# **Planning and Consultation Committee** Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough on Tuesday 8 June 2021 commencing at 7:00pm.

# **Agenda**

# **Carl Cowie Chief Executive Officer**

Thursday 3 June 2021

Distribution: Public

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# Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting seating plan

Cr Natalie Duffy Edendale Ward				Cr Peter Perkins (Mayor) Ellis Ward
<b>Cr Karen Egan</b> Bunjil Ward				Cr Frances Eyre (Deputy Mayor) Swipers Gully Ward
Cr Richard Stockman Blue Lake Ward				Cr Geoff Paine Wingrove Ward
Katia Croce Governance Lead	Blaga Naumoski Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement	Cr Ben Ramcharan (Chairperson Consultation Matters) Sugarloaf Ward	Carl Cowie Chief Executive Officer	

# Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Agenda Nillumbik Shire Council

8 June 2021

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# **Nillumbik Shire Council**

Agenda of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting to be held Tuesday 8 June 2021 commencing at 7:00pm.

# 1. Welcome by the Chair

Members of the public are advised the meeting will be recorded and a recording of the meeting will be made publicly available on YouTube and Council's website.

# 2. Acknowledgement of Country

# The Acknowledgement of Country to be read by the Chairperson

Nillumbik Shire Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other First Nations people present.

# 3. Apologies

#### Recommendation

**That** the apologies be noted.

#### 4. Confirmation of minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11 May 2021.

#### Recommendation

**That** the minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11 May 2021 be confirmed (**Attachment 1**).



# 5. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Committee members should note that any conflicts of interest should also be disclosed immediately before the relevant item.



### 6. Officers' reports

PCC.008/21 Eltham Town Centre Local Area Traffic Management and Pedestrian /

**Cycling Improvements - Urban Congestion Fund** 

Item: Consultation Matter

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Lawrence Seyers, Lead Transport Planner

#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide a briefing on the outcomes of the Main Road Corridor Eltham Urban Congestion Fund Transport Working Group, to note the Commonwealth Government grant agreement milestones for delivery and to obtain approval to commence a six-week public consultation process.

#### Recommendation

**That** the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

- 1. Notes the Commonwealth Government grant agreement provides \$5 million to Nillumbik Shire Council with milestones for delivery;
- 2. Notes the outcomes of the Main Road corridor Eltham Urban Congestion Fund Transport Working Group of Officers from Council and the Department of Transport;
- 3. Endorses a six-week period of community consultation on the Main Road Corridor Eltham Urban Congestion Fund project provided in **Attachments 1 to 3**; and
- 4. Requests a report to the 14 September 2021 Planning and Consultation Committee meeting which considers public feedback to the Main Road Corridor Eltham Urban Congestion Fund project and recommends any changes which are considered necessary in response.

#### **Attachments**

- 1<sup>to</sup>. Main Road corridor Eltham overview map
- 2<sup>th</sup>. Main Road corridor Eltham transport treatments for consultation
- 31. Main Road corridor Eltham before and after illustrations

#### Discussion

- 1. On 6 February 2019 the Commonwealth Government announced the Fitzsimons Lane and Main Road Corridor in Eltham would receive \$10 million to tackle congested sections. The funding was split \$5 million to Nillumbik Shire Council and \$5 million to Manningham City Council.
- 2. The grant agreement required Nillumbik Shire Council to submit a Road Project Proposal Report to the Commonwealth Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development prior to a recommendation to the Minister to approve and release funding for the project.

# PCC.008/21 Eltham Town Centre Local Area Traffic Management and Pedestrian / Cycling Improvements - Urban Congestion Fund

- 3. The Road Project Proposal Report was approved by the Minister on 20 May 2020.
- 4. The project is located in the Eltham Activity Centre, shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Locality Plan

- 5. Following receipt of the approved project scope, Council established a Transport Working Group (TWG) of Council and Department of Transport officers to undertake planning and pre-construction planning of transport improvements along the Main Rd corridor in Eltham.
- 6. A contract was awarded to GTA Consultants to deliver a three-phase design and engagement process that included regular meetings of the TWG.
- 7. The TWG concluded its activities on 28 January 2021.
- 8. Following the conclusion of the TWG, a briefing was provided to the Department of Transport's Regional Review Committee (RRC) to provide an update on the outcomes from the TWG and the Commonwealth Government Grant Agreement milestones for delivery and next steps of Councillor Briefings and community consultation.

