire in Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Hume and Mitchell

Heavily vegetated environments in Nillumbik and Whittlesea LGAs and grassland areas in Hume and Mitchell LGAs pose significant bushfire risks for the region (Map 9). The need to plan for the risk of bushfire to communities, infrastructure and natural environments will continue to increase as the climate warms and overall rainfall decreases.

The likelihood of forest fires and grassfires, and their severity and intensity, depends on a site's location and the surrounding landscape. State planning policy for bushfire (Clause 13.02) and the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) already applies to large areas of the Northern Metro Region, mostly beyond the urban area. The BMO aims to strengthen community resilience to bushfire by considering bushfire measures as part of building design and ensuring new development achieves an acceptable level of bushfire risk. However, there is a need to strengthen the resilience of settlements and communities to bushfire through strategic, risk-based regional planning that prioritises the protection of human life over other policy considerations.

In order to prioritise the protection of human life from bushfire, population growth and development should be directed to low-risk locations and areas that are safely evacuated. Development within areas of the highest bushfire risk must achieve acceptable levels of risk reduction. These areas should be avoided for development that will accommodate more vulnerable populations, such as the elderly or very young, that may have difficulties evacuating in the event of a bushfire.

Careful management of vegetation and water resources will be required across the Northern Metro Region in response to bushfire risk. River and creek corridors will continue to be important as the climate warms to provide habitat, recreation and cooling. However, given their higher levels of vegetation, they will also pose bushfire risk. Vegetation management strategies, including selecting lower risk species and maintaining vegetation, will have a key role in mitigating risk in urban areas while recognising the value of these corridors for habitat and urban cooling.

STRATEGY 87. Avoid housing growth and sensitive land uses within and in proximity to bushfire prone areas of Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Hume and Mitchell LGAs.

STRATEGY 88. Provide new and upgraded regional social infrastructure that provides refuge in extreme bushfire and weather events.

STRATEGY 89. Recognise and manage bushfire risk posed by vegetation within waterway corridors.

DIRECTION 29.
Protect sites of strategic importance for recycling and plan for the expansion of key sites for future resource recovery needs

The *Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan 2018* (Sustainability Victoria, 2018) and the *Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan 2016* aim to increase resource recovery across Victoria. The metropolitan plan identifies the need for a Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station in the Northern Metro Region of 17,000 to 43,000 tonnes per annum capacity by 2031-2040 (Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group, 2016).

Waste and resource recovery hubs provide essential services to support waste and recycling for Victorian communities. There are four existing waste and resource recovery hubs of state importance for metropolitan Melbourne in the Northern Metro Region (Sustainability Victoria, 2018). They are:

- **Hanson Landfill Wollert:** A significant putrescible and solid inert landfill serving the metropolitan and neighbouring regions with the potential to operate over the long term. The Wollert landfill is well located and close to major transport routes (Sustainability Victoria, 2018)
- **Cooper Street precinct, Epping:** Compatible activities could provide additional resource recovery activities and markets for the recovered goods (Sustainability Victoria, 2018)
- **Cleanaway (formerly SKM) Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), Coolaroo:** Largest material recovery facility in Victoria, accepting commingled recyclable streams from metropolitan and regional areas likely to continue in current role for the foreseeable future.
- **Veolia Organics Facility Bulla:** Major hub undertaking a range of waste and resource recovery activities including composting organics and asbestos and demolition disposal (Sustainability Victoria, 2018).

Waste and resource recovery hubs and facilities require buffers and protections to minimise impacts on communities, the environment and public health. There is also a need to support compatible land uses in and around the hubs and to identify adequate land and appropriate locations for future resource recovery infrastructure (Sustainability Victoria, 2018).

Waste and resource recovery hubs can provide significant opportunities to leverage benefits and facilitate investment in recycling facilities. Opportunities to develop hubs include co-location

of industries that have synergies with waste and resource recovery facilities, increasing economies of scale or co-locating industries requiring similar buffers, creating jobs and increasing volume of materials recovered (Sustainability Victoria, 2018). Development of a strategic plan for the Cooper Street Precinct hub has commenced, with similar plans due to be developed for other hubs by the Metro Waste and Resource Recovery Groups.

Successful recycling in Victoria requires markets for recycled products. Infrastructure projects throughout the region can contribute to strengthening these markets and reducing the environmental impact by using more recycled products and less virgin materials.

STRATEGY 90. Protect and buffer the Wollert landfill, Coolaroo MRF and Bulla waste and resource recovery hubs of state importance.

STRATEGY 91. Maintain adequate buffers and provisions to protect the Cooper Street precinct and Wollert waste and resource recovery hub from residential encroachment and incompatible land uses and preserve the importance of the hubs for the long term.

STRATEGY 92. Ensure zoning can support complementary land uses to locate in and around the Cooper Street, Wollert landfill and Bulla waste and resource recovery facilities of adequate size and location to provide additional capacity for the Northern Metro Region.

ACTIONS – Sustainability and resilience

ACTION 15. Prepare a regional bushfire response for suburban and peri-urban communities that are subject to bushfire risk.

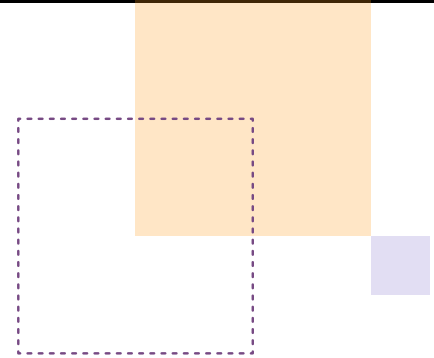
ACTION 16. Investigate options and land use protection for a Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station/s to support Melbourne’s future resource and recovery needs.

CHAPTER 10 IMPLEMENTATION

The Northern Metro Region LUF is a planning document that will be implemented primarily through planning schemes. This will guide and support decision-making at the local level and improve the consistency of decisions at the regional level.



Photo credit: Tim Bell Studio



There are many actions under Plan Melbourne and other government programs and initiatives, such as the Metropolitan Partnerships, that will contribute to improving planning outcomes in the Northern Metro Region. This LUFP includes a targeted list of regional actions.

The Northern Metro Region LUFP identifies specific regional planning priorities for state and local government to progress the implementation of Plan Melbourne as well as address specific planning issues for the region. Other priorities will emerge over the five-year timeframe for LUFP implementation that may supersede actions in the LUFP or complement and further refine these actions.

Implementation of this LUFP will require ongoing collaboration between state government and local government in the Northern Metro Region. A five-year action program is outlined below.

Putting the plan into action

Local councils in the Northern Metro Region are already working together to address priority issues for their region. Existing metropolitan regional governance arrangements such as the Northern Metropolitan Partnership provide forums to bring together experts and leaders from all levels of government, business and the community to identify and progress issues of importance to the region.

The strategies outlined in this LUFP will be implemented at the local level in a range of ways. For instance, amendments will be made to the planning schemes to give relevant regional strategies status in the Planning Policy Framework and updates will be made to local housing and local industrial land use strategies. The LUFP will be used to guide and inform future strategic planning across the Northern Metro Region by individual local councils, the regional groupings of local councils or other entities such as the Metropolitan Partnerships.

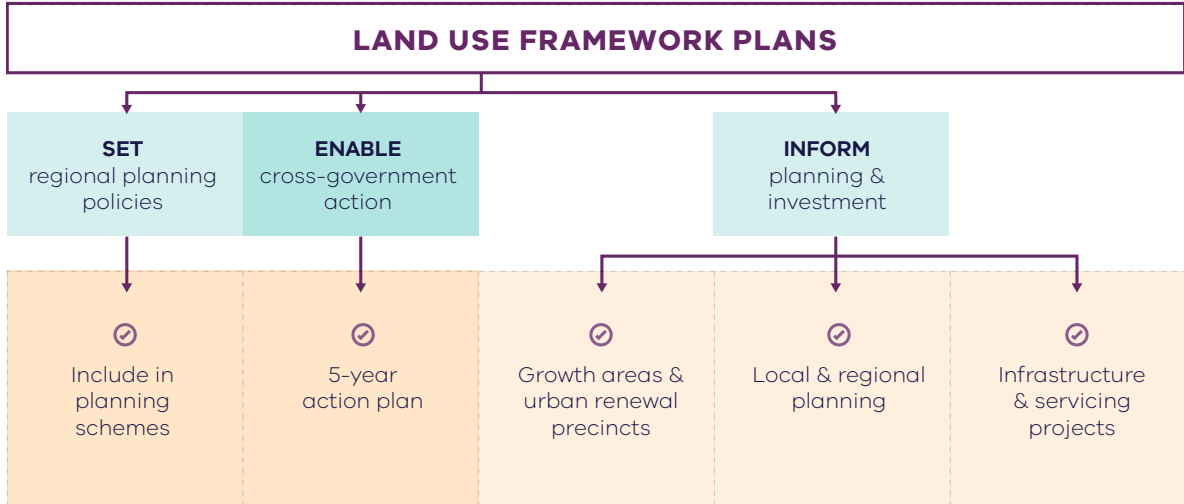
The Northern Metro Region LUFP will also guide and inform the preparation of the remaining PSPs to be completed for these Northern Growth Area, and their implementation.

Information included in this LUFP relating to urban development and infrastructure that may be required to service new communities, which has been sourced from the growth corridor plans, should not be interpreted as a delivery mechanism or program committing the Victorian Government to specific infrastructure or development projects or specific levels of service provision.

As part of the implementation process, the Department of Treasury and Finance will update budget business case submission templates and guidance to identify how initiatives align with Plan Melbourne and the LUFPs. This will bolster the consideration of metropolitan and regional policy when business cases are drafted.

The process for implementing this LUFP is outlined in Figure 26.

FIGURE 26. Implementation of the land use framework plan



Five-year action program

A number of short- to medium-term actions are included in the Northern Metro Region LUFFP. The five-year action program (Table 15) summarises these actions to be delivered collaboratively by the state government and councils in the Northern Metro Region. These actions deliver on the strategic directions identified in the LUFFP and in turn, Plan Melbourne outcomes. The actions will positively and proactively address some of the challenges being experienced by the region.

Plan Melbourne and the Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan (MICLUP) also contain actions that may require regional collaboration and will support the outcomes sought by the LUFFP. This LUFFP’s five-year action program is a targeted list of actions identified during the development of the draft LUFFP. It is not intended that this list duplicate existing Plan Melbourne or MICLUP actions other than where confirming a particular action was warranted given its regional implications.

In relation to transport, the following actions from Plan Melbourne Implementation Plan are identified as being well suited to being implemented at the regional level for this metro region and there is a commitment to deliver them as part of the implementation of Plan Melbourne and the LUFFP:

- Action 43: Safe, efficient and accessible pedestrian networks
- Action 44: Local networks of cycling links
- Action 45: Local transport forums.

The implementation and prioritisation of the five-year action program will be driven by existing metro-regional governance arrangements including the Metropolitan Partnerships and EPWGs.

The indicative timeframes for completing actions are:

- Short term: By the end of 2023 (0–2 years)
- Medium term: By the end of 2026 (2–5 years).

Each action is allocated to a lead agency and implementation partners. Detail on the timing of actions and how they are implemented will be determined in line with normal government and council policy and budget processes. All actions requiring budget allocation will be carefully assessed against budget capacity, with rigorous business cases and cost-benefit analyses applied as part of their economic impact assessment.

Decision-making processes to support the delivery of the LUFs

The LUFs are a statement of policy intent. Detailed decisions about the implementation and timing of actions and infrastructure delivery will be made in line with normal government policy and budget processes.

The Victorian Government will continue its commitment to rigorous decision-making about initiatives that require funding, statutory amendments or new regulations in line with its economic and fiscal strategy, including the Government’s long-term financial management objectives.

For infrastructure projects, this will include ensuring consistency with the Victorian Government’s Investment Lifecycle and High Value/High Risk Guidelines. For all other initiatives and actions, implementation and timing will be subject to consideration of its evidence base and likely net benefits.

Monitoring, reporting and review

Action monitoring will be led by DELWP in partnership with the metropolitan region through the EPWG. DELWP will publish an annual progress report outlining the status of actions against the specified timeframe (whether an action has been ‘completed’, is ‘in progress’ or ‘not started’). These progress reports will be publicly available.

LUF implementation will be formally reviewed every five years in conjunction with the Plan Melbourne Five-Year Implementation Plan. The review will be conducted in an open way and involve engagement with key stakeholders including Metropolitan Partnerships and EPWGs.

ACTIONS – Implementation

ACTION 17. Update budget business case submission templates and guidance to identify how initiatives align with Plan Melbourne and the Land Use Framework Plans.














CHAPTER 10

TABLE 15. Five-year action program
 Timeframe - Short term (S): By the end of 2023 (0–2 years). Medium term (M): By the end of 2026 (2–5 years)

ACTION	SOURCE	TIMEFRAME	LEAD AGENCY	IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER(S)
 <p>1 Establish a long-term state and local government partnership to prioritise planning and infrastructure provision for Lockerbie as a metropolitan activity centre for the Northern Growth Corridor.</p>		S	DELWP	Councils, VPA
	2 Establish a state and local government partnership to coordinate and manage land use planning for the La Trobe NEIC.	S	DELWP	VPA, DJPR, Hume, Whittlesea, Mitchell LGAs
	3 Implement a program of State Government-led planning projects, in partnership with local government, to ensure metropolitan and major activity centres and urban renewal areas maximise their respective strategic opportunities. Priority will be given to those which deliver significant jobs and housing; leverage investment in state infrastructure; and play an important role in the growth corridor and/or region. State-led planning for these state- and regionally-significant places will contribute to creating liveable communities and achieving more dwellings and jobs in established areas, and identify implementation and coordination actions that support growth and economic investment.	S	VPA	Councils, DELWP
4 Identify and implement a SERA in the Northern Metro Region in partnership with local government.		M	DJPR	Councils, DELWP
 <p>5 Update planning schemes to align with housing policies in Plan Melbourne and the Northern Metro Region Land Use Framework Plan and the implementation of the reformed residential zones. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing capacity for 15 years of regional housing supply focusing on locations identified for housing growth in the LUFP • Reviewing planning controls in housing investigation areas as potential locations for substantial or incremental housing change. <p>This may require strategic planning work to support these changes such as preparing or updating local housing strategies or preparing structure plans to further investigate where increased densities can be supported, and determine specific changes required to planning schemes.</p>		S	Councils	DELWP
	6 Identify underutilised and surplus government land that has potential to deliver additional social housing.	Plan Melbourne Five-Year Implementation Plan	S	DDFH (HV)

IMPLEMENTATION

ACTION	SOURCE	TIMEFRAME	LEAD AGENCY	IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER(S)
<p> 7 In partnership with councils, identify a pipeline of sites in the Northern Metro Region for social and affordable housing.</p>		M	DFFH (HV)	Councils
<p> 8 Develop a model and seek support for a whole-of-government approach to better sequence and prioritise locations for key services, social infrastructure and public transport access in the development of growth areas to better enable walkable 20-minute neighbourhoods.</p>		S	VPA	Councils, DELWP, DET, DFFH (HV), DH, DoT
<p> 9 Undertake a review of the regional bus network to support regional access and movement in the short- to medium-terms and to plan integration with major public transport changes including SRL.</p>		S	DoT	Councils
<p> 10 Review the Principal Public Transport Network for the growth areas.</p>		S	DoT	Councils, DELWP
<p> 11 Develop a plan to implement a publicly owned and managed network of regional trails and open spaces across the region's growth corridors, utilising its natural drainage system where possible to link open spaces, biodiversity areas, waterways and urban areas.</p>		S	DELWP	Councils, VPA
<p> 12 Prepare a regional biodiversity strategy to protect, manage and enhance habitat corridors and increase their interconnectivity across urban and rural areas.</p>		M	DELWP	Councils
<p> 13 Review local planning schemes in the Northern Metro Region to ensure protection and enhancement of the landscape and biodiversity values of the region.</p>		M	Councils	DELWP, Melbourne Water
<p> 14 Develop a methodology for a social infrastructure strategy for the Northern Metro Region. This would consider social infrastructure such as libraries, multi-use community and recreation facilities and assess how they can be used more flexibly and intensively. This could be a pilot project suitable for other regions.</p>		M	DELWP	Councils, DH, VPA
<p> 15 Prepare a regional bushfire response for suburban and peri-urban communities that are subject to bushfire risk.</p>		M	DELWP	Councils, Country Fire Authority
<p> 16 Investigate options and land use protection for a Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station/s to support Melbourne's future resource and recovery needs.</p>		M	Sustainability Victoria	Councils, Environment Protection Authority
<p> 17 Update budget business case submission templates and guidance to identify how initiatives align with Plan Melbourne and the Land Use Framework Plans.</p>		S	DTF	

APPENDIX 01

APPENDIX 01 RELEVANT POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES

There are several current Victorian Government policies, strategies and initiatives that have implications for planning in the Northern Metro Region. In addition, there are existing regional initiatives, initiated by councils and/or the Metropolitan Partnerships. This appendix provides an overview of the most relevant policies, strategies and initiatives for the Northern Metro Region LUF.

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 and Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 Addendum, 2019, which will guide the growth of our city. Plan Melbourne sets out the strategy for supporting jobs, housing and transport, while building Melbourne’s legacy of distinctiveness, liveability and sustainability. The addendum updates Melbourne’s projected population, housing and employment growth and the Melbourne 2050 spatial framework to align with major transport investments including SRL.

Growth Corridor Plans, Managing Melbourne’s Growth 2012, sets an overarching strategic planning framework to guide future development of Melbourne’s four growth corridors – North, Sunbury-Diggers Rest, West and South East. The growth corridor plans identify:

- Areas suitable for urban development and the broad form of development (residential, industrial, commercial)
- Areas of high environmental or landscape value that must be protected from development
- The integrated open space network
- Strategic transport infrastructure and options for further investigation
- Locations suitable for a wide range of employment uses.

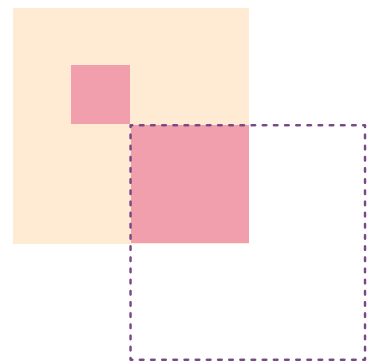
This LUF incorporates and updates information from the growth corridor plan.

The Northern Metro Region has regional initiatives relevant to the LUF. These include:

The **Northern Horizons – 50-year Infrastructure Strategy for Melbourne’s North** sets future directions for short, medium and long-term priorities for the region.

The **Northern Regional Trails Strategy** provides a framework to develop and maintain the recreational off-road trail network known as the Northern Regional Trail Network.

Specific Victorian Government policies, strategies and initiatives are outlined below under the relevant chapter of the LUF to which they most strongly relate, acknowledging that many policies, strategies and initiatives are relevant to multiple chapters, or to the whole LUF.



Productivity

The **Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan 2019** provides an overview of current and future needs for industrial and commercial land across metropolitan Melbourne and puts in place a planning framework to support state and local government to more effectively plan for future employment and industry needs, and better inform future strategic directions.

The **Unlocking Enterprise in a Changing Economy** policy paper provides support for the development of enterprise precincts. The newly introduced Commercial 3 Zone aims to give preference to enterprises and reduce the planning burden for a diversity of employment uses.

Support for Victoria's creative industries is provided through the **Creative State 2016-2020** strategy which aims to grow the state's creative and cultural economy. Work is currently underway to develop the next creative industries strategy which will guide initiatives and investment between 2020 and 2024.

Protection of the long-term future of Melbourne's green wedges and agricultural land is provided through the **Planning for Melbourne's Green Wedge and Agricultural Land** project, which is exploring a range of planning system changes for how this can best be achieved.

The **Metropolitan Partnerships** are advisory groups established for each of the metropolitan regions by the Victorian Government that bring community and business together with state and local government and advise on the top priorities for jobs, services and infrastructure across the region.

The **Broadmeadows Urban Revitalisation** package of infrastructure initiatives will revitalise the Broadmeadows Metropolitan Activity Centre by activating major Victorian Government, local council, VicTrack and VicRoads land holdings for development of housing demonstration sites, office and commercial floor space, premium open space and a multi-deck car park.

Housing choice

Planning system administrative and policy reforms such as **Smart Planning** are reducing red tape and, in doing so, facilitating the supply of housing.

Planning Practice Notes on Residential Zones and Planning for Housing provide greater clarity for local councils on the technical aspects of how to apply the residential zones and how to plan for housing growth and protect neighbourhood character.

The **Housing Development Data** dashboard will provide improved access to information on the quantity and location of housing being developed.

The **Better Apartments Design Standards and Apartment Design Guidelines for Victoria** assists in improving the quality and functionality of apartments in Victoria.

The **Future Homes Project** is producing better apartment designs and helping Melbourne become a world leader in apartment design, sustainability and liveability.

Housing Outcomes in Established Melbourne 2005 to 2016 highlights how housing development data can be used to understand changes in density, development of housing in activity centres and the influence of zones and overlays on housing change.

Big Housing Build will deliver 9,300 new social housing dwellings and 2,900 new affordable and market homes for first home buyers and renters across the state. It includes:

- \$532 million to replace obsolete properties on Homes Victoria land and constructing new homes – this includes Fast Start projects at Victoria Street, Flemington and Elizabeth Street in Richmond
- \$948 million for ready to build and spot purchase, working with private sector to bring forward new developments ready to start construction and purchase existing residential properties
- \$1.38 billion funding for projects by the community housing sector, through the Social Housing Growth Fund
- \$2.14 billion in partnerships with the private and community housing sector – exploring options to build on surplus government owned sites.

The **Social Housing Growth Fund** is the vehicle for allocating new funds to suitable projects proposed by the community housing sector.

The **Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Plan** initiatives include 20 one-bedroom modular units with intensive onsite support, multidisciplinary housing teams to support complex clients to maintain stable housing, eight additional assertive outreach teams in locations of highest need, and funding therapeutic services in major inner city crisis accommodation centres to improve health, wellbeing and housing outcomes.

The **redevelopment of public housing estates** is a program to transform ageing public housing estates across metropolitan Melbourne and key regional centres into vibrant, well-connected neighbourhoods. This will create at least 1,800 new public housing homes.

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The **Building new homes to fight homelessness** is a program to help Victorians escaping family violence, homelessness and life on the streets by building 1,000 new public housing properties.

Melbourne Airport Environs Strategy Plan is a framework of planning controls and initiatives to manage the interests of both the Melbourne Airport and the significant airport environs. The Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee is currently providing advice to the Minister for Planning on improvements to the planning provisions safeguarding Melbourne Airport and its environs.

Integrated transport

Suburban Rail Loop is a new radial rail link connecting Melbourne's middle suburbs from Cheltenham to Werribee via Melbourne Airport and includes preparing detailed precinct frameworks and structure planning for all SRL precincts. Suburban Rail Loop consists of SRL East (Cheltenham to Box Hill), SRL North (Box Hill to Airport) and SRL West (Airport to Werribee).

Melbourne Airport Rail will connect Melbourne Airport to metropolitan and regional rail networks via Sunshine.

The **Metro Tunnel** will create additional capacity on Melbourne's rail network by running the Cranbourne, Pakenham and Sunbury lines through a new tunnel.

North East Link will provide the 'missing link' between the Eastern Freeway and the M80 Ring Road in Melbourne's north east and, in doing so, reduce travel times, remove trucks from local roads and link growth areas in the north and south-east of Melbourne and enhance connections between the Western Ring Road, Hume Freeway and Eastern Freeway to Melbourne's south-east.

The 2020/2021 Victorian State Budget allocates funding to progress planning for the **Bulla Bypass**. This will include provision for a six lane arterial road and will connect to the Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6, supporting future traffic volumes in the region and provide an improved connection from Melbourne Airport to the city's north and west.

The **West Gate Tunnel** will create a second river crossing to link the Western Metro Region with the Port of Melbourne, CityLink and the CBD, and take traffic pressures off the West Gate Bridge.

The **Level Crossing Removal Project** will continue to provide improved travel and safety for road users, public transport users, cyclists and pedestrians by removing additional level crossings across metropolitan Melbourne.

The **M80 Ring Road Upgrade** will widen the freeway, widen on and off ramps and install a new freeway management system along 38 kilometres of road from Laverton North to Greensborough.

Upgrades to the Sunbury line will deliver power upgrades, platform extensions at 10 stations, wheelchair boarding at eight stations and train stabling upgrades at Sunbury, Calder Park and Watergardens.

Upgrades to the Hurstbridge line will include a new train station at Greensborough, duplication of 3 kilometres of tracks between Greensborough and Montmorency and duplication of 1.5 kilometres of tracks between Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen.

The **Port Rail Shuttle Network** is an investment in direct rail freight between key suburban locations in Dandenong South, Somerton and Altona and the Port of Melbourne. Once fully operational, this will make a significant difference to how freight moves around Melbourne. By 2050, it is expected to move 30 per cent of Melbourne's containers by rail, avoiding millions of truck trips on roads each year.

The **Urban Congestion Fund** will upgrade the urban road network to reduce congestion upgrading pinch points, intersections and commuter car park upgrades at train stations.

Upgrades will occur on six main roads, local footpaths and road infrastructure across Melbourne's northern suburbs through the **Suburban Roads Upgrade Program**.

The **Victorian Infrastructure Plan** seeks to build, improve and care for Victoria's infrastructure. It responds to Infrastructure Victoria's 30-year Infrastructure Strategy and presents priorities and future directions across nine key sectors.

Moving freight throughout the state will be enhanced as part of the **Delivering the Goods: Creating Victorian Jobs – Victorian Freight Plan**.

Victoria's Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap sets out a plan to achieve half of all light vehicle sales in Victoria to be Zero Emission Vehicles by 2030.

Movement and Place is a way of thinking about the roles and challenges facing our transport system now and into the future. The Movement and Place approach recognises that transport links perform two functions: movement of people and goods and serving as a place (a destination in its own right). This way of thinking ensures that while we are planning for and developing our network, we are considering the needs for movement and placemaking simultaneously.

Inland Rail is a 1700 kilometre freight rail line that will connect Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. It is national infrastructure funded by the Australian Government.

Liveability

The **Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017** identifies the Yarra River as a single living and integrated natural entity for protection. It recognises intrinsic connection of the Traditional Owners to the Yarra River and its Country and further recognises them as the custodians of the land.

The **Yarra River Action Plan**, released in February 2017, details 30 specific actions to ensure the long-term protection of the river and its parklands.

The **draft Yarra Strategic Plan** sets the foundation to achieve the Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision and deliver on the aspirations contained in the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation's **Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient Spirit & Lore of the Yarra)** water policy. It includes a land use framework plan for the river corridor.

The **Waterways of the West (WoW) Action Plan** (to be released 2021) will include steps to better protect the waterways of the region and their parklands within the context of increased population growth. It encompasses the network of waterways within the Maribyrnong catchment.

The **Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018** provides a framework for managing rivers, wetlands and estuaries in Melbourne's five major catchments to ensure their value to the community is protected and improved.

The **Growing Suburbs Fund** will provide investment in critical local infrastructure for communities in Melbourne's growing outer suburbs. In the Northern Metro Region, the Growing Suburbs Fund is available to Hume, Mitchell, Nillumbik and Whittlesea local councils.

The **Suburban Parks Program** will deliver more than 6,500 hectares of new and upgraded parks and trails across greater Melbourne.

Open Space for Everyone: Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne 2020 supports a cooler, greener city with a network of quality open spaces to which all members of the community have access.

Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037 aims to stop the decline of Victoria's native plants and animals and improve the natural environment.

The **Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridors 2013** outlines how areas of biodiversity value (State and Commonwealth) within the growth areas will be managed and spatially identifies how outcomes for matters of national environmental significance will be delivered.

The **Land Utilisation Assessment Program** works to improve utilisation of government land.

Strong communities

The **20-minute Neighbourhoods** project delivers a range of initiatives to create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods, enabling communities to live more locally.

The Victorian Government has committed \$675 million to the **Community Hospitals Program** to build ten community hospitals close to major growth areas enhancing access to health services in growing communities.

The **Statewide Design, Service and Infrastructure Plan for Victoria's Health System 2017-2037** provides a planning framework to guide service, workforce and infrastructure investment in Victoria's health system.

Health 2040: Advancing Health, Access and Care presents a clear vision for the health and wellbeing of Victorians and for the Victorian healthcare system.

The **Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023** seeks to ensure that all Victorians enjoy the highest attainable standard of health, wellbeing and participation at every age. The production of this Plan is legislated for under the **Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008**.

The **Growing Suburbs Fund** will provide investment in critical local infrastructure for communities in Melbourne's growing outer suburbs.

The 2020/21 Victorian State Budget allocates funding for the **Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program** that will fast-track shovel-ready community sports infrastructure projects across Victoria.

The **Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28** guides planning and investment in cycling in the state.

Active Victoria – A Strategic Framework for Sport and Recreation in Victoria 2017-2021 provides a strategic framework for future work into Victoria's sports and active recreation sector.

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The Victorian Government's **Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund** will work with Metropolitan Melbourne's hospitals and health services to upgrade infrastructure to support the delivery of new or enhanced services to patients.

The **Suburban Revitalisation program** facilitates the delivery of urban renewal in metropolitan activity centres experiencing economic transition and/or significant levels of disadvantage. The Program is centred on a partnership between State agencies, local councils and regional stakeholders to accelerate the development and delivery of local infrastructure upgrades, small business stimulus initiatives and community connectedness activities.

The **Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2018-2023** (the VAAF) is the Victorian Government's overarching framework for working with Aboriginal Victorians, organisations and the wider community to drive action and improve outcomes.

Sustainability and resilience

Sector and whole-of-government emission reduction pledges will help achieve the Victorian Government's target of net-zero emissions by 2050.

The **Climate Change Act 2017** provides Victoria with a world-leading legislative foundation to manage climate change risks, maximise the opportunities that arise from decisive action, and drive our transition to a climate resilient community and economy with net-zero emissions by 2050.

Adaption Action Plans (Climate Change Act 2017) will help build the state's resilience and help Victorians plan for the inevitable impacts of climate change.

Victoria's Climate Change Strategy (2021) has a range of specific measures to support the uptake of renewable energy in businesses, industry and homes. It includes further reforms to drive greater energy efficiency of electrical appliances, lighting and air-conditioning/heating equipment and to improve the thermal performance of new buildings. Transport emissions will be reduced by accelerating Victoria's transition to zero emissions vehicles, improving public transport and investing more in cycling and walking options. The Strategy will also support the circular economy reforms to Victoria's waste management system contained in the Recycling Victoria action plan, *Recycling Victoria: A New Economy*.

The Victorian Budget 2020/21 delivered a landmark \$2 billion for the **Breakthrough Victoria Fund** to drive translation and commercialisation of knowledge in Victoria. The Clean Economy is one of the five key sectors the Fund will prioritise.

The Victorian Budget 2020/21 also provided funding for clean energy transition initiatives, including establishing renewable energy zones to develop and deliver renewable energy projects.

The **Victorian Climate Projections 2019 Technical Report** describes how the regional climate of Victoria is likely to respond to global warming with different scenarios of human greenhouse gas emissions.

The **Cooler, Greener Melbourne project** will create more liveable and climate-adapted communities through green infrastructure and other cooling and greening initiatives. Tree planning on public land will create a cooler and greener Melbourne as part of **Melbourne Water's Urban Cooling Program**. The program includes changes to planning schemes to protect and strengthen the urban forest.

Living Melbourne: Our Urban Forest Strategy (2019) is a strategy for a greener, more liveable Melbourne, developed by Nature Conservancy and Resilient Melbourne.

The **Melbourne Strategic Assessment** program manages the impact of urban development on significant vegetation communities, plants and animals in Melbourne's growth areas.

The **Victorian Water and Climate Initiative** supports research into the impacts of climate change and climate variability on Victoria's water resources. Additional investments will be made to enhance the scientific understanding of Victoria's climate and provide authoritative data and information on climate change to the community.

Integrated Water Management Framework for Victoria provides a collaborative approach to the way we plan for and manage all elements of the water cycle, including the health of waterways and bays, wastewater management, alternative and potable water supply, stormwater management and water treatment. In the Northern Metro Region these apply to the Yarra, Maribyrnong and Sunbury catchments.

The 2019/20 Victorian Budget includes funding to extend protections for waterways in Melbourne's west and to continue to improve management of the Yarra River.

The **Our Water Future for the Upper Merri Creeks Communities** project will develop an integrated water management plan for the Upper Merri Creek sub-catchment.

The **Renewable Energy (Jobs and Investment) Act 2017** legislates an increase of the Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET) to 50 per cent by 2030.

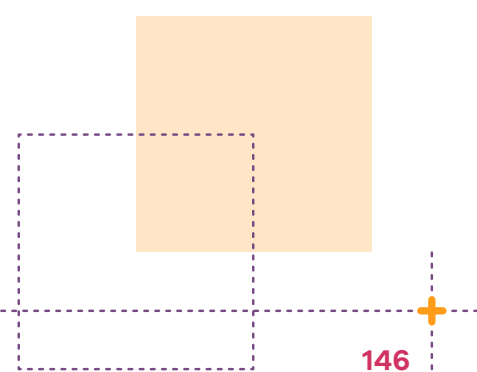
The **Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan 2018 (SWRRIP)** guides future planning for waste and resource recovery infrastructure to achieve an integrated system.

The **Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan** brings together the statewide priorities set out in the SWRRIP and applies them within the metropolitan context.

The **Recycling Industry Strategic Plan** transitions Victoria's recycling industry to a more sustainable and resilient model.

Recycling Victoria: A New Economy outlines a plan for reform to establish a recycling system that Victorians can rely on and transforms how our economy uses materials and how our state reuses, repairs and recycles.

The 2020/21 Victorian State Budget allocates funding for the 10-year Recycling Victoria action plan, **Recycling Victoria: A New Economy** to transform Victoria's recycling sector and develop a circular economy.



APPENDIX 02

APPENDIX 02

HOUSING CHOICE

SUPPORTING DATA

TABLE A2-1. Major housing redevelopment completed in the Northern Metro Region in and within 400m of activity centres (2005-2018) and in the redevelopment pipeline

ACTIVITY CENTRE	MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT COMPLETED 2005-2016*		MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT COMPLETED 2017-2018*		MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT PIPELINE*	
	In centre	Within 400m of centre	In centre	Within 400m of centre	In centre	Within 400m of centre
Airport West	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0
Beveridge**	0	0	0	0	0	0
Broadmeadows	84	109	0	10	76	0
Brunswick	3770	491	1727	272	3107	660
Craigieburn	0	0	0	13	0	14
Coburg	313	326	67	280	1883	85
Craigieburn Town Centre	444	85	0	219	0	0
Diamond Creek	0	115	0	16	0	10
Eltham	0	56	30	0	208	17
Gladstone Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Glenroy	28	0	12	23	11	26
Greensborough	36	13	36	10	75	32
Heidelberg	426	111	580	48	1651	221
Ivanhoe	346	0	334	14	428	146
Moonee Ponds	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0
Mernda	0	1001	0	0	0	10
Northcote	499	237	376	115	341	82
Preston, High Street	421	437	266	194	1069	395
Preston, Northland	0	36	0	12	182	152
Reservoir	82	48	56	0	63	60

APPENDIX 02

ACTIVITY CENTRE	MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT COMPLETED 2005-2016*		MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT COMPLETED 2017-2018*		MAJOR HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT PIPELINE*	
	In centre	Within 400m of centre	In centre	Within 400m of centre	In centre	Within 400m of centre
Roxburgh Park	109	22	0	0	0	54
South Morang	214	932	126	15	293	114
Sunbury	17	182	10	22	23	79
Wallan**	0	29	0	0	0	0

* Major development is defined as developments with over 10 dwellings

** Emerging activity centres in growth areas. Redevelopment data does not cover these areas

Note: Dwelling numbers are calculated based on constructed not net additions dwellings.

Note: Pipeline refers to projects that are: under construction, have a planning permit, have had pre application meetings, or being sold off the plan.

Note: 400m activity centre buffer may be in multiple metro Regions.

Source: Housing Development Data 2016, Urban Development Program – Redevelopment 2018, Urban Development Program – Redevelopment 2019

GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY

Where the term is defined in Plan Melbourne or the Victoria Planning Provisions, that definition is used.

Aboriginal	Aboriginal refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. They may have connections in and outside of Victoria.
Active transport	Transport requiring physical activity, typically walking and cycling.
Activity centres	Areas that provide a focus for services, employment, housing, transport and social interaction. They range in size and intensity of use from smaller neighbourhood centres to major suburban centres and larger metropolitan centres.
Affordable housing	Housing that is appropriate for the needs of a range of very low to moderate income households, and priced (whether mortgage repayments or rent) so these households are able to meet their other essential basic living costs.
Agglomeration	The location of businesses in close proximity to each other, which allows them to get productivity and efficiency gains through large customer bases, knowledge sharing and access to skilled workers.
Biodiversity	The variety of all life forms, the different plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain and the ecosystems of which they form a part.
Central Business District (CBD)	Melbourne's original 'Hoddle Grid' street layout bounded by the Yarra River, Spring Street, La Trobe Street and Spencer Street, as well as the triangular area to the north bounded by Victoria, Peel and La Trobe streets.
Central City	The area within the inner metro region that contains key capital city functions and civic facilities, as well as several precincts identified for major and strategic change. The Central City incorporates the CBD (Hoddle Grid, north to Grattan Street between Peel and Swanston streets) as well as Docklands, Southbank and St Kilda Road.
Climate change	A long-term change of the earth's temperature and weather patterns – generally attributed directly or indirectly to human activities such as fossil fuel combustion and vegetation clearing and burning.
Commercial land	Land used for commercial purposes including land used for business services, retail, accommodation, food and other industries.
Creative industry	Media, digital screen, design, writing and publishing, literature, fashion, performing arts, digital games development, broadcasting, music, cultural heritage, arts, education and craft industries.
Enterprise precincts	Precincts that facilitate the creation and commercialisation of new ideas and support metropolitan economies by growing jobs in ways that leverage their distinct economic attributes. These districts build on and revalue the intrinsic qualities of cities: proximity, density, authenticity, and vibrant places. (Brookings Institute definition)

GLOSSARY

Eastern Metro Region	Includes the LGAs of Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse, Yarra Ranges.
Established urban areas	Areas of Melbourne that have been urbanised for at least several decades.
Green wedges	Defined under Part 3AA of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> as “land that is described in a metropolitan fringe planning scheme as being outside an urban growth boundary”. There are 12 defined green wedges spanning parts of 17 municipalities.
Greenfield land	Undeveloped land identified for residential or industrial/commercial development, generally on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne.
Greenhouse gas emissions	Atmospheric gas that absorbs and emits infrared or heat radiation, giving rise to the greenhouse effect. Typical greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and refrigerants.
Greyfield	Residential areas where the building stock is near or has ended its useful life and land values make redevelopment attractive.
Gross regional product (GRP)	Gross regional product is a measure of the market value of all final goods and services produced in a region over a period of time.
Growth areas	Locations on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne designated in planning schemes for large-scale transformation, over many years, from rural to urban use.
Growth corridor plans	<p>The growth corridor plans are high level integrated land use and transport plans that provide a strategy for the development of Melbourne’s growth corridors over the coming decades.</p> <p>The growth corridor plans focus on three metropolitan growth corridors: Northern, Western and South Eastern growth corridors. They identify broad transport networks, industrial and employment areas, residential areas and recreation precincts across the city’s newest metropolitan suburbs. Relevant information from the growth corridor plans have been integrated into the LUFs containing growth corridors.</p>
Health and education precincts	Locations to cluster synergistic health and/or education services to improve access to integrated service provision, improve outcomes, develop the health and education workforce and deliver economic benefits (such as innovation and job creation). These precincts may provide solely health, solely education, or a combination of health and education services.
Hoddle Grid	The grid pattern of streets making up Melbourne’s CBD bounded by the Yarra River, Spring Street, La Trobe Street and Spencer Street, as well as the triangular area to the north bounded by Victoria, Peel and La Trobe streets. The grid was designed by Robert Hoddle in 1837.
Housing density	The number of dwellings in an urban area divided by the area of the residential land they occupy, expressed as dwellings per hectare.
Hybrid centre	A descriptor for an activity centre typology that contains a mixed arrangement of freestanding / enclosed shopping complexes and traditional open air strip-based commercial land.

GLOSSARY

Infill	Development of unused or underutilised land in existing urban areas.
Infrastructure	Basic facilities and networks needed for the functioning of a local community or broader society.
Integrated water management (IWM)	An approach to planning that brings together all facets of the water cycle including sewage management, water supply, stormwater management and water treatment, ensuring environmental, economic and social benefits.
Inner Metro Region	Includes the LGAs of Melbourne, Port Phillip and Yarra.
Inner South East Metro Region	Includes the LGAs of Boroondara, Glen Eira, Stonnington and Bayside.
Intermodal freight terminal	A location for the transfer of freight from one transport mode to another, for example between road and rail.
Knowledge-based industries and jobs	Production and services based on knowledge-intensive activities that contribute to an accelerated pace of technical and scientific advancement. Their key characteristic is a greater reliance on intellectual capabilities than on physical inputs or natural resources.
Liveability	A measure of a city's residential quality of life, used to benchmark cities around the world. It includes socioeconomic, environmental, transport and recreational measures.
Localised planning statement	Long-term policies for the future planning and development of areas identified as having significance to the broader Victorian community.
Major activity centres	Suburban centres that provide access to a wide range of goods and services. They have different attributes and provide different functions, with some serving larger sub-regional catchments. Plan Melbourne identifies 121 major activity centres.
Metropolitan activity centres	Higher-order centres with diverse employment options, services and housing stock, supported by good transport connections. Existing centres include Box Hill, Broadmeadows, Dandenong, Epping, Footscray, Fountain Gate/ Narre Warren, Frankston, Ringwood and Sunshine. Future centres will include Lockerbie and Toolern.
Metropolitan Melbourne	The 31 municipalities that make up metropolitan Melbourne, plus part of Mitchell Shire within the Urban Growth Boundary.
Moderate income household	Annual household income within the income range specified as a moderate range by Order under section 3AB of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> . In 2020 this was \$87,671 to \$131,500 for a family (with one or two parents) and dependent children.
National employment and innovation clusters (NEIC)	Designated concentrations of employment distinguished by a strong core of nationally significant knowledge sector businesses and institutions that make a major contribution to the national economy and Melbourne's position in the global economy.

