

# Council Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough  
on Tuesday 26 July 2022 commencing at 7:00pm.

## Minutes

**Carl Cowie**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Friday 29 July 2022

Distribution: Public

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## Nillumbik Shire Council

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**Nillumbik Shire Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held Tuesday 26 July 2022.  
The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.**

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**Councillors present:**

Cr Frances Eyre	Swipers Gully Ward ( <b>Mayor</b> )
Cr Richard Stockman	Blue Lake Ward
Cr Karen Egan	Bunjil Ward
Cr Natalie Duffy	Edendale Ward
Cr Peter Perkins	Ellis Ward
Cr Ben Ramcharan	Sugarloaf Ward ( <b>Deputy Mayor</b> )
Cr Geoff Paine	Wingrove Ward

**Officers in attendance:**

Carl Cowie	Chief Executive Officer
Vince Lombardi	Chief Financial Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Sally Johnson	Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
Jeremy Livingston	Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance
Rosa Zouzoulas	Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Nichole Johnson	Manager Community Partnerships
Katia Croce	Governance Lead

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**1. Welcome by the Mayor**

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

Acknowledgement of Country was read by the Mayor, Cr Frances Eyre.

**3. Good Governance Pledge**

The Good Governance Pledge was read by Cr Ben Ramcharan.

**4. Prayer**

A prayer was read by Lead Pastor Stewart Hunt from The Vine Baptist Church.

**5. Apologies**

Nil

**6. Presentations**

**Condolence – John Chenhall**

I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of well-known and respected Diamond Creek local, John Chenhall. John was a retired engineer who served in the armed forces in Darwin.

He is a past President and 10 year Committee member of the Diamond Creek Bowls Club.

John is also a past President of the Diamond Creek RSL and spent many years rattling tins and selling poppies and ANZAC badges to raise funds for the Diamond Creek RSL.

For a number of years John coordinated and led most of the Remembrance Day and Anzac Day Ceremonies at the Diamond Creek War Memorial. He helped grow these commemorations from just a handful attending to hundreds – involving local schools, community groups and families.

John spoke regularly about the meaning of ANZAC Day at many of our local primary and high schools. He also worked with former service personnel suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and supported Legacy by collecting and by visiting those in need.

John was named Senior Citizen of the Year at Nillumbik's 2018 Australia Day Awards. His dedication to our community and commitment to honouring the legacy that the fallen have left behind, is an inspiration to us all.

He will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts are with John's family and friends at this time.

7. Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes Council Meeting held Tuesday 28 June 2022

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**Summary**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meeting and Confidential Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2022.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr Geoff Paine

**SECONDED:** Cr Karen Egan

**That Council:**

1. Confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting and Confidential Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2022 (**Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2**).
2. Resolves that the Confidential Council Meeting minutes (**Attachment 2**) remains confidential in accordance with section 3(1)(h) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**8. Disclosure of conflicts of interest**

Nil

**9. Petitions**

Nil

**10. Questions from the gallery**

**Sue Ormerod has submitted the following question:**

**Question 1**

Could Council ensure that one large tree stump be retained during the tree removal works in the Council Managed Land at the front of Eltham Lower Park as a historical marker and so it can be carved into seating in the future?

**Response**

Council officers will review and look into retaining at least one Monterey Cypress at the entrance to the Eltham Lower Park as an historical marker and potential future carving. Participate Nillumbik is open for feedback until 3<sup>rd</sup> August. [Eltham Gateway Project | Participate Nillumbik](#)

The following questions were of a similar topic and were read out together and the answer provided at the end.

**Sara Flottl has submitted the following questions:**

**Question 1**

With the news of a hospital to be built on Ryans Road in Diamond Creek, I would like to know how council plan on making an already congested Ryans Road safer as well as more equipped to handle the increase in traffic on an already ill equipped single lane road?

**Question**

**2**

How does council intend on making the footpath, or the lack thereof, specifically from 407-435 Ryans Road in Diamond Creek, a safe place for pedestrians, for kids walking to and from school, for people with prams walking to the hospital, for the elderly and for all pedestrians walking in this specific area?

**Daniel Harris has submitted the following questions:**

**Question 1**

As residents from these addresses we have no safe area to walk behind the metal safety barriers that line the road so have to actually walk on the side of the bitumen on the road side of the metal barriers?

How does the council plan to deal with the dangerous bend from approximately 419-435 Ryans rd Diamond Creek?

**Question 2**

Proposed new hospital at 405 Ryans rd Diamond creek.

How does the council plan to show the nearby residents a road and traffic plan to accommodate this new facility to the area on an already busy, windy and dangerous rd that has no footpath/ safe area to walk on the same side of the road the hospital is being built?

**Response**

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State Government project undertaken by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA). It is understood that the VHBA, appointed by the Minister for Health, has been actively working to identify and assess land in the Eltham Area district for the purposes of a community hospital. This work is undertaken entirely separately from Council.

Accordingly Council has not been afforded the opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of the proposal and its impacts. Council therefore cannot comment on the decision making process or associated implications, of the State or its representatives.

In addition, Ryans Road is managed by Victorian Department of Transport under the *Road Management Act*. Any questions about the project including the impacts on Ryans Road would be best put to the VHBA as the responsible authority. You can also send your feedback into the VHBA by email [communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au)

Council will advocate to the Department of Transport for improved traffic and pedestrian safety outcomes along this road.



11. Reports of Advisory Committees

AC.006/22      Advisory Committee Report - 26 July 2022

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**Distribution:**    Public

**Manager:**        Sally Johnson, Acting Executive Manager Governance,  
Communications and Engagement

**Author:**         Katia Croce, Governance Lead

**Summary**

Council has a range of Advisory Committees which provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation. Although they do not make any formal decisions, they provide valuable advice to Council.

