

MANNINGHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

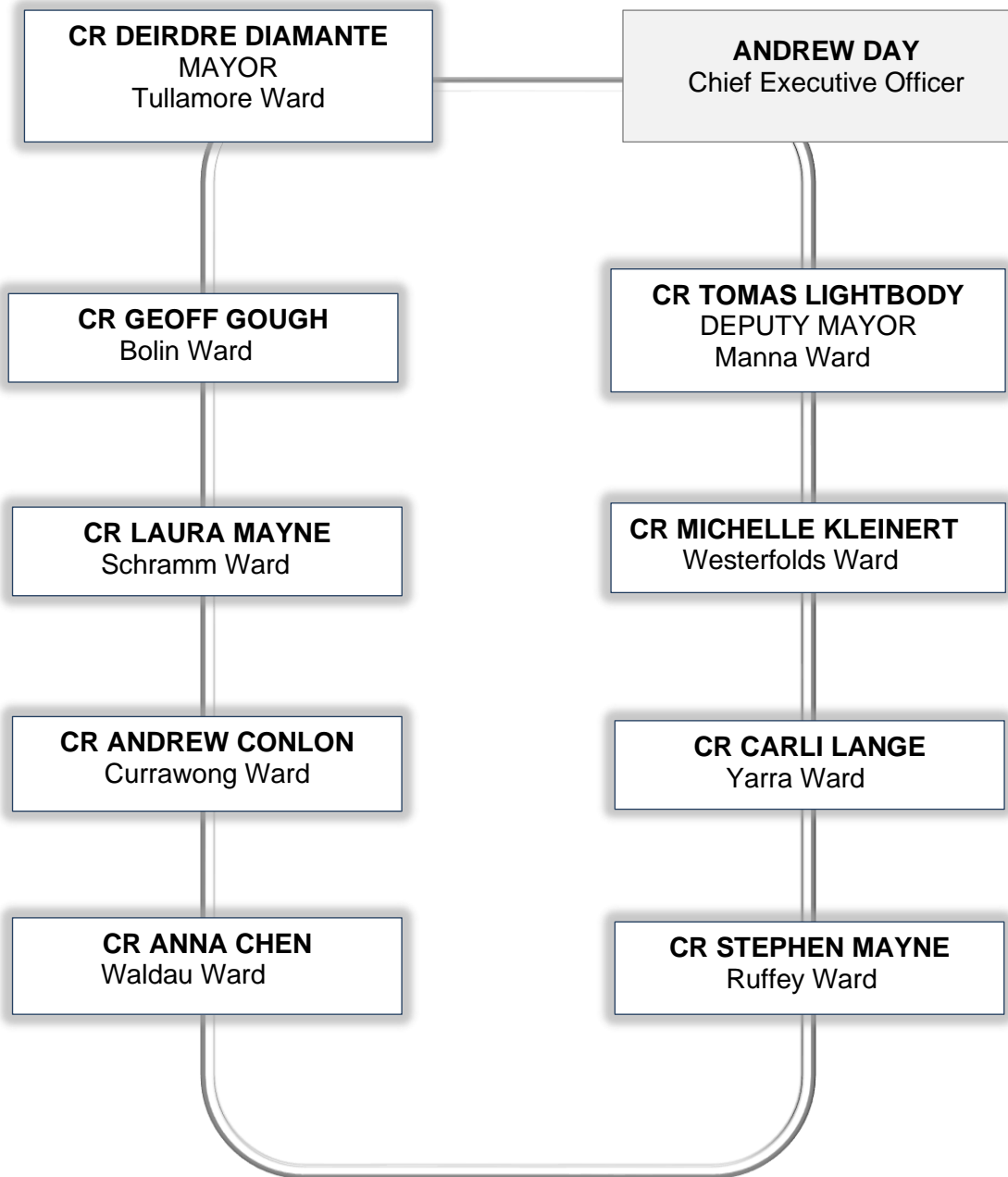
Date:	Tuesday, 31 October 2023
Time:	7:00pm
Location:	Council Chamber, Civic Centre 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

This meeting is convened to transact the business listed below.

Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer

This meeting will be livestreamed. Members of the public who address Council will be heard on the live audio stream, and audio of them speaking will be recorded. All reasonable efforts will be made to avoid capturing live or recorded video footage of public attendees however there might be incidental capture.

COUNCIL MEETING SEATING PLAN



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**1 OPENING PRAYER AND STATEMENTS OF
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

2 APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3 PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 September 2023.

5 PRESENTATIONS

6 PETITIONS

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

8 ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS

9 PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

9.1 Planning Application PLN22/0462 at 7 Second Street, Warrandyte for a two-lot subdivision and associated works (including creation of access and removal of one Victorian native tree)

File Number:	IN23/554
Responsible Director:	Acting Director City Planning
Applicant:	Scenic Design and Drafting Pty Ltd
Planning Controls:	Neighbourhood Residential Zone, Schedule 1; Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 3; Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 5; Bushfire Management Overlay
Ward:	Yarra
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Decision Plans (amended under s57A of Act) ↓2 Advertised Plans ↓3 Legislative Requirements ↓4 Objector Map (confidential)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

1. This report provides Council with an assessment of the planning permit application, submitted for the land at 7 Second Street, Warrandyte. This report recommends approval of the submitted proposal, subject to amendments to be addressed by way of permit conditions. The application is being reported to Council as it has received significant community interest.

Proposal

2. The proposal is for subdivision of the land to create two (2) individual lots. The subject site currently contains an existing dwelling serviced by two access points, one at the northern end and one to the southern end of the frontage.
3. The existing dwelling is proposed to be retained within the proposed Lot 1, which is to have an area of 1,002 square metres and be serviced by the southern-most crossover which currently provides access to the garage associated with the dwelling.
4. Lot 2 is to have an area of 1000 square metres, also containing a building envelope of 284.5 square metres. This lot is to be serviced by the existing northern-most crossover, with a driveway extending along the northern boundary in a battle-axe formation before reaching the broader lot area toward the rear.

5. Existing vegetation (14 specimens) are proposed for removal. Of these, a 4 metre tall Victorian native Kanooka tree (*Tristaniopsis laurina*) of low arboricultural value requires planning permission to remove under the Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 5. All other vegetation does not require a planning permit to remove due to being exotic or exempt. A large mature Oak tree (*Quercus robur*) is to be retained within the southern portion of Lot 2.

Notification

6. Notice of the application was given over a two-week period that concluded on 26 April 2023, by way of letters to adjacent and nearby properties and erecting a notice on the site frontage.
7. To date, 35 objections have been received. Issues raised primarily relate to the failure of the proposal to respond to the neighbourhood character and applied Scheme considerations, impacts upon flora and fauna, traffic and bushfire concerns and residential amenity impacts.
8. The location of objector properties is demonstrated on the map included in Confidential Attachment 4, albeit the location of some objector properties are beyond the nearby surrounds and therefore not shown.

Amendment following Notification

9. The application was formally amended under Section 57A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Act) on 5 October 2023. The purpose of this amendment was to address the referral requirements of the relevant fire authority. This required an updated Bushfire Management Statement and Plan, with minor changes to the subdivision plan in response, relevant to the access to Lot 2. Notice of the amended application was not given, as matters relevant to the Bushfire Management Overlay are exempt from the usual notice requirements under Clause 44.06-7 of the Scheme.

Key matters in considering the application

10. The key matters considered in the assessment of the application are provided in Section 8 of this report and respond to the following:
 - Is the subdivision an appropriate response to the physical and planning context?
 - Are the vegetation impacts acceptable?
 - Are the access arrangements and traffic impacts acceptable?
 - How does the subdivision respond to the relevant particular and general provisions?
11. Also included in Section 9 is a further response to objector concerns.

Assessment

12. The subdivision of the land into two lots is consistent with the site and policy context, providing an acceptable response to the existing character context and preferred character as directed by the Scheme controls, with limited vegetation impacts, appropriate access arrangements and a layout that is consistent with the measurable requirements related to residential subdivision.
13. Subject to the recommended conditions, the proposal generally complies with the objectives of Clause 56 (Subdivision), the purpose and decision guidelines of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, and the objectives of the Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 3, Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 5 and Bushfire Management Overlay, and is considered to be an appropriate response to the physical site context as well as strategic policy context.

Conclusion

14. It is recommended that the application be supported, subject to conditions.

1. RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- A. **Having considered all objections, issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit PLN22/0462 for a two-lot subdivision and associated works (including creation of access and removal of one Victorian native tree) subject to the following conditions:**

Amended Plans

1. **Before the Certification of the Plan of Subdivision, amended plans must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will then form part of the permit. The plans must be generally in accordance with the Amended Plans (prepared by Scenic Design and Drafting Pty Ltd, job number 192074, dated October 2023) but modified to show:**
 - a) **Reduction of the building envelope within Lot 2 to not more than 25% of the site area by way of increasing the setbacks from the northern and western boundaries, with that to the north to be at least 1.8 metres.**
 - b) **Finished surface levels and associated gradients of the proposed accessway nominated and in accordance with the approved Bushfire Management Plan.**
 - c) **Earthworks and associated retaining walls removed from the lot boundaries, with any works limited to the tuning area within Lot 2 only and to the minimum extent necessary, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**
 - d) **The deletion of internal fencing between Lots 1 and 2 where generally adjacent to and forward of the existing dwelling on Lot 1 (in favour of landscaping).**
 - e) **The location of the landscaping referred to above, with details to include the species quantity, height and maturity and at time of planting (to be of indigenous screening type specimens);**

- f) A notation to indicate tree protection must be undertaken in accordance with the Tree Protection and Management Plan and Bushfire Management Plan approved as part of this permit and the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- g) An updated plan of subdivision to reflect the above as relevant.

Endorsed Plans

- 2. The layout of the subdivision and any associated works and vegetation removal as shown on the approved plan must not be altered or modified without the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.

Tree Protection

- 3. No vegetation, apart from that shown on the approved plans as vegetation to be removed, may be removed, destroyed or lopped without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 4. Concurrent with the review of plans to be endorsed under Condition 1, a Tree Protection and Management Plan (TPMP) prepared by a suitable qualified Arborist, setting out how the trees to be retained will be protected during the construction of the driveway to Lot 2, and which generally follows the layout of Section 5 of AS4970 'Protection of trees on development sites', must be submitted to the Responsible Authority. When approved the TPMP will be endorsed and form part of the permit. The TPMP must include:
 - a) A plan showing the TPZ and SRZ for all trees to be retained along with the location of protective fencing and/or areas where ground protection systems will be used.
 - b) Details of proposed work within TPZ and Arborist supervision when this is proposed.
 - c) A statement advising any removal or pruning of Council owned trees must be undertaken by Council approved contractor.
 - d) A statement that Council will be notified within 24 hours of any breach of the TPMP or where damage has occurred to the tree.
- 5. Any tree pruning to retained trees must be undertaken by a suitably qualified Arborist who has thorough knowledge of tree physiology and pruning methods and any pruning is carried out to the Australian Standard AS 4973-2007 'Pruning of amenity trees'.
- 6. All Tree Protection Fencing must be erected prior to the commencement of the driveway construction and maintained in good condition until the completion of the driveway to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 7. The owner must ensure all contractors/tradespersons (including demolition workers) who install services or work near trees to be retained are made aware of the need to preserve the trees and to minimize impacts on the trees through appropriate work practices.

Drainage

8. Stormwater must not be discharged from the subject land other than by means of drainage to the legal point of discharge. The drainage system within the subdivision must be designed and constructed to the requirements and satisfaction of the relevant Building Surveyor. A connection to Council maintained assets must not be constructed unless a Connection to Council Drain Permit is first obtained from the Responsible Authority.
9. The whole of the land, including landscaped and paved areas must be graded and drained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, to prevent ponding and to minimise overland flows onto adjoining properties.

Construction Management

10. The owner must use appropriate site management practices to prevent the transfer of mud, dust, sand or slurry from the site into drains or onto nearby roads. In the event that a road or drain is affected, the owner must upon direction of the Responsible Authority take the necessary steps to clean the affected portion of road or drain to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Service Utilities

11. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage sewerage facilities, electricity, and gas services to each lot shown on the approved plan in accordance with that authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.
12. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing or required utility services and roads on the land must be set aside in the plan of subdivision submitted for certification in favour of the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created.
13. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.

Telecommunications

14. The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with:
 - a) A telecommunications network or service provider for the provision of telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and
 - b) A suitably qualified person for the provision of fibre ready telecommunication facilities to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.

15. Before the issue of a Statement of Compliance for any stage of the subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the owner of the land must provide written confirmation from:
- a) A telecommunications network or service provider that all lots are connected to or are ready for connection to telecommunications services in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and
 - b) A suitably qualified person that fibre ready telecommunication facilities have been provided in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.

Public Open Space

16. Before the issue of a Statement of Compliance, the amount of Public Open Space contribution under Section 21 of the Subdivision Act and as per Clause 3.1.1 of Section 173 Agreement AV672240Y registered on the title must be paid.

Completion of works

17. Prior to Statement of Compliance, the following must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
- a) The vehicle crossovers and driveway must be appropriately formed.
 - b) Boundary fencing between Lot 1 and 2 must be constructed.
 - c) The building envelope cleared and pegged out.
 - d) Landscaping within Lot 1 must be completed.

CFA conditions (also refer to Section 173 Agreement requirements)

18. The Bushfire Management Plan prepared by Keystone Alliance, Ref# 3698\5.0 Dated 3-Oct-23, must be endorsed by the Responsible Authority, by be included as an annexure to the section 173 agreement prepared to give effect to clause 44.06-5 of the Planning Scheme and must not be altered unless agreed to in writing by CFA and the Responsible Authority.
19. Before the Statement of Compliance is issued under the Subdivision Act 1988, the defendable space shown on the endorsed Bushfire Management Plan must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
20. Before the Statement of Compliance is issued under the Subdivision Act 1988, the vehicle access arrangements shown on the Bushfire Management Plan to lot 2 must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Section 173 Agreement

21. Prior to Statement of Compliance, the owner of the land must enter into and execute an agreement with the Responsible Authority, pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987. This agreement must:
- a) Prevent buildings and works outside of the building envelope on Lot 2 on the endorsed plan without the written consent of the responsible authority.

- b) Prevent Tree 1 (English Oak) within Lot 2 on the endorsed plan from being removed, lopped or destroyed, except with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- c) Prevent any excavation, trenching or soil removal within the drip line of Tree 1 where outside of the building envelope, except with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- d) Require Tree 1 within Lot 2 on the endorsed plan to be maintained (to optimal health) and pruned by an AQF 5 qualified arborist in accordance with the AS4973-2007 'Pruning of Amenity Trees' and the endorsed bushfire management plan, except with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- e) Require that, prior to the construction of any dwelling on Lot 2, the following be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority:
 - i a landscape plan to include:
 - a minimum of 2 Indigenous canopy trees to the local ecological vegetation class of the area, with complementary understorey and screening trees, in compliance Bushfire Management Plan; and
 - a Dripper irrigation system installed within the private open space garden beds to provide supplementary watering for Tree 1 (English Oak).
 - ii a Tree Protection and Management Plan (TPMP) prepared by a suitably qualified Arborist, setting out how trees to be retained will be protected during the construction of any dwelling.
- f) Require any protection measures approved by the TPMP to be erected prior to and during the construction of any dwelling of Lot 2 and that planting as per the endorsed landscape plan be completed within three months of the completion of the dwelling, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- g) Secure common access to the carriageway easement and the sharing and maintenance of facilities and landscaping between both lots to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Further CFA conditions for Agreement

- h) State that it has been prepared for the purpose of an exemption for from a planning permit under Clause 44.06-2 of the Manningham Planning Scheme.
- i) Incorporate the plan prepared in accordance with Clause 53.02-4.4 of this planning scheme and approved under this permit.
- j) State that if a dwelling is constructed on the land without a planning permit that the bushfire protection measures set out in the plan incorporated into the agreement must be implemented and maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority on a continuing basis.
- k) Explicitly exclude Lot 1 from the following exemption under Clause 44.06-2 of the Scheme:
 - i *"A Building or works consistent with an agreement under section 173 of the Act prepared in accordance with a condition of permit issued under the requirements of Clause 44.06-5"*.

The land owner must pay the reasonable costs of the preparation, execution and registration of the Section 173 Agreement.

It is further required that this agreement must be registered at the Office of Titles pursuant to Section 181 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Permit Expiry

22. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances apply:

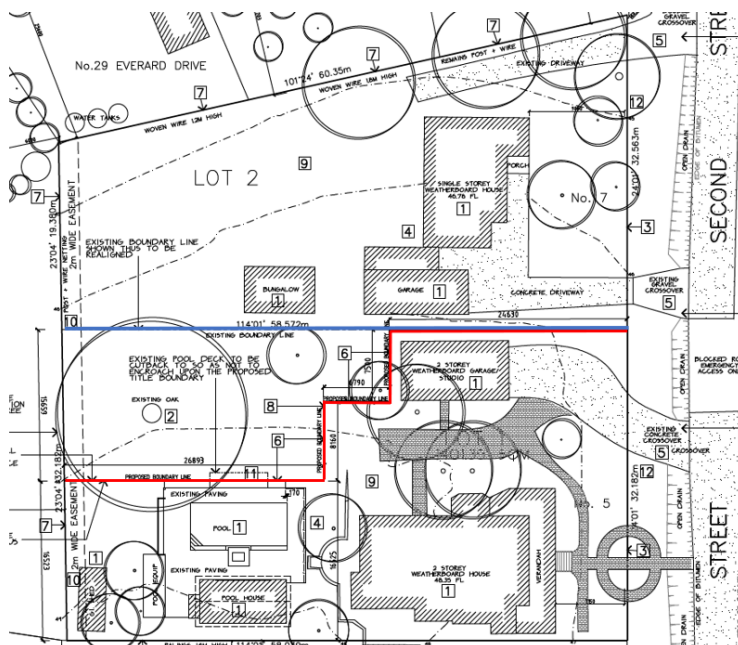
- a) The plan of subdivision is not certified within two (2) years of the issue of the permit.
- b) The plan of subdivision is not registered within five (5) years of the certification of the plan.
- c) The authorised works and vegetation removal are not started within two (2) years of the date of this permit; and
- d) The authorised works and vegetation removal are not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit.

The Responsible Authority may extend the commencement period referred to if a request is made in writing by the owner or occupier either before the permit expires or in accordance with Section 69 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*.

2. BACKGROUND

Previous permit application

- 2.1 Prior to this permit application, Planning Permit PLN20/0210 was issued on 15 March 2021. The permit allowed for a two-lot re-subdivision (boundary realignment) between the subject site and the adjoining property at 5 Second Street Warrandyte.
- 2.2 The permit effectively allowed the central shared boundary to be realigned to increase the lot size of 7 Second Street and decrease the lot size of 5 Second Street, with the previous and approved boundaries highlighted in blue and red respectively in the image below.



2.3 The previous lot sizes and resulting approved lot sizes were as follows:

Land	Previous Lot size (sqm)	Lot size (sqm) approved under PLN20/0210
5 Second Street	1,876	1,402
7 Second Street	1,526	2,002

Background to current permit application

2.4 The application was received on 26 October 2022.

2.5 At the time of lodgement, two applications were made, one for the subdivision and one for a new dwelling on Lot 2. The applications were then combined to be considered together (to propose both a subdivision and dwelling development); however, officers later formed the view that any subdivision should proceed before any new dwelling could be considered due to Scheme interpretation and to ensure that a building envelope, registered on Title, could be implemented to provide more controlled development parameters.

2.6 Subsequently, this application was amended under Section 50 of the Act on 6 April 2023 to only consider a subdivision, with an applied building envelope upon Lot 2.

2.7 Notice of the application was given in accordance with Section 52 of the Act for a minimum two-week period, concluding 26 April 2023.

2.8 In response to the number of objections received, a consultation meeting was held by officers on 12 July 2023, attended by both the applicant and the objectors who elected to attend. No agreements were reached at this meeting.

2.9 The referral response was received from the Country Fire Authority (CFA) on 6 September 2023, which required further information to be provided, including updates to the Bushfire Management Statement as it related to the hazard assessment for the site and broader landscape, and in consideration of access requirements.

2.10 In response to this referral advice, the application was formally amended under Section 57A of the Act (following notice) on 05 October 2023. Changes to the application material have consisted of:

- an updated Bushfire Management Statement (BMS) and Bushfire Management Plan (BMP); and
- consequential amendments to the Subdivision and Building Envelope Plan to accord with the amended BMP, namely by increasing the access shaft to 4.5 metres in lieu of 4.1 metres (to achieve a 500mm clearance on either side of a 3.5 metre accessway), with associated minor changes to the internal lot boundaries (shifted slightly south and west).

2.11 Notice of the amended application was not given as the changes to the BMP and plans were a direct result of the permit requirements under the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO).

- 2.12 Clause 44.06-7 of the BMO exempts an application (relevant to bushfire considerations) from the usual third-party notice and appeal rights under sections 52(1)(a), (b) and (d) and section 82(1) of the Act. As the BMO 'triggers' caused the need to amend the application, this exemption comes into play.
- 2.13 This is the approach taken in *Clifftop at Hepburn v Hepburn Shire Council*,¹ where the Tribunal held that third-party exemptions apply, to the extent that relates to questions of bushfire risk.
- 2.14 The decision material for the purpose of this report is consequently based upon the amended Section 57A plans (Decision Plans) as provided in **Attachment 1**. The plans that were advertised prior to this amendment are provided at **Attachment 2**.
- 2.15 The statutory clock that applies to planning applications provides an applicant with the option of appealing to VCAT due to a failure to determine ground after 60 days. For this application, that time has not yet passed, being 4 November 2023.

3. SITE AND SURROUNDS

3.1 The Subject Site:

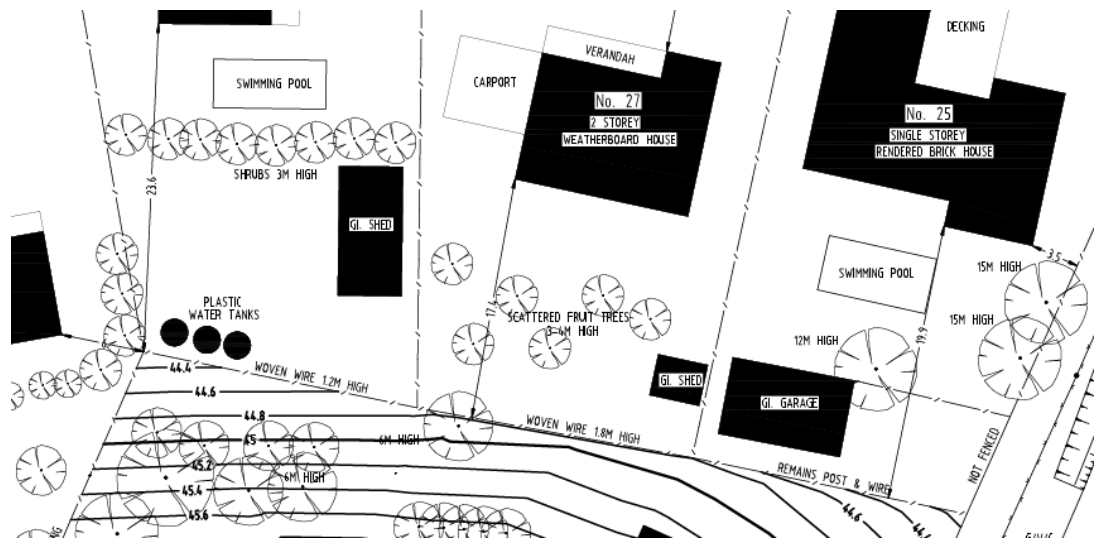
- is situated on the north-western side of Second Street (west for the purpose of this report), some 55 metres south of Everard Drive and 85 metres south of the Yarra River;
- has a distinctive, irregular shape with a frontage width of 32.57 meters, a depth of 60.35 meters and total yield of 2,002 square metres;
- maintains a consistent topography, with a gentle slope (approximately 3.8 metres maximum) in a northerly direction;
- contains a single-story weatherboard dwelling featuring a pitched tiled roof. An open verandah connects the dwelling to a garage, while a separate shed is positioned within the rear open space;
- is equipped with two vehicular access points, with the one at the southern end of the frontage providing formal access to the garage. The access at the northern end leads to an informal vehicular track extending along the northern boundary and is used for the purpose of other vehicle storage/ access;
- is moderately vegetated, including a large oak tree with the rear setback and numerous small trees and shrubs throughout which generally screen the existing dwelling from street view;
- is burdened by an easement measuring 2 meters in width along the rear western boundary, which does not contain any assets; and
- is further described in the following aerial image:

¹ [2023] VCAT 201. See also *Mazeika v Casey CC* [2023] VCAT 1108.



3.2 The site is immediately adjoined by five properties which are described as follows:

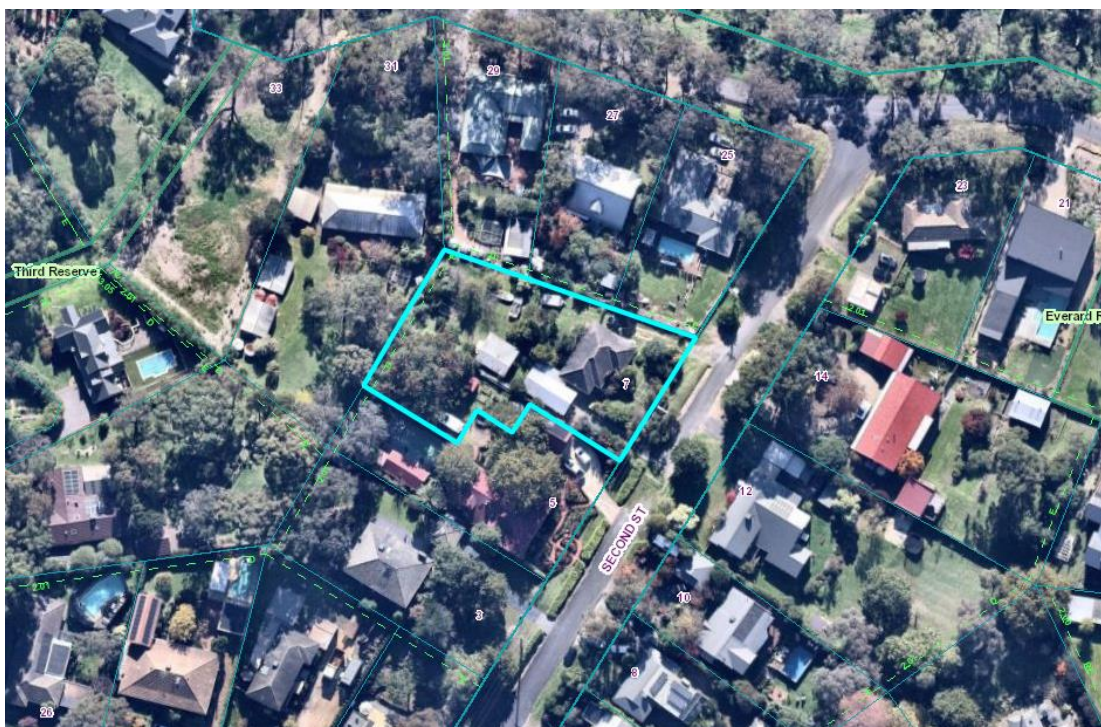
- Immediately south at 5 Second Street is a 1,400 square metre allotment containing double-storey weatherboard dwelling with a Colorbond pitched roof. The dwelling itself is well setback from the common boundary, with a two-level garage/studio to the north of the dwelling and pool area to the rear located in closer proximity. Trees (approximately six) are generally scattered to the side and rear of the dwelling.
- Immediately west at 31 Everard Drive a lot of approximately 2,700 square metres containing a single-storey weatherboard dwelling with a pitched roof. The dwelling is located to the north-west of the subject site (setback a minimum of 6 metres) with the rear open space generally adjoining the shared boundary and containing both established trees and juvenile screening vegetation in proximity, with sheds in the area beyond.
- Immediately north are the rear boundaries of 27, 25 and 29 Everard Drive and their associated open spaces. The lots are approximately 1,230 to 1,240 square metres in area and each contains a single or double-storey dwelling of weatherboard or brick construction. The dwellings are setback between 17.4 metres and 23.6 metres from the shared boundary, with the rear yards containing outbuildings and varying degrees of trees and shrubs, with two also containing swimming pools as demonstrated below.



3.3 Contextually, the broader surrounds in proximity to the Yarra River are residential in nature and afforded the same planning controls as the site. Dwellings are generally one to two storeys in scale and vegetation coverage varies, as does the topography of land (steep in some locations and relatively flat in others). Lot sizes and layouts vary, some being less than 1,000 square metres, others more than 2,000 square metres.

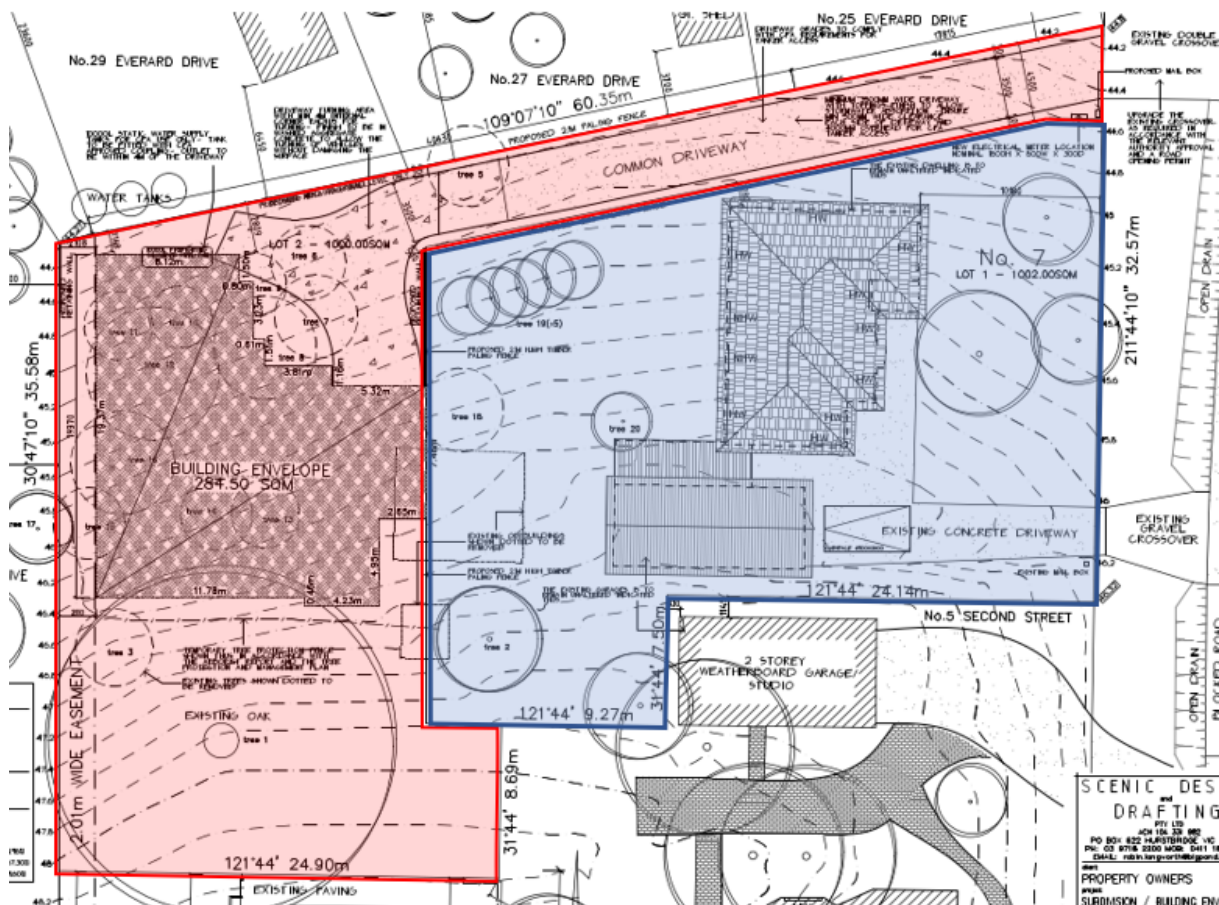
3.4 In proximity to the site, the local street network is characterised by narrower carriageway widths (some sealed and some unsealed) and with no formalised kerb and channelling and generally informal crossovers. Second Street has a sealed carriageway width varying between approximately 4 metres where in front of the site, to more than 9 metres where approaching Everard Drive. Second Street also terminates mid-way (by way of a gate) at the southern end of the site, opposite its boundary with 5 Second Street.

3.5 The general surrounds are broadly shown in the following aerial image:



4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The proposal seeks to subdivide the existing land (one lot of 2,002 square metres) to create an additional parcel. Key details of the subdivision involved:
- 4.2 Lot 1 will be 1,002 square metres and is irregularly shaped with:
- the existing dwelling retained, utilising the existing crossover at the southern end of the frontage;
 - a frontage width of approximately 27.4 and a depth of approximately 37 metres; and
 - the retention of all existing vegetation, with the exception of one tree (Tree 18) due to being 'hazardous'.
- 4.3 Lot 2 will be 1,000 square metres with an irregularly shaped battle-axe style layout with:
- a 4.5 metre wide by 39 metre long access shaft, accessible via the existing crossover at the northern end of the frontage;
 - a broader lot area with a minimum width of 35.59 metres and a minimum depth of just under 21 metres;
 - a building envelope with an area of 284.5 square metres or 28.45% of the lot, with minimum setbacks of:
 - 1.168 to 2.809 metres to the northern boundary;
 - 2.11 metres to the western boundary;
 - 15.2 metres to the southern boundary;
 - the retention of one mature, 16-metre-tall English Oak (*Quercus robur*) known as Tree 1 which is of high arboricultural value; and
 - the removal of a Kanooka tree (*Tristaniopsis laurina*) known as Tree 12 which is a small 4-metre native of low arboricultural value.
- 4.4 A 3.5-metre-wide driveway (constructed of permeable toppings) is proposed within the access shaft of Lot 2, with a carriageway easement (E-2) proposed in favour of Lot 1.
- 4.5 While there are fourteen trees in total to be removed (Tree 3, Trees 5 - 16 and Tree 18), all trees, other than Tree 12 as highlighted above, are exotic or exempt under Clause 52.12 and therefore do not require a permit to remove. These trees are also nominated as low arboricultural retention value.
- 4.6 The general layout is demonstrated below, with Lot 1 highlighted blue and Lot 2 highlighted red:



4.7 The proposal is further outlined on the Building Envelope/Site Plan, prepared by *Scenic Design and Drafting Pty Ltd* (job number 192074, as amended and dated October 2023).

4.8 The following reports were also submitted in support of the application:

- Arboricultural report, prepared by Nick Withers Arboriculture (dated April 2023).
- Bushfire Management Statement, prepared by Keystone Alliance (amended October 2023).

5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Refer to **Attachment 3**.

5.2 A permit is required under the following Clauses of the Manningham Planning Scheme:

- Clause 32.09-3 of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1 (NRZ1), to subdivide land.
- Clause 44.06-2 of the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), to subdivide land.
- Clause 43.03-3 of the Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 3 (DDO3), to subdivide land with associated works to construct access.
- Clause 42.01-2 of the Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 5 (ESO5), to subdivide land and remove Victorian Native Vegetation.

5.3 It is noted that the site is within an area of 'Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity'. The proposal does not require the submission of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan as a two-lot subdivision for residential purposes is an 'exempt' activity. This was further confirmed in writing on 31 July 2023 by Dr Shaun Canning, Managing Director and Principal Heritage Advisor of Australian Cultural Heritage Management.

6. REFERRALS

External

- 6.1 Pursuant to Clauses 44.04 and 66.03 of the Manningham Planning Scheme, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) is a recommending referral authority as the application seeks to subdivide land within the Bushfire Management Overlay.
- 6.2 The CFA responded in September 2023 seeking further information. In response to the further information provided in the amended Bushfire Management Statement and Plan, the CFA, in their correspondence dated 11 September 2023, consented to the application, subject to standard conditional requirements.
- 6.3 The application did not require referral to servicing authorities pursuant to Clause 66.01 as the subdivision is for two lots. The mandatory conditions prescribed under Clause 66.01 -1 (relevant to servicing) would be required by the condition.

Internal

6.4 The application was referred to two Service Units within Council. The following table summarises the responses:

Service Unit	Comments
City Infrastructure	<p>Council's Engineers raised no objections to the proposal and provided the following comments relevant to traffic generation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 5 properties that appear to have access north of the gate on Second Street. <p>Assuming a trip generation of 10 trips per day per dwelling, that would generate 50 daily trips. An extra dwelling would increase that to 60. Assuming 10% in the peak that would be 1 car every 10 minutes. There are no concerns with this volume of traffic in the capacity of the road network.</p> <p>Recommended conditions would require the dwellings be connected to the point of discharge, separate connections for each lot and drainage within the easement to be in favour of Council.</p>
Statutory Planning Arborist	<p>Council's Arborist did not object to the application subject to conditions. Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourteen (14) trees being Trees 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 are proposed to be removed.

Service Unit	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Tree 12 a <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> to be removed is protected under the ESO5 though is of low Arboricultural value. The remaining trees are exempt due to being Australian natives, exotic or weed species. • Two replacement Indigenous canopy trees to the local ecological vegetation class of the area are recommended. Sufficient space is available to plant canopy trees to meet the environmental objectives of ESO5. However, such planting should not be undertaken until the future dwelling is constructed. • Tree 1 a mature <i>Quercus robur</i> of high arboricultural value is proposed to be retained. Although not protected by ESO5, retention of this tree should be seen as a positive response to the design objectives of DDO3. • Encroachment into Tree 1 is marginally above 10% of the trees area. However, can be successfully retained if appropriately managed. • It is recommended to protect Tree 1 via a Section 173 Agreement, given its maturity and significance to the area, including that no excavation, trenching or soil removal within the drip line and include a dripper irrigation system to maintain its health. • Standard conditions should require a Tree Protection and Management Plan to protect Tree 1 and neighbouring trees.

7. CONSULTATION / NOTIFICATION

- 7.1 Notice of the application was given by Council, which concluded on 26 April 2023.
- 7.2 Notice was given in the form of sending letters to the owners and occupiers of abutting and adjoining properties and by displaying one sign at the site frontage for a two week period.
- 7.3 To date, thirty-five (35) objections have been received. The main grounds of objection fall under the broader themes of:
- inconsistency of the subdivision and building envelope with neighbourhood character and Scheme requirements;
 - flora and fauna impacts;
 - traffic and bushfire impacts; and
 - impacts upon residential amenity.
- 7.4 These grounds are largely considered within the assessment section and further responded to in Section 9 of this report.

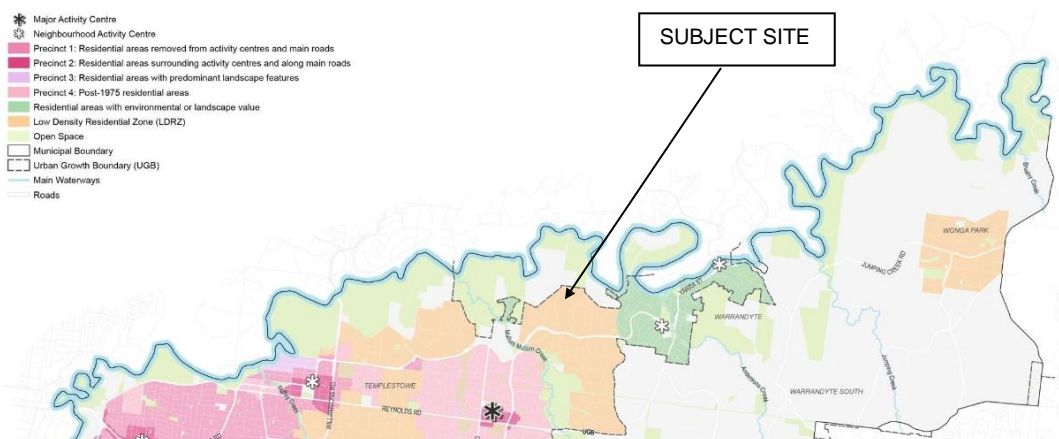
8. ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 The proposal has been assessed against the relevant state and local planning policies, the zone and overlay, and the relevant particular and general provisions of the Manningham Planning Scheme.

- 8.2 The assessment is made in consideration to the following key questions:
- Is the subdivision an appropriate response to the physical and planning context?
 - Are the vegetation impacts acceptable?
 - Are the access arrangements and traffic impacts acceptable?
 - How does the subdivision respond to the relevant particular and general provisions?
- 8.3 The assessment is based on the relevant policies of the Scheme and the applicable requirements of the zone, overlays and particular and general provisions.

Is the subdivision an appropriate response to the physical and planning context?

- 8.4 Clause 11 (Settlement) acknowledges planning is to anticipate and respond to the needs of existing and future communities through the provision of zoned and serviced land for housing. Clause 11.01-1L-01 identifies the site and its immediate surrounds as being within a “Residential area with environmental or landscape value”, with the relevant strategy seeking to “retain the bushland character of the Warrandyte township”.



- 8.5 Due to the established residential nature of the area, the site is not within Green Wedge and Yarra River Corridor Areas, or Low Density Buffer Area as defined by Clause 11.01-1L-02 and 3.
- 8.6 At a higher level, objectives and strategies at Clause 12 acknowledge significant landscapes that contribute to character and seek to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas.
- 8.7 Strategies relevant to housing supply seek to increase the proportion of housing in designated locations in established urban areas, including under-utilised urban land.
- 8.8 Specific to subdivision is Clause 15.01-3S which includes the objective to ensure the design of subdivisions achieves attractive, safe, accessible, diverse, and sustainable neighbourhoods. Strategies within this clause, and at Clause 15.01-3L-01 (relevant to subdivisions in Manningham) include a balance of supporting subdivisions that are located within established urban areas with good access to services, while also providing layouts that are sensitive to the neighbourhood character, environment (native vegetation in particular) and site features.

- 8.9 Clause 15.01-5L-02 further defines the neighbourhood character of particular areas of the municipality and includes the municipal-wide objective *to achieve residential development that is well-designed, site-responsive and respectful of existing or preferred neighbourhood character and the surrounding environment*. Specific to Warrandyte (among other areas) it seeks:

To facilitate minimal change, and enhance the existing bushland character, particularly the presence of large native trees, of the Warrandyte Township...

- 8.10 The site is located within the Yarra River Environs and there is a particular importance on vegetation and landscape in this location. This is emphasised by the overlay controls applied, namely the Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule (ESO5) which seeks to protect all Victorian native vegetation. It does not have specific objectives relevant to subdivision, though seeks to maintain the natural landscape character of environmental urban areas, including topography and waterways.
- 8.11 The Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ) seeks to support residential development, with the purpose of recognising areas of predominantly single and double-storey scales, with development that respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics. Subdivision requires a permit and that the requirements of Clause 56 be met, with decision guidelines requiring consideration of the pattern of subdivision and its effect on the spacing of buildings.
- 8.12 The zone otherwise does not imply a minimum lot size nor require a permit to construct a dwelling on a lot that is 300 square metres or larger, however, the Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 3 (DDO3) is the means for which the minimum lot size for subdivision is applied. While some areas of Warrandyte are applied a Low-Density Residential Zoning that demands larger 4,000 square metres lot sizes, the minimum implied by the DDO3 is 1,000 square metres and is specific to the 'Warrandyte Environmental Residential Area'.
- 8.13 It is therefore relevant that the policy framework and both the NRZ and the DDO3 provide in-principal support for subdivisions and residential dwellings. The minimum lot size and design parameters for dwellings have been applied to meet the design objectives of the DDO3, which include, amongst other things, to maintain and enhance the special bushland and low-density character of the Warrandyte township and retain the predominance of single detached housing. It also seeks to maintain the vegetation dominated vistas and ensure development does not protrude above the prevailing canopy height.
- 8.14 The proposal clearly meets the minimum lot size prescribed. however, the assessment also weighs upon whether the proposed subdivision is responsive to the physical context and character of the area.
- 8.15 Key aspects of the existing character include:
- The general area is well established with housing of both single and double-storey scales and associated outbuildings.
 - Vegetation coverage varies, some more vegetated than others and with a broad mix of native and exotic species. Canopy trees are generally substantially sized and prevail above the height of the built form.

- The topography varies significantly, with properties along Everard Drive generally steeply sloping toward the banks of the river, while the subject site and those further south in Second Street have more levelled topography with a subtle slope.
- Lot sizes vary, some are less than 1,000 square metres (for example, 4 Second Street at approximately 814 square metres) and others exceed 2,000 square metres.
- Dwellings and outbuildings are visible to the street and from the private realms and form part of the general landscape character.
- Lot patterns are generally rectangular, though battle-axe style development resulting from the subdivision is evident, with nearby examples including at 4 First Street, 6 Third Street, 45 Everard Drive and 13-15 West End Road.
- Local streets have a semi-rural feel by way of their narrowness and informal access points, though connect to an established road network with public transport facilities.

8.16 The variance of lot sizes and patterns is demonstrated in the cadastral plan below:



- 8.17 The proposal demonstrates compliance with established policies seeking to increase housing in an established urban area. The subject site benefits from accessibility to public transportation, local shops, and recreational parks and facilities. Reticulated sewer and the usual required services are established and the local road network, despite its rural feel, currently supports residential traffic volumes in an ordinary manner and connects to an arterial road.
- 8.18 As seen in the cadastral plan above, battle-axe-style lot arrangements currently form part of the existing character.
- 8.19 The proposed Lot 2 would have little, if any impact upon the streetscape, given any future built form would be generally concealed by the dwelling on Lot 1, in addition to the screening offered by established vegetation along the frontage. By way of utilising the existing second crossover currently servicing the site, no appreciable difference in the built form will be evident from Second Street and the retention of the existing dwelling, unaltered front setbacks and the absence of proposed front fencing maintain the overall aesthetic coherence of the existing streetscape.

- 8.20 The proposal preserves a significant canopy tree that contributes to the treed environs of the Warrandyte township. The placement of the building envelope and the large rear yard it is afforded offers a balanced approach between hard and soft surfacing, with the building envelope providing assurance that this balance is ongoing.
- 8.21 The retention of this tree further means that the future built form will sit well beneath the 16-metre canopy height and be subordinate to this feature.
- 8.22 Such places where vegetation forms a strong part of the character are also subject to bushfire risk and strategies seek to reduce such risk in the protection of human life in decision-making. Clause 12.01-1L seeks to preserve the environmental, vegetation and landscape significance of land in the Bushfire Management Overlay and encourage development that meets higher construction standards or utilises alternative treatments to address bushfire risk in preference to vegetation removal. Policy guidelines require consideration of establishing building envelopes to minimise adverse impacts on environmental and biodiversity outcomes in the Bushfire Management Overlay.
- 8.23 The proposal does this, proposing a building envelope that retains the most significant tree on the site and removes only trees that could ordinarily be removed without a permit, other than for one as discussed further below.
- 8.24 Furthermore, the bushfire hazard has been assessed through the supplied Bushfire Management Statement and has been approved by the relevant fire authority, therefore satisfying the objectives of Clause 13.02 and the BMO in appropriately mitigating bushfire risk.
- 8.25 As suggested by the proposed building envelope location, any future built form would have a direct interface with three properties, being 5 Second Street, 29 Everard Drive, and 31 Everard Drive. A future dwelling in this location will, no doubt, change the outlook toward the site from what currently exists. However, it needs to be acknowledged that buildings (in the form of dwellings and outbuildings) form part of the landscape and overall character due to the residential nature of the area, and just because it may be visible, does not necessarily mean it would cause detriment.
- 8.26 The location of the building envelope toward the rear of the site is not at odds with the built form siting patterns in the area. This is seen at No. 6A Third Street just 30 metres west (which allowed for a similar subdivision) and even in the case of larger lots, dwellings, whilst often sited closer toward the frontage, are sometimes set deeper into a block, or contain significant outbuildings toward the rear. One existing outbuilding currently located to the rear of the dwelling will also be removed to accommodate the subdivision and future built form.
- 8.27 The construction of any future dwelling on the lot would not be regulated by the zone (as a dwelling is an as-of-right use), though the DDO3 provides parameters relevant to dwellings setbacks, height, site coverage, pervious space, building materials and associated earthworks. These are effectively the “tests” of what the preferred built-from outcomes are, and where not met, a planning permit is required to consider the appropriateness of such built form.

- 8.28 The building envelope generally seeks to reflect the preferred siting and setback arrangements referred to in the DDO3. The 2.1-metre western setback exceeds the minimum boundary setback of 1.8 metres suggested for walls up to 3.6 metres in height (allowing for a wall height of up to 4.5 metres in that location). Any wall heights surpassing this would need to be a setback as per the suggested amounts, or if not, otherwise seek planning permission to be assessed on its merits (the requirement seeking a 1.8-metre setback plus 100 millimetres for every 300 millimetres or part that the building exceeds 3.6 metres).
- 8.29 The DDO3 prefers that site coverage of dwellings and buildings on land does not exceed 25% of the total area. The proposed building envelope area of 284.5 square metres exceeds this.
- 8.30 It is also acknowledged that the envelope is sited closest to its northern and western interfaces in its positioning to retain Tree 1. It is therefore recommended that a condition require it be reduced to not exceed 25% of the site area, and specifically include increased setbacks to the more sensitive residential interfaces to the north and west. It will further require the northern boundary setback to be at least 1.8 metres (excluding the water tank).
- 8.31 Subject to some conditional changes, the proposed subdivision and building envelope is considered acceptable within the existing character context and consistent with overarching and local policy requirements, including the objectives of the overlays.

Are the vegetation impacts acceptable?

- 8.32 Policy at Clause 12.01-2L seeks to protect, conserve and enhance native vegetation with strategies that include to avoid native vegetation removal or destruction within Core and Critical Conservation Areas (as shown on the Strategic Framework Plan in Clause 02.04). Further guidelines suggest avoiding native vegetation removal within 30 metres of watercourses.
- 8.33 Vegetation protection is controlled solely by the ESO5, which relates to biosites and their associated buffer areas, as identified in a 2004 study referred to in Schedule 5 (and also in various policy provisions of the Scheme) which contemplates these core conservation areas.
- 8.34 It protects Victorian native vegetation only, seeking to protect and conserve Core and Buffer Conservation Areas, habitat corridors and ecological stepping-stones and maintain the treed character of residential areas.
- 8.35 There are fourteen (14) species to be removed, specifically numbered as trees 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 as identified on plan and in the arboricultural report.
- 8.36 Tree 12 is indigenous and therefore requires a permit to remove under the ESO5 (observing Clause 52.17 does not apply given the land size). This tree, a *Tristaniopsis laurina* (or Kanooka tree) is bifurcated at a height of 0.3 metres above ground level and therefore presents fair health, form and structure. It is further assessed as having a low retention value, to which Council's Arborist agrees. Its removal is considered acceptable given its low value and diminutive 4 metre height (pictured below) and limited landscape contribution. The Kanooka tree is known as a tall shrub or small tree and therefore it may close to its mature height.

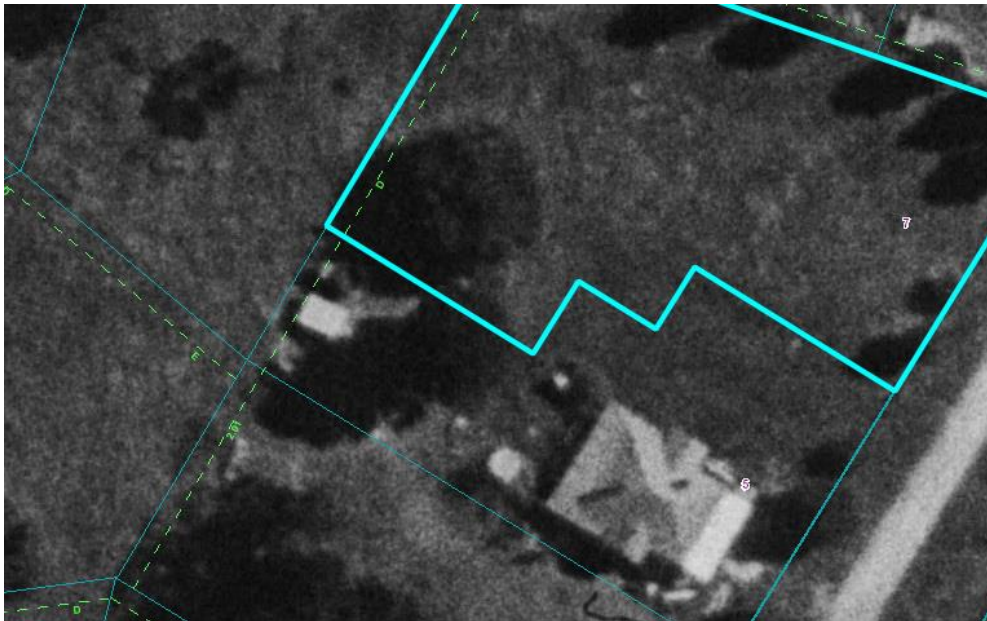


- 8.37 The remaining vegetation does not require a permit to be removed due to their classification as Australian native, exotic, or weed species or being exempt under the bushfire protection requirements of Clause 52.12. All species to be removed are of low retention value, one of which (Tree 18) is hazardous.
- 8.38 Notably, eleven of the species are 4 metres or less in height which is below the typical height of a “canopy” tree, with only three trees being a more substantial 5 to 6 metres in height.
- 8.39 It therefore could be reasonably said that the proposal will allow for the enhancement of biodiversity as sought by Clause 12.01-1S, in that the removal of the above vegetation would make way for more appropriate indigenous species to be introduced.
- 8.40 In Lot 1, all existing vegetation will be retained, with exception of Tree 18 to the rear of the dwelling, solely due to being hazardous. It can be observed that the vegetation coverage within the front setback is more substantial than indicated on the plan, given some are shrubs offer screening benefits as pictured below.



- 8.41 The retention of the existing vegetation to Lot 1 has merit in preserving the current landscape character. It is considered that this can be further complemented by the introduction of additional indigenous planting. A condition will therefore require at least two indigenous trees within Lot 1 and indigenous screen planting along its northern boundary where generally adjacent to and forward of the existing dwelling. Such planting for lot 1 would be required prior to the issuing of any Statement of Compliance to subdivide the land.

- 8.42 Vegetation removal within Lot 2 and the one indigenous species requiring a permit to be removed, can be offset by the introduction of higher-quality vegetation, subject to a condition for a separate landscape plan to be provided prior to any future dwelling construction. This is to include a minimum of two indigenous canopy trees with complementary tall shrubs and understorey planting. The implementation of this landscaping is to be applied through a Section 173 Agreement to be registered on the future title for Lot 2. This will ensure that, whether or not a planning permit is required to construct the dwelling, the landscaping obligations are carried out.
- 8.43 Tree 1, an aged *Quercus robur* (English Oak) is of high arboricultural importance and despite lacking protection under ESO5, maintaining this tree aligns positively with the design goals of relevant policy, being the most significantly sized and visible canopy tree on the site.
- 8.44 Tree 1 stands as a historic landmark (as evidenced in the historical aerial below) and thorough endeavours have been made by the landowner undertaken to ensure its preservation.



- 8.45 The proposed building envelope has been specifically sited to ensure the protection of this tree. The envelope presents an encroachment slightly surpassing 10% of the tree's TPZ, however as agreed by both the Applicant's and Council's Arborist, will not be detrimentally impacted with proper management.
- 8.46 The imposed Section 173 Agreement will also form the mechanism to ensure this tree is retained, serving as notification to the present and future land proprietors of their obligations to retain and protect it. It would further require that any pruning to meet bushfire management be performed by a suitably certified Arborist, and that an irrigation system be implemented to assist in future safeguarding, as per the recommendations of Council's Arborist.
- 8.47 The Section 173 Agreement will also call for a tree protection management plan to be submitted prior to the construction of any future dwelling on Lot 2, to ensure all vegetation retained and any neighbouring vegetation are protected and fenced off through the course of any construction.

- 8.48 Considering the above, the vegetation impacts are considered acceptable and consistent with the overarching directions of policy, in addition to the DDO3 and ESO5. Furthermore, the BMO has not caused unnecessary vegetation removal which is consistent with the strategies of Clause 12.01-1L.

Are the access arrangement and traffic impacts acceptable?

- 8.49 Lot 1 will retain its current accessway arrangement, which is primarily served by the crossover at its southern end of the frontage. The secondary crossover that currently exists will service Lot 2. This crossover connects to an informal accessway that contains both grass and gravel and appears to service the parking of supplementary vehicles toward the rear of the site.
- 8.50 The access shaft to Lot 2 will be 4.5 metres in width to accommodate a 3.5-metre-wide driveway which is to be formalised, albeit in a subtle manner that involves the laying of permeable toppings upon a relatively level area. A turning area is also proposed to facilitate vehicles safely exiting the site in a forward manner.
- 8.51 A considered approach to the topography is evident through the positioning of the driveway largely at the natural grade. Some levelling would be required in the location of the turning area within Lot 2, although there are no concerns with a small amount of work in this general location to manage the gentle slope and gradients toward a future dwelling. However, a condition will require the works to be limited to the driveway area only and be removed off the boundary to retain the natural surface level along the fence lines. The finished surface levels will also be required on plan, to demonstrate that any works are suitably reduced to the minimum extent necessary.
- 8.52 Clause 15.01-3L-02 (Battle Axe Blocks - Manningham) seeks to avoid creating battle axe blocks, unless they are functional, safe and an attractive design with a strategy to design access ways that are clearly visible, provide safe access, provide for waste collection where appropriate, and retain existing vegetation and landscaping.
- 8.53 The policy guidelines suggest a number of design options, such as considering a minimum shaft of 6 metres in width unless site dimensions or characteristics warrant a variation, avoiding fencing along common boundaries between abutting driveways, and providing common property or carriageway easements over common service areas with agreements to share maintenance.
- 8.54 The access shaft and driveway widths for Lot 2 are designed specifically to accord with the BMP requirements as regulated by the CFA, thus ensuring the safe and efficient access of vehicles, including emergency vehicles. The shaft width of 4.5 metres allows for a 3.5 metre driveway including the required 500mm clearances on either side. A shaft of a wider width would not be warranted in the context of the site and surrounds.
- 8.55 In particular, the width of the shaft is compatible with the surrounding pattern of development in the immediate area (such as 45-47 Everard Drive and 6-6A Third Street). Satisfactory arrangements can also be made for the provision and maintenance of infrastructure under Section 8 of the Subdivision Act. As the existing dwelling is at the front, its existing connections will be retained, enabling full flexibility for the new lot to connect to the available services in Second Street at the most convenient point.

- 8.56 There is scope to achieve appreciable landscaping that is visible to the public realm. As identified earlier, a condition will require indigenous planting along the northern boundary of Lot 1 adjacent to and forward of the existing dwelling. However, in consideration of the policy guidelines and to ensure it is appreciable, a condition will require the proposed boundary fencing between Lot 1 and 2 to be removed where forward of the existing dwelling. This will in many ways, retain and enhance the current conditions as presented to the street and immediately adjoining property to the north.
- 8.57 A carriageway is proposed along the driveway shaft of Lot 2 to facilitate vehicle access to the rear of Lot 1. As per the policy guidelines, a condition will require the Section 173 Agreement to govern shared access to the carriageway and the sharing of maintenance.
- 8.58 Relevant to traffic generation, Council's Engineer has considered the current conditions of the immediate and nearby road network in the context of the increased lot and demand expected by the proposal. No objections or issues were raised, noting that the street network could readily accommodate the additional traffic generation created by an additional dwelling. Furthermore, the CFA have raised no objection to the application, meaning that, they are satisfied that emergency vehicles can readily access the site as per their requirements.

How does the proposal respond to the relevant Particular Provisions (including Clause 56 – Residential Subdivision) and other General Provisions?

- 8.59 The provisions of Clause 56 (Residential Subdivision) apply to applications to subdivide land within NRZ, among other zones. Its purpose seeks to implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework, in addition to creating liveable and sustainable neighbourhoods and urban places with character and identity, with outcomes that appropriately respond to the site and its context for Infill sites within established residential areas.
- 8.60 It is highlighted that many of the objectives and standards are directed toward larger subdivisions which create new roads and the like and not applicable to subdivisions of existing lots as in this case. The proposal is consistent with all applicable objectives and standards of this clause, with a summary of responses below.

Policy implementation and Liveable and sustainable communities

- The assessments address the policy considerations and consistency of the overarching principals, encouraging residential consolidation within established areas and within the urban growth boundary.
- It further outlines how the subdivision would respect the existing neighbourhood character as per the Scheme directions, including responding to and integrating with the surrounding urban environment and protecting significant vegetation and site features.

Lot Design

- The proposal lot size is suitable for the development of a single dwelling. The site is located within the Principal Public Transport Network meaning it is within less than a 400 metre street walking distance from the nearest existing bus route.

- The lot area and building envelope objective seeks to provide lots with areas and dimensions that enable the appropriate siting and construction of a dwelling, solar access, private open space, vehicle access and parking and the retention of significant vegetation and site features.
- The standard requires lots greater than 500 square metres to be able to contain a rectangle measuring 10 metres by 15 metres and may contain a building envelope. The primary area of Lot 2 allows approximately double these dimensions and an envelope exceeding the area of 150 square metres is provided. This readily enables the establishment of a dwelling, in addition to extensive private open areas and appropriate access and parking provisions. The lots facilitate appropriate solar access, considering the any future proposed dwelling and ability to capitalise on northern sunlight.
- The common driveway proposed over the access shaft to Lot 2 also services Lot 1, for the event that access to the rear of the property it is required. A condition will require the plan to nominate this as a carriageway easement, with the owners to enter into a Section 173 Agreement to ensure landscaping and maintenance is shared equally to be appropriately managed.

Urban Landscape

- The subdivision does not create streets or public open spaces and therefore these provisions do not apply.

Access and Mobility Management

- No new roads or associated footpaths are proposed or required as part of the subdivision, with the existing and established road network accommodating pedestrian activity and cycling within convenient access to bus services, being located within the Principal Public Transport Network in Metropolitan Melbourne.
- The design provides for safe lot access to the existing road carriageway, with a turning area to accommodate the forward egress of vehicles from Lot 2.

Integrated Water Management

- The proposal does not require new services, being already serviced by a Yarra Valley Water supply and any new tapping will be required to be constructed as per the authority's requirements. In the same manner, all sewerage connections will be required to be constructed to Yarra Valley Water's requirements.
- Stormwater run-off must meet the Urban Storm – Best Practice Guidelines (Victorian Stormwater Committee 1999) and standard engineering and drainage conditions, as specified by Council's Infrastructure Services, will be applied.

Site Management

- Standard requirements to ensure the appropriate use of site management practices to prevent the transfer of run-off into drains and nearby roads are applied during any construction.
- Shared trenching for services would not be required given the existing dwelling on Lot 1 is already connected to services. All services are already available within the street network and Lot 2 would be required to be connected as per the Service Authority requirements.

- Standard mandatory conditions required under Clause 66.01-1 ensure that electricity, telecommunications, and gas are provided as per the Service Authority requirements.

Clause 52 Easements. Restrictions and Reserves

8.61 The creation of a carriageway easement is proposed along the driveway of Lot 2 in favour of Lot 1. This facilitates access to the rear of the existing dwelling, for the event it is required. The Council has no objections to the suggested easement arrangement, as the maintenance responsibility for the driveway will be shared by both landowners through a Section 173 agreement governing its upkeep.

Clause 65 – Decision Guidelines

- 8.62 The proposal is consistent with the decision guidelines for subdivision at Clause 65.02. In particular:
- The subdivision pattern has regard to the physical characteristics of the land including existing vegetation, and no further subdivision would occur thereafter.
 - The density of the proposed lots, each being at least 1,000 square metres is consistent with the mandatory requirements of the DDO3 and surrounding lot sizes.
 - The design and siting of the building envelope and the access design have regard to safety and the risk of fire. The provision of off-street parking is not affected, retaining the existing two points of access.
 - The land is serviced and has full access to utility services and significant vegetation is retained, with the opportunity to enhance native vegetation coverage.

9. FURTHER RESPONSE TO THE CONCERNS OF OBJECTORS

9.1 The assessment above has largely considered the issues raised in the objections to the application, however, the following provides a summary of the concerns, including an officer response.

Inconsistency with neighbourhood character and Scheme requirements

- 9.2 Concerns have been raised with the failure of the proposal to respond to the existing character and the controls that apply to the land.
- 9.3 As stated, policy at a higher and local level supports increased densities in areas with good access to public transport and other services. Indeed, policy in this location directs lesser change in a manner that responds to the landscape and environmental values. The applied zone and overlay controls form a framework to understand the desired density and character outcomes, namely relevant to lot sizes, built-form outcomes and what vegetation and features are to be protected.
- 9.4 Battel-axe style allotments are not new to the area and the general vicinity is characterised by lot sizes in the order of 1,000 square metres (some more and some less). This is replicated by the proposal. The site in its current conditions offers a generous setting that is more spacious than what policy calls for, and therefore its urban consolidation to the desired lot size cannot be discouraged.

- 9.5 It is appreciated that other considerations beyond whether the minimum lot size is met, ought to be considered in assessing the suitability of the proposal. As outlined, the land has a gently sloping topography, facilities secondary access already, and contains low-value vegetation of nominal heights in the location of the proposed lot, with the exception of Tree 1 which is being retained. Tree 1 would continue to prevail above the average building heights, unlike the smaller species being removed to accommodate the new lot and envelope.
- 9.6 From a public vantage point, there is little to suggest that the proposal will have detriment to the broader neighbourhood character, in that any future built form is highly unlikely to be visible and the street-facing conditions will remain very much similar. The character implications are more so directly associated with the immediate abuttals to which the building envelope is located.
- 9.7 The building envelope location will introduce built form in a location presently occupied by low-lying vegetation. The outlook will change by virtue of any future building form as viewed from the properties directly west and north, however, it would continue to sit beneath the prevailing canopy of the large retained oak tree.
- 9.8 Reductions to the building envelope to be not more than 25% of the site area will be required (in alignment with the desired outcome of the DDO3), with such reductions to occur from the north and west in which the envelope is most closely located. The largest length of the envelope is sited 2.1 metres from the western boundary. This could see a future dwelling located a minimum of 7.8 metres from the nearest adjoining dwelling to the west. This separation distance would not be unusual or out of character, considering the pattern of spacing already established between dwellings, particularly from their side boundaries. Furthermore, a building with a wall height of 3.6 metres could be setback 1.8 metres from the boundary without the need for a permit.
- 9.9 It is therefore considered for these reasons and those outlined in the earlier assessment, that the proposal presents an acceptable response to the character and policy context and includes an appropriate building envelope siting and size, subject to the aforementioned changes.

Responsiveness of Earthworks

- 9.10 The plans do indicate earthworks within Lot 2 in the northwest corner of the site. However, these appear to be a residual of the previous dwelling proposal. It is understood that some residents have copies of the initial dwelling layout, however, it is important to note that it no longer forms part of this application. In progressing with any permit for a dwelling on Lot 2 (should it require the need for a planning permit), it will need to be separately assessed on its merits at that time.
- 9.11 A condition will require the aforementioned works to be removed from the plan and be limited to the driveway turning area only, and to the minimum extent necessary.
- 9.12 Should any future dwelling seek to import fill along the western/northern boundaries, this is unlikely to be supported as it would fall outside of the building envelope and the preference would be to retain the natural grade and ensure any dwelling is responsive to the topography so as to not be unnecessarily raised. Given the relatively flat levels traversing the building envelope, the need for any or excessive earthworks for any future dwelling could be reasonably avoided.

Flora and fauna impacts

- 9.13 The proposed subdivision demonstrates a commitment to preserving the bushland character of the area by retaining a significant Oak tree which stands as a unique element major contributor to the area's identity and distinct character. It retains a vital element of the local landscape and the area's previous heritage.
- 9.14 All vegetation within Lot 1 (other than a hazardous tree) is further retained to maintain the sites current landscape contribution to the street.
- 9.15 The vegetation removed from Lot 2 is of low value and does not hold significant importance to the overall area by way of their height or species, observing that all but one could be removed without a planning permit.
- 9.16 A landscape plan will be required to reintroduce vegetation according to the suitable ecological vegetation class of the area. This initiative aims to improve the environmental value of the site's vegetation and ensure appropriate integration into the natural bushland character. A minimum of four large indigenous canopy trees would be expected across the two lots, in addition to complementary smaller trees/shrubs and understory planting.
- 9.17 It is understood that wildlife may utilise the site as a corridor to broader areas. It is not considered that the proposed envelope will inhibit this, namely with the increased setbacks recommended and the access shaft that retains a clear corridor between land to the west and the street. The southern half of Lot 2 will further remain clear of any built form, offering additional space for wildlife to traverse, both at grade and within the retained trees and supplementary planting.
- 9.18 Both Council's and the Applicant's Arborist have not identified any impacts on neighbouring trees, although recommend tree protection fencing to be erected as a matter of added protection during construction. It should be noted that smaller plants are not usually assessed, given their root zones are limited. Tree 17 is the only tree that has a tree protection zone extending into the property and the envelope is sited outside of this to ensure it is suitably protected.

Traffic and Bushfire Impacts

- 9.19 The potential traffic impacts have been assessed by Council's Infrastructure Services Unit, which concluded that the proposal, in the context of the traffic and the surrounding street network, can be accommodated without creating adverse traffic and safety implications to the adjacent road network.
- 9.20 While the road network is narrower in areas, it serves the purpose of accommodating residential traffic and connects to an established arterial network in close vicinity. The capacity of the road network is a matter for Councils Engineers to consider, who have not raised issues with the potential increased trips generated by a future dwelling.

- 9.21 Appreciably, concerns with the access and street conditions have been raised in the context of bushfire. The policy requires the protection of human life to be prioritised and the site is accordingly applied with a BMO. However, as abovementioned, Clause 44.06-7 of the BMO exempts an application from the usual third-party notice and appeal rights. For this reason, the suitability of the proposal in terms of bushfire risk and mitigation is limited to the views of the relevant fire authority, who has consented to the proposal subject to standard conditions, noting access arrangements accommodate emergency vehicles and static water supply.

Amenity Impacts

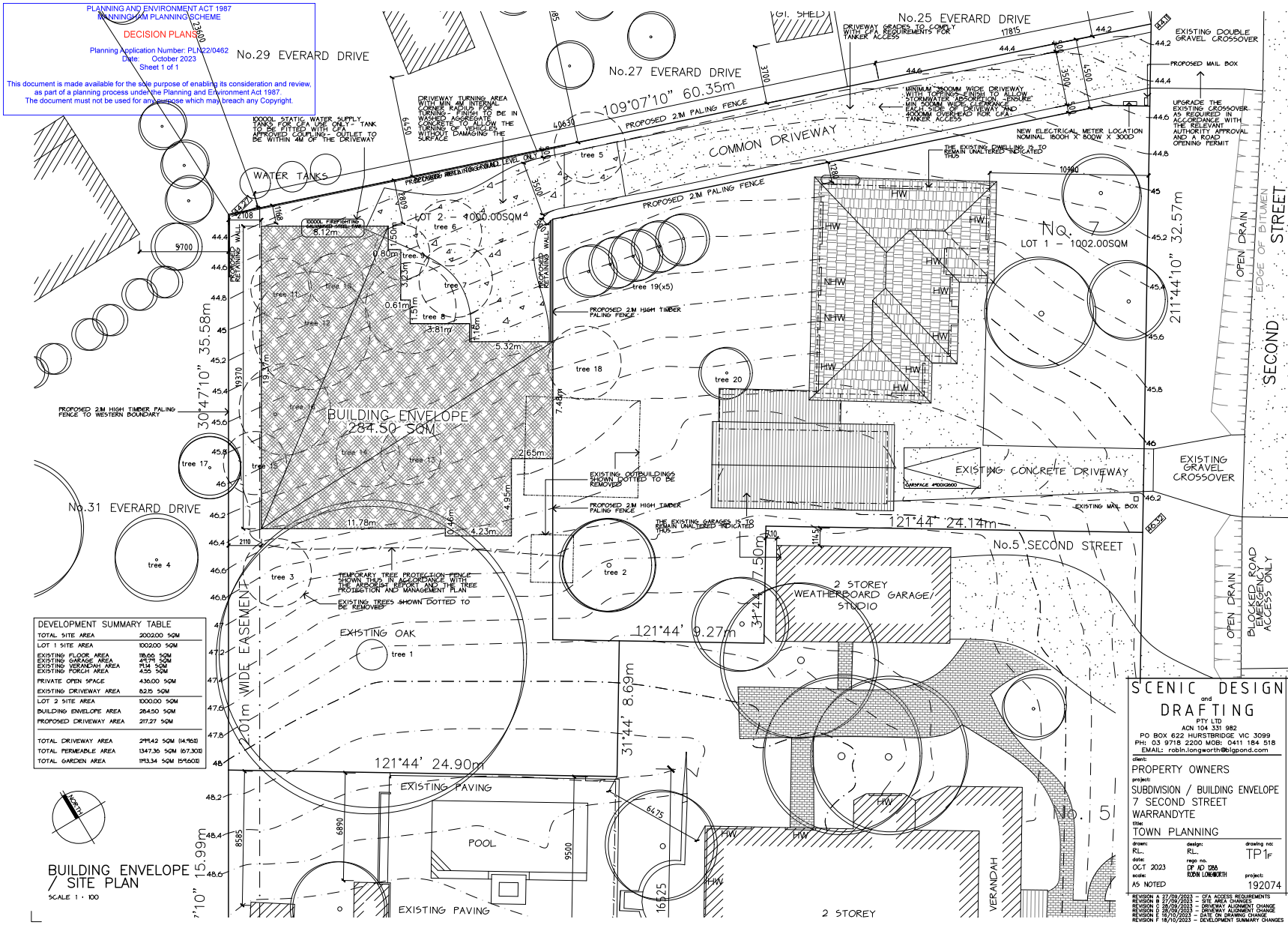
- 9.22 As part of the subdivision application, assessments related to overlooking and overshadowing cannot be considered as no built form is being proposed at this stage. Although, it is important to highlight that the Zone would not require a permit to construct a future dwelling as the lot exceeds 300 square metre in area. Were a planning permit needed, the assessment would be limited to the considerations of the overlays only, namely the DDO3.
- 9.23 Matters relevant to external amenity such as overlooking and overshadowing are governed by Clause 54 (Rescode) of Scheme. The evaluation of these matters would need to be assessed by the appointed Building Surveyor for any future dwelling, to ensure compliance with the relevant standards of Clause 54.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 For the reasons above, it is recommended that the application be approved subject to conditions.

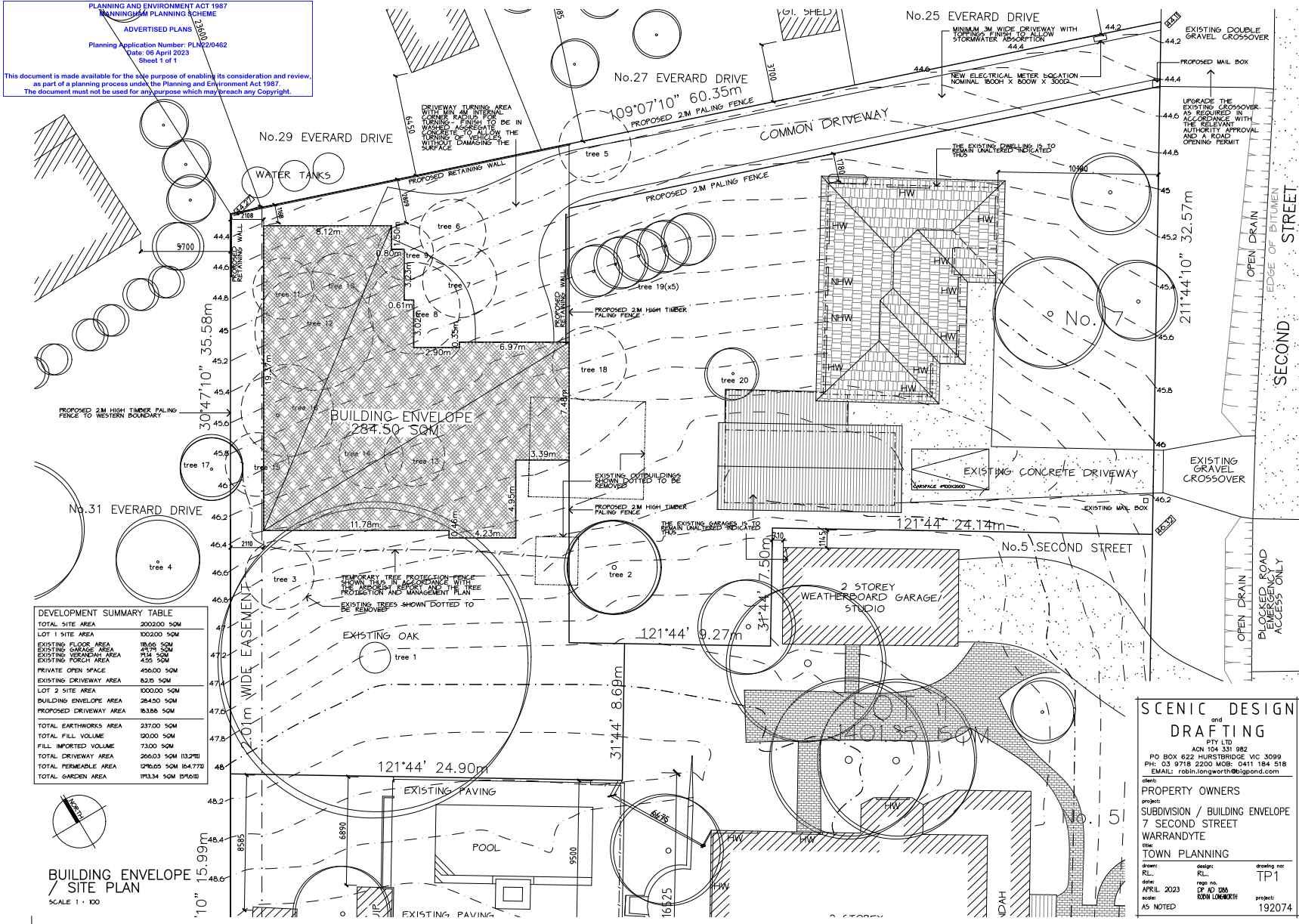
11. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 11.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987
WARRANDYTE TOWN PLANNING SCHEME
 ADVERTISED PLANS
 Planning Application Number: PLN20462
 Date: 06 April 2023
 Sheet 1 of 1

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DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY TABLE

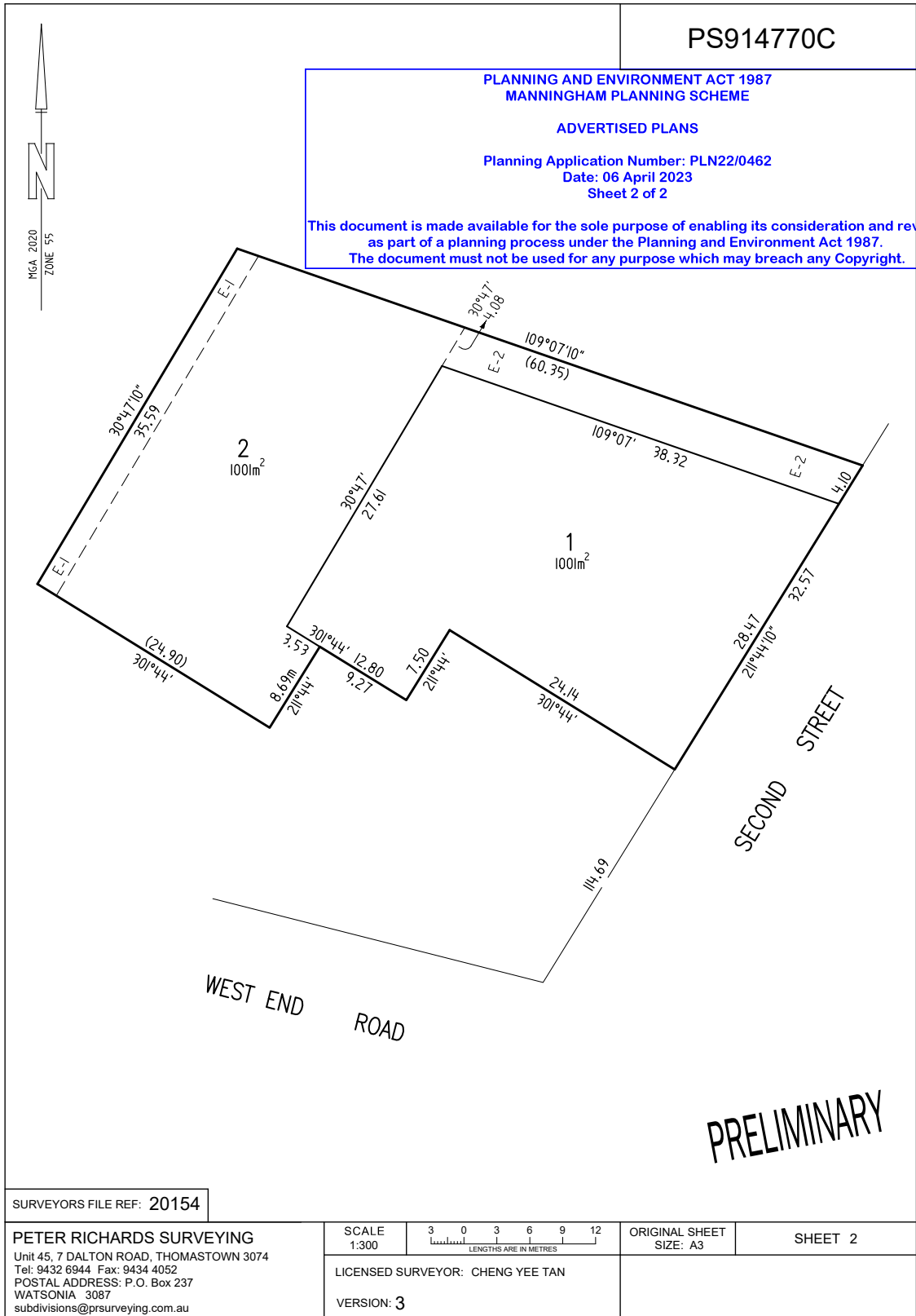
TOTAL SITE AREA	200200 SQM
LOT 1 SITE AREA	100200 SQM
EXISTING FLOOR AREA	18.60 SQM
EXISTING GARAGE AREA	47.8 SQM
EXISTING VERANDAH AREA	41.4 SQM
EXISTING PORCH AREA	4.55 SQM
PRIVATE OPEN SPACE	456.00 SQM
EXISTING DRIVEWAY AREA	82.85 SQM
LOT 2 SITE AREA	100000 SQM
BUILDING ENVELOPE AREA	284.50 SQM
PROPOSED DRIVEWAY AREA	83.86 SQM
TOTAL EARTHWORKS AREA	237.00 SQM
TOTAL FILL VOLUME	100.00 SQM
FILL IMPORTED VOLUME	73.00 SQM
TOTAL DRIVEWAY AREA	266.03 SQM (132.9%)
TOTAL PERMEABLE AREA	1295.65 SQM (64.77%)
TOTAL GARDEN AREA	193.34 SQM (96.10%)

BUILDING ENVELOPE / SITE PLAN
 SCALE 1 : 100

SCENIC DESIGN and DRAFTING
 PTY LTD
 ACN 104 331 982
 PO BOX 622 HURSTWOOD VIC 3099
 PH: 03 9718 2200 MOB: 0411 184 518
 EMAIL: robin.longworth@sigpond.com

client:
 PROPERTY OWNERS
 project:
 SUBDIVISION / BUILDING ENVELOPE
 7 SECOND STREET
 WARRANDYTE
 title:
 TOWN PLANNING

drawn: [blank] design: [blank] drawing no:
 RL: [blank] RL: [blank] TP 1
 date: APRIL 2023 reg. no. [blank]
 scale: 1:100 200
 AS NOTED [blank] project: 192074



SURVEYORS FILE REF: 20154

5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 (THE ACT)

The Act is the relevant legislation governing planning in Victoria. The Act identifies subordinate legislation in the form of Planning Schemes to guide future land use and development.

Section 60 of the Act, requires the Responsible Authority to consider the following before deciding on an application:

- *The relevant planning scheme;*
- *The objectives of planning in Victoria;*
- *All objections and other submissions which it has received;*
- *Any decision and comments of a referral authority which it has received; and*
- *Any significant effects which the responsible authority considers the use or development may have on the environment or which the responsible authority considers the environment may have on the use or development.*

Section 61(4) of the Act makes specific reference to covenants. Under Section 61(4) of the Act the Responsible Authority must not issue a planning permit that would result in a breach of a registered restrictive covenant.

5.2 MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME

Clauses of the Manningham Planning Scheme the Responsible Authority must consider:

- Planning Policy Framework
- Clause 32.09 Neighbourhood Residential Zone
- Clause 42.01 Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 5
- Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay, Schedule 3
- Clause 44.06 Bushfire Management Overlay
- Clause 52.02 Easements, Restrictions and Reserves
- Clause 52.12 Bushfire Protection Exemptions
- Clause 56 Residential Subdivisions
- Clause 65 Decision Guidelines

5.2.1 PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The relevant sections of the state planning policy framework are as follows:

Clause 11 (Settlement) identifies that Planning is to recognise the need for, and as far as practicable contribute towards:

- Health, wellbeing and safety.
- Diversity of choice.
- Adaptation in response to changing technology.
- Economic viability.
- A high standard of environmental sustainability, urban design and amenity.
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Prevention of land, water, air and noise pollution.
- Protecting, conserving and improving biodiversity, waterways and other natural resources.
- Accessibility.
- Land use and transport integration.
- Waste minimisation and resource recovery.

Planning is to prevent environmental, human health and amenity problems created by siting incompatible land uses close together.

Planning is to facilitate sustainable development that takes full advantage of existing settlement patterns and investment in transport, utility, social, community and commercial infrastructure and services.

Clause 11.01-1L-01 Settlement – Manningham identifies the site and its immediate surrounds as being within a “Residential area with environmental or landscape value”, with the relevant strategy seeking to “retain the bushland character of the Warrandyte township”.