GLOSSARY

Natural hazard	A natural event that has potential to cause harm to people, property or the environment, including climate change, bushfire, flooding and sea level rise.
Neighbourhood activity centres	Local centres that provide access to local goods, services and employment opportunities and serve the needs of the surrounding community.
Northern Metro Region	Includes the LGAs of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Mitchell (part), Moreland, Nillumbik and Whittlesea.
Open space	Includes land reserved for natural landscape, parklands, recreation and active sports, as well as waterways and bays.
Peri-urban areas	Areas beyond the green wedges made up of local government areas with a predominantly rural character, located all or partially within a 100-kilometre radius of Melbourne.
Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs)	Master plans for future growth corridor developments, informed by growth corridor planning. The plans identify alignments of transport routes, town centres, open space networks, densities of residential areas, and areas for industry and employment.
Primary healthcare	Primary healthcare is generally the first contact a person has with Australia's health system. It relates to the treatment of patients who are not admitted to hospital. It encompasses a wide range of health professionals and includes general practitioners, community nurses, midwives, pharmacists, dentists, and Aboriginal health workers, for example.
Principal Freight Network (PFN)	Part of the larger transport network over which the movement of heavy freight will be concentrated.
Principal Public Transport Network (PPTN)	A statutory land use planning tool that supports integrated land use and transport planning by providing certainty to land use planners and developers around locations that are and will be served by high-quality public transport.
Regional active open spaces	Large scale open spaces that cater for a range of recreational opportunities including informal outdoor recreation, active recreation and sports. Regional active open spaces serve a broad catchment and may comprise buildings and infrastructure to facilitate sporting or recreational activity.
Regional parks	Regional parks are large areas of open space that feature natural or semi-natural surroundings in close proximity to urban environments. They have high landscape, biodiversity and cultural values and provide a diversity of passive recreational, educational or tourism opportunities.
Regional Victoria	Includes all municipalities outside metropolitan Melbourne (except part of Mitchell Shire within the Urban Growth Boundary).

GLOSSARY

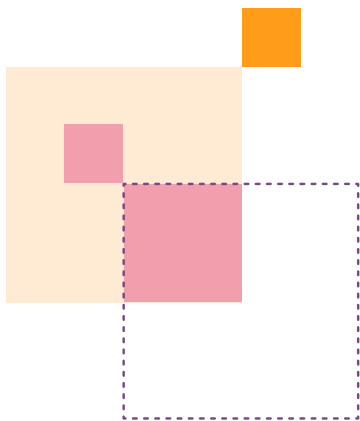
<p>Regionally-significant industrial precincts (RSIP)</p>	<p>Key industrial areas that contribute significantly to local and regional economies. Some of these areas are well established and support a range of industrial uses while others are transitioning and supporting new uses. They include future employment areas identified through growth corridor plans that will support not just employment growth in outer areas, but to also meet Melbourne’s longer term industrial and logistics needs. They are to be retained and planned for to allow a range of industrial uses, or where appropriate, new and emerging businesses that require access to affordable and well-located employment land.</p>
<p>Renewable energy</p>	<p>Energy that comes from resources which are naturally replenished on a human timescale such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, and geothermal heat.</p>
<p>Resilience</p>	<p>The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, systems and infrastructure to survive, adapt and grow, no matter what chronic stresses or shocks they encounter.</p>
<p>Resource recovery</p>	<p>Extraction of useful material or energy from a waste stream.</p>
<p>Social housing</p>	<p>A type of rental housing that is provided and/or managed by the government or by a not-for-profit organisation. Social housing is an overarching term that covers both public housing and community housing.</p>
<p>Social infrastructure</p>	<p>Encompasses all the facilities, services and networks that help families, groups and communities to meet their social, health, education, cultural and community needs.</p>
<p>Southern Metro Region</p>	<p>Includes the LGAs of Cardinia, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Kingston and Mornington Peninsula.</p>
<p>State-significant industrial precincts (SSIP)</p>	<p>Strategically located land available for major industrial development linked to the Principal Freight Network and transport gateways. They will be protected from incompatible land uses to allow continual growth in freight, logistics and manufacturing investment.</p>
<p>Strategic Cycling Corridors (SCC)</p>	<p>Strategic Cycling Corridors are important transport routes for cycling and are a subset of the Principal Bicycle Network (PBN). The SCC network supports the needs of commuter trips (to work or education) and other important trips, such as to stations, shops or schools.</p> <p>The SCC network links up important destinations, including central Melbourne city, employment and activity centres, and other destinations of metropolitan and regional significance.</p> <p>SCCs can be on and off road, on municipal and state roads and are designed to provide a safe, lower-stress cycling for transport experience.</p>
<p>Strategic Extractive Resource Area (SERA)</p>	<p>Recognised and secured extractive resource areas of strategic importance for the construction of public infrastructure, affordable housing and private sector development now and in the future.</p> <p>They cover extractive resources that actually and/or potentially occur in defined locations at various scales based on their likelihood or potential to supply growth areas, taking into account accessibility to markets, while minimising impacts on environment and other land use constraints.</p>

GLOSSARY

Traditional Owners	People who, through membership of a descent group or clan, are responsible for caring for particular Country. A Traditional Owner is authorised to speak for Country and its heritage as a senior Traditional Owner, an Elder or, in more recent times, a registered native title claimant.
Transit-oriented development	Compact, walkable, mixed-use communities centred around high-quality train systems. Transit-oriented development assists in addressing the growing problems of climate change and global energy security by creating dense, walkable communities that greatly reduce the need for driving and energy consumption.
Transport gateway	Ports, airports and interstate terminals that serve as key locations for moving passengers and freight into and out of Victoria and also play a significant economic and employment-generating role.
20-minute neighbourhoods hallmarks	The 'hallmarks' are established in Plan Melbourne's Direction 5.1 — <i>Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods</i> . The 'hallmarks' developed in partnership with the Department of Health and the Heart Foundation (Victoria) are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be safe, accessible and well connected for pedestrians and cyclists to optimise active transport • offer high-quality public realm and open spaces • provide services and destinations that support local living • facilitate access to quality public transport that connects people to jobs and higher-order services • deliver housing/population at densities that make local services and transport viable • facilitate thriving local economies.
Urban forest	All of the trees and other vegetation in a city as well as the soil and water that supports it.
Urban Development Program (UDP)	The Urban Development Program (UDP) provides an annual assessment of supply and consumption of industrial and residential land across metropolitan Melbourne.
Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)	A management tool to contain urban areas and limit their expansion. It divides land that is urban – to be used for housing, shops, factories – from land that is nonurban and to be used for purposes such as conservation, agriculture, mineral extraction, airports and the like. A UGB encourages urban consolidation and protects valued non-urban areas from urban development.
Urban renewal	The process of planning and redeveloping underutilised medium and large-scale urban areas, precincts or sites for mixed land use purposes.
Very low income household	Annual household income within the income range specified as a very low income range under section 3AB of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> . In 2020 this was up to \$26,090 for a single adult.
Western Metro Region	Includes the municipalities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham.

GLOSSARY

Water sensitive urban design (WSUD)	Integrating the urban water cycle into urban design to minimise environmental damage and improve recreational and aesthetic outcomes.
Wallan SA2	Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2) are medium-sized general purpose areas established by the ABS that represent a community that interacts together socially and economically. The Wallan SA2 is larger than the area in Mitchell within the Urban Growth Boundary and generally follows the municipal boundary west of Wallan and extends north of Wandong and east into Kinglake National Park.
Yarra River Land	Crown and State owned land within 500 metres of the Yarra River declared under the <i>Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act 2017</i> . The declaration provides additional protection to this land. Yarra River Land that is used for public recreation forms the Greater Yarra Urban Parklands.



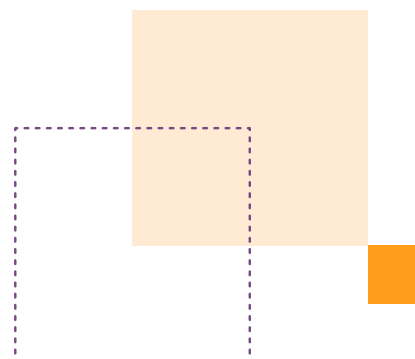
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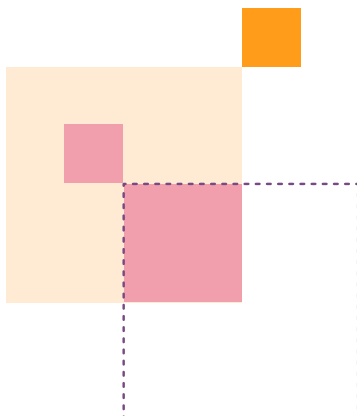
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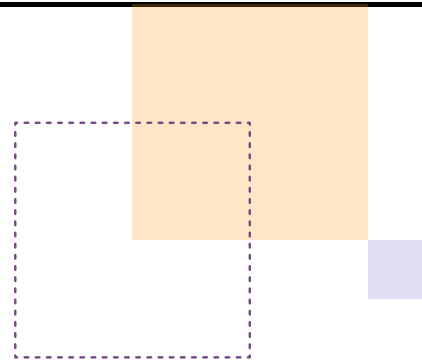
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Map 1: Northern Metro Region 2050 Plan

Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Metropolitan activity centre
- Metropolitan activity centre (future)
- Major activity centre
- Major activity centre (future)
- Housing investigation area
- Health precinct (state)
- Education precinct (state)
- Health & education precinct (regional)
- Health precinct (regional)
- Education precinct (regional)
- State-significant industrial precinct - existing
- State-significant industrial precinct - future
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
- Urban renewal area

Transport

- Transport Gateway - Airport
- Interstate Freight Terminal (Indicative)
- Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and Potential
- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Potential station
- Rail network
- Tram network
- Suburban Rail Loop**
- SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
- SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
- SRL - interchange station
- SRL - station

Transport projects - committed

- Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
- Melbourne Airport Rail
- North East Link
- Level crossing removal site

Transport projects - potential future

- Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 reservation

Environment

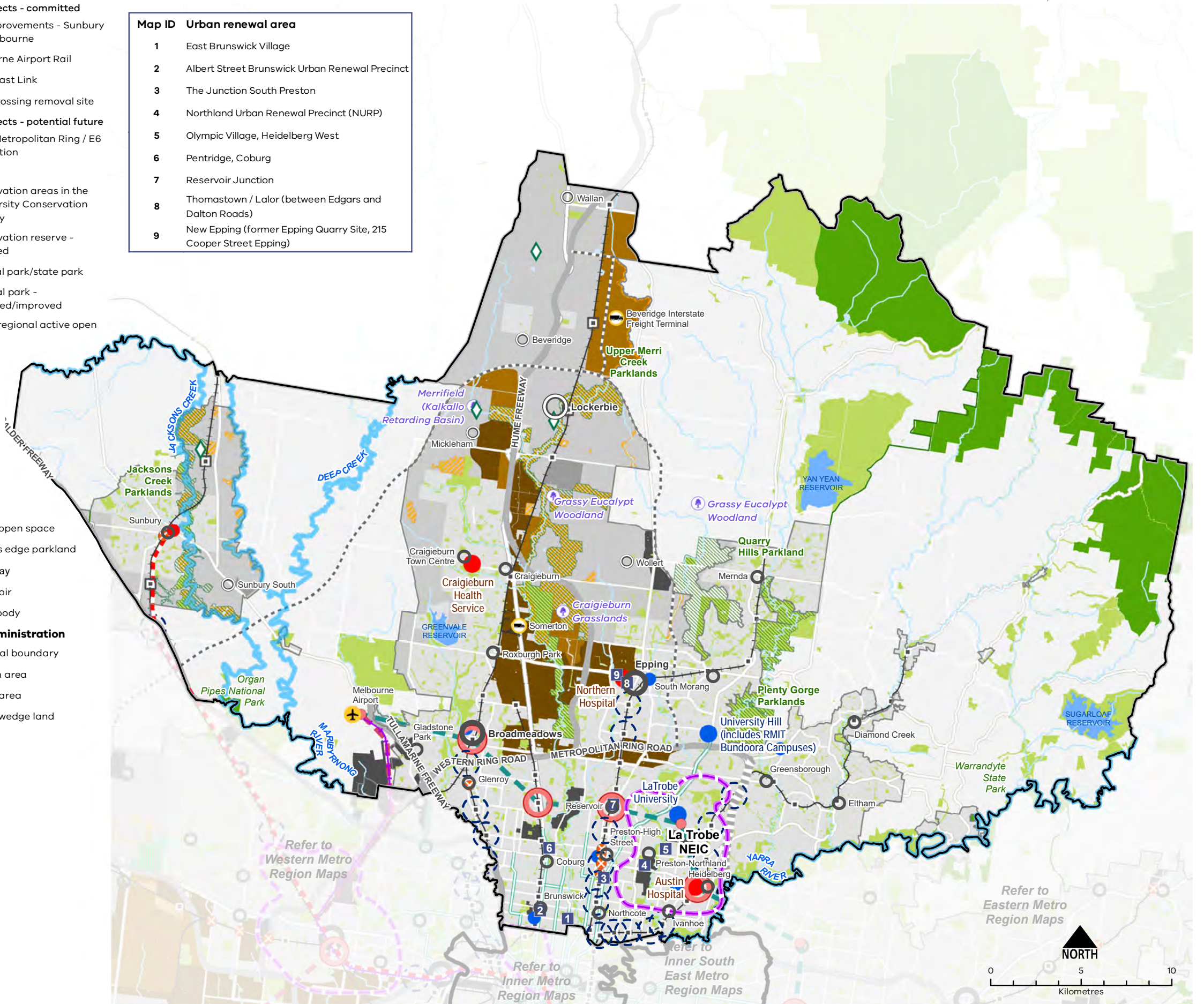
- Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
- Conservation reserve - proposed
- National park/state park
- Regional park - expanded/improved
- Future regional active open space

- Public open space
- Water's edge parkland
- Waterway
- Reservoir
- Waterbody

Land use Administration

- Regional boundary
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Green wedge land

Map ID	Urban renewal area
1	East Brunswick Village
2	Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct
3	The Junction South Preston
4	Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP)
5	Olympic Village, Heidelberg West
6	Pentridge, Coburg
7	Reservoir Junction
8	Thomastown / Lalor (between Edgars and Dalton Roads)
9	New Epping (former Epping Quarry Site, 215 Cooper Street Epping)



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.

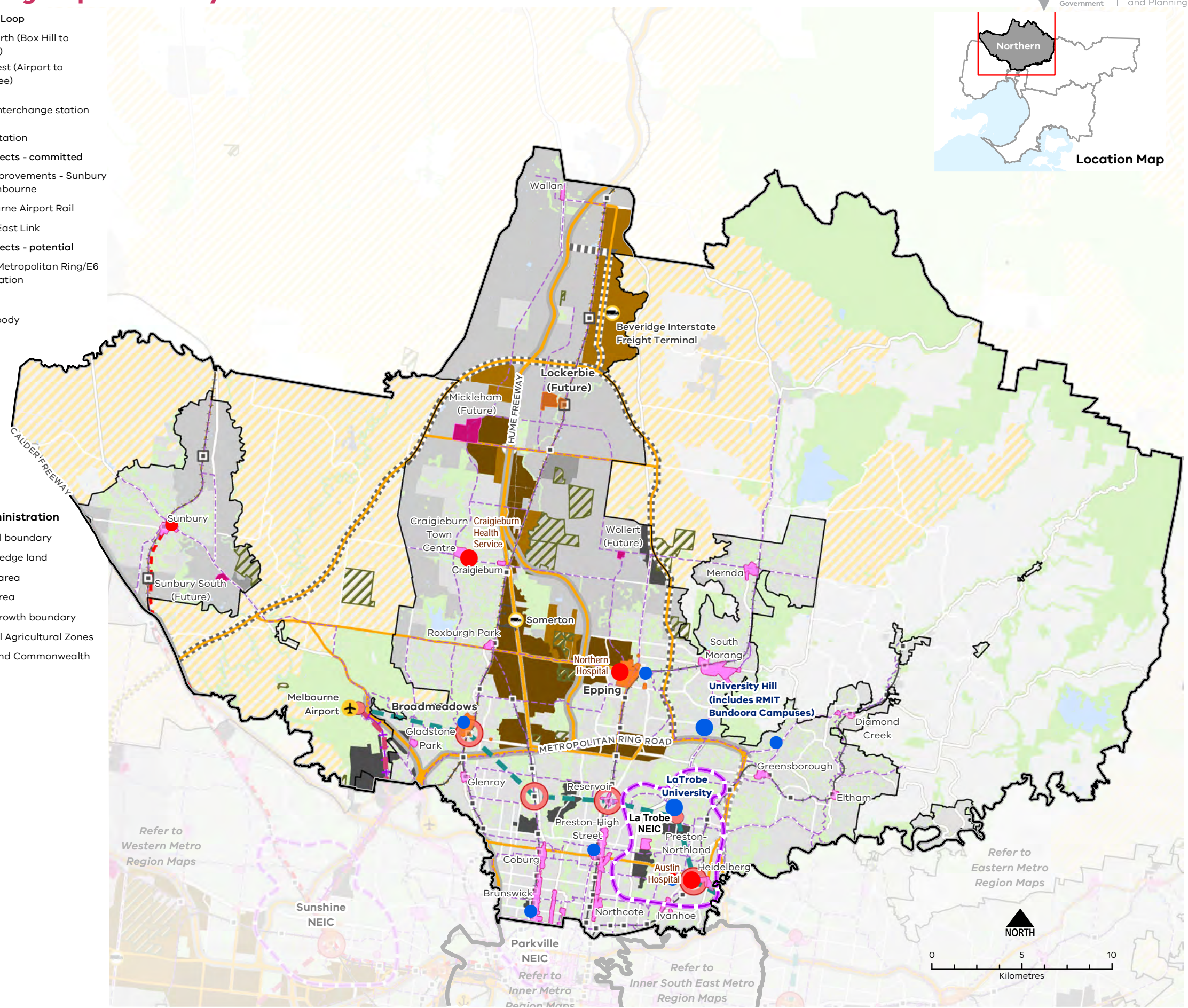
Note: Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.



Map 2: Northern Metro Region productivity 2050



- Precincts and Activity Centres**
 - National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
 - Health precinct (state)
 - Education precinct (state)
 - Health & education precinct (regional)
 - Health precinct (regional)
 - Education precinct (regional)
 - State-significant commercial land*
 - State-significant commercial land - future*
 - Regionally-significant commercial land*
 - Regionally-significant commercial land - future*
 - State-significant industrial precinct - existing
 - State-significant industrial precinct - future
 - Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
 - Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
 - Extractive Industry (temporary land use)
- Suburban Rail Loop**
 - SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
 - SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
 - SRL - interchange station
 - SRL - station
- Transport projects - committed**
 - Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
 - Melbourne Airport Rail
 - North East Link
- Transport projects - potential**
 - Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 Reservation
- Environment**
 - Waterbody
- Transport**
 - Transport Gateway - Airport
 - Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
 - Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and Potential
 - State-significant road corridor
 - Road network
 - Potential station
 - Train station
 - Rail network
 - Strategic Cycling Corridor
- Principal Freight Network**
 - PFN road
 - PFN rail
- Land use/Administration**
 - Regional boundary
 - Green wedge land
 - Growth area
 - Urban area
 - Urban growth boundary
 - Principal Agricultural Zones
 - Public and Commonwealth Land



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MCLUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.

Note:
 The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.














Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.

Map 3: Northern Metro Region housing choice 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

-  National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
-  Walkable catchment - indicative*
-  Housing investigation area
-  State-significant commercial land*
-  State-significant commercial land (future)*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land*
-  Regionally-significant commercial land (future)*
-  Urban renewal area

Transport

-  Transport Gateway - Airport
-  State-significant road corridor
-  Road network
-  Train station
-  Rail network
- Principal Public Transport Network**
-  PPTN station
-  PPTN interchange
-  Bus
-  Tram
- Suburban Rail Loop**
-  SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
-  SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
-  SRL - interchange station
-  SRL - station

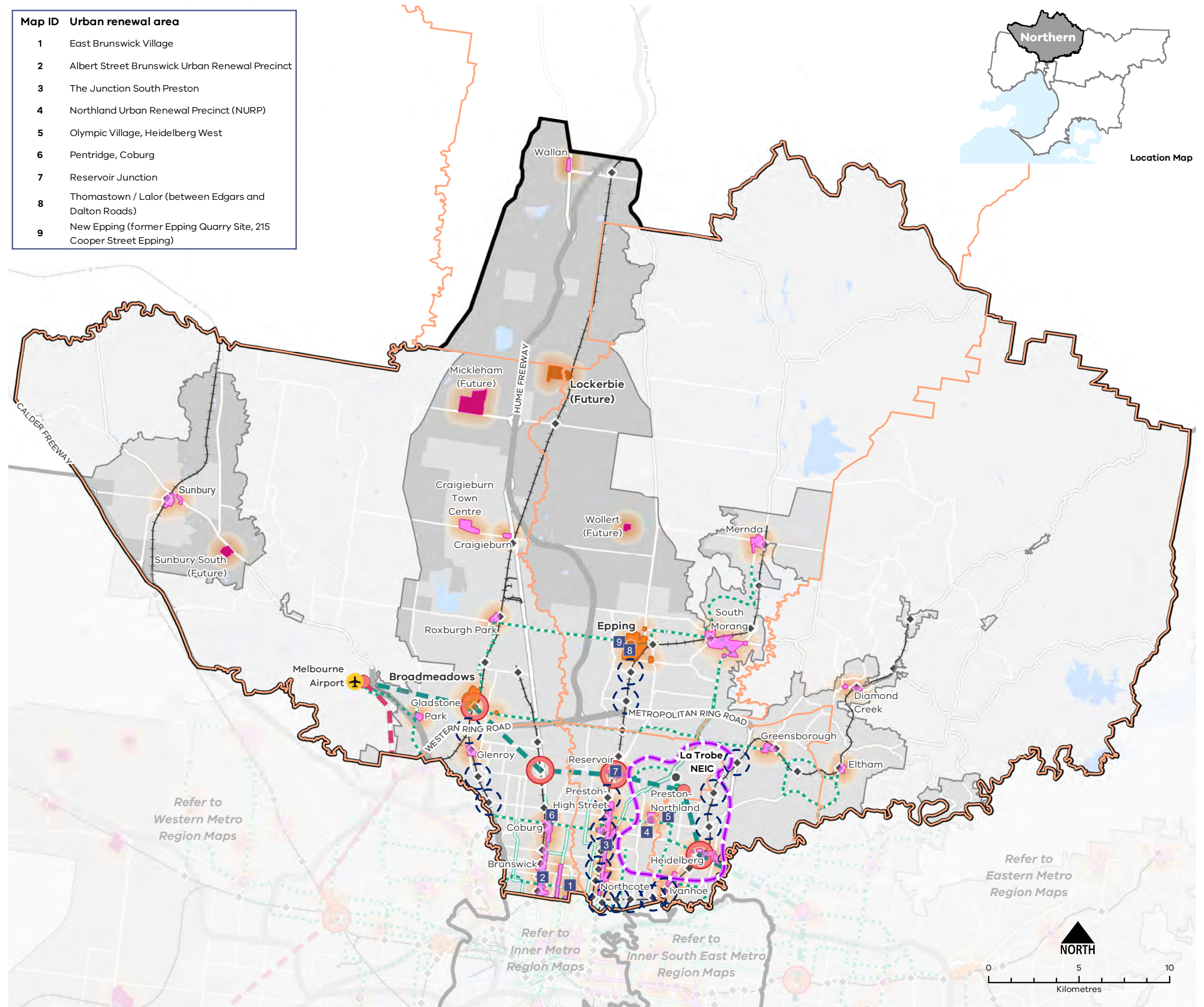
Environment

-  Waterbody

Land use/Administration

-  Regional boundary
-  Local government area boundary
-  Green wedge land
-  Growth area
-  Urban area
-  Urban growth boundary

Map ID	Urban renewal area
1	East Brunswick Village
2	Albert Street Brunswick Urban Renewal Precinct
3	The Junction South Preston
4	Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP)
5	Olympic Village, Heidelberg West
6	Pentridge, Coburg
7	Reservoir Junction
8	Thomastown / Lalor (between Edgars and Dalton Roads)
9	New Epping (former Epping Quarry Site, 215 Cooper Street Epping)



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MCLUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.
 *Residential zoned land in these locations suitable for medium- and higher-density housing, subject to the provisions of any local council planning scheme or adopted municipal housing strategy.

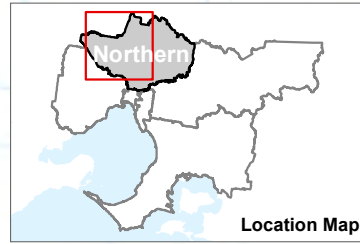
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Map 4: Northern Growth Corridor Plan

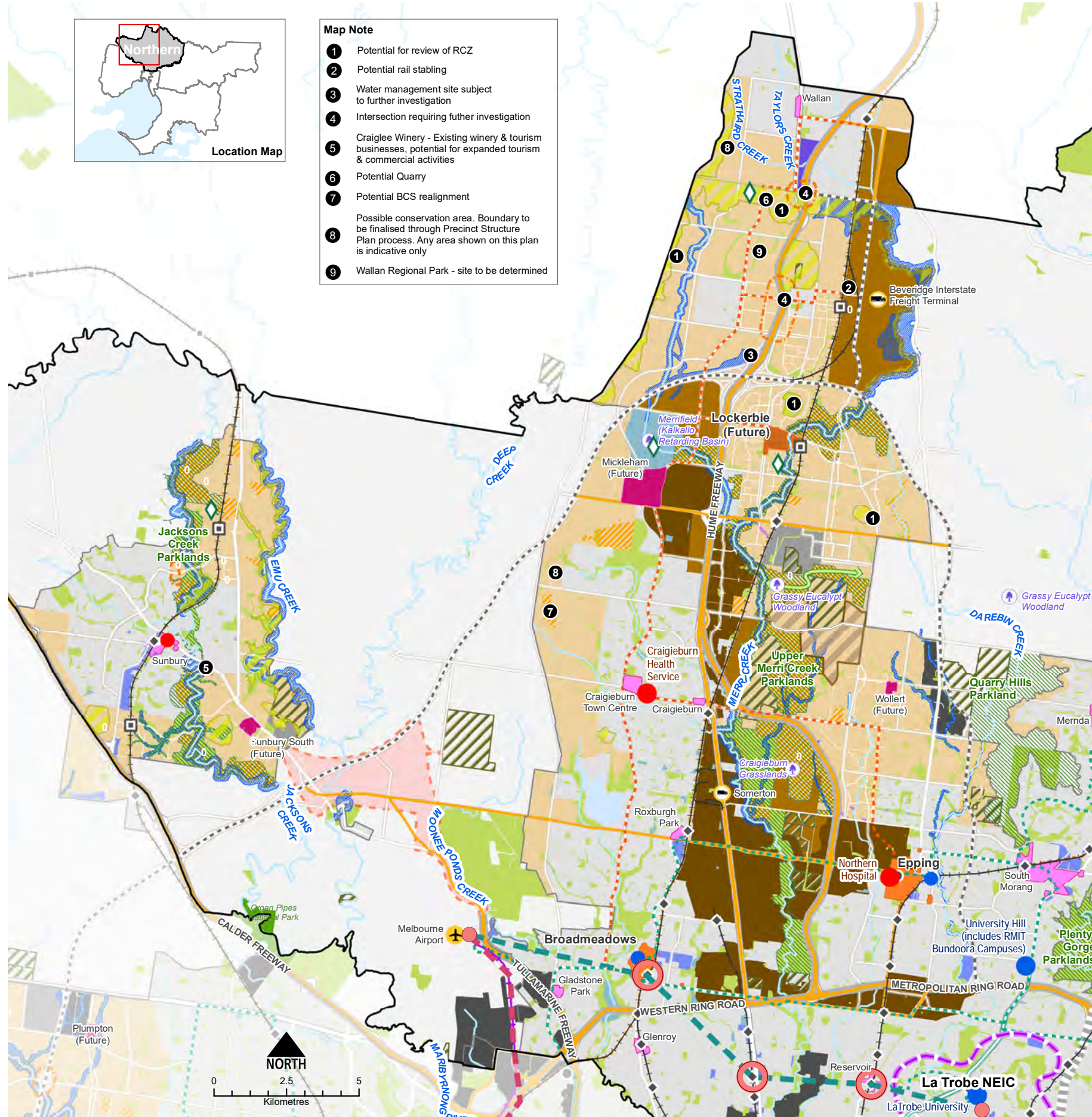


Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Health & education precinct (state)
- Health precinct (state)
- Education precinct (state)
- Health & education precinct (regional)
- Health precinct (regional)
- Education precinct (regional)
- State-significant commercial land*
- State-significant commercial land (future)*
- Regionally-significant commercial land*
- Regionally-significant commercial land (future)*
- State-significant industrial precinct - existing
- State-significant industrial precinct - future
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future
- Local industrial precinct - existing
- Local industrial precinct - future
- Emerging commercial area
- Extractive Industry (temporary land use)
- Transport Gateway - Airport
- Transport Gateway - Seaport
- Transport Gateway - possible Airport (indicative)
- Transport Gateway - possible Seaport (indicative)
- Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
- Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - existing and potential
- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network
- Committed station
- Potential station
- High capacity public transport
- Suburban Rail Loop - SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
- Suburban Rail Loop - SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
- SRL interchange station
- SRL station



- ### Map Note
- 1 Potential for review of RCZ
 - 2 Potential rail stabling
 - 3 Water management site subject to further investigation
 - 4 Intersection requiring further investigation
 - 5 Craiglee Winery - Existing winery & tourism businesses, potential for expanded tourism & commercial activities
 - 6 Potential Quarry
 - 7 Potential BCS realignment
 - 8 Possible conservation area. Boundary to be finalised through Precinct Structure Plan process. Any area shown on this plan is indicative only
 - 9 Wallan Regional Park - site to be determined



Principal Public Transport Network

- PPTN Station
- PPTN Interchange
- Bus
- Tram

Principal Freight Network

- PFN road
- PFN Rail

Transport projects - potential

- Outer Metropolitan Ring/E6 Reservation

Transport projects - committed

- Melbourne Airport Rail
- North East Link
- Rail stabling facility
- Investigation Area - link to Airport
- Investigation Area

Environment

- Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
- Future regional active open space
- Conservation reserve - emerging
- Conservation reserve - proposed
- National park / state park
- Public open space
- Potential Biodiversity Link
- Landscape values within growth corridor
- Ramsar Site
- Waterway corridor
- Waterway
- Waterbody
- Retarding basin

Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Green wedge land
- Urban area
- Emerging urban area
- Potential urban area
- Urban growth boundary
- Utilities

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state and regionally significant commercial land identified in MLCUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.
 Notes: The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to the Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.
 Inclusion of arterial roads in the plans does not indicate a commitment to funding or declaration as a state arterial road.
 Infrastructure items shown are indicative and will require further investigation.
 Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.

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Map 5: Northern Metro Region integrated transport state of play

Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Metropolitan activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Major activity centre (future)
- State-significant industrial precinct - existing
- State-significant industrial precinct - future
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future

Transport

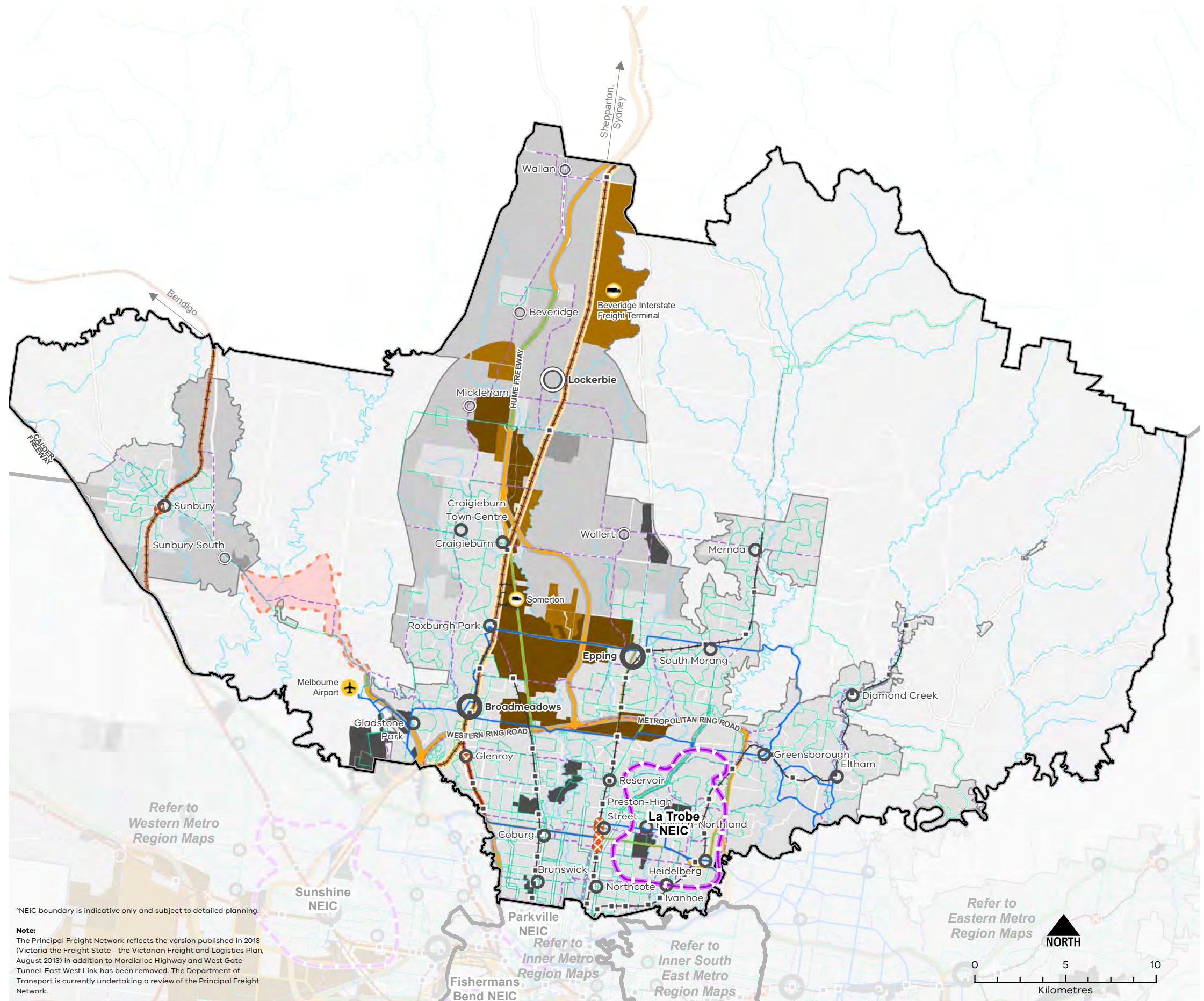
- Transport Gateway - Airport
- Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
- Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - existing and potential
- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network
- Interstate rail network
- Regional rail network
- Tram network
- Bus network
- High frequency bus network
- Strategic Cycling Corridor
- Investigation Area - Link to Airport
- Principal Freight Network**
- PFN road
- PFN rail
- Transport projects - committed**
- Level crossing removal site

Environment

- Waterway

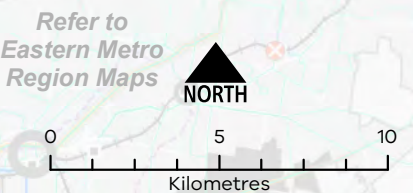
Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Green wedge land
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Urban growth boundary



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Map 6: Northern Metro Region integrated transport 2050



Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- State-significant commercial land*
- State-significant commercial land - future*
- Regionally-significant commercial land*
- Regionally-significant commercial land - future*
- State-significant industrial precinct - existing
- State-significant industrial precinct - future
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - existing
- Regionally-significant industrial precinct - future

Suburban Rail Loop

- SRL North (Box Hill to Airport)
- SRL West (Airport to Werribee)
- SRL - interchange station
- SRL - station

Transport projects - committed

- Rail improvements - Sunbury to Cranbourne
- Melbourne Airport Rail
- North East Link

Transport projects - potential future

- Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 reservation

Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Urban growth boundary
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Green wedge land

Transport

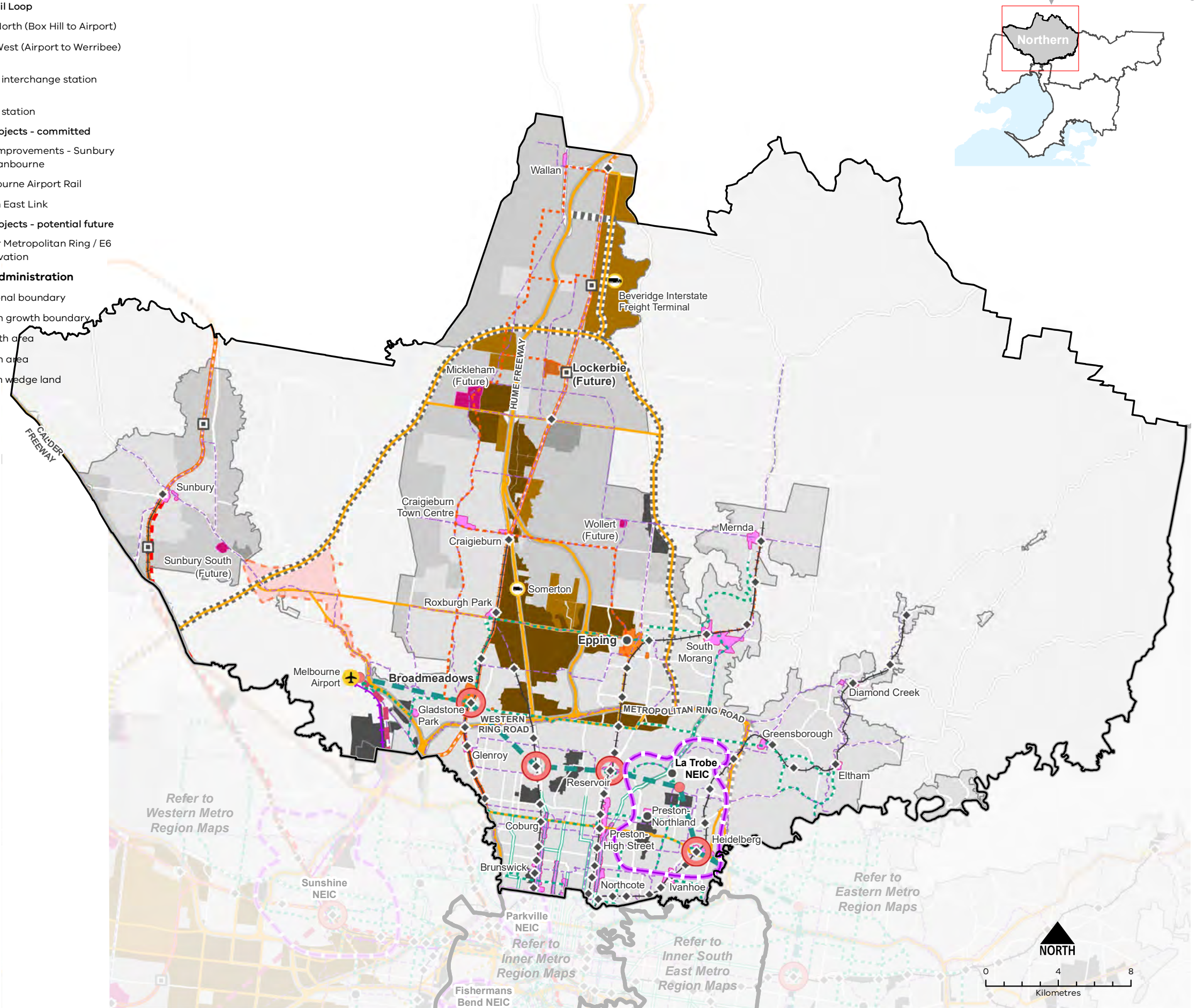
- Transport Gateway - Airport
- Interstate Freight Terminal (indicative)
- Other Intermodal Freight Terminal - Existing and potential
- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Potential station
- Rail network
- Regional rail network
- High capacity public transport
- Strategic cycling corridor
- Investigation Area - link to Airport

Principal public transport network

- PPTN station
- PPTN interchange
- Bus
- Tram

Principal freight network

- PFN road
- PFN rail



*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.
 *These layers are based on the state- and regionally-significant commercial land identified in MCLUP, 2019. The activity centre boundaries identified in local council planning schemes may differ.