In accordance with Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, the following minutes of Advisory Committee meetings are attached (**Attachment 1**) and presented to Council for noting:

1.    Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee – 20 April 2022;
2.    Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee – 22 April 2022;
3.    Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee Partnership Forum – 8 June 2022;
4.    Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee – 15 June 2022;
5.    Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee –  
16 June 2022.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:**          Cr Peter Perkins

**SECONDED:**    Cr Ben Ramcharan

**That** Council notes the Minutes of the Advisory Committee meetings reported (**Attachment 1**).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. Officers' reports****CM.069/22      Adoption of Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy**

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**Distribution:    Public****Manager:        Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Community Services****Author:          Nichole Johnson, Manager Community Partnerships****Summary**

This report presents the Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy (the Policy) (**Attachment 1**) for adoption, following public consultation, receipt of submissions and refinements in response to submissions received.

The Policy outlines Councils commitment to accessible, equitable and inclusive practice across all council activities.

The Policy is informed by legislation, evidence, local context, strategic commitments, best-practice, feedback received throughout the public exhibition period from 23 March – 25 April 2022 and the Planning and Consultation Committee held on 12 July 2022.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:        Cr Ben Ramcharan****SECONDED:    Cr Natalie Duffy****That Council:**

1.    Adopts the Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy (**Attachment 1**).
2.    Authorises the Executive Manager Community Services to make any further minor changes to the Policy that may be necessary and are inconsequential in nature.
3.    Makes the adopted Policy and accompanying documents publically available on Council's website.
4.    Thanks submitters and advises them of the outcome of the consultation process.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 12. Officers' reports

CM.070/22      Climate Action Plan - Year 1 Implementation Plan 2022/23

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**Distribution:**    Public**Manager:**       Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure**Author:**         Lisa Pittle, Manager Environment**Summary**

Council's *Climate Action Plan 2022-2032* was endorsed by Council on 26 April 2022.

This report presents the *Climate Action Plan - Year 1 Implementation Plan* (**Attachment 1**) for Councillor consideration for endorsement.

It specifies climate action initiatives that will be undertaken in 2022/23 to help achieve the goals and targets of the ten-year Climate Action Plan.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:**         Cr Ben Ramcharan**SECONDED:**    Cr Geoff Paine**That Council:**

1. Endorses the *Climate Action Plan - Year 1 Implementation Plan 2022/23* (**Attachment 1**).
2. Notes that a review of climate action progress and outcomes will be presented to Council annually.
3. Notes that a draft of the *Climate Action Plan - Year 2 Implementation 2023/24* will be prepared in late 2022 for consideration via the annual budget process.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**12. Officers' reports****CM.071/22      Nillumbik Draft General Local Law 1 - Public Exhibition****Distribution:    Public****Manager:        Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety****Author:          Heath Gillett, Community Safety Manager****Summary**

Over the past two years, Councillors, Community and Officers have collaborated through the two significant consultation processes (Engagement and Feedback on existing Local Laws and Community Consultation on New Draft Local Laws) to develop new Local Laws.

This report presents the final Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 (**Attachment 1**) and supporting documentation for endorsement for a final round of public exhibition from 1 August – 22 August 2022.

In accordance with Section 73 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Council is required to place a Notice Proposing a Local Law (**Attachment 2**) and the inclusion of all incorporated documentation including the proposed Local Law on Council's website for public exhibition. The incorporated documentation that will support the application of the adopted Nillumbik General Local Law includes:

1. Draft Procedure and Protocol Manual (**Attachment 3**) which are the guidelines on how the Nillumbik General Local Law 1 will be implemented once adopted; and
2. Live Local Plant policy (**Attachment 4**)

The Procedure and Protocol Manual (The Guidelines) is currently in existence, and reflects the current General and Amenity Local Law. Community Safety Officers use the Manual to guide decisions made where a permit is required or where discretion is required to administer the General Local Law. This project requires the Policy and Procedure Manual to be updated, to reflect the Draft General Local Law as per **Attachment 3**.

Public exhibition will be undertaken from 1 August and will close on 22 August 2022. All submissions received will be considered by the Planning and Consultation Committee in October 2022.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

1. Endorses the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 (**Attachment 1**), Notice Proposing a Local Law (**Attachment 2**) and the inclusion of all incorporated documentation for the purposes of undertaking public exhibition in accordance with Section 73 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* which includes:
  - a) Draft Procedure and Protocol Manual (**Attachment 3**)
  - b) Live Local Plant policy (**Attachment 4**).
2. Invites submissions on the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 to Council between 1 August – 22 August 2022.
3. Considers public submissions at the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting to be held in October 2022.

**12. Officers' reports****CM.071/22 Nillumbik Draft General Local Law 1 - Public Exhibition**

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4. Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, be invited to talk to their submission at the October 2022 Planning and Consultation Committee meeting.
5. Acknowledges and thanks the significant participation of the community to support the development of the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1.