Clause 12.01-1L Biodiversity in the Bushfire Management Overlay - Manningham includes the objective:

- To preserve the environmental, vegetation and landscape significance of land in the Bushfire Management Overlay.

Strategies include:

- Encourage development that meets higher construction standards or utilises alternative treatments to address bushfire risk in preference to vegetation removal.
- Support buildings and works that are located and designed to avoid the removal of vegetation, required for bushfire management.
- Locate dwellings, buildings and works to avoid the removal of vegetation.
- Avoid subdivision that may result in the construction of new dwellings where there may be a detrimental impact on vegetation and the recognised environmental or landscape significance of the land and surrounds as a result of clearing required for fire protection.

Clause 13.02-1S Bushfire planning seeks to strengthen the resilience of settlements and communities to bushfire through risk-based planning that prioritises the protection of human life.

Clause 15.01-3S Subdivision design seeks to ensure the design of subdivisions achieves attractive, safe, accessible, diverse and sustainable neighbourhoods. Relevant strategies include:

In the development of new residential areas and in the redevelopment of existing areas, subdivision should be designed to create liveable and sustainable communities by:

- Creating compact neighbourhoods that have walkable distances between activities.
- Providing a range of lot sizes to suit a variety of dwelling and household types to meet the needs and aspirations of different groups of people.
- Protecting and enhancing habitat for native flora and fauna, and providing opportunities for people to experience nature in urban areas.

Clause 15.01-3L-01 Subdivision design – Manningham includes the following strategies:

- Discourage subdivision where it will result in the loss of productive rural land.
- Ensure subdivision in areas affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay will not have a detrimental impact on vegetation and the environmental or landscape significance of the land.
- Support subdivision design that achieves energy efficient outcomes and adopts environmentally sensitive layout, environmentally sustainable lot orientation and integrated water management.
- Design subdivision layouts that:
 - *Respond to neighbouring uses and buildings.*
 - *Complement the topography of the area.*
 - *Preserve native vegetation.*
 - *Connect to pedestrian and bicycle links to maximise permeability.*
 - *Provide for the safety and security of residents and properties by considering wildfire, flooding, landslip and steep slopes.*
- Locate building and effluent envelopes to protect vegetation, view lines and minimise the extent of earthworks.
- Support the consolidation of lots to increase design options.

- Design subdivision to provide a link to public facilities such as public transport, shops, schools and parks.
- Avoid enclosing public spaces that adjoin private property.
- Facilitate the provision of underground services and mains water connection.
- Facilitate a designated effluent disposal envelope on each lot where there is no reticulated sewerage.

Clause 15.01-3L-02 - Battle Axe Blocks policy includes the objective to avoid creating battle blocks, unless they are functional, safe and an attractive design.

Strategies to achieve this are to:

- Design access ways that are clearly visible, provide safe access, provide for waste collection where appropriate, and retain existing vegetation and landscaping.
- Locate services and conduits together in a common trench to provide landscaping opportunities along the driveway shaft.

The policy guidelines suggest considering the following as relevant:

- Providing the following shafts minimum widths unless site dimensions or characteristics warrant a variation:
- 6 metres for the Neighbourhood Residential Zone.
- Combining driveways where there are two or more access ways adjoining battle axe shafts.
- Avoiding fencing along common boundaries between abutting driveways.
- Designing accessways to be capable of accommodating a waste collection vehicle where there are multiple lots serviced by one driveway.
- Providing common property or carriageway easements over common service areas.
- A Section 173 agreement to secure common access to carriageways and the sharing and maintenance of facilities and landscaping.

Clause 15.01-5-01L Landscaping – Manningham includes a strategy to retain native vegetation where possible or, incorporate new native vegetation into landscaping.

Clause 15.01-5L-02 Neighbourhood character – Manningham includes the municipal-wide objective to achieve residential development that is well-designed, site-responsive and respectful of existing or preferred neighbourhood character and the surrounding environment.

Municipal-wide strategies include:

- Design residential development to avoid detrimental impacts to the area's character and amenity.
- Support building height, design, articulation, stepping of heights and materials that enable the dwelling to integrate with the surrounding area.
- Design development on steeply sloping sites minimise earthworks and building bulk through stepped heights and other architectural techniques.
- Design development using colours and materials that respond to preferred neighbourhood character and the natural environment.
- Retain older tree species with landscape or heritage values.
- Provide replacement canopy trees that complement the character of the area.
- Locate buildings and works away from ridgelines and exposed slopes, incorporate screening treatments.
- Support the use of non-obtrusive materials and colours to minimise the visual impact of development.

Specific to Warrandyte (among other areas) it seeks:

- To facilitate minimal change, and enhance the existing bushland character, particularly the presence of large native trees, of the Warrandyte Township...

Strategies include:

- Discourage residential development that does not respect the environmentally significant landscape

- character of the area.
- Integrate development with the surrounding area through:
 - Generous side setbacks, to ensure spacing between dwellings when viewed from the street.
 - Generous front and rear setbacks.
 - Building height, design and materials that complement the existing built form.
 - Encourage a low residential density to retain the existing native vegetation.
 - Enhance the existing pattern of vegetation and landscape qualities.
 - Design buildings to have regard to the natural landscape and topographic features of the site.
 - Minimise the height of floor levels above natural ground level on sites with a slope.
 - Create a sense of openness and reinforce the environmental character through an absence of front fences.

5.2.2 ZONE

Clause 32.01 Neighbourhood Residential Zone

The zone has the purpose to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To recognise areas of predominantly single and double storey residential development.
- To manage and ensure that development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics.
- To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations,

A permit is required to subdivide land under clause 32.09-3 and an application must meet the specified objective in Clause 56 and should meets the specified standards in Clause 56.

The decision guidelines require consideration of:

- The pattern of subdivision and its effect on the spacing of buildings.
- For subdivision of land for residential development, the objectives and standards of Clause 56.

5.2.3 OVERLAYS

Clause 32.02 Design and Development Overlay

The purpose is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To identify areas which are affected by specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development.

Schedule 3 applies to the Warrandyte Environmental Residential Area

A permit is required to subdivide land and construct a building or construct or carry out works as stated in a schedule.

The design objectives are:

- To maintain and enhance the special bushland and low-density character of the Warrandyte township.
- To ensure that development responds to the area's environmental characteristics, including topography, soils and vegetation, and is sympathetic to the existing built form and style.
- To maintain the vegetation dominated vistas and bushland character.

- To protect and enhance the pattern of vegetation, landscape quality and ecosystems.
- To ensure that development recognises the existing infrastructure capacities and does not generate demand for extensive upgrades of infrastructure, including the standard of roads and drainage.
- To maintain consistency, where present, of current front setbacks.
- To ensure that development does not protrude above the prevailing height of the tree canopy.
- To retain the predominance of single detached housing and discourage other forms of development.
- To minimise earthworks.
- To ensure that land retains areas of pervious surfaces and a low site coverage to enable the retention and establishment of vegetation, particularly that which is indigenous to the area.
- To reinforce the open streetscape character by having no, or low fencing allowing the continuity of landscape and views to front gardens.

Clause 3 states each lot must not be developed with more than one dwelling. A permit cannot be granted to vary this requirement.

Clause 3 also states that a permit is not required to construct a dwelling or to construct or carry out works associated with the construction of a dwelling, provided the listed requirements are met.

For a dwelling:

- The dwelling is set back equal to or further from the frontage than any part of a dwelling on an adjoining lot with frontage to the same road.
- The dwelling is set back at least 1.8 metres from the side or rear boundary if the dwelling is not higher than 3.6 metres or at least 1.8 metres plus 100 millimetres for every 300 millimetres or part that the building exceeds 3.6 metres.
- The dwelling has an overall height of no greater than 8 metres above the natural surface level of the ground directly below that part.
- The site coverage of the dwelling does not exceed 25 percent when combined with the area of any existing buildings on the land.
- At least 50 percent of the site is a garden, lawn or other pervious open space. It must not contain a building, domestic swimming pool or spa and associated mechanical and safety equipment, pavement or other impervious surface.
- The external colour scheme and materials of the dwelling are non-reflective and are in muted tones.

For works:

- The works (excluding the actual cavity of a domestic swimming pool or spa) do not exceed 1 metre in height or depth above or below natural ground level.
- The import or export of excavated material to or from the land does not exceed 50 cubic metres.
- The area of the works does not exceed 100 square metres.
- No works are carried out over an easement.

For subdivision it requires that unless the averaging option is applied, each lot must be at least 1,000 square metres.

A permit may be granted to create lots of less than 1,000 square metres provided the listed requirements are met.

The decision guidelines under the overlay requires consideration as to whether subdivision will result in development which is not in keeping with the character and appearance of adjacent buildings, the streetscape or the area.

Clause 42.01 Environmental Significance Overlay

The purpose is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.

- To identify areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.
- To ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values.

Schedule 5 applies to Environmentally Significant Urban Areas

The statement of environmental significance is:

The properties covered by this schedule comprise those Core and Buffer Conservation Areas that are located within Residential zones. These sites have been identified as either 'Core Habitat' (known as 'Biosites' or 'Core Conservation Areas') or 'Buffer Habitat' (known as Buffer Conservation Areas), in the background document *Manningham City Council Sites of (Biological) Significance Review* (2004). Core Conservation Areas are the least disturbed and usually best quality areas of remnant indigenous vegetation and support the majority of Manningham's biodiversity. Buffer Conservation Areas generally have higher levels of disturbance, but still provide important habitat for native flora and fauna and support and enhance the function of the Core Conservation Areas.

This vegetation, whilst somewhat isolated from other bushland areas, provides important flora and fauna habitat and comprises threatened Ecological Vegetation Classes.

The vegetation is a valuable biodiversity asset, providing ecosystem services and landscape amenity and is worthy of protection. All Victorian native vegetation, even individual trees has environmental and landscape value, such as provision of habitat and retention of a distinct visual character, often softening the visual impact of development.

Protection of Victorian native vegetation needs to be managed with the competing objectives of development in urban areas. Built form should seek to be subordinate to the landscape and avoid and minimise the loss of native vegetation.

The objectives to be achieved are:

- To protect and conserve Core and Buffer Conservation Areas.
- To maintain and enhance the natural landscape character of environmental urban areas.
- To minimise the extent of earthworks within the canopy dripline of trees.
- To achieve an improvement in the extent and quality of Victorian native vegetation, consistent with the goal of Net Gain as set out in the background document Victoria 's Native Vegetation Management – A Framework for Action (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002) by:
 - Avoiding the removal of Victorian native vegetation.
 - Minimising the removal of Victorian native vegetation, if the removal of the Victorian native vegetation cannot be avoided, through appropriate planning and design.
 - Appropriately offsetting the loss of Victorian native vegetation.
- To protect and conserve habitat corridors and ecological stepping-stones.
- To conserve and where possible enhance habitat for flora and fauna species recognised as threatened at the municipal, regional, state or federal level.
- To ensure that development responds to the area's environmental and landscape characteristics, including topography and waterways.
- To minimise the visual impacts of development on the Yarra River, its banks and nearby parkland.
- To maintain the treed character of residential areas.

Clause 44.06 Bushfire Management Overlay

The purpose is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.

- To ensure that the development of land prioritises the protection of human life and strengthens community resilience to bushfire.
- To identify areas where the bushfire hazard warrants bushfire protection measures to be implemented.
- To ensure development is only permitted where the risk to life and property from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level.

A permit is required to subdivide land.

Clause 44.06-7 of the BMO exempts an application (relevant to bushfire considerations) from the usual third-party notice and appeal rights under sections 52(1)(a), (b) and (d) and section 82(1) of the Act.

5.2.4 PARTICULAR AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Clause 52.02 – Easements, restrictions and reserves

The purpose is to enable the removal and variation of an easement or restrictions to enable a use or development that complies with the planning scheme after the interests of affected people are considered.

A permit is required before a person proceeds:

- Under Section 23 of the *Subdivision Act 1988* to create, vary or remove an easement or restriction or vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement in a Crown grant.

Clause 52.12 – Bushfire Protection Exemptions

The purpose is:

- To facilitate the removal of vegetation in specified circumstances to support the protection of human life and property from bushfire.
- To facilitate the construction and protection of community fire refuges and private bushfire shelters.

Clause 52.12-1 and 52.12-2 provides exemptions to create defensible space around buildings used for accommodation and along fence lines. The scheme requirements to remove vegetation do not apply to the removal, destruction or lopping of any vegetation that is:

- Within 10 metres of an existing building used for accommodation if all of the following requirements constructed before 10 September 2009
- Along a fence that must have been constructed before 10 September 2009. The clearing alongside both sides of the fence when combined must not exceed 4 metres in width, except where land has already been cleared 4 metres or more along one side of the fence, then up to 1 metre can be cleared along the other side of the fence.

Clause 56 – Residential Subdivision

The purpose is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To create liveable and sustainable neighbourhoods and urban places with character and identity.
- To achieve residential subdivision outcomes that appropriately respond to the site and its context for:
 - Metropolitan Melbourne growth areas.
 - Infill sites within established residential areas.
 - Regional cities and towns.
- To ensure residential subdivision design appropriately provides for:
 - Policy implementation.
 - Liveable and sustainable communities.
 - Residential lot design.
 - Urban landscape.
 - Access and mobility management.
 - Integrated water management.

- Site management.
- Utilities.

Clause 65.02 – Decision Guidelines – Approval of an Application to Subdivide Land

Regard must be given to the Decision Guidelines which sets various matters for consideration. Before deciding on an application to subdivide land, the responsible authority must also consider, as appropriate:

- The suitability of the land for subdivision.
- The existing use and possible future development of the land and nearby land.
- The availability of subdivided land in the locality, and the need for the creation of further Lots.
- The effect of development on the use or development of other land, which has a common means of drainage.
- The subdivision pattern having regard to the physical characteristics of the land including existing vegetation.
- The density of the proposed development.
- The area and dimensions of each new lot.
- The movement of vehicles throughout the subdivision and the ease of access to all lots.
- The provision of off-street parking.
- The provision and location of common property.
- The functions of any body corporate.
- The availability and provision of utility services, including water, sewerage, drainage, electricity and gas.
- If the land is not seweraged and no provision has been made for the land to be seweraged, the capacity of the land to treat and retain all sewage and sullage within the boundaries of each lot.
- Whether, in relation to subdivision plans, native vegetation can be protected through subdivision and siting of open space areas.
- The impact the development will have on the current and future development and operation of the transport system.

10 CITY PLANNING

10.1 Endorsement of Final Affordable Housing Policy

File Number:	IN23/640
Responsible Director:	Acting Director City Planning
Attachments:	1 Summary of Key Issues raised in Submissions and Officer Response ↓
	2 Final Affordable Housing Policy ↓

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the final Affordable Housing Policy that has been modified in response to the submissions received from the targeted stakeholder consultation process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Affordable housing is non-market (subsidised) housing that is offered outside the mainstream housing market. It is aimed at people who cannot afford to rent in the private rental market. This form of housing has eligibility requirements (such as household income) and an allocation process to make sure that the housing goes to the people in need.

The Policy provides direction on how Council will facilitate 'Affordable Housing' outcomes. It covers four key areas: advocacy, land use planning, relationship building and investment, and includes an Action Plan.

Following the Council resolution on 27 June 2023, the draft Affordable Housing Policy was subject to 'targeted' exhibition between 18 July and 25 August 2023.

In response, ten (10) submissions were received. In summary, there was overall support for the Policy, as well as some suggested refinements. A summary of submissions and an Officer response is included in Attachment 1.

The final Policy also takes into consideration the State Government's recently announced Housing Statement 2024-2034 objectives regarding affordable housing.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

- A. Note the consideration of submissions received during the targeted consultation period, and how the feedback is addressed in the final Affordable Housing Policy (Attachment 1).**
- B. Endorse the final Affordable Housing Policy (Attachment 2).**
- C. Note its existing involvement in the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and the Regional Local Government Homelessness & Social Housing Group as a regional platform to advocate for affordable housing outcomes.**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Affordable housing is non-market (subsidised) housing that is offered outside the mainstream housing market. It is aimed at people who cannot afford to rent in the private rental market. This form of housing has eligibility requirements (such as household income) and an allocation process to make sure that the housing goes to the people in need.
- 2.2 The Policy provides direction on how Council will facilitate 'Affordable Housing' outcomes. It covers four key areas: advocacy, land use planning, relationship building and investment, and includes an Action Plan.
- 2.3 On 27 June 2023, Council considered the draft Affordable Housing Policy, and endorsed to undertake targeted consultation for a period of one month.
- 2.4 Targeted consultation took place with key stakeholders between 18 July and 25 August 2023. In response, a total of ten (10) submissions were received, noting that a late submission was received on 4 October 2023 from the Scentre Group (as owners and operators of Westfield Doncaster).
- 2.5 It should be noted that Council is a member of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and the Regional Local Government Homelessness & Social Housing Group (the Regional Charter Group), which provide an influential platform to advocate for affordable housing outcomes at a regional level.
- 2.6 A summary of the submissions, the Officer response and recommendations is included in Attachment 1.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

Summary of submissions

- 3.1 The overall feedback from the targeted consultation generally reflected support for the draft Policy.
- 3.2 The following section of the report provides a summary of the key issues raised by the submitters.

Goals and Targets

- 3.3 One submitter raised concern that the Policy lacked specific goals, housing targets and tangible outcomes. It is accepted that the Policy does not provide housing targets, however it outlines the various means by which Council will seek to advocate, negotiate and investigate opportunities to increase the supply of Affordable Housing in the municipality.
- 3.4 A significant limitation faced by Local Government is the lack of regulatory requirements to compel a developer to incorporate Affordable Housing as part of a development proposal. The policy therefore focuses on advocacy efforts with the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and the Regional Homelessness Charter so that collectively we can exert greater influence on Federal and State Governments.

Policy Purpose

- 3.5 Clarification was sought on whether the Policy was seeking to facilitate rental Affordable Housing only, or Affordable Home ownership as well. The Policy is aimed primarily to facilitate Affordable rental accommodation that would be owned and operated by a community housing organisation, however the ownership of Affordable Housing would also be contemplated. This clarification is reflected in the Policy.

Threshold and Voluntary Contribution Rates

- 3.6 During the targeted consultation there was general support for the minimum threshold of 30 dwellings, however Mirvac recommended a minimum threshold of 50 dwellings. In relation to the contribution rates there was varying feedback, but overall there was support. A justification for the minimum threshold of 30 dwellings and the various contribution rates was also requested. In response, Appendix 1 (Approach to the Policy) of the Final Affordable Housing Policy outlines the reason for the threshold and contribution rates.
- 3.7 There is no standardised approach across Local Government in relation to metrics associated with a threshold and a contribution rate(s) for a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution. A key influencing factor is that any contribution rate needs to be economically viable for a developer. A challenge for Council is that Manningham is a middle ring suburb with very few strategic redevelopment sites, therefore a large proportion of planning applications / rezoning requests relate to infill development.
- 3.8 The threshold of 30 or more dwellings was influenced by benchmarking other metropolitan councils' similar policies. It is noted that several Councils do not have a minimum threshold at which a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution is sought, whilst the threshold in other Councils vary between 20 and 50 dwellings. This threshold was also workshopped with Councillors (in September 2022 and February 2023) with our consultant.
- 3.9 Advice from a consultant with specialist skills in Affordable Housing advises that it is generally accepted within the planning and development sectors that it would not be economically viable to offer an Affordable Housing contribution for a development less than 30 dwellings, unless significant concessions are made, for example, an increased density or a financial subsidy is offered, such as Government grants.
- 3.10 To help determine a reasonable threshold figure, an assessment was made of Council's planning permit applications for multi-unit development between 2012 and 2022.
- 3.11 In the 10 years between 2012 and 2022, Council granted 42 planning applications for 30 or more dwellings. Thirteen applications comprised of more than 100 dwellings.
- 3.12 Based on these figures, 22% are located in the Doncaster Hill Activity Centre, whilst the remaining 78% are dispersed across the municipality. For the area beyond Doncaster Hill, the planning approvals are predominantly situated around neighbourhood activity centres and the Pines Activity (major activity centre) and along Main Roads. Development is also situated on the former Eastern Golf Course site (Tullamore) located on Doncaster Road.

- 3.13 On balance, the threshold of 30 or more dwellings is considered reasonable on the basis that Council receives an adequate number of planning permit applications for 30 or more dwellings to consider the opportunity to negotiate Affordable Housing outcomes.
- 3.14 It is recommended that given an Affordable Housing contribution in the planning system is voluntary the minimum threshold of 30 dwellings and the exhibited voluntary contribution rates remain unchanged.

Relationship Building

- 3.15 There was support for the actions that proposed building closer relationships with community housing providers and directing a developer to a housing provider early in the planning process. There was feedback that the policy needs to involve a wider range of organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) who support and work with people who have a disability and who need Affordable Housing in Manningham.

Use of Council Owned Land

- 3.16 Several submitters thought that the use of Council owned land for Affordable Housing should be strengthened. There were a number of suggestions regarding Council exploring partnership models, that address shared vision and shared investment strategies to facilitate the delivery of Affordable Housing that is designed in a way that is sustainable and liveable, rather than just focussing on the delivery of an Affordable Housing product.

Gender Impact Assessment

- 3.17 A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) has been undertaken and reviewed with regard to intersectionality as part of the GIA. The principles of the Policy have been amended to include an additional point that states:

'We have a responsibility and opportunity to reduce barriers currently experienced by people in our municipality based on their age, religion, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation and other attributes.'

- 3.18 In addition, the GIA has identified that the implementation of the Policy will assist in addressing the needs of women, gender diverse people and people with a disability accessing Affordable Housing in Manningham. Namely to:
- Gather data on housing insecurity, based on gender and intersectionality to inform any future review of the policy;
 - Identify the need to consider gender and intersectionality across various advocacy platforms, such as the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance;
 - As part of any agreement for Affordable Housing, the design should consider the needs of women and gender diverse people;
 - Explore opportunities to support women and gender diverse people for any Affordable Housing projects on Council owned land.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

- 4.1 Note that the endorsement of the final Affordable Housing Policy (attachment 2) addresses:
- Goal 1.2 of the *Council Plan 2021-25* identifies the need to achieve a diverse and inclusive community. The relevant action is to: 'improve housing choice to meet community needs by reviewing the Affordable Housing Policy and Manningham Planning Scheme.'
 - Recommendation 11 of the *Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022* states: 'Prepare a new affordable housing policy that builds on the Affordable Housing Policy and Action Plan 2010 – 2020, to improve Affordable Housing outcomes in the municipality'.
- 4.2 Other relevant strategies / policies include:
- Manningham Residential Strategy (2012) and upcoming new Residential Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study (pending documents)
 - Liveable City Strategy (2040)
 - Vibrant Villages Activity Centres Action Plan 2023

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Council's final Affordable Housing Policy provides a strong policy position when seeking to facilitate Affordable Housing within the municipality.
- 5.2 Having a transparent and comprehensive policy will assist developers, the community, planners and decision makers, and help improve Manningham's social diversity, economic viability and overall health and wellbeing.
- 5.3 On 20 September 2023, the Victorian State Government announced its Housing Statement for the next 10 years which aims to deliver 800,000 new homes by 2034 (80,000 a year) to address housing affordability and significant population growth by supporting the provision of affordable, social and community housing.
- 5.4 In relation to supporting affordable housing, these objectives will seek to expand the Development Facilitation Program which will make the Minister for Planning the decision maker (Responsible Authority) for significant residential developments (over \$50 million) that include affordable housing and require such developments to provide 10% of the development as affordable housing.
- 5.5 It is sought to enable this by investing \$1 billion in the Affordable Housing Investment Partnership (AHIP) program, providing low interest loans and government guarantees to finance social and affordable housing for Victorians that need it most – including projects that provide affordable housing for essential and key workers.
- 5.6 It is considered that Council's Policy aligns with these objectives, and once implemented, will assist developers in delivering affordable housing outcomes in Manningham.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Housing Organisations • Social Service Providers • Planning Consultants, acting on behalf of developers • Local Councils • Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA)
Is engagement required?	<p>Yes. Targeted engagement was undertaken for a period of one month to inform the final policy (further details are provided below).</p> <p>The above stakeholders and broader community will be informed of this policy upon endorsement.</p>
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	<p>Consult</p> <p>Inform</p>
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication material and survey was sent via email to stakeholders • Review of submissions (10 in total) • Details of the new policy will be made available on Council’s website

6.2 The draft Policy and a survey were provided to the following key groups:

- Local councils, community housing organisations; and social service providers; and
- Planning consultants, who act on behalf of developers.

6.3 The local councils that were notified included representatives of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and Regional Local Government Homelessness & Social Housing Group (Charter Group), including all neighbouring Councils.

6.4 Council’s Youth Advisory Committee and the Gender Equality & LGBTQI+ Advisory Committee were also notified, with a presentation / discussion made to the LGBTQI+ Advisory Committee meeting on 17 August 2023.

6.5 The survey asked the following key questions:

- a) Are the nominated themes of 1) Advocacy, 2) Land Use Planning 3) Relationship Building and 4) Investment, sufficient or should other themes be included.
- b) Whether the threshold of a minimum of 30 dwellings was an appropriate benchmark to negotiate for a voluntary Affordable Housing Contribution?
- c) Whether the voluntary Affordable Housing Contribution rates were appropriate?

- d) Whether there is support for a higher voluntary rate in areas where planning controls support a higher residential density, such as Doncaster Hill?
 - e) Whether the actions proposed under the theme of Relationship Building were sufficient or were there other suggestions?
 - f) Is there any other feedback on the draft Policy or any other information that you would like to share?
- 6.6 Excluding participants on Council's two Advisory Committees, the draft Policy was distributed to around 70 people across 37 organisations.
- 6.7 In total, ten (10) responses were received from the following:

#	Name	Sector
1	Nillumbik Shire Council	Local Government
2	Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) – from the Chair	Not for profit charity supporting young people with an intellectual disability
3	Cardinia Shire Council	Local Government
4	Access Health and Community	Community Health
5	Knox City Council	Local Government
6	Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) – from a parent	Not for profit charity supporting young people with an intellectual disability
7	Mirvac	Developer / Designer
8	Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV)	Community Housing Organisation
9	Community Housing Industry Association Victoria (CHIA)	Peak body that represents the not-for-profit sector
10	Scentre Group	Owners and operators of Westfield Doncaster

- 6.8 All submitters have since been notified that their feedback was considered, and referred to this report and final Policy would be subject to Council's endorsement at the 31 October 2023 Council meeting.
- 6.9 The final Affordable Housing Policy will be made available on Council's website.
- 6.10 Timelines
- 6.10.1 The implementation of the Affordable Housing Policy will be provided as part of the annual housing monitoring review and reported in the Council Annual report.
 - 6.10.2 The Affordable Housing Policy will be reviewed every four (4) years.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

ATTACHMENT 1: SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS AND OFFICER RESPONSE

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
<p>Appropriateness of Themes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for themes (Submissions 2,3,4,5,6,8) • Theme 4 (Investment) needs to be expanded to address the financial impact to developers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Incentives like increasing densities in planning scheme amendments could be offered. – Could alternative transfer methods to community housing providers (CHPs) be considered, for example selling at a discount rate rather than straight gifting. – In instances where projects are not physically suited to providing affordable dwellings, could a cash contribution be considered to a CHP to enable the purchase of dwellings within more appropriate developments. (Submission 7) • Consider including ‘partnerships’ as a theme. Agency of Council is limited. Need to explore role and scope of ‘partnerships’ where Council is a leader in the facilitation of shared visions and shared investment strategies for sustainable and liveable places not just ‘affordable housing’ product supply. (Submission 1) • Could include ‘constraints’ as a theme. For example, Manningham could be constrained by lack of large greenfield sites. 	<p><u>Impact on Developers</u> Theme 4 – Investment should be expanded to address the financial impact to developers and address that rather than gifting dwellings to a community housing organisation (CHO), that a dwelling could be sold at a discounted rate. However, it is not considered appropriate for the Policy to be prescriptive on discounting options, as these matters would form part of the negotiation process between a developer and a community housing provider.</p> <p><u>Partnerships</u> In response to the suggestion that partnerships could be a theme, a new action has been included under Theme 4 – Investment, regarding investigating partnerships between Council and other agencies, including State government or the private sector, that explores the potential development of Council owned land (which includes a component of Affordable Housing).</p> <p>Recommendation 1: Under Theme 4 - Investment, include an action that addresses exploring potential partnership models between Council and other agencies, including the State Government or the private sector, where Council owned land, could be developed that provides an economic return as well incorporating a component of Affordable Housing, to enable a more inclusive and diverse community.</p> <p><u>Constraints</u> The issue of constraints for achieving Affordable Housing, for example lack of greenfield land within the municipality is acknowledged and has been addressed within the Policy.</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
Benchmark – 30 dwellings. Is it a realistic threshold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to a threshold of 30 dwellings (Submissions 1,2,3,4,5,6, 9) • An alternative threshold of 50 dwellings is recommended. (Submission 7) • An alternative threshold of 25 dwellings is recommended (Submission 8) 	<p>Recommendation 2: Include wording in Section 2 of the Policy, (Purpose) that addresses the limitations of delivering Affordable Housing in Manningham given the lack of greenfield sites.</p> <p><u>Threshold</u> The feedback on the threshold at which an Affordable Housing contribution would be sought has been noted. A challenge when determining a threshold is that there is no standardised approach across the local government sector on what threshold is appropriate. To a large degree this is influenced by land use patterns, planning policies (ie whether the area is located in a growth corridor or subject to gentrification, and location ie proximity to public transport networks, employment nodes etc).</p> <p>In the 10 years between 2012 and 2022, Council granted 42 planning applications for 30 or more dwellings. Thirteen applications comprised more than 100 dwellings. Based on these figures, 22% are located in the Doncaster Hill Activity Centre, whilst the remaining 78% are dispersed across the municipality.</p> <p>If the threshold was increased to 50 dwellings or more, there would be fewer opportunities to seek an Affordable Housing contribution.</p> <p>Given the voluntary nature at which the contribution has been sought it is considered reasonable that the current threshold remain.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy. Retain the existing minimum threshold of 30 dwellings.</p>
Contribution Rates	There were varying views across the submissions in relation to the contribution rates, as follows:	<p><u>Clarification on Voluntary Contribution Rates</u> The submitters feedback that clarification is required on the interpretation of the voluntary contribution rates is noted. It is</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on the contribution rate is required. Do the rates indicate the per centage of dwellings upon completion or estimated development value in dollars? (Submission 1 and 9) • The rates need to clearly define as referring to yield and not revenue. (submission 7) • What is to be gifted ie land parcels or homes (Submission 9) • More detail should be provided on how the percentage has been calculated. (Submission 1 and 2) • What is the economic basis and viability for determining the thresholds. (Submission 1) • Is 4% for planning permit applications in strategic sites adequate to contribute to the quantum of required AH in Manningham? (Submission 1) • Council should be seeking higher rates than those established 10 years ago. There should be a higher rate than 10% in Doncaster Hill. (Submission 2) • Whilst there is support for a sliding scale the rate for a planning scheme amendment should be reduced from 10% to 8%. (Submission 7) • 10% is too high, and a range between 3% - 5% is preferred. (Submission 10) • There should be no differentiation between a planning permit application and planning scheme amendment. (Submission 10) 	<p>recommended that the Policy be modified to clarify that the rates indicate the percentage of dwellings upon completion.</p> <p>Recommendation 3: Clarify that the contribution rates indicate the percentage of dwellings upon completion.</p> <p><u>Justification of Rates (Numerical figure)</u> Several submissions questioned the numerical values of the voluntary contribution rates. Some thought it was too high, some submitters thought it was too low and others questioned whether the values were sufficient to contribute to the quantum required to address Affordable Housing demand more generally.</p> <p>A challenge when determining a voluntary contribution rate is that there is no standardised rate or methodology adopted across the Local Government sector. It is acknowledged the contribution provided by a developer is influenced by a particular development proposal, including land size, location, density, land uses, existing planning controls, neighbourhood character and the need for the project to be the economic viable. The contribution rates identified in the Policy outlines Council’s expectations and is subject to negotiation at the planning application / planning scheme amendment stage.</p> <p>Whilst one submitter recommended that the contribution rate in Doncaster Hill should be higher than those established 10 years ago, a review of Council’s past planning applications involving an Affordable Housing contribution (secured through a section 173 legal agreement) shows that very few of those developments have proceeded, and very few sites have achieved a contribution rate of 10%. This reflects the significant challenge facing Local Government to negotiate for an Affordable Housing contribution within the Victorian planning system given the voluntary nature of the provisions. On balance, it is</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>considered that 10% contribution rate should remain. It is also further noted that the planning controls that applied at the time that the 10% contribution rate has remain unchanged. With the exception of several sites, the balance of Doncaster Hill is affected by mandatory maximum building height controls.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that a developer’s proposal needs to be economically viable, therefore the matters relating to contribution rate, gifting versus discount of market value should be negotiated between developer, community housing organisation, or other not for profit organisation and Council. As a result, it is recommended that the voluntary contribution rates remain.</p> <p>A submitter questioned whether a 4% contribution on a strategic site is adequate to contribute to the quantum of required in Manningham. Whilst only minimal, the 4% contribution rate helps to contribute to the increase in the supply of Affordable Housing in the municipality.</p> <p>Recommendation 4: Provide an explanation in the Policy on how the contribution rates have been calculated.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy. Retain the existing voluntary contribution rates.</p>
Higher rate in Doncaster Hill	Yes (submission 1, 3, 4,5,6,8) Yes but it should be 8% not 10% (submission 7) Should be higher than 10% (submission 2)	<p>Most submitters supported a higher voluntary contribution rate in areas where planning controls support a higher residential density, such as Doncaster Hill. It is noted however that a submitter advised that the contribution rate of 10% for Doncaster Hill, a neighbourhood activity centre, strategic redevelopment site including former Bulleen Industrial Precinct (BIP) should be reduced from 10% to 8%.</p> <p>There should be no differentiation between planning scheme amendments and planning permit applications</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>Discussion regarding the numerical values of contribution rates is addressed previously in this Table.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy. Retain the existing voluntary contribution rates.</p>
Relationship building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government has a key role in building relationships with residents, Council and key community services (submission 1). Council should also be considering connecting and providing support to the associated support services that need to be provided alongside affordable housing to assist with transferring those residents along the housing continuum (ie into market rental and beyond). Council also needs to support integration of these residents into the community, again to assist with transitioning people through the continuum, and providing a connected community. (Submission 7) Consult broadly with community housing organisations (CHO) to determine preferred models of partnership (submission 5) When a developer contacts Stat Planning there could be a referral form to initiate contact between a CHP and developer (submission 8) Consider the stories of individuals benefit from being housed in AH (submission 4). Needs to involve a wider range of bodies incl Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) who actually support and work with people who need Affordable Housing in Manningham. (submission 2, 6) 	<p><u>Need for Associated Support Services</u> The submission identifying the need to provide associated support services to help residents along the housing continuum is noted. Council is closely involved with various social services in the municipality and directs people to various organisations for support where required. In addition, council is currently developing its Economic Development Strategy and investigating employment opportunities on the former Bulleen Industrial precinct to provide more employment opportunities for the Manningham community.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p> <p><u>Consult with Community Housing Organisations</u> The suggestion regarding consulting broadly with community housing organisations to determine preferred models of partnership is useful. It is considered that this could be addressed by amending Action 10 under Theme 3: Relationship Building that states: <i>‘Strengthen relationships between Council and Registered Housing Associations (including non-profit housing organisations) and social service operators to develop an understanding of their business model, their target market and how they can assist in meeting the housing needs the people in the Manningham community who need housing assistance and social support’.</i></p> <p>Recommendation 5: Amend Action 10 under Theme 3: Relationship Building to include understanding community housing organisations preferred partnership models.</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p><u>Planning Referral</u> The suggestion that when a developer contacts Stat Planning there could be a referral form to initiate contact between a community housing organisation and a developer is noted. It is considered that this is adequately captured in Action 13 (Theme 3: Relationship Building) that states: <i>‘Develop an internal process to connect developers with registered housing associations and non-profit housing organisations and help facilitate meetings where required’.</i></p> <p><u>Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH)</u> In relation to MICH, the action table has a column related to External Key Stakeholders. Under Theme 3: Relationship Building, Actions 10 and 11 make reference to Registered Housing Associations and non-profit housing organisations. The Action table has been amended to refer to Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH).</p> <p>Recommendation 6: Under Theme 3: Relationship Building, amend the column relating to External Key Stakeholders to specifically reference MICH.</p>
OTHER MATTERS		
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It’s a Policy. Why is it not a strategy. (Submission 1) • A summary of the research findings should be provided. What is the housing need and who is the target market? (Submission 1) • The strategy is very light on who will benefit. This is critical in ensuring the provision of Affordable Housing is appropriate in size, location, price etc and responds to the changing needs of the community. (Submission 1) 	<p><u>Policy vs Strategy</u> Manningham has a clear information hierarchy. A new strategy should only be developed if it is a legislative requirement or there is highly specialised or specific detail not aligned to the lead strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A Strategy focuses on the demographics, evidence and what will do in the short, medium and long term to deliver outcomes towards the 2040 Community Vision, 2021-2025 Council Plan, and the lead

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>strategy for the topic (which in this case is the Residential Strategy and the Liveable City Strategy).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A Policy is a guideline or protocol to guide decision making of both Council and others (often with a regulatory component). It is timeless/ongoing and reviewed every 4 years. <p>In this regard, the draft Affordable Housing Policy is a more specific document that addresses Council’s position on Affordable Housing and includes actions to facilitate Affordable Housing across the municipality.</p> <p><u>Research</u> The draft Policy has been informed by high level research to demonstrate that there is a demand for Affordable Housing (including social housing).</p> <p>Council is about to embark on updating its Residential Strategy. It will be supplemented by a Neighbourhood Character Study and Housing Capacity Analysis. These documents will undertake detailed analysis of housing demand and supply, including demand for Affordable Housing. A gender lens will applied to determine various cohorts in the community.</p> <p><u>Beneficiaries</u> The draft Policy is not aimed to address a particular cohort. Council would be relying on the advice of community housing organisations, and other not for profit housing bodies to specify who in the community are in need of Affordable Housing. It is recommended however that draft Policy includes an action about data collection.</p> <p>Recommendation 7: Include an action under Theme 3: Relationship building that relates to collecting data from various sources to</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>understand the demand for Affordable Housing in the community. Sources could include census data, feedback from community housing and non-profit housing organisations, social service providers, customer service requests and observations by Council staff from various departments.</p>
Policy Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to clarify whether the Policy is facilitating Affordable rental or Affordable home ownership (Submission 9) 	<p>It was suggested that the Policy could be strengthened by articulating if it seeks to facilitate rental Affordable Housing only, or will also consider facilitating Affordable Home ownership. This clarification is supported.</p> <p>Recommendation 8: It is recommended that Section 2 of the Policy be modified to clarify that the Policy primarily applies to rental Affordable Housing but could also consider Affordable Home ownership if the situation arises.</p>
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to advocate to local communities to build community understanding and support of AH (Submission 9) 	<p>The suggestion that there is a need to advocate to local communities to build community understanding and support of AH, is supported. The matter regarding informing and educating the community about the benefits of AH should be included as an action in the Policy.</p> <p>Recommendation 9: Include an additional action under Theme 1: Advocacy that informs the community about what affordable housing is, promote community housing organisations, and not for profit organisations and related social services that operate in Manningham and the Eastern region. It could also include profiling residents who live in affordable housing.</p>
Affordable Homes vs Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference should be made to 'Affordable homes' rather than 'Affordable housing'. (Submission 2) • Distinguish between outcomes you intend to achieve ie more Affordable Homes rather the planning concept of Affordable Housing. (Submission 2) 	<p><u>Affordable Homes vs Affordable Housing</u> The Policy provides directions and identifies actions to implement a planning requirement outlined in the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>, hence the use of the term Affordable Housing is necessary.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
Lack of specific actions and measurable goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of the actions and timings do not reflect the seriousness of housing affordability problem Manningham faces, including a low percentage of social housing provision. (Submission 2) • There is a lack of tangible outcomes ie housing targets. (Submission 2) • More pointed actions are required. Submission 2) • Need for measurable goals. (Submission 2) 	<p><u>Specific Outcomes</u> It is accepted that the Policy does not provide tangible outcomes such as housing targets, and does not quantitatively prescribe the number of planning applications that council will endeavour to negotiate for a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution.</p> <p>The Policy outlines the various means by which Council will seek to advocate, negotiate and investigate opportunities to increase the supply of Affordable Housing in the municipality.</p> <p>A significant limitation faced by Local Government is the lack of regulatory requirements to compel a developer to incorporate Affordable Housing as part of a development proposal. The Policy therefore focuses on advocacy efforts with EAHA and the Regional homelessness Charter so collectively we can exert greater influence on Federal and State Governments. Council has actively attempted in the past to sell its land to enable the delivery of Affordable Housing however the permits have been acted upon. The Policy addresses revisiting Council owned land however the process is complex, lengthy and requires specialist skills beyond those offer in Council, therefore it is difficult to assign targets and timeframes to such a proposition.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy.</p>
Investment – Council Owned land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to sell Council land and mandate 5% or greater for Affordable Homes (Submission 2) • Criteria should be developed now not after adoption of the Policy. (Submission 2) • The Policy could be strengthened by identifying if and when Council plans to undertake an audit of Council owned land. (Submission 9) 	<p><u>Selling of Council land</u> There are various options available to Council in order to develop Affordable Housing on its land, these include long term leases to a community housing organisation, entering into a public private partnership or other such ventures. Council has sold land with a section 173 Agreement that required the provision of a minimum 10% Affordable Housing. Considerable time and money went into developing legal agreements, however to this day the sites have not been developed.</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>Recommendation 10: Add an additional action under Theme 4 – Investment to strengthen the action to consider Council-owned sites.</p> <p><u>Criteria</u></p> <p>It is noted that the feedback recommends that the timeframe for developing criteria for Council owned sites should be ‘now’ rather than in the medium term, being in 2-3 years. This is supported. Accordingly, the timing for this action should be changed to the short term being 1 – 2 years.</p> <p>Recommendation 11: Change the timing for the new Action under Theme – 4 Investment from medium term to short-medium term.</p> <p><u>Audit</u></p> <p>As part of its business operations Council regularly audits its land holdings and assets. The action under Theme 4: Investment that relates to developing criteria for Council owned land would be influenced by the existing database of Council owned properties.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>
Build to Rent Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Scentre Group is interested in investigating a ‘Build to Rent’ (BTR) housing model on its Westfield, Doncaster site, which would be retained by them to enable their buildings (assets), and tenant selection to evolve over time in response to its business strategy, business partners (retailers) and customers. (Submission 10) 	<p>The Build to Rent (BTR) is a relatively new housing concept for Australia’s residential property market. This model offers long term rental accommodation with the developer being the landlord. There are several examples of BTR in Australia. Notably Mirvac has a few sites (Victorian, New South Wales and Queensland) where this form of housing is provided (or under construction).</p> <p>To date this housing typology offers high end apartment living and lifestyle opportunities, with apartments accompanied by an extensive range of communal facilities such as a pool, gym, pet areas, co-working spaces, meeting spaces etc.</p> <p>A BTR residential development would offer housing diversity and greater housing choice within Manningham. Manningham is open to</p>

Issue	Submission	Officer Response and Recommendation
		<p>discussing this housing option with the Scentre Group when the situation arises.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>
Income ranges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household income bands should be appropriate to the locality and not a default band, based on State or National household income bands. (Submission 10) 	<p>The income bands for the very low, low and moderate income households are stipulated by the Governor in Council under the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> and updated annually.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>
Development incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development bonuses should be offered to incentivise developers to provide affordable housing. (Submission 10) 	<p>Incentives such as development bonuses are considered on a site by site basis and negotiated as part of a planning application or planning scheme amendment request.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>
Victorian Housing Statement and planning reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Victorian Government's recently released Victorian Housing Statement and associated planning reforms will need to be further considered by Council. (Submission 10) 	<p>Victoria's Housing Statement seeks to increase housing supply and housing affordability between 2024 – 2034. It is submitted that Manningham's draft Affordable Housing Policy aligns with the directions outlined in the Housing Statement. Council will review its Affordable Housing policy and other related policies to ensure they align with the State's planning directions.</p> <p>Recommendation: No change to the Policy</p>
Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to define Connected Communities and Engaged communities Provide a glossary of terms (Submission 2) 	<p>The suggestion to provide a glossary of terms is supported.</p> <p>Recommendation 12: Amend the Policy to provide a glossary of terms</p>



Manningham Affordable Housing Policy

A Home for Everyone - Improving access to Affordable Housing in Manningham

October 2023



Interpreter service
9840 9355

普通话 | 廣東話 | Ελληνικά
Italiano | عربي | فارسی

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Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways now known as Manningham.

Council pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and values the ongoing contribution to enrich and appreciate the cultural heritage of Manningham.

Council acknowledges and respects Australia’s First Peoples as Traditional Owners of lands and waterways across Country and encourages reconciliation between all.

1. Introduction

Housing is a basic human need that influences a person's health and well-being and their ability to participate in everyday life.

The rising cost of living and surging house prices are continuing to place households under housing stress. Evidence shows that there's an increasing demand for Affordable Housing in Manningham, as well as many other councils across Australia.

Council is committed to increasing the supply of Affordable Housing for members of our community on very low, low to moderate incomes who can't afford housing in the mainstream property market. The provision of this 'subsidised', or non-market form of housing, is essential if Manningham is to continue to be a diverse and inclusive community and remain a strong economy.

It is acknowledged however that Manningham is a middle ring suburb with relatively few redevelopment sites, therefore Affordable Housing opportunities can realistically be pursued on in-fill sites. Other Affordable Housing opportunities potentially exist on State and Council-owned sites.

Manningham Council is a member of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and is a member of the Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter. Council leverages the collective strengths of these regional partnerships to influence Federal and State governments to improve policies and increase funding to increase the supply of Affordable housing and reduce homelessness.

This Policy provides direction on how Council will facilitate 'Affordable Housing' outcomes, it does not address homelessness, however it is recognised that the lack of access to stable Affordable Housing is a main driver of homelessness. Council is currently developing a process to assist people experiencing homelessness in the municipality.

This Policy addresses:

- the definition of Affordable Housing and the eligibility requirements.
- the four areas where Council will address Affordable Housing, namely: Advocacy, Land Use Planning, Relationship Building and Investment.

An Action Plan with timeframes supports the implementation of the Policy.

Principles

Manningham Council recognises that:

- Housing is essential infrastructure that strengthens our community and helps supports our local economy.
- The provision of Affordable Housing is necessary to have a diverse and inclusive community.
- The provision of stable and appropriate Affordable Housing helps minimise homelessness in our community.
- The Policy setting, legislation and funding opportunities for Affordable Housing, is largely the responsibility of State or Federal Governments, however Local Government, including Manningham Council can help facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing.

- Council has a responsibility and opportunity to reduce barriers currently experienced by people in our municipality based on their age, religion, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation and other attributes.

2. Purpose of this Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the directions and measures Council will undertake to facilitate an increase in the supply of Affordable Housing in the municipality. The focus is primarily on the facilitation of rental Affordable Housing which would be owned and / or managed by a registered housing agency or (or similar), but Affordable Home ownership would also be supported.

3. What is Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing is non-market (subsidised) housing that is offered outside the mainstream housing market. It is aimed at people who cannot afford to rent in the private rental market. This form of housing has eligibility requirements (such as household income) and an allocation process to make sure that the housing goes to the people in need.

In Victoria, the benchmark for housing affordability is when a person pays no more than 30% of their income on housing, so money is left over to pay for other essentials including food, medical bills, utilities etc.

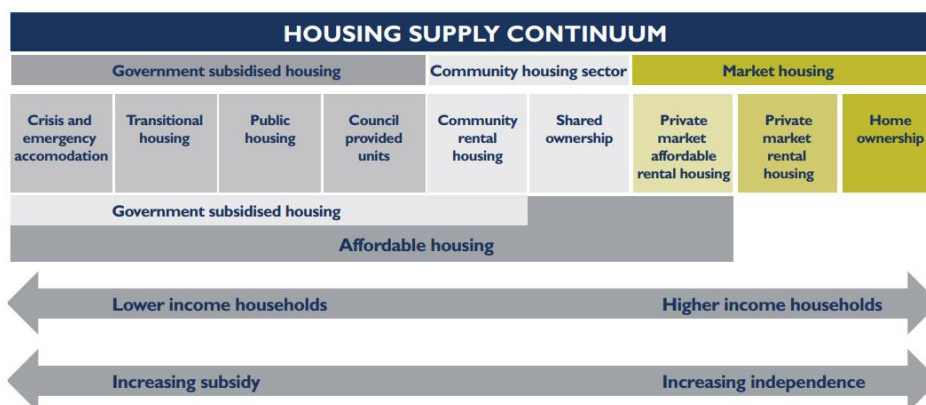
The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) defines Affordable Housing as housing, including social housing, that is appropriate to the needs of very low, low and moderate income households.

Social Housing is either:

- Public housing – owned and managed by the State Government; and
- Community housing – managed and/or owned by not-for-profit community housing organisation

The diagram below shows the progression of subsidy relative to housing types. At the start of the continuum are the very low income households, who are generally in need of social housing or – at the worst of times – crisis housing. As incomes progresses the level of subsidy required decreases. Community housing agencies offer subsidised rental housing and some may be able to look to home ownership where appropriately priced stock is available or through supported ownership programs.

Housing affordability is different to Affordable Housing. The term 'housing affordability' refers to the relationship between expenditure on housing (prices, mortgage payments or rents) and household income.



Source: SGS Economics and Planning Pty Ltd, 2019.

4. Manningham’s Demand for Affordable Housing

The following statistics show that Manningham has a significant demand for Affordable Housing.

- **Rental Affordability for Low Income Households:** In the year to June 2022 only 1.7% of new rental lettings were affordable for low-income households.ⁱ
- **Rental Stress:** 3,171 households were in rental stress in 2021 (35% of renting households) compared with 30.9% in Greater Melbourne.ⁱⁱ
- **Social Housing:** The rate of social housing provision in Manningham is far lower than the average for Greater Melbourne (0.6% of total dwellings compared with 2.6% in Greater Melbourne). Manningham also has the lowest supply of social housing in the Eastern region.ⁱⁱⁱ
- **Homelessness:** In 2021 – 2022 1099 people accessed specialist homelessness services.^{iv}

ⁱ Homes Victoria, 2023, Local Government Housing Data Dashboard for City of Manningham

ⁱⁱ Atlas.id 2023, citing ABS Census 2021, Rental Costs Over 30% of Income for City of Manningham, <https://atlas.id.com.au/manningham>

ⁱⁱⁱ Profile.id., 2023, citing ABS Census 2021, Community Profile for City of Manningham, Housing Tenure Overview, <https://profile.id.com.au/manningham/tenure>

^{iv} Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Clients of Specialist Homelessness Services in Manningham, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-welfare-services/homelessness-services/data>.

5. Policy Context – Policy Drivers

Whilst the legislative and policy setting to encourage or deliver Affordable Housing is largely the responsibility of Federal or State governments, Local Government still has a role to play.

There are three pieces of legislation most relevant to Local Government when it comes to addressing the need for Affordable Housing. The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* provides scope for Councils to facilitate Affordable Housing through the planning system. The *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* sets out how councils can ensure safe and healthy communities - a key issue for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The *Local Government Act 2020* sets out that councils should provide for community wellbeing and also the requirements for the use of council-owned land.

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* has a specific objective that identifies the need to facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria.

Whilst Clause 16 of the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) of the Manningham Planning Scheme states: ‘*Planning for housing should include the provision of land for affordable housing*’, the Victorian planning system does not have a statutory mechanism to mandate for an Affordable Housing contribution. However, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* enables the opportunity for Council officers to negotiate for a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution that is secured by a legal agreement (Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987).

Figure 1 summarises key legislation and State planning policies relating to Affordable Housing.

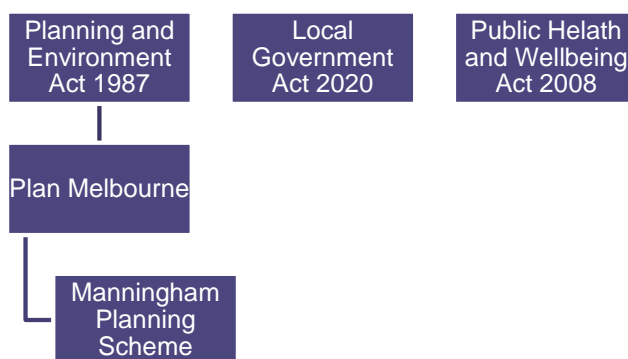


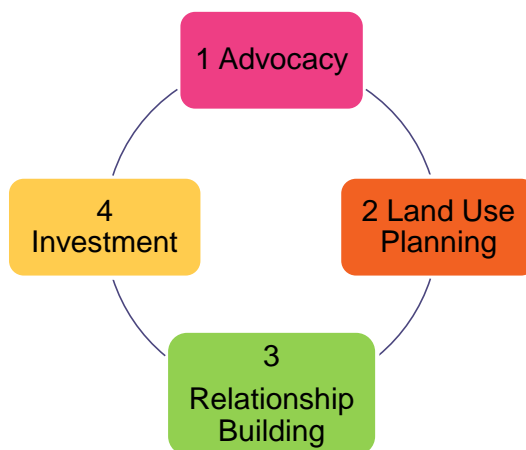
Figure 1: Legislative and Planning Policy Framework

The two main areas where Local Government can facilitate Affordable Housing outcomes, include:

- **Advocating** to Federal and State governments to improve public policy and funding opportunities to increase the supply of Affordable Housing; and
- **Negotiating** with developers to provide a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution in the statutory planning system (through a planning scheme amendment request or planning application) through the Manningham Planning Scheme.

6. Policy Directions

The facilitation of Affordable Housing within Local Government is multi-faceted. This policy covers four key themes: Advocacy, Land Use Planning, Relationship Building and Investment. It relies on the collaboration between various departments within Council namely: Strategic Planning, Statutory Planning, Connected Communities, Engaged Communities and Legal Governance.



6.1. Theme 1 – Advocacy

Objective: To leverage the network of the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and the Regional Local Government Homelessness Charter to influence Federal and State governments to improve the policy setting and increase funding for Affordable Housing in Eastern region

A key aspect of this Policy is to work collaboratively with advocacy groups so collectively Manningham can exert influence on the Federal and State Governments on matters relating to Affordable Housing.

Council will continue to participate in:

- Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA); and
- Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter Group (the Charter Group)

Both EAHA and the Charter Group are key advocacy bodies represented by Local Government that collectively use their influence to motivate for increased investment in Affordable Housing. EAHA unites six Local Government authorities in Melbourne's eastern metropolitan region including: Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse, and Yarra Ranges. The Charter Group includes 13 councils representing 2 million residents in Melbourne's east and south-east which provide a 'unified voice calling for urgent action for more social housing to end homelessness.' The Charter Group of Councils include: Bayside, Cardinia, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Mornington Peninsula, Yarra Ranges, Whitehorse, Eastern Region Group and EAHA.

At a strategic level both advocacy groups align key priorities and commit to:

- Working in partnership with Federal and State governments, and public and private sector partners in a coordinated approach to deliver meaningful outcomes to increase the provision of Affordable Housing and respond to homelessness in east and southeast Melbourne.
- Advocating for inclusive housing growth including mandatory inclusionary zoning.
- Promoting capacity building to educate staff, councillors and the community about issues relating to Affordable Housing and homelessness.

6.2. Theme 2 – Land Use Planning

Objective: To outline Council's preferred Affordable Housing voluntary contribution requirements to be negotiated through the planning system

It is Council policy that:

- An Affordable Housing voluntary contribution will be negotiated for an application comprising 30 or more dwellings. This may include a development that is totally dedicated for residential development or a mixed use development comprising two or more land uses.
- The following contributions will be negotiated:

Area	Process	Rate*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Doncaster Hill – Neighbourhood Activity Centre – Strategic redevelopment site, including former Bulleen Industrial Precinct (BIP) 	Planning scheme amendment request	10%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Doncaster Hill – Neighbourhood Activity Centre – Strategic redevelopment site, including former Bulleen Industrial Precinct (BIP) 	Planning permit application	4%
Balance of the municipality	Planning scheme amendment request	5%
	Planning permit application	3%

* the voluntary contribution rate indicates the percentage of dwellings on completion.

- The landowner will enter into a Section 173 agreement to secure the contribution.
- The voluntary contribution (planning scheme amendment or planning permit application) should be gifted at no cost to a Registered Housing Agency or similar organisation.
- The design of the Affordable Housing should, but not limited to:
 - Be energy efficient and environmentally sustainable to minimise ongoing running costs and improve the level of comfort by a resident.
 - Incorporate adaptable floor plans to ensure accessibility for people with a disability and / or with limited mobility.

- Be tenure blind, so that there is integration of Affordable Housing dwellings with the rest of the development. The level of integration however should be at the direction of registered housing agency or similar organisation, as agreed by the responsible authority,

Objective: To develop the skills and capacity of planning staff to negotiate a voluntary Affordable Housing component

To offer training to Council's planners and other relevant officers to develop their capacity to negotiate for Affordable Housing outcomes. The training would address:

- why Affordable Housing needs to be considered;
- the broad economics of incorporating Affordable Housing into a development proposal, and
- matters to be included in a Section 173 Agreement.

Objective: To introduce a statutory planning framework to support Affordable Housing negotiations

To amend the policy section of Manningham Planning Scheme to reference the importance of facilitating Affordable Housing in Manningham (through voluntary contribution). This amendment would align with Clause 16 of the State Planning Policy Framework.

6.3. Theme 3 – Relationship Building

Objective: To develop a closer working relationship with Registered Housing Agencies and similar organisations and service providers in the Eastern region

This theme focuses on developing closer relationships with the community housing sector and service providers in the region to develop a better understanding of their role, their clients ('target market') and emerging issues. Where possible, connect developers with housing providers early in the planning stage so each party can develop an understanding of respective business objectives and priorities.

6.4. Theme 4 – Investment

Objective: To Identify Council owned sites for potential Affordable Housing

Develop criteria for Council owned sites where Affordable Housing could be considered.

7. Action Plan

TIMING

Short term: 1-2 years
 Medium term: 2-3 years
 Long term: 3-4 years

7.1. Theme 1: Advocacy

Objective: To leverage the network of Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and the Regional Local Government Homelessness Charter to influence Federal and State governments on improving the policy setting and increase funding for Affordable Housing in Eastern region

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting Unit (S)	External Key Stakeholders
1.	Continue to participate in the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) and Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Group Charter (the Charter Group).	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic & Community Wellbeing (L) Integrated Planning (S) 	EAHA The Charter Group
2.	In conjunction with EAHA and the Charter Group, continue to advocate to the State Government for the need to introduce inclusionary zoning into the Victoria planning system.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) 	EAHA Homes Victoria
3.	Explore opportunities with the State Government, such as Homes Victoria, to increase investment in social housing in Manningham.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic & Community Wellbeing (L) Integrated Planning (S) 	Homes Victoria EAHA Charter Group
4.	Prepare communication material to inform the community about what affordable housing is, the community housing organisations, and not for profit organisations and related social services that operate in Manningham and the Eastern region. It could also include profiling residents who live in affordable housing.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) 	Community Housing Industry Association (CHIA) VIC



7.2. Theme 2: Land Use Planning

Objective: To outline Council's preferred requirements for an Affordable Housing voluntary contribution to be negotiated through the planning system

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
5.	Prepare guidelines for developers outlining Council's expectations regarding an Affordable Housing voluntary contribution when seeking to develop (of 30 or more dwellings) a medium / high density residential development, or medium / high-density mixed-use development through the planning system (i.e. planning application or planning scheme amendment).	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) 	Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
6.	Develop a 'planning tool kit' for statutory and strategic planners related to Affordable Housing. This could include but not be limited to the definition of Affordable Housing, the eligibility requirements, wording for a planning permit condition relating to a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution, matters to be included in a Section 173 agreement.	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) Engaged Communities (S) Council's Legal, Governance and Risk (S) 	Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
7.	Develop a list of registered housing agencies, and not-for-profit housing organisations that operate in Manningham or the Eastern region.	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic & Community Wellbeing (L) Integrated Planning (S) 	Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) CHIA Vic

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
8.	Distribute a list of registered housing agencies, and not-for-profit housing organisations to developers in the early stage of the planning process so they can connect with these community housing organisations and develop an understanding of their business operations (and economic imperatives) and the households in need of Affordable Housing in Manningham.	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory Planning (L) Integrated Planning (L/S) Economic & Community Wellbeing (L) 	Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) CHIA Vic

Objective: To develop the skills and capacity of planning staff to negotiate a voluntary Affordable Housing agreement

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
9.	Offer training to Council's planners and other relevant officers to develop their capacity to negotiate for a voluntary Affordable Housing outcome. The training would address the statutory definition of Affordable Housing and eligibility requirements, and the broad economics of incorporating Affordable Housing into a development proposal; and matters for consideration in a Section 173 legal agreement.	Short / Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Legal, Governance and Risk Unit (S) 	Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
10.	Review past Section 173 legal agreements for the purpose of developing key learnings and improving the drafting of future legal agreements to strengthen the delivery of Affordable Housing outcomes in the municipality.	Short / Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Legal, Governance and Risk (S) 	Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) CHIA

Objective: To introduce a statutory planning framework to support Affordable Housing negotiations

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
11.	Amend the policy section of Manningham Planning Scheme to reference the importance of facilitating Affordable housing in Manningham. This amendment would align with Clause 16 of the State Planning Policy Framework.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) 	Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)

7.3. Theme 3: Relationship Building

Objective: To develop a closer working relationship Registered Housing agencies and service providers in the Eastern region

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
12.	Strengthen relationships between Council and Registered Housing agencies (including non-profit housing organisations) and social service operators, to develop an understanding of their business model, their target market, and how they can assist people in the Manningham community who need housing and social support.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic & Community Wellbeing Unit 	Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) CHIA Vic Social Service providers
13.	Develop an internal process to connect developers with registered housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations and help facilitate meetings where required.	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) 	Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) CHIA Vic

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
14.	Collect data from various sources to understand the demand for Affordable Housing in the community. Sources could include census data, feedback from registered housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, social service providers, customer service requests and observations by Council staff from various departments.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) 	Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations, including Manningham Inclusive Community Housing (MICH) CHIA Vic Social service providers

7.4. Theme 4: Investment

Objective: To identify Council owned sites for potential Affordable Housing

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
15.	Develop criteria for Council-owned sites where Affordable Housing could be considered.	Short-Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Projects (L) Integrated Planning (S) 	N/A
16.	Explore potential partnership models between Council and other agencies, including the State Government and / or the private sector, where Council owned land could be developed that provides an economic return as well incorporating a component of Affordable Housing, to enable a more inclusive and diverse community. Furthermore, investigate opportunities to ensure Affordable Housing remains in public ownership.	Medium – Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Projects (L) 	CHIA VIC State Government, Homes Victoria Registered Housing agencies and non-profit housing organisations Private Sector



Review and Monitoring

No	Action	Timing	Council Department Lead (L) and Supporting (S) Unit	External Key Stakeholders
17.	Provide an annual update on the implementation of the Affordable Housing Policy through the annual housing monitoring review.	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Statutory Planning (S) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) 	N/A
18.	Review of the Policy	4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Planning (L) Economic & Community Wellbeing (S) Statutory Planning (S) 	N/A

APPENDIX 1: Approach to the Policy

When determining Council's role in increasing the supply of Affordable Housing, consideration needs to be given to Manningham's location within a metropolitan context. It is a middle ring municipality with relatively few strategic redevelopment sites, therefore Affordable Housing opportunities can only realistically be pursued on in-fill sites. These are primarily located in areas of substantial change such as Doncaster Hill, around neighbourhood activity centres and along main roads (in the vicinity of activity centres). Other Affordable Housing opportunities potentially exist on State and Council-owned sites.

Voluntary Nature of Negotiating for Affordable Housing in Victoria

A significant challenge in securing Affordable Housing in the Victorian planning system is the voluntary nature of the legislation. The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* outlines that an Affordable Housing contribution can be achieved through a voluntary negotiation between a developer and a council. This contribution may be provided in the form of land, dwellings or cash, and secured by a legal agreement and registered on a certificate of title (via Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

A challenge when determining a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution is that there is no standardised approach across the local government sector in relation to metrics associated with a threshold and a contribution rate(s). A key influencing factor however is that any contribution rate needs to be economically viable for a developer.

Threshold

This Policy seeks a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution for an application comprising 30 or more dwellings in the planning system, whether it be a planning permit application or planning scheme amendment request.

The threshold of 30 or more dwellings was influenced by benchmarking other nearby councils. It is noted that several Councils do not have a minimum threshold at which a voluntary Affordable Housing contribution is sought, whilst the threshold in other Councils vary between 20 and 50 dwellings.

Advice from Council's consultant with specialist skills in Affordable Housing (Hornsby & Co: brokering social and affordable housing) advises that it is generally accepted within the planning and development sectors that it would not be economically viable to offer an Affordable Housing contribution for a development less than 30 dwellings, unless significant concessions are made, for example, an increased density or a financial subsidy is offered, such as Government grants.

To help determine a reasonable threshold figure, an assessment was made of Council's planning permit applications for multi-unit development between 2012 and 2022.

In the 10 years between 2012 and 2022, Council granted 42 planning applications for 30 or more dwellings. Thirteen applications comprised of more than 100 dwellings.

Based on these figures, 22% are located in the Doncaster Hill Activity Centre, whilst the remaining 78% are dispersed across the municipality. For the area beyond Doncaster Hill, the planning approvals are predominantly situated around neighbourhood activity centres and the Pines Activity

(major activity centre) and along Main Roads. Development is also situated on the former Eastern Golf Course site (Tullamore) located on Doncaster Road.

On balance, the threshold of 30 or more dwellings is considered reasonable to consider the opportunity to negotiate for an Affordable Housing outcome.

Contribution Rates

This Policy supports a sliding scale of contribution rates depending on whether it is a planning permit application or planning scheme amendment request. It is considered that there is a greater opportunity to negotiate for an Affordable Housing contribution with a planning scheme amendment request given the value uplift derived from increased development opportunities. This Policy therefore seeks a higher contribution for a planning scheme amendment request compared to a planning application.

Council's previous Affordable Housing Policy (2010-2020) set an aspirational Affordable Housing rate of 10% in Doncaster Hill, whilst the Residential Strategy 2012 identifies a rate of 5% in the urban areas of the municipality.

A review of Council's past planning applications involving an Affordable Housing contribution (secured through a section 173 legal agreement) shows that very few of those developments have proceeded. This reflects the significant challenge facing Local Government to negotiate for an Affordable Housing contribution within the Victorian planning system given the voluntary nature of the provisions. As a result, the draft Policy recommends a reduction in the voluntary Affordable Housing contribution rates for planning permit applications.

Importantly, any voluntary Affordable Housing contribution should be gifted at no cost, so the contribution is economically viable for a housing provider. Furthermore, the voluntary contribution needs to be transferred to a Registered Housing Agency or similar organisation so there are sufficient regulatory requirements in place to ensure the Affordable Housing is allocated to those in need.

APPENDIX 2: Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing is non-market (subsidised) housing that is offered outside the mainstream housing market. It is aimed at people who cannot afford to rent in the private rental market. The <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (the Act) defines Affordable Housing as housing, including social housing, that is appropriate to the needs of very low, low and moderate income households. The income thresholds for very low, low and moderate income households is outlined in the Victorian Government Gazette.
Community Housing	Community housing is managed (and possibly owned) by not-for-profit organisations.
Community Housing Industry Association (CHIA) - Victoria	CHIA Vic is the peak body that represents the not-for-profit community housing sector in Victoria. CHIA Vic's member Community Housing Organisations (CHOs) are committed to providing secure, affordable and decent housing for people on low to middle incomes
Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance	The Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) is a formal collaboration of six Councils to address the housing affordability crisis in Melbourne's eastern metro region.
Homelessness and Social Housing Group Charter	A group of 13 local councils that collectively advocate to Federal and State governments for increased social housing and a more effective, integrated and supported homelessness service system.
Public Housing	Public housing is owned and managed by the State Government.
Registered Housing Agency	A housing provider or association registered with Victoria's Registrar for Housing Agencies for the purposes of the Housing Act 1983.
Social housing	Housing owned and managed either by the State Government (public housing) or by Registered Housing Agencies (community housing) that is rented to low income households at either 25% (public housing) or 30% (community housing) of household income.



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10.2 Housing Reform Announcements - Implications for Manningham

File Number:	IN23/656
Responsible Director:	Acting Director City Planning
Attachments:	1 Housing Statement 2024 - 2034 (Summary) ↓
	2 Map: Where Future Homes Provisions Apply in Manningham ↓

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a summary of the recent release of Victoria's Housing Statement (2024-2034) by the Victorian Government, which announces significant reforms to the planning system and various other initiatives to accelerate the supply of housing and improve affordability. This report outlines the initial implications for Manningham Council and our local community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*The State Government has released Victoria's Housing Statement (2024- 2034) (**the Statement**). The Statement outlines several significant changes and initiatives to address housing demand and affordability in Victoria over the next decade between 2024-2034 (a summary is provided as Attachment 1).*

Victoria is the fastest growing State in Australia. Victoria's population is expected to reach 10.3 million by 2051 (growing at over 100,000 people per year). To accommodate this considerable growth, the State Government has outlined an ambitious target to build 800,000 homes within the next decade, equating to 80,000 homes per year.

The initiatives and reforms announced in the Statement will have significant implications for Council, including how planning decisions are made, how we plan for housing growth, and how the community participates in the planning process. In particular, it is expected that specific housing targets for each Local Government Area will be announced in future, as part of the rewrite of the Plan Melbourne 2017-50 Strategy and changes to the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Although some recent media statements allude to the delays in housing approvals being as a result of local government delay in issuing statutory approvals, the statistics below validate the strong efforts of Manningham Council to not only meet but exceed its targets. In particular:

- 92% of planning applications at Manningham are decided within 60 statutory days (compared with a 59.34% metro average);*
- 98.72% of VIC SMART applications are decided within the 10-day timeframe (79.22% metro average);*
- 22 appeals have been lodged from 806 decisions (2.7%); and*
- Only 2% of planning applications lodged are refused.*

Local councils and peak bodies, such as the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), were not consulted about the reforms and changes announced in the Statement, and it is therefore recommended that Council, together with other councils and stakeholders advocate to the State Government to preserve council authority, public transparency and community involvement in the planning process.

1. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- A. Note the release of *Victoria's Housing Statement 2024-2034* by the State Government.**
- B. Authorise the Mayor to write to the Minister for Planning and Victorian Premier addressing the following matters:**
- **Noting Council's disappointment that these announcements and changes were unilaterally introduced with no meaningful or transparent consultation with Council, or the broader community;**
 - **Re-affirm the effective decision-making role of Manningham Council, including the very high proportion of decisions made within the statutory timeframe;**
 - **Advocate for council involvement in all major planning reforms; and**
 - **Advocate for transparency in planning decisions and the retention of community participation in the planning process, noting several changes are proposed to restrict third party appeal rights.**
- C. Advocate Council's response through the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Eastern Regional Group of Councils (ERG).**
- D. Note that Council is currently reviewing its Manningham Residential Strategy and Manningham Neighbourhood Character Study, due to be consulted in 2024.**
- E. Note that future briefings and reports will be presented to Council for consideration as more information is progressively released on any other announcements.**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On Wednesday 20 September 2023, the State Government released Victoria's Housing Statement (2024-2034). The Statement seeks to address housing supply and affordability over the next decade.
- 2.2 Victoria is expected to reach a population of 10.3 million by 2051 - this will require an additional 800,000 homes to be built over the next decade. Seventy per cent of the required new housing is to be delivered in established areas of Melbourne, including Manningham.
- 2.3 The Statement establishes a high-level vision and course of action to facilitate a significant increase in housing supply and improve affordability.
- 2.4 There was no consultation with councils or peak bodies such as the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) prior to the release.
- 2.5 Some elements of the following information (including statutory planning data) was previously tabled in a report to Council at the 25 July 2023 Council meeting (item 10.2: Housing Reform Update).

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

What this means for Council?

- 3.1 The Statement announces major reforms to the planning system. A number of these changes will have a direct impact on councils, including how decisions are made and who gets to participate in the process.
- 3.2 The two planning reform planning scheme amendments gazetted to date (VC242 and VC243) have modified the assessment of ResCode applications (codification), reduced Council's authority by removing planning permit triggers and making the Minister for Planning the responsible authority for certain large scale residential and mixed use developments that meet specified criteria.
- 3.3 Council is currently in the process of progressing a refresh of the *Manningham Residential Strategy (2012)* which will guide residential growth over the next 15 years. As part of the State Government's new Plan for Victoria strategy, specific local government housing targets may be introduced. It will be important for Council to keep across these changes and embed these new targets and future aspirations for residential development into the *Manningham Residential Strategy Refresh*.

Summary of the Reforms

- 3.4 The statement includes several reforms and initiatives which have been summarised below.

Development Facilitation Program

- 3.5 The Development Facilitation Program is a voluntary fast-track planning permit application process for 'priority' development proposals that meet certain criteria.
- 3.6 The program will be expanded to apply to a residential project, or a mixed-use development valued at a minimum of \$50 million in metropolitan Melbourne (or \$15 million in Regional Victoria), which includes at least 10% affordable housing dwellings. In this instance:
 - The Minister for Planning will be the responsible authority;
 - The Minister for Planning can waive or vary any height or setback requirement, minimum garden area requirement as well as reduce the affordable housing component requirement;
 - Public notification requirements will be retained but third party appeal rights will be removed;
 - Decisions will be made in 4 months.
- 3.7 Amendment VC242 was gazetted on Wednesday 20 September 2023 to give effect to the above changes. This amendment introduced two new particular provisions, being Clause 53.22 (Significant Economic Development) and Clause 53.23 (Significant Residential Development with Affordable Housing).

- 3.8 To provide context on where these provisions may be used in the Manningham context, the Church of Christ development proposal (674-680 Doncaster Road, 2 Short Street, and 14, 14A, 16 & 18 Hepburn Road, Doncaster) could have proceeded through the Development Facilitation Program pathway had these provisions been in place at the time of the application. Other larger development applications within Doncaster Hill could also proceed through this avenue.

Streamlining of the Planning Permit Approval Process

- 3.9 The planning reforms include a number of changes intended to reduce the number of planning applications assessed by Council and to streamline the permit approvals process. Such changes include:
- Removal of planning permit triggers for small second homes on the same lot (also known as granny flats or dependent persons units) which are less than 60 square metres in area (this change is not yet gazetted).
 - Removal of planning permit triggers for single dwellings on lots between 300 and 500 square metres that are not affected by an overlay control.
 - Fast tracking of single dwelling applications on a lot less than 300 square metres on a property not affected by an overlay, via the VicSmart process (10-day decision timeframe).
 - An expansion of the Future Homes program which provides ready-made “cookie cutter” architectural designs for multi-storey developments which can be purchased by developers and adapted to a site through a streamlined planning process.
- 3.10 Controls in relation to Future Homes apply to an application for an apartment development within the General Residential Zone (GRZ) using the “*licenced exemplar design approved under the Future Homes project overseen by the DTP*” (<https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/guides-and-resources/strategies-and-initiatives/future-homes>). In this instance:
- The Chief Executive Officer of the Manningham City Council is the responsible authority for considering and determining applications to which Clause 53.24 (Future Homes) applies, in accordance with Divisions 1, 1A, 2 and 3 of Part 4 of the Act;
 - Any part of the land must be within 800 metres of a metropolitan, major or neighbourhood activity centre in Metropolitan Melbourne measured from the boundary of the activity centre as shown or described in the planning scheme or if not specified, the boundary of the Activity Centre Zone, commercial zone or Mixed Use Zone;
 - Must not be within a Heritage Overlay or Neighbourhood Character Overlay;
 - The application is exempt from the car parking requirements of Clause 52.06 and bicycle parking of Clause 52.34;
 - An application is exempt from and is not required to meet the requirements of ResCode (Clauses 55 and 58);
 - The application must be assessed against twelve Development Standards contained within Clause 53.24-6 with the requirement that the development must meet all of the standards.

- Public notification requirements will be retained but third party appeal rights will be removed.

3.11 Amendment VC243 was gazetted on Friday 22 September to codify residential development standards, implement the Future Homes assessment process across Victoria, remove permit requirements for single dwellings on lots between 300 and 500 square metres and introduce VicSmart applications for single dwellings on lots less than 300 square metres.

Increased Housing in Activity Centres and Government Land

3.12 Ten activity centres across metropolitan Melbourne have been identified for increased housing choice through new planning controls that are intended to deliver 60,000 additional homes and incentivise affordable housing. None of these activity centres are within the Manningham, with the nearest centres being Ringwood, Preston and Camberwell Junction.

3.13 This reform proposes to deliver around 9,000 homes across 45 surplus government land sites in both metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria with at least 10 per cent of affordable homes to be built across these sites. As part of a commitment to urban renewal, it is proposed to demolish and replace 44 high rise public housing towers with an increase of social housing on these sites by 10 per cent by 2051.

Red Tape Commissioner Reforms

3.14 Legislation will be implemented to address the Red Tape Commissioner recommendations, as well as other reforms including giving VCAT the power to dismiss matters without prospects of success. Planning Panels will also be able to undertake hearings on the papers.

Short Stay Levy

3.15 From 2025 a 7.5 per cent levy will be applied to short stay accommodation platforms such as Airbnb and Stayz, with the revenue raised directed to Homes Victoria to help fund the maintenance and construction of social and affordable housing across the state. 25 per cent of funds are to be invested in regional Victoria.

Metropolitan Strategy and Planning Legislation

3.16 The current metropolitan strategy, *Plan Melbourne 2017-50*, will be replaced with '*Plan for Victoria*' and will encompass regional Victoria and potentially including housing targets for each local government area.

3.17 It is understood that the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* will be amended to address housing reform changes.

Concerns with the Statement and Reforms

3.18 The Statement was unilaterally introduced by State Government without any meaningful consultation with councils, the community and other key stakeholders. Given the significant implications the reforms and initiatives have for local government, this lack of consultation is disappointing.

- 3.19 Whilst the proactive nature of these reforms, to tackle a real and present problem with affordable housing, and issues with housing supply more broadly is acknowledged, the most significant issue with these reforms is considered to be the potential loss of local decision-making and community involvement. The Minister for Planning will have greater powers, deciding on a much wider range of projects, thus removing decision making power from local government. Furthermore, the Minister will have the ability to disregard key defined development parameters (such as heights and setbacks) that must go through a rigorous amendment process before they are introduced, when making decisions on some of the biggest and most significant development proposals in the State.
- 3.20 Although the planning approval reforms announced in the Statement may only impact small scale developments (i.e. single dwelling proposals) and large scale proposals that occur rarely in Manningham, it is the gradual paring back of decision making powers from council and the incremental loss of opportunities for community involvement in the planning process that is concerning.
- 3.21 Of particular concern is the Future Homes provision. Future Homes provides four sets of ready-made “adaptable” architectural designs which can be purchased by developers and adapted to a site through a streamlined planning process. It applies to land zoned General Residential Zone (GRZ) and within 800m of a Metropolitan, Major or Neighbourhood Activity Centre (excl HO or NCO). Provisions of this Clause prevail over any inconsistent provision and 3rd party appeal rights are removed (the CEO is Responsible authority).
- 3.22 The GRZ accounts for 74% of residential-zoned land across the City of Manningham, and the provision allows for the Future Homes developments to occur within 800m of the edge of Manningham’s 2 Major activity centres (Doncaster Hill and The Pines) and seven neighbourhood activity centres (Jacksons Court, Tunstall Square, Macedon Square, Donburn, Devon Plaza/East Doncaster, Bulleen Plaza and Templestowe Village). At this stage, its is unclear if and how the general development market will respond to this development objective.
- 3.23 The map provided as attachment 2, illustrates the extent to which the Future Homes provisions apply across the urban region of the City of Manningham. The provisions apply to General Residential Zone (GRZ) areas (highlighted in blue) within the 800m buffer of relevant activity centres.
- 3.24 It is critical that public transparency in the decision-making process is retained and local knowledge is valued, particularly when considering large scale developments that can transform an area. Advocacy to State Government in conjunction with other councils and industry groups is necessary to reinforce the importance of local knowledge and community involvement.
- 3.25 The precise implications of the Statement on Council’s Residential Strategy Refresh are not yet known however, regular liaison with officers at the Department of Transport and Planning will be critical to ensuring that work undertaken as part of the Residential Strategy remains relevant and can be translated into the residential controls within the Manningham Planning Scheme.

- 3.26 In conclusion, while the specific implications of these reforms for Manningham are still unclear, the potential for centralisation of planning powers and loss of local decision making and transparency is a cause for concern and should be raised in any advocacy actions undertaken by council and in partnership with other key stakeholders.

Manningham Council's Statutory Planning Performance

- 3.27 The Statement is critical of roadblocks in the development process, including Council decision making timeframes, which have been pinpointed as causing delays in housing construction. As reported in the *Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022-2026*, Manningham Council is well above the metropolitan average for planning decisions processed within statutory timeframes. The current economy and other external delays (beyond the issuing of a planning permit) appear to be the main factor in the slowing down of development.
- 3.28 Of note is the almost 120,000 dwellings that currently have planning approval but are yet to commence construction (across Victoria). Delays in actual housing construction often occurs post planning approval for a number of reasons including, market conditions, cost or availability of construction materials, labour shortages, and finance delays. It is noted that there are no actions mentioned in the Statement to address developer-led delays.
- 3.29 Manningham has a clear and effective strategy for managing residential growth which is aligned with the State Government policy which direct growth along our major transport routes and near shopping centres and other services. The number of private dwellings increased by 4,857 from 2017-2022 to 49,918 total dwellings in Manningham. This included an additional 1,259 separate dwellings and 2,290 new apartments. The greatest growth as a percentage was in new apartments, which represented 46% of additional dwellings being built. Council's policies for housing growth and change are facilitating the envisaged higher density outcomes. Doncaster accommodated the greatest percentage (37.3%) of the multi-dwelling approvals, followed by Doncaster East (25.1%).
- 3.30 Manningham facilitates appropriate development in accordance with State and local planning controls and is efficient in the management of planning applications.
- 3.31 In 2022/23, 92% of planning applications at Manningham were decided within 60 statutory days. This compares to 59.34% as the metropolitan Council average. For VicSmart planning applications, Council determined 98.72% of applications within the 10 business day timeframe. This compared to 79.22% as the metropolitan Council average (data source PPARS July 2023).
- 3.32 It is considered Manningham makes responsible and balanced decisions in accordance with the Manningham Planning Scheme. In 2022/23, only 22 appeals were lodged in response to Manningham decisions. A total of 806 decisions were made during this period indicating a high level of acceptance of decisions by applicants and objectors. This equates to only 2.72% of all decisions made challenged at VCAT (data source PPARS July 2023).
- 3.33 Only 2% of planning applications lodged are refused, illustrating the collaborative approach taken by Council planners to facilitate outcomes that can be supported (rather than simply refused).

- 3.34 Of the 21 appeals determined by VCAT in 2022/23, only 6 decisions were set aside (overturned). This affirms that Council is making decisions in accordance with the requirements of the Manningham Planning Scheme, noting that appeals to VCAT are often the most contentious and complex matters and are subject to the discretion of individual tribunal members.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

- 4.1 The Council Plan 2021-2024 includes Goal 1.2 which identifies the need to achieve a connected and inclusive community. Increasing the supply of housing and improving affordability will provide a more diverse housing supply.
- 4.2 The targeted delivery of 80,000 new homes each year with 70% to occur in established areas such as Manningham, will assist in stimulating economic investment and activity throughout the urban areas of Manningham.
- 4.3 It is noted that Council is due to consider adopting the *Manningham Affordable Housing Policy 2023*. Despite the recent initiatives announced by the State Government, this policy will continue to be of importance in any affordable housing negotiations in the absence of any State-wide statutory requirements for affordable housing provision.
- 4.4 Work is commencing in 2023/24 on a 'Residential Strategy' and 'Neighbourhood Character Study' refresh to review the existing residential framework and identify how Council currently manages residential growth across the municipality. This will include a Housing Demand and Capacity Analysis which is an overview of the existing demographic and housing profile for Manningham, as well as a population forecast up to 2036 and the associated demand for housing type and location. The analysis will also assess the capacity of Manningham to accommodate the projected population and housing growth, and across which areas. A key component of this work will include engaging with our community throughout the preparation of the Residential Strategy to ensure that Council produces an updated Residential Strategy that resolves policy gaps and conflicts, responds to the contemporary needs of our community, and continues to balance growth and change with the valued character of Manningham.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is important that Council has a strong position on housing need and provision within Manningham through its revised Residential Strategy and in its response to the Statement. These strategic responses will facilitate the provision of appropriately located and designed housing within the municipality that addresses the projected residential growth in Manningham.
- 5.2 This report also responds to a Councillor request raised at the 26 September 2023 Council meeting, to table a report detailing possible implications, concerns around appeal rights and potential impacts for the Manningham community.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State Government 2. Council 3. Broader Manningham community
Is engagement required?	<p>Yes. This report is in response to a State Government announcement and intended to assist the broader community in understanding the changes.</p> <p>Information about the Statement has been published on the State Government's website.</p>
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	Inform
Approach	<p>Council will write a letter to the State Government in response to the Statement. A copy of Council's letter will be available on Council's website.</p> <p>Council will provide information through a range of channels to direct the community to the State Government's website for further information.</p>

6.2 The Eastern Regional Group of Councils (ERG) is a regional group, with representation from six local eastern metropolitan authorities. The ERG works collaboratively on matters of common significance that benefit communities within the eastern metropolitan region.