Note:
 The Principal Freight Network reflects the version published in 2013 (Victoria the Freight State - the Victorian Freight and Logistics Plan, August 2013) in addition to Mordialloc Highway and West Gate Tunnel. East West Link has been removed. The Department of Transport is currently undertaking a review of the Principal Freight Network.

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Map 7: Northern Metro Region liveability 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

- Metropolitan activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Victorian Heritage Register Site
- Community/tourism site
- Areas of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity

Transport

- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network
- Strategic Cycling Corridor

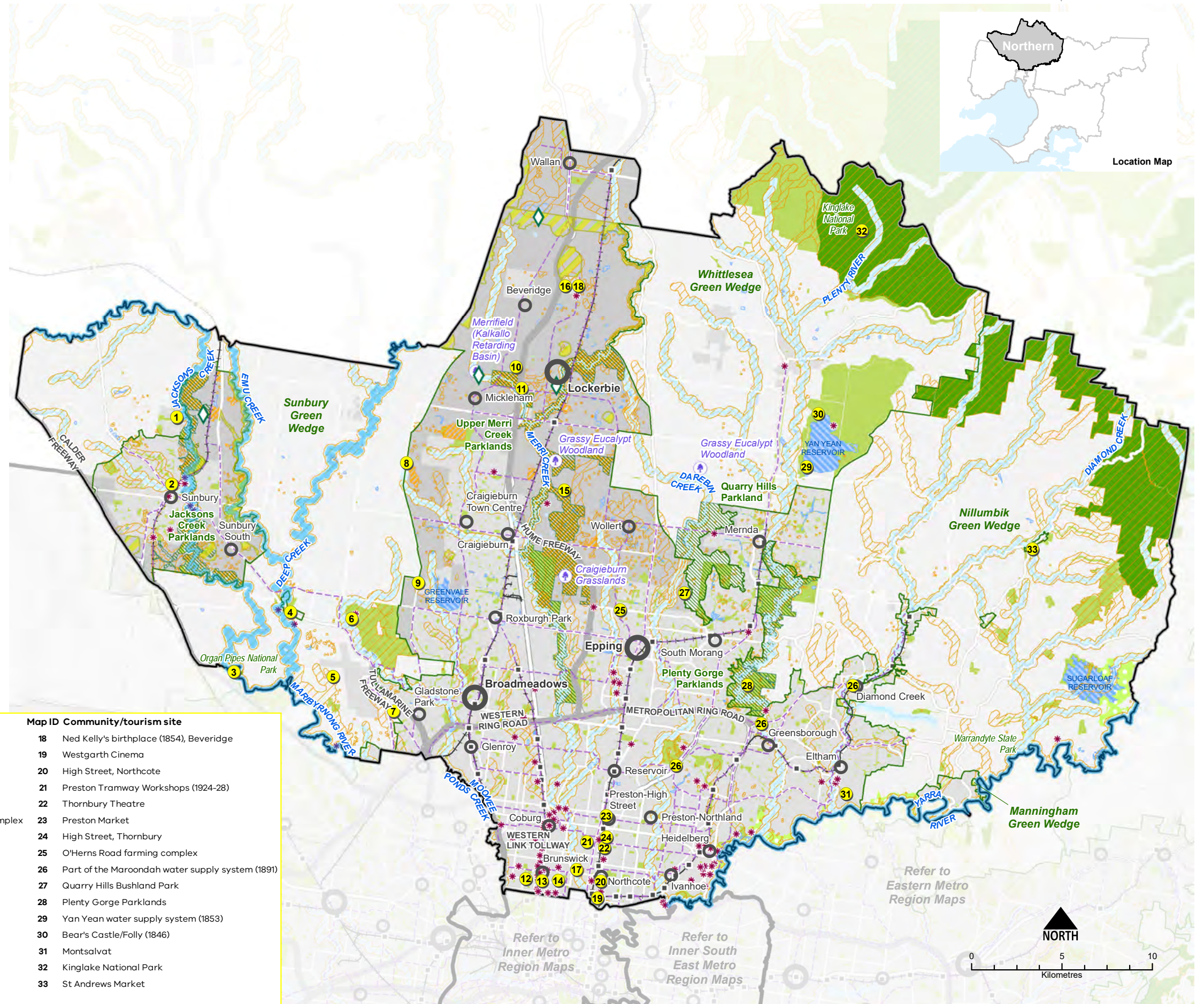
Environment

- Conservation areas in the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
- Conservation reserve - proposed
- National park/state park
- Regional park - expanded/improved
- Future regional active open space
- Public open space
- Yarra River land
- Landscape values within growth corridor
- Wetlands
- Water's edge parkland
- Waterway and waterway corridor
- Reservoir
- Waterbody

Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Green wedge land
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Urban growth boundary

Map ID	Community/tourism site	Map ID	Community/tourism site
1	Emu Bottom Homestead Sunbury	18	Ned Kelly's birthplace (1854), Beveridge
2	Rupertswood Mansion	19	Westgarth Cinema
3	Organ Pipes National Park	20	High Street, Northcote
4	Alistair Clarke Rose Garden Bulla	21	Preston Tramway Workshops (1924-28)
5	Melbourne Airport	22	Thornbury Theatre
6	Woodlands Historic Park and Homestead Complex	23	Preston Market
7	Urbsurf Surf Park, Tullamarine	24	High Street, Thornbury
8	Mickleham State School No. 1051	25	O'Herns Road farming complex
9	Mickleham former post office	26	Part of the Maroondah water supply system (1891)
10	Victoria Bridge, Kalkallo	27	Quarry Hills Bushland Park
11	St John's Presbyterian Church, Kalkallo	28	Plenty Gorge Parklands
12	Sydney Road, Brunswick	29	Yan Yean water supply system (1853)
13	Mechanics Institute, Brunswick	30	Bear's Castle/Folly (1846)
14	Lygon Street, Brunswick	31	Montsalvat
15	Summerhill Homestead and Outbuildings	32	Kinglake National Park
16	Former Catholic church, Beveridge	33	St Andrews Market
17	CERES Community Environment Park		



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Map 8: Northern Metro Region strong communities 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Metropolitan activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Health precinct (state)
- Education precinct (state)
- Health & education precinct (regional)
- Health precinct (regional)
- Education precinct (regional)
- Major recreational facility
- Regional recreational facility

Transport

- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network
- Strategic Cycling Corridor
- Principal Public Transport Network**
- PPTN station
- PPTN interchange
- Bus
- Tram

Environment

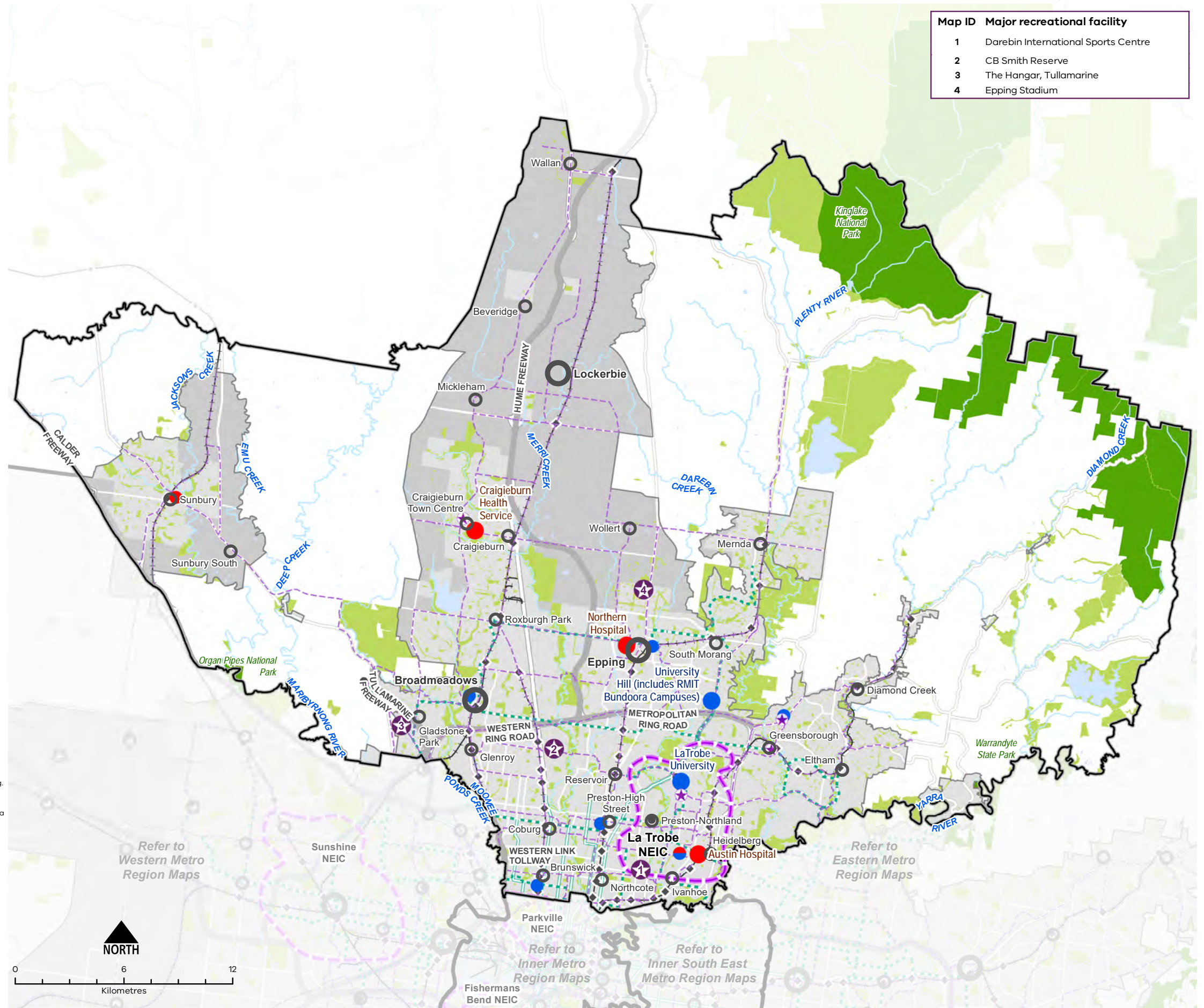
- National park/state park
- Public open space
- Waterway
- Waterbody

Land use/Administration

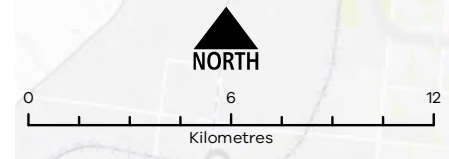
- Regional boundary
- Urban growth boundary
- Growth area
- Urban area

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.

Note: Regional health precincts are also identified for the new Whittlesea and Eltham Community Hospitals, locations yet to be determined.



Map ID	Major recreational facility
1	Darebin International Sports Centre
2	CB Smith Reserve
3	The Hangar, Tullamarine
4	Epping Stadium



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Map 9: Northern Metro Region sustainability and resilience state of play

Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Metropolitan activity centre
- Metropolitan activity centre (future)
- Major activity centre
- Major activity centre (future)

Transport

- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network

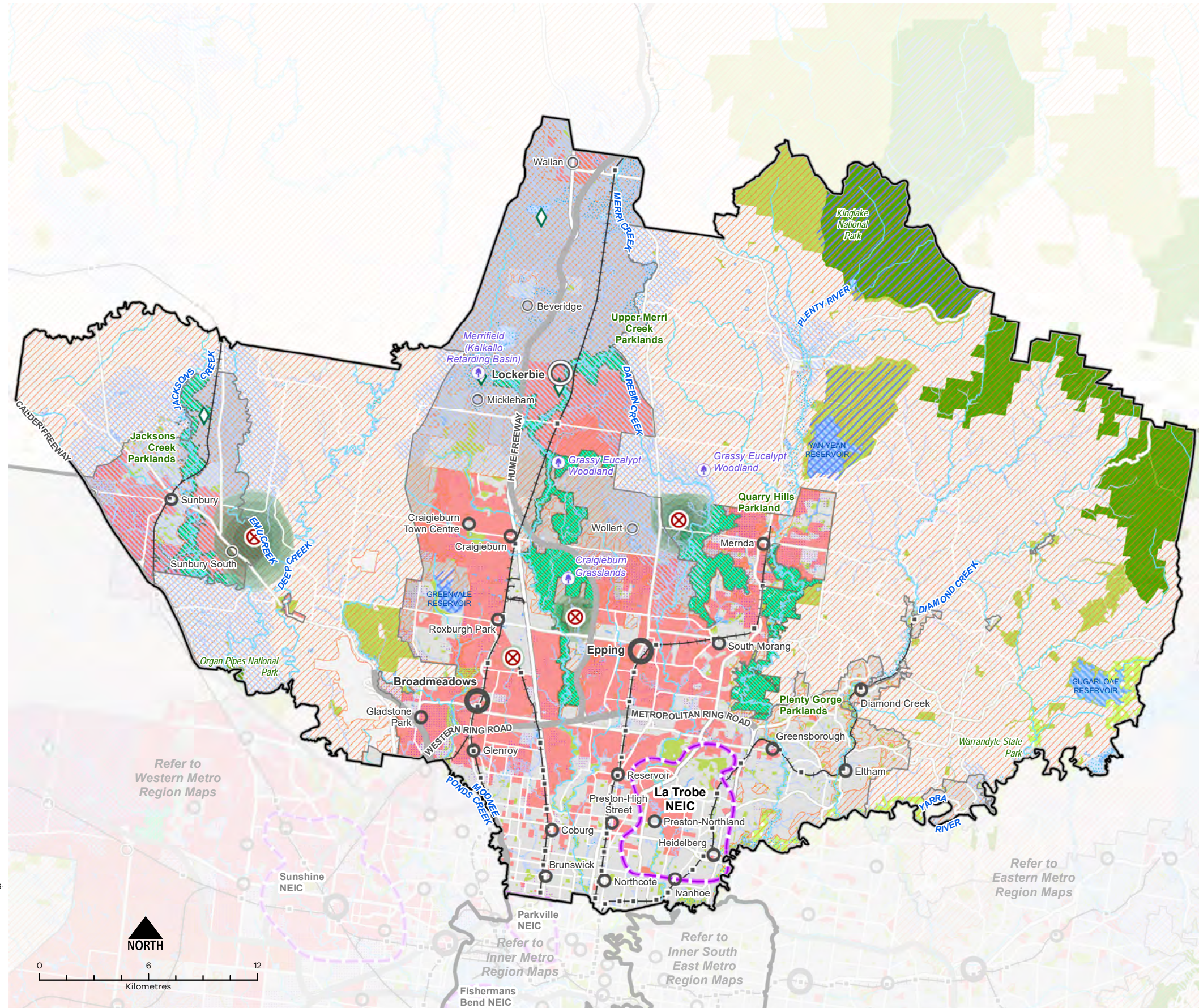
Environment

- Conservation reserve - proposed
- National park/state park
- Regional park - expanded/improved
- Future regional active open space
- Public open space
- Yarra River land
- Wetlands
- Waterway
- Areas subject to flooding (existing planning controls)
- Priority stormwater sub catchments
- Water supply catchment (closed & uninhabited)
- Waste facility
- Reservoir
- Waterbody
- Bushfire risk area (Bushfire Management Overlay + bushfire prone area)
- High heat vulnerability areas (HVI >3)
- High land surface temperatures

Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Urban growth boundary
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Green wedge land

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.



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Map 10: Northern Metro Region sustainability and resilience 2050

Precincts and Activity Centres

- National employment & innovation cluster (NEIC)*
- Metropolitan activity centre
- Major activity centre

Transport

- State-significant road corridor
- Road network
- Train station
- Rail network

Environment

- National park/state park
- Public open space
- Yarra River land
- Waterway
- Areas subject to flooding (Melbourne Water)
- Priority areas for enhanced stormwater management
- Priority waterways for enhanced vegetation
- Water supply catchment (closed & uninhabited)
- Reservoir
- Waterbody
- Waste facility

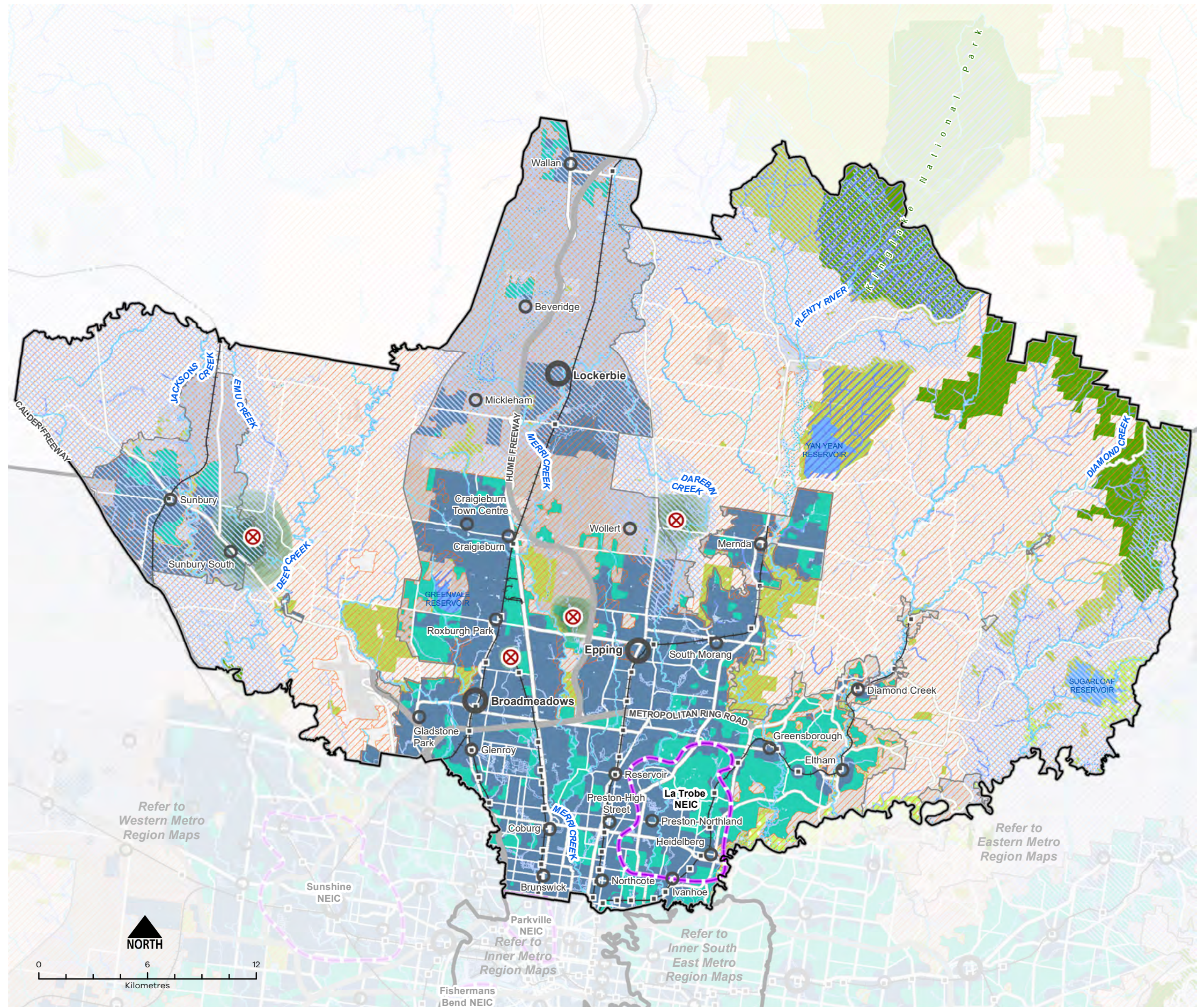
Environment

- Bushfire risk area (Bushfire Management Overlay + bushfire prone area)
- Priority - urban heat response
- Priority - expand urban tree canopy cover

Land use/Administration

- Regional boundary
- Green wedge land
- Growth area
- Urban area
- Urban growth boundary

*NEIC boundary is indicative only and subject to detailed planning.



Refer to Western Metro Region Maps

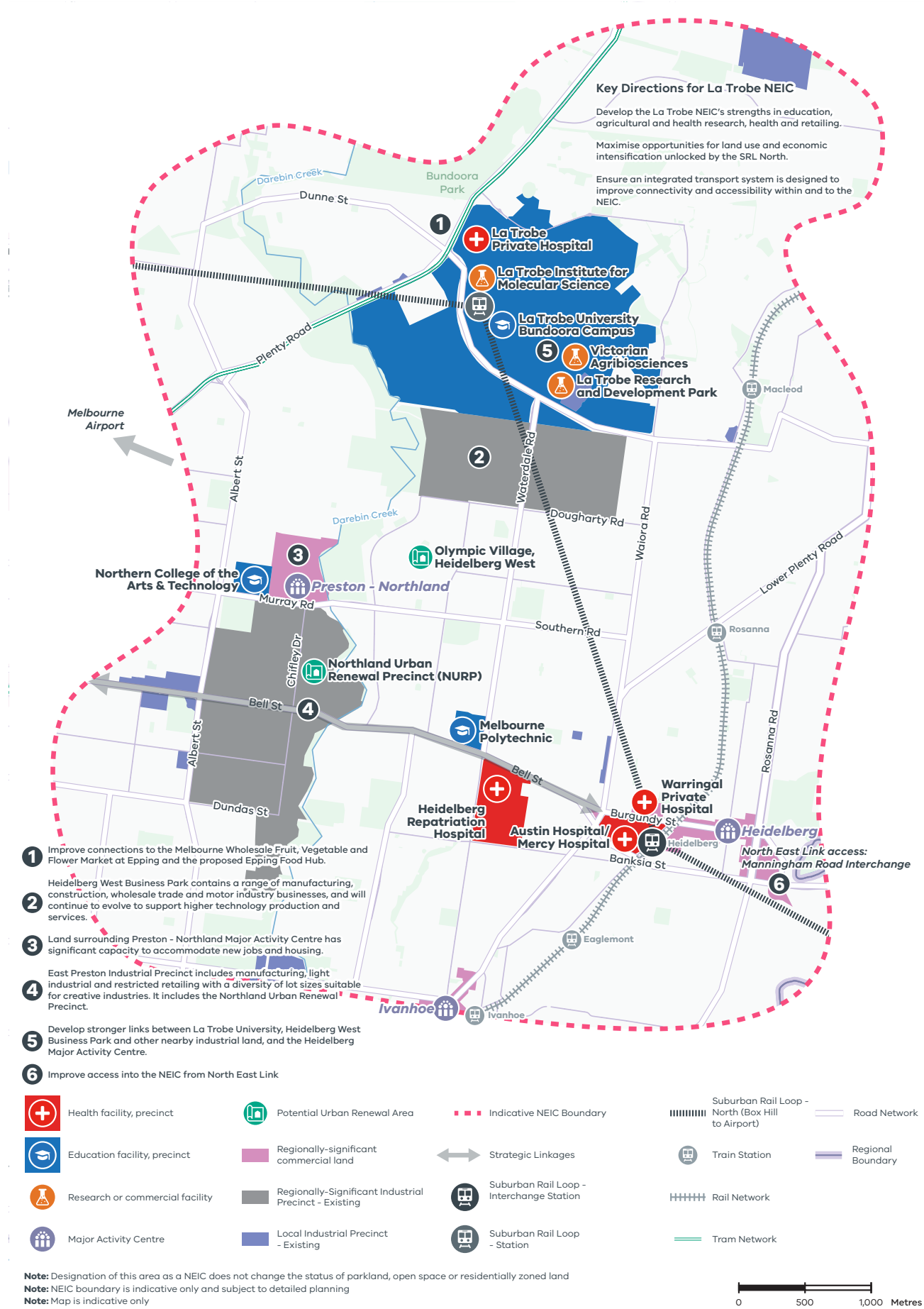
Refer to Eastern Metro Region Maps

Refer to Inner Metro Region Maps

Refer to Inner South East Metro Region Maps

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La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster



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8.5 ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN**Author:** Infrastructure Inspections Officer**Reviewed By:** General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required to update its Road Management Plan (RMP) in accordance with the Road Management Act 2004. The current review of the RMP commenced in April 2021 and concluded with the public exhibition and community consultation of the RMP. 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.

Public notice was given in the Government Gazette and The Age with the community consultation phase extending from 20 August 2021 to 22 September 2021. Three submissions have been received and 2 of these submitters indicated that they wished to be heard at a hearing of submissions session on 11 October 2021.

This report presents the outcomes of the community feedback received and a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Adopts the Road Management Plan 2021 as shown in **Appendix A**.
 - (2) Advertise Council's adoption of the Road Management Plan 2021 in the Victorian Government Gazette and newspaper, in accordance with the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.
 - (3) Publishes the adopted Road Management Plan 2021 on the Council website, in accordance with the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Road Management Plan (RMP), 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.

Council is a road authority for the purposes of the Road Management Act 2004. The aim of this Act is to provide a safe and efficient road network via a regulated approach to the coordination of road authorities' responsibilities for the management of public roads. The Act provides road authorities with the option of developing a RMP which then creates a policy defence against claims for damages from road users. The RMP does this by articulating intervention levels that will be implemented to maintain the integrity of Council's road assets, ensuring that these assets are safe for all road users. The existing RMP was adopted in 2017.

The Road Management Plan:

- Establishes a management system for the road management functions of Council which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources;
- Establishes the relevant standards or policies in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions; and
- Details the management systems that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair those public roads for which Council is responsible.

Additionally, benchmarking was conducted with several neighbouring Councils and government bodies aimed at ensuring achievability. Benchmarked Councils include the Cities of Banyule, Moreland, Whittlesea, Boroondara, Yarra and Manningham. Benchmarking found Darebin is comparable to similar metro and neighbouring Councils.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 26 July 2021, Council resolved:

- 1) *Notes the officer review of draft 2021 Road Management Plan*
- 2) *Releases the draft 2021 Road Management Plan for community consultation*
- 3) *Receives a further report before October 2021 on community feedback received and a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption*

At its Hearing of Submissions meeting of 11 October 2021, Council resolved:

- 1) *Receives the written and verbal submissions.*
- 2) *Thanks all submitters and presenters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.*
- 3) *Receives a report at the 25 October 2021 Council Meeting as part of Council's deliberations in considering a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption.*

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

Council's City Works, Asset Planning, Transport Management and Risk Management teams were invited through to analyse the existing RMP and provide input towards any areas that they considered required updating or improving.

Engagement with the community is an essential part of the RMP review. Council has encouraged the Community to review the proposed plan and provide feedback via a dedicated online engagement page 'Your Say Darebin' and a formal submission form (survey). The community engagement phase was held between 20 August 2021 to 22 September 2021.

The draft document was put on exhibition with three submissions received. The three submissions were general in nature and did not necessitate any specific changes to the plan. Council is advised that all three submissions relate to traffic and transport services rather than to the RMP itself. While the submissions aren't specifically relevant to the RMP review, to honour the process and to ensure transparency, all three are presented were Council's consideration. Each of these submissions will be referred to Council's Transport team for consideration. A summary of submissions (and officer comment) is shown below.

No.	Submitter	Summary of Submission
1	Individual – ID8	<p>Concerned with specific Transport service requests at problem locations. This includes School Zone Areas outside St Stephens Primary School in East Reservoir. This submitter has requested to speak in support of their submission.</p> <p>Officer comment - This relates to a speed reduction request that council is progressing, but where the customer is not satisfied by how long it may take. Council is looking at if there are any ways it can be brought forward, but much of the speed reduction process relies on state government timelines.</p>
2	Individual – ID9	<p>Concerned with specific Transport service requests at problem locations. This includes School Zone Areas outside St Stephens Primary School in East Reservoir. This submitter has requested to speak in support of their submission.</p> <p>Officer comment - This relates to Whitelaw Street near Black Street which is in the part of the city that Council developed a Local Area Plan for last year (the Cheddar LAMP). There isn't a crossing at this location. We will progress the speed limit change to support safer crossing and refer this location to our next area-based work we do with this community.</p>
3	Individual – ID14	<p>Concerned with specific transport service requests at problem locations. This mainly includes bike routes at Woods Street Preston.</p> <p>Officer comment – Officers will refer this for consideration as part of the refresh of the transport strategy to consider COVID 19 impacts. This is scheduled for this year and will also update the cycling network.</p>

The Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting was held on Monday 11 October 2021. Two of the submitters had requested to speak in support of their submission. At the Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting, a representative on behalf of submitter ID 8 spoke in support of their submission, whilst submitter ID 9 was absent.

Minor improvements have been made to the final version of the RMP presented to Council for adoption including:

- Administrative changes to make the RMP easier to read.
- The addition of emergency works being carried out within 36 hours (e.g. flooding)
- Road inspections including inspections for tree obstructions from private and Council owned trees being added to the plan.
- Update to align the RMP with the endorsed Council Plan.

- Highlight 40km/h speed limit reduction impacts via references to the Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030, Council documents of Streets for People Feasibility Study and Walking Strategy.
- Inspection regimes and maintenance standards for key bike routes to be maintained as per the Road Management Plan 2017 to be adopted in the plan.

A copy of the RMP is provided (**Appendix A**)

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The services and intervention levels provided for in the RMP will be delivered within the appropriately budgeted operating and capital budgets of the organisation. Increases in service levels will require additional resources to meet the increased service. Any reduction of these budgets during the life of the RMP may jeopardise the organisation's ability to deliver the level of service detailed in this plan.

Community Engagement

A detailed Community Engagement Plan was completed to support the design and delivery of community engagement in accordance with Darebin's Community Engagement Policy. Community consultation was undertaken using methods that encourages residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and those who speak a language other than English at home to participate in the consultation stage of the RMP review.

Information was been translated into 12 languages in addition to posters about the RMP review being translated into these additional languages. Information was provided to CALD and other community groups, schools and businesses in a way to encourage feedback from all members of the community. Please see below priority groups in the table below and how they were included in the engagement process.

Lens/Priority Group	Inclusion in the engagement process
People - CALD	CALD communities were targeted as part of the submissions process to encourage participation and submissions were sought from existing networks and advisory committees. Translated information about the submission process were made available in 12 top languages other than English.
People - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were targeted as part of the submissions process to encourage participation and a submission was sought from the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
Experience - Digital Divide	Hardcopy submission forms were available and telephone discussions as well to ensure community members who prefer not to engage online can participate in the submissions process.
People – Age & Gender	The submission process promoted widely to the community and a range of engagement methods were available which aimed to reach our diverse community members and from all age groups.

Other Principles for consideration

The review of the RMP aligns with the following legislation:

- Road Management Act 2004

- Division 5 regarding development of a Road Management Plan
- Local Government Act 2020

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

(d) Public awareness of the availability of Council information must be facilitated

Strategic Planning Principles

(a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;

Service Performance Principles

(b) services should be accessible to the members of the municipal community for whom the services are intended;

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Climate change is known to impact road assets, with changed moisture content in pavements, and increased days subjected to extreme heat, potentially affecting asset performance and life. There are also opportunities to reduce carbon through pavement types and through using recycled materials. Darebin is recognised as a leader in using recycled content in roads.

In line with the Council Plan objective to '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', officers will undertake climate risk assessments of the road network to identify opportunities for climate adaptation and carbon mitigation.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

Significant internal Council collaboration was achieved through the utilisation of Council staff with deeper knowledge of and relationships with specific people, place or experience cohorts for any additional qualitative information or insights they may have to inform stakeholder analysis.

This included considering how the lenses of people, place and experience apply to this engagement. Officers have ensured all community members have opportunities to contribute and benefit, no matter their preferences, abilities, cultures or where they live.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

The review of the RMP itself does not provide economic stimulus to local businesses but the services Council offers in relation to its civil infrastructure (roads, footpaths etc) are critical to ensuring access to, a prosperity of, business activity areas of the municipality.

Operational Impacts

Having regard to operational impacts, the levels of service provided will be delivered within the current budgets and resources provided.

Legal and Risk Implications

The RMP aims to provide Council with an acceptable level of safety for road and footpath users and to fulfil Council's statutory obligations. Council's lawyers have advised officers through the development of the original plan and the recent officer review of the plan.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The draft Road Management Plan 2021 has been reviewed and updated where required to match current industry standards. The finalised plan is proposed for adoption by Council and will subsequently be advertised in the Government Gazette and in a daily newspaper circulating within the area, in accordance with the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.

Stage	Timeframe
Council's consideration of reviewed plan - Completed	July 2021
Formal public consultation process - Completed	August 2021
Officer consideration of feedback and any changes as a result - Completed	September/October 2021
Adoption by Council	October 2021
Public Notice of adoption of RMP	November 2021

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments


- Road Management Plan 2021 (**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.

Road Management Plan 2021



City of
DAREBIN

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Amendments from 2017 Plan

Date	Details
27/04/2021	Improved cross-referencing.
	Section 3: Meaning of terms - Added definitions of "the Act", "Response time", and "days".
	Clause 7.3: Category omitted
	Section 8.4: Added speed limit reduction impacts
	Section 9: Added operational climate related impacts
	Section 12: Updated Figure 7, Reactive maintenance process chart.
	Section 22: Updated - Road management (General) Regulations 2016
	Section 22: Updated - Road management (Work and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015
	Section 22: Objective references omitted.
	Appendix B
	Updated Night Inspection descriptions and frequencies
	Appendix C
	Added Response times and omission of High/Low Category.
	Updated localised irregularities of pavement surface descriptions
	Updated surfaces with on-road bicycle lanes descriptions
	Separation of Missing Pit Lids from Damage Pits and updated response times.
	Added emergency situations and overhanging vegetation

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1. Introduction

This Road Management Plan (RMP) is prepared in accordance with Section 52 of the *Road Management Act 2004* (RMA). This Act sets the law relating to road management in Victoria, establishes the general principals which apply to road management and sets out certain rights and duties of road users and authorities.

In preparing this plan, Council has made policy decisions under Part 4 of the RMA.

This plan reflects the purposes and objectives of Council as specified under the *Local Government Act, 1989*. These objectives are described in the City of Darebin Council Plan 2021 – 2025, which sets the strategic objectives of Council. These include: *Prosperous, Liveable and Flourishing*.

The respective rights of Council, ratepayers, residents and the general public have been considered in the preparation of this Plan. There are also obligations of road users under the Act, which requires that they exercise personal responsibility for their own and other's safety and interests.

2. Purpose of this Plan

This RMP has been prepared to the principles, methods and systems used in managing Darebin's road network. The plan details the management systems for the road management function under the control of Darebin City Council. It sets the relevant standards in relation to the discharge of its duties in the performance of the road management functions. It sets the standards based on policy and operation objectives within the resources available and ensures the provision of a safe and efficient road network for users and the community. It minimises road safety hazards and disruption to traffic. It also supports the use of different modes of transport to minimise the cost to the community.

In accordance with Sections 50 and 52 of the Act, the purposes of this Plan are:

- to establish a management system for the road management functions of Council which is based on policy, operational objectives and available resources;
- to establish the relevant standards or policies in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions;
- to detail the management systems that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair those public roads for which Council is responsible.

This Plan does not apply to arterial roads. VicRoads is the responsible authority for these roads. Council may be responsible for those sections of arterial roads outside of the through traffic lanes as detailed in the Road Management Act Code of Practice "Operational Responsibility for Public Roads". Those roads or parts of roads that Council is responsible for are listed separately in the 'Register of Public Roads'.

3. Meaning of Terms

Terms used in this Plan have the same meaning as the definitions included in the Act. These include:

"the Act" means Road Management Act 2004 (RMA)

"arterial road" means a road which is declared to be an arterial road under section 14 of the Act. The VicRoads web site includes a list of arterial roads (<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/>).

"Council" means the City of Darebin as the coordinating road authority and as the responsible

road authority (as applicable).

“public road” means a public road within the meaning of section 17 of the Act.

“shared path” footpath jointly used by pedestrians and cyclists.

“response time” A defect on an asset has reached the level where maintenance is required to bring it back to the required standard. The process of completion inclusive of administrative work.

“day” means any working day from Monday to Friday except declared public holidays.

4. Roads for which the Plan Applies

The provisions of this Plan apply to those roads, pathways and ancillary areas listed in the Register of Public Roads.

Council has determined that those local roads and pathways listed in the Register of Public Roads are reasonably required for general public use. Council has also designated certain areas adjacent to a public road as ‘ancillary areas’ and these areas are recorded in the Register of Public Roads. There are 65 car parks that will be separately identified in the road register which are located in road reserves that are not described as **“ancillary areas”**.

To the extent possible within resource constraints, the Register of Public Roads records the location, type, hierarchy, capacity, condition, configuration of road assets for which Council is responsible, together with a history of assets including any additions, deletions or changes.

Details of agreements with other road authorities and service providers will be added to the Register of Public Roads as they become available.

5. Exclusions from the Plan

The plan does not apply to:

- Roads and car parks on private property. These are the responsibility of the property owner. A private road is considered to be formed roadway within a privately-owned parcel of land. A private road is not referred to as a road (ROAD) on title, nor is it referred to as a right or way (ROW) on a title document. Examples of private roads include internal access roads within retirement villages and Housing Commission estates as well as internal access roads and carparks within shopping complexes (such as Northland). Council is not responsible for the maintenance, inspection or renewal of these road assets; accordingly, they are not included within the Road Management Plan.
- Car parks outside the road reserve. Refer to the Road Asset Management Plan.
- Car parks associated with Council buildings and car parks associated with open space reserves and sporting facilities. Refer to the Open Space and Facilities Asset Management Plans.
- Pavements, kerb and channel on arterial roads. These are the responsibility of VicRoads. Refer to the Road Management Act Code of Practice “Operational Responsibility for Public Roads”.
- Bus stop assets. These are the responsibility of the Public Transport Victoria. Refer to the description in section 8.3.
- Unmade Rights of Way (ROW) that are not included in the road register. An unmade right-of-way is a portion of land that is designated as a right of way (ROW) or a road (ROAD) on title. Unmade rights-of-way do not have formed surfaces; however, they may have constructed drainage (either under or above ground). Council is not responsible for

the maintenance, inspection or construction of the surface of unmade rights-of-way that are not included in the register of public roads. Should an unmade right-of-way be surfaced (either via a special charge scheme or as a requirement of a planning permit) then the right-of-way would be added to the road register. Council may also decide to add an unmade right-of-way to its register of public roads for other reasons.

- Vehicle crossings. These are the responsibility of the property owner. Refer to the description in section 8.5.
- Private drainage. Refer to the description in section 8.6.
- Street Lighting.

6. Related Documents

A number of other Council documents are referred to in, or affect the operation of, this Plan. These include:

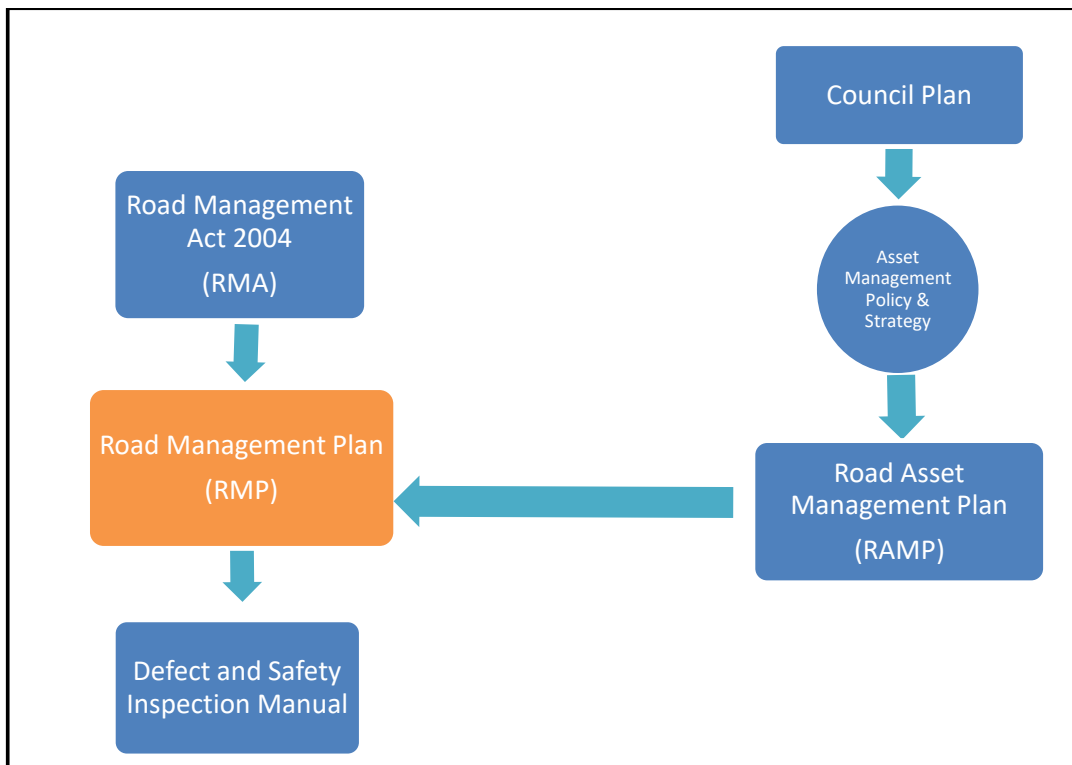
Darebin ‘Road Asset Management Plan’ (RAMP) – provides an understanding of Council’s road assets and concepts for their sustainable provision and provides a tactical approach towards achieving a cost-effective solution that meets Council’s long term strategic goals.