**Motion****MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine****SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan****That Council:**

1. Endorses the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 (**Attachment 1**), to allow for **inconsequential corrections**, Notice Proposing a Local Law (**Attachment 2**) and the inclusion of all incorporated documentation for the purposes of undertaking public exhibition in accordance with Section 73 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* which includes:
  - a) Draft Procedure and Protocol Manual (**Attachment 3**) with changes
  - b) Live Local Plant policy (**Attachment 4**).
2. Invites submissions on the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 to Council between 1 August – 22 August 2022.
3. Considers public submissions at the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting to be held in October 2022.
4. Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, be invited to talk to their submission at the October 2022 Planning and Consultation Committee meeting.
5. Acknowledges and thanks the significant participation of the community to support the development of the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

**Council Resolution****MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine****SECONDED: Cr Ben Ramcharan****That Council:**

1. Endorses the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 (**Attachment 1**), to allow for inconsequential corrections, Notice Proposing a Local Law (**Attachment 2**) and the inclusion of all incorporated documentation for the purposes of undertaking public exhibition in accordance with Section 73 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* which includes:

12. Officers' reports

CM.071/22 Nillumbik Draft General Local Law 1 - Public Exhibition

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- a) Draft Procedure and Protocol Manual (**Attachment 3**) with changes
- b) Live Local Plan policy (**Attachment 4**).
2. Invites submissions on the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 to Council between 1 August – 22 August 2022.
3. Considers public submissions at the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting to be held in October 2022.
4. Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, be invited to talk to their submission at the October 2022 Planning and Consultation Committee meeting.
5. Acknowledges and thanks the significant participation of the community to support the development of the Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**





**12. Officers' reports****CM.072/22      Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025**

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**Distribution:    Public****Manager:        Sally Johnson, Acting Executive Manager Governance,  
Communications and Engagement****Author:         Licardo Prince, Communications and Advocacy Lead****Summary**

This report provides a brief overview and background to the development of the Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025 ('The Strategy') (**Attachment 1**).

The Strategy was developed with input and feedback from Councillors, Council officers and the community.

It will provide an overarching framework through which Council will communicate relevant information clearly, accurately and in timely fashion, to its community and other key audiences.

A key aim of the Strategy is to enable a two-way flow of communication and that the community is able to communicate with Council when and how it finds most appropriate.

Placing matters of access, equity and inclusion at the heart of all communications between Council and its community will be integral to achieving this. These were all prominent themes to emerge from the community engagement process undertaken in developing the Strategy.

This feedback has been incorporated into the Strategy, which as a high level guiding document, will ensure that such considerations inform all of Council's communications.

Built on four strategic pillars, the aims of the Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025 will be achieved through an effective combination of approaches and channels.

This will enable a continuous process of engagement - with the community, other external stakeholders, Council officers and Councillors – so that Council has a strong grasp of the community's preferred means of communication.

The Strategy will also be made available in preferred formats – a more accessible Word format version has been developed and an Easy English version will also be produced upon formal adoption of the Strategy. Prior to adoption of the strategy, the accessible Word version can be obtained by request to Council.

In line with the Council Plan 2021-2025 the Strategy provides a framework to deliver communication that meets the needs of the community. It also aligns closely with Council's Community Engagement Policy, which was also adopted last year.

Once endorsed, progress on the implementation of the Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025 will be reviewed annually.

12. Officers' reports

CM.072/22 Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025

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<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr Natalie Duffy

**SECONDED:** Cr Geoff Paine

**That** Council:

1. Formally endorses the Nillumbik Shire Council Communications Strategy 2022-2025.
2. Instructs officers to commence the development of a detailed plan through which to implement the Strategy.
3. Authorises the Acting Executive Manager Governance Communications and Engagement to make any further minor changes to the Strategy that may be necessary.
4. Makes the adopted Strategy publicly available on Council's website.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. Officers' reports****CM.073/22 Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review**

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**Distribution: Public****Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety****Author: Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead****Summary**

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the draft Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review Stage B which includes the final draft Statements of Significance and citations for identified heritage places along with an updated Nillumbik Shire Thematic Environmental History.

Local Councils are responsible for protecting places with local heritage significance. Section 4 of the [Planning and Environment Act 1987](#) obliges Councils to use their planning schemes to conserve and enhance buildings, areas or other places of local heritage significance. Preparation of the Heritage Review is also consistent with Council Plan Action 15 and Council's adopted Heritage Strategy (2011).

The Heritage Overlay (HO) is the planning tool used in Planning Schemes to protect places of heritage significance. Where the HO applies, an applicant/owner would need to apply to Council for a planning permit for certain types of building and works, so it can be ensured that the proposed development does not detract from the heritage significance.

Before a heritage place can be included in the HO it needs to be assessed by Council as locally significant. The assessment process includes identifying and recommending heritage protection for a particular local place through a heritage review/study. This strategic justification must follow specific assessment requirements and format to be consistent with legislative and State government requirements.

Council adopted Heritage Review Stage A and the Priority List for Stage B in June 2021. Stage A recommended a total of twenty-two (22) properties which met the threshold for heritage significance have the Heritage Overlay applied to them, which included the Eltham War Memorial which was added into Stage A recommendations. 1080 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge which was on the Stage A list a planning application proposing structural changes to the property triggered the requirement for an interim and permanent planning scheme amendment, the later now approved and gazetted thereby reducing the total number of places recommended in Stage A to twenty-one (21).

As a result of Heritage Review Stage B, forty-five (45) further properties have met the threshold for heritage significance protection and are recommended for application of the Heritage Overlay.

The most common types of properties which have had the HO applied in Nillumbik (traditionally) are mostly Farmhouses or complexes, with some 'Eltham Style'. Stage A and B reviews have identified typologies for inclusion across a range of styles including 'The Eltham Style', Alistair Knox designs, Post-war Houses and Farmhouses or complexes. It is noted Stage A and B has identified an increase of post-war typologies that meet the criteria for application of the HO (i.e. 1950/60's and beyond).

