

Council Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 27 September 2022 commencing at 7:00pm.

Attachments

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Wednesday 21 September 2022

Distribution: Public

Civic Drive, Greensborough
PO Box 476, Greensborough 3088
Telephone 9433 3111
Facsimile 9433 3777
Website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
Email nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Nillumbik Shire Council

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Council Meeting

to be held at the Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 23 August 2022 commencing at 7:00pm.

Minutes

Vince Lombardi
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Friday 26 August 2022

Distribution: Public

Civic Drive, Greensborough
PO Box 476, Greensborough 3088
Telephone 9433 3111
Facsimile 9433 3777
Website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
Email nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

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Nillumbik Shire Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Nillumbik Shire Council held Tuesday 23 August 2022.
The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.**

Councillors present:

Cr Frances Eyre	Swipers Gully Ward (Mayor)
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 (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Geoff Paine	Wingrove Ward

Officers in attendance:

Vince Lombardi	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Hjalmar Philipp	Director Operations and Infrastructure
Corrienne Nichols	Executive Manager Community Services
Jeremy Livingston	Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance
Rosa Zouzoulas	Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety
Katia Croce	Governance Lead
Leigh Northwood	Manager Strategic Planning
Nicole Johnson	Manager Community Partnership
Katia Croce	Governance Lead
Emma Christensen	Senior Governance Advisor

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 ready by Cr Karen Egan.

4. Prayer

A prayer was read by Steven Rigo.

5. Apologies

Nil

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6. Presentations

CONDOLENCE – Laurie McQuade

I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of CFA Life Member Laurie McQuade. Laurie first volunteered with the Plenty Rural Fire Brigade in 1965 and joined the Yarrambat Brigade in 1971. Throughout his 57 years, he held many key positions including Firefighter, Apparatus Officer, Lieutenant and Community Safety roles.

Laurie was a much-loved member of the Brigade and community. He established the Yarrambat Junior Fire Brigade in 1974 and, in 1982, he conceived the idea of distributing lollies and Christmas wishes around the district from the fire truck dressed as Santa Claus, a practice which has been adopted by numerous other brigades around the State.

Laurie also introduced several award-winning innovations in the Community Safety area, an area of great passion for him. These included standardised house numbering with water availability indications and a gutter cleaning water spout which is now available commercially.

Nothing was too much trouble for Laurie; he always had time to chat and tell a story, support, encourage, mentor and share his vast knowledge.

In addition to the countless hours Laurie gave to his community through his CFA involvement, he was also a Divisional Manager with St John Ambulance with whom he had volunteered for 40 years, a strong supporter the Diamond Creek Blue Light Disco for over 30 years and a Leader in the Scouting Movement.

Laurie and his wife Jean were awarded Citizens of the Year at Nillumbik's 2013 Australia Day Awards for their volunteer service to the Nillumbik community and beyond through their involvement with the CFA and St John Ambulance.

Laurie was the embodiment of the Spirit of CFA and our thoughts are with Laurie's family, friends and his CFA colleagues. Laurie and Jean are now together again.

Sporting Grants

The following Sporting Grant presentations were made.

Rachel de Krester (Wingrove Ward) receives \$200 as a contribution for being selected to represent Australia at the 2022 ICF Canoe Marathon World championships in Portugal.

Abbey Arnot (Ellis Ward) receives \$150 as a contribution for being selected to the Victoria at the School Sport Victoria U12 Netball in Wollongong.

Nillumbik Shire Council wishes them every success with their future sporting pursuits.

Following the presentations, each recipient gave a response and photos were taken of each of the recipients with the Ward Councillor and the Mayor.

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7. Confirmation of Minutes

COM.001/22 Confirmation of Minutes Council Meeting held Tuesday 26 July 2022

Summary

Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 July 2022.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Natalie Duffy

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 July 2022
(Attachment 1).

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Council Meeting Minutes

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8. Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Cr Ben Ramcharan disclosed a general conflict of interest in item CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel due to knowing one of the tenderers.

9. Petitions

Nil

10. Questions from the gallery

David Smith has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

As dogs on leash are not allowed into the Plenty Gorge, residents of Plenty are given the only option of walking along local streets. Many of the local streets do not have footpaths, are unlit and are less than the width of 2 cars making it potentially hazardous to pedestrians and their leashed pets, there's also no dog park within a walkable distance. What is the councils plan to build adequate, safe, lit and maintained walking paths within the suburb of Plenty?

Response

Council considers the provision of new footpaths as part it's capital works budget discussions annually. In addition, parts of Plenty are covered by a Development Contributions Plan whereby infrastructure such as shared paths is paid for by private developers as development hits a certain threshold.

Question 2

What are the plans to have facilities for dogs such as a fenced dog park area at the Plenty Fire Station precinct?

Response

As part of the Council decision to demolish the former Plenty Fire Station, Council also resolved to undertake further consultation to determine what residents would like to see at the site, which may include dog parks. This will occur early next year

Michael Dove has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

Whilst acknowledging the excellent Acknowledgement of Country statement and the exciting adoption of the Access, Equity and Inclusion policy at the July council meeting, I am greatly concerned by the listing of the Prayer item on the agenda.

Given the constitutional commitment to a secular Australia and the fact that 50.13% of Nillumbik's population recorded No Religion or a secular belief at the 2021 census, how does council justify the continued inclusion of a prayer to a supernatural figure (usually a Christian deity) at the beginning of its meetings?

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Response

In 2020 Council conducted community consultation in relation to the new Governance Rules – Meeting Procedure. Submissions from the public at the time supported the inclusion of the prayer on the Agenda.

Council invites attendees from diverse religious groups to read the Prayer at Council meetings.

Question 2

I congratulate council in the way in which meetings are conducted and the remarkably harmonious way in which agenda business is managed. Recent meetings have had a generally relevant agenda and the quality of input from councillors is high.

But, given that the 3½ minutes exposure given to the Baptist church at the July meeting amounted to little more than promotional advertising, and the fact that Nillumbik Council is one of a rapidly declining number of Victorian councils choosing to feature a religious prayer at the beginning of each meeting, when is the next review of this outdated practice?

Response

The next review of Council's Governance Rule – Meeting Procedure will be conducted over the next 12 months. This review will include community engagement whereby community members are invited to have their say on this important document which includes views on having a Prayer reader attend for Council Meetings.

Martin Penrose has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

On your webpage regarding your Draft Diamond Creek Community Infrastructure Strategic Plan you state;

All of the infrastructure proposed is located within the Diamond Creek Major Activity Centre. This is because the highly public nature of the infrastructure, and the broad catchment of users accessing the infrastructure, require the infrastructure to be on active transport networks, accessible to public transport and highly visible.

3xCouncillors pictured supporting the choice of 405 pictured with Vicky Ward in the only pamphlet I have received of the topic

Why is council not supporting the residents living in a residential Zone opposing 405 Ryans Rd who are saying the same principals as above?

Response

Council's advocacy to the State government, which includes neighbourhood character, residential amenity and safety, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight

Question 2

4x local Real estate agents have stated that it will be much harder to sell adjacent properties over the next 3 years - Long Term the house market potential for this area will only attract buyers prepared to lived in the "busyiness" / view / noise and lights of a significant infrastructure.

How does Council propose to assist residents in Ryans Rd- Challengers St - Kim St - Pleasant View Court - Grey Gum Rise - Juane Park Drive - Windmill Rise - Henry Arthur Drive - Summit Court - Lesay Drive - Nicole Crescent - Cassinia Crt - Citriodora Crt recover the loss of property values by being adjacent to this infrastructure they did not ask for?

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Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project. Concerns about the hospital should be directed to the VHBA at communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au.

David Borg has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

Should the hospital be built at 405 Ryans road, given the close proximity to the green wedge boarder, to protect the wildlife and remnant trees, Will council advocate for environmental overlays to cover the undeveloped portion of the block to protect against future development?

Response

Council's advocacy to the State government includes environmental assessment (flora and fauna) of the hospital, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

Question 2

Does council have any current or proposed plans for a development on 405 Ryans road? And if yes will they release plans to constituents?

Response

No. The land at 405 Ryans Road is owned by the State. Questions pertaining to the design and siting of the hospital should be directed to the VHBA, Authority managing the project.

Dianne Johnson has submitted the following questions

Question 1

Where is the transparency of the decision between July 2021 to June 2022 to locate the community hospital at 405 Ryan's Rd.

Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project on State owned land. Council was not involved in the decision to locate the hospital at 405 Ryans road. Concerns about the hospital should be directed to the VHBA at communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au.

Question 2

Which other sites had been considered and why was 405 Ryan's Rd chosen? Difficult to access Ryan's Rd as it is at present from local side streets with nil alternative exit routes.

Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project on State owned land. Council was not involved in the decision to locate the hospital at 405 Ryans road. Concerns about the hospital should be directed to the VHBA at communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au.

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Corinne Borg has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

Nillumbik shire Council has a history of proudly protecting the characteristics that make the area unique. With regards to 405 Ryans Road this process commenced in 2017 through the identification of the Local Significance of the Harton Hill Farmhouse, Outbuildings, and Monterey Cypress Drive constructed in the 1930s. Per the Agenda, Council acknowledges that in July 2022 this site was included in the "recommended for Heritage Overlay", I ask does this council stand by statement published 27 October 2021 "Council remains supportive of a community hospital being built in the Eltham area but it must be located in a major Activity Centre in accordance with the state and local planning guidelines"? And are therefore willing to advocate for the community to protect Diamond Creeks History and lobby the Victorian Government for Heritage protection for this site, and have the hospital build moved to a site fitting to Council and State Government Guidelines?

Response

Council's advocacy on the project is the subject for consideration at the Council meeting tonight.

Question 2

Danielle Green MP -Member for Yan Yean, has publically posted on her Facebook page "no information at all to suggest that staff and deliveries will use Juane Park Drive. That would be nuts because the cost to cut a road into that hill would be excessive. However told you that is simply making mischief" and following that " I have indeed read council's report and it is simply wrong (maybe even mischievous) to speculate about Juane Park Drive. There's simply no room in the Hospital budget to fund construction of a road there and it makes no sense given the topography. No architect or engineer in their right mind would suggest it. Also the council agenda speculates that parking restrictions etc may become necessary. This is also ridiculous and irresponsible fearmongering. There will be no overnight stays at the hospital so no coming and going of visitors. The proposed hospital site is ample to accommodate parking for staff and patients."

If State Government is advising this is not required, Why is there Agenda Items at council meetings suggesting further destruction of wildlife habitat (new roads) and restrictions on resident parking living close to the area?

Response

Council has not seen any plans or specialist reports related to the hospital development. A preliminary review of the site and proposal, based on publicly available information, has been undertaken to inform the range of considerations and therefore a potential advocacy position for Council.

Michelle Corbett has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

If a hospital was to be built at 405 Ryans Rd, attachment 3 states that Council would like for there to be adequate onsite parking. It's proposal, however, to introduce parking restrictions in nearby streets suggests that it is recognised that residential streets nearby will be used by hospital staff, patients and users.

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Can council please advise: what form of parking restrictions it is considering in residential streets (resident permit system; 'residents only' signs; timed parking for all motorists etc.); in which streets does council envisage these restrictions will apply; and what action will it take if residents in other streets are adversely impacted by the hospital.

Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project. A preliminary review of the site and proposal, based on publicly available information has been undertaken to inform a potential advocacy position for Council. While adequate onsite parking is the optimum outcome, an advocacy item identified for Council's consideration is for VHBA to develop a local parking plan, informed by their traffic assessment, so that all outcomes are appropriately planned for.

Question 2

If a hospital was to be built at 405 Ryans Rd, are any council staff, contractors or councillors aware of any intention, proposal or recommendations to extend any existing roads (eg. June Park Drive, Aqueduct Lane etc) into 405 Ryans Rd, thereby impacting residents' neighbourhood amenity and safety, destruction of a kangaroo habitat link and increased risk of wildlife collisions with motorists and if so, can details of any changes please be provided.

Response

No, we are not aware of any such proposal.

Linda Greer has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

405 Ryans Rd forms an important part of the home of a tightly-knit community of approximately 60 kangaroos, who are highly valued by residents.

If a hospital was to be constructed, it would have serious impacts on this community, especially as state government staff have indicated the intention to increase the hospital's size over time.

What undertakings will Council make to protect this kangaroo community?

Response

Council's advocacy to the State government includes environmental assessment (flora and fauna) of the hospital, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project on State owned land. Concerns about the hospital should be directed to the VHBA at communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au

Question 2

Council documents suggest that it may advocate for a playground, café or meeting space etc at 405 Ryans Rd.

Will council, instead, advocate for more protection of remnant trees and wildlife habitat links, to reduce the damage the hospital will cause, especially as human-oriented facilities can be made on already-cleared land?

Response

Council's advocacy on the project is the subject for consideration at the Council meeting tonight.

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Lee O'Mahoney has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

The state government and council assessments of possible hospital locations indicated that the old Eltham shire office on Main Road Eltham is an ideal site for a hospital, for many reasons, including that it is in a major activity centre, thereby meeting both state and Nillumbik planning requirements for facilities like this.

Nillumbik documentation shows that Nillumbik supported the hospital being built at the old Eltham shire site.

If circumstances permitted, would Nillumbik sell the state-government assessors' preferred site of the old Eltham shire office (excluding the kinder, community hall and war memorial for heritage reasons) to the state government for a hospital and if not, why not?

Response

The State government has announced 405 Ryans Road as the location for a community hospital. No discussions are occurring with Council on alternate locations.

Question 2

This state government has made it legal for kangaroos to be shot on private property and turned into pet food.

Attachment 3d indicates that Nillumbik believes wildlife who live at 405 Ryans Rd will be 'relocated' if a hospital was to be built there.

With respect to Council's suggestion that affected wildlife, presumably kangaroos, will be 'relocated', what action will Council take to prevent killing of wildlife and further trauma to residents and wildlife rescuers who find kangaroos who have been shot and left to suffer, given that the state government typically kills kangaroos instead of relocating them?

Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project on State owned land. Concerns about the hospital should be directed to the VHBA at communityhospitals@health.vic.gov.au.

David Corbett has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

The state government did not communicate with, much less consult residents who will be affected by its proposed hospital at 405 Ryans Rd.

The Chair of the so-called Community Consultative Committee has failed to respond to residents' communications. As the so-called Community Consultative Committee includes a Council staff member, if a hospital was to be built in Nillumbik, what method will Council and councillors agree to promptly and effectively communicate with Nillumbik residents, to ensure all interested parties are kept fully informed of the project, rather than finding out about it on privately run Facebook pages, to which some residents have been prohibited access?

Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project and as such the VHBA manages all project communications. Council's advocacy to the State government, including early engagement, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

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Question 2

The rear of 405 Ryans Rd, not visible from Ryans Rd, has a large number of remnant Eucalypts that are used by various wildlife, including Gang Gang Cockatoos a species listed under the EPBC Act as endangered.

What action could Council take to ensure these trees are not destroyed eg. applying to the federal government for protection of their habitat or adding an environmental overlay and can Council provide a plan of where an overlay would be?

Response

Council's advocacy to the State government, including environmental assessment (flora and fauna) of the hospital, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

Suzanne Fyffe has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

If the state govt was to build a hospital at 405 Ryans Rd what measures will council take to prevent use of residential streets by hospital users, given that streets like Juane Park Drive are already used as rat runs despite speed humps, and that a hospital will further increase safety risks to residents and reduce their quiet enjoyment of their homes?

Response

Any impact to local streets would be assessed and measures proposed according to the nature of that impact. Council's advocacy to the State government, including onsite provision of parking, access, and public transport is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

Question 2

Will council advocate to the state govt that the only access point to the hospital is to be from Ryans Road and not from nearby streets like Juane Park Drive and Aqueduct Lane, as this will significantly affect the amenity of people who bought their properties in an area that is zoned residential, not commercial and if not, why not?

Response

Council's advocacy to the State government, including access, is on the agenda for Council's consideration tonight.

The following questions were submitted but not responded to during the Council meeting as the submitters were not present.

Christine Zentner has submitted the following question:

Question 1

Eltham community hospital at 405 Ryan's road council notes increased parking demands and implementing parking restrictions in local streets. Will these parking restrictions be implemented during the construction stage as vehicles relating to the project have already been parking in our street.

When and how will residents be informed of the changes parking restrictions.

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Response

The Eltham Area Community Hospital is a State project. A local parking plan is one of the advocacy items Council is considering as part of the agenda item tonight, in the event parking demand from the hospital on local streets requires Council to implement restrictions for safety and/or congestion reasons, this will be undertaken in consultation with residents.

Emily Outlaw has submitted the following question:

Question

What feedback and assessment did Council provide the Consultative Committee and/or VHBA regarding 405 Ryans Road as a possible site for the Eltham Community Hospital?

Response

Council's views were not sought on the potential constraints or particular values that may need protecting before announcing its selection of the site.

A single response has been provided at the end of the following questions

Leanne Ipsen (Tutor U3A Art Group, Coopted Committee Member U3A, Member of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee of Nillumbik Shire) **has submitted the following questions:**

Question 1

When can a permanent Gallery space be established to exhibit our extensive heritage collection of art acquisitions which largely languish in storage or are in limited access in small shire offices?

Question 2

It is our duty to taxpayers to make our already acquired pieces plus on-going art acquisitions available in a permanent exhibition space, an area open for new exhibitions and other workshop areas . What definite steps are being made to locate an easily accessible location by train, bus and car for school excursions? Art is part of the essential character of Nillumbik Shire and we must preserve and foster the artists in our area.

Joan Denison has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

I am an active published artist in Eltham. Given that the feasibility study on a regional gallery was commissioned and adopted by council in 2019, why has council changed its position away from this toward a fragmented collection of smaller projects?

Question 2

What further delay in delivering a facility for local artists to display works will be caused by undertaking yet more consultation and planning for this less centralized approach?

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Judith Vizzari has submitted the following question:

Question

Agenda Item 12, Officers' reports

CM.086/22 Regional/Municipal Gallery Business Case and Masterplan.

As Council has opted for a Nillumbik Creative Infrastructure Framework to "develop and grow creative and cultural industries" (Agenda 12-13b) and "support and promote arts and cultural activities that maximise access" (Agenda 12-13c) will it do so by providing at least one substantial facility/location where visitors to the Shire can see and learn about its art and craft and where its artistic community can meet, share and grow their interests.

Julie Barrington has submitted the following questions:

Question 1

What is the amount allocated in the budget to the arts in Nillumbik?

Question 2

Does Nillumbik Council intend to establish a regional gallery to house and display the Nillumbik Art Collection?

Response to all questions:

Council is committed to supporting Arts and Culture in Nillumbik.

Our recent feedback from community consultations for the 2022-26 Arts and Culture Strategy provided insight that a priority for community would be a smaller interconnected creative space/spaces or hubs where a variety of artistic mediums could be practised as oppose to a dedicated gallery.

The Creative Infrastructure Framework will provide specific guidance on types of infrastructure, locations for projects and an overall timeline for potential future projects. The framework will also highlight opportunities in existing Council owned facilities to enable greater artistic activity.

Council currently exhibit Nillumbik Art Collection artworks at various publically accessible council facilities across the Shire. These spaces include the Civic Centre foyer, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, Hurstbridge Hub and the Eltham Library.

Council has an annual budget allocation of \$350,000 towards Arts and Cultural Development programs, projects and grants.

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11. Reports of Advisory Committees

AC.007/22 Advisory Committee Report - 23 August 2022

Distribution: Public

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

Author: Katia Croce, Governance Lead

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. Positive Ageing Advisory Committee – 1 July 2022.; and
2. Youth Council Advisory Meeting - 11 July 2022.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

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

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Council Meeting Minutes

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12. Officers' reports

CM.082/22 Amendment C142nill Outcomes of Panel Hearing - Application of the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road, Plenty

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

Author: Leigh Northwood, Manager Strategic Planning

Summary

The purpose of this report is:

- a) To present recommendations of the recent Planning Panel Report as a result of the Panel Hearing which took place virtually on 12 July 2022 in hearing submissions to Amendment C142nill;
- b) To identify specific outcomes of the Panel's recommendations; and
- c) Identify options for Council consideration.

Formal exhibition of Amendment C142nill took place between 27 January 2022 and 02 March 2022 as required under Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* with Council receiving twenty-eight submissions all objecting. Submissions were considered at the April Planning and Consultation Committee, and at its April Meeting Council resolved to request the Minister for Planning to appoint an independent Planning Panel to consider the Amendment, and refer all submissions to the panel appointed, in accordance with Section 23(1)(b) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

The Panel Report was received on 27 July, appreciably earlier than the prescribed timeframes, and given such, officers have compressed reporting workflows to bring the matter to the earliest possible Council Meeting for consideration of decision by Council. In accordance with section 26 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the report was made available for public inspection on 05 August.

On recommendations of the Panel from the Hearing, while the Panel acknowledges the personal and financial circumstances of the landowners (as did Council in submission and at the Hearing), the Panel concluded these are not relevant to the Amendment, but may be considered as part of any future development proposal. Similarly, the Panel concluded the exhibited extent of the Heritage Overlay was appropriate, and that the structural integrity of a place is not a relevant consideration in determining heritage significance.

On matters of heritage significance, the Panel concluded the threshold for:

- Criteria A has not been met because there is no family association with the land and the 1.6-hectare lot does not provide tangible evidence of the interwar subdivision pattern of the area where lots of 10 (4 hectares) to 30 acres (12.1 hectares) were created.
- Criterion D has not been met because the comparative analysis in the citation has not demonstrated the dwelling is an important representative example of an interwar bungalow.

As a result, the overall recommendation from the Panel was that Amendment C142nill should be abandoned.

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12. Officers' reports

CM.082/22 Amendment C142nill Outcomes of Panel Hearing - Application of the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road, Plenty

Key matters in informing this recommendation are explored below noting expert opinions with regard to heritage are always subjective (being the nature of heritage matters), and in officers' view inconsistency has come out of this Panel itself, particularly with consideration of an alternate assessment against the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Guidelines being given weight by the Panel in this instance.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes that Officers under delegation requested the Minister for Planning, to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatlands Avenue Plenty on an interim basis, with the Minister subsequently approving Amendment C141nill on 14th April 2022 to apply the heritage overlay to part of the land known as 50 Oatland Road, Plenty on an interim basis;
2. Notes that the PCC under delegation at its November 2022 meeting, resolved to request authorization from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to apply the Heritage Overlay on a permanent basis through Amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme;
3. Notes the recommendations of the Panel Report for Amendment C142nill (dated 27 July 2022) and as a consequence of such recommendations, resolves to abandon Amendment C142nill;
4. Writes to the Minister for Planning, under Section 28 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, of its decision to abandon planning scheme amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatlands Avenue Plenty on a permanent basis;
5. Requests that officers publish a notice of the decision in relation to point 3 above on Council's website within 10 days of this decision;
6. In relation to point 1 above, requests the Minister for Planning to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to remove the interim Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatlands Avenue Plenty; and
7. Updates all submitters to C142nill of Council's decision.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.082/22 Amendment C142nill Outcomes of Panel Hearing - Application of the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road, Plenty

Motion

MOVED: Cr Richard Stockman

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Notes that Officers under delegation requested the Minister for Planning, to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatlands Avenue Plenty on an interim basis, with the Minister subsequently approving Amendment C141nill on 14th April 2022 to apply the heritage overlay to part of the land known as 50 Oatland Road, Plenty on an interim basis;
2. Notes that the PCC under delegation at its November 2021 meeting, resolved to request authorization from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to apply the Heritage Overlay on a permanent basis through Amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme;
3. Notes the recommendations of the Panel Report for Amendment C142nill (dated 27 July 2022) and as a consequence of such recommendations, resolves to abandon Amendment C142nill;
4. Writes to the Minister for Planning, under Section 28 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, of its decision to abandon planning scheme amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland **Road** Plenty on a permanent basis;
5. Requests that officers publish a notice of the decision in relation to point 3 above on Council's website within 10 days of this decision;
6. In relation to point 1 above, requests the Minister for Planning to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to remove the interim Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland **Road** Plenty; and
7. Updates all submitters to C142nill of Council's decision.

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

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.082/22 Amendment C142nill Outcomes of Panel Hearing - Application of the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road, Plenty

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Richard Stockman

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Notes that Officers under delegation requested the Minister for Planning, to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatlands Avenue Plenty on an interim basis, with the Minister subsequently approving Amendment C141nill on 14th April 2022 to apply the heritage overlay to part of the land known as 50 Oatland Road, Plenty on an interim basis;
2. Notes that the PCC under delegation at its November 2021 meeting, resolved to request authorization from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to apply the Heritage Overlay on a permanent basis through Amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme;
3. Notes the recommendations of the Panel Report for Amendment C142nill (dated 27 July 2022) and as a consequence of such recommendations, resolves to abandon Amendment C142nill;
4. Writes to the Minister for Planning, under Section 28 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, of its decision to abandon planning scheme amendment C142nill to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to apply the Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road Plenty on a permanent basis;
5. Requests that officers publish a notice of the decision in relation to point 3 above on Council's website within 10 days of this decision;
6. In relation to point 1 above, requests the Minister for Planning to exercise their power under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare, adopt and approve an amendment to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme to remove the interim Heritage Overlay to 50 Oatland Road Plenty; and
7. Updates all submitters to C142nill of Council's decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.083/22 Eltham Area Community Hospital, Ryans Road Diamond Creek

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Lawrence Seyers, Lead Transport Planner

Leigh Northwood, Manager Strategic Planning

Summary

On 11 June 2022, the Victorian Government announced a site had been selected for a new Community Hospital in Melbourne's northeast, to be located on a government-owned parcel of land at 405 Ryans Road, Diamond Creek.

Council's views were not sought on the potential constraints or particular values that may need protecting before announcing its selection of the site.

A preliminary review by Council officers of the site and proposal, based on publicly available information has been undertaken to inform a potential advocacy position for Council.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Natalie Duffy

SECONDED: Cr Peter Perkins

That Council resolves to write to the Victorian Health Building Authority and the Eltham Area Community Consultative Committee Chair, Vicki Ward MP advocating for a number of enhancements as part of the State Government's community hospital at 405 Ryans Road Diamond Creek (provided as **Attachment 3**).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.083/22 Eltham Area Community Hospital, Ryans Road Diamond Creek

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Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.084/22 Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System (PHBRs) User Group Advisory Committee renewal

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Lisa Pittle, Manager Environment

Summary

The Panton Hill Bushland Reserves System (PHBRs) User Group was formed in 2011 to support the implementation of the PHBRs Management Plan. The User Group has representatives from the various groups using the reserves or with an interest in the activities occurring in the reserves.

The User Group is an Advisory Committee of Council. The current term of the PHBRs User Group Committee will expire in October 2022.

The revised Terms of Reference and the process to renew the committee are presented for endorsement.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Acknowledges and thanks members of the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for their advice and practical contribution to the ongoing management of the reserves.
2. Endorses the revised terms of reference for the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for public exhibition in September 2022 seeking expressions of interest for membership nomination to renew the committee by February 2022.
3. Instructs officers to report nominations to the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee to Council for endorsement.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Acknowledges and thanks members of the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for their advice and practical contribution to the ongoing management of the reserves.
2. Endorses the revised terms of reference for the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for public exhibition in September 2022 seeking expressions of interest for membership nomination to renew the committee by February **2023**.
3. Instructs officers to report nominations to the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee to Council for endorsement.

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23 August 2022

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CM.084/22 Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System (PHBRS) User Group Advisory Committee renewal

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

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Acknowledges and thanks members of the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for their advice and practical contribution to the ongoing management of the reserves.
2. Endorses the revised terms of reference for the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee for public exhibition in September 2022 seeking expressions of interest for membership nomination to renew the committee by February 2023.
3. Instructs officers to report nominations to the Panton Hill Bushland Reserve System User Group Advisory Committee to Council for endorsement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.085/22 A first draft of the Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy

Distribution: Public

Manager: Rosa Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety

**Author: Paul Fyffe, Senior Strategic Planner
Leigh Northwood, Strategic Planning Lead**

Summary

This report provides a draft of the Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy (NCS) (**Attachment 1**) and recommends Council endorse the draft NCS for a round of community engagement to run for 6 weeks from late August to mid-October. This consultation represents the second round of engagement with regard to the project.

A NCS is an important policy document for Council to protect neighbourhood character through the planning scheme. Council has an existing NCS which dates from 2003 and a new strategy is now required. Developing a new NCS is a priority action in the current Council plan.

Development of the draft NCS has been particularly informed by:

- The requirements and limitations set by State Planning Policy regarding the scope and jurisdiction of a NCS.
- A first round of public engagement for the project which aimed to capture what the community identifies as the important contributing elements to neighbourhood character.
- The technical planning research and expertise necessary for a NCS to justify a future planning scheme amendment.

A key feature of the draft NCS is to divide the Shire's residential areas into a number of character areas and provide a precinct profile for each area. To support and enhance neighbourhood character, each precinct profile provides a preferred character statement, neighbourhood character objectives and design guidelines.

The draft Nillumbik NCS articulates and supports many of the elements that were supported in the first round of community consultation conducted in April-May 2022. The draft strategy places an emphasis on vegetation in the preferred character statements, particularly indigenous vegetation, noting the supporting design guidelines which support the contribution of vegetation in each precinct include requirements to support such including:

- Each precinct is provided with a recommended density of canopy vegetation.
- There is generally a preference for low to no front fencing.
- Appropriate setbacks are recommended to allow a suitable level of vegetation to be protected and established.

The draft NCS includes feedback as provided by both Councillors (workshop and subsequent draft document review) and the internal Project Working Group guiding the technical inputs - particularly regarding changes to improve the clarity and effectiveness of the guidelines to provide sufficient space for vegetation, protect vegetation and to minimise the intrusion of buildings in support of protecting neighbourhood character.

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23 August 2022

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CM.085/22 A first draft of the Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy

The draft neighbourhood character profiles are considered to be a matter that will be of particular interest to the community and should be tested with the community before any further development of the Strategy, noting it is anticipated that clarifications around mapping and application of the neighbourhood profile areas will be the focus of submissions that will be received to this round of engagement. The proposed next engagement has been designed to:

- Optimise the community's awareness of the round of engagement.
- Offer the community various opportunities to discuss the draft Strategy with Council's project team, including to have 1:1 sessions where an officer can explain how the Strategy proposes to treat a particular neighbourhood or property.
- Allow community members to easily access the document and to easily understand what it proposes for a particular property or neighbourhood and then, to give direct feedback.
- Respect that people may wish to consult on-line to avoid potential exposure to Covid, or for other reasons.

When this proposed consultation is completed the results will then be considered and reported to the next available meeting of Council's Planning and Consultation Committee, which is scheduled to occur in early 2023. It is noted considerable work is required between this proposed consultation and the next draft of the NCS to consider and adequately respond to anticipated feedback.

A third round of engagement is programmed to be conducted in early to mid-2023. It is intended that this further round of engagement will:

- Release a further revised draft of the NSC, which will have been modified to appropriately respond to the feedback to the first draft of the document i.e. the feedback Council receives to **Attachment 1**.
- Allow community members the opportunity to consider the revised draft and to provide feedback as to whether the document has adequately captured the earlier feedback.

After conducting this third round of engagement, the next step in the project is for Council to consider adopting a final draft (potentially with further changes) of the NCS.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.085/22 A first draft of the Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Notes the draft Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy, which is provided as **Attachment 1**;
2. Endorses the draft Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy for public engagement from late August to mid-October (for 6 weeks); and
3. Notes that a report is scheduled to be presented to Council's Planning and Consultation Committee in early 2023 that will present the community's response to the draft Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.085/22 A first draft of the Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy

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12. Officers' reports

CM.086/22 Regional / Municipal Gallery Business Case and Masterplan

Distribution: Public

Manager: Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Community Services

Author: Nichole Johnson, Manager Community Partnerships

Summary

The purpose of this report is to address the outstanding Council resolutions from 29 October 2019 and the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meetings relating to the undertaking of a Regional or Municipal Gallery Business Case and Masterplan.

This report also identifies smaller creative infrastructure development opportunities for Nillumbik Shire through the construction of a Creative Infrastructure Framework.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Discontinues the Business Case and Masterplan for a Regional or Municipal Gallery.
2. Endorses proceeding with smaller creative infrastructure development opportunities for Nillumbik Shire through the construction of a Creative Infrastructure Framework.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. **Defers** the Business Case and Masterplan for a Regional or Municipal Gallery.
2. Endorses proceeding with smaller creative infrastructure development opportunities for Nillumbik Shire through the construction of a Creative Infrastructure Framework.
This includes identification of current facilities that could be developed into a Municipal Arts Centre.

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

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Defers the Business Case and Masterplan for a Regional or Municipal Gallery
2. Endorses proceeding with smaller creative infrastructure development opportunities for Nillumbik Shire through the construction of a Creative Infrastructure Framework.
This includes identification of current facilities that could be developed into a Municipal Arts Centre.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Leigh Northwood Manager Strategic Planning left the meeting at 8.18pm during discussion of the above item.

Council Meeting Minutes

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CM.086/22 Regional / Municipal Gallery Business Case and Masterplan

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12. Officers' reports

CM.087/22 Proposed Flagpole Schedule

Distribution: Public

Manager: Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Community Services

Author: Nichole Johnson, Manager Community Partnerships

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Proposed Flagpole Schedule (**Attachment 1**) and the Flag Request Process (**Attachment 3**) for endorsement.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the Flagpole schedule (**Attachment 1**) and the Flag Request Process (**Attachment 3**).

Motion

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council:

1. Endorses the Flagpole schedule (**Attachment 1**).
2. Defers the Flag Request Process (**Attachment 3**).
3. Requests a briefing from officers to:
 - i. Discuss further events and flags that can be included in an updated flagpole schedule.
 - ii. Reconsider the Flag Request Process.
 - iii. Agree on a full community consultation process for the above.

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

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council:

1. Endorses the Flagpole schedule (**Attachment 1**).
2. Defers the Flag Request Process (**Attachment 3**).
3. Requests a briefing from officers to:
 - i. Discuss further events and flags that can be included in an updated flagpole schedule.
 - ii. Reconsider the Flag Request Process.
 - iii. Agree on a full community consultation process for the above.

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.087/22 Proposed Flagpole Schedule

Cr Peter Perkins called for a division

For: Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Geoff Paine, and Cr Ben Ramcharan

Against: Cr Karen Egan, Cr Peter Perkins and Cr Richard Stockman,

The Mayor, Cr Frances Eyre declared the Motion Carried.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.088/22 Diamond Creek Netball Stadium Roof

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Rebecca Burton, Acting Manager Recreation and Leisure
Enrique Gutierrez, Manager Assets and Capital Works

Summary

In May 2022 the State government announced it will provide \$1 million dollars for two outside courts at the Diamond Creek netball facility on Diamond Street to be covered with a new roof.

For Council to receive the funds, it needs to apply through Sports and Recreation Victoria by 26 August 2022.

Funding is capped at \$1 million for this project and Council must provide any shortfall to complete the project.

The report outlines the funding commitment and conditions, the project scope, project cost, funding shortfall and other considerations relevant to the project such as siting, heritage, vegetation impacts and visual amenity.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Supports an application to Sports and Recreation Victoria to receive the funding allocated in the 2022-23 Victorian State Budget towards the Diamond Creek Netball Court Covers.
2. Refers any balance of funds required to deliver the project to Council's future budgets.
3. Thanks the Victorian State Government for its support for community infrastructure in Nillumbik Shire Council.

Motion

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Supports an application to Sports and Recreation Victoria to receive the funding allocated in the 2022-23 Victorian State Budget towards the Diamond Creek Netball Court **roof**.
2. **Requests the community consultation on the project encompasses the concept of enclosing the covered courts with a fence, as well as feedback from residents in surrounding streets regarding amenity and visual impact.**
3. Refers any balance of funds required to deliver the project to Council's future budgets.

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23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.088/22 Diamond Creek Netball Stadium Roof

4. Thanks the Victorian State Government for its support for community infrastructure in Nillumbik Shire Council.

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

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Peter Perkins

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Supports an application to Sports and Recreation Victoria to receive the funding allocated in the 2022-23 Victorian State Budget towards the Diamond Creek Netball Court roof.
2. Requests the community consultation on the project encompasses the concept of enclosing the covered courts with a fence, as well as feedback from residents in surrounding streets regarding amenity and visual impact.
3. Refers any balance of funds required to deliver the project to Council's future budgets.
4. Thanks the Victorian State Government for its support for community infrastructure in Nillumbik Shire Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.089/22 Pre-Election Commitment Communication Protocols

Distribution: Public

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

Author: Licardo Prince, Communications and Advocacy Lead

Summary

It is important to ensure that the ordinary business of Council continues through any election period - State or Federal - in a responsible and transparent manner, in accordance with statutory requirements and established election conventions – especially during the 'caretaker' campaign period.

It is important that Council conducts itself in a manner that is ethical, fair and equitable, and that it is publicly perceived as doing so.

This need is heightened during a year in which both State and Federal elections are being held.

The recent Federal Election highlighted the importance of having clear processes and protocols in place to guide any Council or Councillor involvement in announcements of election commitments made by candidates.

An important role of Council is to advocate on its community's behalf. Holding candidates accountable for commitments made during election campaigns is an important element of advocacy and sharing information about such commitments is an important method to help ensure this accountability.

The development of Pre-Election Commitment Communication Protocols therefore, will help to provide clarity, avoid any unintended bias or the perception of bias, and deliver greater accountability.

They outline the parameters within which Council could appropriately share information about election commitments that will impact the community.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Geoff Paine

That Council:

1. Formally endorses the Pre-election Commitment Communication Protocols (**Attachment 1**) as Council policy.
2. Instructs Council officers to make the protocols publically available on Council's website and provide them to anyone who nominates as a local candidate in State and Federal elections.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.089/22 Pre-Election Commitment Communication Protocols

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Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

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CM.090/22 Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report - 2021-2022 - Quarter 4

Distribution: Public

Manager: Jeremy Livingston, Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance

Author: James Hartigan, Business Performance Analyst

Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report for Council's consideration.

This report provides the fourth and final update on delivery progress and performance of the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan priority actions (**Attachment 1**), which aligns to delivery of the first year of the Council Plan 2021-2025). This report also provides an update on Council's performance against the strategic indicator measures outlined in the Council Plan (**Attachment 2**).

Of the 54 actions in the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan, 33 actions are 'complete', 17 actions are 'on track' (ongoing items) and 4 actions experienced minor issues and have been 'rescheduled' for completion in the 2022-2023 financial year. This suggests that Council has made solid progress in delivering on the priority actions of the Council Plan and significant outcomes for the community.

Of the 56 strategic indicators in the Council Plan, 20 were achieved this year, 17 were not achieved, and 19 recorded no material change. While these mixed results reflect the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and closures on service delivery and availability for core services including customer service, volunteering and attendance at Council facilities, it also demonstrates that Council services were returning to business as usual levels of activity by the end of 2021-2022, with improvements in areas such as environment, arts and culture, Living and Learning and capital works.

The entire year's performance against the delivery of the Council Plan will be published in the Annual Report 2021-2022, which will be presented to the community later in 2022.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council receives the Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report (comprising **Attachments 1** and **2**), reflecting Council's performance against the Council Plan 2021- 2025 as at 30 June 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

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CM.090/22 Council Plan Quarterly Performance Report - 2021-2022 - Quarter 4

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12. Officers' reports

CM.091/22 Tender Report - Contract 2021-081 Roadside Weed Management Services

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Jeff Saker, Manager Operations Centre

Summary

This report recommends the awarding of contract 2021-081 for Roadside Weed Management Services Panel.

The contract term is for an initial period of three 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 five years.

This contract is to deliver business as usual operational requirements for ongoing management of weeds along Council roadsides using a panel of qualified Services contractors. The contract replaces a previous contract for the required services.

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 2021-081 for Roadside Weed Management Services.

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.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Accepts the tenders submitted by the **preferred tenderers** for the schedule of rates disclosed in (**Attachment 1**) and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2021-081
Title: Roadside Weed Management Services
Term: 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025
Options: Term extensions up to 31 August 2027
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 service contractors to the panel throughout the term of the contract.
6. Advises all tenderers accordingly.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.091/22 Tender Report - Contract 2021-081 Roadside Weed Management Services

-
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.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Ben Ramcharan

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That Council:

1. Accepts the tenders submitted by the preferred tenderers **Acacia Environmental Management Pty Ltd, Envirotechniques Pty Ltd, Woods Environmental Services, Indigenous Design Environmental Management** for the schedule of rates disclosed in (**Attachment 1**) and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2021-081
Title: Roadside Weed Management Services
Term: 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025
Options: Term extensions up to 31 August 2027
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 service 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

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

Cr Ramcharan disclosed a general conflict of interest in the following item CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel due to knowing one of the tenderers.

Cr Ramcharan left the meeting at 9:04pm.

12. Officers' reports

CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel

Distribution: Public

Manager: Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure

Author: Lisa Pittle, Manager Environment

Summary

This report recommends the awarding of contract 2122-019 to appoint a Deer Control Contractor Panel.

This contract is to deliver on-going deer control services as required, and replaces a previous contract for deer control.

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

Funding for the initial two year contract and future extensions will be provided predominantly through Victorian government grants.

There is no guarantee of work provided by the contract as any work issued is dependent on funding via Victorian Government grants.

The contract is to appoint a panel of up to a maximum of 4 providers to a Deer Control Panel to deliver the Services. Council may nominate to appoint a single or multiple contractors to the panel at any time during the (up to five year) life of the panel, so long as there are up-to a maximum of 4 providers on the panel.

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 2122-019 for Deer Control Contractor 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.

Recommendation

That Council:

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

Number: 2122-019

Title: Deer Control Contractor Panel

Term: 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2024

Options: Term extensions up to 31 August 2027

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel

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 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.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Karen Egan

SECONDED: Cr Natalie Duffy

That Council:

1. Accepts the tenders submitted by the preferred tenderers **Victorian Pest Animal Control (VPAC), Abzeco Pty Ltd, Sako Business Solutions** for the schedule of rates disclosed in (**Attachment 1**) and enter into the following contract:
Number: 2122-019
Title: Deer Control Contractor Panel
Term: 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2024
Options: Term extensions up to 31 August 2027
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 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*.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel

8. Resolves that the preferred tenderers be named.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Ben Ramcharan returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the above item at 9:07pm.

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.092/22 Tender Report - Contract 2122-019 Deer Control Contractor Panel

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Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

12. Officers' reports

CM.093/22 Informal Meetings of Councillors Records - 23 August 2022

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 26 July 2022.

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

1. Youth Council meeting held 11 July 2022;
2. Councillor Briefing held 19 July 2022;
3. Council Meeting Pre-Meet held 26 July 2022;
4. Youth Council meeting held 1 August 2022;
5. Councillor Briefing held 2 August 2022
6. Positive Ageing Advisory Committee meeting held 5 August 2022;
7. CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee meeting held 8 August 2022; and
8. Planning and Consultation Committee meeting Pre-Meet held 9 August 2022.

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

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

Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022

14. Notices of Motion

Nil

15. Delegates' Reports

Nil

16. Supplementary and urgent business

Nil

17. Confidential reports

Pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), the meeting of the Council be closed to members of the public for the consideration of the following confidential items:

CM.094/22 CEO Employment Matters Committee

This item is confidential because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs pursuant to paragraph (f) of the definition of confidential information under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. This ground is applied because it is information that, if publicly released at the time, is likely to be inappropriately detrimental to the Council or any person (natural or corporate).

Council Resolution

MOVED: Cr Geoff Paine

SECONDED: Cr Karen Egan

That in accordance with section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider confidential items.

CARRIED

The meeting closed to the members of the public at 9.09pm

18. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 9.17pm.

Confirmed:

Cr Frances Eyre, Mayor

Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee
Minutes



Date: Friday 24 June 2022
Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm
Venue: Living & Learning Nillumbik, Eltham
Chair: Angela Lampard (Coordinator, Disability Inclusion and Volunteering)
Scribe: Angela Clare (Disability Inclusion Officer)

Attendees:

Chair: Angela Lampard (Coordinator, Disability Inclusion and Volunteering)

Council Officers: Angela Lampard (Coordinator, Disability Inclusion and Volunteering), Angela Clare (Disability Inclusion Officer), Vanessa Veldman, (Learning Hub Facilitator)

Committee members:

Neville Coutts, Rhonda Bain, Diana Warrell, David O'Connor, Aisling McCabe (St John of God Accord Disability Services)

Other attendees: Phoebe Maude (Brotherhood of St Laurence NDIS Local Area Coordination)

Apologies:

Inbar Niv, Lorna McRae, Helen Ryan (Araluen), Alison Stanyer (Brotherhood of St Laurence NDIS Local Area Coordination), Cr Perkins, Cr Ramcharan

Committee resignation:

Edmond Wong has resigned from healthAbility and in turn, the Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee.

Please note: healthAbility have committed to finding another representative.

Order of business

- 1. Acknowledgement of Country**
- 2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 April 2022 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

Proposed: Rhonda Bain

- 3. Seconded:** Neville Coutts

4. General check-in:

The committee discussed the parking awareness campaign and while videos to raise awareness were circulated via social media, the Committee want to do more.

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

The preferred model for a campaign was identified by the committee as the National Disability Services (NDS)/Western Australian government videos: [‘This Bay Is Someone’s Day’](#).

NDS is a peak body for people with disability. See the NDS website for more information: [This Bay is Someone’s Day campaign launched \(nds.org.au\)](#)

Action: Angela Clare to contact NDS regarding their progress in bringing this campaign to Victoria.

5. Carers Hub and tour of Eltham Living and Learning - Vanessa Veldman, (Learning Hub Facilitator).

Vanessa gave an overview of the three Living & Learning Nillumbik (LL&N) Centres in Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hill, outlining the short courses, Learn Local courses, and the more formal government funded courses and certificates offered at the centres as part of their Registered Training Organisation (RTO) accreditation. Vanessa also discussed that, as Neighbourhood Houses, the centres also offered inclusive activities such as the ‘Arts for Health’ programs, and the all-ability ‘Introduction to Horticulture’ short courses at Edendale Community Farm.

The three centres also offer opportunities for social connection as part of the makerspaces, and regular ‘cuppa and connect’ drop-ins.

Vanessa informed the committee that LL&N had received a grant to establish a Carers Hub to provide pathways for carers to connect, share information, and explore new activities including arts and crafts. The grant is focussed on supporting carers towards pathways to employment, skills and training.

Vanessa explained that Carers Hub activities are mostly free, and give participants a chance to sample most of the LL&N activities. The Carers Hub supports participation for carers in the outer regions of Nillumbik by having regular activities at the Panton Hill Centre.

A wide range of pathways to study, training and employment are introduced at the carers own pace, including support for increasing digital confidence and potential microbusiness opportunities in the maker spaces.

Vanessa gave the committee a tour of the centre, and Angela Lampard discussed plans for an access assessment of the facility.

The committee asked for more information about the social connection program at the Panton Hill Centre

Action: Angela Clare to share a link to the Red Hat Sparklers group https://ax.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au/course-details/?course_id=20299&course_type=w

Action: Angela Clare to share the link to the Carers Hub website: [Carers Hub - Living & Learning Nillumbik \(livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au\)](#)

6. Disability Action Plan: Angela Lampard.

Angela talked about the importance of the Disability Action Plan (DAP) in guiding our work and asked committee members to review the DAP before the next committee meeting, and to highlight a key action or actions, with some suggestions for implementation.

Action: All Committee members to report back at the next Committee meeting.

7. International Day of People with Disability Grants - Angela Clare.

Angela informed the committee that the annual International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) grants would open on 1 July, and close on 15 August, with events and activities to be held any time between November 2022 and January 2023. Angela advised that the grants were for up to \$1000, from a pool of \$7000, which includes an amount of \$2000 unallocated from IDPwD 2021. Angela discussed the lower number of applications last year, and that an extended timeframe for applications, and for scheduling the events may encourage a higher uptake this year.

Angela informed the committee of the assessment process for applications, and encouraged committee members to promote the grants to their networks.

8. Better Bus Connections for Melbourne's North-East - Angela Clare.

Angela informed the committee that the Disability Inclusion team were liaising with Council's Transport Planner to advocate to the Department of Transport and Passenger Transport Victoria regarding adding the Diamond Valley Library Precinct and Melbourne Polytechnic to the proposed route for the recently announced new Flexiride bus service from Greensborough to St Helena.

There was a discussion regarding advocacy for the proposed bus to service the newly announced Nillumbik Community Hospital site, at 405 Ryans Rd, Eltham North. There was also a discussion about the committee seeking to learn about other access and inclusion issues for the hospital, and the importance of using Accredited Access Consultants as early as possible in the planning stage.

Action: Angela to share information about the proposed service.

See: [Better Bus Connections For Melbourne's North-East | Premier of Victoria](#)

And see also: [FlexiRide - Public Transport Victoria \(ptv.vic.gov.au\)](https://ptv.vic.gov.au) for general information of similar services around Melbourne.

9. Disability-specific emergency planning drop-in sessions - Angela Clare

Angela advised that the Emergency Management team at Council were working with CFA and the Red Cross to pilot monthly informal drop in sessions in community hubs across the shire between July and November. The sessions will support people with disability and their family and carers (paid or unpaid) to find out about disability-specific emergency planning resources.

Action: Angela Clare to present a report from the Emergency Management Team at the next meeting.

Action: Angela to share a link to the flyers for the disability-specific emergency planning drop-in sessions as soon as they are available

10. Promotion of the disability inclusion e-network/newsletter and opportunity to increase Committee membership – Angela Lampard.

Angela informed the committee that the Disability Inclusion team would be promoting the Disability Inclusion e-newsletter and inviting people to express an interest in joining the committee (utilising Nillumbik News if possible given it is delivered to every household in Nillumbik). Angela asked committee members to promote this opportunity as widely as possible to their networks, and asked members to share the Disability Inclusion contact details, and encourage their networks to contact Angela Clare for an informal discussion.

Advisory Committee Report - 27 September 2022
Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

Email inclusion@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or call 0438 277 428

11. Next meeting:

When: Friday 26 August 2022

Where: Eltham North Redbacks (Eltham North Soccer Club), 8-32 Cedar Avenue,
Eltham North 3095

12. Other business:

There was a discussion about the important contribution committee members would make by giving individual, disability-focused, feedback on Council projects via [Participate Nillumbik](#). Committee members acknowledged that this would significantly add to the feedback given via the committee to Council project teams.

13. Conclusion of meeting - Thanks to all

Future dates for your diaries:

Friday 21 October 2022 – 10am -12pm

Friday 16 December 2022 – 10am – 12pm

Economic Development Advisory Committee



Minutes

Date: Thursday 4 August 2022
Time: 4.30pm – 6.30pm
Venue: Council Chambers – 34 Civic Drive, Greensborough
Chair: Cr Geoff Paine
Minute Taker: Georgie Nathan – Industry Development Officer, NSC
Committee Members: Nicole Staveley, Chanmali Tregambe, Claire Nolle, Kirrily Romero, Philip Marandez, Simon Le Plastrier, Katrina Naish, George Apted
Other: Rosa Zouzoulas - Executive Manager, Planning and Community Safety, NSC
Danielle Phyland - Economic Development and Tourism Lead, NSC
Apologies: Debby Maziarz, Chanmali Tregambe, Terry Hutton, Meera Govil, Nicholas Costanzo

Order of business

1. **Welcome**
2. **Acknowledgement of Country**
Cr Geoff Paine.
3. **Apologies**
Debby Maziarz, Chanmali Tregambe, Terry Hutton, Meera Govil, Nicholas Costanzo
4. **Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record**
No conflict of interest stated
5. **Minutes of previous meeting**
Nil – New committee – First meeting
6. **Outstanding Action Items**
Nil
7. **Committee member introductions**
Link for those who wish to vote for Katrina Naish
[Vote for Katrina – Westfield Local hero](#)

8. Economic Development and Tourism Team update

- a. New team members - Kasey Lawrence & Esmond Angeles
- b. Projects - Outdoor Dining activations & RRIF
- c. COVID Business Support

10. Annual Economic Development Action Plan Year

See attached working document.

11. Better Business Approvals project update

12. Round table discussion – What is happening in your industry?

Simon –more positive attitude from cohort of parents with most being semi-recession proof. Movement from new families to the school coming from Coburg/Thornbury areas. Student cohort changing direction of study with focus on visual arts/other emerging industries.

Phil – Employment remains challenging with securing talent. Having to shift some work offshore. Still to see the flow on from pandemic with interest rates etc. Best time for Nillumbik to take advantage – everybody wants to move into the area.

George – farm/orchard – challenging to find staff, particularly with pay rates increasing and the cost of primary production increasing. Building delays also affecting businesses – 100% increase in steel – rises in building industry. Big government builds are affecting supplies for smaller builds etc. which will continue for many years to come.

Simon - Senior roles very competitive – taking months to fill roles. Employment remains the biggest problem facing businesses.

Nicole – everything changing all at once. Uncertainty post Covid. Certain industries need to look at opportunities. Manufacturing – unknown costs – utilities etc. More people looking outside of their field of expertise – e.g. road gangs etc. where salaries good and jobs aplenty.

What can Council do to support businesses?

George - Planning approvals – improvement required. 3 months now take 6 months. Problematic for his business and many others.

Nicole – data/education/demographics/sole traders (provide a paid for social media person)

Phil – do more good work/more of the same. Seen as doing stuff, not just seeing ‘social capital’ investment. Introspective for business owners. Exciting time, get stuff done.

Geoff - Apple & Pear picking festival, Repair café?

Nicole – strategic thinking and documents are good. Eltham plan to align with Council's plans. Help educate members. Vic Gov funding, short-term around – align with council – forward planning – dialogue/workshop environment. Tap into funding when plans and strategies in place.

Katrina – sharing resources, physical, buildings, materials etc.

Kirrily – home based business – busy and working. Intermittent internet access – no connection – pain points. Ability to go somewhere to have a meeting, business oriented space, low cost or no cost to hire.

Simon – Eltham College has many empty spaces which he is happy to look into the use by home-based businesses – low or no cost – would need to cover insurance/cleaning etc.

ACTION: Georgie to send Simon spendmapp data

13. Other Business

Next meeting date and location – October 6 2022 – Location TBC

Positive Ageing Advisory Committee

Minutes



Date: Friday 5 August 2022
Time: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Venue: Hybrid, Council Chamber and via Zoom
Chair: Cr Natalie Duffy
Present: *Committee members:* Richard Kottek, Janice Crosswhite, Philip Green, Tianjian Shen, Sandra Verdam, Joy Ferguson, Jan Taylor, Sabi Buehler, Deanna Finn, Anne Fitzpatrick
Council: Mayor Cr Frances Eyre, Corrienne Nichols, Narelle Hart, Annie Lee, Fiona Vuong
Minute taker: Jade Zigenbine
Apologies: Iwona Trickett, Sue Riley

Order of business

1. **Welcome**
2. **Acknowledgement of Country**
3. **Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record**

None

4. **Minutes of previous meeting & Outstanding Action Items**

Planning day held in lieu of July meeting.

Discussion about summarising all attachments in the minutes, and to remove the action summary table from minutes as no formal meeting held in July. Request that action summary table include date due rather than 'as soon as possible'. All agreed, Fiona to action.

Update on action items listed in table below (page 5). PAAC advised that advice received regarding timely responses to email and phone enquiries to Council would be considered sometime in future when the Customer First Strategy is reviewed.

Action item regarding housing for older people – discussion about Council's housing strategy and relevance to PAAC to discuss, and when this issue should be considered by the PAAC.

5. **Business Arising**

Fiona gave update about PAAC Planning Day projects. Community Support Services team undertaking business planning currently and projects will be added to business plans. PAAC suggested including a permanent agenda item on how the projects are tracking for future meetings. Fiona to action.

Request that upcoming Council engagements and projects be listed as an ongoing agenda item for future PAAC meetings. Fiona to action.

6. Diamond Creek Community Infrastructure Strategic Plan

Council is seeking feedback on a draft strategic plan for community infrastructure in Diamond Creek including the location of a Youth Hub. Feedback closes 11.59pm Sunday 7 August 2022.

