



Minutes

Council Meeting

Monday 22 September 2025, 7:00 pm

Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street,
Dandenong, Victoria 3175

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDA REPORTS

Council has several obligations in relation to its Community Vision, Council Plan, Instruments of Legislation and Council policy. These are summarily considered in each Agenda report and further details are added as required. The obligations are as follows:

Community Vision 2040 (Community Vision | Greater Dandenong Council)

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted for themselves and our city, the Greater Dandenong People's Panel developed a new Community Vision for 2040:

*The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all.
It's a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.
We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual.
Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative.
Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability.
Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Council Plan 2025-29 (Council Plan 2025-29 | Greater Dandenong Council)

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. The Council Plan has the following key strategic objectives:

- *A socially connected, safe and healthy city*
- *A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts*
- *A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places*
- *A green city committed to a sustainable future*
- *A city that supports business, entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes*
- *A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. These are:

- a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e) innovation and continuous improvement are to be pursued;
- f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Also, in giving effect to the overarching governance principles above, a Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- a) the community engagement principles (section 56);
- b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
- c) the strategic planning principles (section 89);
- d) the financial management principles (section 101);
- e) the service performance principles (section 106).

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.



The Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* came into operation on 31 March 2021 and requires councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services. The objects of the Act are as follows:

- a) to promote, encourage and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women; and
- b) to support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs and delivery of services in workplaces and communities; and
- c) to recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes; and
- d) to redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change; and
- e) to enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- f) to further promote the right to equality set out in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Council is obligated to think about how its programs and services affect different people and different communities and how we can avoid reinforcing unintentional inequalities. Reports authors must consider the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy when asking Council to consider or review any issues which have a direct or significant impact on members of the Greater Dandenong community.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

Council, Councillors and members of Council staff are a public authority under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and, as such, are all responsible to act in accordance with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (the Charter). The Charter is founded on the following principles:

- human rights are essential in a democratic and inclusive society that respects the rule of law, human dignity, equality and freedom;
- human rights belong to all people without discrimination, and the diversity of the people of Victoria enhances our community;
- human rights come with responsibilities and must be exercised in a way that respects the human rights of others;
- human rights have a special importance for the Aboriginal people of Victoria, as descendants of Australia's first people, with their diverse spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters.

Given this municipality's diversity and inclusiveness, when developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to ensure their report is consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



Consideration of Climate Change and Sustainability

One of the overarching governance principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

In January 2020, this Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a “Climate and Ecological Emergency” and committed this Council to emergency action on climate change. Council has developed a Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to help the City of Greater Dandenong become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenges of changing climate.

When developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to consider what impacts their issue has on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching principle on climate change and sustainability.

Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

Report authors will consider how their report aligns with existing Council policies, strategies, frameworks or other documents, how they may affect the decision of this report or are relevant to this process.



Supporting Documents

Attachments for reports included in these Minutes can be found within the corresponding Agenda document on Council's website <https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings>.

Your Councillors

[Mayor Jim Memeti](#)

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)

[Deputy Mayor Sophaneth \(Sophie\) Tan](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Cr Phillip Danh](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

[Cr Isabella Do](#)

[Cr Melinda Yim](#)

[Cr Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Alice Phuong Le](#)



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.



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Acknowledging
Bunurong Country

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY CHAIR

Cr Jim Memeti opened the Meeting at 7.00pm.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Bob Milkovic (LoA), Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor.

Councillors Present

Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor (Chair)
Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Isabella Do, Cr Lana Formoso (remote), Cr Rhonda Garad,
Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Melinda Yim.

Officers Present

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer; David Fice , Acting Executive Director City Futures; Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening; Yuri Guzman, Chief Information Officer; Michael Tonta, Governance Advisor; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy; Michelle Hansen, Chief Financial Officer.



1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

Those who wish to stand for the acknowledgement to country are welcome to do so.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respect and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey.

1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained standing as Cr Phillip Danh read the following:

" Friends, as we come together this evening, to consider the matters before us, let us reflect and pray on the shared words of St Francis of Assisi

*Make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
Where there is sadness, joy
Peace to all "*



1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 25 August 2025.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 25 August 2025 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.197

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 25 August 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 9 / 0

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

2.1.1 Documents for Sealing

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

Executive Summary

1. Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, each Council is a body corporate and a legal entity in its own right. Each Council must therefore have a common seal (like any corporate entity) that is an official sanction of that Council. Sealing a document makes it an official document of Council as a corporate body. Documents that require sealing include agreements, contracts, leases or any other contractual or legally binding document that binds Council to another party.

Item Summary

2. There are 2 items being presented to Council's meeting of 22 September 2025 for signing and sealing as follows:
 - a) An Instrument of Appointment of Authorised Officer under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, the *Heritage Act 2017*, the *Fire Services Property Levy Act 2013*, the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986*, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Subdivisions Act 1988*, the *Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998*, and the Regulations made under each of those Acts, the local laws made under the *Local Government Act 1989* or the *Local Government Act 2020*; and any other Act, Regulation, local law or delegated legislation (including the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme) which relates to the powers of the Council made under the provisions and enactments described. This instrument enables the following Council officer to carry out the statutory responsibilities of the above Acts and is subject to policy and delegations previously adopted by Council:

- Damien Tran
- Madeleine OBrien

MINUTE No.198

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

CARRIED 9 / 0



2.2 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

2.2.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. Petitions & Joint Letters [2.2.1.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

Executive Summary

1. Council receives a number of petitions and joint letters on a regular basis that deal with a variety of issues which have an impact upon the City.
2. Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.
3. A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:
 - a) the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;
 - b) petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
 - c) the final complete response to any outstanding petition or joint letter previously tabled along with the full text of the original petition or joint letter and the date it was responded to.

Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

4. Council received 2 new petitions and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 22 September 2025.
 - Council has received a petition (signed by 110 residents) along with a Change.org petition (signed by 102 residents) requesting a delay to the destruction of the 43 mature trees on the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre Project. These petitions have been referred to the appropriate Council Business unit for further action.
 - Council has received a Change.org petition signed by 85 residents requesting to clean up Springvale's streets. This petition has been referred to the appropriate Council Business unit for further action.

Note: Where relevant, a summary of the progress of ongoing change.org petitions and any other relevant petitions/joint letters/submissions will be provided in the attachment to this report.

MINUTE No.199

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

CARRIED 9 / 0



2.3 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2.3.1 Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – August 2025

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments: 1. Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – August 2025.pdf
[2.3.1.1 - 9 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

Executive Summary

1. This report provides Council with an update on the exercise of delegation by Council officers.
2. It provides a listing of Town Planning applications that were either decided or closed under delegation or withdrawn by applicants in August 2025.
3. It should be noted that where permits and notices of decision to grant permits have been issued, these applications have been assessed as being generally consistent with the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme and Council's policies.
4. Application numbers with a PLA#, PLN#.01 or similar, are applications making amendments to previously approved planning permits.
5. The annotation 'SPEAR' (Streamlined Planning through Electronic Applications and Referrals) identifies where an application has been submitted electronically. SPEAR allows users to process planning permits and subdivision applications online.

MINUTE No.200

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 9 / 0



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Maria Sampey, Keysborough

The Dandenong Market website lists the Directors of the Board but does not provide contact details for stallholders to reach the Chairperson, Directors or yourself in the event of a dispute with the Market Manager or Leasing Manager.

Currently, there is no formal Independent Grievance or Mediation process available to stallholders. When issues arise, stallholders can only write directly to the Manager or Leasing Manager, with no assurance that their concerns will be referred to the Board. This lack of transparency and accountability leaves stallholders vulnerable to false allegations, harassment and possible victimisation.

A particular concern relates to flower stallholders who were previously on three-year Licence Agreements but are now being moved to month-to-month or one-year arrangements with no scope for negotiation. Under these conditions, it even becomes difficult for them to sell their business as potential buyers are unlikely to invest under such insecure licence terms.

I acknowledge that, as the councillor representative, you cannot be involved in the day-to-day operations of the Market. However, it appears the Market Board may not be fully aware of these issues. If the treatment of stallholders were assessed against workplace and fair-trading standards, it is unlikely to be considered acceptable practice.

How can stallholders raise grievances beyond management when no clear process or contact pathway on the Website of the Dandenong Market Board exists?

As the councillor representative on the Market Board, how can stallholders contact you if they require representation as you are not listed on the Website of the Board?

Will Council advocate for the establishment of a transparent Independent Grievance and Mediation process for Dandenong Market stallholders by amending the Articles of Association?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Dandenong Market is governed by an independent board. All operational matters are managed by the board and their management. Stallholders can contact Dandenong Market Management directly via email and the Market contact number which are available on the Market Website. In addition, there is a Management Office on site during trading hours to assist stallholders and members of the public.

Where the dispute remains and the trader wishes to pursue the matter further, the opportunity exists for the trader to lodge their disputes with the Small Business Commission Victoria (SBC) for resolution or initiate other civil action through Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

Stallholders and the community can contact councillors through Council's customer service or the councillor contact details are listed on our website. Please note that lease negotiations between traders and the market management are considered commercial in confidence. Councillors and Council officers cannot represent on this matter. Council is happy to raise this matter to the Market Board. The board can decide on what improvements are required for their processes.



Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

As a councillor, my role is strictly observational, with no decision-making authority at either the governance or operational level. Over the past 11 months on the board, I have consistently raised concerns about the absence of an independent and transparent complaints process. I share your concern, and while I do not have the power to implement change, I have and will continue to raise this issue with the CEO and senior management.

Question

Isabelle Nash, Keysborough

We, the community, only recently learnt that 43 trees that were previously earmarked for safe keeping would face destruction at the development site of Oasis Pools. This sent shockwaves through our city and beyond, and it was even worse when we heard that 21 of the trees had already been destroyed! The remaining trees provide highly valued canopy cover, they are tall natives that will take at least 20 years to replace and therefore cannot be immediately replaced by new plantings.

In this time of increased understanding of the devastating climate change heat waves that we are now undisputedly going to face, how can Council justify destroying these canopy trees?

The community feel that Council is no longer working in our best interest when it comes to protecting our future against climate change, in particular heat waves. We no longer trust that Council is working towards a genuine increase in our tree canopy percentage and are absolutely shocked and heartbroken to see Council's Urban Tree Strategy be completely dismissed in their own developments. Is the Council aware of the self-inflicted damage is causing to its own reputation?

Council is unapologetically proud that these actions can be conducted without community knowledge or consideration, and while this is legal, there is a severe lack of integrity in conducting business this way as it results in devastating long term effects for locals. We, the community live here while officers escape to areas with higher tree retention and lower neighbourhood heat-island effects. Where is the current and updated report that demonstrates heat-island reduction value, biodiversity and ecological function of the surviving 22 trees?



Response

David Fice, Acting Executive Director City Futures

The overall tree canopy will improve because of this project. Without intervention, JC Mills Reserve was expected to lose around 5% of its tree canopy in coming years due to ageing and declining tree health. With the project's landscape plan, the reserve will instead see an estimated 35% net increase in canopy cover over the next 20 years.

No tree of high or very high retention value is being removed. Of the 21 trees already removed, four trees had been removed by Council prior to construction commencing because these trees had died. One of these trees resided in the yellow concrete collars in the main carpark. Throughout the design development, the project team has endeavoured to reduce the number of trees impacted by the proposed new facility and carparking.

As mentioned previously, without intervention, JC Mills Reserve was expected to lose around 5% of its tree canopy in coming years due to ageing and declining tree health. With the project's landscape plan, the reserve will instead see an estimated 35% net increase in canopy cover over the next 20 years. Prior to construction, the site had 209 trees. By the end of construction, JC Mills Reserve will have 309 trees in total. The new trees will be planted in better soil conditions with more natural landscaping and space around them and they are expected to flourish.