The Thematic Environmental History (TEH) is essentially a background document that is added to over the years in support of Council's unique heritage environment. Evidence to support inclusion of these typologies exists in Council's current TEH, although it is noted that an update to the TEH was required to support emerging themes (as identified through

**12. Officers' reports****CM.073/22 Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review**

Stage A and B reviews). The update to the TEH identified benchmarking which has for justified the further inclusion of these typologies in Nillumbik. The TEH is important in supporting arguments around the significance of Nillumbik's heritage typologies and particularly helpful at Planning Panel. Local Historical Societies in Nillumbik have been engaged with regard to updating of the TEH.

There have been three (3) properties (identified in Stage A and B) which have triggered the need for application of an interim Heritage Overlay. The range of works proposed range from total demolition to substantial changes to the structure of significant buildings. Application of interim HO's has resulted in Council needing to undertake (and fund) independent amendments to prepare, exhibit, take to Panel (where an objection has been received) to seek to apply the HO on a permanent basis.

Officers recommend endorsement of Heritage Review Stage B and updated TEH. Subject to this endorsement officers further recommend Council to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to apply both an interim and permanent HO to all sixty six (66) places recommended by Stage A and B Heritage reviews, noting the interim amendment will facilitate protection of places identified in both reviews, whilst allow preparation and exhibition of the permanent amendment.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins**

**SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine**

**That Council:**

1. Adopts the final version of the Statements of Significance and Citations for Stage B (**Attachment 3**) of the Nillumbik Heritage Review; and
2. Adopts the Nillumbik Shire Thematic Environmental History, as updated (**Attachment 4**) and post WW2 addendum to the Thematic Environmental History (**Attachment 5**); and
3. Requests the Minister for Planning, to exercise powers under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to places (as recommended in Heritage Review Stage A and B) on an interim basis; and
4. Request the Minister for Planning, under Section 8A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, to authorise the preparation and exhibition of an amendment to the Nillumbik Shire Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to places (as recommended in Heritage Review Stage A and B) on a permanent basis; and
5. Publishes the final version of the Statements of Significance and Citations for Stage B (**Attachment 3**) of the Nillumbik Heritage Review on Council's website; and
6. Publishes the Nillumbik Shire Thematic Environmental History (as updated), (**Attachment 4**) and the Post WW2 addendum (**Attachment 5**) on Council's Website; and

**12. Officers' reports**

**CM.073/22      Nillumbik Shire Heritage Review**

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7.    Notifies the owners of places identified for application of the Heritage Overlay as per the recommendations of Stage A and Stage B Heritage Reviews of Council's resolution and next steps.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



12. Officers' reports

CM.074/22      Australia Day/January 26

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**Distribution:**    Public

**Manager:**        Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Community Services

**Author:**         Nichole Johnson, Manager Community Partnerships

**Summary**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a change to the Australia Day Awards Program for 2023. It is recommended that the Awards Program currently held on January 26 be moved and combined with another event such as Volunteer Appreciation evening held later in the year.

The Citizenship Ceremony would continue to take place on Australia Day/January 26.

If endorsed a future report would be scheduled to confirm the new date, name and categories of the Awards Program.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:**         Cr Natalie Duffy

**SECONDED:**    Cr Peter Perkins

**That** Council:

1.    Endorses moving the Australia Day Awards Program currently held on January 26 to another date and combine with another Event.
2.    Continues to run a citizenship ceremony on Australia Day/January 26.
3.    Requests a future report from Officers to confirm the new date, name and categories for the Awards Program.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**





## 12. Officers' reports

CM.075/22 NSC Submission to Whittlesea Draft Green Wedge Management Plan

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**Distribution:** Public**Manager:** Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety**Author:** Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead**Summary**

In June 2021, Council provided an officer level response to a discussion paper released by Whittlesea City Council (WCC) in regard to the preparation of its Green Wedge Management Plan (GWMP). The discussion paper was essentially a background report which informed key matters and the strategic directions that now are included in the draft Whittlesea City Council's GWMP.

Officers have prepared a submission (refer **Attachment 2**) in response to Whittlesea's Draft Green Wedge Management Plan (GWMP) 2022-2032 (refer **Attachment 1**).

Consultation in regard to the draft GWMP closed 3<sup>rd</sup> July, however officers have negotiated with WCC to allow for an officer level response to be submitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> July close date to allow WCC officers to start the process of review of feedback, but will accept an endorsed submission thereafter the council meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> July which is the first council meeting that could be scheduled in consideration of the draft submission. WCC have agreed this endorsed submission will be considered Nillumbik Shire Council's final position.

Where Councillor feedback has been provided, it has been included in the submission.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr Ben Ramcharan**SECONDED:** Cr Natalie Duffy**That Council:**

1. Endorses the finalised submission response to the *Whittlesea City Council DRAFT Green Wedge Management Plan* (at **Attachment 2**); and
2. Submits the endorsed Council submission to Whittlesea City Council for consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 12. Officers' reports

## CM.076/22 Proposed Community Market - Yarrambat Park

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**Distribution:** Public

**Manager:** Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

**Author:** Jonathon Miller, Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance

**Summary**

Diamond Valley Community Support Inc (DVCS) has approached Council for permission to operate a weekly community market at Yarrambat Park (the Park).

The specific area is notated "car park" in **Attachment 1**.

For a market to operate at the site, Council would be required to enter into a licence agreement with an operator. Given the Park is public open space, it is appropriate to undertake a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process, to determine and assess if there are other suitable organisations interested in operating a market from the Park, and on what terms.