#### **Related Council decisions**

9. None.

#### **Options**

10. Like most activity centres, the Eltham Activity Centre suffers from traffic congestion and subsequent road safety issues. There are two ways to manage this problem: supply new capacity or manage demand.

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- 11. By choosing investments that supply new capacity the following outcomes can be expected:
  - a. Provides quick short term new vehicle lane/signal capacity;
  - b. Inevitably becomes more congested due to induced traffic;
  - c. Inconsistent with Eltham Activity Centre Plan;
  - d. Inconsistent with 40km/h Activity Centre speeds on Main Rd; and
  - e. Inconsistent with DOT Movement & Place classifications (pedestrian priority).
- 12. By choosing investments that manage travel demand and exploring alternative modes of transport the following outcomes can be expected:
  - a. Increased walking, cycling, public transport use (induce mode shift);
  - b. Makes vehicle travel less attractive (local area traffic management);
  - c. Provides long term benefits with induced sustainable travel choices;
  - d. Behaviour change reduces vehicle kilometres travelled; and
  - e. Provides vehicle lane capacity for people who must drive.
- 13. The cause of traffic congestion problem in the Eltham Activity Centre is the reliance on vehicles as the main mode of transport, subsequently this results in a great portion of the road environment allocated for parking.
- 14. To mitigate the effects of the traffic congestion problem, the project proposes to manage demand by undertaking improvements along the Main Road corridor in Eltham to encourage and prioritise walking, cycling and public transport.
- 15. This will deliver the project vision to create a more pedestrian friendly and connected Eltham activity centre and to encourage sustainable and active travel modes, particularly public transport and walking, and by doing so, reduce traffic congestion.
- 16. The Road Project Proposal Report was submitted to the Commonwealth Government in March 2020 and approved on 20 May 2020. The Road Project Proposal allows Nillumbik Shire Council to plan and deliver transport improvements along the Main Road corridor in Eltham. This includes investigation of:
  - Traffic signals on Main Road;
  - Management of bus movements at Eltham railway station;
  - Pedestrian movements;
  - Rat running of traffic;
  - Consolidated car parking and access in the Eltham Town Centre;
  - Place making and activation; and
  - Level crossing removal.

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- 17. The grant agreement has a number of expected milestones to deliver the project:
  - Investigate opportunities within Eltham Structure Plan review such as the specialist transport review, intersection modelling and preliminary scoping for car parking (completed December 2019);
  - b. Priority projects identified to relieve congestion (completed December 2019);
  - c. Concept design and scope development of shortlisted projects (milestone achieved with GTA engagement in Q2 2020);
  - d. Detailed design and project development (milestone achieved with GTA commencing detailed design in Q4 2020);
  - e. Procurement and delivery (milestone to be reached upon commencement of procurement process in late 2021); and
  - f. Commencement in March 2022 (NB: this was expected to be March 2021, but the adoption of a Council Community Engagement Policy led to a variation request, which was agreed by the Commonwealth Government in January 2021).

#### Council plans and policies

This report directly supports the achievement of Council Plan 2017-2021 strategy:

• Ensure that the provision of community infrastructure responds to community needs.

# **Sustainability implications**

- 18. Victoria's Climate Change Act 2017 establishes a long-term target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The Victorian Government's Climate Change Strategy seeks to reduce emissions and includes a target of increasing active transport mode share to 25 percent by 2030. Currently it is about 18 percent.
- 19. In developing these transport treatments, Council is promoting a response to climate change that invests in transport network improvements that prioritise sustainable transport modes to reduce transport emissions and improve our resilience to climate change risks of peak oil and fossil fuel dependency.

#### Community engagement

- 20. Amendments to the *Local Government Act 2020* places a statutory obligation for all Councils to have a Community Engagement Policy.
- 21. Council undertook community engagement on a draft Community Engagement Policy in October 2020 and the Policy was adopted on 25 February 2021.
- 22. The Community Engagement Policy requires a commitment to 'deliberative' extended engagement in all projects of significant scope, complexity and impact.
- 23. This project will be subject to the 'deliberative engagement' practices (described in the next steps section of this report).