Council remains committed to increasing canopy cover across Dandenong. Annually, we plant an average of 20,000 tube stock for revegetation (22,000 plants were achieved last financial year). Our efforts also include the Adopt a Park program with 4,000 trees and shrubs, Green Wedge plant giveaways with 3,500 trees and shrubs, National Tree Day with 6,000 trees, shrubs, and ground covers, and Environmental Education community plant giveaways with 7,000 plants. The project has had a rigorous and transparent planning process, including multiple rounds of community consultation, design, refinement and Council approvals over 4 years. You can find more details on the process, including a timeline, on Council's webpage for the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre.

The 43 trees being removed will be replaced with 143 new trees, 90 indoor plants and more than 25,000 shrubs and groundcovers. The new tree planting and understorey vegetation along with the retention of existing trees on site, we anticipate there will be a net increase in biodiversity following completion of the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre.



Question

Gaye Guest, Keysborough

In regard to the situation around the existing targeted Oasis trees which need to be kept, the best inheritance is not gold—it is green. We need to plant and grow trees to a significant height for a thriving tomorrow, not cut them down like the significant heritage Noble Park RSL Lone Pine tree or Noble Park's sentinel remnant river red gums for a paltry price tag. A native giant is more than a tree—it's a home for generations-it shelters life, holds wisdom, and guards the land yet it appears no one in this council -officers or Councillors want to protect them.

We would have appreciated a transparent, more recent arborist report- not one that is outdated from 2020 -5 years ago. We must turn waste land into a wonderland of trees, plant land is planting hope for the future-one we need to protect and nurture for future generations. We need to safeguard our planet's lungs, and water is its blood—protect both, or life stops breathing. No intervention can replace them, our future depends on adequate tree canopy coverage, which is nowhere near 15% in CGD, as it is exactly 2 years since our Heat Wave forum at the Drum, with little proactive arbitration since to resolve heat wave / climate change effects of rainfall and food security in our food bowl green wedges or our wider municipality.

What is the age of these 22 Oasis trees presently?

What is the value of the 22 trees still standing in real time on this Oasis site?

What is the cost of replacing the 22 trees and nurturing them to the same age and the same status as the existing 22 Oasis trees?

We have read what was published in the papers and we are outraged

Response

David Fice, Acting Executive Director City Futures

A number of arborist, biodiversity and construction impact assessments have been completed over the last 4 years as detailed on Council's webpage for the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre. Recent assessments showed a general decline in tree health, particularly the trees located within the concrete collars in the existing Oasis carpark area. These are approximately 30 years old. When the trees planted in the concrete collars are compared to other trees of the same species on the site, planted at around the same time, it is even more apparent that their growth has been underwhelming.

The arborist report shows the height and diameter of the trees planted in natural grounds at around the same time is approximately two times that of those confined to the concrete collars. From the outset, the design aimed to retain as many mature trees as possible, especially those with high or very high retention value. Of the 22 trees, none are of high or very high retention value. The majority of remaining trees have a life expectancy of one to five years. Council cannot cost the declining trees, however the new trees will be planted in better soil conditions with more natural landscaping and space around them and they are expected to flourish. Council will plant 143 new trees, 90 indoor plants and more than 25,000 shrubs and groundcovers. The new tree planting and understorey vegetation along with the retention of existing trees on site, we anticipate there will be a net increase in biodiversity following completion of the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre.



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 PROCUREMENT

4.1.1 Contract No. 2425-24 Supply, Installation & Maintenance of Parking Meters

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2425 24 Tender Submission Detail and Discussion [4.1.1.1 - 7 pages]
2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2425-24 - Confidential - Corporate Scorecard Rieno [4.1.1.2 - 24 pages]

This report contains an attachment which is deemed confidential under s 3(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act* 2020. It contains council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

Purpose

1. To seek approval to award Contract No. 2425-24 for Supply, Installation & Maintenance of Parking Meters (Renewal) to Reino International Pty Ltd trading as Duncan Solutions Australia ABN: 75 079 147 201.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **AWARDS Contract No. 2425-24 for the Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Parking Meters (Renewal) to Reino International Pty Ltd trading as Duncan Solutions Australia (ABN: 75 079 147 201) for a price of Two Million, Four Hundred and Forty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Three Dollars (\$2,440,863.00) comprising of a fixed sum for the supply and installation of meters (\$348,894) and yearly maintenance and operating fee components of (\$257,416) with a yearly price increase capped at CPI with initial term of Three (3) Years with Three (3) optional Two (2) Year Extensions available at the discretion of Council (up to a maximum term of Nine (9) years); and**
2. **AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation.**

Executive Summary

2. This report recommends Council awards Contract 2425-24 to Reino International Pty Ltd trading as Duncan Solutions Australia, for a contract value of Two Million, Four Hundred and Forty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty-Three Dollars (\$2,440,863.00).
3. The maximum potential expenditure under this contract includes the purchase of modern (currently manufactured) parking meters to replace approximately 50% of Councils current parking meters including:
 - Hardware purchase
 - Installation
 - Integration with Councils other parking technology



4. The contract also includes an initial three (3) year term for maintenance and operation including fixed costs for:
 - Subscription to meter and payment digital platform and interface
 - Proactive maintenance of meters
 - Provision of a call centre / help desk for users
5. The contract also includes three (3) optional additional (at full Council discretion) contract extensions of two (2) years for the same maintenance and operation costs above.
6. The contract also includes a contingency cost each year to address any reactive maintenance issues associated with vandalism or other unforeseen damage.
7. Maintenance and operation costs may be subject to yearly increases; however, these will be capped at CPI.

Background

8. Greater Dandenong owns around 135 parking meters, which primarily facilitate ticket parking within the municipality at the following locations:
 - Dandenong Activity Centre
 - Dandenong Market
 - The Balmoral 8 Car Park in Springvale
9. These meters are reaching the end of life, with some components due to fail in late 2025. This primarily relates to the card readers on the machines, which will no longer provide the required card payment security to the community.
10. The existing parking meters accept card and cash payments, with around an even split of payments between these two types. The rate of cash use is significantly higher than in any other municipality in Australia.
11. Modern parking meters, as currently manufactured by most suppliers, provide a range of benefits to users and operators, such as:
 - Improved payment security
 - Digital interface and language options
 - Reduced faults and resilience to damage
 - Improved environmental performance through pay by plate (as opposed to paper ticket)
 - Reduced operating costs
12. However, most modern parking meters no longer accept cash payment.
13. Due to the high rate of cash use within Greater Dandenong, it is proposed to retain around 50% of Councils existing meters which accept cash and explore options to retain as much functionality as possible for these meters (discussed later in this report). 50% of Councils parking meters will be replaced with modern parking meters.
14. The above will be undertaken to coincide with a number of improvements to the way the community can pay for parking within Greater Dandenong, including but not limited to pay by app / phone options and a broader range of business parking permits.



15. The proposed changes to parking alongside this renewal project were subject to community consultation with businesses in March 2025. Business feedback relating to the improved range of payment options was supportive, with businesses also providing a range of suggestions to assist with the implementation / transition which will be incorporated into the roll out.
16. Parking meter procurement is relatively complex for a number of reasons, including:
 - The broad range of components required for the system to function (hardware, software, maintenance, call centre etc.)
 - The limited number of companies offering the product (discussed within the Tender Information – Confidential attachment)
 - The link between asset provision and maintenance, due to the limited capacity of additional companies to perform maintenance on meter assets over their life
 - The variety of methods of procurement (options where Council owns the asset and pays for maintenance, or where Council pays for the service and commits to a long-term contract are available)
17. The aim of the tender process for this procurement was to:
 - Ensure best value to Council for the installation and maintenance of parking meters to renew around 50% of Councils meters
 - Reduce financial risk and provide flexibility to Council relating to its ongoing operation of the new meters
 - Enable submissions to include value add proposals relating to retained and improved function of the remainder of Councils existing (cash payment accepting) parking meters

Tender Process

18. This tender was advertised in The Age Newspaper and on Council's e-tendering platform on Saturday 31 May 2025 and at the close of tenders at 2.00PM Friday 20 June 2025 five (5) tender submissions were received as follows:
 - **CARE PARK PTY LTD – ABN 47 083 921 215**
 - **FLOWBIRD AUSTRALIA PTY LTD – ABN 47 122 259 303**
 - **ORIKAN AUSTRALIA PTY LTD – ABN 73 075 154 755**
 - **PARKIQ PTY LTD – ABN 90 144 396 011**
 - **REINO INTERNATIONAL PTY LIMITED – ABN 75 079 147 201**
19. Tenderers were invited to provide options to Council in terms of contract types and costs. For example tenderers were able to submit both a proposal where Council purchases assets and ongoing maintenance, or where Council does not own the asset by pays for the service on an ongoing basis. Depending on the options provided, tenderers provided a Lump Sum price, or alternative payment options, such as a fee per transaction. Most proposals provided a combination of fees, but sufficient information was provided to enable an estimate of the total cost to Council over the life of the contract.
20. Tenderers were also required to be registered and compliant with Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance) prior to the tender closing date.



Tender Evaluation

21. The tender evaluation panel comprised Council's Manager Transport & Civil Development, Coordinator Transport, Parking Compliance Coordinator and Procurement Officer.
22. Tenders were evaluated using Council's Weighted Attributed Value Selection Method. The advertised evaluation criteria and the allocated weightings for evaluation are as follows:

	Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
1	Price	40%
2	Capability & Available Resources	25%
3	Industry Experience & Past Projects	20%
4	Local Industry	5%
5	Social Procurement	5%
6	Environmental	5%
7	OH&S Systems (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail
8	Environmental System (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail

23. The Evaluation Criteria 1- 6 are given a point score between 0 (Not Acceptable) and 5 (Excellent) as detailed in the following table.
24. Evaluation Criteria 7 and 8 are given a Pass or Fail via Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance).
25. Tenders were ranked by panel members against each criterion. Points were awarded on a scale of 0 to 5 based on the score parameters listed below.

Score	Description
5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good, better than average
2	Acceptable
1	Marginally acceptable (Success not assured)
0	Not Acceptable

26. Several tenders provided multiple options for consideration. These are discussed within the Tender Information – Confidential attachment. Only the highest scoring submission from each has been included within this section of the report.



Evaluation Discussion

27. Several tenders provided multiple options for consideration. These are discussed within the Tender Information – Confidential attachment. Only the highest scoring submission from each has been included within this section of the report.
28. Submissions were assessed and ranked against all evaluation criteria, to ensure that the tenderers met the standards required for Council contractors. A “Fail” in any criterion would automatically exclude a tenderer from further consideration for this contract. The weighted attribute points scores resulting from the assessment are shown in the following table:

Price Points	Price Points	Non-Price Points	Total Score	OH&S	EMS	Rapid Global
Care Park	Non-conforming					
Flowbird Australia	0.01	0.35	0.36	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Orikan Australia	1.00	0.81	1.81	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Parkiq	Non-conforming					
Reino International	1.63	0.87	2.5	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global

Please Note: Rapid Global is a third-party pre-qualification and verification system used by Council and ten (10) other Victorian Councils enabling the sharing of OH&S data. It is a Risk and OH&S system where contractors can upload their Occupational Health & Safety, Risk and Environment Plans and Policies as well as up to date insurances.

29. The two non-conforming submissions were considered so due to only providing part of the services outlined in the specification.
30. At the completion of the tender evaluation process described above, the Evaluation Panel agreed that the tender submission from Reino International Pty Limited ABN: 75 079 147 201 would provide the best value for money outcome to Council for these works under contract.
31. A contract model where Council purchases meter assets and these are covered by a comprehensive maintenance service contract which provides adequate opportunity for Council to review value is the recommended approach.