Darebin ‘Register of Public Roads’ – Lists those roads and ancillary areas for which Council is responsible for in accordance with section 19 of the Act.

Darebin ‘Defect and Safety Inspection Manual’ – Details the methods by which Council will undertake the periodic inspection of road assets and the response to various defects that may arise from time to time.

Darebin ‘Open Space Asset Management Plan’ – Details shared path and paths in parks. The linkage between these documents is shown in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Asset Management Policy Framework



7. Road and Footpath Hierarchy

7.1 Road Classification

Roads within Council are classified in a hierarchical system based on traffic volumes. The following definitions have been developed to determine the hierarchical system used: -

Road Hierarchy	Description
Link	Link Roads (>7500vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to supplement arterial roads in providing for traffic movements and which distribute traffic to collector roads and local street systems.
Collector	Collector Roads (>3000vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to supplement arterial and link roads in providing for traffic movements, or which distribute traffic to local street systems
Access	Access Roads incl. car parks (<3000vpd) – Those roads whose main function is to provide access to abutting properties or where the main function is to provide access to limited numbers of properties, or which provide almost exclusively for one activity or function.
Primary Access Rights of Way	Those roads whose main function is to provide primary property access i.e. where the front door is accessed directly from the Right of Way.
Laneways /Rights of Way	Laneways/Rights-of-Way– Those roads where the main function is to provide rear access to properties for delivery of goods, as in the case of commercial premises, or as a means to garage a car in the property in the case of residential properties.
On-Road Bicycle Lanes	Those on-road lanes reserved for people who ride bikes whose main function is to create on-road, separated travel facilities for people who ride bikes. They are identified with a bike symbol on the road and a sign which says that it is a bike lane.
Shimmy Routes	Bike routes using low traffic and low speed roads, which are primarily local access or link road, as an alternative to using collector or arterial roads with higher traffic volumes and speeds.

7.2 Pathways Classification

Pathways are classified into three categories

Pathways Hierarchy	Description
Principal Pedestrian Network (PPN) PPN Primary	These routes form the foundation of the PPN where a high level of pedestrian priority is assigned. These routes will be a major focus for the implementation of future walking infrastructure improvements.
PPN Secondary	These routes will provide a secondary role to the primary routes and will be assigned a high level of pedestrian priority.
All Other	This includes the balance of the pedestrian network within Darebin which is not identified as Primary or Secondary. Although they are not assigned a significant role in the PPN, they are recognised as providing a level of pedestrian priority because of their feeder role from residential and employment origins to the Secondary and Primary routes.

8. Operational Responsibility for Public Roads

The Code of Practice – ‘Operational Responsibility for Public Roads’ defines the limits of responsibility between road authorities for different parts or elements within the road reserve.

8.1 Arterial Roads

Pathways and service roads along Arterial Roads are the responsibility of Council. Median strips, intersection and road signage are the responsibility of VicRoads. (Refer Section 37 of the Act). An example of the division of responsibility between Council, VicRoads and the tram operator are shown in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2: Operational Responsibility on Arterial roads

In the example in Fig. 2 above, VicRoads is the Coordinating Road Authority for the road. VicRoads is the Responsible Road Authority for the pavement. Council is the Responsible Road Authority for the section from the back of kerb to the property boundary. Refer also to the Code of Practice.

8.2 Public Transport Assets

Trams – Yarra Trams provides the tram services within Darebin. They have many assets in the road reservation such as, tram tracks, overhead powerlines and shelters. Tram operators are responsible for the tram track reserve area within 450mm each side of the outer track rails in road reserves including crib crossings installed to protect pedestrians crossing tram tracks. Council is responsible for the road reserve outside these limits. Centreline road marking along a tram reserve is the responsibility of the responsible Road Authority but (yellow) linemarking designating tram operational limits is the responsibility of the tram operator. Operational responsibility for local roads with tram tracks is shown in Figure 3 below:



Figure 3: Operational Responsibility Trams on Local Roads

Trains - All assets associated with the train services are located in a railway reservation, however, where the railway and road reservations cross each other, both road and railway assets interface and the responsible agencies must work together. Trains assets include the tracks and the overhead power supply as well as, bridges, boom gates and fencing. Train operators are responsible for all components of the rail track reserve area within the road boundaries to a minimum of 3 metres each side of the outer rails or the extent of the boom gate in metropolitan Melbourne or as agreed. Council is responsible for the road reserve outside these limits.

8.3 Bus stop assets

The majority of infrastructure that is associated with bus stops is the responsibility of Public Transport Victoria, such infrastructure includes:

- The bus stop pole/flag/timetable case/braille badge.
- The concrete slab (hardstand) that forms the waiting area for bus patrons.
- Any dedicated path or ramp to the hardstand (so this is generally a path that runs from the Council owned footpath out to the hardstand).
- Any pedestrian fencing or tactile on this path or ramp to the hardstand.
- The tactile that is on the hardstand as well as the tactile that runs across the footpath to lead people onto the waiting area.
- Glass bus shelters installed.

Council is to maintain the following items that are associated with bus stops:

- Bus zone signs (which indicate where Council's parking stops and the buszone starts/finishes) which are only usually installed in heavily parked areas.
- The road carriageway and kerb.
- Rubbish left on the naturestrip (including at a bus stop).
- Grass maintenance

8.4 Local Roads

All public roads, right of ways and footpaths listed in the Register of Public Roads are the responsibility of Council, as shown in Figure 4 below:



Figure 4: Operational Responsibility on Local Roads

Reducing the instances of speed-related death and trauma on our roads is an ongoing challenge. Speeding contributes to at least 30 per cent of fatalities each year and quarter of serious injuries sustained by light vehicle occupants. It is proposed to progressively change the speed limit on all local roads and some collector roads to 40km/h to manage safety and reduce the vehicle impact on the road asset.

8.5 Vehicle Crossings

The owner of a property must ensure that each vehicle crossing to the property from an adjacent road and any channel forming part of the crossing is maintained to the satisfaction of Council, as shown in Figure 5 below. Defects associated with vehicle crossings are reported to the property owner with a request to the property owner to rectify the defect.

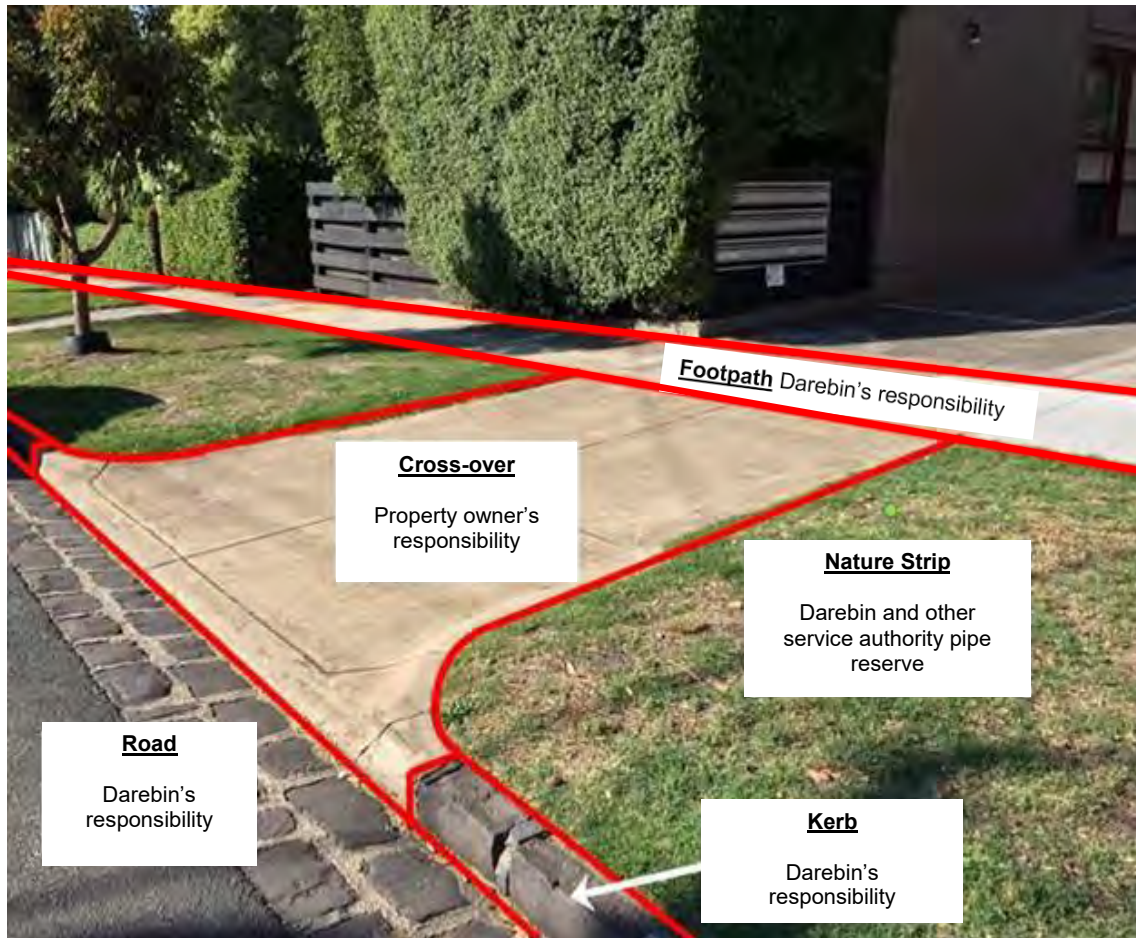


Figure 5: Operational Responsibility for Vehicle Crossings

8.6 Drainage Assets

Council is responsible for the maintenance of Council drains, pits and the kerb and channel to ensure that they are operating effectively. As shown in Figure 6, The Property Owner is responsible for the maintenance of private stormwater drain connected to Council drain, pit or kerb & channel. The Property Owner must ensure that the private stormwater connection to Council drainage assets is maintained to the satisfaction of Council.

The following are drainage related assets that are not considered in this plan, they include;

- Retention systems (refer to the Open Space Asset Management Plan)
- Wetlands (refer to the Open Space Asset Management Plan)
- Rivers/creeks
- Overland flow paths
- Non-Council owned assets

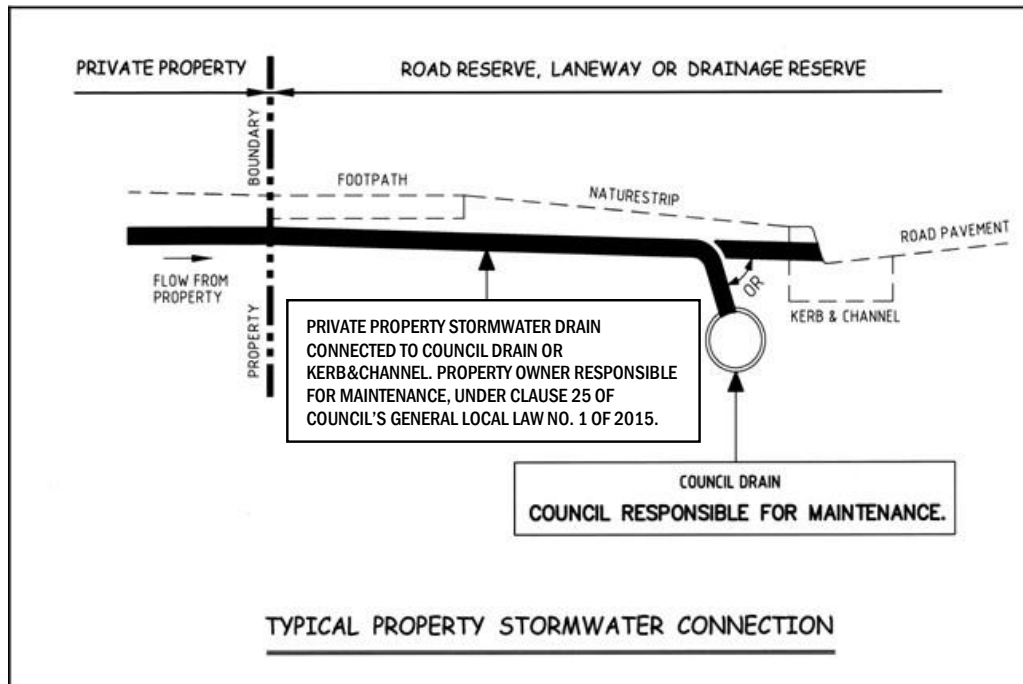


Figure 6: Operational Responsibility for Drainage Assets

8.7 Unmade Roads

Council will not maintain unmade roads unless it is declared a public highway and included in its register of public roads.

8.8 Unmade Rights of Way (ROW)

Council will not maintain unmade ROWs unless it is declared a public highway and included in its register of public roads.

An owner or occupier of land must keep that land, and anything on that land, in a condition that is not detrimental to the visual amenity of the neighbourhood. The following are examples of what may be detrimental to the visual amenity of the neighbourhood:

- (i.) Branches, materials or objects which may overhang the property;
- (ii.) Weeds and excessive vegetation; and
- (iii.) Accumulation of excessive materials and obstructions.

An owner or occupier of land abutting an unmade right of way must ensure that the unmade right of way is free of litter and obstructions.

8.9 Shared Paths

Shared paths in the road reserve are included in the public road register and will be inspected at same level as footpath assets. Shared paths in parks are not covered under the RMP and will be maintained in accordance with the Open Space Asset Management Plan.

8.10 Carparks

Off road car parks should come under the RAMP. Car parks will be separated in the road register and adopt the same level of service as roads.

9. Exceptional Circumstances

Council will make every endeavour to meet all aspects of its Road Management Plan, (RMP).

However, in the event of natural disasters and other events including, but not limited to, fires, floods, droughts and the like, together with human factors, such as a lack of Council staff or suitably qualified Contractors, because of Section 83 of the Victorian Wrongs Act, 1958, as amended, Council reserves the right to suspend compliance with its Road Management Plan.

In the event that the CEO of Council, has to, pursuant to Section 83 of the above Act, consider the limited financial resources of Council and its other conflicting priorities, meaning Council's Plan cannot be met, they will write to Council's Officer in charge of its Road Management Plan and inform them that some, or all, of the timeframes and response times are to be suspended.

Once the events beyond the control of Council have abated, or if the events have partly abated, Council's CEO will write to Council's Officer responsible for Council's Plan and inform them which parts of Council's Plan are to be reactivated and when.

Council is committed to reviewing operations to allow for known climate related risks. This work will be ongoing in an attempt to provide continued service to our community.

10. Level of Service

The standards specified in Appendices A, B & C are set to maintain the service provided by Council's road network at the level applicable at the time of adoption by Council of this plan.

This level of service is considered reasonable having regard to the resources available to Council and the provision of other Council services. Levels of service may be amended from time to time having regard to Best Value reviews and community consultation to be conducted in the future.

11. Proactive Maintenance System

Council has a proactive system of maintenance based on the 45 maintenance zones as shown in Appendix A and the inspection frequencies described in Appendix B. Works orders derived from defects identified in these inspections are temporarily repaired under this Plan. Permanent repairs for these defects are scheduled based on timeframes outlined in this Plan.

12. Reactive Maintenance System - Service Requests (SR) and Data Recording

Council has systems in place to manage customer service requests and work orders and other information from road users and community members.

Key benefits of the system include:

- More efficient and effective method of actioning customer requests and managing our assets
- Better and more accurate information will be available to more staff than before
- Better reporting capability

The following flow chart describes the workflow followed for all service (customer) requests as described in this Plan and in accordance with timeframes specified in Appendix C. Works orders derived from defects identified in the inspection process in this work flow are temporarily repaired under this Plan. Permanent repairs for these defects are scheduled based on timeframes outlined in the Defect and Safety Inspection Manual which do not form part of this Plan.

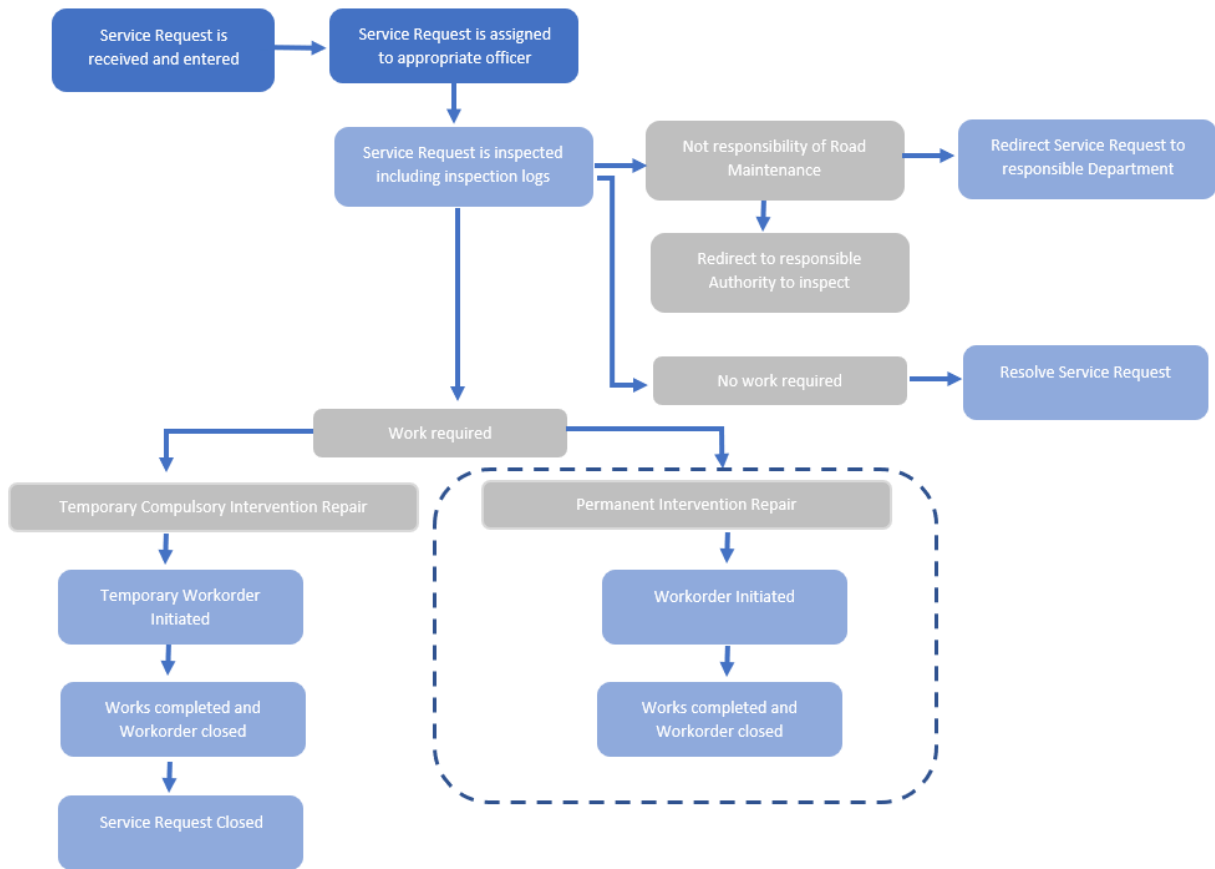


Figure 7: Reactive maintenance system workflow

13. Repair of Damaged Council Assets

Where damage has been caused to a Council asset / or road, the party, service provider or works and infrastructure manager that caused the damage shall be responsible for that damage, any consequences and the cost of repair to ensure that the area is safe and that the asset operates at the level it previously operated or higher. In particular, where secondary or ‘consequential’ damage has been caused to Council assets such as subsidence from water damage other than at the specific site of the asset works or repairs, the damage must be repaired at the expense of the responsible party to Council’s satisfaction. Refer Schedule 7 in Road Management Act 2004.

14. Risk Assessment

The consequences of asset failure can include loss of revenue, inconvenience to the community, loss of service and trade. It is not possible for Council to address all defects and eliminate all risks. However, risks may be identified and minimised by regular inspections and setting of clear priorities.

All reasonably foreseeable types of defect likely to be found in the road reserve were evaluated and a risk assessment undertaken that considered both likelihood and consequence. The details of this analysis are shown in the Defects and Safety Inspection Manual.

15. Standards for Construction, Expansion, Upgrading, Renewal and Refurbishment

The standards for the construction of new roads and pathways are given in the Road Geometry and Drainage Design Guidelines.

16. Standards of Maintenance

The standards for the maintenance of existing roads and pathways are:

- the task or work expected to be undertaken
- the schedule of inspections of specific matters to be undertaken at specified intervals
- the circumstances under which intervention action is to be undertaken with respect to repair or maintenance needs for defects reported or found on inspection
- the priority to be given to intervention action and the kind of action.

Council is committed to providing a response to any situation in accordance with the response times.

17. Financial Resources

The commitments and obligations specified in this Plan are matched to the financial resources available to deliver those commitments and obligations.

The availability of financial resources determines the level of service that can be provided. Any change in community expectations, i.e. higher or lower level of service has a corresponding financial effect.

18. Safety at Worksites

All construction and maintenance work on local roads and pathways will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant occupational health and safety legislation and guidelines.

In particular, the Code of Practice 'Worksite Safety – Traffic Management' applies to any works.

19. Duty to Inform Service Provider

If in the course of meeting its obligations under this Plan, Council becomes aware that any non-road infrastructure for which a service provider or works and infrastructure manager is responsible:

- is not in the location shown in the relevant records; or
- appears to be in an unsafe condition; or
- appears in need of repair or maintenance;

Council will convey that information to the relevant service provider or works and infrastructure manager.

20. Performance Management

In accordance with the Best Value principles and good management practice, a performance measurement, monitoring and reporting regime will be developed as part of the implementation, of Councils Asset Management System. This includes appropriate resources allocated to develop and implement an effective system for monitoring and reporting compliance.

21. Plan Review

This plan will be reviewed every four years after a new Council is elected in accordance with the Road Management Act 2004 and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2005.

22. References

The following references are referred to or affect the operation of this plan:

Acts

Road Management Act 2004

Local Government Act 1989

Local Government Act 2020

*Transport Integration Act
2010*

Regulations

Road Management (General) Regulations 2016

Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015

Codes of Practice

Code of Practice 'Worksite Safety – Traffic Management'

Code of Practice – 'Operational Responsibility for Public Roads'

Code of Practice – 'Management of Infrastructure in Road Reserve'

Council Documents

Darebin - Road Asset Management Plan

Darebin - Road Geometry and Drainage Design Guidelines

Darebin - Defects and Safety Inspection Manual

Darebin - Register of Public Roads

Darebin - Stormwater Asset Management Plan

Darebin – As advised by the Asset Department, the 2017 Open Space Asset Management Plan which includes maintenance schedules of shared paths and paths in parks is to be finalised within the next six months.

Darebin - General Local Law 2015

Darebin - Principal Pedestrian Network Report April 2016

Darebin – Principal Pedestrian Network PPN Map

Darebin - Streets for People Feasibility Study

Darebin - Walking Strategy

Darebin – Safe Travel Strategy

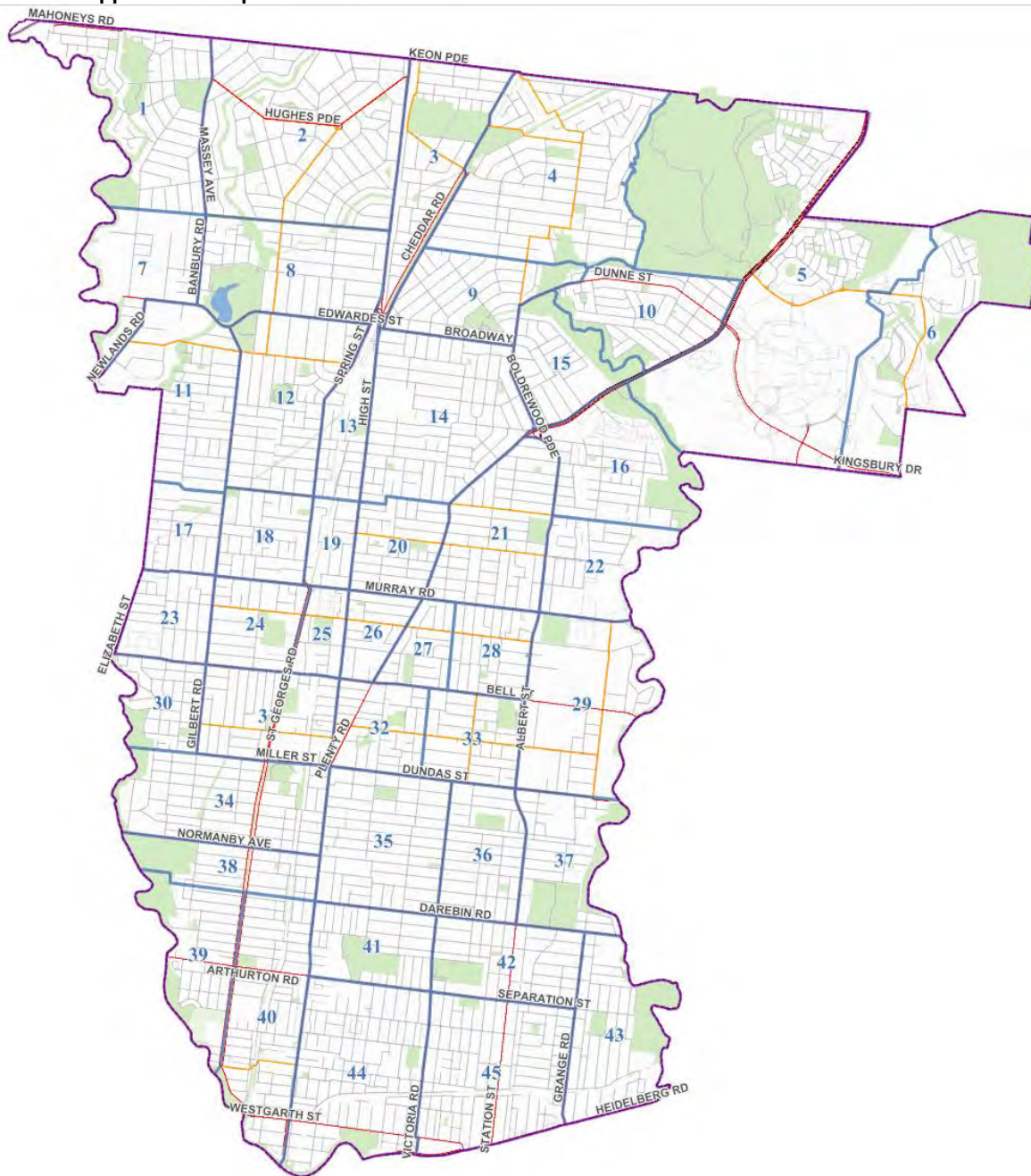
Darebin – Darebin Transport Strategy

Other Documents

Victorian State Government – Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030

23. Appendices

Appendix A- Inspection Zones



Appendix B- Inspection Frequencies

Inspections	Description	Frequencies	Hierarchy
ROAD (INCLUDING ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANE) DEFECT (HAZARDS) INSPECTIONS: - The undertaking by suitably qualified and experienced staff regular inspections of the asset to determine condition, compliance with maintenance standards and risk.	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff.	12 months	Link
		12 months	Collector
		2 years	Access
		18 months	Primary Access ROW
		2 years	ROW
		12 months	On-Road Bicycle Lanes
CARPARKS	Part of Road Asset Management Plan Asphalt pavements.	2 years	All
FOOTPATH DEFECT (HAZARDS) INSPECTIONS: - The undertaking by suitably qualified and experienced staff regular inspections of the asset to determine condition, compliance with maintenance standards and risk.	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff. PPN Primary routes form the foundation of the PPN where a high level of pedestrian priority is assigned. PPN Secondary routes provide a secondary role to the primary routes. All Other routes are those not identified as primary or secondary routes.	12 months	PPN Primary
		18 months	PPN Secondary
		2 years	All Other
KERB & CHANNEL: - Kerb and Channel holding water- minor reshaping to maintain flow of water and protect road and through lane traffic.	When Kerb and Channel has subsided or heaved and the ponding of water is encroaching into the through traffic lane.	12 months	Link
		12 months	Collector
		2 years	Access
		18 months	Primary Access ROW
		2 years	ROW
SHARED PATH	Shared path in road reserve	12 months	Road Reserve
	Shared path in parks. Part of Open Space Asset Management Plan.	2 years	Open Space
SAFETY (NIGHT) INSPECTION: - Involves driving on the local road network.	Hazards to the public, in particular regulatory and warning signs and line marking.	24 months	Link
		24 months	Collector
		24 months	Access
		24 months	ROW
INCIDENT INSPECTION: - An inspection carried out to comply with the requirements of the Road Management Act – Division 5 – Claims Procedure.	This inspection enables an incident condition report to be prepared for use in legal proceedings and the gathering of information for the analysis of the causes of accidents and the planning and implementation of road management and safety measures. Requirements include:- An Inspection by a Qualified engineer or Experienced Technical Officer with extensive knowledge and experience in road construction and maintenance practices	5 working days	All
BICYCLE SHIMMY ROUTE:	A defect inspection is undertaken to assess if any defects are present against an agreed set of criteria. Risk inspections are undertaken in response to customer complaints. Reports are provided by a nominated officer or maintenance staff.	12 months	All

Appendix C- Maintenance standards including response times

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Road Pavement				
LOCALISED IRREGULARITIES OF PAVEMENT SURFACE (sq.m.) – The use of appropriate treatment and materials to repair the defect and restore the riding surface to a safe condition. This includes potholes, deformations, delamination and edge breaks.	Pothole depth of ≥ 50 mm in depth and ≥ 300 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic. Primary Access ROWs are those roads whose main function is to provide primary property access i.e. where the front door is accessed directly from the Right Of Way. Laneways/Rights-of-Way are those roads where the main function is to provide rear access to properties for delivery of goods, as in the case of commercial premises, or as a means to garage a car in the property in the case of residential properties.	Link	5 days	30 days
		Collector	5 days	60 days
		Access	5 days	90 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	90 days
		Primary Access ROW	N/A	60 days
SURFACES WITH ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANES	Pothole depth of ≥ 30 mm in depth and ≥ 150 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic (e.g. tree roots).	On-Road Bicycle Lane and Shimmy Routes	4 days	Dependent on road Hierarchy (Localised irregularities of pavement surface)
ROAD MARKING and/or LINEMARKING (l.m.) - Regular painting of all pavement markings, including line marking and raised pavement reflectors. Missing, illegible or confusing.	>60% of delineator installations and linemarking per segment missing or defective, relative to original installation and design standards. (Refer AS1742 .2)	Link	10 days	60 days
		Collector	10 days	3 months
		Access	10 days	12 months
		ROW (made)	N/A	N/A
		Primary Access ROW	N/A	N/A
		On-Road Bicycle Lane	8 days	Dependent on road hierarchy

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Road Pavement				
PROUD/SUNKEN/DAMAGED COUNCIL SERVICE COVERS (No.) - -realign pit covers level with adjacent road or ground surface	Difference in surrounding level is ≥ 50 mm (greater than or equal to 50mm) or hazardous to traffic	Link	5 days	60 days
		Collector	5 days	3 months
		Access	5 days	12 months
		ROW (made)	5 days	12 months
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	3 months
CARPARKS- The use of appropriate treatment and materials to repair the defect and restore the riding surface to a safe condition. This includes potholes, deformations, delamination and edge breaks.	Pothole depth of ≥ 50 mm in depth and ≥ 300 mm in diameter. Surface irregularities when hazardous to traffic.	Collector	5 days	60 days
		Access	5 days	90 days
Footpaths				
TRIP HAZARD (Im) – Uneven footpath caused by trees, natural ground movement, grass/foilage encroachment on the footpath surface or cracked/damaged footpath with distortion. This includes asphalt, concrete and footpath with spoon drains.	When horizontal or vertical displacement is ≥ 25 mm (greater than or equal to 25mm)	PPN Primary	5 days	90 days
		PPN Secondary	5 days	2 years
		All Other	5 days	4 years
SHARED PATHS – Uneven shared path caused by trees, natural ground movement, grass/foilage encroachment on the shared path surface or cracked/damaged footpath with distortion.	When horizontal or vertical displacement is ≥ 25 mm (greater than or equal to 25mm)	Road reserve	4 days	12 months
		Open space	4 days	4 years

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
Surface Drainage – Kerb & Channel and Drainage Pits				
SURFACE DRAINS - Surface drains that run along the sides of footpath and drainage pits For ROW (unmade) this only applies to those with constructed drainage inverts.	When a surface drain has been damaged or displaced.	PPN Primary	5 days	90 days
		PPN Secondary	5 days	2 years
		All Other	5 days	4 years
KERB & CHANNEL – Kerb & Channel holding water- minor reshaping to maintain flow of water and protect road and through lane traffic.	When Kerb & Channel has subsided or heaved and the ponding of water is encroaching into the through traffic lane	Link	5 days	90 days
		Collector	5 days	90 days
		Access	5 days	4 years
		ROW (made)	5 days	4 years
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	4 years
PIT CLEANING - Inspection and cleaning of pits to maintain flow of water – blockages to the opening of the pit that prevents entry into the pit.	When a blocked pit is causing water to encroach onto the through traffic lane	Link	5 days	30 days
		Collector	5 days	60 days

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
		Access	5 days	90 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	90 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	60 days
MISSING DRAINAGE PIT LID	Any drainage pit that has a missing pit lid / cover	All	2 days	90 days
DAMAGED PIT WALLS AND SURROUNDS	Any drainage pit that has a damage to pit walls and surrounds	All	5 days	90 days
Roadside				
REGULATORY SIGN OR POLE REPLACEMENT - Replacement of regulatory and warning signs or poles which are worn, illegible, damaged or missing.	Sign missing or illegible. Greater than 60 per cent sign is illegible from the direction of travel at a distance of 50m.	Link	5 days	10 days
		Collector	5 days	10 days
		Access	5 days	10 days
		ROW (made)	5 days	10 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	10 days
OTHER SIGNS – Replace all other damaged signs and/or poles	N/A	Link	5 days	20 days
		Collector	5 days	20 days
		Access	5 days	20 days

Compulsory Intervention Level	Description	Hierarchy	Response Time	Permanent Repairs
		ROW (made)	5 days	20 days
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	20 days
STREET FURNITURE – Guardrail, Barriers, Bollards, Seats, Bins, fencing and Bus Shelters – missing/damaged or deteriorated	When hazardous to traffic or pedestrians	Link	5 days	15 months
		Collector	5 days	15 months
		Access	5 days	15 months
		ROW (made)	5 days	15 months
		Primary Access ROW	5 days	15 months
EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	Any defect or hazard that presents as an immediate and significant risk of injury and/or property damage to road/footpath/pathway users (e.g. such as large (localised) flooding incidents)	All	36 hours	Dependent on the specific circumstances
Overhanging Vegetation (Council trees) Min Clearance: - 2.4m (above footpath) - 3.0m (above sharedpaths) - 4.0m (above pavement)	Notify Council's Tree Management for follow-up action. Trim trees obstructing footpath, obscuring signs or visibility	All	Notify within 3 days As per tree pruning program	
Overhanging Vegetation (Private trees) Min clearance of 2.5 metres above the footpath	Notify Council's Local Law for follow-up action.	All	Notify within 3 days	

Planned intervention level repairs can be referred in the appendices of the Asset Management Plan.

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

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Ελληνικά	Soomalii
हिंदी	Tiếng Việt

8.6 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 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir
- (2) Discontinued road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote,
- (3) Discontinued road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston.

Officer Recommendation**Recommendation 1: Road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir****THAT Council:**

Having given public notice of the proposal under section 189 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to sell the land from the discontinued road adjoining 32 to 38 Gloucester Street and 29 to 37 Pine Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on **Appendix A** to this report and known as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Appendix A** to this report and having given public notice of the proposal to take title to the land from the discontinued road adjoining 40 and 42 Gloucester Street and 39 Pine Street, Reservoir, shown cross-hatched on **Appendix A** and known as Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Appendix A**, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the Act:

- (1) Directs that the land known as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Appendix A** be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining property at 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively in accordance with Council policy and transfers to itself any land from the road not sold.
- (2) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign all documents relating to the sale of the land.
- (3) Transfers to itself the land known as Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Appendix A**.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all actions required to transfer to Council any land not sold.

Recommendation 2: Road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote**That Council:**

- (1) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 to discontinue and sell the road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote, shown hatched in the site plan in **Appendix A**, and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to sell the land from the road;
- (2) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website of the intention to discontinue the road and sell the land to the adjoining property owners by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold in accordance with Council policy.

Recommendation 3: Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston**That Council:**

- (1) Having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston, shown hatched in the site plan in **Appendix A**, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989;
- (2) Has formed the opinion that the road shown hatched in the site plan in **Appendix A** is no longer required for road purposes;
- (3) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and clause 3(a) of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989;
- (4) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
- (5) Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining properties in accordance with section 206 and clause 3(b) of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 *and* section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold in accordance with Council policy;
- (6) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of the adjoining properties and to do all other acts to enable any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners to be transferred to Council; and
- (7) Directs that the discontinuance and sale will not affect any right, power or interest held by Yarra Valley Water, in the road in connection with any sewers, drains or pipes under the control of Yarra Valley Water in or near the road;

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

Recommendation 1:

At its meeting held on 28 June 2021, Council resolved:

"That Council:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989* ("*the Act*") to sell the land from the previously discontinued road adjoining 32 to 38 Gloucester Street and 29 to 37 Pine Street, Reservoir, shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix A**, to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively, by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy, and that Council transfer to itself any land from the Road not sold.
- (2) Gives public notice under sections 189 and 223 of the Act of the proposed sale in the appropriate newspaper and on Council's website and such notice state that Council

proposes to sell the land from the former road shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix A** to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively, by private treaty in accordance with Council policy, and that Council intends to transfer to itself any land from the Road which is not sold.

- (3) Gives public notice in the appropriate newspaper and on Council's website of its intention to take title to Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix A.**"

Recommendation 2:

None.

Recommendation 3:

At its meeting held on 23 August 2021, Council resolved:

"That Council:

- (a) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 to discontinue the Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 to 427 Gilbert Road, Preston, shown hatched in the statutory plan in **Appendix A**; and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to sell the land from the Road
- (b) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website of the intention to discontinue the road and sell the land to the adjoining property owners (or be specific) by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the Road not sold in accordance with Council policy.

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.

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

No submissions were received at the closure of the submission periods and therefore a Hearings of Submissions meeting was not required from Council.

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)**

Nil

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 of information (**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 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir**

To contextualise the property matter:

- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 1**.
- The Gazettal Plan is shown as **Figure 2**.
- The Site Plan is shown as **Figure 3**.
- The Aerial View is shown as **Figure 4**.