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a background to the request, an overview of the Park and the proposed EOI process. It also seeks a formal resolution of Council to commence an EOI process to allow an appropriate market operator to be appointed.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr Richard Stockman

**SECONDED:** Cr Peter Perkins

**That Council:**

1. Requests Officers to complete a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process to appoint an operator of a weekly community market to be located at Yarrambat Park carpark, under a licence agreement which includes the following terms and conditions:
  - a) **The Licensed Area:** That part of the land thereon known as Yarrambat Park carpark at 649 and 657 Yan Yean Road, Plenty;
  - b) **Permitted Days and Hours of Operation:** 8:30am to 2.00pm on Saturdays,
  - c) **Licence Fee:** Proposed Licence rental fee to Council. (This forms part of the Proponents proposal).
  - d) **Licence Term:** 3 years.
  - e) **Other Special Conditions:**
    - i) That a Traffic Management Plan will need to be prepared and implemented by the successful Proponent. Council's Traffic Management Officers will assist with preparation of the Plan; and
    - ii) The proposed community market cannot operate on days that conflict with the Yarrambat Horse and Pony Club and the Yarrambat Adult Riders Club "Competition Days".

**12. Officers' reports**

**CM.076/22      Proposed Community Market - Yarrambat Park**

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2. Request Officers present the results of the EOI process, and include a recommendation as to the successful proponent at a future meeting of Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. Officers' reports**

**CM.077/22      Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and Committee Membership endorsement**

---

**Distribution:    Public**

**Manager:        Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety**

**Author:          Danielle Phyland, Economic Development and Tourism Lead**

**Summary**

The Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) provides a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key industry stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable participation in the development, implementation and evaluation of the Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030.

Council called for nominations for the 2022-24 EDAC for a 6-week period in January-February 2022. A total of 14 nominations were received, this included existing members wishing to remain on the committee. All nominations received have been assessed against the selection criteria by Officers and the purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the new members (**Attachment 1**).

Council's endorsement is also sought for the proposed EDAC Terms of Reference (TOR) 2022-24 (**Attachment 2**) updated in line with Council's adopted Advisory Committee Policy and standardised templates.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

1. Endorses the twelve recommended applicants listed for appointment to the 2022-24 Economic Development Advisory Committee (refer confidential **Attachment 1**):
  - (a) Applicant 1 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - (b) Applicant 2 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Nillumbik Tourism and Business Association
  - (c) Applicant 3 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Diamond Creek Traders Association
  - (d) Applicant 4 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Hurstbridge Traders Association
  - (e) Applicant 5 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (f) Applicant 6 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (g) Applicant 7 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (h) Applicant 8 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (i) Applicant 9 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (j) Applicant 10 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (k) Applicant 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth representative
  - (l) Applicant 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Agricultural representative

**12. Officers' reports****CM.077/22      Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and Committee Membership endorsement**

- 
2. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted nominations for the Economic Development Advisory Committee and advise unsuccessful candidates.
  3. Resolves that the Panel Recommendations and Scoring (**Attachment 1**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
  4. Resolves that the successful nominees be named.
  5. Endorses the update of the proposed Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 2022-24 (**Attachment 2**)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

<b>Motion</b>
---------------

**MOVED:            Cr Geoff Paine**

**SECONDED:    Cr Natalie Duffy**

**That Council:**

1. Endorses the twelve recommended applicants listed for appointment to the 2022-24 Economic Development Advisory Committee (refer confidential **Attachment 1**):
  - (a) Applicant 1 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - (b) Applicant 2 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Nillumbik Tourism and Business Association
  - (c) Applicant 3 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Diamond Creek Traders Association
  - (d) Applicant 4 \_\_\_\_\_ representing Hurstbridge Traders Association
  - (e) Applicant 5 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (f) Applicant 6 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (g) Applicant 7 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (h) Applicant 8 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (i) Applicant 9 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (j) Applicant 10 \_\_\_\_\_ General Committee member
  - (k) Applicant 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth representative
  - (l) Applicant 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Agricultural representative
2. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted nominations for the Economic Development Advisory Committee and advise unsuccessful candidates.
3. Resolves that the Panel Recommendations and Scoring (**Attachment 1**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

## 12. Officers' reports

**CM.077/22      Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and Committee Membership endorsement**

- 
4. Resolves that the successful nominees be named.
  5. Endorses the update of the proposed Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 2022-24 (**Attachment 2**), **amending the Terms of Reference to stipulate two Councillors and one Officer as part of the membership.**

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

<b>Council Resolution</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:            Cr Geoff Paine**

**SECONDED:    Cr Natalie Duffy**

1. Endorses the twelve recommended applicants listed for appointment to the 2022-24 Economic Development Advisory Committee (refer confidential **Attachment 1**):
  - (a) Applicant 1 Nicole Staveley representing Eltham Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - (b) Applicant 2 Chanmali Tregambe representing Nillumbik Tourism and Business Association
  - (c) Applicant 3 Claire Nolle representing Diamond Creek Traders Association
  - (d) Applicant 4 Terry Hutton representing Hurstbridge Traders Association
  - (e) Applicant 5 Kirrily Romero General Committee member
  - (f) Applicant 6 Philip Marendaz General Committee member
  - (g) Applicant 7 Simon Le Plastrier General Committee member
  - (h) Applicant 8 Meera Govil General Committee member
  - (i) Applicant 9 Katrina Naish General Committee member
  - (j) Applicant 10 Debby Maziarz General Committee member
  - (k) Applicant 11 Nicholas Costanzo Youth representative
  - (l) Applicant 12 George Apted Agricultural representative
2. Acknowledges and thanks all community members who submitted nominations for the Economic Development Advisory Committee and advise unsuccessful candidates.
3. Resolves that the Panel Recommendations and Scoring (**Attachment 1**) to remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
4. Resolves that the successful nominees be named.
5. Endorses the update of the proposed Economic Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 2022-24 (**Attachment 2**), amending the Terms of Reference to stipulate two Councillors and one Officer as part of the membership.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**