Value add and recommended contract

32. Reino International Pty Ltd trading as Duncan Solutions Australia submitted a value add proposal for Councils consideration. This relates to the ongoing management of Councils existing (cash payment accepting) parking meters. These meters were manufactured by Duncans Solutions, and with minor alterations (card reader and interface upgrades) a number of benefits can be realised:
- Savings through a consolidated maintenance contract for all parking meters (estimated at around \$10,000 savings per year).
 - Retention of an improved customer parking experience through retaining more payment options
 - Improved environmental outcomes, reduced faults and increased enforcement efficiency through converting all meters to “pay by plate” technology (removing paper tickets and printers from meters)



33. The rates Duncan Solutions Australia are able to offer for the above also provide best value for such alterations which has also been evidenced through this tender process.
34. It is recommended that this contract incorporate maintenance for all of Councils parking meters, replacing Councils current schedule of rates contract for meter maintenance (also with Duncan Solutions), to realise this additional value.
35. Other value add proposals submitted by both Duncans Solutions Australia and other tenderers primarily related to reducing the number of meters within the municipality to save costs. These are not recommended at this time as they conflict with Councils current ambition to provide both as high a level of customer experience possible and a smooth transition to new parking payment technologies.

The Company

36. Duncan Solutions is Australia's largest and longest established provider of parking solutions. They are based in New South Wales and have an international presence, serving more than 180 clients across Malaysia, Indonesia, Macau, and within Australia.
37. Duncan Solutions are certified as 'Australian-Made' as all hardware is manufactured in Australia.
38. Reino International Pty Ltd (Reino) was incorporated in June 1997, but had been operating since 1990, and in 2005 Duncan Solutions was formed by the merger of Reino International, Duncan Parking Technology, Citation Management, Enforcement Technology and Reino Parking Systems.

Relevant Experience/Track Record

39. Reino International Pty Ltd / Duncan Solutions Australia have a long and current track record of providing parking meters to Councils within Victoria and elsewhere in Australia. The City of Greater Dandenong's current parking meters were manufactured by Duncan Solutions, and they have been a trusted partner in providing parking solutions within the municipality.
40. Recent meter installation projects in Bayside (Vic), Waverley (NSW) Cambridge (NSW) and Perth (WA) have highlighted successful implementation. Many other Councils including Melbourne and Port Philip within Victoria have Duncans Solutions meters in place and consistently providing high quality service for an extended period.

Corporate Scorecard and Due Diligence

41. A report was run through our third-party corporate scorecard due diligence process and is attached as a confidential attachment. No major risk was identified and a ranking of "satisfactory" was noted on the scorecard with a bank guarantee recommendation provided as detailed below.

Bank Guarantee (5% of the contract Sum)

42. "Consideration should be given to obtaining security in the form of an appropriate Bank Guarantee or Unconditional Performance Bond, for the duration of the contract and any warranty/defects liability period."
43. As a result of the above findings from the Corporate Scorecard, Council will be seeking an appropriate bank guarantee at 5% of the contract value.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

44. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)

Operating Budget Implications

45. The resource requirements associated with this report are around \$250,000 per year compared to the annual budget allocation of \$310,000 for this purpose. The broader suite of parking technology changes of which this is a component is also anticipated to realise reductions in the cost of cash collection at parking meters.

Asset Implications

46. This item relates to a current CIP project and does/does not change the scope/budget for the project. Stage 1 of the project was initially due for completion in 2024/25 and Stage 2 by December 2025. Stage 1 and Stage 2 will both be delivered by December 2025 under this contract.

Legal/Risk Implications

47. A number of financial risks are discussed within the Tender Information – Confidential attachment. In general, the broader suite of parking technology changes is anticipated to reduce significant risks associated with ongoing collection of cash from meters within the municipality.

Environmental Implications

48. The recommended product represents a significant environmental improvement over the older meter it is replacing. Key to this is a number of design features notably including the removal of printers and printed tickets.

Community Consultation

49. Community consultation was undertaken on the approach to parking payment types in March 2025. There was no requirement for further community consultation prior to procurement.

Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

50. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

Not Applicable

51. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

52. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city
- A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places
- A green city committed to a sustainable future

53. A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources and a commitment to investing in the community



Legislative and Policy Obligations

54. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

Social Procurement

55. Duncans Solutions Australia are a mature organisation with the following policies and documents in place:

- Corporate Social Responsibility Policy
- Enterprise Agreement
- Employees Policy
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Anti-Discrimination and EEO Policy
- Modern Slavery Policy

56. Evidence of application of their social responsibility is provided through their own procurement and sourcing diligence and recruitment.

Local Industry

57. Reino International / Duncan Solutions have not committed to use of local industry within Greater Dandenong.

MINUTE No.201

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

1. **AWARDS Contract No. 2425-24 for the Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Parking Meters (Renewal) to Reino International Pty Ltd trading as Duncan Solutions Australia (ABN: 75 079 147 201) for a price of Two Million, Four Hundred and Forty Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Three Dollars (\$2,440,863.00) comprising of a fixed sum for the supply and installation of meters (\$348,894) and yearly maintenance and operating fee components of (\$257,416) with a yearly price increase capped at CPI with initial term of Three (3) Years with Three (3) optional Two (2) Year Extensions available at the discretion of Council (up to a maximum term of Nine (9) years); and**
2. **AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation.**

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.1.2 Contract No. 2021-49 - Electronic Monitoring & Mobile Security Services Contract Extension (FINAL)

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures Deputy Director Chief Engineer & Major Projects
Attachments:	1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - CGD Reporting - 12 months [4.1.2.1 - 9 pages] 2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Protection Pacific Business Profile [4.1.2.2 - 2 pages] 3. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Report Security Contract Aug 25 [4.1.2.3 - 1 page]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **AWARDS the Electronic Surveillance and Security Services contract final extension to EBN Protective Services Pty Ltd trading as Protection Pacific Security (ABN 83 006 788 807) for a final 12 months from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026;**
2. **AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements, and any associated documentation with the above contractor.**

Executive Summary

1. This report outlines the process and evaluation for the contract extension for the experienced contractor for the provision of Electronic Surveillance and Security Services Contract 2021-49 for the Greater Dandenong City Council.
2. EBN Protective Services Pty Ltd trading as Protection Pacific Security is an Australian owned company established in 1992, was awarded the Electronic Monitoring and Mobile Security Services contract in October 2021 on an initial contract period of 2 years with 3 contract extension options of 12 months at the sole and absolute discretion of Council. The current contract extension is due to expire on 30 September 2025.

Background

3. In line with the previous Council resolution which foreshadowed a potential review of the market prior to any future new contracts, and on this sought final extension of 12 months, a market scan has been undertaken to ensure that Council continues to achieve value for money, probity, and service quality in the provision of electronic surveillance and security services until such time any new future contracts are developed.
4. A comparative scan was undertaken of EBN Protective Services Ltd trading as Protection Pacific Security and two other major security providers. The key findings were that EBN Protective Services remains cost - competitive and continues to provide tailored, localised service delivery suited to Council needs.
5. No KPI failures or material issues were recorded in this term; service has met or exceeded expectations (incident response, scheduled maintenance, reporting).



6. EBN Protective Services rates remain lower than benchmarked rates obtained from other security providers for comparable roles and services. Refer to confidential attachment for comparable rates.
7. Transition to another provider at this time would involve additional costs (systems handover, access onboarding, re-engineering site procedures) and introduce avoidable risk and transition cost for minimal benefit. Any new procedures and transition plans to be developed would form part of any future new contracts, after this current contract has completed its final term and final extension.
8. The market check and scan confirm that EBN Protective Services remains aligned with market leaders on scope and compliance expectations, while offering local agility and lower total cost.
9. The Greater Dandenong City Council has installed Access Control, CCTV and Electronic Alarm Systems at a number of facilities which require monitoring and maintenance on a continuous basis. For the purposes of monitoring this equipment, Council requires a company to maintain an in-house Control Room with current ASIAL (Australian Security Industry Assoc. Ltd) grading or that complies with AS 2201.2-2004.
10. EBN Protective Services full-service encompasses technical support, security patrol services, lock and unlock services, ad hoc guard services, CCTV, security system, access control installation and ongoing maintenance across all Councils assets.
11. EBN Protective Services actively provides a wealth of complementary services, including training and advisory support to the Council. Their commitment extends beyond contractual obligations, fostering a collaborative partnership.
12. EBN Protective Services places strong emphasis particularly on Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and risk management and has the management system and tools in place to ensure safety of their staff and compliance with OH&S/Risk Management/Environmental Management requirements.
13. EBN Protective Services has a team of patrolmen and technical specialists with a registered monitoring control room which enable measurable and reliable outcomes in their performance under the contract.
14. EBN Protective Services has a proven track record and has established a successful and mutually beneficial relationship ensuring seamless services delivery.
15. Work requests and maintenance of hardware and software are performed satisfactorily in accordance with our service levels and requirements. Reporting of adverse events and patrol runs (electronic tagged) are timely and reliable and prompt responses provided when required.
16. Please refer to the confidential attachment to this report for details of contractual / commercial rates, and benchmarking / cost comparisons to industry rates offered within the current market.
17. KPI Performance
 - Locking/unlocking of reserves gates, public toilets and multi-storey car parks are performed reliably and timely (time electronically tagged).
 - Satisfactory annual maintenance servicing of hardware equipment.
 - Provision of daily and weekly reports.
18. Reactionary responses are carried out within acceptable timeframes.



Key Issues and Discussion

Risk Implications – Non-Renewal of Contract

19. The administrative burden of a full tender process including a service review prior to tender.
20. Going to market now may require 12 - 24 weeks, incur transition costs, and operational risk, with no clear evidence of better value or quality at this time. Any additional option or consideration to a possible short month to month rollover may increase administrative churn and pricing uncertainty without benefits over a standard 12-month extension.
21. Onboarding and training new staff on council sites.
22. Loss of in-depth knowledge of the incumbent on Council's assets and software systems may increase risk of equipment/service delivery failure, leading to operation disruptions and inconvenience for staff and the public.
23. Security services disruption during transition period may lead to OHS risks and legal liabilities under the current conditions where homelessness, anti-social behaviours, and substance abuse are prevalent. These adverse events are responded and attended at various sites by the contractor daily.

Contractor Incident Reporting

24. A confidential annual incident report is attached to this report which provides detail on the vast extent of tasks that are serviced and provided by the afterhours patrol officers nightly. Over the course of the last 12 months (Aug24 to Jul25), this has included up to 27,967 incidents, which have been actioned and pro-actively reported by the contractor.
25. These incidents include (but are not limited to) the annual removal of 4,288 unauthorised persons from patrolled sites, 14,305 graffiti damage incidents and 2,629 property damage incidents, as well as the reporting of 1313 doors / gates unable to be secured.
26. It is noted that interactions with unauthorised persons at patrol sites can take time, particularly if the person is homeless, drug affected or mentally unstable, and where there is the potential for any removal from site to escalate. The time taken dealing with these interactions can also on occasion affect both lock up and unlock times.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

27. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)

Operating Budget Implications

28. This contract has an anticipated annual spend in the order of \$1.7 million (excluding GST) per year, which is accommodated within existing Council operating budgets for building maintenance.

Asset Implications

29. This item does not affect any existing assets.



Legal/Risk Implications

30. There are no legal / risk implications relevant to this report.

Environmental Implications

31. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.

Gender Impact Assessment

32. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

33. There was no requirement for community consultation.

Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

34. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Safe and peaceful community.

35. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

36. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

37. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- Not Applicable

MINUTE No.202

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

1. **AWARDS** the Electronic Surveillance and Security Services contract final extension to EBN Protective Services Pty Ltd trading as Protection Pacific Security (ABN 83 006 788 807) for a final 12 months from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026;
2. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements, and any associated documentation with the above contractor.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.2 FINANCE AND BUDGET

4.2.1 June 2025 Financial Report interim results

Responsible Officer: Chief Financial Officer

Attachments: 1. June 2025 Financial Report Interim Results [4.2.1.1 - 61 pages]

Purpose

1. The attached report provides an update of the financial results of Council operations for the year ended 30 June 2025 including financial performance against the Mid-Year Budget adopted by the City of Greater Dandenong on 28 January 2025. At the time of preparation, this report is presented as an interim result as the information has not been signed off by Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO).

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **NOTES the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2025 (interim results);**
2. **NOTES the proposed capital and operating carry forwards from the 2024-25 financial year listed in Appendix 5 of the Financial Report which will form the basis of an 2025-26 Amended Budget for management reporting purposes; and**
3. **NOTES the 2024-25 residual cash surplus outcome of \$1.1 million to be referred to the Mid-Year Budget.**

Executive Summary

2. This report presents the Financial Report 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 which provides financial performance reporting to the Mid-Year Budget adopted by Council on 28 January 2025.
3. The information in this report has been audited by Council's audit agent however it has not yet been endorsed by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and may be subject to further change. The report is an interim result prior to the final Annual Report which will be presented at a meeting of Council on 13 October 2025.
4. Appendix 5 of the Financial Report details the proposed capital and operating carry forwards from the 2024-25 financial year.



Background

5. The June 2025 Financial Report is designed to inform Councillors of the financial results of Council operations for the year ended 30 June 2025 including financial performance against the Mid-Year Budget adopted by Council on 28 January 2025.
6. Whilst the financial statements are prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and present an 'accounting result' for the 2024-25 financial year, they contain several fixed asset accounting items such as depreciation on assets, gifted assets and the written down (book) value of assets sold. These items do not impact on the cash result of Council. They also exclude capital expenditure, new borrowings and loan repayments and as such, these Statements do not provide an accurate indication of the surplus/deficit cash position within a financial year. The points under the key issues and discussion detail further the management accounting result for the financial year 2024-25.
7. In summary, Greater Dandenong City Council has achieved a positive year-end cash outcome in comparison to its forecast result leaving an estimated residual surplus amount of \$1.1 million to be referred to Mid-Year Budget.



Key Issues and Discussion

8. The following table provides a **Management Accounting Summary Result** of the financial performance for the year ended 30 June 2025 which removes non-cash items and adds back cash items.

Description	FULL YEAR				
	ACTUAL	AMENDED BUDGET	VARIANCE Fav(unfav)	FORECAST	VARIANCE Fav(unfav)
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income Statement					
Income	288,449	281,004	7,445	283,911	4,538
Expenditure	257,661	260,014	2,353	259,484	(1,823)
Net surplus - ongoing operations	30,788	20,990	9,798	24,427	6,361
Management Accounting reconciliation					
<i>Add back (less) non cash items</i>					
Depreciation	47,455	47,531	76	47,531	76
Amortisation - right of use assets	660	598	(62)	598	(62)
Amortisation - intangible assets	1	-	(1)	-	(1)
Spring Valley landfill provision adjustment	356	-	(356)	-	(356)
Fair value adjustments - investment property	(175)	-	175	-	175
Contributions non-monetary assets	(6,000)	(7,500)	(1,500)	(7,500)	(1,500)
Assets written off	6,163	-	(6,163)	-	(6,163)
Prior year capital expenditure unable to be capitalised	2,987	-	(2,987)	-	(2,987)
Written down value of assets sold/disposed	110	160	50	50	(60)
Investments in other entities	10	-	(10)	-	(10)
Sub total	51,567	40,789	(10,778)	40,679	(10,888)
Net operating surplus	82,355	61,779	20,576	65,106	(4,527)
<i>Add (less) cash items not included in op result</i>					
Capital expenditure	(60,608)	(98,086)	37,478	(99,056)	38,448
Net transfers from (to) reserves	(10,442)	9,822	(20,264)	9,397	(19,839)
Repayment of borrowings	(3,931)	(3,939)	8	(3,939)	8
Proceeds from borrowings	5,120	5,120	-	5,120	-
Repayment of lease liabilities	(670)	(710)	40	(710)	40
Sub total	(70,531)	(87,793)	17,262	(89,188)	18,657
Cash surplus (deficit)	11,824	(26,014)	37,838	(24,082)	35,906
Accumulated surplus brought forward	26,014	26,014	-	26,014	-
Capital project carry overs (net)	(22,056)	-	(22,056)	-	(22,056)
Operating carry overs (net)	(7,448)	-	(7,448)	-	(7,448)
Financial Assistance Grants funding distributed in advance	(7,238)	-	(7,238)	-	(7,238)
Surplus position	1,096	-	1,096	1,932	(836)

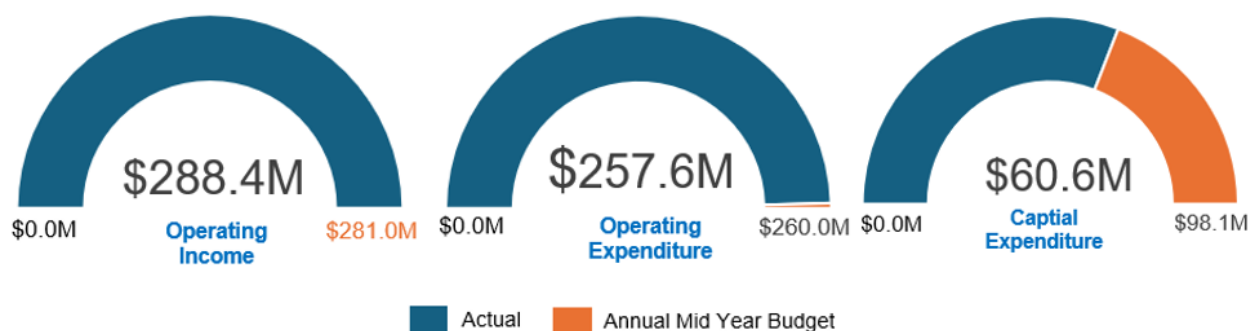
9. The overall management accounting result for the period ended 30 June 2025 shows a positive financial outcome for Council with an accumulated cash surplus result of **\$1.1 million** after consideration of expenditure budgeted in 2024-25 which was unspent but required to be carried forward to the 2025-26 financial year. A full list of operating and capital carry overs is included in **Appendix 5** of the attached June Financial Report.
10. The outcomes to 30 June 2025 are extremely positive in that Council has managed to achieve better actual outcomes than initially forecast in the 2024-25 Annual Mid-Year Budget.



11. The favourable year end cash result was primarily driven by a combination of favourable grant funding, employee cost underspends, higher-than-expected investment income and lower than anticipated contract and maintenance costs in Parks, Waste, Roads and Drains. Council's end-of-year cash surplus of \$1.1 million was achieved after strategic reserve transfers to Major Projects, General - Aged and Community Services and Spring Valley Landfill reserves.
12. The favourable year-end result also had a positive impact on the \$2.5 million allocated at the Mid-Year Budget Review for the demolition works of the Precinct Energy Plant, which was to be funded from the Major Projects Reserve. Council had resolved that, should a surplus be achieved, the reserve transfer would be reduced by the surplus amount, subject to an assessment of financial capacity as at 30 June 2025. Following a comprehensive assessment, sufficient capacity was confirmed, allowing the full \$2.5 million to remain in the Major Projects Reserve.

2024-25 Operating Result

13. For the year ended 30 June 2025, Council achieved a surplus operating result of \$30.8 million which is \$9.8 million better than Annual Mid-Year Budget.



14. The main factors contributing to this result comprise favourable variances in:
- Income (\$7.5 million favourable) – earlier than anticipated Victorian Local Government Grants Commission (\$7.2 million), additional grants in Community Strengthening programs (\$3.08 million), higher than anticipated interest returns on investments (\$2.5 million), monetary contributions from public open space (\$2 million, transferred to reserves) and supplementary rates (\$535,000), partly offset by capital grant and contribution income not recognised as performance obligations have not yet been met (\$7.34 million).
 - Expenditure (\$2.4 million favourable) - due to lower than anticipated employee costs (\$8.43 million, of which approximately 60% relates to grant funded programs with future obligation and acquittal requirements), materials and services (\$4 million), partly offset by two unfavourable fixed asset accounting entries, prior year capital expenditure unable to be capitalised (\$3 million) and assets written off (\$6.2 million).
 - More detailed variance explanations in operating income and expenditure are explained in the attached June 2025 Financial Report Sections B1 – B2 (pages 13 – 17).



15. Capital expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2025 is \$60.6 million which is \$37.5 million favourable to the Annual Mid-Year Budget. This lower-than-budgeted outcome is attributed primarily to key major projects, including the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre (DWC) and the Dandenong New Art (DNA) building, with DWC experiencing a delayed commencement and the DNA project pending the demolition of the adjoining Precinct Energy Plant Building. Both projects are expected to progress significantly in the new financial year.
16. \$30 million of the capital underspend is proposed to be carried over to the 2025-26 financial year (see Appendix 5B of the June Financial Report). The deferrals are due to a range of factors including changes in project scope or requirements, dependencies on third-party authorities and interdependent projects.
17. The capital carry overs were reviewed by the Chief Engineer and Major Projects and Finance in consultation with Project Managers and subsequently the Executive Team.

Financial sustainability

18. While the financial outcome for the 2024-25 year was favourable, Council continues to face significant challenges. Ensuring long-term financial sustainability will require ongoing discipline, strategic planning, and proactive management of emerging risks.
19. Financial sustainability ratios provide Council with insights about its liquidity and operational efficiency. The following table summarises the key financial sustainability performance indicators used by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) to assess the financial sustainability of councils. These are unaudited measures at the time of writing.
- 20.

	2024-25	Net result	Adjusted underlying result	Internal financing	Liquidity	Indebtedness	Capital replacement	Renewal gap
Actual		10.67% ●	3.76% ●	132.24% ●	2.29 ●	22.64% ●	1.21 ●	0.67 ●
Mid Year Budget		7.47% ●	-2.61% ●	71.35% ●	1.69 ●	22.88% ●	2.06 ●	1.19 ●
21. Original Budget		12.95% ●	4.50% ●	73.46% ●	1.54 ●	30.99% ●	2.68 ●	1.06 ●

22. The above table is a snapshot of the Financial Sustainability VAGO measures for the year ended 30 June 2025. Council achieved favourably in six (6) of the seven (7) VAGO indicators, with the Renewal Gap indicating a challenge. This compares the rate of spending on renewing, restoring and replacing existing assets with depreciation. A result greater than 1 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while less than 1 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed/upgraded and future capital expenditure will be required to renew/upgrade assets.
23. The 2024-25 renewal gap actual result (below 1) reflects a 33% increase in depreciation expense due to the componentisation of building assets, alongside delays in key renewal programs such as fleet upgrades and road reconstruction.



Cash management

24. Council continues to manage its cash reserves prudently, ensuring that funds are available to meet operational obligations and support strategic priorities. This disciplined approach is essential to maintaining liquidity and financial resilience.
25. Cash and investments total \$212.53 million at 30 June 2025, comprising \$32.82 million of cash and cash equivalents and \$179.71 million of 'financial assets' (term deposits invested for a period of greater than 90 days). Closing cash and investments include cash on hand, cash equivalents, and financial assets (such as term deposits) that are readily convertible to cash and used to support the organisation's operations. This presentation differs from the cash flow statement, where financial assets are excluded in accordance with accounting standards, to provide a more complete view of liquidity for comparative and user purposes. The working capital ratio result remains sound at 2.29.
26. Total cash/investments at 30 June 2025 have been allocated for specific future purposes and should be read in conjunction with Note 5.1 (intended allocations) in Councils 2024-25 Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and page 26 of the attached June 2025 Financial Report (interim results). Cash amounts are held to fund carried forward projects both capital and operational. Reserves will also be drawn down to fund the significant investment in Dandenong Wellbeing Centre.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

27. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)

Operating Budget Implications

28. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Asset Implications

29. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

30. There are no legal / risk implications relevant to this report.

Environmental Implications

31. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.