Figure 1- Title Plan - Discontinued road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir

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TITLE PLAN		EDITION 2		TP936596E	
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH KEELBUNDORA TOWNSHIP - SECTION - CROWN ALLOTMENT - CROWN PORTION 12 (PART) LAST PLAN REFERENCE LP8944 & LP10362 DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY PARENT TITLE REFERENCE VOL 4211 FOL 194 & VOL 3736 FOL 699 MGA CO-ORDINATES E 323 485 ZONE 55 APPROX. CENTRE OF LAND IN PLAN N 5 823 295				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.
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	LAND BENEFITED/IN FAVOUR OF	CHECKED BY KMP DATE 31 August 2010 ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF TITLES
E-1	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SEC.207C LGA 1989	3.05	SEC.207C LGA 1989	YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.	
LOT 9	DRAINAGE	3.05	AH382678S	DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL	
LOT 8	DRAINAGE	3.05	AH382680G	DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL	
LOT 2	DRAINAGE	3.05	AL908768W	DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL	
<i>SEE SHEET 2 FOR DIAGRAM</i>					
BARKER MONAHAN <small>ALTA 083 DIV 865 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 501 GERRARD ROAD, PRESTON VIC 3073 P.O. BOX 1544 PRESTON VIC 3073 TELEPHONE 9478 4000 FAX 9478 0268 EMAIL: info@barkermonahan.com.au</small>		LICENSED SURVEYOR DAVID JOHN MONAHAN SIGNATURE DATE / / REF. 12551 VERSION 01 COMPUTER FILE: 2551TP.DWG DATE: 15/05/2009		FILE NO : AH382677U DEALING CODE : 207D SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3	

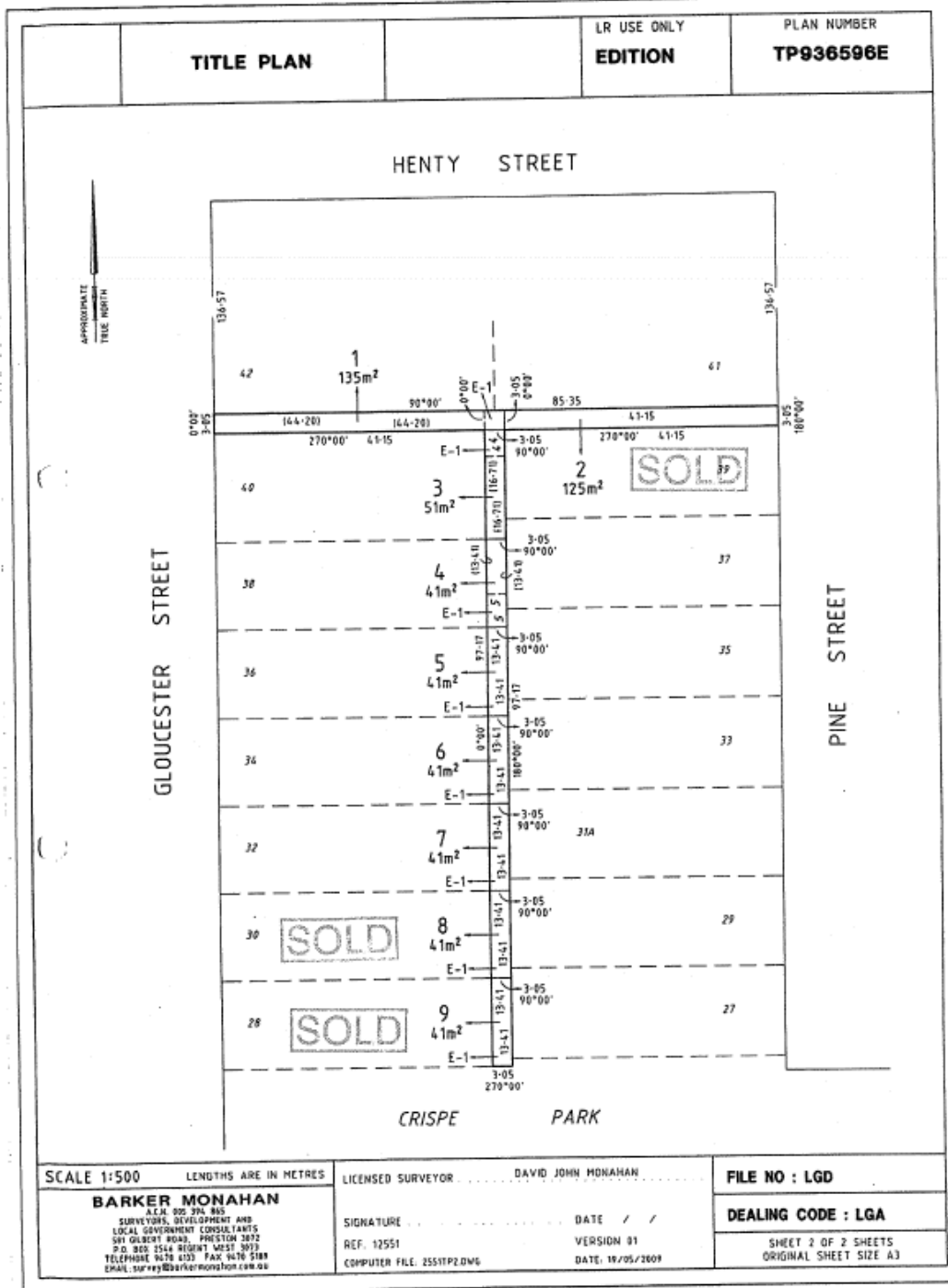


Figure 2- Victorian Government Gazette notice Discontinued Road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir

718 G 15 15 April 2010

Victoria Government Gazette

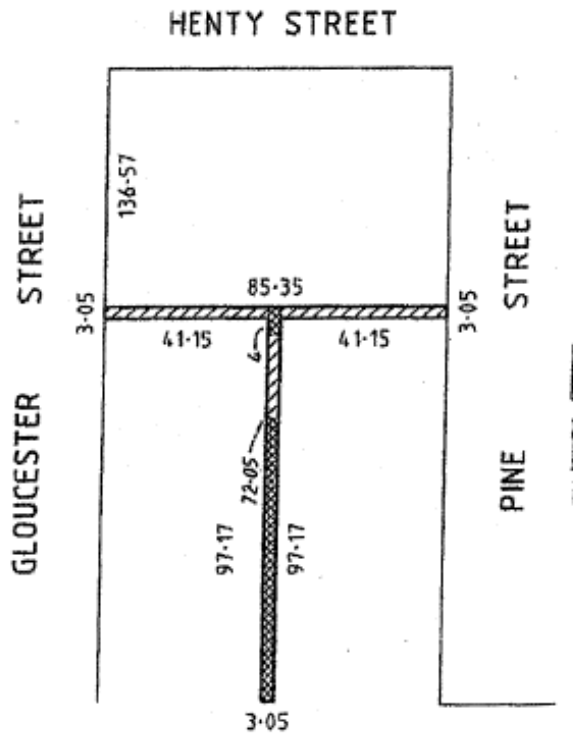
**GOVERNMENT AND OUTER BUDGET
SECTOR AGENCIES NOTICES**

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 6 April 2010, formed the opinion that the road adjoining 28 to 42 Gloucester Street and 27 to 41 Pine Street, Reservoir, which is shown hatched and cross-hatched 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 adjoining property owners.

The section of road shown cross-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.



JAN BLACK
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Figure 3 – Site Plan discontinued road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir

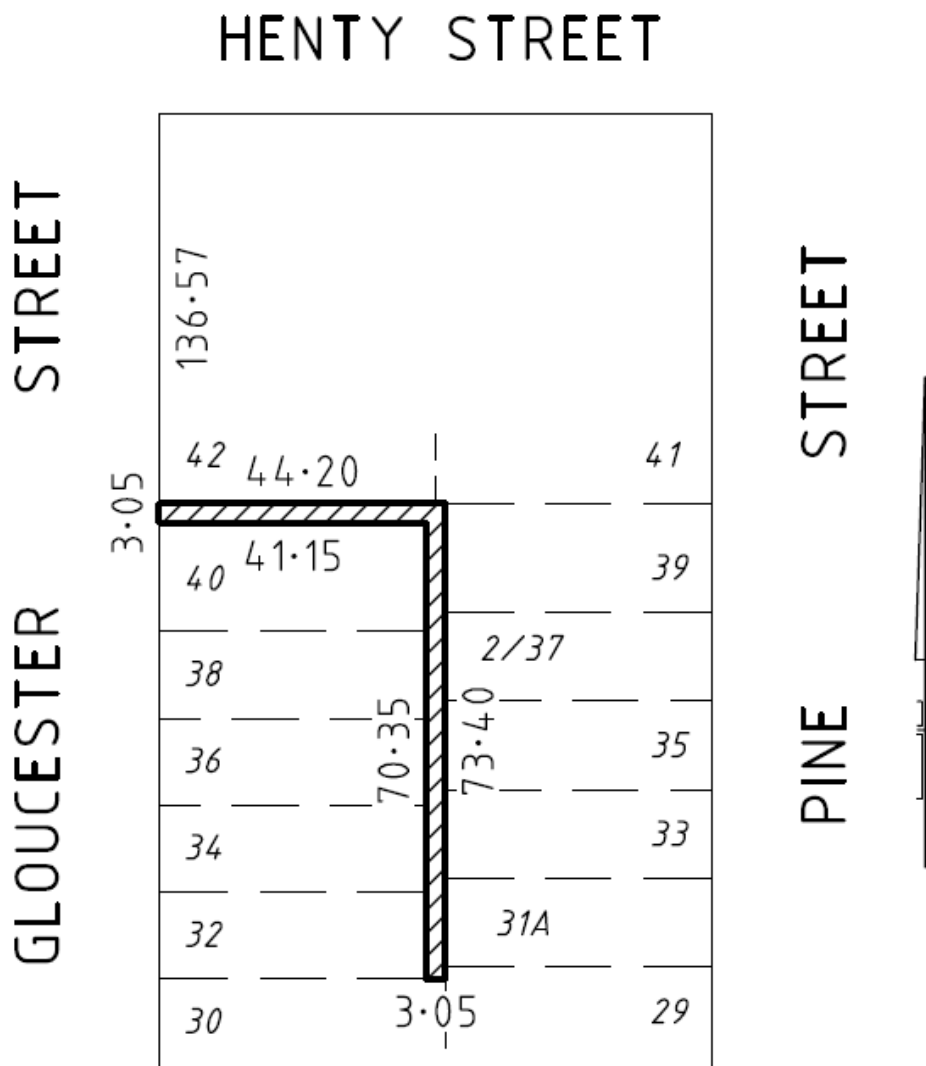


Figure 4 – Aerial view discontinued road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir



Background Information road adjoining 32 to 42 Gloucester Street and 29 to 39 Pine Street, Reservoir

In 2010, Council resolved to discontinue and sell the road adjoining 28 to 42 Gloucester Street and 27 to 41 Pine Street, Reservoir, shown hatched and cross-hatched in the gazettal in **Figure 2** and shown as Lots 1 to 9 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Figure 1**. However not all parcels of land were sold at the time, with the unsold parcels of land continuing to vest in Council.

Recent consultation and negotiations with the adjoining owners has resulted in the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, expressing an interest in acquiring the Land from the discontinued road, shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7, respectively, on Title Plan TP936596E in **Figure 1**.

Furthermore, consultation and negotiations with the adjoining owners for the proposed sale of Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E in **Figure 1** has resulted in the owners not expressing interest in acquiring the Land in accordance with Council policy. As a result, it is recommended that Council take title to these two lots.

Previous Council Resolution

At its ordinary meeting held on 28 June 2021, Council resolved:

“That Council:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (“*the Act*”) to sell the land from the previously discontinued road adjoining 32 to 38 Gloucester Street and 29 to 37 Pine Street, Reservoir, shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix B**, to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively, by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy, and that Council transfer to itself any land from the Road not sold.
- (2) Gives public notice under sections 189 and 223 of the Act of the proposed sale in the appropriate newspaper and on Council’s website and such notice state that Council proposes to sell the land from the former road shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix B** to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively, by private treaty in accordance with Council policy, and that Council intends to transfer to itself any land from the Road which is not sold.
- (3) Gives public notice in the appropriate newspaper and on Council’s website of its intention to take title to Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E in figure 9 in **Appendix B.**”

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT**Consultation with adjoining property owners**

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received.

The owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, have confirmed an interest in acquiring the Land, shown as Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7, respectively, on Title Plan TP936596E provided in **Figure 1**, at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet Councils reasonable costs associated with the sale of the land.

Consultation with Service Authorities and Council Departments

Consultation with the Service Authorities and Council Departments was undertaken as part of the discontinuance of the road in 2010.

Yarra Valley Water has a sewer within part of the Land and an easement was saved over the Land in favour of Yarra Valley Water as part of the discontinuance.

Whilst Council currently does not have any assets located within the discontinued road an easement for drainage purposes in favour of Council will be created over the Land which is proposed to be sold to cater for the installation of drainage in the future.

Consultation with the community

Notice of Council's intention to both sell the land from the discontinued road and to take title to two Lots from the discontinued road, was given in the Herald Sun newspaper on 16 July 2021 and on Council's website for the duration of the submission period.

In addition, written notification was given to all adjoining property owners and occupiers.

No submissions were received.

Financial and Resource Implications

Council's Valuer has placed a market value of \$440.00 per square metre (incl. GST) on the Land. Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 on Title Plan TP936596E, each with an area of 41m², are intended to be sold to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, respectively, for an amount of \$18,040.00 (inc. GST) for each lot. The owners will also be responsible for meeting Council's legal and administrative costs of \$3,000.00 associated with undertaking the project. The Land will also attract Council rates once transferred.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Land would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with some of 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 – Proceed with the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to proceed with the statutory procedures to potentially sell the Land. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions having been received.

Benefits of finalizing the statutory process, depending upon Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in the receipt of revenue from the sale of the Land which is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Arrange for the Land to be sold and transferred to the owners of 38 Gloucester Street, 35 Pine Street, 34 Gloucester Street and 32 Gloucester Street, Reservoir, by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy.

- Arrange for any land not sold (including Lots 1 and 3 on Title Plan TP936596E), to be transferred to Council's ownership.

ITEM 2**Road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote**

To contextualise the property matter:

- The Site Plan is shown as **Figure 5**.
- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 6**.
- The Aerial View is shown as **Figure 7**.

Figure 5 - Site Plan road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote

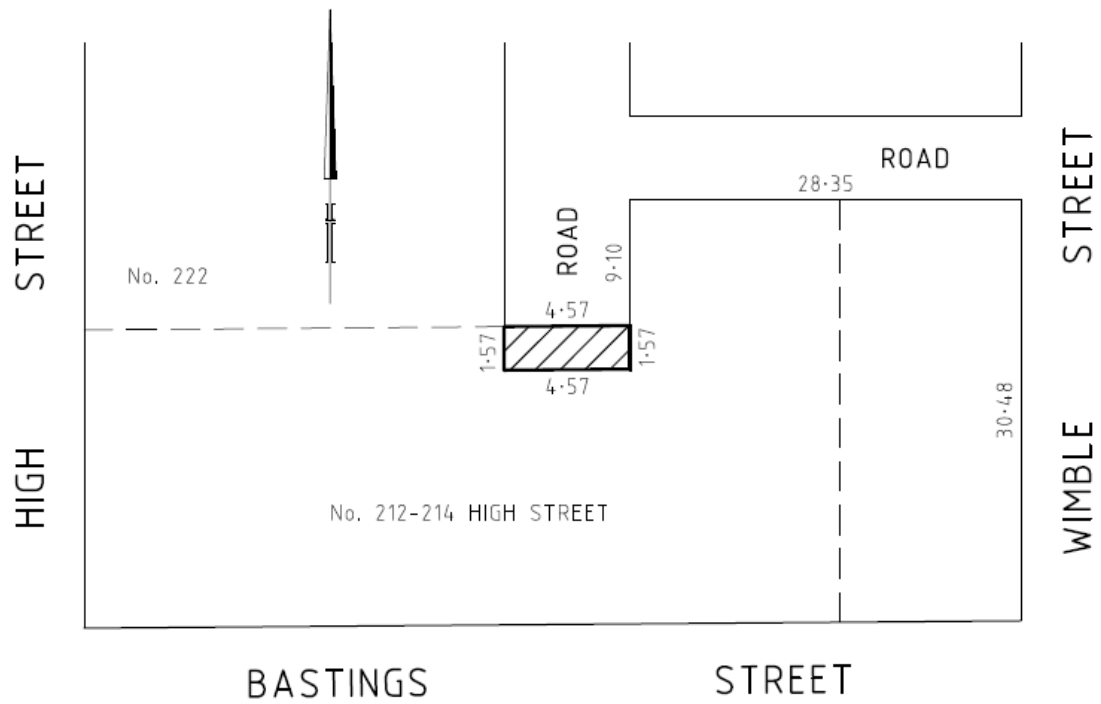


Figure 7 Aerial View road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote



Background Information - road adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote

In late December 2020, Council received an inquiry on behalf of the owners of the Northcote Theatre at 212-214 High Street, Northcote, requesting the discontinuance and sale of part of the 4.57metre wide road adjoining the side of the property, shown hatched in the site plan in **Figure 5**.

The investigations identified that although the land remains a road on title, it is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads.

The road appears to have been enclosed and used as part of the Theatre for many years and has not been used as a road, as shown on the aerial view in **Figure 7**. The owners propose to use the land as part of the redevelopment of the Theatre.

Once initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of the proposed discontinuance, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake further consultation with a view to Council commencing the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the 4.57 metre wide section of road.

All immediate adjoining property owners have been informed of the proposal and no objections or issues have been raised. The dimensions and proposed allocation of the land are shown in the Title Plan TP969131R provided in **Figure 6**.

The owners of the Northcote Theatre at 212-214 High Street, Northcote, have confirmed an interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 1 in the Title Plan TP969131R in **Figure 6** at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing and selling the road, in accordance with policy.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

All immediate adjoining property owners were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received.

The owners of the Northcote Theatre at 212-214 High Street, Northcote, have confirmed an interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 1 in the Title Plan TP969131R in **Figure 6** at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet all of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing and selling the road, in accordance with policy.

Internal Council departments and the Service Authorities have been consulted regarding the proposal and no objections have been received. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer branch connection in the section of road to be discontinued. This asset would normally be protected by the saving of an easement if the road were discontinued. Given that the sewer connection only services the Theatre, Yarra Valley Water has advised that the connection can be terminated at a point outside the section of road proposed to be discontinued. Termination of the sewer will obviate the need for an easement over the land.

The owners of the Theatre have agreed to undertake these works at their cost and to provide Council with the following:

- a) Within 1 month of Council resolving to commence the discontinuance procedures, provide written confirmation that it has applied to Yarra Valley Water to terminate the sewer branch; and
- b) Prior to Council discontinuing the road (by publication of a notice in the Victoria Government Gazette) provide evidence to Council confirming that the works to terminate the sewer branch have been completed to YVW's satisfaction.

The statutory procedures require Council to give public notice of its intention to discontinue the road and sell the land adjoining 212-214 High Street, Northcote, and invite submissions from affected parties.

Submitters may request to be heard by Council prior to a decision being made to proceed or otherwise with the proposal. In addition, all abutting property owners would be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission. Following which, a report will be presented to Council for a decision on each of the matters.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the road would continue to vest in Council and with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy the road. Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights of way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally, Council may lose future rights to the road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights. Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to commence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to commence the statutory procedures to potentially discontinue the road. 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 road. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the future of the road, to potentially open part or all of the road, discontinue part or all of the road and sell the land from the road (if discontinued) to the adjoining property owners and take title to the land if not sold. Further benefits of commencing the statutory procedures depend on Council's decision on the future of the road. These may include the asset being opened to the public and used for its prescribed purpose, potential revenue from the sale of part or all of the road (if discontinued), and/or the ongoing protection of a public asset (if the road is discontinued and Council takes title to the land if not sold).

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Commence statutory process by giving public notice of Council's intentions to discontinue and sell the road and provided written notification to adjoining property owners and occupiers.
- Report back to Council on outcome of the statutory process and seek a resolution on the future of the road.

Road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston

To contextualise the property matter:

- The Site Plan is shown as **Figure 8**.
- The Title Plan is shown as **Figure 9**.
- The Aerial View is shown as **Figure 10**.

Figure 8 - Site Plan road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston.

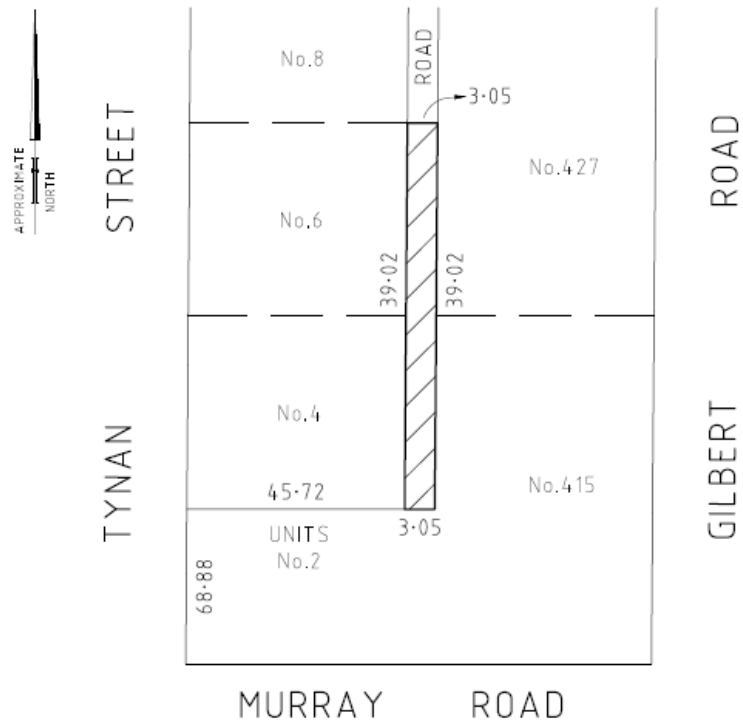


Figure 9 – Title Plan road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston.

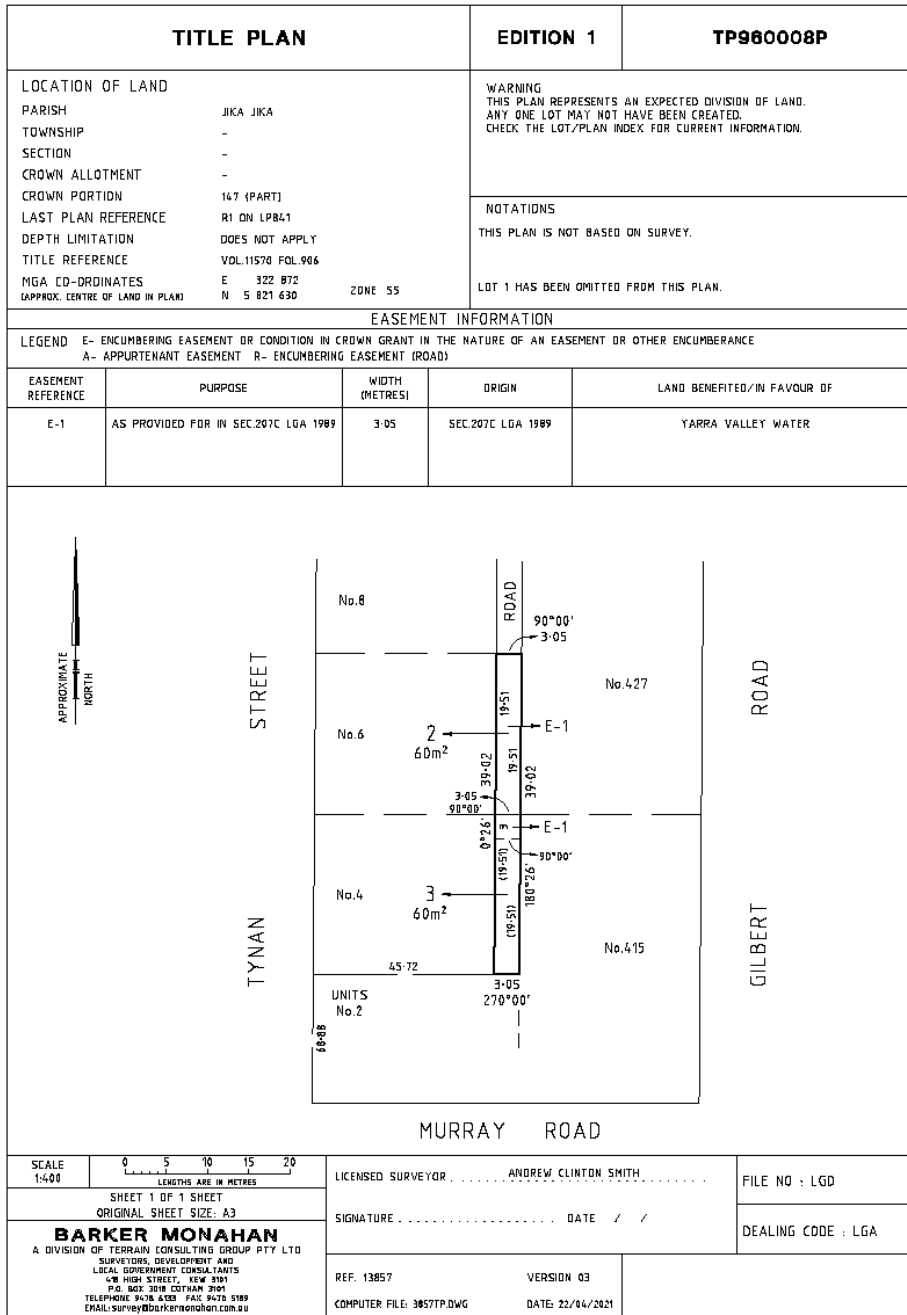


Figure 10 Aerial View road adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston.



Background Information adjoining 4 and 6 Tynan Street and 415 and 427 Gilbert Street, Preston

In October 2020, Council received an inquiry from the new owners of 6 Tynan Street, Preston, requesting the discontinuance and sale of the 3.05 metre wide road adjoining their property.

The investigations identified that although the land remains a road on title, it is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads. The section of road further south, adjoining 2 Tynan Street, was discontinued by Council many years ago and is in the ownership of 4/2 Tynan Street, Preston.

The road appears to have been enclosed within the adjoining properties at 4 and 6 Tynan Street, Preston, for many years as shown on the aerial view in **Figure 10**.

All immediate adjoining property owners have been informed of the proposal and no objections or issues have been raised

The owners of 6 Tynan Street, Preston, have confirmed their interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 2 in TP9600080P in **Figure 9** by signing an "in principle agreement" to purchase the land at current market value, as well as agreeing to meet the costs associated with Council discontinuing and selling the road, in accordance with policy.

The dimensions and proposed allocation of the land are shown in the Title Plan TP960008P in **Figure 9**.

Council at its meeting on 23 August 2021, resolved to commence the statutory procedures for the possible discontinuance and sale of the road.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Public notice of the proposal was given in the Herald Sun newspaper on Monday 30 August 2021, and on Council's website for the duration of the submission period. The notice period ended on Monday 4 October 2021, with no submissions received.

Internal departments and the Service Authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received. Yarra Valley Water has a sewer within part of the land and will require an easement to be saved over part of the land if the road is discontinued. Whilst Council currently does not have any assets located within the road it will require an easement for drainage to be created over any land sold to cater for the installation of a drain in the future.

Financial and Resource Implications

Council's City Valuer has placed a market value of \$550.00 per square metre (including GST) on the Land. It is proposed that Lot 2 in TP9600080P in **Figure 9**, with an area of 60m², will be sold to the owners of 6 Tynan Street, Preston, for the amount of \$33,000.00 (including GST). The land will also attract rates once transferred.

Costs of \$8,000.00 associated with the procedures for discontinuing and selling the road would also be recovered from the purchasers.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing**

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

be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights of way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally, Council may lose future rights to the road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights. Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to commence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)

Council could resolve to proceed with the statutory procedures to potentially discontinue the road. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions having been received. Further benefits of finalising the statutory procedures depend on Council's decision on the future of the road. These may include the asset being opened to the public and used for its prescribed purpose, potential revenue from the sale of part or all of the road (if discontinued), and/or the ongoing protection of a public asset (if the road is discontinued and Council takes title to any unsold land. Council could resolve to proceed with the statutory procedures to potentially sell the Land. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions having been received. Benefits of finalising the statutory procedures, depend on Council's decision on the proposed sale, could result in the receipt of revenue from the sale of the Land which is no longer required for its original purpose.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- Arrange for the land shown as Lot 2 in TP9600080P to be sold and transferred to the owners of 6 Tynan Street, Preston, by private treaty in accordance with Council policy.
- Arrange for any land not sold to be transferred into Council's ownership.

8.7 GOVERNANCE REPORT - OCTOBER 2021**Author:** Coordinator Council Business**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The matters covered under the Governance Report for the month of October 2021 are:

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal meetings of Councillors;
- Reports by Mayor and Councillors;
- Summary Report of Hearing of Submissions Committee meetings held on 11 October 2021
- Scheduling of a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 6.00 pm to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2021 / 2022 Council year
- Rescheduling the December Council meeting from Monday 20 December 2021 to Wednesday 15 December 2021;
- Council Community Advisory Committees – Endorsement of Member Appointments
- The establishment of the 2022 Council and Planning Meeting Cycle;

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – October 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) Notes the Reports of Standing Committees – Summary Report of Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting held on 11 October 2021 at **Appendix B** to this report;
- (5) Resolves to hold a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 6.00 pm to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2021 / 2022 Council year
- (6) Resolves to reschedule the December Ordinary Council meeting from Monday 20 December 2021 to Wednesday 15 December 2021
- (7) Resolves to hold the Ordinary Council, Planning Committee and Special Council Meetings in 2022 as outlined in **Table 1** in this report.
- (8) Endorses the appointment of the community members (and representative organisations where provided) as listed in the **Confidential Appendix C** to the following Community Advisory Committees for an initial period of tenure of 2 years with a further appointment process being undertaken in October 2023.

- Active & Health Aging Community Board
 - Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
 - Darebin Education Network
 - Darebin Interfaith Council
 - Darebin Nature Trust
 - Darebin Women's Advisory Committee
 - Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee
 - Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group
 - Climate Emergency Darebin (CED) Advisory Committee
 - Young Citizens Jury
- (9) Note that in the event of a nominated person not accepting an offer to be on a Committee at this appointment stage, they will be replaced by the next nominated person as identified through the recruitment and selection process.
- (10) Notes the appointment of the community members as listed in the **Confidential Appendix C** to the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee for an initial period of tenure of 2 years with a further appointment process being undertaken in October 2023.
- (11) Endorses the Terms of Reference as provided in **Appendix E** for all Community Advisory Committee listed in points (8) and (10) and the Arts & Heritage Advisory Committee and Darebin Community Awards Advisory Committee and notes that any changes to the Appendix A component of the Terms of Reference identified through a review by each Advisory Committee will be reported to Council through the biannual Advisory Committee reporting.
- (12) Writes to all immediate past and current Community Advisory Committee Members in recognition of their important voluntary contribution to the Darebin community through their service to one or more of Councils Community Advisory Committees.
- (13) Records the names of all those community members appointed to Councils Community Advisory Committees in the open minutes of this meeting.
-

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.

DISCUSSION

The matters covered in this Governance Report 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:

- Councillor Briefing Session – 27 September 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 4 October 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 11 October 2021
- Councillor Briefing Session – 18 October 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.

Reports of Standing Committees – Hearing of Submissions Committee – 11 October 2021

The Hearing of Submissions Committee is a Delegated Committee of Council appointed, pursuant to section 63 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), 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.

A meeting of the Hearing of Submissions Committee was held on 11 October 2021. A summary report of the meeting is attached at **Appendix B** to this report. The minutes of the meeting, incorporating the reports considered by the Committee, have been circulated to Councillors and are available on Council website.

Special Council Meeting - Wednesday, 24 November 2021

It is necessary for Council to resolve to hold a Special Council Meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 6.00 pm to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2021 / 2022 Council year. This meeting will not be open to the public but will be livestreamed.

Rescheduling the December Ordinary Council meeting

This report recommends that the December Ordinary Council meeting be re scheduled from Monday 20 December 2021 to Wednesday 15 December 2021.

2022 Council and Planning Meeting Cycle

In accordance with the Council's Governance Rules 2020, Council must fix the date, time and place of all Council meetings and a schedule of Council Meetings must be published in publications that are distributed throughout the municipality (including Council publications) and on Council's website at least once each year or with such greater frequency as the Chief Executive Officer determines.

A schedule of the Council and Planning Committee meetings for 2022 (including the Special Council Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in 2022) has been prepared for consideration by the Council. Other Special Council Meetings and Hearing of Submissions Committee meetings will be scheduled on an as-needs basis in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's *Governance Rules 2020*.

TABLE 1

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Ordinary Council	24 January 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	14 February 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	28 February 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	15 March 2022 (Tuesday)	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	28 March 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	11 April 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	26 April 2022 (Tuesday)	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	9 May 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	23 May 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	14 June 2022 (Tues)	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall

Ordinary Council	27 June 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	11 July 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	25 July 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	8 August 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	22 August 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	12 September 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	26 September 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	10 October 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	24 October 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	14 November 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	28 November 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Special Council Meeting (to Elect Mayor & Deputy Mayor)	30 November 2022 (Wed)	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Planning Committee	5 December 2022	6.30 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall
Ordinary Council	19 December 2022	6.00 pm	Preston Civic Centre / Preston Town Hall

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;
- (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;
- (c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;
- (d) Public awareness of the availability of Council information must be facilitated

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)**

Nil

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

There are clearly significant equity and inclusion issues including gender equity and inclusion and human rights considerations in regard to the traditional conduct of Council Meetings and its Councils decision making processes.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Nil

Operational Impacts

The pandemic has raised a number of operational issues in relation to management of public meetings in response to public health directions. There is ongoing uncertainty regarding 'in person' meetings, public access and the rules and restrictions that may apply at any point in time.

In the future, public health directions regarding density quotients and social distancing may mean that the existing Council Chamber cannot appropriately accommodate Councillors, staff and the community. Conversely, the Preston Town Hall provides a space that is in excess of what is generally needed and additionally introduces issues of cost and availability.

Various options are being investigated to appropriately respond to this issue which will be canvassed in a future Council report.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The schedule of Council and Planning Committee meetings will be published on the Darebin website in accordance with the Council's Governance Rules 2020.

Council Community Advisory Committees – Endorsement of Member Appointments**Background**

This matter is presented to inform Council of the recruitment processes that have been undertaken to attract community members to 11 of Councils 15 Community Advisory Committees and to seek Council endorsement of the recommended persons to fill the required positions.

Council additionally has two other Advisory Committees, the Audit & Risk Committee and the CEO Employment Matters Committee. These are not Community Committees and are not the subject of this report.

Context is also provided on the reform process that has occurred post the October 2020 General Elections to establish consistent terms of reference for all Community Advisory Committees. Additionally, details are provided on the activities that will occur over the next 3 - 6 months to induct new members and Committees and to embed the governance processes and practices that will support the high quality conduct of community advisory committees in the future.

The Role Community Advisory Committees play in community engagement by Council

Darebin Council has a long-standing commitment to building a fair, inclusive and equitable municipality. This means involving our residents, business owners, and community sector in our decision-making, particularly as we grapple with the increasingly complex challenges of population growth, climate change, and growing inequality. Effective community engagement creates better decisions, better results, and more trust in government. We know our diverse community is our greatest asset for solving our future challenges.

Our Human Rights Framework 2019 also outlines the importance of community engagement in creating a “fair city”, ensuring all people can participate in decision-making on matters that are important to them. (Towards Equality Framework 2019-2029)

Darebin City Council has an established history of community engagement and civic participation through advisory committee structures. These platforms provide a structured process for a greater deliberation between Council and communities. The consistent and high-quality conduct of community advisory committees is also a respectful acknowledgement of the investment of voluntary time that communities make in the business of running the city.

Advisory Committees and Council’s Governance Rules

Community Advisory Committees are a common feature of most Council’s and although not referenced in the Local Government Act, our Governance Rules 2020 articulate their role ie

Advisory Committees play a key role in connecting community views and experts with the decision-making processes of Council. These committees:

- *provide advice to Council and to Council officers exercising delegation to make decisions or implement policy;*
- *are usually comprised of community members and Councillors, and may sometimes include representatives of community organisations; and*
- *are essential forums to provide input to the development of Council policy and decision making in their areas of focus*

Council’s Governance Rules 2020 (Chapter 8) also specifically address the functioning of Advisory Committees, with the key points being:

- In the first year of each Council term, Council will establish its Advisory Committees for the next four years.
- Advisory Committees established by Council will be consulted for input on related policy, strategy or major operational proposals
- Advisory Committees established by Council will be chaired by a Councillor
- Each Advisory Committee will be established in accordance with Operating Guidelines (Terms of Reference) endorsed by Council that at a minimum will prescribe:
 - Membership terms that provide for renewal of membership and continuity of contribution, with provision for initial appointments to support rotation of memberships
 - Inclusive and transparent recruitment processes for community member membership and participation

- Requirements for disclosures of conflicts of interest
- Description of the roles of members including attendance and participation requirements, role of the committee, councillor chair, reporting requirements and confidentiality
- In order to maintain transparency of Advisory Committee operations, the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Advisory Committee:
 - a) The Terms of Reference
 - b) The names of all members
 - c) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council)
- Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term

The status of the existing Community Advisory Committees as at June 2021

As at 1 June 2021, Council has 15 Community Advisory Committees predominantly involving community members, organisational representatives and Councillors. These Advisory Committees function in:

- Community Division (11)
- City Sustainability & Strategy Division having stewardship of two (Climate Emergency Darebin and the Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group), and the
- Operations & Capital Division with two (Darebin Nature Trust and the Edwardes Lake Water Quality Task Force)

As noted earlier in this report Council also has two other Advisory Committees, the Audit & Risk Committee and the CEO Employment Matters Committee. The Governance and Engagement division has stewardship of these Advisory Committees and they are not the subject of this report

Below are the existing Community Advisory Committees.

- Active & Health Aging Advisory Committee
- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (see Note 1)
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
- Darebin Domestic Animal Management Reference Group (see Note 2)
- Darebin Education Network
- Darebin Interfaith Council
- Darebin Nature Trust (see Note 6)
- Darebin Women's Advisory Committee
- Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee
- Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group
- Climate Emergency Darebin (CED) Advisory Committee
- Young Citizens Jury (see Note 3)
- Arts & Heritage Advisory Committee (see Note 4)

- Darebin Community Awards Advisory Committee (see Note 4)
- Edwardes Lake Water Quality Task Force (see Note 5)

Committees list in **bold** have undertaken recruitment

Note 1 – Due to the range of important issues requiring input from the DAAC the recruitment and appointment of members to this Committee was undertaken and approved by the CEO. Members have undertaken their induction and the Committee has commenced its work. As such Council will only be requested to note these appointments.

Note 2 - Due to staff absences, recruitment has not commenced. The process will be completed in November – in conjunction with review of DAMP.

Note 3 - The Young Citizens Jury does not have Councillor representation.

Note 4 – The Arts & Heritage Advisory Committee and the Darebin Community Awards Advisory Committee undertook their recruitment processes in late 2020 and Council at its December 2020 meeting endorsed the community members appointed to these Committees. As such Council will only be requested to endorse these Committees completed Terms of Reference.

Note 5 - The Edwardes Lake Water Quality Task Force was established in February 2021 and recruitment and appointment is scheduled to commence prior December 2021.

Note 6 - The Darebin Nature Trust Terms of Reference call for 9 members, with 7 members recommended for appointment through this report. The two vacant positions were targeted to ensure representation from our Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically diverse communities, and it was not possible to appoint these members through the recruitment process undertaken. Further recruitment will be undertaken to fill these positions to achieve the intended representation.

The Intercultural Centre Community Reference Group was a fixed term, task specific Advisory Committee that has completed its work and has ceased.

Previous Council Resolution

Council at its 28th June 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting endorsed the model Terms of Reference for Advisory Committees ie

That Council

Endorses the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Community Reference Groups (CRG) Model Terms of Reference as provided at Appendix G to this Report.

Notes that each Advisory Committee will present their 'completed' template Model Terms of Reference to Council over the next 3 months.

The report to the 28 June Council Meeting also importantly stated:

Subject to Councils endorsement of this report, those Committees who had commenced their recruitment process for members will re commence this process and bring their completed model template ToR and recommended appointees to Council for adoption.

Those Committees who have not commenced their recruitment process will do this (where appropriate) with all Committees bringing their completed model template ToR and recommended appointees to Council for adoption.

It is expected that the recruitment of members (where appropriate) and finalisation of the model template ToR for each Advisory Committee will be completed by the 30 September 2021

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

1.2 We will help to build an inclusive and empowered community, where social cohesion and community harmony are fostered

1.3 We will embrace diversity and ensure everyone is included in our society, and no one is left behind – by combating discrimination, and championing equity, inclusivity and diversity

Councils approach to the recruitment and selection of community members for its Advisory Committee is supportive of these Council Plan Strategic Objectives.

DISCUSSION

How we got to where we are now and looking forward

The reforms to our Advisory Committee regime since the elections in October 2020 have been based on two fundamental principles. Firstly, a newly elected Council should have the opportunity early in its term to establish the Advisory Committee regime that it believes will best serve it in delivering its Community Vision and Council Plan over its 4 year term.

Secondly, a newly elected Council should have the opportunity to appoint / endorse the membership of its Advisory Committees regime.

The impetus for the Advisory Committee reform processes that have been implemented over the last 12 - 18 months was the September 2019, Max Hardy Consulting report 'Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups'. The key insights and feedback that emerged from this report (i.e. with existing Advisory Committee members at that time) included:

- *The need to **regularly review and renew group memberships to truly reflect the diversity and breadth of Darebin communities' views and experience***
- *Community members felt that they were operating well according to Terms of Reference but **at times there was some ambiguity about intent and role of groups***
- *There was concern about the lack of (staff) resourcing for committees, frequency of meetings (it is unclear whether they felt there were too many or not enough) and the need for "less talk and more action"*
- *Respondents expressed a **desire for more cross collaboration amongst committees** to avoid duplication, working in isolation and unintended consequences that might arise from other committees' activities or advice*
- *Meetings were generally facilitated well*
- *Members mostly felt their contributions were valued by Council and other group members however some **concerns were expressed about dominating members who were on groups for their own self interests***
- *Providing feedback on specific projects, and raising Council awareness of community concerns, were regarded as significant accomplishments by a number of the groups*

- *Active involvement from Council (including Councillors), collaboration and well facilitated meetings*
- *While most were satisfied with facilitation of meetings, **some listed poor facilitation, and poor planning**, as a reason for their dissatisfaction*
- *Constructive engagement processes and feeling like they were heard and valued were reasons given for feeling satisfied with contributions and participation in groups*
- *Increasing diversity of membership, representing a broad range of voices, reviewing timing/length of tenure and combing committees were suggestions given to enhance Council's engagement*
- *Acknowledgment of the usefulness of drawing on technical expertise and using online forums to engage with broader communities*
- *Appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to this review recommending it become a regular occurrence*
- ***Reducing barriers to participation in advisory bodies such as payment to members for attending, childcare subsidies, etc***

Officers are optimistic that Council is well placed to positively respond to this feedback through the introduction of a diverse range of community members to Committees that will further strengthen our commitment to our Advisory Committee regime.

As Councillors will be aware the model Terms of Reference for Advisory Committees were adopted in June 2021 and as part of this process input was sought from existing Advisory Committees. Whilst this feedback significantly contributed to the final outcome of the terms of reference it is acknowledged that some Advisory Committee members were disappointed with the process. In part this is understandable in particular where community members had been serving on Advisory Committees for many years and in cases where there was a lack of clarity regarding existing terms and arrangements. As Councillors would be aware there is a component of the model terms of reference that provides Committees the flexibility to incorporate 'specific protocols and operating practices ' that a Committee determines relevant to their efficient and effective functioning. Any such protocols / practices must not conflict with the model terms of references. The opportunity for Committees with their new members to consider the need for any such additions will be provided.