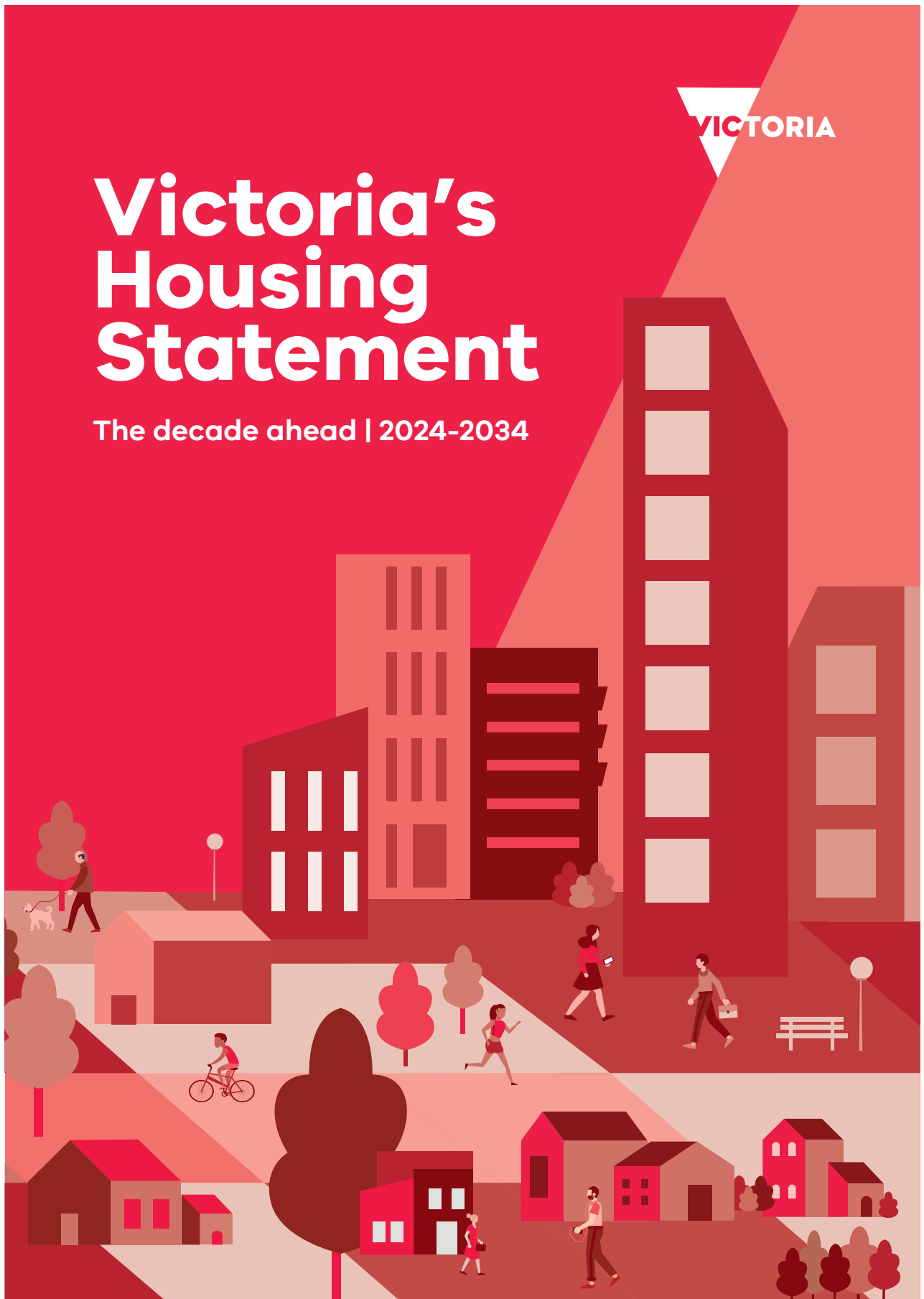
6.3 It is recommended that Manningham continues to work in collaboration with these ERG councils and with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) to advocate on any planning reform matters.

6.4 Timelines

In addition to the recently introduced amendments associated with the release of the Statement, it is expected that a number of further Amendments will be rolled out over the next 12 months by the State Government to implement these housing reforms. Council will be kept informed as the changes come to light.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



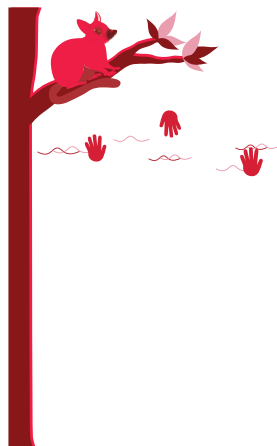
Victoria's Housing Statement

The decade ahead | 2024-2034

Acknowledgement of Country

We proudly acknowledge Victoria's Traditional Owners and their ongoing strength in practising the world's oldest living culture.

We recognise the diversity of Victoria's Traditional Owners in being distinctive communities with their own set of laws, customs and processes built upon tens of thousands of years of knowledge. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners' lands and waters on which we live and work and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present.



Authorised by the Victorian Government
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne 3002

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Accessibility

For an accessible version of this publication, visit vic.gov.au/housing-statement

Premier's Message

Nothing is more important than finding a home. For most of us, it's the biggest investment we'll ever make. Whether you're buying or building your first, upsizing as your family grows, renting near work or simply wanting to be closer to family and friends – you should be able to find a place to call home. And it should be a place of pride, comfort, and security.

But right now – and right across Australia – that's becoming harder than ever before. Housing affordability is at its lowest in decades, and it's taking so much longer to save for a deposit than it used to. Vacancy rates for rentals are at record lows, and prospective tenants are finding theirs is just one of dozens of applications. Key workers are struggling to find housing close to where they work – especially in the regions. And many families are getting priced out of the market altogether.

Admiring the problem will only make it worse. Without a reset – and without a more active planning system – we cannot seriously expect things to improve, more houses to be built, and more Victorians to enjoy the security of somewhere to live. The status quo is not an option. Unless we take bold and decisive action now, Victorians will be paying the price for generations to come.

That's why this *Housing Statement* puts forward an ambitious plan to tackle the root of the problem: housing supply. We're setting a bold target to build 800,000 homes in Victoria over the next decade.

It's a simple proposition: build more homes, and they'll be more affordable. But the Government can't fix the problem alone. We'll do it in an Affordability Partnership with industry. We'll foster the conditions needed to stimulate investment and build high-quality homes quickly in the places where Victorians want to live – and the private market will build more social and affordable housing for the Victorians who need it most.

At the same time, we'll give certainty to the sector and Victorians alike by building the infrastructure our growing state needs. Metro Tunnel is on the way, and it'll be here a year ahead of schedule. We've removed 72 level crossings to unclog Melbourne's roads and rail lines – and we're not slowing down. The Suburban Rail Loop will slash travel times and make it easier to get around our suburbs – all while taking 600,000 cars off the road.

We can do all of this and more, because we've invested in training for the skills our economy needs. We saved TAFE, re-opened and upgraded campuses, introduced Free TAFE and put 70 courses on the free list – including for in-demand jobs like construction. We've changed the once-in-a-lifetime limit, so Victorians can take multiple Free TAFE courses while they're continuing priority training pathways. We're also protecting TAFE funding, enshrining it in legislation.

All of that means we've got the workers our state needs to build the homes Victorians need – as well as the schools, hospitals, roads and rail to go with them. With that pipeline of workers, the building industry can also have confidence in its pipeline of work – and scale up as it needs to.

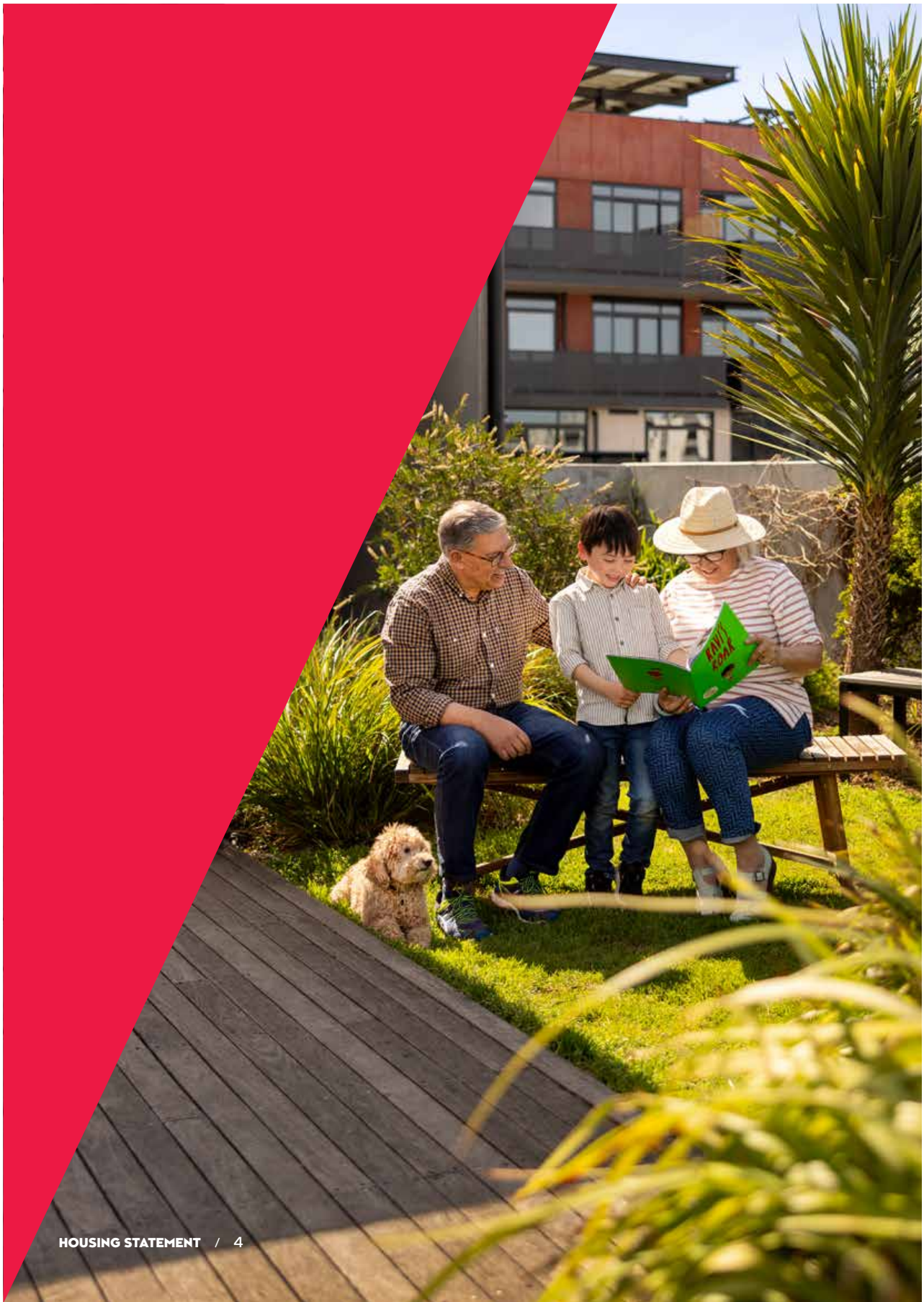
This *Housing Statement* is the first part of our journey: kicking off the critical work we can do now to build the homes, suburbs and communities Victorians can enjoy for generations to come. But we know there's more to do, and we'll get on with it – bringing Victorians with us. We'll keep talking to industry, including about the skilled workforces they need to meet demand. We'll keep consulting local communities. And we'll keep working to make sure every Victorian can realise the great Australian dream.

We'll build a better Victoria, together. Because Victorians deserve nothing less.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Andrews'.

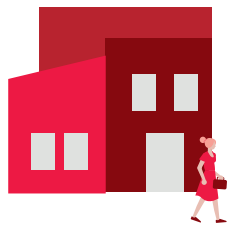
The Hon. Daniel Andrews MP
Premier of Victoria



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Introduction



HOUSING STATEMENT / 6

Introduction

Right across the nation, housing is one of the biggest challenges we face.

The latest data shows that in June this year, housing affordability in Australia crashed to its lowest in 30 years. Successive interest rate hikes and booming house prices mean it's harder than ever to service a mortgage.

Today, if you're a household earning a median income of \$105,000, you could likely only afford around 13 per cent of homes on the market – that's the lowest share since this data was first collected almost three decades ago. And the situation for low and middle income families is much worse. A household earning \$64,000 a year could now afford just 3 per cent of homes on the market.

At the same time, prospective renters at a home inspection will find they're just one of dozens of applicants. Demand for rentals is skyrocketing – and so is the price. Rents across the country are rising at the fastest rate in 15 years. Annual rent increases peaked at 10 per cent in late 2022 and early 2023. The last time rent went up this quickly was when peak annual rent growth hit 9.7 per cent during the global financial crisis.

The status quo isn't an option. If we don't act now, Victoria will end up falling short – by more than 25,000 homes each year over the next ten years. That means more house prices skyrocketing, more families priced out of the market, and more competition for rental properties.

It all comes back to supply. It's a simple reality: as a country, we need to do more to build enough houses for all of the people who need them. Because it's only when there are enough homes to go around that more people will be able to afford them.

As a state, we're going to get on with it – quickly. Victoria is the fastest growing state in the country: our population is expected to reach 10.3 million by 2051. Melbourne is set to become Australia's biggest city by the end of the decade, with the population estimated to grow by an additional 2.9 million people over the next 28 years.

If we're going to make sure the current problem doesn't get worse, we need to build 1.6 million homes by 2051 – that's around 57,000 homes a year. To ease the acute pressure people are currently facing, we need to deliver 2.24 million homes by 2051 – that's around 80,000 a year.

On current trends, we are expected to build around 540,000 homes over the next decade. The work we're doing in this *Housing Statement* will facilitate an extra 250,000 homes being built in Victoria over the next ten years – and it'll support 16,000 jobs.



We'll give planning the resources they need, making sure good decisions are made faster. We'll then reform Victoria's planning system so projects don't get stuck again. We'll build up and out – making sure Victorians can afford to live where they want, close to where they work, in thriving and sustainable communities. We'll strengthen protections for renters, because every Victorian deserves a comfortable home – whether you own it or not. We'll build more social and affordable housing for the Victorians who need it most. And because this statement forms the first step of our work to boost housing supply and affordability – not the last – we'll develop a long term plan to guide the way our state grows.

Most importantly, we'll bring Victorians along for the journey. We'll keep consulting with the community, industry and local councils to make sure every Victorian has the opportunity to shape our state for the generations who follow us. And we'll keep working with the Commonwealth Government and other states and territories to form a national solution to one of our nation's greatest economic challenges.

01

**Good decisions,
made faster**



HOUSING STATEMENT / 8

Good decisions, made faster



- Reforming Victoria’s planning system to boost housing supply in every corner of the state
- Clearing the backlog of planning permits waiting to be approved – and standardising rules to make sure good decisions are made faster
- Giving builders, buyers and renovators certainty about how long approvals will take – and a clear pathway to resolve issues quickly if those timeframes aren’t met

Victoria is growing. We’re the fastest growing state in Australia, with our population set to hit 10.3 million by 2051.

By the 2050s, Melbourne will be home to more than eight million people, and regional Victoria will be home to more than 2.3 million. But the fundamental truth is this: we’re not building enough homes for all of the people who will need them in years to come.

Right now, the system just isn’t working like it should – and decisions aren’t getting made fast enough. At a council level, there’s a backlog of around 1,400 planning permit applications for multi-unit housing that have been sitting with councils for more than six months waiting for a decision. Some 550 of those applications have been sitting with councils for more than a year.

Instead of decisions being made by councils, more and more planning disputes are taking longer and longer and ultimately ending up at unelected VCAT to resolve. That clogs up the system even more – and results in more delays for the people who genuinely need to use it.

All of that means we’re going backwards. Over the last year, the number of dwellings approved across the state fell by 26.1 per cent. Victorians deserve a planning system that works with them – not against them. It should be quick, efficient, and easy to navigate. It should be a clear, transparent and accountable system – because Victorians deserve to know who is planning our city and state.

And we’ve got a plan to do just that.

How we're helping Victorians build



Builders right across Australia are facing critical global economic challenges, including rising supply chain costs. This year, we announced a package of reforms to better protect Victorians building a home, while also giving our local building industry the certainty it needs.

Here's what we're doing:

- **Consumer focus:** We're putting consumers and homeowners at the centre of the system with clearer roles and responsibilities, greater accountability, access to insurance, and consumer support throughout the lifecycle of a build.
- **Strong regulators:** We're ensuring the people who oversee building projects have the powers they need to protect consumers and hold builders to account if they do the wrong thing.
- **Skilled builders:** We're making sure builders and contractors have the rights skills to build our homes, and that they operate with the transparency and professionalism Victorians expect.
- **Better approvals:** We're improving the approval process to make sure all buildings in Victoria are safe and built to last.

We've already started making important changes. We're creating a Building Monitor to represent consumers' interests, improving the approval process, and requiring more people involved in a building project to be registered. The Victorian Building Authority, with a new CEO, is getting on with its work to improve the performance of the regulator, drive improvements in the building system, and put consumers at the centre of all it does. We're also working on more changes to make it easier to get insurance, resolve disputes, and enforce the rules. We understand that building safe, durable homes is the priority.



What we'll do

Clear the backlog

Having applications sitting in the system doesn't get homes built. We'll begin the work to clear the backlog of 1,400 housing permit applications that have been stuck with councils for more than six months. We'll have a dedicated team that works with project proponents, local councils, and referral agencies to resolve issues delaying council decision-making – to avoid projects ending up in VCAT and to get homes built. Once we have a clearer picture of projects and if decisions keep lagging, then the Minister for Planning won't hesitate to call them in.

Make big decisions faster

We'll make sure big decisions are made faster by expanding Victoria's *Development Facilitation Program*. This will make the Minister for Planning the decision maker for significant residential developments that include affordable housing. We'll streamline the planning process for medium to high density residential developments that meet the set criteria: construction costs worth at least \$50 million in Melbourne or \$15 million in regional Victoria, and delivering at least 10 per cent affordable housing. This will include new build-to-rent projects. It'll mean around 13,200 additional homes will be brought to market that would otherwise be delayed – and it'll cut application timeframes for these types of projects from more than 12 months down to four.

Increase housing choice in activity centres

We'll introduce clear planning controls to deliver an additional 60,000 homes around an initial 10 activity centres across Melbourne: Broadmeadows, Camberwell Junction, Chadstone, Epping, Frankston, Moorabbin, Niddrie (Keilor Road), North Essendon, Preston (High Street) and Ringwood. Activity centre plans will guide investment in the things a growing suburb needs like community facilities, public spaces and parks. The program will also consider the best way to incentivise more affordable housing.

Making it easier to build a small second home

Small second homes on the same lot – also known as granny flats or dwelling garden units – have become more and more popular. They can give families the space to grow together, provide a critical second income, or give kids somewhere to stay when they visit for the weekend. But for many, the burden of getting a planning approval has put building a second small home in the too hard basket. We'll make it easier to build a second small home on your property. Dwelling garden units won't require a planning permit if they're less than 60 square metres. And we'll also introduce more permit exemptions for single dwellings for things like extensions to sheds and carports.





What we'll do

Faster permits and planning certainty

We'll streamline assessment pathways with a range of new *Deemed to Comply* residential standards for different types of homes. Council planners will be able to quickly approve permits for houses that meet the residential standards – like how much space homes take up on a block, or how much storage a home has – meaning councils will only assess aspects of a permit that don't comply with those standards.

We'll expand the *Future Homes* program to encourage more new builds. *Future Homes* provides four sets of ready-made architectural designs which can be purchased by developers and adapted to a site through a streamlined planning process. We'll create more high-quality designs for 4 and 5 storey developments, and we'll expand the areas where they can be used.

We'll also make changes to the types of homes that require planning permits. Single dwellings on lots bigger than 300 square metres, and not covered by an overlay, will no longer require a planning permit. Single dwellings on lots smaller than 300 square metres, where an overlay doesn't exist, will be ticked off within 10 days.

Red Tape Commissioner reforms

We'll introduce legislative reforms to strengthen our planning system. The legislation will implement Red Tape Commissioner recommendations, as well as other reforms like giving VCAT the power to dismiss matters without a prospect of success and imposing time limits on submissions. Planning Panels will also be able to undertake hearings on the papers and join parties.

Convert commercial buildings to residential

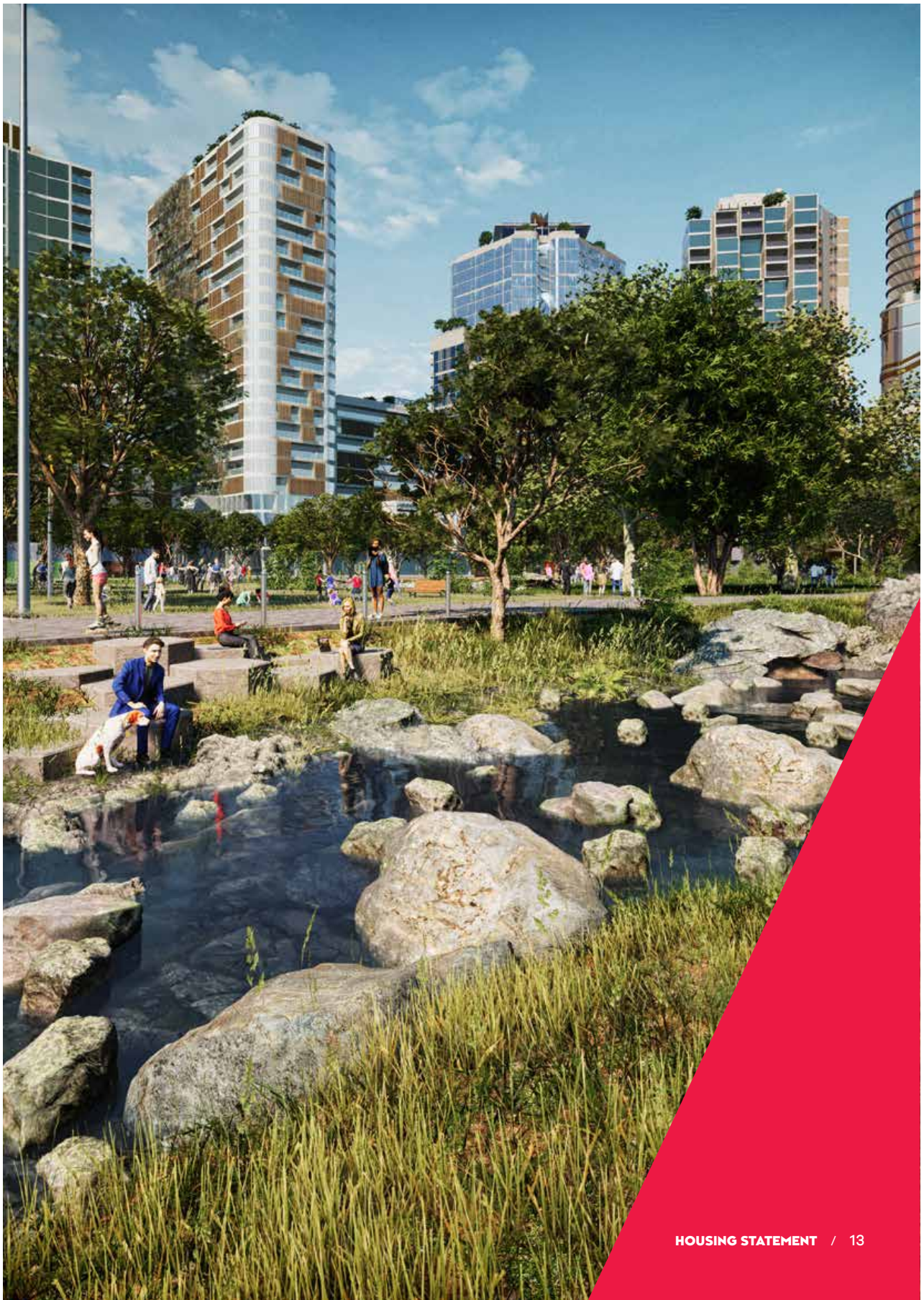
The Property Council of Australia (PCA) and the City of Melbourne have identified close to 80 commercial office buildings that are currently under-used because of changing work patterns and demand for flexible floor space increasing. We'll work with the PCA and the City to consider opportunities to facilitate the conversion of these offices into around 10,000-12,000 apartments and mixed-use properties.

Provide quicker water connections

As our towns and cities grow, utility connections – like water and electricity – need to happen quickly. We'll work to speed up water connections in greenfield areas to get Victorians into their new homes faster. We'll revise our statement of expectations to water corporations, strengthening the need to engage with developers and local councils early and regularly through the permit process – and setting clear timelines these water corporations need to meet to connect new communities and developments to the essential services they rely on.

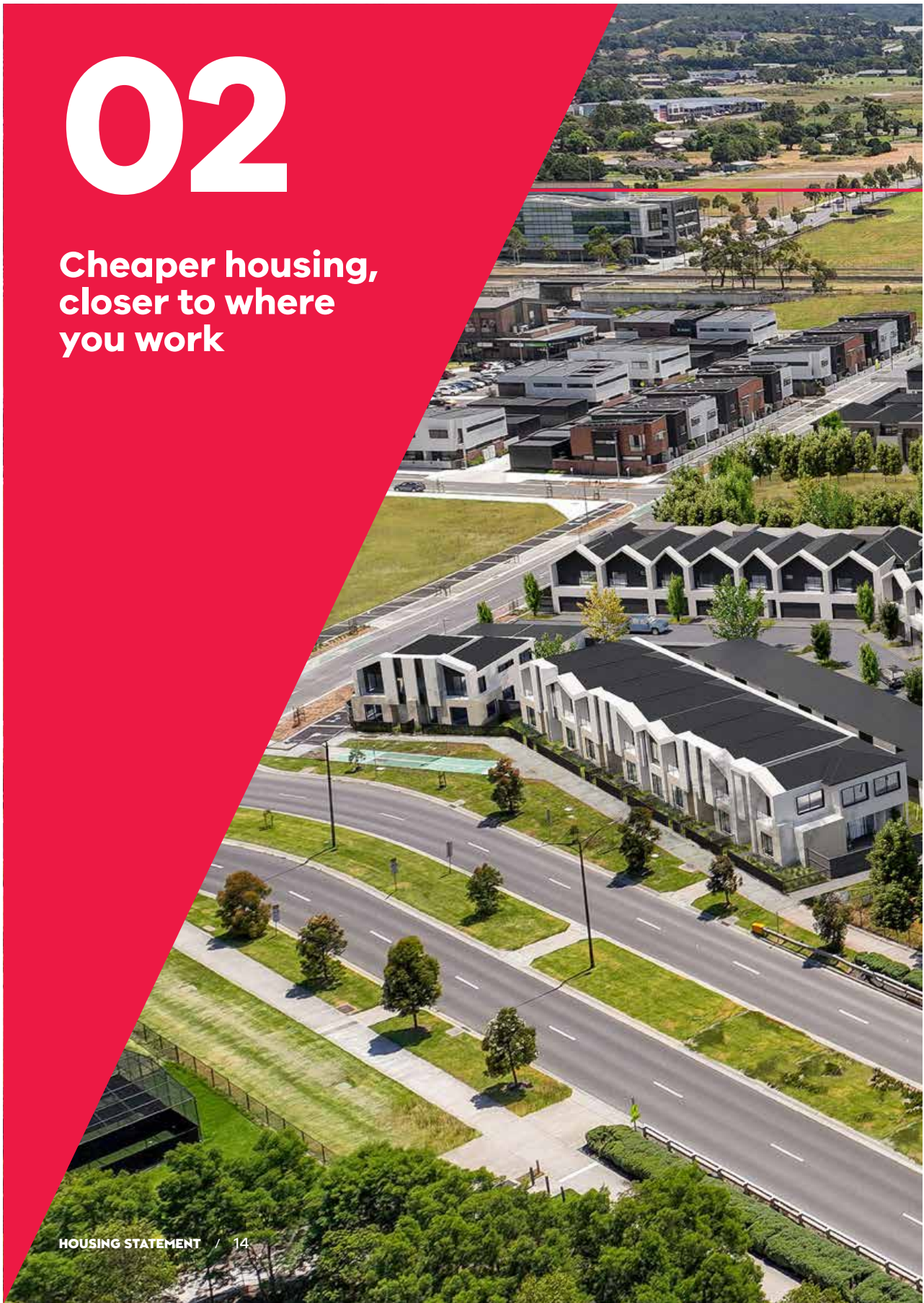
More resources to support a faster, fairer planning system

To give industry greater certainty, the Department of Transport and Planning will bolster its resources in the coming months – including by bringing on 90 new planners – to help with a range of priorities like clearing the backlog, making good decisions faster and increasing housing choice in activity centres.



02

**Cheaper housing,
closer to where
you work**



HOUSING STATEMENT / 14



Cheaper housing, closer to where you work

- Unlocking new spaces to build – including across established suburbs and government land – to boost supply and stop urban sprawl
- Building more homes closer to where people have the transport, roads, hospitals and schools they need
- Delivering vital community infrastructure – like footpaths and parks – faster

The more a city sprawls, the less liveable it becomes for the people who call it home.

Your daily commute gets longer. It's harder to drop the kids off at school and get to work on time. Traffic skyrockets. And so does pollution.

Most importantly, the cost of living – and of finding somewhere to live – keeps going up. At the same time, the chances of living close to your job and the services you rely on keeps going down.

The solution isn't to keep pushing people further out by building suburb after suburb on the fringes of town. We know infrastructure investment to keep pace with urban sprawl is four times higher than what's required to support growth in suburban areas where there's already good access to services, transport and green spaces. And we can't let our state get stuck in an endless, unsustainable cycle of playing catch up by trying to keep pace with urban sprawl at the fringes.

We need to create more housing, with the best design standards, where people want to live. And that means going up **and** out – not just out. By unlocking new spaces to build homes across established suburbs, we'll stop urban sprawl and boost housing supply in the places Victorians want to be – close to where they work, or send their kids to school. And by delivering vital community infrastructure in those suburbs, we'll make sure they stay places where Victorians want to live.

Building the transport network Victoria needs to move generations



Suburban Rail Loop

- SRL East will create up to **8,000 direct jobs**
- SRL will support up to **24,000 jobs** across Victoria
- Suburban Rail Loop will take **600,000 cars off the road**
- Improve travel times for at least **4 out of 5** Victorians, whether they drive or commute by public transport
- Tunnel boring machines will launch in **2026**
- First trains running in **2035**
- **6 SRL East precincts:** Cheltenham, Clayton, Monash, Glen Waverley, Burwood and Box Hill
- Precincts discussion paper out now

Level Crossing Removals

- **72** dangerous and congested level crossings already gone
- Will remove **110 by 2030**
- LXR projects have created more than **5,500 jobs** across the program to date
- More than **84 million hours** have been worked on LXR projects
- By **2030**, the Frankston, Cranbourne, Pakenham, Lilydale, Sunbury and Werribee lines will all be level crossing free

Metro Tunnel

- Almost **7,000 jobs** created from the Metro Tunnel Project
- 800 apprentices, trainees and cadets have worked on or are currently working on the project
- Complete in **2025** – a year ahead of schedule
- **9km** twin tunnels and **five** new stations



Our priority precincts – Arden, Docklands, Fishermans Bend, Footscray, National Employment and Innovation Clusters, Parkville, Sunshine, Richmond to Flinders Street corridor and Precincts and suburbs are expected to deliver around 150,000 homes – with opportunity for more homes to be built as the precinct grows over time.



For illustrative purposes, subject to further detailed technical investigations and consultations



What we'll do

Support institutional investment

Institutional investors – larger entities like superannuation funds or insurance companies – can play a critical role in housing supply. These entities have already shown their appetite to invest in long-term, stable rental properties and build-to-sell developments. We'll establish an *Institutional Investment Framework*, creating a dedicated planning pathway and one-stop shop for these investors – attracting more investment at scale in social, affordable, key worker and market homes.

Activate the Arden Precinct

A landmark precinct in central Melbourne, Arden will be a globally recognised destination for bio-medical and health sciences. Arden is an urban renewal precinct set to transform into a thriving community and a new home for Melbourne's growing technology, life science, health and education sectors. Just two kilometres from the centre of Melbourne's CBD, Arden is a central and connected precinct which will be home to up to 34,000 jobs and around 20,000 people by 2051.

We'll commence a market search for proposals to activate the Arden Precinct ahead of the Arden Metro Tunnel train station opening earlier in 2025. Our intention is to partner with the private sector, industry and investors to start delivering the Arden precinct – with quality and affordable housing to support diverse residents and key workers, including affordable build to rent, build to sell, shared equity and key worker housing.

Boost the Victorian Homebuyer Fund

Saving for a deposit is taking longer, and getting harder. In the early 2000s, it took a typical Victorian household 3.6 years to save a deposit for a house. Today, it takes an average of 6.2 years. We'll release another \$500 million from the *Victorian Homebuyer Fund*, putting home ownership within reach for more Victorians. This additional funding will support around 3,000 more Victorians into a home through a shared equity model.

The Fund provides eligible participants with a contribution of up to 25 per cent of the purchase price of the home, with participants contributing a minimum of 5 per cent of the purchase price. Since the Fund started in October 2021, we've supported 4,251 settlements with \$1.07 billion – including many Victorians who have found it particularly tough to get into the housing market. From the existing program, half of participants are women, more than half are single people, and two-thirds are first home buyers.

Introduce tougher penalties for real estate agents and sellers who break the law

Victoria has zero tolerance for real estate agents and sellers who flout the rules. We'll crack down on dodgy real estate agents by introducing tougher penalties for those who break the law, including taking commissions away from agents who underquote on properties. It'll mean more protections for Victorians looking for a home, and the majority of agents who do the right thing won't be unfairly disadvantaged by those who break the law to get ahead.

What is underquoting?



This is underquoting

- A property is advertised at \$500,000-550,000.
- After a week the online advertised price is reduced to \$450,000-490,000.
- The Statement of Information shows comparable properties in the \$600,000 range and the median price for the suburb is \$620,000.
- The property sells at auction for \$650,000 with a single bidder.
- This is underquoting as the property should have been advertised within the range of the comparable properties.
- The change in the advertised price is deliberate and triggers the search parameters of people in the sub-\$500K budget range.
- This unlawful behaviour falsely inflates the popularity or attendance numbers of the auction, which puts more pressure (false competition) on the potential bidders.
- It also wastes the time of people who are tricked into thinking a home may be within their budget.

This is not

- A property is advertised at \$500,000-550,000, which is reasonably based on the suburb's median price and the sale price of three comparable homes in the same area.
- The auction day is very popular, with multiple bidders. There are no vendor bids placed and the auctioneer declares it is 'On The Market' within the advertised range.
- The competitive bidding causes the property to sell for \$650,000.
- The bid sheet is retained in the Agent's folder for this property, and the auction was live streamed on the internet.
- Even though the sales figure was high, the auction and advertising campaign were conducted in a lawful and transparent way.



What we'll do

Unlock surplus government land

We've heard from institutional investors and the private sector that they need more clarity and certainty when it comes to under-used and surplus government land, in order to guide their investments. We'll unlock and rezone surplus government land to deliver around 9,000 homes across 45 sites in both metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. As part of this work, we'll set a target of at least 10 per cent of affordable homes to be built across these sites.

Strengthen design standards to ensure high quality builds

With more and more Victorians choosing to live in apartments, they should be the best they can be – with liveability and wellbeing front and centre. We've already strengthened Victoria's apartment design standards, with previous reforms improving the internal and external design of new builds. But we know there's more to do, so we'll strengthen the existing standards to make sure they deliver the variety of homes Victorians want into the future. Our clear new standards will ensure appealing, comfortable, sustainable, and fit-for-purpose homes.

Introduce a *Short Stay Levy*

While short stay accommodation – like Airbnb or Stayz – has become a popular feature of Victoria's visitor economy, it's also reduced the ability for many properties to be used for longer term accommodation. In Victoria, there are more than 36,000 short stay accommodation places – with almost half of these in regional Victoria. More than 29,000 of those places are entire homes. These are places that cannot be used for longer-term accommodation or rented out on fixed term agreements – so it makes sense that they should provide some benefit toward the places that can.

We'll introduce a levy on short stay accommodation platforms. The *Short Stay Levy* will be set at 7.5 per cent of the short-stay accommodation platforms' revenue. And the revenue raised from the levy will go to Homes Victoria, supporting their work building and maintaining social and affordable housing across the state, with 25 per cent of funds to be invested in regional Victoria. This also means other local council charges on short stay accommodation will be removed.

Give growing communities the local infrastructure they need

We'll bring forward a \$400 million package of works along growth corridors – providing the basic infrastructure that will make a difference on the ground to new and growing communities. Drawing from the *Growth Areas Public Transport Fund* and *Building New Communities Fund*, we'll look at priority projects where they're needed most for things like toilets, shelter and lighting upgrades at bus stops and train stations, footpaths and cycling paths.

Keep making precincts about people and places

The Department of Transport and Planning is leading the whole-of-government delivery and coordination of Priority Precincts such as Arden, Docklands, Fishermans Bend, Footscray, East Werribee, Parkville and Sunshine.

We want to create places where people have vibrant, liveable and sustainable communities, affordable housing and quality jobs which help to grow Victoria's economy. Our priority precincts will capitalise on the benefits of major infrastructure investments to support thriving communities and encourage further investment.

Priority planning projects for growing suburbs

We know we need to increase opportunities for homes in Melbourne’s inner and middle suburbs. At the same time, a home in our newest suburbs and regional cities will continue to be an attractive choice for many households. Growth areas will remain important – and we’ll need to support that growth in our suburbs while building the transport and infrastructure to connect people to jobs and services. The Victorian Planning Authority will continue preparing Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) for new housing and jobs in Melbourne and regional Victoria. Further work across 21 priority projects will continue to be developed to deliver more than 60,000 homes and 60,000 jobs. They’ll deliver a sustainable supply of greenfield land, and more jobs close to home, while we plan for more housing choice in all parts of Victoria.

Regional Victoria

- Wonthaggi PSP
- Ballarat Infrastructure Growth Alignment Framework
- Shepparton South East PSP
- Corio Norlane Urban Renewal
- Bannockburn South East PSP
- East of Aberline PSP
- Ballarat North PSP

Industrial Land

- Officer South (Employment) PSP
- Greater Avalon (Employment) PSP
- Casey Fields South (Employment) PSP
- Croskell (Employment) PSP
- Merrifield North (due diligence only)
- Mambourn East (due diligence only)
- Werribee Junction (due diligence only)

Established Melbourne

- Braybrook Regeneration Project

Melbourne New Communities

- Beveridge North West PSP
- Gunns Gully Road Interchange GAIC WIK
- Greenvale North (Part 2) PSP
- Devon Meadows PSP
- Melton East PSP
- Clyde South (due diligence only)



425,600 new homes for regional Victoria



As part of our work to build the 2.24 million homes Victoria will need by 2051, we're setting a regional target to build 425,600 of those homes across our regions.

Regional Housing Fund

We're providing a new **\$1 billion Regional Housing Fund** to deliver more than 1,300 new homes across regional Victoria. The new homes will include a mix of social and affordable housing – and we'll work with councils, regional partnerships and local communities to determine the right mix of stock and locations for each region.

Regional Worker Accommodation Fund

We're investing **\$150 million** in a **Regional Worker Accommodation Fund** to provide new housing options for regional communities where key workers are struggling to find affordable places to live. The package will make regional workers' jobs more secure and make it easier for businesses to find and keep staff. We'll consult regional employers, workers, housing providers and councils on the program design to ensure it meets the needs of the local communities.

Big Housing Build

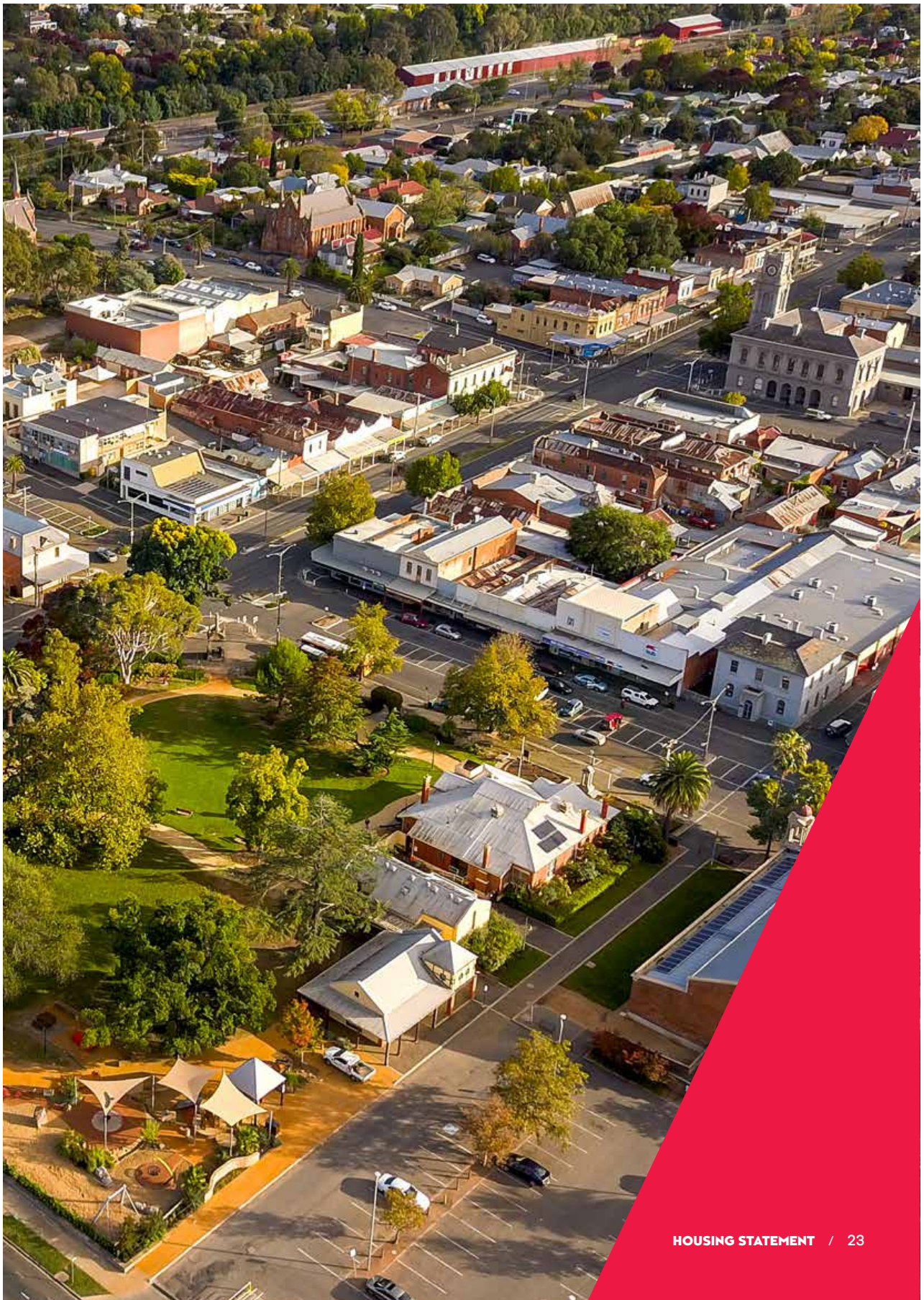
Our \$5.3 billion **Big Housing Build** is Australia's biggest ever investment in public and community housing. It's delivering more than 12,000 social and affordable homes across Victoria – including more than 9,300 social homes. As part of the Big Housing Build, **25 per cent of these homes will be delivered in regional Victoria – a \$1.25 billion investment in regional housing.**

Development Facilitation Program

By expanding Victoria's Development Facilitation Program, we'll boost critical housing supply in regional Victoria. We'll **streamline the planning process** for significant regional housing developments which are worth at least **\$15 million and deliver at least 10 per cent affordable housing**, including build-to-rent projects.

Short Stay Levy

The revenue raised following the introduction of a *Short Stay Levy* will go to Homes Victoria, supporting their work building and maintaining social and affordable housing across the state. To make sure our regions get their fair share, **25 per cent of funds from the Short Stay Levy will be invested in regional Victoria.**



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03

Protecting renters' rights



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Protecting renters' rights

- Closing loopholes that drive up the cost of living for renters
- Giving renters more certainty and security over their leases, living standards and finances
- Resolving tenancy disputes faster and keeping them out of VCAT

Across Victoria, more people are renting than ever before, and for longer.

Over the past 10 years, the number of rental properties in our state has increased by more than 32 per cent. In the early 2000s, it took a typical Victorian household 3.6 years to save a deposit for a house. Today, it takes an average of 6.2 years.

Demand for rental properties is skyrocketing. These days, the reality for most people trying to land a rental is that they find they're just one of dozens of applicants at an inspection. And when things are scarce, they always cost more. You can see that reflected in rising rents across the state: in the last five years, typical rents have gone up by 21 per cent in Melbourne and 40 per cent in regional Victoria.

We know the best thing we can do to make rental properties more affordable for more Victorians is build more of them. That's why the work this *Housing Statement* does to boost supply is critical for renters – because it's only when housing is abundant that it'll also be affordable. In other words, it's only by supplying more rental properties – not taking them off the market – that we'll be able to make renting where you want to live more affordable, for more people. In total, we anticipate 230,000 additional rental properties will be added to the Victorian market over the next ten years – that includes 70,000 facilitated by the measures outlined in the Housing Statement.

At the same time, everyone deserves the chance to have a safe, secure and affordable home – whether you own it or not. Repairs should be done properly, and quickly. Options for resolving disputes should be easy to access, quick and fair, and not too costly. Real estate agents and property managers should be held to professional standards, and renters should be taken seriously by them. Tenants should have certainty over their leases, and support with their finances. And applying for a rental property should be an easy, fast and fair process.

Victoria already has some of the strongest rental protections in the country. The Andrews Labor Government has worked hard to expand and protect renters' rights, with more than 130 reforms already in place. We've introduced minimum standards, so every renter has the right to the basics that matter: a working heater, hot and cold water, and lockable doors and windows. We've made it easier to do the little things that make a house a home – like hanging a picture, or owning a pet. And we've given renters more certainty with long term leases, fairer bonds and faster refunds, and annual rent increases – rather than unlimited ones.

But when it comes to protecting renters' rights, there's always more work to do to make sure tenants get a fairer deal.

Why rent control doesn't work long term



Rent control is a policy that, on the surface, appears to address the issue of affordable housing by limiting the amount landlords can charge for rent. But despite its intentions, international examples have shown rent control often worsens the housing crisis by discouraging investment in housing, reducing the quality of rentals and distorting the housing market.

Modern rent controls as we know them – also known as rent caps – came about during World War II as a way to try and deal with war-related migration and skyrocketing inflation. Since then, cities and states across the world have debated, introduced, amended and repealed different types of rent control measures. And the evidence from overseas paints a bleak picture for renters, especially as time goes on.

In San Francisco – a city known for its expensive housing – studies from Stanford University economists have shown that over time, rent control ultimately took crucial housing stock out of the market and drove up rents across the city. Landlords of rent-controlled properties started selling to owner-occupiers or moving their investments to other types of real estate, like condominiums, or newer, redeveloped buildings without rent caps.

In the long run, that did two things: it lowered the overall supply of rental housing by around 15 per cent, and it shifted San Francisco's properties towards more expensive ones catering to people on higher incomes. Rent control is estimated to have raised rents in San Francisco by 5.1 per cent – effectively kicking the problem down the road for the city's future renters. In Stockholm, Sweden, where strict rent controls have been in place for decades, reports of long queues for scarce housing aren't uncommon.

Rent controls in New York City tell another story on top of reduced housing supply. Evidence has shown that rent controls have had a significant impact on the quality of rental housing stock in New York. Landlords, unable to charge market rent to cover maintenance and repair costs, may defer necessary upkeep, resulting in deteriorating living conditions for tenants. Rent controlled homes in Manhattan have been found to be 9 per cent more likely to be deteriorating or dilapidated.

In contrast, studies examining rent control repeal in Massachusetts show that towns in the Boston metropolitan area experienced increases in both rental supply and housing maintenance after rent control was abolished.

We know that when things are scarce, they always cost more. This year, rental vacancy rates in Melbourne hit an historic low of just 0.8 per cent. In June, the total number of rental listings dropped by nearly 23 per cent in comparison to the same time last year. At the same time, median rent for a house hit a record high of \$520 per week. It's clear the cost of renting keeps going up because we don't have enough rental properties for all of the people who need them.

If we take more rental properties off the market – at a time when we already don't have enough to go around – the pressure on Victorian renters will get much worse in the long run. And inevitably, that's what a government-imposed cap on rental prices would do. Without a national scheme, rent caps in Victoria would discourage investment in rental housing stock – providing a powerful incentive for investors to take their money out of real estate here and put it elsewhere. When those investment properties are sold, there's no guarantee that they'll remain rentals – and the experience overseas shows they often don't.

At the end of the day, it comes down to this simple proposition: as long as rental supply is low, rental prices will stay high. And Victorian renters deserve a better deal than that.



What we'll do

Restrict rent increases between successive fixed-term rental agreements

We'll restrict rent increases between successive fixed-term leases, cracking down on an emerging trend which has seen some landlords evict tenants at the end of their first fixed-term lease in order to raise the rent substantially when re-listing the rental property. If agents or landlords are issuing a new lease after they've evicted previous tenants on their first fixed-term one, they'll have to offer the property at the same rent for at least 12 months. It'll reduce the incentive for landlords to churn through renters by evicting them, and give renters more certainty over their living arrangements.

Ban all types of rental bidding

In 2021, we made it illegal for real estate agents or landlords to solicit or encourage higher offers than the advertised price of a rental property. But a tight rental market with vacancy rates at record lows has put an incredible amount of pressure on prospective tenants. More and more, we're seeing people make their own unsolicited bids – either to pay more weekly rent or to pay more than four weeks in advance – to try and give their applications a competitive edge. We'll level the playing field for renters by closing this loophole and banning all types of rental bidding for good. We'll make it an offence to accept bids, and introduce tougher penalties for agents and landlords who break the law.

Establish *Rental Dispute Resolution Victoria*

With more people in Victoria renting than ever before, it's inevitable that the number of rental disputes has increased, too. Often, a rental dispute can be just one of a range of cost of living pressures a renter could be facing. And when that happens, a quick resolution can make a world of difference. But you shouldn't have to end up at VCAT to have simple repairs done, or to get the money you're owed. VCAT should be a last resort for tenants and landlords, not the first stop.

We'll establish *Rental Dispute Resolution Victoria*, providing a one-stop shop for renters, agents and landlords to resolve tenancy disputes over rent, damages, repairs and bonds. It'll have a clear pathway to settle issues in a faster, fairer and cheaper way – freeing up VCAT for more serious or complicated matters.





What we'll do

Introduce a portable rental bond scheme

Anyone who's ever moved house knows costs can add up, quickly. And when you're between homes, every dollar counts. We'll build a portable rental bond scheme, where tenants can carry their rental bond from one property straight over to another – rather than having to pay a new bond each time. It'll ease the financial burden on tenants, who won't have to fork out a substantial amount of money every time they move – or wait until they've got their old bond back to pay their new one. It'll streamline the administrative process for agents and property managers, who handle dozens of rentals at any one time. And it'll create a more efficient rental market – which is good news for both renters and landlords.

Extend notice of rent increase and notice to vacate periods to 90 days

Rent increases and eviction notices can be incredibly distressing. Some renters facing increases may not be able to afford to stay where they are, and be forced to change their housing situation altogether. Evicted renters have to quickly figure out their next steps – including finding a new place to live, budgeting, packing, and coordinating logistics – all while dealing with the emotional stress of their changing situation. For families with children, eviction notices can be particularly traumatic. We'll give renters more certainty, and ease the stress evicted renters face, by extending notice of rent increases and notice to vacate periods to 90 days.

Introduce mandatory training and licensing for real estate agents, property managers owners corporation managers and conveyancers

Every real estate transaction involves significant financial investments and legal complexities, and renters often rely on agents to provide accurate information and advice. We'll introduce mandatory continuing professional development for real estate industry professionals – including agents, property managers, conveyancers and owners corporation managers. It'll mean better skills for real estate workers, encourage ethical conduct across the industry, and give renters the peace of mind they deserve.

Make rental applications easier and protect renters' personal information

Applying for a rental property should be a fast, fair, straightforward process. But the reality is many renters – who usually apply for more than one property at a time – can face a field of different demands for information, records or documents just so they can secure a place to live. We'll standardise rental applications, saving renters time and giving them a clear idea of what they can expect to be asked for during the application process. We'll also limit the kind of information agents or landlords can keep on file, and how long they can keep it for, better protecting renters' privacy and data.

Deliver a *Rental Stress Support Package*

Right now, around five per cent of Victorian households are facing serious renting stress – meaning they're at risk of being evicted because they can't afford to pay their rent. There are a range of organisations who work tirelessly to prevent homelessness and help renters stay in their homes, providing legal assistance, financial information and advice, and advocacy services. We'll back their critical work for Victorians in need by delivering a \$2 million *Rental Stress Support Package* through the Victorian Property Fund. The package will help address the high demand for rental assistance these organisations are seeing, while we work to boost social, affordable and market housing supply across the state.



04

More social housing



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More social housing

- Building up to 769 homes through the Commonwealth's *Social Housing Accelerator* – on top of 12,000 homes in the pipeline as part of our *Big Housing Build* and more than 4,000 social housing homes through other programs
- Retiring our ageing high-rise towers across Melbourne, to provide homes that are modern, comfortable and energy efficient
- Rapidly accelerating the rollout of social and affordable homes across Victoria

Every Victorian deserves a roof over their head – but for most, it means so much more than that.

It gives you a base to hold down a job, or to get a good education. It's also somewhere you can start a family – or keep your family safe.

Just like with the private housing market, the supply of social and affordable homes needs to keep up demand. As of June 2023, there are around 55,800 new applicants who have expressed interest in social housing in Victoria.

Our *Big Housing Build* is Australia's biggest ever investment in public and community housing. We're building more than 12,000 new homes throughout metro and regional Victoria. They'll be modern, energy efficient homes – cooler in summer and warmer in winter – saving tenants money on their power bills. They'll be delivered in partnership with local communities, for local communities. Innovative new projects like our ground lease model will unlock places to build upon, keeping residents in the communities they know and love. And in addition to the *Big Housing Build*, we'll provide a further 4,000 new, energy efficient social housing homes, through programs like the *Public Housing Renewal Program*.

On top of the thousands of new homes we're building across the state, we're upgrading and revitalising the ones that are already standing – so the people who live there can have the comfortable homes they deserve. We'll keep investing to upgrade more than 2,000 public housing homes per year.

We know it's getting harder to find a house in regional Victoria, and demand for social and affordable housing in the regions is growing. That's why, on top of the *Big Housing Build*, we're investing \$1 billion in a *Regional Housing Fund* to deliver more than 1300 new homes across regional Victoria. The new homes will include a mix of social and affordable housing – and we'll work with councils, regional partnerships and local communities to determine the right mix of stock and locations for each region.

We're also investing \$150 million in a *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* to provide new housing options for regional communities where key workers are struggling to find affordable places to live. It's a critical investment that'll make their jobs more secure, and make it easier for local businesses to find and keep staff.

Victoria has the biggest social and affordable housing agenda of all of Australia's states and territories – and we've got the pipeline of skilled workers we need to build these homes thanks to our nation-leading investments in TAFE. But we know that when it comes to the dignity and security of a home for every Victorian, there's always more to do – and we'll get on with it.

This will change lives. It's not just an investment in bricks and mortar – it's an investment in Victorians for years to come.



Our progress on the *Big Housing Build*



Our \$5.3 billion *Big Housing Build* is delivering more than 12,000 social and affordable homes across metropolitan and regional Victoria – including more than 9,300 social homes.

- 820 construction sites across Victoria
- 10,000 jobs a year – with ten percent of work on large sites done through apprentices, cadets and trainees
- 7,600 homes are in planning or construction
- 2,800 households have either moved in or are getting ready to move in
- The BHB will deliver a ten percent increase in social housing dwellings in four years and construct new affordable rental homes across the state
- Ten percent of all dwellings will support Aboriginal housing needs
- 1,000 homes will support victim survivors of family violence
- 2,000 supported homes will be provided for people experiencing mental illness
- All homes will meet 7-star NatHERS efficiency standards
- Twenty five percent of the investment will be in regional Victoria
- The BHB makes up roughly 7 per cent of the residential construction pipeline in Victoria
- As at May 2023, more than \$1 billion has been invested across regional Victoria
- As at May 2023, the BHB has generated more than 28,000 jobs from development work that has been completed (8,758) or is underway (20,013)

What is the Ground Lease Model?



Our Ground Lease Model is the first of its kind for Victoria. Through a partnerships approach, public land is leased from Homes Victoria to a project group who finance, design and construct new housing.

Community housing providers will manage and maintain the sites for 40 years, before handing the land, and all dwellings, back to Homes Victoria. Under this model, the land is retained by the Victorian Government.

Ground lease sites will deliver social, affordable, specialist disability and market rental homes that are welcoming, secure and meet modern design and accessibility standards. Importantly, the sites will feature spaces to support diverse, inclusive communities in well-located areas where people want to live – not isolated concrete enclaves. These sites will be home to community rooms, artists' studios, social enterprise tenancies, active open spaces, communal gardens and pocket parks.

Currently, there are two Ground Lease Model project stages underway which will deliver 2,500 new homes and around 9,000 jobs. The first stage includes three sites due for completion in early 2024 and includes locations at Bangs Street in Prahran, New Street in Brighton and Victoria Street in Flemington. Planning for the second Ground Lease Model stage is underway, and will include locations at Bluff Road in Hampton East, Barak Beacon in Port Melbourne, Horace Petty in South Yarra and Essex Street in Prahran.



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What we'll do

Launch Australia's biggest ever urban renewal project

Melbourne's high-rise public housing towers were built after World War II, between the 1950s and 1970s. They're reaching the end of their useful lives, and no longer fit for modern living. Constructed at a time that pre-dates current building codes, the towers no longer meet the minimum standards Victorians expect – including many of Victoria's Better Apartment Design Standards. The towers fail against noise, sustainability, waste and recycling, bedroom area dimensions, room depth, ventilation, private open space, accessibility and minimum amenity standards. Substantial investment would be needed to retrofit the towers. But even then, their design means that many tower homes would never be able to meet contemporary codes, nationwide energy rating schemes or accessibility needs for many households.

We'll launch Australia's biggest ever urban renewal project: retiring and redeveloping all of Melbourne's 44 ageing high-rise public housing estates by 2051. Starting with towers in Flemington, North Melbourne and Carlton, we'll bring forward a program of works to progressively retire each tower and redevelop each site.

Not only will the redevelopment mean households will move into a new home that meets every modern building standard – it'll boost the overall number of social homes across these sites by 10 per cent, while also boosting the number of affordable and market homes across the sites. There are currently around 10,000 people living across the 44 towers. Once we've redeveloped them, we anticipate around 30,000 people will live across these sites.

Build 769 more homes through the *Social Housing Accelerator*

On top of our *Big Housing Build*, we'll build up to 769 new social housing homes over the next five years with funding from the Commonwealth Government's *Social Housing Accelerator*. Announced in June this year, the *Social Housing Accelerator* is a \$2 billion investment in new social homes across Australia, with \$496.5 million provided for new homes across Victoria. We'll use this funding to build 769 new homes including low density developments on Homes Victoria owned land, as well as medium and high density developments on Victorian Government owned land. We'll also examine site spot purchases we can make across the state for further developments. This funding will support the redevelopment of the two towers in Carlton.

Invest \$1 billion in the *Affordable Housing Investment Partnership*

We'll invest \$1 billion in the *Affordable Housing Investment Partnership* (AHIP) program, providing low interest loans and government guarantees to finance social and affordable housing for Victorians that need it most – including projects that provide affordable housing for essential and key workers. The new AHIP expands on the previous Building Financial Capacity of Housing Agencies (BFCHA) initiative, bringing the total funding available up to \$2.1 billion. This is the first time that government low interest loans and government guarantees are available in Victoria for affordable housing as well as social housing.



What we'll do

Buy off-the-plan to boost social housing stock

Developers need a certain level of apartment pre-sales before a housing project can commence construction – which can often add delays to new projects kicking off. We'll explore opportunities to buy pre-sale off-the-plan apartments in medium and high density developments to boost Victoria's social housing stock. We'll consult with industry on opportunities to buy at scale through spot purchasing. And we'll buy directly from project proponents, making sure we don't reduce stock in the market.

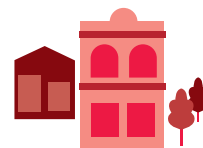
Headleasing leftover apartments

When a development project is finished, there are often a small number of units that don't end up being sold or leased. This means there could be as many as several thousand apartments left empty right now that could make a home for someone. Industry feedback suggests there may be opportunities for long-term headleases of these leftover apartments at social housing rental rates to support families who need social and affordable housing. We'll call for expressions of interest to test market appetite to add some of these apartments to our supply of social and affordable housing and help reduce the waiting list. The approach to market is not intended to subsidise developers beyond current social housing rental arrangements, or affect Homes Victoria's financial position.

05

A long-term housing plan

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A long-term housing plan

- A planning strategy to guide how our state grows and develops in the coming decades
- Long-term reform to create a modern, fit for purpose planning system that works with Victorians – not against them

We know our state will keep growing – and we know we'll need a plan to manage that growth.

We'll need a long-term vision for what our cities, suburbs and regions look like in the future. We'll need a clear framework for how our communities grow, how to build homes where Victorians want to live, and how to attract future investment. And we'll need a modern, fit-for purpose planning system that works for Victorians – not against them.

At the same time, we'll need to make sure Victoria is moving in step with the rest of the country, as we work with the Commonwealth Government and other states and territories to deliver the nation's housing accord.

This *Housing Statement* forms the first step of that work, not the last. By acting now, we can work together as a state to set a vision for the future, building on what we love for future generations. And as part of that work, it's important that as many Victorians as possible can have their say on how our state grows in the years to come. It makes sense that when you listen to people, you get better outcomes. We want Victorians to come together and be part of the solution in planning for our future challenges – including industry, councils and local communities.

We'll keep working with Victorians to make sure people have affordable homes, where they want to live and work, well into the future.

How does the *Housing Statement* fit in with the national frameworks?



What is the *National Housing Accord*?

Announced in October 2022, the *National Housing Accord* is a landmark agreement designed to tackle housing supply and affordability right across Australia. The Accord aligns the work of all levels of government, institutional investors and the construction sector to help tackle the nation's housing problem – setting an initial target of building one million new, well-located homes in the five years from 2024. As part of the Accord, states and territories will also deliver 10,000 affordable homes, and expedite zoning, planning and land release for social and affordable housing.

What is the *National Cabinet Housing Plan*?

In August 2023, National Cabinet agreed on a plan with further measures to boost housing supply and affordability – including lifting the national housing target to 1.2 million new, well-located homes over the five years from 1 July 2024. The Commonwealth will support this target with a \$500 million *Housing Support Program* for local and state governments to kick-start housing supply in well-located areas for things like connecting essential services, amenities to support new housing development, or building planning capability. National Cabinet's plan also included a national planning reform blueprint and better protections for renters.

How does our *Housing Statement* fit in?

The *National Housing Accord*, the *National Cabinet Housing Plan* and our *Housing Statement* all work together to achieve the same goal: tackling housing supply and affordability. With this *Housing Statement*, we'll kick off a significant portion of the work we signed up for through the Accord and National Cabinet – across areas like planning reform, expedited approvals, social and affordable housing and renters rights. For some of the agreed actions, Victoria already has work and stronger laws in place thanks to our previous rental reforms and projects like the *Big Housing Build*. And we'll keep working with the Commonwealth and other states and territories to find national solutions to the national problem.

National Cabinet

- ✓ Housing affordability through increasing housing supply
- ✓ Social Housing Accelerator
- ✓ National Planning Blueprint Reform

National Housing Accord

- ✓ Victoria's contribution to 10,000 affordable housing dwellings delivered by states and territories
- ✓ Victoria's contribution to 1.2 million well-located homes across the government and private sector over five years from 2024
- ✓ Expedite zoning, planning and land release for social and affordable housing
- ✓ Working with local government to deliver planning reforms
- ✓ Support the distribution of the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF)
- ✓ Ensure commitments made through the Accord contribute to increasing access to affordable housing beyond existing commitments
- ✓ Build a strong and sustainable Community Housing Provider Sector



What we'll do

A new plan for Victoria

We'll update *Plan Melbourne* – the Victorian Government's current metropolitan planning strategy spanning 2017-2050 – and expand it to cover the whole state. A new plan for Victoria will set into action what our state will look like over coming decades. It'll focus on delivering more homes near transport, job opportunities and essential services in vibrant, liveable, and sustainable neighbourhoods.

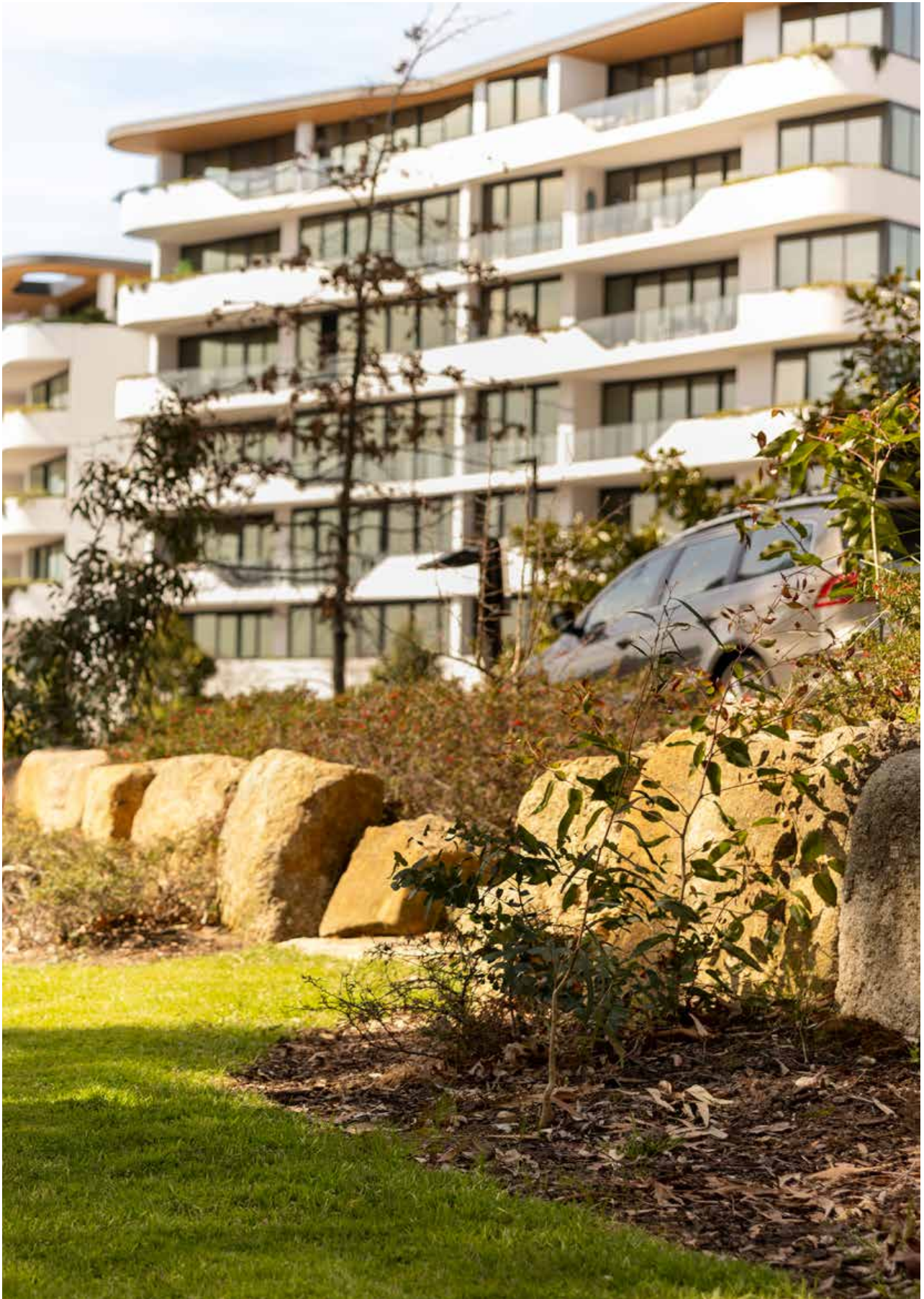
A new plan for Victoria will bring to life our target for 70 per cent of new homes to be built in established areas, while making sure growth areas deliver 30 per cent of new homes. We will establish local government targets for where those homes will be built. The plan will set our regions and rural areas up to thrive. We'll kick off initial industry consultation in the coming months, with broad and comprehensive community engagement to ramp up at the start of next year.

Build a modern, fit-for-purpose planning system

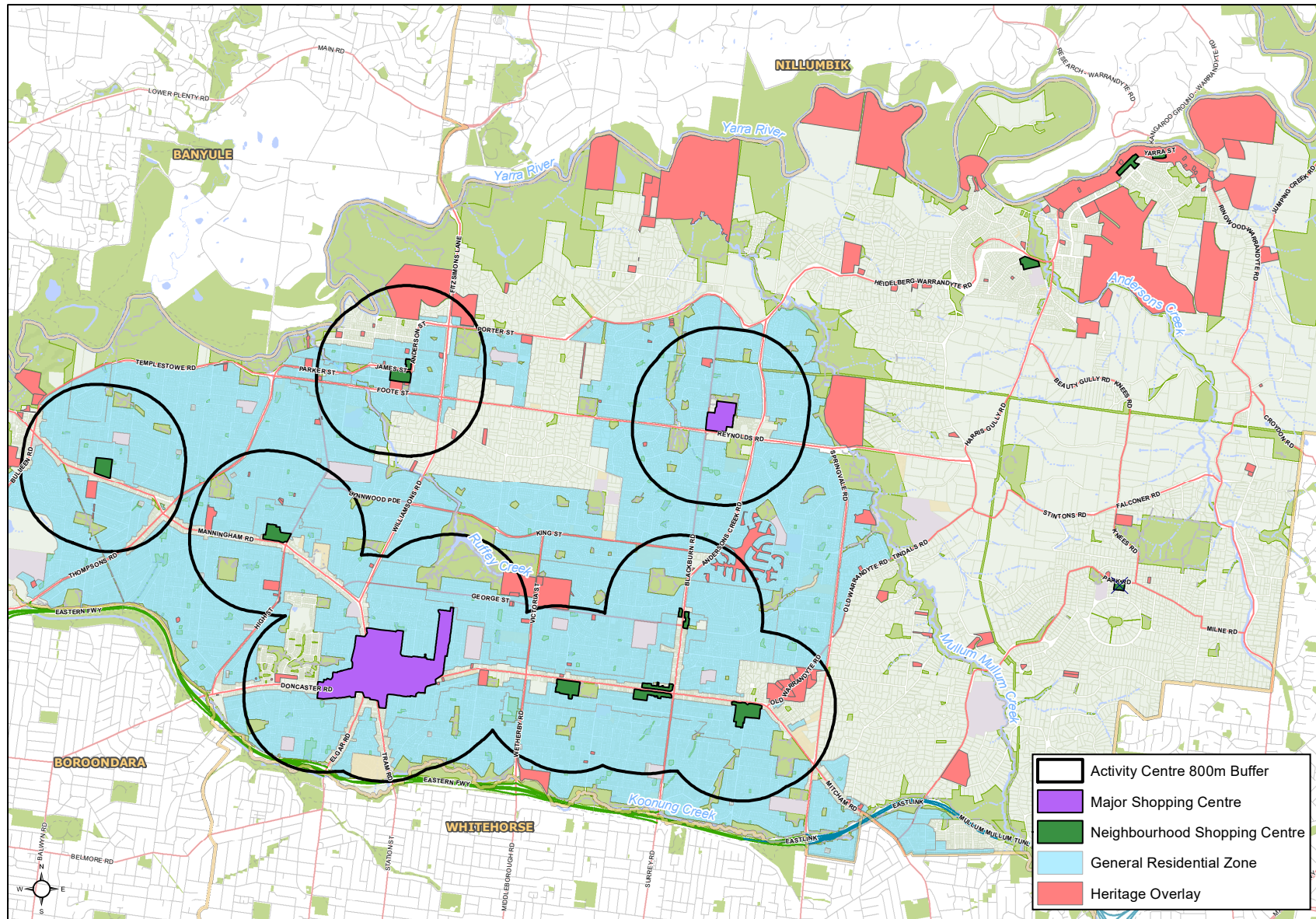
We'll review and rewrite the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to build a modern, fit-for-purpose planning system. We'll look to establish and clarify timeframes for decisions, as well as looking at the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in our planning system – including councils, the Minister for Planning, the Victorian Planning Authority and the Department of Transport and Planning.











11 CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

11.1 Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan

File Number: IN23/647
Responsible Director: Director Connected Communities
Attachments: 1 Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan [↓](#)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan (Attachment 1).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Based at Rieschiecks Reserve, the Tom Kelly Athletics Track (athletics track) is one of Council’s most used and loved sporting facilities. Since the Rieschiecks Reserve Management Plan was endorsed in 2012, usage of the facility has changed. The athletics track has had a significant increase in the number of school bookings, it is heavily utilised by four athletics clubs that have allocated use on an annual basis, and it is also frequently used by the general community as it provides a flat, consistent surface for exercise.

Each user of the athletics track has a different need. The Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan (Usage Plan) has been developed to respond to these needs and ensure optimal facility use. The Usage Plan focuses on the management, usage, maintenance, and upgrade of the athletics track, with 29 recommendations provided. The recommendations have been shaped by extensive community consultation, which included 179 individual responses via ‘Your Say’ Manningham, formal and informal community drop-in sessions, and one-on-one stakeholder meetings.

The recommendations focus on the key themes that were identified through the community consultation, strategy alignment and benchmarking, including:

- Increasing access to the athletics track for general community members.*
- Minimising the impact of this use on neighbouring residents.*
- Ensuring the facilities provided at the Athletics Track optimise use by the clubs and other users, with a focus on it being a community facility.*

It is intended that the recommendations will be delivered in line with the priority ranking listed within the Usage Plan.

1. RECOMMENDATION
That Council endorse the Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The athletics track, located at Rieschiecks Reserve in Doncaster East, is a regional level facility as defined by Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy. Criteria for this classification include usage from both Manningham based residents and those residing outside the municipality, as well as it being used for regional and state level competition.
- 2.2 In 2012, the Rieschiecks Reserve Management Plan was developed. The Management Plan focused on upgrades across the Reserve and provided recommendations on the management of the facility. Many of the facility related actions have been achieved, including the floodlight upgrade and track resurface, whilst the management related items continue to be addressed.
- 2.3 Since the Management Plan was developed, usage of the athletics track has changed. The tenant clubs are booking the facility for longer hours, more events are being hosted by the sporting associations, and there is an increased interest from the community.
- 2.4 It is Manningham's only athletics track and is heavily utilised by schools, the community and the four tenant clubs, as well as occasional use by Athletics Victoria and Little Athletics Victoria. Recent upgrades to the athletics track's floodlights and surface have further increased the popularity of the facility.
- 2.5 The needs and expectations of each user group vary. It is therefore important to find a balance between these needs to achieve optimal use of the facility, whilst minimising the impact of this use on neighbouring residents. To achieve this, Officers engaged CMF Consulting to undertake a review of how the athletics track is managed and how the various user groups utilise the facility. As a result, of this the Usage Plan was developed, with the Usage Plan designed to complement the outcomes from the Management Plan.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 Overall, the Usage Plan includes 30 recommendations on the management, usage, maintenance, and upgrade of the athletics track. The recommendations were shaped by the feedback received through the community consultation phase, which included 179 responses via 'Your Say' Manningham, in addition to feedback received at on-site consultation sessions and one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders.
- 3.2 The recommendations also consider Manningham's strategic direction, specifically how the facility can increase health and wellbeing outcomes for the wider community, and how increased community access can respond to gender equality. Furthermore, the recommendations respond to the community focus lens that is applied within the Active for Life Recreation Strategy. That is, the provision of community facilities in preference over elite level infrastructure.

3.3 Improving Community Access

3.3.1 A key theme that arose through the community consultation was access to the athletics track by general community members. The athletics track is heavily utilised during weekdays by school groups, with club use on weeknights and weekends. As a result, there is currently only limited opportunities for general community members to use the facility. The Usage Plan considers this theme, and aims to balance the community needs without negatively impacting the existing user groups through the following recommendations:

- Recommendation 2 – Work with the athletics clubs on implementing shared use arrangements, with the aim of increasing community access during times when the track is used by clubs.
- Recommendation 3 – Ensure real time usage and booking information is available on the website and that accurate user information is available at the track, including the availability of the track for community use.
- Recommendation 4 – Review the hours of allocation for athletics clubs and further scrutinise allocated hours to reflect actual use. Implement seasonal allocations (currently annual).
- Recommendation 5 – Clubs to inform Council when they are not using the track during their allocated hours, so that this availability can be reflected on Council's website.
- Recommendation 11 – Increase access for casual use by activating the track floodlights until 9pm when facilities are not in use by clubs.
- Recommendation 14 – Consider ways to increase general usage and opportunities provided by the track for the broader community, such as running Council funded personal training sessions.
- Recommendation 28 – Consider when available, the use of technology to differentiate lanes in use by clubs and which are available for the community.

3.4 Responding to Resident Concerns

3.4.1 Whilst access to the athletics track was a prominent theme, community members residing next to or near the athletics track also expressed concern around noise and traffic. Specifically, residents provided feedback on the PA system at the track, use of the track for night events, and traffic issues that result from larger events. The Usage Plan responds to this through the following recommendations:

- Recommendation 6 – Consider limiting the number of evening events outside of each tenant club's seasonal calendar. No more than one additional evening event or Sunday event to minimise impacts on local residents.

- Recommendation 7 - To minimise impact to local residents, actively manage user groups and hirers by programming the timer on the lights and PA system to ensure the facility is not used after 9:30pm.
- Recommendation 10 – Undertake a traffic management study to understand how use of the athletics track impacts local residents.
- Recommendation 22 – Investigate a smaller, more localised public address system which includes a noise limiter. The system is to have the capacity to be zoned to specific areas of the track. Review the impact of the new system after the athletics season.

3.5 Responding to Club Concerns

3.5.1 The Doncaster Athletics Club, Doncaster Little Athletics Club and the Doncaster Masters Athletics Club shared similar concerns, primarily relating to waste management, use of the public toilets and facility development. It is noted that the Westerfoldians Inclusive Running Club were interviewed as part of the project, however they were satisfied with the facility and as such did not provide feedback on any recommended improvements. The Usage Plan responds to the club concerns through the following recommendations:

- Recommendation 1 – Install new lane barriers to minimise use of lane one.
- Recommendation 8 – When schools book the Rieschiecks Reserve sports field, ensure they are provided with access to the sports field pavilion toilets so that students do not need to access the public toilets at the track.
- Recommendation 9 – Ensure effective management of the cleaning contract.
- Recommendation 24 – Create a development plan for the Tom Kelly Athletics Track to address facility needs.

3.6 Overall, the recommendations within the Usage Plan aim to meet the contemporary usage needs of the user groups, whilst reducing the impact this use has on neighbouring residents.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

4.1 The Usage Plan responds to several goals, objectives and actions from the Council Plan 2021-25, Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 and Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review). The key theme amongst each of these documents focuses on increasing the health and wellbeing of our community. Specifically, the Usage Plan responds to the following:

4.1.1 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review)

- Priority Area 1 – Provide flexible, multi-use and durable spaces for recreation to meet the needs of a growing community.

- Priority Area 2 – Collaborate with key partners and stakeholders.
- Priority Area 3 – Foster and environment of inclusion.

4.1.2 Council Plan 2021-25

- Goal 1.1 – A healthy, safe and resilient community.

Identify strategies to get people to be more active at all stages of life to increase participation in juniors, women, culturally diverse and other priority groups.

- Goal 2.1 – Inviting places and spaces.

Improve access to active, leisure and recreation destinations across the municipality by embracing the 20-minute neighbourhood.

- Goal 2.4 – Well utilised and maintained community infrastructure.

Proactively plan, upgrade, and improve our recreation facilities to ensure they are maintained and accessible for a broad range of community uses.

- Goal 5.2 – A Council that values customers and community in all that we do.

Deliver initiatives that advocate or demonstrate Council leadership to promote equality across gender, age, diversity, ability and culture.

4.1.3 Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25

- Priority 3 – Increased active lifestyle.
- Priority 7 – Increased connection to and engagement in community life.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Female participation in physical activity is primarily through active recreation rather than organised sport. Vic Health's '*Females and Physical Activity*' research document highlights those activities such as 'walking for exercise' have higher female participation than males. Barriers such as perceptions of safety can however prevent females from participating in active recreation.
- 5.2 A key focus of the Usage Plan is about gaining additional access to the athletics track for the general community. This additional usage, whilst benefitting the whole community, has a particular benefit for females as the athletics track provides a facility to participate in activities such as walking. Perceptions of safety are addressed through the provision of lighting, and providing access whilst user group activities are being run. The latter outcome directly responds to various pieces of feedback from females that noted they feel safer using the facility when other people are around.

5.3 Finance / Resource Implications

5.3.1 Delivery of this project was completed using existing operational budgets.

5.3.2 Many of the recommendations within the Usage Plan are operational and are therefore not costed.

5.3.3 Some actions reference upgrades to the existing athletics pavilion. Council's Annual Budget has \$100,000 allocated to design for the pavilion upgrade in the 2023/24 Financial Year, followed by \$1m in 2024/25 for delivery. Additional funding is likely to be allocated to this project, including possible State Government grants.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 To ensure the Usage Plan captured feedback from a wide range of users, a detailed consultation process was undertaken. This included:

- A workshop with the Recreation and Sport Advisory Committee.
- An online survey hosted on the 'Your Say' Manningham platform, which received 179 individual responses.
- Consultation with 4 schools/school sport associations who use the track on a regular basis.
- Interviews with relevant State Sporting Associations.
- Interviews with each of the four user groups currently allocated use of the track.
- An onsite drop-in session with general community members, which resulted in 15 people providing their feedback.
- Four informal onsite consultation sessions, which saw 43 people consulted across the four sessions.

6.2 The above consultation aimed to meet the 'involve' level of public participation for the project. All feedback has been collated within the report, with the feedback informing the recommendations.

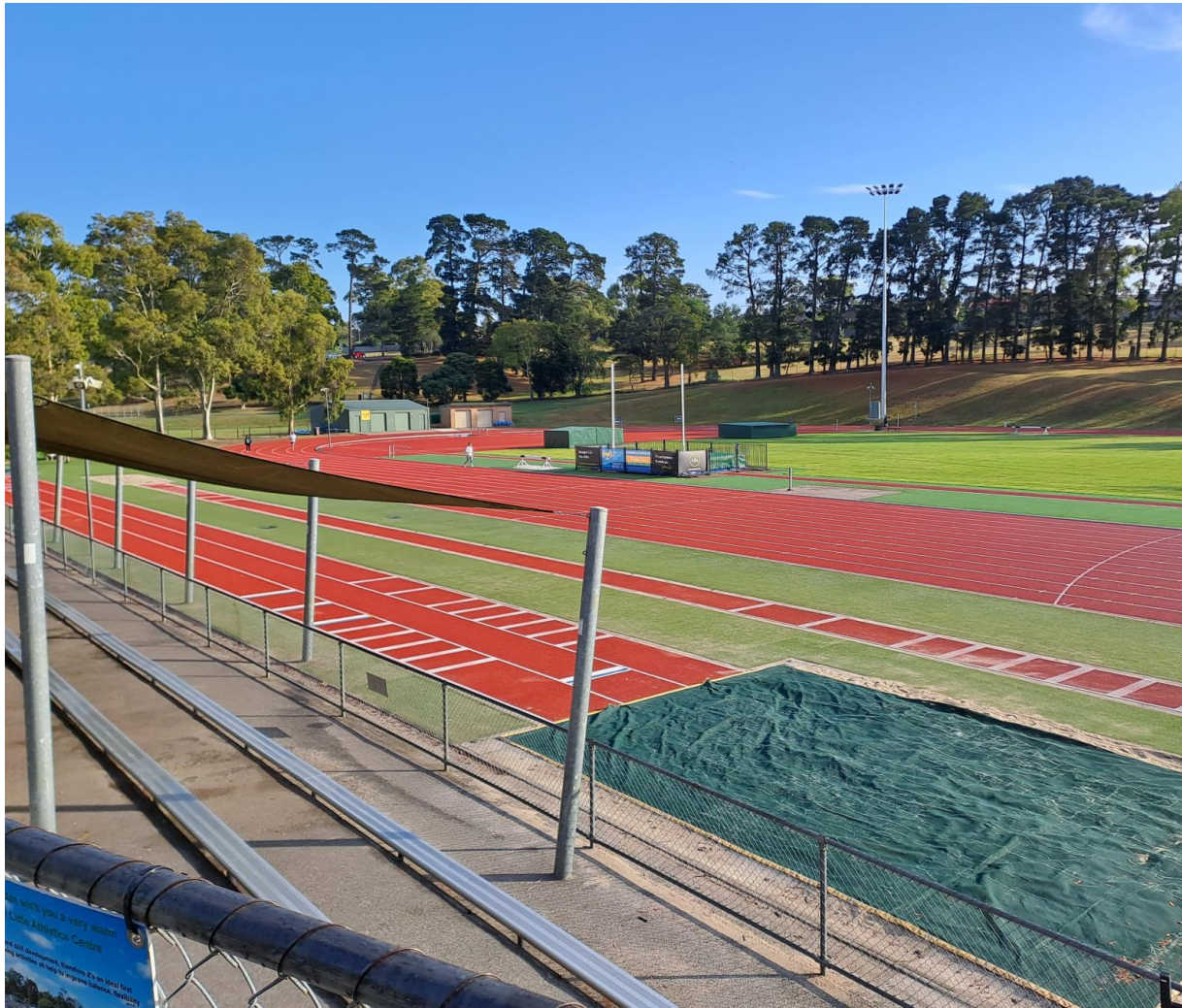
Stakeholder Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Athletics clubs and various schools 2. Community members 3. Neighbouring residents
Is engagement required?	Yes
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	Involve
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication material (letter drops, website info, signs, social medial posts etc) • Survey/Poll • Submissions

6.3 Timelines

6.3.1 The actions have been prioritised based on a high, medium or low ranking. Implementation of the recommendations will follow the priority rankings, with high priority recommendations to be actioned within 3 years, medium within 3 to 6 years, and low beyond 6 years.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan



Interpreter service

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1 Introduction

This review will consider the purpose, management and usage of the Tom Kelly Athletics Track at Rieschiecks Reserve. It will guide Council's decision making and planning for the facilities to meet both community and athletic club needs.