Fiona gave a brief overview of the proposed direction of the plan, and how you can give your feedback. For more information visit: <https://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/dccisp>

- Engagement is currently open, Fiona has hard copies of plans and has distributed to people in the chambers.
- Discussion about history of Council's previous attempt to convert Diamond Creek Community Centre into a multi-purpose community centre. The response from the users and stakeholders in this previous engagement was such that the plans were dropped
- Council are working with a strategic plan of Diamond creek and community infrastructure.
- Details are in the plan and on the Nillumbik participate website.
- Community hub being proposed, subject to funding. Council would like community feedback on this at this stage.
- Universal access is front and centre for this new development.
- Strongly suggest everyone submit your feedback on participate Nillumbik page. This is the first proposal is this model is something that you would like and propose.
- Andrew Feeney is the person to speak to for specific feedback or information: Andrew is the Senior Urban Designer on this project
DCCCommunity.Infrastructure@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

7. Update on the AAG Ageing Well Conference

Jan T and Sabi attended the Ageing Well Conference (hosted by the Australian Association of Gerontology) in June. They spoke about key takeaways, trends and learnings for the PAAC and for ageing in Nillumbik.

- Main themes of the day included participation, respect, co-design and more. Co-design represents a way of community engagement and consultation which based on the premise that change can only happen if everyone participates especially people that actually are affected are involved in decision making.
- Most of the people attended were researchers, carers, students, only people from a committee were Jan and Sabi.
- It was a great networking opportunity. Inclusivity, iterative methods and collaboration were the main themes. Jan and Sabi thanked Nillumbik for letting them attend and participate on behalf of the PAAC.

8. Update on the Get on With Life Event

Philip and Ray provided a report back on the Get on With Life event held at Eltham Community Reception Centre, with highlights and feedback received.

Please see attached 'Event Debrief' document.

- Circulated the document
- The amazing effort that went in was rewarded with the positive response, this event far exceeded Philip's expectations.
- There is community need for big events like this as an opportunity to come together, connect, get the latest information and collaborate
- Recommended that an annual event similar to this would be of benefit to community members including older residents, newly retired or retired people, people experiencing social isolation as well as new residents.
- 57% of attendees who completed surveys responses were from Nillumbik.

- Informative, inspiring. Shows that events like this are a must to community engagement and build up the systems into the community. This is the 4th time tried to run due to covid stopping the event over the past 2 years.
- Philip suggested that an event checklist would support community members to run future events like this. Corrienne explained that a policy and guidelines for events, is being drafted and will be accessible on Council's website, hopefully by the end of the year. This will apply to Council funded events (ie through grants).
- High levels of participation and attendance. Well done Philip and Ray on the event and the success of 180 people participating.

9. Update on Community Session: "Ageing Well, a personal perspective"

Janice was invited to present on her career and life experience in a community education session held at Diamond Valley Library. Janice and Fiona will give a report back about a summary of Janice's presentation, and feedback from attendees with suggestions for future sessions.

- Event took place on 21st July 2022, Diamond Valley Library was a great location since it has been renovated recently.
- Presented 10 points on living and ageing well and did a PowerPoint, things that have helped Janice in her experience and then discussed everyone else's experiences.
- Points included: To be yourself and be authentic, accept and take on challenges, develop a sense of humour, help others, be a role model and mentor for others, be money wise and how you manage your money, get your hour of exercise a day, ageism/discrimination/equality, support and stay close to your family, to have a hobby, be kind to others and particularly to yourselves and animals.
- Feedback from participants: name tags would have been useful, less focus on presenting more on contributions from the group, including inviting discussion points to get others to talk, particularly men to come out and speak. Networking potential, break into groups and discuss what's important to them, then get everyone back together to share. Attendees appreciated the informal discussion structure and opportunity to connect

10. Updates

- a. **Communications Subcommittee** (*Ageing Well in Nillumbik Action Plan Priority 1: Access to services, and Priority 3: Community connection, resilience and engagement*)
 - Communications subcommittee has concluded. Discussion about purpose of subcommittees, and how they should be formed for specific purposes, and conclude when these purposes are achieved. Not disbanded but concluded.
 - Cr Duffy thanked everyone involved
- b. **Dementia Friendly Nillumbik Alliance** (*Ageing Well in Nillumbik Action Plan Priority 1: Access to services, and Priority 3: Community connection, resilience and engagement*)
 - Preparing for Dementia Action Week in September
 - In discussions with the 'tovertafel' supplier, to find a community venue to demonstrate the benefits. Aim is to invite community groups and residents to come and try.
 - Hoping to create a Dementia corner in the library with resources and information packs available with a letter inside. Corrienne is happy to speak to the managers

at the two libraries about the demonstrations of the tovertafel. Also consider Living and Learning centres - to use that space for demonstrations.

- Info pack aimed at carers close to coming together. Boomerang bags have been asked if they can make bags for the packs.
- Memory care café in St Margaret's Hall Eltham opening, so there will be one in Eltham and Diamond Creek also in conjunction with the one at the Hurstbridge Hub

11. Roundtable- PAAC Action

The Roundtable is an opportunity for PAAC members to raise relevant issues related to ageing well in Nillumbik for discussion or to seek advice or action on. These issues may involve the access, equity and inclusion of older adults. The Roundtable is also an opportunity for any PAAC member to inform other members of upcoming events and activities of interest to over 55s.

- Nillumbik public transport service to rural areas
 - To bring forward to next meeting for discussion
- 'Nillumbik Seniors Collective' opportunity for development
 - To bring forward to next meeting for discussion
- Snap Send and Solve app:
 - Ray- explained he had a problem at Eltham with a crossing, he used the Snap Send Solve app to report the issue to Council. Very impressed with it and how fast the resolutions came through. Next meeting to have a small demonstration of the app and how it operates. Cr Duffy was happy to help people to put on their phones.
- Introduced Narelle Hart, Manager of Community Programs at Council, PAAC sits within her portfolio. Exciting times, social connections and commended the rewarding work that PAAC are doing.
- Introduced Annie Lee (Social Connections officer at Council, acting Coordinator of Community Support Services). She is interested in how we reimagine social connections after covid, and how to connect together as a community. Seeking interested PAAC members to get together for a Social Connections subcommittee.
 - ACTION: Any PAAC members interested in taking part in a social connections subcommittee, contact Annie on social.connection@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or 9433 3295
 - Report on social isolation for over 65s has been developed by consultant Beth Scott (Principle Consultant at Quality Service Improvement), which will help inform social connections and tangible projects to work on.
- Discussion on open spaces at seniors clubs areas to encourage outdoor exercise and socialising
- Planning day- Deanna asked about the progress on intergenerational programs with senior citizens and child care/ playhouse. Fiona: will be looking at this project as part of business planning - timeline is possibly months. Several intergenerational events planned for Seniors Festival and Children's week at Panton hill.

12. Meeting close 2:00 pm

13. Next meeting date and location

When: Friday 2 September

Time: 12pm- 2pm

Where: Council Chambers and Zoom

Action Summary Table			
Action	Who	Due	Completed?
Social media page for older people	FV, Communications	By September meeting	Response at next meeting
Invite Nillumbik Shire Council CEO to attend a PAAC meeting in the future	FV, Carl Cowie	By Dec 2022	
Update Eltham Lower Park repairs status	Greg Shaw / NSC Maintenance	ASAP	Response: The old seats have all been removed and new ones installed. All other works except for the linemarking, have been completed. If there are any further questions – Greg is happy to contact people directly.
Include Housing (specifically tiny housing and options for older people) as an item on a future agenda for discussion.	FV		
Find out when engagement on the Housing Strategy is to happen.	FV		
Seek official response from Council re: motions proposed by PAAC	FV, Cr Duffy	ASAP	Done Completed – Refer to June 2022 meeting minutes. Turnaround noted by Council, for consideration in review of Customer First Strategy.
Provide complaints process information	FV		Completed via email.



Get On With Life Event

Wednesday 29th June 2022

9:00am to 12 noon

Eltham Recreation & Community Centre

Main Road, Eltham 3095

Summary of the Community Event

Everyone was very happy with the presentations, event format, facilities, overall survey results and community feedback of the Get On With Life event organized by members of OM:NI Hurstbridge, Men's Shed Eltham and Nillumbik Council staff.

Final event expenditure

The report was shared and awaiting response from Nillumbik Council to finalize event expenditure before confirming all expense items with COTA-Victoria.

Total event expenditure is within the total grant of \$5,500 including 10% GST.

Final attendance numbers

There were 190 registered people as per Eventbrite, with the actual on day attendance being recorded at 180 people.

Summary of Survey Forms

Attached to this document is a copy of the event survey form conducted during the event and a summary of the results. A total of 75 completed surveys were returned via the collection box at the Eltham Recreation & Community Centre.

The response to five key survey questions are as follows:

- Would you come to a similar event in June 2023?
77% said Yes.
- What is your home Post Code?
53% from the Eltham/Greensborough/Diamond Ck/St Helena areas.
- How would you rate today's GOWL event?
99% said either Excellent/Very Good/Good.
- What 3 words would you describe today's event?
Most used words were Informative, Interesting and Inspiring.
- What did you like most about the event?
Top responses were Speakers, All Good and Atmosphere.

Community advertising

"Word Of Mouth" was the key form of advertising for the event, followed by being a Member of a Group and thirdly, hearing/seeing Council based communications. These accounted for 63% of all forms of advertising/connections with our targeted communities.

Response from all paid advertising in local newspapers was very poor.

Event facilities

Respondents said that the facilities were Excellent, Very Good and Good.

Review of guest speakers

The speakers were; Gerald Mansour, Carol O'Halloran, Tony Shaw and Cr Richard Stockman. Audience feedback was very positive with all speakers providing relevant information and quality presentations.

Exhibitors/Max Lee

We invited ten local community clubs, groups and health facilities to exhibit their services and all organizations received good connections, many new members and many general enquiries.

Review of catering

The employed caterer provided a very good range of food and beverages for the buffet which included all food, beverages, caterers' staff, set up and clean up. A morning tea table was available during the morning.

Question - What would we not do again?

The response by committee members to this question was "Nothing".

Question – What did we do right for our event?

Event timing, location, site facilities, morning program, three speakers, music and Q & A session. Support by our council staff for providing our Poster designs, the Facility support, etc.

General Overall Comments/Feedback

1. It was felt that the Acknowledgement to Country should be said only once at the beginning of the event.
2. Council to follow up on an audience query on the public transport available to regional townships, namely St Andrews. Att Cr Richards Stockman
3. Political questions from the audience were minimal.
4. Requested that non-disposable cutlery be used for food handling.
5. Future events to be recorded or available via Zoom to the community.
6. All attendees to be provided with name tags.
7. Future events to be more focused on Men and/or Women's health issues.
8. Good feedback on the opportunity for attendees to network and discuss with others the issues that are facing the greater senior community.
9. Good news was that only one attendee (1.3%) reported that they would not attend another similar community event.
10. The no charge, quality food and beverages were very well accepted and it was believed, that if there was a small cover charge/head, the event would have attracted less than half the number in the audience.

Will/should there be another event?

The committee all agreed that due to the three previous delays in holding the GOWL event due to State Government COVID-19 lockdowns, the preparation process became very extended and tiring.

All committee members were very happy to be part of a most successful community successful event in the Nillumbik Shire. We would “consider assisting” with another community event(s) for seniors’ better health and wellbeing.

All GOWL committee members agreed that a similar joint managed event should be considered by the Nillumbik Council and Banyule Council for mid-June 2023 at the Eltham Reception & Community Centre. Future similar events to be smaller (about 60 attendees) with the topic being focused on **Seniors Health & Wellbeing**. One event specifically for Senior Men’s Health and the second for Senior Women’ Health with 3 to 4 key health speakers and supported with health expo tables.

Estimated cost for each event would be \$2,500 - \$3,000 which includes full breakfast/morning tea catering and other fixed event costs.

Attachments:

Event Survey Summary Reports, 3 pages
Event Survey Form
Event Run Sheet
Event Photos
Event Poster

Event Survey Summary Reports

Response to What was your Home Post Code?

<u>Post Code</u>	<u>Suburb Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Share %</u>
3095	Eltham	24	32%
3088	Greensborough/Briar Hill/St Helena	12	16%
3089	Diamond Creek	7	9%
3083	Bundoora area	6	8%
3113	Warrandyte/Warrandyte North	5	7%
3754	Doreen/Mernda area	5	7%
3094	Montmorency	3	4%
3084	Heidelberg area	3	4%
3761	St Andrews	3	4%
3097	Kangaroo Ground/Watsons Creek	2	3%
3099	Hurstbridge area	2	3%
3059	Greenvale	1	1%
3082	Mill Park	1	1%
3752	South Morang	1	1%
Total		75	100%

**Please note that all percentages (%) shown in these charts have been rounded to the nearest denominator.*

Three Words to Describe the Event?			What Was Liked Most About the Event?		
<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Informative	22	31%	Speakers	37	77%
Interesting	15	21%	“All good”	3	6%
Inspiring	14	20%	Atmosphere	3	6%
Friendly	10	14%	Connections	2	4%
Engaging	5	7%	Entertaining	2	4%
Speakers	5	7%	Informative	2	4%
Total:	71	80%	Total:	48	100%

Where First Heard of The Event?			Reason For Coming to The Event?		
<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Word of mouth	21	28%	Speakers	25	33%
My Group	15	20%	Recommended	23	31%
Council	11	15%	New Connections	13	17%
E-Newsletters	7	9%	Others	6	8%
Face Book	5	7%	Retirement	3	4%
Internet	3	4%	Interested	3	4%
All Others	13	17%	Breakfast	2	3%
Total:	75	100%	Total:	75	100%

Would You Attend Event Next June 2023?

<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Yes	58	77%
May Be	16	21%
No	1	1%
Total:	75	100%

Quality Of the Overall GOWL Event?

<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Excellent	48	64%
Very Good	12	16%
Good	14	19%
Poor	1	1%
Total:	75	100%

Quality Of the Event Facilities?

<u>Word</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Excellent	56	75%
Very Good	12	16%
Good	6	8%
Poor	1	1%
Total:	75	100%

Nillumbik “Get On With Life” Event Survey Form, 29 June 2022

Please complete and return this form to our Survey Collection Boxes before leaving.

1. How would you rate today’s Get On With Life event overall?

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Very Good ☐ Poor

2. How would you rate this venue for this community event?

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Very Good ☐ Poor

3. What did you like most about today’s event?

4. What three (3) words would you use to describe today’s event?

5. Was there anything about the event that we could have done to improve this event?

6. How did you first hear about the Get On With Life event?

☐ Internet ☐ Nillumbik Council ☐ Radio
☐ E-newsletter ☐ Word of mouth ☐ My Community Grp
☐ Facebook ☐ Billboard/Signage ☐ Other, please specify:

7. What was your main reason(s) for coming to this event?

☐ Recommended by a friend or family member
☐ Seeking information on my pending retirement
☐ Interested to hear the key note speakers
☐ Looking for new connections or joining a community group(s)
☐ Other, please specify:

8. Would you come to a similar event in June next year? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

9. What is your age group?

☐ 25 or under ☐ 26 to 54 ☐ 55 to 80 ☐ 81 or over

10. What is your home Post Code?

Final Event Run Sheet

7.30am	Doors open, set up desk, exhibitor tables, musician, food service, etc.
8.30	Ray & Max - Registrations, buffet breakfast served, background music.
9:00	PSG - Acknowledge traditional owners, welcome, phones off, exits, toilets, outline total program, questions, etc...
9:13	PSG - Introduce Mayor Frances Eyre
9.15	Cr Richard Stockman (representing Mayor Frances Eyre)
9.25	PC - Thank Richard
	PC - Introduce Gerard Mansour
9.30	Gerard Mansour (includes 5 mins questions from the floor)
9.50	PC - Thank Gerard.
9:53	PC - Introduce Carol O'Halloran
9.55	Carol O'Halloran (includes 5 mins questions from the floor)
10.15	PC - Thank Carol.
10.18	PC - Hand out seat surprise prize
10.20	Morning Tea Break. Musicians play
10.35	PC - Introduce Tony Shaw
10.40	Tony Shaw (includes 5 mins questions from the floor)
11.00	PC - Thank Tony
11:03	PSG – Facilitator of Q & A session
11.05	Q and A session with Richard, Gerard, Carol, Peter
	Questions from the audience for 20 minutes
	Ray & Max – Two roving audience microphones
11.25	PC & PSG - Present gifts
11.35	PSG - Present information on all community exhibitors
	Use power point presentation with exhibitor logos
11.50	PC - Wrap up, invite attendees to socialize and speak to exhibitors
11.55	PC & PSG - Event Closing Words.
12.00	Attendees move into Atrium, socialize and speak to exhibitors.
12.30	Exhibitors to pack up and leave site by 1.00pm.

Event Photos



Three speakers with Peter Clark & Philip Green



View of the audience with Carol O'Halloran on stage



Get On With Life

If you are over 50, this event is for you!



GERARD MANSOUR
COMMISSIONER FOR
SENIOR VICTORIANS



CAROL O'HALLORAN
HOST OF TV SHOW
'OVER 50 SO WHAT!'



TONY SHAW
AFL LEGEND AND
RENOWNED SPEAKER

Eltham Community and Reception Centre

801 Main Road, Eltham

Open at 8:30am for 9am start to 12noon

FREE Breakfast. Registrations essential

To register: **GOWL2022.eventbrite.com.au**

For more info: omnigetonwithlife.wordpress.com or

Call 9433 3186 BH or email omnigowl@gmail.com



Proudly supported by



If there are any queries please contact Philip Green, 0431 828 942 or omnigowl@gmail.com

Issued for PAAC meeting, Friday 5th August 2022

Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) Minutes



Date: Wednesday 17 August 2022
Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Venue: Council Chambers
Chair: Cr Ben Ramcharan
Minute taker: Lisa Pittle
Committee Members present: Fieke Van Der Kamp, Malcolm Cock, Doug Evans, Kahn Franke, John Huf, Vasundhara Kandpal, Anne-Marie King, Kate McCracken, Alan Thatcher, Lynlee Tozer
Other: Lisa Pittle, Kirsten Reedy, Nicola Clutton, Warren Tomlinson
Apologies: Andrew McMahon, Sue Rosenhain, Laura Nix
Absent: -

Order of Business

1	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	Chair
2	Conflict of interest None noted	Chair
3	Minutes of previous meeting Moved: Alan Thatcher Seconded: Kahn Franke	Chair
4	Outstanding Action Items Is a working group gathering of ESAC members on private land covered by council's public liability insurance? Yes, it would be covered on private land if it was a meeting approved by Council. Requires convenor to notify of meeting date, time, location and a record of Manager / Coordinator approval in writing, e.g. an email about the meeting with a return email confirming approval.	Chair
5	Climate Action Plan – Implementation Plan The Year 1 Implementation Plan (22/23) was endorsed by Council on 26 July 2022. The implementation plan was provided to support discussion on next steps re implementation of the year 1 Implementation Plan (22/23) and the development process for the year 2 Implementation Plan (23/24). Discussion and confirmation that the implementation plan is resourced and budgeted. Urban canopy – continue the ESAC working group for the urban canopy investigation. Edendale – suggestions to implement: an advisory group for Edendale; agriculture courses.	Kirsten and Laura

Advisory Committee Report - 27 September 2022

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

	<p>Opportunities for progressing the growth of the circular economy – action future agenda item for ESAC.</p> <p>Action – provide ESAC with an update on the Green Wedge Management Plan</p> <p>Focus area 6 – consideration of ebikes and escooters on trails and parking in activity centres. Incorporate in Integrated Transport Strategy.</p>	
6	<p>Smart Farms project update –</p> <p>Overview of the recent community workshop “Aging in Rural Nillumbik – Let’s talk land management”; and next steps. Report back by Malcolm Cock on the introductory session, well attended, three generations attended and involved.</p> <p>Speakers included: Lydia Heap operating the Smiths Gully store as a for profit business and community hub; a young farmer leasing land to grow horticultural crops; Mel Nelson – Dunmoochin Landcare.</p> <p>Lacked the mature farmer perspective to discuss the challenges.</p> <p>A critical success factor is changing attitudes.</p> <p>3 workshops to follow on to build connections.</p>	Malcolm Cock and Laura
7	Nillumbio – Edendale biodiversity forum update	Discussion held over
8	<p>Biodiversity Strategy review</p> <p>Presentation on process, considerations to date and next steps together with ESAC feedback.</p> <p>Feedback was provided on Biodiversity 2037 targets; focus areas for the strategy and community engagement and consultation.</p> <p>Refer Attachment 1.</p>	Kirsten Warren / Lisa
9	<p>Other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of Environment and Sustainability activity - Follow up on finalising ESAC member bio’s - ESAC meeting observers – ESAC to approve ad hoc requests, notification of an observer request at least a week prior, email ESAC members for approval, silence is consent. - Draft Nillumbik General Local Law 1 – final comments sought until Tuesday 23 August via written submission, Participate Nillumbik survey or a chat with Council officers on 10th and/or 16th August – details available online at Local Laws Participate Nillumbik - Neighbourhood Character Strategy – the next round of consultation is planned for 29 August 2022 to Monday 10 October 2022 subject to Council approval. ESAC members will be directly advised of consultation opportunities. - Update on Foot and Mouth Disease - Trees in urban areas – ESAC working group – Alan Thatcher, Anne Marie King, Vasu Kandpal, Kahn Franke, John Huf, Doug Evans (recommends City of Unley in SA, machine learning technology for measuring canopy) 	All
10	Next meeting – 19 October 2022	
11	<p>Attachments to minutes - Refer google drive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biodiversity Strategy review presentation and summary of ESAC feedback 	

Table of Open Actions

Meeting date	Action	Owner/s	Status	Comment
17 August 2022	Re-establish the Urban Canopy working group – Alan Thatcher, Anne Marie King, Vasu Kandpal, Kahn Franke, John Huf, Doug Evans	ESAC members	In progress	Alan Thatcher to arrange meetings and provide updates of previous work and confirm working group arrangements and
17 August 2022	Provide ESAC with a briefing opportunities for progressing the growth of the circular economy	Lisa	In progress	October agenda item
17 August 2022	Provide ESAC with an update on the Green Wedge Management Plan	Lisa/Kirsten	In progress	October agenda item
15 June 2022	Members to email Kirsten/Laura a bio (up to 150 words) that will be circulated amongst ESAC members. Please indicate whether you'd be happy for it to also be placed on Council's website.	ESAC members	Underway	Asap please. August agenda item
15 June 2022	Members to provide written notification (via email) that they are happy for their email to be shared with ESAC members	ESAC members	Underway	Awaiting confirmation from final few members

Youth Council Informal Advisory Committee



Minutes

Date:	Monday 5 September 2022
Time:	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Venue:	Council Chambers
Chair:	Deputy Youth Mayor Kirra Imbriano
Minute Taker:	Katie Camilleri, Coordinator Youth & Community Development
Committee Members:	Fieke Van Der Kamp, , Lachlan Wadsworth, Maali Kerta-Rice, Orianna Edmonds, Indi Sandwell, Kirra Imbriano, Niamh Coffey, Ava Grzechnik, Rhys Warrillow, Kirra Imbriano, Brianne Keogh
Councillor Representative	Cr Natalie Duffy
Other:	Katie Camilleri, Nichole Johnson, Frances Biggar, Nicola Clutton
Apologies:	Corrienne Nichols, Jack Linehan, Martina Charalambous, Joseph Bowman, Bailey Cumming

Order of business

1. Welcome (2 minutes)

Observers are reminded their role is to observe only, unless called upon by the Chairperson to participate.

2. Acknowledgement of Country (1 minute)

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People. We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

3. Apologies

Apologies have been received from Corrienne Nichols, Jack Linehan, Martina Charalambous, and Bailey Cumming.

4. Icebreaker

This Girl Can activity:

This Girl Can Week inspires women to get active whenever, wherever and however they choose – without worrying about being judged. Women of all ages and skill levels can try lots of different sports and activities across the Shire for free.

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

All events are free, however many require registration. For details and to get involved view the program at <https://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Explore/Events-and-festivals/Events-calendar/This-Girl-Can>.

5. Conflict of Interest and Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

Conflict of interest provisions are contained in sections 126-131 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Councillor Code of Conduct, the Employee Code of Conduct and the Advisory Committee Members Code of Conduct.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors Record must be completed at the meeting in accordance with Item 19 of Council's Governance Rule - Meeting Procedure.

6. Minutes of previous meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held 1 August 2022 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Minutes moved by: Niamh Coffey

Minutes seconded by: Ava Grzechnik

7. Outstanding Action Items

Action	Responsible	Due Date
Youth Council are encouraged to complete the Diamond Creek Community Infrastructure Plan survey, and vote on whether they would like a standalone or integrated youth hub, if you would like to provide feedback https://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/dccisp	Everyone	Complete
Nicola to film site walk of Diamond Creek Youth Hub locations and share with committee	Nicola	Complete
If you would like to be involved with the upcoming LGBTIQA+ social group please let Frances know frances.biggar@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or 0428 779 318	Everyone	Complete
Youth Council are encouraged to get involved in placemaking in their local community. If you have a project of idea in mind, reach out to Nicola and she will connect committee members with the appropriate staff.	Everyone	No deadline
Youth Council are encourage to apply for Youth Takeover and share with their friends who may be interested.	Everyone	Complete
Officers to follow up on opportunity to engage a Crime Prevention Officer (Vic Pol) to complete an audit of the Diamond Creek bridge.	Nicola	Carry forward to next meeting

8. Item of business 1: We Know Your Name, But Not Your Story Program

Nillumbik Youth have received funding through VicHealth to deliver the successful We Know Your Name, But Not Your Story (WNYNBNYS) program.

This program will be a 1-month experience to support the inclusion and connection of a diverse range of young people in Nillumbik Shire. The WNYNBNYS program will be delivered in partnership with Nillumbik's Youth Council, to help uncover the untold stories of our diverse young people to be a powerful vehicle for promoting intersectionality, increasing community connectedness and reducing discrimination and bullying within the community.

A short project brief was shared with Youth Council and a video of a similar project delivered by Maroondah Council - <https://youtu.be/EhQC72onvck>.

Discussion

- What are your thoughts about the overall program overview that has been designed based on the Your Voice, Our Future consultations? What do you like about it?
What don't you like / are unsure of?
 - Work in partnership with schools – opportunity to share video & upskill teachers / schools
 - Incorporate video footage of young people together (not just individual footage) – connecting young people with their stories
 - Behind the scenes footage of 'creating' the video
 - It would be great to provide more young people the opportunity to share their story. E.g., online platform to share videos, workshop to upskill young people to share their story
 - If aiming to present to schools (particularly young age cohorts 7-9) – build in questions such as *'What would you tell your younger self'*
- Who are different personas and youth groups in Nillumbik that aren't currently being represented / heard?
 - Young people suffering from a chronic illness
 - Homelessness / couch surfing
 - Young carer
 - Young mums / young parents
 - School / education pathways
 - Religion
- How do we reach / engage them?
 - Reaching out to local Council groups and school groups
 - Local services
 - Social media
- What are the benefits and limitations of targeting the program to 12-18 age group and what are the benefits of targeting the program to 16-25 age group?
 - Preference for 16-25 years old – more diversity, more life experiences, more understanding of their self
 - 12-18 – have to think about consent, maturity to tell and capture stories etc.
- Do you think the 1 month program is a reasonable time commitment or should it be spread out differently?
 - Weekly works well
 - Advertise days/times for commitment before applying
 - Keep during the term (not school holidays)

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

- What times / days would work best for the workshops?
 - Weekdays after school or weekends would be best
- Do you think the financial contribution would encourage people to apply?
 - Financial transfer as opposed to voucher would be preferred.

9. Item of business 2: Draft Neighbourhood Character Strategy

Paul Fyffe, Senior Strategic Planner and Sean Diffey, Strategic Planner presented the Draft Neighbourhood Character Strategy.

Engagement on the draft Strategy closes 11.59pm Monday 10 October.

More information at <https://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/neighbourhood-character-strategy>

10. Item of business 3: Youth in Basketball Summit

Brianne Keogh

Youth in Basketball Summit in partnership between Youth Council and **Diamond Valley Basketball Association**.

Designed for young people interested in developing skills in basketball coaching and learning about various career pathways within the sports and recreation industry.

Date: Tuesday 20th September and Wednesday 21st September

Location: Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre, 44 Civic Drive, Greensborough

Time: 9am- 2.30pm

Cost: Free to anyone aged 14-20

Lunch included

Participants will hear from speakers and experience coaching 101 sessions with experienced basketball coaches.

Registration is required: <https://forms.office.com/r/Z08TwLX8uC>

11. Item of business 4: St Andrews Place Shapers Project

Orianna Edmonds

Working on two projects for rural Nillumbik as a result of her participation in the Nillumbik Place Shapers project:

Project 1: Lost Trades Youth Club

- In partnership with St. Andrews Men's s\Shed and Nillumbik Youth Council
- Bringing together likeminded young people from the rural areas to learn new skills and socialise
- Skills such as: Blacksmithing, woodworking, spoon making, metal welding, baking, seed planting etc.
- Social evenings including movie nights, games, make your own pizza etc.

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

- Working bees to help others (such as older people) on their properties with the skills learned.

Project 2: FREE family & community friendly safe Youth Space

- Activating the old tennis courts near the footy oval in St Andrews
- A place that young people can make, develop and then enjoy. A place for friends to go and catch up together and have productive fun etc.
- Different activities such as a basketball ring, tennis net, hopscotch, table and chairs (picnic area), outdoorsy stuff.
- Quiet (community respectful) events can also be run in summer time – such a drive-in cinema type event, pop up youth makers market.

If you are interested in getting involved please reach out to Orianna or Nicola.

12. Item of business 5: Youth Development Updates

Nicola Clutton and Katie Camilleri

Officers provided updates on the following Youth Development projects:

Youth Takeover

To celebrate Victorian Youth Fest this September school holidays we're programming a calendar of workshops, performances and online content led by local young people!

Creative Writing Workshop with AJ and Maddy

Monday 19 September 4-5pm, Hurstbridge Community Hub (free!)

Live Performance from Ruby Todd and supports

Thursday 22 September 3.30-5pm, Eltham Town Square (free!)

Online Session: DIY Polymer Clay Earrings with Poppy

Video will be launched Monday 19 September (free!)

Online Session: How to practice guided meditation with Mike

Video will be launched Monday 26 September (free!)

More information available at <https://www.nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au/What-we-do/Programs/Victorian-Youth-Fest>

BMX Dirt Bike Jumps

Specialist designers The Trail Collective have used suggestions and feedback from community consultation earlier this year to develop the concept designs for the BMX park at 145 Allendale Road.

Features include a pump track for beginner, intermediate and advanced riders as well as a learning area.

We are excited to hear your thoughts and feedback on the draft design.

Follow the link below to view the concept plans and let us know your thoughts or attend an online information session with The Trail Collective on 8 September at 7pm.

<https://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/bmx-park>

16 Days of Activism Project

Seeking interest from Youth Councillors who are interested in participating in the 16 days of activism project this year. Please email or message Nicola or Frances if you would like to participate.

Interest expressed from: Fieke, Brianne, Ava, Niamh, Maali, Orianna

13. Item of business 6: Council Briefings and upcoming PCC

Upcoming Council Briefings and Planning and Consultation Committee (PCC) speaking opportunities:

- PCC 13 September 2022 – Eltham Gateway project next steps
- Council briefing 20 September 2022 – Youth Hub Research Report
- PCC 11 October 2022 – General Local Law and Diamond Creek Community Facilities Master Plan – Phase A Strategic Plan – Exhibition Findings

Agenda for upcoming Council meetings and to register to speak can be found:

<https://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Council/Meetings-and-committees/Council-meetings/Meeting-minutes-and-agendas>.

14. Other Business

Rhys: Interest in a street art program for Eltham Skate Park – Currently Council has been removing the street art that is being done by community, it would be good if Council could support a more formalised program to allow young people to perform street art and contribute to the look & feel of Eltham Skate Park.

15. Next meeting date and location

Youth Council Formal Meeting

Monday 3 October 2022

Location: Council Chambers

Action log

Action	Responsible	Due Date
Diamond Creek BMX Park: Follow the link below to view the concept plans and let us know your thoughts or attend an online information session with The Trail Collective on 8 September at 7pm. https://participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/bmx-park	All	25/09/2022
Seeking interest from Youth Councillors who are interested in participating in the 16 days of activism project this year. Please email or message Nicola or Frances if you would like to participate.	All	ASAP

Advisory Committee Report - 27 September 2022

Attachment 1. Advisory Committee meeting minutes reported 27 September 2022

Officers to follow up on opportunity to engage a Crime Prevention Officer (Vic Pol) to complete an audit of the Diamond Creek bridge.	Nicola	5/09/2022
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DIAMOND CREEK PROJECT

residence

area left for future sculpture, landscaping to complement the sculpture

C NORTH

driveway to residence

clusters of eucalyptus with alternate type and shade

low planting to allow maximum impact for the sculpture

C NORTH

existing bitumen pathway

alternate type and shade clusters of eucalyptus

C SOUTH

alternate type and shade clusters of eucalyptus species

new continuous decorative fencing from natural timber posts and steel infill

swales of low native and indigenous strappy and shrub planting

revegetated indigenous planting

2m wide pathway

existing trees to be retained where possible and underplanted with swales of low and strappy planting

existing bitumen pathway

area retained as grass at present and kept for future works

planting along boundary for screening

cluster of eucalyptus species with one type and shade

embankment retained with rock work and low planting

tree stump to be retained for habitat value

rock work and planting (rock locations to be confirmed on site)

florist and parking area

bus sign

bus stop and shelter

clusters of trees

swathes of low indigenous and native planting tolerating boggy conditions

B SOUTH

C NORTH

dry creek bed to be created within naturally swaled ground

meeting place seat orientation to be confirmed onsite due to site conditions and drainage.

stump 4

stump 5

allocasuarina littoralis forest

revegetated indigenous planting

stump 1

stump 3

existing bitumen pathway

bus stop

yarra valley signage

power pole

new continuous decorative fencing from natural timber posts and steel infill

ENTRY/EXIT

C SOUTH

AREA A

revegetated indigenous planting

stump 2

post and rail fence to follow drain to reduce access.

natural watercourse

screening planting along the boundary

MAIN ROAD

MAIN ROAD

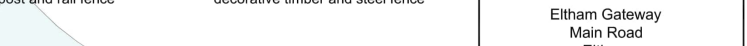
AREA A

swathes of low p along roadsides

assorted pine trees to be removed from site and milled for use on the project.

LEGEND

- existing site tree locations
- proposed location of new indigenous trees
- proposed location of white trunked trees
- proposed location of black trunked trees
- proposed location of an allocasuarina forest
- edible/useful indigenous planting with Interpretive Signage, within Area A
- revegetation indigenous natural planting within Area A
- grass area to be retained for future works
- native and indigenous planting of B North
- native and indigenous low planting to tolerate boggy conditions of B South
- native and indigenous planting of roadsides verges for C North and C South



existing site tree locations

proposed location of new indigenous trees

proposed location of white trunked trees

proposed location of black trunked trees

proposed location of an *Allocasuarina* forest

edible/useful indigenous planting with Interpretive Signage, within Area A

revegetation indigenous natural planting within Area A



grass area to be retained for future works

native and indigenous planting of B North

native and indigenous low planting to tolerate boggy conditions of B South

native and indigenous planting of roadside verges for C North and C South

- coldstream spalls to create dry creek bed
- proposed location of large coldstream rocks for retaining, edging of paths and seating
- granitic sand pathway 2m wide
- pine tree stumps for potential removal or use in the landscape as sculpture depending on the quality of the timber. Stump 1 to be cut at 5m above ground. Stump 2 to be cut 1m above ground, remainder of stumps for sculpture to be cut at 3m above ground.
- reclaimed and recycled pine boardwalk
- decorative fencing of timber posts and steel infill
- approx.seating locations for vertical timber slatted seats quantities to be confirmed
- natural timbers for habitat

REV:	DATE:	REVISION:	BY:
PROJECT:			
<p>Eltham Gateway Main Road Eltham</p>			
DRAWING:			
<p>MASTER PLAN Area 'A' 'B' and 'C' Final Conceptual Plan</p>			
		<p>The Contractor shall strictly liaise with the Client. All Measurements and rights of way should be checked prior to quotation. All Structures including but not limited to Parameters, Pergolas, Greenhouse, Retaining Walls etc. should be signed off by an Engineer prior to commencement of works.</p>	
 <p>INDIGENOUS DESIGN LANDSCAPING</p>			
<p>P.O. BOX 2025 RESEARCH 3055 TEL: 9409 178 213</p>			
<p>EMAIL: info@indigenousdesign.com.au</p>			
DATE:	JOB No:	SCALE:	
AUGUST 2022	M 0522	1:200 @ A0	
DRAWN:	CHECKED:	DWG No:	
L.RILEY J.KING S.PEARCE	J.KING	001	
COPYRIGHT:			
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Arts & Culture Strategy

2022 – 2026



ARTS AND
CULTURE



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Image (cover): *Family and Future (Past, Present and Future ... Emerging)*, 2021 by artist Fiona Clarke. Photo by Jamie Robertson

Image (left): Wayfinding sign at St Andrews Church. Commissioned Artist: Amanda Grant
Glasswork: Rob Haley
Ceramics: Andrea Tilley
Metal fabrication: Troy Tamblyn

If you need the Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 in another format, please contact Nillumbik Shire Council on **9433 3111** or email **nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au**

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Nillumbik Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, and we value the significance of the Wurundjeri people’s history as essential to the unique character of the Shire. We pay tribute to all First Nations People living in Nillumbik, give respect to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People.

We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge the ongoing impacts of past trauma and injustices from European invasion, massacres and genocide committed against First Nations People. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people hold a deep and ongoing connection to this place. We value the distinctive place of our First Nations People in both Nillumbik and Australia’s identity; from their cultural heritage and care of the land and waterways to their ongoing contributions in many fields including academia, agriculture, art, economics, law, sport and politics.

Image: Uncle Colin Hunter at Nillumbik Shire Council’s Local Remix exhibition, Montsalvat 2022.
Photo by Cassidy Chappell



Statement from Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Corporation

This is an ancient land with a rich and deep human history stretching back thousands of years. If you are not of Indigenous heritage, it is important to remember that you are here as guests on this land where the first people of Nillumbik, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, lived, loved, played, fished and farmed. Our knowledge of this place is as complete as anything that has been seen. It is important to us that our history and culture are preserved and presented properly in all parts of our Country. Arts and culture are one and the same for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Some of our Elders and representatives were asked about Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung arts and culture in Nillumbik and this is what they said:

“Art is intrinsic to Wurundjeri culture and heritage and cannot be separated into different art forms. It is embedded in all parts of the Wurundjeri culture.

Every artwork tells its own story and is as important as culture or language.

Paintings are like a corroboree; connecting, bringing families together and they are intimately connected to the land.

Ceremony and ritual are very important – storytelling.

Art is all part of family and connection to country – this is Wurundjeri culture. Wurundjeri connect through artwork.

The story of Wurundjeri can be told through art.

Talk to people – explain what the land is about and how to look after it properly.”

We have heard that the people of Nillumbik would like Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung arts and culture to be more visible and present in the area. We agree, Wurundjeri arts and culture should be part of everyday life and accessible to all. For us, retaining cultural heritage and sharing this knowledge with the communities living on, and visiting, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country is important.

Some of the places in the Nillumbik area we have been involved in are the Moor-rul Viewing Platform that looks over our ancestral lands, and the Gawa Trail and Panton Hill Bushland Reserves trails, where people can learn about Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture. Some of our artists have also performed and presented their works in Nillumbik.

In the coming years, as well as helping to maintain these places, we are looking forward to being involved in the development of a number of projects. These projects will help us realise our aspirations for Country. These might include: telling our story through the panels at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform, extending the native grasslands at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform site (with our Narrap Unit), and creating more trails with signage and/or other interactive mediums to tell our stories. We would welcome spaces that invite people to stop and experience Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country. These could include artwork and sitting rocks that encourage connection to the land. They could also attract people to the area so they could learn more about Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, culture and history in Nillumbik.

Authors: Aunty Gail Smith, Aunty Georgina Nicholson, Aunty Julianne Axford, Uncle Tony Garvey, Tarlina Gardiner, Ash Firebrace, Klara Hansen, Delta Freedman.

Access, Equity and Inclusion

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to creating a fair, equitable and inclusive community, where human rights are respected, participation is facilitated, barriers are addressed and diversity is celebrated.

We support the rights of all people regardless of age, gender, ability or background. We value the diverse and changing nature of our community and understand that some groups and individuals experience more barriers than others.



Image (below): As part of the 1998 Nillumbik Gayip Celebration Reconciliation event in Wingrove Park, a Tarcoola/Coolamon was carved from a young manna gum by Wurundjeri Elder Uncle Ian Hunter and finished by a Nillumbik ranger. The Tarcoola/Coolamon was then presented as a gift to the then Shire President of Nillumbik Shire Council. Importantly, a formal Apology Acknowledgement and Commitment statement to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people was read out at the gathering after earlier being endorsed by Council.



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Message from the Council

Text to come

Image: (from left) Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Natalie Duffy, Deputy Mayor Cr Ben Ramcharan, Mayor Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Richard Stockman and Cr Geoff Paine.



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Introduction

Culture, arts, and heritage are integral to the health, prosperity and the vitality of our communities. They bring us together, help us enjoy our environment and to flourish personally. They foster creativity and innovation, provide employment and celebrate our unique heritage. The scope of arts and culture in Nillumbik encompasses First Nations arts, literature, music in all forms, theatre, dance in all forms, other performing arts such as circus, comedy and puppetry, screen-based arts, festivals and events, visual arts and craft, and emerging and experimental arts.

“The arts have the potential to bridge our worlds, harness the wisdom of our different views, engage our imagination to explore new ways of thinking and create experiences that can be shared by all people in our community.”
– Creative Victoria.

Image (right): Gallery 7 six 5, Watsons Creek.
Photo courtesy of Gallery 7 six 5

Image (below): Community art project 2020, Edendale Community Environment Farm.



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Our artistic and cultural heritage

Council understands the importance of acknowledging and celebrating the Shire’s artistic and cultural heritage while embracing the next wave of contemporary arts and culture. Arts and culture is constantly evolving; a fluid and reflective means to explore and capture societal influences through time.

Nillumbik has long been renowned for, and continues to foster, its deep connections to the arts. Our cultural heritage begins with the first people of Nillumbik, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. This rich and enduring culture continues to inspire and educate us today.

Our artistic roots stem from the early 1900s, with the Heidelberg School artists who lived and painted locally; with Australia’s oldest artist commune, Montsalvat, founded in the 1930s; and with the unique ‘Eltham Style’ properties that showcase the earth building movement of the 1940s and continue today with award-winning contemporary mud-brick architecture.

The collaborative efforts of artists in and around Nillumbik have been significant with the establishment of artistic cooperatives, collaborative studios and public programs such as The Potters Cottage Co-operative, the Dunmoochin Artists Co-operative, the Baldessin Press & Studio and the Nillumbik Artists Open Studios program. The Shire also has a vibrant community-led festival scene.

Nillumbik has a strong history in literary arts that is supported today through the Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing. The Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art similarly supports visual arts of all mediums and acquires new artworks that build on the legacy of the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection. In October of 2019, Council adopted a percent for art policy on major infrastructure development, paving the way for a contemporary public art program that will continue to build on the impressive Public Art Collection across the Shire.

Nillumbik is committed to creativity. Activities offered by Council through its arts and culture programming add to the rich tapestry of opportunities for our community to engage with Nillumbik’s arts and culture, past, present and future.

Building on this tradition, the depth and breadth of our programs and venues reflect our commitment to creativity in Nillumbik:

- The Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing is awarded every two years and builds on the Shire’s strong tradition of supporting contemporary Australian writing.
- The Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art is an acquisitive prize awarded every two years, and is open to emerging and established artists working in any medium across Australia. The winning artworks become part of the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection.
- The Nillumbik Shire Art Collection includes works by historically significant local artists such as Walter Withers, Clifton Pugh and George Baldessin, as well as works by contemporary artists such as Peter Wegner, Rick Amor, Siri Hayes, Deborah Halpern and Jessie Imam.
- The Eltham Library Community Gallery is an important platform for emerging artists that provides entry into professional practice. The gallery space offers a diverse exhibition program that showcases both traditional forms of art-making and new methods of art production, along with themes and ideas that are relevant to our times.
- The Nillumbik Public Art Collection has major artworks integrated into public spaces, parks and public facilities around the Shire. It enables the community to engage with art as an everyday experience and creates a sense of place.
- Nillumbik Artist in Residence Program offers opportunities for local artists to explore their professional practice and engage with the local community.
- The Nillumbik Community Fund offers grants annually to support a range of initiatives to strengthen, enhance and benefit Nillumbik communities.

Image: Lasting Memories Mosaic Seat, St Andrews.



Image: Ellis Cottage, Diamond Creek. Photo courtesy of Nillumbik Historical Society





Image: Nillumbik Shire Council Local Remix exhibition, Montsalvat 2022, featuring the works pictured by Hilary Jackman, Nusra Latif Quershi and Siri Hayes. Photo by Cassidy Chappell

- The Nillumbik Heritage Guide has been created in collaboration with historical societies, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Nillumbik Reconciliation Group, Yarra Plenty Regional Library and dozens of other contributors. The guide showcases the rich history of Nillumbik.
- The annual History and Heritage Grants provide funding to support community programs and projects connected to our history and/or heritage.
- The Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee provides a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in the development, implementation and evaluation of Arts and Culture.

The Arts and Culture team at Nillumbik also connect with and refer to a range of external stakeholders who are important for the national and state development of arts, culture and creative industries, such as the Australia Council for the Arts; Creative Victoria and its major cultural policy Creative State; the Australian Museums and Galleries Association (Victoria); the Public Records Office Victoria; Public Galleries Association of Victoria; the National Association of the Visual Arts, and the Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance.

Image (right): Eltham Library Community Gallery exhibition 2022. *The Poet* [detail] by Chloe Vallance. Picture courtesy of the artist.



Development of the Strategy

Our Arts and Culture Strategy is a living document, a planning tool providing Council with a clear set of priorities for the enrichment of arts and culture facilities and programs across the Shire over the next four years.

Arts and Culture links directly to Council’s four key themes, as follows:

Community and Connection

How arts and culture encourage inclusion and participation to support health and wellbeing and equitable access to services, programs events and initiatives.

Place and Space

How arts and culture can strengthen identity, reinforce local character, improve accessibility, encourage social connections and enjoyment, and respect for the environment.

Sustainable and Resilient

How arts and culture can contribute, now and into the future, to how community manages and adapts to changing circumstances: climate change; environmental sustainability; resilience and recovery; and supporting a vibrant economy.

Responsible and Accountable

How arts and culture can demonstrate strong leadership and strategic work for the community through the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of this Strategy.

Image: Evan Turner from Australian Stiltwalkers, 2021.
Photo by Darcy Scales



Our strategy

- Acknowledges the centrality of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to Nillumbik’s arts and culture.
- Illustrates how arts and culture can sit alongside and impact on other public policy domains.
- Is based on community values and a diverse spread of community needs and aspirations.
- Is evidence based.
- Highlights the value of arts and cultural activities and the role they play in the Shire’s rich culture.
- Tells the story of the potential and contribution of our creative community.
- Supports and empowers our creative community.
- Enriches the development and growth of our region through cultural and financial investment.
- Activates mechanisms for evaluation and measurement.
- Contributes to good governance and strong leadership in the Arts and Culture sector.

Image (above): Zebras – roving performers from Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market. Arts and Culture Strategy Community Consultation, 2021. Photo by Jamie Robertson

Methodology

In addition to Council’s indicators for measuring success in quantitative terms, we work with the planning framework and measurable cultural outcomes developed by the Cultural Development Network (CDN). This framework was conceptualised in response to the needs identified through a 2013 Local Government survey that highlighted the lack of an agreed framework and informing principles in the development of Council Cultural Plans/Strategies. This research also demonstrated the need for a more systematic use of data and evidence with a greater focus on outcomes rather than inputs and activities. It has been constructed in the context of key national and international policy agendas with particular reference to the United Cities and Local Governments Policy Statement on Culture.

The framework recommends a planning process that is integrated with the rest of Council’s planning activity. It is underpinned by six key principles: based on values, directed towards goals, focused on outcomes, informed by evidence, underpinned by a ‘theory of change’ and respondent to evaluation.

We will focus on measurable outcomes for each of our goals, always in the cultural domain, and include other measurable outcomes in the social, economic, environmental and governance domains where relevant, to clearly identify how arts and culture impacts upon and integrates with other public policy domains.

Using these outcomes helps us to assess what difference our work makes to those who receive it. We allow outcomes and evidence to guide our future activities, and activate mechanisms for evaluation and measurements.

Image (right): Angelic Living Statue from Kinetic Theatre. Arts and Culture Strategy consultation, 2021. Photo by Jamie Robertson



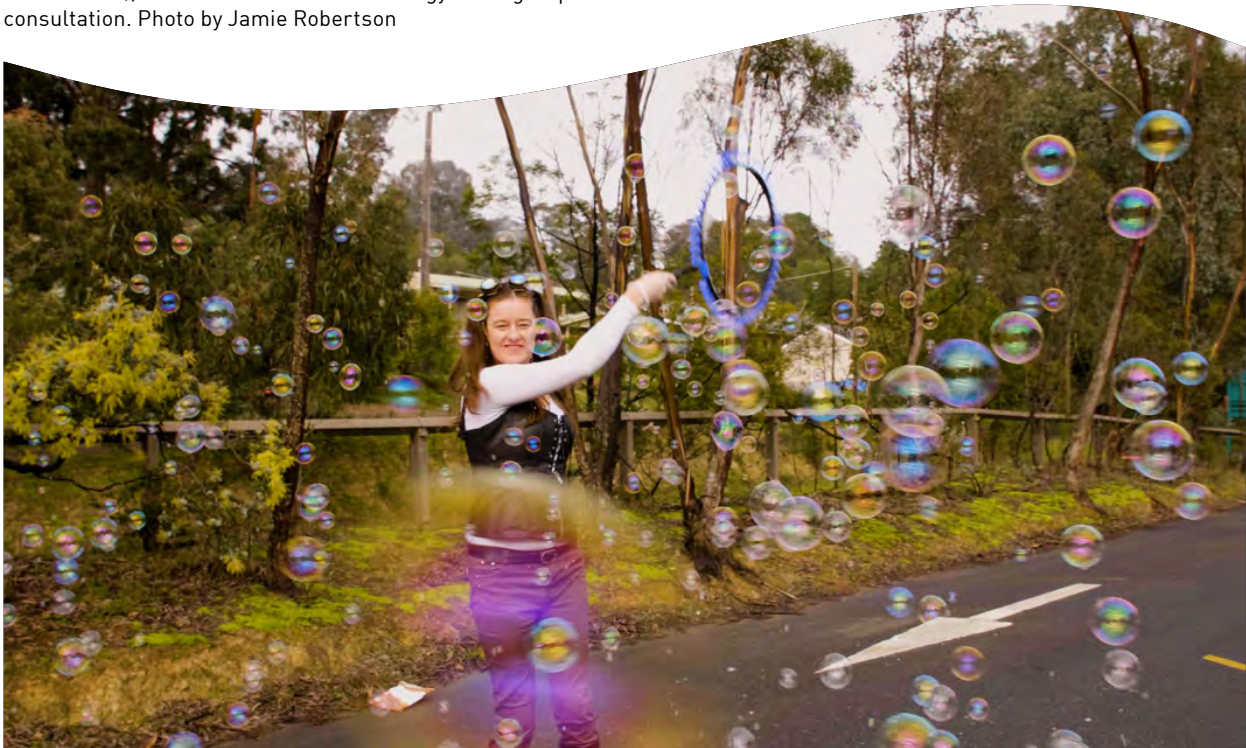
Consultation

To discover what is most important to the community for arts and culture now and in the future, we conducted the most extensive consultation ever undertaken in Nillumbik for arts and cultural planning from December 2020 through to 31 July 2021. The consultation program included a comprehensive range of digital and in-person engagements. Digital engagements involved online surveys, online focus groups including targeted consultation with cultural and special interest groups, and individual feedback through emails and online meetings. In-person engagements comprised 23 pop-up roving performance engagements in public spaces, a six day interactive exhibition at the Eltham Community Library Gallery and in-person focus group discussions with performances.

2216 residents from all corners of Nillumbik participated in the engagement. Their histories, cultural journeys, personal experiences, hopes, dreams and visions for the future have been collated into a significant research and consultation document, the What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Report. It provides the strongest possible evidence base for the development of our Strategy.

The common key values that emerged from the community consultations form the basis of our strategy’s goals and express the desired long-term future for arts and culture in Nillumbik.

Image: Clare Turner from Bubble Play (Australian Stiltwalkers), 2021 Arts and Culture Strategy focus group consultation. Photo by Jamie Robertson



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Image: Marquisa D'or from Kinetic Theatre at Eltham Farmers Market. Photo by Darcy Scales

What we heard:

Collaborative, creative, forward thinking is how the Nillumbik community want to define our identity. We want to focus on telling our stories both old and new in daring and contemporary ways. We want to be more progressive and inclusive and less conventional.

We value our environment, our artistic heritage and our ability to work with community.

New important things have emerged from our consultations: our interconnectedness, our desire to produce contemporary and challenging work, the value of our artists in a broader community context, and Nillumbik as a distinct and desirable cultural destination that celebrates diversity of cultural expression and artistic practice.

Three distinct themes emerged from analysis of the consultation documents, expressing the values and aspirations of the Nillumbik community. These, in alignment with the four themes of the Council plan, underpin the strategic plan and will inform all decisions regarding arts and culture:

Themes from consultation

Interconnectedness

Our distinctive feature and the foundation of our identity, intrinsic to the practice and sharing of the arts in Nillumbik. We use creative expression to foster connection and partnerships, build social capital and create a sense of belonging.

Creative Capital

We desire to establish Nillumbik as a creative destination; one that nurtures the production of art and the wellbeing of creative practitioners and creative industries, where art is produced and people are inspired. We develop and grow our creative industries.

Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

We ensure respectful representation of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture, cultures from other lands and LGBTQIA+ expression. We support the production of and engagement with contemporary work as well as unusual and non-mainstream art forms.

Arts and Culture Goals

We have developed four goals underpinned by our planning framework and informed by the extensive consultation process for the Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026 and the strong themes that emerged from it.

Our Arts and Culture goals are clearly aligned to Council's themes, and aim for measurable outcomes across several policy domains that will be evaluated during the life of the strategy.

For all our goals, we are looking for cultural activities that:

- Spark imagination and creativity encouraging creative expression;
- Stimulate sensory experiences that are outside the everyday – joy, beauty, wonder;
- Encourage creative thinking and deeper understanding;
- Promote the value of diverse cultural life experiences in our community; and
- Deepen the sense of belonging to shared histories and heritages.