Looking forward, the structure and consistent approach that the model terms of reference provide, offers a foundation to further improve our work with Committees – recognising that the successful functioning of an Advisory Committee will be contingent on all stakeholders working collaboratively. A comprehensive Induction program has been developed for each Committee.

Finally, it is fundamental to our ongoing work with our Advisory Committees that we publicly and genuinely recognise and celebrate the contributions of all those community members who have voluntarily contributed to the Darebin community through their service to one or more of our Advisory Committees. Accordingly, this matter recommends that Council formally write to and appropriately acknowledge all current and past Advisory Committee members in recognition of their important voluntary contribution to the Darebin community through their service.

Recruitment and Selection

The recruitment processes that have been undertaken support our objective of an inclusive and empowered Darebin community and to ensure that all people in all their diversity should have a say in decisions that affect them. To this end the Towards Equality – Equity Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019 -2029 has guided the lead Officers of each Committee

as they have recruited, evaluated and now present recommended appointees for their Committees.

1. The process has been undertaken in line with the model terms of reference endorsed by Council
2. The initial period of tenure for each of the community members will be 2 years with a further appointment process scheduled for October 2023. (see Note 1). The 2023 appointments will conclude in June 2025 – approx. 8 months after the next General election in October 2024
3. The evaluation and selection processes have been managed by the Lead Officers of each of the Committees and endorsed by the relevant General Manager
4. 18th October 2021

Note 1. The recommendation to Council will provide Officers with flexibility in the event of a nominated person withdrawing from the Committee at this stage to be replaced by the next nominated person as identified through the recruitment process.

Provided as **Confidential Appendix C** is a two-page summary of the recommended community members for each of the 11 Committees highlighting new and current members. A comprehensive summary of each Committees recruitment and selection process is provided as **Confidential Appendix D**

Each Advisory Committees Terms of Reference based on the model Terms of Reference adopted by Council in June are provided as **Appendix E**. As mentioned earlier in this report the opportunity is available for Committees and their new members to review the model terms of reference insofar as the flexibility to incorporate 'specific protocols and operating practices' that a Committee determines relevant to their efficient and effective functioning. Any such protocols / practices which a Committee proposes would be presented to Council for endorsement via the biannual Advisory Committee reporting

Reviewing Progress

To ensure we capitalise on the work done over the last year it is proposed that after 12 months operation ie October 2022 a review of progress be undertaken through a survey of all Committee membership.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

There are no new financial implications associated with this proposal as the resources to support all Committees are included in the current financial years operating budget. It should however be acknowledged that across the 15 existing Advisory Committees the staff resources to support and engage these Committees is significant and reinforces Councils commitment to its Community Advisory Committees.

Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles

- (b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- (d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- (i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

Nil

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The recruitment and selection process for each Committee has been informed by Councils Towards Equality Framework with applicant evaluation processes having sought to consider whether applicants represent a demographic / life experience that could provide a unique / diverse perspective to the respective Committees. Considerations have included age / stage of life, diverse cultural and linguistic background, aboriginality, education / employment and (dis)ability.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Subject to Councils endorsement of this report the following implementation activities will be undertaken .

1. Formal induction of each Committee which will include an initial ‘ Meet and Greet ‘ session and a second session focusing on the functioning of the Committees and governance issues. Planning has commenced for these sessions including consideration of some joint Induction Sessions
2. Internal induction and support for those staff supporting Advisory Committees to ensure compliance to the model Terms of Reference in regards to administrative support

Related Documents

Nil

Attachments

- Summary of Advisory Committees, Councillor Briefing and other informal (**Appendix A**) [↓](#)
- Summary Hearing of Submissions Committee - 11 October 2021 (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)
- CONFIDENTIAL Appendix C - Summary of Recommended Community Members for Advisory Committees (**Appendix C**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- CONFIDENTIAL Appendix D - Advisory Committees Recruitment and Selection (**Appendix D**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Appendix E - Advisory Committees Terms of Reference (**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:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	27 September 2021
	Location:	Virtual meeting, Microsoft teams
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Mayor Lina Messina Cr. Greco (arrived 3.10pm) Cr. Laurence (arrived 3.10pm) Cr. Rennie Cr. Williams Cr. Newton Cr. McCarthy (arrived 3.10pm) Cr. Hannan Cr. Dimitriadis
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson Rachel Ollivier Jodie Watson Kerry McGrath Chad Griffiths Stevie Meyer Alia Slamet
	Other:	n/a
APOLOGIES:		None

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS – PUBLIC RECORD (CONT)

The Meeting commenced at 3pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Preston market planning matters	No disclosures were made
2	Upcoming Council meeting (27 September)	Officers left the meeting before this matter was discussed. No disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 4.39pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Rachel Ollivier
	Officer Title:	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

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 next Governance Report .



SUMMARY OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	4 October 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Messina (Mayor), Cr. Greco (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Dimitriadis, Cr. Greco, Cr. Hannan, Cr. Newton, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Williams. Cr. McCarthy arrived at 1.19pm
	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
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr. Laurence

The briefings commenced at 1.05pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Covid Update	

The briefing concluded at 2.54pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance and Engagement

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:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	11 October 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Messina (Mayor), Cr Greco (Deputy Mayor), Cr Dimitriadis, Cr Greco, Cr Hannan, Cr McCarthy, Cr Newton, Cr Rennie, Cr Williams.
	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 Srini Vasan, A/Manager Finance (Item 4.1) Tony Blackwell, Project Lead Waste Fees (Item 4.1) Vanessa Petrie, Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport (Item 4.1 & 4.3) Michelle Van Gerrevick, Coordinator (Item 4.1) Brett Gambau, Manager Operations (Item 4.1) Brendan Moore, Coordinator Waste (Item 4.1) Matt Doherty, A/Manager City Safety and Compliance (Item 4.2 & 4.3) Karen Leeder, Manager City Development (Item 4.3) Jolyon Boyle, Coordinator Priority Development (Item 4.3)
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr Laurence

The briefings commenced at 2.02pm

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS CONT.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.1	Separate Waste Service Fee (Finance)	None
4.2	Domestic Animal Management Plan	None
4.3	Planning Committee Meeting 11 October	None

The briefing concluded at 5.15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Jodie Watson
	Officer Title:	General Manager Governance and Engagement

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:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	18 October 2021
	Location:	Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Messina (Mayor), Cr. Greco (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Hannan, Cr. McCarthy, Cr. Newton, Cr. Rennie, Cr. Williams. Cr. Dimitriadis joined at 2.33pm
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, CEO Jodie Watson, GM Governance & Engagement (Item 4.5 & 4.6) Sam Hewett, GM Operations and Capital Rachel Ollivier, GM City Sustainability and Strategy (Item 4.1) Kerry McGrath, GM Communities (Item 4.2 & 4.3) Chad Griffith (Item 4.1) Stevie Meyer (Item 4.1) David Godden (Item 4.2) Jo Smale (Item 4.2) Steve Tierney (Item 4.3) Stuart McFarlane (Item 4.3) Stephen Mahon (Item 4.4) Jennifer Lewis (Item 4.5) Srini Vasan, A/Manager Finance (Item 4.6) Tony Blackwell, Project Lead Waste Fees (Item 4.6) Vanessa Petrie, Manager Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport (Item 4.6) Michelle Van Gerrevick, Coordinator (Item 4.6) Brett Gambau, Manager Operations (Item 4.6) Brendan Moore, Coordinator Waste (Item 4.6)
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr Laurence

The briefings commenced at 2.02pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
4.1	General Business - Covid impacts - Shop Local Voucher Scheme - Preston Market	None None None

The briefing concluded at 6.49pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Jodie Watson Officer Title: General Manager Governance and Engagement
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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.



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**Summary Report of the Hearing of Submissions Committee
Meeting – Monday 11 October 2021**

SUMMARY REPORT HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 OCTOBER 2021

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SUMMARY REPORT HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 OCTOBER 2021

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS
COMMITTEE OF THE DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY
ON MONDAY 11 OCTOBER 2021**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 5.33 PM

The Mayor Cr. Messina advised that the meeting was being held virtually and streamed live and that the audio and video would be made available on the Council's website as soon as practical after the meeting.

1. PRESENT***Councillors***

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Tom Hannan
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Susanne Newton
Cr. Susan Rennie
Cr. Julie Williams

Council Officers

Sam Hewett - General Manager Operations & Capital
Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance & Engagement
Brett Grambau – Manager City Works
Abdullahi Ahmed – Coordinator Operations and Compliance
Stephen Mahon - Coordinator Council Business
Rachna Gupta Singh - Senior Council Business Officer
Michelle Martin - Council Business Officer
Georgina Steele - Council Business Officer

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Tim Laurence and Councillor Emily Dimitriadis.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

SUMMARY REPORT HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 OCTOBER 2021

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting held on 31 May 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That the Minutes of the Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting held on 31 May 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUMMARY REPORT HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 OCTOBER 2021

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS**5.1 ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required to update its Road Management Plan (the RMP) in accordance with the Road Management Act 2004. The purpose of this report is to seek the Hearing of Submissions Committee's consideration of the submissions made on the proposed amended Road Management Plan (the RMP).

At its meeting on 26 July 2021, Council resolved to release the draft 2021 Road Management Plan for community consultation. As a consequence of the public exhibition period, three public submissions were received of which two submitters have requested to be heard in person by the Committee.

The current review of the RMP commenced in April 2021 and concluded with the public exhibition and community consultation of the RMP. Public notice was given in the Government Gazette and The Age with the community consultation phase extending from 20 August 2021 to 22 September 2021.

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a further report in relation to the matter will be provided to Council seeking a final resolution on the matter.

The following person addressed the Committee in support of their submission:

- *Ms. Rosetta Rametta (represented submitter Anne-Marie)*

Submitter Georgie Capuana did not attend the Committee Meeting.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Receives the written and verbal submissions.
- (2) Thanks all submitters and presenters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
- (3) Receives a report at the 25 October 2021 Council Meeting as part of Council's deliberations in considering a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption.

SUMMARY REPORT HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 OCTOBER 2021

Committee Decision

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That Council:

- (1) Receives the written and verbal submissions.
- (2) Thanks all submitters and presenters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
- (3) Receives a report at the 25 October 2021 Council Meeting as part of Council's deliberations in considering a final proposed 2021 Road Management Plan for adoption

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 5.47 pm.

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur ‘mid-term’, a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council’s Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a ‘mid-term’ vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member’s term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members’ terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members’ behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee’s activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council’s Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council’s Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council’s Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council’s Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to</p>
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	<p>make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate. Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issues, policies and drivers that influence services delivered to residents ageing in Darebin. • the implementation of Age Friendly Darebin Activities. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People • Towards an Age Friendly Darebin • Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent the diverse community of older adults in Darebin, including carers and family members. • Advise Council on issues and barriers that affect older adults living, working, or studying in Darebin. • Advocate on behalf of older residents, families and carers regarding issues at both a local, state and federal level. • Participate in a timely manner in planning related to advocacy, funding, event and infrastructure design and providing input with consideration to health and wellbeing outcomes for older adults in Darebin. • Advise and inform activities for the implementation of Towards an Age Friendly Darebin. • Make recommendations to Council (where appropriate) regarding matters affecting the interests of older adults in Darebin. <p>To assist members to participate in meetings the following support will be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information in alternative formats (including large print, Braille, easy English, plain English, electronic), covering costs for travel, attendant care, respite care, language interpreters (including Auslan) and other reasonable costs. • In the event meetings are held online, committee members will be supported to participate in meetings using digital technology. • Where possible, Council will encourage members to enhance their skills and capacity both personally and professionally. This could be in the form of guest speakers, events, training, and participation in other Council or external opportunities. • If members wish to attend, participate or represent AHAAC in other Council or external opportunities they need to inform the

	Supporting Officer of their intentions beforehand, if additional support or remuneration is required.
ToR Clause 4	<p>Maximum number of community committee members: 12 (includes one representative from the aged care, research or learning sectors). This number excludes Council officers.</p> <p>The committee should reflect the diversity of Darebin's older community regarding indigenous status, age, ability, cultural and linguistic background, religious affiliation, education and income levels, employment status, carer role etc. This will be a key consideration in the selection and recruitment of members.</p>
ToR Clause 6	The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor.
ToR Clause 9	The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi-annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers.

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur ‘mid-term’, a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council’s Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a ‘mid-term’ vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member’s term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members’ terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members’ behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee’s activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council’s Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council’s Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council’s Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council’s Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to</p>
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	<p>make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate. Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
<p>7. Transparency</p>	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
<p>8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members</p>	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
<p>9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation</p>	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and barriers affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the Darebin region. • Input into Council's policy and decision-making processes. • Informing, monitoring the implementation of and evaluating delivery of plans including the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan and the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan. • Assisting in the development of future action plans. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People • Towards an Age Friendly Darebin • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027. <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Reference Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' values, living culture and practices, including their cultural and spiritual connection to land and the right to self-determination. • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work or study in Darebin have the right to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin City Council and to participate in all aspects of community life. • The right of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Darebin to live without fear of discrimination or any form of social disadvantage. • The need for continued Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community participation and awareness-raising in processes of advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality, health, education and social justice in closing the gap in Darebin.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting Council's commitment to self-determination, the DAAC agenda is primarily directed by DAAC members while also being inclusive of Darebin City Council's agenda items. • Recognition and respect for the differing role and standing of the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung as Traditional Owners and that of DAAC in providing advice and guidance to Council. <p><i>Sitting Fee for Community Membership</i></p> <p>To allow diversity in participation and taking into account the multiple responsibilities Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to their cultural obligations both in their work roles and wider community responsibilities and to acknowledge and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander member's cultural knowledge, advice and guidance - the Council will provide Aboriginal members with a sitting fee of \$80.00 for each formal meeting.</p> <p>The Community Co-Chair will receive a higher sitting fee to reflect the increased responsibilities and standing of this role.</p>
<p>ToR Clause 4</p>	<p>Maximum number of community committee members: 11 (excluding Council Officers).</p> <p>Membership is open to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people who live, work or study in Darebin. Organisations, groups or bodies are ineligible to apply.</p> <p>Upon joining, members agree to provide confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage if required.</p> <p>The Committee should reflect the full diversity of Darebin Aboriginal community in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Gender balance • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status (Youth, Elders) • Equity across family groups and clans • Education and employment status • Role within community <p>The Committee will seek to build and reflect diversity within membership and be inclusive in practice.</p> <p>As a standing order of meetings, Committee members who represent DAAC on other Council committees shall have the opportunity to report back to the Committee.</p>
<p>ToR Clause 6</p>	<p>The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor with a nominated community member as Co-Chair. The Co-Chair role is for a 2-year term aligned with Committee terms and will be elected at a committee meeting with voting limited to community members.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, Council will encourage and aim to support its Committee members to enhance their skills and capacity both personally and professionally. This could be in the form of guest speakers, events, training, and participation in other Council or external opportunities. • If members wish to participate or represent DDAC in other Council or external opportunities, and if additional support or remuneration is required, they need to inform the Supporting Officer of their intentions beforehand.
ToR Clause 4	<p>Members should live, work and/or study in Darebin. However, membership will be determined on a case by case basis, with consideration of the person's familiarity with Darebin, ability to attend meetings and relevant skills and expertise.</p> <p>The Committee should consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Councillors, one nominated as Chair of the Committee and one as a Proxy. • Minimum of eight community representatives who are people with lived experience of disability. • Minimum of three community representatives who are (unpaid) carers of people with disability. Where possible, a carer of a child with disability and a carer of an adult with disability will be a member of DDAC. • Maximum of four representatives from local disability service providers. <p>The committee should reflect the diversity of Darebin's community regarding Indigenous status, age, ability, cultural and linguistic background, religious affiliation, education and income levels, employment status and carer role as far as possible. This will be a key consideration in the selection and recruitment.</p>
ToR Clause 6	The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor.

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Disability Advisory Committee

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution. ▪ Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee. ▪ Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making. ▪ Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action. ▪ Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views. ▪ Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only. The Committee has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR.</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council</p>

	<p>policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process.</p> <p>Where vacancies occur ‘mid-term’, a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council’s Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process, as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a ‘mid-term’ vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member’s term.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached, or completed, causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members’ terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms i.e. 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members’ behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist, or imply, that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee’s activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council’s Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council’s Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council’s Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member</p>

	<p>being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution or in urgent circumstances by Council’s Chief Executive Officer, if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>
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<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly, unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer, in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established, as required, for a specific purpose and for a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council Officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee, including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forwarded to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days after the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent.</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually.</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests/subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council Officer.</p>
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	<p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council, if appropriate. Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon, a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members. c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings. d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers.
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice, as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council Officer in an appropriate format, if and when required.</p> <p>The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers.</p> <p>The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues relating to access and inclusion for people with disability and carers living, working, studying and visiting Darebin • Promoting and advocating for improved access equity within Council and the wider community, irrespective of type of disability, age, sexuality and gender identity, culture, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background, and linguistic background. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021–2025 • Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan • Towards Equality Framework Darebin City Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people • Towards an Age Friendly Darebin
ToR Clause 3	<p>The Committee's guiding practices are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent the interests of people with disability in Darebin, including carers and family members. • Advise Council on issues and barriers that affect people with disability and carers living, working, studying and visiting Darebin. • Advocate and lobby on behalf of residents with disability and carers regarding systemic issues in a changing landscape at a local, State and National levels. • Participate in policy development through membership of steering groups, participation in community consultation processes and other activities of Council departments. • Respond and contribute to relevant documents including policies, reports, research documents and plans provided by Council officers for comment. • Monitor the implementation of the Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan on an ongoing basis. <p>The following assistance will be provided to assist committee members' participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability-related supports required to enable participation on DDAC and in meetings, including providing information in alternative formats (large print, Braille, Easy English, Plain English, electronic copies), covering costs for travel, attendant care, respite care, language interpreters (including Auslan) and other reasonable costs. • Skill development to access meetings via digital technology.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, Council will encourage and aim to support its Committee members to enhance their skills and capacity both personally and professionally. This could be in the form of guest speakers, events, training, and participation in other Council or external opportunities. • If members wish to participate or represent DDAC in other Council or external opportunities, and if additional support or remuneration is required, they need to inform the Supporting Officer of their intentions beforehand.
<p>ToR Clause 4</p>	<p>Members should live, work and/or study in Darebin. However, membership will be determined on a case by case basis, with consideration of the person’s familiarity with Darebin, ability to attend meetings and relevant skills and expertise.</p> <p>The Committee should consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Councillors, one nominated as Chair of the Committee and one as a Proxy. • Minimum of eight community representatives who are people with lived experience of disability. • Minimum of three community representatives who are (unpaid) carers of people with disability. Where possible, a carer of a child with disability and a carer of an adult with disability will be a member of DDAC. • Maximum of four representatives from local disability service providers. <p>The committee should reflect the diversity of Darebin’s community regarding Indigenous status, age, ability, cultural and linguistic background, religious affiliation, education and income levels, employment status and carer role as far as possible. This will be a key consideration in the selection and recruitment.</p>
<p>ToR Clause 6</p>	<p>The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor.</p>

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Education Network

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR.</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be</p>

	<p>specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process.</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent.</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually.</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required.</p> <p>The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi-annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Education Network
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting equitable and quality learning and education for all students across Darebin primary and secondary schools; • Providing information and advice to Darebin City Council on priorities for equity in education, especially for students who experience educational disadvantage; and in student wellbeing; • Creating opportunities for exchange and collaboration between primary and secondary schools across all sectors – public, Catholic and independent, on mutual priority areas of teaching and learning, and on student wellbeing; • Creating opportunities for exchange, collaboration and initiatives between Darebin schools and Darebin City Council on priorities of teaching and learning, and on student wellbeing; • Supporting student voice and action in schools and in school communities on student and community priorities; • Facilitating active engagement between Darebin City Council and Darebin’s school leaders and educators; • Providing advice and engagement for Darebin City Council on ongoing development and review of policies, strategies and plans, especially those that directly and indirectly impact on schools and provision of equitable education and student wellbeing; • Sustaining a forum for evidence-based and innovative practice in learning and education and student wellbeing; • Advocating to relevant external authorities for equitable, quality and diversity of education and wellbeing programs for students and schools, with attention to schools where there is significant educational disadvantage. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People • Darebin Youth Services Strategy 2019 – 2021 • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027. <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles and practices are:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People of this nation and the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the traditional owners of the land on which all schools in Darebin are situated. This acknowledgement recognises the importance of educating all students of the rich and thriving culture, knowledge and experience of First Nations people; as well as the truth-telling of past and present injustices; • Commitment to equitable opportunities and outcomes in learning and education for all students; • Acknowledgement of the various intersecting factors and systemic barriers that limit educational and learning opportunities and outcomes for students, especially those who experience social disadvantage and discrimination; • Respect for diversity of ideas and voices in discussions and advice provided to Council; • Collaboration with all participating in the Network; • Active contribution to the development of ideas, discussion and priorities of the Network and the advice provided to Council.
ToR Clause 4	<p>Representatives from all Darebin schools are invited to participate, in addition to representatives from the North East Melbourne Area of the North West Victoria Region of the Department of Education and Training.</p> <p>All schools will be invited to nominate a representative, most usually the Principal of the school, or at least a member of the leadership team of the school for a 2 year term. A proxy may also be nominated should the representative not be able to attend.</p> <p>Any school that accepts this invitation will need to formally communicate the name and contact details of the nominated representative and proxy. Council will ensure that any nominated representatives are contacted via email with contact details of the Council Officer responsible for supporting the Network, details of Network activities, the model Terms of the Reference and any other relevant information to assist representatives in actively participating.</p> <p>Those schools that do not nominate either their representative or proxy will continue to be informed and welcomed to take part in the Network quarterly meetings.</p> <p>The Network should reflect the full diversity of the schools that exist in Darebin - including primary and secondary, public, Catholic and independent, and specialised schools that address the educational needs and rights of students.</p> <p>The Network will seek to build and reflect diversity within membership and be inclusive in practice.</p>
ToR Clause 6	The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor.

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Interfaith Council

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR.</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be</p>

	<p>specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process.</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent.</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually.</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

<p>Name of Committee</p>	<p>Darebin Interfaith Council</p>
<p>ToR Clause 2</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating opportunities for dialogue between religious leaders and community members of diverse faith background. • Providing leadership on matters pertaining to interfaith relations, interfaith understanding and cooperation in the City of Darebin. • Promoting the work of interfaith collaboration and interfaith understanding for the City of Darebin. • Acting as a source of information and advice to Darebin City Council and the Darebin community on interfaith related matters. • Facilitating the active engagement of Darebin City Council with its religious leaders and communities of faith. • Providing opportunities for the Darebin Interfaith Council to support the Darebin Council with the implementation of its Equity and Inclusion Policy and to participate in Council’s consultations, programs, policy developments and community engagement processes. • Promoting social harmony and cohesion between diverse faith communities and the protection of human rights. • Working towards eliminating racial and religious prejudice, intolerance and vilification. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People • Towards an Age Friendly Darebin <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable
<p>ToR Clause 3</p>	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to the principle of “Conversing rather than Converting”. • Respect the value and integrity of each faith. • Approach dialogue and debate with a spirit of understanding and collaboration. • Contribute to the community’s understanding of faith, beliefs, traditions and customs. • Build interfaith bridges of cooperation and understanding between the various groups. • Educate itself and the community on diverse faiths. • Respect, value and promote the role of the Darebin Interfaith Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Darebin Interfaith Council's commitments and objectives. <p>The Darebin Interfaith Council also adheres to the six guiding principles underpinning Darebin City Council's Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle 1: Recognising Australia's First peoples and the right to self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a foundation for equity and fairness • Principle 2: Upholding human rights • Principle 3: Advancing social justice • Principle 4: Delivering meaningful, equitable and inclusive community engagement • Principle 5: Championing health equity • Principle 6: Supporting climate justice
<p>ToR Clause 4</p>	<p>Maximum number of community committee members: 15 (excluding Councillor and Council Officers).</p> <p>Please note that the number may change to support the diverse representation of faiths in Darebin.</p> <p>The Committee should reflect the full diversity of the Darebin religious community, first in terms of religious affiliation and second in terms of age, ability, indigenous status, cultural and linguistic background, education and income levels, employment status, carer role, etc. This will be a key consideration in the selection and recruitment of members.</p> <p>The Committee will seek to build and reflect diversity within membership and be inclusive in practice.</p> <p>Representatives of faith organisations and individuals are welcome to join the Committee at any time, in accordance with the model Terms of Reference and subject to the recommendation of the responsible Council Officer and the consent of the Chairperson.</p> <p>The tenure of any such additional members will be in alignment with the current members and will be endorsed by Council in conjunction with the bi-annual reporting of the Committee activities to Council.</p>
<p>ToR Clause 6</p>	<p>The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor with a Community member as Co-Chair.</p>

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these Terms of Reference.</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported biannually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and barriers to equality affecting people in the City of Darebin who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex and/or queer (LGBTIQ) and their families. • Promoting and advocating for equality and social inclusion of LGBTIQ communities within the wider context of the Darebin community. • Raising awareness and promote understanding of diverse sexualities, genders and sex characteristics as facets of diversity in the broader Darebin community. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021 • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027 • Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023 • Darebin Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan 2022-onwards (yet to be developed)
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles of the Committee are grounded in a social inclusion and human rights-based framework, affirming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That all residents who, live, work or study in Darebin have the right to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin City Council and to participate in all aspects of civic life, regardless of sexuality, gender identity and intersex status. • The rights of all members of LGBTIQ communities in Darebin to live their lives without fear of discrimination, harassment or vilification and to feel included, respected, safe and well. • The need for continued awareness-raising, advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality facing members of LGBTIQ communities and their families.
ToR Clause 4	Maximum number of community committee members: 12 (excluding Council Officers).

	<p>Membership will comprise of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A minimum of two representatives from community-based organisations that support LGBTIQ communities on a range of issues• A maximum of ten community members representing the diversity within LGBTIQ communities and the Darebin community.
ToR Clause 6	<p>The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor with support from a Council Officer.</p>

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Welcoming Cities Community Reference Group
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving the principles and criteria in the Welcoming Cities Standard, including providing advice on the development for a Welcoming City Plan that further embeds Council's anti-racism stance and commitment. • Identifying opportunities for collaboration and partnership development to support newly arrived/migrant communities. • Share information around work and projects that contribute to a sense of inclusion and improve a sense of belonging and inclusion in the Darebin community. • Facilitate a whole-of-community approach to building social and cultural inclusion, economic engagement and civic participation. • Provide a platform for individuals or community groups to raise issues of inclusion, social cohesion or experiences of race-based discrimination issues. • Support broader projects that promote best practice in creating a welcoming city and seek to pilot innovative projects as appropriate. • Identify and provide recommendations back to Council as appropriate. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Reference Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021. • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027. • Gender Equity and Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The Darebin City Council's Welcoming Cities Reference Group aligns to the principles set out in the Australian Standard for Welcoming Cities, affirming that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are recognised as the First People of this nation and the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land. As such Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be engaged as leaders in welcoming activities. • Cultural diversity and inclusion are paramount and should be advanced through collaboration within Council and cooperation and

	<p>partnerships between Council, the local community and other government and community agencies and organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships between newly arrived/migrant and receiving/established communities should be facilitated to address racism and promote social cohesion - noting diversity of experience, identity, resources and status. • All residents should have equitable access to Council services and assets, as well as opportunities for employment, business development and entrepreneurship, removing systemic barriers as needed. All residents should be equally supported to participate in the community and encouraged to participate in civic life. All residents should be engaged in the design process for urban planning so that public spaces and facilities enhance liveability, social cohesion and inclusion. • It is essential to engage the receiving/established communities in ways that build greater understanding of why welcoming work is important. Both receiving and migrant communities should be supported to develop the skills and opportunities required to foster social cohesion. • People of all backgrounds have unique talents and experiences that they contribute to our community. These should be valued to make our communities vibrant, and welcoming. • The voice and experiences of both new arrivals and the broader community are critical to defining a welcoming agenda.
<p>ToR Clause 4</p>	<p>Maximum number of Reference Group members: 14 (excluding Council Officers).</p> <p>Membership of Darebin Welcoming Cities Reference Group will include representatives with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise in matters relating to the experience of migration/migrants, and/or racism/race-based discrimination. • Interest in developing partnership responses with the local community to enhance a sense of welcome, inclusion and belonging. • Commitment to integrated collaborative planning and community participation in strategies and projects that improve levels of community welcome, inclusion and belonging in Darebin. <p>Membership will comprise of 14 voting members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 nominated Darebin Councillor. • 6 community members to be recruited via an Expression of Interest process. • 3 members from existing Committees, 1 representative from each of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Darebin Ethnic Communities Council - Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee - Darebin Interfaith Council • 3 representatives from community and migrant support agencies in the City of Darebin, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AMES - Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre - Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) • Traditional Owner representative from the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation <p>Each year the supporting Officer will review appointments and invitations will be made to the relevant agencies.</p>

	Membership will be by invitation from Council for agencies and organisations. Nominations will be sought from DECC, DAAC and DIC.
ToR Clause 6	The Reference Group Chairperson shall be a Councillor with support from a Council Officer.

TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Women’s Advisory Committee

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate.</p>
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	<p>Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Women's Advisory Committee
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues affecting women and gender-diverse communities in the City of Darebin. • Providing a gender lens on issues, policies, programs and services. • Promoting and advocating for equality and social inclusion of all women in the Darebin community and in particular, women experiencing compounding forms of discrimination. • Raising awareness and promoting understanding of issues and barriers to equality affecting women and gender diverse people in the City of Darebin <p><i>*Women</i> refers to people who identify as women. This recognises that sex and gender are not the same and that some people's gender identities may not reflect the biological sex they were assigned at birth. Moreover, this recognises that gender is not binary and that some people's gender identities may not fit into binary categories of male or female and indeed that some people may identify as neither male nor female, or both.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender Equity & Preventing Violence Against Women Action Plan 2019-2023 • Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021 • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2027
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles of the Committee are grounded in a social inclusion and human rights-based framework, affirming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That all women who live, work or study in Darebin have the right to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin City Council and to participate in all aspects of community life • The right of all women in Darebin to live without fear of violence, discrimination or any form of social disadvantage • The need for continued awareness raising, advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality facing women in their diversity in Darebin

ToR Clause 4	Maximum number of community committee members: 12 (excluding Council Officers). Membership will comprise of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least one nominated woman Councillor• Up to twelve community members representing the diversity of Darebin women
ToR Clause 6	The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor with support from at least one Council Officer.

MODEL TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Climate Emergency Darebin

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or experience</p>

	<p>deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

<p>6. Meetings</p>	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to</p>
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	<p>make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate. Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
<p>7. Transparency</p>	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
<p>8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members</p>	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
<p>9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation</p>	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required. The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Climate Emergency Darebin
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate emergency leadership, specifically around the impacts and opportunities for the Darebin community • achieving and implementing climate and energy strategies and actions in the Council Plan • rapid community emissions reduction including advice on large and community scale renewable energy and other zero emissions technologies • ongoing development and review of policies, strategies and plans, especially those that directly and indirectly impact the Darebin community around the climate emergency • developing programs relating to Council priorities such as: climate risk, fuel poverty, resilience, adaptation, mitigation and protection of those communities most impacted by climate change • developing and delivering Council’s Climate Emergency Plan • promoting the work of Darebin’s climate program • effective and appropriate engagement with Darebin’s diverse community on climate issues • advocating to relevant external authorities to ensure action is taken to create a safe climate for all. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021-2025 • Towards Equality: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Emergency Plan 2017-22 • Watershed: Towards Water Sensitive Darebin 2015-25 • Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan 2017-2021 • Waste and Recycling Strategy 2020 • Transport Strategy • Breathing Space: Open Space Strategy
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <p>The guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First People of this nation and the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the municipality of Darebin is situated. This acknowledgement recognises the importance of traditional owners ongoing

	<p>commitment and contribution to Country, including to land, water and Culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Child Safe Darebin, with all members complying with Child Safe policy and protocols • Respect for diversity of ideas and voices in discussions and advice provided to Council; • Collaboration with all participating in the Advisory Committee; • Active contribution to the development of ideas, discussion and priorities of the Advisory Committee and the advice provided to Council. • Respect the value and integrity of each member and the richness they bring. • Approach dialogue and debate with a spirit of understanding and collaboration. • Respect, value and promote the role of the Climate Emergency Darebin Advisory Committee.
<p>ToR Clause 4</p>	<p>Two Councillors required.</p> <p>A maximum of ten community members representing the diversity within Darebin’s community.</p> <p>Ideally at least*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two from the Traditional Owner as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities • two from Darebin’s culturally and linguistically diverse communities • two with specialist climate expertise – could be technical or other • two with community expertise – community leadership, community engagement, advocacy etc • two people between 16 to 25 years <p>*A committee member could be eligible under more than one of the above categories.</p> <p>The Committee will seek to build and reflect diversity within membership including age and gender and be inclusive in practice.</p> <p>The tenure of any such additional members will be in alignment with the current members and will be endorsed by Council in conjunction with the bi-annual reporting of the Committee activities to Council.</p>
<p>ToR Clause 6</p>	<p>The Committee Chairperson shall be a Councillor with a Community member as Co-Chair</p> <p>The Committee Chairperson and Co-Chair shall be appointed at its first meeting.</p>

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TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Young Citizen Jury

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (where appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR.</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
<p>4. Composition, Recruitment, Appointment and Tenure</p>	<p>This Committee comprises Councillor(s) appointed by Council annually and a Council Officer nominated by the Chief Executive Officer (both non-voting) and any other persons, and representatives of organisations as determined by resolution of Council and as specified in Appendix A.</p> <p>All Advisory Committees will sunset on 30 June following each General Council election, unless they have been re-established in the new Council term or the work of an Advisory Committee has been completed prior to this date.</p> <p>Specified members of Committees (excluding Councillors) shall be appointed to a Committee for the term specified in Appendix A. All appointments will be for an initial period of 2 years with the option for a further maximum period through to the 30 June in the year following each General Election upon re application.</p> <p>If the Council Officer (in consultation with existing Committee members) believes that staggered appointment terms are appropriate for the Committee, these may be instituted within the parameters of the 2 years period.</p> <p>Where a member is appointed to the Committee as a representative of a particular organisation a proxy may attend meeting on their behalf if the nominated person cannot attend.</p> <p>Council will appoint one proxy Councillor to each Committee annually. Councillors appointed as a proxy through the annual appointment process may attend Committee meetings.</p> <p>All vacancies shall be publicly advertised by Council prior to appointment.</p> <p>Prospective candidates shall submit an Expression of Interest in a form and manner prescribed by Council to enable Council to consider their appointment to the Committee. The criteria for the appointment of members will be developed by the Council Officer based on the required skills and knowledge and the existing Council policy and practices that promote diversity and inclusion. The Council Officer will consult with the Committee regarding any skill or</p>

	<p>experience deficiency or gap in the existing Committee that may need to be specifically considered during a recruitment and appointment process.</p> <p>Where vacancies occur 'mid-term', a replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to an Expression of Interest process as above.</p> <p>Committee members appointed as a result of a 'mid-term' vacancy will serve the balance of the former Committee member's term.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any of the above, Council may at any time by resolution set a date or a milestone that when reached or completed causes the cessation of the Committee and the expiry of Committee members' terms.</p> <p>A member may not complete more than 2 successive Council terms ie 8 years unless exceptional circumstances supporting the continuation of the members participation are demonstrated.</p>
<p>5. Responsibilities, Duties and Conduct of Members</p>	<p>In performing the purpose of the Committee, members must act honestly, treat others with respect, exercise reasonable care and diligence, and not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position.</p> <p>The expectation of members' behaviour is that they will behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice. Respectful behaviour is inclusive of all Committee meetings, emails, correspondence, telephone calls and on-line meetings.</p> <p>Members must work co-operatively with other members, respect the authority of the Chair and meeting procedures and must not seek to dominate the meeting or insist or imply that their own views and ideas carry more weight than those of others.</p> <p>Members must respect the confidential and sensitivity of information as appropriate.</p> <p>Committee members will be required to participate in an induction workshop arranged by Council and may be required to participate in specified training relevant to the work of the Committee from time to time.</p> <p>Upon appointment, Chairs including Co-Chairs must undertake or demonstrate relevant recent training and proficiency in running effective meetings.</p> <p>Committee members must not speak for Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the Committee's activities and deliberations.</p> <p>Committee Members are required to abide by Council's Employee Code of Conduct to the extent applicable to volunteers and the Council's Volunteer Policy. Failure to abide by the conduct principles, (and relevant Council policies, including Council's Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines) will result in the member being deemed to be in breach of their obligations and may result in their removal from the Committee by a Council resolution, or in urgent circumstances by Council's Chief Executive Officer if the Chief Executive Officer considers that such action is necessary.</p>

6. Meetings	<p>Attendance at Committee meetings is expected in normal circumstances and is critical to fulfilment of appointment as a member.</p> <p>The Chairperson shall be appointed as specified in Appendix A</p> <p>Meetings will be held quarterly unless determined by the Committee Chair and Council Officer in order to allow for the timely consideration and provision of advice to Council on particular, time-sensitive matters from time to time. Committees may, with the approval of the relevant General Manager, meet more frequently on a limited and specific basis (if required).</p> <p>Working Groups may be established as required for a specific purpose and on a limited timeframe to enable a focus on a specific task or project. These are subject to the approval by the relevant General Manager after consideration of their specific need, the availability of resources to support their operation and their agreed timeframes and tenure.</p> <p>If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chairperson for the purposes of conducting the meeting.</p> <p>The appointed Council officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.</p> <p>Committee agendas will be forward to Committee members by email no later than five working days before a scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Minutes will be provided to Committee members and all Councillors no later than 10 working days of the meeting and will include a summary of discussions, details of any conflicts of interest disclosed and any decisions made. The Chair, including Co-Chairs, shall ratify the minutes of the meeting prior to their distribution. Formal endorsement of the minutes will occur at the subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee agenda items will be identified by Council Officers in consultation with the Chairperson. Members are able to request items to be listed subject to them being raised with the Council Officer and with the Chairpersons consent.</p> <p>Notice of any additional Committee meetings will be provided 2 weeks in advance.</p> <p>Committee meetings may be held virtually.</p> <p>Committee meetings are closed to the public.</p> <p>Special guests / subject matter experts may be invited to the meeting at the combined discretion of the Chair, including Co-Chairs and Council officer.</p> <p>A quorum will be half of the voting Committee members plus one. In the absence of a quorum, a Chairperson may conduct the meeting for discussion purposes. Committees have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council, therefore any vote is on a</p>
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	<p>position or recommendation to be made to Council if appropriate. Whilst voting on matters is expected to be uncommon a member must be in attendance (either virtually or in person) to vote.</p> <p>Any Conflicts of Interest must be declared and recorded at the commencement of the meeting. A member who has a conflict of interest must leave the meeting when the item is discussed.</p>
7. Transparency	<p>In order to maintain transparency of Committee operations and in alignment with Council's Governance Rules the following information is to be published on Council's website in respect of each Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Terms of Reference. b) The names of all members c) Minutes of Advisory Committees meetings d) Reports of Committee activities (as reported biannually to Council) as prepared by Council Officers
8. Opportunities for Cross Collaboration and Induction of Committee members	<p>Council may, from time to time, facilitate meetings, forums, workshops and the like to enable the members of the various Committees to come together for knowledge sharing, professional development and the collaborative provision of advice as appropriate.</p> <p>Committees and new Committee members will be provided with an appropriate induction at the commencement of their term that includes an overview of the Council's structure and functions, the relationship of the Committee with Councillors and the community and any other matters to ensure they are well supported.</p>
9. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation	<p>The specific advice of a Committee in relation to a particular matter will be communicated to Council by the relevant Council officer in an appropriate format if and when required.</p> <p>The progress and activities of a Committee will be reported bi-annually through a combined six-monthly Council meeting report on the progress and activities of all Committees to be prepared by Council Officers. The operation of the Committee will be evaluated annually via a number of methods including self-evaluation of the Committee (arranged by the Council Officer) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.</p>

APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Young Citizen Jury
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To provide a platform that enables young people to be an active contributor and co-designer that address current issues that are important to young people. b) To provide a space that enables discussion and allows for diverse views to be shared and examined. (Where appropriate expert voices will be drawn upon to ensure all points of view are considered). c) To allow other stakeholders within Council and external service providers to seek input and feedback from young people into policy and projects as deemed relevant by Jury members. d) To identify and action relevant projects and initiatives that address key issues that are important to Darebin's young people e) To ensure a youth voice is elevated to council regarding key issues that are important to Darebin's young people. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan 2021 – 2025 • Toward Equity: Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019 – 2029 <p>Specific Council strategies, frameworks, plans and policies relevant to this Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Services Strategy 2019 - 2021
ToR Clause 3	<p>Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be set by Young Citizen Jury
ToR Clause 4	
ToR Clause 6	.