## 12. Officers' reports

## CM.078/22 Intention to lease land to LMS Energy P/L for Solar Farm

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**Distribution:** Public

**Manager:** Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

**Author:** Natalie Campion, Coordinator Property

**Summary**

In accordance with Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Nillumbik Shire Council gave notice on 27 May 2022 that it proposes to enter into a lease with LMS Energy Pty Ltd ACN 059 428 474 (LMS) in respect of part of the vacant Council-owned land located at 290-304 Yan Yean Road and 193-213 Heard Avenue, Plenty, known as part of the former Plenty landfill site (Land) on the following terms and conditions:

- **Term of Lease:** an initial term of 25 years with one further term of 5 years.
- **Rent Amount:** \$2,000 plus GST per annum, to be increased by CPI annually
- **Permitted use:** Operating a solar farm.
- **Premises:** on the commencement date of the lease, the premises shall be that part of the Land shown outlined red on the plan shown in **Attachment 1**.

In response to publicly advertising its intention to enter into a lease agreement with LMS, Council received 5 submissions as shown in **Attachment 2**. The Committee (acting under delegation from Council) considered the contents of these submissions in accordance with Section 115 of the Act and Council's community engagement policy at the Planning and Consultation Committee held on 12 July 2022.

This report seeks Council's resolution to enter into a lease agreement with the LMS as publically advertised.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:** Cr Richard Stockman

**SECONDED:** Cr Geoff Paine

**That Council:**

1. Having completed public notification and considered public submissions in accordance with section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and Council's community engagement policy, resolves to grant a lease to LMS Energy Pty Ltd ACN 059 428 474 (LMS) in respect of part of the vacant Council-owned land located at 290-304 Yan Yean Road and 193-213 Heard Avenue, Plenty, known as part of the former Plenty landfill site (Land), on the following terms and conditions:
  - a) **Term of Lease:** an initial term of 25 years commencing on the date of practical completion of the solar farm facility, with one further term of 5 years.
  - b) **Rent Amount:** \$2,000 plus GST per annum, to be increased by CPI annually
  - c) **Permitted use:** Operating a solar farm.
  - d) **Premises:** on the commencement date of the lease, the premises shall be that part of the Land shown outlined red on the plan shown in **Attachment 1**.

12. Officers' reports

CM.078/22      Intention to lease land to LMS Energy P/L for Solar Farm

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2. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to finalise and execute the lease agreement between Council and LMS once the Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Management (EPCM) Contract has been executed by Council and LMS.
3. Thanks all people that made a submission and advises them of Council's decision on the matter following this meeting.
4. Resolves that the confidential un-redacted public submissions on the lease proposal (**Attachment 3**) remains confidential in accordance with section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. Officers' reports**

**CM.079/22      Tender Report - Contract 2122-085 IT Hardware and Infrastructure - End User Computing**

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**Distribution:    Public**

**Manager:        Vince Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer**

**Author:          Daniel Tarquinio, Manager Information Technology**

**Summary**

This report recommends the awarding of a lease contract for the provision of Hewlett Packard (HP PPS) laptops/tablets and services for the replacement of the existing fleet of laptop/tablet (End User Computing) units.

The current fleet End User Computing equipment is four years old and was acquired via a previous leasing contract term with HP PPS back in September 2018. This current lease arrangement is now ending and the existing equipment has reached its end of life cycle and warranty coverage. As part of the original terms of the lease the equipment will be returned to HP PPS.

The new contract term is for a period of 3 years and the lease agreement will be with Hewlett Packard Financial Services.

The lease arrangement includes the following;

- Provision and deployment of the new units
- Next business day on-site warranty support
- Collection of units, secure data destruction and recycling at the end of the lease period

Pursuant to the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, the value of this contract exceeds the specified financial limits and a Council resolution is therefore required to award the contract.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
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**MOVED:          Cr Ben Ramcharan**

**SECONDED:    Cr Karen Egan**

**That Council:**

1. Resolves to accept the proposal to enter into a lease contract with for the provision HP PPS End User computing equipment and services for the lease term of three years with Hewlett Packard Financial Services up to the value of \$900,000 excluding GST.  
Number:        2122-085  
Title:           IT Hardware and Infrastructure - End User Computing  
Term:           3 years from date of acceptance of equipment
2. Authorises the Chief Financial Officer to finalise and execute the contract documentation.
3. Authorises the Chief Financial Officer to approve changes to operational requirements throughout the term of the contract.

**12. Officers' reports**

**CM.079/22      Tender Report - Contract 2122-085 IT Hardware and Infrastructure -  
End User Computing**

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4.    Advises all tenderers accordingly.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. Officers' reports****CM.080/22      Tender Report - Contract 2021-058 Facilities Maintenance Services Panel**

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**Distribution:    Public****Manager:        Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure****Author:          Jonathon Miller, Manager Property and Facilities Maintenance****Summary**

This report recommends the awarding of contract 2021-058 for Facilities Maintenance Services Panel.

Council conducts various reactive and proactive maintenance, scheduled servicing, emergency out of hour's works and other services that are required to maintain and improve its assets.

To complete these works, Council staff engage contractors from a panel of Facilities Maintenance Service providers including general handypeople, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, mechanical, glazing and registered builder services.

The primary user of these services is the Property and Facilities Maintenance team, but the contractors on the panel can be used by other areas of Council as needed.