Community Consultation

32. This is an internal financial report with variance commentary assistance sought from Council's management group. No formal external consultation is required under Council's Community Engagement Policy per the Local Government Act 2020.
33. A summary version of this report was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 12 September 2025.



Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

34. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Not Applicable
35. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
36. 2021-25:
- A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

37. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.203

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2025 (interim results);
2. **NOTES** the proposed capital and operating carry forwards from the 2024-25 financial year listed in Appendix 5 of the Financial Report which will form the basis of an 2025-26 Amended Budget for management reporting purposes; and
3. **NOTES** the 2024-25 residual cash surplus outcome of \$1.1 million to be referred to the Mid-Year Budget.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.2.2 2024-25 Annual Financial Statements

Responsible Officer: Chief Financial Officer

Attachments:

1. Annual Financial Report 2024-25 [4.2.2.1 - 80 pages]
2. Performance Statement 2024-25 [4.2.2.2 - 17 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES- IN- PRINCIPLE** the Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and the Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025;
2. **AUTHORISES** the Principal Accounting Officer to make changes to the Financial and Performance Statements, as agreed with the Victorian Auditor-General's Office, that the Audit and Risk Committee be consulted prior to making any material amendment, and that material amendments be communicated to Council as soon as practical; and
3. **NOMINATES** Councillor Memeti (Mayor) and Councillor Garad to sign the 30 June 2025 Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statements.

Executive Summary

1. The 2024-25 Annual Financial Statements comprise the consolidated financial statements of Council, Dandenong Market Pty Ltd and South East Leisure Pty Ltd. In preparing the consolidated financial statements, all inter-entity balances and transactions have been eliminated in full.
2. The preliminary audit of Council's Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025 has been completed by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and reviewed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee.
3. Prior to final certification by VAGO, Council is required to adopt-in-principle the 2024-25 Annual Financial Statements and submit them for certification. As part of the certification process, VAGO may require further minor amendments to the Statements and Council authorisation for the Principal Accounting Officer to make these changes is sought.
4. Council is also required to authorise two Councillors to certify these documents in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. The signed statements will be incorporated in Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the annual report will be presented to Council by 13 October 2025.
5. This report recommends that Council adopts-in-principle the Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025, authorises the Principal Accounting Officer to make changes in certain circumstances and nominates Councillor Memeti (Mayor) and Audit and Risk Committee member Councillor Garad to sign the 2024-25 Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement.



Background

6. The agents of VAGO, RSD Audit, have completed the audit of the Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025. The Audit Closing Report was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 12 September 2025. The statements remain interim until signed by the Auditor-General. Council has received verbal audit clearance from VAGO for the attached Financial and Performance Statements.

Key Points / Issues / Discussion

Signing of Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025

7. The Audit and Risk Committee is satisfied with the statements and recommends to Council that the statements be adopted in principle and referred to VAGO for final certification.
8. For the audit to proceed, Council now needs to resolve to (subject to any minor amendments noted under "Consultation" in this report):
 - 1) Approve "in principle" the draft Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025.
 - 2) Authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the 30 June 2025 Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement once any changes recommended or agreed to with the Auditor-General have been made.
9. The Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025 will be incorporated into Council's Annual Report, which is to be presented at a Council meeting open to the public on 13 October 2025.

Financial Implications

10. The draft Financial Statements are consolidated accounts of Council, Dandenong Market Pty Ltd and South East Leisure Pty Ltd. These statements indicate the financial performance for the year and the financial position at 30 June 2025. Verbal audit clearance has been received from VAGO and it is not expected that there will any further changes to the Statements as a result.
11. The Comprehensive Income Statement highlights that Greater Dandenong City Council's operating surplus for the year is a consolidated accounting surplus result of \$30.91 million in 2024-25. To reach the total comprehensive income result, Council has recorded a net revaluation increment in fixed asset values of \$372.76 million (across a range of asset classes as detailed in note 9.1 of the attached 2024-25 Financial Report) resulting in a consolidated Comprehensive Income surplus of \$403.67 million in total. Council is reminded that these outcomes are accounting based and do not represent the actual 'cash' outcome of Council for the financial year.
12. Detailed analysis of operational financial performance for the year ended 30 June 2025 is included in the June 2025 Financial Report and illustrates all significant variations between final outcomes and forecast results and provides a reconciliation to the cash result.



Performance Statement

13. The Performance Statement reports Council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. It contains the results of the prescribed indicators and measures for service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity indicators. The Performance Statement is also required to be audited, certified and published in the Annual Report 2024-25.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

14. The agents of the Auditor-General, RSD Audit, have completed the audit of the Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025. The Audit and Risk Committee met on 12 September 2025 to review in detail the draft Financial Statements and Performance Statement. The meeting was attended by RSD Audit who presented the audit outcomes. No material issues were raised. The Audit and Risk Committee recommends to Council that the statements be adopted-in-principle.
15. The Financial Statements and Performance Statement will be included in Council's Annual Report which will be published on Council's website once audit clearance certification has been received from VAGO and it has been formally approved by Council.

Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

16. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
 - Sustainable environment.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Mind, body and spirit.
 - Art and culture.
17. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:
- A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

18. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020.
 - Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006.
 - Climate Change and Sustainability.



Conclusion

19. It is recommended that Council adopt in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025 and advance these statements to VAGO for final certification.

MINUTE No.204

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That Council:

1. **APPROVES- IN- PRINCIPLE** the Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and the Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025;
2. **AUTHORISES** the Principal Accounting Officer to make changes to the Financial and Performance Statements, as agreed with the Victorian Auditor-General's Office, that the Audit and Risk Committee be consulted prior to making any material amendment, and that material amendments be communicated to Council as soon as practical; and
3. **NOMINATES** Councillor Memeti (Mayor) and Councillor Garad to sign the 30 June 2025 Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statements.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 S6 Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff and S18 Instrument of Sub- Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017

Responsible Officer:	Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Attachment 1 - Section 11 of the Local Government Act 2020 [4.3.1.1 - 2 pages]2. Attachment 2 - S 6 Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Staff 251020 [4.3.1.2 - 145 pages]3. Attachment 3 - S 18 Instrument of Sub- Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 251020 [4.3.1.3 - 6 pages]

Officer Recommendation 1

In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation, Greater Dandenong City Council (Council) **RESOLVES** that:

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the *S6 Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff (Attachment 2)*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument. The Instrument comes into force immediately once the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument;
2. On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked; and
3. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

Officer Recommendation 2

In the exercise of the power conferred by s 437(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021, Greater Dandenong City Council (Council) **RESOLVES THAT:**

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the *S18 Instrument of Sub-delegation to members of Council staff (Attachment 3)*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
2. The Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument; and
3. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.



Executive Summary

1. In accordance with section 11(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, provided as **Attachment 1**, Council is required to review and update its Instruments of Delegation within 12 months of a general election.
2. The last review of Council's S6 Instrument of Delegation made directly to staff was conducted in August 2022.
3. This report presents:
 - An updated S6 Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff, reflecting changes to legislation, conditions and limitations, and delegate titles since August 2022.
 - A new S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation, required under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, to enable Council officers to perform statutory duties under this legislation.

Background

4. Council, as a statutory body, is responsible for carrying out various powers, duties and functions under a range of State legislation and Council's Local Laws under the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. Council and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) may delegate many powers, duties and functions to Council officers, particularly those of an administrative or operational nature, those that require officers with certain qualifications to undertake them and those that generally do not require formal Council consideration. Delegation is an important tool which allows for the efficient and effective function of the organisation.
6. The S6 Instrument of Delegation by Council to members of Council Staff (**Attachment 2**), provided by Maddocks Law Firm, includes all recent legislative updates and conditions/limitations specifically for Greater Dandenong City Council.
7. The S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation (**Attachment 3**) is essential for Council to meet its obligations under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, particularly in relation to environmental health and protection. It enables authorised officers to perform functions related to environmental compliance and enforcement. This is a new delegation required due to an update in the legislation.
8. Whilst the Local Government Act 2020 only allows Council to delegate to the CEO or delegated committees, other Acts do contain provisions that allow Council to directly delegate powers, duties and functions to staff.
9. These Acts often include clauses that explicitly empower Council to delegate to staff, and in some cases, do not permit sub-delegation, making direct delegation necessary.
10. To support this approach, Maddocks Law Firm provide regular updates to Victorian Councils, including Greater Dandenong, on delegation formats and maintains that direct delegation is appropriate under these other legislative frameworks.



11. Examples of legislation where Council can still delegate directly to Council staff are:

- a. *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- b. *Food Act 1984*
- c. *Heritage Act 2017*
- d. *Local Government Act 1989*
- e. *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- f. *Residential Tenancies Act 1997*
- g. *Road Management Act 2004*

12. Regulations:

- a. *Planning and Environment Regulations 2015*
- b. *Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016*
- c. *Road Management (General) Regulations 2016*
- d. *Road Management (Works and Infrastructure) Regulations 2015*
- e. *Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2024*

Key Issues and Discussion

- 13. Delegations are where a member of Council staff is empowered to act on Council's behalf. The decision of the delegate is deemed to be a decision of Council. Powers, duties and functions are delegated to a Council position.
- 14. The S6 Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff is a key administrative tool that delegates powers from Council-to-Council staff to ensures staff can continue to act on Council's behalf in accordance with updated legislative requirements.
- 15. The document has been reviewed by internal staff and the Executive Leadership Team. Minor updates have been made to formatting and position titles to reflect current organisational structure.
- 16. The S18 Instrument of Sub-Delegation under the Environment Protection Act 2017 is a new Instrument to Greater Dandenong City Council. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) allows councils to appoint officers under the Environmental Protection Act 2017. These officers can then be provided with specific EPA powers.
- 17. The Environment Protection Act 2017 supports the EPA and other authorities in reducing pollution and managing waste. Recent legislative changes have enabled the EPA to delegate specific powers to local councils. As a result, it is now necessary for Council to formally delegate these functions to relevant staff to ensure they are exercised appropriately and in accordance with legislative requirements.
- 18. Both instruments have been reviewed in consultation with Maddocks Law Firm to ensure legal accuracy and operational relevance.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

19. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)

Operating Budget Implications

20. There are no financial implications with the development and establishment of Instruments of Delegation and all resources required are taken from existing budget and resource allocations.

21. Instruments of Delegation do not affect the salaries of the positions that receive delegated authority to act on behalf of Council.

Asset Implications

22. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

23. The updates mitigate risk by ensuring Council's delegations are current and compliant with relevant legislation.

Environmental Implications

24. The S18 Instrument supports Council's environmental responsibilities under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, enhancing its ability to respond to environmental issues.

Community Consultation

25. Delegations are internal administrative tools. There is no requirement for Council to consult with the community in relation to delegations, however under Council's Public Transparency Policy and section 11(8) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, these Instruments of Delegation must be made available to the public.

Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

26. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Not Applicable

27. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

28. 2025-29:

- Not Applicable



Legislative and Policy Obligations

29. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.205

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation, Greater Dandenong City Council (Council) **RESOLVES** that:

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the *S6 Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff (Attachment 2)*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument. The Instrument comes into force immediately once the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument;
2. On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked; and
3. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

CARRIED 9 / 0

MINUTE No.206

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

In the exercise of the power conferred by s 437(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021, Greater Dandenong City Council (Council) **RESOLVES THAT:**

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the *S18 Instrument of Sub-delegation to members of Council staff (Attachment 3)*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
2. The Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument; and
3. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3.2 Audit and Risk Committee - Appointment of Chair

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the recent resignation of Geoff Harry as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee due to personal reasons, and thanks him for his outstanding service and leadership in this role; and
2. **APPOINTS** Michael Shatter as the Audit and Risk Committee Chair for an interim period until the future membership of the Audit and Risk Committee is resolved.

Executive Summary

1. In accordance with Council's Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2023 Council must appoint an external independent committee member to the position of Chair.
2. This report recommends Mr Michael Shatter (independent external member) be appointed as Chair of Council's Audit and Risk Committee for an interim period until the future membership of the Committee is resolved.
3. Since appointed in 2024 as an external member of the Committee Mr Shatter has performed his role with the Audit and Risk Committee in a professional and diligent fashion and has added value to Council through his contributions. This interim appointment as Chair is supported by Committee members and was discussed at the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held 12 September 2025.

Background

4. In accordance with section 53(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council must establish an Audit and Risk Committee. The committee acts in an advisory capacity to the Council and reports directly to the Council.
5. In accordance with section 53(4) of the Local Government Act 2020, the Chair must be an independent member of the Committee as it cannot be a Councillor. Mr Geoff Harry, the most recent Committee Chair has resigned from his role and the Committee itself effective from Friday 12 September 2025. Mr Geoff Harry's term as Chair was due to conclude on 25 November 2025. This early resignation necessitated the Committee to elect an interim Chair.
6. In accordance with section 54(1) A Council must prepare and approve an Audit and Risk Committee Charter. Section 54(2) states the charter must specify the functions and responsibilities of the Committee.
7. Council's Audit and Risk Committee Charter was adopted by Council on 24 July 2023. The Charter provides that the Chair be an annual appointment by Council. Council's structure is five (5) members, three (3) of who are external independent persons.



Key Issues and Discussion

8. The report recommends that Council appoints Mr Michael Shatter as Chair for an interim period until the future membership of the Committee is resolved.

Governance Compliance

Operating Budget Implications

9. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Community Consultation

10. There was no legislative requirement for community consultation.

Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

11. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Not Applicable
12. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
13. 2025-29:
- A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

14. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act* 2020.

MINUTE No.207

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the recent resignation of Geoff Harry as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee due to personal reasons, and thanks him for his outstanding service and leadership in this role; and
2. **APPOINTS** Michael Shatter as the Audit and Risk Committee Chair for an interim period until the future membership of the Audit and Risk Committee is resolved.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3.3 Back Your Neighbour Canberra and Sydney Advocacy

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES the outcomes of the Back Your Neighbour advocacy conducted in Canberra and Sydney delegations from 2 to 5 September 2025.

Executive Summary

1. The Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings were held in Canberra and Sydney from 2 to 5 September 2025, as part of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum advocacy work.
2. Taskforce Chair, Mayor Cr Jim Memeti was approved to travel interstate and participate in this delegation at the Council meeting on 11 August 2025.
3. A total of 13 meetings took place in Canberra and seven meetings were held in Sydney. This report is to update Council in relation to the advocacy outcomes achieved during the Back Your Neighbour advocacy delegations.

Background

4. In 2018, Greater Dandenong City Council established the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum. Since then, the Taskforce has grown to include over 40 councils across Australia. Greater Dandenong continues to lead the Taskforce's 'Back Your Neighbour' advocacy campaign, with the appointed mayor serving as Chair.
5. Council has been proactively leading strategic, direct lobbying with a cross-section of stakeholders since the 2022 federal election, collaborating with the refugee sector and peak bodies, raising awareness of campaign priorities and growing the Council membership of the Taskforce.
6. As part of the Taskforce's bipartisan political engagement strategy, the Taskforce holds annual delegations to Canberra to meet with Federal Members of Parliament about the Back Your Neighbour campaign.
7. As delegated Chair of the Taskforce, successive mayors of Greater Dandenong have played an active role in these delegations, helping to elevate the campaign's priorities at the federal level.
8. This year, the Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings were scheduled in Canberra and Sydney from 2 to 5 September 2025.
9. Mayor Cr Jim Memeti was approved to travel interstate and participate in this delegation at the Council meeting on 11 August 2025.
10. This report is to update Council in relation to the advocacy outcomes achieved during the delegation.



Key Issues and Discussion

11. From 2 to 3 September 2025, representatives of the Taskforce held combined 13 meetings in Canberra with Federal Members of Parliament and their advisors. These meetings focused on the Back Your Neighbour national advocacy campaign priorities.
12. Mayor Cr Jim Memeti attended meetings with a lived experience delegate and Council support officer, including meeting with Susan Templeman MP, Madonna Jarrett MP, Mark Dreyfus MP, Sam Lim MP and ACT Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Michael Petterson MLA.
13. Discussions centred on resolving the long-term legacy caseload and support for people seeking asylum, particularly by raising awareness about visa uncertainty and improving access to essential services.
14. Additionally, Mayor Cr Jim Memeti attended seven meetings in Sydney with a Taskforce Councillor representative and support officer from 4-5 September. The meetings included one with Capital Cities Lord Mayors and six others with six individual Greater Sydney councils.
15. These meetings aimed to strengthen the national coalition of Taskforce councils and advance advocacy for inclusive communities and refugee protection.
16. Positive support for the campaign was received from the Lord Mayors of Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Sydney and productive meetings were undertaken with Blacktown City Council, Strathfield City Council, Randwick City Council, Bayside City Council, Lane Cove Council and Parramatta City Council.
17. All Mayor and Councillor representatives who heard directly about the Taskforce's achievements were keen to participate in the Taskforce and follow-up resources to support joining the Taskforce has been supplied to all Councils since the meetings.
18. For more information on the campaign visit the [Back Your Neighbour website](#).

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

19. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)

Operating Budget Implications

20. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Asset Implications

21. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

22. Identify if there are any legal or risk implications.

Environmental Implications

23. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.

Gender Impact Assessment

24. A gender impact assessment is not required.
25. There was no requirement for community consultation.



Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

26. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.

27. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

28. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

29. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- Not Applicable

MINUTE No.208

Moved by: Cr Isabella Do

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council NOTES the outcomes of the Back Your Neighbour advocacy conducted in Canberra and Sydney delegations from 2 to 5 September 2025.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3.4 New Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Members

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Community Strengthening
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Recommended Applicants for the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee [4.3.4.1 - 1 page]2. Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee - Updated Terms of Reference 2025 [4.3.4.2 - 17 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the appointment of the following four (4) applicants (per Attachment 1) as independent members of the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term from 30 September 2025 to 30 September 2027:
 - a. Elise Jordan
 - b. Yin Cheng Jin
 - c. Grissel Walmaggia; and
 - d. Jayani De Silva
2. **APPROVES** the updated Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (per Attachment 2); and
3. **NOTES** that the Mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong will write to the proposed applicants to confirm their appointment to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term from 30 September 2025 to 30 September 2027.

Executive Summary

1. This report outlines the process undertaken to appoint new members to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for the 2025–2027 term and seeks endorsement of the four (4) recommended applicants listed in Attachment 1.
2. This report also seeks endorsement for the minor administrative changes to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Terms of Reference (Attachment 2).

Background

3. The Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee supports Council's strong commitment to engaging the community in a genuine and meaningful way by bringing together local knowledge, expertise and stakeholders to support Council's decision-making process. This is in alignment with the Greater Dandenong Council Plan 2021-25 and the objectives of Council's Community Engagement Policy and Framework.



4. At the meeting on 15 May 2025, the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee agreed to maintain their current Terms of Reference with minor changes to reflect recent job title updates within Council.
5. The Committee's Terms of Reference stipulate that the Committee will consist of up to two (2) Community Representatives, up to three (3) Independent Professional members, Councillor and senior Council officer, and a representative from three (3) local collecting organisations including the Springvale District Historical Society, Dandenong Historical Society and Spirit of Enterprise Project.
6. With the conclusion of the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee's term on 15 May 2025, expressions of interest (EOI) for Independent Professional and Community representatives were advertised. This included promotion through local media, Council's website, social media, e- News, and targeted outreach via heritage professional network forums, networks and institutional partnerships. This campaign took place for 29 days, from 5 June to 3 July 2025. As part of this process, the opportunity was also shared with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.

Discussion

7. Following the EOI process, a total of eight (8) applications were received and assessed against the selection criteria. All applications were of high calibre and were submitted both locally and from across Melbourne.
8. A selection panel was convened to assess nominations and make a recommendation to Council for consideration and endorsement. The selection process, which included phone interviews, reference checks, pre-requisite checks, was conducted in accordance with the Terms of Reference.
9. The four (4) applicants listed in Attachment 1 are distinguished by their significant experience and strong community awareness and are therefore recommended for endorsement to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee.

Financial Implications

10. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

11. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Art and culture.
12. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
13. 2025-29:
 - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
 - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places.
 - A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.



Legislative and Policy Obligations

14. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - The *Gender Equality Act 2020*
 - *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities* 2006.
 - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks including *Discover/Create/Share City of Greater Dandenong Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026*.

MINUTE No.209

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the appointment of the following four (4) applicants (per Attachment 1) as independent members of the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term from 30 September 2025 to 30 September 2027:
 - a. Elise Jordan
 - b. Yin Cheng Jin
 - c. Grissel Walmaggia; and
 - d. Jayani De Silva
2. **APPROVES** the updated Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (per Attachment 2); and
3. **NOTES** that the Mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong will write to the proposed applicants to confirm their appointment to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term from 30 September 2025 to 30 September 2027.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3.5 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the information contained in this report.

Executive Summary

1. As part of Council's ongoing efforts to improve transparency in Council processes, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be of a confidential nature) are reported on at Council meetings.
2. The matters listed in this report were presented to Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings during the period 25 August – 15 September 2025.

Background

3. The Executive Team and associated staff at Greater Dandenong City Council host Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings on a regular basis (weekly) to inform Councillors about the work officers are undertaking, share information, obtain feedback and discuss strategies and options for current and future work.
4. To ensure transparency in this process, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*) are reported on at Council meetings. This report represents matters discussed at the Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council meetings during the period 25 August – 15 September 2025.