MODEL TERMS OF REFERENCE for Community Advisory Committees and Community Reference Groups



Darebin Nature Trust

<p>1. Application of these Terms of Reference</p>	<p>These Model Terms of Reference apply to all Community Advisory Committees, Community Reference Groups and similar groups formally constituted by resolution of Darebin City Council.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Model Terms of Reference, all such groups and committees are referred to as “the Committee”.</p>
<p>2. Purpose and Scope</p>	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations (were appropriate) to Council in relation to the matters specified in Appendix A</p> <p>In conducting its activities associated with its purpose and scope the Committee will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct itself according to, and within, the Terms of Reference and any relevant Council resolution; • Inform itself of issues, opportunities, constraints and urgent actions relating to maintenance and promotion of the Committee; • Provide honest, considered, constructive and impartial advice to Council that will improve Council decision making; • Provide advice on strategic and other planning work to help set short and longer-term direction and action; • Foster a Committee culture that seeks to understand and explore diverse views of Committee members so that advice to Council reflects such diversity of views, and; • Report to Council periodically on its work, in order to ensure accountability for its conduct. <p>In providing advice, all members will be given every opportunity, encouragement and support to put their views before the Committee and that this will be considered in Darebin’s policy, program and project development.</p> <p>The <i>scope</i> of this Committee is to act in an advisory capacity to the Council only and has no delegated authority to make decisions.</p> <p>The Committee does not have an operational role and neither it, nor its members, may direct Council staff in the performance of their duties.</p> <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council’s strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans referenced in Appendix A.</p>

<p>3. Committee Specific Protocols and Operating Practices</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that these model Terms of Reference may not in all instances provide the required or adequate clarity regarding a Committees functioning. To this extent, Committees may develop specific protocols and operating practices to supplement these ToR</p> <p>These protocols and operating practices may deal with any matters that the Committee determines are relevant to the efficient and effective functioning of the Committee and may include matters such as consideration of the social and cultural diversity of the Darebin community, inclusiveness of multicultural, educational, indigenous, religious, disability, youth, aged, sexual and gender communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, membership numbers, support for members to facilitate participation and consideration of sitting fees.</p> <p>Any such protocols and operating practices must not conflict with these ToR and must be endorsed by the Committee, the relevant General Manager and be attached to these ToR when formally adopted by Council. Should agreement not be reached by the Committee and the relevant General Manager, this will be escalated to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>
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APPENDIX A

Name of Committee	Darebin Nature Trust
ToR Clause 2	<p>The <i>purpose</i> of this Committee is to provide a sounding board (where appropriate) to Council in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters affecting biodiversity and the natural environment in Darebin's open space; • Identifying opportunities to improve biodiversity, open space and urban liveability for Darebin; • increasing the profile of Darebin's green spaces and local biodiversity to the broader community; • Raising awareness, educating and building community custodianship of our natural spaces so that Darebin's biodiversity is valued; and • Advocacy and action to secure, protect and enhance green space for current and future generations. <p>The Committee shall have regard to and act in accordance with Council's strategic objectives and priorities. Specifically, the Committee will have regard to the following strategies, plans, frameworks, policies and plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vision • Council Plan • Towards Equality Framework • Statement of Commitment to Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People • Breathing Space: the Darebin Open Space Strategy
ToR Clause 3	<p>The Committee's guiding practices are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance local biodiversity to create viable long-term habitat for flora and fauna within Darebin in the face of climate change. • Have an open space network that is planned and managed in an integrated way to achieve landscape, liveability and biodiversity outcomes. • Advocate for the acquisition of new land by Council that will increase access to and extent of Darebin's open space and further these objectives. • Increase community engagement to raise awareness and appreciation of nature and to foster long-term stewardship. • Actively support council's work related to biodiversity and the natural environment.
ToR Clause 4	<p>The membership of the Trust will comprise up to nine community members and three Councillor representatives.</p> <p>Community member appointments will be appointed by Council based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation of Darebin's culturally and linguistically diverse community; • A keen interest and passion for one or more of the following areas: biodiversity, ecology, open space management, urban design, community engagement and advocacy; • Complementary thinking that aligns with Darebin Council values; and • Capacity to provide advice to Council in a timely and appropriate manner.

ToR Clause 6	The Committee Chairperson shall be a) a Councillor b) a Councillor with a Community member as Co-Chair
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8.8 OUTDOOR SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**Author:** Recreation Planning and Participation Co-ordinator**Reviewed By:** General Manager Community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the outcomes achieved in year one of the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework (OSIF). It also outlines current and planned community sports club participation data collection, as well as strategies that contribute to leveraging improved participation outcomes (such as the Darebin Get Active program, the Sports Club Subsidy program and the new Leisure Strategy). An update is also provided on the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup training venue consideration for John Cain Memorial Park (JCMP).

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework Annual Implementation Report.
 - (2) Notes that a new Leisure Strategy will be delivered in the 2022 Financial Year, that will be framed by the Darebin 2041 Community Vision and the 2021- 2025 Council Plan which prioritises access equity, participation and inclusion for Darebin's diverse community.
 - (3) Notes that future annual reports on implementation outcomes of the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework be incorporated into the outcome reports of the new Leisure Strategy, when adopted.
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BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In the 2020/21 financial year, the OSIF was critical to the development and prioritisation of leisure projects in the 10-year Capital Works Plan. The framework identified a pipeline of projects derived from evidenced base decision making that assisted with the budget process and funding opportunities external to Council.

Previous Council Resolution

This briefing is in response to the Council Resolution from the Council meeting held on 29 June 2020; Minute number 20-103:

That Council:

1. *Adopts the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework, with the inclusion of an acknowledgement of Traditional Owners, specific references to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents and replacement of "both genders" with "all genders" in the participation outcomes section.*
2. *Receives an annual report on recreation and leisure participation outcomes for target groups over the next decade, along with health and community benefits and key challenges and opportunities. Target groups will include women, CALD communities,*

multicultural groups, people of all age groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with a disability and people from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds.

3. *Notes that Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand will co-host the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, and that John Cain Memorial Park has been included as a possible training site in line with Council's commitment to increasing the participation of women and girls in all aspects of sport.*
4. *Receives regular updates on any new opportunities to fast-track improvements to outdoor sports infrastructure to help increase target group participation.*

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

2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well

There are multiple actions in the Council Plan relating to recreation, leisure and sports infrastructure provision and equitable participation outcomes for groups of the community that experience disadvantage and barriers to engaging in sport and physical activity. These include:

- Big Actions: 1, 2, and 7,
- Action Plan Actions: 1-2, 1-3, 1-21, 1-24, 1-27, 2-1, 2-2, 2-9, 2-10, 2-11, 2-14, 2-29, 2-49, 4-15

The provision of sport and recreation infrastructure and programming is also supported by:

- 10-year Capital Works Plan
- Leisure Strategy
- Breathing Space.

DISCUSSION

Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework

Following adoption of the OSIF, Council has delivered, commenced and/or will have completed construction of the following identified priority projects this financial year:

- BT Connor Reserve Pavilion – under construction
- KP Hardiman Reserve Floodlighting (in conjunction with hockey pitch) – complete
- John Hall Reserve Floodlighting – complete
- GH Mott Reserve Floodlighting – out for tender
- IW Dole Reserve Floodlighting – out for tender
- JC Donath Reserve (East) Floodlighting – out for tender
- JE Moore Reserve (North) Floodlighting – out for tender.

Following a successful Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) grant application under the COVID-19 Stimulus Program, Council has been able to fast track the construction of IW Dole, JC Donath and JE Moore floodlighting projects under the one construction tender. The total project cost for floodlighting the three reserves is \$1,130,695, of which 90% is grant funded – \$1,017,626. Total cost to Council to deliver this project is \$113,069.

These projects were all identified as priorities in the OSIF, though not for delivery in the 2020/21 financial year. The framework however provides flexibility to reprioritise project delivery pending opportunity for external funding and as a result, the lighting projects at IW Dole, JC Donath and JE Moore will be delivered this financial year.

Council was also successful in obtaining a \$124,000 grant through SRV's World Game Facilities Fund for the delivery of floodlighting at GH Mott Reserve. This project will also be completed in 21/22. The grant covers 50% of the construction, leaving a total outlay of \$124,000 to Council for delivery of this project.

The projects listed above were successful in obtaining SRV funding as they:

- Provided a stimulus to local economic activity by planning, building and operating new or redeveloped significant community sport and active recreation infrastructure;
- Responded to demand for new participation opportunities by considering strategic and well-planned projects that have broad community and sector support; and
- Improved diversity and inclusion by increasing participation by community members experiencing disadvantage and under-represented groups identified by the Active Victoria strategy.

As a result of the successful fast-tracked projects, Council will now look to reprioritise its floodlighting projects in line with the outcomes identified in the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework and within the financial capacity as set out in the 10-year Capital Works Plan.

Outside of the projects identified in the framework, Council was also successful in obtaining a \$3.9 million grant for the Fitzroy Stars for the development of an Aboriginal Women and Girls Sport and Wellness Centre at Sir Douglas Nicholls Sporting Complex in Thornbury.

Participation Outcomes 2020/2021

Currently, there are 58 outdoor sporting clubs with 8,865 registered participants, accessing Council facilities that compete in various leagues across a range of different sports both annually and seasonally (winter/summer). The most popular outdoor sports in Darebin include AFL, Soccer and Cricket. These sports account for 86% of total outdoor participation at Council facilities.

Table 4: Outdoor Sports Club Participation Data 2021

Sport	Number of Clubs	No of Registered Participants
Soccer	10	2219
AFL	11	3244
Cricket	23	2236
Tennis	7	502
Baseball	2	53
Hockey	1	318
Rugby Union	1	209
Athletics	2	17
Outdoor Cycling	1	67
Total	58	8865

Table 5:
Sports

Age/Gender Participation	
Adult – 18 to 30 +	
Male	2575
Female	924
Juniors – U/10 to 17	
Male	3854
Female	1967

Outdoor
Club**Participation – Age and Gender**

It is important to note that despite the interruption COVID-19 has had on community sport, participation has remained steady with a very minor decrease in total participants since pre pandemic (fewer than 200). The reduction in participation also takes into consideration the temporary relocation of some of our sporting groups (hockey and athletics) who were housed by neighbouring municipalities during the redevelopment of their facilities.

Darebin's sport clubs have seen substantial growth over the past 4 years with the number of participants growing by 72% from 2017/18. Data from 2017/18 reflect a total club participation rate of 5,129 participants.

Additionally, the total number of women and girls participating in outdoor sport in 2017/18 was 751, which reflected 14.6% of total participants. In 2021, there are now 2,891 women and girls (an increase of 2,140) who are registered participants in outdoor sport, making up 22% of total participation. This increase can be attributed to an increase in capital works funding, ensuring facilities are safe and welcoming environments for all. The participation amongst women and girls has also maintained to the levels seen pre-pandemic, which is testament to the work that Darebin Clubs have undertaken to engage and consider the welfare of their local communities.

Following guidance and advice from the Equity and Wellbeing Department, Leisure Services are requesting tenanted sporting clubs to collect additional demographic data of participants including: age groups, gender, location (based in Darebin), disability/all ability teams, CALD, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the number of participants on concession membership/payment support plan at the club. The collection of this data has commenced for the upcoming 21/22 summer season and will be available in next year's report.

Council is currently advocating to State Sporting Associations and sporting bodies to ensure questions are added to registration forms that cover disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from CALD backgrounds, which is currently inconsistent in the industry. This will improve quality of data and reporting on these targeted demographics for Council, clubs and respective sports.

It is important to note that current data does not reflect participation numbers across aquatics, golf and indoor sports. Council will include clubs in these areas in our online data portal (IMS) beginning 2022, in order to have a more accurate picture on the current state of participation in Darebin.

Delivering for our key target groups

The significant impact of COVID-19 and associated lockdowns has highlighted the need to support Darebin residents and sporting clubs in the recovery process, as well as improve the health and wellbeing of all in the community.

The 2020 Darebin Annual Community Survey showed that the most common reasons respondents attributed poor health to COVID-19 was due to a lack of physical exercise and being locked down at home.

The Health and Wellbeing Profile Report 2021 has recommended the following two distinct, but interrelated, approaches to guide Council's efforts to achieve optimal health and wellbeing outcomes for Darebin's most vulnerable communities:

- Health equity: this acknowledges that some population groups are vulnerable to poorer health and wellbeing outcomes. Therefore, the approach focuses on reducing and eliminating unfair, avoidable or remediable conditions that lead to poor health and wellbeing outcomes for these groups.
- Environments for health: this recognises that many factors that contribute to health inequalities and ill-health lie in the complex social, economic, physical and natural environments in which people are born, grow up, live, work and age. The approach recommends working to improve those environments in order to promote, protect and improve health and wellbeing of individuals.

These recommendations have been reflected in the Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Plan Action Plans across several different approaches.

Pre COVID-19, Council endorsed that a minimum of 60% of the free exercise Darebin Get Active program be delivered in the East Preston/Reservoir area to ensure our offerings were available to the City's most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. In 2021, Council has continued to deliver on this initiative, with over 60% of the Get Active Programs now being delivered in East Preston and Reservoir.

Council also continues to incentivise sports clubs, who actively promote and deliver on participation and inclusion outcomes through a reduction in rental fees as part of our Sports Club Subsidy program. Clubs are rewarded for having women and girls, Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander participants and programs, all ability programs and programs for juniors and older adults.

The development of a new Leisure Strategy in the 2021/22 financial year is an action listed in the Council Plan. This will include a research study that identifies Darebin sports participation, particularly amongst underrepresented groups and review and update this data every 2-3 years to evaluate progress.

2023 FIFA Women's World Cup training venue update

John Cain Memorial Park is still under consideration as a training venue for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup. A site visit with Council and FIFA representatives took place on 30 June 2021. Council received a letter from FIFA on 23 July 2021 thanking Council for the recent 2023 World Cup training venue inspection at JCMP and advised that further planning was to take place prior to confirming their consideration of the venue.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

The OSIF has delivered a pipeline of projects that have been planned and budgeted for in the 10-year Capital Works Plan. The timing and delivery of projects are reviewed and determined annually in alignment with the Access and Equity Impact Assessment and accommodating disruptions and opportunities as they arise. Grant opportunities with SRV and other parties are continuously reviewed and applied for when the eligibility requirements can be met.

Community Engagement

Council engages with sporting clubs upon delivery of all infrastructure projects to ensure their input is included and considered in the design phase. Engagement also includes the coordination of temporary reallocation requirements resulting from construction. Broader community consultation and engagement is also a part of all sports infrastructure projects and tailored to the project.

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

- (a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;

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 OSIF continues to prioritise sustainable design requirements for any future development of sports infrastructure using the following criteria:

Environmental Benefit/Impact

- The project will reduce energy/resource consumption, providing cost benefits OR is consistent with Council's Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) policy for both pavilion and lighting projects.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The OSIF continues to incorporate equity, inclusion and wellbeing considerations for any future development of sports infrastructure through the following criteria areas:

Participation Outcomes

- The project maximises the use or multi-use of the facility and caters for a broader range of facility users including CALD communities, multicultural groups, people of all age groups, Aboriginal people and people from socio-economic disadvantage backgrounds.
- The project will increase participation rates in sport and/or recreation.
- The project will cater for both genders and genders not currently catered for at the facility.

- The project will cater for all age groups or an age group not currently catered for at the facility.
- The project enhances access and inclusion and/or provides an accessible facility for people with a disability.

Need and Community Benefit

- Improves the self-sufficiency and viability of the club/user groups.
- Provides access to healthy sport and recreation environments promoting community wellbeing.

The project will enable increased usage of an underutilised sport or recreation facility for formal or informal activities.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Community sporting infrastructure has health, social and economic benefits. The 2020 report: *The Value of Community Sport and Active Recreation Infrastructure*, conducted by KPMG for Sport and Recreation Victoria found that:

The value delivered and supported by community sport and active recreation infrastructure in Victoria has been estimated at (at least) \$7.04 billion on an annual average basis and is comprised of:

- \$2.1 billion in economic benefits
- \$2.3 billion in health benefits and
- \$2.6 billion in social benefits

The Centre for Sport and Social Impact (CSSI) at La Trobe University was commissioned by AFL Victoria to determine the social value of a “typical” community football club, specifically, its social, health and community impact.

The social return on investment for an average community football club indicates that for every \$1 spent to run a club, there is at least \$4.40 return in social value in terms of increased social connectedness, wellbeing, and mental health status, employment outcomes, personal development, physical health, civic pride and support of other community groups. Furthermore, for everyone registered player, football clubs reach 10 people in their community.

In FY20, the sport and recreation sector contributed 301 FTE positions, which is 0.6% of Darebin’s overall employment base. This is less than the greater Melbourne figure of 0.9%. The industry generates \$26.6M (2019) of economic value, which is 0.5% of our total industry value and the same percentage as Greater Melbourne (source: ID Economy).

Operational Impacts

Annual review and assessment of priority projects listed in the OSIF is undertaken to determine the capital works project pipeline to maximise equitable participation outcomes and external funding opportunities.

Legal and Risk Implications

Not applicable to this report.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

During FY22, Leisure Services will work with sports clubs and state sporting associations to ensure all future recording of participation data will include gender, culturally diverse community members, people of all age groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with a disability and people from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds.

Future budget allocation will continue to be planned based upon the priorities outlined in the OSIF.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

N/A

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.

8.9 CLEMENTS RESERVE - SAFETY MEASURES**Author:** Manager Parks and Open Space**Reviewed By:** General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A report was received from a resident on 17 June 2020 that a fragment of material resembling asbestos had been detected on the site. Officers followed standard operating procedures for the management of asbestos which included:

- Establishment of an exclusion zone within an hour of the report being received;
- Engagement of a hygienist to conduct a search of the site and remove any suspicious material at first light the following morning; and,
- A desktop review of the site to understand the origin of the material;

Further work has been undertaken between June and October 2021 to investigate and assess the risk and approach to remediation, along with consideration of obligations under the new *Environmental Protection Act 2021*.

Officers have considered the advice provided by Aurecon and Russell Kennedy and have taken immediate action to mitigate the public health risk and environmental presented by the contaminated soil. This action entails installation of a thick mulch layer to provide physical separation between people and the contaminated soil.

It should be noted that while this measure is considered adequate to mitigate the immediate risk, this is not the intended final solution. The final solution is likely to also include installation of a geotextile layer, top soil, the potential for a low fence and rewilding to further separate people and the contaminants. The final outcome needs to be informed by Council's discussions with Vic Roads, Melbourne Water and the EPA.

Council considered this matter on 27 September 2021 as a confidential item. A copy of the report to Council and minutes (confidential) are provided at **Attachment A**.

Officer Recommendation

That Council

- (1) Note the safety measures established at Clements Reserve.
 - (2) Direct Officers to bring an update report to Council once discussions have been held with the EPA.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Detection of contamination

A notification was received from a resident on 17 June 2020 that a fragment of material resembling asbestos had been detected on the site. Officers followed standard operating procedures for the management of asbestos which included:

- Establishment of an exclusion zone within an hour of the notification being received;
- Engagement of a hygienist to conduct a search of the site and remove any suspicious material at first light the following morning; and,
- A desktop review of the site to understand the origin of the material;

Councillors were informed of the issue and management response on 28 June 2020. The desktop study was unable to directly ascertain the source of the asbestos contamination with the most likely source being illegal dumping. The desktop report also revealed the previous use of the site as a shooting range which was a potential source of further contamination. In order to understand whether there was any risk to the public, further testing was commissioned which revealed the presence of a lead hotspot.

On the advice of Council's consultants, officers capped the contaminated area with top soil and grass seed to temporarily mitigate the risk while further advice was sought

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 27 September 2021, in the confidential component of the meeting Council considered a report on this matter and requested a further report be presented to the next Council meeting. The requested detail has been incorporated into this report.

A copy of the 27 September 2021 report to Council and minutes (confidential) are provided at **Attachment A**.

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

3.1 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

DISCUSSION

The recommendations from Council's consultant Aurecon and legal advisor Russell Kennedy specifically relating to the management of the contamination can be considered in two parts. The first being a temporary response in order to minimise any risk to public health and the second is a more permanent solution.

Immediate action

The risk can be adequately managed on a temporary basis by creating a physical barrier between the contaminated soil and people at the surface. In addition to the top soil installed in 2020, a thick mulch layer has now been established. This physical barrier is sufficient to prevent any accidental interaction between people and the contamination layer therefore minimising any immediate risk.

Permanent solution

The more permanent solution will likely require approval by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and it is therefore prudent to wait until that approval is granted before implementing a more permanent solution.

It is unlikely that lead is leaching into the groundwater. However, it may be prudent for Council to install one bore and sample the groundwater to rule out that possibility before finalising a solution. Further advice on this aspect is being considered.

Most probably, the lead is bound to the soil meaning that so long as there is no movement of the soil, and human and wildlife contact with the soil is minimised, the solution will be safe.

The proposed permanent solution may include a small exclusion fence, a geotextile fabric layer over the contaminated soil, a capping layer of soil, mulch, plants, rocks and logs. A concept of the design is provided below:



Together, this solution will mitigate the risk of lead contamination whilst providing significant amenity and biodiversity value to the site.

The contamination management plan being prepared advises the above course of action and may also include regular monitoring subject to the requirements of the EPA.

The new *Environmental Protection Act* (2021) includes a principle of proportionality. In the case of this site, the scale and severity of contamination is low and can be readily and effectively managed by the above management measures.

While it is theoretically possible that the EPA can require removal of the contaminated soil to a registered landfill, the cost and benefit of this approach is unlikely to be viewed as proportionate to the risk.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

This project is currently unbudgeted. To date, this work has cost in the realm of \$50,000. It is likely that further immediate costs will be in the realm of \$20,000. This has been covered within existing operational budgets.

The expected capital cost to construct the design indicated above is likely to be in the order of \$150,000.

Community Engagement

Community engagement is not planned.

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

(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

(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 proposed management plan will significantly enhance the biodiversity of the area in question.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

The link between biodiversity and community wellbeing has been well documented. Constructing this project in the near term will directly enhance the wellbeing of those who experience the area.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

This area is adjacent to the Darebin Creek which is culturally important for Traditional Owners. Officers will explore the cultural sensitivity of this project with key stakeholders.

Operational Impacts

There are various options for remediation and/or ongoing management of the site being investigated. The operational impacts are dependent on the future management plan for the site which remains to be negotiated with the EPA. The most probable outcome is that the contaminated area will be capped and rewilded in such a way as to discourage the public accessing the site. Some assets in the park may also be relocated to further separate human activity from the contaminated soil. This course of action has preliminarily been costed at less than \$200,000.

Less probable is that the EPA may instruct Council to remove and dispose of the contaminated fill. This option has been preliminarily been costed at approximately \$1 million with much of the cost being the disposal of contaminated soil.

The ongoing costs of maintaining rewilded area as opposed to turf are higher and will be managed through ongoing operational budgets.

Legal and Risk Implications

The proposed management plan will ensure Council's compliance with its obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 2021* and mitigate any ongoing risk to human health or the environment.

Council obligations under the new Act include a duty to notify the EPA and it is likely that the duty to manage is also triggered. The mechanisms of the new Act are untested at Darebin but it is thought that submitting a management plan along with the formal notification is likely to result in a favourable outcome with the EPA. Most probably, the EPA will approve the management plan and require Council to undertake periodic monitoring of the site.

VicRoads, as the land owner of part of the affected land has been notified.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

As outlined within the report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

[List any related documents](#)

Breathing Space Strategy

Attachments

- Clements Reserve - Report & Minutes 27 September 2021 Council Meeting (**Appendix A**) 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.

8.10 CONTRACT AWARD - CT2020148 CLEANING AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES**Author:** Coordinator, Facilities Management**Reviewed By:** General Manager Operations and Capital

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In owning and operating its community and civic facilities, Council is obligated to maintain clean facilities that support the health and wellbeing of building users. The COVID19 pandemic has further exacerbated the importance of cleaning services, with an exemplar level of hygiene expected from the community.

Council sought interest from cleaning companies to offer cleaning services for its municipal buildings at Preston, other community and civic facilities, Reservoir Leisure Centre. open space facilities and for ad hoc cleaning services.

This report seeks approval to award contract CT2020148 for the provision of cleaning and associated services.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services – Package A for the Preston Municipal Complex to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (inclusive of GST) subject to adjustments to reflect cleaning requirements.
2. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services – Package B for community and civic facilities to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (inclusive of GST) subject to adjustments to reflect cleaning requirements.
3. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services – Package C for the Reservoir Leisure Centre to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (inclusive of GST) subject to adjustments to reflect cleaning requirements.
4. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services – Package D for open space amenities, public toilets and BBQs to _____ for an annual fee of \$_____ (inclusive of GST) subject to adjustments to reflect cleaning requirements.
5. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services – Package E for ad hoc and specialty cleaning services to _____ and _____ to form a panel for services to be charged at the tendered schedule of rates.

6. Awards Contract CT2020148 for Cleaning and Associated Services to the service providers for a principal contract term of two years with three one-year options to extend commencing on 1 December 2021.
 7. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations to the scope of cleaning and associated services to be provided (referred to in other parts of these recommendations as adjustments).
 8. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documents on behalf of Council and to exercise options for extensions if and when required.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Contract overview

In owning and operating its community and civic facilities, Council is obligated to maintain clean facilities that support the health and wellbeing of building users. The COVID19 pandemic has further exacerbated the importance of cleaning services, with an exemplar level of hygiene being a community expectation. Tenders were sought for the cleaning and associated services of approximately 135 buildings, toilets and BBQs.

The contract is structured into five separate packages of services:

- Package A is for the routine cleaning and hygiene services for the Preston Municipal Complex
- Package B is for the routine cleaning and hygiene services for a range of community and civic buildings such as senior citizens centres, maternal child health centres, arts and entertainment venues and town halls.
- Package C is for the routine cleaning and hygiene services for the Reservoir Leisure Centre.
- Package D is for the routine cleaning and hygiene services for open space amenities, public toilets and BBQs.
- Package E is a limited panel arrangement for the provision of ad hoc and speciality cleaning services that will be engaged on an as needs basis.

The market was advised that packages A, B, C and D will each be awarded as separate contracts to a single service provider. Package E will be awarded to two service providers at minimum to create a limited panel of suppliers for ad hoc, out of scope and reactive cleaning and associated services.

The successful service providers will work closely with Council's Facilities Management team and site-specific facility managers to ensure that Council's community assets are well serviced and maintained, up to date with the latest technologies and innovative practices. Successful contractors will share Council's commitment for environmentally sustainable cleaning practices and continuous improvement opportunities.

Scope of services

(6) Broadly, the scope of services entails:

- Routine cleaning of buildings operating council services across Council's facility portfolio including community and civic buildings, leisure centres, public toilets, BBQs and picnic shelters. Routine cleaning services includes tasks such as sweeping, vacuuming and mopping floors, cleaning of bathroom and amenities, refilling consumables such as toilet paper and hand soap, disinfecting high touch services, waste removal and other general cleaning tasks.

- Opening and closing of public toilets and park gates to ensure they are accessible for community use.
- Special cleaning services including infection control cleans and emergency reactive cleans.
- Periodic cleaning services such as deep cleans of appliances and window cleaning.
- Sanitary services including sanitary disposal, nappy disposal, air freshener services, medical waste disposal, sharps disposal and hand sanitiser services.

Contract term

Council is invested in developing a strong working relationship with service providers for a principal contract term of 2 years, with three one-year options to extend. The contract will commence in December 2021.

Two stage procurement process

A two-stage procurement process was undertaken.

On 12 June 2021 a call for expressions of interest for CT2020148 for the provision of cleaning and associated services was released to the market. The expression of interest period closed on 1 July 2021.

All responses received were evaluated against the published evaluation criteria for the procurement. The evaluation panel shortlisted 4 service providers to invite to tender for the contract. The tender period opened on 16 August 2021 and closed on 7 September 2021.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting in September 2019, Council resolved to:

- 1) Endorse the appointment of two service providers under contract to provide cleaning services for Darebin Council's facilities for a 2-year fixed term with 2 extension options of 1 year each (maximum of 4 years) at an estimated cumulative total amount of \$5,097,611.85 if all options are exercised (inclusive of GST + CPI Year 3 and 4);
- 2) Endorse the appointment of Centre Point Cleaning Pty Ltd ABN 99 005 225 034 for the cleaning services for package A (Municipal offices and adjoining buildings, Preston);
- 3) Endorse the appointment of Fernando Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd t/a Ausbright Facilities Management ABN 43 131 468 687 for the cleaning services for package B (consisting of 38 facilities), package C (Reservoir Leisure Centre) and package D (open space amenities, public toilets, BBQs etc.);
- 4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contracts documentation on behalf of Darebin City Council; and
- 5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to exercise options for extensions if and when required.
- 6) Publicly releases the outcome of the Tender process

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

4.2 We will ensure our assets are optimised for the benefit of our community

DISCUSSION

As communicated to prospective tenderers through the Call for Expressions of Interest, a two-stage procurement methodology was adopted. The purpose and activities of each evaluation stage are summarised in the table below:

(7) Stage	(8) Purpose
(9) Stage 1 – Call for expressions of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To seek market interest in contracting with Council for the provision of cleaning and associated services • To screen all interested service providers for compliance with Council's minimum requirements for the contract • To evaluate all complaint EOI respondents against the evaluation criteria
(10) Stage 2 – Invited tender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate shortlisted tenderers on further scored evaluation criteria including price and proposed resourcing of the contract

EOI evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria were communicated in the call for expressions of interest. The criteria established for the procurement are described below.

EOI compliance criteria

The following compliance criteria were established for the procurement:

EOI compliance criteria	Description
Minimum service delivery requirements	<p>The service provider must confirm that they have the capability and competency to deliver all elements of the scope of services as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic tracking system that will capture cleaners time on and off, full scope checklists, GPS tracking of resources and a client portal. • Ability to provide sanitary services in-house or through a reputable sub-contractor with whom they have a longstanding business. • Ability to provide specialist cleaning services including both infection control cleaning and fogging.
Labour hire license	The service provider must hold a current labour hire licence or have a satisfactory reason for not holding the licence
COVID19 certification	The service provider must be able to demonstrate completion of the Department of Health and Human Services COVID19 certification

EOI compliance criteria	Description
Occupation health and safety	The service provider must demonstrate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have a formal OHS policy and management systems • Safe Work Method Statements for all relevant cleaning tasks • Material Safety Data Sheets for all products used
Insurance	The service provider will have at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public liability insurance of \$20 million • Workcover insurance • Motor vehicle insurance for all company vehicles
Working with children checks and national police checks	All field staff of the service provider must hold a valid Working with Children's Check and National Police Check. At the EOI stage, respondents will be asked to declare that they have all the required checks. Shortlisted tenderers will be required to produce full copies as part of their tender submission.
Financial capacity	The service provider must satisfy a third-party financial health check

EOI scored criteria

The following scored evaluation criteria were established for the procurement:

EOI evaluation criteria	Description
Service delivery	How well can the tenderer service Council's cleaning and associated services requirements, including their ability to be responsive and capacity to maintain continuous high levels of service?
Experience and expertise	How experienced is the tenderer in delivering the cleaning and associated services Council requires under the contract?
Sustainable initiatives and practices	How will the tenderer work with Council to provide cleaning and associated services that prioritise environmental sustainability?
Local business content	Is the tenderer a Darebin local business or does it have another local business connection to Darebin?
Social initiatives and practices	Does the tenderer generate any social benefits through its business activities?

Additional tender evaluation criteria

Shortlisted service providers invited to tender were evaluated against three further criteria based their tender submission:

Tender evaluation criteria	Description
Price	How competitive is the tenderers pricing of the services? To what extent does the tenderers offer present value for money?
Resourcing	What resources have been allocated to deliver the contract services? How well will the quality and quantity of resources deliver on the contract requirements?
Tender compliance criteria	Description
Acceptance of the terms of contract and conformance with the specification	Does the tenderer accept Council's contract terms and conditions or has a negotiated position acceptable to both parties been reached?

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

Cleaning and associated services form part of Council's annual operational budget. Confidential **Appendix A** provides analysis on the financial implications of the tender outcomes.

CONSIDERATIONS

Environmental Sustainability Considerations (including Climate Emergency)

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to sustainable initiatives and practices.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

In line with Darebin's Social and Sustainable Procurement policy, tender evaluation criteria gave weight to social initiatives and practices. Tenderers were asked to consider how their business activities demonstrated a commitment to address disadvantage and improve equity to deliver social value and positive social outcomes.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

Evaluation criteria gave weight to Darebin based businesses. In addition, businesses that could demonstrate a local economic contribution through regular purchasing from local traders or the employment of local people were viewed favourably in line with evaluation criteria.

Operational Impacts

In undertaking cleaning and associated services, service providers are obligated to minimise disruptions to Council's normal business operations. The contract specification outlines a number of requirements that cleaning service providers must adhere to when working at Council buildings.

Legal and Risk Implications

Probity

As the procurement is valued at over \$1 million, external probity advisor Pitcher Partners was engaged at the start of the procurement process and retained through to the completion of tender evaluation. The probity advisors report confirmed that all probity requirements have been met, and there were no probity issues (material or otherwise) that undermine the integrity of the procurement process. A copy of the probity auditors report is included as part of Confidential **Appendix B**.

Financial health checks

All shortlisted service providers were subject to a third-party financial health check to ensure that they have the financial capacity to undertake a contract of this significance. The outcomes of the checks are summarised in Confidential **Appendix A**.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

Execute the contract documentation and commence new contract on 1 December 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Confidential Appendix A – Tender evaluation report
- Confidential Appendix B – Probity advisor report

Attachments

- CT2020148 Contract Award - Cleaning & Associated Services (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Probity Advisor Report (**Appendix B**) 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.

8.11 AWARDING OF CONTRACT 202163 MANAGEMENT OF NARRADJERI STADIUM AND DAREBIN COMMUNITY SPORTS STADIUM

Author: Coordinator Leisure Contracts
Leisure Contracts Coordinator

Reviewed By: General Manager Community

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is currently constructing the new multi-sport stadium, Narrandjeri Stadium, at John Cain Memorial Park, 281 Darebin Road Thornbury. This facility will see the development of a premier community venue to support current and future participation in indoor sporting activities to compliment the outdoor courts recently completed. The aim of the centre is to increase participation across a range of sports and physical activities across the municipality with a focus on supporting female participation and enhancing the access to health and wellbeing opportunities for Darebin residents.

The Darebin Community Sports Stadium (DCSS) is currently under a management contract, which is due to expire on 30 June 2022. All extension options for this contract have been exercised and the management of this facility will form part of the overall management contract, albeit with a later commencement date.

The scope of Narrandjeri Stadium and Darebin Community Sports Stadium Contract Management covers:

- The management and operation of the centres in accordance with the contract documents, best practice and Council's current and future policies and initiatives.
- The management, marketing and delivery of programs, services, activities and events for the centres.
- The provision of services consistent with the City of Darebin vision and policies and subsequent revisions / updates.
- Achievement of the service aims and objectives.

The proposed contract arrangement is to run for a period of approximately five years, with an option for a further extension for an additional two-year period.

The following principles were used to guide and form the basis for decisions on the management, operation and use of the stadia:

- Participation
- Sustainable Facilities
- Equity, Access and Inclusion
- Health and Wellbeing.

Council's procurement process was adhered to, with guidance from the Procurement Team and an independent (external) Probity Advisor which was also appointed to the Evaluation Panel.

The contract documentation has been legally reviewed, and the reporting mechanisms are aligned with Council's participation, access and inclusion policies. Together with the

thorough process undertaken in the EOI for court usage, future participation of Council's stadium facilities will be reflective Darebin's diverse community, with participation focusing on supporting female participation and actively increase participation levels in other groups and community members who face barriers to participation.

The management contract process has been a competitive one, with five submissions received. The cost of the management of CT202163 is an expense to Council, however the cost of increased participation and activation in our community and recreation spaces is anticipated to provide significant wellbeing benefits to the Darebin community.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Awards Contract CT202163 for the Management of Narrandjeri and Darebin Community Sports Stadiums to _____ for the contract sum of _____ (GST exclusive). This sum is the total contract sum over the life of the contract, to 30 June 2026.
- (2) Approves the contract term from 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2026 for Darebin Community Sports Stadium, and commencement date for Narrandjeri Stadium to be negotiated based on construction timeline, with the contract to have an option for provision for a further two years.
- (3) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation on behalf of the Council.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute any contract extension options.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Narrandjeri Stadium is currently under construction and is due for completion and activation in early 2022.

The Darebin Community Sports Stadium (DCSS) is an existing facility currently activated under a management contract that will expire on 30 June 2022.

Council has endorsed an external management model for both stadiums with guiding principles (see above) that prioritise social and environmental outcomes. These principles were used to develop the management contract specifications as detailed in the service principles and the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) (see page 4 and 6 of Appendix B).

The term for the new contract (CT202163) will be for an initial period of just under five years from commencement to 30 June 2026, with an option for provision for a further two years.

The initial onboarding of the management for the Narrandjeri Stadium will commence in late 2021 in preparation for its opening in early 2022. The Covid restrictions on construction sites have caused some delays and the formal commencement date will be negotiated with the preferred tenderer.

The management of DCSS will be included in the new contract from 1 July 2022, following the expiration of the current management contract. Current bookings at DCSS will remain in place until June 2022, in line with expiration of the existing management contract.

Narrandjeri Stadium will consolidate John Cain Memorial Park (JCMP) as an active sports and community hub and focal point for the provision of services through sport, health and wellbeing, education, and training.

Both stadiums will play an important role in increasing women's participation in sport by offering a range of court-based sports, both indoors and outdoors to address the disparity in sports participation rates between men and women and address the demand for indoor and outdoor courts. The successful tenderer will be required to document outcomes achieved for community cohorts and members who experience barriers to participation, as detailed in the KPI requirements (see page 6 of Appendix B).

Both facilities will also support increased participation in sport and physical activity across the municipality, resulting in enhanced access to health and wellbeing opportunities for Darebin residents.

Contract Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be reported monthly to the contract manager and annually to Council (see page 6 of Appendix B).

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 22 March 2021, Council resolved:

'That Council

- (1) *Endorses the Darebin Indoor Stadiums Expression of Interest process and criteria to commence the process of inviting public submissions from all interested parties.*
- (2) *Endorses the Darebin Indoor Stadiums Management contract specifications guiding principles of:*
 - a. *Participation*
 - b. *Sustainable facilities*
 - c. *Access and inclusion*
 - d. *Health and wellbeing.*

At its meeting held on 20 July 2020, Council resolved to:

- (5) *Endorses an external management model for the Multi Sport Stadium operations.*
- (6) *Request that officers explore an integrated management model across the Multi Sport Stadium and the Darebin Community Sports Centre to provide economies of scale.*
- (7) *Receive a report on how social and environmental outcomes will be delivered by the Multi Sport Stadium through:*
 - a. *The court access EOI process*
 - b. *The scope and principles to be included in the management contract specifications, including management mechanisms such as KPI's, fees and charges, employment practices, healthy food options and social procurement*
 - c. *The connection and alignment to Council Policies, Plans and Strategies*

At its meeting held on 16 March 2020, Council resolved to:

- (1) *Endorse a design a construct procurement process for the construction of the Multi Sports Stadium and that an appropriately experienced contractor be invited to tender to contract for the project*

At its meeting held on 14 October 2019, Council resolved to:

- (1) *Endorse the concept design for the indoor Multi-Sports Stadium project*
- (2) *Continue engagement and consultation with key external stakeholders*

ALIGNMENT TO 2041 DAREBIN COMMUNITY VISION

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN

Strategic Direction 1: Vibrant, Respectful and Connected

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2.1 We will deliver equitable and accessible infrastructure to provide opportunities for our community to live well

Action 2.1 – Complete construction and commence operation of the Multi Sport Stadium in Thornbury

DISCUSSION

Council endorsed the guiding principles of the Darebin Indoor Stadiums Management contract specifications on 22 March 2021. The open public tender was issued on 3 July 2021 and closed 29 July 2021. In line with Council's Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy, the following selection criteria was adopted for the evaluation of tender submissions for the operational management of the two facilities:

Selection Criteria	Weighting %
Value for money	35
Key personnel; relevant and demonstrated experience in similar scope, scale, and complexity	15
Health and wellbeing	15
Inclusion	15
Social initiatives and practices	10
Sustainable / environmental practices	5
Local business	5

Due to Council's ambition for the activation of Narrandjeri Stadium and the importance of inclusive programming, health and wellbeing outcomes and social procurement specified in contract documents, the following representatives were scoring members on the panel:

Position	Responsibility
Manager Recreation and Libraries	Scoring Member
Leisure Contracts Coordinator	Scoring Member
Leisure Major Projects Officer	Scoring Member
Acting Coordinator Equity and Wellbeing	Scoring Member
Acting Wellbeing Policy Lead	Scoring Member
Senior Procurement Officer	Procurement Advisor
Anne Dalton and Associates	Probity Advisor

A total of five tender submissions were received and assessed by the evaluation panel members.

The Evaluation Criteria and Weighting was developed in accordance with Council's requirements and approved by the Evaluation Panel. Each weighted criterion was associated with questions in the returnable schedules which were developed in consultation with the Evaluation Panel members prior to the RFT documents being published.

The evaluation criteria were also specified in the RFT documentation.

All submissions were assessed on the selection criteria, together with compliance criteria in relation to insurances, financial viability, OH&S policy and conflict of interest.

Tenderers were asked to provide a price for a period up to June 30, 2026, with a commencement date to be negotiated, pending the completion of the Narrandjeri Stadium. Tenderers were further tested based on any departures and non-conforming, or non-compliance with OH&S and risk criteria. Detailed evaluation scores are shown in confidential Appendix C.