Image: Heart comments during community consultation for the Arts and Culture Strategy with Fantastic Flamingo, 2021. Photo by Jamie Robertson

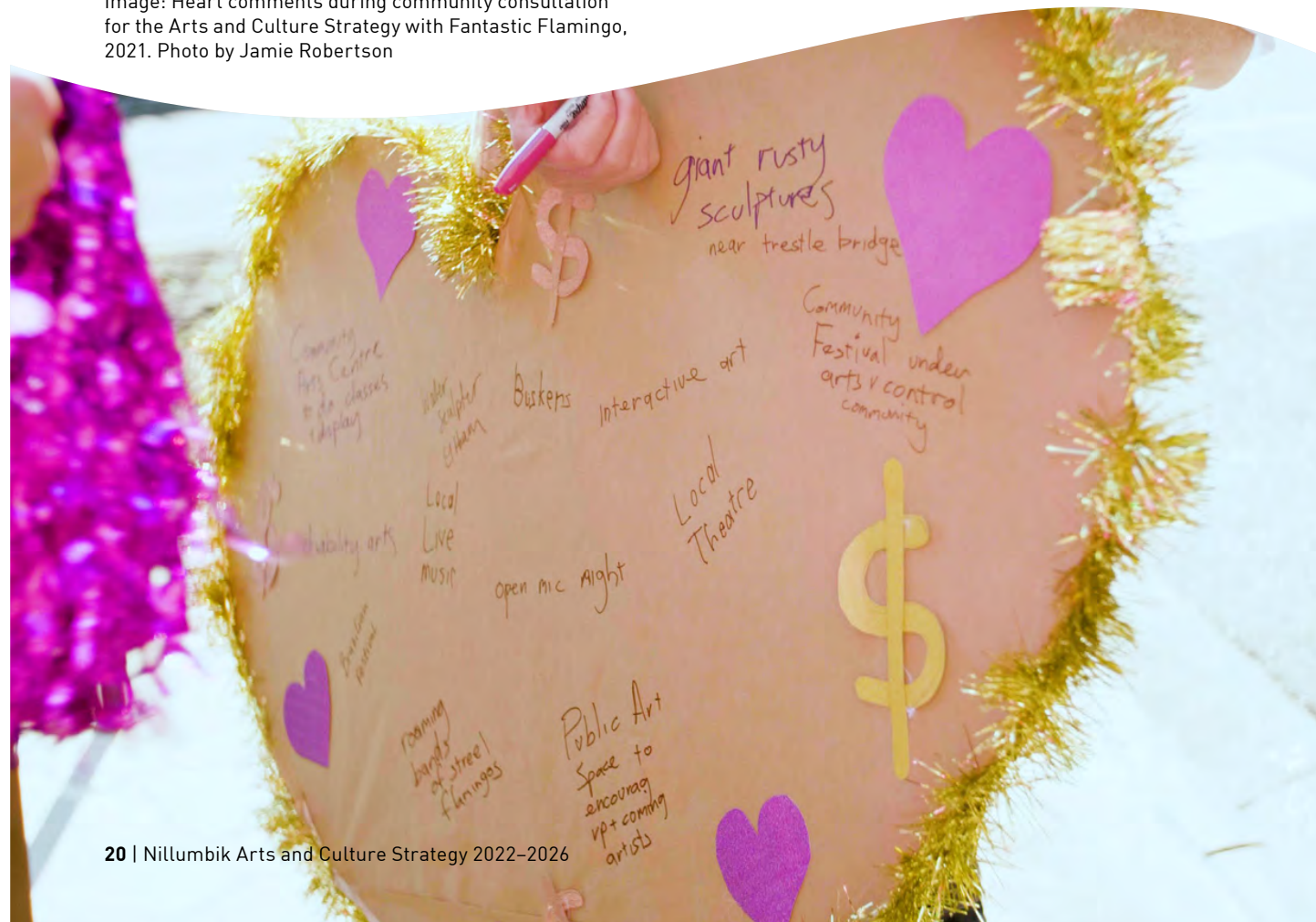


Image: LocalRemix 2022 installation of Simone Thomson's *After the Fire 2021*. Photo by Cassidy Chappell



Goal 1: An Interconnected and Creative Community

Aligns with Council Plan Theme: Community and Connection

Community and Connection encourages inclusion and participation to support health and wellbeing and equitable access to services, programs events and initiatives. Arts and Culture can contribute to this theme in many ways.

We know that interconnectedness is a distinctive feature of our creative identity in Nillumbik; a bond between the creative community, our artistic heritage and natural environment. We use creative expression to foster connection and partnerships, to build creative and social capital and create a sense of belonging. We know that cultural activity plays a pivotal role in connecting communities and encourages inclusion to support health and wellbeing and can be a vehicle for recovery.

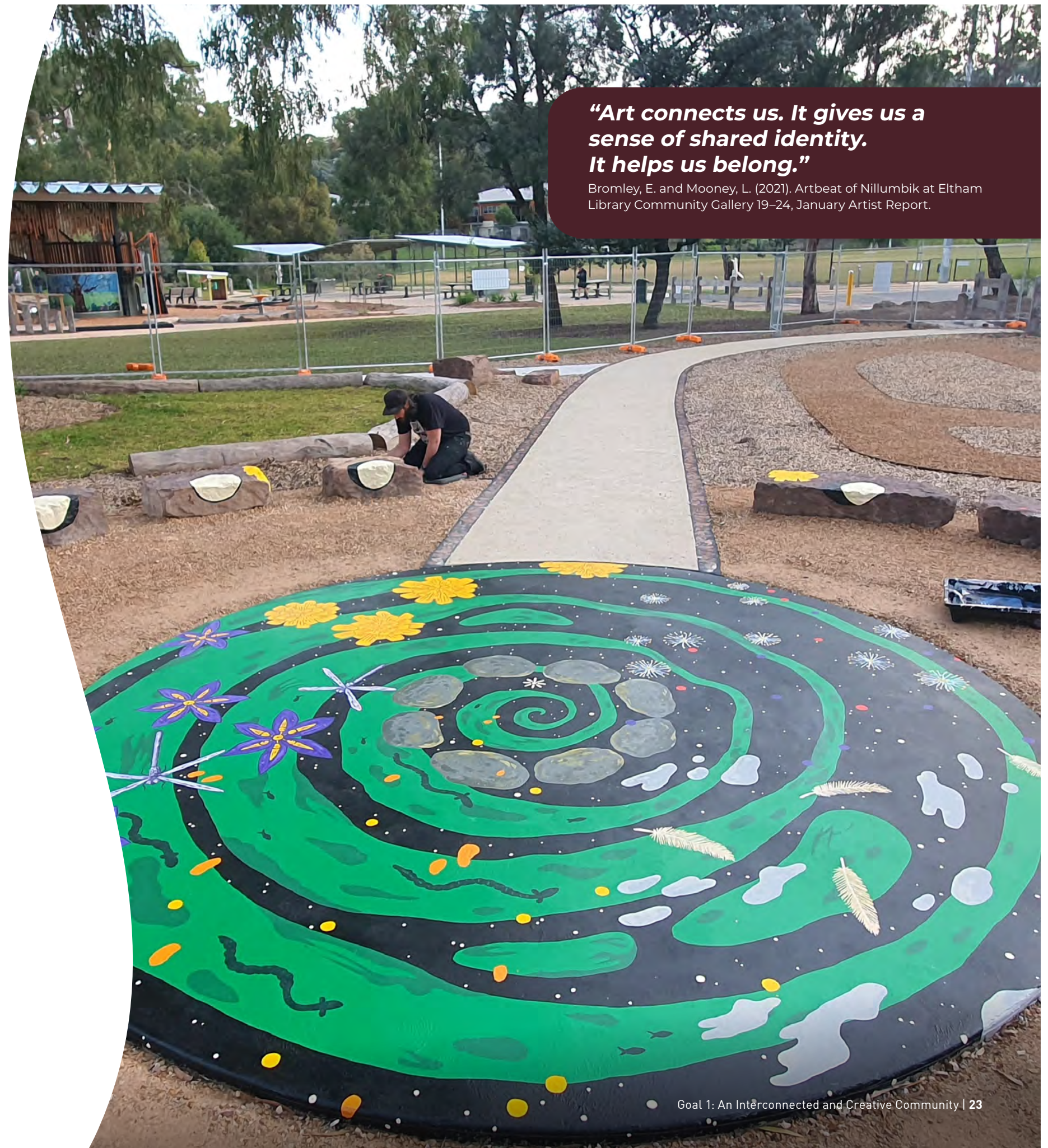
We will therefore:

- Build an interconnected creative ecology through physical spaces for connection and creation.
- Demonstrate the value of arts and culture in the community.
- Enhance connections with our heritage, and champion socially engaged practice.

We will look for cultural activities in the social domain that:

- Empower our community, form bonds between people who share common interests.
- Strengthen understanding between people of different social identities.
- Encourage a sense of self-worth when an individual's achievements are recognised by family, friends and people who are important to them.

Image: Gathering space mural at Eltham North Adventure Playground. Artist: Tom Civil 2020



“Art connects us. It gives us a sense of shared identity. It helps us belong.”

Bromley, E. and Mooney, L. (2021). Artbeat of Nillumbik at Eltham Library Community Gallery 19-24, January Artist Report.

What our community told us in relation to this goal:

- Create and co-locate infrastructure to enable creative practice.
- Stronger connection with Wurundjeri heritage and culture.
- More information about what's on.
- More support for under-represented art forms – writing, theatre, dance.
- Smaller townships feel under-served.
- More heritage information and support for historical societies.



Image (above): Dream Tree Community Art, 2018

Image (right): Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing 2022. Photograph by Jeremy Dixon

What we already know about an interconnected creative community:

- Connectedness to each other and community was classed as important or very important by 92 per cent of respondents to the online community survey.²
- Four in five Australians agree that indigenous arts are an important part of Australia's culture.³
- Interconnectedness is fostered by having physical spaces for creative people to meet and be inspired by new ideas and practices.⁴
- Welcoming physical spaces with inclusive programs can increase participation from emerging creators.⁵
- Involvement in arts can increase social connections, promote a sense of wellbeing and help to deal with anxiety and stress.⁶
- Arts and cultural activity and engagement bring many direct and sometimes immediate benefits to society. It brings value to individuals and society by creating conditions for change, spaces for experimentation, risk-taking, reflection about personal community and societal challenges.⁷
- Socially engaged practice describes art that is collaborative, often participatory and involves people as the medium or material of the work.⁸
- Supporting people to come together and find a shared interest and purpose is a key driver of enhancing wellbeing.⁹
- Arts provide opportunities for individuals and groups to generate civic pride and support communities to form a strong and distinct shared identity.
- Hubs can increase useful connections between local arts practitioners, arts organisations and local businesses.¹⁰
- Libraries are places of cultural meaning and significance. They are gathering places, important for social outcomes – as incubators of creativity, as cultural connectors, as supporters of multiculturalism, and as nurturers of the spoken and written word.¹¹



“Nillumbik arts is a collective thing, it's an atmosphere that runs through the whole place, and you can hook into that interconnectedness of it. That's quite a powerful thing.”

Grant, A. (2021). Arts & Culture Focus Group Consultation Report.

We currently support our community's interconnectedness through:

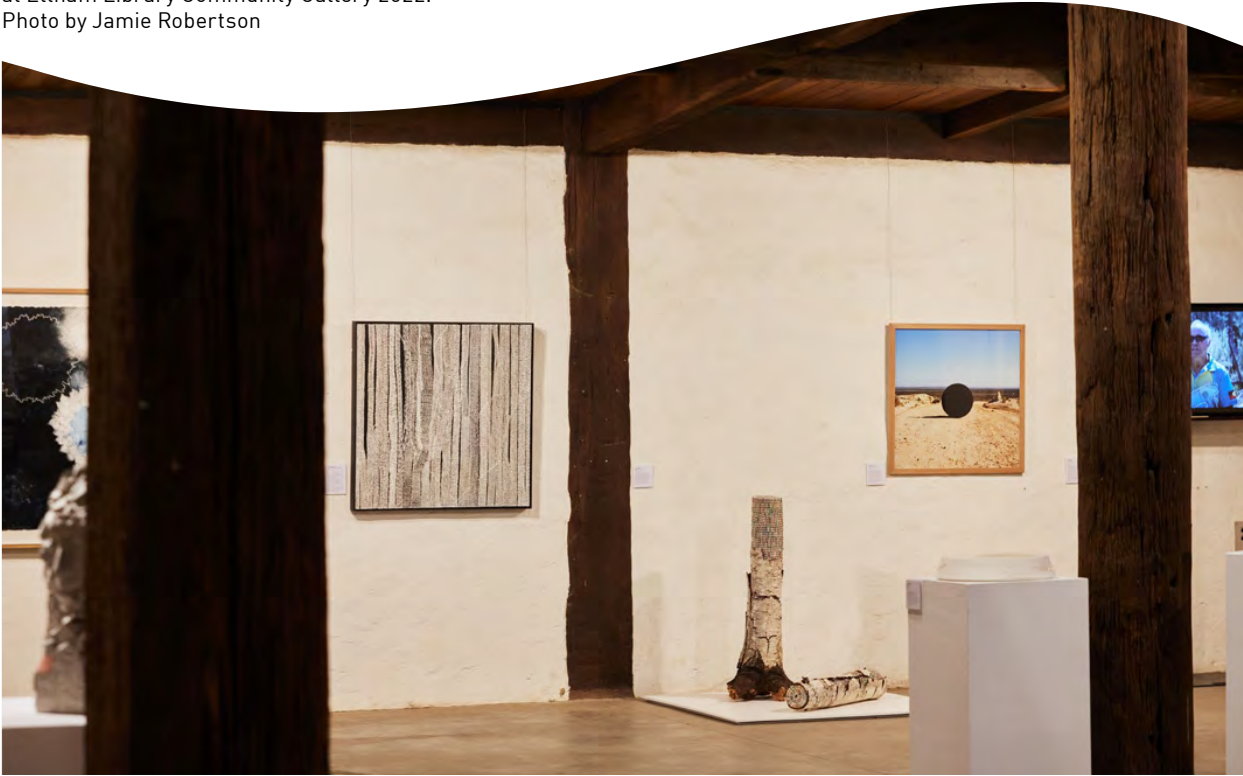
- Safe, best-practice art spaces in venues for performance, exhibition and creation.
- Attracting local community and visitors to our creative spaces with contemporary programming, exhibitions and activities.
- Provision of post-COVID recovery programs.
- Provision of exhibition space.
- Commissions, engagements and employment of artists into programs.
- Arts and culture grant programs, events and festivals.

Considerations towards supporting an interconnected creative community:

- Creative space/s that includes studio and rehearsal space, exhibition and performance space.
- Inclusive creative participation across all townships.
- Prioritise support for under-represented art forms – live music, literature, and dance.
- Involve the next generation of artists in repositioning artistic heritage for the future.
- Engage a wider audience with a shared experience of Country in partnership with local First Nations artists.
- Encourage collaboration with the library service as an exhibition and events space.
- Encourage art that addresses social issues.

Image (below): Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art 2021, Montsalvat Barn Gallery

Image (right): Creative Minds exhibition opening event at Eltham Library Community Gallery 2022.
Photo by Jamie Robertson



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“Creative networks date back through our artistic heritage and are embedded in the way creative practitioners live and work together in Nillumbik today.”

Grant, A. (2021). Arts & Culture Focus Group Consultation Report.

Goal 2: A Visible and Supported Creative Community

**Aligns with Council Plan Theme:
Sustainable and Resilient**

We know that if we nurture the support of our creative businesses and individual practitioners, we seed fertile soil for our creative community to grow and flourish. Our creative industries can make positive contributions to a vibrant local economy and cultural tourism.

We will therefore:

- Encourage strong collaborative relationships between creators, Council, businesses and community organisations to build trust and elevate the reputation of the creative community in the non-cultural arena.
- Support our creative practitioners with programs to enhance skills for growth.
- Celebrate Nillumbik as a creative centre through proactive promotion and marketing of our cultural programs and activities.

We will look for social outcomes that:

- Empower our community, form bonds between people who share common interests.
- Strengthen understanding between people of different social identities.
- Encourage a sense of self-worth when an individual's achievements are recognised by family, friends and people who are important to them.

We will look for economic outcomes that:

- Increase knowledge and experience to inform creative practice leading to increased productivity and efficiency.
- Develop skills to gain employment.
- Increase economic wellbeing and resources to meet living costs.
- Support our local economy to gain direct and indirect benefit from cultural activities.

Image: Kate Hudson, artist, Nillumbik Artists Open Studio Program 2022. Image courtesy of the artist.



“We need to place front and centre our local talented professionals. We need to support this fragile industry with resources, information, facilitation, spaces and training.”

Nillumbik Shire Council, Evaluation of Arts Recovery Industry Event (2021)

“It is becoming increasingly clear that creativity itself is an essential ingredient in a community’s prosperity.”

Benefactor Group 2021, Building Creative Capital, Benefactor Group—Giving Institute, viewed 24 September 2021
<https://benefactorgroup.com/building-creative-capital/>.



We will look for environmental outcomes that:

- Enhance our value of the natural world.
- Illuminate the meaning of our natural and built environments and how we interact with and value them.
- Increase a sense of responsibility to care for our environment.

What our community told us in relation to this theme:

- Better promoted and advertised activities, opportunities and events.
- More Council visibility in the arts community.
- More live music and outdoor events.
- Help with business and marketing skills.
- More artist residency opportunities.
- Council facilities can be difficult to access and expensive to hire for creative outcomes.

What we know about a visible and supported creative community:

- Talent and creativity are essential for a culturally ambitious vision of our future, so it is important to address how we value our creative community through support structures, protections and remunerations.¹²
- Creative industries make up an important economic sector.¹³
- Arts and culture activity can strengthen local businesses and attract visitors and new residents.¹⁴
- Artists can be supported through collaborations with non-cultural sectors.¹⁵
- Artist residencies inspire creativity and connection, nurture experimentation and new ideas and support research and development.¹⁶
- The world of work in the future will require skills inherent in the creative community; empathy, creativity, collaboration and leadership.¹⁷

Image (left): *Winter Blues* (detail) by Jess Jarvie, 2017. Nillumbik Shire Council Visual Art Collection

Image (below): Paul Kalembo with his artwork *Leaving Isolation* at the Art in the Time of Covid Exhibition at Montsalvat 2021. Artwork *Leaving Isolation* acquired into the Nillumbik Visual Art Collection



We currently support our creative community through:

- Arts and culture grant programs, events and festivals.
- Nationally recognised art prizes that offer local representation.
- Art, civic and public art collections of significance.
- Exhibition programs.
- A community representative committee.
- Commissions, engagements and employment of artists into programs.
- Dedicated public art and visual art commissions and acquisitions programs.
- COVID-19 recovery programs for the creative community.

Considerations towards a visible and supported creative community:

- A centralised digital online hub covering a calendar of cultural events in the Shire, a list of venues available for events, and a directory of creative practitioners and industries.
- Ensuring best-practice care and management of our collections.
- Greater visibility of Council Arts and Cultural Development officers in the community.
- Prioritise cultural value over tourism and economic value in Council arts and culture language and communication.
- Artist residency programs in inspiring places.
- Professional development programs for artists.
- Street fairs, festivals and events that showcase local artists, particularly musicians.
- A program designed for business owners on the benefits of working with creative practitioners.
- Encourage affordable pop-up spaces in vacant tenancies.
- Streamline Council venue hire processes.

“Artists’ skills and capabilities are considered to be among those least likely to be automated and increasingly sought in the workforces of the future. It is predicted that time spent engaging with people, solving strategic problems and thinking creatively will increase for all jobs. Accelerated change is likely to prioritise transferable skills, diverse perspectives, and lifelong learning for adapting skills and building new capabilities – all embodied in artists’ working lives and professional practice.”

Making Art Work, Australia Council for the Arts 2017



Image: Habibi Favilla, musician at Christmas Hills Makers Exchange. Photo by Paris Favilla

Arts Recovery in response to COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the lives of our whole community, our nation and our world. Participating in and viewing art of all kinds during the pandemic has provided comfort and inspiration, connection and engagement in challenging and uncertain times. For many people, gaining access to art has never been easier, and has inspired many to explore their own creativity.

However, the creative industries are facing significant ongoing challenges as the impacts of the pandemic become clearer. The difficulties of sustaining practice has become apparent, particularly for disciplines that rely on live audiences, and under-employment is an issue for many creative practitioners. As Creative Victoria has said in their current strategy, Creative State 2025: “New approaches and investments are required to ensure a timely recovery, to retain and develop our creative talent, to reactivate and reinforce our creative industries, and to reconnect and re-energise our communities.”

Arts recovery is front of mind in our strategy, The Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan 2021-22 recognised that arts and culture will require a longer-term recovery plan, and has made provision for opportunities to sustain/support local businesses, which will benefit our creative practitioners in the future.

Council led the way early in the pandemic by providing an immediate commission based employment program for artists, Art in the Time of COVID-19, which employed 163 creative professionals. This was followed by further support programs including the Nillumbik Artist in Own Residence Program, Arts and Culture Grants and the Local Arts Recovery Industry Report.

Council will make every effort to ensure that the findings of the *What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 Community Consultation Report* are supported so that local artists and creative businesses can return to pre-pandemic levels of activity, and beyond.

Goal 3: A Diverse and Resilient Creative Community

**Aligns with Council Plan Theme:
Sustainable and Resilient.**

Arts and culture can assist in ensuring our community remains sustainable and resilient, by supporting our First Nations people, encouraging diversity of people and practice, developing and supporting our creative industries to be adaptive and flexible.

We know that the community wants to learn from Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

We need to ensure that our arts and culture spaces are welcoming for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people of all ages, people living with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and LGBTQIA+ communities.

We will therefore:

- Collaborate with our Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Aboriginal Corporation and local First Nations people to share truth-telling stories with the wider community.
- Recognise and support diversity.
- Support emerging artists.
- Ensure that Nillumbik develops cultural longevity for the future.

We are looking for social outcomes that:

- Empower our community, form bonds between people who share common interests.
- Contribute to a sense of safety in the community.
- Strengthen understanding between people of different social identities.
- Enhance bonds between people who share common characteristics and interests.
- Encourage a sense of self-worth when an individual's achievements are recognised by family, friends and people who are important to them.

Image: *The Blacksniths Tree* at Strathewen.
Photo by Jamie Robertson



“I like that the strong presence of the arts, including diversity and originality in some of our public and private buildings, contributes to a sense of outside the mainstream.”

Nillumbik Shire Council: Participate
Nillumbik (2021)

We are looking for environmental outcomes that:

- Enhance our value of the natural world.
- Illuminate the meaning of our natural and built environments and how we interact with and value them.
- Increase our understanding of sustainability and the impact of environmental issues.
- Increase a sense of responsibility to care for our environment.



Image (above): Willem winning the youth prize for poetry at the Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing 2022. Photo by: Jeremy Dixon

“A desire to have more opportunities to learn about and/or celebrate Indigenous history in the area, or to cultivate the kind of values that indigenous culture embraces.”

Bromley, E. and Mooney, L. (2021). Artbeat of Nillumbik at Eltham Library Community Gallery 19–24 January Artist Report

What the community told us in relation to this theme:

- Better visibility of Wurundjeri people, culture and truth-telling stories.
- More representation for multi-cultural communities.
- Inclusion and equality for LGBTQIA+.
- There is a call for under-represented art forms such as theatre, dance, fashion, music and literature.
- Support the development of artists from under-represented art forms.
- Support needed for creative events in more intimate venues.
- Better support for writers.
- Children’s art classes.
- Linkages between seniors and young people.

Image (right): Leanne Mooney, local artist, Eltham North Adventure Playground. Photo supplied by Butterfly Studio.



“Creative projects aimed at enriching a sense of community identity only affirm the value of social and cultural diversity, but also allow for an assertion of the importance of community in an uncertain world.”

Martin M & Smith P.(2009). “Governance and the Turn into Community: Putting Art at the Heart of Local Government.” ReGenerating Community Conference Papers. Melbourne

What we know about a diverse and resilient community:

- Supporting new and emerging creators will ensure that Nillumbik has a succession plan and remains a cultural centre well into the future.¹⁹
- Introducing audiences to non-visual arts will create a more holistic experience of arts and culture in Nillumbik, elevating the presence and reputation of artists that lack a public platform and encouraging connection and greater cohesion.²⁰
- When indigenous and non-indigenous communities are brought together, it provides opportunities for people to reflect on their individual and shared experiences. This can reduce isolation and strengthen ties between the Aboriginal community and other cultural and social groups.
- Participation in the arts benefits Indigenous communities, including improved physical and mental health and wellbeing; increased social inclusion and cohesion; some improvements in school retention and attitudes towards learning, increased connection to culture, improved social and cognitive skill.²¹
- Creating a safe place through arts activities, and building trust, enables participants to work through challenges and potential community and personal change without fear of retribution or stigma.²²
- Supporting and creating opportunities for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to meaningfully participate in community can build a strong sense of agency and belonging.²³

We currently support a diverse and resilient community through:

- Festivals and events, arts and culture grants.
- Recovery programs.
- Exhibition programs.
- A community representative committee.
- Commissions, engagements and employment of artists into programs.
- Art, civic and public art collections of significance.

Considerations towards a diverse and resilient community:

- Partnerships with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung for outdoor cultural programs.
- Ensure major cultural art events have a traditional ceremony by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.
- Greater diversity in commissioned and acquired work.
- Ensure diversity on our advisory panels.
- Specific arts and culture celebrations during NAIDOC Week.
- Acknowledge the importance of Kangaroo Ground to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung.
- Celebrate literature.
- Safe and supportive space for LGBTQIA+ arts and cultural expression.
- Activate non-traditional spaces across the Shire.
- Support an open studio model for under-represented art forms.
- More art programs for young people.
- Mentorships for new generation artists.



Image: Nusra Latif Quershi with her work *Remnant Blessings* - Local Prize winner Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art 2021.

Commitment from Nillumbik Shire Council to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Arts and Culture

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to:

- Retaining and protecting Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung cultural heritage and sharing this knowledge with the communities living on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country.
- Recognising, supporting and acknowledging that land and waterways are intrinsic to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture and that art is the expression of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture and identity.
- Creating opportunities for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to tell their own stories.
- Having Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people supply any Woi wurrung language that is to be used.
- Considering Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung artists when art is produced for places on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung land such as: permanent paintings and other imagery on site, sculpture, design and other permanent public artworks.

“Connectedness to others makes you feel like you belong. Promoting tolerance, accepting of difference, and a sense of belonging is important in our towns.”

Nillumbik Shire Council: Our People Our Places Our Future Engagement Summary (2021)

Goal 4: A Distinctively Nillumbik Creative Community

Aligns with Council Plan Theme: Place and Space

Place and Space is about strengthening identity, reinforcing character, improving accessibility, encouraging social connections and enjoyment, and respecting the environment. In Arts and Culture, we want to establish Nillumbik as a creative destination with its own unique flavour, where inspiring art is produced and consumed, which sparks civic pride in our community. A place where we create a mutually supportive ecology between artists, Council and community.

We will therefore:

- Celebrate and enhance local character.
- Champion art in everyday life.
- Encourage closer connections between Council and the creative community.

We are looking for social outcomes that:

- Empower our community, form bonds between people who share common interests.
- Strengthen understanding between people of different social identities.
- Encourage a sense of self-worth when an individual’s achievements are recognised by family, friends and people who are important to them.

We are looking for environmental outcomes that:

- Enhance our value of our natural world.
- Illuminate the meaning of our natural and built environments and how we interact with and value them.
- Increase our understanding of sustainability and the impact of environmental issues.
- Increase a sense of responsibility to care for our environment.

Image: Deborah Halpern, *Queen of the Shire*, Warrandyte North



“A shire of vibrant villages.”

Nillumbik Shire Council: Our People, Our Place,
Our Future survey responses (2021, Share your big ideas)

“A place that encourages the arts to flourish.”

Nillumbik Shire Council: Our People, Our Place, Our Future survey responses (2021, Share your big ideas)

“Nillumbik is unique: our places have cultural, environmental and community importance.”

Nillumbik Shire Council: Our People, Our Place, Our Future survey responses (2021, Our People Ideas)

What the community told us in relation to this theme:

- Nillumbik to be recognised as a quintessential arts destination.
- Stronger connections between creative community and Council.
- Inclusion of artists in Council projects; integrate art into processes from the beginning.
- Increased visibility of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung.
- Make Nillumbik art, civic and public art collections more visible to everyone.
- Better support for local art and history knowledge in Council.
- More inclusion of Council-run art and cultural activities and creative infrastructure development.
- Distinguish Nillumbik Shire as a cultural destination through more public art commissions.
- Create ‘vibrant villages’ theme.
- Support a sharing resource scheme, for example, artists using waste or recycled materials to create artworks.
- More collaboration with local produce producers at art events.
- A Maker Space for art, craft and produce.
- Better quality events Shire wide.
- Evaluation through community, social and cultural lens instead of purely economic.
- Connect new residents with the creative community via Council Welcome Packs.

What we know about a Distinctively Nillumbik Creative Community:

- Nillumbik is well placed to capitalise on its strong cultural heritage, local character and broad range of artistic practice to create a unique environment for cultural excellence.²⁴
- If creative capital is not a luxury but rather is vital to personal and community well-being, then the traditional method of consumption...needs to give way, to many more opportunities to produce and participate actively ... a will to take part, engage and leave a legacy.²⁵
- Creative place making and public art can encompass not only traditional methods of art making such as murals, music, sculpture, lighting, but also more general creative work, such as creatively engaging stakeholders and residents by using space in novel ways. It can also improve community safety by promoting empathy and understanding, influencing policy, providing employment, supporting well-being and advancing the quality of built environments.²⁶
- There is great value in incorporating local artists, their work and ideas into early stages of projects and developments, so that creativity is manifest throughout the life of a project from design and community engagement to activation and promotion.²⁷

Image (left): Christmas Hills Makers Exchange 2022.
Photo by Paris Favilla



Image: Written in the Time of COVID 2020, Pavement pages.

We currently support a distinctively Nillumbik creative community through:

- Dedicated public art and visual art commission and acquisition programs.
- Art, civic and public art collections of significance.
- Commissions, engagements and employment of artists into programs.
- Attracting local community and visitors to our creative spaces with diverse programming, exhibitions and activities.
- Art and culture grants programs, events and festivals.
- Nationally recognised Art Prizes that offer local representation.
- The Percent for Art scheme.

Image (right): Johnny Cronin performing as part of Nillumbik Grooves.

Considerations towards a distinctively Nillumbik creative community:

- Embed this Strategy as a whole-of-Council document, so that the cultural domain is equally recognised with social, economic, environment and governance domains within all Council plans.
- Inclusion of artists in Council projects, Council meetings and events.
- Evaluate major Council projects through Cultural Impact Statements.
- Placemaking that celebrates and enhances local character.
- Continue to work to the adopted public art policy and percent for art.
- Inclusion of First Nations artists in public art and as a defining character of Nillumbik.
- Resource sharing.
- Nillumbik Art Collection online.
- Quality events showcasing unique Nillumbik identity.
- Inclusion of produce growers and producers to events.
- Welcome new residents to creative Nillumbik.



“A desire for Nillumbik to be seen as a vibrant centre for the arts was very clear – as was ensuring that art and culture is visible to the community and visitors.”

Bromley, E. and Mooney, L. (2021). Artbeat of Nillumbik at Eltham Library Community Gallery 19–24 January Artist Report

Implementation and Evaluation

An Annual Implementation Plan will outline how Council will deliver activities that contribute to outcomes, with timeframes, areas of responsibility and any partners. An annual review and summary report will be shared with Councillors and key stakeholders.

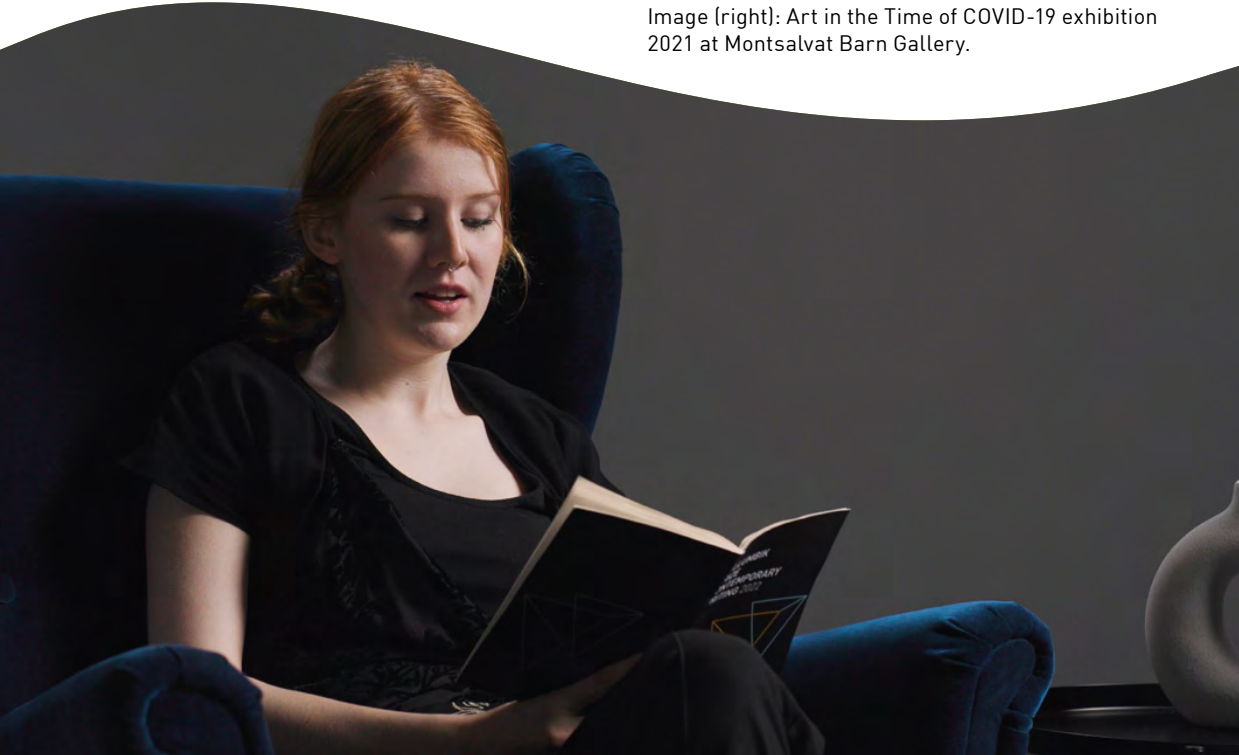
The Arts and Culture Strategy includes evaluation consistently as part of the normal work process. Evaluation findings are used to inform future decision-making ongoing during the strategy.

The strategy will be evaluated for its efficacy and contribution to the operations of the Council. Assessing the success of the Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026 and improving its next iteration is essential to building the capability, increased productivity and value of cultural development activities to the Council.

In addition to Council’s indicators for measuring success in quantitative terms, the Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026 will work with the planning framework and measurable cultural outcomes developed by the Cultural Development Network (CDN).

Image (below): Milly Whitlock-Whyte, actor, Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing event 2022. Photo by Momentum Studios

Image (right): Art in the Time of COVID-19 exhibition 2021 at Montsalvat Barn Gallery.



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Goal 4: A Distinctively Nillumbik Creative Community | 47

Appendix 1: Cultural Development Network (CDN)

The Cultural Development Network has developed six essential steps that enable us to undertake outcome-focussed planning and evaluation.

These essential steps are:

- Based on values.
- Directed towards goals.
- Focused on outcomes.
- Informed by evidence.
- Underpinned by a theory of change.
- Respondent to evaluation.

Based on values

The plan responds to the collective values of the community that underpin the strategy. These have been gained from existing documents and supplementary consultations to provide extra information and test assumptions. Values will be evident in the council’s stated goals (vision, purpose, mission etc.).

Directed towards goals

The plan is directed towards goals, the desired long-term futures determined by the Council and articulated in the Council’s strategic plan. The existing six guiding principles of Council are set to enable specific measurable achievement towards the goals.

Focussed on outcomes

The plan is focussed on outcomes, that is, the difference our work will make to those we are responsible to serve, rather than the activity undertaken to get there. Measurable outcomes help us determine whether objectives were met, and therefore addressing the goals.

Informed by evidence

The plan will articulate decisions informed by evidence. This includes practice knowledge, published research or data that provides information about the local context, the issues being identified that will help or hinder the way forward, and approaches to reaching the intended outcomes.

Underpinned by a theory of change

The plan uses a theory of change to assist and explain choices of activities. Theory of change is the reason why we do what we do. It can be represented by this short summary:

We are looking for . . . (this strategic objective), and we know . . . (this evidence), therefore, we will do . . . (these activities)

This section is where the previous four sections come together to form the ‘plan’ into strategic objectives which are unique to the organisation, given the context above.



Image: Perky & Fiddle, Kinetic Theatre at Edendale Farm. Photo by Jamie Robertson

Measurable Outcomes

The schema of measurable outcomes of cultural engagement is based on the premise that cultural products and activities do not hold intrinsic value in and of themselves. Value is generated or experienced as humans engage with the artwork or experience, with different individuals perceiving or receiving this value in different ways. Therefore, the outcomes are not assessing ‘quality’ or ‘excellence’ of the cultural experience, but the impact on the person who engages with it.

Evaluation

Evaluation will determine the effectiveness of this Arts and Culture Strategy. The evaluation process should occur at different times throughout the life of the strategy: from when it is just written; as it is being used; and as it reaches key thresholds.

Takso Outcomes Planning Platform is an option for planning, recording and evaluating the activities identified in the plan.

Takso is a new platform developed for the arts sector that until now has not had a consistent method for measuring the impact of its activities. The framework that underpins this strategy is also used at the activity level and every activity of Council can be recorded in a consistent method, contributing to a larger community of interest including other councils large and small, artists and producers, arts and cultural organisations.



Image: *Going Viral - Homebound* by Tyler Grace, Art in the Time of Covid exhibition .



Image: Wood Turning, Christmas Hills Makers Exchange 2022. Photo by Paris Favilla

Appendix 2: Document Review

An analysis of relevant, pre-existing data and feedback from the following documents was undertaken in the development of this strategy:

- Nillumbik Council Plan 2021–2025
- Community Vision – Nillumbik 2040
- What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy Report 2022–26
- Youth Strategy 2022–2026
- Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020–2030
- Nillumbik Community Pandemic Recovery Plan
- Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Policy
- Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Curatorial Guidelines
- Nillumbik Shire Public Art Policy
- Nillumbik Shire Public Art Implementation Guidelines
- Nillumbik Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025.
- Digital Nillumbik Heritage Guide

Appendix 3: References

¹ The Arts Ripple Effect: Valuing the Arts in Communities, Creative Victoria.

² Participate Nillumbik Arts & Culture Online Survey. Nillumbik Shire Council, 2021.

³ Arts in Daily Life: Australian participation in the Arts, Australia Council for the Arts, 2014.

⁴ What We Know Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report, Nillumbik Shire Council, 2021.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ The arts and creative industries in health promotion: An Evidence Check rapid review by the Sax Institute for The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, March 2020.

⁷ Understanding the value of arts and culture – The AHRC Cultural Value Project 2016 – Geoffrey Crossick and Patrycja Kazynska.

⁸ <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/sociallyengaged-practice>.

⁹ Creative and Cultural Activities and Wellbeing in Later Life Age UK 2018 https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/health--wellbeing/rb_apr18_creative_and_cultural_activities_wellbeing.pdf

¹⁰ Workspaces: Why People Thrive in Co-Working Spaces. Harvard Business Review, Gretchen Spreitzer, Peter Bacivice, Lyndon Garrett, September 2015.

¹¹ CREATIVE COMMUNITIES The cultural benefits of Victoria’s public libraries Summary Report, State Library of Victoria.

¹² Making Art Work: An Economic Study of Professional Artists in Australia, David Throsby and Katya Petetskaya, Australia Council for the Arts, 2017.

¹³ Creative State 2025. Creative Victoria 2021.

¹⁴ Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026 Yarra City Council. Also see City of Melbourne Creative Strategy 2018–28 for discussion on arts and culture activates economy.

¹⁵ What We Know Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation SUMMARY REPORT, Nillumbik Shire Council 2021.

¹⁶ Conceptualising the value of artist residencies: A research agenda, Kim Lehman, John Moores University, Liverpool.

¹⁷ Making Art Work: An Economic Study of Professional Artists in Australia, David Throsby and Katya Petetskaya, Australia Council for the Arts, 2017.

¹⁸ Creative State 2025. Placing creativity at the heart of Victoria’s recovery and prosperity. Creative Victoria, 2021.

¹⁹ What We Know Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation SUMMARY REPORT, Nillumbik Shire Council 2021.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Supporting healthy communities through arts programs, Vicki-Anne Ware, Closing the Gap Clearinghouse 2014.

²² Ibid.

²³ Active Citizenship, Participation and Belonging, Centre for Multicultural Youth.

²⁴ What We Know Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation SUMMARY REPORT, Nillumbik Shire Council 2021.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Creative Placemaking, Ann Markusen, Anne Gadwa.



²⁷ What We Know Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation SUMMARY REPORT, Nillumbik Shire Council 2021.

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Nillumbik Shire Council

Civic Drive (PO Box 476)
Greensborough Victoria 3088
9433 3111
artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au
nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts

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Arts & Culture Strategy 2022-2026

Year 1 (2022-23) Action Plan

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
GOAL 1: An interconnected and Creative Community						
Build an interconnected creative ecology through physical spaces for connection and creation.	Council Plan 2021-25 - Community and Connection	Provide safe, best practice art spaces in venues for performance, exhibition and creation through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a Nillumbik Creative Infrastructure Audit. 	2022-23	Arts & Cultural Development (A&CD)		Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek endorsement by Council to identify smaller creative infrastructure development opportunities for Nillumbik Shire through the development of a Creative Infrastructure Framework. 	2022-23			
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Deliver arts and culture grant programs to support community-led projects, programs, events and festivals that encourage inclusive creative participation across all townships.	Ongoing	A&CD	Grants	Operational
		Deliver the Hurstbridge Mural Public Art Project.	2022-23	Operations and infrastructure	A&CD	Operational and grant funded.
		Deliver The Eltham Gateway Public Art project (MRPV/NSC funded).	2022-23	Operations and infrastructure	A&CD	Operational. MRPV Funded.

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Deliver the Research Public Art Mural Project.	2022-23	Operations and infrastructure	A&CD	Operational and grant funded.
		Lead the replacement of the Gathering Space artwork by artist Tom Civil at Eltham North Adventure Playground.	2022-23	A&CD	Operations and infrastructure	Operational
		Explore opportunities to attract local community and visitors to our creative spaces through the delivery of contemporary A&CD programming.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational.
		Investigate opportunities for exhibitions and creative events at library service venues (YPRL) through increased liaison with YPRL.	2022-23	A&CD	Economic Development & Tourism (ED&T)	Operational
		Promote Council owned exhibition spaces and associated programs and projects including the Eltham Library Community Program, The Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art and Nillumbik Shire Council Art Collection exhibitions.	2022-24	A&CD	Yarra Plenty Regional Libraries (YPRL)	Operational
		Promote Nillumbik's public art spaces through community engagement* and promotional campaigns and ensure they are safe welcoming spaces to increase uptake and use. * in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy	2022-26	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		In partnership with Community Services identify and champion Council run activities where involvement in the arts can increase social connections and lead to positive mental health and wellbeing outcomes.	2022-23	A&CD	Community Partnerships Community Services	Operational
		Provide artists and creatives with purpose built art spaces i.e. pottery studio, art studio, leadlight studio at Eltham Living & Learning Neighborhood House.	2022-26	Living and Learning Nillumbik	AC&D Community Partnerships	Operational
		Develop a schedule for exhibition of Nillumbik art collection artworks at Wadumbuk Gallery (St. Andrews Community Centre).	2022-23	A&CD	St Andrews Community Centre	Operational
		Through quarterly meetings with Montsalvat identify collaborative opportunities; and Cross-promote specified Council-run, Montsalvat-run, and Council/Montsalvat partnership events to the Nillumbik community through organisational E-Bulletins.	2022-23	A&CD	Montsalvat	Operational
Demonstrate the value of arts and culture in the community	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Highlight the value of arts and culture in the community through focus articles in the Arts E Bulletin, social media and other Council publications.	2022-23	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Use the Cultural Development Network framework to plan and evaluate arts and cultural development activities for 2022-23.	2022-23	A&CD	Cultural Development Network	Operational
		Collect quarterly quantitative participation and engagement statistics for all arts and culture activities in addition to the TAKSO platform for reporting, advocating and promotion purposes.	2022-23	A&CD	Cultural Development Network	Operational
		Support the Yarra Plenty Heritage Network through quarterly meetings and increase promotion of their activities through Council communication channels.	2022-23	A&CD	Yarra Plenty Heritage Network	Operational
Enhance connections with our heritage, and champion socially engaged practice	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Seek opportunities for engagement with Nillumbik's historical sites in collaboration with local historical groups.	2022-23	A&CD	Yarra Plenty Heritage Group	Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Celebrate and promote the history, culture and arts and culture related achievements of First Nations People through our publications and social media channels.	Ongoing	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity	Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Deliver the annual History and Heritage Grant Program to support local community-led projects and programs related to history and heritage.	2022-23	A&CD	Grants	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Encourage and support socially engaged arts practice through the Nillumbik Community Fund Program and other arts and culture programs, projects and events.	2022-23	A&CD	Grants Economic Development & Tourism	Operational

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
GOAL 2: A Visible and Supported Creative Community						
Encourage strong collaborative relationships between creators, Council, businesses and community organisations to build trust and elevate the reputation of the creative community in the non-cultural arena.	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Continue to strengthen relationships with key creative industries within Nillumbik through regular meetings, collaborations, and cross promotion of arts and culture activities.	Ongoing	Arts & Cultural Development (A&CD)		Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Create opportunities for conversations and relationship-building with local creatives across all arts and culture portfolios through regular networking, liaison and attendance at arts and culture events.	2022-23	A&CD	Community Partnerships	Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Raise the profile of the arts and cultural development team in the Nillumbik arts community through increased presence in the community and relationship building.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Deliver dedicated public art and visual art commissions and acquisitions programs.	2022-23	A&CD	Operations & Infrastructure	Operational
		Manage the care, maintenance and preservation of Council's art, public art and civic collections through best practices and	2022-23	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Develop new digital content to promote the locations where community can view Nillumbik art collection artworks.				
		Identify opportunities to activate non-traditional spaces for arts and culture opportunities across the Shire in collaboration with the Events & Place team.	2022-23	A&CD	Events & Place	Operational
		Recruit committee members to the 2023-25 Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Encourage and support community arts and culture activities that encourage collaboration and cross promotion through Council grant programs, commissions and projects delivered by other Council teams.	Ongoing	A&CD	Community Partnerships. Other Council Depts.	Operational
Support our creative practitioners with programs to enhance skills for growth	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Develop a Performing Arts Policy.	2022-24	A&CD	Business Transformation and Performance	Operational
		Update Council's Nillumbik Art Collections Policy and Public Art Policy.	2022-23	A&CD	Business Transformation and Performance	Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Review and deliver the 2022-23 Eltham Library Community Gallery Program.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Deliver the 2023 Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Develop an online directory of creative practitioners and industries.	2022-24	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
		Develop guidelines on how to engage artists as a resource for Council and community.	2022-24	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Review COVID-19 Recovery Reports for current relevancy and liaise with local creatives on current needs in terms of provision of post-COVID recovery.	2022-23	A&CD	Economic Development & Tourism	Operational
		Support the creative community by providing affordable opportunities to connect and collaborate through a range of art and craft programs and MakerSpaces across the three Living & Learning Nillumbik Neighborhood Houses	2022-26	Living & Learning Nillumbik	A&CD Community Services	Operational
		Promote artist professional development opportunities available through Council and through externally organisations via the Arts E News, social media and other Council communication channels.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
		Encourage local arts and culture organisations and local creatives to use Council's Events Register to promote their arts and culture activities.	2022-23	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
		Promote available funding programs to creative practitioners and support them in the processes of application.	2022-24	A&CD	Community Development	Operational
		Support local artists through paid employment opportunities (tutor engagement).	Ongoing	Living & Learning Nillumbik	A&CD	Operational
		Provide leadership opportunities for local residents through MakerSpace coordination opportunities across the L&LN centres.	Ongoing	Living & Learning Nillumbik		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Support the delivery of ACFE-funded Learn Local and short courses to upskill creative practitioner's in starting and running their own creative businesses.	Ongoing	Living & Learning Nillumbik		Operational
		Offer opportunities for 2021-23 and 2022-24 Arts and Culture Advisory Committee members to join selection and reference panels for a range of A&CD programs and to be consulted on other Council projects.	2022-24	A&CD	Arts and Culture Advisory Committee	Operational
Celebrate Nillumbik as a creative centre through proactive promotion and marketing of our cultural programs and activities.	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Promote arts and culture opportunities and celebrate cultural activities within Nillumbik through the development of proactive and accessible promotional and marketing campaigns across a range of different platforms.	Ongoing	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Grow the profile of Arts and Cultural Development's Arts E Bulletin and social media through a proactive and accessible promotional and marketing campaign.	2022-24	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Seek cross-promotional opportunities with local cultural organisations and arts groups.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Collaborate on other Council projects or programs that feature Nillumbik's creative communities, or promote Nillumbik as a creative centre/destination.	Ongoing	A&CD	Economic Development & Tourism. Other Council Depts.	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
GOAL 3: A Diverse and Resilient Creative Community						
Collaborate with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Aboriginal Corporation and local First Nations people to share truth-telling stories with the wider community. Y1-4	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Seek opportunities to strengthen Nillumbik's connection to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung heritage and culture in partnership with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Aboriginal Corporation (Wurundjeri Corp), local First Nations people and Nillumbik Reconciliation Group.	Ongoing	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity	Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Work towards elevating and building the priority and commitment to Arts and Cultural representation through Council's ongoing participation in regular monthly cultural consultations with Wurundjeri Corp,	Ongoing	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity	Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Promote the historical panels at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform within the Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park Precinct and seek opportunities for engagement with this site in collaboration with Wurundjeri Corp and the Yarra Plenty Heritage Group.	2022-23	A&CD	Kangaroo Ground War Memorial Park Governance Group Social Planning and Equity Events & Place	Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Actively seek submissions from Aboriginal and First Nations People to arts and culture opportunities and develop equitable processes to reduce barriers.	2022-23	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity Gender Equity Officer	Operational
		Plan for all major events delivered by A&CD to include a traditional ceremony conducted by a representative of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	2022-23	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		through the Corporations Cultural Services booking process.				
		Celebrate the rich history, cultures and achievements of First Nations People through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the celebration of events related to Reconciliation, Delivery of cultural awareness training across the organisation Coordination of Monthly cultural consultation meetings with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation. 	2022-26	Social Planning and Equity		Operational
		Consult with Wurundjeri Corp on any AC&D activity involving aboriginal history, heritage, language, art or culture.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
Recognise and support diversity	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Review processes involved in arts and culture open applications including application process, selection criteria and assessments to ensure they are accessible for all community members, specifically under-represented groups including First Nations and Torres Strait Islander people, people identifying as LGBTQIA+, people living with disability, and older people.	2022-24	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity Disability Inclusion and Volunteering	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
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OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Provide opportunities for local artists and performers with disability to celebrate diversity and inclusion through participation in community arts.	2022-24	Disability Inclusion and Volunteering	A&CD	Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Review and undertake Gender Impact Assessments for all AC&D activities to ensure access to under-represented groups.	2022-24	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity Disability Inclusion and Volunteering	Operational
	Disability Action Plan 2020-24	Commit to actively diversifying the social and cultural backgrounds of artists and art that Council commissions and acquires to represent Nillumbik's community and our commitment to diverse storytelling.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
		Recognise and support diversity through arts and culture grants and commissions by encouraging applications from, and prioritizing funding for, projects involving under-represented groups.	Ongoing	A&CD	Grants	Operational
		Profile and promote artist and audience opportunities for arts and culture activities delivered during Council- supported cause days/campaigns such as NAIDOC week, Refugee Week, Seniors Week, National Volunteer Week, International Women's Day, IDAHOBIT, Pride month, International Day of People with a Disability, White Ribbon Day etc.	Ongoing	A&CD	Community Partnerships Community Services	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Support the activities of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee and seek diversity of lived experience amongst its community members. and Actively recruit for youth representation on the Committee.	Ongoing	A&CD	Youth Services	Operational
		Increase mental health, well-being, confidence and social connection through Arts for Health programs at L&LN; classes facilitated by a creative arts therapist.	Ongoing	Living & Learning Nillumbik		Operational
		Provide safe and supportive spaces for LGBTQIA+ arts and cultural expression through Council's arts and culture programs through community engagement, collaborations, and promotional campaigns	Ongoing	A&CD	Social Planning and Equity Disability Inclusion and Volunteering	Operational
		Prioritize support for under-represented art forms including live music, literature, and dance through A&CD projects, programs, commissions, and engagements/employment of artists.	2022-24	A&CD		Operational
Support emerging artists.	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Encourage and support diverse emerging artists and curators to participate in Nillumbik arts and culture programs, projects and events through accessible engagement including direct invitation, promotion through industry networks, educational facilities and targeted social media campaigns.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Ensure emerging contemporary artists and curators are represented in the Eltham Library Community Gallery Program 2022-23 and the 2023 Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Art.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Provide opportunities to engage young people in placemaking activities involving arts and culture across the Shire.	2022-26	Youth Services	A&CD	Operational
	Youth Strategy 2022-26	Work in partnership with Living & Learning Nillumbik to support opportunities for young people to engage and participate in creative community programs and events.	2022-26	Youth Services	Living & Learning Nillumbik	Operational and grant funded.
		Showcase the winners of the Creative Collective Youth Art Competition.	2022-23	Youth Services	A&CD	FReeZA funded
Ensure that Nillumbik develops cultural longevity for the future.	Council Plan 2021-25 - Sustainable and Resilient	Manage the acquisition, maintenance and promotion of Council's art, public art and civic collections through best practice management.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Undertake a significance assessment and valuation of Council's art collections and use the consultant report recommendations to inform and update Council's Public Art and Art Collection policies	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Acquire new display infrastructure for the Nillumbik Art Collection funded by the Regional Collections Grant.	2022-23	A&CD		Regional Collections Grant
		Implement a new collections management database for the Nillumbik Art, Civic and Public Art collections.	2022-23	A&CD	Records Management	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Consider how to introduce audiences to non-visual arts to help create a more holistic experience of arts and culture in Nillumbik.	2022-24	A&CD		Operational
		Support new and emerging creators through arts and culture programs, projects, and events to ensure that Nillumbik has artistic succession.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
		Develop archival content for arts and cultural development web pages.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
GOAL 4: A Distinctively Nillumbik Creative Community						
Celebrate and enhance local character.	Council Plan 2021-25 – Place & Space	Advocate for the cultural domain to be equally recognised with social, economic, environment and governance domains.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Identify public and visual art commission and acquisition programs that can celebrate and enhance local character.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development	Seek opportunities to showcase the Nillumbik Shire Council art, civic and public art collections of significance to celebrate the Shire's local character.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
	Strategy 2020-30 Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Explore opportunities to attract local community and visitors to our creative spaces through quality events that showcase the unique Nillumbik identity.	Ongoing	A&CD	Economic Development & Tourism Events & Place	Operational Opportunity for external grant application.
		Seek opportunities to promote Nillumbik as a quintessential arts destination through the cross-promotion of arts activities and events within Nillumbik and outside the Shire and through collaborations with Economic Development & Tourism.	2022-23	A&CD	Economic Development & Tourism Events & Place	Operational. Opportunity for external grant application.
		Encourage and support community-led arts and culture grants programs that celebrate and enhance local character through the Nillumbik Community Fund.	2022-23	A&CD	Grants Events & Place Economic Devel & Tourism	Operational.
		Collaborate on placemaking projects that celebrate and enhance local character through arts and culture activities.	2022-23	A&CD	Events & Place Community Development	Operational
		Promote all Council-supported festivals in the Arts-E Bulletin and social media.	2022-23	A&CD	Events & Place	Operational
		Prioritize the inclusion of Aboriginal and First Nations artists in public art as a defining character of Nillumbik.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Review and evaluate the 2022 Nillumbik Art Collection Exhibition Local Remix and schedule the next Nillumbik Art Collection exhibition.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
Champion art in everyday life.	Council Plan 2021-25 – Place & Space	Champion and promote the achievements and benefits of art for participants in Council and community publications.	Ongoing	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	Support literature as an arts and culture endeavor (Nillumbik Prize for Contemporary Writing, expanding creative writing classes)	2022-24	Living & Learning Nillumbik	A&CD	Operational
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Encourage new participants in the arts as part of a lifelong learning mindset. Support older residents to take up artistic activities that also support social connection and personal development (Drama for seniors)	2022-24	Living & Learning Nillumbik. Community Services.	A&CD	Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Seek opportunities to deliver arts and culture activities in everyday places and spaces across all arts and cultural development portfolios, in collaboration with other Council departments and through external funding.	Ongoing	A&CD	Events & Place Other Council Depts as opportunities arise.	Operational. Opportunity for external grants.
		Deliver the 2022-2023 Eltham Library Community Gallery Program and cross promote exhibitions with partner organisations such as the libraries, Living & Learning Centres, local schools etc.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Install a new lighting system to improve the visitor and exhibitor experience at the Eltham Library Community Gallery and cost the installation of CCTV.	2022-23	A&CD	Risk and Safety	Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Explore opportunities to support local artists and to introduce new arts and culture activities at Edendale Farm.	2022-23	Edendale Farm	A&CD	Operational
		Better evaluate visitors to the Eltham Library Community Gallery through an in-gallery people counter system.	2022-23	A&CD		Operational
		Promote the Shire's public art trails and heritage trails through a range of Council and community communication channels.	2022-26	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
Encourage closer connections between Council and the creative community	Council Plan 2021-25 – Place & Space	Develop an online directory of creative practitioners and industries and promote the opportunity to register to the creative community through a range of different council and community communication channels.	2022-24	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25	and Promote this directory as a resource for the local creative community, wider community, and Council.			Economic Development & Tourism	
	Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy 2020-30	Develop guidelines on how to engage artists as a resource for Council and community and promote its availability.	2022-24	A&CD	Communications & Marketing	Operational
	Access, Equity and Inclusion Policy	Develop a new exhibition agreement with Montsalvat for Council's Major Exhibition Program.	2022-23	A&CD	Montsalvat Procurement	Operational
		Deliver innovative public art projects with commission opportunities for both local and non-local artists and develop clear communication processes for all project stakeholders.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational

Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
Attachment 2. Arts & Culture Strategy - Year 1 Action Plan - 2022-2023

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNER/S	BUDGET
		Promote opportunities for the creative community through Council publications and communication channels and through proactive liaison with arts and culture groups, cultural organisations and community groups.	Ongoing	A&CD	Community Partnerships Economic Development & Tourism	Operational
		Map opportunities to integrate community and artist opportunities into existing and future projects to achieve co-benefits across the community. E.g. social connection, place making, artist involvement.	2022-24	A&CD		Operational
		Integrate the TAKSO platform into the evaluation process across all A&CD portfolios, and share findings with the creative community. Promote the work that Council does in the cultural outcome realm in partnership with Cultural Development Network.	Ongoing	A&CD		Operational
		Strengthen the connection of A&CD Officers with Nillumbik's creative community through familiarization of Nillumbik's creative sites, artworks and creative practitioners through visits, event attendances, tours and personal connections.	2022-24	A&CD		Operational
		Promote community-led arts and culture initiatives through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging local creatives to submit information regarding local arts and culture activities to the Arts E News invitation to use Council's Events Register to promote community arts and culture activities. 	2022-23	A&CD		Operational

Outcomes and Measuring Success

The Arts & Culture Strategy 2022-26 Action Plan – Year 1 outlines how Council will deliver activities that contribute to outcomes, with timeframes, areas of responsibility and any partners.