This contract is to deliver business as usual operational requirements for Facilities Maintenance Service requirements using a panel of qualified contractors. The new contract replaces a previous Panel Contract for Facilities Maintenance Services

The contract term is for an initial period of five years, with two x one year options to extend the contract. The total duration of the contract, including the exercise of any options, shall not exceed seven years.

The Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) has assessed all submissions and this report provides a summary of their evaluation in recommending the awarding of the contract for 2021-058 for Facilities Maintenance Services Panel.

Pursuant to the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, the value of this contract exceeds the specified financial limits and a Council resolution is therefore required to award the contract.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That Council:**

1. Accepts the tenders submitted by the **preferred tenderers** for the schedule of rates and service categories as disclosed in (**Attachment 1**) and enter into the following contract:  

Number:	2021-058
Title:	Facilities Maintenance Services Panel
Term:	1 August 2022 to 31 July 2027
Options:	Term extensions up to 31 July 2029
2. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to finalise and execute the contract documentation.

## 12. Officers' reports

**CM.080/22 Tender Report - Contract 2021-058 Facilities Maintenance Services Panel**

- 
3. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to approve contract term extensions.
  4. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to approve changes to operational requirements throughout the term of the contract.
  5. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to appoint new Facilities Maintenance Services contractors to the panel throughout the term of the contract.
  6. Advises all tenderers accordingly.
  7. Makes public the decision regarding this contract but the Tender Evaluation Report (**Attachment 1**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
  8. Resolves that the preferred tenderers be named.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine****SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan****That Council:**

1. Accepts the tenders submitted by the **preferred tenderers** (see table below) for the schedule of rates and service categories as disclosed in (**Attachment 1**) and enter into the following contract:  
Number: 2021-058  
Title: Facilities Maintenance Services Panel  
Term: 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2027  
Options: Term extensions up to 31 July 2029
2. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to finalise and execute the contract documentation.
3. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to approve contract term extensions.
4. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to approve changes to operational requirements throughout the term of the contract.
5. Authorises the Director Operations and Infrastructure to appoint new Facilities Maintenance Services contractors to the panel throughout the term of the contract.
6. Advises all tenderers accordingly.
7. Makes public the decision regarding this contract but the Tender Evaluation Report (**Attachment 1**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
8. Resolves that the preferred tenderers be named.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 12. Officers' reports

## CM.080/22 Tender Report - Contract 2021-058 Facilities Maintenance Services Panel

Facilities Maintenance Service Category	Recommended Tenderers
Air Conditioning Maintenance Services	ASM Chilltech
	Renown Services
	Total Air Services (VIC) Pty Ltd
Electrical Services	Alert Electrical Group
	Blended Services Group Pty Ltd
	Hilite Electrics Pty Ltd
General Facilities Maintenance Services (Multi Skilled Handy Person)	Blended Services Group Pty Ltd
	Crisp N Co Pty Ltd
	Maple Constructions Pty Ltd
Glazing Services	Eltham Glass Pty Ltd
	O'Brien Glazing
Painting Services	Blended Services Group Pty Ltd
	Prestige Painting Group Pty Ltd
	Eastern Property Services Pty Ltd
Plumbing Services	Blended Services Group Pty Ltd
	GF&J Sharp Plumbing
	Reed Plumbing and Drainage Solutions
Plumbing-Irrigation (Maintenance and Repair)	Century Rain
	Tees & Greens Pty Ltd
Registered Builders	AWS Services VIC Pty Ltd
	Blended Services Group Pty Ltd
	Eastern Property Services Pty Ltd
	Maple Constructions Pty Ltd





**12. Officers' reports****CM.081/22      Informal Meetings of Councillors Records - 26 July 2022**

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**Distribution:    Public****Manager:        Sally Johnson, Acting Executive Manager Governance,  
Communications and Engagement****Author:          Katia Croce, Governance Lead****Summary**

In accordance with *Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule – Meeting Procedure*, adopted on 25 August 2020, Council is required to report as soon as practicable to a Council Meeting a record of each Informal Meeting of Councillors held.

This report lists Informal Meetings of Councillors Records submitted since the matter was last reported to Council on 28 June 2022.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors Record was kept for the following meetings (**Attachment 1**):

1.    Eltham Gateway Project meeting held 18 May 2022;
2.    Local Laws Councillor Workshop held 23 May 2022;
3.    Planning and Consultation Committee Pre-Meet held 14 June 2022;
4.    Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held 15 June 2022;
5.    Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee meeting held 16 June 2022;
6.    Councillor Briefing held 21 June 2022;
7.    Council Meeting Pre-Meet held 28 June 2022;
8.    Councillor Briefing held 5 July 2022; and
9.    Planning and Consultation Committee Pre-Meet held 12 July 2022.

<b>Council Resolution</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:        Cr Karen Egan****SECONDED:    Cr Peter Perkins**

**That** Council, in accordance with *Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule – Meeting Procedure*, receives the Informal Meetings of Councillors Records (**Attachment 1**) for the meetings held.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**13. Notices of Motion**

Nil

**14. Delegates' Reports****Mayor Frances Eyre and Deputy Mayor Ben Ramcharan****2022 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association**

Mayor Frances Eyre and Deputy Mayor Ben Ramcharan attended the 2022 National General Assembly (NGA) of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) from Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 June. They were accompanied by Council's Communications and Advocacy Lead, Licardo Prince.

The NGA was held over three days at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. In addition, Cr Eyre and Cr Ramcharan attended ALGA's Regional Forum on Sunday 19 June, where councils from rural and regional areas were invited to discuss issues relevant to them. They also attended the Local Leaders Breakfast, organised by the Cities Power Partnership, where councillors from across the country discussed how to tackle the Climate Emergency at a local level.