2 Background

In 2012 a Management Plan was developed for Rieschiecks Reserve. The Plan covered proposed infrastructure upgrades for the reserve as well as considerations around the management of the facility. The Tom Kelly Athletics Track sits within Rieschiecks Reserve and was included within the scope of the Management Plan.

Many of the key actions within the 2012 report relating to the Tom Kelly Athletic Track have been implemented in recent years with the track being resurfaced in 2022, new track floodlights installed in 2022 and hammer throw floodlights in 2023, and the carpark sealed in 2021.

Usage of the facilities has increased (both club use, casual use and general community use), and the overall expectations from the general community and tenant clubs has increased. The outcomes of this Plan will shape how the track is managed and used in future.

3 Project Purpose and Methodology

3.1 Purpose

The project purpose is to ensure that the Tom Kelly Athletics Track is managed, maintained and developed at an appropriate level to meet community and sporting club needs, and provide recommendations to guide the management, use and development of the track in the future. Please note, this project is not a masterplan or a feasibility study into future facility needs at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track.

3.2 Methodology

The following methodology was used to undertake the project.

This project involved collating information regarding the use and management of the facility and the issues and opportunities relating to the facility.

The key tasks undertaken to prepare this plan include:

- Consultation with Council officers from a range of teams who are involved in the management and maintenance of the Tom Kelly Athletics Track.
- Familiarity with existing planning documents for the Tom Kelly Athletics Track such as the Rieschiecks Reserve Management plan but with no need to formally review.
- Stakeholder interviews with each of the four tenant clubs based at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track.

- Stakeholder interviews with peak sporting bodies
- Consultation with a range of schools who use the facilities.
- Community consultation via a Drop In event held at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track.
- Further informal onsite consultation.
- Online community survey via the Your say Manningham platform.

4 Strategic Context

To inform the outcomes of this project, it is important to understand the strategic context by analysing key Council policies and strategies, as well as key strategies and policies from other agencies including the State Government.

A key theme from these documents is gender equality and community level facilities and participation. These themes are considered within the recommendations of this report.

4.1 Fair Access Policy Roadmap

The Office for Women in Sport and Recreation has developed the Fair Access Policy, which aims to achieve equal access to sporting facilities for women and girls. The Policy provides six Fair Access Principles to help achieve the desired aims, with the following principles relating to this project and active recreation:

1. *Community sports infrastructure and environments are genuinely welcoming, safe and inclusive.*
2. *Women and girls can fully participate in all aspects of community sport and active recreation, including as a player, coach, administrator, official, volunteer and spectator.*

Female participation in physical activity is primarily through active recreation rather than organised sport. Vic Health's '*Females and Physical Activity*' research document highlights that activities such as 'walking for exercise' have higher female participation than males. Given this, a key focus of this project is to provide additional opportunities for general community members to access the track for active recreation purposes.

It is however known that barriers such as perceptions of safety can prevent females from participating in active recreation. Therefore, this Plan also focuses on reducing this barrier through facility provision and shared use.

4.2 Council Plan 2021-25

A key goal of the Council Plan 2021-25 focuses on creating a healthy, safe and resilient community. In addition to this, the Council Plan also aims to achieve well utilised and maintained community infrastructure. This can be achieved through ensuring our recreation facilities are accessible for a broad range of community uses and demonstrating leadership to promote equality.

This project considers how access opportunities to the athletics track can influence outcomes around equality, whilst ensuring the asset is well utilised.

4.3 Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 guides Manningham's work in addressing existing and emerging health issues, and improving the overall health and wellbeing of the community. The Strategy aims to achieve this through a number of priority areas, including:

- Priority 3 – Increased active lifestyles.
- Priority 7 – Increase connection to and engagement in community life.

This project responds to the priority areas (mentioned above) through considering how the Tom Kelly Athletics track can be used to enhance community connection, health, and wellbeing. Recommended actions focusing on accessibility, promotion and enhancements of the facility will directly respond to the evaluation measures from the Strategy, including increasing participation in organised sport and active recreation.

4.4 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025 (2019 Review)

Council's Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review) outlines key priority areas to address physical activity in Manningham. The priority areas respond to the Strategy's objectives to provide a diverse range of recreational choices throughout Manningham, whilst providing places to facilitate this. These objectives help achieve the Strategy's overall vision to provide accessible infrastructure to improve health and wellbeing of the Manningham community.

This project considers the Strategy's vision and objectives through enhanced access opportunities for the general community, and consideration of the athletics track being a community facility.

4.5 Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020)

The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy lists the Tom Kelly Athletics Track as a regional level facility. The Policy outlines a set standard of infrastructure that is to be provided at the facility, including the required size of this infrastructure. This project does not dictate the type and size of facilities that will be provided; however it does consider ancillary infrastructure to enhance user experience.

5 Facility Benchmarking

Most neighbouring Councils offer athletics facilities for their community. There are six facilities within neighbouring Councils, each offering different levels of infrastructure and use, and each having varied management models.

5.1 Bill Stewart Athletics Track

Burwood East (Whitehorse Council)

The Bill Stewart Athletics Track is leased to the tenant clubs, who are therefore responsible for managing all bookings, including school bookings. As a result of the lease, there is no public access to the track. Whitehorse is reviewing this model with the view to create more community access, however for now the lease remains in place.

5.2 Croydon Athletics Track

Croydon (Maroondah Council)

Bookings for the Croydon Athletics Track are managed by Council, with clubs allocated use on a seasonal basis and public access permitted outside of club use. Athletics equipment is not provided to casual users and as such they are required to supply their own equipment. Use of this track is seen as a cheaper alternative for casual users compared to Proclamation Park.

5.3 Hagenauer Reserve

Box Hill (Whitehorse Council)

The way in which the Hagenauer Reserve Athletics Track is allocated is the same as the Bill Stewart Athletics Track. That is, the tenant clubs are provided with a lease of the facility. Whitehorse is currently focusing on capital works upgrades at the track with the vision to enable the facility to be open to the public outside of club use (e.g. facilities to safeguard equipment. This includes reviewing the current lease arrangement.

5.4 Proclamation Park

Ringwood (Maroondah Council)

Proclamation Park is managed in the same way as the Croydon Athletics Track, where Council manages all bookings. The track was previously managed by the Ringwood Athletic Committee of Council until 2021, at which time bookings were moved under Council. When the management model changed, clubs were placed onto seasonal allocations which allows community access when not in use by the clubs. Maroondah's Sports Field Maintenance Team also assists with the provision and return of Council owned athletic equipment for casual hirers such as schools.

5.5 Stradbroke Park

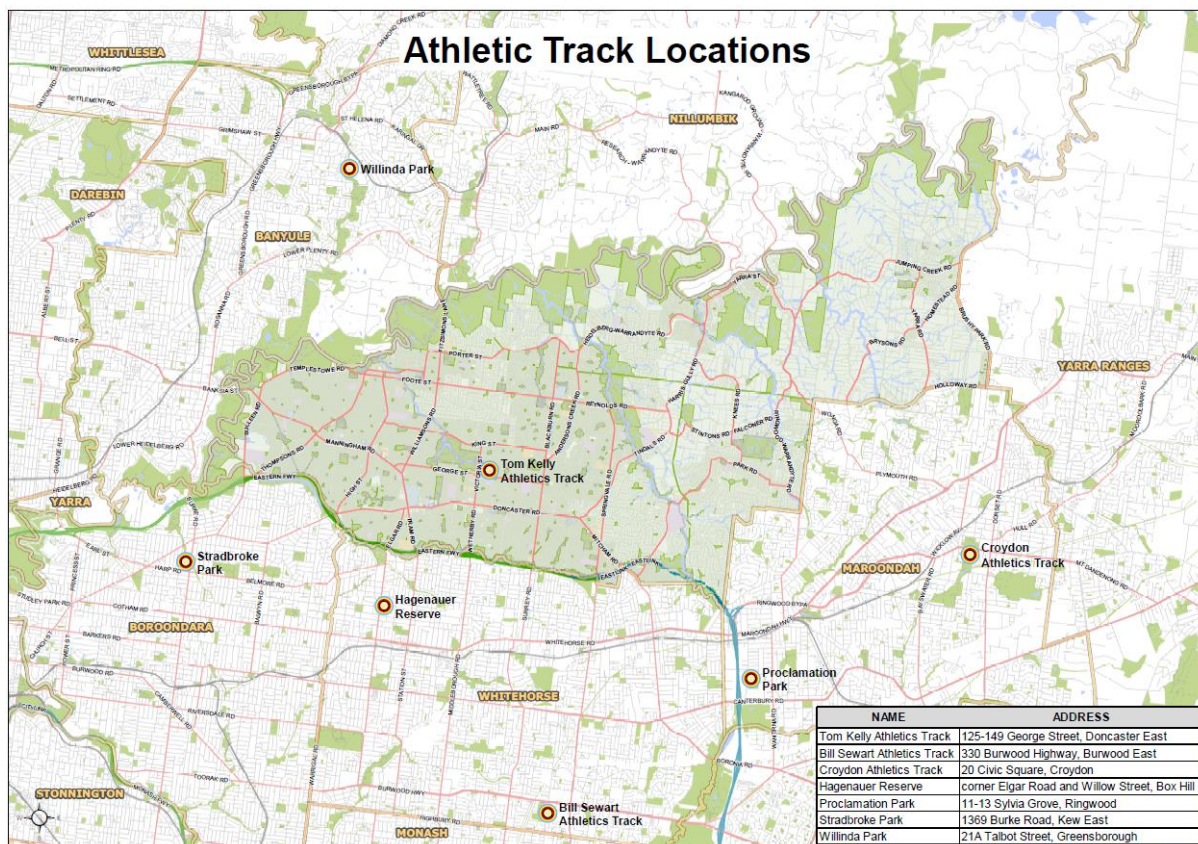
Kew East (Boroondara Council)

Stradbroke Park is a grass athletics facility with permanent synthetic long/triple jump lanes. The track is allocated seasonally to athletics and cricket in the summer, and soccer in winter, with public use permitted outside of club use.

5.6 Willinda Park

Greensborough (Banyule Council)

Willinda Park has a different management model to any other facility benchmarked. Council lease the facility to the Willinda Park Management Group who then manage all track bookings. The general public are however permitted to use the track when it is not in use by clubs or casual users. The tenant club hirers out their equipment to casual users. Fees for the use of the track are invoiced to the user by the Management Group, who then report these bookings quarterly to Council. Council then charges the Management Group based on the number of bookings taken.



Other councils outside of the catchment area were contacted to understand how they manage access to their athletics facilities. It is noted that the number of members participating in each of the resident senior and little athletic clubs at the below facilities, were similar or higher than the Doncaster clubs.

5.7 Duncan MacKinnon Reserve

Murrumbeena (Glen Eira Council)

Clubs are allocated on a seasonal basis. Winter allocations are significantly reduced which is reflective of the seasonality of athletics. Council has worked with the tenant clubs to enable increased public use of the track and there are currently no reported issues with public access.

5.8 Knox Park Athletics Centre

Knoxfield (Knox Council)

Council has a license agreement in place with a Committee of Management, who manage all bookings on behalf of Council. The track remains open for the community outside of club and casual user activities. Athletics equipment for casual users is supplied by the tenant



clubs. Similarly to Glen Eira Council, Knox Council currently have no reported issues with public access.

5.9 Moonee Valley Athletics Centre

Aberfeldie (Moonee Valley Council)

Moonee Valley Council reported that there are some issues with community use, given the limited availability outside of club use. Most of the peak track use times is used by the two resident clubs and two private schools. Moonee Valley manages track bookings and are considering reviewing how bookings are managed to reflect seasonality and usage.

5.10 Benchmarking Summary

Based on this benchmarking and feedback received from the respective Councils, the current management model at the Athletics Track is sufficient. The management model allows a balance between structured and unstructured use, however further refinement of the hours of use for each tenant club should be explored further.

The framework around canteen use and hire of equipment provides benefits to Council through not needing to manage these aspects. It also provides the tenant clubs with income generating opportunities. Overall, this benefits all stakeholders including casual users. This framework should however be reviewed by way of an expression of interest, to ensure equality amongst the tenant clubs.

6 Facility Development

Many of the key actions within the Council's Rieschiecks Reserve Management Plan (2012) report relating to the Tom Kelly Athletic Track have been implemented in recent years. The track was resurfaced in 2022 at a cost of \$1.38 million to Council, new floodlights installed in 2022 funded by State Government (\$250,000), Federal Government (\$125,000) and Council (\$218,000) all contributing, and the carpark sealed in 2021. New lighting was also installed for the hammer throw area in 2023 at a cost of \$131,000 (Council \$126,000 and Clubs \$5,000).

Council endorsed a report outlining updates and amendments to the Management Plan in 2020, which included:

- Upgrade of the track floodlights in 2020/21 to competition standard. This upgrade increased the track's ability to host night competition and has also enabled Council the opportunity to remotely access and time the floodlights which may enable the community to utilise the track after daylight for unstructured recreation, particularly during the winter months;
- Installation of floodlights to the hammer throw area in 2023; and
- Construction of a new pavilion to service the sports field (completed), resulting in the current pavilion being dedicated for athletics track users.

Other upgrades including a new photo finish booth, electronic turnstile and other minor upgrades have recently been undertaken by the clubs.

Outstanding recommendations from the updates and amendments to the Management Plan in 2020 are listed below:

1. Include a full upgrade to the existing pavilion to make it more accessible and welcoming for users. (Council’s Annual budget currently has \$100,000 for design in 2023-2024 and \$1m 2024-2025 delivery);
2. Improve community access to track availability information;
3. Increase availability of the track for informal/unstructured use through remote access technology with the floodlight upgrade; and
4. Identify mechanisms to obtain casual use data to determine a baseline for the facilities actual usage.

6.1 Athletics Participation

6.1.1 Participation Analysis

The athletics participation data outlined on the next page has been obtained from membership data supplied to Council in 2023 by the tenant clubs using Tom Kelly Athletics Track.

Overall the data shows a total of 729 participants across the four tenant clubs with 399 (54.7%) being juniors, 381 being female (52.2%) and 348 being male (47.8%).

There are a total of 262 members of Doncaster Athletics Club of which 95 are juniors representing approximately 36% of the membership. Note approximately 6 of these juniors are also members of Doncaster Little Athletics Club.

Doncaster Athletics Club Membership

Club membership information				
	Male		Female	
	No. players	No. teams	No. players	No. teams
Sub-junior (U6 - U11)	0		0	
Juniors (U12 - U18)	41	3	54	3
Seniors (19+ years)	34	1	42	1
Masters (35+ years)	46	2	45	2
Totals	121	6	141	6

There are a total of 300 members of Doncaster Little Athletics Club of which all are juniors with 53.3% being female and 46.7% being male.

Doncaster Little Athletics Club Membership

Club membership information				
	Male		Female	
	No. players	No. teams	No. players	No. teams
Sub-junior (U6 - U11)	80	6	90	6
Juniors (U12 - U18)	60	6	70	6
Seniors (19+ years)	0	0	0	0
Masters (35+ years)	0	0	0	0
Totals	140	12	160	12



There are a total of 23 members of Victorian Masters Athletics Club with almost twice as many male as females.

Victoria Masters Athletics Club Membership

Club membership information				
	Male		Female	
	No. players	No. teams	No. players	No. teams
Sub-junior (U6 - U11)				
Juniors (U12 - U18)				
Seniors (19+ years)				
Masters (35+ years)	15	1	8	1
Totals	15	1	8	1

There are a total of 144 members of the Westerfoldians Inclusive Running Group with the same number of males as females.

Westerfoldians Inclusive Running Group Membership

Club membership information				
	Male		Female	
	No. players	No. teams	No. players	No. teams
Sub-junior (U6 - U11)	2			
Juniors (U12 - U18)			2	
Seniors (19+ years)	10		10	
Masters (35+ years)	60		60	
Totals	72	0	72	0

It is important to note that whilst there are 729 current members of the athletics clubs, unstructured participation such as running and walking within athletics facilities is generally high. Furthermore, use of the athletics track by school groups is significant and represents the largest number of casual bookings for any of Council's outdoor sports infrastructure.

Actual participation data is currently unavailable on the unstructured/casual usage rates at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track, however walking and jogging are known to be the most participated in forms of physical activity across the municipality.

6.1.2 Key Considerations

Casual Use

The track also sees a significant number of community members use the facilities in an unstructured manner. At times, this usage conflicts with structured club usage, resulting in issues between users.

Council's Recreation Strategy identified several actions aimed at increasing unstructured active recreation within the community. This includes walking, which is already the highest participated activity in Manningham. To encourage greater participation in active recreation

and to further enhance facility usage, opportunities exist to activate the track’s floodlights for community members to use when not in use by the tenant clubs.

7 Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage

7.1 Athletic Clubs

There are four clubs who are based at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track as outlined below.

- Doncaster Athletics Club (DAC)
- Doncaster Little Athletics Club (DLAC)
- Doncaster Master’s Athletics Club (Victorian Masters)
- Westerfoldians Running Group (Westerfoldians)

The table below documents the annual allocations made to each of the athletic clubs.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00 AM	Off Peak Hours					DLAC	DAC
8:30 AM							
9:00 AM							
9:30 AM							
10:00 AM							
10:30 AM							
11:00 AM							
11:30 AM							
12:00 PM							
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6:00 PM							
6:30 PM							
7:00 PM							
7:30 PM							
8:00 PM							
8:30 PM							
9:00 PM							

The following conditions of use for the Athletic Track are specified within Manningham Council’s *Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Facilities Conditions of Use* document. P.7. Please note: These conditions were superseded in 2020 to ensure that times of use of the athletics track were in line with the use of other sports fields which allows for use up to 9.30pm.

“The athletics track may only be used between the hours specified below:

- Monday - Thursday 9.00am - 7.30pm Max. of 4 Tuesday nights events per season. Must finish by 9.30pm.



- Friday 6.00pm - 9.30pm Max. of 6 bookings per season.
- Saturday 9.00am - N.A.
- Sunday 10.00am - N.A. Max. of 2 DLAC events per season.
- PA system can only be used during designated hours
- Starting pistols to be used only between designated hours and at authorised events
- If a public address system is to be used at the track for the purpose of conducting a meeting the public address system must have a noise limiting device installed and calibrated by Council's Local Laws Department.

The Tenant may apply for authority to conduct special events on the athletics track outside the hours stipulated above.

The Recreation Team may require the Tenant to supply a fully detailed printed statement showing the Tenant's seasonal program of events and if necessary, a schedule of the day's program of events.¹

Overall, the athletic clubs booked the track for 1,927 hours in 2022 or 160 hours per month.

In addition to club use, the track is very popular with schools who use the facilities for their athletics school carnivals as well as athletics units. In the six months from July- December 2022, schools booked the track 46 times which is an average of 2 or 3 bookings per week (when you take out school holidays). This use continues to grow.

The peak sporting bodies also use the track for various events across the summer season.

The broader community are also heavy users of the track. Tom Kelly is one of the few tracks across Melbourne which are accessible to the general public and there is usually someone using the track regardless of the time of day.

Hours of use and availability of the track are divided into peak and off-peak hours of use.

Peak time is from 4.00pm-9.00pm each weekday and 8.00am-6.00pm on the weekends days. Off peak is 7.00am-4.00pm each weekday with 4 off peak hours on the weekends.

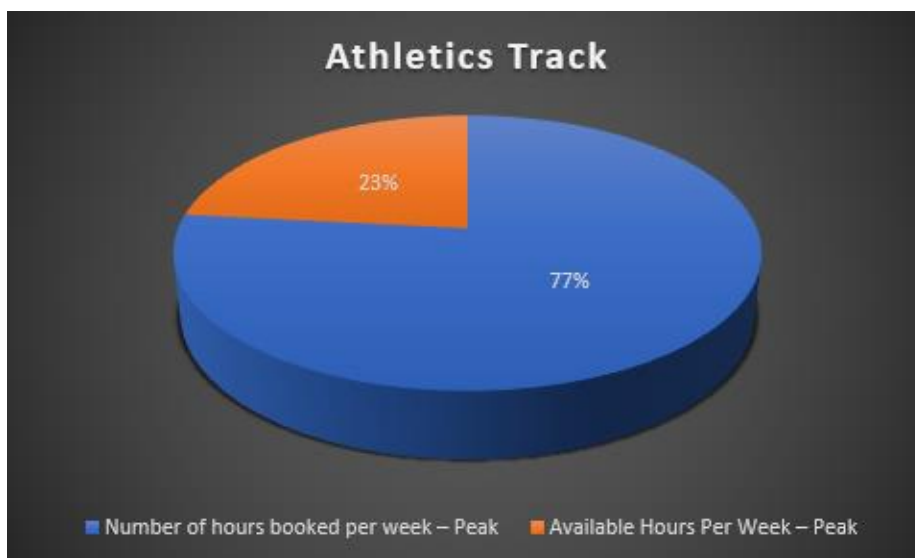
7.1.1 Summer Season 2022-2023

The following pie chart shows the actual percentage of use, and available use for peak and off-peak periods in the summer season 2022/2023.

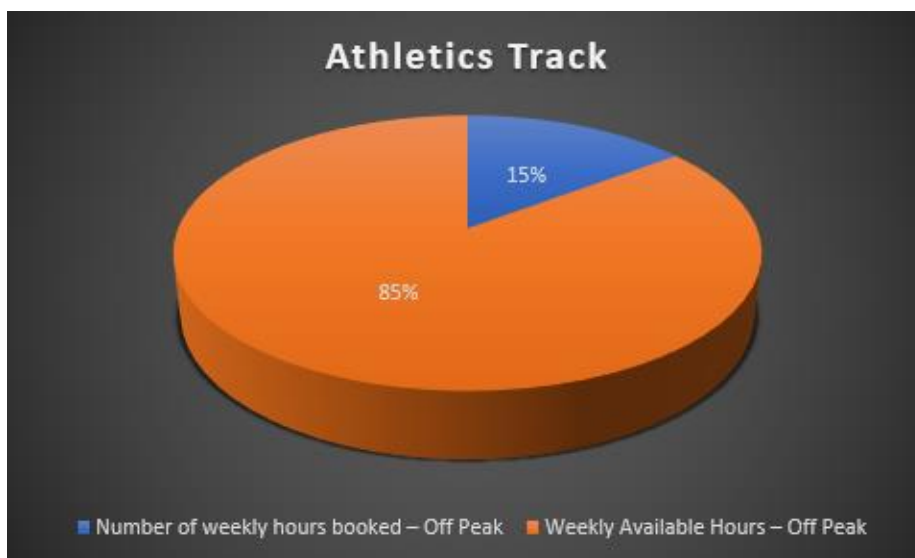
The detailed data summarised in the pie charts on the following page can be found at Appendix 1.

¹ Seasonal Allocation of Sporting Facilities Conditions of Use document. P.7

Summer Season Peak Times



Summer Season Off Peak Times

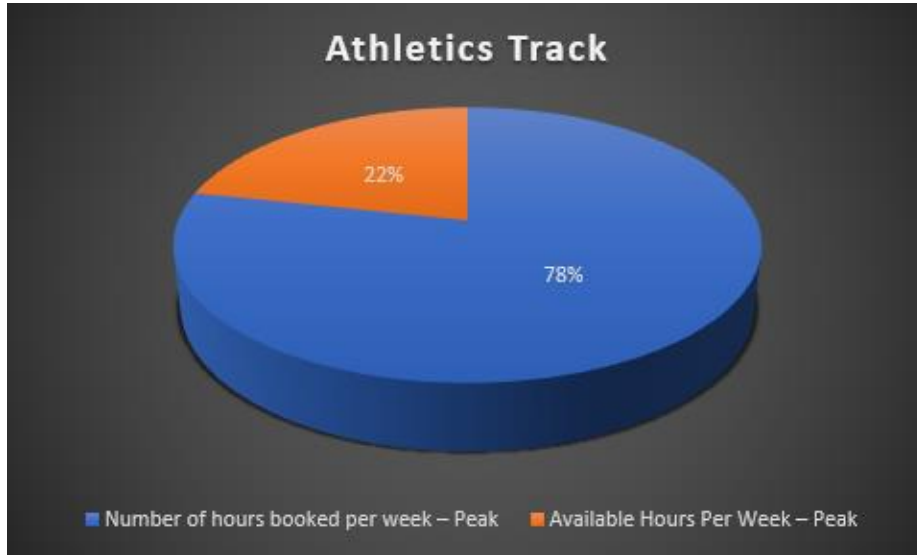


Of the available hours of use of the track in the summer season, 35.2% was allocated for use by the athletics clubs under their annual allocation and 7.59% was booked by casual hirers, leaving 57.21 % available overall for community use. Of this, 23% of hours are available during peak times and 85% of available hours are during off peak hours.

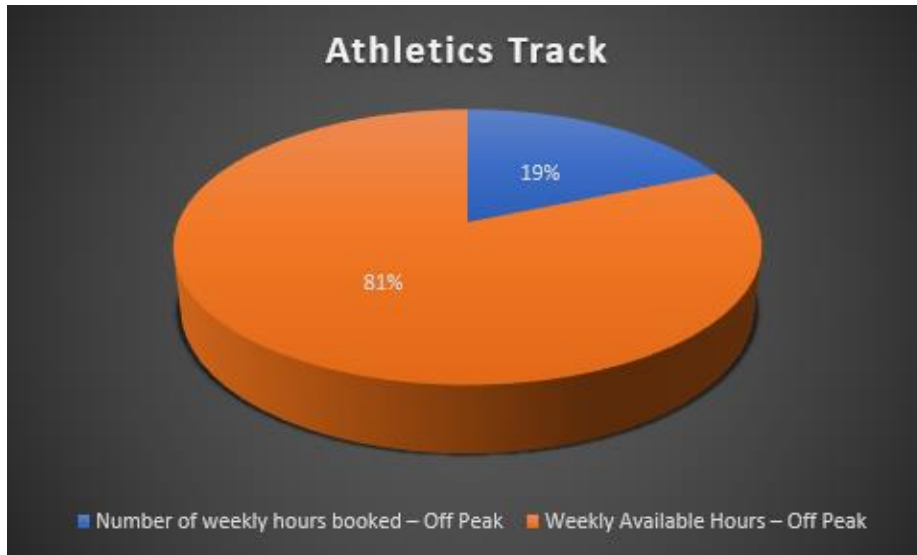
7.1.2 Winter Season 2022

The pie chart below shows the actual percentage of use and available use for peak and off-peak periods in the winter season 2022.

Winter Season Peak Times



Winter Season Off Peak Times



Of the available hours of use of the track in the winter season, 35.2% was allocated for use by the athletics clubs under their annual allocation and 10.85% was booked by casual hirers, leaving 57.21% available overall for community use. Of this, 22% of hours are available during peak times and 81% of available hours are during off peak hours.

7.2 Casual Hire

Bookings for the casual use of the track is done through Council's Recreation Unit where a hire fee is charged for use of the track.

Hirers who require the use of equipment and/or canteen facilities are then directed to contact the Doncaster Little Athletics Club. The arrangements between Council and the Doncaster Little Athletics Club for casual hirers is documented in a letter dated 30 December 2020 and a summary of each parties responsibilities appears below.

DLAC Responsibilities

- Opening the sports pavilion for access by the casual hirer.
- Equipment Hire - DLAC is permitted to charge users a fee for the hire of this equipment, with a copy of the hire fees to be submitted to Council.
- Opportunity to provide canteen services and all that entails.
- Inspecting the pavilion/ at the conclusion of the booking to ensure it is left in a clean and tidy condition.

Council Responsibilities

- Cleaning of the public toilets.

8 Consultation

A range of consultation was undertaken for this project. This included the following:

- Council officer workshop
- Stakeholder interviews with each of the tenant athletics clubs
- Interviews with each of the State Sporting Associations
- Schools who use the Tom Kelly Track regularly
- Community consultation – Survey, drop in and onsite consultation sessions. (Council undertook a mailbox drop to residents within a 500m radius to inform them of consultation opportunities.)

8.1 Council Officer Workshop

A workshop for relevant Council officers was held on 13 February 2023 to discuss the management, use and ongoing works to the Tom Kelly Athletics Track. The section below outlines the input from each of the different Council teams involved with the athletics track.

8.1.1 Recreation Team

The Tom Kelly Athletics Track is classified as a regional facility with use by athletics peak bodies as well as schools within and outside Manningham.

The track has Class 2 Certification and complies with requirements up to National level in every event with the exception of the Hammer Throw. A full certificate could not be issued as the curve radius does not meet the international standards for World Athletics certification.

The clubs have an application in to extend the running track by two, to three metres on the back of the north side of the track however this requires Melbourne Water approval.

There is a question over the purpose of the facility and whether it is for elite use or with a focus on community use?

Currently the athletics clubs have year-round allocations however they may not need this which may increase access opportunities for community use. Consideration is being given to the possibility of turning on the track lighting on a Friday evening during the winter for example so that the community can use the track.

There is a small building located in the south-east corner of the Reserve which was built in 1991 and funded jointly by Council and Doncaster Little Athletics Centre on a 2:1 basis. There is no formal tenancy agreement for this building. The only tenant for this pavilion is Doncaster Little Athletics Centre.

The Doncaster Little Athletics Club contributed \$10,000 to rebuild the small clubrooms located in the southeast corner and had an agreement providing use for the club for 10 years. This agreement has expired.

The provision of a QR code at the entrance to the facility with availability information would be helpful. It would be beneficial if this information was also available in other languages.

Council regularly receives complaints about noise and the use of the Public Address (PA) system from the track.

When the clubs are using the track, the facility is locked to the public which is an issue for those wishing to access the public toilets which are located inside the fenced facility. This is also an issue for the public when schools use the facility.

There is currently approximately \$1 million allocated in the 2025 capital works budget to redevelop the athletics pavilion, with design work to commence in the 2023/2024 year. Any redevelopment of the pavilion will incorporate public toilet facilities which can be accessed by the public when the track is in use.

There are a number of smaller buildings and storage sheds within the facility. It may be possible to consolidate some of these within the pavilion redevelopment.

Use of athletic equipment by the schools who hire the facility, is provided through the Doncaster Little Athletics Club who also provide canteen facilities if requested.

8.1.2 Waste Management

Rubbish bins are collected by Council's internal waste collection service and are collected from within the cage. Bins situated around the grounds are to be placed into the cage if they are required to be emptied.

Currently the recycling bins are scheduled to be emptied weekly by Council's external contractor, however it is the club's responsibility to put the bins out for collection and this does not always happen which then creates issues for the clubs and users of the track.

There is no option to increase the frequency of collection of the recycle bins often causing issues with overfull bins when large events are run.

The management of use, placement, and collection of rubbish bins continues to be an issue for the athletics clubs and hirers of the athletics track resulting in regular complaints from the clubs and the track manager.

The Council cleaning contractor should place all bins out for collection (including recycle bins), however there are ongoing issues with the cleaning contract which have been raised numerous times with the contractor. Option for consideration: That clubs engage a Private Waste Contractor which would provide a more flexible and regular service, however, would become a club expense.

8.1.3 Engineering and Traffic Management

The main carpark with 170 car parks was sealed in 2022 however the southeast corner remains unsealed. This will be sealed when the overflow carpark works are undertaken for the new pavilion on the southwest corner of the reserve bordered by George Street and Victoria Street, Doncaster in the 2023 - 2024 financial year.

The management of buses in the area for school carnivals continues to be an issue. There is dedicated long term bus parking in the formalised carpark, however, pick up and drop off times remain challenging.

8.1.4 Car Park Lighting

An assessment was conducted of the car park lighting by High Access Cabling (Electrical Contractor) on 15th December 2022.

While High Access Group advised that it was possible to do a "like for like" replacement (i.e., replacing the existing high pressure sodium flood lights with LED flood lights), there are concerns that this will result in light spillage into the surrounding residential properties from where there have been previous complaint).

As the main car park was a hockey pitch in the 1990s, the existing flood lights were likely designed for hockey training / competition so may be unsuitable for the car park.

The Traffic team is looking to engage a design consultant to explore lighting options and will report back to the Recreation team.

8.1.5 Parks Maintenance

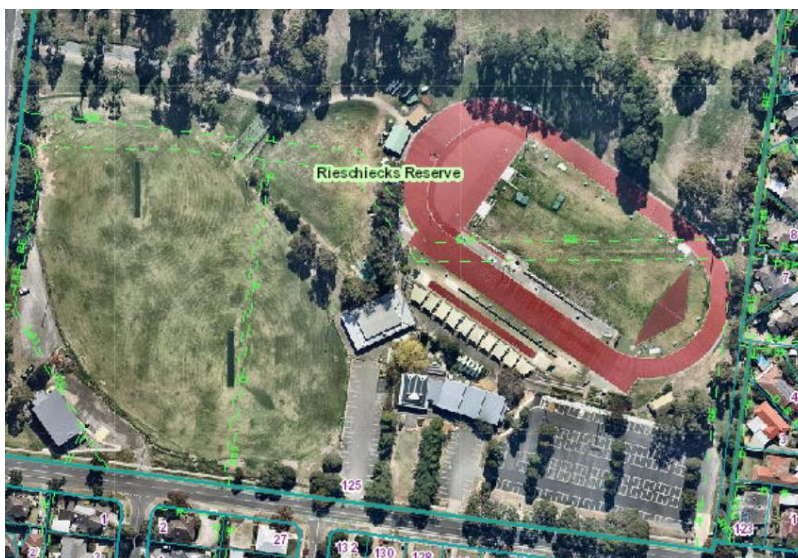
The track surface was redeveloped in 2022 with the contractor required to maintain the track surface for the next 4-5 years.

Track protection is required when heavy vehicles are crossing the track to mitigate possible damage, and there may be issues relating to this when events are held at the track such as Relay for Life. There are two access points onto the track, the western end, which is a wider entrance and the eastern end, which is used by Council's teams when accessing and maintaining the infield.

Consideration may need to be given to how access to the infield is better managed for large events requiring truck access for example. Possibly a different key is required for events, so that appropriate track protection is used. Council does not have track protection of large vehicles. Hirers would need to provide this themselves.

Whilst the infield is irrigated, there is no drainage in the infield which is an ongoing issue which is unable to be resolved as Melbourne Water drainage easement runs through this area.

The image below shows the Melbourne Water drainage easement outlined in green. It runs right through the hammer throw area, over the middle of the track and through the infield.



During the school holidays there are often issues with sand from the long jump pit being spread in surrounding areas as the pit is used as a sand pit.

8.1.6 Open Space Planning

The Open Space Planning team are implementing the remainder of the Rieschiecks Reserve Management Plan 2012 including the path on the eastern and northern side of the facility. This is challenging as the eastern side is heavily treed with a steep slope.

The fence line on the northeast corner doesn't make a lot of sense. A gate is required.

8.1.7 Heimat Centre

The Heimat Centre Manager reports that waste management is an issue. The public dump rubbish on occasion. The placement of bins out for collection is the responsibility of the Council officer who attends the Heimat Centre daily.

Staff in the Heimat Centre have no complaints about noise from the athletics track, however when the track is booked for school use, this has a flow on effect on parking and rubbish bins. The athletics clubs make use of Heimat Centre bins if needed which negatively impacts the Heimat Centre as the Centre then has reduced waste management capacity.

There are currently no plans in Council's Infrastructure Plan to redevelop the Heimat Centre.

8.2 Tenant Sporting Clubs

Consultation was undertaken with each of the four sporting clubs based at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track. A shared meeting was held with Doncaster Athletics Club, Doncaster Little Athletics Club and Doncaster Masters Athletics Club. These clubs work very closely and co-operatively with each other. A separate meeting was held with the Westerfoldians Running Group.

8.2.1 Doncaster Athletics Club

Membership of the Doncaster Athletics Club (DAC) has been steady at approximately 250 members for many years and remained steady through Covid. In 2023 there are 280-290 members. Many of the members are juniors up to early 20's and then 40+. There is a pretty even gender split.

New track and lighting and the general ambience of the track is attracting new users. The track has Class 2 Certification and is considered one of the premier tracks in Victoria.

They host track competitions approximately 5-6 times a year on a Saturday afternoon. There is demand for use of the track by Athletics Victoria who use it for special meets which tend to be twilight meets. The details of these events are outlined in Section 6.3.1.

8.2.2 Doncaster Little Athletics Club

In 2022 there were 170 members of the Doncaster Little Athletics Club (DLAC), though the track was closed for a significant part of the year. In 2023 there are 230 members. They are hoping to increase membership up to 300. Four to five years ago, membership was 400-500 children however, there has been an overall downward trend in Little Athletics. Approximately 55% of the members are female and 45% male.

The Little Athletics group would prefer to have access to the track from 8.00am on the weekends in Summer.

Little Athletics Victoria hosts a regional event every second year at Doncaster with Knox hosting the alternate year.

8.2.3 Doncaster Masters Athletics Club

This group do athletics through the summer season and cross country through the winter and have an allocation on Monday evenings.

The group have 170 people on their mailing list. In 2022 approximately 20 people regularly attended training, however this has risen to 40 in 2023. There has been a good influx of parents from the Little Athletics Club. Approximately 70% of the membership is male.

8.2.4 Shared Comments/Issues of the Athletic Clubs

The new bin system doesn't work. Often there are no bins put out for schools by the cleaner. Previously the Council officer would put the bins in and out, but not anymore. They previously shared bins.

There are often work requests made to Council, but they are not actioned. The work requests are not followed up. For non-urgent works they use Council's online maintenance request form.

When senior schools book the football oval there is an issue with primary schools who may be using the track at the same time as students from the senior schools need to access the public toilets.

The clubs are interested in a new pavilion development (not on the same site as the existing) which would include grandstand seating, club rooms and storage. They do **not** want funds spent on redeveloping the existing pavilion. They would prefer to wait for a new pavilion development in a different location alongside the straight than have the planned retrofit of the existing pavilion.

There are often complaints about noise from the public particularly in regard to use of the P.A system. There are also complaints about the use of the lights in the evening. On occasion special meets have gone as late as 10.00pm.

With regard to track bookings, the Council takes the bookings and informs the clubs and the cleaner, however the cleaning is not done properly.

The turnstile that was installed to manage track access through Covid continues to work well for the clubs and this is something they wish to retain. The turnstile minimises the abuse by general community members who wish to access the track when it is allocated for club use.

There are three different peak bodies who support the three clubs however they are not interested in a joint management group as this just adds a layer. The clubs communicate with each other as required.

Routine maintenance by Council is good. Reactive maintenance is not so good.

8.2.5 Westerfoldians Running Group

This group started informally in 2018 with 30 regular members. They are a recreational running group who run member events.

Prior to the Covid pandemic there were 150-160 members. Currently there are approximately 120 members and the group use the track on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm-8.00pm. (Previously they were allocated Thursday evening). The focus of the group is social, mental and physical. Their allocation is for the track only. They do not need or use the pavilion. This group is happy for community members to access the outer two lanes of the track whilst their group train.

They are currently having discussions with members to increase member buy in to the ensure the sustainability of the club. Having a regular allocation for use of the track costs money and membership fees need to at least cover the costs. When the club had Thursday nights for their use, they offered to share the Thursday night with the Doncaster Athletic Club as they only require access to the track with lights – they don't need exclusive use.

The group are very happy with the level of maintenance and find the Council easy to work with.

8.3 State Sporting Bodies

Consultation was undertaken with each of the peak sporting bodies being:

- Athletics Victoria
- Little Athletics Victoria
- Masters Athletics Victoria

8.3.1 Athletics Victoria

Tom Kelly is one of the key tracks used by Athletics Victoria. They run state club championships there 3 or 4 times per year and possibly the relay championships. The track is in an easily accessible position and the committee is very helpful.

The club is proactive and wanting to assist so it makes it helpful from a state perspective.

Over the last 12 months they have run 5 or 6 specialist meets known as High Velocity Meetings which are usually held mid-week on Tuesday or Thursday evenings from 6.00pm-9.30pm. These events usually attract 400-600 people.

The track has received Class 2 certification for international events with the exception of the throwing area. Hammer Throw should be 90m however the Tom Kelly facility is 75-80 metres which makes it suitable for 95% of events. It is however noted that the certification relates to the track length, however due to the curve radius not meeting the international standards for World Athletics certification, a full certificate cannot be issued.

The track at Knox is being redeveloped shortly and the Aberfeldie Essendon and Box Hill tracks have new lighting planned. Ideally there would be 5 or 6 venues across the state that they would like to see developed as much as possible.

Overall, the facility meets all of their needs however the comment was that that in future it would be good to have the storage and club rooms consolidated with improved toilet facilities and parking.

8.3.2 Little Athletics Victoria

Little Athletics Victoria (LAV) is the largest of the peak athletic bodies in Victoria.

The Tom Kelly Athletics track is considered one of the premier tracks in the Eastern suburbs and is one the few tracks that is accessible 24/7 as most are kept locked. The user groups of the track grow because the community sees them in action.

Tom Kelly is a wonderful venue except for parking. LAV use it for smaller state events with one event maximum held per season. Parking on site is inadequate for larger events and public transport is not great.

It is a regular venue for regional events where well over 1,500 children and their parents attend the events.

The facility is suitable for state level events with nice wide straights and good throwing areas.

The DLAC committee is very good with good people and equipment which makes using the Tom Kelly Track low risk for them.

Upgrading the lights to broadcast standard would make it even more attractive.

The track is often under water in a deluge but appears to cause no lasting damage.

The track is heavily used by the general public which has implications for track repair and maintenance.

8.3.3 Masters Athletics Victoria

Master's Athletics Victoria have approximately 800 members at state level. They currently run two annual events at the Tom Kelly track. In August they run the Venue Challenge which is a competition between the 15 venues across Melbourne who have a masters club operating from them. This event attracts approximately 100 competitors. The second event is the Victorian State Championships which is a two-day event in February /March each year which attracts approximately 300 competitors.

There are plans for a new special meet to be held after Easter in 2024 which will be the Master's Gift. At this stage, the event is planned to be held at the Doncaster track and likely to attract approximately 150 competitors.

At the state level they are very happy with the new track and upgraded lights and the Doncaster track is getting preference over other venues. It is preferable to Lakeside because the hire fees are cheaper.

8.4 School Consultation

A number of schools who regularly use the track were invited to provide feedback.

8.4.1 Whitefriars College

Whitefriars are a consistent user of the Tom Kelly Athletics track and in 2022/2023 were the highest school user. They use the track for their athletics carnival as well as for their athletics unit.

The school indicated that they are always happy with the track and find the club representative is very helpful with the hire of equipment and opening of the track.

The sealed carparking is an improvement on previous years. There are always plenty of bins which are easily locatable.

They make use of the canteen, pavilion and the small room on Carnival days.

Additional toilet facilities would be beneficial as well as a gathering space/spectator area on the northern side of the track. Ideally this area would have some shelter.

8.4.2 East Doncaster Secondary College

East Doncaster Secondary College have used the Tom Kelly Athletics Track for many years for the Athletics Carnival as well as for the Vision Carnival.

They are very happy with the facilities and appreciate the online booking system where they are able to see at a glance which dates are available. They generally book 12 months in advance. As the school is walking distance from the facility, their students walk down to the facility for their athletics carnival.

They had no issues or suggestions for improvements.

8.4.3 Our Lady of Sion College

It's a great facility and the booking process is okay.

They would like to be able to hold a fundraising barbecue however were told this couldn't happen. They must use the canteen.

A fire evacuation plan is required for the whole site. There is one available for the pavilion, however not one for the whole site. This is required for their risk management and safety practices.

The communication with the club was good.

8.4.4 Public Schools Sport Association

Contact was made with the Operations Manager for the Eastern Metro area.

He reported that there was nothing but good feedback in relation to their use of Tom Kelly Athletics Track for interschool competition.

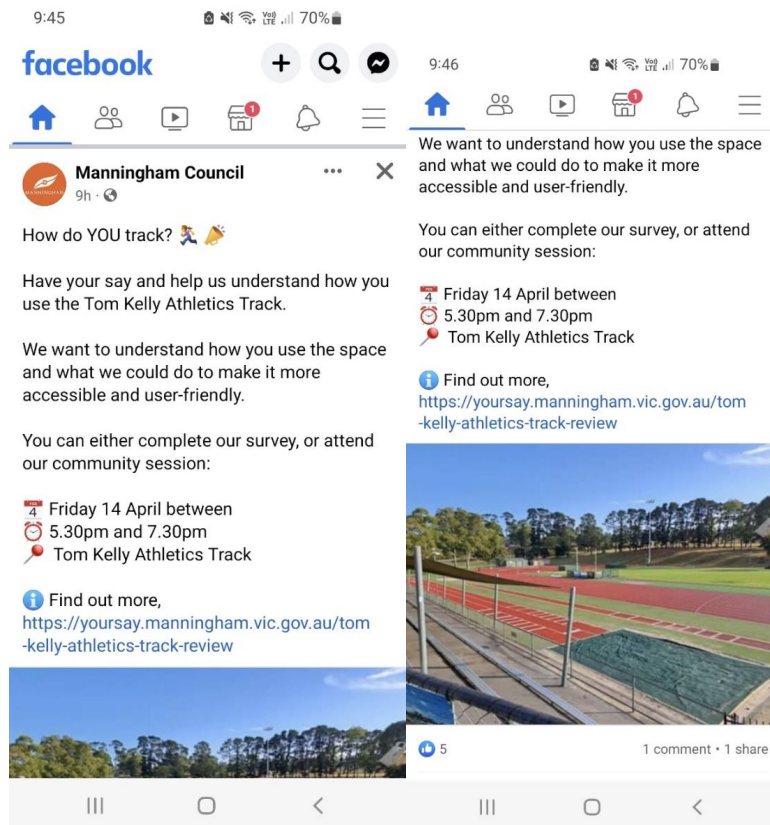
It's helpful to have access to the clubrooms for recording of events and records. They are also keen to have access to the photo finish equipment.

DLAC are super to deal with.

The fact that the throwing area is located outside the track poses a small risk from a child protection standpoint.

8.5 Community Consultation Drop in Event

A drop in community consultation event was held on Friday evening 14th April 2023 from 5.30pm - 7.30pm at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track. The drop in event was promoted via a letter box drop to local residents as well as signage at the entrances to the track. In addition, the opportunity for residents to have their say was promoted on Councils social media channels. See the Facebook posts on the next page.



There were 15 people who provided their feedback during the drop in event. Their comments are recorded below.

- Club member and local resident would like CCTV on site.
- There are school groups using the P.A system inappropriately and constantly.
- Club member feedback: Happy to have the community still using the track. They do have issues with some residents playing ball games as this is dangerous when a ball goes on to the track. Issues with the netting for the hammer throw and discus area, currently in fair condition but may need to be considered for upgrade. The lane barriers need to be replaced; none are now working.
- School groups require traffic management plans especially when schools are not providing bus services. Consider a kiss and drop zone for car drop off as well as bus parking.
- A request was made to move the public toilets to the cricket club pavilion so that they are accessible when the track is booked.
- The public toilets are not accessible to the public when a school has booked the facility. There needs to be signage directing the public to the nearest public toilets at Ruffey Lake.
- Turnstiles have been good, the lights, seats, the club loves the facility, ramps and accessible use has been great.
- Better signage is needed at the track to inform community users that there are not be no bikes, scooters or roller blades used on the track. This needs to be in a range of languages and located in multiple points around the track as well as at the entrance.
- There is no monitoring/policing of track use by Council; the club feels they are forced to be the 'bad people' having to enforce the rules about what is appropriate use of the track.
- The adjudicating platform is not safe. Safety barriers are required especially at the top platform. This equipment is owned and provided by the club.
- Upgrade the car park lighting, currently not working.
- Resident: Really lovely, well kept, clean bathrooms, safe and welcoming. Very convenient for running, good in all conditions. Would love to have the lights on weeknights for use of the track, would make them feel more comfortable.
- Occasionally there are people who walk their dogs on the track, but this is not common.
- The club feels their social running groups provide a good opportunity for people to run under lights, however they have the gates locked during these sessions causing a barrier to informal participation. This opportunity needs more promotion.
- The lane gate at the start finish line is a hazard.
- Holes in the track near the javelin area.
- Clubs would like Council to educate the community via a message on the website about how to use the track properly e.g., don't use Lane 1.
- The club believe the track is heavily used compared to other tracks and may wear out more often meaning upgrades are required more often.
- A resident is concerned about flood lights going into their home – they weren't told about the flood light height. They are concerned about what time the lights are on. 9.30pm was confirmed as the latest allowable time for club use.
- A resident is concerned about the safety of the pine trees on the northern side of the track and those on the east fence line.

- Resident: Parking and P.A system, concerns about buses particularly during school use. Buses regularly park in the bike lanes. At times people park on the nature strips. Parking is an ongoing issue especially on the weekends when there are hundreds of cars competing with cricket use as well. The resident suggests the P.A system requires review. The sound bounces off the opposite bank and is directed back to George Street. Possible parking available up at Schramm's Cottage. Believes the reserve is being used too much. He plans to sell and move as he can't stand it anymore. You can hear the P.A in Jackson Court.
- Public toilets lighting at night should be working from a light sensor rather than a timer.
- Resident: Love the new lights (less spread), on the north side of the reserve. Not worried by the use at all. P.A system is too loud; they need to be fixed. Mainly school groups are the problem. Played a recording from their house of the P.A system - you can clearly hear the P.A system from the front and back of their house.
- Resident would be supportive of having the lights turned on during Friday nights to facilitate casual community use.
- The facility is great for wheelchair athletes. Accessibility on to the track has improved.
- Public toilets need upgrade, they feel dark and cold. Need a formalised agreement for use of the canteen and the hire of equipment. – Ideally one agreement.

8.6 Onsite Consultation

Four onsite consultation sessions were conducted at the athletics track on Monday 22nd May from 10:00am and 12:00pm, Wednesday 24th of May from 3:00pm to 4:45pm, Thursday 25th of May from 7:45am to 10:00am and from 10:45am to 12:15pm. Across the four sessions 43 people were consulted with.

Outlined below is the feedback received from these consultations.

- Love the track, keep it the way it is.
- They like running at the track, it feels safe. Only like to run during the day as it is light, would like to use the track at night if it was lit.
- Would like to know when they can use the track during the day – need signage in Chinese.
- Install a hill run with the same surface as the track.
- The facility is fantastic – his son trains here with his coach.
- Very diverse group of people, the track is used a lot by the public.
- Is always well kept.
- Personal training is being conducted at the track.
- Would like to bring their dog into the track, not to run around but just have at the track while their kid's train.
- Very happy with the track, sometimes bikes are on the track. Need better signage in different languages.
- One of the better athletics tracks in the state.
- Annoyed that they can't use it when the club is training.
- Want the track open for community use. Do not want it locked.
- Unsure where to find information on when the track is available to be used. Want a sign onsite that tells them this information.
- Want gym equipment to be installed similar to what is at Ruffey Lake Park. Possible stretching stations.
- Want to be able to use the track when clubs are using it. One lady noted she walks around the outside lane when the clubs use the track.
- Public toilets need an upgrade, they feel dark and cold.



- Outdoor covered changing area was suggested, simply for changing footwear and hanging up jackets/clothing.

8.7 Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee

The Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Plan was discussed at the May 2023 meeting of the Manningham Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee. Below is the feedback and ideas received from this group.

- Lack of awareness about availability creates tensions within the club and community.
- Insurance complications if general community members enter when club using.
- Fitness stations would be a great addition.
- Can a new area be developed for community members whilst the track is being used (e.g., lit path network around Rieschiecks Reserve with synthetic and not concrete).
- More competitive users don't want walkers on the track.
- Sign noting track availability.
- Issue with clubs booking and not using the track.
- Reserve feels secure – They like this about the facility. Feels safer when there are less people around as the number of entry points is limited (so you can see who comes in).
- The track is in good condition.
- Track suitable for body joints compared to Warrandyte etc. Easier on the body.
- Great for carnivals with the hill.
- Ample parking even during peak times.
- Good venue that's been upgraded – Toilets need to be upgraded. Have a creepy feeling. Poor condition which is a barrier.
- Only one water bubbler and it's on the one side.
- The fact is it's open 24/7 and rarely vandalised which shows it is well respected.
- Council could consider running events and BBQs to bring more people in.
- Additional track seating is needed.
- People want to know when it's available – E.g. That it will be available every Tuesday night etc.
- The problem is if someone has booked it and they don't use it.
- Some people like going down when other groups are there as it provides a perception of safety - Do we consider an extra public lane when other bookings are using the track?
- Do we book out each section of the track individually? Can this be done? E.g., can two lanes be booked by the clubs, with the remaining lanes free for public use?
- Barriers across the lanes? Do the ones at the track work and can they be put out?

In addition to the above, Manningham Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee members also considered how to increase the profile of the track and enhance user's experience.

1. Appoint **Sport Ambassadors** for Tom Kelly Athletics Track. Ideal candidate is a high-performance athlete who has had their training and development experience in Tom Kelly and willing to raise awareness of positive lifestyle to communities in Manningham and encourage success in sport and life.
2. Build an open space **gallery, museum, or walls** in Tom Kelly Athletics Track. Display inspiring words and pictures with stories and history about some current or retired athletes, coaches, clubs, or volunteers who use Tom Kelly Athletics Track.
3. **Victorian Institute of Sport** community programs can send a high-performance athlete speaker to school to provide 1 hour session to inspire students about physical activities and wellbeing. This is a **free** program for **Government Schools**. How can we help to promoting this terrific program to more public schools in our Manningham? The more students get inspired, the more chances they will go out to exercises.

<https://www.vis.org.au/vis-community-programs-victorian-government-schools>

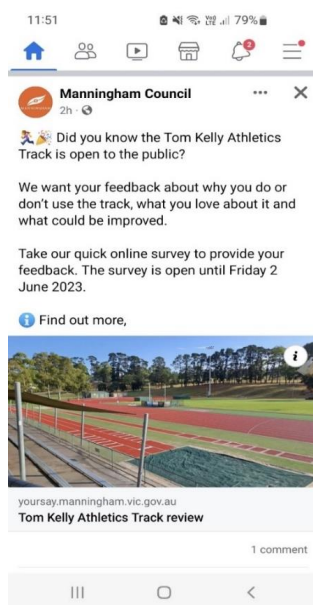
8.8 Community Survey

A community survey was conducted from 1 April – 2 June 2023. The purpose of the survey was to understand how residents use the track and what could be done to make it more accessible and user friendly, as well as to identify any issues with track.

Residents were informed of the survey in a range of ways.

1. Social Media

On 16 May 2023 the Facebook post below was posted to inform residents about the survey and encouraging them to share their views and feedback.



2. A letterbox drop to local residents informing them of the survey.
3. An article in the May Sport and Recreation email newsletter to all Manningham based sports and recreation clubs inviting them to complete a survey.
4. A flyer was prepared and distributed by Councillor Chen and Council officers to those who were using the track casually.
5. The below invitation was sent to the Youth Advisory Committee/Group inviting them to complete the survey.



6. Emails informing of the community survey were sent to:
- Schools who have booked the track since the 1st of January 2022 to the 23rd of May 2023.
 - Residents who have expressed concerns about the track PA system and people seeking information about how to access the track casually since 2020.
 - A range of local community groups.

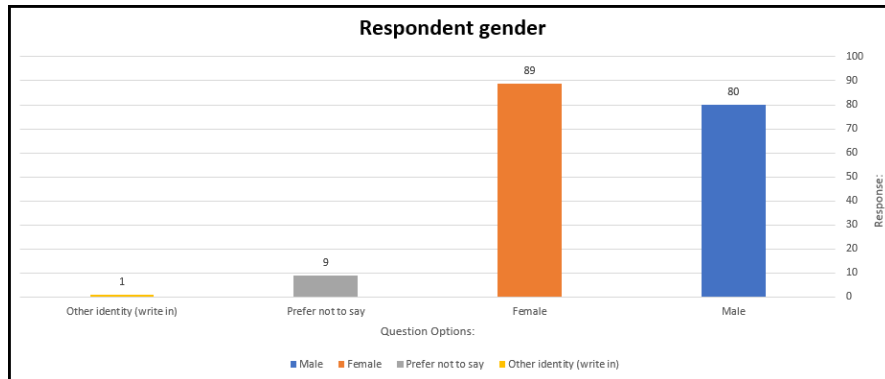
9 Community Survey Analysis

A community survey was conducted from 1 April – 2 June 2023. The purpose of the survey was to understand how residents use the track and what could be done to make it more accessible and user friendly, as well as to identify any issues with the track. 179 people responded to the survey.

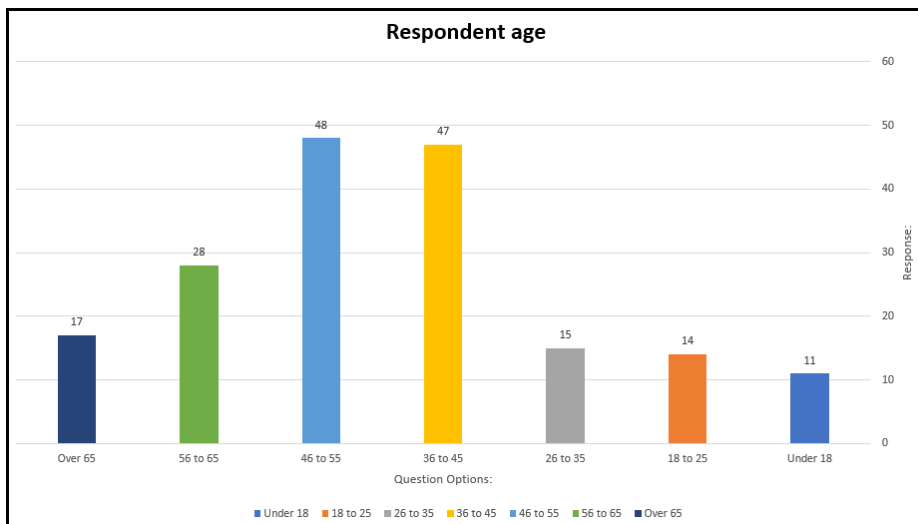
9.1 Respondent Profile

The tables on the following page summarise the gender, age and suburbs of the online survey respondents for the Tom Kelly Athletic Track Survey.

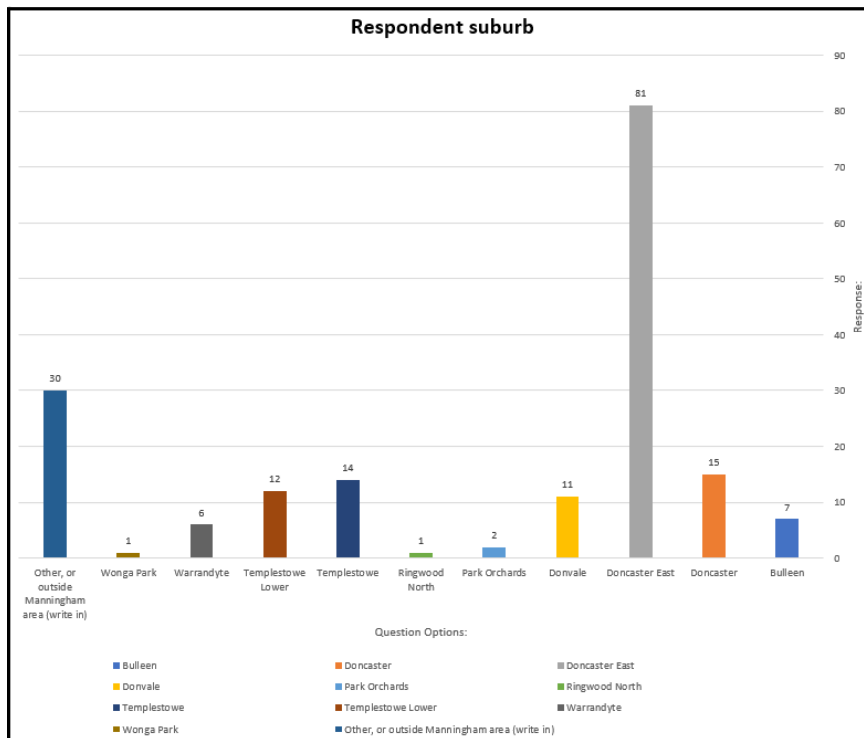
As can be seen in the table, a higher number of respondents were female with 89 (49.7%) responses, 80 responses from males (44.7%) and 9 respondents (0.5%) indicating that they would prefer not to say in regard to their gender and 1 respondent choosing other.



The highest number of respondents 48 (26.7%) were from those aged 46-55 with the next highest response rate coming from those aged 36-45 (26.1%), followed by 28 (15.6%) from those aged 56-65. There were 17 (9.4%) of responses from those aged over 65, 15 (8.3%) from those aged 26-35, 14 (7.8%) responses from those aged 18-25, with the lowest response from those aged 18 or under where 11 (6.1%) responses were received.



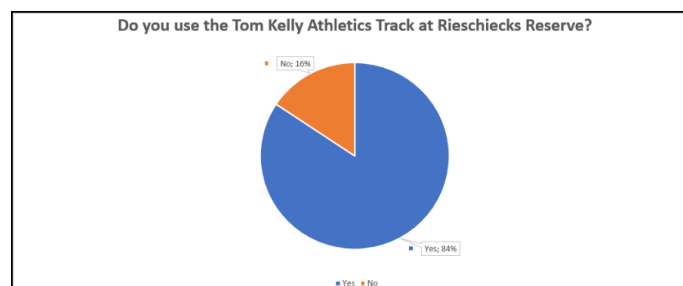
The table below shows that the majority of responses 81 (45%) came from those living in Doncaster, East with 'other or outside the municipality' making up the next highest response of 30 (16.7%), this was followed by 15 (8.3%) living in Doncaster, 14(7.8%) respondents living in Templestowe, 12 (6.7%) in Templestowe Lower, 11 (6.1%) in Donvale, 7 (3.9%) in Bulleen, 6 (3.3%) in Warrandyte, 2 (1.1%) in Park Orchard and 1 (0.6%) from both Wonga Park and Ringwood North.



9.2 Survey Response Analysis

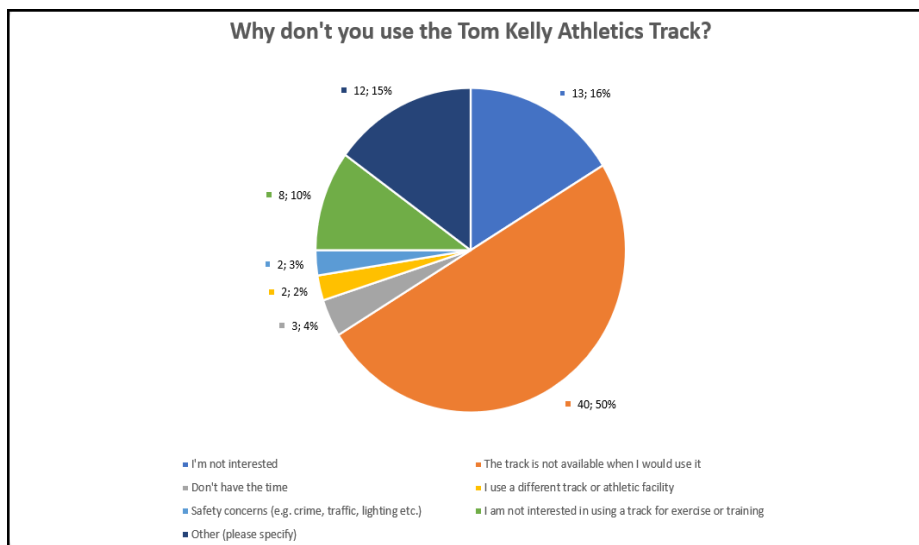
1. Do you use the Tom Kelly Athletics Track at Rieschiecks Reserve?

As can be seen in the table below, of those who responded 84.4% use the Tom Kelly Athletic Track with 15.6% not using the track.



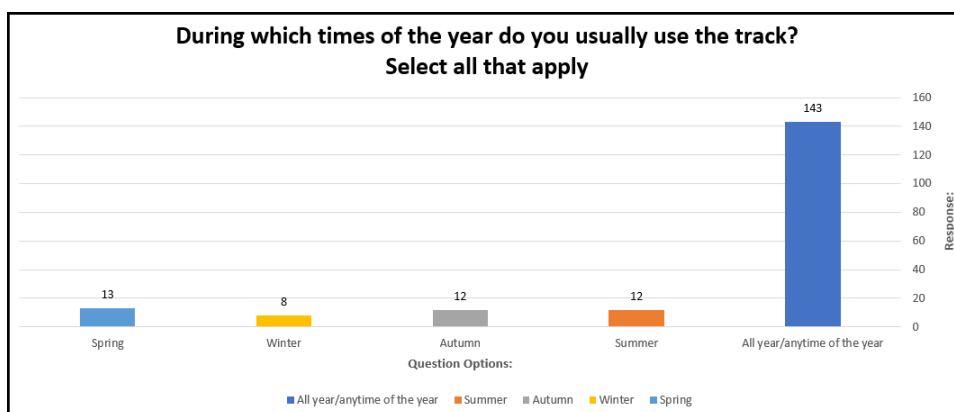
2. Why Don't You Use the Tom Kelly Athletics Track?

Of the 80 respondents who answered why they don't use the track, 40 (50%) indicated that they don't use the track because it is not available when they would use it, this was followed by 13 (16.3%) who indicated they weren't interested, 12 (15.0%) who answered 'other', 8 (10%) who had safety concerns, 3 (3.8%) who indicated they don't have time, and 2 (2.5%) who said they were not interested in using a track for exercise or training, or they use a different track or athletic facility.



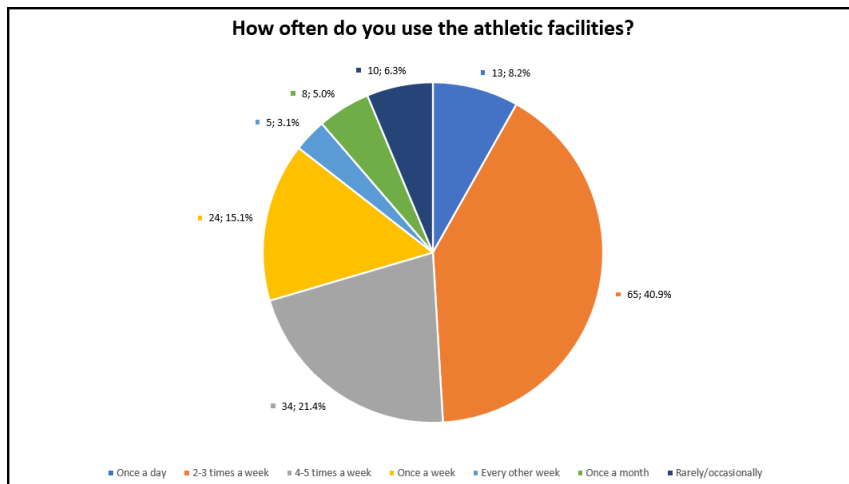
3. Which Times of the Year Do You Usually Use the Track?

Of the 157 responses, respondents were able to choose multiple responses for this answer with the vast majority 143 of responses indicating that they use the track all year. Summer, Autumn and Spring were used almost equally with 13 and 12 responses, and Winter was the least used with 8 responses.



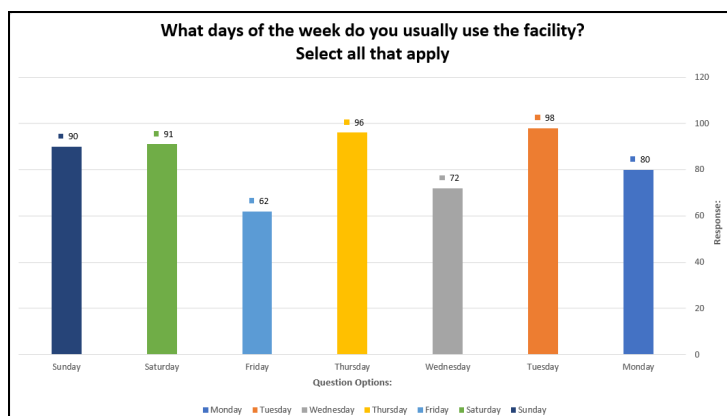
4. How Often Do You Use the Athletic Facilities?

From the 159 responses to the question, how often do you use the athletic facilities, the most popular response from 65 (40.9%) respondents indicated that they use the facility 2-3 times a week, followed by 34 (21.4%) who use it 4-5 times a week, 24 (15.1%) who use it once a week and 13 (8.2%) who use it once a day. 10 (6.3%) indicated they use the facility rarely/occasionally, 8 (5.0%) use it once a month and 5 (3.1%) use it every other week.



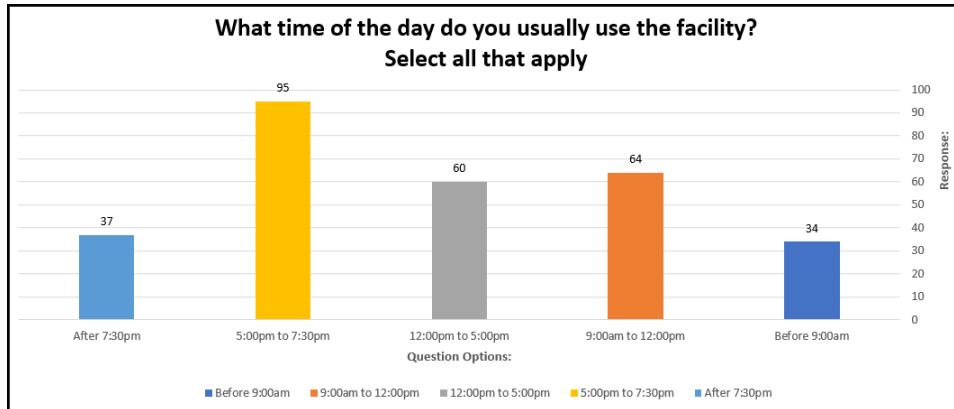
5. What Days of the Week Do You Usually Use the Facility

The 158 respondents were able to choose multiple days in response to this question which shows all days of the week experience good use. The day of the week used by most respondents was Tuesday with 98 responses, followed by Thursday with 96 responses, Saturday with 91 responses, Sunday with 90 responses, Monday with 80 responses, Wednesday with 72 responses, with Friday being the least popular day with 62 responses.



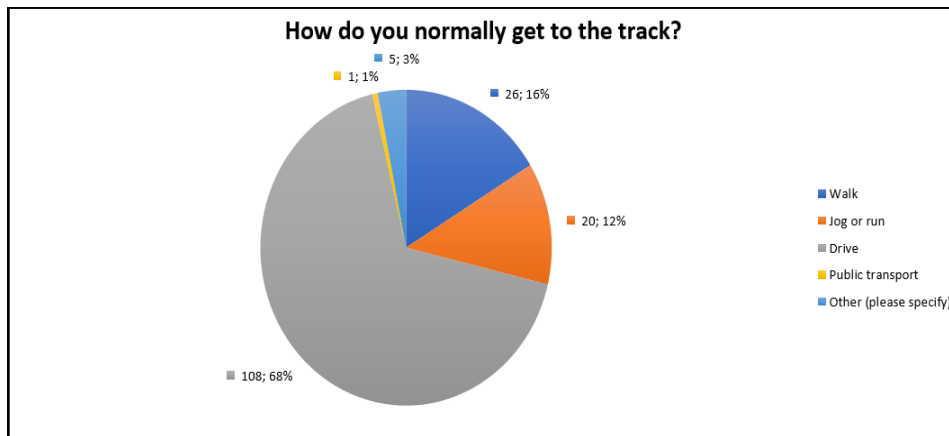
6. What Time of Day Do You Usually Use the Facility?

The 157 respondents were also able to choose multiple responses to this question with 95 indicating 5.00pm-7.30pm was the most popular time of use, followed by 64 who use it from 9.00am -12pm, then 60 who use it from 12.00pm-5.00pm, followed by 34 before 9.00am and lastly 37 who use the facility after 7.30pm.



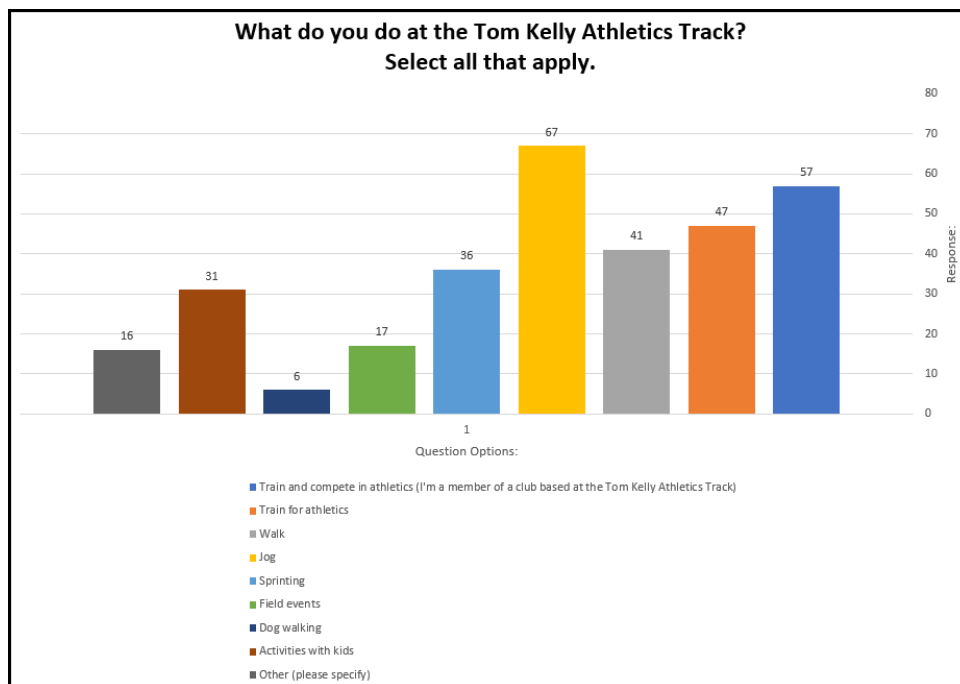
7. How do you normally Get to the Track?

Of the 160 responses, the vast majority 108 (67.5%) drive to the track, followed by 26 (16.3%) who walk, 20 (12.5%) who jog or run, 5 (3.1%) who chose 'other', 1 (0.6%) who catch public transport. No one chose cycling as their method of transport to the track.



8. What Do You Do at the Tom Kelly Athletics Track?

The 161 respondents were able to choose multiple responses to this question with 67 people indicating jogging was the most selected option, followed by 57 who train to compete (or are a member of a club based at the track), 47 who train for athletics, 41 who walk , 38 for sprinting, 31 who do activities with kids, 17 for field events, 16 'other' and 6 who use the track for dog walking.



9. What Do You Like or Enjoy About the Tom Kelly Athletics Track

This was an open-ended question with 138 responses, providing respondents with the opportunity to indicate what they like or enjoyed about the track. Within respondents' answers many indicated multiple things that they liked or enjoyed about the track. The responses have been collated below with the most popular reasons at the top moving down to responses only mentioned by one respondent.

1. Great running track x 38
2. Good facilities x 26
3. Close by/location x 17
4. Nothing x 17
5. Beautiful surrounds x 5
6. Parking x 5
7. Clean x 5
8. Walking or running with family and friends x 4
9. Restricted public access during club training times x 4
10. Toilets available x 3
11. Running/Jogging x 3

12. Flat surface x 3
13. Great to have somewhere with lights to train in the winter x 2
14. Family friendly x 2
15. Open x 2
16. Large open area x 2
17. Good division of booked and open access x 2
18. IAAF approved x 2
19. Good amenities
20. Shelter
21. Good long jump pit
22. No bikes
23. No dogs
24. Paul from DLAC
25. Clear communication with DLAC
26. Good for school carnivals
27. Club equipment easy to access
28. It is big
29. Somewhere to train
30. That the booking schedule is online
31. Only like it when it's not used for any sporting events.
32. Quiet environment

As can be seen above, the top ten responses are a combination of the facilities themselves such as the top answer (38) great running track and the second top answer (26) good facilities as well as the location of the facility (17) indicating that it is well used by local residents. 17 respondents also indicated that they like 'nothing' about the facility indicating that there are a significant number of respondents who have concerns about the facility. The fact that the facility is well maintained and safe was identified by 13, good lighting by 10 people, the Doncaster Athletic Club by 9 people, facility is accessible by 7 and that the track is soft and good for joints by 5 people.

In addition to what they liked; some respondents also indicated what they don't like with those responses outlined below.

Don't like

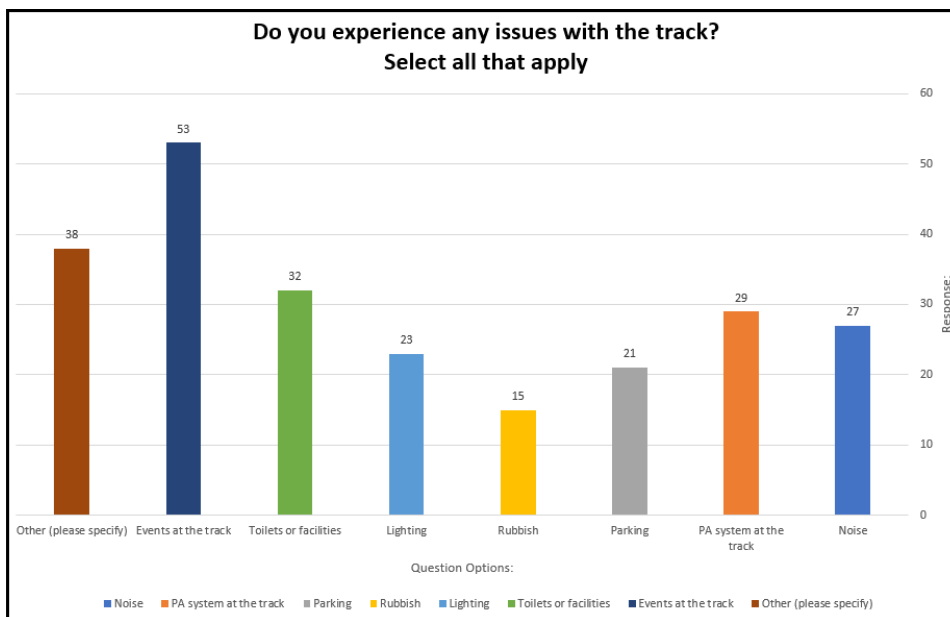
1. Club restrict access to the public x 2
2. Too much going on
3. The DAC are rude and make it unwelcoming. They book it out for hours.

Suggestion

One respondent made a suggestion that an all ages running group is established to keep fit.

10. Do You Experience Any Issues With the Track?

The 132 respondents were able to choose multiple responses to this question with 53 respondents indicating they had issues with events at the track, followed by 38 who selected 'other', 32 who identified issues with toilets and facilities, 29 with the PA system, 27 with noise, 23 with lighting, 21 with parking and 15 with rubbish.



Question 11. More Information about Issues Identified in Question 10.

There were a range of detailed responses providing respondents the opportunity to expand on the issues identified in the previous question. From the detailed responses, the key points have been extracted and summarised below within the categories of Facilities, Usage/Access and Suggestions. Where respondents have raised the same concern, this is indicated by the number next to the issue.

Facilities

The key points within the category of facilities were that the toilets need updating (13) and are not adequately cleaned (5) as well as a range of issues with lighting, and protection from wet weather.

- Toilets need updating x 13
- Toilets not clean x 5
- Broken toilet door in female toilets x 2
- No lighting in the car park – safety issues.
- Pavilion facilities are below par
- Car parking gates can malfunction making access and entry impossible
- Lighting towers cause glare in residents widows – too high
- Lights are too bright
- No accessible changerooms
- Shade sails in the stand area are starting to have tears
- Lack of shelter/weather protection
- Trees hanging over track in north east corner – these have birds nest in the spring and runners get swooped
- Sound system is not loud enough during athletics meets

Usage/Access

The key points within the category of usage/access relate to noise from the PA and other (26), traffic and parking congestion (15), limited availability for casual users (12), accuracy and availability of who is using the track and when (12), and rubbish removal (7).

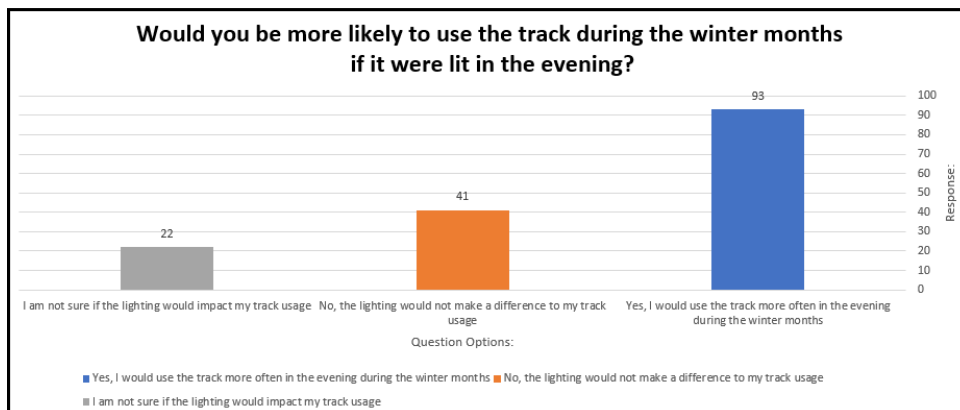
- Noise from PA and other x 26
- Traffic and parking congestion x 15
- Limited availability for casual access x 12
- Accurate information at the track and online of who is using the track and when x 9
- Rubbish removal is too ad hoc and often rubbish around track and surrounds x 7
- Track shouldn't be used to walk the dog, ride bikes etc –x 5
- More access to lights at night x 4
- Toilet access at all times x 3
- General public dump rubbish x 2
- Lack of lighting before sunrise in winter x 2
- No lighting available unless you are a club member x 2
- Club regularly breach the permitted hours of use of the PA and lighting. Despite complaints to Council no action is taken.
- Difficult to run informal training sessions during the day because general public are often using the inside lanes and often with children and toddlers.
- Being yelled at because we walk slowly
- Sometimes training is cancelled due to other events at the track
- Bikes damage the track surface
- Safety concerns by those who use the track for non athletic purposes
- Overuse of the track impacting residents
- Personal trainers are blocking lanes for their own use
- Need the track closed for club and private training

Further to the above dot points, respondents provided the following ideas for consideration:

- Develop the existing car park at the top of Muriel Green to relieve congestion in surrounding streets
- Residents to have priority parking outside their property
- Water fountain for drinking and filling up water bottles
- Signs warning of fines if rubbish is dumped in the carpark
- Install stretching stations/outdoor gym equipment
- No events on Sundays to give residents a break and provide time for casual use
- Keep people out of Lane 1

12. Would You Be More Likely to Use The Track During The Winter Months If It Were Lit In The Evening?

The majority of respondents 93 (59.36%) indicated that they would use the track more often in the evening in the winter months if it were lit. There were 41 (26.3%) respondents who indicated that lighting would not make a difference to their usage of the track and 22 (14.1%) who were not sure if lighting would impact their track usage. See table on next page.



13. What Changes or Improvements Would Make You More Likely To Use The Track?

There were 112 responses to this opened ended question.

Facilities

- Upgrade the toilet block x 7
- Provide shelter from wet weather x 7
- Ensure the track is well maintained x 3
- Drinking fountain x 3
- New pavilion, incorporating toilets, grandstand with shelter, storage, gym and social space x 3
- New changerooms x 2
- Improved spectator area x 2
- Fix water fountains on back straight
- Undercover seating
- Better clean toilets
- Lighting
- Facelift to turnstile entrance – athletic themed murals or signs on the brick wall, softening of bin cases with artwork or plantings. Electrical boxes would be painted to blend in with the background or depict athletes in abstract form.
- Plaque for board which details the history of the track and club and why the track is named the Tom Kelly Athletic Track
- Update lighting in the Throws area
- Better maintenance of trees and surrounds
- Timing clock
- Stretching stations
- More places to lock bicycles
- Trim trees in north east corner of track

Usage

- Stop scooters, bikes riding, ball games etc signage needed in multiple languages x 14
- Reduce noise from the PA x 11
- Better signage about when the track is booked by groups and real time availability of the track for public use online x 10
- Do something about the parking (provide residents only parking) x 8

- Limit the number of events at the track x 7
- Open to the public at all times x 7
- Increase access for casual users x 6
- Turn lights on at night x 5
- Free or low fee community running group x 3
- Ensure training athletes are given priority over occasional users x 3
- Stricter management of access while training and competitions are on x 2
- Daily access for casual users at specified times x 2
- Toilets open longer x 2
- Ensure gates to protect lanes 1 and 2 are fit for purpose x 2
- Multi lingual sign to explain that the long jump area is not a sand pit
- Make it more obvious who is allowed to use it and when. How do you get in?
- Make the people who train, train in a different lane or time
- Sunday morning is supposed to be for athletics training however the public come in
- Sunday afternoons to be set aside for casual users.
- Move the regular bookings to less popular times so the public has better access
- Casual users to have use of track and lights from 7.30pm -9.30pm
- More structured training for casual users. Gold coin donations which may see those people then become members of the clubs.
- Limit use to those who are members
- Keep training times just for club members
- Close the track to club use
- Separate area for special use
- Regularly clean up rubbish
- Stop personal trainers from blocking lanes
- Close it down and move it somewhere else
- Light the track in the early morning
- Events for kids
- Better athletic programs for kids which are professionally run, on time and worth making the time to attend.

10 Summary and Key Findings

The Tom Kelly Athletics Track is a high-quality facility that is heavily used and valued by the four tenant clubs and the community. The quality of the track also makes it attractive for use for regional and state events by the peak athletic bodies. As a regional level facility as defined by Council's Policy, the track is fulfilling its role. However, this impacts accessibility for the community as well as negatively impacting nearby residents' peaceful enjoyment of their homes.

The challenge is ensuring that the track continues to fulfil its primary purpose as an athletic track designed for competition whilst maximising its availability for use by the broader community. This is to be done in a way that minimises the impact that use of the track has on local residents.