#### **Innovation and continuous improvement**

24. Not applicable.

# PCC.008/21 Eltham Town Centre Local Area Traffic Management and Pedestrian / Cycling Improvements - Urban Congestion Fund

#### Collaboration

- 25. Officers have undertaken extensive collaboration with other government agencies on this project which has included the establishment of a Transport Working Group (TWG) with members drawn from:
  - a. Eltham Park and Ride project team at the Level Crossing Removal Project;
  - b. Movement & Safety (Roads) team at the Department of Transport;
  - c. Transport Network Planning Integration team at the Department of Transport;
  - d. Bus Stop (Metro Assets) team at the Department of Transport; and
  - e. Movement & Place team at the Department of Transport.
- 26. The TWG was established following approval of the Road Project Proposal by the Commonwealth Minister and met regularly throughout a three-phase engagement process, meetings included:
  - a. Phase 1: Scoping Phase
    - i. 10 June 2020 site inspection;
    - ii. 2 July 2020 Workshop #1; and
    - iii. 3 week hold point for review of outputs, concluded 20 August 2020.
  - b. Phase 2: Concept Design and Scope Development Phase
    - i. 17 September 2020 Workshop #2;
    - ii. 8 October 2020 Workshop #3; and
    - iii. 3 week hold point for review of outputs, concluded 29 October 2020.
  - c. Phase 3: Detailed Design and Project Development Phase
    - i. 26 November 2020 Workshop #4;
    - ii. 17 December 2020 Workshop #5;
    - iii. Concluded at the 28 January 2021 Workshop #6.
- 27. At each of the stages of the TWG process, a 3 week hold point was included in the program for review of outputs and inclusion of responses.

#### **Budget implications**

- 28. Nillumbik Shire Council is the recipient of \$5 million from the Commonwealth Government's Urban Congestion Fund. The initial instalment \$3,500,000 (ex. GST) was paid to Council on approval of the Road Project Proposal in May 2020. The final instalment \$1,500,000 (ex. GST) is payable to Council on completion of works.
- 29. The works must commence by March 2022. If the project does not commence by March 2022 Council may have to return the remaining grant funding.

#### Relevant law

30. Not applicable.

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# Regional, state and national plans and policies

31. The project has considered federal, state and local planning policies, programs, strategies and plans in the development of the proposed projects and they are consistent with the current Department of Transport Movement and Place Classifications and strategic planning documents including Plan Melbourne and the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan (July 2020).

#### **Next steps**

- 32. From the TWG workshops a number of detailed design outputs have been prepared for capital improvements to be delivered from the \$5 million Commonwealth Government grant. These will be subject to the planned community consultation.
- 33. The projects have been refined from a large number of 'investigation projects' identified in the Eltham Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and are specifically chosen to be deliverable in the \$5 million funding that has been provided. Excluded projects were the investigation of the Diamond Street level crossing removal, construction of a new public transport hub (bus interchange and railway station), Eltham train stabling relocation and a pedestrian bridge from Main Road to Youth Road.
- 34. The proposed treatments are described and presented over the following pages. A high level overview map of the proposed treatments is provided as **Attachment 1**. Functional Layout Drawings of each treatment is provided as **Attachment 2** and 'before/after' artists illustrations are provided as **Attachment 3**.
  - a. Main Road Diamond Creek Trail Strategic Cycling Corridor 'missing link' which involves the construction of a 2.5m wide Shared Path on Main Rd (western side) to connect the Diamond Creek Trail, identified as a Strategic Cycling Corridor (refer Sheets 1 and 2 of **Attachment 2**, noting there are two options: relocation of the power poles, or retain the power poles).
  - b. Main Road/Diamond Street/Cecil Street where traffic signal improvements are proposed that consist of a realigned pedestrian crossing, improvements to the Diamond Creek Trail Strategic Cycling Path 'missing link' and the closure of Cecil Street westbound to improve traffic signal efficiency (refer Sheet 2 of Attachment 2).
  - c. Main Road/Luck Street roundabout improvements involves the closure of east-west pedestrian crossing desire lines (which are redirected away from the roundabout to existing signals to the north and new signals to the south) and new raised pedestrian crossing threshold treatments on Luck Street and the commuter car park entrance (refer Sheet 3 of Attachment 2).
  - d. Main Road mid-block between Luck Street and Pryor Street involves a new Pedestrian Operated Signal to link directly to the Bus Interchange with bus detector loops to provide bus priority (refer Sheet 4 of **Attachment 2**).
  - e. Main Road/Pryor Street involves a raised threshold treatment on Pryor Street at the Main Road intersection with two new raised pedestrian crossings on Pryor Street (refer Sheet 4 of **Attachment 2**).