The Year 1 Action Plan aligns to outcome indicators in other key strategic documents including the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Plan, Nillumbik Economic Development Strategy, Disability Action Plan and the Youth Strategy.

We use Council's indicators for measuring success as well as measurable cultural outcomes.

An annual review and summary report will be shared with Councillors and key stakeholders at the end of Year 1.

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What We Know

Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26
Community Consultation

SUMMARY REPORT



ARTS AND
CULTURE



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This is an ancient land with a rich and deep human history stretching back thousands of years. If you are not of Indigenous heritage, it is important to remember that you are here as guests on this land where the first people of Nillumbik, the *Wurundjeri Woiwurrung*, lived, loved, played, fished and farmed.

Our knowledge of this place is as complete as anything that has been seen. It is important to us that our history and culture are preserved and presented properly in all parts of our Country. Arts and culture are one and the same for Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people.

Axford, J. (Aunty) and Firebrace, A. and Freedman, D. and Gardiner, T. and Garvey, T. (Uncle) and Hansen, K. and Nicholson, G. (Aunty) and Smith, G. (Aunty), (2021). *Wurundjeri Text for Nillumbik Shire Arts & Cultural Strategy 2022-2026*. (RU071)



Image: Zebras by Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

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Cover image: Angelic—Living Statue by Kinetic Theatre, at Hurstbridge Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson



Image: Fantastic Flamingo by New Heights Circus at Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Executive Summary

What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report presents key findings from the most extensive community engagement process ever undertaken by Council specifically for arts and culture planning; *Artbeat—a pulse check for Arts and Culture in Nillumbik Shire*. The Summary Report provides an evidence base for the development of an Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026.

Sixteen consultation documents, comprising raw data, imagery, summaries and reports were produced as a result of the consultation process. This Summary Report outlines the consultation documents and identifies and explores key themes present across them.

Three key themes emerged strongly that reflect the Nillumbik community's cultural values and expectations. In addition, six actionable sub-themes are identified that relate directly to the key themes. Evidence from the consultation documents is presented for each of the three identified themes and six sub-themes and demonstrate a connection to established community needs.

The community consultation program included a comprehensive range of digital and in-person engagements. Digital engagements involved online surveys, online community focus groups including targeted consultations with cultural and special interest groups, and individual feedback through emails and online meetings. In-person engagements comprised 23 pop-up roving performance engagements in public spaces, a six-day interactive exhibition at the Eltham Community Library Gallery and in-person focus group discussions with performances.

The Summary Report sits within the Cultural Development Network's Planning Framework, in particular the 'theory of change' which informs decisions about activities to undertake. The Summary Report provides evidence (what we know) that sits between the intended outcome (what we are looking for) and activity planning.

The data was analysed by extracting all views and insights concerning arts and culture from the documents and sorting into themes. Common elements across the themes were used to establish three overarching themes representative of predominant wants, aspirations and values expressed through the consultations. Evidence was collected across the consultation documents that support these themes and used to identify supporting sub-themes.

Art and culture is intrinsic to the identity of Nillumbik. The key themes identified in the consultation data are *Interconnectedness*, *Creative Capital*, and *Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice*. These themes are central to who we are as a community and serve as the foundation to inform all strategic decisions.

The most referenced theme in the consultation documents is *Interconnectedness*. The community of Nillumbik sees itself predominantly as a creative ecosystem. It is this unique creative ecosystem that not only exists currently, but has spanned decades and is the heart of Nillumbik's magic, drawing artists here continuously over the years.

Evidence in the consultation document illustrate the profound value the community places on our interconnectedness and how it is imperative we work to ensure that our creative networks grow and flourish. Everything we have and value about our culture hinges on this interconnectedness.

The theme of *Creative Capital* speaks to our desire to establish Nillumbik as a known cultural centre that nurtures artists and creative work that is daring and original.

Our desire to facilitate greater *Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice* expresses our aspiration to have our culture embedded in a contemporary, progressive and inclusive space.

Six sub-themes are drawn from evidence that support the key themes.

The complete summary of key themes and sub-themes are listed on page 9.

The consultation data detailed in this Report will be used in support of the development of an Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026. The evidence in this Report will also be used to ensure future arts and cultural activities are connected to an established community need.

Cultural Identity

Collaborative, Creative, Forward thinking is how the Nillumbik community want to define our identity. We want to focus on telling our stories both old and new in daring and contemporary ways. We want to be more progressive and inclusive and less conventional.

We value our environment, our artistic heritage and our ability to work with community, but new things have emerged as more important: our interconnectedness, our desire to produce contemporary and challenging work, and the development of Nillumbik into a desirable cultural destination.

All goals and activities outlined in the Strategy must be **meaningful, bring enjoyment or celebrate our identity** in some way in order to ensure alignment with the culture of Nillumbik.

Themes

1. Interconnectedness

Our interconnectedness is our distinctive feature and the foundation of our identity. It is intrinsic to the practice and sharing of the arts in Nillumbik. We use creative expression to foster connection and partnerships, build social capital and create a sense of belonging.

- 1.1 Physical spaces for connection and creation
- 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts and Culture in the community
- 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

2. Creative capital

We desire to establish Nillumbik as a creative destination; one that nurtures the production of art and the wellbeing of creative practitioners and creative industries. We are not just a place where art is consumed, but where art is produced and people are inspired. We develop and grow our creative industries.

- 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik
- 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

We ensure respectful representation of Wurundjeri culture, cultures from other lands and LGBTQIA+ expression. We support the production of and engagement with contemporary work as well as unusual and non-mainstream art forms.

- 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

At



Image: Naughty Artist and Policeperson by Stiltwalkers Australia at Diamond Creek Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Background

ARTBEAT

A pulse check for Arts & Culture in Nillumbik Shire

From 1 December 2020 through to 31 July 2021, Council undertook extensive community consultation to inform the development of the Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–2026.

This report details what Council has learned through this process about what community want from its Arts and Culture service.

Residents from all corners of Nillumbik contributed to the creation of the *What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report*: numbering 2216 in total. Council developed a Community Engagement Plan that focused on putting community first in the development of its next Arts and Culture Strategy. This is the largest engagement process ever undertaken by Council specifically for its arts and culture planning.

Council understands that behind the themes that have emerged in this report are the Nillumbik people—their histories, cultural journeys, personal experiences, hopes, dreams, and visions of the future.

Following the community consultation, Council collated sixteen consultation data documents and reports into this *What We Know—Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report*.

How to read this Summary Report

Three definitive themes emerged from analysis of the sixteen consultation documents. These three themes and six sub-themes are explored in depth in this Summary Report, with excerpts from the consultation documents serving as evidence for each of the themes.

The three themes and six sub-themes are summarised on page 9 of this Summary Report.

The Methodology explains the process and framework used to establish the themes from the consultations.

The themes and sub-themes are organised with explanations and evidence in the Results and Findings section pp. 24–29. This gives the most complete overview of the findings.

Extensive evidence and expanded notes on the sub-themes are explored in the Appendix section. This section can be used to guide planning and delivery of Art and Culture activities.

The six sub-themes are used to understand the desired long term future for arts and culture in Nillumbik; all activities and resource allocation should align to these. The three overarching themes express the values and aspirations of the Nillumbik community and can be used to underpin the strategic plan and inform all strategic decisions regarding arts and culture.

Image: *Angelic—Living Statue* by Kinetic Theatre, at Hurstbridge Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson



At



Image: *Perky And Fiddle* by Kinetic Theatre at Edendale Community Environment Farm Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Methodology

Methodology

What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report reviews and evaluates sixteen consultation documents. These documents make up a collection of reports and raw data produced from the extensive community consultation program; *Artbeat—a pulse check for Arts and Culture in Nillumbik Shire*.

The consultation program heard 2216 distinct voices across a wide and diversified field, including Wurundjeri voices, the voices of different cultures, from people of various ages and various interests. Two of the consultations were general in nature and engaged the general public, four focused on people with an interest in the arts, some on special interest groups such as Historical Societies, and three consultations specifically engaged creative practitioners working and living in Nillumbik.

The Summary Report identifies emerging themes from reports and raw data produced from the consultation program, and explores the evidence across the consultation documents that support these themes.

Framework for Cultural Development Planning

The analysis was undertaken with regular referral to the Cultural Development Network’s *Framework for Cultural Development Planning*.

This Framework was conceptualised in response to the needs identified through a 2013 Local Government survey that highlighted the lack of an agreed framework and informing principles in the development of Council Cultural Plans/Strategies. This research also demonstrated the need for a more systematic use of data and evidence with a greater focus on outcomes rather than inputs and activities.

The Framework has been constructed in the context of key national and international policy agendas with particular reference to the United Nations United Cities and Local Government Committee’s Policy Statement on Culture.

The Framework recommends a planning process that is integrated with the rest of Council’s planning activity. It is underpinned by six key principles: based on values, directed towards goals, focused on outcomes, informed by evidence, underpinned by a ‘theory of change’ and respondent to evaluation.

The Framework contends the ‘theory of change’ concept is a requirement in effective planning to assist and explain choices of activities, informed by evidence. A theory of change can be summarised as a three-step logical argument for making decisions about activities to undertake:

- We are looking for (intended outcome)...
- And we know (evidence)...
- Therefore, we will do (this activity)...

The consultation data detailed in this Report will be used in support of the development of an Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 in line with the Cultural Development Network’s Planning Framework, including utilisation of the ‘theory of change’. This Report data will also be used in informing the development and delivery of local Arts and Culture activity at a program level to ensure connection to an established community need and alignment to existing Council strategic direction.

Consultation Program

The extensive community consultation encompassed both digital and in-person engagements that included:

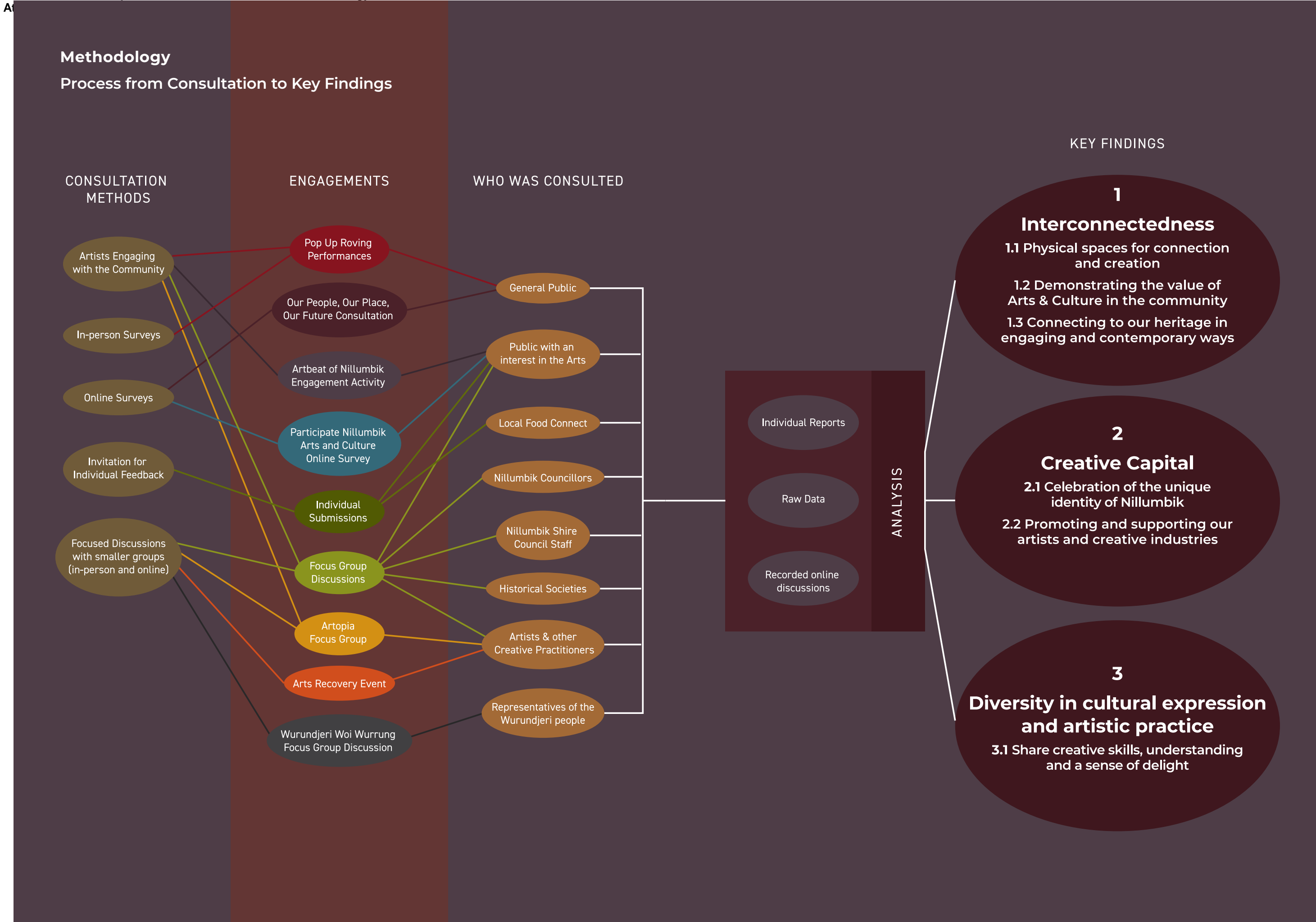
- A 6-day interactive exhibition at the Eltham Library Community Gallery. *Artbeat of Nillumbik* was an artist-led community engagement activity ahead of the formal community consultation process. The exhibition featured installations which enabled the artists to creatively engage community members. Ideas were also recorded via a canvas collage, a large map, conversations, collection boxes, and a project-specific email.
- 23 pop-up roving performance engagements across the municipality. Delivered by specialist performance artists, these acts featured a range of wacky characters including Marquisa D’or and Angelic Living Statues, naughty gnomes Perky & Fiddle, Stiltwalkers, Zebras, and the Fantastic Flamingo. The locations for these performances were in everyday places such as markets, walking trails, parks, leisure centres, shopping precincts, sporting ovals, township streets, and local schools. Conversations centred on different questions about what people *enjoy and/or value about arts and culture in Nillumbik and what may be missing*.
- An online survey exploring all things arts and culture ran on *Participate Nillumbik*. A successful campaign to complete the survey was run and also incorporated QR code technology.
- Individual feedback was invited and received via email, zoom, or telephone.

- Community focus groups facilitated by an independent local creative consultant. Each session was opened by a live performance or art activity by a local musician or artist. A mix of community members, local artists and community group members were represented in each of these sessions. Separate specialist focus groups were held with Nillumbik Councilors, local history groups, the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group, and Council staff. In addition, a separate Ask the Artist focus group was held specifically for local artists.
- A targeted consultation with Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation was held to ensure that our First Nations voice is clearly represented.

Themes

Based on an in-depth analysis of the consultation documents, three themes were identified that accurately reflect the Nillumbik community’s values and expectations for arts and culture, and can potentially underpin all future cultural activities in Nillumbik. In addition, the Report lists six actionable sub-themes that relate directly to the overarching themes.

Each theme and sub-theme reflects the aspirations of the Nillumbik community and are supported by direct evidence from the consultation documents.



Consultation Data Documents

What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report is an analysis of the findings and raw data from 16 consultation documents from 9 engagements.

Consultations have been undertaken across the whole community. The majority of the consultation documents encompass the voices of the general Nillumbik community; most of whom are the audience and enthusiasts of the arts. Care has been taken to ensure that the voices of our artists are well represented, particularly through the focus group discussions, Artopia and in the Arts Recovery Report.

The following is a summary of the consultation engagements and of the resulting consultation documents referenced in this report:

1. Pop Up Outcomes – Arts and Culture Strategy Consultation

1353 voices

The consultation process involved pop up events with roving artists and performers at local markets to gather thoughts and ideas from the public. Questions the performers posed to the public covered what people saw as important in arts and culture, what they enjoy and value in Nillumbik, and what they think is missing. The data is in the form of short pieces of text, phrases or one or two sentences that sketch out ideas and opinions. The document's value is in capturing emerging themes across a large number of responses.

1. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Pop Up Outcomes—Arts and Culture Strategy Consultation—2021*. [Excel] Nillumbik Shire Council.

2. Participate Nillumbik Arts and Culture Online Survey

270 voices, 4 documents

Participate Nillumbik is Council's online community engagement site and serves to complement face-to-face engagement activities. The 'Artbeat' survey presented on this platform captured the voices of people with an interest in the arts, not just artists, but arts audience members, hobby artists and art enthusiasts, all of whom wanted to share their voice.

34.93% (80 respondents) identified as an artist or an arts organisation.

70.4% identified as established, mid-tier, emerging (36.4%) or hobby artists (34%).

The survey collected demographics and the public's opinions on what they like about arts and culture in Nillumbik and what could be done better. Answers ranged from single sentences to lengthy well-considered paragraphs.

2a. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Participate Nillumbik—Form Results Summary*. (ID-254). [pdf] Nillumbik Shire Council.

2b. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Participate Nillumbik—Overview Report*. (ID-254). [pdf] Nillumbik Shire Council.

2c. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Participate Nillumbik—Pre Survey Raw Data Visioner Exercise*. (ID-235). [Excel] Nillumbik Shire Council.

2d. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Participate Nillumbik—Survey Raw Data*. (ID-254). [Excel] Nillumbik Shire Council.

3. Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation Data

6 voices, 3 documents

Consultation with Wurundjeri took the form of an online focus group discussion between Wurundjeri Elders, researchers and other representatives, and a Council Arts Officer and a creative facilitator. The discussion centered around Wurundjeri culture in Nillumbik and how this culture could be best represented and shared. The meeting resulted in a text piece, to be included in the new Arts and Culture Strategy introducing Wurundjeri culture and outlining what is important to Wurundjeri people, a statement of Commitment from Council to Wurundjeri, and a summary of the focus group meeting outlining what Wurundjeri see as priorities for Council.

3a. Axford, J. (Aunty) and Firebrace, A. and Freedman, D. and Gardiner, T. and Garvey, T. (Uncle) and Hansen, K. and Nicholson, G. (Aunty) and Smith, G. (Aunty). (2021). *Wurundjeri Text for Nillumbik Shire Arts & Cultural Strategy 2022–2026*. (RU071). [doc]

3b. Firebrace, A. and Gardiner, T. and Garvey, T. (Uncle) and Hansen, K. and Nicholson, G. (Aunty). (2021). *Commitment from Nillumbik Shire Council to Wurundjeri Woiwurrung*. [doc]

3c. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Reference Notes from the Arts and Culture Strategy Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation Consultation—26 July 2021*. [pdf] Nillumbik Shire Council.

4. Our People, Our Place, Our Future Wider Council Consultation Data

295 voices included from larger document, 2 documents

The *Our People, Our Place, Our Future* engagement program captured views and priorities of the Nillumbik community in order to inform the development of key strategic planning documents across Council, not just Arts and Culture.

The online survey asked the community to identify what is important to them in relation to their wellbeing and their neighbourhood both now and into the future, as well as what areas Council should focus on in order to support the delivery of these priorities and aspirations.

Over 3400 people engaged with the consultation. Responses ranged from single sentences to long detailed paragraphs. As the questions were general in nature, only the responses that concerned arts and culture in Nillumbik were extracted to inform this report. A total of 295 were included in this report.

4a. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Our People, Our Place, Our Future—Survey Responses—Free Text Comments—April 2021*. [Excel] Nillumbik Shire Council.

4b. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Summary Report—Our People, Our Place, Our Future: Integrated Community Engagement*. [pdf] Nillumbik Shire Council.

5. Artbeat of Nillumbik ELCG Report

164 voices

Artbeat of Nillumbik was a six day artist-led community engagement activity held at Eltham Library Community Gallery. Through interactive installations and conversations, people were asked to examine the idea of an 'artbeat' of Nillumbik and what they most enjoy and value in arts and culture in Nillumbik. The responses were collated into a report and key themes were outlined.

5. Bromley, E. and Mooney, L. (2021). *Artbeat of Nillumbik at Eltham Library Community Gallery 19–24 January Artist Report*. [pdf]

6. Arts Recovery Report

34 voices

This consultation was an arts industry-only event which included filmmakers, art tutors, writers, event managers, theatre makers, ceramicists and other visual artists. The discussion covered the impact and challenges faced by the creative industries during the pandemic and what their support priorities are.

6. Nillumbik Shire Council. (2021). *Arts Recovery and the Pandemic; Evaluation of Arts Recovery Industry Event—11 March 2021*. [pdf] Nillumbik Shire Council.

7. Focus Group Discussions

72 voices

These ten facilitated focus group discussions were a deep dive into what community wants from its Arts and Cultural Strategy. The discussions explored the cultural identity of Nillumbik, what cultural elements are intrinsic to the production and the enjoyment of the arts, and what is needed to ensure the arts are sustained and thrive in Nillumbik.

The groups attending the discussions included local creative practitioners, creative and community leaders, members of the general public with an interest in the arts, Council staff both within and out of the Arts and Culture Department, Councillors, past Council staff and past Councillors.

The report document includes verbatim excerpts from the discussions and identifies emerging goals and areas of opportunity.

7. Grant, A. (2021). *Arts & Culture Focus Group Consultation Report*. [pdf]

8. Artopia Focus Group

20 voices

Artopia was a special online event/focus group exclusively for artists, arts workers and arts organisations of Nillumbik, run by independent local creative facilitators. Twenty attendees representing a diverse creative community discussed topics such as game-changing plans for the arts in Nillumbik, what success looks like as an artist, what is needed for an artistic practice to thrive, and how to create cultural value.

8. Maziarz, D. and Johnson, N. (2021). *Artopia Report*. [pdf] Ask the Artist.

9. Separate individual submissions

2 voices, 2 documents

- Written submission from *Local Food Connect* illustrating the importance of food and local producers to the culture of Nillumbik.
- Notes from discussion with Nillumbik resident with an interest in the arts.

9a. Chapple, C. (2021). *Local Food Connect Submission to Nillumbik Shire Council Arts & Culture Strategy 2022–26*. [pdf] Local Food Connect.

9b. Stock, A. (2021). *Notes from discussion RE Arts & Culture Strategy Community Consultation: with Robyn Burke*. [doc] Nillumbik Shire Council.

The consultation documents are cited extensively throughout the Summary Report and are individually referenced from page 100.

At



Image: Zebras by Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Results & Findings

Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026

THEMES

1. Interconnectedness

Our interconnectedness is our distinctive feature and the foundation of our identity. Interconnectedness is intrinsic to the practice and sharing of the arts in Nillumbik. We use creative expression to foster connection and partnerships, build social capital and create a sense of belonging.

Interconnectedness particularly refers to connections of reciprocity; being part of a network or ecosystem; the idea that there is an underlying oneness, or shared identity in the exchange of knowledge, inspiration and empathy.

Nillumbik artists are particularly attuned to this intangible bond between each other, our artistic heritage and our natural environment. It is a source of reassurance and support as well as tremendous creativity. Connection to each other and community was classed it as important or very important by 92.6 % (238) of respondents from the *Participate Nillumbik Arts & Culture Online Survey*.

Interconnectedness is fostered by having physical spaces for creative people to encounter each other and to be inspired by new ideas and practices. Non-cultural players can tap into this interconnectedness by being invited into the spaces where creatives collaborate.

Interconnectedness can also be cultivated through communication; though embedding our creative practitioners in the life and activities of Council, and through Council having a visible physical presence in the creative community.

The theme of Interconnectedness is expressed through strategies and activities that foster connection and partnerships, build social capital and create a sense of belonging.

“Artists don’t just need spaces and training—we need a creative ecology—a system of interconnected social relationships present in community and beyond.” ¹

“Build a public museum or creative space that could showcase all types of art but also be a space that people can make art in and brings creative people together. Make the creativity more visible and accessible to all.” ²

“I would love to see more art and arts events dotted around the shire as I feel that they have been more focused around Eltham.” ³

“Interconnectedness is not only fundamental to our local identity, it is the vehicle by which artistic collaborations, new contemporary ideas, skill sharing, mentorships and creative inspiration are fostered. Our interconnectedness is the engine that fires our creative production.” ⁴

“Nillumbik arts is a collective thing, it’s an atmosphere that runs through the whole place, and you can hook into that interconnectedness of it. That’s quite a powerful thing.” ⁵

“I think the ‘artbeat’ of an area is really visible where the community comes into contact with the artists in places like gallery openings, local markets, workshops and classes. But it has to be open for everyone. Entry fees and high price tags prevent a number of people enjoying the scene.” ⁶

For additional supporting data please see *Appendix 1: Interconnectedness pp.34–59*

Interconnectedness: Sub-Themes

1.1 Physical spaces for connection and creation

Physical space in which to practice and share our art and culture is the most prominent and recurrent request from creative practitioners in Nillumbik. As well as functioning as places for the production of artwork, exhibitions and performance, dedicated creative spaces foster the valuable social, creative and business connections that artists and creative industries need to thrive.

Considerations

- Enhance creative output and a sense of connection through establishing a central creative hub/ precinct that includes studio and rehearsal spaces, performance and exhibition spaces and spaces to eat and socialise.
- Increase cultural activity and exposure to the arts through establishing physical spaces for performance and exhibitions in smaller townships.
- Expand the number of performance events, art workshops and studio spaces by making venues affordable for artists and cultural organisations.

1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community

Raising the profile of the arts in Nillumbik and strengthening relationships between Council and the creative community is a high priority. It is of particular importance that communication and promotion of the arts, including clear messaging around arts funding, is improved.

Considerations

- Strengthen trust and connection between the creative community and Council by ensuring Council Arts & Culture Officers are regularly visible and active in the community.
- Increase the perceived value of art and culture in the community by ensuring the language used, when talking about arts and culture, prioritises cultural value over tourism and economic value.
- Strengthen trust and connection between the creative community and Council by having transparent information concerning the Council arts budget readily available.
- Enhance awareness and value of culture throughout Council departments by evaluating major Council projects through Cultural Impact Statements.
- Increase respect for the arts as a vehicle for recovery and social cohesion throughout Council and the community through commissioning art that addresses social issues.
- Connect new residents to local art and culture by including the work of artists and information on arts heritage in welcome packs to new residents.

1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

Nillumbik’s rich heritage, from Wurundjeri culture to our more recent arts heritage and the rustic charm of our mudbrick architecture is beautifully celebrated through the arts. Contemporary re-imaginings of this heritage has the potential to engage a wider and younger audience.

Considerations

- Connect a wider audience to our artistic heritage by expressing it in a more engaging and contemporary way. This may include a re-imagining of the Heidelberg Artists Trail as one activity.
- Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture and develop a connection to Country by creating points of interest, and respite on established walking trails in consultation with Wurundjeri people.
- Connect a wider audience to the history of Nillumbik by connecting Historical Societies to volunteers and affordable spaces for research, archiving and digitising collections.

THEMES

2. Creative Capital

We desire to establish Nillumbik as a creative destination; one that nurtures the production of art and the wellbeing of creative practitioners and creative industries. We are not just a place where art is consumed, but where art is produced and people are inspired. We develop and grow our creative industries.

Becoming a destination that prizes creative capital is not just about being a preferred place to visit; it is also about creating a known and desirable centre for creative people to gather, socialise, work and live. Pride in a place that openly values creative capital on an equal footing as social equity, environmental responsibility and economic viability attracts artists and creative industries to the area and nurtures the artists that live and produce work here.

*“Creative Capital measures the assets that are readily available to advance the missions of artistic and cultural organisations: to create new works of enduring significance, present extraordinary exhibitions, produce grand performances, and inspire an ever-growing audience... It is becoming increasingly clear that creativity itself is an essential ingredient in a community’s prosperity.”**

*“If creative capital is not a luxury but rather is vital to personal and community well-being, then the traditional emphasis on consumption (e.g., attending, viewing, appreciating, and listening to what docents say) needs to give way to many more opportunities to produce and participate actively... a will to take part, engage, and leave a legacy.”***

The theme of Creative Capital is expressed through strategies and activities that establish Nillumbik as a creative destination, facilitate the production of art, and nurture the social, mental, spiritual and financial wellbeing of creative practitioners and creative industries in Nillumbik.

“Nillumbik the Arts capital of Victoria.”⁷

“Gallery spaces are seen as important, and a need was expressed for more gallery spaces or an arts centre: *Open Studios is a great opportunity for some artists but there are a lot of artists that live and work in Nillumbik and there is no space to show their work.*”⁸

“Offer artist placements in community building and town planning projects in the design, roll out and evaluation stages.”⁹

“Music festivals and live performance, buskers and musicians bringing public spaces alive.”¹⁰

“A place that encourages the arts to flourish.”¹¹

“A desire for Nillumbik to be seen as a vibrant centre for the arts was very clear—as was ensuring that art and culture is visible to the community and visitors.”¹²

“Within the whole Shire we lack a playhouse/arts area that will attract traveling artistic and performance artists... This could be combined with a regional gallery and museum concept.”¹³

For additional supporting data please see *Appendix 2: Creative Capital* pp.60–87

* Benefactor Group 2021, *Building Creative Capital*, Benefactor Group—Giving Institute, viewed 24 September 2021 <<https://benefactorgroup.com/building-creative-capital/>>

** Brown, A. (2006). “An Architecture of Value.” *Grantmakers in the Arts Reader, Vol. 17, No. 1*; Tepper, S. J. and Ivey, W. (Eds.) (2007). *Engaging Art: The Next Great Revolution in America’s Cultural Life*. New York: Routledge

Creative Capital: Sub-Themes

2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

The Nillumbik community would like to see Nillumbik’s reputation cultivated as a quintessential arts destination; a place that is inherently thought of when seeking creative stimulus and when designing a cultural itinerary for guests to Victoria.

Considerations

- Establish Nillumbik as a cultural destination by building a dedicated exhibition space to display significant works of mid-career and established artists.
- Increase the number and quality of theatrical performances held in Nillumbik by building a dedicated performance and rehearsal space, ideally with tiered seating for 70–100 audience members.
- Enhance creative stimulation and social interaction thorough running an arthouse cinema.
- Strengthen a sense of local connection and identity through creative placemaking projects that celebrate and enhance local character.
- Increase the frequency of engagement with the visual arts in everyday life and enrich the aesthetic environment through creating more public art projects.
- Enhance a sense of communal ownership of the Nillumbik Art Collection by sharing it online in an interesting and easily navigable form.
- Introduce a wider audience to arts and culture by including local produce and local producers at cultural events.
- Expand knowledge and appreciation of arts and culture in Nillumbik though local artists designing a cultural tour itinerary for Council members.

2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

There is a desire to develop Nillumbik as an incubator where influential artists work productively, emerging artists advance their practice, and creative industries naturally establish and proliferate.

Considerations

- Extend engagement with the arts thorough an online calendar of cultural events and a directory of local artists and creative industries.
- Increase arts and cultural events throughout the Shire by creating a comprehensive and clear online list of venues for hire.
- Strengthen cultural awareness and expression though regular inclusion of artists in Council projects, both in consulting and commissioning.
- Expand support of local artists by employing them to perform or speak regularly at Council events and meetings.
- Create a greater sense of joy and connection through unique festivals, street fairs and events that showcase the work of local artists, particularly musicians.
- Connect a wider audience to the work of local musicians and non-mainstream music by sponsoring them to play in large festivals, such as the Eltham Town Fair.
- Inspire creativity and build stronger connections to Nillumbik for artists though establishing artist residency programs in inspiring places.
- Increase the financial success and longevity of creative industries by expanding a professional development program for creatives to learn business and marketing skills.
- Strengthen connection within the creative community by establishing a mentoring program for emerging artists.
- Improve support of art production by sharing resources/byproducts across departments for artists to use in artwork, such as timber from felled trees.

THEMES

3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

We ensure respectful representation of Wurundjeri culture, cultures from other lands and LGBTQIA+ expression. We support the production of and engagement with contemporary work and unusual and non-mainstream art forms.

There is a broad perception that we are not seeing Indigenous culture and we are not hearing multicultural voices expressed through the arts. People are curious about Wurundjeri culture and cultures from other lands and are frustrated by a lack of knowledge and representation in Nillumbik. In addition LGBTQIA+ spaces and creative expression is absent.

Further to this, there is a heavy focus on the visual arts; many art forms such as music, the performing arts, dance and literature, are under-represented and under supported in Nillumbik.

Respect and curiosity for non-mainstream or under-represented art forms, First Nations voices, multicultural voices and LGBTQIA+ voices gifts us all with a richer more connected cultural life.

The theme of Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice is expressed through strategies and activities that enable engagement with different cultures including Wurundjeri culture, engagement with contemporary work and with unusual and non-mainstream art forms and expressions.

“I think we need to be listening more to the diverse voices of the area as sometimes it feels like we are listening to the same voices over and over again.” ¹⁴

“There’s no places to go for other forms of art and culture. We have been very strongly focused in the visual arts and it is definitely one of our strengths, but I think it might be time to think of contemporary and different sorts of arts and culture as well.” ¹⁵

“Maintain our reputation as an inclusive, artistic and creative community.” ¹⁶

“Connectedness to others makes you feel like you belong. Promoting tolerance, acceptance of difference, and a sense of belonging is important in our towns.” ¹⁷

For additional supporting data please see *Appendix 3: Diversity in Cultural Expression and Artistic Practice* pp.88–99

Art forms needing more support and visibility in Nillumbik: ¹⁸

dance literature theatre
socially engaged art
live music public art

“Aboriginal education and acknowledgment. We have a very rich Aboriginal history and it is disappointing that we do not have more acknowledgment of the traditional owners of our land within Nillumbik. Having Elders available to educate the community and local schools is needed!” ¹⁹

“More indigenous and multicultural opportunities would enrich Nillumbik’s arts and culture.” ²⁰

“We need more multi-cultural activities—Persian, Somalian, and cultural classes: sewing, cooking, and talks.” ²¹

“More art activities for children. There was also a request for more art and culture activities for teenagers and for film, animation, gaming and sketching opportunities with youth tutors.” ²²

Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice: Sub-themes

3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

A diverse and accessible cultural education is vital to the creative life of Nillumbik, we value deeply the sharing of cultural and artistic heritage, knowledge, skills and inspiration.

Considerations

- Increase engagement with under-represented art forms, particularly music and performance art through supporting people to host creative events in intimate venues.
- Increase awareness of Nillumbik writers through literary festivals and events.
- Create more opportunities to engage with diverse art forms through a program based on Open Studios, but for non-visual art practitioners such as musicians, performers, writers and new media artists.
- Increase access to art from other cultures by including Wurundjeri art/artifacts and art from different cultures in the Nillumbik Art Collection.
- Establish multicultural representation and perspectives in Council projects by establishing a Multicultural Advisory Panel to inform all Council departments.
- Increase appreciation of Wurundjeri culture though an organised celebration of NAIDOC Week
- Greater creative stimulation through art programs for children and teenagers.
- Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture and facilitate the passing on of cultural knowledge by contracting Wurundjeri Elders to run bushwalks and storytelling sessions for the general public and young Wurundjeri people.
- Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture by establishing Kangaroo Ground Memorial Park as an information/storytelling space.

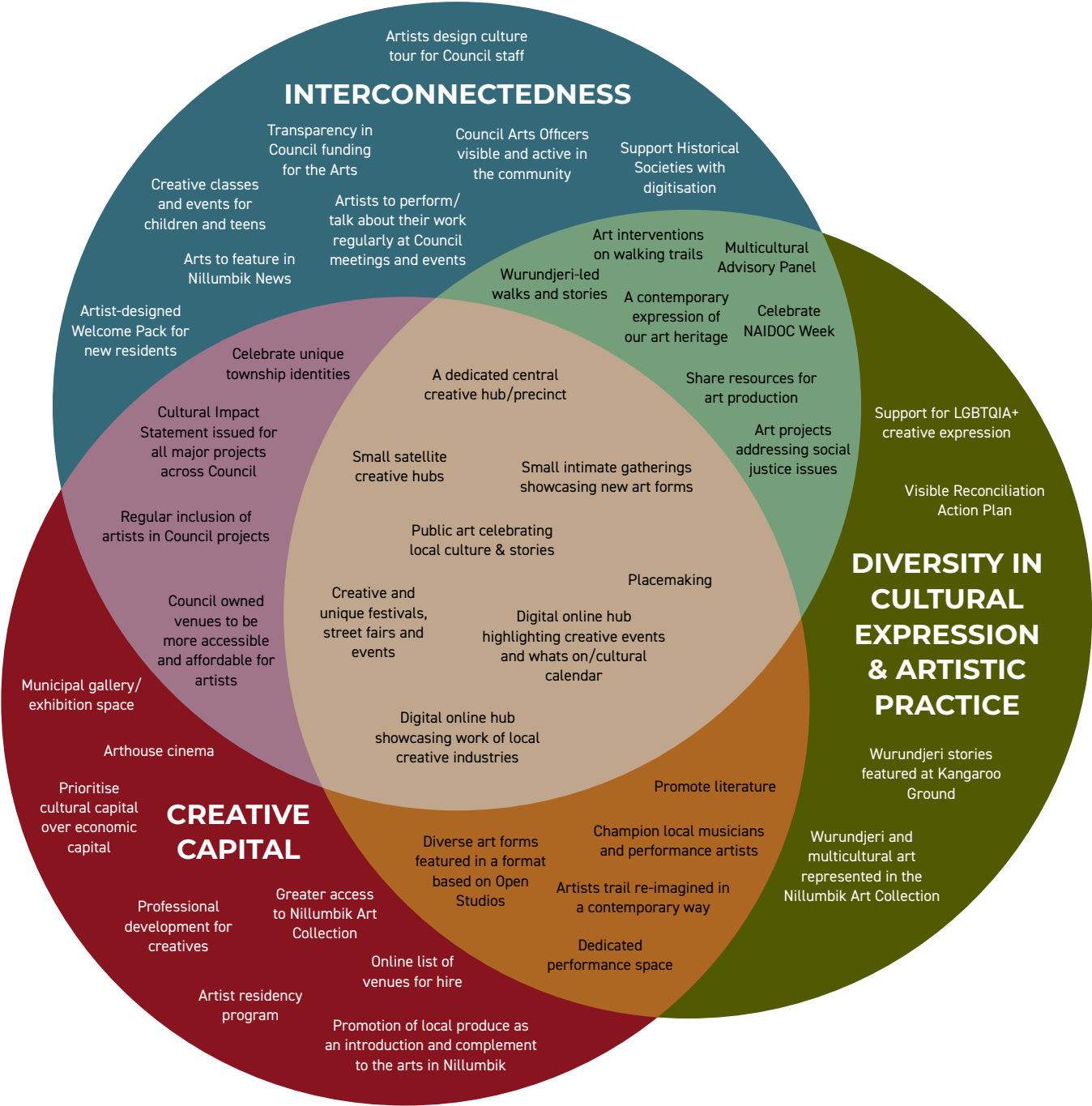
“We have heard that the people of Nillumbik would like Wurundjeri Woiwurrung arts and culture to be more visible and present in the area. We agree, Wurundjeri arts and culture should be part of everyday life and accessible to all.

For us, retaining cultural heritage and sharing this knowledge with the communities living on, and visiting, Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Country is important.” ²³

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

“Involve Wurundjeri elders and younger members of Wurundjeri in projects/ programs involved in educating the community so that future elders can be mentored.” ²⁴

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people



Interconnectedness

Fostering connection and partnerships, building social capital and creating a sense of belonging.

Creative Capital

Establishing Nillumbik as a creative destination, facilitating the production of art and nurturing the wellbeing of creative practitioners and creative industries.

Diversity in Cultural Expression & Artistic Practice

Enabling engagement with different cultures including Wurundjeri culture, raising the profile of contemporary work and unusual and non-mainstream art forms.

Next Steps

What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022–26 Community Consultation Summary Report will be used to inform the development of the *Arts and Culture 2022-2026 Strategy* and will provide a local evidence reference guide for the development and delivery of arts and cultural activity within the Shire for the next five years.

The Summary Report identifies emerging themes with supporting evidence from documents produced from Council's extensive and comprehensive consultation program. Analysis of the consultation documents was undertaken with regular referral to the Cultural Development Network's Framework for Cultural Development Planning. The analysis identified three key themes as: **Interconnectedness, Creative Capital, and Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice.**

These themes are evidenced throughout the consultation documents as being central to the Nillumbik identity and as representative of community cultural aspirations. They are based on data drawn from extensive community consultation activities across a broad spectrum of the Nillumbik community.

These themes with supporting actionable sub-themes are:

1. Interconnectedness

- 1.1 Physical spaces for connection and creation
- 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts and Culture in the community
- 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

2. Creative capital

- 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik
- 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

- 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

To ensure alignment with the culture and aspirations of the Nillumbik community all strategy, goals and planned activities should embody the key findings of this Summary Report.

In addition to the key findings, a number of considerations appear throughout the consultations as a priority. These are considerations previously listed separately under sub-themes, but which are supported by a greater amount of evidence and have a more apparent sense of urgency in comparison to other requests from the community. These priority considerations are:

- A physical creative hub/precinct that includes studio and rehearsal space, exhibition space and performance space.
- A professional-level gallery space.
- Greater support for live music, theatre, dance, literature; particularly addressing the lack of performance venues and affordable rehearsal space.
- Addressing the inaccessibility of the Eltham Community and Reception Centre.
- Greater engagement with Council, particularly in commissioning artists in design and planning, performing at Council events, socially engaged art projects, public art projects and placemaking projects.
- Establishing a centralised online cultural information hub that includes a cultural calendar and details of local artists and creative industries.
- Greater visibility and connection to Wurundjeri culture.

The key findings from the consultation engagements and connecting evidence outlined in this Report will be used in support of the development of an Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 in line with the Cultural Development Network's Planning Framework and to ensure the connection of future arts and cultural activity to an established community need.



Image: *Fantastic Flamingo* by New Heights Circus at Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Appendix

1. Interconnectedness

Nillumbik’s unique connectedness and networks are our fundamental cultural attribute. Strategies and activities that foster connection and partnerships, build social capital and create a sense of belonging support the theme of interconnectedness.

SUB-THEMES

- 1.1 Physical spaces for connection and creation
- 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community
- 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

Interconnectedness is a fundamental aspect of being an artist in Nillumbik.

“Creative networks date back throughout our artistic heritage and are embedded in the way creative practitioners live and work together in Nillumbik today.” ²⁵

“Although the environment and our artistic heritage are seen as significant aspects of our culture, they are not viewed in such a fundamental way as our interconnectedness. The Nillumbik magic is in our connected social fabric.” ²⁶

Interconnectedness fosters creative social capital, nurturing our artists and the quality of their work

“It’s those organic connections that really make a lot of the most interesting artistic intervention.” ²⁷

Interconnected artists create a sense of belonging for everyone

“Visual arts, music and culture are the heart of any community and as I said, has a unifying effect on the society.” ²⁸

“I love our huge range of local artists and writers, thinkers and makers. The sense of community support is wonderful.” ²⁹

“Art connects us. It gives us a sense of shared identity. It helps us belong.” ³⁰

“There is art throughout Nillumbik in the libraries, along the roadsides, in galleries, on fences and footpaths, virtually anywhere and everywhere. People embrace the opportunities to express themselves in many different ways and venues. It might be a special art installation or a piece of work created by a family at their front gate. Nillumbik art can take any form. Nillumbik art isn’t exclusive. It’s available for everyone through community hubs and classes. It’s a feeling that this is part of our culture and our way of celebrating and expressing ourselves and our precious place.” ³¹

Connection is important across the community spectrum, not just in the arts

Throughout all the consultations, the following terms were consistently used to describe what people value in Nillumbik, in both a cultural and non-cultural context:

- Community connectedness
- Connected community
- Social connection
- Sense of community

“The health and connectedness of communities can be measured by the presence of social capital. Social capital is the benefit obtained by having links that bind and connect people within and between groups. It can provide sources of resilience against poor health, and can help people find work or cope with hardship.” ³²

“Promoting social connections to prevent social isolation and improved mental health for our community” ³³

“Connectedness to others makes you feel like you belong. Promoting tolerance, acceptance of difference, and a sense of belonging is important in our towns.” ³⁴

“Nillumbik needs to look to its heart, its soul. Let’s restore and encourage the neighbourly connections, the welcoming attitude, the creative, constructive mindset of which we are so proud... If ‘*Womenjika*’ does mean something like ‘gathering for a united purpose’, let’s set that as our foundation and build upon it.” ³⁵

“More broadly, our residents consider community connectedness and social inclusion as very important as they are viewed as a way to build resilience, foster a sense of belonging, improve mental health and is key in preventing and reducing social isolation.” ³⁶

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness

SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

“Creative practitioners thrive when they can connect with and inspire each other. These relationships form organically, in spaces where people can linger. There is great value in creating physical environments that naturally facilitate these interactions.”³⁷

The sheer number of requests for physical space in which to practice and share art reflects a great need, not only for cultivating the production of artwork, but to serve as an incubator for the valuable social, creative and business connections that can only be made in these spaces.

- People must feel comfortable socialising; this is where social connections are made, creative practitioners are inspired by one another, and the public learn about local artists and their projects.
- It is preferable to have food, comfortable seating and climate control available to foster a congenial social environment and a regular place to gather.

The consultation process made it clear that these spaces need to serve a number of roles:

- They must be informal; a place where people feel at home dropping in and spending long amounts of time; it is likely older buildings would work better than newly built structures.
- They must have areas that are adequate to produce work and show work: private studio spaces for visual artists, walls to hang work (not necessarily a formal gallery), rehearsal spaces for performing artists, space to perform music.

These spaces take the form of a central creative hub with a variety of offerings; which could include an exhibition space, a dedicated performance space and/or an arthouse cinema, private studios and rehearsal spaces and a cafe or restaurant. Smaller satellite creative hubs, that could be set up in cafes, wineries or halls, that reflect local town character and cultivate intimate settings for performance, artist talks or exhibitions. The use of existing venues can create affordable space for artists to produce and show their work.

Central Creative Hub/Precinct

Enhance creative output and a sense of connection through establishing a central creative hub/precinct that includes studio and rehearsal spaces, performance and exhibition spaces and spaces to eat and socialise.

Consistently, artists request a central creative hub or creative precinct where their work can be seen, they have space to produce work and they can connect with each other. This has also been repeatedly asked for by the general community who wish to see more art and performance in an accessible centralised location.

Although not everyone specifies a place, when an option is suggested it is invariably Eltham.

Such a centre serves to increase creative output and a sense of connection between the creative community and the wider community. In addition, a creative centre establishes Nillumbik as a place that nurtures the arts and encourages interactions with art and artists. Food, comfortable seating and a congenial atmosphere helps build social capital by providing space where people linger and creative networks are built.

27.4% (74 respondents) in the *Participate Nillumbik Arts & Culture Online Survey* specifically ask for more physical spaces for artists to make and show their work. 15.9% (43 respondents) specifically ask for exhibition space, 7.4% (20 respondents) ask for a dedicated performance space and 8.1% (22 respondents) ask for more live music and alternate music venues.

Central Creative Hub/Precinct

“We don't have an arts precinct. We don't have studio spaces and rehearsal spaces that people can readily access. I think that's a huge barrier and our artists are having to go outside the Shire to access those.”³⁸

“We don't have an art centre anywhere near Nillumbik given we have so many artists here. That's a real shame.”³⁹

“I think there a whole lot of issues that are an anomaly to the reputation of Eltham as a strong artistic community. A space is just one of them.”⁴⁰

“Establish a main physical creative hub to create community—pairing good food, good wine, comfortable seating with spaces for artists to make/rehearse and exhibit/perform work.”⁴¹

“A main physical hub with:

- rehearsal space
- studio space
- good food, open late, cafe open for breakfast & lunch
- dedicated performance space, it does not have to be huge: optimally no more than 100 seats.
(see Theme 2 Creative Capital; 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik p.65 for more on a dedicated performance space.)
- small gallery space
- comfortable chairs; a good place to read and meet friends
- preferably close to train line and walking distance from town centre.”⁴²

“I would build an arts centre... a meeting place for artists with maybe a coffee bar and a bar that could host events. A place you can turn up to and have interesting artsy conversations.”⁴³

“A main physical creative hub to build a creative community is highly desirable. It would need dedicated rehearsal spaces, studio space, cafe, bar, art on the walls, performances, good food & wine.”⁴⁴

“Creating/fostering spaces for artistic expression, promoting connectedness for participants, ‘audience’ & community more generally”⁴⁵

“There is a desire for an arts and cultural centre that includes an art gallery, cinema and art spaces for workshops for children, adults and young emerging artists.”⁴⁶

“I would like to work in a studio and have community space to share work, ideas and cups of tea and chats.”⁴⁷

“The Eltham Library Community Gallery exhibitions are well loved, as is the Artists Open Studios program, though some feel there is a need for opportunities for artists that don't fit into that program.”⁴⁸

“Also a ‘arts hub’... that had excellent new artist studios that were for local artists and an artist in residence program to invite interstate, or international artists would be so good. Having dedicated ceramic, glass, printmaking hubs that delivered workshops, master classes and residency opportunities would be a great way to generate money back into the precinct. Please look at the success of Baldessin press and the excellent SOCA (School of Ceramic Arts) in Brunswick to see how successful a proper set up could reward the Council. This is needed to grow the community, to develop a more serious outlook, to be a dedicated art precinct to bring specialists together...”⁴⁹

“Value and need more Public Art, Literature, Festivals, Theatre, Street Art. We need an Arts Centre.”⁵⁰

“We have amazing spaces and talent but [need a] HUB to showcase art and performance.”⁵¹

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

Responses from *Our People, Our Place, Our Future* wider Council consultation data that concern a desire for creative centre and places for greater social connection:

Top 3 Things

- Arts and Culture Hub

Short Term Focus Areas

- Provide more social connection opportunities
- Provide opportunities for social connection in rural areas
- Unify the community and create a “hub...

Long Term Focus Areas

- Encouragement of enterprises and organisations which support cultural activity and communal participation.
- Arts here feel like a private affair. I want a space to connect regularly with fellow artists in, perhaps a group studio space.
- Arts precinct development
- Establishing ourselves as a contemporary cultural centre
- Building our profile as an arts area.
- Arts and cultural heritage
- Complete the regional art gallery and performance space/town hall.
- Promotion of Nillumbik as a shire for the arts, heritage...
- Promotion and maintenance of the artistic community

What to do Long Term

- Create business opportunities, hubs and enterprises with local people.
- Build arts infrastructure.

Working with Council Long Term

- Contact current art groups and negotiate needs. But there needs to be a physical space for individuals to go

What 3 things need to change

- Gathering spaces for art/play/exercise
- Working towards establishing a community centre/ art gallery/cinema.
- Investing in social connectedness where communities can thrive and support each other
- Continue lobbying for arts/performance spaces.

Asset Plan Redirections

- Art should be a significant expenditure in the interests of supporting local practitioners and the reputation of the area as an arts precinct. This has in the past contributed to Eltham's appeal to cultural tourists.
- Eltham is supposed to be an artists' hub. There was a proposal for a new art gallery. What happened?
- The shire needs a community art gallery to showcase the wealth of local talent!

“Community art precinct, gallery spaces and artists studio spaces.” ⁵²

“Art space, play space, gathering space, incredible food and drinks...” ⁵³

“A creative hub that exists physically as well as digitally. A place that creatives can meet and share and is accessible to the public too. Encourage the whole community to take more ownership of the artists in the area.” ⁵⁴

“We moved to the area thinking it would be more actively arty but find there is no centre or place for people to meet and interact... A central place would help for the community to feel more united.” ⁵⁵

“As a new artist in the area, I’ve been trying to find other artists to socialise with.

I used to be part of a community group studio in the West which allowed me to get out of the house, encourage and inspire me to create because of the interactions with other artists. This was embellished with a monthly group exhibition which enriched our social lives and gave us an achievable deadline and an affordable entry fee since we had studios and it was free. Outside artists were also encouraged to show.

I would love to be part of an organisation like this again. Artist run with the help of the council, with subsidised rent and other programs. It wasn't elitist and it was very inclusive of different cultures and abilities.

Very grass roots, but I feel that’s where the real art is made.” ⁵⁶

“Somewhere for a young women of 20 to connect with other artists and a place to show their work.” ⁵⁷

“We need an Arts Centre, a gallery, theatre.” ⁵⁸

“I would open up an art space that was artist-run, funded by Council and businesses, open to everyone, inclusive of everyone. You could run workshops. An art space devoted to the arts in all its breadth and complexity.” ⁵⁹

“Central points to gather and create.” ⁶⁰

“A flexible arts hub venue that accommodates theatre, music, photograph, visual arts.” ⁶¹

“Develop arts facilities, venues, spaces, infrastructure.” ⁶²

“Community centre with better arts support.” ⁶³

“Community arts hub for live performances and other art forms.” ⁶⁴

“Not enough support for the arts community. My dream is to build a big community arts center on the site next to the library. With theaters, galleries, studios, restaurants... to provide an art home for U3A, all artists, and youth.” ⁶⁵

“Also school age kids could learn drama and art.” ⁶⁶

“Rent out studios and theatre space. Restaurants and coffee shops and galleries to sell our art and craft.. This would be a huge tourist attraction. Bringing money to Eltham. Education children and youth in art, and (u3a) aging population. Give Eltham back the “art voice” it used to have.” ⁶⁷

“Anywhere there is hot coffee, ordinary people will be empowered to do extraordinary things— everywhere!” ⁶⁸

“A lot of the art beat has disappeared even before Covid—Courthouse Poets, Volumes live readings and music, Ridge Cafe art exhibition space, The Lane art exhibition space, local book launches, local art exhibitions etc. We have no community art space and we should have one.” ⁶⁹

“I feel we need to preserve our galleries, theaters etc... and creative spaces for artists to come together to work, learn and share with the wider community.” ⁷⁰

“The use of more outdoor and indoor community spaces/ places, provide artist/creatives with a free platform to exhibit and collaborate, encouraging local residents to support, engage and build interest in local emerging and established creators.” ⁷¹

“It’s vital that we keep the spirit of the arts alive in Nillumbik with lots of artistic community spaces, exhibitions, grants, special showcases and teaching for beginners.” ⁷²

“The Rolling Stones jammed around the Montsalvat Pool. Do we have the environment for that to happen anymore?” ⁷³

“A place to feel safe and connected to other creative people. A place to display creative works.” ⁷⁴

“ARTS HUB! Food and alcohol and art.” ⁷⁵

“Venue for all to come together and enjoy the arts” ⁷⁶

“Community Art Centre to do classes and display.” ⁷⁷

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness**SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation**

There is particular interest in gallery space being part of the creative hub/precinct. Note, this gallery space differs in focus to a dedicated municipal gallery which will be discussed later.