Issues:

- Regular (at least a couple of times weekly) significant noise from spectators and the Public Address system negatively impacts surrounding residents.
- Use of the facility for additional events.
- Use of the facility beyond 9.30pm when booked for events impacting local residents.
- Traffic congestion and parking issues are a regular issue for residents which is exacerbated on weekends during the summer season when cricket is also played on the adjoining oval.
- Lack of access to public toilets when the facility is closed to the public. The toilets are inaccessible when the facility is allocated for use by tenant clubs, or the facility is used for school sports carnivals or athletic events.
- Outdated toilet facilities which are inadequate for the number of users during school carnivals and events.
- Cleanliness of the toilet facilities is lacking at times.
- Rubbish removal arrangements are lacking at times.
- Use of the inside lanes by community members
- Lack of shelter from wet weather.
- Inappropriate use of the track and long jump pit by the general public with regard to bicycles, scooters, rollerblades, ball games and dog walkers.
- Lack of accurate/real time information about when the track is available for use by the community, both online and at the track.
- Year-round allocation of the facilities to tenant clubs whose use may vary between summer and winter seasons, which could free up some time for community use.
- Lack of documentation covering the use of the Doncaster Little Athletics small clubrooms.

Opportunities

- Consider the use of the match day toilets as public toilets in the new pavilion on the corner of George Street and Victoria Street until new toilet facilities are developed within the planned athletic pavilion redevelopment.
- Improve the aesthetic appeal of the track entrance and honor the history of the facility through art works, planting and signage.
- Limit the use of the track by state bodies to minimise impacts on local residents.

Key Findings

- Strong interest and demand for additional use for community members.
- Tension between community use and club use.
- Whilst the track and lighting has been upgraded, support infrastructure such as the toilets and pavilion/clubroom facilities require upgrading. (Council has existing plans to address this.)
- Disparity between Council's development plans for the pavilion and what the tenant clubs want. It should be noted the three peak state sporting bodies consulted advised the existing facilities at Tom Kelly Athletics Track were sufficient for their needs.
- Use of the track for larger events negatively impacts local residents.

- Tenancy documentation required for the use of the small clubrooms by the Doncaster Little Athletics Club.
- Need to review and tighten allocations to tenant clubs.
- Need to address noise issues relating to the existing public address system.
- Need to address parking issues as they impact local residents.
- Infrastructure support for community users with outdoor change area and weather protection and additional water fountains.
- Need to ensure accurate/real time information about when the track is available for use by the community, both online and at the track.
- Need to ensure rubbish removal processes are responsive and adequate given use of the track changes week to week.
- Need to ensure toilet cleaning processes are responsive and adequate given use of the track changes week to week.
- Need to ensure the track is not damaged by ensuring appropriate use by the community and by requiring any heavy vehicles crossing the track to use track protection panels.

11 Recommendations

The recommendations for the future use, management and maintenance of the Tom Kelly Athletics Track will be based around the following areas:

Usage: Recommendations will be made in regard to any changes required in the usage of the facility by existing users, schools and other hirers and the community.

Management: Recommendations will be made in regard to any changes required to existing documentation such as the licence arrangements and facility hire agreements.

Facilities: Recommendations will be made in regard to any changes required in facility provision based on issues raised through this Plan only. *Please note, no feasibility or master planning has been undertaken to determine all future facility needs.*

Maintenance: Recommendations will be made in regard to any changes required to maintenance practices.

The recommendations are prioritised as follows:

- High – within 3 years
- Medium 3-6 years
- Low 6+ years

Usage/ Management Recommendations		
No.	Recommendation	Priority
1.	Install new lane barriers to minimise use of Lane 1. (already ordered).	High
2.	Work with the athletics clubs on implementing shared use arrangements, with the aim of increasing community access during times when the track is used by clubs.	High

Usage/ Management Recommendations		
No.	Recommendation	Priority
3.	Ensure real time usage and booking information is available on the website and that accurate user information is available at the track including the availability of the track for community use.	High
4.	Review the hours of allocation for athletics clubs and further scrutinise allocated hours to reflect actual use for both the summer and winter seasons. Implement seasonal allocations and ensure only regular used hours are reflected in the allocation.	High
5.	Clubs to inform Council when they will not be using the track even though it is allocated to them. E.g Saturday afternoons or Friday evenings in summer when competition is held at another venue. This availability to be reflected on the website and at the track.	High
6.	Consider limiting the number of evening events outside of each tenant club's seasonal calendar, to reduce the number of peak body events. There are to be no more than one additional event in the evening or on Sundays in the same week in order to minimise impacts on local residents. This requirement may be waived by negotiation with Council when end of season championships meets may be hosted in the same week for example.	High
7.	To minimise impact to local residents, actively manage user groups and hirers by programming the timer on the lights and the PA system to ensure the facility is not used after 9.30pm.	High
8.	When schools book the Rieschiecks Reserve sports field, ensure they are provided with access to the sports field pavilion toilets so that students do not need to access the public toilets at the track.	High
9.	Ensure effective management of the cleaning contract.	High
10.	Undertake a traffic management study to understand how use of the athletics track impacts local residents. Traffic study to review parking during peak and non-peak usage times, school carnivals and the use of buses by schools.	Medium
11.	Increase access for casual use by activating the track floodlights until 9.00pm when facilities are not in use by clubs.	Medium
12.	Replace the timer with a sensor light on the lighting of the public toilet facilities to ensure they come on when needed at night.	Medium
13.	Install signage at the entry to the facility directing the public to the nearest public toilets at the pavilion on the corner of George Street and Victoria Street, or Ruffey Lake when the facility is closed to the public.	Medium

Usage/ Management Recommendations		
No.	Recommendation	Priority
14.	Consider ways to increase general usage and opportunities provided by the track for the broader community, such as running Council funded Personal Training sessions with Aligned Leisure for example.	Medium
15.	Place the Little Athletics clubrooms located on the southeast side of the facility into the IMS system, to be booked as part of the club's seasonal allocation application.	Medium
16.	Install multilingual signage identifying conditions of use of the track including use of bikes, scooters and roller blades are prohibited.	Low
17.	Review and where possible reduce the amount of signage around the track	Low
18.	Promote the use of the existing clubs social running groups to the community.	Low
19.	Undertake an EOI process with the tenant clubs for the management of the canteen and hire of equipment. Develop a formalised agreement for the use of the canteen and hire of equipment with the preferred club.	Low
20.	Consider the installation of signs warning of fines if rubbish is dumped in the car park.	Low

Facilities/Maintenance Recommendations		
No.	Recommendation	Priority
21.	The Doncaster Athletics Club to ensure the adjudicating stand is safe by ensuring appropriate height fall prevention barriers.	High
22.	Investigate smaller and more localised Public Address system which includes a noise limiter. The system to have the capacity to be zoned to the seating area, the track and the hammer throw areas separately. Review the impact of the newly installed PA on residents after athletics season.	High
23.	Further design consideration regarding the provision of lighting at the car park is required. (Already programmed for 2023/2024.)	High
24.	Create a development plan for the Tom Kelly Athletic track to address the facility needs as a whole which considers the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenant club needs and requirements with the redevelopment of the pavilion/clubroom. Location of storage and time keepers shed. Upgrade or consolidate into the new pavilion, a toilet block to modernise and increase capacity during events and carnivals. 	High

Facilities/Maintenance Recommendations		
No.	Recommendation	Priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a wet weather shelter as well as sun protection. • Installation of stretching stations/outdoor gym equipment to enhance opportunities by community users. • Outdoor change area for casual users. • Additional water fountains. • Improve the aesthetic appeal of the track entrance and honor the history of the facility through art works, planting and signage. 	
25.	If access to the Tom Kelly Athletic Track is to be maintained during the redevelopment of the pavilion/clubrooms, access to toilets will need to be considered. Note <i>Manningham Public Toilet Plan 2021</i> identifies a public toilet is located at Rieschiecks Reserve.	High
26.	Remove or repair the lane gate at the start finish line.	Medium
27.	Repair the holes near the javelin area.	Medium
28.	Consider when available the use of technology to differentiate lanes in use by clubs and which are available for the community	Low
29.	Repair the hammer throw nets.	Low
30.	Ensure all contractors that are moving vehicles over the track use track protection.	Low

APPENDIX 1 – USE OF TOM KELLY ATHLETICS TRACK

The tables below provide data about the actual use of the athletic track by tenant clubs and casual users through the 2022/2023 Summer season and the 2022 Winter season.

2022/23 Summer figures

Item	Bookable Hours each week	Number of weeks available	Weekly Club allocations hours Summer 2022/23	Total Summer 2022/23 Allocated Hours	Total Casual Hours Summer 2022/23	Total Booked hours Summer 2022/23	Total bookable hours summer 2022/23	Total Remaining available hours	Average Weekly available hours	Percentage of use
Athletics Track	98.00	25.00	34.50	862.50	195.00	1057.50	2450.00	1392.50	55.70	43%

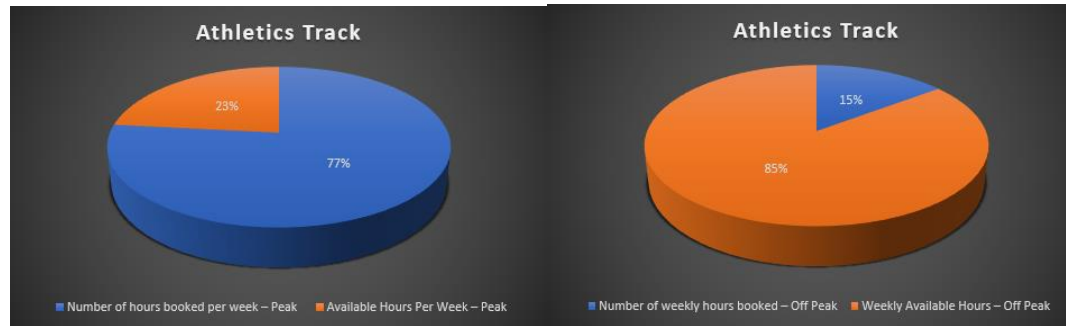
Peak and Off Peak:

Item	Hours available to book per week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Number of hours booked per week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Available Hours Per Week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Percentage of weekly use – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Hours available to book per Week – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Number of weekly hours booked – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Weekly Available Hours – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Weekly Percentage of use – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Combined Weekly available hours
Monday	5	4	1	80%	9	0.82	8.18	9.11%	9.18
Tuesday	5	4.5	0.5	90%	9	1.8	7.2	20%	7.7
Wednesday	5	2	3	40%	9	2.22	6.78	24.66%	9.78
Thursday	5	4.5	0.5	90%	9	2.3	6.7	25.55%	7.2
Friday	5	3.5	1.5	70%	9	0.32	8.68	3.55%	10.18
Saturday	10	9.5	0.5	95%	4	0	4	0%	4.5
Sunday	10	6.5	3.5	65%	4	0.34	3.66	8.5%	7.16



Total Summer Peak and Off Peak:

Item	Hours available to book per week – Peak	Number of hours booked per week – Peak	Available Hours Per Week – Peak	Percentage of weekly use – Peak	Hours available to book per Week – Off Peak	Number of weekly hours booked – Off Peak	Weekly Available Hours – Off Peak	Weekly Percentage of use – Off Peak	Combined Weekly available hours
Athletics Track	45	34.5	10.5	77%	53	7.8	45.2	15%	55.7





2022 Winter Figures

Item	Bookable Hours each week	Number of weeks available	Weekly Club allocations hours Winter 2022	Total Winter 2022 Allocated Hours	Total Casual Hours Winter 2022	Total Booked hours Winter 2022	Total bookable hours Winter 2022	Total Remaining available hours	Average Weekly available hours	Percentage of use
Athletics Track	98	25	34.5	862.50	266	1128.50	2450.00	1321.50	52.86	46%

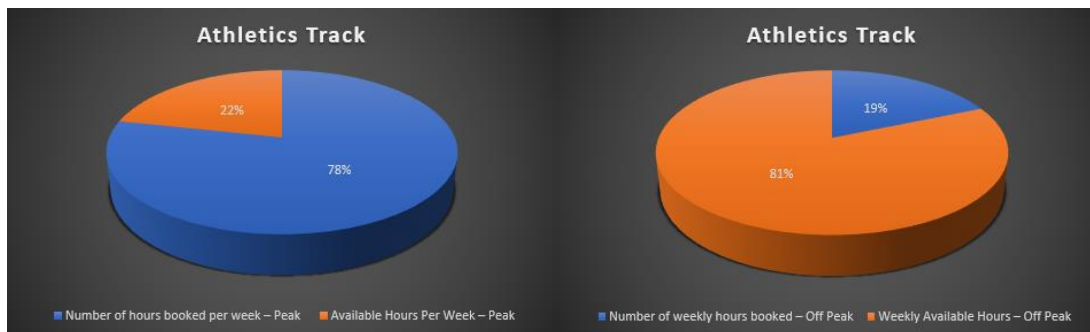
Monday Peak and Off Peak:

Item	Hours available to book per week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Number of hours booked per week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Available Hours Per Week – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Percentage of weekly use – Peak 4:00pm to 9:00pm	Hours available to book per Week – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Number of weekly hours booked – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Weekly Available Hours – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Weekly Percentage of use – Off Peak 7:00am to 4:00pm	Combined Weekly available hours
Monday	5	4	1	80%	9	1.6	7.4	18%	8.4
Tuesday	5	4.5	0.5	90%	9	2.62	6.38	29%	6.88
Wednesday	5	4.5	0.5	90%	9	2.42	6.58	27%	7.08
Thursday	5	4.7	0.3	94%	9	2.52	6.48	28%	6.78
Friday	5	3.28	1.72	66%	9	0.22	8.78	2%	10.5
Saturday	10	9.86	0.14	99%	4	0.48	3.52	12%	3.66
Sunday	10	4.44	5.56	44%	4	0	4	0%	9.56



Total Winter Peak and Off Peak:

Item	Hours available to book per week – Peak	Number of hours booked per week – Peak	Available Hours Per Week – Peak	Percentage of weekly use – Peak	Hours available to book per Week – Off Peak	Number of weekly hours booked – Off Peak	Weekly Available Hours – Off Peak	Weekly Percentage of use – Off Peak	Combined Weekly available hours
Athletics Track	45	35.28	9.72	78%	53	9.86	43.14	19%	52.86





Manningham Council

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12 CITY SERVICES

There are no City Services reports this month.

13 EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITY

13.1 Annual Report 2022/23

File Number: IN23/650
Responsible Director: Director Experience and Capability
Attachments: 1 Annual Report 2022/23 [↓](#)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek endorsement of the Annual Report 2022/23 prior to publishing on the website.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Annual Report provides the community with an overview of Council's performance during the 2022/23 year.

Following the changes made last year, community-focused information is in a short main report, with more detailed information found in a comprehensive appendix. This ensures community members can easily find what they're looking for.

In May 2012 Council resolved to disclose remuneration information for the five highest remunerated officers in the Annual Report. A recent amendment to the Fair Work Act 2009 has created a workplace right for employees to disclose (or conversely, not disclose) their remuneration. To balance the rights of our employees with our commitment to transparency, this information has been updated with a new table providing the number of senior officers remunerated by \$10,000 intervals.

Service Units throughout the organisation have had an opportunity to review the report and we are now seeking final endorsement.

1. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- A. Endorse the Annual Report 2022/23.**
- B. Note the Council resolution of 29 May 2012 that required the publication of the remuneration of the five highest paid Council officers in the Annual Report and that Council will no longer publish this information as a result of amendments to the Fair Work Act 2009 that provide an employee with a workplace right to disclose or not disclose their remuneration and terms and conditions.**
- C. Note, in the interests of transparency, a new table that outlines the number of Senior Officers remunerated within salary brackets has been included in the Annual Report 2022/23.**
- D. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to make minor amendments as necessary that do not materially impact the annual report.**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Every year, Council prepares an Annual Report which is a key reporting tool used to monitor Council's performance. The Annual Report provides the community with a comprehensive overview of Council's performance during the 2022/23 year. It includes the Performance Statement and Financial Statement, together with the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) certificates.
- 2.2 The front section of the Annual Report covers a range of information, including:
- A review of Council's performance against the Council Plan themes.
 - A statement of progress in relation to the major initiatives and initiatives identified in the Annual Budget
 - The indicators, measures and results of the prescribed service performance indicators and measures as part of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework
 - The results in the prescribed form of Council's assessment against the governance and management checklist
 - Information on the nature and range of activities and services delivered.
 - Highlights, achievements, and challenges for each Council Plan theme
 - Details of the Councillors that served during the year and the administrative structure of Council, including the name of the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management Team and their areas of responsibility including an organisational chart.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 This year we've followed the design established last year with an Annual Report that makes it easier for the community to find what they're looking for and ensure it is a streamlined, community-centric document.
- 3.2 The Annual Report has community-focused information in a shorter main report and more detailed information in a comprehensive appendix.
- 3.3 We have included case studies for each Council Plan theme: Using technology to help our trees -Tree Plotter (Resilient Environment), 30 Faves in 30 Days (Vibrant and Prosperous Economy), Going Solar (Liveable places and Spaces), Advancing Reconciliation across Manningham – Reconciliation Action Plan (Healthy Community), Young people take the lead – Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (Well Governed Council). The case studies include direct quotes from our people, community members and businesses about how these projects have benefited them.
- 3.4 We have also included comprehensive coverage of the FOGO rollout and how it touches on much of what we do including improving environmental, governance and community outcomes.
- 3.5 Throughout the report we have showcased the \$45.05M capital works program which has renewed and upgraded community assets throughout Manningham. This impressive achievement was delivered despite the many challenges relating to material and labour shortages post COVID.

- 3.6 A change to the Annual Report 2022/23 is to the Senior Officer disclosure of salaries table. A Council resolution, made on the 29 May 2012, required the publication of the remuneration of the five highest paid Council officers in the Annual report, and this information has been included in every subsequent Annual Report.
- 3.7 The *Secure Jobs Better Pay Act 2020* came into effect on 7 December 2022 and amended the *Fair Work Act 2009*. One of the amendments provides that an employee has a workplace right to disclose or not disclose their remuneration and terms and conditions that are reasonably necessary to determine remuneration outcomes. As a result, Council is unable to publish the remuneration of officers without their consent.
- 3.8 Manningham Council values transparency and is committed to continuing to provide the community with information relating to Senior Officer remuneration. To balance the rights of our employees with our objective of transparency we have included a new table that outlines the number of Senior Officers remunerated within \$10,000 salary range brackets. The table reports on all 33 Senior Officers. The names and titles of senior officers continue to be published in an organisational chart format.
- 3.9 The CEO's salary continues to be disclosed in the Annual Report 2022/23, as the CEO has provided permission to disclose this information in this manner.
- 3.10 To complete the Annual Report, the following has been added to the report of operations as a separate attachment:
- Financial Statement for 2022/23, including a Guide to the Financial Statements
 - Performance Statement for 2022/23
 - Victorian Auditor General Office reports.
- 3.11 The Annual Report 2022/23 has been prepared following input from all units across the organisation. All unit managers have had an opportunity to review the content of the report and provide feedback.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

- 4.1 The Annual Report includes a review of the progress of all Council Plan 2021-2025 themes during the 2022/23 year.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Finance / Resource Implications

Nil

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	General community
Is engagement required?	No
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	Inform
Approach	Website Media Release

6.2 Timelines

The Annual Report is required to be completed and endorsed by Council by 31 October 2023.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



Manningham Council
Annual Report

2022/23



A warm welcome to our Annual Report

Manningham is a great place to live, work and play. We are passionate about doing everything we can to support our community to enjoy our local environment and live happy, healthy lives.

Why we have an Annual Report

Our Annual Report helps inform our community and stakeholders about our activities, performance and future direction.

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, we are required to submit an Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government each year.

How to read this document

We have structured this report to make it easy to find what you need.

On the following pages, you will find information about who we are, what we do, what we have achieved, our challenges and plans for the future.

You can also find out about how to get involved in our thriving community and local places.

We have interviewed local people about how our work impacts them and our much-valued community.

You will find further information on our financials, strategic reporting, corporate structure and governance in the appendix.

We hope you enjoy reading about our 2022/23.



Acknowledgement of Country

Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways that is now known as Manningham.

Council pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and values the ongoing contribution to enrich and appreciate the cultural heritage of Manningham.

Council acknowledges and respects Australia's First Peoples as Traditional Owners of lands and waterways across Country and encourages reconciliation between all.

Our diverse community

Council also values the contribution made to Manningham over the years by people of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Our commitment to gender equality

We are committed to ensuring that all people in our community are treated with dignity, respect and fairness. We consider the gender, equality and diversity of all people in our community as we develop our plans, strategies and services. We will uphold our requirements in the Victorian Government's Gender Equality Act 2020 and will continue to seek ways to improve all that we do to make Manningham a safe, respectful and inclusive community.

Our commitment to people with a disability

We are committed to working in partnership with our community to enhance the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities. Activities targeting people with disabilities are integrated and reflected across our Council Plan, our Health and Wellbeing Strategy and associated action places to address the Victorian Government's Disability Act 2006 s 38(1).

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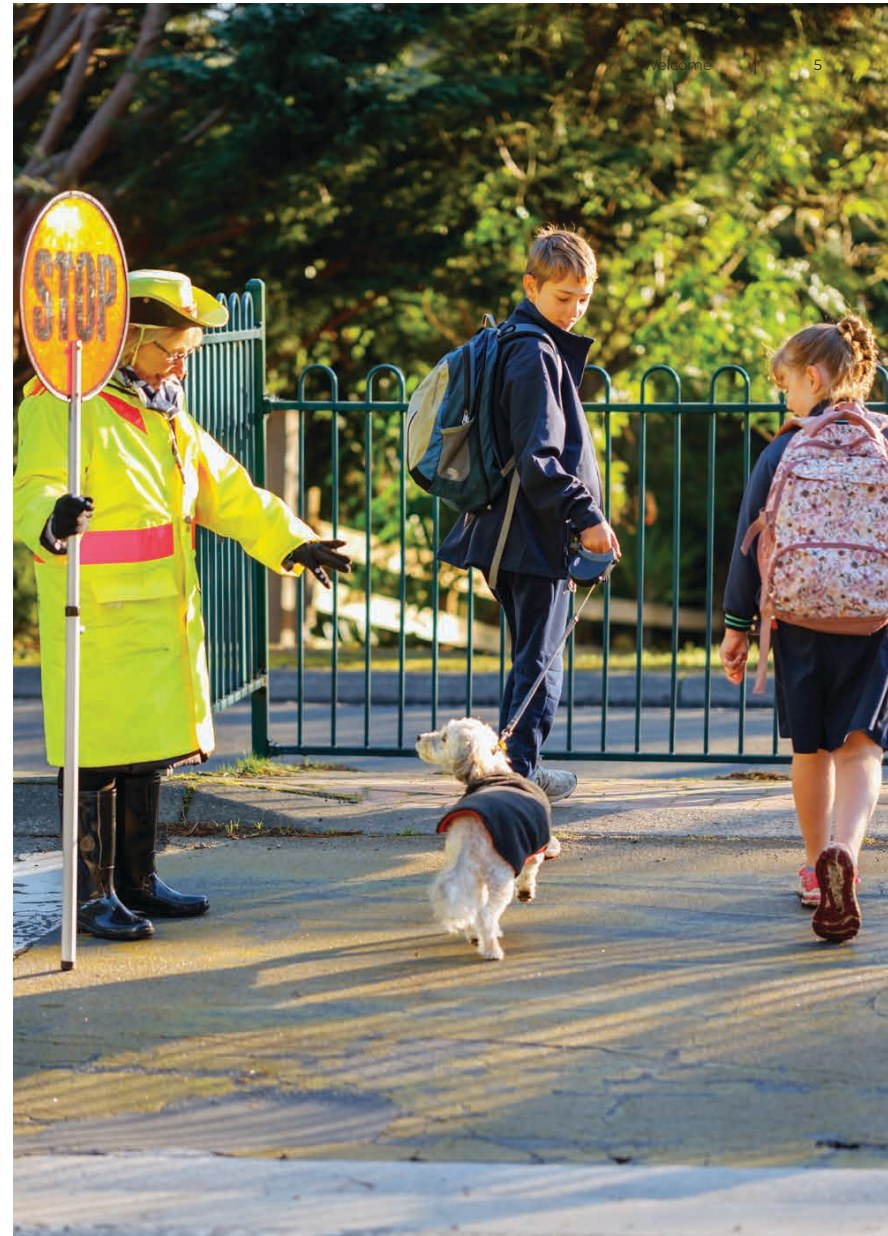
Our year ahead

Get involved

Appendix

Financial report

Performance statement



Message from our Mayor



I'm proud of what we have achieved in 2022/23 and I thank my fellow Councillors, our CEO and Executive team for their tireless commitment to our community.

A very big thanks to our residents for coming on board with our transition to Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO). The waste we collect is transformed into compost for parks and gardens and will help us work towards our net zero community emissions target by 2035.

It's been an honour to be part of many residents' journeys to Australian citizenship. In 2022/23, we welcomed 985 people as new Australian citizens at our Citizenship Ceremonies.

This year we were fortunate to be in a position to award \$1,114,637 in community grants to 90 community organisations. Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who run these organisations and play a critical role in supporting our community.

Our 30 Faves in 30 Days campaign encouraged our community to celebrate and champion the wonderful local businesses in our vibrant shopping villages and precincts.

I was honoured to take part in the tree scarring project at the Yaluk Langa Indigenous Garden at Heide. This event recognised our Reconciliation Action Plan as an important step to making sure we continue to plan and create opportunities for people of First Nations and support a culturally safe and thriving city.

In 2022/23, we made the difficult decision to transition away from providing in-home aged care services from October 2023. We are supporting our residents and staff during this challenging time.

We look forward to working with new service providers to support this transition. We will continue our services that support healthy and positive ageing, like an expanded community transport service and other ways to keep people connected.

We continued to deliver our capital works program to a high standard and maintain and improve our \$2.7 billion in assets.

Cr Deirdre Diamante
Mayor

Message from our CEO



Welcome to our 2022/23 Annual Report. We are proud to share our achievements, challenges and performance over the last year and share opportunities for you to get involved in our vibrant community.

Our team of dedicated staff deliver high-quality facilities, collaborative initiatives and over 100 services to our community.

We understand our community is facing challenging times and we are committed to working effectively to find efficiencies within our organisation to ensure we achieve the best value for our community.

With a track record of responsible financial management, we are in a good position to support our community by keeping costs to residents low and offering financial hardship relief. We continue to work towards meeting the community's aspirations for the future.

We continue to deliver our core services that community expect. We have rolled out upgrades across Manningham, including sporting infrastructure, footpaths and roads. We continue to adapt, listen to our community, and deliver public value.

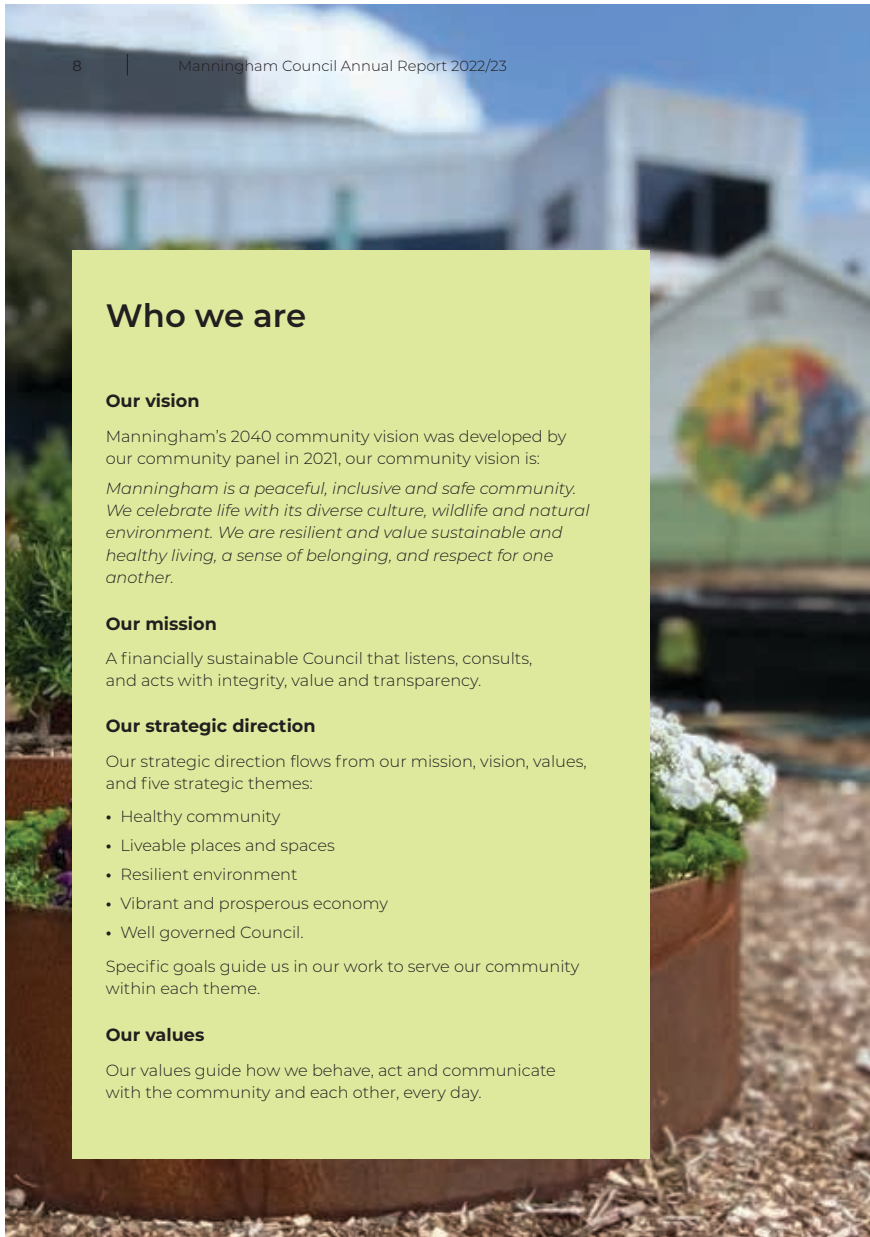
We are proud of the delivery of our capital works program despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on construction, which has led to delays in sourcing materials and labour shortages.

Following extensive consultation with our community, Council adopted The Liveable City Strategy 2040. This Strategy will help shape the future of every neighbourhood in Manningham – providing choice in how we live, work and play.

As we move away from providing in-home aged care services, I am proud of our team's work to adapt how we deliver support to people as they age in Manningham.

Our dedicated team has worked collaboratively to prepare our community for the Food Organics Green Organic (FOGO) rollout, which will help us work towards our climate action targets.

Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer



Who we are

Our vision

Manningham's 2040 community vision was developed by our community panel in 2021, our community vision is:

Manningham is a peaceful, inclusive and safe community. We celebrate life with its diverse culture, wildlife and natural environment. We are resilient and value sustainable and healthy living, a sense of belonging, and respect for one another.

Our mission

A financially sustainable Council that listens, consults, and acts with integrity, value and transparency.

Our strategic direction

Our strategic direction flows from our mission, vision, values, and five strategic themes:

- Healthy community
- Liveable places and spaces
- Resilient environment
- Vibrant and prosperous economy
- Well governed Council.

Specific goals guide us in our work to serve our community within each theme.

Our values

Our values guide how we behave, act and communicate with the community and each other, every day.

Working together

Creating a safe and inclusive environment
Actively sharing information, resources and knowledge
Collaboratively developing ideas and solutions

Excellence

Striving to 'be your best'
Responding flexibly to challenges and opportunities
Proactively seeking better ways

Accountable

Taking personal responsibility for your behaviour
Taking ownership and delivering on commitments
Making meaningful contributions

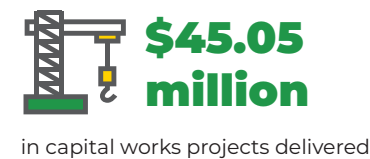
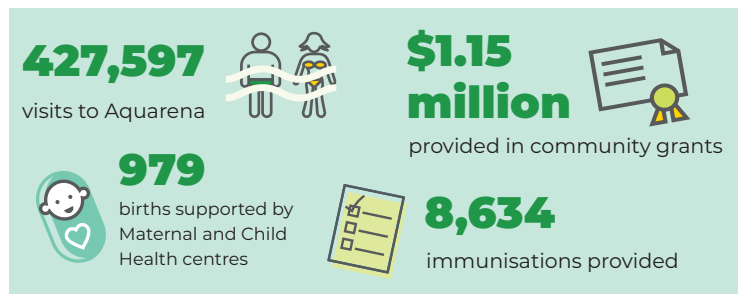
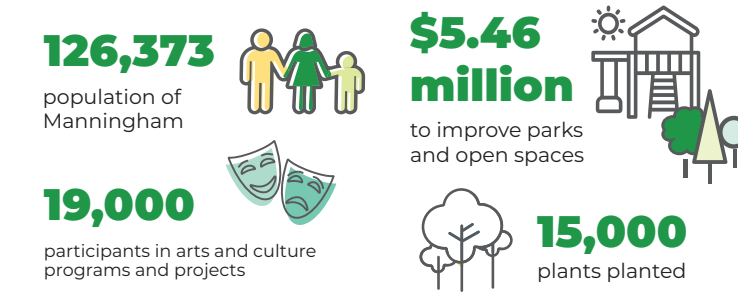
Respectful

Honest and positive when communicating with others
Treating others in a consistent and equitable manner
Being considerate of others' needs, priorities, and perspective

Empowered

Trusting in others
Supporting others to succeed and 'grow'
Being courageous and prepared to take chances

Year in review



- Recognised locals' outstanding commitments to Manningham with our Civic Awards
- Citizen of the Year**
Margaret Kelly
 - Young Citizen of the Year**
Stephanie Martinez
 - Doreen Stoves AM PSM JP Volunteer of the Year**
Varvara Ioannou
 - Community Group Achievement Award**
CareNet Program
 - Sports Volunteer of the Year**
Vince Montuoro

About Manningham

We are passionate about protecting and enhancing our 114km² municipality in Melbourne's East, stretching from Bulleen to Wonga Park.

Our large areas of open space, including more than 300 parks and reserves, offer great places for our community to exercise, play and enjoy our natural environment.

A large section of Manningham is designated as a green wedge to protect our significant natural and rural environment.

Our municipality offers residents and visitors a mix of vibrant shopping and dining precincts, wineries, local galleries, nurseries and attractions.

Our people

Our vibrant residential neighbourhoods are home to 126,373 people.

People of all ages, household types, incomes and cultural backgrounds reside in a wide mix of housing options throughout Manningham.

We welcome and celebrate people from all backgrounds and embrace the contribution all residents make to the social fabric of our region.

Our history

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people are the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways that we now know as Manningham.

Manningham was formed in 1994 to serve the local community.

We value our Traditional Owners' ongoing contribution to Country and we are committed to working in partnership to enrich, protect and celebrate the cultural heritage of Manningham.

Our suburbs

The suburbs in Manningham are:

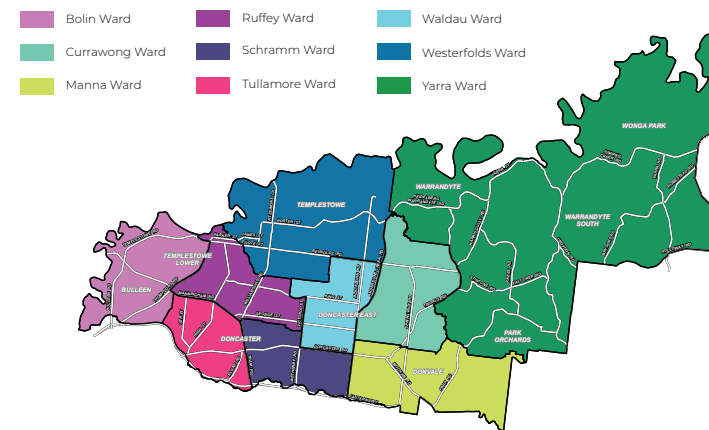
- Bulleen
- Doncaster
- Doncaster East
- Donvale
- part of Nunawading
- Park Orchards
- part of Ringwood North
- Templestowe
- Templestowe Lower
- Warrandyte
- Warrandyte South
- Wonga Park

Council wards

Our municipality is divided into nine areas, known as 'wards'. One elected Councillor represents each ward.

- Currawong Ward
- Waldau Ward
- Bolin Ward
- Manna Ward
- Ruffey Ward
- Schramm Ward
- Tullamore Ward
- Westerfolds Ward
- Yarra Ward

Figure 1: Manningham Council wards



Our Councillors

Our community elects Councillors by postal vote to represent them in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 every four years.

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) conducted our last election in 2020.

Our nine Councillors make decisions and guides the development of strategies and policies to shape Manningham's future.

Our Councillors elect a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor each year. The current Mayor and Deputy Mayor were elected at a special meeting in November 2022.

July 2022 to November 2022

Mayor Cr Michelle Kleinert OAM
Deputy Mayor Cr Deirdre Diamante

November 2022 to June 2023

Mayor Cr Deirdre Diamante
Deputy Mayor Cr Tomas Lightbody

Table 1: Electoral Structure and Representation



Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor)

Tullamore Ward

☎ 0413 584 047

✉ Deirdre.Diamante@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor)

Manna Ward

☎ 0437 829 635

✉ Tomas.Lightbody@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Anna Chen

Waldau Ward

☎ 0429 470 051

✉ Anna.Chen@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 22 October 2016)



Cr Andrew Conlon

Currawong Ward

☎ 0425 732 238

✉ Andrew.Conlon@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 22 October 2016)



Cr Geoff Gough

Bolin Ward

☎ 0412 345 081

✉ Geoffrey.Gough@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 15 March 1997)



Cr Michelle Kleinert OAM

Westerfolds Ward

☎ 0400 902 822

✉ Michelle.Kleinert@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 27 October 2012)



Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor)

Tullamore Ward

☎ 0413 584 047

✉ Deirdre.Diamante@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor)

Manna Ward

☎ 0437 829 635

✉ Tomas.Lightbody@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Anna Chen

Waldau Ward

☎ 0429 470 051

✉ Anna.Chen@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 22 October 2016)



Cr Carli Lange

Yarra Ward

☎ 0433 256 840

✉ Carli.Lange@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Laura Mayne

Schramm Ward

☎ 0447 981 010

✉ Laura.Mayne@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020



Cr Stephen Mayne

Ruffey Ward

☎ 0412 106 241

✉ Stephen.Mayne@manningham.vic.gov.au

Elected to Council: 24 October 2020 (returning, first elected 29 November 2008)

Our organisation

Our elected Councillors guide the direction of our organisation. Our CEO reports to the Mayor and Councillors and is supported by our Executive Management Team, Group and Service Unit Managers and staff to oversee and manage our operations.

Our Council Plan guides our work and helps us monitor and report on our progress. We support our staff to demonstrate our values in their work to make sure we meet our community's needs.

Table 2: Executive Management Team



Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer
September 2018 to present



Rachelle Quattrocchi
Director City Services
March 2020 to present



Kerry Paterson
Director Experience and Capability
(formerly Group Manager People and Communications)
December 2021 to present



Lee Robson
Director Connected Communities
(formerly Group Manager Community Programs and Acting Director City Planning and Community)
April 2017 to present



Duncan Turner
Director City Planning
January 2023 to present



Andrew McMaster
Chief Legal and Governance Officer
(formerly Corporate Counsel and Group Manager Governance and Risk)
February 2019 to present



Jon Gorst
Chief Financial Officer
April 2020 to present

Outgoing staff who held senior roles in 2022/23



Angelo Kourambas
Director City Planning and Community
February 2018 to July 2022
(leave of absence from November 2021 to July 2022)



18

Manningham Council Annual Report 2022/23

Who we are

19

How we govern

We are a public statutory body constituted under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Manningham Council is made up of two parts:

1. The elected Council - nine Councillors who represent our community, make formal decisions and set our strategic priorities.
2. The organisation - which acts on the decisions and strategic directions set by the Council and delivers over 100 services to our community.

Under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*, our day-to-day operations are managed by our CEO. The Council also delegate various powers and responsibilities to the CEO and staff. The CEO can also delegate their powers and responsibilities to staff to ensure the organisation runs efficiently.

We recognise it's critical to make sure our elected Councillors and staff are accountable to our community. That's why we value good governance as it makes sure we operate effectively, efficiently, impartially and with integrity.

Our good governance principles ensure:

- We make decisions based on expert advice.
- We adhere to processes and systems.
- Our officers implement decisions appropriately and in good time.

We set out what we will work towards

We deliver over 100 services to our community and manage over \$2.70 billion in community assets.

As an organisation, we have several roles, we:

- Make decisions based on the diverse needs of our local community
- Provide leadership and advocate for the interests of the local community to other communities and governments
- Foster community cohesion and encourage active participation in civic life
- Ensure we manage our resources in a responsible and accountable manner.

Our 2021 – 2025 Council Plan outlines where we will direct our time, resources, and efforts during that time. You can find our Council Plan at manningham.vic.gov.au/council-plan

The Plan was developed in consultation with our community and outlines five key focus areas. We call these focus areas 'themes', and each theme has goals and specific actions for us to achieve.

We report on our key achievements and challenges in each theme throughout this document. This is the second year we are reporting on our Council Plan 2021-2025.

Figure 2: Our 5 strategic themes



We report our performance against our goals

We measure our performance against:

- The strategic themes and their goals set out in our Council Plan 2021-2025.
- Our 2022/23 Annual Budget and Strategic Resource Plan, including initiatives and capital works, and services to the whole or sections of our community against each strategic theme and their goals.
- The service performance and financial and sustainability capacity indicators in the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF). We report on these indicators for 2022/23 and three preceding years so you can get a full picture of our performance over time.

You will find this information in this report's appendix.



We represent our community and advance their needs

We are committed to representing and raising awareness of our community's needs.

As the arm of government that operates closest to the community, we listen to our residents and partner with other levels of government to advance our community's interests.

We focused on a range of key advocacy areas in 2022/23, some of these included:



Gambling reform

We've continued our long-term advocacy to the Victorian and Australian Governments for poker machine reform. Shortly following this reporting period (July 2023), the Victorian Premier announced landmark reforms to reduce gambling-related harm, including mandatory pre-commitment limits, carded play and load up limits for electronic gaming machines (EGMs).

This is an important outcome for our residents as EGM gambling losses in Manningham in 2022/23 were \$60.36 million.



North East Link Project

We have worked alongside the North East Link Program (NELP) and the Victorian Government for a commitment to deliver a new sporting precinct in Bulleen and to make sure changes at Bulleen Park minimise community impacts.

Development Victoria has commenced construction of the new facility on Templestowe Road. It will replace two existing soccer pitches and open space at Bulleen Park. The project is anticipated to be completed in early 2024.

We're also advocating for the Victorian Government and NELP to amend the NELP Doncaster Park & Ride reference design to a mixed-use transit-oriented development.

During the North East Link construction, the Doncaster Park & Ride operations are anticipated to be impacted, which would allow for the redevelopment of the facility and Doncaster Road interchange/overpass.

At this stage, the Victorian Government has only committed to a like-for-like upgrade, which will result in the reconstruction of the Park & Ride to be retained as a carpark only, however we believe the space could be better utilised.



5 ways intersection

We've continued to advocate to the Victorian Government for safety improvements to the intersection of Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, Croydon Road, Husseys Lane and Brumbys Road in Warrandyte South.

Following our traffic survey, community feedback collection, and investigation into low-cost interim measures to improve safety, this year we raised the need for an upgrade at our regular meetings with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP).



Other ways we're advocating for you

We also continue to advocate for improved public transport, (including at Doncaster Hill, the Suburban Rail Loop and Doncaster Rail), affordable housing and improved access to youth mental health services.

How you can get involved

- Read about our ongoing advocacy at manningham.vic.gov.au/advocacy
- Share your ideas and provide feedback on issues and projects that matter to you at yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au

The services we provided

For every \$100 we spent this year, we will spend this much in each area.



Capital Works Program
\$26.91



Roads, footpaths and drainage
\$9.17



Waste services and recycling
\$9.70



Planning and environmental management
\$6.95



Parks, gardens and sportsgrounds
\$8.82



Arts, culture and libraries
\$4.41



Aged and disability support services
\$8.34



Health, children and families
\$4.03



Community support and development
\$2.15



Customer service, governance and administration
\$15.69



Council owned community buildings
\$2.46



Risk management and insurances
\$1.37



Our major projects

We are committed to providing safe, accessible and appropriate infrastructure that meets the changing lifestyles of our community.

We delivered \$50 million of capital projects in 2022/23. This is made up of capital (\$45.9 million) and property (\$4.1 million).

Below is a summary of key projects we completed:

- \$6 million in road resurfacing works
- \$10.4 million in building construction and renewal works
- \$3.8 million in drainage works
- \$2.2 million in footpath works
- \$4.4 million on recreational and leisure facilities.

Some specific projects funded during 2022/23 include:

- Deep Creek Reserve Pavilion – \$3.1 million
- Tuckers Road and footpath reconstruction – \$1.9 million
- Solar panel installations - \$0.6 million.
- wonguim wilam Park (Warrandyte River Reserve) – \$0.6 million.

What we did to support a healthy community



We understand our residents value feeling connected and included in a community that feels safe and resilient

Social connection and a focus on mental health is critical to our community.

Our community has told us that recreation and fitness are high priorities. We support this by providing accessible and well-maintained parks and open spaces for organised and passive recreation, as well as opportunities to participate in organised sports at our sportsgrounds and facilities.

We are committed to working with our partners to support groups in our community that are at an increased risk of experiencing loneliness. These groups include young people, older adults, people multicultural backgrounds, LGBTIQ+ people, and people living with disability and their carers.

From our research and conversations with our residents, we have committed to building, sustaining and enhancing a healthy community by working towards the following goals:

- Healthy, safe and resilient community
- Connected and inclusive community.

What you told us to focus on

- Mental, spiritual and physical wellbeing
- Places, spaces and activities that are inclusive and accessible for all
- An active, safe and resilient community
- Community connections and more opportunities to work with community leaders and local groups, and volunteer networks.





What we delivered

Over 130 people attended our Financial Matters Forum for residents who are retired or considering retirement. Representatives from Services Australia Financial Information Services and Eastern Community Legal Centre spoke at the event.

We received recognition from Dementia Australia for our commitment to an approved action plan and are actively working towards becoming dementia-friendly.

We facilitated the Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) to allow young people to share their ideas and opinions on Council's plans and policies.

This year, MYAC

- Supported youth mental health advocacy.
- Participated in the consultation for the Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan, Skate Park project, ideas for youth projects and Councils' budget priorities.
- Co-hosted the inaugural Principals' Breakfast, facilitating discussions with Manningham school leaders and other key community members to identify areas of concern in relation to young people.

We enrolled 979 infants into our Maternal and Child Health service and attended 9067 Key Age and Stage Consultations with a participation rate of 81.28%.

Our Enhanced Maternal and Child Health nurses provided services to vulnerable families in our community

Our Sleep and Settle service nurses continued to support families with sleep for their children. We also established a new lactation/Sleep and Settle support role to support families with new babies.

We ran a trial Chinese First Time Parent Group, which was well received.

In partnership with Access Health, we ran the INFANT program, focusing on nutrition, increasing exercise and limiting screen time for children.

We performed cigarette and e-cigarette educational visits and cigarette test purchasing to ensure retailers are not selling cigarettes to minors.

We participated in an in-depth food regulation audit to ensure we provide a robust food safety monitoring and compliance program.

We successfully transitioned to a new Food Act 1984 classification scheme to reduce the likelihood of a high-risk food activity causing adverse consequences for the community.

We transitioned to the Victorian Government's new Central Immunisation Records Victoria (CIRV) to improve our customer vaccination procedures.

We provided a successful community and school immunisation program.

Our Community Grants program funded 90 applications totaling \$1,114,637.

We welcomed 985 new Australian citizens at our citizenship ceremonies.

We had 308 people attend our Mayoral Ball, which raised over \$25,000 for Doncare.

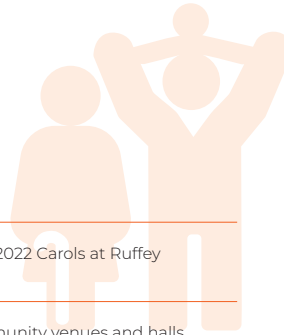
We received over 25 nominations for our Civic Awards, which close to 200 people attended. Award winners included Citizen of the Year - Margaret Kelly, Young Citizen of the Year - Stephanie Martinez, Sports Volunteer of the Year - Vince Montuoro, Doreen Stoves AM PSM JP Volunteer of the Year - Varvara Ioannou and Community Achievement Award - CareNet Program.

We acknowledged the contribution of over 150 people at our Volunteer Reception.

We hosted 75 people at our Emergency Services Reception.

We hosted 200 people for a morning tea celebration for International Women's Day.

We hosted 200 people at our Seniors Week Morning Tea and 200 at our afternoon tea.



Over 10,000 people celebrated the Christmas season at our 2022 Carols at Ruffey Lake Park.

Over 10,000 bookings were made across more than 21 community venues and halls within Manningham. This saw a 7.21 per cent increase in venue usage year on year, demonstrating a 5.7 per cent improvement returning from pre-COVID utilisation levels. Encouragingly, over a quarter of these reservations were placed by seniors groups.

We established a three-year partnership with VicHealth to amplify the health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people, focusing on social connections, physical activity, mental wellbeing and anti-racism.

Traditional owners Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, and Reconciliation Australia endorsed our Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25.

The Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) members co-hosted the inaugural Principals' Breakfast. They participated in discussions with Manningham school leaders and other key community members to identify areas of concern facing young people.

We established the following Advisory Committees: Gender Equality & LGBTQIA+, Disability, Multicultural Communities, Recreation, Youth, and Health & Wellbeing. These Advisory Committees meet four times a year to ensure issues of importance are discussed and considered by representatives of the community.

Challenges

We believe access to affordable, relevant and local advice and mental health support is critical for young people in Manningham. We continue to advocate for a Headspace in Manningham to meet the needs of young people in our community.

We have experienced challenges with the recruitment of Maternal and Child Health staff due to a state-wide nurse shortage and an ageing workforce. It has been difficult to make sure we have enough coverage for our staff while on annual and long service leave.

The effects of COVID-19 continued to impact our Maternal and Child Health services, with high appointment cancellations, follow-up of COVID-19 positive babies and reluctance to attend centre appointments.

We continued to address barriers involving language and literacy across our diverse community. We have been piloting the use of Easy English to make our communications understandable by all community members.

We experienced shortages of experienced staff in our regulatory service area.

Following our difficult decision to exit in-home aged care services due to significant Commonwealth Government changes to the system, we commenced our transition out of in-home aged care.

Advancing reconciliation across Manningham



We are committed to building relationships, respect and opportunities to advance reconciliation across Manningham.

We developed the Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25 in partnership with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation and local people of First Nations, with guidance from our Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group.

The Plan has been endorsed by Council and Reconciliation Australia and will support us to:

- Strengthen meaningful relationships
- Recognise and support First Nations self-determination and cultural rights
- Build understanding of our shared history
- Celebrate, recognise and respect First Nations cultural heritages
- Educate our community on First Nations culture and history and provide them with an opportunity to take an active part in the process of reconciliation.

As part of our ongoing commitment to reconciliation, we collaborated with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to hold a meaningful, reflective, and respectful demonstration of togetherness with the Walking the path together – healing ceremony on 26 January at MC Square.

In June 2023, the Manningham Art Gallery presented the world-renowned Unfinished Business exhibition, featuring portraits, film and self-narratives of 30 First Nations individuals living with disabilities.

The exhibition was the culmination of a collaborative project between the participants and artists Belinda Mason OAM and Dieter Knierim, and was on loan from the Australian Museum.

The exhibition challenges stigmas while promoting a better understanding of the impact of Australia's historical policies on the rates of disability seen in Australia's people of First Nations.

One such story is that of Box Hill local Uncle John, a Latja Latja and Narungga man born in north-western Victoria in 1960. After receiving treatment for Spina Bifida in Melbourne, Uncle John was fostered into a non-Aboriginal family in the eastern suburbs. He didn't see his birth family again until his late teens.

“Disability is more often seen as a deficit, but this exhibition turns that on its head. These people are leaders. They're inventive and far more than you thought they had the capacity to be – they should be celebrated!” says Uncle John

By fostering a better understanding of Australia's treatment of people of First Nations, the stories represented in the exhibition aim to drive positive change and advocate for a more inclusive society.



How you can get involved

- Read our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2023–25 at manningham.vic.gov.au/RAP



What we did to support a Liveable Places and Spaces

Our community has told us that they generally love where they live, and value our parks, trees, open spaces and the natural environment.

We know we can support our community with shared paths and linear trails that provide connections within neighbourhoods and community facilities such as libraries.

Responsible housing and development are key priorities for our residents. We are committed to responsible planning to protect our environment, green open spaces, environmental sustainability and balance of city and country.

From our research and conversations with our residents, we have committed to work towards the following goals:

What you told us to focus on

- Meeting demand and balancing city and country
- Public spaces for people to meet and connect
- Neighbourhood character and amenity that is welcoming and attractive
- Valuing our parks and open spaces
- Safe, easy and environmentally friendly travel
- Community infrastructure that is multi-purpose and well utilised
- Community facilities that are responsive to changing community, education and sporting needs

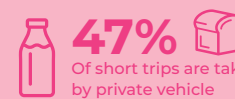
- Inviting places and spaces
- Enhanced parks, open space and streetscapes
- Well connected, safe and accessible travel
- Well utilised and maintained community infrastructure.

591
New dwellings and apartments approved



Increased demand and importance on arts, community and sporting facilities

47%
Of short trips are taken by private vehicle



20%
Of residents live alone



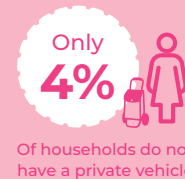
1800km
Roads, paths bike lanes and walking lanes maintained by council



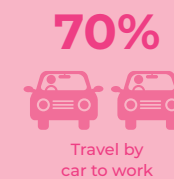
97%
Live within **400M** of a bus stop



Only **4%**
Of households do not have a private vehicle



70%
Travel by car to work



20.13km² Open space
302 Parks and reserves
161 Play spaces



WE PROVIDE
751km Roads
918km Footpaths
64.7km Off-road shared paths
118km Pedestrian paths in parks





What we delivered

We continued supporting our community in relation to the North East Link Program compulsory acquisitions and associated projects/upgrades.

We managed a successful tender process for the new Manningham Leisure Services contract. The new contract brings together Aquarena and nine stadiums under one contract. Manningham Council awarded this contract to Aligned Leisure.

We led a successful transition process to support Aligned Leisure's new management of our Manningham Leisure Services contract.

We completed community consultation on our Draft Aquarena Outdoor Masterplan. The final Masterplan was adopted following this reporting period, in August 2023.

We were 100% successful in our animal prosecutions to ensure responsible pet ownership and manage nuisance and pest animals on public land.

We adopted and implemented our new Community Local Law 2023, which was informed by community consultation.

We spent 84% of our revised capital budget.

We completed 86% of the projects in our capital works program.

We have continued rolling out and processing the Victorian Government swimming pool/spa registration process.

We have continued to update and ensure user-friendly pool/spa registration options.

We have been successful in the enforcement of pool-related cases through the Magistrates court.

We assisted 3194 community members with requests for information about the Victorian Building Authority with the Authority's combustible cladding program. This type of assistance has involved working with building owners and industry professionals to address this important and ongoing safety issue.

We established a cyclical condition assessment program for our assets. The program focused on our drainage pipe and tree assets.

We approved 672 dwellings with over 78 per cent located in medium and high-density zones. The remaining 22 per cent were approved for development in areas considered for incremental growth (2-3 unit developments in low density urban areas). This achieves our goal and Residential Strategy 2012 objectives to ensure that a minimum of two-thirds (66 per cent) of dwelling growth is focused in medium-high density areas.

We prepared our draft Manningham Affordable Housing Policy to provide a framework and the strategic direction for Council to address affordable housing issues in Manningham.

We adopted our Manningham Planning Scheme Review to guide the use, development, and protection of land in Manningham.

Our Manningham Planning Policy Framework Translation was gazetted January 2023.

We continued to achieve positive outcomes from the work we have done to advocate for our community on the Victorian Government's North East Link Program, including:

- Redevelopment and masterplan for Bulleen Park (AFL/cricket).
- New soccer facilities (three pitches and pavilion) at Templestowe Road (Bulleen).
- A new pedestrian/cycling bridge at Banksia Park (Bulleen) across the Yarra River.
- A new Bulleen Park & Ride facility to support the proposed Doncaster Busway.
- Protection of the 300+ year old River Red Gum tree in Bulleen.
- Plan for surplus land at the former Bulleen Industrial Precinct to support a future employment precinct at this location.
- Commitment to undertake a business case to duplicate Templestowe Road and include walking and cycling facilities.



We formed a Community Reference Panel to guide the development of the Manningham Flood Mapping Project and Integrated Water Management Strategy.

Council adopted revisions to our Integrated Water Management Strategy Implementation Plan to guide the way we plan for and manage water as a valuable resource.

We appointed integrated water management and flood mapping consultants and continued our flood mapping in partnership with Melbourne Water.

We produced fact sheets and invited our community to complete Manningham's Water Future survey to help us better understand community views, priorities, needs and expectations relating to Manningham's water.

We renewed eight playspaces at Aranga, Brendan, Crawford, Grover, Jenkins, Leawarra, Maxia, and Sandra reserves.

We created a new playspace at Pettys Reserve.

We built a new public toilet built at Jenkins Park.

We officially opened wonguim wilam playspace.

We completed our expansion of JW Thomson Reserve in Doncaster with a path to Roseville Avenue.

We completed the final stage of implementing the Koonung Park Management Plan with new furniture, paving and tree planting.

We used grants from the Victorian Government to complete the Ruffey Lake Park Disc Golf Course and progress our upgrades of the Boulevard Hill Precinct.

We contributed to the North East Link Program's comprehensive Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) for the Central (Tunnels) Package. We will be making a submission to the UDLP for the South Package (Eastern Freeway corridor), focusing on protecting resident amenity along the Eastern Freeway (in particular around Estelle Street in Bulleen).

We continued to review design reports (157 this financial year) and Traffic Management Plans (313 this financial year) associated with the North East Link Program. We have also planted trees to offset the project's impact on vegetation (300 this financial year).

We endorsed the Wonga Park Reserve Masterplan, which includes upgrades to both ovals, netball courts and floodlights, a new amenities facility to service the netball courts and new and upgraded path networks around the reserve. We welcomed community interest in the Masterplan.

We endorsed Stage 2 of our Sports Facility Development Plan to guide Council on how we provide facilities for a range of sports, including but not limited to mountain biking, skate and BMX, archery and a range of indoor sports. Implementing this plan will make sure that Council has adequate facilities to accommodate future needs.

Challenges

The delivery of our capital works program continues to be significantly impeded by the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the construction industry, leading to long delays in sourcing goods and materials and labour shortages, affecting our capital works program.

Supply issues meant that many materials including drainage pipes, concrete and asphalt were challenging to source and had lengthy delays.

The continued rollout of the Victorian Government's pool/spa safety program presents ongoing challenges. With over 7558 pools/spas in Manningham, the ongoing implementation of the program remains a key focus.

The Victorian Government is conducting an in-depth review of the Building Act 1993, which they expect to complete in late 2023. We are preparing for anticipated changes and lessening of involvement by the Victorian Building Authority in building-related matters, which will increase the service provision required by Council.

Pressure will continue to increase staffing levels as the building services team continues to be impacted by increasing service requirements and the difficulty in employing and retaining qualified, technical and administration staff.

The availability of materials, suitable contractors and vehicle supply chain issues impacted the delivery of the facilities and fleet capital works programs.

We adapted to the rapidly evolving Victorian Government Integrated Water Management landscape.

We supported our community through the North East Link Program's impact on access to open space.



Going solar



Our community values our parks, trees, open spaces and the natural environment.

We are committed to responsible planning to protect our environment, green open spaces, balance of city and country and environmental sustainability.

In 2022/23, Council adopted the Manningham Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) following its declaration of a climate emergency and extensive consultation with our community. As a result of feedback received during this eight-month consultation the Plan has since been renamed the Climate Emergency Response Plan (CERP).

As part of the plan, we will work with residents, businesses and visitors to achieve net zero emissions for Council operations by 2028 and for the community by 2035 through the development of an annual Implementation Plan.

Council Director City Services, Rachelle Quattrocchi said, "We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and achieving a low-energy future through the Manningham Climate Emergency Response Plan."

We have developed our five-year Solar and Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) program to help us reach our targets. The program sets out the renewable energy and environmentally sustainable design improvements we will make to over 20 Council-owned buildings.

This includes the installation of 700 kilowatts of solar photovoltaics PV, battery storage and energy-efficient building fabric enhancements.

We awarded a contract for the program's first stage in October 2022 and completed improvements at:

- Pettys Reserve Pavilion
- Lower Templestowe Community Centre
- Heimat House
- Domeney Community Hall
- Burch Memorial Kinder
- The Pines Activity Centre
- Ted Ajani Community Centre
- Council Depot
- Mullum Mullum Stadium (pictured)
- Aquarena
- Civic Centre.

"This means our buildings will continue to support your local sports, social activities and events without costing the Earth. Renewable energy will also help to keep costs down," Ms Quattrocchi added.



How you can get involved

- Find out more about the way Manningham is working towards our Climate Emergency Response Plan manningham.vic.gov.au/climate-emergency-response-plan

What we did to support a resilient environment

We share our community's passion for environmental sustainability, biodiversity and climate.

What you told us to focus on

- Act on climate change - advocacy, education to support the community
- Providing leadership in sustainable practices for waste, water and energy
- Protecting our natural environment, heritage and conservation
- Allow for biodiversity and the environment.

The connection between environmental sustainability and Manningham's liveability goes hand in hand. We are committed to being proactive on conservation, waste and biodiversity to protect and enhance our natural environment.

We will demonstrate strong leadership and partner with our local community and the Victorian and Australian Governments to address the significant challenges and global impacts facing our environment.

From our research and talking with our residents, we have committed to building, sustaining and enhancing a resilient environment by working towards the following goals:

- Protect and enhance our environment and biodiversity
- Reduce our environmental impact and adapt to climate change.



What we delivered



Community feedback helped us strengthen and improve the development of our Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP).

We endorsed the CEAP, which sets out a plan to work with residents, businesses and visitors to achieve net zero emissions for our operations by 2028 and for the community by 2035.

We are delivering a solar, energy efficiency and Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) program to help meet Council's net zero emissions target by 2028. The program sets a roadmap to deliver renewable energy and other environmentally sustainable features to over 30 Council buildings.

Our ESD program projects have included the optimisation of building design to enhance natural daylight and ventilation, Cool Roof treatment to reflect radiant heat from buildings, lighting upgrades, replacement of gas appliances with more efficient electric appliances, water saving measures and installation of 1MWh of solar (and battery) infrastructure.

We are transitioning to a low and zero-emissions fleet, which currently features approximately 50 hybrid and six fully electric vehicles charged by 14 smart electric vehicle chargers (powered by 100% renewable energy).

We continued to work towards our Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) commitment to powering all public lighting and Council buildings (including sporting facilities under facility management contracts) by 100 per cent renewable energy until December 31 2023.

We were one of 47 Councils to sign on to VECO which enabled the construction of two new wind farms in Victoria.

We rolled out an extensive marketing and communication plan to prepare our community for the start of Food Organic and Green Organic (FOGO) and the change in the collection frequency of our garbage bins. The FOGO service will divert approximately 20,000 tonnes of food waste from landfills, equivalent to 38,000 kilograms of carbon emissions. Introducing FOGO will help achieve net zero Council emissions by 2028 and net zero community emissions by 2035.

Our FOGO education campaign provided over 60 FOGO community information sessions at markets and shopping centres. We also presented to various community groups. We developed a comprehensive website that included FAQs, translated brochures and videos.

We delivered 43,812 kitchen caddy kits, including a FOGO manual and a roll of 150 compostable green liners, to residential houses during April and May 2023.

We facilitated over 10 tours to the Bio Gro facility, where residents and staff could see the FOGO composting process firsthand.

Our bushland maintenance included an annual winter revegetation with 2000 plants to increase tree and vegetation coverage in parks and streetscapes. We have also made an ongoing commitment of an additional \$500,000 for tree-planting each year.

We improved the environmental sustainability of our materials. We continued to use recycled products for new trails and around drainage pipes to reduce the depth of table drains prior to sealing.

We progressed works to address the 3% vegetation (and resulting biodiversity) loss that Manningham has experienced over the past 15 years.

We implemented a new system, TreePlotter, to manage tree related customer requests with an effort to improve response times and customer satisfaction. Improved customer information is now being developed on the management of trees in Manningham and how to log customer requests.

We approached car share companies to determine the feasibility and interest in undertaking a car share program. As a result, we are starting an 18-month trial in Manningham with GoGet car share network and eight car share spaces will be installed around Doncaster.

We made a commitment to increase the bushland maintenance budget by \$76,000 annually.



We included environmental actions in our Reconciliation Action Plan.

We created a new Leading Hand Bushland position to help work on the bushland area. Since the addition of this role, there is now a quarterly bushland newsletter and a new 'friends of' group at the 100 Acres.

We provided Local Environment Assistance Fund (LEAF) grants and education to our community.

We installed new e-waste recycling stations at our depot offices and the Warrandyte and Doncaster libraries. The stations accept X-rays, DVDs and CDs, small e-waste items, fluorescent tubes and globes, printer cartridges, and household batteries. All items have a recycling recovery rate between 93-98%.

Challenges

The pest deer population remains a challenge to protecting Manningham's vegetation and biodiversity. Private landholder biodiversity protection work incorporating pest deer control has been undertaken and is supported by Victorian Government funding.

We continue to penalise illegal vegetation removal on private land.

We have continued the Biodiversity Impact Assessment Committee to proactively minimise the environmental impact of our planned capital works program.





Using technology to help our trees

We believe that protecting and enhancing our natural environment and biodiversity contributes to the wellbeing of our community and plays a critical role in mitigating the effects of climate change.

We help to manage over 80,000 trees on public land and aim to maintain and improve the health and structure of these trees, including increasing canopy coverage and interconnectedness.

To help us achieve this aim, we have implemented a digital tree inventory and asset management software to help us map and manage public trees and parks in Manningham.

The software allows us to collect and manage data in a map-based program. It also helps us catalogue inspection data for our trees, streamline our tree inspection processes, maximise tree planting opportunities and allow us to develop a tree risk management program.

“TreePlotter allows us to map our tree population and carry out detailed tree assessments while we respond customer requests. The platform then stores a tree’s information such as a species common and Latin name, health, condition, height and photo. We currently have 86,000 trees plotted on TreePlotter,” said Michael, Manningham’s Coordinator of Parks and Natural Environments.

With the ability to add maintenance and mowing schedules, playground inspections and condition reports on other park features, such as seating, taps, fences and bollards, our staff found the software so helpful that they now use it to help maintain our parks.

We are the first Council in Australia to integrate the software into our customer relationship management system, so we can easily enter customer information, triage and respond promptly to customer requests.

We have presented our success with the program at the National Parks and Leisure Australia conference.

Manningham ratepayer, Emmanuel, said it was very important to him that Council responded quickly to his enquiries. “The process was very easy. I called, explained the situation, and came home to find the tree had already been removed. It wasn’t difficult at all.”

“I was surprised at how quickly the service was completed. It was the fastest response time for any government agency I have ever experienced,” Emmanuel said.



How you can get involved

- Find out more about how we protect our plants and ecology and sign up to our Environment Newsletter at manningham.vic.gov.au/protecting-our-environment/protecting-plants-and-ecology



What we did to support a vibrant and prosperous economy

We know that supporting and promoting local businesses is critical to our vibrant and thriving community.

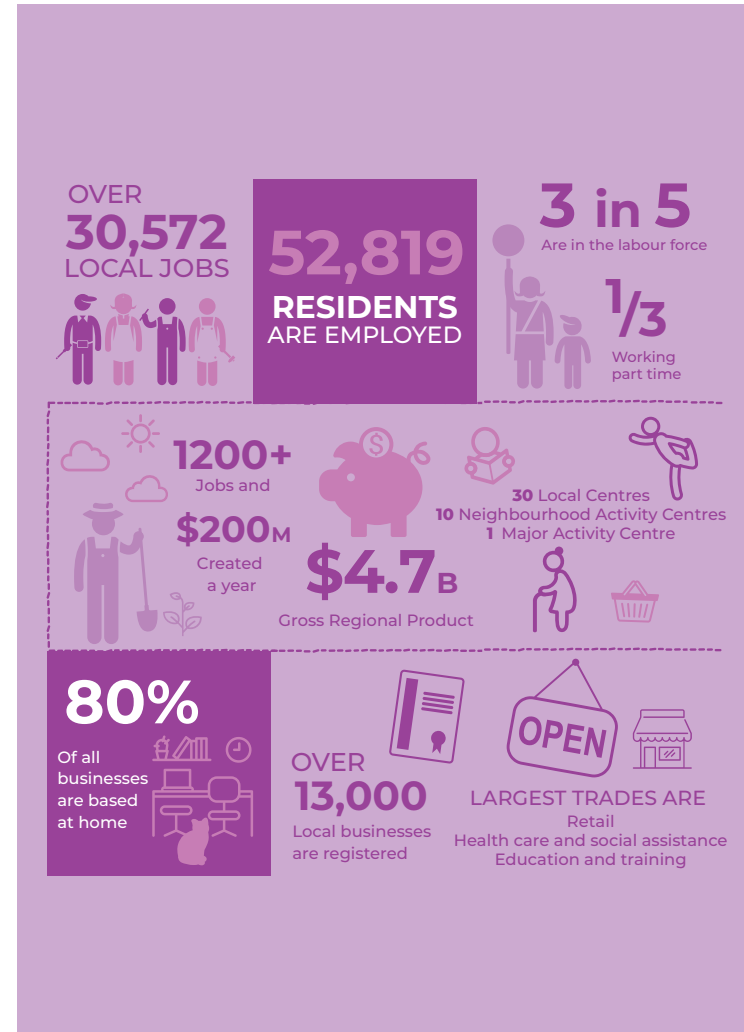
Our community has told us it is essential to create vibrant villages and inviting places that are attractive, welcoming and accessible for residents, visitors and businesses.

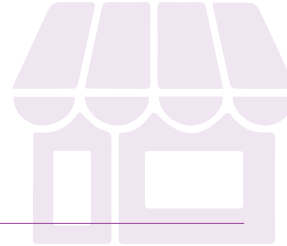
We are committed to continuing our work to build the capacity of our local businesses and find new ways to support local industries and employment.

From our research and conversations with our residents, we are committed to working to support the growth of our local businesses, tourism and economy.

What you told us to focus on

- Supporting local businesses
- Providing places and spaces that are attractive and welcoming to residents, businesses and visitors
- Creating places and spaces that are vibrant and accessible for shopping, employment and community
- Fostering a sense of place and belonging
- Encouraging opportunities for youth employment.





What we delivered

We completed our new draft Economic Development Strategy in readiness for community consultation, to plan and deliver initiatives to support business and attract investment in Manningham over the next three years.

We awarded 50 people representing 10 local businesses at the Manningham Business Excellence Awards.

We successfully transitioned to the Victorian Government's new FoodTrader portal to make it easier for businesses to register their temporary and mobile food premises.

We presented eight exhibitions at Manningham Gallery, including the standout retrospective from the JamFactory, Angela Valamanesh: About being here. Our major show for 2023, Unfinished Business, tells the stories of 30 First Nations people with disabilities.

We grew engagement at Manningham Art Studios with new courses, suites of school holiday creative activities and an open day.

We commenced or delivered 10 new public artworks and adopted a Public Art Action Plan to guide the planning of new commissions and maintenance of existing artworks across the next three years.

We hosted a Maximising your Marketing workshop with 14 attendees.

We continued our support for the Manningham Business Network to run their monthly business networking breakfasts in April, May (sponsored by Bendigo Bank) and June, with attendance averaging 55 people.

We continued to attract visitors, tourists and employment to the Doncaster Hill Activity Centre and in key locations across the municipality.

Challenges

We continued to provide ongoing support and advice to home-based food businesses as they transition out of the challenging COVID-19 pandemic environment.





30 Faves in 30 Days

We are committed to supporting the growth of our local businesses, tourism and economy and are always looking to find new ways to support local industries and employment.

As part of the Find Your Local Manningham campaign, we launched our 30 Faves in 30 Days competition in March 2023. This competition connected shoppers with local products and experiences so they could embrace everything Manningham has to offer.

The competition invited community members to shout out their faves, from a bakery with the best vanilla slice and even better service, a playground with a fence and coffee van to boot, or the salon around the corner where perfect brows are guaranteed.

During the competition, 537 community members nominated their favourite businesses on the @findyourlocalmanningham Instagram page, where they went into the daily draw to win a \$50 gift voucher.

Jenny, who owns the Miss Sprinkles cake shop in Park Orchards said the campaign encouraged community interest in the store.

“We saw quite a few new customers in store and had more than the usual amount of new social media followers, particularly in the week or two after the cakes category was shared,” Jenny said.

The competition successfully promoted local businesses and the Instagram page continues to share the unique stories, products and services Manningham businesses offer.

“It was lovely to reach some new customers,” Jenny added.

The initiative demonstrated our commitment to investing in Manningham’s future and strengthening our local economy.



How you can get involved

- Follow the [@findyourlocalmanningham](#) Instagram page
- Find out more ways Manningham supports local businesses at manninghambusiness.com.au

What we did to support a well governed Council



We understand our community places high importance on Council being transparent, accountable and providing value for money.

What you told us to focus on

- Improving communication and community engagement
- Involving our community in decision making
- Contributing value to our community in everything we do
- Providing inclusive and responsive customer service and communications
- Demonstrating transparency and accountability.

This includes making our communications and engagement inclusive and accessible for all and serving our community in a financially sustainable way.

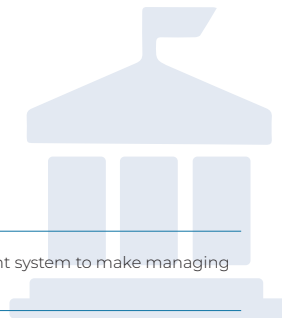
We understand we need to measure and report on how our services meet the needs of our community.

Our residents have told us they want to be kept up to date with our services, initiatives, actions and programs.

From our conversations with our community, we have committed to working towards the following goals:

- A financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently.
- A Council that values our customers and community in all that we do.

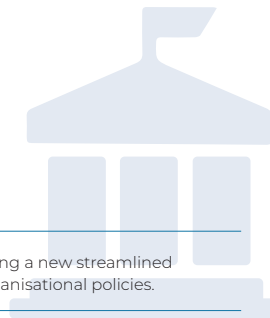




What we delivered

- We successfully transitioned to a new contract management system to make managing Council contracts more streamlined and efficient.
- We added additional modules in our system to help our staff report incidents, claims and public liability issues.
- We improved our staff Intranet to help with knowledge sharing across our organisation.
- We prepared for our inaugural Legal Intern program to provide learning opportunities to people undertaking studies.
- We processed 806 planning applications:
 - 92% of standard stream applications processed within the required 60 statutory days (compared to a metro average 59.34%).
 - 98.72% of VicSmart planning applications within 10 business days (compared to metro average 79.22%).
- We improved internal systems to help our customer service, including transitioning to a new knowledge base system and translator interpreter service.
- We reviewed and improved how we report our quarterly progress on our major initiatives and Council Plan to enhance our transparency and accountability to the community.
- We improved how we implement and monitor the delivery of the best public value for our ratepayers and organisational values.
- We undertook community engagement for many projects including: the Climate Emergency Response Plan, the Aquarena Outdoor Masterplan, our 2023/24 Budget, new Community Local Law 2023, and many others.
- We reviewed, updated and adopted the Fraud and Corruption Policy and Control System Procedure with extensive stakeholder feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee and Councillors.

- We successfully ran Enterprise Risk Management Training for our management leadership group to build our organisation's capacity to mitigate and manage risks.
- We successfully ran Business Continuity Management training and a cyber breach test exercise.
- We delivered our internal audit plan and compliance plan 2022/23 and conducted rolling implementation of continuous improvement actions.
- We completed six monthly reporting of strategic risks to Council and the community.
- We introduced a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) interface to directly input SNAP SEND SOLVE reports from our community into CRM cases. This reduced processing time from up to four days to a few minutes. This improved Manningham's responsiveness to community service requests.
- We updated our new Field Workforce Management System, extending the use of our CRM system and allowing our staff to update customer service requests in the field, eliminating many manual processes.
- We successfully completed a major restructure of the City Planning and Community directorate, creating two new Directorates, City Planning, and Connected Communities. These new directorates recognise and closely align with Council priorities and the Council plan.
- We undertook Gender Impact Assessments on our policies, programs, and services to ensure they are inclusive of people of all genders and backgrounds and meet the needs of our community. We are working on further embedding Gender Impact Assessments into our systems and processes.
- We supported our Aged and Disability Support Services team in a range of ways including outplacement services and redeployment options following Council's decision to exit in-home aged care services.



What we delivered

We reviewed our organisational policies and procedures using a new streamlined process, which resulted in the retirement of 61 outdated organisational policies.

We reviewed our Governance Rules to make sure our organisation complies with the amendments made to the Local Government Act 2020 that allow Council to conduct meetings remotely when required. Our preferred method for conducting Council meetings remains in person.

To develop our Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP), we conducted extensive community consultation through Your Say Manningham, a Gender Impact Assessment, survey and in person pop-up stalls across Manningham, such as the Plastic Free July events and FOGO information stalls. As a result of the consultation, we received valuable submissions and contributions (including from 316 survey participants). We incorporated this feedback into the CEAP to reflect the strong themes captured throughout the engagement.

We supported the safeguarding of Council assets through lease, lease renewal, licensing, easement and encroachment projects.

We assessed and continued to drive improvements in how we manage Council facilities and fleets.

We negotiated contracts for asset maintenance, capital works programs and upgrades to ensure the best value for ratepayers.

We commenced the development of ISO 31000 risk management framework for inclusion in Council's Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.

We strengthened our focus on strong, community-centred communications. We strive to make sure as many residents, businesses, community groups and visitors as possible receive updates about our services, facilities and projects that matter to them. We tailor our messages and channels to reach people where they are, in a way that works for them.

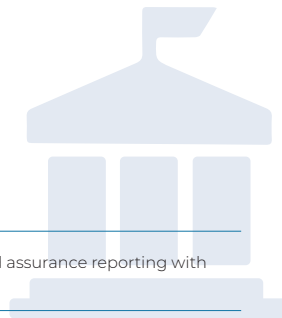
In 2022-23 we built on our commitment to ensuring the community is appropriately engaged on decisions impacting them with the introduction of our Community Engagement Guidelines. The Guidelines improve the way we engage with our community.

40,730 people visited our community engagement platform Your Say Manningham. 897 people contributed to our engagement processes on the website.

We have continued our long-term advocacy to the Victorian and Australian Governments for poker machine reform. The Victorian Premier has now announced landmark reforms to reduce gambling related harm, including mandatory pre-commitment limits, carded play and load up limits for electronic gaming machines (EGMs).

We have continued to advocate the Victorian Government for safety improvements to the intersection of Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, Croydon Road, Husseys Lane and Brumbys Road in Warrandyte South known locally as 5 Ways.

We have worked diligently alongside North East Link Program and the Victorian Government for a commitment to deliver a new sporting precinct in Bulleen and to ensure community impacts are minimised by changes at Bulleen Park.



Challenges

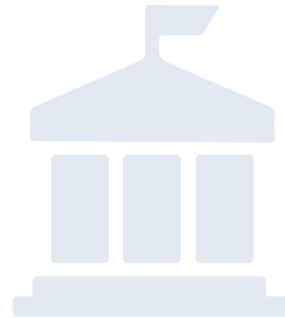
We face increasing demands for regulatory compliance and assurance reporting with limited resources.

We continue to work proactively to protect the security and privacy of our systems from cyber security threats. We introduced a new cyber security system to provide 24/7 protection for our customer data.

We experienced recruitment challenges which included shortages of suitable job applicants with relevant across our organisation. Limited staff numbers have impacted our ability to deliver projects, initiatives and services to our community.



Young people take the lead



We are committed to being transparent and accountable to our community.

This includes providing all people in our community with opportunities to engage with Council to help shape our priorities and decision-making.

Our Youth Advisory Committee is made up of 15 young people aged 16 to 25 who live, work or study in Manningham.

Committee members provide their views on issues affecting young people and feed them back to Council to influence decision-making and priority setting.

"We have a wide range of youth perspectives on the committee, from high school students to people finishing university. We all agree that our generation is different from others, in the way that we didn't get the full experience of youth because of the COVID-19 outbreak," says MYAC member, Berry. "Through MYAC we're establishing bonds and engagement in our community."

In 2022/23, Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) identified three areas of priority:

1. Youth Mental Health
2. Opportunities for youth engagement
3. Cultural events and festivals for youth participation.

These priorities will shape the focus of MYAC for the year and will provide Council with information to consider in decision-making and projects related to young people.

"As an international student, leadership is something I was unfamiliar with. Sitting in a meeting with people who have the power to make decisions makes me feel very important. This definitely would not have been possible back home; as a student, and especially as a female, speaking up for yourself was culturally disrespectful. I was very surprised to be having this unique experience where they hear you speak and they listen! I am very grateful to have people advocating for the student voice," Berry said.

The priorities will also inform the work of Manningham Youth Services delivered by EACH on behalf of Council.



Above: Councillor Anna Chen with members of MYAC at the Principals Breakfast.

How you can get involved

- Find out more about services and programs for young people manningham.vic.gov.au/find-youth-services
- Find out more about Manningham's Youth Services at each.com.au/manninghamyouth



Our financial performance

Our financial results remain strong and demonstrate our commitment to maintaining long-term financial sustainability while providing cost-effective services and delivering infrastructure projects to meet the needs of our community.

See the summary of our performance in the following pages. More detailed information can be found in the appendix.

Operating position

- In 2022/23, we achieved an operating surplus of \$7.60 million which was \$12.39 million lower than the adopted budget surplus of \$19.98 million.
- The reduction in the operating surplus was mainly due to one-off expenses in 2022/23 including costs associated with the implementation of the new Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) waste service, one-off restructure costs as a result of Council's decision to transition out of Commonwealth Home Support Program services and expenditure originally budgeted in the Capital Works Program but was classified as non-capital in nature.
- Within Council's surplus, there are several income items that are either restricted in use or 'non-cash' in nature. The adjusted underlying result excludes these items such as non-recurrent capital grants, non-monetary asset contributions and other contributions to fund capital expenditure (including developer and open space contributions). The adjusted underlying deficit was \$4.84 million due to the one off expenditure items (FOGO, restructure costs and capital program costs that were non-capital in nature).

Income

We derived our income from various sources, including rates, user fees and charges, grants, interest, and other contributions. Our total income for 2022/23 was \$161.26 million, compared to a budget of \$157.85 million.

Table 4: 2022/23 Income

Income \$'000	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
General rates	85,839	88,853	92,216	95,767	98,317	100,853
Waste charges	10,830	13,126	13,737	13,916	15,998	16,627
User fees, charges and fines	14,940	14,570	12,308	9,676	10,110	11,675
Operating grants	12,229	12,173	11,842	13,641	13,292	13,860
Capital grants	3,578	2,672	1,433	3,622	6,800	7,079
Contributions (monetary and non-monetary)	14,766	13,949	18,476	18,857	23,128	7,185
Other income	138	1,276	1,325	2,444	2,014	3,976
Total	143,896	148,600	152,806	157,923	169,659	161,256

Expenditure

Our total expenditure for 2022/23 was \$153.66 million, compared to a budget of \$137.86 million. In 2022/23, the main expense was employee costs, which accounted for \$61.53 million.

Table 5: 2022/23 Expenditure

Expenditure \$'000	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Employee costs	52,505	53,326	54,120	56,221	53,813	61,530
Materials and contracts	20,961	23,446	28,469	27,853	29,029	32,020
Depreciation and amortisation	20,566	21,640	23,946	26,028	26,394	29,124
Other expenses	19,736	21,036	20,586	18,859	28,303	30,984
Total	113,768	119,448	127,121	128,961	137,539	153,658

Net worth

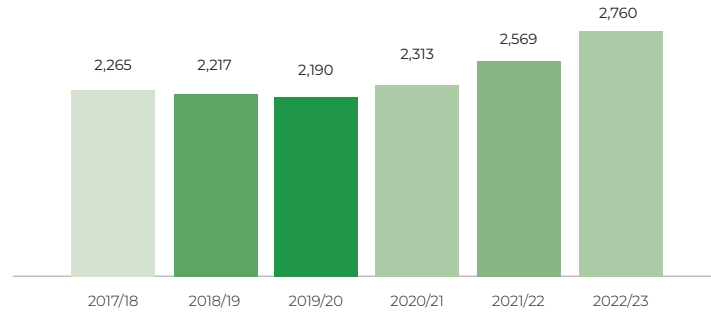
Our financial strength is indicated by net assets (what we own less what we owe). As of 30 June 2023, Council owns net assets of \$2.70 billion, including community infrastructure assets of \$2.64 billion.

Assets

Our total assets are valued at \$2.76 billion. This is an increase of \$191.62 million or 7.5% on the prior year and is primarily due to an increase in the value of land and infrastructure assets.

Figure 3: Total assets (\$millions)

Total Assets (\$ millions)



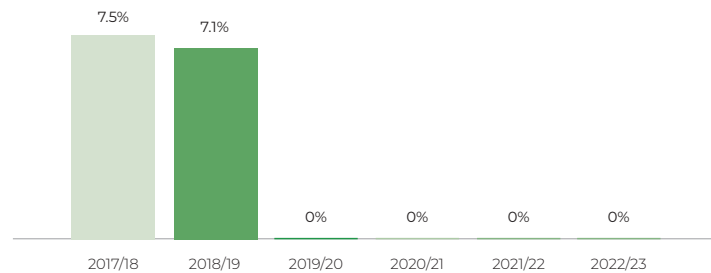
Liabilities

Our liabilities include amounts owed to suppliers and employee leave entitlements. Total liabilities at 30 June 2023 were \$58.10 million, a slight increase of \$1.96 million over the previous year.

Council fully repaid \$7.28 million of loan borrowings during 2019/20 and is debt free.