Crs Eyre and Ramcharan and Licardo also secured a meeting with the new Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories Kristy McBain. Minister McBain was very receptive to the issues raised, which included funding for a youth hub in Nillumbik as well as joint action on the Climate Emergency between Federal and local governments.

Among the speakers at the event were Federal Ministers Murray Watt (Emergency Management, Agriculture, Fishing and Forestry), Linda Burney (Indigenous Australians) and Catherine King (Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development).

The event reaffirmed local government's importance at a local and national level and this was further reflected in the encouraging signals received from the new Federal Government that it would seek greater engagement with the sector.

Some of the key issues raised during the NGA included Australia's growing housing crisis as well as the importance of Financial Assistance Grants, which provide crucial untied funding from the Commonwealth government to local councils across the country.

Councils were invited to raise motions at the NGA and Nillumbik Council put forward the following motion:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the zero-emissions targets of local government Climate Emergency acknowledgements and declarations by:

- a) legislating a federal government target of zero emissions by 2035
- b) supporting a renewable energy led Covid economic recovery in preference to the nationally proposed gas-led recovery (by providing funding support on a national scale for increased renewable energy infrastructure)
- c) preparing the national grid to support electric vehicles and increased battery storage integration.

A number of councils put forward motions relating to the Climate Emergency and related motions were amalgamated into one motion. The decision of the room was to support the motion from Newcastle City Council, NSW only. While this meant that Nillumbik's motion was not adopted at the NGA, the NGA's decision did support:

- Recognition that we are in a state of Climate Emergency
- The appointment of a minister for the Climate Emergency
- A national Climate Change taskforce
- A zero emissions target
- The development of renewable energy industries
- Incentives to all sectors to transition to more efficient technologies
- An increase in urban vegetation cover and the rehabilitation of degraded rural environments
- An increase in the support for households to access energy efficient demands

In addition to the motions raised, delegates at the NGA signed off on an official joint communique (attached) which provides a succinct overview of the issues discussed and decisions made over the course of the NGA.



Kristy McBain, Local Government Minister with Mayor Frances Eyre



Deputy Mayor Ben Ramcharan and Mayor Frances Eyre at Parliament House



## 2022 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE

Local government leaders from around Australia gathered in Canberra from 20 – 22 June 2022 for the 28th National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

This event was held on the traditional lands of the Ngunnawal people, and the Assembly paid its respects to their elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledged the vital and ongoing contributions First Nations peoples continue to make to our nation.

Around 1,000 delegates welcomed and congratulated the Albanese Government on being elected and thanked the many federal members of parliament who attended and spoke at the NGA or associated events, including Minister King, Minister McBain, Minister Watt, Minister Burney, Minister Rowland, Leader of the National Party David Littleproud, and Zali Steggall OAM.

All reaffirmed the importance of local government, and councils look forward to seeing action through better partnerships.

Local governments asked for a Minister in Cabinet and we welcome the appointment of Cabinet Minister King supported by former Bega Valley Shire Mayor Minister McBain.

The Assembly welcomed the announcement from Minister King that she would work with Minister McBain to re-establish the Australian Council of Local Governments and was encouraged by the Government's willingness to engage and partner with local councils.

In keeping with the theme of the Assembly 'Partners in Progress', councillors committed to partnering with the Australian Government to progress critical reforms, including national productivity, climate change transition, Closing the Gap, housing affordability including increased social housing, appropriate road safety reforms, restoring integrity of federal funding to local government, and improved local delivery of community services.

The Assembly committed to progressing the next step of Closing the Gap and passed a motion supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

The Assembly heard from leading economists that local government is the most productive level of government yet collects just 4% of national taxation revenue. The Assembly agreed that councils need more sustainable and transparent formula-based funding to restore integrity to federal funding of local government.

Further, they noted the essential federal funding support to local communities and called on the Government to review Financial Assistance Grants and restore them to at least 1 percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Delegates and speakers recognised the protracted challenges of the COVID pandemic, unprecedented droughts, bushfires, and recent floods, and commended the work of local councils, local communities and government agencies on their work on emergency response and recovery.

A number of flood affected leaders also met personally with the Prime Minister, and highlighted ways to better work together to prevent and prepare for natural disasters.

The Assembly warmly received Governor-General David Hurley and his comments on the vital role councils are playing supporting disaster impacted communities and will need to play in the future.

The Assembly noted however that more needs to be done on mitigation and the prevention of climate induced natural disasters.

The Assembly discussed the global challenges to democracy and the critical importance of local government. The Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to strong local leadership, transparency and public accountability, free and fair elections and local democracy.

After a stirring address from the Ukraine Ambassador, the Assembly passed a unanimous motion supporting the Ukraine people and their legitimate and democratically elected governments.

Other critical issues addressed at the Assembly included migration between cities and regions, housing affordability and the role councils can play in social housing in particular, critical workforce challenges and road safety.

Delegates agreed to continue to meet with their local federal members to highlight the importance of sustainable and transparent funding for local governments, and better partnerships that will help support progress in every community.

Convened by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) the NGA is the largest national gathering of democratically elected representatives in the nation. ALGA is the national voice of local government and will review more than 106 policy initiatives adopted by resolution of the Assembly in the coming months.

Access photos and videos from the 2022 NGA here:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zQvMtGiMrhT\\_ySKc0aRGGahj5N4Vx\\_HX?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zQvMtGiMrhT_ySKc0aRGGahj5N4Vx_HX?usp=sharing)

**15. Supplementary and urgent business**

Nil

**16. Confidential reports**

Nil

**17. Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 8:21pm.

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Cr Frances Eyre, Mayor