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- f. Main Road/Arthur Street involves an extended raised threshold treatment on Arthur Street at the Main Road intersection with two new raised pedestrian crossings on Arthur St and a right turn ban from Arthur St into Main Road (refer Sheet 5 of **Attachment 2**).
- g. Main Road/St Laurence Lane (refer Sheet 5 of Attachment 2) involves:
  - The closure of St Laurence Lane to vehicle traffic to create a COVID-Safe outdoor dining opportunity;
  - ii. Permanent access from VicTrack landholding (short term agreement has been secured);
  - iii. Kerb outstand landscaping opportunities;
  - iv. Realignment of existing 90 degree parking on Main Road to 60 degree parking; and
  - v. Creation of a Disability Discrimination Act compliant parking space.
- h. Main Road/Panther Place involves a raised threshold treatment on Panther Place at the Main Road intersection (refer Sheet 6 of **Attachment 2**).
- i. Main Road/York Street involves a raised threshold treatment on Pryor Street at the Main Road intersection (refer Sheet 7 of **Attachment 2**).
- j. Bible Street/Cecil Street involves a new raised platform intersection, relocation of zebra crossing, establishment of parking on west side of Bible Street and removal of existing slow point 'blister' island (refer Sheet 8 of **Attachment 2**).
- k. Bible Street/Luck Street involves a new raised platform intersection, new pedestrian (zebra) crossings and establishment of parking on western side of Bible Street (refer Sheet 9 of **Attachment 2**).
- I. Bible Street/Pryor Street involves a new raised platform intersection, new kerb outstand landscaping and establishment of parking on western side of Bible Street (refer Sheet 10 of **Attachment 2**).
- m. Bible Street/Arthur Street involves a new raised platform intersection, removal of roundabout and establishment of parking on western side of Bible Street (refer Sheet 11 of **Attachment 2**).
- n. Bible Street/Henry Street involves the replacement of an existing school crossing to a raised pedestrian school crossing and establishment of parking on western side of Bible Street (refer Sheet 12 of **Attachment 2**).
- Bible Street mid-block between Taylor Street and York Street (refer Sheet 13 of Attachment 2) involves a new raised speed hump located at 74 Bible Street and establishment of parking on western side of Bible Street.

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- 35. In addition to the proposed infrastructure treatments, a Speed Zone review of the Eltham Activity Centre has found:
  - a. The existing 40km/h part time speed limit on Main Rd (8am-7pm Mon-Sat) that reverts to 60km/h all other times is inconsistent and creates unintended traffic consequences of Bible Street rat running.
  - b. There is already a number of 40km/h roads in the Activity Centre (Dudley Street, Henry Street, Diamond Street, Youth Rd and Luck Street).
  - c. The 50km/h default speed applies on all other roads but average speeds in PM peak are well below 40km/h (between 17-32km/h).
- 36. It is proposed to consult the community about the application of a full time 40 km/h to all roads within the 'Eltham Activity Centre Zone' to remove the variable day/timed Main Rd signage and apply 40km/h start/end signage to all roads.
- 37. In addition, a further project has been identified to seal the carpark around Eltham Central Oval (refer last page of **Attachment 2**), including drainage and landscaping improvements. This will provide parking priority for the child care centre (signed parking) and is identified by the Level Crossing Authority Hurstbridge Stage 2 as a temporary 'offset parking' option.
- 38. At order of magnitude cost estimate has been prepared for the capital works and the total cost of the project is within the \$5 million budget allocation. This is inclusive of the capital works cost estimate, design consultant fees, estimated traffic management and permit fees and project management. Project scope will be reduced to meet budget limit if required.
- 39. This report to the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting provides a recommendation to proceed to community consultation.
- 40. Public consultation will be open for six weeks and will include fact sheets that contain 'before/after' illustrations of the various projects (refer **Attachment 3**). An engagement plan has been prepared that includes a number of face-to-face 'pop up' consultation opportunities, letter box drops, targeted mail outs and outreach meetings planned with the Eltham Community Action Group (ECAG) and the Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECCI).
- 41. Consultation is expected to conclude on 23 July 2021, and consultation outcomes will be presented to the 14 September 2021 Planning and Consultation Committee.