Figure 4: Debt to rates and charges (%)

Debt to rates and charges (%)

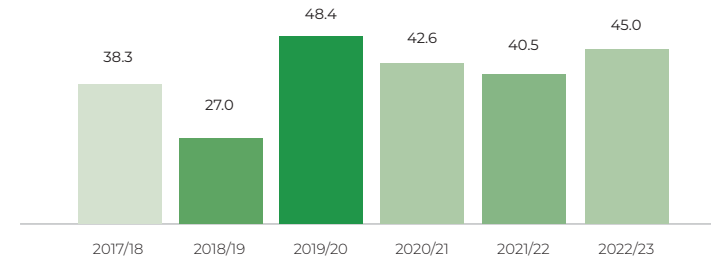


Capital investment

We invested \$45.05 million in an extensive Capital Works Program to renew and upgrade community assets throughout the municipality.

Figure 5: Capital Works Program (\$millions)

Capital works program (\$ millions)

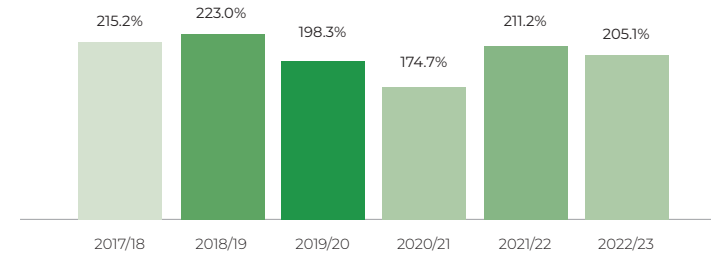


Liquidity

Cash and term deposits at 30 June 2023 were \$90 million, a decrease of \$3.30 million from the previous year. Our working capital ratio is strong at 205.1%, which indicates that for every dollar of short-term liabilities, we have \$2.05 worth of assets.

Figure 6: Working capital ratio (%)

Working capital ratio (%)



Our year ahead

A Community Panel provided a list of recommendations to Council for the direction of the 2021-2025 Council Plan.

Our major initiatives for the year ahead set out what we were working towards achieving for our community and allow us to report on our progress.

These are guided by the themes of our Council Plan 2021-2025. For 2022/23 we have set a range of major initiatives and other initiatives.

Healthy Community 

Community Panel Recommendation

1. Plan for equitable and accessible services and infrastructure for prominent issues, such as mental health and social isolation.
2. Partner, support and develop relationships with the library service, community groups, neighbourhood houses and volunteer groups to deliver on outcomes.
3. Educational and awareness programs/ workshops/classes (environment, mental health, family violence, cultural diversity, skills sharing) to support a connected and healthy community and waste management, compost, climate changes and biodiversity.

Major Initiatives

We will undertake evidence-based planning for equitable, inclusive and accessible services and infrastructure improvements for prominent issues including:

- I. Continue gender equality impact assessments on significant Council policies, services and programs.
- II. Improve the range of accessible supports and services available to young people within Manningham, exploring a youth hub, advocating for improved mental health resources and working collaboratively with youth agencies.
- III. Continue collaborative forums to engage with businesses, community leaders, community groups and residents from culturally diverse backgrounds.
- IV. Investigate activities and extended use of community facilities, including libraries, to address social isolation.


We will work to progress and deliver community outcomes in consultation with our advisory committees, local service providers, community groups, organisations and networks.

We will educate and support connected, inclusive and healthy communities (inclusive of our culturally diverse communities and First Nation peoples) through:

- Environmental education and waste programs.
- Implementing the Reconciliation Action Plan to enhance recognition of people of First Nations.
- Resources and information that link our community to the understanding of and responses to family violence.

Other Initiatives

We will pursue strategies to reduce the impact of gambling on the community, considering areas such as poker machines and advertising on Council buildings.

Liveable Places and Spaces 

Community Panel Recommendation

1. Plan for new developments responsibly. Maintain principles of protecting our environment, green and open space, environmental sustainability (through use of materials) and maintaining a balance of city and country.
2. Provide ways for people to connect: Connections between and with young and older people, in the physical/built environment and online, deliver events, festivals, markets and activities.
3. Provide infrastructure (paths, trails, street furniture) and accessible transport options.
4. Expand or better utilise our current facilities (eg. stadiums) or spaces (eg. reserves), or develop new facilities. These facilities to become community hubs, with activities and events for all.

Major Initiatives

We will implement our principles to guide responsible planning for new developments and enhance protection of the environment through implementation of high-priority recommendations in the Manningham Planning Scheme 2020.

We will provide ways for people to connect by:

- Prioritising grant funding to support community inclusion and connections in a way that respond to community needs.
- Improving transport options through the 2021 Transport Action Plan and by contributing to planning of the Suburban Rail Loop, Doncaster Busway, Bus Rapid Transit, bus network and service review and enhancing the walking and cycling network.
- Improving community safety in and around schools through traffic and parking management programs.

We will investigate and review current facility use and opportunities to develop or repurpose existing facilities and use of Council land for multi-use purposes and to meet changing community needs through:

- Finalising the Community Infrastructure Plan and commence implementing the 20 year Action Plan.
- Strengthening utilisation and performance of stadiums in conjunction with stadium managers.
- Improving community access to sport and recreation facilities and spaces for broad community use and benefit.

Other Initiatives

We will continue to deliver our roads, footpaths and drains (as scheduled) to a high standard. Drains include the Melbourne Hill Road Drainage Our upgrade. Road Improvement Program includes Jumping Creek Road, Templestowe Route and Tram Road and Merlin Street Traffic signals.

We will deliver the Parks and Recreation Facilities Upgrades (as scheduled) including Petty's Reserve Sporting Development (Stage 2), Rieschiecks Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment and Deep Creek Reserve.

Resilient Environment



Community Panel Recommendation

1. Consider core principles of biodiversity and protecting wildlife in all that we do.

Major Initiatives

Deliver environmental activities to:

- Strengthen principles to protect the environment, biodiversity and wildlife.
- Advocate to government and business on environmental issues.
- Improve management practices of bushland maintenance, pest animal and environmental weed control and monitoring, evaluating and improvement mechanisms.
- Explore biodiversity improvement or environmental community engagement programs for local public areas in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria.
- Demonstrate stewardship in building sustainable waste management practices with the community.

Vibrant and Prosperous Economy



Community Panel Recommendation

1. Support local businesses (particularly where they demonstrate alignment with our community values, provide services to the community, or are partnering with local community organisations and services).

Major Initiatives

We will support local businesses and the City through:

- Increasing procurement with organisations that produce economic, environmental and social outcomes for Manningham.
- Capacity building and support through business development activities.
- Exploring local opportunities to support local businesses to collaborate via a Hub / co-working space.
- Activities to encourage and support tourism and employment opportunities.

Well Governed Council

Community Panel Recommendation

1. Communications/marketing/advertising to support awareness of initiatives/services / activities/programs (particularly local) to connect our community and on environment.
2. Council to measure and demonstrate success of its services, and achievement of social, environmental and economic outcomes against community need. Council to set targets and report back on progress.

Major Initiatives

We will explore different ways to improve community satisfaction with Council's communications on local community issues, services and activities.

We will explore ways to enhance performance reporting across social, environment and economic outcomes against community need.

We will improve our Customer Experience to better understand and meet their specific needs.

We will ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Council through preparing the Budget and 10-year Financial Plan incorporating key strategies to Council by 30 June 2024.

We will take a proactive and motivated approach to be an open and transparent Council.

Get involved

Thank you for reading Manningham Council's Annual Report 2022/23. We hope this report has given you a good understanding of our achievements and performance. We value your feedback, and you can provide this by contacting us.

We want to hear your ideas and feedback on issues and projects that matter to you.

Connect online

- [twitter/manninghamcc](https://twitter.com/manninghamcc)
- [facebook/manninghamCouncil](https://facebook.com/manninghamCouncil)
- Instagram/CityofManningham
- manningham.vic.gov.au
- yoursaymanningham.com.au

Email us

- manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au

Call us

- 03 9840 9333

Meet us

- Manningham Civic Centre
699 Doncaster Road Doncaster
Council Depot
Corner Blackburn and Warrandyte Roads Doncaster East

Write to us

- Manningham Council
PO Box 1
Doncaster Vic 3108

Access our interpreter service

- 9840 9355

Read Manningham Matters

- manningham.vic.gov.au/manningham-matters



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Welcome

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, all Victorian local governments must submit an Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government each year. We take our accountability to our community seriously, and this Annual Report is one of the primary tools we use to report on our performance transparently and accurately.

This Annual Report details our performance against the strategic themes outlined in our Council Plan 2021–2025, our 2022/23 Annual Budget initiatives, and our 2021–2025 Strategic Resource Plan.

Our community

In 2021, 74.5% of households were purchasing or fully owned their home, 19.4% were renting privately and 0.6% lived in social housing.

69.9% of dwellings in Manningham were separate houses, 20.3% were units and townhouses and 9.6% were apartments. 46.4% of households in Manningham had no children.

Children up to 14 years old were 16.2% of the population and people over 65 years 22.2% and the median age was 43 years.

46.3% of our community spoke a language other than English at home, with Mandarin (13.9%) and Cantonese (8.5%) being the most common. 43.5% were born overseas, mostly in China.

By 2036 we expect our population to reach 149,274

Our history

The history of Manningham dates back millennia to the Wurundjeri people, whose way of life is closely linked to the natural environment.

In the late 1830s, the first European settlers began growing wheat, vegetables, and grapes before eventually planting orchards.

The discovery of gold in Warrandyte was a real turning point and by 1851, fortune hunters were trying their luck panning the streams and digging the rich soil around Harris Gully.

Local Government in the area dates back to the election of the Templestowe District Roads Board in 1856. On 28 February 1967, the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe was proclaimed a City.

The City of Manningham was formed in 1994 as a result of local government amalgamations.

Our employees

One of the ways we deliver positive outcomes for our community is by being inclusive and passionate about what we do. This shapes the way we manage our workforce. Our people programs focus on attracting, retaining, and developing a diverse range of skilled people.

Major achievements with our employees

Strengthening our safety culture and supporting workforce wellbeing

Delivering health monitoring and safety assessments for our people and our worksites, including:

- Audiometric testing
- COVID-19 exposure risk assessments
- Child safety risk assessments
- Plant & equipment risk assessments.

Empowering safety knowledge, skills, and awareness through targeted initiatives, including:

- Staff wellbeing sessions
- Emergency response drills
- First aid training
- Warden training
- Celebrating R U OK? Day
- Asbestos awareness training
- Manual handling training
- Health & Safety Representative (HSR) training.

Delivering improved systems, policies and practices that reinforce our commitment to workplace safety, including:

- Implementation of new safety hazard and incident reporting system (SPaRC)
- Maintaining an up-to-date COVID Safe Plan
- Distributing Rapid Antigen Tests
- Incident investigation and sharing of safety information for continuous improvement
- Consultation through WHS Committees
- Audits and inspections
- Updating WHS policy and procedures
- Test and tagging of electrical equipment
- Proactive management of injuries, including the development of guidance material for injured workers
- Provision of return-to-work support.

Improving our workplace experience through targeted culture and leadership initiatives

Elevating our commitment to workplace equality and inclusion through:

- Internal Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
- Workplace Gender Audit and Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) development - *Gender Equality Act 2020*
- Establishment of the Gender Equity Steering Committee.

Strengthening our values-based culture and improving our leadership experience through:

- Monthly Management Development program to enhance leadership capability
- Refreshing our in-person Corporate Induction program offered to all new employees. This program focuses on Our Values and understanding our customers
- Directorate Excellence Awards programs to celebrate employee excellence
- Service Awards program to recognise our long serving employees
- Defining the development needs of the Executive Leadership Team
- Activities to strengthen collaboration and engagement within and across all directorates.

Delivering systems and structures that transform how we work and enable best-value outcomes

Achievement of *Local Government Act 2020* compliance with:

- Code of Conduct and Recruitment Policy update
- CEO remuneration policy
- Workforce Plan.

Building frameworks and structures that enable and empower positive experiences and best-value outcomes

Empowering positive experiences and best-value outcomes through:

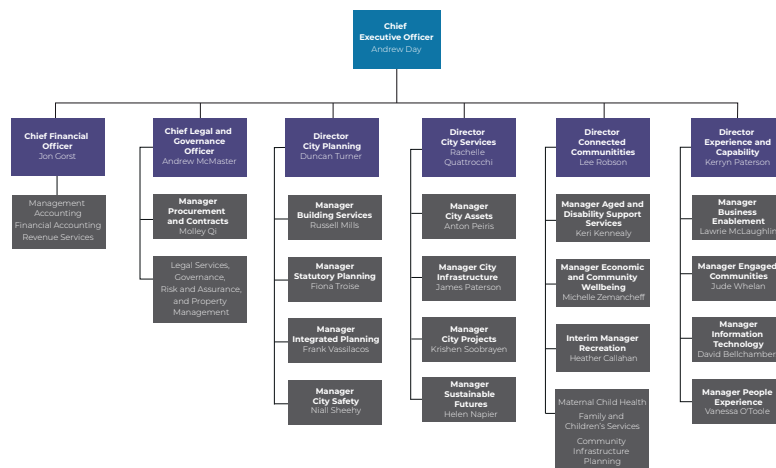
- Alternate Work Location Policy
- Introduction of a new workforce resource management process to support sustainable and responsible management of total employee numbers and costs
- Renewal of human resource forms, processes and reporting to improve efficiency.

Our people

As of 30 June 2023, Manningham Council employed 646 people full-time, part-time, or casual, equating to 556.9 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees.

Our people deliver a diverse range of functions - including engineering, customer service, administration, finance, community and aged care, planning, waste management, parks and recreation, local laws, arts and culture, and management.

Figure 1 – Manningham Council Organisational Chart as at June 2023



Staff profile

The tables below show the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) Manningham employees as of 30 June 2023. The tables break down our workforce by directorate, employment type, employment classification and gender.

Table 1: 2022/23 Staff Profile

Employment Type/ Gender	Chief Executive Office	City Services	City Planning	Connected Communities	Experience & Capability
Full Time – Female	28	34	33	38	32
Full Time – Male	9	118	33	12	21
Full Time – Self Described	-	-	1	-	-
Part Time – Female	8	10	46	124	21
Part Time – Male	-	2	17	19	1
Part Time – Self Described	-	-	-	1	-
Casual – Female	-	2	9	13	-
Casual – Male	3	2	5	3	-
Casual – Self Described	-	-	-	-	-
Total	48	168	144	210	75

Table 2: 2022/23 Employment Classification

Employment Classification	Female FTE	Male FTE	Self -Described FTE	Total FTE
Band 1	26	18	-	44
Band 2	30	11	-	41
Band 3	47	50	-	97
Band 4	25	21	-	46
Band 5	60	21	-	81
Band 6	70	37	1	107
Band 7	41	34	-	75
Band 8	16	21	-	37
Nurses	14	-	-	14
Senior officers*	12	5	-	17
Total	341	218	1	560

* Senior officers include the CEO, any officer of Council who has management responsibilities and reports directly to the CEO or any other member of Council staff whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000.

As of 30 June 2023, most (86%) of our employees were over 35 years old. 26% of our employees were between 46 and 65 years old and 14% less than 35 years old.

Most of our employees are at the officer level (94%), with senior officers representing 6% of the total workforce.

Staff turnover

Our turnover of permanent staff during 2022/23 was 15%. This was lower than in the previous year.

The following tables show staff turnover, employee level and age breakdown of our employees (represented as individuals, not FTE).

Table 3: 2022/23 Staff turnover

Staff turnover	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Staff turnover	14%	10%	10%	12%	9%	18%	15%

Employment level	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Officer Level	95%	95%	95%	95%	93%	95%	98%
Senior Officers*	5%	5%	5%	5%	7%	5%	2%

* Senior Officers include the CEO, any officer of Council who has management responsibilities and reports directly to the CEO or any other member of Council staff whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000.

Table 4: 2022/23 Staff Age Profile

Age profile	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
≤25 years	19	16	12	14	10	8	9
26 – 35 years	107	87	79	72	73	75	79
36 – 45 years	133	140	128	134	138	134	138
46 – 55 years	221	206	203	210	188	175	167
56 – 65 years	157	160	161	165	175	182	183
> 65 years	65	63	74	71	65	64	69
Total	702	672	657	666	649	638	645

Conditions of employment

Most employees at Manningham Council are employed under the conditions of the *Manningham Council Agreement 2021*, which has a nominal expiry date of 30 June 2024.

The benefits we offer to our employees include:

- Flexible working arrangements, such as purchasing additional leave and working from alternate work locations.
- An Employee Assistance Program that provides confidential and independent personal or professional support and counselling.
- A Study Assistance program supporting staff to study at colleges or universities, providing up to \$3,006.02 per person per financial year towards costs, and up to four hours a week of extra leave.
- Learning opportunities that support personal and professional development, as well as compliance-related learning aligned to regulatory and governance frameworks. In 2022/23 our staff undertook over 3,100 development hours across 57 learning programs.
- A range of proactive injury prevention health and wellbeing programs such as participation in the Local Government Employees (LGE) Health Plan, access to immunisations and manual handling.
- A Fleet Service for employees to use when travelling for work purposes.
- Access to Myki cards to use when travelling for work purposes.
- Discounted memberships to Manningham's leisure facilities.
- Employee-led social club.

Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace

We are committed to ensuring our employees are equipped with the resources, capabilities, skills, and confidence to support each other and the community. This enables us to successfully achieve our 2040 Community Vision which is a peaceful, inclusive, and safe community, where we all have a sense of belonging and respect for one another.

In alignment with our values, we have achieved the following:

- Updating our systems and processes to collect intersectional data from new employees and introduction of ANZSCO codes to better understand workforce segmentation.
- Refreshing the membership and Terms of Reference of our Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, a staff-led and executive-supported advocacy group.
- Re-establishing a Gender Equity Steering Committee to strengthen our commitment to gender equality and assist with the implementation of our Gender Equality Action Plan and Gender Impact Assessment program.
- Appointing dedicated staff (1.8 FTE) in the Organisation Development team to lead diversity and inclusion initiatives and cultural change.
- Providing staff learning opportunities through an updated mandatory Diversity and Inclusion training module along with specific development of our people leaders through Respectful Workplace Training.

- Doubling our response rate to the People Matters Survey for Local Government to 41% to better understand our staff's experience of gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and cultural safety in the workplace.
- Supporting and attending a range of events, including:
 - Pride March with staff, executive, Councillors, and community members.
 - Our first staff event for International Women's Day held at the Depot.
 - Directorate Harmony Day events celebrating our cultural diversity.
 - An in-person IDAHOBIT event featuring a panel discussion.

Table 5: Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Policy success measurements

Indicator	Result
Number of contact officers available across the organisation. Target: 6	Result: 6

Reward and recognition

The contribution of our people is vital to our success as an organisation. We have a Reward and Recognition Award Program to recognise our people for excellence.

Excellence Awards

In 2022/23, we presented 122 Excellence Awards to staff across the organisation at five directorate-based events. These awards recognised our people who demonstrated excellence across one or more of these categories:

- Customers – our focus
- People – engaged, empowered and accountable
- Technology – robust and easy to use
- Leadership – inspiring and courageous, driving performance through teamwork and communication

- Continuous improvement – empowering change by identifying and implementing process improvements
- Policies and processes – progressive, streamlined, and consistent
- Place – responsible custodianship of Manningham for the public good.

Service Awards

We recognise long-standing employees' contributions by presenting awards at milestones of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service. This year we recognised 58 employees with these awards.

Reporting on our Performance

Planning and reporting framework

The Victorian Government introduced the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) in 2014 to enable all Victorian Councils to measure and report on their performance consistently.

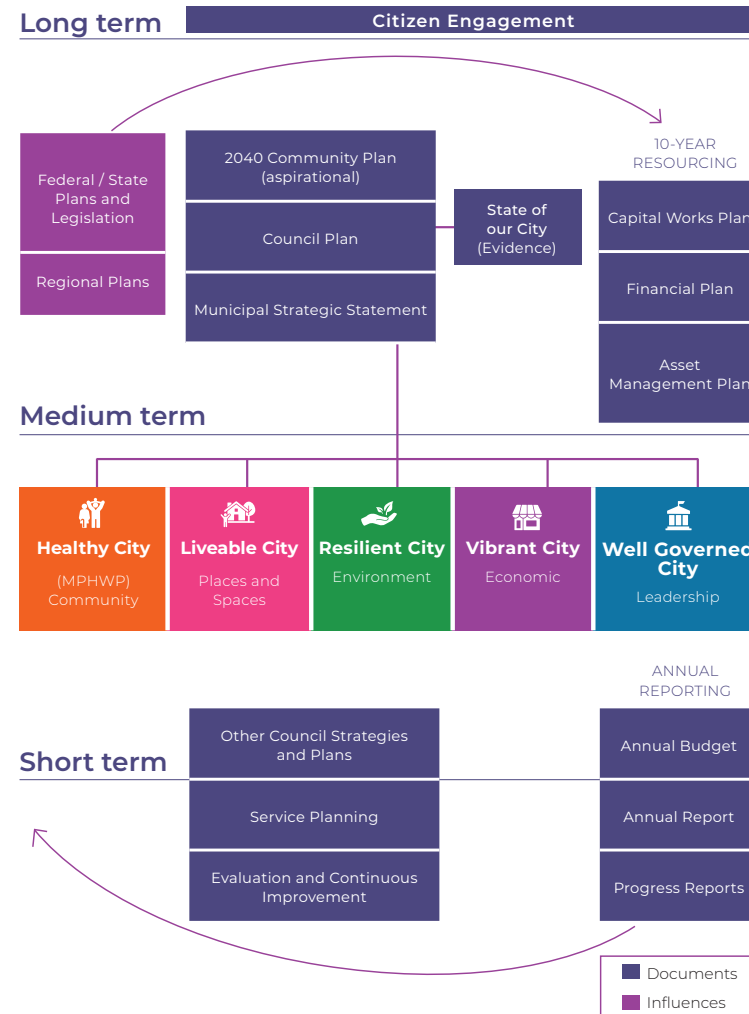
To report on our performance, we prepare:

- a Council Plan within six months after each general election or 30 June, whichever is later
- a Strategic Resource Plan for at least four years
- an Annual Budget for each financial year
- an Annual Report for each financial year.

Figure 1 shows the key planning and reporting documents that make up the local government planning and accountability framework and the relationships between these documents. It also shows where we must provide opportunities for community and stakeholder input.

Our Community Vision and Council Plan underpin our short, medium and long-term planning. As illustrated below, we support our commitments through resource plans and reporting on our progress in the Annual Report.

Figure 2: Planning and accountability framework



Our Council Plan

How we developed our Council Plan

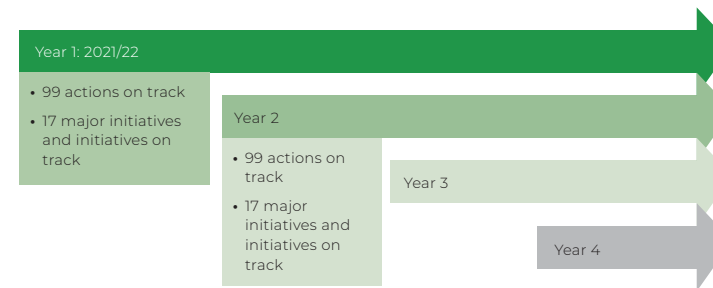
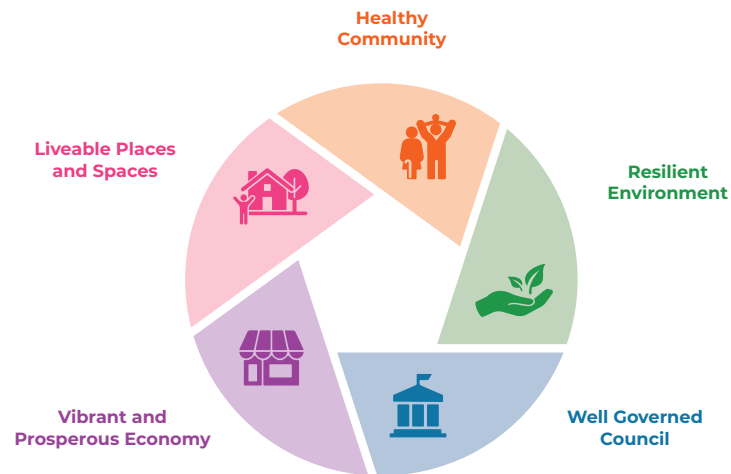
Our Council developed our Council Plan at the start of its four-year term based on recommendations from a Community Panel and extensive consultation. The Plan sets out the goals, initiatives, and actions to be delivered over the four years.

Reporting our progress

We report our performance throughout the year in the Manningham Quarterly Report, Manningham Matters and online channels.

We report on our progress of Council Plan actions for the 2022/23 year below.

Figure 3: Our Council Plan themes



Our performance: major initiatives and initiatives

This is the ninth year we are reporting on several service, financial and sustainability performance indicators under the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).

We report on our progress of our performance indicators for the 2022/23 year above.

Our performance: LGPRF indicators

Our progress towards the aspirational community vision is below covering:

- Major initiatives and initiatives in our Annual Budget 2022/23
- Council Plan actions and indicators in our Council Plan 2021-2025
- Service, financial and sustainability performance indicators under the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).

Our performance: Healthy Community

Services funded in our Annual Budget

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Aged and Disability Support and Food Services	Maintains community connections and enhances the quality of life for older adults and their carers by providing home and community-based services to support independent living in their own home.	1,586	2,016	(430)
Aged and Disability Quality and Service	Support service provision through management of business information systems and processes that enable reporting, compliance and service delivery.	750	715	35
Arts and Culture	Builds inclusive and connected community through participation in arts and culture through coordinating education programs, promoting local creative industries and managing our local Gallery, art studios and Playhouse.	491	668	(177)
Building Services	Protects community safety and local amenity in buildings and structures through issuing of permits and enforcing building act and regulations.	809	742	67
Economic and Community Wellbeing	Provides management and administration services for the Economic and Community Wellbeing services and promotes community inclusion, volunteering, emergency counselling and youth services.	1,626	1,732	(106)
Customer Liaison and Services Provision	Enhances health, resilience and quality of life for older adults to maximise their independence at home and in the community through providing short-term or complex care services.	447	2,948	(2,501)
Children and Family Services	To support and build the capacity of educators, families, children and the youth and advocate for community infrastructure that meets the needs of the community.	135	243	(108)

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Positive Ageing and Community Access	Support for older adults to be included, connected, healthy, and resilient with social groups, events, assisted transport as well as dementia-friendly and positive ageing initiatives. Also provides assessment services to access Commonwealth funded aged care.	441	956	(515)
Recreation	Provides opportunities to meet the long-term health and wellbeing needs of our community through management of Council's sporting facilities, sportsgrounds, recreation facilities, indoor stadiums and the Aquarena Aquatics and Leisure Centre.	(86)	679	(765)
Social Planning and community strengthening	Creates stronger and more connected communities. Social planning investigates and responds to the needs and aspirations of the people who live or work locally and community development empowers our community members to identify and take collective action on issues which are important to them.	837	797	40
Library Services	Provide opportunities for local learning in modern and efficient services delivered through local branches and e-services. Including book collection, research tools and interactive learning programs. Managed by the Whitehorse Manningham Library Corporation.	4,652	4,331	321
Maternal and Child Health	Support for growing families with universal access to health services for children from birth to school age in the provision of expert care to monitor and record health and development.	813	802	11
Parks and Natural Environment	Protect and maintain our local environment in parks, trees, open spaces, and playgrounds with asset inspection and maintenance, fire mitigation, grass cutting and maintenance, sportsground maintenance, arboriculture services, and landscaping.	10,552	11,812	(1,260)

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
City Compliance	Protect community safety and the liveability of the city by coordinating animal management, city compliance, fire prevention, traffic management, school crossings and compliance with municipal local laws.	702	1,310	(608)
Environmental Health	Protect community health and the liveability of the city in environmental health, food safety, health premises/ smoking activity, domestic wastewater management and immunisation.	834	742	92


Goal 1: Healthy, resilient and safe community

Key focus areas


Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Mental wellbeing services, particularly for younger and older people. Safe and respectful relationships.
Liveable Places and Spaces	Popular and well-maintained programs and facilities for recreation and leisure, arts and culture. Safety in and around the home.
Resilient Environment	Support to prepare for and respond to emergencies. Preparing for climate changes and using Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD).
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Everything you need is local. Shops and activities centres are accessible. Supporting local employment and business.
Well Governed Council	Connecting service providers, community groups, local organisations, and networks to improve community outcomes. Leading the way in creating an inclusive and welcoming City.


Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives



Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
We will undertake evidence-based planning for equitable, inclusive and accessible services and infrastructure improvements for prominent issues including:			
	Commencing Gender Equality Impact Assessments on significant Council policies, services and programs.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to implement our a Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) as a requirement under Victoria's new Gender Equality Act 2020. To date seven Gender Impact Assessments have been undertaken with the assistance of external consultants, on: the Recruitment Policy (MAV GIA pilot program 2020), Gambling Policy, Outdoor Sporting Fees and Charges Policy, Local Laws Review, Asset Plan, Community Infrastructure Plan and the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
	Improving the range of accessible supports and services available to young people within Manningham, exploring a youth hub, advocating for improved mental health resources and working collaboratively with youth agencies.		<p>We have advocated for improved access to mental health support and services for young people through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring locations for a Youth Hub and are yet to find a suitable location. Advocating for Youth Mental health via a Headspace service is complete. The successful provider for Box Hill Headspace has been contacted for any collaborative opportunities. Engaging other youth providers in Manningham Youth Services, including Access Health and Community and local schools, via the School Focused Youth Service and the School Principals' Breakfast.
	Investigate extended use of community facilities, including libraries, through a delivery of the Community Infrastructure Plan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our draft 20-year Community Infrastructure Plan to guide and maximise the use of our community facilities has undergone community consultation with outcomes to be presented to Council. Extended hours of service for two of our library branches. Service level discussions are underway for Warrandyte Library after-hours access, Pines Shopping Centre opportunities, Bulleen library site feasibility and Doncaster and Bulleen Libraries layout changes. Site investigation for Warrandyte Men's Shed underway. Development Early Years Infrastructure Plan underway.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Work to connect service providers, community groups, local organisations, and networks to improve and profile community outcomes through forums and connections.		<p>We worked to connect, and profile community outcomes through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the Eastern Volunteers Community of Practice forum. Conducted the Multicultural Communities Network. This group continues to grow and is now meeting monthly with Council attend once a quarter. • Planning the 2023 International Students Welcome Program in collaboration with Whitehorse and Boroondara Councils. • Holding an International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) event continued as an in-person event and attracted 70+ staff and community members. The panel raised awareness of the issues of racism faced by the LGBTQIA+ community. • Focus on building a strategic planning relationship with AccessHealth through a series of priority-setting meetings focused on the Manningham Health & Wellbeing Strategy. Manningham Food Relief Network continues to meet every two months. The demand for food relief and dignity products continues to rise, with more reports of local people living from their vehicles and families being unable to meet all their living requirements. • Strengthening the referral relationship with Salvation Army who assist in the provision of social workers which can provide referral information for people sleeping rough. • Updating the Manningham Wellbeing card, which supports people during crisis. Inclusive Connections - International Day of People with Disability expo event took place on December 2 and involved over 40 local service providers and a speakers panel covering fashion to accessing NDIS services. • Holding a Strength Through Connection event on Mental Wellbeing and the Multicultural Communities, which was a dinner during mental health week in October. This was conducted in collaboration with Mental Health Foundation Australia.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Initiatives			
	Pursue strategies to reduce the impact of gambling on the community, considering areas such as poker machines and advertising on Council buildings.		<p>Our strategies to reduce gambling include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops on gambling harm and local governments' role were conducted with Council and the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee. • Regular attendance at network meetings. Q2 attendance at the Local Government Workgroup on Gambling. • Commenced planning for the review of the Manningham Gambling Policy and Action Plan.
Actions 2021-2025			
	Work with our partners and Advisory Groups to improve access to health and wellbeing services and programs for all people in our community.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and refreshed Advisory Committees covering Health and Wellbeing, Multicultural Communities, Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+, Disability and Youth Advisory Committees met for discussion across the year on topics including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOGO • Aquarena Masterplan • Gambling harm • Dates of significance • Use of Easy English to translate certain Council documents and finalisation of the Manningham Inclusive Language Guide • Active Manningham Program • Mental Wellbeing Resources • Council's Arts Strategy. • Strength Through Connection event, conducted in partnership with the Multicultural Network in October to explore Mental Wellbeing. • The Disability Advisory Committee oversaw the Inclusive Connections - International Day of People with Disability expo event on 2 December.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Increase diversity of opportunities to participate in life-long arts and cultural learning for adults, youth and children.		<p>We provided funding through our Community Grants Program to provide a range of opportunities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops held by artist Angharad Neal-Williams at the Warrandyte Community Centre to inform the direction of a mural currently being developed for the centre. The first of a series of writing workshops for people living with disabilities was run in collaboration with Doncaster Library. A full suite of art workshops was programmed for the June/July school holidays, the first since 2019. The Art Studios presented two come-and-try pottery classes in collaboration with the library, each receiving significant interest and proving the enduring popularity of pottery. A unique workshop looking at the expression of pain through visual art was held as part of the exhibition 'Pain Pageant' by Jessica Coldrey, and drama workshops were scheduled for the April school holidays, expanding the Art Studio program into performing arts. We presented a range of stand-alone and new activities to increase access to arts learning and engagement including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop to co-design a mural for the Doncaster Community Garden. Design and creation workshops for a mural on the side of MC Square. A workshop with Skunk Control supporting their installation of a new public artwork in Doncaster. Additional courses held for children and teenagers at the Manningham Art Studios. An open studios day or workshops as part of the MC Square 10 Year Anniversary event, artist workshops and floor talks. A tour to the exhibition 'Didar' at the University of Melbourne, and a series of artist interview videos relating to gallery exhibitions and placemaking initiatives.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Improve access to community legal services.		<p>We worked to understand and improve legal services through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions with the Eastern Community Legal Centre about the potential for a new site in Manningham. We are addressing the requirement for space in our new Community Infrastructure Plan. The four-year \$200,000 Community Partnership Grant to the Eastern Community Legal Centre continues to promote legal and social wellbeing in Manningham. We discussed our advocacy strategy to advance the need for improved legal services within Manningham. Working in collaboration with Eastern Community Legal Service and neighbouring councils to draft a letter on the need to expand services with a focus on piloting the Mabels model theory, which increases access to legal services if they are within a healthcare setting. Furthered our understanding through a briefing on the state of legal services and access in Manningham. We wrote an Advocacy letter to State members on Access to Community Legal Services for Manningham Residents.
	Provide opportunities to promote local arts and culture in the community.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We improved our online presence of Arts Manningham by reactivating the Doncaster Playhouse Facebook to engage audiences. We improved our customer experience by making it easier to enrol in the Art Studios, resulting in greater registrations. We promoted Unfinished Business, building the audiences targeted for the exhibition. We continued to improve the online presence of Arts Manningham with social media providing strong engagement with tenders for public art commissions such as Ruffey Lake, exhibition workshops delivered as part of the exhibition Pain Pageant, and Art Studios enrolments. We are continuing to work with digital team to create artist videos as a standard part of gallery exhibitions. We made improvements to gallery and public art webpages and our social media presence continues to improve as a result of ongoing photography and video content that extends the gallery program.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Identify strategies to get people to be more active at all stages of life to increase participation by juniors, women, culturally diverse and other priority groups.		<p>We assisted our community to be more active through our leisure facilities and our Active Manningham programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serenity for Women: multicultural women's group running at Aquarena to participants in group exercise. The group is predominately made of up of women from Muslim backgrounds, however all women are welcome to attend these sessions. The group received a grant to continue the program next year. • Play Like a Girl: we funded two places in the April Play Like a Girl leadership program which guides the personal and professional journey of young females through a sports lens. • Roll Back the Clock: assisting the Greythorn Bowls Club to promote a new Roll Back the Clock program, which is designed for over 60's to help feel young and healthy again. It combines exercise, wellness education and socialisation in the friendly environment of a local bowls club. • Inclusion Sports Day: delivered a day of activities connecting children with disabilities to local sport and active recreation opportunities. • Creating an opportunity for children and young people (5-18 years) to come together in one location to try several sports and activities with local pathways, to find something that might suit them, that they enjoy and that is offered locally for them to continue participating in.
	Review and implement the new Community Local Law to protect the amenity and safety of Manningham.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Community Local Law has been adopted to better align with the Council Plan, particularly in community safety and amenity to improve our ability to respond to issues in the community.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Develop and activate Council's network of cultural venues and public art sites as community arts spaces through innovative public programs and engagement.		<p>We held activities to activate the following venues and sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manningham Art Gallery presented its major exhibition for the year, Unfinished Business, marking both National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week, with overall attendance and engagement at public programs strong. • Manningham Art Studios continued to grow its program and enrolments, running the first suite of school holiday art workshops since the pandemic, attracting new audiences. Public art commissions for Ruffey Lake, wonguim wilam and the Warrandyte Community Centre progressed in the quarter, and the Public Art Action Plan was finalised. • Maintenance was undertaken on several public artworks. • Three theatre seasons were presented at the Playhouse by local community theatre groups. • Manningham Art Gallery launched its 2023 program in the quarter with Progeny by First Nations artist Edwina Green, followed by solo shows by Soyoun Kim and Jessica Coldrey, focusing respectively on cross-cultural/linguistic experiences and endometriosis. These exhibitions include artist videos and workshops to improve audience engagement. • Manningham Art Gallery exhibition program continued with exhibitions by prominent Australian artist Angela Valamanesh, local Zahra Marsous and a group exhibition that included from the Manningham Art Collection. This included a workshop and floor, along with a tour to the University of Melbourne exhibition Didar: Stories of Middle Eastern Manuscripts for members of the Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee.
	Improve access to active, leisure and recreation destinations across the municipality by embracing the 20-minute neighbourhood.		<p>We embedded the 20-minute neighbourhood plans in our new Liveable City Strategy 2040, and Vibrant Villages Action Plan to link activity centres. This will improve our walking and cycling networks and public transport through the ongoing implementation of the bicycle strategy and principal pedestrian network.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Support effective preparation, response and recovery for emergency events.		<p>We supported effective preparation, response and recovery for emergency events through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with local body corporates and building managers of multi-level dwellings and emergency services on emergency preparedness and the way to respond in emergencies. The Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee continued to operate and deliver effective Preparedness, Response and Recovery Strategies and doctrine. The Fire Hazard Inspection Program was broadened to incorporate proactive inspections of Extreme Assessed properties identified within the Victorian Fire Risk Register- Bushfire VFRR-B. Developed signage for the restriction of traffic to Pound Bend on Severe weather & Extreme Fire Danger Days. Contributing to Inspector General Emergency Management (IGEM) Review into Water Safety, following multiple deaths in Yarra River around Warrandyte.
	Investigate and implement improvements to reduce future climate and environmental impact to the community in Council buildings and facilities.		<p>We reduced the future climate and environmental impact on our community by implementing solar, energy efficiency and an Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) program on Council buildings and facilities. These measures will help us meet our net zero emissions target by 2028.</p> <p>This program aims to deliver renewable energy and other environmentally sustainable features to over 30 council buildings. The projects are varied, including optimisation of building design to enhance natural daylight and ventilation, Cool Roof treatment to reflect radiant heat from buildings, lighting upgrades, replacement of gas appliances with more efficient electric appliances, water saving measures, installation of 1MWh of solar (and battery) infrastructure, among other initiatives.</p>
	Develop an Economic Development Strategy to ensure we plan for a diverse business community that supports local employment.		A draft Economic Development Strategy has been developed and is ready for discussions with the broader community consultation.

Our performance: Local Government Performance Reporting Framework indicators

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Aquatics Management					
Health inspections of aquatic facilities	2.00	2.00	1.00	4.00	We place a high priority on community safety. We have been able to resume our inspections in accordance with the Public Health and Safety Act.
Utilisation of aquatic facilities	3.97	1.66	1.44	3.38	Aquarena provides great value with a variety of programs and activities, and we are pleased to see visits increase 134% as visitors slowly return from the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and closures.
Cost of aquatic facilities	\$0.25	\$3.62	\$4.33	-\$0.29	We have seen the cost per visit reduce due to a higher number of visits compared to last year. Aquarena provides great value with a variety of programs and activities.
Animal Management					
Time taken to action animal management requests	1.00	1.00	n/a	n/a	We continue to place a high priority on animal management. All requests are triaged based on risk and actioned in a timely manner. Detailed data is not yet available as system enhancements are developed to capture this data.
Animals reclaimed	27.72%	36.44%	50.00%	50.00%	We saw a significant number of animals collected and processed through our pound facility and worked hard to ensure that animals returned home.
Animals rehomed	28.53%	48.89%	33.77%	40.48%	This year we saw an almost 20% increase in the number of animals collected. We also saw an increase in the number of animals rehomed for the period.
Cost of animal management service per population	\$3.27	\$3.03	\$3.21	\$3.52	We saw the cost of animal management rise slightly as a result of the significant increase in animals collected and the associated administration and service costs to ensure the safety of the community and the animals involved.

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Animal management prosecutions	100%	100%	100%	100%	Our focus is to promote responsible pet ownership; however we pursue prosecutions for serious matters in the interest of community safety. We continue to be 100% successful in animal management prosecutions, with four additional cases than last year.
Food Safety					
Time taken to action food complaints	1.65	1.95	2.20	1.17	Our process improvements have resulted in a 47% decrease in time taken to action food complaints compared to last year. We will continue to work hard to ensure the community can eat safely in Manningham with all food complaints triaged according to risk and actioned in a timely manner.
Food safety assessments	97.31%	73.88%	83.16%	99.67%	We saw a 20% variance in food safety assessments compared with last year. 611 of the 613 food safety assessments were completed, achieving a 99% result.
Cost of food safety service	\$43756	\$41783	\$40044	\$39862	We work hard to provide a high-quality cost-efficient food safety service. Overall, the cost of service decreased this year.
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications	97.48%	93.38%	96.10%	98.88%	We have achieved almost a 3% increase in following up critical and major notifications compared to last year. Our health team followed up 266/269 of non-compliances, achieving a result of 98.88%.
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)					
Infant enrolments in the MCH service	101.66 %	101.19 %	101.54 %	101.66 %	We have seen an increase in infant enrolments in the MCH service compared to last year. Enrolments have exceed 100% as the infants enrolled in the service exceeded the number of new birth notices received.

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Cost of the MCH service	\$74.47	\$70.11	\$74.85	\$72.32	We achieved a cost savings from last year by changing the way we delivered our Maternal Child Health service in response to the impact of COVID-19. This was achieved despite our nurses delivering a significantly higher number of hours, higher purchase costs and staffing challenges.
Participation in the MCH service	76.42%	77.44%	77.86%	81.28%	We are pleased to see a positive increase in the overall participation rate in the MCH service following a concerted effort to follow up with families who missed appointments.
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children	82.14%	73.53%	100%	100%	We are pleased to see our continued effort to strengthen participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait families in the Enhanced Maternal and Child Health remains high. This demonstrates the high quality of engagement and continuity of care offered by the Maternal Child Health service.
Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit	97.69%	96.84%	99.39%	93.25%	Over the year we have seen a slightly lower participation rate in our 4-week visits. A small number of families chose to see a private midwife until 6 weeks of age and other families moved out of the municipality before the health visit.
Council Plan (in addition to the above)					
People using library services and facilities		252,217	502,525		We have seen a significant improvement for the year.

Goal 2: Connected and Inclusive Community

Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Opportunities for everyone in Manningham to connect and engage in community life
Liveable Places and Spaces	Services and infrastructure that are equitable and accessible for all
Resilient Environment	Celebrate and value the rich cultural heritages of First Nations, their diversity, strengths and roles as knowledge holders
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Access to services and programs for employment, education and culture.
Well Governed Council	Welcoming to people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexuality, gender and cultures

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	<p>Support and educate to connect inclusive and healthy communities (inclusive of our First Nations and culturally diverse communities):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing recommendations in the Reconciliation Action Plan to enhance recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Resources and information that link our community to the understanding of and responses to family violence. 		<p>We supported our community with activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Unfinished Business</i> Exhibition, which highlights stories of 30 First Nations people with disabilities. For eight weeks including reconciliation week and NAIDOC week, the exhibition attracted many people and linked programs in collaboration with the libraries. A Manningham Healing ceremony took place on January 26 in the forecourt at MC2, with 80 - 100 residents attending. We received very positive feedback from people who identify as First Nations. Endorsement by Reconciliation Australia of the Manningham Reconciliation Plan (RAP). We then adopted the Plan and held a launch at the Yaluk Langa Community Day on Saturday 18 March 2023. Launch of the Racism Not Welcome program as part of the national campaign to get the conversation started on reducing racism. <p>We focussed on the prevention of family violence through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in MAV Gender Equity and the Prevention of Violence Against Women Group, and the Eastern Regional Group GE network. Representatives of Manningham Council attended the Walk Against Family Violence 2022 during the 16 Days of Activism. Promoted community awareness events. Promoted information on health and wellbeing website/cards addressing family/domestic violence. Partnered with Boroondara for the Moneygirl seminar. Established a partnership with VicHealth to work on initiatives focused on gender equity and the prevention of violence against women.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Work with local leaders to better understand the needs of newly arrived and culturally diverse communities to better tailor access to programs and services to meet those needs.		<p>We worked with local leaders to build understanding through our:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multicultural Network and the Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee meetings. Attendance at the United Muslim Migrants Association Community Iftar, part of Ramadan, one of the holiest months for Muslims. Mental health resources, mental wellbeing event and support for the local Iranian community.
	Enhance and create meaningful, inclusive opportunities for older people to connect, participate and contribute to the community through partnerships, volunteering and activities.		<p>We enhanced opportunities for older people through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating Manningham Forum- Financial Matters "How to get the most out of your money in retirement" with the Services Australia Financial Information Services and Eastern Community Legal Centre. Holding regular Manningham Positive Ageing Alliance Group and the Local Dementia Alliance Group meetings, with new members, guest speakers and combined sessions to share learnings. Our commitment to an approved action plan and actively working towards becoming dementia-friendly, as acknowledged by Dementia Australia's Recognition Award. Providing a Supported Transport Service which supplied a customised service for senior clients who were transport disadvantaged
	Develop and deliver diverse community arts and public art programs that enable a celebration of local culture.		<p>We developed and supported the local arts culture through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gallery programs, including Unfinished Business, held to mark National Reconciliation and NAIDOC weeks. Pain Pageant, representing an artist's experience of endometriosis, and Tongue-Tongs, which looked at experiences of culture and racism through language and pronunciation. Three community theatre groups presented seasons at the Playhouse. Art Studios delivered its Term 2 program and the first suite of school holiday activities since 2020.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Develop meaningful relationships with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups, organisations, and local networks.		<p>We have been working to strengthen meaningful relationships with First Nations people through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding regular meetings with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation and promoting people of First Nations' aspirations. Regular Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group meetings and monthly Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural consultations have all contributed to this.
	Deliver activities to support anti-ageism and share resources and stories with the community to raise awareness around stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination on the basis of age		<p>We continue to tackle ageism and to challenge the stereotypes of older people and encourages people to speak up and act. We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worked with the Eastern Elder Abuse Network on a regional approach. Held a Senior's morning tea on 7 October where the Mayor spoke about Ageism. <p>We also launched at this event 'Recipes to Remember' publication - a collection of recipes linked to personal histories of some of our older residents and promoting the contribution made by older people to our community.</p>
	Recognise the contribution of our volunteers through Council's Civic Awards and Volunteers Recognition activities.		<p>We recognised the valued contribution of volunteers in Manningham, though:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding our Civic Awards in October to recognise locals across Sports Achiever of the Year, Community Group Achievement, Volunteer of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Citizen of the Year. Awarded Citizen of the Year – Margaret Kelly, Young Citizen of the Year - Stephanie Martinez, Doreen Stoves AM PSM JP Volunteer of the Year – Varvara Ioannou, Community Organisation of the Year Award - CareNet Program, Sports Volunteer of the Year - Vince Montuoro.
	Improve housing choice to meet community needs by reviewing the Affordable Housing Policy and Manningham Planning Scheme.		<p>We reviewed the Affordable Housing Policy 2010 - 2020 and have prepared a draft new Affordable Housing Policy. The Manningham Planning Scheme Review is complete.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Increase seating and amenities along our footpaths and trails to give people places to meet and rest.		<p>We improved seating, especially along major trails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crawford Reserve – 2 seats • Jenkins Park – 2 seats • Koonung Park – 4 seats • Leawarra Reserve – 2 seats • Maxia Reserve – 1 seat • Pettys Reserve – 2 seats • Prowse Reserve – 1 seat • Sandra Reserve – 1 seat • Ruffey Lake Park – 2 new seats, 7 replacement seats • Warrandyte River Reserve - 1 seat.
	Deliver a 10-year Public Toilet Plan to ensure a network of safe, accessible, well maintained, and sustainable toilet facilities.		<p>We have installed/upgraded public toilets in the following reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenkins Park • Cat Jump Park • Brendan Reserve • Crawford Reserve • Maxia Reserve • Leawarra Reserve • Aranga Reserve • Grover Reserve.
	Increase activities to improve community understanding and conservation of areas of significance		<p>We undertook activities in line with the objectives of the Liveable City Strategy 2040 to strengthen recognition and preservation of Manningham’s heritage and historical collections.</p>
	Improve energy efficient lighting in public places for community safety and activity		<p>We completed the Public Lighting Guidelines and Action Plan to develop a consistent approach to sustainable principles to new public lighting installations, replacements and repair programs and maintain lighting performance levels. The Action Plan sets out ways to improve energy efficient lighting in public places for pollution, perception of safety, improved service delivery and smart lighting technology.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Support and promote local businesses through the Manningham Business Network.		<p>To support and promote local businesses we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted a Maximising your Marketing workshop with 14 attendees. • Continued our support for the Manningham Business Network to run their monthly business networking breakfasts in April, May (sponsored by Bendigo Bank) and June, with attendance averaging 55 people.
	Work with Manningham Youth Services and other partners to support young people to engage in education, employment and community life.		<p>We have worked closely with Manningham Youth Services, EACH, to build a strong understanding of the environment and exploring ways to live sustainably. Discussions have raised ideas of sustainable gardening, up-cycling and re-imagining pre-loved clothing and creating art from waste. We will explore these ideas with young people of Manningham with a view to participants becoming local champions for the environment and sustainability.</p> <p>The 2022 Mission Australia survey results also identify the environment as the number one most important issue in Australia for young people.</p> <p>EACH will work with Arts Manningham, Children and Family Services and Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) to develop the concept and planning work once the outcome of the grant application to the Victorian Government, as part of Youth Fest 2023, is made available.</p>
	Improve Council practice for inclusive communication and engagement.		<p>We have improved our communication and engagement practices through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy English as a key driver for the content and layout of our website. While we have done significant work on this, it is an ongoing project. • Key documents to translate into Easy English were identified and consultation with our relevant advisory group is now scheduled. • Extensive research into current and emerging best practices in Community Engagement has resulted in a community of practice established to implement improvements to the methods and timeliness we engage with our diverse community.

Our performance: Liveable Places and Spaces

Services funded in our Annual Budget

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Facilities management	Provides community facilities that are well maintained and utilised with responsibility for maintaining Council buildings and assets, management of asset portfolio and ensuring regulatory compliance.	3,586	4,857	(1,271)
Building Projects	Delivers and maintains Council buildings that are high quality, accessible, environmentally and financially sustainable and align to community need. Responsibility covers construction, upgrading, refurbishing and delivery.	-	166	(166)
City Design	Plan, design and deliver high quality liveable places and spaces including open spaces and streetscapes.	825	1,265	(440)
City Planning	Future planning for Manningham as a liveable and connected '20 minute' city. Including integrated transport, precinct planning, open space, planning scheme and water planning.	(2,787)	(890)	(1,897)
City Projects	Management and administration support for capital works delivery, strategic property investment and management of the quarry.	1,760	1,690	70
Civil Projects	Delivers liveable places and spaces through city projects design and construction.	492	242	250
City Assets	Plans and manages liveable places and spaces across Council's assets including buildings, roads, drains and open spaces so that we can deliver services to the community.	439	694	(255)

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
City Infrastructure	Delivers liveable places and spaces including maintenance of local roads, footpaths and drains to a high standard. Also maintains, upgrades and develops Council's capital works to meet current and future needs.	1,495	1,585	(90)
Roads and Infrastructure	Delivers liveable places and spaces including maintaining and upgrading existing road-based asset, bridges and footpaths.	3,138	2,933	205
Statutory Planning	Oversees responsible development with the administration and enforcement of the Manningham Planning Scheme and coordination of statutory planning permits received from our community to the pre-application and application service.	1,715	1,853	(138)
Traffic and Development	Promoting community safety on our roads through traffic, transport, public lighting, planning referrals and road safety services, including managing L2P for young, disadvantaged drivers.	2,053	3,099	(1,046)

Goal 1: Inviting places and spaces




Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Accessible and connected mixed-use places and streetscapes to recreate, gather and celebrate
Liveable Places and Spaces	Meeting demand and balancing city and country
Resilient Environment	Plan for developments in a way that protects our environment and green open spaces
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Neighbourhoods retain their distinct character and improved access to local services
Well Governed Council	Recognise and promote Aboriginal cultural heritage and Connection to Country

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	<p>Strengthen our principles to guide responsible planning for new developments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of key strategic documents, including our Liveable City Strategy 2040 by December 2021 and our Environmental Strategy by 30 June 2022. Review the Manningham Planning Scheme by 30 June 2022. Investigate enhanced planning controls to enhance the protection of our environment. 		<p>We are pursuing our protection of the environment and responsible planning through the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the Manningham Planning Scheme. We completed a robust internal and external consultation process to inform the review process. Adoption of the Liveable City Strategy 2040 following extensive consultation. Review of the current Community Local Law.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Actions			
	Improve activation of places and neighbourhoods for people to recreate, gather and participate in community life		<p>We have made progress through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Placemaking Program which created a permanent placemaking park at Templestowe Village and Tunstall Square. A new space at the rear of the Warrandyte Library. The Vibrant Villages Action Plan 2023, which prioritises upgrades to occur over the next 10-year period within our local shopping centres.
	Increase activities to improve Manningham community understanding and conservation of areas of significance to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.		<p>Our activities to improve understanding and conservation of areas of significance included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of a number of actions in our recently adopted Reconciliation Plan. Working with the Reconciliation Working Group to support the cross-organisational delivery of the Reconciliation Action Plan in our places and spaces.
	Develop a preferred neighbourhood character to make sure our neighbourhoods are well designed as part of the Liveable City Strategy 2040		<p>The new Liveable City Strategy 2040 has a key objective of neighbourhood character, including housing.</p> <p>Recommendation 10 of the endorsed Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022 - 2026 identifies the need to progress the preparation of a Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study to identify preferred character precincts to guide residential growth and development across the municipality.</p>
	Improve our streetscapes with increased vegetation and water sensitive design to cool the landscape and bolster biodiversity.		<p>We have worked to improve our streetscapes, including updating our Street Tree Planting Guide and completing our tree and low storey planning to increase sustainable vegetation in Templestowe, Lower Templestowe, Doncaster and Doncaster East. We also worked on offset planting funded by North East Link Program and planted trees in Ruffey Lake Park as part of the Masterplan.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Review our Streetscape Management Plan and Nature Strip Policy by 30 June 2022 to help guide our street planting and management of our streetscapes with consideration of urban design, character areas and our natural environment.		Review of our Management Plan and Policy has resulted in a new Street Tree Planting Guide.
	Commence long term plans to create a network of greenways to reduce our impact on the environment and improve the amenity of the city.		<p>Our long-term planning is represented in the new Liveable City Strategy 2040 and is supported through the newly adopted Streetscape Strategy, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms from our community consultation that our greenways are a key priority. • Includes the creation of greenways to link key destinations, parks, and regional open space. • Establishes streetscape typologies for greenways. • Delivers on our existing bicycle strategy to complete links in the network and progressing land acquisition for open space.
	Implement the Doncaster Hill Strategy and Economic Development Strategy recommendations to encourage and support our night-time economy, visitor economy and local employment opportunities		<p>Westfield Doncaster has been granted a permit providing for increased night-time activities at the centre, which also has resulted in additional employment opportunities within Doncaster Hill.</p> <p>A Draft Economic and Development Strategy 2023-2026 has been prepared with the focus on reinvigorating and supporting existing businesses.</p>

Our performance: LGPRF indicators

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Physical library collection usage	5.32	4.08	4.92	5.83	We operated our libraries under the Victorian Government's COVID-19 restrictions to keep the community safe. This led members to rely on our digital services. When library openings were allowed, we saw a return to physical collection usage of over 20% compared to last year.
Recently purchased library collection	74.48 %	72.79%	72.28%	64.91%	While the purchase of new collection items has remained the same as in previous years, we have experienced a lower level of withdrawal of older materials than usual. This has resulted in an overall increase in collection size but decreased in the percent of recently purchased items.
Active library borrowers in municipality	14.30%	12.32%	10.90%	10.69%	It is pleasing to see an increase of 3,000 active library borrowers over the last year. Overall however, the calculation across the three years is slightly
Cost of library service per population	\$25.65	\$27.19	\$28.13	\$27.45	We managed to achieve a slight decrease in costs compared to last year, even though we have extended hours at two of our branches.
Statutory Planning					
Time taken to decide planning applications	53	58	67	76	We have continued to process planning applications in a timely manner. However, there has been a slight increase in median days from 67 in 2021/22 to 76 in 2022/23.
Planning applications decided within required time frames	95.68%	87.29%	78.99%	93.30%	We have continued to process a high percentage of all applications within statutory time frames with an increase in processing times of 14% from the previous financial year.
Cost of statutory planning service	\$2,753.30	\$2,787.88	\$2,685.23	\$3,178.86	We have seen an increase in the cost of the service from the previous year as a result of an increase in legal and employee costs.

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT	51.35%	63.33%	57.14%	71.43%	More than 71% of appeals on Council's planning decisions have been upheld by VCAT this year, which is a variation of 25% from last year. Six of 21 decisions made at VCAT were set aside.

These indicators are collected from the start of the 2021 Council Plan.


Council Plan	2021	2022	2023	2024	Source
Satisfaction with our local area (overall performance)	66	63			Community Satisfaction Survey (Overall performance)
Local Gross Domestic Product	\$4,989,404	\$212.314 billion.			Remplan
Maintain the balance of city and country by limiting two-thirds of medium and high-density development to our growth area	met	met			Council Data
90% of capital works programs delivered	88% achieved	87% achieved			Council Data
Satisfaction with our local area (overall performance)	66	63			Community Satisfaction Survey (Overall performance)

Goal 2: Enhanced parks, open space, and streetscapes




Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Create accessible and well-connected areas that inspire activity, recreation, and relaxation
Liveable Places and Spaces	Services and infrastructure that are equitable and accessible for all
Resilient Environment	Protect and enhance the sustainability of parks and reserves using environmentally sustainable materials to build paths, trails, street furniture
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Access to local activity centres and walkability around the City
Well Governed Council	Promote awareness of Manningham's culture, heritage and conservation in our parks, trails, and open spaces

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	We will deliver the Parks Improvement Program including Ruffey Lake Masterplan, new open space on Hepburn Road, Ruffey Creek Linear Park and wonguim wilam (playspace stage 2 upgrade).		Improvements to Parks included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressing the implementation of the Ruffey Lake Park Landscape Masterplan. This includes the installation of new signage, Disc Golf course upgrade, third exercise station with a ninja style, new yoga and meditation platform and tree planting. The new open space at Hepburn Road will go out to tender in mid 2023. The Victoria Street playspace is currently in detailed design and will be out for tender in July 2023. wonguim wilam (playspace stage 2 upgrade) is now open to the public. The First Nations artwork is underway and will be installed in 2023.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Actions			
	Make improvements to our open space facilities to increase safety and use of our parks and open spaces to facilitate activity, recreation, and relaxation		Construction is complete for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leawarra, Crawford, Aranga, Sandra and Maxia Reserves playspaces with new play equipment, seating, picnic tables and new path links. A third fitness station (a Ninja warrior course) and yoga/meditation space at Boulevard Hill, Ruffey Lake Park.
	Actively support new and existing local community environmental groups, including Landcare, 'friends of', and other environmental sustainability stewardship groups.		We actively worked with environmental groups through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting over 5,000 volunteer hours annually across Landcare and environmental friends' groups to protect biodiversity and enhance our natural environment. Coordinating community education programs, workshops, and events to engage locals to participate in the care, restoration, and protection of the local environment. Engaging with environmental groups on the Food Organics, Green Organics rollout and Local Environmental Assistance Funds Grants. Participation in Northern Alliance on Greenhouse Action (NAGA) to create a zero-carbon society and provide maximum protection against the impacts of climate change.
	Protect and enhance the sustainability of parks and reserves using environmentally sustainable materials to build paths, trails, and more street furniture.		To improve the environmental sustainability of our materials, we continue to use recycled products for new trails, around drainage pipes and reducing the depth of table drains prior to sealing.
	Facilitate an increase in tree canopy across our parks as part of the Resilient Melbourne - Metropolitan Urban Forest Strategy.		We continue to implement the annual street and park tree planting program to increase canopy cover, with 1349 trees planted. We focused on infill planting in streets and 2000 planting locations have been identified with 3000 recently planted trees being cared for to ensure survival.


Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Deliver sustainability initiatives throughout the green wedge to preserve and protect our local environment.		We have made significant investments and activities to preserve and protect our local environment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing \$250,000 over two years to update and review Manningham's biological sites of significance. Progressing works to address the vegetation and biodiversity loss that Manningham is experiencing, equating to 3% of the municipality over the past 15 years.
	Acquire and develop new or expanded parks, open spaces, and pedestrian links to support our growing population.		We have grown our open and active spaces by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing contract documentation for the development of the new open space on Hepburn Road. Next steps will be tendering for construction works with a view to commencing construction in 2024. Preparing a concept plan for the expansion of Carawatha Reserve in Doncaster. Next steps will be consulting with the community on a draft design and tendering for demolition of the existing dwellings.
	Implement a responsive and customer-focused approach to the maintenance and management of streetscape matters including nature strips and trees reported by the community		We have implemented a new system, TreePlotter, to manage tree-related customer requests with an effort to improve response times and customer satisfaction. Improved customer information is now being developed on the management of trees in Manningham and on how to log customer requests.

Goal 3: Well connected, safe and accessible travel




Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Well connected, safe and accessible public transport and active transport options
Liveable Places and Spaces	Education and infrastructure to support environmentally friendly transport and travel
Resilient Environment	Education to improve sustainable transport options to reduce congestion
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Pursue a 20-minute neighbourhood (in line with Plan Melbourne)
Well Governed Council	Advocacy for easier travel options to and within Manningham and surrounding areas

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	Continue our work to maintain a high standard for our roads, footpaths, and drains (major initiative).		<p>We continued to maintain a high standard for our roads, footpaths and drains by developing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 10 year drainage program for prioritisation within the capital works program. Funding model to be established with criteria for core assets (drainage, buildings, roads and footpaths) that will inform the development of a 30-year infrastructure program. Stormwater Management Strategy, to prioritise and inform the long-term investment of drainage improvement works.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	We will deliver the Road Improvement Program (as scheduled) including Jumping Creek Road, Tuckers Road, Knees Road and Templestowe Village connecting roads.		<p>The Road Improvement Program we undertook in 2022/23 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuckers Road upgrade works, including new footpaths, a shared path, underground drainage, kerb & channel and new pavement were completed in March 2023. Trail works along Jumping Creek Road commenced in June 2023 prior to major roadworks scheduled to commence next financial year. Delivery of Tuckers Road upgrade is continuing with completion expected in late 2023. Other major drainage and roads projects are continuing with the design of Jumping creek Road and Melbourne Hill Road area (drainage) nearing completion.
	Provide ways for people to connect by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Prioritising grant funding to support community inclusion and connections in a way that respond to community needs. 		<p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalised the review of our Community Grant Policy 2021-2025 to further strengthen benefit to the Manningham community in alignment with our 2021-2025 Council Plan. Implemented the new Neighbourhood Houses Grant Program for 2023-2025 within our funding suite to better support Neighbourhood Houses to meet community need. Awarded \$1,114,637 in 2022/2023 Community Grants. Raised over \$25,000 for Doncare at the Mayoral Ball 2022 – with 308 people in attendance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Deliver actions in the Transport Action Plan and Bus Network Review 2017 including contributing to planning of the Suburban Rail Loop, Doncaster Busway, Bus Rapid Transit and bus network and service improvements. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are advocating for bus reform within Manningham including a bus review and new services. The Suburban Rail Loop Environmental Effects Statement process has been completed with the Minister for Planning assessment released - will continue to advocate for the mirroring of the Stage 1 and 2 alignments with a bus service. We are in ongoing discussions with Department of Transport and Planning regarding proposed bus reform. Changes are currently being proposed as part of the new Bulleen Park and Ride facility.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Actions			
	Advocate for improved safety on public transport.		<p>We have continued to advocate for improved safety on public transport through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing advocacy through multiple platforms, including Manningham Transport Forum and Eastern Transport Coalition. Ongoing discussions with the Department of Transport and Planning regarding proposed bus reform. The new Bulleen Park and Ride facility.
	Expand and upgrade our shared trail network to improve connectivity.		<p>We are focusing on improving connectivity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for the extension of the Main Yarra Trail (Beasleys Nursery section recently completed). Improvement works to the Koonung Creek Trail and trails with parks and reserves are underway. Works are underway to commence construction of the new bridge across the Yarra River in Bulleen (Banksia Bridge).
	Deliver our Road Improvement Program including Jumping Creek Road, Tuckers Road, Knees Road and Templestowe Village connecting roads as scheduled		<p>Our Road Improvements Program progressed as scheduled, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumping Creek Road progressed as planned with design and consultation complete and commencement of early works (footpath). Templestowe route progressed as planned with consultation underway and early work packages commenced.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	<p>Review community needs for bus improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of a Community Transport Future Directions Discussion Paper. Investigate options for an on-demand bus service (tele bus) as part of the Eastern Suburbs Bus Network Review. Advocate to the Victorian Government to improve bus stop facilities and passenger amenity, prioritising major bus stops. 		<p>We reviewed the need for bus improvements and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved access to community transport following a trial in 2022 to increase the community bus service from three to five days a week and include more destinations and improved access for more users. This allowed more older adults in Manningham to go shopping, attend seniors' groups and join social activities. Following a public tender process, Council secured a new specialist (not-for profit) provider for Community Transport Prepared for the new community transport services to begin on Monday 31 July 2023. The service will provide a supported transport option for people over 65 years of age (50 or older if identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander) or under 65 who experience a transport barrier in accessing the services they need. A comprehensive handover plan is in progress to ensure a smooth transition for our service users.
	Deliver activities to encourage people to use public and environmentally friendly transport.		We encouraged the use of public and environmentally friendly transport through our Transport Action Plan actions and through our environment strategies.
	Engage with private car and rideshare companies to encourage an establishment of a car share program in Doncaster Hill		We approached car share companies to determine the feasibility and interest in undertaking a car share. As a result, we are starting an 18-month trial in Manningham with GoGet car share network, with 8 car share spaces to be installed in Doncaster Hill.
	Investigate options for land for employment use to reduce Council's reliance on rate revenue.		<p>We are proactively looking for additional funding sources to enhance services and associated infrastructure for the benefit of the community through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Property Investment Portfolio initiatives underway as planned with commercial acquisitions of approved properties complete. Future usage and income from key sites such as the Quarry and 300 Blackburn Road are underway.

Our performance: LGPRF indicators

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Roads					
Sealed local road requests	80.60	73.95	71.54	106.04	We strive to provide well maintained roads for the community. Requests are dealt with as efficiently as possible to achieve a high quality and cost-efficient outcome. The number of requests has increased, largely due to poor weather conditions over the last two years which have contributed to an increase in minor road defects such as potholes.
Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards	99.65%	99.55%	98.91%	98.49%	We maintain local roads according to our Road Management Plan. The intervention level is the condition standard set to determine whether a sealed local road requires major works. The high result remains consistent with previous years.
Cost of sealed local road reconstruction	\$5520	\$2813	\$112.77	\$0.00	As a result of the standard of our road network, we were able to focus our attention on resealing, and incurred no reconstruction costs this financial year.
Cost of sealed local road resealing	\$23.72	\$19.35	\$16.41	\$28.27	We have seen an increase in costs for resealing materials, fuel and transportation, which is consistent across the sector. Our program has focused on road resurfacing works, and no roads received a spray seal treatment. There was also an increase in asphalt costs across the industry.


Goal 4: Well maintained and utilised community infrastructure

Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Infrastructure meets our community's needs, now and into the future
Liveable Places and Spaces	Plan, design and maintain and use our current and future facilities
Resilient Environment	Environmentally sustainable design and use of materials to promote resilience to flood, bushfire and climate
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Accessible and well maintained infrastructure to support getting from place to place
Well Governed Council	Stewardship in environment and design.

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	<p>We will investigate and review current facility use and opportunities to develop or repurpose existing facilities and use of Council land for multi-use purposes and to meet changing community needs through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalising the Community Infrastructure Plan by 31 December 2021 and implementing the 20 year Action Plan. Strengthening utilisation and performance of stadiums in conjunction with stadium managers. Improving community access to sport and recreation facilities and spaces for broad community use and benefit. 		<p>We worked to optimise our facilities through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalising the Community Infrastructure Plan for Council for endorsement ahead of community consultation later in 2023. Awarding a new Leisure Service Contract commencing 1 July 2023 to provide an opportunity to expand services/programs that are offered throughout a range of Council facilities. In doing so, a fresh strategic approach will allow the investigation of the potential of repurposing or reprogramming facility components to meet changing community needs. The Sports Facility Development Plan has been endorsed by Council, which looks at current facilities and how they can be improved, while also identifying opportunities for new facilities. This includes consideration of how current land is used and whether this land can be repurposed to address emerging sport trends. Ongoing discussions to maximise our facilities for all local sport and recreation activities.
Actions			
	<p>Identify the current and future capacity of our facilities and pavilions to make sure they meet community needs now and in the future.</p>		<p>We allocate facilities on a seasonal basis to maximise the use of existing facilities. We developed a Sporting Facility Development Plan to identify future facility needs.</p>
	<p>All works on our community facilities will be compliant with disability and accessibility standards.</p>		<p>All building upgrades that are underway and scheduled for completion are fully compliant.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	<p>Consult with our community in the preparation of sporting grounds masterplans to take a strategic approach to provide for our community's current and future recreation needs in line with our Recreation Strategy priorities listing.</p>		<p>We have held community consultations for Wonga Park and Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre (MTLC) Masterplans. The Wonga Park Masterplan has now been endorsed.</p>
	<p>Explore partnerships to maximise the use of community facilities.</p>		<p>Finalising the Community Infrastructure Plan for Council for endorsement ahead of community consultation later in 2023.</p>
	<p>Demonstrate leadership in environmentally responsive building materials and locations to promote resilience to flood, bushfire, and climate.</p>		<p>We are developing an Asset Management and Service Plan for buildings and community facilities and input into the Community Infrastructure Plan. Together with our Stormwater Management Strategy, this Plan will support environmentally sustainable design and use of responsive building materials and locations to promote resilience to flood, bushfire and climate.</p> <p>Included in the Capital works program are priority projects that support the Climate Action Plan initiatives and support environmentally sustainable design. There is more work to be done to promote resilience to flood, bushfire and climate.</p>
	<p>Proactively plan, upgrade, and improve our recreations facilities to ensure they are maintained and accessible for a broad range of community uses.</p>		<p>We focused on Master Planning to identify opportunities for diversifying the activities and spaces provided within our facilities and improving the community's participation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wonga Park Reserve, Aquarena outdoor space and Donvale Indoor Sports Centre all incorporate opportunities within open space for active recreation. Facilities like a bocce rink (DISC), swimming (Aquarena), dirt jumps (Wonga Park) and fitness equipment (Wonga Park) are all being considered. Toilets, shelter and other spaces to encourage longer duration stays are also considered in these Masterplans.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Deliver management and maintenance programs to manage the balance of bushfire prevention with the protection of biodiversity.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our bushland maintenance is ongoing. A commitment has been made for the bushland maintenance budget to be increased by \$76,000 annually. We convene a monthly Fire Mitigation Working Group
	Explore the need for a broad heritage review and assessment to protect and promote the cultural and historical significance of Council's assets.		<p>We are pursuing better promotion of our areas of cultural and historical significance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation 19 of the Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022 - 2026, which identifies the need to develop a heritage framework plan to list and prioritise heritage-based actions. Undertaking work associated with the commencement of an Environmental Thematic History. Exploring the parameters and resourcing requirements as part of undertaking a broad heritage review and assessment to protect and promote the cultural and historical significance of our assets.
	Improve water management with the development of an Integrated Water Management Strategy.		<p>We undertook the below actions to improve water management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisions to the Integrated Water Management Strategy Implementation Plan were adopted by Council on 27 June 2023. The Implementation Plan incorporates key recommendations from the Integrated Water Management Transition Report. Appointed a consultant to provide technical input including modelling to inform the development of the Integrated Water Management Strategy. The Manningham Flood Mapping Project continues to progress in partnership with Melbourne Water. Council engaged its consultant in April 2023 and flood modelling for the local catchments is underway. Community engagement to inform the project is continuing through ongoing engagement with the Flooding and Stormwater Management Community Reference Panel, and through the Manningham's Water Future survey, which closed in June.

Our performance: Resilient Environment

Services funded in our Annual Budget


Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Assets and Environment	Maintain a liveable city and protect the environment through underground drain and pit maintenance, street cleaning and sweeping, roadside litter pickup and tipping costs. Also includes roadside street furniture and sign maintenance and depot operations.	4,260	4,616	(356)
Climate Emergency and Environment	Protect our environment through climate change mitigation, biodiversity protection and community engagement to protect the local environment.	1,402	1,205	197
Drainage and Technical Services	Reduce our environmental impact and protect our water through investigation and resolution of drainage issues, including inspections, consultation, analysis, referrals and capital improvements. We also provide flood level advice and drainage improvement works.	488	368	120
Fleet	Promote environmental stewardship through advice, maintenance, servicing and replacement of all Council's plant, vehicles and equipment including electric and hybrid vehicles.	185	221	(36)
Waste and Resource Recovery	Reduce and manage waste, including the kerbside rubbish collections of garbage, hard waste and green waste from all local households and some commercial properties. Also includes a waste call centre, education services and the strategic planning of waste services.	(1,596)	(768)	(828)


Goal 1: Protect and enhance our environment and biodiversity


Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Connection with Manningham's culture, heritage, and conservation
Liveable Places and Spaces	Partnerships with the community and others to learn, connect and protect natural spaces, parks, rivers, and creeks
Resilient Environment	Support protection of the Green Wedge and natural spaces
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Improvements to waste and recycling to support the transition to a circular economy, sustainable transport options, renewable energy
Well Governed Council	Advocacy to protect the environment and biodiversity

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	<p>Deliver the Environmental Strategy (Climate Action Plan) to strengthen principles to protect the environment, biodiversity and wildlife by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen principles to protect the environment, biodiversity, and wildlife. Advocate to government and business on environmental issues. Improve management practices of bushland maintenance, pest animal and environmental weed control and monitoring, evaluating and improvement mechanisms. Explore biodiversity improvement or environmental community engagement programs for local public areas in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria. Explore protection measures in our Community Local Law by 30 June 2022. Improve the sustainability of Council's environmental practices. 		<p>To strengthen principles to protect the environment, biodiversity and wildlife we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertook ongoing maintenance of Council's bushland reserves by contractors. A new bushland maintenance work program has been developed and forms the core of a contract renewal tender. This new work program and contract renewal will improve on-ground biodiversity outcomes. Adopted the Domestic Animal Management Plan to manage domestic animals in Manningham. We will launch this plan in 2023 to make our community safer and protect the welfare of our community's cats and dogs. It also includes a pilot 24-hour cat confinement order to benefit cats, cat owners and the community. Provided advice to the North East Link on the environmentally sustainable design features of sport and recreation facilities they will newly build to offset facility loss elsewhere. Continue to collaborate with a range of government organisations and local community environment groups to deliver biodiversity improvement programs. Significant work done to introduce FOGO in July to assist residents to reduce waste going to landfill. Included environmental actions in the Reconciliation Action Plan adopted by Council. Adopted the Community Local Law in May 2023. Improved Council's own environmental practices to deliver the adopted Climate Emergency Action Plan, which included ambitious zero emissions targets. We worked to transition to electric cars for a number of Council's fleet service and added power outlets to promote greater uptake of electric vehicles.

Theme	Details	Result Our progress
Actions		
	Empower the community to protect biodiversity through education and incentives for private landholders.	<p>About 90 landowners have benefited from LEAF (Local Environment Assistance Fund) grants worth about \$64,000 during 2022/23.</p> <p>The grants incentivised landowners to spend an additional \$64,000 or more in work to protect biodiversity guided by our LEAF education program. The work typically includes environmental weed and pest animal control and revegetation. Pest deer control, monitoring deer numbers and the biodiversity impacts from deer is ongoing with landholders in the Jumping Creek Landcare group and with other landholders.</p> <p>We have supported the community to build environmental sustainability through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing ongoing community environmental education programs. Delivering a monthly 'Environment Events – What's On' email newsletter, which has over 1300 subscribers. Council's Community Grants Program included newly introduced environment objectives to assess the applications.
	Collaborate with community environment groups and other public land managers to protect biodiversity.	<p>To protect biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Environment Assistance Fund (LEAF) program is underway for another financial year. LEAF incorporates education and grants for private landholders to protect biodiversity on their properties. The work typically includes environmental weed and pest animal control and revegetation. We signed a funding agreement with the Victorian Government for \$100,000 to support the Manningham Deer Management Program to support private landholders with pest deer control. This includes collaboration with the Jumping Creek Landcare Group.
	Increase tree and vegetation coverage to bolster biodiversity.	Our bushland maintenance included an annual winter revegetation with 2000 plants to increase tree and vegetation coverage in parks and streetscapes. We have also made an ongoing commitment of an additional \$500,000 for tree-planting each year.

Theme	Details	Result Our progress
	Continue maintaining and improving Council bushland areas	<p>Our bushland maintenance included annual winter revegetation with 2000 plants to increase tree and vegetation coverage in parks and streetscapes. We have also made an ongoing commitment of an additional \$500,000 for tree-planting each year.</p> <p>We have made significant improvements in our bushland maintenance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new contract was awarded and is performing well. A new Leading Hand Bushland position was created to help work on the bushland area. Since the addition of this role, there is now a quarterly Bushland newsletter and a new Friends of Group at the 100 Acres. Also, regular meetings are being held with the Park Orchards Ratepayers association. New management plans have been developed for bushland areas outside of the lump sum contract including the Mathews Property and Tullamore Bushland areas.
	Reduce threats to biodiversity and wildlife habitat, including pest management and reducing vegetation removal.	<p>We undertook work to reduce threats to biodiversity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completing a step change improvement to Council bushland maintenance, including the September 2022 appointment of a new bushland maintenance contractor Felix Botanica for the next 3 to 5 years after a highly competitive tender. LEAF grants and education. Private landholder biodiversity protection work incorporating pest deer control, supported by Victorian Government funding. Biodiversity Impact Assessment Committee advice to reduce vegetation removals resulting from Council's capital works program, including the Jumping Creek Road project. Support for the Planning Compliance team in penalising illegal vegetation removal on private land – illegal removals are a significant contributor to the 3% municipality-wide loss of vegetation that occurred between 2009 and 2018.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Help grow the market for recycled and sustainable products and materials through sustainable procurement.		Our sustainable procurement starts with embedding our environmental, social, and economic objectives in the sourcing plan. This is then reflected in the tender and recorded during the evaluation process before the financial delegate approves. The reporting of sustainable outcomes will continue to mature.
	Minimise the environmental impact of Council's capital works through our Biodiversity Impact Assessment Committee and advocate to reduce the environmental impact of Victorian Government projects.		We have continued the Biodiversity Impact Assessment Committee to proactively minimise the environmental impact of our planned capital works program.
	Deliver our drainage program (as scheduled), including the Melbourne Hill Road Drainage Upgrade.		Our drainage program included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Koonung Reserve Irrigation. • Yarra Street and Everard Drive. • Tuckers Road upgrade works, including new footpaths, a shared path, underground drainage, kerb & channel and new pavement. • Other major drainage and roads projects underway include the design of Jumping Creek Road and near completion of the Melbourne Hill Road area drainage.
	Explore with other Councils, garden and food waste processing and separated glass collection service to reduce waste to landfill		To reduce waste to landfill we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced an extensive marketing and communication plan to prepare our community for the rollout of FOGO and the change in collection frequency of our garbage bins. • Decided not to proceed with rolling out the glass service at this stage as there is still uncertainty in the market about which model will best suit our Council and what impact the introduction of a container deposit scheme will have on recycling tonnages. Officers will continue to work with other Councils and monitor how the service is working in other Council areas.

Goal 2: Reduce our environmental impact and adapt to climate change



Key focus areas



Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Education and awareness to support waste management, compost, climate changes and biodiversity
Liveable Places and Spaces	Sustainable and innovative environmental practices for Manningham businesses, homes and neighbourhoods to optimise energy, waste and water
Resilient Environment	Manage natural spaces to remove threats and revegetate for sustainability and bushfire preparedness
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Implement improvements to waste and recycling services to support the transition to a circular economy
Well Governed Council	Act on climate change through advocacy, leadership and education

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	Support and educate to connect inclusive and healthy communities (inclusive of our culturally diverse communities) through environmental education and waste programs.		In preparation for the introduction of the rollout of Food Organic Green Organic (FOGO), we started an education campaign of over 60 FOGO information sessions to our community. Our FOGO Community Liaison Officers and waste staff spoke to residents at regular market stalls, shopping centre pop ups as well as presenting to various community groups. For our non-English speaking residents, translated FOGO brochures were made available at Customer Service or on the FOGO website. A series of instructional step-by-step 'how to' videos and other useful information were also made available on the FOGO website. During April and May 2023, 43,812 kitchen caddy kits including a FOGO manual and a roll of 150 compostable green liners were delivered to residential households with a Council waste service.

Theme	Details	Result Our progress
Actions		
	Encourage solar uptake in the community and explore other energy sustainability innovation.	<p>Our actions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We participated in the Solar Savers program, run out of the Maroondah Council and the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action. Solar Savers enable us to offer a bulk buy solar program for Manningham residents. Completing the Tullamore estate energy sharing, and neighbourhood battery investigation. This program involved collaboration with developer Mirvac, electricity distributor United Energy, Monash University and others, with \$137,000 Victorian Government funding. The initiative was useful for testing smart device and app-based energy sharing. The expense of community batteries still proves to be barriers and batteries within households are still preferable.
	Deliver sensors for parking, bins and drains and irrigation to use technology to better meet customer needs and improve service delivery in activity centres and waste management.	<p>We have implemented traffic sensors for parking within Templestowe Village and Jackson Court, with opportunity to look at other locations within our activity centres.</p> <p>We are also reviewing the waste and litter service within our activity centres, parks and reserves, with an opportunity to include technology improvements as part of a new contract model to improve service response times.</p>
	Trial new recycled material on our roads to minimise the use of new materials and emissions to reduce our environmental impact.	We have successfully used new and innovative asphalt mixtures and innovative asphalt products and incorporated significant quantities of recycled products with several proprietary asphalt blends.
	Develop a Waste Wise Policy to eliminate the use of single-use plastics and soft plastics in council operations, functions and at events held on council land and in facilities.	This was achieved through the state-wide single-use plastics ban from 2023 under Recycling Victoria's Circular Economy Policy. We also encouraged participation in the Plastic Free July challenge to support residents.

Theme	Details	Result Our progress
	Investigate the provision of e-waste drop off hub(s) to collect small e-waste items.	We installed new E-waste recycling stations at our Depot Offices and the Warrandyte and Doncaster libraries. The stations accept X-rays, DVDs and CDs, small E-waste, fluoro tubes and globes, printer cartridges, and household batteries. All items have a recycling recovery rate between 93-98%.
	Reduce emissions with improved garden and food waste processing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Food Organic Green Organic service (FOGO) is commencing in July 2023, introducing a weekly FOGO collection and a fortnightly garbage service. Residents have achieved a diversion of 20,000 tonnes of food waste from landfill, which will see reduction of 38,000kg of carbon emissions. The introduction of FOGO will greatly assist in achieving net zero emissions by 2028 and net zero community emissions by 2035. Our processing facility Bio Gro, located in Dandenong South, initially shreds and decontaminates the FOGO material then it is transported to either Newbridge, Mt Gambier or Dutson Downs where it is then composted for 6-12 weeks.
	Install more solar power on Council buildings, make environmental improvements to Council facilities and switch to wind and solar generated grid electricity supply.	<p>We improved our environmental practices through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completing a tender for the installation of the package of seven Council rooftop solar to be completed during 2022/23. Ensuring all Council facilities are now signed up to VECCO, including leisure facilities.
	Engage the community, collaborate with other Councils and advocate for reduced greenhouse gas emissions at the local, state, and federal levels.	<p>We continued to collaborate to reduce greenhouse emissions through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) Strategic Planning Day to collaborate and advocate on climate change and emission reduction initiatives across all levels of government and with private sector partners. Promotion of Electric Vehicles (EV). Endorsing our Climate Emergency Action Plan. This is a milestone in formalising further action and guiding the future work in this space. Advocacy via participation and membership with NAGA continues, in addition to advocacy on a variety of issues to all levels of government both via collaborative groups and individually as Council, as appropriate.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Demonstrate stewardship in developing and implementing our Climate Emergency Plan actions.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We adopted a new Climate Emergency Action Plan with net zero emissions targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – net zero for Council by 2028 – net zero for the community by 2035. We allocated \$1.5 million towards delivering the actions in our Climate Emergency Action Plan as part of our commitment to address the growing risks and impacts of climate change on our community. The funding will go towards rooftop solar installations at seven Council buildings and the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Flood mapping – Areas of biological significance review – Public electric vehicle charging trial – Expanded residential solar program – Food Organics Green Organics (FOGO) – Work currently being undertaken to deliver an implementation plan and future community engagement for the reduction of community emissions.
	Facilitate uptake of electric vehicles in our operations and support the implementation of community infrastructure to enable uptake of electric vehicles		<p>We have improved our electric vehicle (EV) uptake through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installing 14 EV charge points at the Civic Centre and Depot for Council fleet use. Replacing petrol-only vehicles in our fleet with 6 EVs, 40 hybrid cars and 6 small hybrid trucks. Investigating public charge points to increase community uptake. Planning ongoing shift to more electric vehicle (EV) and hybrid vehicles in the Council fleet. Investigating public charge point installation opportunities to increase community EV uptake.