**Matters Presented for Discussion**

Item		Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting
1	General Discussion Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Leadership program launch for community;b. Proposed Tree removal for the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre project;c. Organisational realignment; and Agenda items for the Council meeting of 25 August 2025.	Pre-Council Meeting (PCM) – 25 August 2025
2	Social Media Training Councillors were provided training on Freedom of expression and communication, lawful constraints on those freedoms, posting in the capacity of a Councillor vs a private capacity and other consideration.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
3	Vegetation Removal for Dandenong Wellbeing Centre CONFIDENTIAL under s 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
4	Road Renaming Process - Cheltenham Road Underpass and Webster Street East of Rail Line Councillors were briefed on the process to rename the Cheltenham Road Underpass and Webster Street East of Rail line after 2 former Living Treasures	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
5	Contract No. 2021-49 - Electronic Monitoring & Mobile Security Services Contract Extension (FINAL) CONFIDENTIAL under s 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
6	2024-25 Year End Cash Result and Carry Overs to Next Financial Year Councillors were briefed on the actual outcomes of the 2024-25 budget, the carry over of surplus into 2025-26 and also discussed future applications	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
7	Council Meeting Schedule 2026 (Revisited) Councillors were briefed on a proposal to move from 2 Council Meetings per month to 1 Council Meeting per month.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025
8	General Discussion Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Australia Day Awards Process;b. 275 Lonsdale Street, Public Consultation;c. Rooming Houses;d. One tree per child policy and tree planting; and	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 1 September 2025



Item		Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting
	Agenda items for the Council meeting of 22 September 2025.	
9	Councillor Personal Development Training – Governance Matters	Councillor Personal Development Training – 8 September 2025
10	Young Leaders Presentation to Councillors Greater Dandenong Young Leaders presented an overview of the Youth Summit 2025 and its findings, which identified Anxiety, Stress from School and Study and Motivation as the top 3 challenges identified by Year 9 & 10 Students in Greater Dandenong.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025
11	Glass Bin Implementation Overview Councillors were briefed on the Victorian Government's Kerbside Waste Reforms 10-year action plan and the introduction of a kerbside glass recycle bins in 2027	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025
12	Sustainability Advisory Committee - Revised Terms of Reference Councillors were briefed on the revised Sustainability Advisory Committee Terms of Reference which will be presented to Council for Adoption on 27 October 2025	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025
13	S6 and S18 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff - Review Update Councillors were briefed on the recent review of its Instrument of Delegations as required under the Local Government Act 2020. The Delegations will be presented to Council for adoption on 22 September 2025.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025
14	Noble Park Community Centre – Disability Discrimination Act Facilities Councillors were briefed on the proposed internal refurbishment of the Noble Park Community Centre including the Building 1 Kitchenette and Building 2 bathrooms to include ambulant toilets and the construction of a new Disability Discrimination Act accessible bathroom.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025
15	General Discussion Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: a. Draft Budget Timelines; b. Resignation of Audit and Risk Committee Chair; c. Australian Day Award Extended Nomination Period; and Agenda items for the Council meeting of 22 September 2025.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 15 September 2025



Apologies

5. Councillor Lana Formoso, Councillor Bob Milkovic, Councillor Loi Truong, and Councillor Isabella Do submitted apologies for the Pre-Council Meeting on 25 August 2025.
6. Councillor Sophie Tan and Councillor Bob Milkovic submitted apologies for the Councillor Briefing Session on 1 September 2025.
7. Councillor Bob Milkovic submitted an apology for the Councillor Personal Development Training on 8 September 2025.
8. Councillor Alice Phuong Le and Bob Milkovic submitted apologies for the Councillor Briefing Session on 15 September 2025.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

9. Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA2020) states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.
10. Reporting on matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings gives effect to the overarching governance principles (in particular, section 9(i) of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in that the transparency of Council actions and information is ensured.

MINUTE No.210

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the information contained in this report.

CARRIED 9 / 0



4.3.6 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors [4.3.6.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 18 August to 12 September 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

Executive Summary

1. Subsequent to past Council resolutions in relation to the listing of registered incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 to this report provides a list of this correspondence for the period 18 August to 12 September 2025.

MINUTE No.211

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That the listed items for the period 18 August to 12 September 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 9 / 0



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

5.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.11 - HATE HAS NO HOME: STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Community Strengthening

Author: Cr Phillip Danh

Preamble

1. On 31 August 2025, extremist groups staged coordinated displays of hate and division across several Australian cities which also included the use of Nazi symbolism and rhetoric.
2. Greater Dandenong is the proud home of Australia's most multicultural community, with residents from over 150 countries speaking over 200 different languages and dialects.
3. Greater Dandenong has been a proud Refugee Welcome Zone since 2002, reflecting the Council's long-standing commitment to welcoming refugees and supporting newly arrived migrants to contribute and enrich the fabric of our communities.

Motion

That Council:

1. **CONDEMNS** in the strongest possible terms, the extremist Nazi demonstrations and public displays of hate that were deliberately staged across various Australian cities on 31 August 2025;
2. **CONDEMNS** the attack on Camp Sovereignty and **REAFFIRMS** our unwavering support to our First Nations communities and our ongoing commitment to reconciliation through truth-telling, treaty, respect and justice;
3. **REJECTS** any attempts that seek to divide our community on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion or cultural background;
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the fear and distress experienced by members of our community as a result of racism or xenophobia;
5. **CONTINUES** to work with Victoria Police and all levels of Government to promote harmony, safety and unity in our communities;
6. **STANDS IN SOLIDARITY** with our diverse community and commits to continuing to work with community leaders and our migrant communities to ensure our municipality remains open, inclusive and welcoming for everyone; and
7. **RECOGNISES** and **CELEBRATES** the contributions of our proud migrant communities in Greater Dandenong and across Australia who have forged our great nation's rich social, cultural and economic fabric.



MINUTE No.212

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

- 1. CONDEMNS in the strongest possible terms, the extremist Nazi demonstrations and public displays of hate that were deliberately staged across various Australian cities on 31 August 2025;**
- 2. CONDEMNS the attack on Camp Sovereignty and REAFFIRMS our unwavering support to our First Nations communities and our ongoing commitment to reconciliation through truth-telling, treaty, respect and justice;**
- 3. REJECTS any attempts that seek to divide our community on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion or cultural background;**
- 4. ACKNOWLEDGES the fear and distress experienced by members of our community as a result of racism or xenophobia;**
- 5. CONTINUES to work with Victoria Police and all levels of Government to promote harmony, safety and unity in our communities;**
- 6. STANDS IN SOLIDARITY with our diverse community and commits to continuing to work with community leaders and our migrant communities to ensure our municipality remains open, inclusive and welcoming for everyone; and**
- 7. RECOGNISES and CELEBRATES the contributions of our proud migrant communities in Greater Dandenong and across Australia who have forged our great nation's rich social, cultural and economic fabric.**

CARRIED 9 / 0



5.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.12 - DANDENONG WELLBEING CENTRE TREES

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Author: Cr Isabella Do

Preamble

1. Councillors were recently informed that 43 trees are scheduled for removal at the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre (DWC) Site, with 21 trees already removed since May 2025. While some trees have been assessed as having low retention value, this framework does not account for biodiversity or ecological function. Cutting down canopy trees should be a last resort, as their loss cannot be quickly or easily replaced.
2. The recently released [National Climate Risk Assessment](#) by the Australian Climate Service (Australia's first nationally comprehensive analysis on how climate change could affect the systems we rely on) reported that Australia is already experiencing dangerous levels of warming, with cities like Melbourne projected to see a 260% increase in heat-related deaths under a 3°C scenario. Outer urban areas such as Dandenong are especially vulnerable due to demographic and infrastructure factors.
3. Canopy trees provide immediate cooling, shade, and air quality benefits that cannot be replicated by new plantings for at least five to ten years. Their retention is a low-cost, high-impact climate adaptation measure that aligns with national recommendations for nature-based solutions and urban resilience.
4. Greater Dandenong's own [Urban Tree Strategy](#) highlights the importance of canopy trees in delivering economic, social, and environmental benefits, including shade, streetscape amenity, air pollution reduction, habitat for wildlife, and climate resilience.
5. This motion seeks to preserve the remaining 22 trees at the DWC site as a practical and precautionary response to escalating climate risks, while allowing for future removal only if absolutely necessary.

Motion

That Council:

1. **REQUESTS** officers to prepare a report to be presented at the Council Meeting scheduled for 27 October 2025, outlining options to retain each of the remaining 22 trees, including:
 - a) Allowing trees to remain in place without negative interference (such as removal, root disturbance, or compaction);
 - b) Identifying supportive actions that may assist in tree retention, such as removing concrete collars, improving soil conditions, or adjusting surrounding infrastructure; and
 - c) Options to assess feasibility of retaining each tree by integrating it into the design.
2. **REQUESTS** that the report include:
 - a) A clear map and identification of the remaining trees.



3. **COMMITTS** to a precautionary approach, whereby any future removal of the remaining trees must be:
 - a) Based on clear evidence of risk; and
 - b) Followed by replacement in accordance with the original landscape plan and Council's canopy coverage targets; and
4. **ENSURES** transparency by publishing any future assessments, decisions, or actions regarding these trees on Council's website.

MOTION

Moved by: Cr Isabella Do

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

1. **REQUESTS** officers to prepare a report to be presented at the Council Meeting scheduled for 27 October 2025, outlining options to retain each of the remaining 22 trees, including:
 - a) Allowing trees to remain in place without negative interference (such as removal, root disturbance, or compaction);
 - b) Identifying supportive actions that may assist in tree retention, such as removing concrete collars, improving soil conditions, or adjusting surrounding infrastructure; and
 - c) Options to assess feasibility of retaining each tree by integrating it into the design.
2. **REQUESTS** that the report include:
 - a) A clear map and identification of the remaining trees.
3. **COMMITTS** to a precautionary approach, whereby any future removal of the remaining trees must be:
 - a) Based on clear evidence of risk; and
 - b) Followed by replacement in accordance with the original landscape plan and Council's canopy coverage targets; and
4. **ENSURES** transparency by publishing any future assessments, decisions, or actions regarding these trees on Council's website.

LOST 2 / 7

For - Cr Isabella Do and Cr Rhonda Garad.

**Against - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Jim Memeti,
Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.**



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Comment

Cr Loi Truong

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub.
- Later that day, the Onam Festival & Golden Jubilee celebration of the Malayalee Association of Vic.

Comment

Cr Alice Phuong Le

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, I attended the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub.
- On Sunday 7 September 2025, I attended Vulcan & Father's Day Celebration at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist Temple in Springvale.
- On Wednesday 17 September 2025, I attended the Father's Day lunch celebration hosted by the Vietnamese Australian Senior Association (VASA).
- On Saturday 20 September 2025, I attended the Lantern Festival for children, held at Springvale. It was the first time the Vietnamese community in Australia organised such an event.

Question

Cr Alice Phuong Le

The event organisers of the Lantern festival for children had to hire portable toilets at a cost of \$4,000–\$5,000 because they could not access the public toilets in the multi-level car park at Springvale Central. The reason given was that if any damage occurred, the organisers would be liable for repairs. The organisers feel this is unreasonable and request that public toilets be made available for future public events.

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

There are clear guidelines for community festivals and events, particularly regarding infrastructure requirements. These are based on the expected number of attendees. For example, the number of toilets required is determined by the size of the event and is part of the event permit process. These requirements are set by environmental health standards and must be met to obtain a permit.

Further response

David Fice, Acting Executive Director City Futures

The size of the event and number of attendees will determine the number and type of facilities provided to the community, this also applies to Council buildings. Unfortunately, these are mandatory provisions that must be met for both temporary and permanent infrastructure.



Question

Cr Sean O'Reilly

I would like to raise a matter about Council's policy when investigating a complaint from one resident against another. Specifically, do we have a policy of not disclosing the identity of the complainant to the person who is the subject of the complaint?

In one case relayed to me, an officer first spoke to the resident who made the complaint, and then went directly to their next-door neighbour, who was the subject of the complaint. I understand there are practical considerations, but I would like to clarify whether Council has any regular practice or guidelines for handling such situations.

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

Depending on the nature of the complaint, it may fall under governance or my area, particularly if it relates to local laws.

For example, in cases involving nuisance dogs or barking complaints, we gather specific evidence such as noise diaries. We then speak with the dog owners based on the evidence collected, rather than identifying the complainant. We always speak to the complainant first before approaching the subject of the complaint.

If the matter does not relate to local laws, governance may be the appropriate area to respond.

Further response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth and Advocacy

The handling of complaints depends on the specific circumstances. If Councillor O'Reilly is comfortable sharing more details, we can determine which area is responsible.

Complaints received through our customer service channels are managed according to established policies and procedures. We also have clear guidelines around privacy and confidentiality, which we take very seriously.

Comment

Cr Sean O'Reilly

I did not intend for the specific case to be investigated. I understand that sometimes the subject of a complaint may easily guess who made it. I simply wanted to know if there are general practice guidelines or a policy in place. I believe the responses have addressed my question, so I will leave it there.