“A purpose built art gallery for local artists to run and inhabit—with multi functional areas for learnings and exhibitions—a place where the art vitality of local painters (in particular) is revered respected utilised enjoyed and shared with others. It can either be built or re-purposed but needs to be a sacred space for artists.” ⁷⁸

Eltham central needs a quirky art & pottery gallery to ‘meet the potters’ with cheese, wine, sell ceramics, pottery, paintings, sculptures. ⁷⁹

“More display space for local artists” ⁸⁰

“...gallery and performance space” ⁸¹

Although the following excerpts all offer the old Shire offices site as a solution, the important commonality is a desire for a centralised arts hub. The old Shire offices may not necessarily be the best site for this. It is important however to mention that any future use of this site has relevance to Nillumbik’s culture. Thought should be given to:

- **the aesthetics: to match/complement the existing Burgess-designed Eltham Library**
- **that the site is in some way inclusive or representative of local creativity; For example if it becomes a hospital or medical centre, a gallery space and/or site specific public artworks could be commissioned.**

“Build something attractive on the Old Shire Offices Site, preferably designed by the same architect that designed our award winning beautiful library. The site is too small and Main Rd is too crowded for a hospital. An art gallery, information Centre, maybe health centre.” ⁸²

“Ensure Eltham’s Old Shire Office site is transformed into an Arts Hub (Gallery/Open Space/ Performance Areas) with a design to complement the library buildings.” ⁸³

“We need to increase our focus on the culture of Eltham as a community of Art and Leisure activities. Using the vacant land of the old Eltham Shire offices as a Gallery/ Arts precinct should be a long term goal.” ⁸⁴

“Ensure Eltham’s Old Shire Office Site responds to community requests. Preferably an arts centre to complement the library complex- great architecture!” ⁸⁵

Something needs to be done with the old Eltham shire site. It is currently a waste. My suggestion would be in line of extending a structure in line with the library design to encompass and Arts/ Gallery precinct and perhaps an outdoor theater.” ⁸⁶

“An Art Gallery on the old shire office site. This would:

- provide local employment
- provide a destination for out of area visitors
- allow the community to view the art they own
- provide flow on revenue to local traders
- provide a stop off destination for visitors on the way to the Yarra Valley
- support local artists
- support local schools and their students” ⁸⁷

“Explore possibilities of:

- expanding the Eltham library gallery
- including a gallery space and public art in the new hospital planned for the area. ⁸⁸

“Performing arts and exhibitions are my favourite and we should definitely have more of that.” ⁸⁹

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

Satellite Creative Hubs

Satellite Creative Hubs

Increase cultural activity and exposure to the arts through establishing physical spaces for performance and exhibitions in smaller townships.

Performing a similar function to a main central creative hub, satellite hubs create smaller places of creative and social connection across the Shire, and specifically celebrate the character of individual townships.

Such places can use non-traditional venues and will flourish as part of, or in close proximity to, existing cafés, halls, wineries; anywhere people can comfortably spend time. They may take the form of an outbuilding converted to an art workshop, studio or gallery space, or a café hosting small performances, music or special creative events.

The concept of satellite creative hubs is also explored in *Art programs in small intimate spaces* on page 91, looking at diverse art forms in underutilised spaces.

An increase in live music venues, particularly alternatives from pubs is a common request from the general public and satellite hubs could provide these alternative venues for local musicians.

Satellite hubs would require partnerships between existing businesses or hall committees and artists and would need assistance with management, legal/safety requirements and promotion.

The advantages of satellite creative hubs is that they engage people who might not travel to Eltham for an exhibition or performance. They can be activated within existing businesses and venues without building infrastructure and they strengthen social networks and connection to local places and character.

"The idea of a centralised space—it doesn't have to be a giant big performing arts space—even a café or small venue—somewhere were people gather and somewhere that's essentially the creative hub that the creative community knows, that's the place where there's live music on the weekend, there's good wine and good coffee and there's always local art on the walls and people come together to share and talk and get to know each other and there's good food and a good vibe." ⁹⁰

"Social space makes for better connected and resilient communities. Spaces where people want to be are important; cafes or coffee carts in parks, walking trails that lead to a cultural centre and a place to eat, laneways with festoon lights and a bar, outdoor theatre, outdoor dining..." ⁹¹

"...places where people will feel comfortable. Host regular talks / exhibitions / performances: People find dedicated art spaces exclusive; 'Do I belong, do I fit in? I don't know what to wear. Can I be myself when I'm there?'" ⁹²

"Create physical creative hubs from existing spaces or businesses to build community connections; use cafés, wine bars, wineries and support regular cultural events and exhibitions." ⁹³

"More opportunities for performance are needed in more casual environments. Bars, restaurants, pubs, we have so many in Eltham so there is obviously something blocking the encouragement of live music and performance." ⁹⁴

"Use underutilised spaces: "Old buildings for new ideas, new buildings for old ideas." ⁹⁵

"Residents enjoy a wide variety of recreational and cultural pursuits and have a strong sense of feeling part of their local community and townships." ⁹⁶

"Nillumbik townships to all share in having cultural and arts space so everyone has access and develops a sense of connection and young people are enabled to develop a love for the arts, both visual, creative art, music and theatre." ⁹⁷

"Small local events that were happening lots 5 years ago or so that don't happen any more due to new owners in venues and little support or funding being available." ⁹⁸

A local creative centre is desired in many smaller communities in the Shire; in particular Arthurs Creek, Kangaroo Ground, Strathewen Yarrambat and Plenty residents feel left out of cultural life in Nillumbik.

Hurstbridge, Panton Hill and Diamond Creek residents also feel a lack of accessible creative spaces.

Arthurs Creek

"Arthurs Creek would really benefit from something to draw the community together. At the moment the only options are joining the hall committee or CFA." ⁹⁹

Kangaroo Ground

"...specifically in Kangaroo Ground there is no community hub where art/music groups can meet and connect (I believe years ago there was near the primary school?) and just drop by—I think this would help a positive sense of community in this specific area." ¹⁰⁰

"Use underutilised spaces such as Evelyn County and the Incident Control Centre both in Kangaroo Ground as rehearsal space, studio space or gallery space. Council is positioned to handle issues artists find difficult: access, parking, power, water, toilets. Council can assist in making spaces accessible and useful." ¹⁰¹

Panton Hill

"Better use of the living and learning space at Panton Hill. Hardly anyone knows it's even there let alone what's on offer." ¹⁰²

Strathewen

"More community events for Strathewen at the local community hall. It's never used and we've talked about cooking classes, gatherings, events for the kids, music" ¹⁰³

Diamond Creek

"D/C [Diamond Creek] has expanded over past 40 years but the town hasn't kept up artistically." ¹⁰⁴

Hurstbridge

"Revitalise Allwood House (it's languishing in an under-utilised state)." ¹⁰⁵

Yarrambat

"The community houses [Living & Learning centres] in Eltham, Diamond Creek and Panton Hills are a great meeting place and I wish we had something similar in Yarrambat." ¹⁰⁶



Image: Zebras by Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

Affordable Venues

Expand the number of performance events, art workshops and studio spaces by making venues affordable for artists and cultural organisations.

Many artists felt that a major barrier to performing and exhibiting, and connecting with each other and the wider community is lack of affordable spaces.

Underutilised spaces, particularly Council-owned space is a great frustration.

67.74% (21 respondents) in the Participate Nillumbik Arts & Culture Online Survey see in-kind support (subsidised facility hire etc) as significantly needed by the performing arts sector in Nillumbik.

“Access to spaces for art creation.” 107

“Council has venues and they’re not utilised by the community for a variety of reasons. Often they are multi-purpose rooms, so they’re not actually useful for different kinds of things. They’re also prohibitively expensive.” 108

“Already we have so many venues that are viable, good spaces to be utilised, but they’re largely inaccessible... finding ways to make them vibrant and available and running all sorts of interesting things for people as a consistent everyday process and how to bring that also to the awareness of the broader community.” 109

“It’s ridiculous that we can’t put on a concert because we can’t afford to and can’t even pay ourselves and have to charge too much just for the hire of the hall.” 110

“There’s nowhere to rehearse, there’s nowhere to perform that’s not prohibitively expensive.” 111

“Dedicated comm arts space in every suburb. Affordable rates.” 112

“Under-utilised spaces concern me and lack of opportunities for local arts professionals.” 113

“Scouts halls, football clubs should be available to other groups to support community connectiveness.” 114

- “Needs:
- Affordable/low cost spaces for emerging artists to display artworks.
 - A visible retail/exhibition/maker/workshop space and a living wage/funding.
 - Exhibition space without severing an arm and leg to pay.
 - Space to have workshops.
 - Inspiration, networking, opportunities.” 115

“Bring costs down for venue hire. E.g. Halls are too expensive for small performances. Performers need to charge \$60 a ticket to cover costs, whereas a reasonable price for a ticket should be \$15.” 116

“Create more opportunities and support for struggling Artists and Musicians. Allow for free spaces that can be used for community based classes, given by members of the community as supportive interaction to those who need it.” 117

“More support for artists, perhaps a studio space that could be rented cheaply...” 118

Many people expressed a general desire for affordable community spaces, not specifically art spaces, but spaces for community groups to meet and people to connect socially.

“Community hubs more accessible for community activities. Currently, the local facilities are more costly than those in Melbourne CBD.” 119

“Provide cheap meeting spaces both inside and outside for groups of varying sizes.” 120

Supporting community volunteers (like providing free venues) to have free cultural, leisure, sport, and other activity events.” 121

“Free to low cost opportunities for people to socially connect, to be creative, physically active and social. Connecting people with their local community.” 122

“Support the idea that local clubs could share their facilities during any downtimes. This could be for meetings and social get-togethers or presentations.” 123

“Accessible venues. Hiring costs subsidising” 124

“Need for small spaces for people to meet e.g. community group committees.” 125

“Community halls provided free or cheap for community gatherings and activities.” 126

“More community spaces to hold meetings that are affordable (or not charged at all.)” 127

“Affordable and available community spaces.” 128

Affordable Venues

“Create more inclusive spaces for community groups to meet at no cost. Build community spaces and a library, spaces accessible for groups to meet at low cost or no cost. There isn’t community rooms for groups to meet at low cost. Not even Living and Learning centres. Look at other community venues and what are the barriers for community use, i.e. Eltham Community reception centre. How often are rooms hired, is cost a barrier for community groups? These venues are built for community use, yet cost may be prohibitive.” 129

Allow a community group to rent a building at subsidised rate so artists can access studio spaces at low costs.” 130

Strong opinions were expressed concerning the Eltham Community and Reception Centre

Attracting particular ire is the Eltham Community and Reception Centre which is seen as inaccessible and unaffordable. This venue is a potential solution to the lack of physical space in which to practice and share art and could serve as the creative hub the community is asking for. At the very least, the community asks for this venue to be significantly more affordable so if can be utilised by the creative community and community groups.

“Making the Eltham Community Centre into a centralised creative hub with café, bar, performance space, rehearsal space; areas for quiet focused work.” 131

“The Eltham Community Centre is misnamed because it’s expensive to hire so therefore not accessible to the community and there aren’t many community events there.” 132

“The Eltham Community Centre sits vacant most of the time, why can’t community groups use this and host events without paying \$700! It is out of reach” 133

“Community centre—more community use.” 134

“It isn’t a community centre, it’s actually a commercial centre, isn’t it?”—about the Eltham Community & Reception Centre. 135

“I don’t understand why places like the Reception Centre charge so much. If it’s not going to be used, its not going to bring any money in.” 136

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation

“Eltham Community Centre is far too expensive for community groups to consider using for events, much less a rehearsal space.”¹³⁷

“The community centre, it’s a bit of an anomaly because not many people get to go inside it unless you pay for it. It can’t be a community centre if it’s a business model. We had our son’s 21st in the foyer, it cost a fortune for just the foyer. Why can’t we reassign something for that community centre and make it more available to artists?”¹³⁸

“Eltham, where I live, doesn’t really have a social centre and needs one. Its ‘community centres’ don’t really act as such.”¹³⁹

“Allow the Eltham Community centre to be cost free for community groups to use.”¹⁴⁰

“[Eltham Community Centre, arthouse cinema and gallery space] could be combined but it needs to be in an accessible place, not Montsalvat or where the Shire Offices are.”¹⁴¹

“...lack of an affordable venue for events, the complete absence of community assets like the Eltham Community Reception in the scheme of things—a white elephant so hugely expensive to hire...”¹⁴²

Booking spaces is hard to navigate, and expensive. A space can cost \$60 an hour for a meeting room for a wildlife meeting. The Amateur Winemaker’s Guild found ECC too expensive and have moved to Manningham.¹⁴³

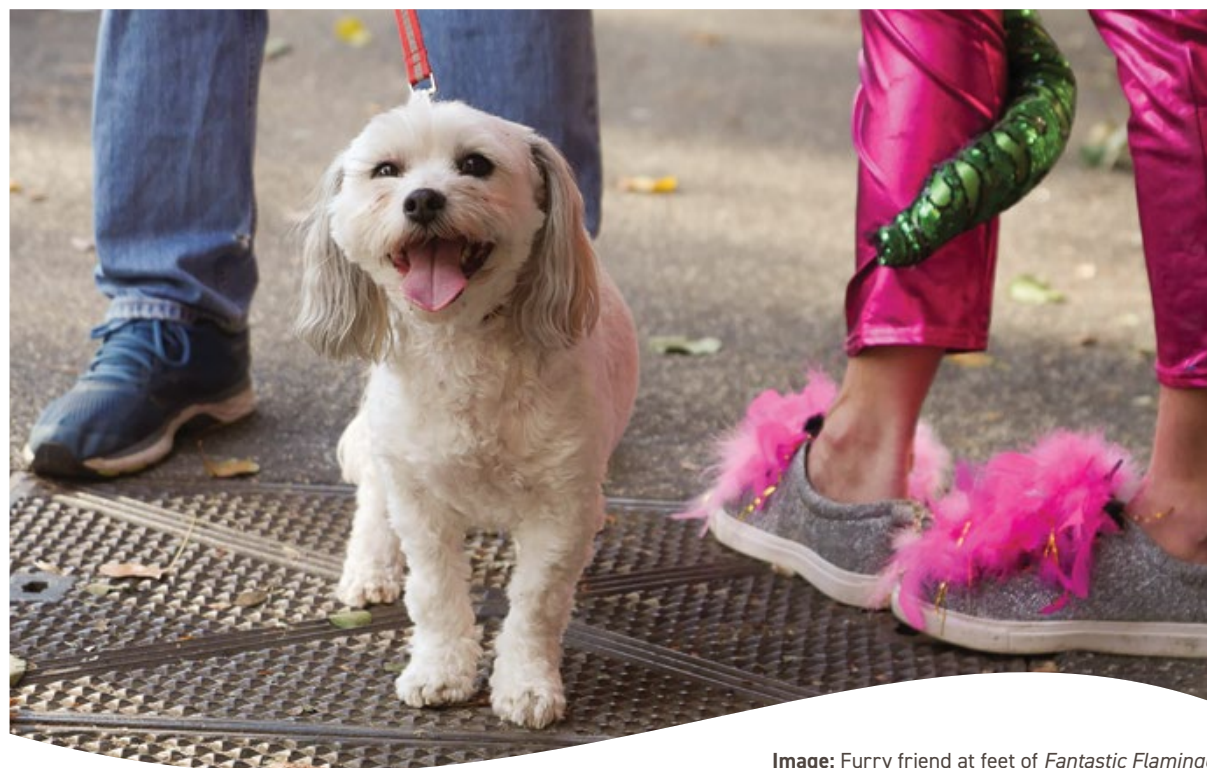


Image: Furry friend at feet of *Fantastic Flamingo* by New Heights Circus at Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Managing Creative Hubs

Creative hubs need to be sustainable. Cultural spaces can be combined with commercial enterprises for financial support:

“Create physical spaces that combine commercial with non-commercial activities, balance financial returns with social and cultural returns.”¹⁴⁴

“Look to sports groups as an example of sustainability; the individual players are not expected to finance the club and make it sustainable, but the group are successful lobbyists for funding, and they usually have an area serving food and drinks connected to the club that generates the regular revenue they need for running costs.”¹⁴⁵

Principles for Successful Creative Hubs

- Curated mix of functions, balancing the commercial with the non-commercial; not open to just anyone (such as parties motivated by low rent.) All activities fit the cultural vision of the space and add what is lacking in the community.
- Brand positioning: being clear and bold about what the space stands for. Having a clear cultural identity for the space directs the type of activities that are chosen to be there.
- A shared common goal and ownership of the space among all stakeholders ensures everyone takes responsibility for ensuring the space is a success. There are clear agreements on programs and management.
- Ties to the local environment and community are essential; the space must match the DNA of the local area and address local community needs.
- It must have a sustainable long term business model with multiple income streams: rent, ticket sales, catering etc.
- It must be run by an independent community manager who connects with the local community and cultivates an active vibrant space.
- A discretionary budget (not a grant) for ideas/ innovation in the space; and/or loans to fund initiatives.

Best Practice Examples

Broedplaats literally translates into *incubator* and is a collectively shared building for artists and entrepreneurs in the cultural and creative sector of Amsterdam. There is a balance between commercial and non-commercial activities; art studios with affordable rents sit alongside cafes and bars. The businesses bring in higher monetary returns for the centre and the artists bring in higher social, cultural and environmental returns.

<https://whatsupwithamsterdam.com/broedplaats-amsterdam/>

The Settlement House model has thrived worldwide for nearly a century and half. Artists live and work on site and engage the arts as a means for strengthening community life, re-spiriting the aspirations of individuals of all ages, and building relationships between people from diverse backgrounds and classes.

<https://pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/the-citizen-artist-the-settlement-house/>

Bærums Verk is a village in Norway founded 400 years ago to boost the Dano-Norwegian iron production. Recent restorations have turned old buildings and iron production facilities into a unique shopping commons with a supermarket, post office, bakery, restaurants and various retail outlets. The village is known as a hub for traditional crafts, containing the workshops and galleries of blacksmiths, glass blowers, painters and woodworkers along the main street.

Some of the artists live on site and supply the galleries and homewares store with their work. The rent they pay for their living quarters and workshops are subsidised by the retail tenants. A sculpture garden connects the workshops with the retail section.

<https://www.visitoslo.com/en/activities-and-attractions/attractions/?tlp=2984273&name=Barums-Verk>

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g2418282-d656593-Reviews-Baerums_Verk-Baerum_Municipality_Akershus_Eastern_Norway.html

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness

SUB-THEME: 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community

1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community

Raising the profile of the arts in Nillumbik and strengthening relationships between Council and the creative community is a high priority. The way arts and culture is communicated needs to be improved: both in the way Council communicates the value of the arts to Nillumbik's creative practitioners, and the way arts and culture is promoted to the wider community.

"There is a lot of affection for the Shire as a place that cares for the Arts and the environment. However, for some there is a desire for a renewed commitment to the arts or a sense of disconnect between the perceived value of the arts and the reality." ¹⁴⁶

In addition, the creative community wants to see evidence of Council valuing the arts; through careful use of language focusing on the inherent value of culture over tourism and economics; through having Arts Officers physically in the community, and through clear and honest discussions about arts funding; where and how much is being spent, and where we need to direct more funding.

Another way the value of arts and culture can be represented in the community is by addressing social issues through Council working with socially engaged artists

The current perception that Council does not value the arts needs to be addressed

Currently there is a perception that Council do not value the arts as much as they should. Better communication and promotion of the arts from Council would be welcomed, as well as improved understanding around arts funding.

"The people of Nillumbik like the arts and are open to the arts, however the Council does not support the arts much at all." ¹⁴⁷

"Nillumbik has a thriving arts scene I and I value being connected with that community, but at times I feel Council approaches art in a way that is exclusive rather than inclusive of the wider community." ¹⁴⁸

"For somebody who works in the Shire, art is not at the centre or on the front of the Council." ¹⁴⁹

"More relevance given to the arts, everybody's poor cousin." ¹⁵⁰

"More creativity and celebration of the arts (local)." ¹⁵¹

"More promotion and support of the local artist community." ¹⁵²

Council visible and active in the Creative Community

"For an industry that has been integral to building the culture of the area (which brought the people, the development and created the covetable nature of the region), the arts deserves a much more sophisticated and financed position in Nillumbik." ¹⁵³

"The second most selected priority involves Council's role as an advocate for the sector..."

- Participants asks Council to champion the unique value of arts and culture as a force for change.
- We need to support this fragile industry with resources, information, facilitation, spaces and training" ¹⁵⁴

Council to be visible and active in the Creative Community

Strengthen trust and connection between the creative community and Council by ensuring Council Arts & Culture Officers are regularly visible and active in the community.

Having Council Arts Officers visible in the community has been highly regarded and appreciated in the past and the creative community would like to see this continue.

"The most important thing to artists regarding connection with Council is that Council people must be visible in the community and connect with key people in the community. There must be a clear way for artists to connect with Council without having to travel to Council offices." ¹⁵⁵

"[There is] an absence of Council arts personnel from the township." ¹⁵⁷

What Should Council do? ¹⁵⁸

- Engage with community more to promote a sense of community and connectedness
- A more welcoming atmosphere in council offices. We feel as though we are intruders.
- Can you have regional offices? Drop into different towns for a day each month etc?
- Communicate with local people directly
- In outer areas utilise notice boards on P.O.s and general stores—these were installed by Council to improve communication but rarely contain Council info.



Image: Perky And Fiddle by Kinetic Theatre at Edendale Community Environment Farm Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community

Funding and Transparency in Communication around Funding

Language focus

Increase the perceived value of art and culture in the community by ensuring the language used, when talking about arts and culture, prioritises cultural value over tourism and economic value.

It is important to centre artists and their work at the centre of arts and culture. When speaking about arts and culture, cultural value should be prioritised over tourism and economic value, as a way to establish our arts and culture as being of value.

This also communicates to the creative community that their work is worthy in and of itself, and not primarily as a vehicle for other businesses to profit.

“This may seem like a semantic exercise, but it takes emphasis off the arts as needing to have an economic value and positions the arts as having a cultural value. Much of the language around the financial benefits that the arts bring in for others is detrimental to the way artists think of themselves and how they value their work. If we truly want to see thriving creative industries, we need to establish Nillumbik as a centre of culture and celebrate our artists as the engine that raises our cultural value.” 159

Funding and Transparency in Communication around Funding

Strengthen trust and connection between the creative community and Council by having transparent information concerning the Council arts budget readily available.

The amount of funding available should also be a point of transparency and discussion between Council and the creative community.

“What’s been lacking in the cultural plans is showing what percent of Nillumbik’s budget is given to the arts. We were (running on) a \$80M budget and my memory was 1% (allocated to the arts.) That should be in the cultural plan; doing a breakdown of what Nillumbik actually gives to the arts; the cultural plan needs to spell it out.” 160

“Increased communication around funding streams available to artists/organisations.” 161

Discussions around grant programs and how they are run is needed. As previously discussed, there are problems with festival and event grants that funnel grant money back into Council and put an unnecessary administrative load on artists and volunteers.

Provide a structure for funding rather than random grants that require massive extra work by volunteers in their attempt to get funding. 162

Artists are grateful for arts funding provided by Council, particularly since the pandemic. Greater financial support for artists’ work is still needed, in the form of more grant money, commissions by Council and employment of artists.

“When asked what support for the industry should Council prioritise, over 41% said income-based assistance.

- Measures addressing the financial vulnerability of artists/organisations are more important than ever with artists amongst those most financially impacted by the shutdowns.
- Suggestions ranged from Council employing local professionals to prioritising local arts businesses within non-grant schemes.” 163

“Gratitude for the NSC grants & having the time to learn to write one!” 164

“Economic stimulus initiatives benefiting the creative community.” 165

“...support desired from Council. Number one priority was providing a financial means for artists to continue their work. This role is more important than ever and ideas ranged from NSC employing local professionals to prioritising local arts businesses within non-grant schemes. These initiatives directly address the financial vulnerability of artists/arts organisations.” 166

“Income related support was first priority for over 40% of group whilst 35% believed “Recognition of the value of arts & culture to recovery” should be the top priority for Council.” 167

“The importance of the Arts and funding for the Arts: This was a repeated theme... Arts matter, arts are important to Nillumbik, funding is crucial, and, ‘when Federal funding for Arts is cut and arts degrees are twice the price, (we see) how much it matters for Arts to be funded in local Shires.” 168

“Recognise that living in and practicing art in Nillumbik is costly and difficult for many artists.” 169

“The Shire’s commitment to the Arts is seen as particularly vital in the context of current events. It was identified that the lack of Federal Government support for arts makes local support even more valuable. The COVID-19 pandemic has created a sense of displacement and trauma and the Arts are seen as a proven way to help to heal this.” 170

“...would like an increased advocacy role from Council ranking “Increased recognition of the vital role Arts & Culture will play in recovery” as first priority but on almost equal ranking with second priority “grants/employment/commissions.” 171

“I got more grant based work (but less commercial work)” 172

Comparisons with other areas

“Sporting facilities have had a huge amount spent on them. Arts could do with more.” 173

“Could you levy an art tax on any multi unit/apartment/commercial development.” 174

Good communication and transparency from Council is also valued by the general community

“Transparency in communications, inclusive/imaginative/well-informed conversations for the whole community and within Council.” 175

“All themes referenced throughout the engagement and evaluation were dependent on the Council taking a lead role in keeping the community informed and connected. Community engagement was viewed as fundamental to all Council business regardless of its theme.

Participants also referenced ‘informed and consulted communities’ as being something that was of significance.” 176

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.2 Demonstrating the value of Arts & Culture in the community

Cultural Impact Statement

Enhance awareness and value of culture throughout Council departments by evaluating major Council projects through Cultural Impact Statements.

Awareness and the value of culture can be increased throughout Council departments by evaluating major Council projects through Cultural Impact Statements.

“It creates something that guides people through that thinking. It’s a useful thing to do and it can change mindsets within an organisation.”¹⁷⁷

“We want evaluation based on social, community and culture instead of pure economic benefit.”¹⁷⁸

“It’s the secret to the success of integrating arts and culture into everything that everyone does. If everyone’s across it, then it doesn’t become just an afterthought: ‘Oh yeah, we need to throw that in the mix.’ It actually becomes something that starts at the very beginning and continues on through a project and is integrated into the way of thinking and builds the organisation as a whole; embraces the fact that its not just one team’s responsibility, it’s an organisational approach.”¹⁷⁹

Welcome Pack for new residents

Connect new residents to local art and culture by including the work of artists and information on arts heritage in welcome packs to new residents.

A welcome pack for new Nillumbik residents that is designed by local artists and highlights local history and identity is a small suggestion, but one that fits with the Nillumbik values; creating a sense of belonging (interconnectedness), establishing arts and culture as important, and celebrating local identity (creative capital).

There is potential here for a collaboration between visual artists and Historical Societies. A different welcome pack for each township would recognise local character and help connect new residents to their local community.

“We need to ensue that all who come are welcomed and made aware to the particular values and heritage... People do not understand what is unique to Nillumbik until they have lived here. Maybe a Welcome Stranger’ bag should be available from Council for people to pick up from a library/church to hand to new neighbours with information about the area that the Real Estate agents did not tell them—the bags could be open to amendment for each area/street etc”¹⁸⁰

“Create history packs for Real Estate Agents, so people understand the history of the area they are buying into.”¹⁸¹

Art that addresses Social Issues

Art that addresses Social Issues

Increase respect for the arts as a vehicle for recovery and social cohesion throughout Council and the community through commissioning art that addresses social issues.

There is a call for more understanding of socially engaged art practice, that promotes interaction and change and for using artists to address social justice issues. Commissioning artists with a socially-engaged practice is a creative a way to connect across Council departments and engage artists in addressing a broad range of issues that affect the community.

This can also include creative recovery work; using creative practice to assist in developing resilience and addressing healing and recovery after disasters, including recovery from the impact of the pandemic.

Championing socially engaged practice builds empathy and respect and aims to reduce divisions in the community.

“Socially engaged practice describes art that is collaborative, often participatory and involves people as the medium or material of the work

Socially engaged practice, also referred to as social practice or socially engaged art, can include any art form which involves people and communities in debate, collaboration or social interaction...

The participatory element of socially engaged practice, is key, with the artworks created often holding equal or less importance to the collaborative act of creating them...

Socially engaged practice can be associated with activism because it often deals with political issues. Artists who work within this field will often spend much time integrating into the specific community which they wish to help, educate or simply share with...

The artists’ aim could be to help this community work towards a common goal, raise awareness and encourage conversation around issues, or perhaps to improve their physical or psychological conditions.”

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/socially-engaged-practice>

“Championing the idea that socially-engaged art practice is crucial to creating healthy/creative/connected communities”¹⁸²

“As an artist who wants to facilitate the process of using the arts (all art forms) as modality to address social issues, I am yearning for opportunities for non-arts/arts partnerships and community-led arts projects. I would like socially engaged arts practice to be what makes the blood flow in our region. I would like the arts to be at the centre of early prevention and intervention, economic stimulus, community building and recovery efforts. When I tell people I live in Eltham, they say to me ‘Wow, so you must go to Montsalvat all the time?’ and ‘Do you live in a mudbrick?’ I wish they would say something like ‘Wow, I was so impressed with how artists led the campaign to welcome the refugees.’”¹⁸³

“Opportunities to use Arts to address social issues.”¹⁸⁴

“The second most selected priority involves Council’s role as an advocate for the sector. We have learnt from previous crises such as the bushfires that the arts play a crucial role in healing and making sense of difficult times. This focus group asks Council to champion the unique value of arts and culture as a force for change.”¹⁸⁵

“If Council learned anything from the bushfire recovery process, it was that you can’t expect the people to come to you, you have to go to them and the programs need to go out in the community, whatever they are; they need to land at people’s feet.”¹⁸⁶

“Work to obviate, by supporting local activities of all types which can help overcome, the divisions many Nillumbik residents feel between town and rural concerns and aspirations.”¹⁸⁷

“Value and build more respectful relationships, particularly in the context of people holding different views.”¹⁸⁸

“Art and culture creatives have been at the forefront of the climate change movement.”¹⁸⁹

At

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness
SUB-THEME: 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

Nillumbik has an extraordinary rich cultural heritage, beginning with our First Nations people, the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung who see arts and culture as inseparable from their living ecosystem. In addition, the legacy of our more recent artistic heritage that burgeoned around 50–70 years ago influences our identity as an artistic centre. New connections to both these histories are important as they enrich the understanding and experience we have of our lives and allow us to create and experience artwork within a larger historical context

We have a better sense of belonging and become better caretakers of our communities when we are connected to our cultural heritage.

Reposition our artistic heritage for a contemporary audience

Connect a wider audience to our artistic heritage by expressing it in a more engaging and contemporary way. This may include a re-imagining of the Heidelberg Artists Trail.

A frustration expressed throughout the consultations is that Nillumbik doesn't have the creative energy and clout it once had in the previous decades; something intangible has been lost. There is a nostalgia for that time and a drive to reinstate Nillumbik as the arts centre it was. In particular, people want to see our artistic heritage expressed in a more engaging and contemporary way that will appeal to a younger and wider audience.

“Nillumbik in some instances is a testament to an arts time that's gone. That story is finished and there's a new story in Nillumbik.”¹⁹⁰

“Our arts heritage needs to be looked at in a new light. Currently it does not appeal to young people and is not readily accessible, it needs to be treated as a living tradition, rather than a piece of history.”¹⁹¹

“We have a bohemian history that is unexplored. We can also have fun with our artistic legacy; the serious and sometimes ponderous way it's presented is not engaging.”¹⁹²

“Our arts heritage... needs to be expressed in a contemporary way that will appeal to the next generation of artists. It is a direct link from the past to the artists currently working in Nillumbik.”¹⁹³

Reposition our artistic heritage for a contemporary audience

“My main concern is it [Nillumbik] is not using its heritage to build a future, it is rather letting its past fade and not creating a vibrant forward looking arts scene.”¹⁹⁴

“All I think of when it comes to arts in Nillumbik is the gallery at Eltham Library, and Montsalvat (which seems very stuffy and for rich retirees—every time we've been there we felt looked down on).”¹⁹⁵

“I think the Nillumbik Community and Council need to move past the 'glory days' of the '70s and '80s and move into the 21st century.”¹⁹⁶

“The heritage of ‘blokey modernism’ is problematic. The alternative needs to become more viable and more exciting.”¹⁹⁷

“I have to say I'm a bit embarrassed about the state of our arts. Its living a bit in the 70s... I think there are some highly talented and professional artists in the shire but I don't think the shire offers them much and they have to seek other councils to gain opportunities.”¹⁹⁸

“I'm concerned by the tendency to lean on the past and not create new cultural spaces/narratives.”¹⁹⁹

“I can see an advertising campaign where we get all the old artwork from the collection and we call it “*The Artists are Dead*”, but we really celebrate them and then they're done, they're over and done with and we can move on...ok now, who's next!?”²⁰⁰

“They've still got a loud voice even though they're dead. We need to give them a different story.”²⁰¹
[about our past artists]

“Regain our Artistic Culture.”²⁰²

“Trades on a historical stance that no longer is present. The old come across as purists elitist snobby and exclude the general community... There is not enough support for growing supporting promoting community artists... Just look at Warrandyte's pottery festival in February. We have nothing that turns the community out like that.”²⁰³

Revitalise the Heidelberg Artists Trail

The Heidelberg Artists Trail is a source of disappointment; not only because of the faded and dilapidated condition of the signs, but also that they represent an old way of telling a story. There is great potential here to redevelop the concept of the trail, perhaps through contemporary sculptural pieces that celebrate the paintings and the artists.

“The Heidelberg Artists Trail is not a contemporary story any more. We don't have to lose that story, we could just present it in a different way.”²⁰⁴

“Our place is rich in art history...an amazing resource which is under-used...”²⁰⁵

“Redo the artist trail pictures. Celebrating the historical character.”²⁰⁶

Use public art to connect across generations e.g.. think about reviving the Heidelberg Trial in a contemporary way. Seen as dated (amongst the Historical Societies!)²⁰⁷

“The Heidelberg Arts trails are all faded and could benefit from a total revamp. Honouring this past is good to keep but needs fresh eyes.”²⁰⁸

“Repair artist trail signs.”²⁰⁹

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness

SUB-THEME: 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

A Shared Experience of Country

A Shared Experience of Country

Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture and develop a connection to Country—by creating points of interest and respite on established walking trails in consultation with Wurundjeri people.

The natural environment and our walking trails are highly valued in Nillumbik. Art pieces including sculpture, seating and creative signage have been suggested as desirable additions to these trails.

The Wurundjeri perspective is particularly interesting; Wurundjeri feel that people come to know and understand the land by spending reflective time in the natural environment. Having rest/contemplation spaces or points of interest along the trails encourage people to see the environment from their perspective. Potentially these sites could be examples of Wurundjeri art and culture, or could present information on Wurundjeri culture or on local flora and fauna in a contemporary creative way. Our desire to show respect and connect to Wurundjeri culture in our everyday lives is mirrored in the desire of the Wurundjeri people to share their cultural knowledge.

“It is important to share knowledge of Wurundjeri culture and get it out into the communities—to be visible. Through apps, signage, trails, artwork.” ²¹⁰

“It would be good to create more Wurundjeri trails with art and signage included. The aim would be to connect people to Country.” ²¹¹

“Create more trails in Nillumbik with signage or other interactive mediums to tell the stories of Wurundjeri history and life. E.g. like the Gawa trail and Panton Hill Bushland Reserves.” ²¹²

“Connection: use stories, art and heritage to create a shared connection.” ²¹³

“Physical Space: encourage storytelling and reflection in the natural environment.” ²¹⁴

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

“Attract people into the natural environment where they can learn about Wurundjeri culture. Target walkers and cyclists; people who naturally gravitate to the bushlands of Nillumbik. Use existing and possibly new walking trails to establish signs and/or an app that connects Wurundjeri heritage and stories to specific sites.” ²¹⁵

“Facilitate rest and reflection in the natural environment, not just for exercise; make places for sitting, places for yarning. Places for people to stop and ‘get the vibe’ of the place. Rock is an appropriate material for seating as it comes from the land.” ²¹⁶

“Art is all part of family and connection to country—this is Wurundjeri culture. Wurundjeri connect through artwork” ²¹⁷

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

“We would welcome spaces that invite people to stop and experience Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Country. These could include artwork and sitting rocks that encourage connection to the land. They could also attract people to the area so they could learn more about Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Country, culture and history in Nillumbik.” ²¹⁸

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

Support for a Wurundjeri presence along walking trails also has support from the general community.

“More physical recognition i.e. signs, plaques, etc. acknowledging the traditional Indigenous peoples from our area.” ²¹⁹

“Create a wayfinding strategy in partnership with First Nations peoples.” ²²⁰

“The Wurundjeri culture and arts is slowly becoming more visible in the community. It would be fantastic to provide more learning through the arts, an opportunity to educate our community about rich indigenous history in our local area. The Diamond Creek trail would be an amazing place to have information and artwork, as would along the Yarra in Warrandyte, as these waterways were an important part of Indigenous life.” ²²¹

“Acknowledge Aboriginal heritage with art work.” ²²²

There is also support for artwork along walking trails, not necessarily connected to Indigenous culture, but serving a similar purpose; to have people pause in the landscape.

“Connecting walking trails and paths with clear signage and /or maps and apps for self-guided walks in the Nillumbik Shire area.” ²²³

“There is beauty between one’s life/existence and the land, which feeds us, teaches us and inspires us to grow as it does. Language, culture and human growth is linked to land AND must be both respected and appreciated. One very beautiful part of Eltham/Nillumbik is this connection to land, culture and life. Let it not be forsaken.” ²²⁴

“It matters to me that the Arts connect us to Community, Land and Custodianship” ²²⁵

“Spend more money on our walking paths and creating points of interest on the way to encourage more passive exercise.” ²²⁶

“More art/sculptures along the walking tracks” ²²⁷

“More seating on trails & in parks.” ²²⁸

“Place public art along our walking trails, they’re a major asset.” ²²⁹

THEME: 1. Interconnectedness

SUB-THEME: 1.3 Connecting to our heritage in engaging and contemporary ways

In addition to new work along trails, there are undiscovered/forgotten Wurundjeri sites throughout Nillumbik that potentially could be signposted or highlighted in some way to celebrate their history and stories.

“Indigenous local history as part of places of significance.” ²³⁰

“Identify and build local knowledge to share local knowledge of significant sites and practices of Indigenous [people.]” ²³¹

Other suggestions to having Wurundjeri culture represented in the physical environment

“More acknowledgment of our First Nations past in the form of memorials, perhaps a permanent exhibition somewhere, Indigenous place names where possible and Wurundjeri territory added to addresses as appropriate.” ²³²

“Tapping into our local Indigenous Culture would be amazing. This is an under-utilised amazing resource that could make Nillumbik stand out among other councils as truly appreciating our Indigenous heritage.” ²³³

“An Indigenous foods and medicine garden. A First Nations history with public signage in significant areas.” ²³⁴

“Form a partnership with the Local Wurundjeri tribe and work with them formulating a plan for Cultural education.” ²³⁵

Working with local Aboriginal Elders.” ²³⁶

“Knowledge of Nillumbik arts and culture mostly held around cultural heritage, travel and trading routes through Nillumbik, the significance of the ridge tops and Wurundjeri boundaries (which have changed over time).” ²³⁷

“The group (Wurundjeri Corp and Council) are unsure if there is a comprehensive list of significant Wurundjeri sites in Nillumbik. This should be investigated.” ²³⁸

“Council could compile/research a list of significant Aboriginal sites in the Shire. Include the shack 1-2km from the Gawa Trail towards Yarra Glen (on the left.). Contacts: Parks Vic and Barry Coombs. Heritage Units can assist.” ²³⁹

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

“Connection to country by bringing in Aboriginal education and working with Elders to achieve this.” ²⁴⁰

“First Nations storytelling” ²⁴¹

“Education of indigenous flora and fauna species. basically the eucalyptus trees. make people aware of the trees they live among. most live in ‘leafy’ suburbs for the trees. bring the people closer with information plaques in public spaces giving examples and help people more closely relate to the bush.” ²⁴²

“Dedicate and maintain Lower Eltham Park (wetlands section and along the creek and riverbanks) as an educational place in nature to showcase Indigenous knowledge.” ²⁴³

Support for Historical Societies

Support for Historical Societies

Connect a wider audience to the history of Nillumbik by connecting Historical Societies to volunteers and affordable spaces for research, archiving and digitising collections.

Collectively, our History Societies are the custodians of a vast collection of photographs, diaries, newspaper articles and other documents.

Digitising these collections is important in the long term to preserve the information and make it more available to the public. One suggestion made during the focus group with the Historical Societies was for assistance in advertising and managing volunteers, and to have access to a venue where a computer and scanner could be set up for the purpose of digitisation.

“History Groups need digitisation & collection management/support. Suggestion for there to be a volunteers page on Council website; where, for example, the Historical Societies detail what is needed and time commitment They also need help with a facility to house the volunteer e.g.. Library.” ²⁴⁴

“I believe Council should support art which tells compelling, well-crafted stories, that help us to understand each other and our world better.” ²⁴⁵

2. Creative Capital

There are two elements essential for Nillumbik to evolve as a significant creative and cultural centre; the first is to cultivate a reputation as a quintessential destination for visitors seeking creative stimulus; a place that is inherently thought of when designing a cultural itinerary for guests to Victoria.

The second, and more importantly for longevity and authenticity, is to develop Nillumbik as an incubator where influential artists work productively, emerging artists advance their practice, and creative industries naturally establish and proliferate.

SUB-THEMES

- 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik
- 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

“We need to place front and centre our local talented professionals. We need to support this fragile industry with resources, information, facilitation, spaces and training. This indirect assistance will result in more artists and organisations surviving the fallout [of the COVID-19 pandemic].” ²⁴⁶

“I don’t feel like the area has established itself as a destination which prioritises creative capital, so lacks an artistic allure.” ²⁴⁷

“We need to find ways to retain our artists; facilitate the production of art, better manage our cultural assets, and better promote artists and Nillumbik as a creative destination.

- “Become an attractive creative destination: cultivate unique things to do and places to be
- Become a known creative destination: improve our promotions and marketing
- Become a place filled with useful and accessible creative assets: improve management of cultural resources
- Become a place where artists continue to live and practice: work to retain our creative practitioners and creative industries” ²⁴⁸



Image: Zebras by Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

*“Creative projects aimed at enriching a sense of community identity...can not only affirm the value of social and cultural diversity but also allow for an assertion of the importance of community in an uncertain world.” **

*“There is great value in acknowledging different ‘community identities’. Communities that are able to embrace diversity, creative expression and cultural activity are richer, stronger and more able to deal with social challenges.” ***

Evident throughout the consultations is a communal pride in Nillumbik as a known creative area, although some believe that our reputation rests on a time that has passed, and we need to re-imagine ourselves in a contemporary way.

There is also a view that not enough professional-level work is being supported and this hinders the image of the cultural destination that we want Nillumbik to embody.

On a more local level, we understand ourselves to be a chain of villages, each with a distinctive identity, and we are open to unique events that suit our micro-environments.

The community's need to engage at this local level serves not just to attract visitors, but to strengthen our social fabric. We take pride in our creative interconnectedness. Our desire to connect is illustrated though an appetite for more community festivals, live music events and placemaking projects that serve to bring people together and celebrate our cherished local character.

“Become a destination for a day out of the city” ²⁴⁹

“More money needs to be directed towards the arts and culture and can be used as a drawcard to bring visitors into the Shire.” ²⁵⁰

* Martin M & Smith P.(2009). “Governance and the Turn into Community: Putting Art at the Heart of Local Government.” ReGenerating Community Conference Papers. Melbourne

** Castanet. The Arts Ripple Effect; Valuing the Arts in Community. Melbourne

Exhibition Space/Municipal Gallery

Establish Nillumbik as a cultural destination by building a dedicated exhibition space to display significant works of mid-career and established artists.

The purpose of an exhibition space or municipal gallery differs from a central creative hub: while a creative hub exists to build connections and facilitate the production and enjoyment of art, a dedicated exhibition space, or municipal gallery focuses on showcasing the best visual art the municipality has to offer, including older works as well as works from living artists. The space also serves to bring in work from outside the Shire to inspire and educate.

An exhibition space showcasing professional-standard artwork from mid career and established artists would establish Nillumbik as a serious cultural destination.

“Several participants discussed the lack of a major gallery or art centre in Nillumbik and a desire to have this in the community... Nillumbik needs to broaden the scope of the way the community engages in Art.” ²⁵¹

“...the need for a gallery...’other than Eltham Library & Montsalvat’.” ²⁵²

“The most important goal for artists is to have a dedicated Art Gallery and Performance Space... There is no real space in Nillumbik and we have to exhibit own work in other Shires. At last we had an opportunity to say this and I hope the Council will tackle this more urgently.” ²⁵³

“Contemporary art practice that is exhibited and presented in a highly professional manner (a more appropriate space than Montsalvat or the library is needed - these are dowdy and saggy and don’t show art work in the best light /context—I appreciate the cultural and historical value of these spaces but the shire is lagging behind in appropriate spaces for contemporary art.)” ²⁵⁴

“Professionally curated art exhibitions, (pay contemporary art curators).” ²⁵⁵

“Nillumbik needs a better gallery space that treats art with respect.” ²⁵⁶

“That professional level gallery that attracts not just artists from our own Shire, but international shows—that level is really missing here.” ²⁵⁷

“Contemporary professional artists are the most disgruntled; (for them) the Eltham Library Community Gallery and Artists Open Studios is not interesting. The high level professional contemporary artists are invisible, except for the Nillumbik Prize.” ²⁵⁸

“Currently the ‘artbeat’ is heavily focused on the craft and hobby artist which is very good for that sector (artist markets and grass root community support), however I think there is great potential for Nillumbik to be a strong arts precinct and destination however it needs to take itself more seriously and encourage more professional artists... there are many professional artists that live in this area that do not have a serious platform in the community... a new contemporary art centre and gallery is desperately needed to display the council collection and to develop its collection and interest in contemporary art further.” ²⁵⁹

“Our contemporary professional-level artists are largely unknown and invisible in Nillumbik. There needs to be something for them.” ²⁶⁰

“World class influential artists are not recognised here, e.g. Olsen, Tucker, Amor, Pugh.” ²⁶¹

THEME: 2. Creative Capital

SUB-THEME: 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

"It would be amazing if we could have a decent, dedicated arts space that's open to the public (not a private enterprise). The Eltham Library is too small. Montsalvat and other galleries are private and paid entry (that's not to say I wouldn't want to pay an entry fee if it was affordable). If we had a dedicated Gallery or even a Gallery and Performing Arts Centre it could really cement Nillumbik as an Arts destination. It could be a real attraction for visitors, especially if it was easy to access (i.e. near a train station). A place people can come to embrace the arts any time, not just seasonally or for a timed event." 262

"We need a space where we can see new things that we haven't seen before and that come from outside Nillumbik. To broaden our minds and educate us, this is what's lacking." 263

"We have the Open Studios for people to come and view painting and pottery in people's homes, etc. But if you come into town, there's no gallery or space that presents people's works, and it would be wonderful just to have a space where local artists could exhibit their work" 264

"The artistic community in Nillumbik is recognised Victoria wide. Building on this would bring tourism to the area i.e. art conferences (international?), potter festivals, an art gallery—apart from Montsalvat—that houses paintings and other works of art that have a history in Nillumbik." 265

"I have been impressed with the Community library art space for exhibitions but feel that a Regional Gallery in Eltham would really boost the arts sector and bring more people here to enjoy art." 266

"Art gallery." 267

"History & Culture of the area and for residents to know the input that these have had in the wider culture of Victoria, Australia & the world." 268

"Rebuilding and further funding commitment to our local artists and creative industries including further planning for a contemporary art Gallery space in Nillumbik." 269

"...of course it would be great if Eltham had its own art gallery." 270

"Build an Art Gallery." 271

"Develop an art gallery." 272

"There are so many amazing artists in Nillumbik with so little space to display their work." 273

"The lack of cultural institutions art galleries, heritage places buildings etc." 274

In addition artists during the consultations have expressed frustration at having asked for this exhibition space over a number of years and through numerous consultations with no resulting communication or action.

"The artists don't know why the regional gallery hasn't been actioned. There needs to be better communication from Council on this issue." 275

"They [the artists] think we're [Council] not listening to them, we're not taking what they say seriously and I feel (frustrated) asking them again what they want, when we already know what they want; we know they want a space and we've known that for years and yet there's still no space." 276

Dedicated Performance Space

Dedicated Performance Space

Increase the number and quality of theatrical performances held in Nillumbik by building a dedicated performance and rehearsal space.

A significant number of voices articulated disappointment at the lack of performing arts in Nillumbik. They expressed a desire to see more theatre, comedy, music and dance productions, particularly professional productions without having to travel into the CBD.

Local performing artists noted that they have no professional space to rehearse or perform in Nillumbik. Multi-purpose buildings and places without tiered seating such as the Eltham Little Theatre, are unsuitable for professional contemporary performance.

Interestingly the space required is not large, the optimal space according to local performance artists would be 70–100 seats

"More theatre productions" 277

"Performing arts centre" 278

"A proper theatre that will attract professional productions—located near a train station." 279

"There is still a serious lack of theatre infrastructure for use by the community and touring companies. We need a theatre for the performing arts!" 280

"More centres—spots that you know you can regularly go to for live performance art." 281

"A purpose built venue specifically for arts—music, theatre, etc. —platforms to see live acts." 282

"More regular drama, opera, comedy, alternative music." 283

"A designated performance arts venue—music, theatre, other, inside and outside capacity." 284

"One of the main things I have loved in terms of cultural Nillumbik unfortunately we no longer have. I thought it was unbelievably fantastic to have a local theatre company of incredible quality in Nillumbik doing innovative new performances in St Andrews, in Eltham and in Hurstbridge, bringing *La Mama* out to Nillumbik, it was just so fantastic. I saw so many unbelievable fantastic live performances. It was such a treat to not have to go into Brunswick or the city for really top rate live performance. I still feel really sad we don't have that in Nillumbik any more." 285

"What are the barriers to success for performers in Nillumbik?" 286

- Affordable venue hire. Venue hire costs and insurance eats into the profits making the performances not profitable.
- There is no affordable theatre in Nillumbik that we have access to. ELT is tied up, Planetshakers is too expensive as is the Eltham Community Centre.
- Lack of places to perform and the expense of performing (for example a buskers permit is so pricey it would be difficult to make that money back from the busking)
- Opportunity to perform, lack of facilities and venues.
- I very rarely go to live gigs due to the distance I have to travel (into the city)... I would love to see a wider range of live music, both on public stages and in venues.
- Lack of availability of easily accessible and affordable performance space for rehearsals and performances that cater for those with special needs.
- Currently there are not enough venues offering live music which are paying musicians appropriately.
- Lack of variety of venues, both in size and purpose.
- Opportunities for performances. Access to performance spaces for hire at the moment.
- I have heard many artists say that Nillumbik Council also highly regulates the ways potentially great spaces could be used.
- There a limited spaces that support local music, especially different types of music.
- Lack of funding opportunities to develop and perform works. Lack of places to perform."

"The major barrier in performing in Nillumbik is the lack of a proper theater with full stage, fly towers, orchestra pit and tiered seating. Currently the orchestra uses the Eltham Community and Reception Centre, but having level floor seating it makes it difficult for the audience to see the whole orchestra playing." 287

THEME: 2. Creative Capital

SUB-THEME: 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

"Eltham Little Theatre is a not a viable space for contemporary theatre. *La Mama* would not go to Eltham Little Theatre, it's not the right space. A theatre company needs a space where it can actually do rehearsal. Multi purpose spaces don't work for theatre companies; because they need to have equipment there that doesn't need to be packed up and taken away.

...You do not need a space where the audience sits down below, that is not contemporary live performance these days. Usually it's tiered seating and the audience looks down. It doesn't have to be a big space, but it needs to be set up for a performance in a contemporary way." ²⁸⁸

"Dance performances" ²⁸⁹

"Theatre space" ²⁹⁰

"Dance venue" ²⁹¹

"Community run performance spaces" ²⁹²

"More theatre spaces locally so don't have to travel outside Nillumbik" ²⁹³

"More theatre shows, more variety" ²⁹⁴

"Regular dedicated music space and dance" ²⁹⁵

"Really awesome live music venue, dedicated to music i.e. good acoustics, where it is focused, not just background." ²⁹⁶

Arthouse Cinema

Enhance creative stimulation and social interaction thorough running an arthouse cinema.

There is some interest in a local arthouse cinema, which would be well placed as part of a creative hub.

"I would also love to have a cinema in Eltham—one that shows arthouse films like the Nova, Westgarth, Classic etc. I feel this is something the community would support." ²⁹⁷

"A small cinema (like The Lido in Hawthorn) would be excellent and suit the area." ²⁹⁸

"I wish we could have an arthouse cinema." ²⁹⁹



Image: Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Opportunities for Placemaking

Strengthen a sense of local connection and identity through creative placemaking projects that celebrate and enhance local character.

Placemaking is a way to engage local artists in celebrating each of our unique township identities. The local character of our townships is highly valued. People would like to see their resident artists interpret this character and establish vibrant spaces that enhance the social and cultural value of the area.

"Throughout the consultations, it was established that "we are a chain of villages, unlike a city or densely populated area. Individual township cultures should be recognised and celebrated... Create opportunities for public art and public performance to reflect the character of individual places." ³⁰⁰

"Local creatives for both design and construction of local spaces i.e. building, painting, murals, public space revitalisation." ³⁰¹

"Creative use of public spaces—art, literature, performance, gatherings, festivals, etc" ³⁰²

"Activate public spaces, ensure good quality lighting, accessibility." ³⁰³

"Artwork and local artists to assist in activating our places." ³⁰⁴

"We should showcase places like Plenty as the gateway to the ranges. Think outdoor cinemas, vintage car clubs, art installations, art shows etc." ³⁰⁵

"Nillumbik's creative and quirky character." ³⁰⁶

"It was suggested that pop-up studios could happen using empty shops in town centres. The possibility of installing sculpture walks and creating opportunities for artists to install in shop windows was raised as a fun way to get people engaging in their community and able to see art in surprising places." ³⁰⁷

"Make this a beautiful town that people will want to visit." ³⁰⁸

"Allow them to be creative and not impose blandness on us." ³⁰⁹

"Amplify the advantages of neighbourhood character." ³¹⁰

"Look at improving the face of our villages so that each area has its own look and vibe." ³¹¹

Shopping precincts and town centres where people naturally go are popular suggestions for the location of placemaking projects.

"A town centre for people to hang out, relax, socialise, eat lunch out side at. wooden benches, trees, seats." ³¹²

"Community events and opportunities to gather" ³¹³

"Eltham town centre is ugly... give artists a challenge to do" ³¹⁴

"A visual look for Eltham that brings some harmony to the town centre... you have to think big and bold and unique." ³¹⁵

THEME: 2. Creative Capital

SUB-THEME: 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

Placemaking

“Better maintenance and aesthetic standards of shopping areas.”³¹⁶

“Invest in town centres and streetscaping/assets/infrastructure so they can attract tourism.”³¹⁷

“Harmonising Eltham town centre, building an art gallery.”³¹⁸

“Recognition that Nillumbik is different to other areas and as such be protected. Overall vision for a well designed attractive shopping precinct without the visual pollution that currently exists.”³¹⁹

“More sympathetic commercial signage laws; less about size and number, more about addressing the proliferation of ugly signage and encouraging imaginative signage in sympathy with local township character.”³²⁰

“Eltham Research shops and precinct revamped and energised.”³²¹

“Focus on unique environment which makes Eltham stand out amongst the outer suburbs of Melbourne...”³²²

for Diamond Creek: “A town square, like in Eltham, where artists can play and the community come together.”³²³

“Have more community-based events to connect more.”³²⁴

Local township character is highly valued. People often feel anxious when contemplating changes that they think might strip their area of it's unique identity.