#### Conflicts of interest

42. All officers involved in the preparation of this report have made a declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

### 6. Officers' reports

PCC.009/21 Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 Submissions

Item: Consultation Matter

**Distribution: Public** 

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Robert Malignaggi, Business Services Lead

Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

#### Summary

This report considers submissions received from the public regarding the proposed Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 – 2025 (Attachment 1).

Council adopted the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 at the Council Meeting on 27 April 2021 for the purpose of community consultation. The draft Revenue and Rating Plan was exhibited for 32 days with one submission received. The Submission and Supporting Documents are attached to this report (**Attachment 2** and **Attachment 3 - CONFIDENTIAL**).

It is proposed that the Committee considers the submission on the draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 and that the matter then be considered by Council on 29 June 2021.

#### Recommendation

**That** the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

- 1. Receives and notes the Submission received in respect of the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 2025 (Attachment 2 and Attachment 3).
- 2. Considers the matters contained in the Submission and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 2025.
- 3. Recommends the adoption of the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 2025 (Attachment 1) at the 29 June 2021 Council Meeting.
- 4. Resolves that the Supporting Documents (**Attachment 3 CONFIDENTIAL**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Attachments**

- 1<sup>th</sup>. Nillumbik Shire Council Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025
- 2<sup>th</sup>. Group Submission to Draft Revenue and Rating Plan
- 3. Supporting Documents A to N CONFIDENTIAL

# PCC.009/21 Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 Submissions

# Background

- 1. Council is required to adopt the Plan prior to 30 June in the year following a general election, under section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (2020 Act). This is a new requirement under the 2020 Act.
- 2. The purpose of the Plan is to establish a rating and revenue strategy which, in conjunction with other income sources.
- 3. The Plan outlines Council's most significant sources of income and provides a framework for informing the income projections in Council's Financial Plan 2021-2025 and future budgets.
- 4. Council adopted the proposed Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 2025 at the 27 April 2021 Council Meeting for the purpose of community consultation.

#### **Submissions**

- 5. In response to the public exhibition of the proposed Revenue and Rating Strategy 2021 2025, one Submission was received from the community.
- 6. The Submission and Supporting Documents is provided as **Attachment 2** and **Attachment 3 CONFIDENTIAL**.
- 7. Submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to their submission.
- 8. Once the Committee has considered the Submission, the Committee must present a report to the next Council meeting. Council is required to consider the Committee's report on submissions prior to finalising the Revenue and Rating Plan.

#### **Related Council decisions**

9. Not applicable.

#### **Options**

- 10. Council has adopted a draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 2025 and exhibited this for public consultation.
- 11. Following the Committee's consideration of submissions, the matter will be further considered at the 29 June 2021 Council Meeting.

#### Council plans and policies

- 12. This report directly supports the achievement of Council Plan 2017-2021 strategy:
  - Ensure responsible and efficient management of Council's financial resources.

#### **Sustainability implications**

- 13. Council's financial sustainability is informed by the indicators set by the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO).
- 14. These indicators comprise of both short term and longer term measures. The indicators are calculated and considered as part of the budget process.

# PCC.009/21 Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 Submissions

# **Community engagement**

15. The draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 – 2025 was the subject of a communication and consultation program which included advertising and an online feedback form on Council's website.

### Innovation and continuous improvement

16. Continuous improvement and innovation opportunities identified have been considered as part of the plan development process.

#### Collaboration

17. Not applicable.

### **Budget implications**

18. The costs of preparing and exhibiting the Revenue and Rating Plan, such as public notices, are funded from operating budget allocations.

# Relevant law

- 19. Local Government Act 2020.
- 20. The approach to the Revenue and Rating Plan and the composition of the financial statements are prepared reflective of the overall compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

#### Regional, state and national plans and policies

21. Not applicable.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

22. No officer involved in the preparation of this report has declared a conflict of interest.

PCC.009/21 Revenue and Rating Plan 2021 - 2025 Submissions

# 6. Officers' reports

PCC.010/21 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances Review - Submissions

Item: Consultation Matter

**Distribution: Public** 

Manager: Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer

Author: Robert Malignaggi, Business Services Lead

Melika Sukunda, Finance Manager

# Summary

This report considers submissions received from the public regarding the proposed Mayoral and Councillor Allowances (**Attachment 1**).