Our performance: LGPRF indicators

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Waste					
Kerbside bin collection requests	100.52	118.14	135.48	114.92	Our service quality has improved over 15% compared to last year. Our kerbside bin requests have decreased, even though there were more collections than last year.
Kerbside collection bins missed	2.76	4.45	3.80	3.27	We are pleased to see a reduction in kerbside and recycling bins missed. We saw a reduction of more than 14% compared to last year, even with the addition of more than 45,000 bins collected.
Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service	\$108.38	\$109.37	\$131.62	\$142.13	Our focus is to provide a cost-efficient waste management service. We saw the costs of our garbage collection bin service rise due to fuel, materials and transportation increases affecting the industry.
Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service	\$42.10	\$45.97	\$54.61	\$56.12	Our focus is to provide a cost-effective waste management service. We saw the costs of our kerbside recyclables collection bin service rise slightly due to fuel, materials and transportation increases affecting the industry.
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill	56.40%	55.21%	53.60%	54.95%	We have seen a positive 1.4% increase of waste diverted from landfill during 2022/23. Our landfill tonnages and recycling tonnages decreased compared to the prior year. From 1 July 2023, we will introduce the Food Organic Garden Organic service, which will further improve our diversion rate from 2023/24 onwards.

Our performance: Vibrant and Prosperous Economy

Services funded in our Annual Budget


Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Business, Events and Grants	Promotes a vibrant and prosperous local economy through support to local business, economic development and tourism, corporate and community events and community grants process.	2,090	2,148	(58)
Community Venues and Functions	Supports economic and community wellbeing. Manages Council's community venues, MC2 and Manningham Function Centre.	282	1,025	(743)




Goal 1: Grow our local business, tourism, and economy


Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Celebrate and promote our arts and culture to support our local economy
Liveable Places and Spaces	Optimise access and accessibility in our local shops, activity centres and public spaces
Resilient Environment	Grow the visitor economy through partnerships and promotion of local attractions and cultural tourism
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Support local businesses.
Well Governed Council	Attract jobs and career opportunities to the local area, particularly for young people

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	<p>Support local businesses through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrating leadership to increase procurement with Social Enterprises, Aboriginal Enterprises and Australian Disability Enterprises (collectively known as Social Benefit Suppliers) and local businesses. Capacity building and support through the Business Development Program. Exploring local opportunities to support local businesses to collaborate via a hub or co-working space. Implementing the recommendations in the Doncaster Hill Strategy and Economic Development Strategy to encourage and support tourism and employment opportunities. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have been working with the Eastern Innovation Business Centre and Flexible Working Australia to take part in a regional Boosting Co-working program. We were successful in obtaining \$3,000 grant to support co-working, and local business can access a voucher of \$100 to be used at a local co-working location. Initial discussions with the Manningham Uniting Church co-working space and a range of benchmarking has been done to inform next steps. Further scoping was undertaken to determine the feasibility of a co-working space including locations and layout. On-going support was provided to the business community in a post-COVID-19 recovery period including the launch of a new buy local campaign (Find Your Local). We recruited a Senior Economic Development Officer to engaging with businesses in the larger centres of Macedon Square, Templestowe Village and Jackson Court establishing relationships with traders. The business support initiative 'Find Your Local' launched with the successful promotion '30 Favs in 30 Days'. We hosted a Maximising your Marketing workshop with 14 attendees. Support continues for the Manningham Business Network to run their monthly business networking. We completed our new draft Economic Development Strategy in readiness for community consultation, to plan and deliver initiatives to support business and attract investment in Manningham over the next three years.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Actions			
	Support the development of local creative industries.		<p>We supported local creative industries with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative workshops during the June/July school holidays, including several for adults and children together. • Workshops held by artist Angharad Neal-Williams at the Warrandyte Community Centre to inform the direction of a mural currently being developed for the centre. • The first of a series of writing workshops for people living with disabilities was run in collaboration with Doncaster Library. • The second exhibition of our gallery calendar, Jess Coldrey's 'Pain Pageant'. This included unique workshops with artists relating to the expression of pain through art. Both Coldrey and Soyoun Kim, who is exhibiting 'Tongues-Tongs', filmed artist videos to provide further insight into their work. • A drama program for 8-12 year olds was planned and scheduled for the school holidays, extending the offering of the Art Studios. • New commissions and artwork purchases for the Art Collection will include purchasing from several locally based artists, providing economic support for the arts in Manningham.
	Collaborate with our regional partners to foster the growth of the greater Melbourne East economy and create a mix of land to stimulate business diversity in the region		<p>We were active throughout the Australian and Victorian Election campaigns in collaboration with Eastern Region Group (ERG) Councils to advocate for Manningham and Eastern Region priorities. Priorities ranged from public transport through to support for youth mental health. This collaborative advocacy continues through regular meetings and lobbying of key Ministers.</p>
	Develop a '10-Year Vibrant Villages Plan' to prioritise future upgrades or precinct Masterplanning of all major and local neighbourhood activity centres.		<p>The Vibrant Villages Activity Centre Action Plan 2023 was endorsed by Council in May 2023. We are now planning for works and upgrades in and around Templestowe Village.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Encourage and support tourism and employment opportunities by implementing recommendations in the Doncaster Hill Strategy and Economic Development Strategy.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are continuing to work with a range of business in key activity centres to explore dining precincts that support the night time economy. These include Doncaster Road at Jackson Court and Templestowe Village. • A draft Economic and Development Strategy 2023-2026 has been prepared. A key objective of the strategy will be to develop an evening-time economy with restaurants, bars and events and celebrate local creativity, arts and culture. • We continued to attract visitors, tourists and employment to the Doncaster Hill Activity Centre and in key locations across the municipality.

Our performance: Well Governed Council

Services funded in our Annual Budget

Activity	Description	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Business Enablement	Provides enabling services to support an excellent customer experience for our community. Leads our customer promise to make it easy, celebrate choice, serve consistently and respond proactively. Enables the organisation through project management advice/support for corporate projects, planning for and reviewing our services and reporting our progress on Council activities.	3,423	3,870	(447)
Councillor support	This service includes the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and associated support to carry out their duties to manage the organisation and benefit the City.	1,214	1,229	(15)
Engaged Communities	Oversees engaging and informing the community about our activities and decisions. Including community engagement, internal communications, publications, social media, website, design and advocacy.	2,171	2,081	90
Emergency Management	Builds resilience in community preparedness, response and recovery in an emergency. Works with agencies and organisations to facilitate local emergency management planning and lead coordination of local relief and recovery support for affected communities.	470	250	220
Financial Services	Strategic leadership towards a financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently. Includes budget management and partnering with the organisation to improve the delivery of financial services, internal controls and revenue services including rates and valuations.	4,240	4,490	(250)
Information Technology	Leads delivery and support of technology to improve efficient and effective ways to deliver services. Includes privacy and information management, process and system support across Council, and pursuit of digital and innovative technology solutions.	7,536	9,166	(1,630)




Legal, Governance, Risk and Assurance	Oversees a well governed Council with management of legal services and provision of legal advice, governance, risk and assurances services and advice.	1,730	1,490	240
People Experience	Leads our people experience to attract, support and retain employees that perform their best for our community. Includes recruitment, organisational development, employee and industrial relations and workplace health and safety.	2,089	1,939	150
Procurement	Responsible for governance of procurement and contract management services to support the goals of Council.	1,110	1,059	51

Goal 1: A financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently



Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Proactively seeking opportunities that support our financial sustainability and maximise the value we contribute to our community
Liveable Places and Spaces	Use evidence-based data on population growth, trends, and community input to guide responsible future planning and decision making
Resilient Environment	Leadership in sustainable and innovative environmental practices
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Attract and maintain business interest in Manningham
Well Governed Council	Transparency in decision making and demonstrating the success of our services, and achievement of social, environmental and economic outcomes for our community

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	We will maximise public value through the systematic planning and review of our services and effective, early and broad engagement on our projects.		<p>We have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight service reviews in 2022/23. Five of them utilised the Service Management Framework process. • Early community engagement. One of the most significant examples this year is the community education campaign on the implementation of Food Organics Green Organics. Other examples included the Active Manningham Program, the Climate Emergency Action Plan, the development of our new Local Laws, Healthy Ageing, and 2023/24 Budget.
	Explore ways to enhance performance reporting across social, environment and economic outcomes against community need		<p>We have improved ways that we report outcomes to the community including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting an update on our progress to Community Panel representatives, who were involved in writing the Community Vision 2040 and recommendations for our Council Plan. • Redesigning our website to assist the community to navigate through our strategies and action plans and making links between our commitments, progress and community outcomes clear. • Reviewing the Manningham Quarterly Report to make it an easy to read summary of our progress on the Council Plan and other key areas.
	Ensure our long-term financial sustainability by preparing our Budget and 10-year Financial Plan incorporating key strategies to Council by 30 June 2022 (major initiative).		<p>The 2023/24 Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan were adopted by Council in June 2023 following extensive involvement of Officers and Councillors. Sessions were held with the Council during November 2022 and through February to June 2023. A period of online community engagement via YourSay Manningham on budget priorities was also undertaken during November 2022 to January 2023 and again in May and June 2023. More than 200 community members participated in this online engagement which helped inform the budget and 10-Year Financial Plan.</p>

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Actions			
	Deliver our annual Capital Works Program to maintain, upgrade and develop Council assets to meet current and future needs.		We implemented 84% of the capital infrastructure budget, enabling significant improvements to roads, drains, sporting facilities and footpaths.
	Ensure that future land use planning balances amenity and economic pressures		Recommendation 12 of the endorsed Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022 - 2026 identifies the need to develop a Vibrant Villages Action Plan. The purpose is to prioritise improvements to activity centres across the municipality. Council endorsed the Villages Action Plan 2023 on 30 May 2023. The Action Plan identifies priorities for upgrades within 4 Neighbourhoods and 10 Local economic activity centres over the next 10 years.
	Demonstrate leadership in sustainable and innovative environmental practices e.g., installation of solar panels on Council building		<p>We have demonstrated leadership in sustainable practices by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an Asset Management and Service Plan for buildings and community facilities and input into the Community Infrastructure Plan, together with a Stormwater Management Strategy, that will support environmentally sustainable design and use of responsive building materials and locations to promote resilience to flood, bushfire and climate. • Inclusion of priority projects that support Climate Emergency Action Plan initiatives and support environmentally sustainable design in our capital works program.
	Identify initiatives that save money and deliver stronger return on investment in Council owned and managed places and spaces		We developed a Strategic Property Investment Portfolio. During the year the Manningham Quarry, 300 Blackburn Road, and 895 Doncaster Road have been developed.
	Advocate to government and work with our local and regional partners to secure financial support for existing and future projects to optimise Manningham's potential.		We were active throughout the Australian and Victorian Election campaigns in collaboration with Eastern Region Group (ERG) Councils to advocate for Manningham and Eastern Region priorities. These priorities ranged from improved public transport through to youth mental health support. This collaborative advocacy continues through regular meetings and lobbying of key Ministers.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Take a proactive and motivated approach to be an open and transparent Council (initiative).		<p>Council regularly reviews and updates the Annual Report, Quarterly Reports and Council Report formatting to ensure information is timely, accurate and transparent.</p> <p>Significant work has been undertaken to highlight the importance of transparency and accountability, particularly as it relates to decision making. The main focus has been on educating officers about the importance of declaring and reporting conflicts of interest to ensure community confidence in decision making.</p> <p>Further work will be undertaken to raise the profile of Council's Public Transparency Policy and how this applies to Council decision making. Report training will be rolled out to the leadership team to improve the quality of report writing and in turn, decision making.</p>
	Collaborate with other Councils in the region to pursue grant funding for improvements to Council services and facilities.		<p>We have pursued regional grant opportunities through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Eastern Region Group (ERG) to review and seek grant opportunities for the region. Shifting our focus for services and facilities towards pursuing greater joint procurement efforts (including infrastructure) and collaborative employment creation with a focus on youth and inclusion.


Goal 2: A Council that values our customers and community in all that we do




Key focus areas

Council Plan Theme	What we are focussing on
Healthy Community	Serving our community with empathy and being welcoming of all genders, cultures and abilities
Liveable Places and Spaces	Services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively
Resilient Environment	Advocating and providing support to protect our environment
Vibrant and Prosperous Economy	Attracting a diverse employment and career opportunities
Well Governed Council	Model our organisation's values of working together, excellence, accountability, respect and empowerment

Our performance — major initiatives and initiatives

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
Major initiatives			
	Improve our customer experience to better understand and meet their specific needs (major initiative).		<p>To improve our customers' experience, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made several enhancements to the Customer Relationship System (CRM). Contractors are now able to access case details such as mapping/location details via the Contractor Portal. This has enabled contractors to respond and resolve cases more efficiently. Real time integration between CRM, TreePlotter and Field Service was successfully deployed. This has removed manual processes and enables our Parks Team to respond faster to tree related cases. Undertaken customer research which will be used to improve Customer Service operations and improve our customers' Experience in our ongoing commitment to continually improve our service delivery. Improved internal dashboards to better identify monitor, report and understand customer needs across multiple channels such as chat, phone, in person and online.
Actions			
	Deliver initiatives that advocate or demonstrate Council leadership to promote equality across gender, age, diversity, ability, and culture.		<p>Our initiatives to demonstrate and promote equality included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forming new advisory committees (Health and Wellbeing, Multicultural Communities, and Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+), holding inaugural meetings. Establishing a Gender Equity Steering Committee to oversee the implementation and good practice. Facilitating the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (DIWG) sub-committees to lead events for Pride March, International Women's Day and Harmony Day. Establishing two new positions within the People Experience team in March 2023 to support diversity and inclusion initiatives. These roles will enable progress in this area which includes activities outlined under our Reconciliation Action Plan.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Work with our partners and advisory networks to advocate and raise awareness of inclusive practices for key priority areas - considering people from First Nations, LGBTQIA+ communities, youth, culturally diverse communities, and people with disability.		<p>We improved our practices to understand key priority groups through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Advisory Committees meetings in May and June. Items included the use FOGO, Aquarena Masterplan, Gambling harm workshop and dates of significance. • Advocating for the continuation of the Employment program at the Migrant Information Centre. • Advocating for the Census to include the collection of information to support understanding the LGBTQIA community. • Advocating for the Park Orchard Neighbourhood House renovations. • Conducting Advisory Committee meetings in February and March. Topics included the Manningham Inclusive Language Guide and Council use of easy English to translate some documents. • Participating in the Pride March in February to support staff and community who identify as LGBTQIA+. • Holding the Manningham Healing ceremony on 26 January. This event was held in collaboration with Wurundjejeri Woi-wurrung.
	Continue to advocate, influence, and respond to the North East Link Program (NELP) Authority for improved mitigation measures and environmental outcomes, particularly around urban design and to reduce the construction impact of the project on the community (major initiative).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We met regularly with relevant North East Link Program (NELP) teams to further Manningham's desired outcomes, such as to retain as much open space along the project corridor. • We continued to review the design packages for various aspects of the project and make submissions in a timely manner. • The Early Works package is complete and the new Bulleen Park and Ride facility is now open for operation.

Theme	Details	Result	Our progress
	Attract and support young people through jobs and career development opportunities, both at Council and within the community.		Under the revised Youth Employment Plan, we have created an additional 5 full time equivalent positions which are targeted at those between 15 to 24 years. This program is for a two-year period and will offer potential graduate roles and traineeships to young people over this period. The Talent Attraction Partner role will support the delivery of the program as well as other initiatives outlined in the Youth Employment Plan which target jobs and career opportunities.
	Pursue transparency, innovation and efficiencies through the use and sharing of open data sources.		We continue to regularly update Manningham's published data sets on data.gov.au website for public access. A further range of data sets and additional aerial photography are also planned for Manningham's public facing GIS system.
	Engage in strategic partnerships that deliver benefits for our community and the Eastern Region.		<p>We participated actively in several regional partnerships for the benefit of the community including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Regions Group of Councils • Eastern Affordable Housing Association • Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action • Eastern Transport Coalition (ETC) • Metropolitan Transport Forum (MTF) • Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRC) – Local Government Waste Forum. • Eastern Municipal Association Victoria.

Our performance: LGPRF indicators

LGPRF Indicators	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Governance					
Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public	8.03%	1.79%	2.67%	10.08%	Council is committed to public transparency in its decision making. While more matters were considered in closed meetings, many of these reports or resolutions have been made public. Of the 129 resolutions, 13 were confidential reports considered by Council, with 6 subsequently made public in part or in full to increase transparency in Council's decision making. The confidential reports primarily related to Council's role in service delivery, personnel and industrial relations matters and commercially sensitive matters.
Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement	56	56	56	56	We have worked hard to improve the way we engage with our community on the things that matter. This result is the same as last year. The result is from a sample of residents participating in a Community Satisfaction Survey, managed by independent research company on behalf of the Victorian Government.
Councillor attendance at Council meetings	94.81%	99.26%	98.41%	97.22%	Our Councillors' attendance at Council meetings remained high with a strong commitment to a Well Governed Council that represents and benefits the community.
Cost of elected representation	\$404,361	\$478,907	\$510,577	\$554,731	Our Councillors work hard to deliver an exceptional service to the Manningham community. The recent determination for Councils from the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal has resulted in a slight increase in the cost of governance.
Satisfaction with Council decisions	57	58	58	57	Our Council continues to work to improve community satisfaction with Council decisions. We have seen a one-point decrease from last year. This survey result is collected from a sample of residents by an independent company on behalf of the Victorian Government.

Our Governance System

We value good governance as it ensures we operate effectively, efficiently, impartially and with integrity. Our good governance principles ensure:

- We make decisions transparently and based on expert advice.
- We adhere to processes and systems.
- Our officers implement decisions appropriately and in good time.

There are two types of governance in our operations:

- Democratic: elected Councillors (the 'Council') and the authority they have to make decisions.
- Corporate: the way the organisation is run and the framework its systems and processes operate within.

Governance framework

We are committed to effective and sustainable democratic and corporate governance as they are the keys to ensuring that we meet our community's priorities and our responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2020. Our community has many opportunities to have a say in our decision-making processes, including:

- Voting for Councillors (the Council) every four years.
- Writing to, emailing, or calling Councillors (the Council).
- Making submissions on our budget each year and Council Plan every four years.
- Participating in public forums like question time at a Council meeting.
- Participating in surveys, focus groups, workshops and other consultation activities.
- Logging onto yoursaymanningham.com.au and commenting on the plans and projects listed there.
- Making submissions on major projects that are advertised throughout the year.

Find out more: yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au

Democratic governance

Decisions

We conduct our formal decision-making processes through the formal, regular meetings of our Council. At these meetings, our officers submit reports on matters for the Council to consider. These matters can include planning permit applications, strategic land use and development planning, community services, health and local laws, road and traffic management, administration and finance.

To ensure the efficient day-to-day operations of the organisation, the Council delegates most of its decision-making powers to staff. Specialists in their field exercise these delegations following our policies.

We have a CEO whose role includes:

- Establishing and maintaining an appropriate organisational structure.
- Overseeing our day-to-day operations.
- Ensuring the organisation implements Council decisions without delay.

The Council reviews the CEO's performance annually.

Although the Mayor has no more authority than other Councillors to make decisions, the position is significant as a leader and community spokesperson.

Council meetings

Council meetings are held at the Manningham Civic Centre and are open to the public. Residents, local traders and community members are welcome to attend. The Council may consider some matters in a closed meeting if the matter needs to be kept confidential.

Changes were made to the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to allow Councils to conduct their meetings remotely for a limited time. These changes have now been made permanent in the Act and meetings may be conducted remotely if required and live-streamed on the internet. The community can participate in the meetings during public question time.

Additional meetings may also be called to deal with urgent matters. We conduct all meetings in accordance with Manningham's Governance Rules and the Act. The schedule of meetings, agendas and minutes are available at manningham.vic.gov.au.

In 2022/23, there were 12 scheduled meetings of Council and one additional meeting. The table below provides a summary of Councillor attendance at these meetings.

Table 6: Council meetings held 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

Councillor	Ordinary	Special
Cr Anna Chen	12 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Andrew Conlon	12 out of 12	0 out of 1
Cr Geoff Gough	12 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Michelle Kleinert	11 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Carli Lange	12 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor from 3 Nov 2022)	11 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Laura Mayne	12 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Stephen Mayne	12 out of 12	1 out of 1
Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor from 3 Nov 2022)	12 out of 12	1 out of 1

Strategic briefing sessions (SBS)

In these sessions, we provide informal briefings to the Council on strategic or policy matters before the matters are presented at a Council meeting.

Committees

We have many internal advisory and other committees. Appointments to these committees enable Councillors to have input into projects, groups or events they are interested in.

The table below shows the committee appointments made by the Council for this year. These appointments are reviewed on an annual basis.

Table 7: 2022/23 Councillor Internal Committee Appointees

Committee	Appointees 1 Jul 22 – 31 Dec 22	Appointees 1 Jan 23 – 30 Jun 23
Audit and Risk Committee	Cr Chen Cr L Mayne	Cr L Mayne Cr S Mayne
CEO Performance Review Committee	All Councillors	All Councillors
Disability Advisory Committee	Cr Kleinert	Cr Kleinert
Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee		Cr Lightbody Cr L Mayne
Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee	Mayor	Cr Diamante
Historical Societies Working Group		Cr S Mayne
Manningham Community Fund Grants Assessment Panel	Mayor Cr Lange	Mayor Cr Conlon
Manningham Youth Advisory Committee	Cr Chen Cr L Mayne	Cr Chen Cr L Mayne Cr Gough
Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee		Cr Lange Cr S Mayne Cr Chen
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee	Cr Lange	Cr Lange
Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee	Cr Lange	Cr Lange
Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group		Cr Diamante
Recreation and Sport Advisory Committee		Cr S Mayne Cr Lange Cr Conlon

Councillors also represent Council on several external bodies and Committees, including the below.

Table 8: 2022/23 Councillor External Committee Appointees

External Committee	Appointees 1 Jul 22 – 31 Dec 22	Appointees 1 Jan 23 – 30 Jun 23
Australian Local Government Women's Association Victoria (ALGWA - Vic)	Cr L Mayne	Cr L Mayne
Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance	Cr L Mayne	Cr L Mayne
Eastern Region Group of Councils (ERG)	Mayor Cr Diamante	Mayor Cr Lightbody
Eastern Transport Coalition	Cr Chen	Cr Lightbody Alternate – Cr Chen
Metropolitan Transport Forum	Cr Chen	Cr Chen
Municipal Association of Victoria	Cr S Mayne Cr Conlon - Substitute	Cr Conlon Cr S Mayne Substitute
Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action Executive Committee	Cr Lightbody	Cr Lightbody
Victorian Local Governance Association	All 9 Councillors	All 9 Councillors
Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation	Cr Kleinert Cr S Mayne	Cr Kleinert Cr S Mayne Cr Conlon - substitute

Code of conduct

Our Councillors (the Council) are bound by a code of conduct that describes the ethical and moral behavioural standards expected of them. It covers relationships between Councillors and staff, using Council resources, dispute resolution procedures and includes the prescribed standards of conduct.

The Local Government Act 2020 requires that a person elected to be a Councillor must declare that they will abide by the Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards of conduct set out in the Code when they are sworn into office. Following the Council elections held in October 2020, all Councillors declared they would abide by the code.

Find out more at manningham.vic.gov.au/open-government or at the Manningham Civic Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Conflicts of interest

Our residents and ratepayers elect Councillors to act in the best interests of our community. When a Council delegates its powers to an officer or a Committee, the Committee or officer also needs to act in the public interest.

A conflict of interest is when a personal or private interest has the potential to affect someone's ability to act in the public interest. A conflict exists even if no improper act results from it. We have a comprehensive procedure that guides Councillors (the Council) and officers to disclose their potential conflicts of interest.

Declaration of a conflict of interest is a standard agenda item for all Council and committee meetings. In general, a Councillor or officer must disclose any such interest in a specific way, and step aside from either the decision-making process or performing the public duty. We maintain a record of all disclosed conflicts of interest.

During 2022/23, no conflicts of interest were declared at Council meetings.

Councillor allowances

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance while performing their duties. These allowances are determined and set by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and reviewed annually.

Each Council is assigned to a category by the Tribunal which determines the level of allowance that will be received. Manningham is a Category 3 Council.

The Tribunal made its first determination on allowances on 7 March 2022. The annual determination took effect from 18 December 2021 – 17 December 2022 and set allowances as follows:

Mayor	\$119,316
Deputy Mayor	\$59,658
Councillor	\$35,972

The value of the determination was adjusted by the Tribunal effective from 18 December 2022 until 17 December 2023 as follows:

Mayor	\$122,630
Deputy Mayor	\$61,315
Councillor	\$37,010

Councillor expenses

There is an annual Councillor expenses budget of \$11,896 for the Mayor and \$10,473 per Councillor. This budget is all-inclusive and covers conferences, training, travel, carer responsibilities and telephones.

Councillors are expected to operate within their individual budget. Council may also reimburse Councillors for any necessary out-of-pocket expenses they incur while performing their duties as a Councillor.

Table 9 shows the actual expenses for 2022/23. Council also publishes its travel register on its website in July each year showing interstate and overseas travel by Councillors and Council officers.

Table 9: 2022/23 Councillor Expenses

Cr	Travel	Car mileage	Childcare	Information and communication	Conferences and training	Formal attendance	Meeting expenses	Memberships	Other	Total
Cr Anna Chen	\$1306.34	\$1373.54	\$0	\$0	\$813.64	\$284.59	\$0	\$185	\$0	\$3963.11
Cr Andrew Conlon	\$0	\$1876.52	\$0	\$795.93	\$0	\$50.50	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2722.95
Cr Deirdre Diamante	\$2101.67	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2057.28	\$663.36	\$0	\$185	\$0	\$5007.31
Cr Geoff Gough	\$1584.25	\$1154.94	\$0	\$804.95	\$813.64	\$204.75	\$0	\$0	\$27.27	\$4589.00
Cr Michelle Kleinert	\$1439.30	\$195.01	\$0	\$677.29	\$1260.50	\$896.52	\$340.05	\$185	\$93	\$5086.67
Cr Carli Lange	\$0	\$2787.17	\$0	\$470.45	\$0	\$131.59	\$0	\$185	\$0	\$3574.21
Cr Tomas Lightbody	\$1145.03	\$2188.42	\$0	\$0	\$972.73	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4306.18
Cr Laura Mayne	\$20	\$0	\$0	\$882.46	\$4988.14	\$9.09	\$0	\$185	\$0	\$6084.69
Cr Stephen Mayne	\$650.91	\$1326.88	\$0	\$757.02	\$945.46	\$104.09	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3784.36

CEO expenditure 2022/23

The Chief Executive Officer incurs various expenditures while carrying out duties relating to the CEO role.

Expense categories related specifically to the CEO role are travel, conferences and training, and miscellaneous). Gifts declared are also included in this report, although not an expense to Council. The CEO must be transparent in using Council resources as per the Employee Code of Conduct.

Table 10: CEO expenditure

Travel	Food and Beverage	Conferences and seminars	Gifts declared*	Miscellaneous	Total Expenses 2022/23
\$1,117.66	\$70.64	\$2,867.73	\$0	\$0	\$4,056.03

Note: All costs are GST exclusive

Expense categories

- Travel – covers costs associated with assisting the CEO in meeting transport costs incurred while attending meetings, functions and conferences. This includes taxi services, Uber services, car parking fees, airfares, accommodation costs etc.
- Food and Beverage – covers costs associated with food or beverages that directly relate to the CEO role within a professional context.
- Conferences and seminars – covers registration fees associated with attendance by the CEO at local conferences, functions, seminars and one-off or short-term training courses. Meeting such as these are usually held by local government-related organisations, professional bodies and institutions, educational institutions and private sector providers on areas and events that impact the CEO's role and the general municipality.
- Gifts Declared* – relates to any gifts that exceed the token gift threshold (\$50) that the CEO is required to declare as per the Token Gift Policy. This category is not added to the total expenses as it is a declaration, not a cost to Council.
- Miscellaneous – relates to any other costs associated with the CEO role not covered by the categories above.

Corporate governance

Our CEO is our only member of staff directly appointed by and responsible to our Council. Our CEO implements decisions made by our Council, ensures the organisation achieves its Council Plan objectives, and manages its day-to-day operations. Our CEO's performance is reviewed annually by the Council.

Council can delegate authority to our CEO to make certain decisions under particular circumstances that are defined in the Instruments of Delegation and in accordance with any adopted policies.

Our CEO's delegations are broad and enabling. They have further delegated powers to officers who carry out various functions daily. These powers are reviewed regularly, including by each newly elected Council.

Find out more at manningham.vic.gov.au/public-registers-and-information

Senior officers

Senior officers are any Council officer who is employed beyond a Band 8 classification.

At 30 June 2023, we had 33 senior officers, with a total remuneration of \$6.65 million.

The following table captures our senior officers and salary ranges:

Table 11: Executive Management Team Total Annual Remuneration

Senior Officer Ranges	2021/22	2022/23
Less than \$160,000	5	3
\$160,000 - \$169,999	3	6
\$170,000 - \$179,999	4	1
\$180,000 - \$189,999	3	6
\$190,000 - \$199,999	3	4
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	2
\$210,000 - \$219,999	4	3
\$220,000 - \$229,999		2
\$230,000 - \$239,999	1	
\$240,000 - \$249,999		1
\$250,000 - \$259,999		
\$260,000 - \$269,999		
\$270,000 - \$279,999	1	3
\$280,000 - \$289,999	1	
\$290,000 - \$299,999	1	1
\$330,000 - \$339,000	1	
\$360,000 - \$369,000		1

In May 2012, Council resolved to disclose in our Annual Report the total remuneration of our five highest remunerated employees. This disclosure includes contract duration, salary and benefits entitlements.

However, in accordance with the *Secure Jobs Better Pay Act 2022*, a new workplace right exists where employees can elect to disclose or not disclose their salary. The table below represents any of the five highest remunerated employees who have elected to disclose their salary.

Name and position	Date commenced position	Current Contract expires	Total annual remuneration
Andrew Day CEO	17 September 2018	16 September 2028	\$365,000

Employee code of conduct

Our Code of Conduct includes standards of behaviour and expectations for how our employees behave as representatives of Manningham.

Our employee Code of Conduct contains 31 elements structured around our values and aligned to the requirements of section 95 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Our Code is issued to all new staff on their commencement and applies to all employees, volunteers, students, contractors, subcontractors and consultants.

Management

We have put statutory and better practice elements into action to strengthen our management framework and foster better decision-making.

The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* require us to assess our performance against the prescribed governance and management checklist. Our report against this checklist for this year is on page 186.

Essential components of our management framework are our Audit and Risk Committee, risk and fraud policies, internal audit and strategic risk management. We provide details on these components below.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) is an independent Advisory Committee that was established in accordance with section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and operates under a Charter.

The Committee assists Council in fulfilling their responsibilities by providing oversight, advice and guidance on Council's frameworks and systems of control including: financial and performance reporting, risk management, internal and external audit and legislative and good governance compliance.

Committee membership consists of five people, including three external and independent members and two Councillors. The office of Chairperson is held by an independent member who is elected annually by the committee members.

The Committee meets five times a year with one meeting dedicated to the end-of-year financial and performance statements. The external and internal auditors attend to present their reports and findings. The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Legal and Governance Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Risk and Assurance Lead attend all meetings to present management reports and respond to Committee questions. Other management representatives attend as required.

The Committee Chair formally reports to Council twice per year and meeting minutes are provided to Councillors. The Committee may meet privately with Councillors, External and Internal Auditor, without members of management being present.

Table 12: Audit and Risk Committee members.

Independent	Councillors
Mr Andrew Dix (Chair)	Cr Anna Chen (until 31 Dec 2022)
Ms Evy Papadopoulos	Cr Laura Mayne
Mr Jonathan Kyvelidis	Cr Stephen Mayne (commenced 1 Jan 2023)

Internal audit

The function of the internal audit is to provide independent and objective assurance to the Audit and Risk Committee that the appropriate processes and controls are in place across Council. Internal audit services to Council are delivered under contract by Pitcher Partners, a provider with extensive local government expertise.

A risk-based three-year Internal Audit Plan is revised annually by the Committee to ensure the audit resources remain focused on the appropriate areas. The review process considers the Council Plan, risk assurance mapping, legislative change, Council's risk profile, emerging risks, strategic projects and audit history.

The findings and recommendations of each audit are presented in a report to the Audit and Risk Committee with management present to respond to any questions. Full and timely completion of management actions arising from the audits are monitored by the Committee.

In 2022/23, the program of six internal audits was delivered. The audits were:

1. Statutory Planning Processes
2. Digital Transformation Governance
3. Complaints Customer Management
4. COVID-19 Financial Relief (Revenue) Management
5. Contract Management – Cleaning Services
6. Procurement (inc. Data Analysis).

External audit

Each year we are externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO). For the 2022/23 financial year, our financial and performance statements were audited by a VAGO representative as required by the *Audit Act 1994*. These statements are provided in this Annual Report from page 212.

Fraud and corruption control

We are the custodian of significant public funds and assets. The community must be confident that these public funds and assets are protected from fraud.

Our integrity framework promotes good governance, transparency, identification of risks, management controls, reporting, prevention and detection measures, and staff education and training.

Key activities in our integrity framework include our fraud and corruption risk assessment, staff e-learning training modules, compliance program, fraud and corruption assurance map, Fraud and Corruption Policy and Control Procedure, and Public Interest Disclosure Procedures.

The Fraud and Corruption Policy sets our specific guidelines and responsibilities regarding the appropriate actions that must be followed for the investigation of fraud and corruption and other similar irregularities.

The plan documents our approach to controlling fraud and corruption at both strategic and operational levels. Our policy and plan were reviewed and updated in 2022 with input from the Audit and Risk Committee and Councillors.

Risk management

Council acknowledges its responsibility to effectively manage risks in all areas of its business activities. Our risk management framework combines organisational systems, procedures, governance, culture and assurance activities to enable value protection and value creation, as we pursue the successful delivery of Council's strategies and objectives.

In 2022/23, Council delivered enterprise risk training to the management leadership group, business continuity training to the crisis management team members and ran a cyber breach scenario exercise to test the effective implementation of our crisis management response and recovery plan.

The key elements of our risk management and assurance framework are:

- Risk Management Strategy and Policy
- Business Continuity Management Policy, associated plans and procedures

- Three lines of defence assurance model
- Risk Registers (strategic, operational and fraud and corruption)
- Risk reporting
- Risk management incident and near-miss procedure
- Fraud and Corruption Control Plan and Assurance Map
- Executive Risk Management Committee (Management Committee)
- Audit and Risk Committee (Independent Committee)
- Assurance Map – strategic risks.

The role of the Executive Risk Committee is a vital strategic governance model to advance our cultural maturity target. The CEO chairs this committee with discussion, and the outcomes of the Committee are minuted and formally included in the Audit and Risk Committee agenda as a standing item.

The risk management assessment process is illustrated on the below diagram.

Figure 4: Manningham's risk management process



Compliance and assurance

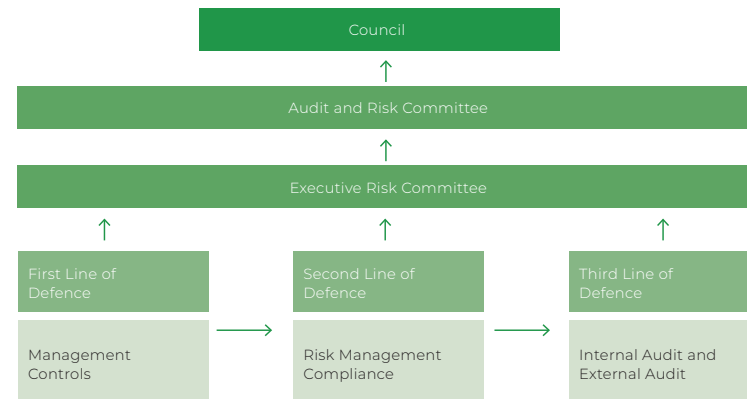
Our compliance program tests and continuously improves Manningham's system controls and is monitored by the Executive Risk Committee. In 2022/23, six reviews were conducted and addressed operational business risks.

The compliance program is a fundamental element of our three lines of defence assurance model for risk management:

- Management controls
- Risk management and compliance
- Internal audit and external audits.

A comprehensive Assurance Map was developed to document and review our assurance activity of control systems associated with Council's strategic risks. It assists with the annual planning of the internal audit and compliance programs.

Figure 5: Assurance: Three Lines of Defence

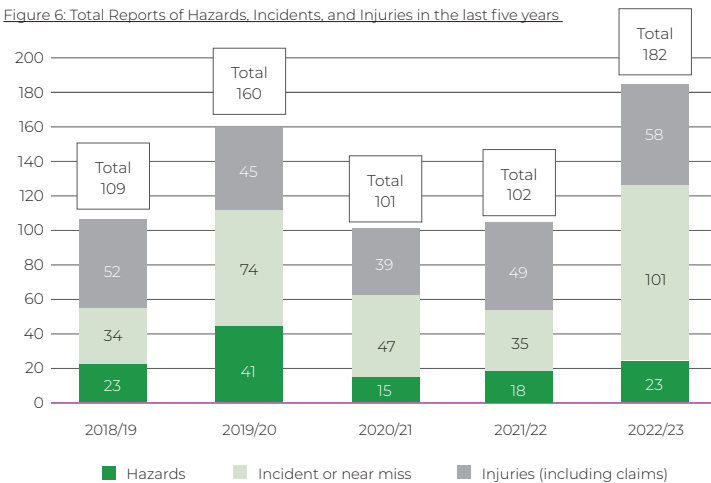


Workplace health and safety

We are committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for our employees and regularly report on our workplace health and safety performance.

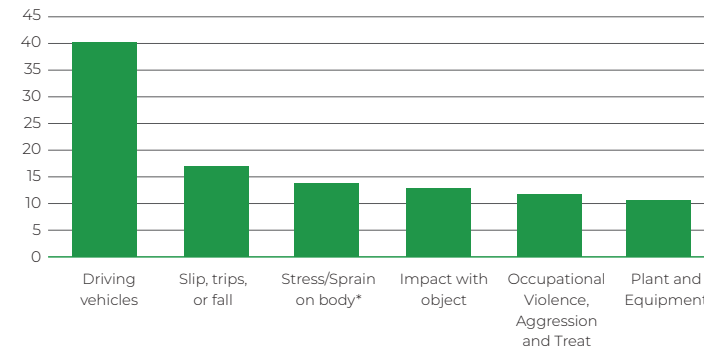
Each year we provide regular updated information for our employees covering a range of key safety topics, reinforcing the importance of timely incident and hazard reporting, as well as early intervention practices when managing workplace injuries.

Figure 6: Total Reports of Hazards, Incidents, and Injuries in the last five years.



The total number of incidents, hazards, near misses and injuries reported this financial year has increased by 78% compared to 2021/22. Increases are observed for all categories, in particular the reporting of incidents and near misses. This can be attributed to the introduction of an online system for reporting, as well as the health and safety communications emphasising to employees that all incidents must be reported, no matter how minor they appear to be.

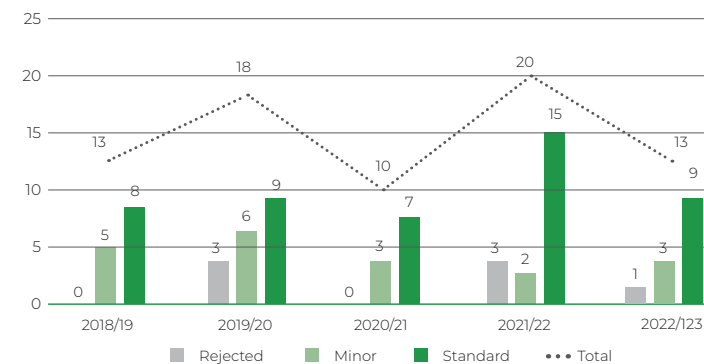
Figure 7: Top 6 mechanisms of reported injuries and incidents in last financial year



This figure sets out the top six mechanisms of incidents and injuries recorded in 2022/23. The new hazard and incident reporting system has enabled motor vehicle incidents to be reported with greater ease, which may account for the increase in reports observed. Slip, trips, or falls remains to be a significant contributor, followed by body stress/sprain and impact with object occurrences.

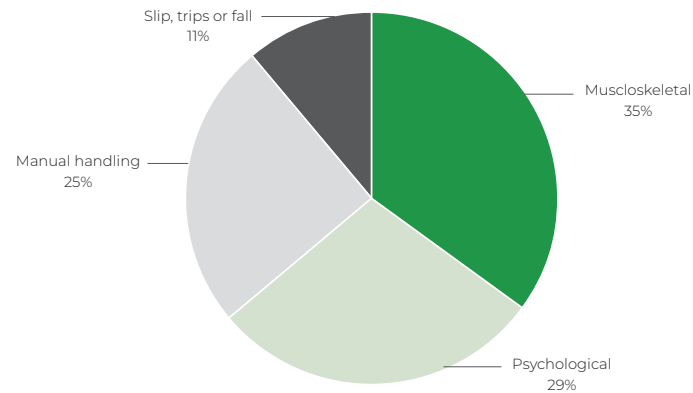
* Psychological factors include verbal abuse and occupational violence.

Figure 8: Number of WorkCover claims over the last five years



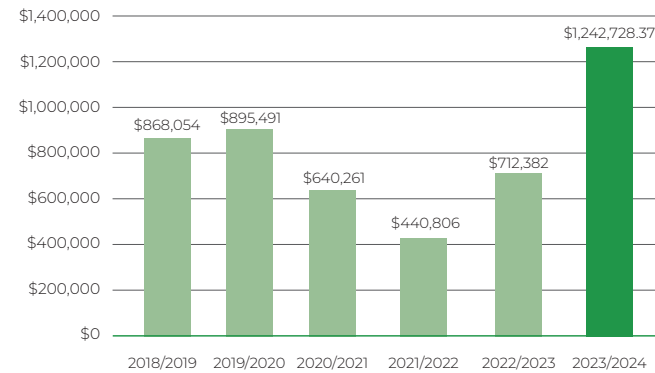
There has been a significant decrease in WorkCover claims in 2022/23. Education regarding early reporting of injuries and incidents and providing timely early intervention for injury management may have contributed to the decrease in claims. In addition, there has been a reduction in the number of psychological claims.

Figure 9: Distribution of lost days against mechanisms of injuries



This figure shows the distribution of total lost days against the relevant mechanisms of injuries. Psychological injury claims continue to constitute 22% of the claims attributed with lost days, however the impact of lost days from these types of claims to the total lost days has reduced over the last financial year.

Figure 10: WorkCover premium costs trend



This figure displays the WorkCover premium rate in the last five years, and the WorkCover premium rate calculated for 2023/24. The premium calculations are based on various factors these include:

- Previous claims over the last three years and their financial value
- The number of employees at each work location, and
- Our injury and claims management performance against the industry average.

The WorkCover premium rate has increased for the coming financial year 2023/24. This is due to the increasing gap between the premiums paid across all Victorian businesses and the cost of claims under the Victorian Workcover scheme. The target average premium rate for WorkCover will move to 1.8%, up from the previous average rate of 1.27%. This has increased the total cost of premiums across Victoria significantly in 2023/24.

Victorian Local Government Performance Reporting Framework Governance and Management Checklist 2022-23	Date/s applicable
The following checklist demonstrates the plans and processes in place as per the Local Government Act 2020 to promote good governance and decision-making.	
Community engagement	
Community engagement policy policy outlining Council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest	26/02/2021
Community engagement guidelines guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community	26/02/2021
Planning	
Financial Plan plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years	27/06/2023
Asset Plan plan that sets out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for key infrastructure asset classes for the next 10 years	28/06/2022
Revenue and Rating Plan plan setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges	29/06/2021
Annual budget plan setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required	27/06/2023
Risk policy policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Councils operations	25/07/2017
Fraud policy policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud	10/12/2019
Municipal emergency management plan plan under section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 for emergency prevention, response and recovery	1/07/2019
Procurement policy policy outlining the principles, processes and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods and services by the Council	24/08/2021

Victorian Local Government Performance Reporting Framework Governance and Management Checklist 2022-23	Date/s applicable
Business continuity plan plan setting out the actions that will be taken to ensure that key services will continue to operate in the event of a disaster	08/12/2022
Disaster recovery plan plan setting the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster	01/05/2023
Monitoring	
Risk management framework Framework outlining Council's approach to managing risks to Council's operations	22/03/2022
Audit and Risk Committee advisory committee of Council under section 53 and 54 of the Local Government Act	01/09/2020
Internal audit independent accounting professionals engaged by the Council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving Council's governance, risk and management controls	24/10/2019
Performance reporting framework A set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act	24/08/2021
Reporting	
Council Plan report report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year	28/06/2023
Quarterly budget reports quarterly reports to Council under section 97 of the Act, comparing actual and budgeted results and an explanation of any material variation	22/11/2022 28/02/2023 30/05/2023 26/09/2023
Risk reporting Six-monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisations strategies	13/12/2022/ 25/07/2023

Victorian Local Government Performance Reporting Framework Governance and Management Checklist 2022-23	Date/s applicable
Performance reporting six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the against financial and non-financial performance, including indicators referred to in section 98 of the Act	23/02/2023, 26/09/2023 12/09/2023
Annual report annual report under section 98 and 99 of the Act containing a report of operations and audited financial and performance statements	31/10/2023
Decision Making	
Councillor Code of Conduct Code setting out the standards of conduct to be followed by Councillors and other matters	23/02/2021
Delegations documents setting out powers, duties and functions of Council and Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff	29/06/2021 4/04/2023
Meeting procedures governance rules governing the conduct of meetings of Council and delegated committees	14/09/2022

I certify that this information presents fairly the status of Council's governance and management arrangements.



Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 12/09/2023



Cr Deirdre Diamante
Mayor
Dated: 12/09/2023

Statutory information

The following information is provided in accordance with legislative and other requirements applying to Manningham.

Public Transparency

Manningham Council is committed to the principles of public transparency and making as much information publicly available as we lawfully can. We provide a range of documents and information available on our website and others available for inspection at our offices.

You can request to inspect at the Manningham Civic Centre at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

The types of information that we make publicly available include:

- Details of overseas or interstate travel (with the exception of interstate travel by land for less than three days) undertaken in an official capacity by Councillors or any member of our staff in the previous 12 months.
- Agendas for and minutes of meetings of Council Meetings held in the previous 12 months, excluding confidential information considered at a meeting closed to the public.

- A register of delegations kept in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.
- A register of all leases involving land that Manningham entered into as lessor.
- A register of Authorised Officers.
- A list of grants and donations Manningham made during the financial year.
- An Operating Statement, a Statement of Financial Position and notes to the Financial Statements.
- A summary of election campaign donation returns received following the most recent Manningham elections.
- Details of Councillor and CEO expenses.

Find out more at manningham.vic.gov.au/public-registers-and-information

Grants and funding

We thank the Victorian and Australian Governments for supporting us to deliver services that ensure our residents experience a safe, vibrant, healthy and liveable community.

Please refer to our Financial Report for a breakdown of our major grants received.

Public Interest Disclosures (formerly Protected Disclosure Procedures)

The *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012* became law in Victoria in February 2013 to encourage and facilitate the disclosure of any improper conduct by Councillors or Council officers, and to protect people making disclosures from any reprisals they may experience in response to their actions.

Manningham endorsed a revised Public Interest Disclosures Procedure in December 2020 to supplement the provisions of the Act and further facilitate the disclosure of any improper conduct by Councillors and Council officers.

We have a Public Interest Disclosures Coordinator whose role is to receive and consider all disclosures about improper conduct and detrimental action as defined by the Act. A copy of the Public Interest Disclosures Procedure is available on our website.

In 2022/23, Manningham did not refer any public interest disclosure to the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC).

Find out more at manningham.vic.gov.au/legislation

Carers recognition

In accordance with the *Carers Recognition Act 2012*, Manningham reports annually on our care measurement obligations under section 11 of this Act.

We have taken all practicable measures to comply with the responsibilities outlined in the Act. We have continued to promote the principles of the Act to people in care relationships and the wider community to whom we provide services by:

- Displaying posters in our customer service reception at our Aged and Disability Support Services unit at Manningham Civic Centre.
- Providing information on our website for carers, including information about support groups for carers manningham.vic.gov.au/ageing-well-carers
- Recognising carers in our Community Care Program guidelines for Commonwealth Home Support Programme. We have been supporting the development and establishment of a new carers group called Carers Cuppa and Chat on the first Saturday of the month. This group is available to all carers regardless of age or disability/illness of the person they support. We have brokered a partnership for them with Aquarena, where they now operate from.
- Providing respite care support, including in-home and community based, regular and occasional.
- Providing free attendance for carers accompanying care recipients to selected seniors' events.

- Including carer's leave in the current Manningham City Council Enterprise Agreement.
- Ensuring carers' representation and engagement with Council is now stronger, as four people on the Manningham Disability Advisory Committee are carers of people with disability.
- Supporting carers in the community through the provision of informal contact and forums on related issues.

There have been numerous Aged and Disability Support Services activities that supported Carers, which have included:

- Carers week recognition luncheon.
- Allied Health information on general foot care to support the health and well-being of carers.
- Centrelink Financial Information Services which explained how aged care may affect their government payments, including the Age Pension.
- Carers Vic – Information session promoting self-care for physical and emotional well-being.
- Dementia Awareness and Become a Dementia Friend session from Carers Vic on services, support, and strategies on how to care for the carer.
- In addition to supporting the development of a new carer's group, we have supported the well-established Manningham Carers Walking Group with room hire for a workshop with Association of Children with Disability. We also facilitated a workshop on Therapy Animals for any carer to attend, delivered by Therapy Animals Australia.

- We act as an information hub to direct carers to support available to them.
- We continue to offer our bimonthly e-newsletter Manningham Inclusive for anyone interested in Disability Inclusion and includes many opportunities for carers.
- We have taken all practicable measures to review and modify policies, procedures and supports to include recognition of the carer relationship. We have provided services and resources that recognise and support the care relationship, including:
 - Regular and occasional respite care support: in-home and community-based.
 - The Aquarena Aquatic and Leisure Centre continued to accept the Carer Card, giving carers concession entry fees. The Companion Card gives carers free entry while working in their role as a carer.
 - We have provided services and resources that recognise and support the care relationship including:
 - Regular and occasional respite care support: in-home and community-based.
 - The Aquarena Aquatic and Leisure Centre continued to accept the Carer Card, giving carers concession entry fees. The Companion Card gives carers free entry while working in their role as a carer.

Disability Action Plan

Our Disability Action Plan is integrated into our Health and Wellbeing Action Plan. Some of the achievements over the preceding year include:

- The Manningham Disability Advisory Committee (MDAC) continues to meet quarterly to provide strategic advice to Council on how to understand and respond to the needs of people with disability. This Committee is made up of 70% of people with lived experience of disability and 30% carers.
- Delivered the Inclusive Connections Expo celebrating International Day of People with Disability on 2 December 2022. The Expo linked local people with disability to opportunities in the Manningham area. These opportunities included support provision, social inclusion, arts, sport, recreational, accommodation, educational and employment opportunities.
- The Building Equitable Employment (BEE) Network continues to meet regularly, bringing together individuals and organisations working towards inclusive employment for people with disability.
- Accessibility and inclusion tools were applied to several Council activities and departments.

- The bi-monthly Manningham Inclusive disability inclusion e-newsletter linking community with disability news and opportunities.
- The rollout of the Manningham Inclusive Language Guide to support staff to confidently use respectful and contemporary inclusive language when referring to, or speaking with members of our diverse communities, both within Council and in the community.
- Council also wrote a response to the proposed changes to the Disability Act and the role of local government.

Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25

Our Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25 (RAP) was officially endorsed at the February Council 2023 Council meeting.

This is an important step in ensuring we continue to plan and create opportunities for people of First Nations and support a culturally safe and thriving city.

Reconciliation Action Plans enable organisations to sustainably and strategically take meaningful action to advance reconciliation. Reconciliation Australia has endorsed our new RAP and will build relationships, respect and opportunities to advance reconciliation across Manningham.

Our key achievements in 2022/2023 were:

- Opening of wonguim wilam park in Warrandyte.
- Yaluk Langa Project (tree scarring) and the launch of the Manningham RAP in March 2023.
- Facilitating a Healing Ceremony event on 26 January to reflect on and acknowledge our shared history and learn more about our First Nations story and culture.
- First Nations Service during time of war storyboard at Doncaster RSL.
- The *Unfinished Business* exhibition reveals the stories of 30 people of First Nations with disability. This was a collaborative project between participants and Artist and Social Documentarian, Belinda Mason Knierim OAM. The exhibition was shown from May to July and was the centrepiece to Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC week activities.
- Cultural series involving walks at significant sites around Manningham with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders to learn the living history and traditional practices.

Welcoming Cities

Welcoming Cities provides a framework to support local councils to become more welcoming and inclusive of their diverse communities, especially multicultural, refugee and First Nations communities. Manningham Council became an accredited Welcoming City in August 2021.

In 2022/23 our achievements included:

- The establishment of the Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee.
- The establishment of a calendar of significant dates and associated community events and communication plans.
- Implementation of the anti-racism project including the Racism Not Welcome campaign.
- The establishment of the Manningham Inclusive Language Guide.

Freedom of information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) gives our community a right to access certain Council documents. Freedom of Information (FOI) requests must be made in writing and accompanied by an application fee. Under the legislation, Council must decide within 30 days of receiving a valid request whether to provide the requested information, in whole or in part, or to deny access. This timeframe may be extended for mandatory third-party consultation or by agreement with the applicant.

In 2022/23, we received 28 valid FOI requests, as well as three requests carrying over from 2021/22. The outcomes for those requests were as follows:

- Full access was granted for nine requests
- Partial access was granted for ten requests
- Refused access in full for three requests
- Documents were provided outside the FOI Act for two requests
- One request was withdrawn by the applicant
- No documents located for one request
- Five requests were not yet finalised as of 30 June 2023.

An additional 16 FOI applications were received in 2022/23, but were not processed as valid requests as they did not comply with the requirements outlined under section 17 of the FOI Act or were resolved outside the FOI Act prior to becoming valid. Reasons include non-payment of the application fee or no response from applicants after seeking clarification, or the applicant was provided with the requested information outside the FOI Act.

There were no requests to the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner ('OVIC') for external review of access decisions in 2022/23. There were no applications for review lodged with VCAT relating to requests we processed in 2022/23. All enquiries relating to accessing documents under the FOI Act should be directed to our FOI Officer on 03 9840 9333 or FOI@manningham.vic.gov.au.

Find out more about Council's FOI process at manningham.vic.gov.au/about-council/governance-public-registers-and-your-rights/request-freedom-information.

Information privacy

We are committed to protecting the personal privacy of our residents and ratepayers. We only collect, use, or disclose personal or health information where it is necessary to perform our functions or where required by law. We work hard to fully comply with our obligations under the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Health Records Act 2001. In 2022/23:

- No complaints received under *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*
- No complaints received under *Health Records Act 2001*.

Further information about our information privacy policies can be found at manningham.vic.gov.au/privacy

The Manningham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025

Every Victorian Local Government is required under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 to prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) within 12 months of a Council Election.

The MPHWP must consider:

- State health priorities outlined within the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Local health status and determinants.
- Partnership opportunities with the community and agencies.

The Manningham Health and Wellbeing Strategy uses an integrated planning approach with the Council Plan 2021-2025.

We implement the strategy using our annual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan. Our key achievements in 2022/2023 were:

- Strengthened focus on the importance of collaboration to build community connectedness and increase inclusion for multicultural and diverse communities.
- Increased advocacy to relevant stakeholders to address issues relating to mental health and gambling harm.
- Established a three-year strategic partnership with VicHealth to amplify the implementation of Manningham's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. We recently received alcohol harm prevention grant.
- Established a partnership with Aligned Leisure to improve outcomes for Manningham residents across four distinct areas; Health, Wellbeing, Social and Economic through the Leisure and Contract.

- Partnering with Swinburne University to deliver the Intergenerational Social Connections and Health Project.
- Partnering with Access Health and Community to run INFANT nutrition program, enhance food literacy and outreach services provided in Manningham.
- Working with sporting clubs to make their activities and facilities more welcoming and inclusive.
- Manningham's Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 drafted (endorsed February 2023).
- Education and engagement work delivered by the waste, environment, and emergency management teams on a variety of climate resilience topics.

Domestic Animal Management Plan

In accordance with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, we prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan every four years.

Our Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 is a key strategic document that identifies the key initiatives that we will deliver over the next three years in partnership with the community.

Key actions within the plan include promoting responsible pet ownership, the welfare of our cats and dogs and the safety of our community.

The implementation of a 24-hour cat confinement pilot is forecast to commence in 2023. An important feature of this initiative will be the inclusion of an amnesty period for cat owners and the provision of educative material to assist with the pilot.

For more information and to view the Domestic Animal Management Plan please see our website.

Road Management Act — Ministerial Directions

In accordance with section 22 of the *Road Management Act 2004*, Manningham must publish a copy or summary of any ministerial directions in our Annual Report. Council did not receive any ministerial directions during the 2022/23 year.

Infrastructure and development contributions

In accordance with section 46GM and 46QD of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, we must provide a report to the Minister for Planning on our infrastructure and development contributions, including levies and works in-kind during 2022/23.

Tables 15 - 17 outline infrastructure and development contributions for 2022/23.

Development Contributions Plan (DCP)

Table 13: Total DCP levies received in 2022/23

DCP name (year approved)	Levies received in 2022/23 financial year \$
Doncaster Hill Development Contributions Plan 2005	\$74,405
Total	\$74,405

Table 14: DCP land, works, services or facilities accepted in-kind in 2022/23

DCP name (year approved)	Project ID	Project description	Item purpose	Project value \$
Doncaster Hill Development Contributions Plan 2005	-	-	-	NIL
Total	-	-	-	NIL

Table 15: Land, works, services or facilities delivered in 2022/23 from DCP levies collected

Project description	Project ID	DCP name (year approved)	DCP fund expended \$	Works in kind accepted \$	Our contribution \$	Other contributions \$	Total project expenditure \$	Percentage of item delivered
Hepburn Road Extension	DL_T05	2005	\$25,890.28	Nil	\$30,392.94	Nil	\$ 56,283.22	100%
Tram / Merlin Intersection	DL_TO8	2005	\$109,209.30	Nil	\$100,808.58	Nil	\$210,017.88	60%
Walker Street footpath	DL_T007	2005	\$65,240.88	Nil	\$60,222.36	Nil	\$125,463.24	100%

Local Law

We are required to review and implement a new Local Law every 10 years.

We thoroughly reviewed our last community local law when we developed our new Community Local Law 2023, including:

- Investigating existing and emerging challenges
- Reviewing our records of complaints and feedback from residents, feedback from officers
- Conducting a benchmarking exercise of other Councils' local laws.

A proposed draft Community Local Law 2023 was provided to the community for feedback in October – December 2022. In response to the consultation undertaken, 353 people visited Manningham's Your Say website.

After considering the feedback received, changes were made to the document and presented to Council for consideration in June 2023. The Community Local Law 2023 was adopted and is being implemented.

The new Community Local Law responds to changes in Victorian Government legislation, removes unnecessary duplications and addresses current and emerging issues that have the potential to impact the health, safety and well-being of Manningham's residents, business owners and visitors.

Property Holdings

As part of our commitment to increasing transparency in our financial reporting, we include a list of our top 20 properties by value.

Table 16: Top 20 Council owned properties by value

Address	30 June 2023 consolidated value \$million
Civic Precinct including Civic Centre, MC Square and associated car parks, sport fields, reserve 687-699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster	\$138.16
Ruffey Lake Park and Rieschieks Reserve 8-50 The Boulevard, Doncaster and 125-149 George Street, Doncaster East	\$134.61
Donvale Reserve 36-82 Mitcham Road, Donvale	\$42.45
Manningham Council Depot 620-628 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East	\$37.27
Mullum Mullum Reserve 1-41 Springvale Road, Donvale	\$30.90
Aquarena 139-153 Williamsons Road, Templestowe Lower	\$27.37
Landscape Reserve 114-118 Landscape Drive, Doncaster East	\$26.96
Ted Ajani Reserve 284 Thompsons Road, Templestowe Lower	\$26.23
Templestowe Reserve 94-140 Porter Street, Templestowe	\$23.76
Zerbes Reserve 293 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East	\$23.61
Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre 1-9 Anderson Street, Templestowe	\$20.68
Jenkins Park 18-22 Shakespeare Drive, Templestowe	\$19.19
The Pines Community Centre 522 Blackburn Road, Doncaster East	\$18.63

Address	30 June 2023 consolidated value \$million
Serpell Community Reserve 7 Burleigh Drive, Templestowe	\$18.32
St Clems Reserve 80-82 St Clems Road, Doncaster East	\$18.00
Petty's Reserve 61-77 Reynolds Road, Templestowe	\$16.18
Doncaster Reserve 918 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East	\$16.07
Timber Ridge Reserve 6-20 Anthony Avenue, Doncaster	\$15.10
Boronia Grove Reserve 105 Leeds Street, Doncaster East	\$13.22
Anderson Park 117-121 Andersons Creek Road, Doncaster East	\$12.27

- All valuations as at 30 June of the respective year.
- The consolidated values contained within this list include both land and building asset values applicable to the specific sites.
- The land values included in the Council Asset Register relate to land holdings both owned and controlled by Council.
- Council is required to value land and building assets pursuant to the provisions of AASB116 and AASB13. The fair value applicable to land value assessments, specifically parkland, recreational reserves and tree reserves alike, are adjusted to reflect site physical limitations, use restrictions, and also allow for the time and cost incurred for preparing the properties for actual realisation and in saleable status.
- All valuations are prepared for annual financial reporting purposes only.

Procurement Policy

Our new Procurement Policy was adopted in August 2021. Below is a list of contracts that Council entered into with a value above Council's Procurement Policy contract value (threshold) for invitation to tender or expression of interest.

Table 17: Contracts Council entered into with a value above Procurement Policy contract value (threshold) for invitation to tender or expression of interest for FY 2022/23

Contract Title	Cost Actual (incl. GST)	Type	RFX Type
Panel for Supply and Delivery of Quarry Products and Crushed Concrete	Schedule of Rates	Public	RFT
Sportsground Maintenance Services Panel	Schedule of Rates	Public	RFT
Aged Care Service Partners	Schedule of Rates	(Private)	RFT
Community Transport Services	Schedule of Rates	Public	RFT
Facility Management and Leisure Services	Schedule of Rates	(Private)	RFT
Exterior Cladding Upgrade Works to MC ² (Manningham City Square Building)	3,188,278.31	Public	RFT
Melbourne Hill Road Drainage Upgrade Project Works	\$2,319,087.10	Public	RFT
Yarra Trail Maintenance between Everard Drive and Tills Drive, Warrandyte	\$1,562,961.00	Public	RFT
Design and Construct of a Modular Extension at Tunstall Square Kindergarten	\$1,470,616.92	Public	RFT
Donvale, Park Orchards, Koonung Park and Wonga Park Tennis Club court reconstruction	\$1,464,900.00	Public	RFT

Contract Title	Cost Actual (incl. GST)	Type	RFX Type
Donvale, Park Orchards, and Wonga Park Tennis Club court reconstruction & floodlighting	\$1,464,900.00	Public	RFT
Websters Road reconstruction	\$1,268,034.00	Public	RFT
Construction and upgrade of floodlighting at Rieschiecks Reserve, Donvale Reserve	\$1,249,931.10	Public	RFT
Manningham Carols by Candlelight 2023 - 2025	\$825,000.00	Public	RFT
Sportsground Curating Services	\$721,292.00	Public	RFT
Refurbishment of Finns Reserve Scout Hall, Lower Templestowe	\$691,262.00	Public	RFT
Arundel Road Easement Drainage Works	\$681,037.50	Public	RFT
Replacement of two Lifts at Manningham Civic Centre (Design and Construct)	\$641,300.00	Public	RFT
106-147 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte – ROW Stormwater Drainage Construction	\$615,661.60	Public	RFT
Supply of Installation Services - Major Road Lights - LED Retrofit	\$503,311.70	Public	RFT
Design and construction of Templestowe Park Tennis Club Courts 6 and 7	\$499,880.25	Public	RFT
Templestowe Tennis Club Courts 6 & 7 and Serpells Reserve Floodlighting Upgrade	\$377,442.56	Public	RFT

Contract Title	Cost Actual (incl. GST)	Type	RFX Type
Donvale Reserve Cricket Nets	\$342,293.00	Public	RFT
Ruffey Lake Park - Boulevard Hill Fitness, Ninja and Obstacle Course	\$302,456.00	Public	RFT
Intranet project 2022	\$298,191.30	Public	RFT
Cat Jump Park Playspace Renewal	\$288,264.00	Public	RFT
Sports-Field Protective Netting	\$214,500.00	Public	RFT
Manningham Flood Mapping Project			
\$157,960.00	Public	RFT	
Municipal Wide Development Contributions Plan	\$156,508.00	Public	RFT
Facility Management and Leisure Services	EOI	Public	EOI
Expression of Interest for Bus Shelter Management Services	EOI	Public	EOI
Licencing Opportunity for Public Electric Vehicle Charging in Manningham	EOI	Public	EOI
Community Transport Older Residents Request for Information	RFI	Public	RFI

Asset Management overview

We are responsible for delivering a wide range of services that rely on our assets being created, upgraded, renewed and maintained regularly. Our Asset Management Plans are a key part of our planning and accountability framework.

To ensure we realise total value from our assets, we need to plan for, manage, and use our assets effectively. Effective management of these assets requires collecting appropriate information, including service needs, value, cost to maintain and operate, condition, performance, risk, and utilisation.

The following outlines information on some of our major asset classes.

Table 18: Asset Quantity

Asset Class	Measuring Unit	Quantity
Drainage Pipes	Length (km)	1,034 (km)
Footpaths	Area (m ²)	1,349,322 (m ²)
Off-street Carparks	Area (m ²)	252,848 (m ²)
Kerb & Channel	Length (km)	969 (km)
Roads (Base and Surface)	Area (m ²)	10,751,379 (m ²)
Buildings (Pavilions, Childcare Centres, Toilets etc.)	Number	367

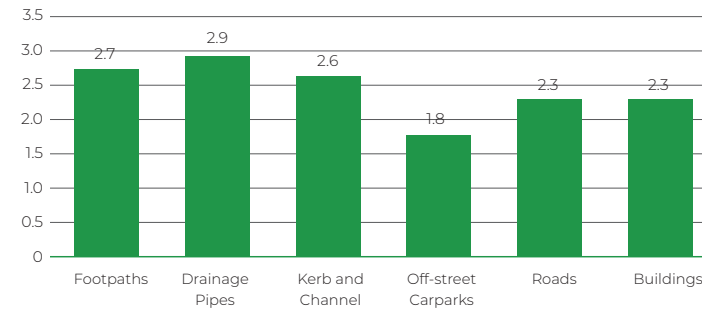
Table 19: Asset Performance

We use a five-point grading system to assess the condition of the Manningham Council's assets.

Condition Grading Scale	Name	Description
0	Brand new	New Asset
1	Very Good	Assets in excellent condition
2	Good	Only planned maintenance required
3	Fair	Minor maintenance is required, plus planned maintenance
4	Poor	Major maintenance required
5	Very Poor	Significant renewal/rehabilitation required

Based on the condition assessment of these asset classes, the average condition of all asset groups is 2.4 (between good and fair). The assets identified as having a poor or very poor condition rating are scheduled for renewal as part of our capital works programs. These assets are monitored and managed to ensure service continuity.

Figure 11: Average Condition of Assets





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Guide to our financial report

This guide will help you to understand and analyse Manningham's Financial Report. Some terms required by Australian Accounting Standards are unfamiliar to most readers, and some of the generally recognised terms used in private sector company reports are rephrased to be more appropriate for a Council's financial report. The Financial Report is one of Manningham's key reports as it shows how we performed financially this year and a snapshot of our financial position at 30 June 2023.

We have prepared this report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and relevant legislation. Manningham's Audit and Risk Committee and Councillors have examined it, and it has been audited by the Victorian Auditor-General.

What is in the Financial Report?

Council's Financial Report has two main sections:

- Five Financial Statements: the Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and Statement of Capital Works
- Notes to the Financial Statements that disclose our accounting policies and provide more detail on the information in the statements
- Statements by our Principal Accounting Officer and Councillors
- The Independent Auditor's Report / Auditor-General's Report.

Comprehensive income statement

This statement (formerly known as the 'Profit and Loss Statement') and shows:

- the sources of Council's income under various categories
- the expenditure incurred in operating Council during the year. These expenses relate only to the Operations and do not include the cost associated with capital expenditure or the building of assets.

While capital expenditure is not included in the expenses there is an item for depreciation. This is the value of the assets 'used up' during the year.

A surplus means that the income was greater than the operating expenditure. The surplus is mainly used to fund the Capital Works Program.

Balance sheet

This one page summary is a snapshot of the financial situation as at 30 June. It shows what Council owns as assets and what it owes as liabilities. The bottom line of this statement is net assets, or equity, and this is the net worth of Council which has been built up over many years. The assets and liabilities are further separated into current and non-current categories.

Current assets or Current liabilities are those which will fall due in the next 12 months, or cannot be deferred for greater than 12 months.

The components of the Balance Sheet are:

Current and non-current assets

- Cash and cash equivalents includes cash and investments, i.e. cash held in the bank and Council's short term investments (term deposits).
- Trade and other receivables are monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others.
- Other financial assets include term deposits with financial institutions over 90 days.
- Other assets are pre-payments of next year's expenses and monies owed to Council, other than from trading, that are not yet received.
- Investment in associates refers to Council's equity share in the Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Service.
- Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is the largest component of Council's worth and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, etc. which have been built up by Council over many years.
- Right-of-use assets are assets that represent a lessee's right to use an underlying asset for a lease term.
- Intangible assets are assets that have no physical form such as computer software and licences.

Current and non-current liabilities

- Trade and other payables are amounts that Council owes at 30 June.
- Trust funds and deposits represent monies held in Trust by Council.
- Unearned income represents payments received for works or services yet to be done.
- Provisions include accrued employee leave entitlements.
- Interest bearing loans and borrowings represents monies owed by Council to financial institutions as at 30 June.

Net assets

This term is used to describe the difference between the value of Total Assets and the value of Total Liabilities. It represents the net worth of Council as at 30 June.

Total equity

Total equity always equates to net assets. It is made up of the following components:

- accumulated surplus: this is the value of Council, other than the Asset Revaluation reserve and Other Reserves that has been accumulated over time
- asset revaluation reserve: this represents the movement in the value of assets over the years from their original cost
- other reserves: this is the value of unspent funds from developer contributions. These funds are restricted in use and are held for future expenditure.

Statement of changes in equity

During the course of the year the value of total equity, as set out in the balance sheet, changes. This statement shows the values of such changes and how these changes arose. The main reasons for a change in equity arise from:

- the surplus for the year which is the amount that income exceeded operating costs as described in the Comprehensive Income Statement
- net asset revaluation movements reflecting the change in the value of assets
- transfer of amounts to or from Council's reserves shows the amounts utilised from reserves during the year, or placed into reserves for future use.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement summarises Council's cash payments and cash receipts for the year. The values may differ from those shown in the Comprehensive Income Statement because the Comprehensive Income Statement is prepared on an accrual accounting basis and the Cash Flow Statement is based on cash receipts and cash payments. Council's cash arises from, and is used in three main areas:

Cash flows from operating activities

- All cash received into Council's bank account from ratepayers and others. Receipts also include the interest earnings from Council's cash investments.
- Payments. All cash paid by Council to employees, suppliers and others.

Cash flows from investing activities

- This section shows the cash invested in the creation or purchase of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets and the cash received from the sale of these assets.

Cash flows from financing activities

- This is where the receipt and repayment of borrowed funds are recorded.

The last line of the Cash Flow Statement is the Cash and Cash Equivalents held at the end of the financial year.

Statement of Capital Works

This statement summarises expenditures associated with capital purchases in the asset classes prescribed by the Regulations as part of the Capital Works Program. There are four main classes of assets:

- property: includes land and buildings purchased or developed during the year
- plant, equipment and other assets — includes non-infrastructure assets like computers, artworks, furniture and fixtures
- infrastructure: this is where the majority of the Capital Works Program is allocated. This asset class includes roads, drainage, parks, open space and recreational community facilities

- intangible assets: represents costs associated with computer software and licences.

The last section of the statement provides a breakdown of the total capital expenditure into:

- new: represents expenditure on new assets to meet current or additional service level requirements
- renewal: restores or replaces an existing asset that returns the service of the asset to its original capacity
- expansion: extends the capacity of an existing asset to provide an additional level of service and benefits to new users while maintaining the same standard for existing users
- upgrade: enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service and increases the life of the asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes are an important and informative section of the report and include information on Manningham's accounting policies and how we arrive at our figures. Each note is numbered and these numbers are displayed beside the relevant items in the statements for easy reference. If there is other information we want to share that can't be incorporated into the statements, we provide this in the Notes, for example:

- the breakdown of our expenses, revenues, reserves and assets
- contingent liabilities
- transactions with people related to Manningham.

For a clear picture of our financial performance, please read the Financial Statements and Notes to the Financial Statements together.

Statements by Principal Accounting Officer and Councillors

Our Principal Accounting Officer is responsible for the financial management of the organisation. They are responsible for certifying that these Financial Statements, in their professional opinion, meet all statutory and professional reporting requirements. Two councillors, on behalf of the elected Council, certify that, in their opinion, the Financial Statements are fair and not misleading.

Independent Auditor's Report and Auditor-General's Report

The Independent Auditor's Report provides readers of our Annual Report with an external, independent opinion on our Financial Report and Statements. It confirms that we have prepared our Financial Report in accordance with relevant legislation and professional standards and that it represents a fair picture of Manningham's financial affairs. The Victorian Auditor-General is Council's auditor.

External audit

Each year we are externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO). For the 2022/23 financial year, our financial and performance statements were audited by a VAGO representative as required by the Audit Act 1994. These statements are provided in this Annual Report from page 213.

Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Jon Gorsl (BCom, CPA)
Principal Accounting Officer
12 September 2023
Doncaster

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Manningham City Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 and the financial position of Council as at that date.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Deirdre Diamante
Mayor
12 September 2023
Doncaster



Tom Lightbody
Deputy Mayor
12 September 2023
Doncaster



Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer
12 September 2023
Doncaster

Victorian Auditor-General's Office Report



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Manningham City Council

Opinion I have audited the financial report of Manningham City Council (the council) which comprises the:

- balance sheet as at 30 June 2023
- comprehensive income statement for the year then ended
- statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- statement of capital works for the year then ended
- notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies
- certification of the financial statements.

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2023 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE
18 September 2023



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Income / Revenue			
Rates and charges	3.1	117,481	114,315
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	2,926	3,094
User fees and charges	3.3	8,749	7,016
Grants - operating	3.4 (a)	13,850	13,292
Grants - capital	3.4 (b)	7,079	6,800
Contributions - monetary	3.5	4,614	6,670
Contributions - non-monetary	3.5	2,572	16,458
Other income	3.7	3,694	1,975
Share of surplus from investment in associate	6.2	291	39
Total income / revenue		161,256	169,659
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	61,530	53,813
Materials, services and contracts	4.2	32,020	28,029
Depreciation	4.3	26,380	23,738
Amortisation - Intangible assets	4.4	2,397	2,311
Amortisation - Right of use assets	4.5	347	345
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	4.6	267	160
Finance costs - Leases	4.7	52	55
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	1,828	2,480
Other expenses	4.8	28,837	25,608
Total expenses		153,658	137,539
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		7,598	32,120
Other comprehensive income			
Item that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1 (a)	182,062	225,877
Total other comprehensive income		182,062	225,877
Total comprehensive result		189,660	257,997

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

Balance Sheet

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1 (a)	21,501	24,623
Trade and other receivables	5.1 (c)	17,862	15,925
Other financial assets	5.1 (b)	68,500	68,679
Other assets	5.2 (a)	4,097	2,371
Total current assets		111,960	111,598
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1 (c)	398	374
Investments in associates	6.2	3,156	2,865
Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets	6.1	2,638,064	2,444,670
Right-of-use assets	5.7	2,158	2,358
Intangible assets	5.2 (b)	4,734	6,587
Total non-current assets		2,648,510	2,457,254
Total assets		2,760,470	2,568,852
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3 (a)	20,550	16,814
Trust funds and deposits	5.3 (b)	13,389	13,890
Unearned income/revenue	5.3 (c)	5,424	7,858
Provisions	5.4	14,894	13,976
Lease liabilities	5.7	339	297
Total current liabilities		54,596	52,835
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	1,542	1,141
Lease liabilities	5.7	1,980	2,164
Total non-current liabilities		3,502	3,305
Total liabilities		58,098	56,140
Net Assets		2,702,372	2,512,712
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		830,338	822,326
Reserves	9.1	1,872,034	1,690,386
Total Equity		2,702,372	2,512,712

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

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2023 Accumulated surplus \$'000	2023 Asset revaluation reserves \$'000	2023 Other reserves \$'000	2023 Total \$'000
2023					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		822,326	1,676,124	14,262	2,512,712
Surplus for the year		7,598	-	-	7,598
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1 (a)	-	182,062	-	182,062
Transfer to accumulated surplus on realisation of assets	9.1 (a)	2,027	(2,027)	-	-
Transfers from other reserves	9.1 (b)	2,391	-	(2,391)	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1 (b)	(4,004)	-	4,004	-
Balance at end of the financial year		830,338	1,858,159	15,875	2,702,372
2022					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		789,554	1,451,963	13,198	2,254,715
Surplus for the year		32,120	-	-	32,120
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1 (a)	-	225,877	-	225,877
Transfer to accumulated surplus on realisation of assets	9.1 (a)	1,716	(1,716)	-	-
Transfers from other reserves	9.1 (b)	5,173	-	(5,173)	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1 (b)	(6,237)	-	6,237	-
Balance at end of the financial year		822,326	1,676,124	14,262	2,512,712

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

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2023 Inflows/(Outflows) \$'000	2022 Inflows/(Outflows) \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and waste charges		115,613	113,380
Statutory fees, fines and user charges		10,951	10,601
Grants - operating		8,109	5,819
Grants - capital		10,362	12,742
Contributions - monetary		4,614	6,670
Interest received		2,241	474
Net increase in trust funds and deposits		(501)	345
Other receipts		684	1,522
Net GST refund/(payment)		(67)	334
Materials, services and contracts		(65,500)	(57,041)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(480)	(414)
Employee costs		(55,399)	(54,576)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9.2	30,827	39,856
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other fixed assets		(39,317)	(34,820)
Proceeds from disposal of property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets	3.6	5,550	692
Receipts/(payments) for other financial assets		179	(25,051)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(33,588)	(59,189)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid - lease liability		(52)	(55)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(209)	(294)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		(381)	(349)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(3,122)	(19,682)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		24,623	44,305
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	5.1 (a)	21,501	24,623
Financing arrangements	5.5		

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

Statement of Capital Works

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Property		
Land	2,742	1,272
Buildings	6,754	9,022
Total property	9,506	10,294
Plant, equipment and other assets		
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,256	1,434
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	55	208
Computers and telecommunications	211	1,163
Artworks	258	46
Total plant, equipment and other assets	1,780	2,851
Infrastructure		
Roads	10,276	9,555
Bridges	856	79
Footpaths and cycleways	4,958	2,843
Off street car parks	-	1,781
Drainage	4,266	3,110
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	8,957	3,905
Parks, open space and streetscapes	4,161	4,922
Waste management	280	-
Total Infrastructure	33,464	26,195
Intangible assets		
Software	299	1,153
Total Intangible assets	299	1,153
Total capital works expenditure	45,049	40,493
Represented by:		
New asset expenditure	13,711	11,016
Asset renewal expenditure	23,143	23,192
Asset expansion expenditure	1,181	1,472
Asset upgrade expenditure	7,014	4,813
Total capital works expenditure	45,049	40,493

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

Note 1: Overview

Note 1 Overview

Introduction

The City of Manningham was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 15 December 1994 and is a body corporate. The Council's main office is located at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, Victoria.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Significant accounting policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

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

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

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

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

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1);
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1);
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4);
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (refer to Note 3);
- the determination, in accordance with AASB 16 Leases, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.7);
- other areas requiring judgements.

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

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Note 2: Analysis of our results

Note 2 Analysis of our results

2.1 Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of lower of 10% or \$500,000 to budget on a line item basis, or where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

2.1.1 Income/Revenue and expenditure

	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Variance 2023	Variance 2023	Ref
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	
Income / Revenue					
Rates and charges	117,382	117,481	99	0	
Statutory fees and fines	3,727	2,926	(801)	(21)	1
User fees and charges	10,072	8,749	(1,323)	(13)	2
Grants - operating	11,376	13,860	2,484	22	3
Grants - capital	6,624	7,079	455	7	
Contributions - monetary	6,782	4,614	(2,168)	(32)	4
Contributions - non-monetary	1,059	2,572	1,513	143	5
Other income	824	3,684	2,860	347	6
Share of surplus from investment in associate	-	291	291	100	7
Total Income / revenue	157,846	161,256	3,410		
Expenses					
Employee costs	57,868	61,530	(3,662)	(6)	8
Materials, services and contracts	30,697	32,020	(1,323)	(4)	9
Depreciation	25,940	26,380	(440)	(2)	
Amortisation - Intangible assets	3,029	2,397	632	21	10
Amortisation - Right of use assets	292	347	(55)	(19)	11
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	-	267	(267)	(100)	12
Finance costs - Leases	45	52	(7)	(16)	13
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(91)	1,828	(1,919)	2,108	14
Other expenses	20,082	28,837	(8,755)	(44)	15
Total expenses	137,862	153,658	(15,796)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	19,984	7,598	(12,386)	(62)	

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.1 Performance against budget (cont.)

2.1.1 Income/Revenue and expenditure (cont.)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Ref.	Item	Explanation
1	Statutory fees and fines	Outcome: Less than budget \$801,000 or 21% Statutory fees were lower than budget by \$0.80 million mainly due to decreased enforcement activity as a result of staff resourcing issues impacting parking infringements \$0.45 million and lower than expected permits fees (planning & asset protection) and local laws infringements.
2	User fees and charges	Outcome: Less than budget \$1,323,000 or 13% User fees and charges were \$1.32 million lower than budget due to lower than anticipated demand for function centre & community venue facilities (\$0.77 million), art studios and child care services income utilisation lower than anticipated (\$0.16 million), city compliance permit & registration fees (\$0.18 million), engineering development fees (\$0.11 million) and utilities reimbursements (\$0.10 million).
3	Grants - operating	Outcome: Greater than budget \$2,484,000 or 22% A change in the timing of Financial Assistance Grants with the Federal Government bringing forward 100% of the 2023/24 grant allocation into the 2022/23 financial year (budgeted to receive 50% in 2022/23) resulted in a favourable variance of \$1.78 million. In addition, Council recognised unbudgeted grant funding for Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), placemaking outdoor activation, sustainability and biodiversity programs.
4	Contributions - monetary	Outcome: Less than budget \$2,169,000 or 32% Developers' cash contributions in lieu of public open space and infrastructure requirements were \$2.37 million lower than budget and relate to the level of development activity in Manningham. These funds are placed into a cash backed reserve to be used to fund recreation and open space improvements for the community. This is partly offset by higher than budgeted contributions from clubs to fund capital work projects.
5	Contributions - non-monetary	Outcome: Greater than budget \$1,513,000 or 143% The value of land, land under roads and drainage pipes and other infrastructure assets transferred across the municipality to Manningham by developers was \$1.51 million higher than originally budgeted.
6	Other income	Outcome: Greater than budget \$2,860,000 or 347% Higher than budgeted other income is mainly due to term deposit interest rates improving significantly in the current economic environment leading to a favourable variance of \$2.13 million. In addition, other income includes one-off items (\$0.67 million) recognised in 2022/23.
7	Share of surplus from investment in associate	Outcome: Greater than budget \$291,000 or 100% Represents Council's share of the Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation (WMRL) surplus for 2022/23. Council has a Council has a 35.1% equity interest.
8	Employee costs	Outcome: Greater than budget \$3,662,000 or 6% Employee costs for 2022/23 were \$3.66 million or 6.33 per cent higher than budget. This mainly relates to a provision raised in 2022/23 for one off restructure costs as a result of Council's decision to transition out of the Commonwealth funded Home Support Service provision, partly offset by savings due to a number of vacancies across the organisation.
9	Materials, services and contracts	Outcome: Greater than budget \$1,323,000 or 4% Materials, services and contracts were \$1.32 million or 4.31 per cent greater than budget. This is mainly attributable to increased activity in Parks and Natural Environment to conduct essential maintenance work and catch up on lower than projected work during COVID outbreak. In addition, costs associated with the implementation of the new Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) waste service (originally budgeted in the capital works program but is operational expenditure in nature) and waste collection/transportation costs have escalated due to an increase in the fuel levy.

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.1 Performance against budget (cont.)

2.1.1 Income/Revenue and expenditure (cont.)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Ref.	Item	Explanation
10	Amortisation - intangible assets	Outcome: Less than budget \$632,000 or 21% Amortisation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for Council's intangible assets (software). Amortisation was lower than budget predominately due to timing of projects.
11	Amortisation - Right of use assets	Outcome: Greater than budget \$55,000 or 19% Amortisation on right of use assets was greater than budget mainly due to the take up of a new lease during the year.
12	Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	Outcome: Greater than budget \$267,000 or 100% Mainly associated with the write off of uncollectable sports ground rental, traffic, animal management and local laws related debts.
13	Finance costs - Leases	Outcome: Greater than budget \$7,000 or 16% The finance costs associated with lease liabilities were slightly higher than budgeted.
14	Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Outcome: Greater than budget \$1,919,000 or 2109% Net loss on disposal of assets was mainly attributable to write off of infrastructure assets (drainage pipes, pits, roads, footpaths and cycleways) totalling \$2.75 million and building (\$0.16 million) as part of the capital works program to replace with new and other infrastructure assets. This is partly offset by a net gain of \$0.92 million on disposal/replacement of existing assets as part of the ongoing Plant Replacement Program and sale of parcels of land within the North East Link project area to the State Government.
15	Other expenses	Outcome: Greater than budget \$8,755,000 or 44% Other expenses include a wide range of costs incurred in delivering Council services and include utilities, software licences, legal expenses, consultancy, insurance, postage, telephone and general office expenses. The unfavourable variance is primarily due to: * \$7.35 million of operational expenditure that was originally budgeted in the Capital Works Program but has been classified as non-capital in nature and transferred to Other expenses as part of the year end process; * software licences and software subscriptions exceeded full year budget by \$1.09 million; and * legal expenses were unfavourable by \$0.43 million for various one-off projects and legal matters.