“...respondents reported having important connections with their local townships and valued the neighbourhood character.”³²⁵

Participants also identified a sense of neighbourhood character and identity as being something that they valued.”³²⁶

“The character of our townships... protection of that character.”³²⁷

“Preservation of local character—don't turn it into just another suburb.”³²⁸

“The region and town should as much as possible retain their natural and built environment and focus on the special character and charm to grown sustainable, small scale through events, projects and businesses.”³²⁹

“A shire of vibrant villages.”³³⁰

“Maintain neighborhood character.”³³¹

“The loss of character of our larger towns... The uglification of our larger towns of Eltham, Greensborough and Diamond Creek must stop and we must ensure that the smaller townships have their characters better protected.”³³²

“Preserve our built heritage...Acknowledge neighbourhood character... Preserve the uniqueness of our rural townships.”³³³

“Nillumbik is unique: our places have cultural, environmental and community importance.”³³⁴

“Maintain village characteristics preserving our unique local character.”³³⁵

Some Nillumbik residents feel their township is neglected, in particular Yarrambat, Plenty and Kangaroo Ground and to a lesser extent Diamond Creek. There is a feeling their local spaces would benefit from beautification and the establishment of gathering places; as seen in 1.1 Physical Spaces for Connection and Creation, p. 36.

“Suburb of Plenty needs more recognition (wasn't even drawn into recent artwork in Nillumbik community update report).”³³⁶

“Yarrambat and Plenty need a plan or there will be no identity to salvage.”³³⁷

“Neighbourhood Character township makeover! Make Eltham more inviting!”³³⁸

“Expenditure across wards (Blue Ward seems to be rather neglected.)”³³⁹

“For the smaller villages of Plenty and Yarrambat there has been no community planning. As a result there are no gathering places, no local businesses, no identity.”³⁴⁰

“Creating a better small community for the Yarrambat area.”³⁴¹

“Share funds with areas like Plenty that is the forgotten suburb in Nillumbik!”³⁴²

“Maintain the history of Yarrambat and Plenty area. Develop this area but maintain the cultural link.”³⁴³

“Protect our unique charm with a vibrant but ‘on brand’ town centre”³⁴⁴

“Investment in a redevelopment of DC [Diamond Creek] centre—it's got no focus at present—just a scruffy wee place with very little community pride.”³⁴⁵

Continue to work on ‘beautifying’ the smaller townships e.g. Yarrambat, Kangaroo Ground.”³⁴⁶

“The Village like feel of Eltham Centre.”³⁴⁷



Image: Angelic—Living Statue by Kinetic Theatre, at Hurstbridge Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

THEME: 2. Creative Capital
SUB-THEME: 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

Nillumbik Art Collection Online

Public Art

Increase the frequency of engagement with the visual arts in everyday life and enrich the aesthetic environment through creating more public art projects.

Public art is seen by the community as a prominent vehicle to distinguish Nillumbik as a cultural destination. People want to see more public art that proudly proclaims Nillumbik as having a distinctive and contemporary character. A strong public art presence shows that we place a high value on the arts in Nillumbik.

“As an ‘arts’ shire, there is very little public art. It needs to be front and foremost.” 348

“Large sculptures to reflect our passion for the arts...” 349

“More public sculpture, we’re meant to be an arts area, where is the art?” 350

“Something that thousands can connect with everyday, art that you can see whilst walking, driving.” 351

“More visible public art.” 352

“Want big striking permanent art like decorated benches that fits in with the area.” 353

“Sculpture—want more in D/C, [Diamond Creek] especially local artists” 354

“Would like to see more Public Art around the communities/street.” 355

“Improving the built environment with public art and celebrating artistic heritage.” 356

“Public art is seen as important and there is a clear desire to see more public art, both 2-D and 3-D in Nillumbik. There is a particular inclination to see public art that reflects and celebrates individual township character.” 357

The traditional tender process for public art has been identified as problematic, both for the artist and for the quality and relevance of the final piece.” 358

“More public art.” 359

More outdoor public art—visually welcome markers.” 360

“There were requests for more Public Art...” 361

“More public art.” 362

“Art in parks, gardens, and homes and in the streets to happen upon.” 363

“Great public art projects.” 364

“A commissioned public sculpture.” 365

“Outdoor sculptures and installations... murals and art in public spaces.” 366

“I like the murals in Diamond Creek. I think beautifying the streetscape would add to more vibrant culture enabling artists to earn a living!” 367

“Hold an Annual 4 week outdoor sculpture walk of a selection of Nillumbik’s sculpture collection in the Eltham Town Square & surrounds.” 368

“Sculpture trail” 369

Nillumbik Art Collection online

Enhance a sense of communal ownership of the Nillumbik Art Collection by sharing it online in an interesting and easily navigable form.

The main issue people have with the Nillumbik Art Collection is that it's not seen. Although it is partly on the Victorian Collections platform, it's not promoted. In addition, the Victorian Collections platform is not easily navigated, and is not a beautiful format that would engage the casual viewer.

If the collection were on a well designed, attractive and accessible platform that is well promoted, it may be that calls to get rid of the collection cease. The problem seems to be the lack of public visibility.

“Sell the art collection - it is mostly for the benefit of Councillors—public don’t get to see it, but we paid for it!” 370

“You spend more on bridges than you do on our Art Collection that you have locked away + we never get to see!” 371

“I think Council needs to build up its art collection and display it in public places.” 372

“I think this is too static a collection for the general public to enjoy. What is its purpose? The money for this would be better spent in public art displays.” 373

Artist-designed cultural tour for Council

Expand knowledge and appreciation of arts and culture in Nillumbik though local artists designing a cultural tour itinerary for Council members.

No-one understands the creative soul of Nillumbik better than its resident artists. A cultural tour designed by local artists for Council is a great opportunity to build relationships between Council and the creative community and for new staff to experience the magic of Nillumbik.

“For Councillors and Council staff to better understand the arts and culture of Nillumbik: have local artists devise the itinerary for a cultural tour and performances. e.g.. Breakfast/coffee at St Andrews Bakery with music recital in the church, Dunmoochin exhibition/ performance, Strathewen bushfire memorial and Blacksmiths' Tree, Gawa Trail, exhibition at Eltham Library.” 374

THEME: 2. Creative Capital
SUB-THEME: 2.1 Celebration of the unique identity of Nillumbik

Link locally grown produce and the arts

Introduce a wider audience to arts and culture by including local produce and local producers at cultural events.

Nillumbik traditionally has been a supplier of produce for Melbourne, from timber for the ovens in city bakeries in the 1800s and early 1900s to orchards and vegetable gardens throughout the 1900s and today's beef farms, fruit, olive oil and wine production. With the current obsession over food and farm-to-plate eating, it would be advantageous to leverage our food heritage and current food production as an introduction to our wider artistic culture. Art and food naturally go together both as attractions in their own right, and as reasons to connect socially. A combination of art and food is a celebration of the Nillumbik identity and a draw-card for visitors.

“Set up artistic space in Nillumbik where we showcase local artists including glass, pottery, chocolatiers, food, clothing,—all artists in one space—supporting local producers.” ³⁷⁵

“Regular community festivals! ...celebrate the cultural events of all members of the ethnically diverse community,...through food and music. Nillumbik is starting to become more ethnically diverse, and a celebration of food is a great way to welcome newcomers to the community.” ³⁷⁶

“Run small food and cultural events weekly during the warmer months: supply outdoor chairs and tables and a performance group for each township, partnering with Traders Associations.” ³⁷⁷

“We need more festivals and community get togethers that celebrate and promote local producers of food, wine, self sufficiency growing food etc. I stayed at Willunga in SA recently, and the community spirit and appreciation of local growers, artisan bakers, honey producers, organic produce etc was amazing. You could just feel the connection they all had for small local industry and being able to buy produce made and grown in that region. I really felt back home in Diamond Creek that we are missing out of the connection and togetherness that they have in Willunga. Local Festivals bring communities together to celebrate and reflect on how we are all connected.” ³⁷⁸

“Food also engages our senses in a complex kaleidoscope of the sensations of smell, taste, texture, colour, touch, temperature and sound.” ³⁷⁹

“Food isn't just something we eat, it is something we feel. To feel is to be connected. Food culture is the connection we have with food and our food system... Food culture is also about the way food is respected & celebrated as an essential part of what makes us human.” ³⁸⁰

“Community street feasts made available for people to connect” ³⁸¹

“Community events to bring locals together around food and arts.” ³⁸²

“Encourage celebration of local growers by holding more festivals.” ³⁸³

“Events and festivals celebrating arts, music and local food, wine, beer.” ³⁸⁴

“Food brings people together” ³⁸⁵

“Embracing our art, food and drink production more.” ³⁸⁶

“The horticultural and farming history...continue to influence the emotional, social, economic and political realities that are embodied as the lived and living history of Nillumbik. Tragically, food production is a rather tattered remnant of Nillumbik's cultural memory.” ³⁸⁷

“The Markets are very important for social connectedness, inclusion and even food security.” ³⁸⁸

“Eltham is the door to wine—wineries of Yarra Valley.” ³⁸⁹

“There absolutely needs to be a performance and arts centre in Nillumbik. It's so frustrating that we have the artists and no place to shine a spotlight on them and allow community access to them.” ³⁹⁰

2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Promoting the arts effectively, developing collaborative relationships between Council, local businesses, emerging and established artists, and sharing physical and intellectual resources all contribute to building the creative capital of Nillumbik.

The celebration of Nillumbik as a creative centre is facilitated through good promotion and marketing of our cultural offerings, involving creative practitioners in broad planning and development processes, and instituting unique events and a healthy live music and event scene.

The community has expressed a desire to increase their engagement with arts and culture in Nillumbik and frustration at not knowing how to access cultural activities and events. In particular, there is a marked absence of an online digital presence for artists and cultural events that is comprehensive and accessible for the general community.

Artists have a talent for adding value and a sense of occasion to various projects; through such things as art installations, performances at openings and clever community engagement, as well as developing creative processes.

As a Shire that aims to be a centre for culture and the arts, it would merit the inclusion of creative practitioners at the planning and design stages of Council projects across departments; to ensure our creative culture is embedded in the work Council does.

In addition having artists perform or give a talk about their practice at Council meetings and events builds trust and a stronger connection with Council. The consultations identified opportunities to strengthen relationships between Council and community groups and with the general public through management and administrative assistance. Collaboration between the creative community and Council, businesses and community organisations is a way to support the arts and also elevate its reputation among non-cultural players.

Digital Online Hub

Extend engagement with the arts through an online calendar of cultural events and a directory of local artists and creative industries. Increase arts and cultural events throughout the Shire by creating a comprehensive and clear online list of venues for hire.

People want to engage with the arts more, but find it difficult to know what is happening in the Shire. Searching for event and artist information through the number of portals that are available is confusing and prohibitive. What is lacking is a centralised information hub; an online calendar of cultural events, a directory of local artists and creative industries, and a clear online list of venues to hire for rehearsals, workshops, performances and exhibitions.

To engage people in our local creative ecosystem, it needs to be represented online in attractive and functional forms.

According to the needs of the community, a centralised information hub should serve three main purposes:

1. Happenings

A comprehensive cultural events calendar highlighting all creative events happening in the Shire: exhibitions, theatre performances, live music performances, workshops, artist talks, poetry readings, short story competitions, art festivals etc. It may also include markets such as the Eltham Farmers Market and St Andrews Market where musicians regularly perform.

The Participate Nillumbik survey indicates that people were least aware of and least engaged with the Eltham Library Community Gallery program and Arts & Culture focused events including festivals.

2. Spaces

There have been repeated requests for a list of what venues are available for creative events; for studios, rehearsals, performance, exhibition etc.

The list needs to be easy to see at a glance:

- Which venues are suitable for particular art forms,
- The cost to hire,
- Who to contact to book the space.

“Activities and opportunities are not promoted and/or advertised enough. I am interested in supporting the arts and artists, but never really know how.” ³⁹¹

“Better process for finding information. Hard to scroll through council website to find stuff. One social online presence for all arts in Nillumbik to facilitate access and show calendar of events. Someone to maintain all info including dates, venues etc” ³⁹²

The issues the creative community has is that the process is murky and unclear. It is hard to contact people. There are different points of contact and information for each venue, so it is onerous to chase up numerous venues in order to compare them. Most significantly, prices often are hidden until the applicant writes up a submission or a business plan. This includes for Council-run spaces. The process can result in much work for the applicant, just to find out the venue might be beyond their budget. **Securing a venue in Nillumbik is so difficult that many artists and community groups look outside the Shire.**

3. People

A list of a creative practitioners and industries in Nillumbik: showcasing their work and giving some information on their history and practice and how to contact them for commissions.

Note: Visit Nillumbik is not a cultural hub; its focus is on tourism and people coming from outside the Shire. It does not serve to fostering our creative ecosystem like a cultural digital hub described here would.

“Significantly increase Council's digital presence to engage and tap into the increasingly interconnected online spaces used by community.” ³⁹³

“Sometimes it feel like the arts/artist/creative culture is the spare wheel. It's integral to how the community functions, and most people like it, but only the niche/few people who know how to access it and where to find it within a community platform. Some may not know it exists within the community.” ³⁹⁴

“A desire for more information on what is available in regards to arts and culture in Nillumbik was also expressed.” ³⁹⁵



Image: Naughty Artist and Policeperson by Stiltwalkers Australia at Diamond Creek Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

THEME: 2. Creative Capital
SUB-THEME: 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Digital Online Hub: Happenings

An online cultural calendar that includes exhibitions, performances, creative workshops, markets, festivals; any event where people can experience arts and culture in Nillumbik.

"A cultural event calendar with an up-to-date list of all exhibitions, activities, cultural meetings and events. Anyone can post, but the entries are curated. Needs to be beautiful with strong branding. A *'known and respected repository of information.'*" ³⁹⁶

"...it's hard for people to know what is going on in their local community. An independent source of news is needed, and a place where locals can promote their events/ideas etc." ³⁹⁷

"Improve communication on Council's services and what is available... there are so many available active, arts, cultural etc. services, groups etc. and many people are unaware of this information." ³⁹⁸

"There is also a desire for better ways of informing residents about local arts and culture opportunities." ³⁹⁹

"I would like to know what's happening in the Arts in Nillumbik and to have more information about Art activities in Nillumbik." ⁴⁰⁰

"Tell the community what's on for them, advertise more get to the people that don't bother to know what their council do for them encourage participation" ⁴⁰¹

"I'm largely unaware of projects in the area. As such, tend to go to galleries, theatre, gigs etc. in the city or Inner North, rather than locally." ⁴⁰²

"Council and Community also need to get better at promoting and advertising opportunities for non-artists to attend and participate in activities/shows/etc." ⁴⁰³

"There were conversations around the need for more information about what Art/Culture events are available for Adults after work..." ⁴⁰⁴

Digital Online Hub: People

An 'Arts Atlas' for artists, performers and creative organisations would be helpful not only to promote their work, but would also identify Nillumbik as a place that values its artists and fosters creative industries.

"A list of all the creative industries and individual artists and designers in the Shire with contact details for people looking to engage with an artist. A possible partnership with Economic Development." ⁴⁰⁵

"More promotion of local art organisations through local channels" ⁴⁰⁶

"NEW IDEAS FOR RESOURCE SHARING

- Digital noticeboard where people can ask questions, ask for help, find the people they need,
- Artist Directory with list of haves and needs.
- Gumtree for artists in Nillumbik.
- Artist Helpdesk." ⁴⁰⁷

"We have world class writers and artists in Nillumbik that are not celebrated." ⁴⁰⁸

"The artbeat of Nillumbik is almost a subculture. There are so many extraordinary artists that live in the shire, yet hardly any public representation...We have a thriving artistic community and if you're in the know, easy to find, but if you don't, then not." ⁴⁰⁹

"Support marketing through social media, e-newsletters, a virtual hub listing so artists are not having to do all their own marketing." ⁴¹⁰

Digital Online Hub: Spaces

A common frustration is in finding a venue to hire. Venues for workshops and creative events are managed by many different entities. Information on who to contact to request information on a particular venue is missing. Also missing is an indication of costs.

"A list of performance/rehearsal/studio/meeting spaces available across the Shire with clear and transparent costs and an up-to-date contact or online booking process. This includes non-Council run spaces. Easy accessibility to whoever has the key. Also a list of cafes that are willing to display artwork, perhaps a contact from a Traders Association or Chamber of Commerce to curate and organise." ⁴¹¹

"Sometimes I'd be pushed to Council, sometimes I'd be pushed to the Traders Association. Being able to book and use space to do things is really difficult." ⁴¹²

"[An] audit and promotion of the Shire's artistic spaces/galleries for hire/studios etc and/or a centralised industry database ensuring communications with the diverse creative sector of Nillumbik." ⁴¹³

THEME: 2. Creative Capital

SUB-THEME: 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Inclusion of Artists in Council Projects

Strengthen cultural awareness and expression through regular inclusion of artists in Council projects, both in consulting and commissioning.

Nillumbik artists are uniquely placed to contribute ideas on how art and creativity can be embedded in Council projects. Often art and artists are added to various projects and developments as an afterthought, but there is greater value in incorporating their work and their ideas at the early stages of planning so that creativity is manifest throughout the life of a project from design and community engagement to activation and promotion.

"I think it is the opportunity for local artists like myself to have a say in where we could contribute our art skill and suggestions for how art can be incorporated more into Nillumbik and how it can contribute to enhancing people's lives overall."⁴¹⁴

"Make it a policy that there's a role for an artist included in multiple sectors of Council business. So, just as a matter of course, an artist's perspective and presence are included in planning or implementing, or challenging a problem."⁴¹⁵

"Keep it local when sourcing artists for projects in Nillumbik, where so many artists live and understand the area."⁴¹⁶

"Art work included in all Council new buildings."⁴¹⁷

"Wherever an artists' work or a creative organisation's work is used by Council, their name is acknowledged."⁴¹⁸

"Creative practitioners are recognised as professionals and paid appropriately. Refer to NAVA rates as a benchmark."⁴¹⁹

"We also look forward to our artists and performers being included in projects throughout Nillumbik."⁴²⁰

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people



Image: *Fantastic Flamingo* by New Heights Circus at Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Artists at Council Meetings & Events

Expand support of local artists by employing them to perform or speak regularly at Council events and meetings.

As part of the consultation process, a focus group for Councillors was held at the Council Chambers commencing with an acoustic recital by local artist Hana Zreikat. This performance changed the feeling in the room and set up the space for a more relaxed and focused engagement. Councillors showed great interest in Hana and in having more artists perform regularly at Council events.

Such a commitment would benefit both Council and the creative community; by providing a platform for paid performance and an opportunity for artists to get to know Council staff. It also lends a meeting or event a sense of occasion, and raises awareness within Council of the breadth of the arts offering in Nillumbik that might not be encountered otherwise.

Overall this initiative has great potential to initiate and strengthen positive relationships between Council and the creative community.

"There is a perceived loss of local art & history knowledge in Council. Create opportunities for creatives to present/perform to Councillors and Council staff, perhaps as a regular event at meetings; open meetings with live music or an artist speaking about an art piece or reading literature or poetry."⁴²¹

"Participant Suggestions for Council Support: Council contracting performing artists for NSC events"⁴²²

Artist Residencies

Inspire creativity and build stronger connections to Nillumbik for artists through establishing artist residency programs in inspiring places.

Local artists feel the loss of the Laughing Waters residency program keenly and would like to see the heritage buildings preserved and the residency program reinstated, along with the Red Chair talks.

New residency programs, particularly live-in programs similar to Laughing Waters and Dunmoochin would be well received.

"Bring back the Laughing Waters Road artists in residency program asap."⁴²³

"The loss of the Red Chair Artist Talks and the artist residency program..."⁴²⁴

"I really miss the Studio Residencies and the Red Chair—they were a great opportunity to be inspired by other artists—and local artists need to be nurtured."⁴²⁵

"A multi-disciplinary residency or program to encourage collaborative projects or cross-pollination of ideas between different artistic disciplines (e.g. visual arts, literature, film making, performing arts)."⁴²⁶

"Create long residencies: 1–3 years at Dunmoochin has been successful."⁴²⁷

"Save Laughing Waters residency program."⁴²⁸

THEME: 2. Creative Capital
SUB-THEME: 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Festivals, Street Fairs & Events

Create a greater sense of joy and connection through unique festivals, street fairs and events that showcase the work of local artists, particularly musicians.

More events where people can come together are a recurrent request across the consultations: specifically for festivals based around the unique character of Nillumbik, street feasts featuring local produce and any events that celebrate our identity and cannot be replicated outside the Shire.

Live music and outdoor theatre are mentioned numerous times and are highly desired.

“Music and Festivals: At least 8 of the responses either celebrated the power of music and festivals to connect community, or spoke of a desire for more or better quality festivals, especially outdoors (6.5%). This also reflected a desire for the arts to be a visible and vibrant part of our community. Local festivals with a community feel to them were applauded. *‘Festivals connect the community together and music allows everyone to speak and understand each other on a different level to normal conversations.’*”⁴²⁹

From Participate Nillumbik data:
When asked ‘What supports would you most like to see provided for the performing arts sector in Nillumbik?’

80.65% (25 respondents) chose **Opportunities to perform** (public events etc)

70.97% (22 respondents) chose **Financial support (performing arts grants etc)**

“I’d like to see a unique event in the area. I find most events in Australia are 99% the same as every other event. Places that have a real cultural personality or identity; they have some sort of unique event that people think of when they think of that area.”⁴³⁰

“Festivals connect the community together and music allows everyone to speak and understand each other on a different level to normal conversations”⁴³¹

“Festivals and outdoor theatre.”⁴³²

“Music in the Park is a great opportunity to meet locals”⁴³³

“Encourage more music and arts events as Covid restrictions ease.”⁴³⁴

“Restart local festivals. Develop local craft and farmers markets as social hubs as well as places of business”⁴³⁵

“Support for outdoor events involving collaboration between art forms—such as literature and jazz; more studio spaces and; more live performance opportunities.”⁴³⁶

“Event/Venue Assistance:

- Free/low cost venues and events
- Facilitation of concerts/events that involve local community”⁴³⁷

“More outdoor theatre and music in Nillumbik.”⁴³⁸

“White Night Nillumbik.”⁴³⁹

“Add eating destinations and music to Nillumbik [Open] Cellars.”⁴⁴⁰

“More festivals, great bars.”⁴⁴¹

“- Music live gigs
- Food trucks
- Festivals”⁴⁴²

“More music for young people.”⁴⁴³

“Have different types of culture, art, flower, and other festivals to support local businesses.”⁴⁴⁴

“Put on beer festival, plant shows, animal shows, music shows, outdoor cinema, so visitors come here to support local business.”⁴⁴⁵

“A street performers buskers festival”⁴⁴⁶

“More local music festivals and more community gallery spaces for new and emerging artists.”⁴⁴⁷

“Events, festivals and celebrations to bring community together.”⁴⁴⁸

“Arts and cultural festivals.”⁴⁴⁹

“Events, festivals, things that bring people together in an accessible way for all.”⁴⁵⁰

“More festivals/markets.”⁴⁵¹

“Boring night-life.”⁴⁵²

- “Cafés with music and entertainment
- Shows
- Night time entertainment
- Theatre
- More live music
- Local cinema
- More live stuff in townships
- Performing arts”⁴⁵³

“...requests for more theatre, public theatre outside, music in the parks and on the streets.”⁴⁵⁴

“Provide outdoor cinema, festivals, funfairs, carousels, orchestra, music etc similar to events in Macleod.”⁴⁵⁵

“More community engagement activities such as markets and festivals.”⁴⁵⁶

“Events and festivals supporting creatives, musicians, artists and so on, engaging the youth in these events.”⁴⁵⁷

“Festivals!!!! Food trucks!!! Markets!!”⁴⁵⁸

Requests for a higher quality of events and festivals that showcase our unique creative identity

Not enough...events (i.e. festivals that are specific to Nillumbik or with enough clout to attract people...) ⁴⁵⁹

“Art festivals. On the Hill and Warrandyte festivals include arts and crafts but others are funfair, imported cheap market goods etc. are not reflective of our arts history and culture.”⁴⁶⁰

“Relying on volunteers to direct the local festival content is also troublesome. I mean, yarn bombing is fine and all but I’d love to see some better quality, funded production. There is so much history and talent that better representation should just be a given.”⁴⁶¹

There is frustration with the current festival/grant model. The model needs to change in order to reduce the administration load on event organisers.

“Managers of festivals and events are frustrated with the lack of support from Council departments outside Arts and Culture. In some cases, they have to apply for a grant though Council, only to pay another department of Council with a significant part of the funds in order to run their event.”⁴⁶²

“50% of a \$5000 Council grant goes back to Council for venue hire and rubbish bins.”⁴⁶³

“Courthouse poetry is over. All the admin and reapplying and acquitting the grant was too onerous, and the grant money mainly went back to Council for the venue hire.”⁴⁶⁴

“Establish a partnership model for festivals and events where Council supplies infrastructure support (such as rubbish bins). There is frustration around applying for grants from Council that go to pay Council for venue hire, rubbish bins etc. The extra administration to apply and acquit grants falls on artists and community volunteers and is seen as unnecessary.”⁴⁶⁵

THEME: 2. Creative Capital

SUB-THEME: 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Professional Development program for artists

Live Music

Connect a wider audience to the work of local musicians and non-mainstream music by sponsoring them to play in large festivals, such as the Eltham Town Fair.

Opportunities to hear live music are seen to be lacking. Events and festivals with a focus on music are consistently requested; particularly music unique to Nillumbik; local performers and performers creating non-mainstream music.

Live music is a desired addition in activating local venues, as a part of placemaking projects and as a vital element of a cultural centre. There needs to be more live music across the Shire that is easily accessible for residents of each of our townships.

"I don't see anything out there for professional musicians who aren't doing the mainstream stuff." ⁴⁶⁶

"People are not dumb. They have the capacity and ability to enjoy all sorts of music if we give it to them." ⁴⁶⁷

"Music in Hurstbridge was a great idea to get people out and together supporting local businesses." ⁴⁶⁸

"More local music at local venues or public spaces would be awesome." ⁴⁶⁹

"Music performance area in Hurstbridge." ⁴⁷⁰

"Gigs in every bar/restaurant" ⁴⁷¹

"More live music everywhere" ⁴⁷²

"Variety of art forms" ⁴⁷³

"Where's the live music? We moved to Nillumbik from the inner north where we could see diverse musical acts—out here it seems mainly to be cover bands or acoustic artists" ⁴⁷⁴

In regards to music, there is a strong indication that the Eltham Town Fair could be used to highlight local musicians (beyond young musicians who will play for free); as it has done in the past.

Professional musicians and the general public have expressed disappointment with the commercial nature of the Eltham Town Fair and its current lack of diverse and interesting musical offerings.

"Since Rotary have taken over the Eltham Town Fair and Diamond Creek Town Fair—all those sort of festivals, now they just get people to play for free, so all of a sudden its gone from such a varied musical offering... then the festivals become about the ice cream, the food and the rides." ⁴⁷⁵

"The Eltham Rotary festival is so boring and predictable. When we first moved here the local artists got to perform at the Eltham Festival (19 years ago)." ⁴⁷⁶

"Our Eltham festival is now so commercial and not like what it used to be. Junk being sold nothing much else." ⁴⁷⁷

Professional Development program for artists

Increase the financial success and longevity of creative industries by expanding a professional development program for creatives to learn business and marketing skills.

Professional development in business, grant writing and marketing assists artists and creative industries to thrive financially. Many artists have called for more support in this area.

"Needs:

- Help with marketing as well as funding for art projects within the community.
- Website development skills.
- Help building a website on a platform that is unfamiliar to me...
- Work opportunities that are closer to home.
- Social media support—marketing myself.
- To learn more about how local government works—to reveal ways of engaging, participating, influencing my community." ⁴⁷⁸

"I believe Nillumbik can make a big difference by finding ways to support artists write grants and get the funding to be able to be heard." ⁴⁷⁹

"The importance placed by the Council on supporting, marketing and networking with artists." ⁴⁸⁰

"Lead the community in understanding/knowledge, grant opportunities, community activations and spaces." ⁴⁸¹

"Promotion of Nillumbik as a place to start a business especially in the arts." ⁴⁸²

"Training/Mentoring Ideas:

- Sales & business skills incl. digitising, marketing, social media
- Writing grants/other funding options
- Workshop facilitation
- Mentoring of emerging artists by established artists" ⁴⁸³



Image: Perky And Fiddle by Kinetic Theatre at Edendale Community Environment Farm Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

THEME: 2. Creative Capital
SUB-THEME: 2.2 Promoting and supporting our artists and creative industries

Professional Development program for businesses to work with artists

There is a lack of knowledge outside the creative industries of the merits of working with creative practitioners who are able to generate innovative solutions, create more positive and collaborative work environments or engage imaginatively with the community.

Similar to using socially engaged art practice to address social issues, there are a number of creative practitioners who can work creatively in a commercial environment; addressing business issues and improving client and community relationships. Education for business owners on how to work with these creative practitioners and incentives to do so could be a program designed by the creative community and facilitated by Council.

“Incentives to businesses, property developers and landlords to engage artists (E.g. Renew Australia).” ⁴⁸⁴

“Fact Sheets & Guides: for businesses on how to engage an artist, includes a directory of local artists, fee schedule, sample contracts and IP clauses, best practice principles in working with artists.” ⁴⁸⁵

- “Cross Sector Facilitation:
- Grants/subsidies to encourage businesses to employ artists (e.g. signage) [to] increase the presence of art in retail/industrial precincts
 - Support landlords to consider pop-up events in vacant tenancies” ⁴⁸⁶

“Council could look to increase the facilitation of cross-sector partnerships with the wider business network e.g. with pop-up creative initiatives in vacant tenancies.” ⁴⁸⁷

Mentoring for emerging artists

Mentoring for emerging artists

Strengthen connection within the creative community by establishing a mentoring program for emerging artists.

Connections between emerging and established artists are needed in order for our emerging artists to feel welcome and supported. There is scope to facilitate master classes and spaces where established and emerging artists can interact.

This is something to consider when looking at other initiatives set out in this Summary Report, such as establishing a creative precinct, having artists perform at Council events, artists involved in planning Council projects etc. All of these are openings for emerging and established artists to be brought together so the experience and knowledge of accomplished artists can be shared.

“It was suggested that young emerging artists would like to meet with mentors or peers and learn about the art business and be supported in a collective studio.” ⁴⁸⁹

“Master art workshops” ⁴⁹⁰

“Objectively and through personal experience I have most felt the Eltham art community as a bit elite and not helpful for making inexperienced and emerging artists feel supported, welcome or included.” ⁴⁹¹

“Set up a mentoring/guidance program connecting artists with other artists to support each other in their practice.” ⁴⁹²

In the *Participate Nillumbik* survey, the following question was asked: “What supports would you most like to see provided for the performing arts sector in Nillumbik?”

51.61% (16 respondents) asked for performance industry development opportunities (workshops etc)

79.31% (23 respondents) are interested in being contacted about forming a Nillumbik Performing Arts Forum to allow people in the performing arts sector to share knowledge, experience and support

“...a reaching out to arts and future-oriented business to form partnerships.” ⁴⁸⁸

“The provision of what I call ecologies of arts and creative business practice doesn’t seem to be there in a structured way—there’s no clear pathways, we don’t have the assets and the capabilities to take someone from the beginning and allow them to go on a bit of a journey from emerging through to mid-career or established artist. This is something we should be looking to offer as best we can.” ⁴⁹³

Shared Resources

Shared Resources

Improve support of art production by sharing resources/byproducts across departments for artists to use in artwork, such as timber from felled trees.

Promoting sustainability and the sharing of resources is important to artists and the general community. Two suggestions came to light during the consultations; to re-purpose felled trees for use by artists who use wood in their practice, specifically wood carvers, drum makers and guitar makers; and also to support young bands by having a Council-owned mixing desk to loan out. There may be other similar initiatives to link up Council resources from various departments with local artists.

- Council to have a mixing desk to loan to young bands so they have a chance to perform without the need to hire equipment
- Have a wood register for artists that use wood in their work and a process through a local mill (there is one in Cottles Bridge) so that when trees are taken down by Council, they can be milled and sent to artists. Such artists include furniture makers, a drum and box maker and a chainsaw carver (who is interested in cypress.)

Compare to a recycle program. Are there any other assets artists can use? ⁴⁹⁴

“...developing mechanisms for maximizing local assets, reuse, repair, share and trade systems to meet local needs, support sustainability and wellbeing..” ⁴⁹⁵

“I’m a guitar builder (and teach people how to build their own guitars using Australian tonewoods)... I would like access to trees that have fallen either through a storm or removal to be used for arts rather than disappearing into wood-chips. Even if this means going through a 3rd party who can do transport and milling. This way you support another business, remove Council liability, reduce cost and support local arts.” ⁴⁹⁶

“I would like to see Nillumbik explore opportunities to develop new ways of doing business underpinned by principles of sustainability and equality...” ⁴⁹⁷



Image: *Angelic—Living Statue* by Kinetic Theatre, at Hurstbridge Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

There are a number of voices missing from our cultural life, and the community has expressed a longing for space in Nillumbik where those voices can be heard. Most absent are the voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung. Also lacking are voices from other cultures. We have no safe space for LGBTQIA+ creative expression. In addition, our focus on heritage and visual arts has left our more contemporary creative voices and our sound, movement, and language-based artforms without a strong and accessible platform.

SUB-THEME

3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

“Nillumbik isn't very culturally diverse really so it would be great to see more local/ indigenous history or events recognised” ⁴⁹⁸

“I am saddened by the complete lack of acknowledgment of first peoples and multiculturalism that thrives in this area.” ⁴⁹⁹

“Nillumbik’s heartbeat is a community of multiculturalism and Indigenous history and yet none of it is promoted.” ⁵⁰⁰

“...sense of community including recognition of indigenous and multicultural society.” ⁵⁰¹

“Diversity of cultures, welcoming community.” ⁵⁰²

“Cultural diversity” ⁵⁰³

“There is no variety in the types of art available or that is being funded. It would be wonderful to see more dance and sound-based practices, as opposed to only visual art, being funded.” ⁵⁰⁴

“Aboriginal heritage education” ⁵⁰⁵

“I believe we need to support emerging and the less popular arts more. A bit more variety.” ⁵⁰⁶

“Art is limited and mundane in Nillumbik.” ⁵⁰⁷

“Aboriginal, Rainbow & Trans flags at Council buildings—be on the right side of history, don't be afraid to make a stand for inclusion.” ⁵⁰⁸

“Cultural diversity” +

“More cultural diversity and a welcome to new residents.” ⁵¹⁰

“Specifically, more support for LGBTI youth” ⁵¹¹

“A more diverse, inclusive and better informed community” ⁵¹²

“Being a positive and inclusive community” ⁵¹³

THEME: 3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

Responses from Our People, Our Place, Our Future wider Council consultation data that show a strong desire for more recognition and accessibility to other cultures and Indigenous culture.

What 3 things need to change

- To be more multicultural
- Acknowledgment of traditional owners
- Recognition of local Aboriginal heritage
- Improve cultural awareness
- Acknowledgment of Aboriginal culture
- Openness to culturally diverse communities
- Accessibility and creating a shire that holds space for disabled people, people of varying cultures and identifies
- Acknowledgment of First Nations
- Support LGBTI citizens
- Finding out more about the Wurundjeri Peoples and how we can utilise their knowledge for the better of the people of Nillumbik.
- Supporting all people so that it creates cohesiveness within the community.

Short Term Focus Areas

- Provide First Nations people with more of a voice and stop Australia Day celebrations
- Cultural diversity
- Invite cultural leaders to teach and influence all of us non-Indigenous
- Boldly create environments where the benefits of a diverse community are highlighted, especially by actively pursuing positive discrimination in employment,
- Work towards an eighth Councillor representing the traditional owners' voice.
- Empower First Nations voices
- Engage community leaders and local First Nations peoples.

What Should Council do?

- Have a First Nations advisory committee
- Stop Australia Day celebrations and take a stand with First Nation peoples
- Allocate resources to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan including active recruitment of Aboriginal staff members
- Form working groups with the Wurundjeri People.
- Work with Indigenous consultants

Long Term Focus Areas

- Develop a real recognition and knowledge of Aboriginal culture
- Indigenous culture
- Promote and foster a culture of inclusiveness for all.

What to do Long Term

- Recognise and support cultural diversity
- Continuing to include, consult, stay up to date with, and connect to our ever-evolving community to create space for equal opportunities across cultural, ability, and identity differences.
- Giving grants to local schools and preschools to do Indigenous Cultural education.
- Engage with the Indigenous community to give them a genuine voice (the first people's assembly is a good place to start)

Participate Nillumbik

91.47 % (234 respondents) classed **access to a diverse range of arts and culture** as important or very important.

16 respondents specifically mentioned wanting **greater visibility and understanding of Indigenous culture**, and 24 respondents specifically mentioned the **lack of diversity in culture and art forms**.

Art forms/culture seen as least accessible (includes ranking from the report):

- Dance 1.67
- Indigenous history & culture 1.67
- Development & growth of creative industries 1.79
- Socially engaged art 1.81
- Creative economy & cultural tourism 1.82
- Grants to enable artist-run initiatives 1.87
- Advocacy for arts & culture 1.87
- Live music venues 1.85
- Theatre 1.9
- Live music 1.91
- Artist residencies 1.91
- Literary arts 1.92
- Performance venues 1.92

3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

It is important to the Nillumbik community to build and maintain cultural longevity through the education and sharing of our cultural and artistic heritage, creative skills and inspiration.

We also need to ensure we have a succession plan, supporting and educating our emerging artists, including emerging Indigenous Elders so Nillumbik remains a cultural centre well into the future.

There are a number of ways to foster cultural longevity in Nillumbik:

- Assist the creative community in becoming business and financially savvy. Ensure the creative community has access to business support, seed funding and opportunities for cross sector partnerships with businesses and Council.
- Upskill our artists, improving the standard and breadth of their creative output.
- Increase access to our history, particularly the deep history of the First People. This is important for Indigenous people as well as non-Indigenous people; Wurundjeri Elders must have a platform to pass on knowledge to their young people and emerging Elders.

Sharing cultural knowledge outside the creative community is also important, including introducing new Council staff members to significant cultural experiences in Nillumbik, introducing the general public to the Wurundjeri perspective on the natural environment, and sharing art practice with young people.

Access to contemporary artistic expression and a wide range of artistic practice is vital for our cultural life to flourish in Nillumbik. Theatre, dance, literature, fashion and music are some of the art forms that are currently seen as being under-supported in Nillumbik, despite the existence of a predisposed and expectant audience.

“More should be spent on education because young roots grow a strong tree and old roots tend to remain comfortably unaware of the crises we face today.” ⁵¹⁴



Image: Fantastic Flamingo by New Heights Circus at Eltham Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Art programs in small intimate spaces

Art programs in small intimate spaces

Increase engagement with under-represented art forms, particularly music and performance art through supporting people to host creative events in intimate venues.

Small and intimate gatherings have been suggested as a new way of exploring new art forms, experimental work and challenging ideas: A 'soirée' program; unique, intimate with a high level of engagement, could potentially be held in private houses and underutilised spaces; particularly for under-represented art forms such as music, literature and the performing arts.

There is potential for Council to play a role by assisting in the setup of such a program, helping people understand any permits and obligations needed in hosting such an event and helping with promotion.

“These priceless little gems that are hiding everywhere around the Shire—maybe they could be linked up and become somewhere for house concerts.” ⁵¹⁵

“A network of these hidden gems could really be a thing. Give it a name, give it a program, a bit like Open Studios... visiting these very interesting and idiosyncratic places...” ⁵¹⁶

“Activate unique venues such as St Andrews Church, halls etc. to cultivate a feeling of special magic unavailable anywhere else. Use unusual and underrepresented art forms to create interest.” ⁵¹⁷

“What’s appealing when we have our social and communal lives returned to us? Perhaps we are about smaller more intimate performances with a high level of engagement and uniqueness.” ⁵¹⁸

“Close proximity to galleries and availability of shows, often in non-traditional venues. Festivals & music events. Public art (not necessarily shown in traditional spaces or sanctioned officially.)” ⁵¹⁹

“Productions that move you, words or art that makes you think or motivate you to be different in some way (to create, to do better, to invite someone else along). Something unusual, and a bit off beat is what my brain particularly likes. Intimate music events, tick. Amazing art in any medium, tick. Poetry in barns, tick. Set design that makes you want to remodel your house, tick.” ⁵²⁰

“If the pandemic has taught us anything, it’s that the way we have constructed the world hasn’t worked and now there’s a fabulous opportunity to divine a different way of being together. All of the attributes, all of the resources, all of the skills are here, we just need to find a way to trust each other and create something remarkable and beautiful.” ⁵²¹

“I like that the strong presence of the arts, including diversity and originality in some of our public and private buildings, contributes to a sense of outside the mainstream.” ⁵²²

“Stop trying only to create mainstream events, instead try niche events.” ⁵²³

THEME: 3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice
SUB-THEME: 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

Celebrate Literature

Increase awareness of Nillumbik writers through literary festivals and events.

We have many acclaimed and award winning authors in Nillumbik that are not known outside the events run by the Eltham Bookshop. Our literary culture need to be given more prominence. Literature is seen as one of the art forms that is under represented in Nillumbik.

“For writers, there is little support, and particularly by local libraries, which do not hold works by local writers in their collections. Nor are regular readings held and/or financed, nor do discussions of the work of local writers feature in the activities of local book clubs.”⁵²⁴

“More is needed in recognising local writers in Nillumbik. The Eltham bookshop seems [to be] the only people who really promote the local writers.”⁵²⁵

“No opportunity or support for local authors. Could the Open Studios include visits to author or illustrators houses too? Could jazz or other festivals and gallery in eltham library include literature aspect?”⁵²⁶

“Very little support for local writers, particularly by local libraries and book clubs.”⁵²⁷

“The production of new, innovative and unique works that are well regarded both nationally and internationally. And connection to a larger cultural, and specifically literary, community.”⁵²⁸

“...a woeful lack of support of ongoing vibrant literary activities.”⁵²⁹

“Bring on a literary fest—books last the test of times.”⁵³⁰

“Monthly writing festivals and workshops and invite well-known authors.”⁵³¹

“A literature festival would be fantastic! Perhaps focusing on children's and youth literature.”⁵³²

“Courthouse poetry has left a big hole.”⁵³³



Image: *Angelic—Living Statue* by Kinetic Theatre, at Hurstbridge Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson

Showcase diverse art forms through a similar model to Open Studios

Create more opportunities to engage with diverse art forms through a program based on Open Studios, but for non-visual art practitioners such as musicians, performers, writers and new media artists.

Open Studios is a widely recognised and appreciated event. There is a call to have a similar program that extends this experience beyond the visual arts to create a more holistic experience of Arts and Culture in Nillumbik; including artforms such as music, dance, theatre, fashion, textiles, literature and film among others.

Not only would this be seen as a way for people to experience other art forms, but it is a way to elevate the presence and reputation of artists that lack a public platform. It is also a way to connect these artists together and foster a sense of belonging to a wider artistic community.

“I want to know how we can build a community of artists outside of Visual Arts.”⁵³⁴

“Being open to all kinds of the arts but for me with too much a focus on Visual arts.”⁵³⁵

“I believe that the artbeat has been more about the visual arts in the past.”⁵³⁶

“I feel like a lot of the art that I've seen in Nillumbik is very similar, from similar types of artists working with similar mediums. So, if I was trying to make the place a little bit more vibrant, I would probably fund artists or devote some portion of that funding to different artistic mediums.”⁵³⁷

“Multi art forms, multi generation art events.”⁵³⁸

“The diverse opportunities and events in Nillumbik. There are so many different ways to enjoy arts in the area, we're not known for just one thing.”⁵³⁹

“As a visual artist I enjoy that there are many visual artists in the area, that there is a strong history of arts in the area and it's in general appreciated by the public. More widely I also appreciate that there are many other creatives in the area too, writers, film makers etc. The presence of these makers makes me feel part of a creative community.”⁵⁴⁰

“Different visual arts, different theatre, different music for all ages.”⁵⁴¹

“I love the Cube Z in Diamond Creek, this showcases less known art forms, currently it is showing some of our local blacksmiths excellent work.”⁵⁴²

“Involve musicians in Open Studios and galleries.”⁵⁴³

“There is definitely a need for more fashion based art, as a fashion design student I find Nillumbik is lacking in the fashion culture area.”⁵⁴⁴

“Support for digital mediums, including filmmaking and video production.”⁵⁴⁵

“I'm a fine art photographer and this art form seems to be underrepresented in Nillumbik.”⁵⁴⁶

THEME: 3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice
SUB-THEME: 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

Nillumbik Art Collection to include multicultural and Wurundjeri artworks

Increase access to art from other cultures by including Wurundjeri art/artifacts and art from different cultures in the Nillumbik Art Collection.

Acquiring Wurundjeri and multicultural art pieces for the Nillumbik Art Collection contributes to addressing the lack of diverse cultural visibility the community has identified.

“Visibility of Indigenous culture needs to be increased.
Visibility of multicultural groups needs to be increased.

— Have a directive to acquire multicultural art in the Nillumbik Arts Collection”⁵⁴⁷

“Participant Suggestions for Council Support:
Council purchasing artwork is the *‘best support ever.’*”⁵⁴⁸

Organised celebration of NAIDOC Week

Increase appreciation of Wurundjeri culture through an organised celebration of NAIDOC Week.

One way to bring more understanding and increased visibility of Wurundjeri culture to the community is for Council to have a formal acknowledgment of NAIDOC week. Working with Wurundjeri to use this annual event to promote their culture would be well received in the community.

“NAIDOC week should be openly celebrated;
currently unplanned, unstructured and chaotic.”⁵⁴⁹

“Emerging themes: Connection: use stories, art
and heritage to create a shared connection.”⁵⁵⁰

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people



Image: *Gathering Space*, with mural by Tom Civil, at Eltham North Adventure Playground, photographer Amanda Grant

Multicultural Advisory Panel

Establish multicultural representation and perspectives in Council projects by establishing a Multicultural Advisory Panel to inform all Council departments.

Great interest in seeing multicultural arts and festivals prompted a suggestion that Council forms a Multicultural Advisory Panel to ensure the various cultures in Nillumbik have representation.

“I would like to see our emerging multi-culturalism being celebrated with opportunities for new residents to tell their stories about how they came to be here and to share their stories in the form of exhibitions, concerts, feasts etc. and maybe even a booklet. I think this could be best facilitated by having a multicultural advisory committee.”⁵⁵¹

“A wish to cultivate a multi-cultural community. The possibilities of conversation classes, or a bi-lingual book club were put forward.”⁵⁵²

“I would like to see more multicultural events.”⁵⁵³

“There was an identified need for more multi-cultural arts and cultural activities that bring communities together, and reflect the growing diversity of the area. Suggestions related to this included art activities, food, and talks about different cultures including Aboriginal culture. *Boîte World Music* in the Pitt St Hall, Eltham was mentioned and applauded as a great cultural community event.”⁵⁵⁴

“Perception that Nillumbik is not multi-cultural... many cultures represented during consultation/engagement with resident artists—Italian, South African communities, Japanese, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese.”⁵⁵⁵

“Culturally diverse art exhibitions, need more Asian art and Asian artists working and demonstrating their art techniques and talking about Asian art”⁵⁵⁶

“Something (an event?) that can help make visible the cultural diversity in our community and enable people from diverse backgrounds to share the gifts, knowledge and history with the community.”⁵⁵⁷

“More reggae—African music: More multi-cultural... two local reggae DJs [are] based in Nillumbik.”⁵⁵⁸

“A community that, although is less diverse than other LGAs, shows more awareness and respect for underrepresented groups—especially people with a disability and the LGBTQIA+ community”⁵⁵⁹

“Being a positive and inclusive community.”⁵⁶⁰

“I would also like to see more cultural diversity celebrations.”⁵⁶¹

“Being a socially and culturally inclusive place to live.”⁵⁶²

“Valuing people from other cultures; promoting inclusion and equality for LGBTQIA.”⁵⁶³

“Having events and festivals which provide opportunities to share different cultural backgrounds i.e. Chinese New Year, Greek festivals etc.”⁵⁶⁴

THEME: 3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice
SUB-THEME: 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

Wurundjeri-led bushwalks

Art programs for children and teenagers

Greater creative stimulation through art programs for children and teenagers.

Creative opportunities and art education for children and teenagers is important to the community as well as programs that encourage intergenerational experiences of the arts.

“Accessibility to the Arts/art classes for all ages: Art classes and opportunities for children and young people were strong themes, as was the availability of art classes for adults and making opportunities (and information about arts) accessible to many including seniors for whom transportation is an issue.” 565

“There is a desire for children’s art classes and opportunities including mentorship for young people and support for emerging artists. Parents want accessible, affordable art opportunities for children and workshops for teenagers with diverse art options such as cartoons, animation, sketching. A passionate parent spoke of the importance of mentorship and support for young artists to help build their careers.” 566

“Welcoming an inclusive space that encourages interaction amongst all generations.” 567

“Inter-generational events” 568

“Musical education classes for toddlers would be great.” 569

“More community events that bring together people of all ages.” 570

“Getting the elderly and youth together to experience each other.” 571

“I would like to see cultural orchestras and choirs world music options and opportunities to encourage youth and mature musicians to work together locally without immense cost.” 572

“Accessibility to the Arts is important—whether it is affordable art classes for children, opportunities and mentorships for young people, transport for seniors (i.e. to visit Open Studios) or simply a more effective way to inform residents about all the opportunities that are available.” 573

“A program that connects school age children with senior members of the community. Valuing the wisdom and life experience of the elderly and providing ways for that to be shared with all people.” 574

“Community activities in the public domain: Artistic and other public participatory opportunities for all ages.” 575

“Programs to connect retirees and the elderly with younger members of the community.” 576

Wurundjeri-led bushwalks

Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture and facilitate the passing on of cultural knowledge by contracting Wurundjeri Elders to run bushwalks and storytelling sessions for the general public and young Wurundjeri people.

There are established Aboriginal-led bushwalks in other Shires and there is an indication from both Wurundjeri and the broad community that such a program in Nillumbik would be very well received. Shared stories on Country, between cultures and generations would create the much-desired connections the Nillumbik community want with Wurundjeri people and their culture, as well as providing a platform for knowledge sharing within the Wurundjeri community.

“Awareness and respect of our First Nations people.” 577

“Greater interaction with first nations people to enhance and increase awareness of the local flora and fauna and sites of cultural significance” 578

“Local Elders to further educate the community. Programs run by Elders” 579

“A signed indigenous walk in Eltham Lower Park near wetlands.” 580

Stronger Wurundjeri engagement in the way our region is developed, with significant long-term financial support for Wurundjeri creative work and input into the way we plan and design our local areas.” 581

“A desire to have more opportunities to learn about and/or celebrate Indigenous history in the area, or to cultivate the kind of values that Indigenous culture embraces.” 582

“Elevate Indigenous voices in the community significantly more than is currently present. How do they see our local environment and the heritage of our region? How would they wish to see our region develop and look to the future?” 583

“Some of these projects could involve Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Elders and younger members of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung community so that future Elders can be mentored on Country.” 584

“Creating opportunities for Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people to tell their own stories.” 585

“Initiate guided tours of trails with a Wurundjeri Elder, such as the tour that takes place at Pound Bend and Warrandyte.” 586

“Facilitate a mentorship between Elders and juniors members of Wurundjeri Corp on these tours to help preserve and spread knowledge.” 587

“Talk to people—explain what the land is about and how to look after it properly.” 588

“It is important to us that our history and culture are preserved and presented properly in all parts of our Country.” 589

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

THEME: 3. Diversity in cultural expression and artistic practice

SUB-THEME: 3.1 Share creative skills, understanding and a sense of delight

Kangaroo Ground is important to Wurundjeri

Engage a wider audience with an understanding of Wurundjeri culture by establishing Kangaroo Ground Memorial Park as an information/storytelling space.

One opportunity identified in consultation with Wurundjeri was to present Wurundjeri cultural heritage through story (text), artwork and photographs on the history panels within the Moor-rul Viewing Platform which are currently vacant. The eight panels could tell the story of the land, of Wurundjeri and the history of the Memorial Tower.

The Moor-rul viewing platform could be established as a place of connection; where Wurundjeri and non-indigenous heritage and culture connect.

Another opportunity identified is to extend the native grasslands project at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform site, establishing the entire Kangaroo Ground Memorial Hill as a native garden/grasslands, a walk-around area with the theme of connection.

“Some of the places in the Nillumbik area we have been involved in are the Moor-rul viewing platform that looks over our ancestral lands and the Gawa Trail and Panton Hill Bushland Reserves trails, where people can learn about Wurundjeri Woiwurrung culture. Some of our artists have also performed and presented their works in Nillumbik.

In the coming years, as well as helping to maintain these places, we are looking forward to being involved in the development of a number of projects. These projects will help us realise our aspirations for Country. These might include: telling our story through the panels at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform, extending the native grasslands at the Moor-rul Viewing Platform site (with our Narrap Unit), and creating more trails with signage and/or other interactive mediums to tell our stories. We would welcome spaces that invite people to stop and experience Wurundjeri Woiwurrung Country.”⁵⁹⁰

Voices of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people

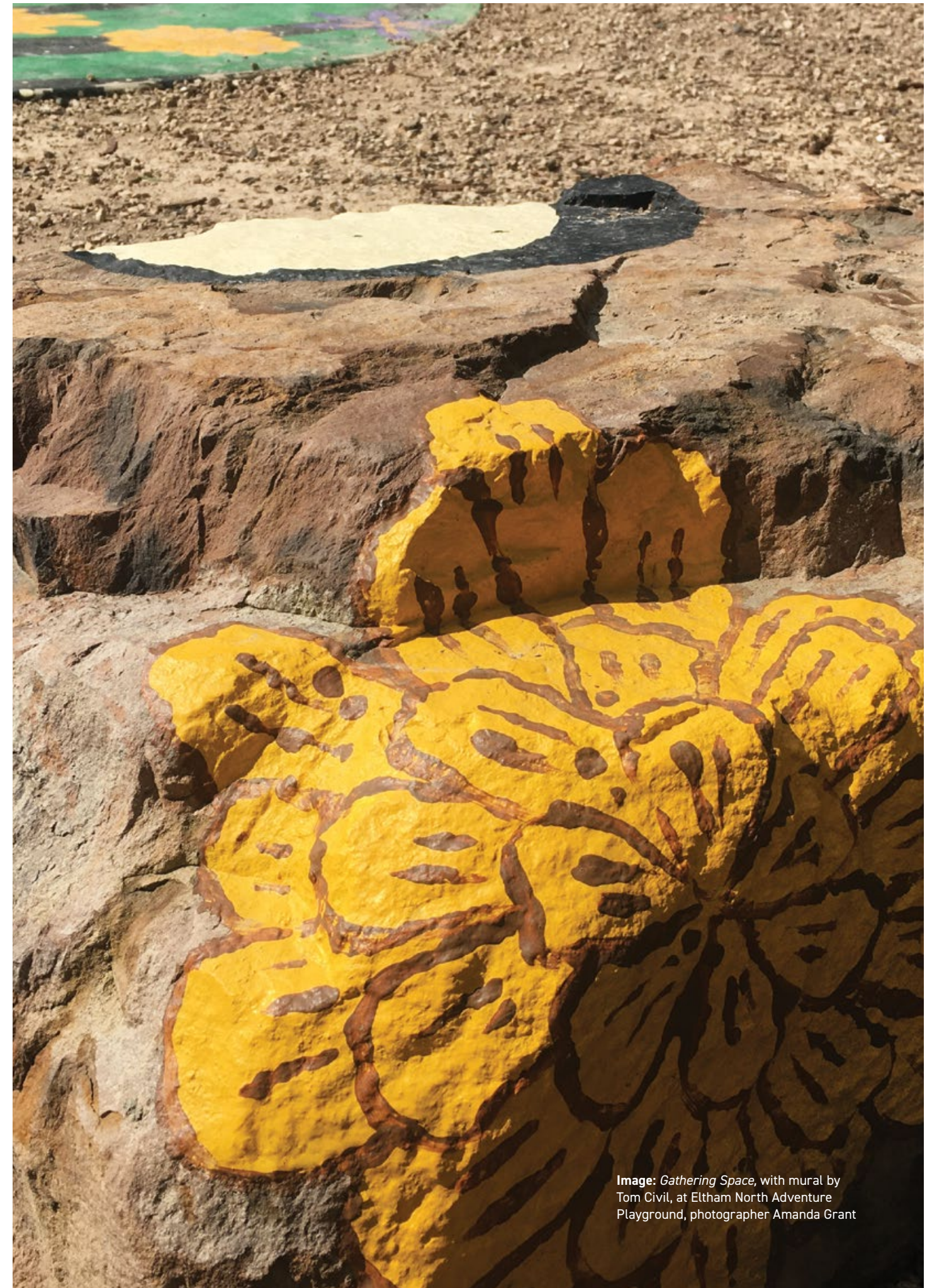


Image: *Gathering Space*, with mural by Tom Civil, at Eltham North Adventure Playground, photographer Amanda Grant

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Image: Zebras by Born in a Taxi at St Andrews Market Pop Up Consultation, photographer Jamie Robertson



**Attachment 3. Adoption of Nillumbik Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026
What We Know: Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-26 Community Consultation Summary
Report**

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Nillumbik Audit and Risk Committee minutes

Monday 22 August 2022

Via Zoom



Held Monday 22 August 2022 at 4.00pm, Via Zoom

1 Pre-meeting In Camera

No members raised matters they wished to discuss in camera.