Under section 74(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (1989 Act), Council must review and determine the level of mayoral and councillor allowances within six months of a general election or by 30 June, whichever is later.

Council adopted the proposed level of Mayoral and Councillor allowances at the Council Meeting on 27 April 2021 for the purpose of community consultation. The proposed level of Mayoral and Councillor allowances was exhibited for 32 days with three submissions received. These submissions are attached to this report (**Attachment 1**).

It is proposed that the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances be set at the existing levels and the matter be considered by Council on 29 June 2021.

### Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

- 1. Receives and notes the Submissions received in respect of the proposed level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances (**Attachment 1**).
- 2. Considers the matters contained in the submissions and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances.
- 3. Having reviewed the Mayoral and Councillor allowances, recommends to set the allowances at the existing levels as follows:

a) Mayoral allowance \$81,204b) Councillor allowance \$26,245

# **Attachments**

1<sup>to</sup>. Proposed Mayoral and Councillor allowances - Submissions

# PCC.010/21 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances Review - Submissions

# Background

- 1. Under section 74(1) of the 1989 Act, Council must review and determine the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances by 30 June 2021.
- 2. The allowances paid for the Mayor and Councillors are established under the *Local Government Act* 2020 (2020 Act).
- 3. The Victorian Government sets the upper and lower limits for allowances. There are three categories of councils (small, medium and large), and the categories are based on revenue and population levels. Nillumbik is included in Category 2 (medium-sized councils).
- 4. Each Council has discretion to determine its position within the relevant limits for its category. Once determined by the Council following each annual election, the level of allowances within the band is fixed for the balance of that Council's four year term.
- 5. The Minister for Local Government also conducts an annual adjustment of allowances to allow for inflation. The most recent adjustment was in December 2019, when the Minister increased allowances by 2.0% (Attachment 1).
- 6. The Mayor and Councillors are entitled to receive an amount equivalent to the Superannuation Guarantee (currently 9.5%) in addition to their allowance.
- 7. Until Council completes the post-election review, the level of allowances remains at the current level. Once Council has completed the review, the only further changes will be via the Minister's annual adjustment process.

#### **Submissions**

- 8. In response to the public exhibition of the proposed Mayoral and Councillor Allowances, three submissions were received from the community.
- 9. These Submissions are listed in Attachment 1.
- 10. Submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to their submissions.
- 11. Once the Committee has considered the submissions, the Committee must present a report to the next Council meeting. Council is required to consider the Committee's report on submissions prior to finalising the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances.

#### **Related Council decisions**

12. A final decision determining the levels at which the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances will be set will be made at the Council meeting on Tuesday 29 June 2021.

# **Options**

- 13. Council has exhibited the proposed levels of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances for the purposes of public consultation.
- 14. Following the Committee's consideration of submissions, the matter will be further considered at the 29 June 2021 Council Meeting.

# PCC.010/21 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances Review - Submissions

# Council plans and policies

- 15. This report directly supports the achievement of Council Plan 2017-2021 strategy:
  - Ensure responsible and efficient management of Council's financial resources.

# **Sustainability implications**

- 16. Council's financial sustainability is informed by the indicators set by the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO).
- 17. These indicators comprise of both short term and longer term measures. The indicators are calculated and considered as part of the budget process.

# **Community engagement**

18. The proposed level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances was the subject of a communication and consultation program which included advertising and an online feedback form on Council's website.

#### Innovation and continuous improvement

19. Not applicable.

#### Collaboration

20. Not applicable.

# **Budget implications**

21. The costs of reviewing the Mayoral and Councillor Allowances, such as public notices, are funded from operating budget allocations.

#### Relevant law

- 22. Local Government Act 1989.
- 23. Local Government Act 2020.

# Regional, state and national plans and policies

24. Not applicable.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

25. No officer involved in the preparation of this report has declared a conflict of interest.

PCC.010/21 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances Review - Submissions

# Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting Agenda

8 June 2021

- 7. Supplementary and urgent business
- 8. Confidential reports
- 9. Close of Meeting