Comment

Cr Melinda Yim

I attended the following event over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, I attended the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 20 September 2025, I had the privilege of attending the inauguration of the Durga Puja celebration organised by the Aurora Bengali Association.
- On Sunday 21 September 2025, I had the honour of speaking at the pro-Palestine rally in the city. This was the 102nd consecutive rally, making it the longest-running pro-Palestine rally.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

There is an article in the Dandenong Star Journal, which mentioned upcoming community engagement sessions aimed at promoting social cohesion and resilience. These sessions are intended to lay the foundation for Council-led engagement on Thomas Street.

What is the purpose and cost of this consultation, including any external facilitation?

How will Council ensure that this process promotes cohesion and does not escalate community conflict?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth and Advocacy

In terms of the cost, there are two parts to this process. The first part involves intercultural dialogue in collaboration with the City of Casey, Cardinia Shire Council and the Department of Home Affairs. This stage is fully funded by the Department of Home Affairs and the Office for Social Cohesion, so there is no cost to our Council.

The second part, which will follow, is Council's own community engagement process specific to the naming of Thomas Street. This will be conducted by Council and will involve broader consultation.

We have not yet commenced the engagement process because we want to ensure that all the necessary foundations are in place. A working group has been established, comprising representatives from the three councils, the Victorian Multicultural Commission and other stakeholders. This group meets regularly to ensure cultural sensitivity and inclusivity.

The aim is to give voice to underrepresented groups, including women and young people. Engagement will occur in stages, rather than through a single session, to ensure meaningful participation and to avoid conflict. We are committed to ensuring that this process fosters unity and understanding.



Comment

Cr Isabella Do

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, I attended the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub.
- I attended the Eastern Transport Coalition meeting in the Yarra Ranges, which emphasised the value of investing in active and public transport infrastructure.
- I was a part of the Narre Warren North Emergency Services Lobby meeting.
- I participated in the Young Councillors Network meeting
- I was honoured to be a part of the Premier's Multicultural Gala Dinner 2025: Theme 'Harmony in Diversity'. I connected with many inspirational individuals from diverse backgrounds. It was an empowering experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to attend.
- I would like to acknowledge the Noble Park Community Centre and its manager, Griselle, who recently organised a successful fundraising dinner. I encourage residents to explore the Centre's programs, which are a valuable resource for our community.
- I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Keysborough Learning Centre and commend the team for their extensive work. Their annual report, recently released online, showcases the breadth of their contributions to our community.

Comment

Cr Phillip Danh

I would like to echo the comments made by Cr Do regarding the Noble Park Community Centre fundraising dinner dance. The Centre provides incredible and valuable services to many vulnerable members of our community and it was great to see that the fundraiser was a success.

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, I attended the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub. It was one of those days that reminded me why I love our community and why we are involved in local government.
- On Sunday 21 September 2025, I attended the Noble Park Family Fun Day. I would like to acknowledge the Amplified Youth Leaders for their hard work in ensuring the day ran smoothly, as well as the community organisations and Council staff who worked on a Sunday to support the event.

Question

Cr Phillip Danh

There has been some local interest into the Lone Pine at Noble Park RSL, whether the tree will be replaced and clarity on the timeline.



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Yes, Council officers have been monitoring the health of the Lone Pine for the past two years. In June, we confirmed that the tree had died and subsequently removed it. We did notify the Noble Park RSL at the time, although I acknowledge that we could have communicated more effectively with members.

We are currently working closely with the Noble Park RSL to identify a suitable replacement species. While I cannot provide a timeline at this stage, we will continue to work through the options and provide further updates once a decision has been made.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

I attended the following event over the past few weeks:

- On Saturday 6 September 2025, I attended the official opening for the Keysborough Community Hub.

Question

Cr Lana Formoso

While celebrating personal milestones, I was devastated to learn of the tragic deaths of Dao Akouen (15) and Chol Achiek (12). As a mother, teacher, and community advocate, I emphasise that these boys were not involved in gangs they were loved, active in school and sport. I condemn the harmful and divisive language used in media, stressing that this is a human and societal tragedy. I urge the Council to stand in solidarity, observe a minute of silence, and send support letters to the families and community.

Response

Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor

If you can pass on the relevant contact information, we will ensure the letters are sent as soon as possible. Let us now observe a minute of silence.

All in the Chamber acknowledged a minute of silence in respect of those who lost their lives.



Comment

Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

On Friday 29 August 2025, I participated in the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) meeting with Hon Gabrielle Williams MP

On Saturday 30 August 2025, I was present for the official Opening of the Lyndale Secondary College Sports Precinct Pavilion upgrade (canteen & outdoor area), the new ground-level kitchen was a significant improvement to the previous.

Later that day, I celebrated Onam Festival hosted by the Melbourne Malayalee Foundation, Springvale City Hall.

I watched the Elimination Final of the National Premier League VIC: Dandenong Thunder vs Dandenong City. It was a proud moment to see two Dandenong teams in the finals.

Later that evening, I had the honour of attending the Premier's Multicultural Gala Dinner 2025: Theme 'Harmony in Diversity'.

On Sunday 31 August 2025, I attended Thank You Service for Vietnam Veterans Day, Dandenong RSL

On Tuesday 2 - Thursday 4 September 2025, I spent time in Canberra and engaged in meetings at Parliament to highlight and discuss key issues related to the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) and Back Your Neighbour campaign.

On Thursday 4 - Friday 5 September 2025, I travelled to Sydney to attend meetings about the Back Your Neighbour campaign and participated in the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM) Networking Reception, hosted by the Lord Mayor of Sydney, the Rt Hon Clover Moore AO. What a remarkable leader she is with a long history of public service and continues to make significant contributions.

On Saturday 6 September 2025, I was a part of the official opening of the new Keysborough Community Hub, the project was delivered on time and under budget, which is a testament to the dedication of our Council staff.

I attended the Tenader Katha (means "Tale of the departed souls) full-length play in Bengali language at the Drum Theatre, it was a packed house and wonderful cultural experience.

Later that evening, I supported the Noble Park Community Centre Fundraising Dinner Dance. Former Mayor and Councillor Roz Blades and her team did an outstanding job. Over 1,000 people use the Centre weekly, and the funds raised will support its ongoing work.

On Sunday 7 September 2025, I participated in the Cambodia Vision Buddhist Flower Ceremony, Wat Buddharamsi Temple

I also attended the grand opening of Reza Tiles in Greens Road, Dandenong South. Reser, a refugee, has built a successful business that now employs many people. His story is a testament to the contributions refugees make to our economy and community.

Later that day I attended another Onam celebration hosted by the Cranbourne Malayalee Community at St John's Secondary College in Dandenong.



On Tuesday 9 September 2025, I Visited Dandenong North Primary School to talk to the students about democracy and the role of local government. Their questions were thoughtful and insightful.

On Thursday 11 September 2025, I met with the Honourable Clare O'Neil MP and other mayors at the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM), there was discussion around community issues.

On Friday 12 September 2025, I attended City of Greater Dandenong Audit & Risk Committee Meeting. These are held quarterly, and I am pleased to report I attended all four meetings this year.

On Sunday 14 September 2025, I participated in the Cambodian Ancestor celebration hosted by the Cambodian Association of Vic.

On Wednesday 17 September 2025, I participated in VASA Father's Day lunch celebration with Cr Loi Truong. These events are always heartwarming and well attended.

Later that evening, I was a part of a special Citizenship Ceremony, in celebration of Citizenship Day.

On Friday 19 September 2025, I attended the Make-A-Wish Foundation Grand Final Charity Lunch, hosted by Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce. Helping to grant life-changing wishes for seriously ill children. It was also great to meet local football legend Dermott Brereton, who tipped Geelong to win the grand final.

On Saturday 20 September 2025 I attended the opening ceremony of the 2025 Children Lantern Festival.

On Sunday 21 September 2025, I attended the Noble Park Family Fun Day, which was held on a football field this year. Despite the cold weather, it was well attended and continues to grow annually.

Lastly, I attended the 5th Annual Seerah Conference hosted by the Zaylai Qadiri Tariqah, held at the Keysborough Turkish Islamic & Cultural Centre. I also wish to inform Councillors and the public that the Australian International Aid will host a Friday prayer for Palestine in Harmony Square this week from 12-2:30pm - everyone is welcome.

Cr Isabella Do left the Chamber at 8:46 pm.

Cr Isabella Do returned to the Chamber at 8:48pm.

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided below.



COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
28/07/25 CQT7	Cr Melinda Yim	International affairs I understand that international affairs are outside Council's direct responsibilities, but I would like to raise concerns about the recent escalation in tensions between Thailand and Cambodia. This conflict is affecting some of our residents, particularly those with close family or cultural ties to the region. Some members of our community participated in a peaceful protest yesterday in response to the conflict, and some are present in the gallery tonight. The protest reflects how deeply this issue is being felt locally. I ask whether Council has considered how global events may be impacting our community's emotional wellbeing. Are there any formal or informal supports available to help affected residents feel seen and supported? Additionally, could Council consider a small gesture of solidarity to help ease fears and anxiety among residents during this time?	Chief Executive Officer/ Manager Communications & Customer Experience	11/08/2025	Initial response provided 28/07/2025: This is an important question. We understand that many residents from Cambodia and Thailand are being triggered by recent events. Council staff are currently exploring ways to provide access to counselling services and support groups, including culturally appropriate services for Cambodian and Thai communities. We will update our website with relevant information and reach out to community groups to share these resources. Regarding your suggestion for a gesture of solidarity, that is a matter for Council to consider. If you are interested in proposing a Notice of Motion, officers would be happy to assist you in drafting it for the next Council Meeting. Further action taken 11/08/2025: Notice of Motion put to Council Meeting on 11 August 2025, (NoM 5.1 recorded in Minutes of that meeting on 11/08/25) moved by Cr Yim and Seconded by Cr Danh. COMPLETED
25/08/25 CQT3	Cr Alice Phuong Le	Stopping zone, Springvale Shopping Centre I have received feedback from residents in Springvale regarding the need for a new drop-off and pick-up zone near the Springvale Shopping Centre. Many elderly residents find it difficult to carry shopping over long	Executive Director City Futures	11/09/2025	Initial response provided 25/08/2025: I will refer this matter to our Transport Team for investigation. They will assess traffic volumes and other relevant factors to determine possible solutions. Further response provided 11/09/2025: The Council managed on-street parking spaces

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		distances from the car park. They have requested a solution similar to the airport-style drop-off and pick-up zones to make shopping more accessible.			in the vicinity of the Springvale Shopping Centre currently have shorter term parking restrictions, such as 15 and 30 minutes. These shorter-term restrictions encourage parking turnover, can provide greater opportunity for customers with short visits to find a convenient parking space, whilst providing sufficient time to complete a brief shopping task. We have previously had very short-term parking, such as 2 or 5-minute 'drop-off zones' however these were not supported by the community, and we still feel that they are not an appropriate solution for this environment. Such parking restrictions don't provide customers enough time to park, complete their shopping and return within the limited time, however almost all use of such bays when in place was in this fashion – with very high levels of non-compliance and no improvement in availability of parking. As you may be aware, many shopping centres often provide 'Seniors Only' parking spaces within their privately managed car parks. These car parks are usually located close to entrances to provide their 'senior' customers with easier access and shorter distances to walk. Council cannot provide these on street (they are not formal or legal parking restrictions, and we have no way to enforce them). However, we can liaise with the Springvale Shopping Centre management to discuss whether they would be interested in implementing such restrictions within their private car park for their customers convenience. COMPLETED

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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7 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.



8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.48pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Signature