2 Present

Independent members: John Watson (Chair), Greg Rimmer-Hollyman, Chris Eddy

Councillors:

Mayor Cr Frances Eyre, Deputy Mayor Cr Ben Ramcharan

Council officers:

Vince Lombardi (Acting Chief Executive Officer), Hjalmar Philipp (Director Operations and Infrastructure), Corrienne Nichols (Executive Manager Community Services), Jeremy Livingston (Executive Manager Business Transformation and Performance), Melika Sukunda (Finance Manager), Craig Commene (Risk and Safety Lead)

Other invitees:

Nick Walker (HLB Mann Judd), Graham Noriskin (Pitcher Partners), Richard Wilson (Pitcher Partners)

3 The Chair welcomed attendees and acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which attendees were meeting.

4 Apologies

Carl Cowie (Chief Executive Officer)

5 Disclosure of any conflicts of interests

Nil

6 Declarations

i. CEO – Any impending legal action, legislation breaches or instances of fraud.

Nil

ii. Internal Auditors – Any obstructions to the work of the internal audit.

Nil

iii. External Auditors – Any obstructions to the work of the internal audit.

Nil

7 Confirmed the minutes of the meeting held 31 May 2022

Decision

The minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 31 May 2022 were confirmed as a true record.

8 CEO Update

The CEO update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The CEO update was received and noted.

9 Table of actions arising

The table of actions arising was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The table of actions arising was received and noted.

10 Yarra Plenty Regional Library (YPRL) update

The YPRL update was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The YPRL update was received and noted.

The Committee acknowledge this poses a significant risk and the Committee encourage the Council to pursue the matter through the peak bodies and if appropriate to raise the issue directly with the relevant minister.

11 VAGO Final Audit Management Letter 2022

The VAGO Final Audit Management Letter 2022 was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The VAGO Final Audit Management Letter 2022 was received and noted.

12 Annual Financial Statement variance analysis and financial performance summary

The Annual Financial Statement variance analysis and financial performance summary were presented to the Committee

Decision

The Annual Financial Statement variance analysis and financial performance summary were received and noted.

The Committee acknowledge the cash outcome reported at year end, and being aware of the deficit recorded in prior years, and suggest it would be prudent to apply this to offsetting cash deficits, noting this is a Council decision.

13 Annual Financial Statement

13.1 Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement

The Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement for 2021-2022 were presented to the Committee.

Decision

- 1) That the Annual Finance Report and Performance Statement be received and noted.
- 2) Subject to clarification, if appropriate, of note 5.3 relating to the landfill provision that:
- 3) The Audit and Risk Committee recommend to Council that they:
 - Record approval 'in principle' to the annual financial report and performance statement (the statements) for the year ended 30 June 2022; and

That the Council, in respect of the final version of the financial report and the performance statement:

- Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to send the statements to the Auditor-General.
- Authorise the Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to certify the final version of the statements.
- Authorise the Finance Manager to implement any non-material changes to the statements as recommended by the Auditor-General, and provide a summary of such changes to the Audit and Risk Committee at its next meeting. Any material changes will be discussed with the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee prior to being presented to Council.

Moved: Chris Eddy

Seconded: Greg Rimmer - Hollyman

Carried unanimously

The Committee recorded its appreciation for the work completed by the officers, for the standard of financial report and performance statements and for their timely presentation. Further, the Committee recorded its appreciation to the auditors for the work undertaken on the end of financial year accounts.

14 Asset Management Internal Audit Report

The Asset Management Internal Audit Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Asset Management Internal Audit Report be received and endorsed.

15 Internal Audit Status Report

The internal audit status report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The internal audit status report was received and noted and the Committee confirmed that the building maintenance internal audit should proceed as scheduled.

The Committee noted the suggestion to include Planning Enforcement in the Internal Audit Plan, which will be brought to the February 2023 meeting.

16 Draft Audit Closing Report

The Draft Audit Closing Report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Draft Audit Closing Report was received and noted.

The Committee acknowledge the tight time-frames resulting in the delayed circulation of the draft Financial Report and draft Performance Statement and suggest considering this when planning for future year Committee meetings around end of year audit.

17 Recent Risk and Issues Brief

The Recent Risk and Issues Brief was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Recent Risk and Issues Brief was received and noted.

The Committee noted there may be opportunity for Council to take up early discussions with the relevant authorities relating to Climate Change.

18 Pending audit recommendations report

The status report of pending audit recommendations report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The pending audit recommendations report was received and noted.

19 Risk and Safety report

The Risk and Safety report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Risk and Safety report was received and noted.

20 Rates in Arrears report

The rates in arrears report was presented Committee.

Decision

The Rates in arrears report was received and noted.

The Committee recorded its concern regarding the possible implications resulting from the implementation of the Local Government Amendment (Rating and Other Matters) Bill 2022 and suggested that progress on this matter be a standing item in this report.

21 Councillor Expenses report

The Councillor Expenses report was presented to the Committee.

Decision

The Councillor Expenses report was received and noted.

22 Audit Committee work plan

The Audit Committee work plan was presented to the Committee

Decision

The Audit Committee work plan was received and noted.

23 Other Business

Nil

24 Next meeting

The next Audit and Risk Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on 14 November 2022, 4pm, to be held via zoom and at Council Offices, Civic Drive Greensborough.

The agreed upon meeting schedule for 2023 is:

27 February 2023, 4pm

5 June 2023, 4pm

28 August 2023, 4pm

20 November 2023, 4pm

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Nillumbik Shire Council Annual Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

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Nillumbik Shire Council
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Nillumbik Shire Council
Certification of the Financial Report
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Melika Sukunda, CA
Principal Accounting Officer

Date :
Greensborough

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Nillumbik Shire Council (Council) for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Frances Eyre (Mayor)
Councillor

Date :
Greensborough

Ben Ramcharan (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor

Date :
Greensborough

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Date :
Greensborough

Annual Financial Report and Performance Statement 2021 - 2022
Attachment 1. DRAFT 30 June 2022 Financial Report

VAGO DOCUMENTATION

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VAGO DOCUMENTATION

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Nillumbik Shire Council
Comprehensive Income Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	3.1	70,686	67,366
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	1,970	1,843
User fees	3.3	10,941	10,808
Grants - operating	3.4(a)	9,050	7,106
Grants - capital	3.4(b)	10,346	19,326
Contributions - monetary	3.5	2,181	2,006
Contributions - non-monetary	3.5	437	35
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	(2,284)	(3,717)
Share of net profits/(losses) of associate	6.3	77	199
Other income	3.7	1,242	1,556
Total income		104,646	106,528
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	36,972	35,661
Materials and services	4.2	31,883	37,780
Depreciation	4.3	14,543	11,912
Amortisation - right of use assets	4.4	481	420
Bad and doubtful debts	4.5	7	47
Borrowing costs	4.6	550	601
Finance costs - leases	4.7	22	21
Contributions to associates	6.3	2,989	2,888
Other expenses	4.8	2,853	3,457
Total expenses		90,300	92,787
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		14,346	13,741
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.2	(56,701)	2,558
Total other comprehensive income		(56,701)	2,558
Total comprehensive result		(42,355)	16,299

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2022**

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1(a)	9,760	22,153
Trade and other receivables	5.1(c)	10,508	11,166
Other financial assets	5.1(b)	41,873	26,325
Inventories	5.2(a)	35	18
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	6.1	-	3,080
Other assets	5.2(b)	1,499	1,868
Total current assets		63,675	64,610
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1(c)	875	538
Other financial assets	5.1(b)	5	5
Investments in associates	6.3	1,748	1,671
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	916,204	964,206
Right-of-use assets	5.8	621	881
Total non-current assets		919,453	967,301
Total assets		983,128	1,031,911
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3(a)	5,481	7,961
Trust funds and deposits	5.3(b)	2,992	2,942
Unearned income/revenue	5.3(c)	12,413	14,775
Provisions	5.5(c)	12,657	13,493
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	3,340	4,942
Lease liabilities	5.8	162	417
Total current liabilities		37,045	44,530
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.5(c)	14,189	18,305
Interest-bearing liabilities	5.4	13,582	8,445
Lease liabilities	5.8	458	424
Total non-current liabilities		28,229	27,174
Total liabilities		65,274	71,704
Net assets		917,854	960,207
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		415,862	404,443
Reserves	9.1	501,992	555,764
Total equity		917,854	960,207

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Statement Of Changes In Equity
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

	Note	Total	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves
2022		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year		960,208	404,443	525,784	29,980
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		14,346	14,346	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.2	(56,701)	-	(56,701)	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1(b)	-	(20,297)	-	20,297
Transfers from other reserves	9.1(b)	-	17,369	-	(17,369)
Balance at end of the financial year		917,854	415,862	469,084	32,908

		Total	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves
2021		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year		943,908	385,673	523,226	35,009
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		13,741	13,741	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.2	2,558	-	2,558	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1(b)	-	(12,893)	-	12,893
Transfers from other reserves	9.1(b)	-	17,922	-	(17,922)
Balance at end of the financial year		960,207	404,443	525,784	29,980

The above statement of changes in equity should be read with the accompanying notes.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Statement Of Cash Flows
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

		2022	2021
		Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)
	Note	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		70,672	68,473
Statutory fees and fines		1,970	1,843
User fees		11,163	10,942
Grants - operating		9,198	7,861
Grants - capital		8,294	21,252
Contributions - monetary		2,410	2,187
Interest received		182	256
Trust funds and deposits taken		669	399
Other receipts		441	969
Net GST refund/(payment)		5,356	6,000
Employee costs		(36,575)	(36,290)
Materials and services		(44,340)	(46,415)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(2)	(190)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		(43)	(171)
Other payments		(7,036)	(7,618)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9.2	22,360	29,499
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	(27,468)	(34,984)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		5,522	121
Payments for investments		(15,548)	(17,325)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(37,494)	(52,188)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		(550)	(601)
Proceeds from borrowings		7,000	3,303
Repayment of borrowings		(3,465)	(692)
Interest paid - lease liability		(22)	(21)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(221)	(492)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		2,742	1,497
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(12,393)	(21,192)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		22,153	43,345
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	5.1(a)	9,760	22,153
Financing arrangements	5.6		
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1		

The above statement of cash flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Statement Of Capital Works
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Property			
Land		457	1,057
Land improvements		228	218
Total land		685	1,275
Buildings		3,383	2,327
Total buildings		3,383	2,327
Total property		4,068	3,602
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		225	605
Furniture, equipment and computers		276	180
Artwork		70	39
Total plant and equipment		571	824
Infrastructure			
Roads		2,990	3,611
Bridges		238	48
Footpaths and cycleways		5,131	6,196
Drainage		1,219	471
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		10,175	27,421
Kerb and channel		177	329
Waste management		-	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes		1,755	3,632
Other infrastructure		1,347	628
Total infrastructure		23,032	42,336
Total capital works expenditure		27,671	46,762
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		563	13,862
Asset renewal expenditure		1,480	4,199
Asset expansion expenditure		3,414	1,735
Asset upgrade expenditure		22,214	26,966
Total capital works expenditure		27,671	46,762

The above statement of capital works should be read with the accompanying notes.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 1 Overview

Introduction

Nillumbik Shire Council (Council) was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 15 December 1994 and is a body corporate. Council's main office is located at Civic Drive, Greensborough, Victoria.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the Local Government Act 2020, and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to note 6.2)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to note 6.2)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to note 5.5(a))
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to note 5.5(b))
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3)
- the determination, in accordance with *AASB 16 Leases*, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.8)
- whether or not *AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable (refer to Note 8.2)
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Significant accounting policies (continued)

(b) Impact of the coronavirus pandemic event

On 16 March 2020 a state of emergency was declared in Victoria due to the global pandemic COVID-19 virus, known as coronavirus. A state of disaster was subsequently declared on 2 August 2020. The state of disaster concluded on 28 October 2020 and the state of emergency on 15 December 2021. While the impacts of the pandemic have abated throughout the 2021-2022 financial year, Council has noted the following significant impacts on its financial operations:

Council is charged with the ongoing delivery of community services and upkeep of public infrastructure. The ongoing pandemic event and staged restrictions have presented unprecedented challenges which Council continues to

During periods of lock-down Council maintained the existing workforce, redeploying staff where remote working was not possible, or standing down staff with pay. All employees have access to the Employee Assistance Program, whereby counselling services and independent support can be obtained at no charge.

In immediate response to the pandemic event council implemented a Covid-19 Financial Hardship Policy, suspending penalty interest and enabling the option of payment deferment. Council suspended all debt management activities on 19 March 2020 (Note 5.1(c)) for a period of twelve months. The substantive Financial Hardship Policy has been reinstated, effective 29 June 2021. This policy continues to ensure that all ratepayers, regardless of their circumstances, will face no judgement, and will be treated with understanding, dignity and respect.

Council has provided rent relief to tenants of Council-owned properties experiencing financial difficulty, which is reflective of the guidance through State Government.

Council has implemented a Pandemic Recovery Plan in 2021/2022, which includes a variety of grants available to facilitate recovery operations and programs.

Council has maintained cash balances during this time. Collections of quarterly rates instalments have remained in line with prior years. Cash balances are maintained within financial sustainability principals. Council has reviewed the provision for doubtful debts, recognising that some impairment exists across the sundry debtor portfolio as a result of the pandemic (Note 5.1(c) and (e)).

Suppliers continue to be paid within Council terms, with weekly accounts payable payment runs undertaken to ensure terms are met. There has been no alteration to the frequency of the payment runs or payment terms during this period (Note 5.3(a)).

The value of Council's land and building assets have been assessed by an independent valuer. At the time of review, available market data, including any impact of the pandemic event, were considered (Note 6.2). No significant, material movement has been identified.

Infrastructure assets continue to be valued at replacement cost based fair value, as this best reflects the nature of these community-use assets (Note 6.2).

Management has reviewed budgets, cash-flows and forecasts in-line with expectations about the future and believes the going concern assumption remains appropriate.

Council has not identified any subsequent events that may impact the organisations ability to continue as a going concern and has determined that the going concern assumption remains the appropriate basis to prepare Council's financial report.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 2 Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of 5 percent where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 25 May 2021. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. Council sets guidelines and parameters for revenue and expense targets in this budget in order to meet Council's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

2.1.1 Income and expenditure

	Budget 2022 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Income					
Rates and charges	69,953	70,686	733	1.0%	
Statutory fees and fines	1,916	1,970	54	2.8%	
User fees	16,504	10,941	(5,563)	-33.7%	1
Grants - operating	5,131	9,050	3,919	76.4%	2
Grants - capital	2,809	10,346	7,537	268.3%	3
Contributions - monetary	119	2,181	2,062	1732.8%	4
Contributions - non monetary	-	437	437	100.0%	5
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	(2,284)	(2,284)	100.0%	6
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates	-	77	77	100.0%	7
Other income	1,137	1,242	105	9.2%	8
Total income	97,569	104,646	7,077	7.3%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	37,035	36,972	(63)	-0.2%	
Materials and services	39,294	31,883	(7,411)	-18.9%	9
Bad and doubtful debts	-	7	7	100.0%	10
Depreciation	12,498	14,543	2,045	16.4%	11
Amortisation - right of use assets	420	481	61	14.5%	12
Borrowing costs	583	550	(33)	-5.7%	13
Finance costs - leases	12	22	10	83.3%	14
Contributions to associates	2,946	2,989	43	1.5%	
Other expenses	2,951	2,853	(98)	-3.3%	
Total expenses	95,739	90,300	(5,439)	-5.7%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	1,830	14,346	12,516	684.0%	

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 2 Performance against budget (continued)

2.1.1 Income and expenditure (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variances

Ref	Explanation
1	User fees , reductions across leisure centre and facility income attributable to the pandemic and staged restrictions (\$5.1 million, offset by corresponding expenditure), recycling and recovery centre gate fees (\$163,000), hall rentals (\$88,000), Vocational Education and Training fees (\$75,000) and Edendale education income (\$69,000).
2	Grants - operating , additional non-recurrent grants not budgeted for received during the financial year (\$1.88 million), Federal Assistance Grants received from the Commonwealth Government in advance (\$1.3 million) and recognition of unearned income timing differences (AASB 15).
3	Grants - capital , recognition of grants received recognised as income in advance in 2020/2021 including Diamond Creek Trail (\$2.82 million), Diamond Creed Netball Court (\$1.38), Getting to School Safely (\$675,000), Andrew Park pocket park (\$654,000), sports lighting upgrade (\$620,000). Additional grants received and not budgeted for, including Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre redevelopment (\$280,000) and Yarrambat Streetscapes (\$266,000).
4	Contributions - monetary , variance due to developer and capital works contributions received during the year.
5	Contributions - non-monetary , comprises of infrastructure assets, in particular road, footpath and drainage assets, that were transferred to Council during the period. Council does not budget for the receipt of non-monetary contributions.
6	Net gain on disposal of property , losses on disposal of plant, infrastructure and equipment, which are not budgeted for.
7	Share of net profits/(losses) of associates , Council does not budget for share of net profit/(losses) of associates.
8	Other income , Council received WorkCover refunds (\$92,000) and CBA lockbox fee reimbursements (\$84,000) which were not budgeted for.
9	Materials and services , a reduction in leisure facility contract expenditure (\$5.1 million, counteracted by corresponding reduction in income) and decreases in the provision for the rehabilitation of the Plenty and Kangaroo Ground Landfill sites (\$4.10 million). Offset by higher than budgeted agency costs (\$609,000), contractors (\$386,000), equipment (\$178,000) and consultants (\$160,000), fire hydrant maintenance (\$107,000) and graffiti removal (\$98,000).
10	Bad and doubtful debts , Council does not budget for bad and doubtful debts.
11	Depreciation , driven by significant capitalised assets depreciated for the first time in 2021-2022.
12	Amortisation of right-of-use assets , reflective of new leases active in 2021-2022.
13	Borrowing costs , reflective of Council's loan portfolio and floating interest rate on local government funding facility, due to expire in 2022-2023.
14	Finance costs - leases , variance is due to the implementation of AASB 16 Leases.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 2 Performance against budget (continued)

2.1.2 Capital Works	Budget 2022 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Land	-	457	457	100.0%	
Land improvements	-	228	228	100.0%	1
Total land	-	685	685	100.0%	
Buildings	2,320	3,383	1,063	45.8%	2
Total buildings	2,320	3,383	1,063	45.8%	
Total property	2,320	4,068	1,748	75.3%	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,005	225	(780)	-77.6%	3
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	100	276	176	176.0%	4
Artwork	-	70	70	100.0%	5
Total plant and equipment	1,105	571	(534)	-48.3%	
Infrastructure					
Roads	2,652	2,990	338	12.7%	6
Bridges	150	238	88	58.7%	7
Footpaths, trails and cycleways	724	5,131	4,407	608.7%	8
Drainage	575	1,219	644	112.0%	9
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	7,409	10,175	2,766	37.3%	10
Kerb and channel	-	177	177	100.0%	11
Waste management	6,310	-	(6,310)	-100.0%	12
Parks, open space and streetscapes	380	1,755	1,375	361.8%	13
Other infrastructure	476	1,347	871	183.0%	14
Total infrastructure	18,676	23,032	4,356	23.3%	
Total capital works expenditure	22,101	27,671	5,570	25.2%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	190	563	373	196.3%	
Asset renewal expenditure	12,996	1,480	(11,516)	-88.6%	
Asset expansion expenditure	859	3,414	2,555	297.4%	
Asset upgrade expenditure	8,056	22,214	14,158	175.7%	
Total capital works expenditure	22,101	27,671	5,570	25.2%	

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 2 Performance against budget (continued)

2.1.2 Capital works (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variances

Ref	Explanation
1	Land improvements , works budgeted for under recreation, leisure and community and parks, open space and streetscapes.
2	Buildings , Works capitalised in 2021-2022, budgeted for in prior year, including for Diamond Valley Library (\$1.20 million).
3	Plant, machinery and equipment , delay in acquisition of plant and machinery due to shortages and the leasing of machinery (recognised under right-of-use assets) rather than outright purchase.
4	Fixtures, fittings and furniture , purchases of equipment across the organisation, including the replacement of the network server hardware and of conference chairs for ECRC and Eltham Senior Citizens.
5	Artwork , purchases of artwork are funded through an arts reserve.
6	Roads , Urban Congestion Fund \$229,000, Research Carpark upgrade \$177,000 and Roads and Car Park renewal works (\$275,000) budgeted for in 2020-2021 and undertaken in 2021-2022.
7	Bridges , renewal works including Laurel Hill Pedestrian Bridge transferred to work in progress.
8	Footpaths, trials and cycleways , works completed in 2021-2022, budgeted for in prior years, including Diamond Creek Trail (\$3.7 million).
9	Drainage , Eltham North Dog Park (\$321,000), Getting to School Safely (\$308,000) and De Fredricks Road (\$279,000), budgeted for under Parks and Open space, Footpaths and Roads respectively.
10	Recreational, leisure and community facilities , works budgeted for in 2020/21, including Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre (\$13.9 Million), Hurstbridge Multi-use facility (\$553,000), Diamond Creek Netball Court Surface Upgrade (\$589,000).
11	Kerb and channel , kerb and channel is budget for under drainage.
12	Waste management , Landfill rehabilitation costs have been recognised via the Provision for Landfill Rehabilitation and have been expensed accordingly.
13	Parks, open space and streetscapes , works undertaken in 2021/2022 budgeted for in prior years, including Andrew Park pocket park (\$654,000), Yarrambat Streetscapes upgrade \$451,000, Township Entries and Streetscapes \$152,000 and other public open space works carried forward into this financial year.
14	Other infrastructure , SRV Sports Lighting upgrades \$768,000 and Graysharps Road Precinct Works \$147,000 budgeted for in 2020-2021 and undertaken in 2021-2022.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Report
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 2 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

2.2.1 Communities

Communities provides high quality community focused programs and service delivery to residents. Service areas include community support and partnerships, early years and education programs, volunteering, maternal child health services and arts and cultural development.

Corporate Services

Corporate Services provides efficient, effective and proactive support services across Council to enable the delivery of policy commitments, Council's vision and mission. The provision of these services includes human resources, information and technology, procurement, business transformation and performance and finance services.

Governance and Legal

Governance and Legal services provides effective governance oversight of the organisation and provides support to the organisation and ensures Council's customer focus includes communication and community engagement processes. Service areas include governance, information services, communications and engagement, emergency management and legal services. Executive Services, the provision of support services to the CEO and Councillors, has been included in Governance and Legal.

Planning and Community Safety

Planning and Community Safety delivers regulatory and amenity services to residents and visitors across the Shire and partners with the business community to developed economic and tourism opportunities. Planning and Community Safety is comprised of planning services, community safety and amenity, strategic planning and economic development and tourism.

Operations and Infrastructure

Operations and Infrastructure is responsible for constructing new infrastructure and maintaining existing infrastructure across a very diverse range of assets that underpin the wellbeing of the community. Infrastructure and Operations is comprised of infrastructure, capital works, environment and waste, recreation and leisure and assets and property.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 2 Analysis of Council results by program (continued)

2.2.2 Summary of income, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

	Income	Expenses	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Grants included in income	Total capital expenditure	Total Assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2022						
Communities	3,171	11,661	(8,490)	2,696	-	26,223
Corporate Services	68,373	12,236	56,137	2,870	207	78,227
Governance and Legal	372	4,087	(3,715)	307	-	-
Planning and Community Safety	4,296	10,619	(6,323)	1,047	-	-
Operations and Infrastructure	28,434	51,697	(23,263)	12,476	27,464	878,678
	104,646	90,300	14,346	19,396	27,671	983,128

	Income	Expenses	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Grants included in income	Total capital expenditure	Total Assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2021						
Communities	2,485	11,100	(8,615)	2,037	-	1,671
Corporate Services	68,355	12,539	55,816	2,538	180	62,832
Governance and Legal	222	4,052	(3,830)	191	-	-
Planning and Community Safety	3,806	9,829	(6,023)	692	-	82
Operations and Infrastructure	31,660	55,267	(23,607)	20,974	46,582	967,326
	106,528	92,787	13,741	26,432	46,762	1,031,911

*Total assets - property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000

3.1 Rates and charges

Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The Capital Improved Value of a property is the market value of land and all improvements at a given point in time.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2021-22 was \$21.40 billion (2020-21 \$21.21 billion).

General rates	58,713	57,563
Waste management charge	10,792	9,393
Special rates and charges	276	278
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	249	114
Interest on rates and charges	656	18
Total rates and charges	70,686	67,366

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2021, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2021.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

3.2 Statutory fees and fines

Infringements and costs	574	211
Court recoveries	8	20
Town planning fees	1,018	995
Land information certificates	57	48
Animal infringements	42	28
Permits	164	268
Pool registration and compliance	107	273
Total statutory fees and fines	1,970	1,843

Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

3.3 User fees

Aged and health services	-	21
Leisure centre and recreation	7,750	7,833
Child care/children's programs	319	284
Registration and other permits	832	853
Building services	180	175
Waste management services	450	509
Subdivision supervision	263	229
Pound release	16	12
Adult education	164	147
Edendale farm	323	237
Environmental health	246	239
Hall and sport ground hire	227	94
Other fees and charges	171	175
Total user fees	10,941	10,808

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
3.3 User fees (continued)		
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised at a point in time	10,941	10,808
Total user fees	10,941	10,808

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied.
Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

3.4 Funding from other levels of government

Grants were received in respect of the following:

Summary of grants

Commonwealth funded grants	7,782	5,295
State funded grants	11,615	21,137
Total grants received	19,397	26,432

(a) Operating Grants

Recurrent - Commonwealth Government

Aged and health services	253	223
Family and children	286	311
Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants	4,391	2,877
Community health	4	-
Other	-	21

Recurrent - State Government

Adult education	404	347
Arts	-	2
Community health	60	50
Disability support	405	121
Environment	18	17
Family and children	948	750
School crossing supervisors	295	272
Other	-	7
Total recurrent operating grants	7,063	4,998

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
3.4 Funding from other levels of government (continued)		
(a) Operating Grants (continued)		
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Environment	21	87
Adult education	-	10
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Adult education	50	-
Age and health services	16	-
Emergency management	304	191
Environment	335	473
Family and children	193	152
Pandemic response	865	1,125
Recreation	3	2
Transport	98	47
Other	102	21
Total non-recurrent operating grants	1,987	2,108
Total operating grants	9,050	7,106

Funding received for the L2P Program of \$120,719 has been received from the Victorian State Government and is included in the non-recurrent grants received, Family and children. Expenditure relating to this grant of \$110,411 has been recognised across wages and salaries, materials and services and other expenditure.

(b) Capital Grants		
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Bridges	100	-
Buildings	475	-
Drainage	175	-
Public open space	153	-
Recreation	514	295
Roads	871	777
Roads to recovery	539	694
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Environment	-	270
Family and children	9	302
Libraries	-	498
Playgrounds	-	65
Recreation	6,835	15,612
Roads	675	813
Total non-recurrent capital grants	10,346	19,326
Total capital grants	10,346	19,326

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000

3.4 Funding from other levels of government (continued)

(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner

Operating

Balance at start of year	1,915	1,341
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	1,520	1,353
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(1,601)	(779)
Balance at year end	1,834	1,915

Capital

Balance at start of year	12,860	11,115
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	5,324	9,069
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(7,605)	(7,324)
Balance at year end	10,579	12,860

(d) Recognition of grant income

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities.

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of the accounting framework under which grants are recognised.

Income recognised under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

General purpose	2,736	1,743
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	10,346	19,326
Other specific purpose grants	6,314	5,363

Revenue recognised under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

Specific purpose grants	-	-
	19,396	26,432

3.5 Contributions

Monetary	2,181	2,006
Non-monetary	437	35
Total contributions	2,618	2,041

Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes:

Infrastructure	437	35
Total non-monetary contributions	437	35

Monetary and non-monetary contributions are recognised as revenue at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	5,523	122
Written down value of assets disposed	(7,807)	(3,839)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(2,284)	(3,717)

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

3.7 Other income		
Interest	182	256
Other rent	293	238
Reimbursements	139	367
Sale of valuations	25	21
WorkCover insurance recoveries	272	196
Planning	3	2
Other	328	476
Total other income	1,242	1,556

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

Note 4 The cost of delivering services

4.1 Employee costs		
Wages and salaries	32,793	32,008
WorkCover	984	675
Superannuation	3,174	2,968
Fringe benefits tax	21	(7)
Other	-	17
Total employee costs	36,972	35,661

4.1(a) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

Defined benefit fund

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	68	82
Employer contributions - other funds	-	-
	68	82
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	-	-

Accumulation funds

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	1,552	1,538
Employer contributions - other funds	1,554	1,348
	3,106	2,886
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	232	182

Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

Employee benefits disclosed in the comprehensive income statement are marginally lower than those disclosed within the cash flow statement, reflecting the movement in the employee benefits provision during the financial year.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 4 The cost of delivering services (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
4.2 Materials and services		
Contract payments - leisure and recreation	7,753	7,917
Contract payments - agency and temporary staffing	710	536
Contract payments - home and community care services	253	211
Contract payments - waste	2,672	8,205
Contract payments - other	51	32
Building maintenance	376	350
Materials, maintenance and equipment	10,271	10,738
Utilities	1,021	1,004
Office administration	829	898
Information technology and telephone	2,050	1,988
Insurance premiums	1,308	1,215
Consultants	1,799	1,692
Emergency management	247	243
Waste management	1,697	1,361
Other	846	1,390
Total materials and services	31,883	37,780

Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

4.3 Depreciation		
Property	26	126
Buildings	1,466	1,368
Plant and equipment	826	871
Infrastructure	12,216	9,547
Total depreciation	14,543	11,912

Refer to note 6.2 for a detailed breakdown of depreciation charges and accounting policy

4.4 Amortisation - right-of-use assets		
Plant and equipment	481	420
Total amortisation - right-of-use assets	481	420

4.5 Bad and doubtful debts		
Parking fine debtors*	7	62
Bad debts	-	(15)
Total bad and doubtful debts	7	47

* Bad and doubtful debts for parking debtors relate to provisions raised regarding amounts in excess of 12 months old which have been referred to Infringements Court for collection plus associated costs.

Movement in provisions for doubtful debts		
Balance at the beginning of the year	606	558
New provisions recognised during the year	163	59
Amounts provided for but recovered during the year	(156)	(11)
Balance at end of year	613	606

Provision for doubtful debt is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 4 The cost of delivering services (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
4.6 Borrowing costs		
Interest on borrowings	550	601
Total borrowing costs	550	601

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council.

4.7 Finance costs - leases		
Interest - lease liabilities	22	21
Total finance costs	22	21

4.8 Other expenses		
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement	89	65
Auditors' remuneration - internal audit and grant acquittals	153	124
Councillors' allowances	283	239
Operating lease rentals	6	258
Other	2,322	2,771
Total other expenses	2,853	3,457

Note 5 Our financial position

5.1 Financial assets		
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	3	4
Cash at bank	3,622	9,483
Term deposits	6,135	12,666
Total cash and cash equivalents	9,760	22,153
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits	41,873	26,325
Non-current		
Investment - MAPS	5	5
Total other financial assets	41,878	26,330
Total financial assets	51,638	48,483

Councils cash and cash equivalents are subject to external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary use, these include:

Trust funds and deposits (note 5.3(b))	2,992	2,942
Net increase in restricted assets resulting from grant revenues	1,834	1,915
Statutory cash backed and capital works reserves	14,124	11,471
Total restricted funds	18,950	16,328
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents*	(9,190)	5,825

*This measure does not include term deposits held for greater than 90 days, which represent the balance of Council's cash and cash equivalents

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000

5.1 Financial assets (continued)

(b) Other financial assets (continued)

Intended allocations

Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:

Cash held to fund long service leave (cash at bank)	5,000	5,000
Total funds subject to intended allocations	5,000	5,000

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of ninety days/three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

Investments in MAPS (Local Government Health Plan) are valued at cost. Any dividends paid are taken up as revenue.

Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to twelve months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than twelve months are classified as non-current.

(c) Trade and other receivables

Current

Statutory receivables

Rates debtors	8,473	8,438
Special charge scheme debtors	634	819
Parking infringement debtors	693	585
Provision for doubtful debts - parking fines	(471)	(503)
Net GST receivable	515	885

Non-statutory receivables

Other debtors	806	1,045
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors	(142)	(103)

Total current trade and other receivables

Non-current

Statutory receivables

Special rate scheme	875	538
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Total non-current trade and other receivables

Total trade and other receivables

	10,508	11,166
	875	538
	11,383	11,704

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(d) Ageing of Receivables

The ageing of the Council's trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

Current (not yet due)	624	443
Past due by up to 30 days	-	5
Past due between 31 and 180 days	102	400
Past due between 181 and 365 days	-	-
Past due by more than 1 year	80	197
Total trade and other receivables	806	1,045

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
5.1 Financial assets (continued)		
(e) Ageing of individually impaired Receivables		
At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$142,464 (2021: \$103,725) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$142,464 (2021: \$103,725). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection.		
The ageing of receivables that have been individually determined as impaired at reporting date was:		
Current (not yet due)	-	-
Past due by up to 30 days	-	-
Past due between 31 and 180 days	102	24
Past due between 181 and 365 days	-	4
Past due by more than 1 year	40	75
Total trade & other receivables	142	103
5.2 Non-financial assets		
(a) Inventories		
Fuel	35	18
Total inventories	35	18
Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.		
(b) Other assets		
Prepaid expenses	1,004	1,338
Accrued income	495	530
Total current other assets	1,499	1,868
5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue		
(a) Trade and other payables		
<i>Non-statutory payables</i>		
Trade payables	1,958	3,696
Accrued expenses	3,481	4,220
Prepaid income	42	45
Total trade and other payables	5,481	7,961
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Refundable deposits	481	389
Fire services levy	881	948
Retention amounts	641	842
Other refundable deposits	989	763
Total trust funds and deposits	2,992	2,942
(c) Unearned grants and contract liabilities		
Deferred operating grants	285	680
Deferred capital grants	10,579	12,860
Other	1,549	1,235
Total unearned grants and contract liabilities	12,413	14,775

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000

5.3 Payables (continued)

(c) Unearned grants and contract liabilities (continued)

Unearned income/revenue represents contract liabilities and reflect consideration received in advance from customers in respect of deliverable programs, services and capital works. Unearned income/revenue are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer. Refer to Note 3.

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

Purpose and nature of items

Refundable deposits - Deposits are taken by Council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to building works, tender deposits, contract deposits and the use of civic facilities.

Fire Service Levy - Council is the collection agent for fire services levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis, after each instalment date. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the state government in line with that process.

Retention Amounts - Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or a related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with Council's contractual obligations.

5.4 Interest-bearing liabilities

Current

Treasury Corporation of Victoria borrowings - secured	873	-
Other borrowings - secured	2,467	4,942
	3,340	4,942

Non-current

Treasury Corporation of Victoria borrowings - secured	6,127	-
Other borrowings - secured	7,455	8,445
	13,582	8,445
	16,922	13,387

Total

a) The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:

Not later than one year	3,340	4,942
Later than one year and not later than five years	8,114	4,081
Later than five years	5,468	4,364
Total	16,922	13,387

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities at initial recognition.

All borrowings taken out by Council can be secured through two avenues, against Council's fixed asset portfolio or the rates levied by Council. The overall balance of secured borrowings accounts for 1.85 percent of the total fixed asset portfolio, or 29 percent of general rates and municipal charge levied in the 2021-22 financial year.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

5.5 Provisions	Employee \$ '000	Landfill restoration \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2022			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	8,206	23,592	31,798
Additional provisions	3,954	(1)	3,953
Amounts used	(3,557)	(1,411)	(4,968)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	(3,937)	(3,937)
Balance at the end of the financial year	8,603	18,243	26,846
2021			
Balance at beginning of the financial year	8,835	27,036	35,871
Additional provisions	3,643	1,283	4,926
Amounts used	(4,272)	(4,591)	(8,863)
Change in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	(136)	(136)
Balance at the end of the financial year	8,206	23,592	31,798
		2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
(a) Employee provisions			
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months			
Annual leave		1,102	1,119
Long service leave		932	866
		<u>2,033</u>	<u>1,985</u>
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months			
Annual leave		2,234	2,270
Long service leave		3,728	3,466
		<u>5,962</u>	<u>5,736</u>
Total current employee provisions		<u>7,995</u>	<u>7,721</u>
Non-current employee provisions			
Long service leave		608	485
Total non-current employee provisions		<u>608</u>	<u>485</u>
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions			
Current		7,995	7,721
Non-current		608	485
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions		<u>8,603</u>	<u>8,206</u>

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Annual leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:

- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
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5.5 Provisions (continued)

(a) Employee provisions (continued)

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:

- Discount rates	2.70%	0.46%
- Index rate	1.90%	1.80%

(b) Land fill restoration

Current	4,662	5,772
Non-current	13,581	17,820
Total land fill restoration	18,243	23,592

Council is obligated to restore the former landfill sites at Plenty and Kangaroo Ground to a particular standard. The provision for landfill restoration has been calculated based on the present value of expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to reinstate the site to a suitable standard as reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

Key assumptions:

- Discount rate	2.56%	0.01%
- Index rate	2.00%	2.00%
- Estimated remaining costs to rehabilitate, including aftercare costs	20,599	22,012

The estimated cost to rehabilitate both landfill sites reflects the contracted rehabilitation cost of the Plenty Landfill site plus additional compliance expenditure, with the same costing assumed for Kangaroo Ground based on all known rehabilitation requirements. Rehabilitation of both landfill sites is underpinned by EPA requirements which are reflected in rehabilitation contract.

(c) Aggregate carrying amount of provisions

Current	12,657	13,493
Non-current	14,189	18,305
Total	26,846	31,798

5.6 Financing arrangements

Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2022.

Credit card facilities	153	153
Total facilities	153	153
Used facilities	56	44
Unused facilities	97	109
Total	153	153

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

5.7 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the balance sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented exclusive of the GST payable.

	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Community services	311	267	-	-	578
Fleet	275	-	-	-	275
Infrastructure	207	148	148	-	503
Infrastructure maintenance	749	50	-	-	799
Insurance	693	693	12	-	1,398
Open space	1,938	882	1,764	-	4,584
Organisational support	1,723	927	358	-	3,008
Planning and community safety	440	272	-	-	712
Waste	9,079	7,830	17,199	897	35,005
Total	15,415	11,069	19,481	897	46,862
Capital					
Infrastructure	5,258	3,582	7,120	51	16,011
Total	5,258	3,582	7,120	51	16,011
2021	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Arts and culture	30	-	-	-	30
Community	222	222	693	-	1,137
Fleet	349	83	-	-	432
Infrastructure	29	-	-	-	29
Infrastructure maintenance	835	545	39	-	1,419
Open space	1,430	434	1,090	-	2,954
Organisational support	1,610	1,091	750	-	3,451
Strategic planning	200	190	93	-	483
Waste	6,278	4,366	12,892	4,562	28,098
Total	10,983	6,931	15,557	4,562	38,033
Capital					
Land	71	-	-	-	71
Buildings	5,073	-	-	-	5,073
Infrastructure	7,368	524	47	-	8,002
Total	12,512	524	47	-	13,146

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

5.8 Leases

At inception of a contract, all entities would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the
- The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Council has elected to apply the temporary option available under AASB 16 *Leases* which allows not-for-profit entities to not measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

<i>Right-of-Use Assets</i>	Plant and equipment	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2021	881	881
Additions	221	221
Amortisation charge	(481)	(481)
Balance at 30 June 2022	621	621

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Our financial position (continued)

5.8 Leases (continued)

Lease Liabilities

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Less than one year	180	417
One to five years	627	333
More than five years	42	91
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June	849	841

Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at 30 June:

Current	162	417
Non-current	458	424
Total lease liabilities	620	841

Short-term and low value leases

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of AUD\$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	-	188
Leases of low value assets	2	2
Total	2	190
Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)	4	68

Non-cancellable lease commitments - short-term and low-value leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:

Payable:		
Within one year	1	2
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	1
Total lease commitments	1	3

Note 6 Assets we manage

6.1 Non-current assets classified as held for sale

Cost of acquisition	-	3,080
Capitalised development costs	-	-
Borrowing costs capitalised during development	-	-
Total non-current assets classified as held for resale	-	3,080

Capitalisation rate used in the allocation of borrowing costs	0%	0%
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Non-current assets classified as held for sale (including disposal groups) are measured at the lower of its carrying amount and fair value less costs of disposal, and are not subject to depreciation. Non-current assets, disposal groups and related liabilities and assets are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale (or disposal group sale) is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment
Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Carrying amount 30 June 2021	Acquisitions	Contributions	Revaluation	Depreciation	Disposal	Transfers	Carrying amount 30 June 2022
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	419,332	182	-	50,929	(26)	(2,417)	30	468,030
Buildings	43,765	2,224	-	4,791	(1,466)	(976)	1,247	49,585
Plant and equipment	5,261	571	-	2,182	(826)	(27)	-	7,161
Infrastructure	471,416	13,673	437	(114,603)	(12,216)	(1,434)	13,064	370,337
Work in progress	24,432	11,021	-	-	-	(21)	(14,341)	21,091
Total	964,206	27,671	437	(56,701)	(14,534)	(4,875)	-	916,204

Summary of work in progress

	Opening WIP	Additions	Write Offs	Transfers	Closing WIP
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	5,530	502	-	(30)	6,002
Buildings	13,064	1,160	(3)	(13,056)	1,165
Infrastructure	5,838	9,359	(18)	(1,255)	13,924
Total	24,432	11,021	(21)	(14,341)	21,091

In 2020-2021 new data became available allowing the calculation of Council's Land Under Roads assets to include the full road and footpath reserve. As these measurements better reflect the definitions established in AASB 1051 Land Under Roads, the asset class was revalued and includes the additional land resulting from the updated measurements. The revaluation of Land Under Roads is not deemed material and has been recognised directly through the asset revaluation reserve.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Property

	Land - specialised \$'000	Land - non-specialised \$'000	Land improvements \$'000	Total land \$'000	Buildings - heritage \$'000	Buildings - specialised \$'000	Buildings - non- improvements \$'000	Building improvements \$'000	Total buildings \$'000	Work in progress \$'000	Total property \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	4,354	409,622	6,494	420,470	10,970	72,740	171	-	83,881	18,594	522,945
At anticipated restoration cost 1 July 2021	11,401	-	-	11,401	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,401
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(11,401)	-	(1,138)	(12,539)	(4,471)	(35,597)	(48)	-	(40,116)	-	(52,655)
	4,354	409,622	5,356	419,332	6,499	37,143	123	-	43,765	18,594	481,691
Movements in fair value											
Acquisition of assets at fair value	-	-	182	182	505	1,709	10	-	2,224	1,662	4,068
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)*	(10,895)	54,164	(4,572)	38,697	1,485	5,461	148	-	7,094	-	45,791
Fair value of assets disposed	-	(1,930)	(686)	(2,616)	(43)	(2,059)	-	-	(2,102)	(3)	(4,721)
Impairment losses recognised in operating	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	30	30	119	1,132	(4)	-	1,247	(13,086)	(11,809)
	(10,895)	52,234	(5,046)	36,293	2,066	6,243	154	-	8,463	(11,427)	33,329
Movements in accumulated depreciation											
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	(26)	(26)	(110)	(1,346)	(10)	-	(1,466)	-	(1,492)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	11,401	-	831	12,232	(863)	(1,446)	6	-	(2,303)	-	9,929
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	199	199	34	1,092	-	-	1,126	-	1,325
Impairment losses recognised in operating	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11,401	-	1,004	12,405	(939)	(1,700)	(4)	-	(2,643)	-	9,762
At fair value 30 June 2022	4,860	461,856	1,448	468,164	13,036	78,983	325	-	92,344	7,167	567,675
At anticipated restoration cost 30 June 2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	-	-	(134)	(134)	(5,410)	(37,297)	(52)	-	(42,759)	-	(42,893)
Carrying amount	4,860	461,856	1,314	468,030	7,626	41,686	273	-	49,585	7,167	524,782

*Please refer to note 6.2 for further detail regarding the revaluation of Land Under Roads.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)
(b) Plant and equipment

	Plant machinery, equipment and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Computers and telecomms	Artwork	Total plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	9,353	2,276	1,256	2,544	15,429
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(7,232)	(2,218)	(718)	-	(10,168)
	2,121	58	538	2,544	5,261
Movements in fair value					
Acquisition of assets at fair value	225	69	207	70	571
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	-	-	2,182	2,182
Fair value of assets disposed	(781)	(1,224)	(285)	-	(2,290)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	(556)	(1,155)	(78)	2,252	463
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(686)	(27)	(113)	-	(826)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	769	1,224	270	-	2,263
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	83	1,197	157	-	1,437
At fair value 30 June 2022	8,797	1,121	1,178	4,796	15,892
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(7,149)	(1,021)	(561)	-	(8,731)
Carrying amount	1,648	100	617	4,796	7,161

Nilumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

(c) Infrastructure

	Roads	Bridges	Footpaths, trails and cycleways	Drainage	Recreational, leisure and community	Kerb and channel	Waste management	Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	Other infrastructure	Work in progress	Total infrastructure
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	286,445	16,170	44,038	142,318	104,440	27,697	1,287	17,990	12,154	5,838	658,377
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(53,923)	(5,938)	(18,976)	(51,791)	(24,552)	(11,357)	(1,287)	(4,795)	(8,497)	-	(181,116)
	232,522	10,232	25,062	90,527	79,888	16,340	-	13,195	3,657	5,838	477,261
Movements in fair value											
Acquisition of assets at fair value	915	-	575	1,155	10,175	177	-	293	383	9,359	23,032
Contributed assets	99	-	33	275	-	30	-	-	-	-	437
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	(109,864)	563	4,293	11,687	(6,302)	(896)	-	(970)	1,501	-	(99,988)
Fair value of assets disposed	(578)	-	(958)	(103)	(487)	(90)	-	(310)	(568)	(18)	(3,112)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	136	-	162	12	11,809	163	-	774	8	(1,255)	11,809
	(109,292)	563	4,105	13,026	15,195	(616)	-	(213)	1,324	8,086	(67,822)
Movements in accumulated depreciation											
Depreciation and amortisation	(3,174)	(164)	(1,175)	(1,551)	(4,184)	(568)	-	(944)	(456)	-	(12,216)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	(10,213)	(92)	(3,892)	(4,153)	3,201	(50)	-	497	87	-	(14,615)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	164	-	652	27	160	51	-	90	516	-	1,660
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(13,223)	(256)	(4,415)	(5,677)	(823)	(567)	-	(357)	147	-	(25,171)
At fair value 30 June 2022	177,153	16,733	48,143	155,344	119,635	27,081	1,287	17,777	13,478	13,924	590,555
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(67,146)	(6,194)	(23,391)	(57,468)	(25,375)	(11,924)	(1,287)	(5,152)	(8,350)	-	(206,287)
Carrying amount	110,007	10,539	24,752	97,876	94,260	15,157	-	12,625	5,128	13,924	384,268

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

Acquisition

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have been applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

<i>Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods</i>	Useful life	Threshold
	Years	\$
Property		
Land	Indefinite	Nil
Playgrounds	10-15	1,000
Land improvements	50	5,000
Buildings	50-100	5,000
Plant and Equipment		
Plant and machinery	6-7	1,000
Motor vehicles	6-7	Nil
Furniture, fittings and computers	6-7	1,000
Artwork	Indefinite	500
Infrastructure		
Road surface	12-30	5,000
Road pavement	50-80	5,000
Road formation and earthworks	-	5,000
Road kerb, channel and minor culverts	50	5,000
Traffic treatments/ calming	5-50	5,000
Major bridge culverts	50-100	5,000
Bridges - concrete/steel	100	5,000
Bridges - timber	50	5,000
Footpaths, trails and cycleways	10-50	5,000
Drainage	50-100	5,000
Waste management	5-15	1,000
Guard fence	10	1,000
Fire hydrants	50	1,000
Bus shelters	20	1,000
Reserves furniture	17	1,000
Water treatment devices	15-20	5,000

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

Depreciation and amortisation

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Artworks are not depreciated.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Repairs and maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer, Ms B Stephen of Matheson Stephen Valuations, valuer registration no. 63034. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. At the time of valuation, available market data, including any impact of the pandemic event, were considered. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets. These unobservable inputs are not significant to the entire measurement.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

Details of Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of last full
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	valuation
Land - specialised	-	-	4,860	Jun-22
Land - non-specialised	-	-	461,856	Jun-22
Land improvements	-	-	1,314	Jun-22
Buildings - heritage	-	-	7,626	Jun-22
Buildings - specialised	-	-	41,686	Jun-22
Buildings - non-specialised	-	-	273	Jun-22
Total	-	-	517,615	

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

Valuation of infrastructure

Valuation of infrastructure assets has been determined in accordance with a valuation undertaken by Council's Operations and Infrastructure Director Mr Hjalmar Philipp, Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), Graduate Diploma in Municipal Engineering, and MBA (Technology Management).

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. A full revaluation of these assets was conducted in 2021/2022.

The valuation is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Details of Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Date of last full valuation
Roads	-	-	110,007	Jun-22
Bridges	-	-	10,539	Jun-22
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	24,752	Jun-22
Drainage	-	-	97,876	Jun-22
Recreational, leisure and community	-	-	94,260	Jun-22
Kerb and channel	-	-	15,157	Jun-22
Waste management	-	-	-	Jun-22
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes	-	-	12,625	Jun-22
Other infrastructure	-	-	5,128	Jun-22
Total	-	-	370,344	

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 is brought to account using the deemed cost basis. Council does not recognise land under roads that it controlled prior to 30 June 2008 in its financial report.

Land held at anticipated restoration cost, being the Plenty and Kangaroo Ground landfill sites, previously recognised at cost to restore the site to the standard set out by the EPA and all applicable regulations. The former Plenty Landfill site has been rehabilitated, while rehabilitation of the Kangaroo Ground site is in progress, with both sites now valued under Land - non-specialised.

Specialised buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$230 to \$3,500 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 50 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the current replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 1 year to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure assets are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Reconciliation of specialised land		
Land under roads	4,860	4,354
Land held at anticipated restoration cost (Plenty / Kangaroo Ground Landfill Closure)	-	11,401
Less: accumulated depreciation	-	(11,401)
Total specialised land	4,860	4,354

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 6 Assets we manage (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
6.3 Investment in associates		
Investments in associate accounted for by the equity method is:		
- Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service	1,748	1,671
Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service		
<i>Background</i>		
The Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service consists of nine locations and a mobile library service. Responsibility for the provision and management of the Library Service rests with the Regional Library Board, which comprises of two representatives from each of the three member councils. The Regional Library service operates as an independent legal entity and is audited annually by the Auditor General.		
Council's investment in the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service was increased by \$77,124 (increase of \$197,784 in 2020/2021) due to an increase in the net assets position of the Corporation (audited at 30 June 2022). Council's equity interest based on contributions is 21.35 percent.		
Fair value of Council's investment in Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service	1,748	1,671
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at start of year	868	671
Share of net profits/(losses) of associate	77	197
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at end of year	945	868
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	1,670	1,471
Share of surplus/(deficit) for year	77	199
Carrying value of investment at end of year	1,748	1,670
Council's share of expenditure commitments		
Operating commitments	213	-
Capital commitments	135	-
Council's share of expenditure commitments	348	-
Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service Contributions		
Contributions to associate	2,989	2,888

Associates are all entities over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost.

Council is not involved in any joint arrangements at balance date.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 7 People and relationships

2022
No.

2021
No.

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related parties

Parent entity

Nillumbik Shire Council is the parent entity

Subsidiaries and associates

Interests in subsidiaries and associates are detailed in note 6.3.

(b) Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Director Operations and Infrastructure and Executive Managers are deemed KMP.

Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Cr Karen Egan (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Cr Peter Perkins (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022), (Mayor 01/07/2021 - 24/11/2021)
 Cr France Eyre (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022), (Mayor 24/11/2021 - 30 June 2022)
 Cr Natalie Duffy (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Cr Geoff Paine (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Cr Ben Ramcharan (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Cr Richard Stockman (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)

Chief Executive Officer

Mr Carl Cowie (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)

Key Management Personnel reporting directly to the CEO

Mr Hjalmar Philipp, Director Operations and Infrastructure (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Mr Vincenzo Lombardi, Chief Financial Officer (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Ms Blaga Naumoski, Executive Manager Governance and Legal (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Mr Jeremy Livingston, Executive Manager Transformation and Performance (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Ms Corrienne Nichols, Executive Manager Communities (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)
 Ms Rosalia Zouzoulas, Executive Manager Planning and Community Safety (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2022)

2022
No.

2021
No.

Total number of Councillors
 Chief Executive Officer and other key management personnel
Total number of key management personnel

7	12
7	7
<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 7 People and relationships (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
7.1 Council and key management remuneration (continued)		
(c) Remuneration of key management personnel		
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	2,017	1,987
Long-term benefits	-	-
Post employment benefits	156	161
Termination benefits	-	-
Total	2,173	2,148

The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:

	2022	2021
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	5
\$40,000 - \$49,999	2	-
\$60,000 - \$69,999	-	1
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	-
\$80,000 - \$89,999	-	1
\$190,000 - \$199,999	-	1
\$210,000 - \$219,999	1	2
\$220,000 - \$229,999	-	1
\$230,000 - \$239,999	3	-
\$260,000 - \$269,999	-	1
\$270,000 - \$279,999	1	-
\$290,000 - \$299,999	1	1
\$400,000 - \$409,999	1	1
	14	14

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 7 People and relationships (continued)

7.1 Council and key management remuneration (continued)

(d) Senior officer remuneration

A senior officer is an officer of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
- b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000.

The number of senior officers are shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	1
\$120,000 - \$129,999	1	1
\$140,000 - \$149,999	-	2
\$150,000 - \$159,000	4	1
\$160,000 - \$169,999	3	4
\$170,000 - \$179,999	4	2
\$180,000 - \$189,999	5	4
	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>

The above includes three senior officers who departed during the financial year.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Total Remuneration for the reporting year for senior officers included above, amounted to:	<u>2,938</u>	<u>2,458</u>

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties:

Contributions made to the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service for the provision of library services, as disclosed in Note 6.3

<u>2,989</u>	<u>2,888</u>
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(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

There were no outstanding balances at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties.

(c) Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans made, guaranteed or secured by Council to a related party during the reporting period and no loans to or from related parties outstanding as at the end of the reporting period.

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

There were no commitments in existence at balance date that were made, guaranteed or secured by Council.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 8 Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable, respectively.

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of Council.

Contributions

From time to time Council receives gifted infrastructure assets from property developers. The nature and timing of these assets is conditional upon subdivisional requirements being completed. Once received by Council ongoing maintenance costs become the responsibility of Council.

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:

- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
 - it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
 - the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

The following are potential contingencies are to be considered by Council.

Superannuation

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

Future superannuation contributions

Council has paid no unfunded liability payments to Vision Super. There were contributions outstanding totalling \$232,234 (\$181,533 as at 30 June 2021) and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2022. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 is \$0.12 million (\$0.08 million as at 30 June 2021).

Legal Matters

Council is currently reviewing two public liabilities claims, one professional indemnity claim and one work cover claim. Council's exposure is limited to insurance excess for the public liability and professional indemnity claims only, totalling \$20,000.

No allowance has been made in the financial report for contingencies of a legal nature.

Building cladding

Council has not identified any potential contingent liability that exists in relation to rectification works or other matters associated with building cladding that may have the potential to adversely impact on Council.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (continued)	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities (continued)

(b) Contingent liabilities (continued)

Liability Mutual Insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

(c) Guarantees for loans to other entities

Total guarantees for loans to other entities	1,459	1,459
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The amount disclosed for financial guarantee in this note is the nominal amount of the underlying loan that is guaranteed by the Council, not the fair value of the financial guarantee.