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.1 Performance against budget (cont.)

2.1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Variance 2023 \$'000	Variance 2023 %	Ref
Property					
Land	6,800	2,742	4,058	60	16
Buildings	8,981	6,764	2,217	25	17
Total property	15,781	9,506	6,275		
Plant, equipment and other assets					
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,888	1,256	632	33	18
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	-	55	(55)	(100)	19
Computers and telecommunications	1,016	211	805	79	20
Artworks	265	258	7	3	
Total plant, equipment and other assets	3,169	1,780	1,389		
Infrastructure					
Roads	15,194	10,276	4,918	32	21
Bridges	440	856	(416)	(95)	22
Footpaths and cycleways	4,000	4,668	(668)	(17)	23
Drainage	5,622	4,266	1,356	24	24
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	5,909	8,957	(3,048)	(52)	25
Parks, open space and streetscapes	9,528	4,161	5,367	56	26
Waste management	2,760	280	2,480	(100)	27
Drainage	43,453	33,464	9,989		
Intangible assets					
Software	2,762	299	2,463	89	28
Total intangible assets	2,762	299	2,463		
Total capital works expenditure	65,165	45,049	20,116	31	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	24,550	13,711	10,839	44	
Asset renewal expenditure	23,316	23,143	173	1	
Asset expansion expenditure	2,849	1,181	1,668	59	
Asset upgrade expenditure	14,450	7,014	7,436	51	
Total capital works expenditure	65,165	45,049	20,116		

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.1 Performance against budget (cont.)

2.1.2 Capital works (cont.)

(i)	Explanation of material variations	Ref.	Item	Explanation
16	Land			Outcome: Less than budget \$4,058,000 or 60% Property acquisitions were lower than budgeted and are dependant on appropriate properties being available during the year for open space or strategic investment opportunities.
17	Buildings			Outcome: Less than budget \$2,217,000 or 25% Building projects were significantly impacted by contractor and material availability issues, external authority approvals and consultation undertaken with various stakeholders. The net under spend of \$2.2 million primarily relates to a number of large building projects which will now be finalised in the following year including MC2 Exterior (\$1 million), Tunstall Square Kindergarten expansion (\$0.7 million) and Schramm's Cottage Restoration Works (\$0.3 million).
18	Plant, machinery and equipment			Outcome: Less than budget \$632,000 or 33% Ongoing supply availability issues resulted in delays in vehicle availability. Funds totalling \$0.5 million are to be carried forward into the following year.
19	Fixtures, fittings and furniture			Outcome: Greater than budget \$55,000 or 100% Relates to additional workplace furniture required in work and meeting spaces to meet requirements.
20	Computers and telecommunications			Outcome: Less than budget \$805,000 or 79% New HRIS System project was delayed. Also, a number of Technology Program projects listed in the Capital Works Program were subsequently reclassified as operational in nature.
21	Roads			Outcome: Less than budget \$4,918,000 or 32% Net under expenditure of \$4.9 million due to projects deferred to future years including the Tram/Merlin Traffic Signal project (\$1 million), Jumping Creek Road (\$1.2 million) and Fitzsimons Lane (\$2 million). Tuckers Road and Footpath project was completed with significant cost savings (\$0.7 million).
22	Bridges			Outcome: Greater than budget \$416,000 or 95% Due to greater than anticipated minor bridge renewal works and the Yarra River Shared Path Bridge project being ahead of schedule.
23	Footpaths and cycleways			Outcome: Greater than budget \$668,000 or 17% The reclassification of components of a number of roads projects to Footpath and cycleways resulted in the net over expenditure.
24	Drainage			Outcome: Less than budget \$1,356,000 or 24% Expenditure on drainage was below budget as the Melbourne Hill Road Drainage Upgrade was delayed into future years as a result of the complexity of the works.
25	Recreational, leisure and community facilities			Outcome: Greater than budget \$3,048,000 or 52% Due to escalation of building costs on pavilion projects (including Deep Creek Reserve and Schramm's Reserve #2 Modular totalling \$1 million). Also \$2 million of significant recreation projects were brought forward from future years to 2022/23 in response to community requirements.
26	Parks, open space and streetscapes			Outcome: Less than budget \$5,367,000 or 56% Delays to projects at Hepburn Reserve, Macedon Square and Ruffey Creek Linear Park (Foodle Street) Pedestrian Operated signals resulted in significant funding being carried forward into 2023/24.

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.1 Performance against budget (cont.)

2.1.2 Capital works (cont.)

(i) Explanation of material variations

Ref.	Item	Explanation
27	Waste management	Outcome: Less than budget \$2,480,000 or 100% Due to the reclassification of the Food Organics and Garden Organics project which was reflected as operating expenditure.
28	Software	Outcome: Less than budget \$2,463,000 or 89% A number of Technology Program projects listed in the Capital Works Program were subsequently reclassified as operational in nature.

Note 2 Analysis of our results (cont.)

2.2 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs:

(a) CEO Office

CEO Office is responsible for providing a range of strategic and operational services including elected representatives, legal, governance and risk, financial and procurement services.

City Services

City Services is responsible for delivering services to the community centred around accommodation, drainage amenity, cleanliness, waste management, traffic management and emergency response. It is also responsible for protecting, maintaining and enhancing Manningham's assets and natural environment, including its buildings, roads, car parks, drains, footpaths, parks, bushlands, recreation fields, streetscapes and other infrastructure.

City Planning

The City Planning area includes services relating to strategic land use planning, social planning, transport planning, strategic drainage planning, urban design and open space planning, development approvals and compliance, environmental health, animal management, local laws and school crossings.

Connected Communities

The Connected Communities area includes services relating to social planning, transport planning, recreation, economic development, community development, community and cultural events, community venues, aged and disability support, maternal and child health, kindergartens and libraries.

Experience and Capability

Experience and Capability provides a range of support services across council to enable the delivery of council services. The provision of these services includes customer service, business enablement, information technology, people and communications.

Corporate Activities

Corporate activities relates to services to ratepayers, council and executives which are not allocated to individual directorates. This includes general rates revenue, interest on investments, Financial Assistance Grants, asset sales, depreciation and capital grants. The value of Council land and buildings is also retained in the Corporate activities service area.

(b) Summary of income / revenue, expenses, and assets by program

	Income / Revenue	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2023					
CEO Office	2,606	10,873	(8,267)	-	-
City Services	19,065	73,606	(54,541)	567	824,871
City Planning	9,428	15,847	(6,419)	715	28,140
Connected Communities	11,554	30,709	(19,155)	8,673	43,341
Experience and Capability	2	20,273	(20,271)	-	5,604
Corporate Activities	118,601	2,350	116,251	10,584	1,858,514
	161,256	153,658	7,598	20,939	2,760,470

	Income / Revenue	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2022					
CEO Office	1,650	10,062	(8,232)	-	-
City Services	20,234	67,833	(47,599)	592	729,454
City Planning and Community	21,455	38,593	(17,138)	9,064	39,087
Experience and Capability	45	22,822	(22,576)	45	8,045
Corporate Activities	126,074	(1,591)	127,655	10,391	1,792,296
	169,559	137,539	32,120	20,092	2,568,852

An organisational redesign was conducted during the 2022/23 financial year.

Note 3: Funding for the delivery of our services

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services		
3.1 Rates and charges		
The Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV of a property is its land value and the value of improvements such as buildings and other improvements.		
The CIV used to calculate general rates for 2022/23 was \$67,152 million (2021/22, \$56,517 million). The 2022/23 rate in the CIV dollar was 0.00149199 (2021/22, 0.00171312).		
General rates	99,409	96,655
Supplementary rates	372	686
Recreational land	16	30
Interest on rates and charges	1,057	906
	<u>100,854</u>	<u>98,317</u>
Waste charges	16,627	15,998
	<u>16,627</u>	<u>15,998</u>
Total rates and charges	117,481	114,315
The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2023, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2023.		
Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.		
3.2 Statutory fees and fines		
Infringements and costs	840	708
Town planning fees	1,183	1,349
Land and property information certificates	465	529
Asset protection and other permits	436	508
	<u>2,924</u>	<u>3,094</u>
Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.		

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (cont.)		
3.3 User fees and charges		
Hall hire and function centre charges	965	417
Social and community services charges	562	366
Town planning fees (non-statutory)	720	718
Aged services fees	647	660
Registration fees	1,238	1,143
Advertising fees	75	37
Culture and recreation fees	171	64
Chargeable works fees	1,143	1,045
Rent and lease charges	2,751	1,967
Other fees and charges	477	599
	<u>8,749</u>	<u>7,016</u>
Total user fees and charges	8,749	7,016
User fees and charges by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees and charges recognised over time	-	-
User fees and charges recognised at a point in time	8,749	7,016
	<u>8,749</u>	<u>7,016</u>
Total user fees and charges	8,749	7,016
User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.		
3.4 Grants (Funding from other levels of government)		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	15,858	14,323
State funded grants	5,081	5,769
	<u>20,939</u>	<u>20,092</u>
Total grants received	20,939	20,092
(a) Operating grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Financial Assistance Grants	3,898	3,591
Aged services	6,496	6,400
Recurrent - State Government		
Economic and environment	70	67
Immunisation	77	78
Maternal and child health	918	865
School crossing supervisors	355	307
Social and community	924	703
Community safety	21	28
Other	340	414
	<u>13,099</u>	<u>12,483</u>
Total recurrent operating grants	13,099	12,483
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Aged services	282	3
Other	11	-
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Economic and environment	164	-
Social and community	28	32
Maternal and child health	14	127
Community Resilience (COVID-19)	228	367
Immunisation	15	-
Other	19	260
	<u>761</u>	<u>809</u>
Total non-recurrent operating grants	761	809
Total operating grants	13,860	13,292

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (cont.)		
3.4 Grants (Funding from other levels of government) (cont.)		
(b) Capital grants		
<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Financial Assistance Grants - local roads	1,305	1,183
Roads to Recovery	430	536
Total recurrent capital grants	1,735	1,719
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Recreation	112	363
Footpaths and cycleways	237	593
Parks & open space	79	75
Roads	3,007	1,529
Other	-	50
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Recreation	1,665	1,838
Streetscaping	-	40
Buildings	75	28
Parks & open space	168	755
Total non-recurrent capital grants	5,344	5,081
Total capital grants	7,079	6,800
(c) Recognition of grant income		
Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:		
- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement		
- determines the transaction price		
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement		
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the time or over time when services are rendered.		
Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities.		
Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of the accounting framework under which grants are recognised.		
Income recognised under AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities		
General purpose	5,211	4,774
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	5,775	5,617
Other specific purpose grants	732	991
Revenue recognised under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers		
Specific purpose grants	9,220	8,710
	20,938	20,092
(d) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner		
Operating		
Balance at start of year	3,053	2,163
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	3,811	2,946
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(2,761)	(2,056)
Balance at year end	4,103	3,053
Capital		
Balance at start of year	6,658	7,878
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	1,125	1,827
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(3,455)	(2,847)
Balance at year end	4,328	6,858
Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.		

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (cont.)		
3.5 Contributions		
Monetary	4,614	6,670
Non-monetary	2,572	16,458
Total contributions	7,186	23,128
Contributions of monetary assets comprised of:		
Resort and recreation Contributions (Public Open Space contributions)	3,930	6,237
Doncaster Hill activity centre Developers Contributions	74	-
Operating contributions	93	98
Capital contributions	517	335
Total monetary contributions	4,614	6,670
Contributions of non monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes:		
Land	6	4,681
Land under roads	423	4,011
Plant, machinery and equipment	-	22
Infrastructure	2,082	7,718
Volunteer Services	61	26
Total non-monetary contributions	2,572	16,458
Monetary and non monetary contributions are recognised as revenue at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.		
3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds from disposal	5,550	692
Written down value of assets disposed	(4,626)	(1,737)
Written down value of assets scrapped	(2,752)	(1,435)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(1,828)	(2,480)
The profit or loss on disposal of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.		
3.7 Other income		
Interest on investments	2,776	484
Royalties	80	1,246
Other	628	245
Total other income	3,684	1,975
Interest is recognised as it is earned.		
Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.		

Note 4: The cost of delivering services

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 4 The cost of delivering services		
4.1 Employee costs		
(a) Wages and salaries	50,307	44,129
Casual staff	2,523	2,769
Salary oncost *	6,329	6,598
Other employee costs	371	317
Total employee costs	61,530	53,813
Engineering design work and capital project supervision completed by employees to the value of \$3.423 million (\$2.955 million 2021/22) is reported in the Statement of Capital Works, and is not included in employee costs.		
* Salary oncost includes annual leave and long service leave provision, Workcover and superannuation costs.		
(b) Superannuation		
Manningham City Council made contributions to the following funds:		
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions - Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	226	221
	<u>226</u>	<u>221</u>
Employer contributions payable as at 30 June	-	-
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions - Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	2,551	2,451
Employer contributions - other funds	2,547	2,264
	<u>5,098</u>	<u>4,725</u>
Employer contributions payable as at 30 June	242	220
Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.		
4.2 Materials, services and contracts		
Materials, services and general maintenance	1,574	6,252
Plant and equipment maintenance	652	554
Contracts and services - community building repairs and maintenance	3,539	1,575
Contracts and services - parks, gardens, sporting reserves and street trees	7,330	6,639
Contracts and services - drains, roads and footpaths	4,003	2,707
Contracts and services - waste collection and disposal services	14,922	11,302
Total materials, services and contracts	32,020	29,029
Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.		
4.3 Depreciation		
Property	4,575	4,257
Plant, machinery and other assets	1,815	1,864
Infrastructure	19,990	17,817
Total depreciation	26,380	23,738
Refer to note 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges and accounting policy.		

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 4 The cost of delivering services (cont.)		
4.4 Amortisation - Intangible assets		
Software	2,397	2,311
Total amortisation - intangible assets	2,397	2,311
Refer to note 5.2(b) and 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of amortisation charges and accounting policy.		
4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets		
Property	335	321
Equipment	12	24
Total amortisation - right of use assets	347	345
Refer to note 5.7 for a more detailed breakdown of amortisation charges and accounting policy.		
4.6 Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses		
Parking fine debtors	89	20
Other debtors	178	140
Total bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	267	160
Movement in allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors		
Balance at the beginning of the year	1,718	1,592
New provisions recognised during the year	267	160
Amounts provided for but recovered/written off during the year	(218)	(34)
Balance at end of year	1,767	1,718
An allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.		
4.7 Finance costs - Leases		
Interest - Lease liabilities	52	55
Total finance costs	52	55

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 4 The cost of delivering services (cont.)		
4.8 Other expenses		
Community grants and contributions		
Community grants	1,346	1,275
Library contributions	4,108	3,969
Total community grants and contributions	5,455	5,255
Utilities		
Utilities - electricity, water, other	1,285	1,350
Street lighting	852	977
Total utilities	2,137	2,227
Other miscellaneous expenses		
Auditor's remuneration - VAGO - annual financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	69	67
Auditor's remuneration - other parties	19	22
Auditor's remuneration - Internal audit	127	114
Councillors' allowances	437	411
Fire service levy	138	137
Insurance	1,336	1,174
Leases	480	414
Consultants - engineering	277	263
Consultants - human resources	1	51
Consultants - economic and environmental	484	553
Consultants - information technology	609	14
Consultants - other	373	141
Bank charges	224	248
Catering (including function centre)	334	109
Legal	1,016	904
Software licences	4,932	3,570
Telephone	463	703
Postage	543	306
Printing	243	209
Training	423	259
Design fees, maintenance and other IT costs - non capital	7,347	6,548
Volunteer Services	61	26
Other	1,309	1,873
Total other miscellaneous expenses	21,245	18,116
Total other expenses	28,837	25,608

Note 5: Our financial position

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 5 Our financial position		
5.1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	1	1
Cash at bank	9,500	12,622
Term deposits (with term up to 3 months) and at-call with banks	12,000	12,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	21,501	24,623
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits - current	68,000	68,179
Term deposit - refundable Manningham Centre Association bond	500	500
Total current other financial assets	68,500	68,679
Total other financial assets	68,500	68,679
Total financial assets	90,001	93,302

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

Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

Other financial assets (term deposits) are measured at original cost.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 5 Our financial position (cont.)		
5.1 Financial assets (cont.)		
(c) Trade and other receivables		
Current		
Statutory receivables		
Rates debtors	13,936	11,972
Infringement debtors	743	845
Special rate schemes	93	100
Net GST receivable	1,341	1,274
Non statutory receivables		
Other debtors	1,958	1,932
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors	(209)	(198)
Total current trade and other receivables	17,862	15,925
Non-current		
Statutory receivables		
Infringement court	1,558	1,520
Provision for doubtful debts - infringement court	(1,558)	(1,520)
Non statutory receivables		
Other receivables	398	374
Total non-current trade and other receivables	398	374
Total trade and other receivables	18,260	16,299
Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred.		
(d) Ageing of receivables		
At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. The ageing of the Council's trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables and refundable deposits) was:		
Current (not yet due)	1,340	1,237
Past due between 31 and 60 days	194	121
Past due between 61 and 90 days	118	268
Past due by more than 91 days	336	306
Total trade and other receivables	1,958	1,932

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 5 Our financial position (cont.)		
5.2 Non-Financial assets		
(a) Other assets		
Accrued income - interest	555	20
Accrued income - other	1,429	673
Prepayments	1,876	1,462
Inventories	237	216
Total other assets	4,097	2,371
(b) Intangible assets		
Software	4,734	6,987
Total intangible assets	4,734	6,987
Gross carrying amount		
Balance at 1 July	18,226	20,153
Additions from internal developments	144	1,153
Fair value of assets disposed	-	(3,817)
Transfer from work in progress	-	737
Balance at 30 June	18,370	18,226
Accumulated amortisation		
Balance at 1 July	(11,239)	(12,710)
Amortisation expense	(2,387)	(2,311)
Amortisation of disposals	-	3,782
Balance at 30 June	(13,636)	(11,239)
Net book value at 30 June	4,734	6,987
Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised as an expense on a systematic basis over the asset's useful life. Amortisation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at a rate that allocates the asset value, less any estimated residual value over its estimated useful life. Estimates of the remaining useful lives and amortisation method are reviewed at least annually, and adjustments made where appropriate.		
5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue		
(a) Trade and other payables		
Current		
Non-statutory payables		
Trade payables	7,066	2,957
Employee benefits and related costs	7,399	2,587
Accrued expenses	6,095	11,270
Total current trade and other payables	20,550	16,814
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Current		
Contract retention	934	1,146
Landscape bonds	4,516	6,031
Miscellaneous works deposits	341	386
Asset protection bonds	6,430	5,234
Subdivider deposits	166	171
Refundable Manningham Centre Association bond	500	500
Fire services levy	206	143
Other refundable deposits	296	279
Total current trust funds and deposits	13,389	13,890

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 5 Our financial position (cont.)		
5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue (cont.)		
(e) Unearned income/revenue		
Current		
Grants received in advance - operating	937	746
Grants received in advance - capital	3,283	5,942
Income received in advance - rent	293	348
Income received in advance - rates	911	822
Total current unearned income/revenue	5,424	7,858

Unearned income/revenue represents contract liabilities and reflect consideration received in advance from customers in respect of rent, rates and grant funding. Unearned income/revenue are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer. Refer to Note 3.

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

Purpose and nature of items

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

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

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

	Annual leave	Long service leave	Total
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	5,545	9,572	15,117
Amounts used	(4,375)	(1,796)	(6,171)
Additional provisions	4,381	3,109	7,490
Balance at the end of the financial year	5,551	10,885	16,436
Provisions - current	5,551	9,343	14,894
Provisions - non-current	-	1,542	1,542
2022			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	5,089	9,503	15,202
Amounts used	(4,110)	(2,092)	(6,202)
Additional provisions	3,965	2,161	6,117
Balance at the end of the financial year	5,545	9,572	15,117
Provisions - current	5,545	8,431	13,976
Provisions - non-current	-	1,141	1,141

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
5.4 Provisions (cont.)		
Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	3,641	3,564
Long service leave	643	536
	<u>4,284</u>	<u>4,102</u>
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	1,910	1,981
Long service leave	8,700	7,893
	<u>10,610</u>	<u>9,874</u>
Total current employee provisions	14,894	13,976
Non-current		
Long service leave	1,542	1,141
Total non-current employee provisions	1,542	1,141
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	14,894	13,976
Non-current	1,542	1,141
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	16,436	15,117

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

Annual leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:
 - nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
 - present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

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

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	4.06%	3.36%
- index rate	3.50%	1.75%

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Note 5 Our financial position (cont.)		
5.5 Financing arrangements		
The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June.		
Bank overdraft	1,000	1,000
Credit card facilities	250	250
Total facilities	1,250	1,250
Used facilities - credit card	36	51
Unused facilities	1,214	1,199

5.6 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

(a) Commitments for expenditure

2023	Not later than 1 year \$'000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$'000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$'000	Later than 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Operating					
Garbage collection	6,706	18,300	5,695	-	30,701
Green waste collection	3,747	14,570	5,932	-	24,249
Recycling collection	2,581	8,465	3,091	-	14,137
Hard waste collection	1,889	6,623	2,571	-	11,083
Tipping waste management	5,900	5,900	-	-	11,800
Renewable electricity	541	1,263	1,474	-	3,278
Tree pruning	471	-	-	-	471
Provision of cleaning services	266	63	4	-	333
Sportsground maintenance	667	667	584	-	1,918
Environmental services	735	574	90	-	1,399
Provision of security services	232	19	-	-	251
Miscellaneous works	864	404	188	-	1,456
Total	24,599	56,848	19,629	-	101,076
Capital					
Plant, equipment and other assets	154	50	-	-	204
Computers & telecommunications	997	1,025	-	-	2,022
Land & buildings	2,239	-	-	-	2,239
Drainage	1,662	-	-	-	1,662
Roads & footpaths	4,610	-	-	-	4,610
Recreation, open space & others	2,233	-	-	-	2,233
Total	11,930	1,075	-	-	13,005

5.6 Commitments (cont.)

2022	Not later than 1 year \$'000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$'000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$'000	Later than 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Operating					
Garbage collection	7,114	6,706	18,300	5,695	37,815
Green waste collection	2,508	3,747	14,570	5,932	26,757
Recycling collection	2,476	2,581	8,465	3,091	16,613
Hard waste collection	1,752	1,889	6,623	2,571	12,835
Tipping waste management	5,811	5,900	5,900	-	17,611
Renewable electricity	541	541	1,263	1,474	3,819
Tree pruning	1,066	471	-	-	1,567
Provision of cleaning services	529	214	10	-	753
Meals for delivery	75	-	-	-	75
Total	21,902	22,049	55,131	18,763	117,845
Capital					
Plant, equipment and other assets	154	154	50	-	358
Computers & telecommunications	1,061	987	1,025	-	3,063
Land & buildings	2,384	-	-	-	2,384
Drainage	2,102	-	-	-	2,102
Roads & footpaths	1,662	-	-	-	1,662
Recreation, open space & others	785	-	-	-	785
Total	8,148	1,151	1,075	-	10,374

(b) Operating lease receivables

At the reporting date, Council had the following operating leases for the lease of Council owned land and buildings:

These properties held under operating lease have remaining non cancellable lease term of between 1 and 35 years

Future undiscounted minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Not later than one year	1,683	1,603
Later than one year and not later than five years	7,094	5,710
Later than five years	4,843	7,130
Total	13,620	14,443

5.7 Leases

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- Council has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- Council has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Under AASB 16 Leases, Council as a not-for-profit entity has elected not to measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

Peppercom Leases - Council has one peppercorn lease arrangement of the premises accommodating the Pines Library until 2 December 2024. The lease restricts the permitted use of the leased premises as a Public Library.

Note 5 Our financial position (cont.)

5.7 Leases (cont.)

Right-of-Use Assets	Property \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	2,332	26	2,358
Additions	147	-	147
Amortisation charge	(355)	(12)	(347)
Balance at 30 June 2023	2,144	14	2,158

Lease Liabilities	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Less than one year	387	345
One to five years	1,425	1,422
More than five years	692	632
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June:	2,504	2,699

Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at 30 June:

Current	339	297
Non-current	1,960	2,164
Total lease liabilities	2,299	2,461

Short-term and low value leases

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of plant and equipment that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of \$10,000), including some IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	83	140
Leases of low value assets	396	274
Total	479	414

Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)

Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)		
Variable lease payments	24	-
Total	24	-

Variable lease payments are those that depend on an index or a rate, for example payments linked to the consumer price index, a benchmark interest rate or changes in market rental rates.

Non-cancellable lease commitments - Short-term and low-value leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:

Payable:		
Within one year	322	345
Later than one year but not later than five years	596	665
Total lease commitments	908	1,230

Note 6: Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets

	Carrying amount 30 June 2022		Additions		Contributions		Revaluation		Depreciation		Disposal		Transfers		Write Offs		Carrying amount 30 June 2023	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	1,467,037	2,742	429	55,414	-	(4,448)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,521,174
Buildings	231,130	4,889	-	11,834	(4,575)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	243,238
Plant, equipment and other fixed assets	11,188	1,692	-	(1,815)	-	(178)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,887
Infrastructure	722,229	26,518	2,892	114,814	(19,900)	(2,592)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	850,325
Work in progress	13,986	9,064	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,440
	2,444,670	44,905	2,511	182,062	(26,389)	(7,378)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,328)	-	2,638,064

Summary of work in progress

	Opening WIP 1 July 2022		Closing WIP 30 June 2023	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	411	-	1,875	(159)
Plant, equipment and other fixed assets	1,368	(120)	(159)	2,007
Infrastructure	11,279	243	(1,337)	302
	13,058	9,064	(7,384)	(653)
				10,131
				72,440

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

(e) Property

	Land - specialised	Land - non-specialised	Land under roads	Total Land	Building - specialised	Building - non-specialised	Total Buildings	Total Property	Work in Progress
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	1,441,878	13,313	11,846	1,467,037	436,554	1,929	438,483	1,905,520	411
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	-	-	-	-	(206,158)	(1,195)	(207,353)	(207,353)	-
Movements in fair value	1,441,878	13,313	11,846	1,467,037	220,386	734	231,130	1,698,167	411
Additions of assets at fair value	-	2,742	-	2,742	4,497	392	4,889	7,631	1,875
Contributed assets	6	-	423	429	-	-	-	429	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	55,577	(163)	-	55,414	21,416	889	22,304	77,718	-
Fair value of assets disposed	(4,448)	-	-	(4,448)	-	(389)	(389)	(4,837)	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(159)
Transfers	8,993	(8,993)	-	-	120	-	120	120	(120)
	60,116	(6,494)	423	54,137	26,033	891	26,924	81,061	1,596
Movements in accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	(4,555)	(20)	(4,575)	(4,575)	-
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	-	229	729	958	958	-
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	(9,659)	(811)	(10,470)	(10,470)	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	-	-	-	-	(14,214)	(602)	(14,816)	(14,816)	-
At fair value 30 June 2023	1,501,996	6,909	12,269	1,521,174	462,897	2,820	465,407	1,986,581	2,007
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	-	-	-	-	(220,372)	(1,797)	(222,169)	(222,169)	-
Carrying amount	1,501,996	6,909	12,269	1,521,174	242,215	1,023	243,238	1,764,412	2,007

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

(b) Plant, equipment and other fixed assets

	Plant, machinery and equipment \$'000	Furniture and fixtures \$'000	Computers and telecommunication equipment \$'000	Arms and other assets \$'000	Total plant, equipment and other assets \$'000	Work in Progress \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	14,897	9,950	2,192	1,969	29,018	1,356
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(7,672)	(9,024)	(1,134)	-	(17,830)	-
	7,225	936	1,058	1,969	11,188	1,356
Movements in fair value						
Additions of assets at fair value	1,256	55	211	170	1,692	243
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value of assets disposed	(1,149)	(9,214)	(1,533)	-	(11,496)	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	(1,337)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
	107	55	211	170	543	(1,094)
Movements in accumulated depreciation						
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,226)	(190)	(939)	-	(3,155)	-
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	971	-	-	-	971	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	(255)	(190)	(939)	-	(1,384)	-
	15,004	10,015	2,403	2,139	29,561	302
At fair value 30 June 2023	(7,627)	(9,214)	(1,533)	-	(18,374)	-
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	7,077	801	870	2,139	10,887	302
Carrying amount						

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

(c) Infrastructure

	Roads \$'000	Bridges \$'000	Footpaths and cycleways \$'000	Off street car parks \$'000	Drainage \$'000	Recreational, leisure and community spaces and streetscapes \$'000	Waste Management \$'000	Total Infrastructure \$'000	Work in Progress \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	482,077	25,771	155,945	24,552	478,442	37,775	5,415	1,253,875	11,279
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(241,403)	(8,868)	(69,226)	(10,011)	(167,604)	(13,287)	(19,264)	(531,646)	-
	240,674	16,903	86,720	14,541	310,838	24,488	24,554	722,229	11,279
Movements in fair value									
Additions of assets at fair value	8,897	194	4,394	-	2,180	7,852	3,001	26,518	6,946
Contributed assets	486	-	209	-	1,397	-	-	2,082	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	92,330	2,414	12,515	1,680	90,649	-	-	199,588	-
Fair value of assets disposed	(177)	-	(163)	-	(6,099)	(19)	-	(6,535)	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(830)
Transfers	506	-	2,307	-	246	1,765	2,439	7,264	(7,264)
	102,042	2,608	19,292	1,680	88,363	9,589	5,363	229,927	(1,140)
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	(9,527)	(429)	(1,680)	(357)	(3,975)	(1,836)	(1,825)	(19,999)	-
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	106	-	98	-	3,659	12	68	3,943	-
Revaluation increments/decrements	(35,874)	(759)	(6,067)	(6,787)	(33,297)	-	-	(84,784)	-
	46,295	(1,189)	(7,649)	(9,144)	(33,613)	(1,824)	(1,757)	(100,831)	-
At fair value 30 June 2023	594,119	28,379	175,207	26,342	566,805	47,374	49,161	1,482,802	10,131
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	(286,698)	(10,056)	(76,874)	(19,159)	(201,217)	(15,111)	(21,021)	(632,477)	-
Carrying amount	297,421	18,323	98,333	7,187	365,588	32,263	28,140	850,325	10,131

Note 6 Assets we manage (cont.)

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

Acquisition

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

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

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

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation

Asset class	Depreciation	Threshold limit \$'000
Property		
Land	Infinite life	0
Land under roads	Infinite life	0
Buildings	75 - 100 years	5
Buildings on leased land	Term of lease or 75	
Plant, equipment and other assets		
Plant, machinery and equipment	5 - 25 years	1
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	4 - 20 years	1
Computers and telecommunications	4 - 10 years	1
Artworks	Infinite life	1
Infrastructure		
Road - pavement	30 years	10
Road - sub-pavement	120 years	10
Bridges	80 - 100 years	10
Footpaths and cycleways	60 - 100 years	10
Carparks	60 - 100 years	10
Drainage	120 years	10
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	20 years	10
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	20 years	10
Waste garbage bins	20 years	0
Intangible assets		
Software	5 years	1

Land under roads

Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 is brought to account at cost adjusted for engloba characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. Council does not recognise land under roads that it controlled prior to that period in its financial report.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

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

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

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

Note 6 Assets we manage (cont.)

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

Repairs and maintenance

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

Artworks

Artworks are not depreciated.

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuations were completed as at 30 June 2023 for Council. Valuations for 30 June 2023 are at fair value.

Non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings

Non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings are valued using the market based direct comparison method. Under this valuation method, the assets are compared to recent comparable sales or sales of comparable assets which are considered to have nominal or no added improvement value.

For non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings, a valuation was performed by Council's City Valuer, Mr Ellis Tam AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer (Registration Number 62592) to determine the fair value using the market based direct comparison method. Valuation of the assets was determined by analysing comparable sales and allowing for share, size, topography, location and other relevant factors specific to the asset being valued. From the sales analysed, an appropriate rate per square metre has been applied to the subject asset. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2023.

To the extent that non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings do not contain significant, unobservable adjustments, these assets are classified as Level 2 under the market based direct comparison approach.

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations - Specialised land and specialised buildings

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique but adjusted to reflect the specialised nature of the assets being valued. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction on the sale or use of an asset and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 0% and 95% depending on the nature of encumbrance, restrictions or planning controls. The adjustment is an allowance made to reflect the difference in value between unrestricted assets and those held by the Council which are impacted by external restraints on their use. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$1 and \$2,360 per square metre.

Specialised buildings are valued using the current replacement cost method, adjusting for the associated depreciation. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$3.11 to \$5,884 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 1 year to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

The valuation of Council's specialised land and specialised buildings was performed by Council's City Valuer, Mr Ellis Tam AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer (Registration Number 62592). The valuation was performed using either the market based direct comparison method or depreciated replacement cost, adjusted for restrictions in use. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2023.

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Date of Valuation	Type of Valuation
Land	-	6,309	1,501,996	Jun 2023	Full
Land under roads	-	-	12,269		
Buildings	-	1,023	242,215	Jun 2023	Full
Total	-	7,932	1,756,480		

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Reconciliation of specialised land	\$'000	\$'000
Land under roads	12,269	11,845
Parks, reserves and other	1,501,996	1,441,878
Total specialised land	1,514,265	1,453,724

Note 6 Assets we manage (cont.)

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets (cont.)

Valuation of infrastructure assets

Infrastructure assets (roads, bridges, footpaths and cycleways, off street car parks and drainage) are valued using the written down replacement cost of each asset. The written down replacement cost is calculated based on the remaining life of the asset, which in turn is determined based on the condition of the asset.

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations - Infrastructure assets

Infrastructure assets contain significant unobservable adjustments, therefore these assets are classified as Level 3.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the current replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 20 years to 120 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

A valuation of Council's infrastructure assets was performed by Council's Manager, Infrastructure Services, Mr James Paterson B.Eng (CMAA). The valuation was performed based on the current replacement cost of the assets. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2023.

There were no changes in valuation techniques throughout the period to 30 June 2023.

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

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

Details of the Council's infrastructure information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation	Type of Valuation
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		
Roads	-	-	297,421	Jun 2023	Full
Bridges	-	-	18,323	Jun 2023	Full
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	98,333	Jun 2023	Full
Off street car parks	-	-	7,187	Jun 2023	Full
Drainage	-	-	355,588	Jun 2023	Full
Total	-	-	786,852		

Note 6 Assets we manage (cont.)

6.2 Investments in associates

Whitehorse-Manningham Regional Library Corporation

Background

Manningham City Council has a 35.06% equity interest in the Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation (WMRLC) that was incorporated on 21 December 1995. Council has reported its interest in the WMRLC on the basis of equity accounting principles. Manningham City Council's share of the movement in net assets as at 30 June 2023, per draft WMRLC financial statements, has been taken up as profit of \$230,459 during the year ended 30 June 2023 (surplus of \$39,569 in 2021/22). As neither council has a controlling interest, the participating councils show their contributions towards the operating expenditure of the library as an expense.

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	3,714	2,790
Trade and other receivables	97	67
Other assets	80	153
	<u>3,891</u>	<u>3,000</u>

Non-current assets

Property & equipment	8,126	7,818
	<u>8,126</u>	<u>7,818</u>

Total assets

	<u>12,017</u>	<u>10,818</u>
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Current liabilities

Payables	1,203	618
Provisions	1,709	1,686
	<u>2,912</u>	<u>2,304</u>

Non-current liabilities

Provisions	105	149
	<u>105</u>	<u>149</u>

Total liabilities

	<u>3,017</u>	<u>2,453</u>
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Net assets

	<u>9,000</u>	<u>8,365</u>
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Movement in carrying value of investment

Carrying value of investment at start of year	2,865	2,826
Share of surplus/(deficit) for year	291	39
Carrying value of investment at end of year	<u>3,156</u>	<u>2,865</u>

Associates are all entities over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Council's investment in an associate is accounted for under the equity method as the Council has the ability to influence rather than control the operations of the entity. The investment is initially recorded at the cost of acquisition and adjusted thereafter for post-acquisition changes in the Council's share of the net assets of the entity. The Council's share of the financial result of the entity is recognised in the Comprehensive Income Statement.

Note 7: People and relationships

Note 7 People and relationships

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related party

Subsidiaries and Associates
Interest in associate - Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation (WMRLC) (Ref Note 6.2)

(b) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Manningham City Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Directors are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Anna Chen	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Andrew Conlon	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Deirdre Diamante	Deputy Mayor	(1 July 2022 - 3 November 2022)
	Mayor	(4 November 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Geoff Gough	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Michelle Kleinert	Mayor	(1 July 2022 - 3 November 2022)
	Councillor	(4 November 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Carli Lange	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Tomas Lighbody	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 3 November 2022)
	Deputy Mayor	(4 November 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Laura Mayne	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Stephen Mayne	Councillor	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)

Chief Executive Officer

Andrew Day	Chief Executive Officer	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
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Other Key Management Personnel

Rachelle Quattrocchi	Director City Services	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Kerryn Paterson	Director Experience and Capability	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Andrew McMaster	Chief Legal and Governance Officer	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Jon Gorst	Chief Financial Officer	(1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Duncan Turner	Director City Planning	(30 January 2023 - 30 June 2023)
Angelo Kourambas	Director City Planning and Community	(1 July 2022 - 18 July 2022)
Lee Robson	Acting Director City Planning and Community	(1 July 2022 - 27 October 2022)
	Interim Director Connected Communities	(14 November 2022 - 11 December 2022)
	Director Connected Communities	(12 December 2022 - 30 June 2023)
Niall Sheehy	Acting Director City Planning and Community	(28 October 2022 - 13 November 2022)
	Interim Director City Planning	(14 November 2022 - 29 January 2023)

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Total number of Councillors	9	9
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	9	7
Total number Key Management Personnel	18	16

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and Other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	2,311	2,061
Other long-term employee benefits	46	39
Post-employment benefits	192	156
Total	2,549	2,276

Note 7 People and relationships (cont.)

7.1 Council and key management remuneration (cont.)

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel (cont.)

The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:	2023	2022
	No.	No.
\$20,000 - \$29,999	1	-
\$30,000 - \$39,999	6	6
\$50,000 - \$59,999	2	2
\$90,000 - \$99,999	-	1
\$100,000 - \$109,999	2	-
\$160,000 - \$169,999	-	1
\$190,000 - \$199,999	-	1
\$220,000 - \$229,999	-	1
\$230,000 - \$239,999	2	1
\$250,000 - \$259,999	1	1
\$270,000 - \$279,999	1	-
\$290,000 - \$299,999	2	1
\$340,000 - \$349,999	-	1
\$360,000 - \$369,999	1	-
	18	16

(d) Remuneration of other senior staff

Other senior staff are officers of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, whose total remuneration exceeds \$160,000 and who report directly to a member of the KMP.*

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration of other senior staff was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	3,175	3,709
Other long-term employee benefits	79	89
Post-employment benefits	333	356
Total	3,588	4,154

The number of other senior staff are shown below in their relevant income bands:

Income Range:	2023	2022
	No.	No.
less than \$160,000	-	5
\$160,000 - \$169,999	5	2
\$170,000 - \$179,999	3	-
\$180,000 - \$189,999	1	6
\$190,000 - \$199,999	6	3
\$200,000 - \$209,999	2	3
\$210,000 - \$219,999	1	1
\$220,000 - \$229,999	1	-
\$230,000 - \$239,999	-	2
	19	22

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration for the reporting year for other senior staff included above, amounted to:	3,588	4,154

* Due to a definitional change the comparative figures in this note may not align with the previous year's annual report, which included disclosure of senior officers as defined in the Local Government Act 2020.

Note 7 People and relationships (cont.)**7.2 Related party disclosure****(a) Transactions with related parties**

During the year Manningham City Council provided contributions to Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation (WMRLC) with the total value of \$4.27m towards running costs as per the agreement. Council also provides accommodation to house libraries within Manningham.

No transactions other than remuneration payments, or the reimbursement of expenses as approved by Council were made with Related Parties during the reporting year (2021/22, nil).

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

No balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties (2021/22, nil).

(c) Loans to/from related parties

There were no aggregate amount of loans in existence at balance date that have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a responsible person of the Council, or a related party of a responsible person (2021/22, nil).

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

No commitments have been made by the Council to Related Parties during the reporting year 2022/23 (2021/22, nil).

Note 8: Managing uncertainties**Note 8 Managing uncertainties****8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities**

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

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

As at 30 June 2023, there are no potential contingent assets (2022: Nil).

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:

- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
 - it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
 - the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

General

Council controls large areas of public open space, provides general and personal services to residents, visitors and ratepayers, has responsibilities and regulatory authorities including the issue of permits and approvals, and controls significant buildings and infrastructure assets. Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council's Risk Management Plan includes securing insurance to cover insurable risks to limit exposure to liabilities arising from actions of the Council or its Officers where it is appropriate to do so. Council carries public liability and professional indemnity insurance and has an excess of \$50,000 per claim on this policy.

Legal Matters

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

Bank guarantees

Council is responsible for the following bank guarantee:
Department of Primary Industries for \$150,000 (2021/22, \$150,000) in connection with Extractive Industry Licence No. 54-1.

Liability mutual insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI's Deed of Establishment allows for a call on each member should there be an insufficiency of capital for an insurance year which has an overall financial deficit. The deficit amount can be collected through this call and each member's liability for the amount is in direct proportion to their contribution for that year against the overall contribution pool. At reporting date Council had not been advised of call.

Superannuation contribution

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined in Note 9.3. As a result of the volatility in financial markets, the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists. At this point in time, it is not known if additional contributions will be required, their timing or potential amount.

Parking infringements review - private car parks

A potential issue has arisen in that some infringements may have been issued by Council officers in private car parks outside of the authorised hours in the terms of agreements with private land owners. Council may have a liability to refund monies. Council officers are working to determine the number of invalid infringements, quantum and timing of any refunds and as such this is yet to be finalised at the time of reporting. Council is also undertaking a review of the administration of the traffic management function related to private car parks including a review of the private agreements.

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (cont.)

8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2023 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2023 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2024 that are expected to impact Council.

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

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

(b) Market risk

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

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises from interest bearing financial assets and liabilities. Interest bearing assets are predominantly short term liquid assets. As at 30 June 2023 Council had no long term loans or borrowings and is therefore not exposed to interest rate risk on these classes of financial liabilities.

Interest rate risk on financial assets are managed through Council's investment policy which requires the investment of surplus funds only with financial institutions approved under the Local Government Act 2020. The Council's investment policy provides for investment restrictions such as investment placement with authorised deposit taking institutions (ADIs), placement according to Standard and Poor's credit ratings for investment institutions, staging of investment duration, and for the regular monitoring of investment performance and investment institution credit ratings.

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

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

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on all financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- council only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in council's investment policy.

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

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

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when council provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

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

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (cont.)

8.3 Financial instruments (cont.)

(d) Liquidity risk

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

To mitigate liquidity risk the entity has developed long term financial management strategies containing liquidity and cash flow targets, and regularly monitors budget performance and cash flows against forecasts. The entity has established access to overdraft facilities.

Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to any financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(b), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

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

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

Council's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data, cash flow and liquidity forecasts, and current assessment of risk.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes a parallel shift of +1.00% and -1.00% in market interest rates from year-end rates of 4.10% are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months.

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

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

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

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

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

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

- Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

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

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

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (cont.)

8.4 Fair value measurement (cont.)

Revaluation

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

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. Further details regarding the fair value hierarchy are disclosed at Note 6.1, Property, infrastructure, plant, equipment and other fixed assets.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 1 to 3 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced Council officers or independent experts.

Asset class	Revaluation frequency
Land	1 to 3 years
Buildings	1 to 3 years
Roads	1 to 3 years
Bridges	1 to 3 years
Footpaths and cycleways	1 to 3 years
Off street car parks	1 to 3 years
Drainage	1 to 3 years

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

Impairment of assets

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

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which have significantly affected or may affect the operations of Manningham City Council, the results of the operations or the state of affairs of Manningham City Council in future financial years.

Note 9 Other matters

Note 9 Other matters

9.1 Reserves

(a) Asset revaluation reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting year \$'000	Increment/ (decrement) \$'000	Realised Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Balance at end of reporting year \$'000
2023				
Property				
Land	1,225,194	55,414	(1,981)	1,278,627
Buildings	47,073	11,834	(46)	58,861
	1,272,267	67,248	(2,027)	1,337,488
Plant, equipment and other fixed assets				
Plant, machinery and equipment	14	-	-	14
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	1,006	-	-	1,006
Computers and telecommunications	-	-	-	-
Artworks	887	-	-	887
	1,907	-	-	1,907
Infrastructure				
Roads	145,421	56,456	-	201,877
Bridges	6,024	1,655	-	7,679
Footpaths and cycleways	41,039	6,448	-	47,487
Off street car parks	7,944	(7,097)	-	847
Drainage	201,317	57,352	-	258,669
Parks, open space and streetscapes	205	-	-	205
	401,950	114,814	-	516,764
Total	1,676,124	182,062	(2,027)	1,856,159
2022				
Property				
Land	1,095,293	131,240	(1,339)	1,225,194
Buildings	38,849	8,521	(297)	47,073
	1,134,142	139,761	(1,636)	1,272,267
Plant, equipment and other fixed assets				
Plant, machinery and equipment	19	-	(5)	14
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	1,006	-	-	1,006
Computers and telecommunications	75	-	(75)	-
Artworks	887	-	-	887
	1,987	-	(80)	1,907
Infrastructure				
Roads	114,947	30,474	-	145,421
Bridges	5,079	945	-	6,024
Footpaths and cycleways	25,707	15,332	-	41,039
Off street car parks	5,930	2,014	-	7,944
Drainage	163,996	37,351	-	201,317
Parks, open space and streetscapes	205	-	-	205
	315,834	86,116	-	401,950
Total	1,451,963	225,877	(1,716)	1,676,124

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

Note 9 Other matters (cont.)

9.1 Reserves (cont.)

(b) Other reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting year	Transfer to accumulated surplus	Transfer from accumulated surplus	Balance at end of reporting year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2023				
Open Space (resort and recreation) Reserve (a)	13,159	(2,191)	3,930	14,899
Doncaster Hill activity centre DCP Reserve (b)	1,103	(200)	74	977
Total	14,262	(2,391)	4,004	15,875
	Balance at beginning of reporting year	Transfer to accumulated surplus	Transfer from accumulated surplus	Balance at end of reporting year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2022				
Open Space (resort and recreation) Reserve (a)	11,758	(4,846)	6,237	13,159
Doncaster Hill activity centre DCP Reserve (b)	1,430	(327)	-	1,103
Total	13,188	(5,173)	6,237	14,262

(a) The Open Space (resort and recreation) Reserve was established to control contributions received from developers that will, upon completion of developments be utilised to acquire and create open space, and develop recreation and other facilities for residents in the respective development areas.

(b) The Doncaster Hill activity centre DCP Reserve was established to control contributions levied on developers under the Doncaster Hill Development Contributions Plan Overlay (DCPO) and funds will be utilised to develop social and community infrastructure in accordance with the conditions contained in the DCPO.

Note 9 Other matters (cont.)

9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	7,598	32,120
Depreciation/amortisation	29,124	26,394
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment, infrastructure	1,828	2,480
Contributed assets	(2,511)	(16,432)
Share of gain from associate	(291)	(39)
Adjustment for work in progress write-off to other expenses	2,326	2,938
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(1,961)	185
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	(2,227)	9
Increase/(decrease) in unearned income/revenue	(2,454)	(1,661)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(1,995)	(6,108)
(Decrease)/increase in other assets and liabilities	52	55
(Increase)/decrease in provisions	1,319	(85)
Net cash provided by operating activities	30,827	39,856

9.3 Superannuation

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

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation category, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2023, this was 10.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2022: 10.0%)).

Defined Benefit

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

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

Funding arrangements

Manningham City Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary. A triennial actuarial investigation is currently underway for the Defined Benefit category which is expected to be completed by 31 December 2023. Council was notified of the 30 June 2023 VBI during August 2023 (2022: August 2022). The financial assumptions used to calculate the 30 June 2023 VBI were:

Net investment returns	5.70% pa
Salary information	3.50% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	2.80% pa

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 102.2%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment returns	5.50% pa
Salary information	2.50% pa to 30 June 2023 and 3.50% pa thereafter
Price inflation (CPI)	3.00% pa

Manningham City Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021). Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at 30 June 2023 was 104.1%. The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2022 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Note 9 Other matters (cont.)

9.3 Superannuation (cont.)

Employer contributions

Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2021 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2022, this rate was 10.0% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2020/21). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

In addition, Manningham City Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

Funding calls

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Manningham City Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2021 and the last full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Manningham City Council is a contributing employer:

	2021 (Interim) \$m	2020 (Triennial) \$m
• A VBI surplus	214.7	100.0
• A total service liability surplus	270.3	200.0
• A discounted accrued benefits surplus	285.2	217.8

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2021.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2021.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2021.

Manningham City Council was notified of the 30 June 2021 VBI during August 2021 (2020: August 2020).

Note 9 Other matters (cont.)

9.3 Superannuation (cont.)

The 2023 triennial actuarial investigation

A triennial actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2023. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by 31 December 2023. The financial assumptions for the purposes of this investigation are:

	2023 Triennial investigation	2020 Triennial investigation
Net investment return	5.70% pa	5.60% pa
Salary inflation	3.50% pa	2.50% pa for the first two years and 2.75% pa thereafter
Price inflation	2.80% pa	2.00% pa

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of Scheme	Rate	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Vision super	Defined benefit	10.50% (2021/22: 10.00%)	226	221
Vision super	Accumulation fund	10.50% (2021/22: 10.00%)	2,551	2,461
Other Funds	Accumulation fund	10.50% (2021/22: 10.00%)	2,547	2,284

In addition to the above contributions, Manningham City Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 during the 2022/23 year (2021/22 \$0).

There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2023.

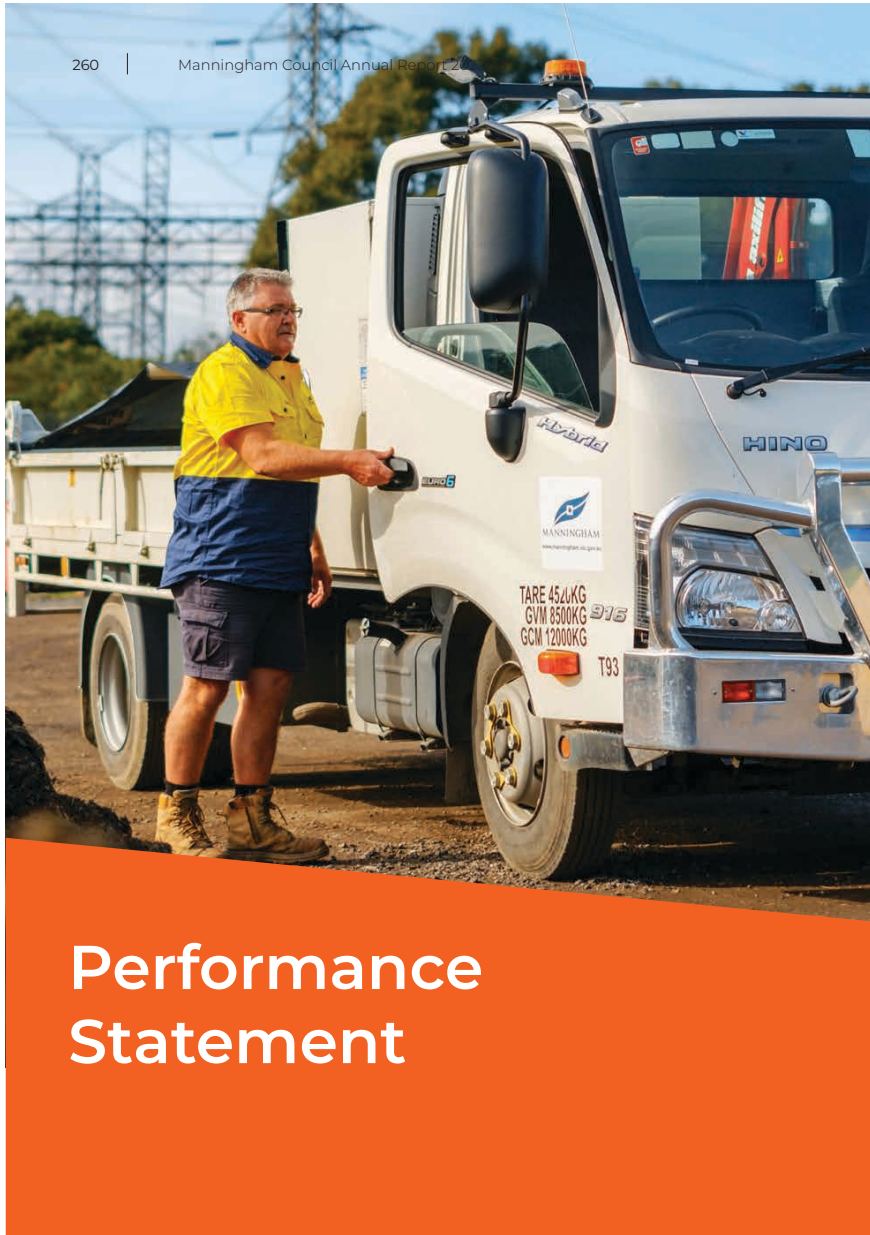
The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2024 is \$235,000.

Note 10 Change in accounting policy

Note 10 Change in accounting policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2022/23 year.

There are no pending accounting standards that are likely to have a material impact on council.



Performance Statement

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

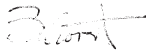
Description of municipality

Manningham City Council is located in Melbourne's north-eastern suburbs, commencing with its western boundary in Bulleen, 12 kilometres from the Melbourne CBD and extending to Wonga Park at its eastern extremity, 32 kilometres from the CBD. The City is bounded by the Yarra River, Banyule City and Nillumbik Shire in the north, Yarra Ranges Shire in the east, Koonung Creek, Maroondah City and the cities of Whitehorse and Boroondara in the south and Banyule City and the Yarra River in the west.

The City encompasses a total land area of 114 square kilometres, including a substantial 17% green open spaces. The non-urban areas include a large tract of the Green Wedge, and are used mainly for rural residential living, conservation and small scale agriculture.

Manningham has a population of 126,373 people across the City. The City covers the suburbs of Bulleen, Doncaster, Doncaster East, Donvale, Nunawading (part), Park Orchards, Ringwood North (part), Templestowe, Templestowe Lower, Warrandyte, Warrandyte South and Wonga Park (part).

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.



Jon Gorst (BCom, CPA)
Principal Accounting Officer
12 September 2023
Doncaster

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Manningham City Council For the year ended 30 June 2023 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

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

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

We have been authorised by the Council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify this performance statement in its final form.



Deirdre Diamante
Mayor
12 September 2023
Doncaster



Thomas Lightbody
Deputy Mayor
12 September 2023
Doncaster



Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer
12 September 2023
Doncaster

Other Information

For the year ended 30 June 2023

1. Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

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

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by the council's strategic resource plan. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by council in its financial plan on 27 June 2023 and which forms part of the Council Plan. The financial plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The financial plan can be obtained via Council's website or by contacting Council.



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Manningham City Council

Opinion I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Manningham City Council (the council) which comprises the:

- description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2023
- sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023
- service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023
- financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023
- other information and
- certification of the performance statement.

In my opinion, the performance statement of Manningham City Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2023 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Basis for Opinion I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement* section of my report.

My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement


As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE
18 September 2023



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Indicator / measure (format)	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments - Material Variations
Population					
Expenses per head of municipal population [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$996	\$1,000	\$1,084	\$1,216	Over the period, we managed to deliver high-quality services within a responsible budget. The increase in expenses per property assessment in 2022/23 primarily relates to one off project related expenses including costs associated with the implementation of the new Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) waste service and one off restructuring costs as a result of Council's decision to transition out of Commonwealth Home Support Program services.
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$6,857	\$6,765	\$7,703	\$8,838	The increase in infrastructure per head of municipal population is mainly attributable to the large revaluation of Council's buildings and infrastructure assets. We are committed to maintain, renew and upgrade our community infrastructure assets and each year allocate a minimum of 33% of rate revenue in addition to other funding sources to fund the capital works program.
Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	209	210	208	207	We have a lower population density per km of road than similar councils. The maintenance and upgrade of local road network is funded by an ongoing capital works program and maintenance funds.
Own-source revenue					
Own-source revenue per head of municipal population [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$949	\$945	\$996	\$1,053	The result reflects the importance of generating revenue from new and different sources to ensure ongoing financial sustainability.
Recurrent grants					
Recurrent grants per head of municipal population [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$102	\$96	\$112	\$117	In general, we receive a relatively low level of grants allocation and hence heavily rely on rate revenue for the delivery of high-quality services and infrastructure to the community. The increase in the 2022/23 result is mainly due to 100% of the 2023/24 Financial Assistance Grant allocation being received in advance.
Disadvantage					
Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage [Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage by decile]	9	9	9	9	We have a low level of socio-economic disadvantage relative to many councils.
Workforce turnover					
Percentage of staff turnover [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	11.6%	9.3%	17.8%	18.8%	Turnover increased slightly in 2022/23. This is in line with both Australian and global trends resulting from 'post-pandemic' impacts on workforce. Current low unemployment coupled with increasing interest rates has resulted in existing employees seeking other opportunities to improve remuneration. Additionally, organisational restructure activity was undertaken throughout the period. Organisational structural changes traditionally correlate with higher instances of voluntary turnover. It is anticipated that the impacts of the factors above will continue throughout FY 2023/24 with higher-than-normal turnover expected for the next two to three years before stabilising.

Definitions
 "adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than:
 (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
 (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
 (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above
 "infrastructure" means non-current property, plant and equipment excluding land
 "local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004
 "population" means the resident population estimated by council
 "own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)
 "relative socio-economic disadvantage", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA "SEIFA" means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its internet website "unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Service Performance Indicators

Service / Indicator/ measure (format)	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
Aquatic Facilities					
Utilisation					
Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	4.0	1.7	1.4	3.4	Aquarena provides great value with a variety of programs and activities, and we are pleased to see visits increase 134% as visitors slowly return from the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and closures.
Animal Management					
Health and safety					
Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	100%	100%	100%	100%	Our focus is to promote responsible pet ownership however we pursue prosecutions for serious matters and in the interest of community safety. We continue to be 100% successful in animal management prosecutions, with 4 additional cases than last year.
Food Safety					
Health and safety					
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100	97.5%	93.4%	96.1%	98.9%	We have again seen an increase of almost 3% compared to last year as our health team followed up non-compliances identified during the Victorian Government's COVID-19 restriction lockdowns.
Governance					
Satisfaction					
Satisfaction with council decisions [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with low council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	57	58	58	57	Our Council continues to work to improve community satisfaction with council decisions. We have seen a one-point decrease from last year. This survey result is collected from a sample of residents by an independent company on behalf of the Victorian Government.
Libraries					
Participation					
Active library borrowers in municipality [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100	14.3%	12.3%	10.9%	10.7%	It is pleasing to see an increase of 3,000 active library borrowers over the last year. Overall however, the calculation across the three years is slightly down.
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)					
Participation					
Participation in the MCH service [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	76.4%	77.4%	77.9%	81.3%	We are pleased to see a positive increase in the overall participation rate in the MCH service following a concerted effort to follow up with families who missed appointments.
Participation					
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	82.1%	73.5%	100.0%	100%	We are pleased to see our continued effort to strengthen participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait families in the Enhanced Maternal and Child Health remains high. This demonstrates the high quality of engagement and continuity of care offered by the Maternal Child Health service.

Service/ Indicator/ measure (Items)	2020	2021	2022	2023 Comments
Roads				
Satisfaction				
Satisfaction with sealed local roads (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads)	66	64	66	58 We work hard to maintain our local roads. We have seen a decrease in community satisfaction, largely related to adverse weather conditions affecting the state and local road network. This survey result is collected from a sample of residents by an independent company on behalf of the Victorian Government. We continue to advocate on behalf of the state government for the maintenance of state owned roads.
Statutory Planning				
Decision making				
Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT (Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications) x100	51.4%	63.3%	57.1%	71.4% More than 71% of appeals on Council's planning decisions have been upheld by VCAT this year, which is a variation of 25% from last year. 6 of 21 decisions made at VCAT were set aside.
Waste Collection				
Waste diversion				
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill (Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins) x100	56.4%	55.2%	53.6%	55.0% We have seen a positive 1.4% increase of waste diverted from landfill during 2022/23. Our landfill tonnages and recycling tonnages decreased compared to the prior year. From 1 July 2023 we introduced the food organic garden organic service which will further improve our diversion rate from 2023/24 onwards.

Definitions
 "Aboriginal child" means a child who is an Aboriginal person
 "Aboriginal person" has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
 "active library borrower" means a member of a library who has borrowed a book from the library
 "annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under section 98 of the Act
 "class 1 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984, that have been declared as class 1 food premises under section 19C of that Act
 "class 2 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984, that have been declared as class 2 food premises under section 19C of that Act
 "critical non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health
 "food premises" has the same meaning as in the Food Act 1984
 "local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004
 "major non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken
 "MCH" means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age
 "population" means the resident population estimated by council

Financial Performance Indicators

For the period ended 31 June 2023

Description / Indicator/ measure	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040
Expenditure level																					
Expenditure per property assessment	\$2,479	\$2,464	\$2,006	\$2,096	\$2,270	\$2,740	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797	\$2,740	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797	\$2,853	\$2,797
Average rate per property assessment (Number of property assessments)	\$1,788	\$1,914	\$1,845	\$1,881	\$1,982	\$2,017	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064	\$2,017	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064	\$2,125	\$2,064
Liquidity																					
Working capital (Current assets / Current liabilities) x100	198.3%	174.2%	211.2%	206.1%	181.6%	162.4%	173.0%	167.5%	167.5%	162.4%	173.0%	167.5%	167.5%	162.4%	173.0%	167.5%	167.5%	162.4%	173.0%	167.5%	167.5%
Unrestricted cash (Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities) x100	36.9%	-13.1%	-69.2%	42.9%	61.5%	60.0%	52.9%	58.1%	58.1%	60.0%	52.9%	58.1%	58.1%	60.0%	52.9%	58.1%	58.1%	60.0%	52.9%	58.1%	58.1%

We are continuing to deliver quality services in accordance with our strategic plan while providing state-of-the-art services and delivering value for money. Our expenditure per property assessment for 2022/23 primarily relate to one-off project related expenses for the completion of the new Council Office (MCH) and the waste service and one-off restructuring costs as a result of Council's transition out of Commonwealth Home Support Program services.

Our average general rate increase was 1.75 per cent in 2022/23 in line with the Victorian Government's cap. Rates remain a major source of revenue for Manningham Council. Rates remain a major source of revenue for Manningham Council. Rates remain a major source of revenue for Manningham Council.

We can comfortably meet all short term financial commitments as per our financial strategy and continue to be in a sound financial position. The financial strategy provides a strong working capital ratio.

The unrestricted cash is comfortable with the financial strategy and is greater than 10 days to maintain unrestricted revenue. Only term deposits are used for this ratio. The ratio would be 82.54 per cent in 2022/23 if term deposits were used for the ratio. The ratio would be 82.54 per cent in 2022/23 if term deposits were used for the ratio.

Dimension / Indicator / Measure	Result				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	Forecast
2027 Material Functions					
Loans and borrowings					
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings / Total loans (loans and borrowings)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Loans and borrowings repayments / Loans and borrowings repayments	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings / Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Indebtedness					
Non-current liabilities compared to own resources / Non-current liabilities / Own resources	3.0%	2.6%	2.6%	1.9%	1.7%
Asset cover as an upgrade / Asset cover as an upgrade	161.3%	118.2%	118.0%	114.3%	127.0%
Asset cover as an upgrade / Asset cover as an upgrade	161.3%	118.2%	118.0%	114.3%	127.0%
Asset cover as an upgrade / Asset cover as an upgrade	161.3%	118.2%	118.0%	114.3%	127.0%
Operating position					
Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) / Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	5.7%	5.6%	2.6%	-3.3%	3.3%
Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) / Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	5.7%	5.6%	2.6%	-3.3%	3.3%
Stability					
Ratio compared to adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) / Ratio compared to adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	78.6%	80.1%	80.8%	78.8%	83.6%
Ratio compared to adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) / Ratio compared to adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	78.6%	80.1%	80.8%	78.8%	83.6%
Ratio compared to property values / Ratio compared to property values	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Ratio compared to property values / Ratio compared to property values	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%

Definitions in underlying surplus/ means total income other than:
 (a) non-renewable grants used to fund capital expenditure;
 (b) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (d) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (e) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (f) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (g) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (h) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (i) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (j) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (k) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (l) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (m) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (n) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (o) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (p) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (q) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (r) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (s) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (t) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (u) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (v) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (w) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (x) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (y) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.
 (z) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.

Glossary and abbreviations

Advisory committee	A committee that assists council with the decision-making process and has a Councillor representative to assist with the consultation process
Advocacy	Publicly supporting or recommending programs or services on behalf of our community to other tiers of government or service providers for community benefit
Annual Report	An report prepared by a Council annually under sections 98, 99 and 100 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Asset expansion expenditure	Expenditure that extends the capacity of an existing asset to provide benefits to new users at the same standard as is provided to existing beneficiaries
Asset expenditure type	These types of asset expenditure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • asset renewal expenditure • new asset expenditure • asset upgrade expenditure • asset expansion expenditure
Asset renewal expenditure	Expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability
Asset upgrade expenditure	Expenditure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service; or • increases the life of the asset beyond its original life
Best value	State legislation that requires Council to review services to ensure community expectations and value for money
Budget	Council's originally published budget detailing the projected income, expenditure and financial position of Council.
Capital expenditure	The expenditure on items which are expected to produce future economic benefits for Council with a useful life in excess of 12 months
Capital improved value	The market value of the property at the date of valuation including the value of the land and all improvements built on the land
Capital Works Program	Program of scheduled infrastructure works generally encompassing capital works for road, drainage and building assets
Capitalisation	The process whereby expenditure is charged to an account in the statement of financial position rather than to an expense account

Council Plan	The four-year plan for how we will deliver our nine strategic objectives
Community grants	Council allocates a sum of money for our Community Development Community Grants program as part of the annual budget process. The funding supports not for profit community organisations in Manningham
Community Satisfaction Survey	The survey the state government requires Councils to conduct once a year to gauge the level of community satisfaction with our services
Cultural diversity	Celebrating our community's many different cultures expressed through language, tradition, religion, dress, arts, dance and lifestyle
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.
Community Care Program	Home and Community Care (HACC) and the Commonwealth Home Support programs established under Agreements entered into with the Australian and State Governments support people who are frail, have a disability and their families
Community care service	Provides a range of services including domestic assistance, personal care, community respite and delivered meals which assists clients to maximise their independence in the community
Governance	Council's responsibility for the economic and ethical performance of the municipality
Infrastructure	The stock of fixed capital equipment, including roads, public buildings, footpaths, etc.
Key performance indicator	A significant measure used on its own or in combination with other key performance indicators to monitor how well a business is achieving its quantifiable objectives
Liquidity	The ratio of current assets to current liabilities as a percentage that shows how much cash we have on hand
Local Government Model Financial Report	The Local Government Model Financial Report published by Local Government Victoria each year including on localgovernment.vic.gov.au .
Local law	The laws adopted by Council that prohibit, regulate and control activities, events, practices and behaviours within Manningham
Local roads	The municipal road network which is maintained by Manningham Council
Manningham Matters	The Council newsletter we deliver to all Manningham homes and businesses that provides residents with information about local activities.

Manningham Planning Scheme	Outlines state and local planning policies including zones, overlays and other provisions
Material variations	Significant changes to a development application, such as those that impact neighbouring properties, alter the description of the development or would affect objections to the original proposal.
Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service	Service provided by a Council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	The lobbying body for Victoria's 79 Councils.
New asset expenditure	Expenditure that creates a new asset that provides a service that does not currently exist
Non-current assets	All assets other than current assets
Non-recurrent grant	A grant obtained on the condition that it be expended in a specified manner and is not expected to be received again during the period covered by a Council's Strategic Resource Plan
North East Link Project (NELP)	The largest road project in the state's history, which will involve seven years of planning, design and construction. It is the biggest infrastructure project to affect Manningham's municipality.
Performance indicator	A statistic identifying the extent of activity in meeting a specific objective
Performance statement	The performance statement prepared by a Council under section 98 and 99 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Placemaking	Activities and initiatives that strengthen the connection between people and the places they share to help build community resilience and make our neighbourhood centres and villages more vibrant.
Principal Accounting Officer	The person designated by a Council to be responsible for the financial management of the Council.
Recurrent grant	A grant other than a non-recurrent grant.
Report of operations	The report outlining details of Council operations prepared under section 98 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Reserves	Monies set aside in the statement of financial position for specific purposes in accordance with statutory and discretionary principles

Revised budget	The revised budget prepared by a Council under section 98 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Risk management	A policy and process for identifying business risks and controlling the likelihood and/or impact of a risk event occurring.
Strategy	A plan of action intended to accomplish specific objectives.
Statement of Capital Works	A statement of capital works prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.
Statement of Human Resources	A statement that shows all Council staff expenditure and the number of full time equivalent Council staff
Sustainable	How we meet present-day needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet their needs
Themes	The overarching strategic objectives or focus areas of Council, as outlined in the Council Plan
Triple bottom line	Measures community well-being by assessing the economic, social and environmental considerations
Vision	A description of the future we aim to achieve for our city and community
Ward	The delineation of a district within a municipality for the purposes of administration and representation
Wellbeing	A general term to encompass health, happiness, welfare, security, comfort, quality of life and a sense of belonging

Abbreviations

AAS	Australian Accounting Standard
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AMS	Asset Management Strategy
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
Cr	Councillor
EBA	Enterprise Bargaining Agreement
EMT	Executive Management Team
EO	Equal Opportunity
HACC	Home and Community Care
LGPRF	Local Government Performance Reporting Framework MAV Municipal Association of Victoria
MCH	Maternal Child Health
NDIS	National Disability Insurance Scheme
NELP	North East Link Project
SBS	Strategic Briefing Session
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
VEC	Victorian Electoral Commission
WHS	Workplace Health and Safety

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14 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

14.1 Council Meeting Schedule for 2024

File Number: IN23/664
Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to determine the Council meeting schedule for 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Manningham's Governance Rules (the Rules) require Council to fix its meeting schedule for the forthcoming year.

Council meetings are generally held monthly on the fourth Tuesday in the Council Chambers on at 7:00pm. As 2024 is an election year, there are some departures from the usual meeting cycle. This report presents the proposed Council meeting schedule for 2024.

1. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

A. adopt the following meeting schedule for 2024:

Council meetings will be held on Tuesday in the Council Chambers at 7:00pm on the following dates:

- 27 February 2024
- 26 March 2024
- 23 April 2024
- 28 May 2024
- 25 June 2024
- 23 July 2024
- 27 August 2024
- 17 September 2024
- 15 October 2024
- 26 November 2024
- 10 December 2024

B. set the meeting date for the Annual Council meeting for Thursday, 7 November 2024, at 7:00pm in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre.

C. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all necessary actions to call the scheduled Council meetings.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Manningham's Governance Rules provide that the date, time and place for all Council meetings must be fixed by Council from time to time.
- 2.2 The proposed meeting arrangements for 2024 provide for Council meetings to be held monthly on Tuesdays at 7:00pm unless otherwise provided for in the recommendation.
- 2.3 Additional meetings may be scheduled throughout the year as required and the proposed dates if endorsed by Council may be amended if necessary.
- 2.4 In preparing the meeting schedule, consideration has been given to scheduled public holidays, confirmed local government conferences for 2024 and the conduct of the 2024 Council elections.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 This is an administrative report to enable Council to set the meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year.
- 3.2 Local government general elections are scheduled to be held on 26 October 2024. The *Local Government Act 2020* provides that a council must adopt Governance Rules which include an Election Period Policy which entails amongst other things, procedures intended to prevent a council from making inappropriate decisions or using council resources inappropriately during the election period. Inappropriate decisions are defined as decisions that would affect voting in an election or decisions that could reasonably be made after the election.
- 3.3 For the purposes of this report, the significant dates associated with the 2024 Council elections are Tuesday 24 September (being Nomination Day) and Saturday 26 October (being Election Day). Nomination Day marks the commencement of the statutory "election period".
- 3.4 To ensure the general day-to-day administration of Council is not held up for an excessive period of time, it is proposed that a Council meeting will be held on 15 October 2024. Council's proposed Election Period Policy limits the types of matters to be considered at this meeting to routine administrative matters and the Annual Report.
- 3.5 Taking into consideration the above, there are four variations to the proposed fourth Tuesday meeting dates in 2024
 - No meeting is proposed in January however, if a meeting is required to consider any matters before the first scheduled meeting in February 2024, a meeting can be called by the Mayor.
 - the September Council meeting is proposed to be brought forward by one week to avoid the meeting being held on the eve of the commencement of the election period;
 - the October Council meeting is also proposed to be brought forward, by one week, to avoid being held during the week of the general elections.
 - the December Council meeting is traditionally held earlier in the month prior to the holiday season and is proposed for the second Tuesday.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

The fixing of Council meeting times, dates and places is a requirement of the Rules and forms part of Council’s governance obligations.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance / Resource Implications

There are no finance or resource issues associated with this report.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	Council and the community
Is engagement required?	No
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	Inform
Approach	The meeting schedule will be published in a newspaper circulating in Manningham, placed on Council’s website and social media channels.

6.2 Timelines

The meeting schedule will take effect at the commencement of 2024.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

14.2 Informal Meetings of Councillors

File Number:	IN23/623
Responsible Director:	Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee - 21 September 2023 ↓ 2 Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee Extraordinary Meeting - 25 September 2023 ↓ 3 CEO Performance Review - 25 September 2023 ↓ 4 Councillor and CEO Only Time - 26 September 2023 ↓ 5 North East Link (NELP) Briefing to Council – Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) - 27 September 2023 ↓ 6 Strategic Briefing Session - 3 October 2023 ↓ 7 Strategic Briefing Session - 10 October 2023 ↓ 8 Strategic Briefing Session - 17 October 2023 ↓ 9 Councillor Development Session – Governance Briefing - 17 October 2023 ↓

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to promote transparency in Council's business by providing a record of informal meetings attended by Councillors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 6, sub rule 1 of Manningham's Governance Rules requires a record of each meeting that constitutes an Informal Meeting of Councillors to be reported to Council and those records to be incorporated into the minutes of the Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Informal Meetings of Councillors for the following meetings:

- **Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee – 21 September 2023**
- **Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee Extraordinary meeting – 25 September 2023**
- **CEO Performance Review – 25 September 2023**
- **Councillor and CEO Only Time – 26 September 2023**
- **North East Link (NELP) Briefing to Council – Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) – 27 September 2023**
- **Strategic Briefing Session – 3 October 2023**
- **Strategic Briefing Session – 10 October 2023**
- **Strategic Briefing Session – 17 October 2023**
- **Councillor Development Session – Governance Briefing – 17 October 2023**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, requires a Council to develop, adopt and keep in force Governance Rules (the Rules).

2.2 Chapter 6, sub rule 1 of Manningham’s Governance Rules requires the Chief Executive Officer to ensure a summary of matters discussed at an informal meeting is tabled at the next convenient Council meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

2.3 An Informal Meeting of Councillors is a meeting that:

- is a scheduled or planned meeting of all Councillors (irrespective of how many Councillors attend) with the Chief Executive Officer for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors; or
- is a scheduled or planned meeting of all Councillors (irrespective of how many Councillors attend) with the Executive Management Team for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors; or
- is a scheduled or planned advisory committee meeting attended by at least one Councillor and one member of Council staff; and
- is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

Summaries of the following informal meetings are attached to this report:

- Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee – 21 September 2023
- Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee Extraordinary meeting – 25 September 2023
- CEO Performance Review – 25 September 2023
- Councillor and CEO Only Time – 26 September 2023
- North East Link (NELP) Briefing to Council – Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) – 27 September 2023
- Strategic Briefing Session – 3 October 2023
- Strategic Briefing Session – 10 October 2023
- Strategic Briefing Session – 17 October 2023
- Councillor Development Session – Governance Briefing – 17 October 2023

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	Councillors, Officers and members of Manningham’s Advisory Committees
Is engagement required?	No. This information is provided in the interests of public transparency.
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	N/A
Approach	N/A

5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee
Date:	Thursday, 21 September 2023
	Time Opened: 5:00pm
	Time Closed: 7:00pm
Location:	Koonung Room, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Chen, Cr S Mayne, Cr Lange
Officers Present:	Michelle Zemancheff, Catherine Simcox, Katrine Gabb, Nuru Johnston
Apologies:	Nil
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conflict of interest (Local Government Act) 2. Actions arising from previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet Nuru Johnston, Community Partnerships Officer; - Food Relief (halal foods); - Community Arts Project 3. wonguim wilam art work 4. Multicultural Framework Review 5. Welcoming Cities Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop on the action plan 6. Informal Presentation from Gurpreet Migliani 7. Menzies Peace Banner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walk to Doncaster library to view and write comments on the peace banner
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Multicultural Communities Advisory Committee Extraordinary Meeting
Date:	Monday, 25 September 2023
	Time Opened: 10:00am
	Time Closed: 11:00am
Location:	Andersons Room, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Lange
Officers Present:	Michelle Zemancheff, Katrine Gabb, Felicity Raper
Apologies:	Nil
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A look at the Terms of Reference of the Multicultural Framework Review; 2. Discussion – the items identified by Communities Council of Ethnic Issues; 3. Activity – new topics raised and identified put under each review element on sheets; 4. Top 3 priorities to include in the submission for the Multicultural Framework Review.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	CEO Performance Review
Date:	Monday, 25 September 2023
	Time Opened: 6:00pm
	Time Closed: 7:30pm
Location:	Councillor Lounge, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Diamante (Mayor), Cr Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Chen, Cr Conlon, Cr Gough, Cr Lange, Cr L Mayne, Cr S Mayne
Officers Present:	Andrew Day (CEO)
Apologies:	Cr Kleinert
Items discussed:	1. CEO performance 2022/23
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	Councillor and CEO Only Time				
Date:	Tuesday, 26 September 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>5:30pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>6:35pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	5:30pm	Time Closed:	6:35pm
Time Opened:	5:30pm				
Time Closed:	6:35pm				
Location:	Councillor Lounge, Civic Centre				
Councillors Present:	Cr Diamante (Mayor), Cr Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Chen, Cr Conlon, Cr Gough, Cr Lange, Cr L Mayne, Cr S Mayne				
Officers Present:	Andrew Day (CEO)				
Apologies:	Cr Kleinert				
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on North East Link Project (NELP) and planning reforms 2. Mayor and CEO advocacy meetings with local members 3. Hunter Valley (NSW) bus crash memorial service 4. Multicultural submission to the federal government 5. Upcoming council meeting 				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	North East Link (NELP) Briefing to Council – Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP)				
Date:	Wednesday, 27 September 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>6:00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>8:00pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	6:00pm	Time Closed:	8:00pm
Time Opened:	6:00pm				
Time Closed:	8:00pm				
Location:	Function Room 2, Civic Centre				
Councillors Present:	Cr Diamante (Mayor), Cr Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Conlon, Cr S Mayne, Cr L Mayne, Cr Lange, Cr Chen				
Officers Present:	Andrew Day (CEO), Rachele Quattrocchi, Anton Peiris, Andrew McMaster, Fiona Troise, Connor Curtin, Ros Holding, Frank Vassilacos				
Apologies:	Cr Kleinert and Cr Gough				
Items discussed:	North East Link Project (NELP) – Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) for the Southern Package (Eastern Freeway works) – Pre-exhibition Councillor briefing of the UDLP details.				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Strategic Briefing Session
Date:	Tuesday, 3 October 2023
	Time Opened: 6:30pm Time Closed: 9:39pm
Location:	Council Chambers, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Geoff Gough, Cr Carli Lange, Cr Laura Mayne and Cr Stephen Mayne
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Rachelle Quattrocchi, Director City Services Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities Carrie Bruce, Acting Chief Legal and Governance Officer Fiona Troise, Acting Director City Planning Sheraz Akram, Acting Chief Financial Officer</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance Kim Tran, Acting Senior Governance Lead Krishan Soobrayen, Manager City Projects Ben Middleton, Emergency Management Coordinator Linda Merlino, Project Lead Strategic Property Portfolio Lydia Winstanley, Coordinator City Planning Gabrielle O'Halloran, Senior Strategic Planner Frank Vassilacos, Manager Integrated Planning</p>
Apologies:	Cr Michelle Kleinert
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Management and Fire Update 2023/24 2. Strategic Property Portfolio Update (Confidential) 3. Final Draft Affordable Housing Policy - Review of submissions for final endorsement 4. Victoria's Housing Statement (reform announcement)
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Strategic Briefing Session
Date:	Tuesday, 10 October 2023
	Time Opened: 6:30pm
	Time Closed: 7:53pm
Location:	Council Chambers, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Geoff Gough, Cr Carli Lange, Cr Laura Mayne, Cr Stephen Mayne and Cr Michelle Kleinert (virtual attendance)
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present</p> <p>Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Rachelle Quattrocchi, Director City Services Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities Andrew McMaster, Acting Director City Planning Carrie Bruce, Acting Chief Legal and Governance Officer Sheraz Akram, Acting Chief Financial Officer</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance</p> <p>Kim Tran, Acting Senior Governance Lead Jess Rae, Coordinator Climate Emergency and Environment Helen Napier, Manager Sustainable Futures Robert Morton, Recreation Planner Nathan Whelan, Recreation Participation Officer Jen Martin, Interim Manager Recreation</p>
Apologies:	Nil
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate Emergency Response Plan Update and Community Reference Panel 2. Fair Access Policy Roadmap 3. Tom Kelly Athletics Track Usage Review
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	Strategic Briefing Session				
Date:	Tuesday, 17 October 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>6:15pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>7:20pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	6:15pm	Time Closed:	7:20pm
Time Opened:	6:15pm				
Time Closed:	7:20pm				
Location:	Council Chambers, Civic Centre				
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Geoff Gough, Cr Laura Mayne, Cr Stephen Mayne and Cr Michelle Kleinert				
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present</p> <p>Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Jon Gorst, Chief Financial Officer Kerry Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Andrew McMaster, Acting Director City Planning Carrie Bruce, Acting Chief Legal and Governance Officer</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance</p> <p>Kim Tran, Acting Senior Governance Lead Jude Whelan, Manager Engaged Communities</p>				
Apologies:	Cr Carli Lange				
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Report 2022/23 2. Manningham Homelessness Protocol 2023 3. Housing Reform Announcements - Implications for Manningham 4. Council Meeting Schedule for 2024 				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Councillor Development Session – Governance Briefing
Date:	Tuesday, 17 October 2023
	Time Opened: 7:30pm
	Time Closed: 9:10pm
Location:	Council Chambers, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Geoff Gough, Cr Michelle Kleinert, Cr Laura Mayne and Cr Stephen Mayne
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Andrew McMaster, Acting Director City Planning Carrie Bruce, Acting Chief Legal and Governance Officer</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance Kim Tran, Acting Senior Governance Lead</p>
Apologies:	Cr Carli Lange
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Governance Rules 2. Confidential information 3. Operation Sandon Recommendation
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

14.3 Documents for Sealing

File Number: IN23/624
Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's authority to sign and seal the documents outlined in the recommendation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following documents are submitted for signing and sealing by Council.

1. RECOMMENDATION

That the following documents be signed and sealed:

Lease

**Council and Boroondara Aged Services Society ACN 004 574 547
Premises: Part 895-901 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East**

Community Services Lease

**Council and Tunstall Square Kindergarten Incorporated (A0010527L)
Premises: Part 7-9 Florence Avenue, Donvale**

Deed of Surrender

**Council and Tunstall Square Kindergarten Incorporated (A0010527L)
Premises: Part 77 Tunstall Road, Doncaster East**

Consent to Build Over an Easement

**Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987
Council and ADM Property 226greenslopesdrive Pty Ltd
Land: 226 Greenslopes Drive, Templestowe Lower**

Consent to Build Over an Easement

**Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987
Council and YS Shum
Land: 7 Cantala Drive, Doncaster**

2. BACKGROUND

The Council's common seal must only be used on the authority of the Council or the Chief Executive Officer under delegation from the Council. An authorising Council resolution is required in relation to the documents listed in the recommendation section of this report.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Communication and Engagement

Stakeholder Groups	The other parties to the agreements
Is engagement required?	No. This information is provided in the interests of public transparency.
Where does it sit on the IAP2 spectrum?	N/A
Approach	N/A

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

15 NOTICES OF MOTION**15.1 Notice of Motion by Cr Stephen Mayne (NOM No. 3/2023)**

File Number: IN23/665

Attachments: Nil

MOTION**That Council:**

- 1. Request officers to prepare a report for a council meeting before the 2024 council elections which:**
 - A. Briefly summarises Mannacare's stewardship and operations over the balance of the current council term, including how it was impacted by and met the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic;**
 - B. Summarises the current legal, leasehold and commercial arrangements between Mannacare, council, the State Government and the Federal Government; and**
 - C. After consulting with Mannacare, recommends any changes to the current arrangements between Mannacare and council.**

16 URGENT BUSINESS**17 COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND QUESTION TIME****18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS****18.1 CEO Performance and Remuneration Review 2022/23**

This report contains confidential information as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. The relevant ground applying is S3(1)f of the Act concerning personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

The Chief Executive Officer has declared a material conflict of interest in this matter as it relates to his performance and remuneration. The CEO will leave the meeting for the duration of this item.