The evaluation panel met on 18 August 2021 to evaluate tender submissions. The Procurement Advisor and Probity Advisor attended the evaluation meeting. Following the evaluation of the selection criteria, any departures from the Agreement were assessed for potential impact and risk to Council.

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (2020) PRINCIPLES

Financial Management

Advertised tender documents specified a Guarantee Result contract and a profit share arrangement. The value for money evaluation criteria considered the total cost over the life of the contract, in order to have a fair comparison for all submissions.

Contract commencement dates will be negotiated to align with the completed of construction, which has been impacted by Covid-19 construction delays.

There are expected financial efficiencies with contracting two facilities together as well as user (customer) benefits when dealing with one operator managing bookings and operations across both facilities.

Court use fees and charges will continue to be set through Council's annual budget process.

Council has allocated \$80,000 (excl. GST) in the 2021/2022 operating budget to meet anticipated contract expenses with the transitioning and operationalisation of the newly developed Narrandjeri Stadium.

Community Engagement

Community consultation on the Narrandjeri Stadium design was completed in November 2019 and internal Council stakeholder engagement has been ongoing throughout construction. Regular project updates have also been provided via Council's Your Say project page.

To support the development of management contract specifications across a range of Darebin leisure facilities and services, an internal workshop was held in December 2020 with Council Officers from Equity and Wellbeing; Property; Governance and Performance;

Climate Emergency and Sustainable Transport; Families, Youth and Children; Assets and Capital; City Works; Parks and Open Space; Risk and Improvement; Aged and Disability; People and Culture; and City Futures.

- **Overarching Governance Principles and Supporting Principles**

- (c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;

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

- (a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;

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)**

Narrandjeri Stadium has been registered with the Green Building Council of Australia as a five-star green star rated facility. Energy costs would normally be one of the top three operational costs for this type of facility, accounting for 15-20% of expenditure. The facility's five-star green star rating will significantly reduce this cost, which has been factored into the ten-year financial impact model.

Ensuring the facility operates to maximise the benefits of its green star design can be achieved through facility management. One of the guiding principles of the management contract specification focuses on sustainable facilities. This will ensure environmental sustainability is at the forefront of operations as minimising operational expenditure is a proven and effective performance incentive. Adherence to Council policies and strategies is included in the management contract specifications.

As part of the green star certification process, Narrandjeri Stadium will deliver several key sustainability outcomes including reducing energy consumption, improving sustainable transport outcomes, improving indoor environment quality, reduced reliance on potable water and use of recycled materials and products.

The guiding principle of sustainable facilities includes a KPI of monthly environmental targets, which will be negotiated and agreed to between Council and the preferred operator.

Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing and Human Rights Considerations:

An Equity Impact Assessment had been completed for the original Multi Sports Stadium project (Narrandjeri Stadium), with a focus on the design, construction and operational phases of the project.

Equity and inclusion considerations raised have directly influenced facility design of Narrandjeri and the future operations and programming of both stadiums.

The design of Narrandjeri supports a range of users and uses, including multicultural, women's only, all ability and LGBTQI community members. User groups will be able to use a facility that supports and respects the needs for dignity in access to courts and amenities. Additionally, privacy or priority use can easily be enabled on the show court.

The guiding principles in the management contract specifications focus on the following to support equity, inclusion and wellbeing:

- Participation
 - Create an environment that will increase and achieve participation targets across a diverse and representative program and service range
- Access and inclusion
 - Create a Facility Inclusion Plan outlining objectives, targets and resources committed to actively achieve targeted strategies tailored to the Darebin community
 - Encourage and create opportunities for participation of all residents regardless of age, gender identification, cultural background, ability or socio-economic background
- Health and wellbeing
 - Development of genuine partnerships with stakeholders with the aim of maximising community participation and activation of spaces for whole of community use
 - Programs and activities that enhance community health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities by encouraging participation by disadvantaged and minority populations

The KPIs will report on the achievement of these outcomes on a monthly basis so that progress can be tracked, and outcomes can be maximised.

Economic Development and Cultural Considerations

An economic impact assessment report prepared by Michael Connell and Associates in February 2020 modelled the economic benefits and jobs created as a result of the new facility over the ten-year period from 2022-2031.

This included employment across JCMP for current facilities and the new Narrandjeri Stadium, as well as jobs generated in the broader precinct through the spending of facility users and visitors/spectators.

The report concluded:

- Current Darebin Sports facilities operations at JCMP account for 43.4 FTE jobs (36 direct on-site jobs, including the sports associations, and 7.4 indirect/induced jobs in the LGA and beyond)
- Upon opening, Narrandjeri Stadium is estimated to create a total of 7.9 FTE new jobs (3 management/operations staff and 4.9 cleaners and referees)
- From 2022, Narrandjeri operations and staffing will increase to 9.5 FTE jobs (7.9 direct on site and 1.6 indirect jobs in the metro area)
- The large increase in visitors to the sports precinct for team sports at the stadium has a major impact on jobs generated from user/visitor spending, with an estimated 16.0 jobs (mainly in food service) in proximity to the facility

Council consulted with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation in October 2020 regarding the naming of the stadium. These names were shortlisted and approved by the Wurundjeri Council. After community consultation, the name Narrandjeri was endorsed by Council in February 2021.

The Creative Culture team has also been consulted in the design phase of the project and public art has been integrated into the front glazing elements of the facility, as well as internally through public art pieces. Melbourne artist Esther Stewart has been commissioned to complete these pieces.

Operational Impacts

A budget of \$80,000 (excl. GST) is included in the 2021/2022 operating budget to meet anticipated commencement operational expenses. Contract management will be undertaken within the existing budget.

Facilities Maintenance and Parks and Open Space teams have been engaged in the capital delivery project and are aware of the operational impact this facility will have on their services.

Legal and Risk Implications

All contract documentation and tender responses will form a binding agreement between Council and the successful tenderer. Legal advice has been provided including a review of all contract documentation.

Probity

An external Probity Adviser was engaged throughout the procurement process and tender evaluation. (Refer to confidential Appendix D for the probity report).

Financial Assessment

A financial and performance assessment was completed on the recommended contractor through the Corporate Scorecard. The financial check (undertaken in September 2021) verified there are no financial risks associated with this contractor and further indicated it has a strong financial capacity to undertake the contract in question. Refer to confidential Appendix E for the Corporate Scorecard report.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

25 October 2021

- Council meeting - awarding tender for CT202163 Management of Narrandjeri Stadium and Darebin Community Stadium
- Preferred tenderer will be notified of the acceptance of their tender bid
- Unsuccessful tenderers will be notified

November 2021

- Contract documentation signed

December 2021

- Onboarding of successful tenderer

Early 2022

- Narrandjeri Stadium construction completion and handover for activation
- Official opening and successful tenderer to commence operations at Narrandjeri Stadium.

Monthly Key Performance Indicator reports received throughout the life of the contract. Performance outcomes will be reported annually to Council.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Multi-Sport Stadium Business Management and Financial Modelling Report, 2020 (Otium Planning Group)

Attachments

- Awarding of Contract CT202163 (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Service Principles and KPIs (**Appendix B**) [↓](#)
- CT202163 Evaluation Matrix (**Appendix C**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Probity Report CT202163 (**Appendix D**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Financial Assessment (**Appendix E**) 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.



**Specification
Overview**

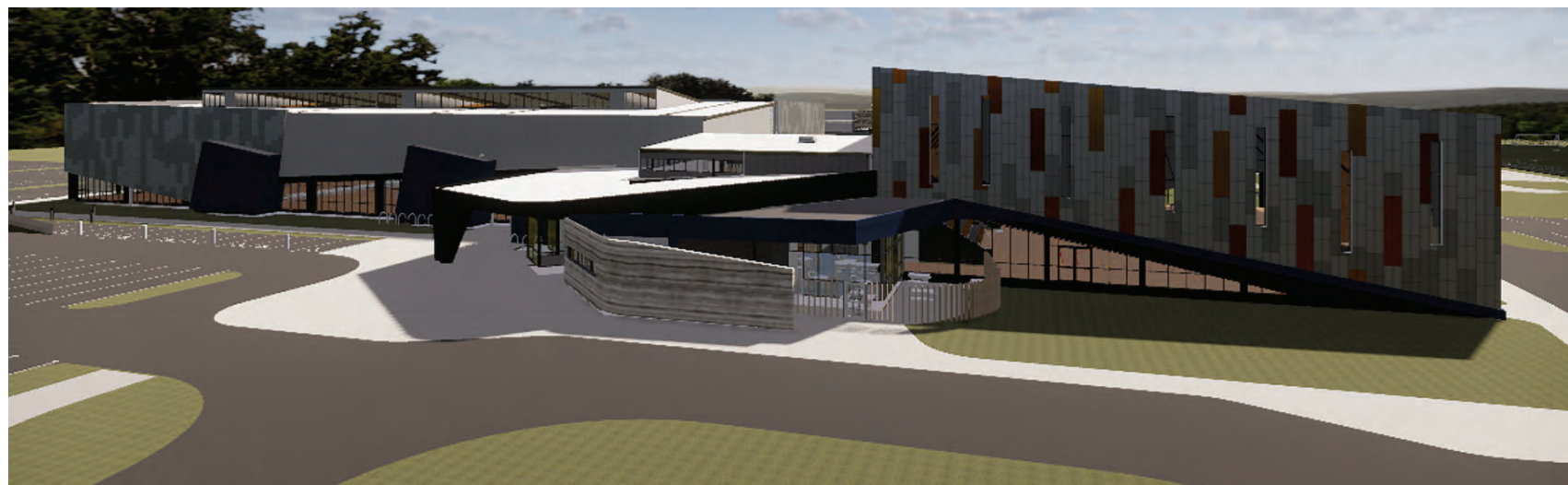
Management and
Operation of
Darebin Multi
Sports Stadium
and Darebin
Community
Sports Stadium



the place
to live

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1. Introduction

The City of Darebin is located in the northern suburbs of Melbourne between 5 and 15 kilometres north of the Melbourne CBD. The municipality covers an area of approximately 53km² and includes the suburbs of Alphington, Bundoora, Coburg, Coburg North, Fairfield, Kingsbury, Macleod, Northcote, Preston, Reservoir and Thornbury.

The City of Darebin is an established residential, industrial, commercial, cultural and educational area with a substantial number of parkland areas. The Council is surrounded by:

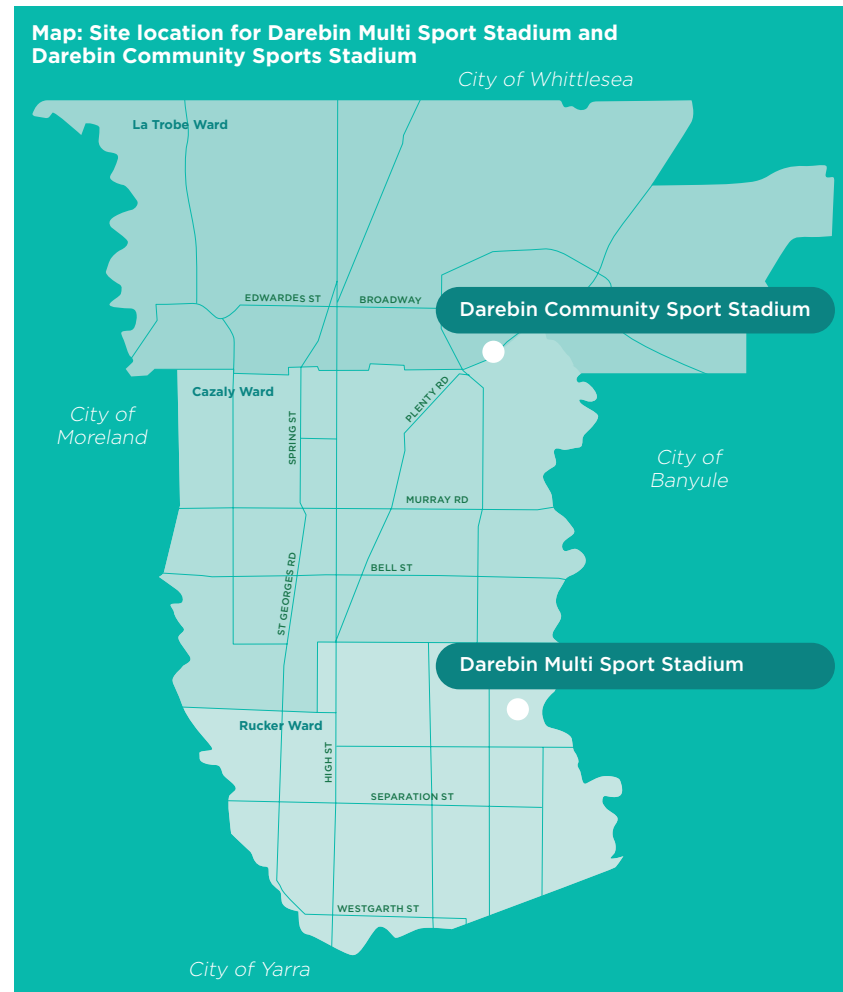
- City of Whittlesea in the north
- City of Banyule in the east
- City of Yarra in the south
- City of Moreland and Merri Creek in the west

Council is seeking the services of an experienced, qualified, competent, innovative and achievement driven organisation to manage and operate the Multi-Sports Stadium (MSS) and the Darebin Community Sports Stadium (DCSS).

Management of the MSS is due to commence in December 2021 with management of DCSS to commence on July 1, 2022. The lump sum contract is for a five-year term with one optional extension of two years.

The scope of works under this Contract is for:

- a. The management and operation of the Centres in accordance with the Contract documents, best practice and Council's current and future policies and initiatives.
- b. The management, marketing and delivery of programs, services, activities and events for the Centres.
- c. The provision of services consistent with the City of Darebin vision and policies and subsequent revisions / updates.
- d. Achievement of the service aims and objectives.



2. Who is our community

Demographic Review

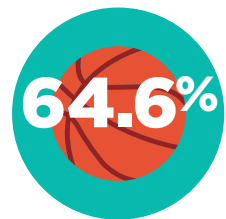
The following section summarise the key population and demographic characteristics and trends likely to impact future participation in sport and recreation within the Darebin area. The population and demographic profile are based wherever possible, on the 2016 ABS Census data and has been sourced from .id, an online company that analyses ABS Census data.

Population

Estimated Resident Population for 2018



There is a larger percentage of people aged 25 - 29 years (9.7%) and 30 - 34 years (9.7%) than the greater Melbourne area (8.1% and 8.2% respectively). The largest growth between 2011 and 2016 were people aged 30 - 34 years (+1,855) and 45 - 49 years (+1,477).



The most likely age group to make use of recreation facilities (5 - 49 years), makes up 64.6% (62.7% Greater Melbourne) of the population.

> under 15s
= over 65s

Compared to Greater Melbourne, there were more people in the under 15 age groups and a similar proportion of people in the older age groups (65+)

Diversity



33.2% (33.8% Greater Melbourne) were born overseas.
36.9% (32.3% Greater Melbourne) speak a language other than English at home

Disadvantage and Social Capital

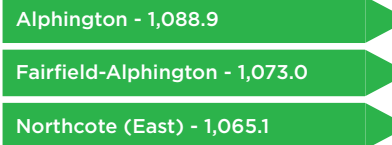


There is a low level of disadvantage in Darebin with the municipality ranking 31st on the SEIFA Index of Relative Social-Economic Disadvantage with a score of 1,004 in 2016



Compared to Greater Melbourne in 2016, there were fewer people earning a high income (\$1,750/week or more) and more people earning less than \$500 per week.

Areas with lowest levels of disadvantage



Areas with highest levels of disadvantage



Future Population



Population will increase 48.4% from 155,016 in 2016 to 230,118 in 2041

48.4%

The largest annual average rate of change is predicted to occur between 2016 and 2021 before slowing down

3. Service Outcomes

Council has unique and distinct requirements for the management of these facilities and wishes to establish a professional arrangement with the Contractor based on co-operation, good will, regular dialogue and a strategic approach to ensure the community, the Council and the Contractor all achieve their goals in a professional, fair and best value manner.

Council’s service vision, aims, objectives and principles are detailed below.

3.1 City of Darebin Leisure Vision

“To create more inclusive and sustainable environments that enable our diverse community to improve physical and mental wellbeing through increased participation in healthy, active lives”.

3.2 Service Aim and Objectives

The EOI process will be structured to be a fair process to all submitters, with the aim of maximum benefit to the local sporting clubs and/or groups.

The **aims** of this service are to:

- a. Provide the community with leisure, sport and health facilities that are inclusive, accessible, affordable, safe and of a high quality
- b. Maximise participation, sustainability and exceptional customer service
- c. Improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of our community

The **objectives** under this contract are to:

- a. Provide the community and visitors, with opportunities to participate in a range of high quality, innovative, fun, safe, sport, leisure and health programs and services
- b. Provide diverse structured and unstructured sport and leisure experiences for residents and visitors
- c. Provide services at the facilities that meet the needs of the local and regional community to provide health, wellbeing and social opportunities
- d. Implement an agreed Annual Business Plan for the facilities and ensure strategically planned management, operation, marketing and maintenance of the facilities
- e. Develop, implement and maintain customer service standards to meet and exceed customer needs, delivering customer service excellence to all facility users
- f. Manage the facilities and services in accordance with the principles of good governance including financial, environmental and statutory compliance



3. Service Outcomes

3.2 Service Aim and Objectives

- g. Operate the facilities efficiently and safely and reduce any financial subsidy by Council
- h. Actively increase the participation levels of key target groups in the community including older adults, people with a disability, women and girls, children, youth, Aboriginal people, gender diverse people, people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds and people experiencing financial hardship
- i. Promote and raise awareness of opportunities at the facilities for physical activity, including capturing the attention of those who currently undertake minimal physical activity or are non-users
- j. Actively enhance the amenity of the facilities by constantly striving to continuously improve methods to ensure that the standard of service delivery is excellent
- k. Provide a best value package of services to the community through the facilities
- l. Build and maintain co-operative and collaborative relationships with the Council and its staff, other relevant agencies and community organisations so that the facilities provide maximum community benefit
- m. Optimise performance of the facilities against the key performance criteria as outlined within the contract documentation
- n. Deliver the services and operate the facilities in accordance with agreed procedures and the terms and conditions specified in the contract

It is the expectation of the City that the service is adjusted according to any updated vision, objectives and policy released by the Council throughout the Contract Term.

3.3 Service Principles

The following principles guide and form the basis for decisions on the management, operation and use of the Stadia.

3.3.1 Participation

- a. Create an environment that will increase and achieve participation targets across a diverse and representative program and service range
- b. Respond to the current and changing needs and demographics of the local and regional community and maximise participation
- c. Apply a consistent, accurate, credible and reliable method to measure the Social Value of our facilities

3.3.2 Sustainable facilities

- a. Provide fit for use facilities to increase participation in sport and recreation
- b. Maximise use of facilities, with facilities managed, operated, marketed and maintained on a basis that provides best value to Council and the community
- c. Realise and achieve the unique commercial, environmental and social outcomes of the business
- d. Raise the profile of the facilities as a resource for the region, particularly in relation to increasing community participation (first order of priority) and attracting and hosting major events (second order of priority)
 - a. Establish operational systems which maximise Environmental Sustainability and assist in the attainment of environmental goals
 - e. Ensuring asset management is aligned to Council's Asset Management Strategy and assets are maintained to deliver quality facilities which maximise community participation and satisfaction

3.3.3 Equity, Access and Inclusion

- a. Create a Facility Inclusion Plan outlining objectives, targets and resources committed to actively achieve targeted strategies tailored to the Darebin community
- b. Encourage and create opportunities for participation of all residents regardless of age, gender, cultural background, ability or socio-economic background
- c. Encourage social interaction of users, promote healthy lifestyles and facilitate community involvement
- d. Provide opportunities which facilitate social connection and create safe places for people to exercise and enjoy recreational activities
- e. Deliver programs and activities that reduce inequalities by encouraging participation by people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination

3.3.4 Health and Wellbeing

- a. Demonstration of an industry leading approach including adoption of new and emerging trends and a best practice for health and safety management
- b. Development of genuine partnerships with stakeholders with the aim of maximising community participation and activation of spaces for whole of community use
- c. Enhance community health and wellbeing by delivering programs and activities encouraging participation by people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination.

4. Management Specifications

The Management Specifications details the contractor requirements and obligations to achieve the service vision and outcomes.

The specification contains the following sections:

1. Scope of works
2. Transition requirements
3. Contract
4. General issues and requirements
5. Planning and business management
6. Marketing
7. Financial management and responsibilities
8. Human resources
9. Centre access and usage
10. Programs and services
11. Customer service
12. Reporting
13. Health and safety
14. Operations
15. Sales
16. Plant and equipment
17. Asset responsibilities
18. Performance measurement and monitoring
19. Permanent closure of the Centre
20. Terms of payment

Court allocation EOI process

Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from clubs and associations for the allocation of indoor court bookings across the two stadiums. Applications close for this process on 5 May, 2021 and hire agreements are scheduled for execution prior to the commencement of operations.



5. Key Performance Indicators

Council will monitor contractor performance on an ongoing basis via the Monthly Report, the Annual Review, achievement of KPI's and regular contract meetings. KPI's for the contract are detailed below.

Objective	Strategy	KPI's
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an environment that will increase and achieve participation targets across a diverse and representative program and service range. • Respond to the current and changing needs and demographics of the local and regional community and maximise participation. • Apply a consistent, accurate, credible and reliable method to measure the Social Value of our facilities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total number of programs offered 2. % of total operating hours where programs are offered 3. Total annual attendances 4. Loss of customers/bookings each month 5. Renewal rate - how many customers/organisations are coming back 6. Increased participation in bookings and casual use across all areas, in particular women and girls, CALD communities, LGBTIQ+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people with a disability 7. Impact of Social Value and demonstrated changes for health indicators such as (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia • Cardiovascular disease • Type 2 diabetes • Breast and bowel cancer • Health System Savings
Sustainable facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide fit for use facilities to increase participation in sport and recreation • Maximise use of facilities, with facilities managed, operated, marketed and maintained on a basis that provides best value to Council and the community. • Realise and achieve the unique commercial, environmental and social outcomes of the business • Raise the profile of the facilities as a resource for the region, particularly in relation to increasing community participation (first order of priority) and attracting and hosting major events (second order of priority). • Establish operational systems which maximise Environmental Sustainability and assist in the attainment of environmental goals. • Ensuring asset management is aligned to Council's Asset Management Strategy and assets are maintained to deliver quality facilities which maximise community participation and satisfaction 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. % monthly maintenance tasks complete 2. Monthly Environmental Targets achieved 3. Achievement of planned environmental initiatives 4. Asset Management % completion and reporting data 5. Cost v Budget reports 6. Actual revenue year on year 7. Actual expenditure year on year 8. Actual salary and wages costs year on year 9. Cost of variations 10. Measurement of innovation and continuous improvement proposals 11. % court occupancy 12. Customer and user group satisfaction survey results 13. Number and range of complaints 14. Customer feedback response timeliness v target 15. Customer feedback close out % v target 16. Reduction in the number of complaints in the top three complaint categories

5. Key Performance Indicators

Objective	Strategy	KPI's
<p>Equity, Access and Inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Facility Inclusion Plan outlining objectives, targets and resources committed to actively achieve targeted strategies tailored to the Darebin community. • Encourage and create opportunities for participation of all residents regardless of age, gender, cultural background, ability or socio-economic background. • Encourage social interaction of users, promote healthy lifestyles and facilitate community involvement • Provide opportunities which facilitate social connection and create safe places for people to exercise and enjoy recreational activities. • Deliver programs and activities that reduce inequalities by encouraging participation by people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achievement of objectives and targets in Facility Inclusion Plans 2. Partnerships with stakeholders and other entities to deliver participation and inclusion outcomes for women and girls, CALD communities, LGBTIQ+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people with a disability 3. Number of new programs and participants that meet identified emerging trends 4. Acquisition Rate - % of new bookings/casual users and calculation of increased participation in key demographic areas in off-peak periods each month 5. Employment is reflective of the community - women and girls, CALD communities, LGBTIQ+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people with a disability
<p>Health and Wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of an industry leading approach including adoption of new and emerging trends and a best practice for health and safety management. • Development of genuine partnerships with stakeholders with the aim of maximising community participation and activation of spaces for whole of community use. • Enhance community health and wellbeing by delivering programs and activities encouraging participation by people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. % accident report investigations closed out 2. Number of reportable incidents 3. WHS hazard reports 4. Stakeholder surveys which detail (as a minimum) the number of programs, activities and participation numbers run in partnership with stakeholders 5. Program evaluation reports which detail (as a minimum) the health impacts experienced by people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination

6. Warranties and Disclaimers

The information contained in this report is provided in good faith. While Otium Planning Group has applied their own experience to the task, they have relied upon information supplied to them by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence' and as such these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

There will be differences between projected and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite or guarantee the achievability of the projections as it is not possible to substantiate assumptions which are based on future events.

Accordingly, neither Otium Planning Group, nor any member or employee of Otium Planning Group, undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than client in respect of this report, for any errors or omissions herein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.



7. Appendix 1 Centre Descriptions

7.1 Darebin Multi Sports Stadium (MSS)

Council is currently developing the new Multi-Sport Stadium (MSS) at John Cain Memorial Park, 281 Darebin Road Thornbury. This facility will see the development of a premier community venue to support the current and future participation in indoor sporting activities. The aim of the Centre is to increase participation in sport and physical activity across the municipality with a focus on supporting female participation and to enhance the access to health and wellbeing opportunities for Darebin residents.

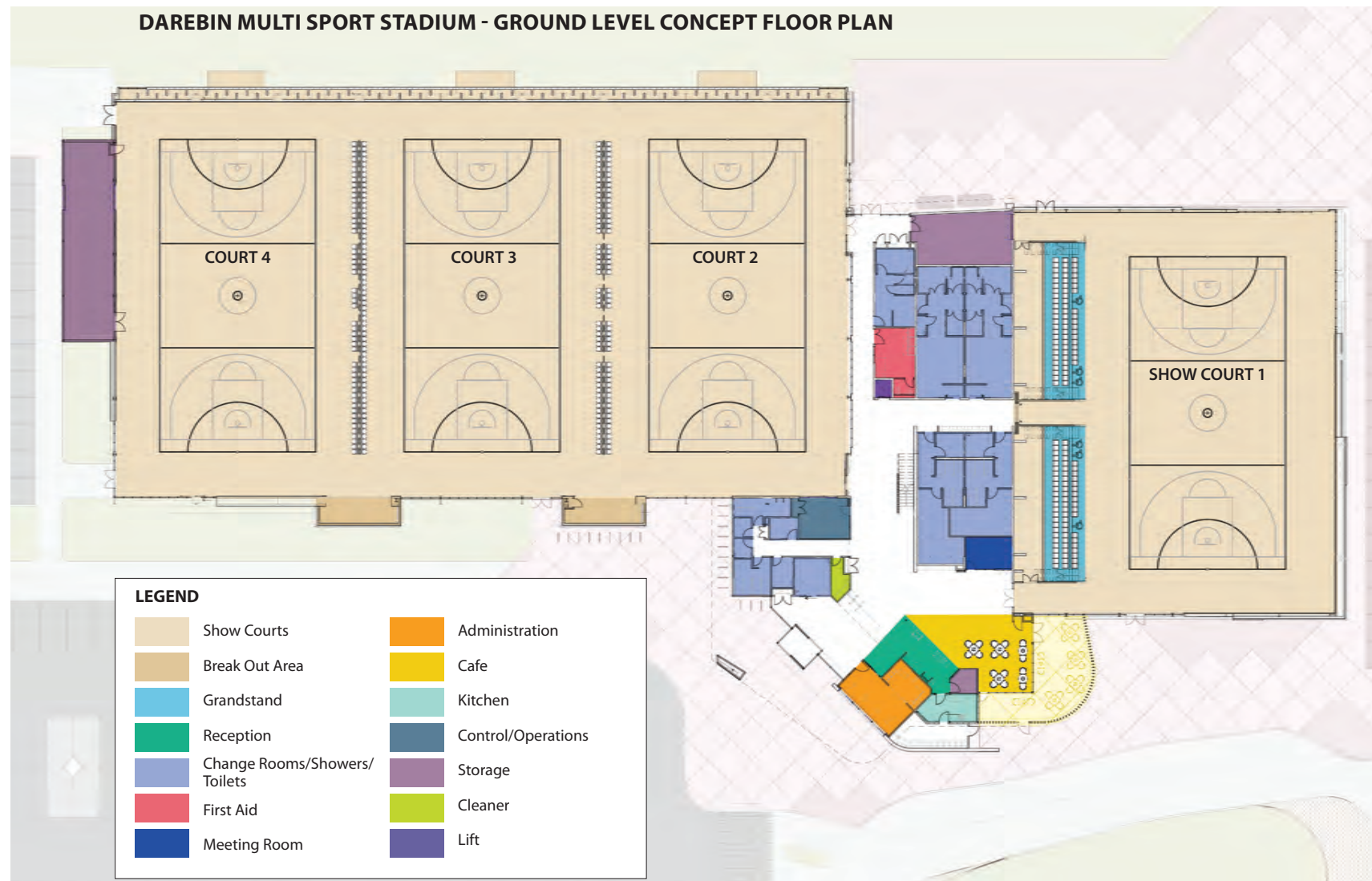
The first phase of this project is well underway, with the construction of four new outdoor netball courts expected to be completed in November 2020. These outdoor courts will cater to the high demand for quality netball facilities within the Darebin municipality. Council awarded the construction contract for the second phase of new indoor facilities in August 2020 with construction commencing in September 2020. The project is expected to be completed by November 2021.

The newly constructed Centre will be approximately 5,590m² in size and comprises the following.

- Four indoor highball courts, including a show court
- 340 seat show-court with stand-alone change rooms and briefing rooms
- Entry, reception, café/kiosk, office and administration areas
- Public toilet facilities for spectators
- Multipurpose / program space with kitchenette
- Meeting room
- First aid room and Referees room
- Change room facilities including toilet and shower amenities
- Allocated space for club and program promotion
- Storage and plant room
- Front of house spaces including bike parking and drop off zone

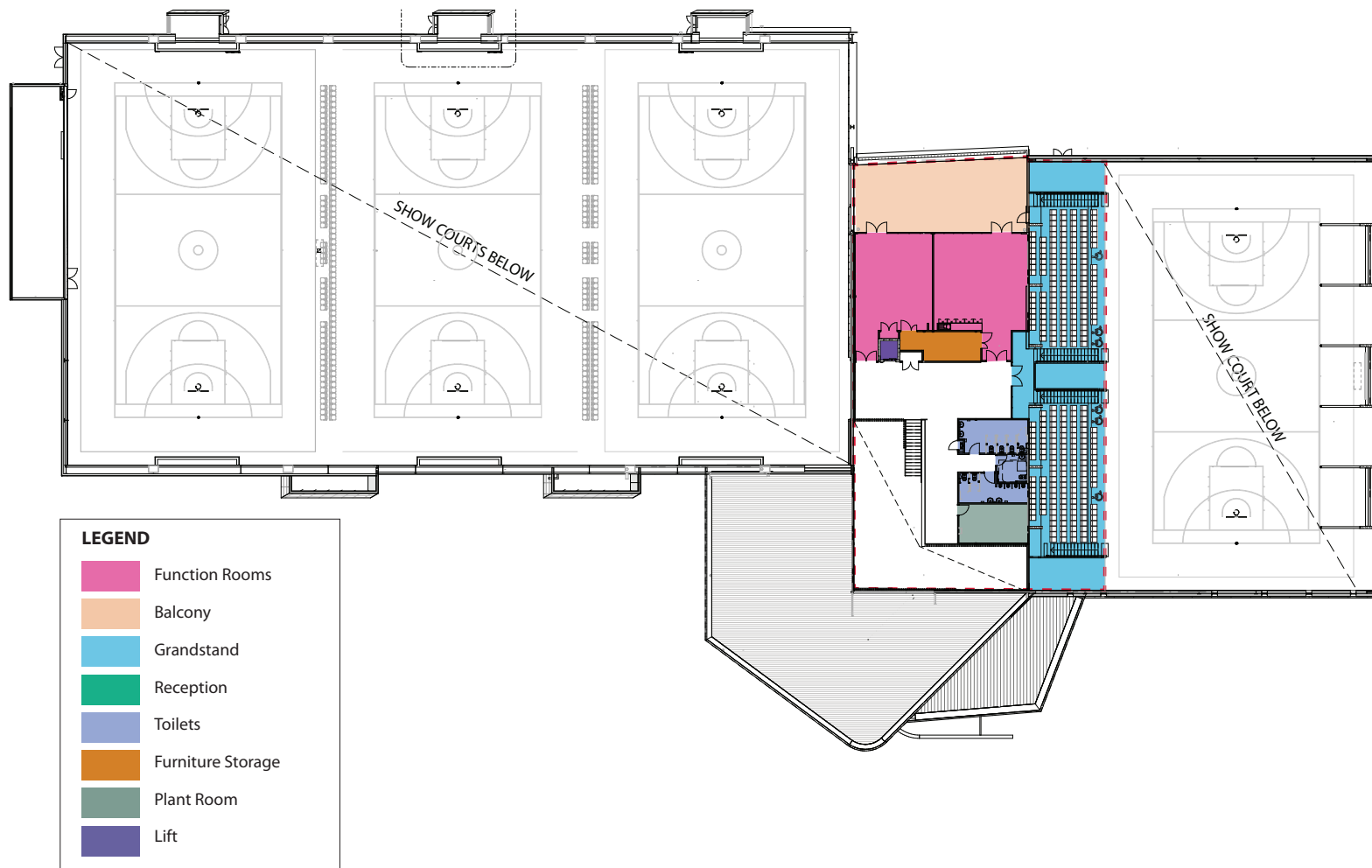


7. Appendix 1 Centre Descriptions



7. Appendix 1 Centre Descriptions

DAREBIN MULTI SPORT STADIUM - LEVEL ONE CONCEPT FLOOR PLAN



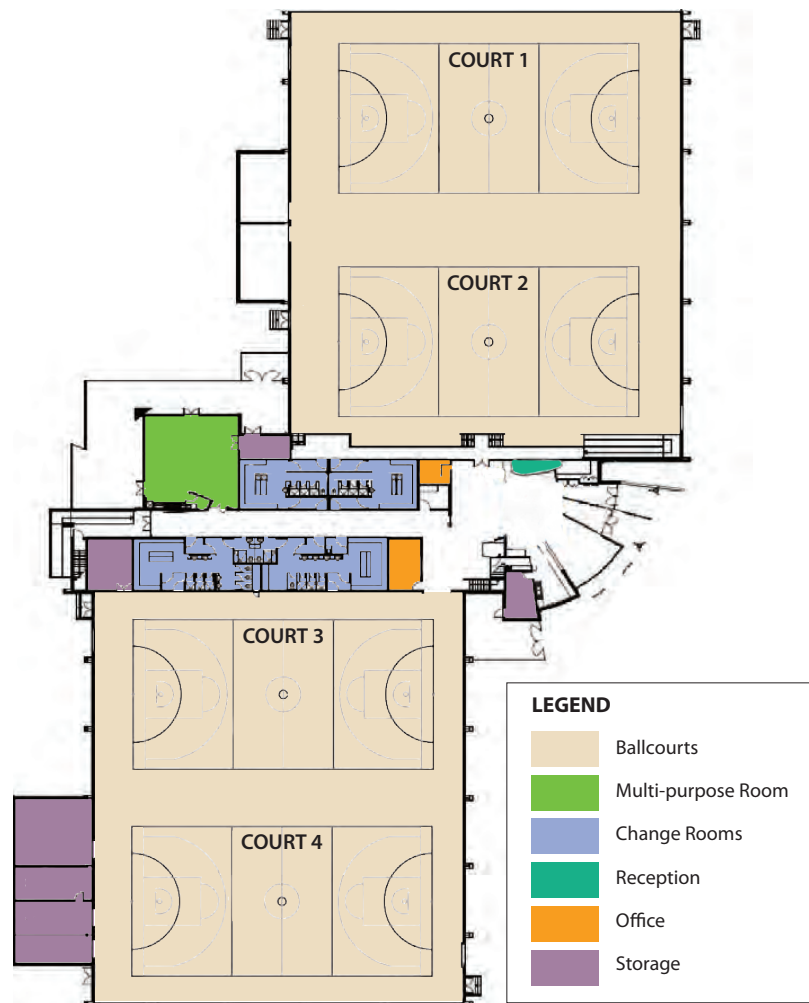
7. Appendix 1 Centre Descriptions

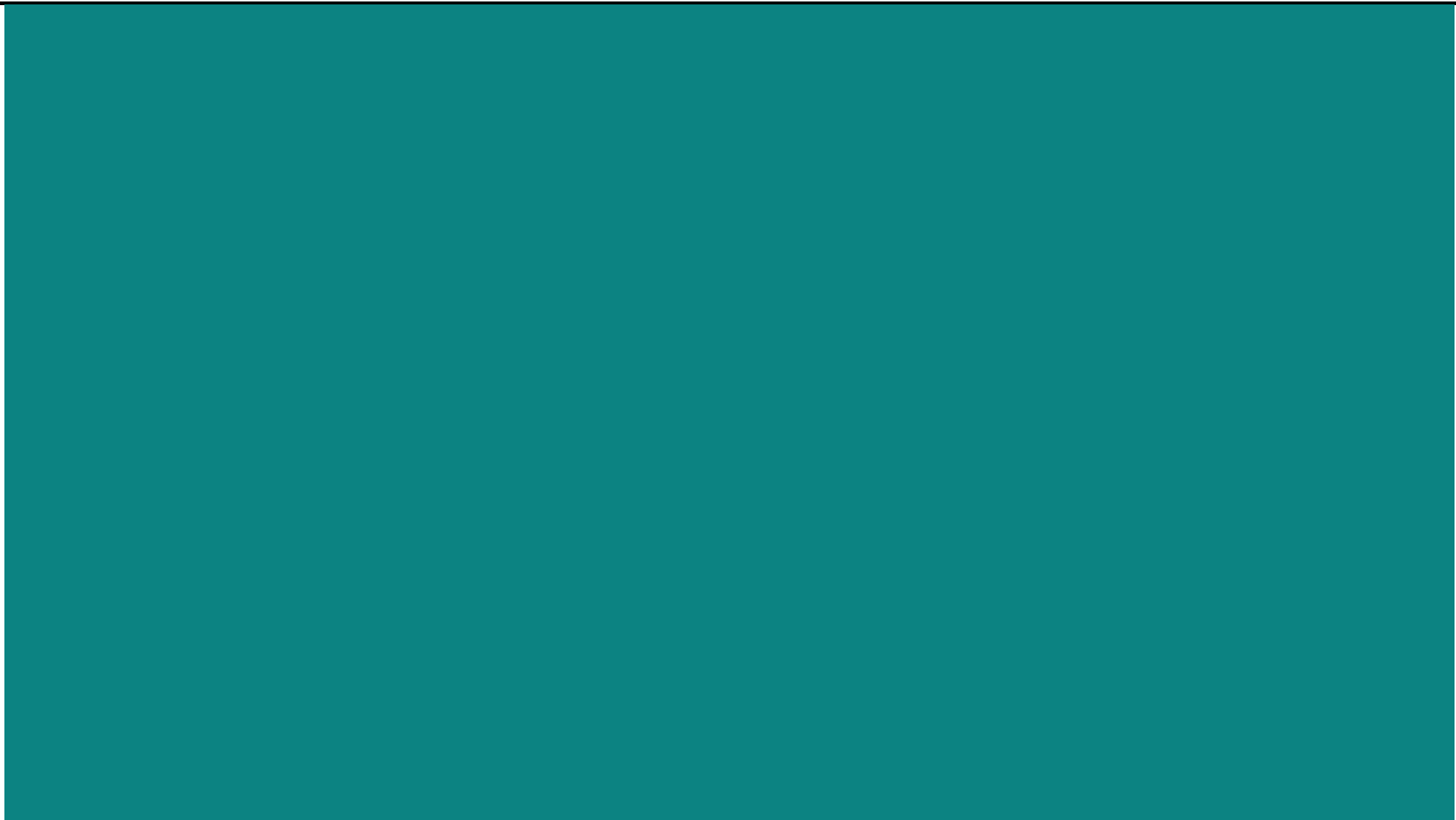
7.2 Darebin Community Sports Stadium (DCSS)

The Darebin Community Sports Stadium is located at Reservoir District Secondary College and is built on Department of Education and Training Victoria (DET) land, located at 857 Plenty Road Reservoir. The facility is subject to a Licence Deed between Council and DET. The venue is the current primary indoor sports facility in the City of Darebin area. The Stadium is currently managed by the YMCA Victoria until 30 June 2022.

This highly used multi-purpose stadium is host to a wide range of sporting facilities including.

- Four indoor highball courts
- Mezzanine hall
- Multipurpose room
- Outdoor netball facilities
- Outdoor tennis courts
- Entry, reception, café/kiosk, office and administration areas
- Change room facilities including toilet and shower amenities
- Front of house spaces including bike parking and drop off zone





CITY OF DAREBIN

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हिंदी	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	Tiếng Việt

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9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil


10. URGENT BUSINESS

11. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL


12. CLOSE OF MEETING

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

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