Financial guarantee contracts are not recognised as a liability in the balance sheet unless the lender has exercised their right to call on the guarantee or Council has other reasons to believe that it is probable that that right will be exercised.

8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2022 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2022 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2023 that are expected to impact Council.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.3 Financial Instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank and Treasury Corporation Victoria borrowings. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of our financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposures to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes us to fair value interest rate risk / Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rate.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 2020*. We manage interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment; and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have been sufficiently significant during the year to have a marginal impact on the Council's year end result and Council will continue to monitor market activity to maximise Council's return.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause us to make a financial loss. Council have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in our balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- Council have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities we deal with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- Council only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in our investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when we provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in note 8.1(b).

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.3 Financial Instruments (continued)

(c) Credit risk (continued)

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements or we will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, we will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed in the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(c), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at note 5.4.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of + 2.5 percent and -2.5 percent in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 1.45 percent.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 *Fair value measurement*, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Revaluation

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. At balance date, Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis, currently every second year. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts. A formal revaluation of land, buildings and infrastructure assets was undertaken in 2022.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 8 Managing uncertainties (continued)

8.4 Fair value measurement (continued)

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 9 Other matters

9.1 Reserves

(a) Asset revaluation reserve

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Increment/ (decrement) \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
2022			
Property			
Land, land improvements and playgrounds	319,079	50,457	369,536
Buildings	22,251	1,691	23,942
Total property	341,330	52,148	393,478
Plant and Equipment			
Plant, machinery and vehicles	535	-	535
Furniture, equipment and computers	689	-	689
Artwork	1,368	2,182	3,550
Total plant and equipment	2,592	2,182	4,774
Infrastructure			
Roads and traffic treatments	112,870	(120,077)	(7,207)
Bridges	4,176	469	4,645
Footpaths and cycleways	7,916	401	8,317
Drainage	47,306	7,534	54,840
Kerb and channel	9,192	(946)	8,246
Other infrastructure	402	1,588	1,990
Total infrastructure	181,862	(111,031)	70,831
Total asset revaluation reserves	525,785	(56,701)	469,084
2021			
Property			
Land, land improvements and playgrounds	316,521	2,558	319,079
Buildings	22,251	-	22,251
Total property	338,772	2,558	341,330
Plant and Equipment			
Plant, machinery and vehicles	535	-	535
Furniture, equipment and computers	689	-	689
Artwork	1,368	-	1,368
Total plant and equipment	2,592	-	2,593
Infrastructure			
Roads, earthworks	106,027	-	106,027
Bridges	4,176	-	4,176
Footpaths and cycleways	7,916	-	7,916
Drainage	47,306	-	47,306
Kerb and channel	9,192	-	9,192
Traffic treatments	6,843	-	6,843
Other infrastructure	402	-	402
Total infrastructure	181,862	-	181,863
Total asset revaluation reserves	523,227	2,558	525,787

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 9 Other matters (continued)

9.1 Reserves (continued)

(b) Other reserves

Statutory reserves are those for which Council is required to separately account for by statute. Funds are held for specific purposes as described in the reserve account name.

Discretionary Reserves are those for which Council does have discretion over the manner in which funds are expended. Funds held in these reserve accounts are held for the purposes describe in the reserve account name.

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Net of transfer to / (from) accum. surplus \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
2022			
Statutory cash backed reserves			
Car parks	97	-	97
Development planning overlays: infrastructure	2,814	(34)	2,780
Development contribution plans: open space	3,900	336	4,236
Development contribution construction	180	-	180
Native vegetation	419	44	463
Open space	3,290	1,267	4,557
Street light contributions	28	-	28
Street trees	79	-	79
Yarrambat drainage scheme	457	(2)	455
Yarrambat drainage extension area	163	1	164
Total cash backed statutory reserves	11,427	1,612	13,039
Discretionary reserves			
Bridgeford Estate	44	(1)	43
Carried forward projects	11,016	307	11,323
Cricket pitch renewal	15	7	22
Information technology	2,171	(781)	1,390
Leisure facility improvements	217	40	257
MAV bond repayment	3,855	(2,392)	1,463
Major projects	-	3,084	3,084
Plant replacement	1,059	(5)	1,054
Plenty and Kangaroo Ground landfill restoration	-	1,042	1,042
Public art program	176	15	191
Total discretionary reserves	18,553	1,316	19,869
Total other reserves	29,980	2,928	32,908

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 9 Other matters (continued)

9.1 Reserves (continued)

(b) Other reserves (continued)

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$'000	Net of transfer to / (from) accum. surplus \$'000	Balance at end of reporting period \$'000
2021			
Statutory cash backed reserves			
Car parks	97	-	97
Development planning overlays: infrastructure	2,934	(120)	2,814
Development contribution plans: open space	3,408	492	3,900
Development contribution construction	198	(18)	180
Native vegetation	234	185	419
Open space	2,454	836	3,290
Street light contributions	28	-	28
Street trees	79	-	79
Yarrambat drainage scheme	455	2	457
Yarrambat drainage extension area	163	-	163
Total cash backed statutory reserves	10,050	1,377	11,427
Discretionary reserves			
Bridgeford Estate	47	(3)	44
Carried forward projects	13,245	(2,229)	11,016
Cricket pitch renewal	15	-	15
Information technology	3,165	(994)	2,171
Leisure facility improvements	375	(158)	217
MAV bond repayment	3,855	-	3,855
Plant replacement	1,945	(886)	1,059
Plenty and Kangaroo Ground landfill restoration	2,099	(2,099)	-
Public art program	213	(37)	176
Total discretionary reserves	24,959	(6,406)	18,553
Total other reserves	35,009	(5,029)	29,980
		2022	2021
		\$'000	\$'000
(c) Statutory cash backed and capital works reserves			
Statutory cash backed reserves		13,039	11,427
Discretionary reserves:			
Bridgeford Estate		43	44
Plenty and Kangaroo Ground landfill restoration		1,042	-
Total externally restricted reserves		14,124	11,471

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Note 9 Other matters (continued)		
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	14,346	13,741
Depreciation	14,543	11,912
(Profit)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2,284	3,717
Share of net (profits)/losses of associate	(77)	(199)
Contributions - non-monetary assets	(437)	(35)
Borrowing cost	550	601
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	321	292
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	334	(199)
(Increase)/decrease in accrued income	35	269
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(2,259)	1,085
Increase/(decrease) in unearned income/revenue	(2,362)	2,319
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(17)	-
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(4,952)	(4,073)
Increase/(decrease) in trust funds	50	69
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	22,359	29,499

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Note 9 Other matters (continued)

9.3 Superannuation

Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in Comprehensive Operating Statement when they are made or due.

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation categories, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2022, this was 10 percent required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation (2021: 9.5%)).

Defined Benefit

Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan. There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

Funding Arrangements

Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary.

As at 30 June 2021, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 104.6%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment return	4.75 percent p.a
Salary inflation	2.75 percent p.a
Price inflation (CPI)	2.25 percent p.a

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is expected to be completed by 31 October 2022.

Vision Super has advised that the VBI at 30 June 2022 was 102.2%. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021). The financial assumptions used to calculate this VBI were:

Net investment return	5.5 percent p.a
Salary inflation	2.5 percent p.a to 30 June 2023. and 3.5 percent p.a thereafter
Price inflation (CPI)	3.0 percent p.a

The VBI is to be used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100 percent, the 30 June 2021 actuarial investigation determined the defined benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the defined benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 9 Other matters (continued)

9.3 Superannuation (continued)

Employer contributions

Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2021 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2022, this rate was 10.0% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2020/21). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

Funding calls

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2021 and the last full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund's actuarial investigations identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2021 (Triennial) \$'000	2020 (Interim) \$'000
- A VBI surplus	214,700	100,000
- A total service liability surplus	270,300	200,000
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	285,200	217,800

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2021.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2021.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2021.

Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021).

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 9 Other matters (continued)

9.3 Superannuation (continued)

The 2022 interim actuarial investigation

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2022 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2022. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021).

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of Scheme	Rate	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Vision super	Defined benefit	10.00%	68	82
Vision super	Accumulation fund	10.00%	1,552	1,538
Other	Accumulation fund	10.00%	1,554	1,348

In addition to the above contributions, Council has paid no unfunded liability payments to Vision Super (2020/21 Nil).

There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 is \$68,000.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

10 Change in accounting policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2021-22 year.

There are no pending accounting standards that are likely to have a material impact on council

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Nillumbik Shire Council Performance Statement For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

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Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Description of municipality

The Shire of Nillumbik is located in Melbourne's north-eastern suburbs, approximately 25km from the Melbourne Central Business District.

Known as "the Green Wedge Shire", the area offers residents and visitors a unique rural environment of bushland, small farms, rivers and forest. The balance of the shire is a collection of suburbs, townships and villages, each with its own unique identity and heritage.

The Nillumbik Green Wedge covers over 90% of the total area of the shire and is host to a number of state and national parks. Nillumbik's Green Wedge is highly valued locally and regionally because of its biodiversity, natural beauty, visitor experiences, agriculture, grazing land, rural living and open space.

Nillumbik has a population of approximately 65,094 people who are at the higher end of the socio-economic gradient in Greater Melbourne, meaning that in many aspects, Nillumbik residents enjoy better than average health and wellbeing.

Coronavirus pandemic event

The impact of the ongoing pandemic event and staged restrictions have been disclosed within the material variation comments where relevant.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

Indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Material Variations
Population						
<i>Expenses per head of municipal population</i> [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$1,240.88	\$1,418.26	\$1,813.33	\$1,422.70	\$1,396.56	Movement is reflective of the decrease in the provision for landfill rehabilitation resulting from the completion of works and a decrease in the net present value and a reduction in expenditure resulting from pandemic related closures during the first half of the financial year.
<i>Infrastructure per head of municipal population</i> [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$7,704.20	\$7,928.29	\$8,076.31	\$8,354.53	\$6,931.35	The current year result is reflective of the revaluation of Council's asset portfolio, including the application of updated road valuation methodology. Council continues to invest in renewal and upgrades to the infrastructure portfolio, ensuring that the renewal gap continues to be actively managed across asset classes.
<i>Population density per length of road</i> [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	81.92	84.01	84.54	84.15	82.26	The decrease is driven by a small decrease in the municipal population relative to a minor increase road lengths.
Own-source revenue						
<i>Own-source revenue per head of municipal population</i> [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$1,203.11	\$1,183.46	\$1,251.31	\$1,196.32	\$1,277.97	The overall increase is reflective of a minimal increase in the municipal population and minimal growth in rateable properties in the Shire.
Recurrent grants						
<i>Recurrent grants per head of municipal population</i> [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$99.06	\$98.77	\$106.98	\$76.63	\$109.23	The variance is driven by a decrease in the recurrent grants received in the current financial year, reflective of programs and services delivered. Recurrent grants are often driven by service delivery and fluctuate in line with programs scheduled and /or delivered in the financial year.
Disadvantage						
<i>Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage</i> [Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage by decile]	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	Council's relative socio-economic disadvantage remains stable and the current result is comparable to the previous year.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Service Performance Indicators

Service/indicator/measure

Aquatic Facilities

Utilisation

Utilisation of aquatic facilities

[Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]

2018	2019	2020	2021
0.94	2.21	8.90	4.11

2022 Material Variations

1.44 The 2018 figure was driven by the closure of Eltham Leisure Centre for re-development, while the 2020 figure reflects all visits to the Eltham Leisure Centre, not just the aquatic component (in line with LGPRF reporting requirements). Visits are still significantly down on pre COVID-19 results. However, numbers are returning to more normal levels with facilities re-opening late in 2021.

Animal Management

Health and safety

Animal management prosecutions

[Number of successful animal management prosecutions /
Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100

-	-	100%	100%
---	---	------	------

100% There were two prosecutions in 2021-2022, and both were successful.

Food Safety

Health and safety

Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications

[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and
major non-compliance notifications about a food premises
followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome
notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a
food premises] x100

95.24%	94.40%	98.68%	90.63%
--------	--------	--------	--------

94.44% All except two major non-compliant results were followed up in 2021. The measure can vary depending on timing of the report and follow up at the beginning and end of the calendar year.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Service Performance Indicators (continued)

Service/indicator/measure

Governance

Satisfaction

Satisfaction with council decisions

[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]

2018 2019 2020 2021

2022 Material Variations

63.00 64.50 66.70 63.00

62.60 Satisfaction with Council decisions decreased by 0.4 percentage points in 2021-2022, the second consecutive decrease for this measure.

Libraries

Participation

Active library members

[Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100

27.38% 30.17% 28.19% 27.03%

25.24% This figure is on the increase as the Return Yourself to the Library campaign is implemented and Covid restrictions on public libraries are eased. As branch libraries have only opened for the full range of opening hours in the first half of 2022, it is expected that this figure will continue to rise.

Participation

Participation in the MCH service

[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100

78.76% 79.82% 81.95% 81.65%

80.08% The Maternal and Child Health Service continues to provide a connected and responsive program to families with young children in Nillumbik. Despite COVID-19 restrictions and influenza affecting service delivery, this demonstrates strong participation in the service.

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) (continued)

Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children

[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x 100

78.95% 69.44% 76.32% 85.11%

81.63% The overall enrolment of First Nations families and young children is similar to (higher than) the overall participation of all Nillumbik families in the MCH service. The engagement of First Nations families and their children continues to be a focus of the MCH service due to their increased health risks, with participation within the service actively encouraged.

**Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Service Performance Indicators (continued)

Service/indicator/measure

Roads

Satisfaction

Satisfaction with sealed local roads

[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]

2018	2019	2020	2021
64.40	65.00	69.90	63.00

2022 Material Variations

60.00 Satisfaction with sealed local roads decreased by 3% in 2021-2022, the second consecutive decrease for this measure. Road maintenance and repairs rated as the top issue for Community Survey respondents.

Statutory Planning

Decision making

Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT

[Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x 100

80.00%	61.54%	65.00%	75.00%
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64.00% Of the 25 decisions referred to VCAT, 16 upheld Council's decision.

Waste Collection

Waste diversion

Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill

[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100

63.66%	59.06%	59.60%	72.80%
--------	--------	--------	--------

72.69% Nillumbik residents diverted 17,765 tonnes of kerbside waste from landfill during 2021-2022. The amount of green waste (10,894 tonnes) collected is similar to 2020-2021. This is due to the continuation of wetter weather (La Nina) in 2021-2022. Nillumbik continues to be well above the State diversion targets.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Financial Performance Indicators

Dimension/indicator/measure						Forecasts				Material Variations
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Efficiency										
<i>Revenue level</i>										
<i>Average rate per property assessment</i> [General rates / Number of property assessments]	-	-	\$2,381.17	\$2,403.04	\$2,456.58	\$2,405.76	\$2,467.40	\$2,538.00	\$2,610.92	The increase reflects budgeted increase in rates and charges and the anticipated additional rateable properties created each year throughout the Shire. (Calculation revised 2019-2020)
<i>Expenditure level</i>										
<i>Expenses per property assessment</i> [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$3,346.25	\$3,837.63	\$4,918.21	\$3,866.13	\$3,762.50	\$3,920.84	\$4,002.36	\$4,087.88	\$4,175.52	The current year result reflects the decrease in the provision for landfill rehabilitation owing to completion of works and a decrease in the net present value and a reduction in expenditure resulting from pandemic related closures during the first half of the financial year. Forecast results show the positive relationship between the growth in rateable properties across the shire and corresponding growth in expenditure.
<i>Workforce turnover</i>										
<i>Resignations and terminations compared to average staff</i> [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	17.57%	26.01%	12.70%	11.19%	16.70%	-	-	-	-	In 2021–2022, staff turnover was 16.71%. Although Council's turnover rate has increased from the 2020-2021 (11.70%), it is at a healthy level and well within the industry benchmark range of 15-20%.
Liquidity										
<i>Working capital</i>										
<i>Current assets compared to current liabilities</i> [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	337.37%	274.40%	177.05%	145.09%	171.89%	102.76%	91.55%	90.00%	87.86%	Current year results reflect the reduction in current loan and provision balances. The trend is reflective of a greater proportion of Council's provision for landfill rehabilitation and borrowings becoming current over the forecast years.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Dimension/indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Forecasts				Material Variations
Liquidity (continued)										
<i>Unrestricted cash</i>										
<i>Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities</i>	84.76%	67.97%	38.60%	-10.01%	22.43%	9.90%	0.68%	2.58%	0.14%	The current year result is driven by an increase in cash balances held in term deposits with a maturity of great than 90 days in order to achieve stronger investment outcomes. This has resulted in a greater portion of Council's cash not recognised in this measure. If all cash balances were included in this calculation, the result would be 88%. The outlying years show that the majority of Council's cash balances will be held for specific purposes.
<i>[Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x 100</i>										
Obligations										
<i>Asset renewal</i>										
<i>Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation</i>	-	-	102.11%	261.63%	162.92%	102.71%	110.74%	102.56%	104.02%	Council continues to invest in community infrastructure with an underlying criteria being the reduction in renewal gap, to ensure Council's responsibility remains at a manageable level. The disproportionate result in the prior year was driven by one off capital funding received to deliver large scale projects. (Calculation revised 2019-2020)
<i>[Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation] x 100</i>										
<i>Loans and borrowings</i>										
<i>Loans and borrowings compared to rates</i>	20.23%	18.75%	16.26%	19.95%	24.03%	18.37%	15.16%	12.23%	9.35%	Council has borrowed to fund the rehabilitation of the closed Kangaroo Ground landfill site and to allow a response to capital works grants awarded, requiring co-contributions. This is offset by the borrowing maturities scheduled to occur each year, resulting in a fluctuating trend.
<i>[Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100</i>										

Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Financial Performance Indicators

Dimension/indicator/measure						Forecasts				Material Variations
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Obligations (continued)										
<i>Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates</i> [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	2.44%	2.19%	3.06%	1.93%	5.70%	5.42%	3.19%	3.11%	3.03%	The current year is reflective of new borrowings in 2021-2022, while forecast figures are reflective of loan maturities scheduled.
<i>Indebtedness</i>										
<i>Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue</i> [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	23.53%	20.69%	39.06%	34.81%	34.83%	23.70%	18.37%	12.71%	6.55%	The current year and projections show a stable result which is reflective of the reduction in the non-current portion of the provision for landfill rehabilitation and borrowings and an increase in own source revenue. Forecast figures are reflective of loan maturities scheduled and ongoing landfill rehabilitation works.
Operating position										
<i>Adjusted underlying result</i>										
<i>Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	5.56%	-9.52%	-32.34%	-9.00%	1.81%	1.75%	2.95%	3.16%	3.44%	The reduction in non-recurrent grant revenue items deducted to calculate this ratio have resulted in an increase to underlying revenue and the underlying surplus, resulting in a favourable movement. The underlying driver of the current year surplus is the provision for landfill rehabilitation, a reduction in expenditure largely driven by pandemic related closures and lockdowns, and Commonwealth Federal Assistance Grants received in advance. Forecasts show a stabilising trend, reflecting limited growth in own-source revenue and maintenance of operational expenditure in line with service levels.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Financial Performance Indicators

Dimension/indicator/measure						Forecasts				Material Variations
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Stability										
<i>Rates concentration</i>										
<i>Rates compared to adjusted underlying</i> [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	74.02%	76.70%	74.29%	78.78%	76.80%	73.74%	74.06%	74.11%	74.08%	This result is reflective of the current and projected stability in underlying revenue and the projected increase in rates and charges.
Rates effort										
<i>Rates compared to property values</i> [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.39%	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	0.33%	0.34%	0.35%	0.36%	0.37%	The consistent trend is reflective of projected annual property revaluations. In outer years, property valuations are forecast to remain stable.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Notes To The Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

Note 1 Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g. *Australian Bureau of Statistics*).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current and three preceding years and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by the council's strategic resource plan. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by Council in its strategic resource plan on 25 May 2021 and which forms part of the council plan. The strategic resource plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The strategic resource plan can be obtained by contacting Council.

Nillumbik Shire Council
Certification of the Performance Statement
For The Year Ended 30 June 2022

In my opinion the accompanying performance statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Melika Sukunda CA
Principal Accounting Officer

Date :
Greensborough

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of Nillumbik Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify this performance statement in its final form.

Frances Eyre (Mayor)
Councillor

Date :
Greensborough

Ben Ramcharan (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor

Date :
Greensborough

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Date :
Greensborough

Events and Festivals Funding (Triennial Funding) 2023 onwards
Attachment 1. Summary of Festivals and Events Delivered 2020-2023

Summary of Events and Festivals 2020-2023

2020 - 2021 – Year 1 (COVID restrictions in place including lockdowns)

Event	Activity	Funded Amount	Funding used	Attendees
Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival Feb 2021	Event cancelled. Funds used for presentations, sound hire, branding work, and signage	\$49,916	\$7,487	0
Warrandyte Festival March 2021	Event cancelled. Funds used to purchase marquees and bollards	\$23,299	\$3,494	0
Hurstbridge Wattle Festival August 2020	In-person Festival moved to digital, online Festival Funds used for website development	\$37,316	\$10,000	5806
DC Rotary Town Fair September 2020	Event cancelled. Funds used to update website, purchase safety gear, new equipment, new banners, and membership t-shirts	\$50,904	\$7,618	0
Mudbrick Tours October 2020	Event cancelled. Funds used for Tours administration.	\$8,000	\$1,091	0
Open Cellars June, October 2020	Open Cellars Spring event cancelled. Funds used to purchase Lockdown Wine Packs Open Cellars Winter - As planned	\$14,000	\$10,099	3500
Rotary Eltham Festival Nov 2020	Event cancelled. Funds used to purchase; Marquee, Website development, Drone mapping, Software	\$63,347	\$10,089	0
Artists Open Studios May, Nov 2020	Delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virtual Studio Tours - Exhibition at Gallery 7six5 (Nov 2020 and March 2021) - Exhibition at Eltham Library - Open Studios April, May x2 	\$26,000	\$26,000	0
On the Hill – Pantan Hill Feb 2020	Event Cancelled. Funds used to create scarecrow displays in the town	\$18,391	\$3,825	0
		Total: \$291,173	Total: \$79,702	

Events and Festivals Funding (Triennial Funding) 2023 onwards
Attachment 1. Summary of Festivals and Events Delivered 2020-2023

2021 – 2022 Year 2 (COVID restrictions still in place – some events were able to resume)

Event	Activity	Funded Amount (includes 3.8% CPI)	Funding used	Attendees
Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival 9 March 2022 – venue change to Edendale due to COVID restrictions	Event date change to March Less attendees due to the capacity limits at the venue	\$51,813	\$51,631	2400
Warrandyte Festival 18-19 March 2022	As planned	\$24,184	\$24,184	7000
Hurstbridge Wattle Festival August 2021	Event changed to online Delivered a virtual festival	\$38,734	\$0	unknown
DC Rotary Town Fair September 2021	Event cancelled – unable to deliver due to COVID lockdown restrictions	\$52,838	\$0	0
Mudbrick Tours October 2021	Event cancelled Bus tour unable to be delivered	\$8304	\$0	0
Open Cellars June 2021 October 2021	Winter - No change Spring – Lockdown Wine Pack	\$14,532	\$14,000	7000
Rotary Eltham Festival November 2021	Town Fair event cancelled Ran Christmas Carols instead in December	\$65,754	\$64,857	2000
Artists Open Studios May, Nov 2021	Postponed – Ran in November	\$26,988	\$22,939	4,400
On the Hill – Panton Hill Feb 2021	Event postponed to November 2022	\$19,090	\$0	0
		Total: \$302,237	Total: \$177,612	

Events and Festivals Funding (Triennial Funding) 2023 onwards
Attachment 1. Summary of Festivals and Events Delivered 2020-2023

2022 – 2023 Year 3

Event	Activity	Funded Amount (includes 6.1% CPI)
Eltham Jazz, Food & Wine Festival Feb 2023	Return to usual program in Eltham Town Square	\$54,974
Warrandyte Festival March 2023	As planned	\$25,659
Hurstbridge Wattle Festival 28 August 2022	Return to usual program in Hurstbridge	\$41,097
DC Rotary Town Fair 10 September 2022	Return to usual program in Diamond Creek	\$56,061
Mudbrick Tours TBC	Virtual Event	\$8,811
Open Cellars 15 + 16 October 2022 June 2023	Winter - No change Spring – No Change	\$15,418
Rotary Eltham Festival 12 + 13 November 2022	Return to usual program in Eltham	\$69,765
Artists Open Studios Nov 2022 May 2023,	Return to usual program	\$28,634
On the Hill – Pantan Hill 5 Nov 2022	Return to Usual Program	\$20,254
		Total: \$320,673

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Nillumbik Festivals and Events Triennial Program 2023 – 2026 Guidelines

DRAFT

Acknowledgement of Country

Nillumbik Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, and we value the significance of the Wurundjeri people's history as essential to the unique character of the shire. We pay tribute to all First Nations People living in Nillumbik, give respect to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People.

We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge the ongoing impacts of past trauma and injustices from European invasion, massacres and genocide committed against First Nations People. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people hold a deep and ongoing connection to this place. We value the distinctive place of our First Nations People in both Nillumbik and Australia's identity; from their cultural heritage and care of the land and waterways, to their ongoing contributions in many fields including academia, agriculture, art, economics, law, sport and politics.

Inclusion statement

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to creating a fair, equitable and inclusive community where human rights are respected, participation is facilitated, barriers are addressed and diversity is celebrated. We support the rights of all people regardless of age, gender, ability or background. We value the diverse and changing nature of our community and understand that some groups and individuals experience more barriers than others.



What is the Festivals and Events Triennial Program?

Each year, our community benefits from a diverse range of festivals and events that take place across Nillumbik.

In 2020 a triennial festivals and events program was established to provide support for existing festivals historically funded by council.

This program is being opened up to support regular festivals and allow for new festivals to be developed or grow.

Through this program applicants can access funding between a minimum of \$10,000 and maximum of \$65,000 per annum over three years.

Objectives of the Festivals and Events Triennial Program

This program aims to reflect and promote objectives from both the [Council Plan 2021-25](#) and our [Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25](#).

The Council Plan is structured around the four themes of:

Community and Connection (Nillumbik Shire Council - Council Plan 2021-25, Pg. 13)

Objective - To encourage inclusion and participation to support health and wellbeing and ensure that all our residents have equitable access to services, programs, events and initiatives

Place and Space (Nillumbik Shire Council - Council Plan 2021-25, Pg. 17)

Objective - To protect, enhance, maintain plan and design places and spaces that strengthen identity, reinforce character, improve accessibility, encourage social connection and enjoyment, support biodiversity and respect the environment

Sustainable and Resilient (Nillumbik Shire Council - Council Plan 2021-25, Pg. 23)

Objective - To manage and adapt to changing circumstances that affect our community to ensure it remains sustainable and resilient, both now and into the future

Responsible and Accountable (Nillumbik Shire Council - Council Plan 2021-25, Pg. 27)

Objective - To facilitate the best possible outcomes for our community by demonstrating strong leadership and working actively to achieve the community's objectives

Our Health and Wellbeing priorities for the next four years are:

- Social inclusion and connection
- Community and climate resilience
- Gender equality and prevention of family violence
- Physical activity
- Food
- Reducing harm from alcohol, other drugs and gambling

Each application will be considered on its own merits. As we aim to fund activities that will have the greatest positive impact in Nillumbik, applicants are encouraged to demonstrate how their proposed activities will align with these plans.

Definitions

Not-for-profit	An organisation that is not operating for the profit or gain of its individual members, whether these gains would have been direct or indirect
Incorporated Association	A legal identity that can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter into and enforce contracts, including the ability to hold, acquire and deal with property • Sue or be sued • Continue regardless of changes to membership
Auspice	To take responsibility for managing funds on behalf of another
Grant	The provision of financial assistance which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public money to be paid to a recipient other than Council • Intended to assist the recipient achieve its goals • Intended to promote one or more of Council's policy objectives/strategies • Provided subject to terms and conditions as specified in an agreement
Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not-for-profit • Have only charitable purposes that are for the public benefit • Not be an individual, a political party or a government agency

Applications will be considered for:

Council will only consider applications for established and new festivals and events held in the Nillumbik Shire municipal boundary. Except where townships overlap municipal boundaries and there is a proven benefit to the Nillumbik community, or part of.

Applicants must:

- Be incorporated community groups, commercial or an eligible service organisation.
- Be compatible with the objectives of the Festivals and Events Triennial Program
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a Statement by a Supplier form from the Australian Tax Office (ATO)
- Not be in debt or in dispute with Council
- Submit only one application per festival or event per funding round

If your group is not incorporated, you can still apply for a grant if you have an auspicating body.

Applications will not be considered for:

- Festivals and events that are not taking place within the Nillumbik Shire municipal boundary. Except where townships overlap municipal boundaries and there is a proven benefit to the Nillumbik community, or part of.
- Festivals and events that have not acquitted previous grants at the completion of the festival or event
- Festivals and events that have a primary purpose to raise funds and the majority of profits generated are distributed to third party organisations, agencies or charities without direct benefits to Nillumbik Shire Council
- Applications for retrospective (after the festival or event) funding or in-kind support will not be considered
- Festivals or events which:
 - Have a sole political or religious purpose that could be perceived as divisive within the community
 - Are discriminatory, sexist or disrespectful
 - Seek to promote or launch organisations or services
 - Are the responsibility of other agencies (e.g. charities, government bodies)
 - Do not support responsible serving of alcohol
 - Do not implement environmentally sustainable practices
- Maintenance on community and Council-owned buildings
- Capital expenditure (the purchase of land, buildings, vehicles or building or engineering)
- Recreational excursions – camps, holidays, tours
- Debts
- Competitions, gifts and prizes
- Ongoing operational costs (core business) such as:
 - Salaries (except for contract work)
 - Rent
 - Annual general meetings/meetings
 - Insurance
 - Utility costs

Eligibility

This program is designed to support not for profit festivals and events that meet the following criteria:

- Ongoing festivals and events
- Major, large scale festivals and events
- Demonstrate significant economic or community benefit to the Nillumbik Shire
- Able to demonstrate that the festival or event extends Council's contribution further e.g. branding, marketing and promotion of the Shire that could not otherwise be done with Council resources alone.
- Include access to activities for Nillumbik residents at no cost. Festivals receiving under \$50,000 may request gold coin donations.

Applications must include:

- A complete event budget highlighting elements to be funded by Council
- An event plan detailing the program of activities
- A marketing and promotion plan which includes acknowledgement of Shire of Nillumbik support
- Two quotations from suitably qualified suppliers for any expenditure items over \$10,000 to be funded.
- A detailed business plan for the term of the agreement
- Financial statements from previous 1-2 year/s
- Assurances from the President/Director/Treasurer around the financial viability of the group seeking the grant
- Evidence of processes in place to monitor government directives i.e. COVID-19 safe plans
- Your event budget should include all income and expenditure related to the festival or event for which you are requesting support. If previous events have been held of a similar nature you should provide the final accounts for the most recent event that the organisation has delivered.

Applicants must also commit to completing and adhering to an application process for an events permit for events on Council land each year independent of the grant application process, see the Events Policy regarding requirements.

Applicants will be required to submit an acquittal of all funds within eight weeks of their event date each year.

Application timeline 2023-2026

Date	Activity
4 October 2022	Applications open
4 – 31 October 2022	Community workshops and information sessions
27 November 2022	Applications close
28 November – 2 December 2022	Applications assessed by panel
January 2023	Recommendations to Council
February 2023	Grant recipients announced

Assessment

Funding applications will be ranked from the highest to lowest score based on the assessment criteria outlined and those that obtain the highest scores will be awarded the funds until the total funding pool is exhausted. This assessment will be conducted by a select panel including Nillumbik Shire Council staff and community members.

Assessment Criteria	What you should include in your application	Criteria weighting
25% Description of the festival/event and how it aligns with the objectives of the funding	a. Provide a clear description of the festival/event	5%
	b. Include an explanation of how the festival/event aligns with each of the funding objectives	10%
	c. Include details about the impacts of the festival/event over the period of funding	10%
25 % Level of community need for the festival/event	a. Provide a clear description of why the festival/event is important, and to which community needs, issues and/or opportunities it responds	10%
	b. Include evidence that supports the application, such as demographic data, letters of support, feedback from consultation or previous activities	5%
	c. Provide information regarding the history of the festival/event or organising committee	10%
25% Who will benefit from the festival/event	a. Provide a description of the groups and/or individuals in the community that are being targeted and will benefit (e.g. socially isolated, vulnerable, older residents, culturally diverse, gender diversity, LGBTQI, Indigenous people)	10%
	b. Provide information on what Nillumbik businesses, creative or cultural industries or community groups will benefit through their participation	10%
	c. Detail how many attendees are anticipated, the audience percentage from within Nillumbik, and the audience percentage from outside of Nillumbik, providing evidence where possible	5%
25 % How the festival/event will be managed over the funding period	a. Provide an overview of the group or organisation's capacity to deliver the festival/event	15%
	b. Applicant's organisational structure and how it supports their capacity?	5%
	c. Level of experience in delivering large scale festivals/events	5%
	d. Other groups or organisations that will be partnered with for the festival/event delivery, including evidence that confirms commitment	5%
	e. The proposed ongoing benefits of the festival/event between years	5%

Events and Festivals Funding (Triennial Funding) 2023 onwards
Attachment 2. Guidelines - Festivals and Events Triennial Program

Environmental Impact	<p>a. How the event organiser will make their event more sustainable (venue choice, energy efficiency, water management, product purchasing, waste management, active transport)</p> <p>b. Single use plastics: How the event will eliminate single use plastics (including balloons, plastic straws, plastic bags, bottled water, coffee cups, plastic containers and cutlery)</p> <p>c. Natural environment: Consider whether the event may result in environmental impacts such as noise pollution, air pollution, water pollution, tree or habitat damage etc and identify how such impacts will be managed."</p>	Required
Recognition of Traditional Land Owners	How will the event organiser provide meaningful acknowledgement or engagement with the traditional land owners?	Required
Project Management	<p>Provide a project plan listing the key outcomes, milestones and timeframes required to deliver your festival/event</p> <p>Provide details on how you will measure and demonstrate success</p>	Required
Budget	<p>The budget is reflective of the scope of the festival/event, and includes all expenditure and income contributions, any financial and/or in-kind assistance from the applicant group/organisation, and predicted income from the festival/event</p> <p>Expenditure items over \$10,000 require two quotations from suitable suppliers</p> <p>Financial statements from 1-2 years prior where available</p>	Required

Note: this is a competitive program therefore no application can be guaranteed funding. Consider this when determining the amount of funding you are applying for and ensure that it is realistic, justifiable and supported with the appropriate documentation.

Grant agreement and conditions

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement with Nillumbik Shire Council.

The funding agreement will include the following:

Recognition of Nillumbik Shire Council

- Nillumbik Shire Council signage at all festivals and events related to the project (or mutually agreed with festival/event organisers)
- Recognition of Nillumbik Shire Council in all advertising, promotional and social media
- Funded groups to recognise the Nillumbik Shire Council as a funding source on all project and publicity materials
- All printed material including invitations, flyers, posters and programs must include the Nillumbik Shire logo
- An opportunity for a Nillumbik Shire Council representative to speak at festivals and events
- Inclusion of Nillumbik Shire Council messages in the festival or event program at no charge
- Copies of any marketing material to be provided to the Council prior to distribution
- Agreement to implement survey tools for evaluation processes
- Any charitable festival or event to ensure recognition of Nillumbik Shire Council at any presentation of funds raised to third parties
- Evidence of the impact/success of the festival or event including survey data, photos and media exposure in the acquittal.

Grant Agreement and Acquittal

- Funded groups will need to complete the grant agreement and acquittal report as provided
- The grant agreement must be signed by the event organiser prior to any payment being made
- Payments will be in the form of a schedule where a sum of no greater than 85% of the successful grant will be paid prior to the event with balance paid on receipt of a completed acquittal report
- Acquittal reports must be received within eight weeks of the completion of the festival/event, if not received the applicant will be ineligible for any future Council grants
- It is the responsibility of all applicants to supply the relevant requested taxation and insurance documentation
- Funds provided through this grant program are to be spent as outlined in both the application and grant agreement
- Activities arising from the grant must take place within the Shire of Nillumbik and benefit Nillumbik Shire Council residents and visitors
- Funded groups must seek advice from Council officers before making significant changes or variations to the implementation of the grant or proposed budget
- Variations will be considered on: Proposed variation, justification of variation and key stakeholder engagement
- Council officers may request meetings with the applicant to check progress during the period of the grant, or undertake an independent audit of financial records of the applicant
- Nillumbik Shire Council is not responsible for meeting any shortfall should the festival or event run over budget
- Any grant funds not expended on the festival or event must be returned to Nillumbik Shire Council.



Event Approvals and Permits

- The festival or event will require an event permit to operate on Council property independent of the grant process
- Grant recipients must ensure that all activities related to their festival or event have appropriate approvals or permits from relevant agencies or regulators
- All festivals and events funded must have a minimum of \$20 million public liability insurance which relates to their festival or event
- Recipients must participate in a debrief process after the festival or event and report on its delivery, identified improvements and key outcomes.

Privacy

The collection and handling of personal information is in accordance with Council's Privacy Policy which is available on Council's website and available for inspection at, or collection from Council's Customer Service Centre.

How to apply

Please read these guidelines thoroughly and confirm your eligibility before applying.

For more information about Council's grant processes see our Community Grants Policy.

Applications are to be lodged online at nillumbik.smartygrants.com.au.

Respond to the criteria and provide any required documentation applicable.

The online application system will allow you to save, edit and print out applications before you choose to submit them. Supporting material can also be attached to your online application.

Applications must be submitted by the due date. Late or incomplete applications will be not considered.

Note: By submitting an application you are not guaranteed funding. Applications may also only be offered a portion of the amount requested.

Further information

Events and Festival organisers are encouraged to read the [Guidelines for Community Events](#) which provide a comprehensive overview of the requirements to run events and festivals in the Shire.

Included within this document is a range of templates and useful information to assist in preparing to run an event. The Festivals and Events Officer is also available to assist with additional support as required: Events@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or 03 9433 3276.



Nillumbik Shire Council

Civic Drive (PO Box 476) Greensborough Victoria 3088
9433 3111 | nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



nillumbik.vic.gov.au

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Nillumbik Shire Council - Events Policy DRAFT

Version 0.2.3

Unit responsible: Events and Place

Drafted by: Alex Marshall – Festivals and Events Officer

Date Updated: 13/09/2022

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Responsible for review	Festivals and Events Officer

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Acknowledgement of Country

Nillumbik Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the Country on which Nillumbik is located, and we value the significance of the Wurundjeri people's history as essential to the unique character of the shire. We pay tribute to all First Nations People living in Nillumbik, give respect to Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all First Nations People.

We respect the enduring strength of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and acknowledge the ongoing impacts of past trauma and injustices from European invasion, massacres and genocide committed against First Nations People. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people hold a deep and ongoing connection to this place. We value the distinctive place of our First Nations People in both Nillumbik and Australia's identity; from their cultural heritage and care of the land and waterways, to their ongoing contributions in many fields including academia, agriculture, art, economics, law, sport and politics.

Inclusion statement

Nillumbik Shire Council is committed to creating a fair, equitable and inclusive community where human rights are respected, participation is facilitated, barriers are addressed and diversity is celebrated. We support the rights of all people regardless of age, gender, ability or background. We value the diverse and changing nature of our community and understand that some groups and individuals experience more barriers than others.



Purpose

The Events Policy outlines Nillumbik Shire Council's approach in supporting event organisers to provide quality events for the community.

This policy defines an event and clarifies when an event permit is required.

Context

Council has an important role in supporting event organisers to deliver events that are conducted safely and that events balance the needs of the organisers and the community.

Public spaces in the Shire of Nillumbik are used by the broader community for various activities. Each year, Council approves many permits for events.

Events in Nillumbik range from small community activities to high profile festivals. Events range from simple to complex activities. Events can be an activity, or range of activities. Events can be by invitation, ticketed or open to the public. These events can support sports and recreation, health and wellbeing, arts and culture, sustainable living and economic development. All events require organisation and planning.

Scope

This Policy applies to events organised by individuals, community groups, not-for-profit organisations, businesses or Council held wholly or partly on Council owned or managed land and roadways including abutting roads.

This policy does not apply to:

- Seasonal sports booked on sporting grounds or facilities
- Regular recreational and sporting activities not on sporting grounds, such as regular running activities on shared paths
- Events and activities requiring lease or license arrangements, such as monthly farmers' markets
- Recurring activities with other agreements in place
- Events and activities conducted at managed venues, such as Edendale Farm

- Leased community facilities that are conducting activities within the terms of agreement

When an Event permit is required

Events that meet one or more of the following criteria require an event permit:

- 50 attendees or more

AND one or more of the following:

- Ticketing for participants (free or paid)
- Amplified sound, excluding personal audio devices
- Food or beverages, for sale or donation
- A ceremony, such as a wedding or funeral
- Exclusive use of a section or whole of public space –
- Erection of large structures (greater than 3x3m), such as marquees or stages
- Vehicle access to site, or changes to parking arrangements
- Required permissions from other agencies, such as a liquor licence
- Access to restricted water or electricity.

Events that do not meet one or more of the above criteria do not require an event permit. Events not requiring an event permit could require other permits, it is therefore responsibility of the event organiser to ensure they have been granted appropriate permissions before their event.

We recommend you still provide notification to Council when planning an event that does not require an event permit. Notifications can be sent via email to events@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or phone 03 9433 3276.

Accessibility and contact information

Please contact us if you require information in an alternative format. Council officers are also available to discuss any other access requirements or support you may need to submit your application.

Call Nillumbik Shire Council on 9433 3111 or email events@nillumbik.vic.gov.au .

Council can also be contacted through the National Relay Service (NRS). The NRS is available as a phone solution for people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment. All calls are confidential. Users must be registered via www.relayservice.gov.au to make and receive call:

TTY users phone 133 677, then ask for Council on 9433 3111.

Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech) users phone 1300 555 727, then ask for Council on 9433 3111.

A Hearing loop is located at the Civic Drive Customer Service Centre.

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Bushfire Mitigation (Fire Prevention) Works Program 2022-2023

Attachment 1. Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022-2023

Nillumbik Shire Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022/23				
Suburb	Address	Category	Works	Timing
Arthurs Creek	Brennans East Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Arthurs Creek	Ridge Road (Arthurs Creek Road to Deep Creek Road Only)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Christmas Hills	Gills Road	Fire Access	Box Clearance, Road surface, Tree works	October
Christmas Hills	Osborne Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Christmas Hills	Skyline Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Christmas Hills	Wallace Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Christmas Hills	Ashmore Road	Roadside	Burgan Removal on the corner of skyline and ashmore roads	December
Cottlesbridge	Lockmans Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Ellis Cottage	Power easement	Brush cut under the power lines Ellis Cottage	December
Diamond Creek	Ness Street Reserve	Fire Access Track	Slash/mow on roadside along the access track and behind houses	January
Diamond Creek	Ryans Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones through brushcutting grass and colonising shrub species	December
Diamond Creek	Windy Mile Tree Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zone through brushcutting grass and treatment of woody weeds	December
Diamond Creek	Black Gully Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Diamond Creek Road (Fairfield Road to Stone Street) (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Hillmartin Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Ironbark Road (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Main Hurstbridge Road (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Main Road, Diamond Creek (Stone Street to Diamond Street) 0.6 km (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Milthorpe Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Murray Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Orme Road (200m west of Reynolds Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Diamond Creek	Windy Mile	Roadside	Clear woody weeds, grind stumps brushcut vegetation	December
Diamond Creek	Windy Mile	Roadside	Remove Woody Weeds, Dead acacias Brushcut grass	December
Diamond Creek	Ironbark Road	Roadside	Brushcut roadside behind the amco railing from #77 Ironbark road to Koonawarra Way.	December
Diamond Creek	Brownlow Drive	Reserve	Brushcut down dead blackberry canes, remove dead vegetation behind the back fence of houses	December
Diamond Creek	Rangeview Estate	Reserve	Remove woody weeds (GOATS)	December
Diamond Creek	Ellis Cottage	Roadside	Brushcut under the powerlines Ellis Cottage	December
Diamond Creek	Allendale Rd East of the train line	Roadside	Brushcut up the hill along bike track and roadside on the Northern side of the road	December
Diamond Creek	Brownlow Drive	Power line easement	Remove woody weeds in power line easement	December
Diamond Creek	Nillumbik Park	Conservation Reserve	Slashing	December
Diamond Creek	Rusty Gate Drive	Roadside and trail	Clean up area behind housing estate and the Diamond Creek Trail	December
Eltham	Eastern ECB Colony	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel reduced zone through Cassinia and woody weed fuel reduction, and brushcutting grass.	December
Eltham	Holmes Road Environmental Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones as per Fire Management Plan including removal of woody weeds and brushcutting grass.	December
Eltham	Pitt Street Environmental Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones 1 & 2 through brushcutting, removal of excess fine fuels and fallen trees.	December
Eltham	Western ECB Colony	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones 1 & 2 through brushcutting, removal of excess fine fuels and fallen trees.	December
Eltham	Woodridge Linear Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones through brushcutting, removal of excess fine fuels and fallen trees.	December
Eltham	Yarra Valley Water ECB	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones through brushcutting, removal of excess fine fuels and fallen trees.	December
Eltham	Banoon Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Bridge Street (from main road to plumtree close)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Eucalyptus Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Fordams Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Godber Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Kent Hughes Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Lavender Park Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Silver Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Stringybark Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Eltham	Mt Pleasant Rd and Rockcliff st. Eltham	Roadside	Brushcut between Mt Pleasant road and the service road watch out for plants in guards	December
Eltham	At the end of Marion Way, Eltham	Roadside	Brushcut reserve at the end of the CRT	December
Eltham	Progress Rd and Wattle Tree Rd. Eltham	Roadside	Brushcut and remove woody weeds to reduce fuel loads on steep bank	December
Eltham	Allendale Road (east train line)	Bike Track/Road Reserve	Brush cut up the hill along bike track and roadside on the Northern side of the road	December
Eltham	Pipetrack Reserve, Eltham	Reserve	Remove woody weeds in the reserve and clean up fallen timber	December
Greensborough	Plenty River Drive	Fire Access	Assess for box clearance, road surface and hazardous trees	December
Hurstbridge	Anzac Av	Fire Access	Grading, slashing, tree works	December
Hurstbridge	Christian Road	Fire Access	Inspection	December
Hurstbridge	Haley Gully Road (240)	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zone through brushcutting grass and treatment of resprouting Kunzea	December
Hurstbridge	Meander Road	Fire Access	Grading	December
Hurstbridge	Meander Knowles Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones. Maintain vehicle access track.	December
Hurstbridge	Mills Road	Fire Access	Woody Weeds, Road surface, Trees	December
Hurstbridge	Temple Ridge	Conservation Reserve	1.Slash open paddock area 2.Maintain fire access tracks. 3.Maintain established fuel management zones as per FMP including removal of Cassinia and woody weeds	December
Hurstbridge	Temple Ridge East	Fire Access	Grading	December

Bushfire Mitigation (Fire Prevention) Works Program 2022-2023 **Attachment 1. Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022-2023**

Hurstbridge	Temple Ridge North	Fire Access	Grading	December
Hurstbridge	Temple Ridge West	Fire Access	Grading	December
Hurstbridge	Flat Rock Road	Reserves	Slash grass behind houses start of the road	January
Hurstbridge	Shinhuns Reserve firebreak	Reserves	Slash/mow both sides of road	January
Hurstbridge	Boyd's road	Roadside	TBA	TBA
Hurstbridge	Acacia Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Boyd's Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Flat Rock Road (Secondary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Gosfield Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Heather Avenue	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Mills Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Schaffer Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Hurstbridge	Flat Rock Rd. Hurstbridge	Roadside	Slash grass behind houses start of the road	December
Hurstbridge	Temple Ridge Reserve	Reserve	Pine tree removal	February
Kangaroo Ground	Bourchiers Lane (120)	Conservation Reserve	Blackberry treatment along fenceline	December
Kangaroo Ground	Bourchiers Road	Fire Access	Inspection	December
Kangaroo Ground	Yirrip Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones as per Fire Management Plan through slashing and brushcutting grass and treatment of resprouting Kunzea and Cassinia. 2. Maintain fire access tracks - vegetation clearance 3. Undertake Traditional (Prescribed) Burn with Wurundjeri Narrap (Land Management) Team	December
Kangaroo Ground	Bourchiers Road	Reserves	Slash paddock behind wellers	January
Kangaroo Ground	Carters Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Couties Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Henley Road (Secondary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Jones Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Moonlight Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Pretty Hill Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Yeomans Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Kangaroo Ground	Dawsons Road	Roadside	Remove woody weeds	December
Kangaroo Ground	Kangaroo Ground Tip	Reserve	Tractor slashing old tip site. (no cutting in conservation area)	N/A
Kangaroo Ground	Wyuna Road	Reserve	Slash paddock behind wellers.	December
Kangaroo Ground	Kangaroo Ground Tower	Reserve	Slash paddock below the tower.	December
Kangaroo Ground	Kangaroo Ground Tip	Tip	Tractor slashing old tip site (no cutting in conservation area)	N/A
Kangaroo Ground	Kangaroo Ground Tower	Reserve	Slash paddock below the tower	December
North Warrandyte	Bradleys Lane Environment Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zone through brushcutting grass and treatment of woody weeds and Kunzea	December
North Warrandyte	Banning Road North	Reserve	Brush cut and clean up reserve	December
North Warrandyte	Bradleys Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
North Warrandyte	Browns Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
North Warrandyte	Somers Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
North Warrandyte	Service Lane, KG- Warrandyte road	Roadside	Remove woody weeds	December
North Warrandyte	The Boulevard	Reserve	Remove all woody weeds, grind stumps, chip dead vegetation, brushcut in reserve	December
North Warrandyte	Banning Rd. Nth Warrandyte	Roadside	Brushcut and clean up reserve	December
Nth Warrandyte	Overbank Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Nutfield	Doctors Gully Road	Reserve	Slash paddock at 335 Doctors Gully Road.	December
Panton Hill	Bunjil Reserve	Conservation Reserve	1. Maintain established fuel management zones as per Fire Management Plan through brushcutting grass and treatment of resprouting Kunzea and Cassinia. 2. Maintain fire access tracks - vegetation clearance 3. Undertake Traditional (Prescribed) Burn with Wurundjeri Narrap (Land Management) Team	December
Panton Hill	Howards Road	Fire Access	Box Clearance, Road surface, Tree works	October
Panton Hill	Motschalls Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Slashing	December
Panton Hill	Panton Hill Bushland Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Slash open areas, brushcut and treat blackberries	December
Panton Hill	Wimbi Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zone through treatment of regenerating Kunzea, Blackberry and Woody weeds.	December
Panton Hill	Yanggai West Reserve	Conservation Reserve	1. Slash open/paddock area. 2. Maintain established fuel management zone through treatment of regenerating Kunzea, Blackberry and Woody weeds. 3. Brushcut trail paddock	December
Panton Hill	Rodger Road	Roadside	TBA	TBA
Panton Hill	Bakehouse Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Blue House Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Duffs Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Hailey Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Howards Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Kangaroo Ground - St Andrews Road (service Lane) Long Gully Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Major Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Manuka Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Merritts Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Pine Crescent	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Rankin Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Panton Hill	Panton Hill	Roadside	Brushcut along road reserve around oval	December

Bushfire Mitigation (Fire Prevention) Works Program 2022-2023 **Attachment 1. Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022-2023**

Patton Hill	Cochranes Lane	Road and power easement	Remove woody weeds along roadside from #110 to Cherrytree Road and clean up power line easement	December
Patton Hill	Panton Hill Roadside and Sports Oval	Roadside and Oval	Brush cut along road reserve around oval	December
Plenty	Howell Road	Reserve	Slash block on the corner of Yan Yean Rd and Howell Rd	January
Plenty	McLaughlans Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Plenty	Seymour Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Plenty	Howell Road	Reserve	Slash block on the corner of Yan Yean Road and Howell Road.	December
Plenty	Yan Yean Road	Reserve	Slash paddock next to Plenty Tennis Club.	December
Plenty	Plenty Tip	Reserve	Slashing of old Plenty tip site	December
Plenty	Yan Yean Road and Vista Crt	Roadside	Brushcut reserve on the North west Corner of Vista crt and Yan Yean Rd	December
Research	Afton Court	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Research Avenue	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	The Esplanade	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Gumtree Road Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain vegetation clearance along fire access track. Maintain fuel reduced zones through brushcutting.	December
Research	Swiper Gully Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones through brushcutting grass and removal of excess fine fuels.	December
Research	Yarramie Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones 1 & 2 through brushcutting, removal of excess fine fuels and fallen trees.	December
Research	Beauty Point Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Cassells Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Lloyd Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Research-Warrandyte Road (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Research	Research Park	Reserve	Remove and chip dead fallen Acacias; Remove storm damage. Cut & paint and remove Sweet Pittosporum.	December
Research	View Mount Road	Reserve	Brushcut reserve	December
Research	Bells Hill Road	Roadside	Clear woody weeds on roadside	December
Research	96 Zig Zag Rd Research	Roadside	Brushcut road reserve	December
Research	Reynolds Road Linear Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones. Maintain vehicle access track.	December
Research	Research Aqueduct walking Trail Main Rd back to Reynolds Rd and around Marion way and Allendale Road	Trail and Roadside	Remove woody weeds. Pine tree removal	October
Research	Research Park	Reserve	Remove and chip dead fallen Acacias; Remove storm damage. Cut & paint and remove Sweet Pittosporum.	December
Smiths Gully	Bulwid Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zone through brushcutting grass and treatment of resprouting Kunzea	December
Smiths Gully	Salter's Rush Reserve	Conservation Reserve	Maintain established fuel management zones through brushcutting grass and treating regenerating Kunzea	December
Smiths Gully	Clintons Road (Secondary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Smiths Gully	Joyce Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Smiths Gully	Varga Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Black Cameron	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Buttermans Track (Primary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Charbler Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Correa road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Dodd Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Dunstone Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Mittons Bridge Road (Secondary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Pindari Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Rifle Range Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Smiths Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Watts Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
St Andrews	Lakeview Road	Reserve	Groom fire track	December
St Andrews	Lake View Road	Reserve	Slash paddock at 100 Lake View Road.	December
Strathewen	Arthur Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	Chadds Creek Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	Gregory Lane	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	King Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	Pine Ridge Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	Powells Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Strathewen	Beale Avenue	Roadside	Groom Roadside	December
Wattle Glen	Peppers Paddock	Conservation Reserve	Maintain areas in close proximity to the 'General Store' as required; brushcut areas either side of Old Hurston Road and maintain access from 0 mile.	December
Wattle Glen	Watery Gully	Fire Access	Grading	December
Wattle Glen	Moonlight Road	Roadside	Remove Woody Weeds on roadside	December
Yarrambat	Oreighton Way	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Yarrambat	Edward Henty Avenue	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Yarrambat	Latrobe Street	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Yarrambat	North Outlands Road	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Yarrambat	Worns Lane (Secondary Road)	Roadside	Box clearance and hazardous tree works	September
Yarrambat	Collins Lane	Roadside	Groom woody weeds on roadside	December
Yarrambat	Edward Henty Road	Roadside	Groom Vegetation on roadside	December
Yarrambat	Bannons Lane	Roadside	Remove broome and woody weeds along roadside to increase slashing area.	December
Yarrambat	Worns Lane	Reserve	Slashing of #26 Worns Lane around dams.	December
Yarrambat	Laurie road and Yan Yean Road .Yarrambat	Roadside	Brushcut on the North East corner of the road for a site line up Yan Yean road for 30m	December

Bushfire Mitigation (Fire Prevention) Works Program 2022-2023
Attachment 1. Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022-2023

Tank_Name	Location	Adjacent_property	Capacity_ltrs	Brigade_Area	Works required	Timing
Chads Creek RD	Corner of Chads Creek / Strathewen Road.	165 O'Deas Road	44,000	Arthurs Creek	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Eagles Nest Rd	Eagles Nest Road	15 Eagles Nest Rd	130,000	Arthurs Creek	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Bowden Spur RD	Bowden Spur Road south of National Park)	390 National Park Road	60,000	Arthurs Creek	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Chads Creek RD	Chads Creek and Pine Ridge Roads	280 Chads Creek Rd	60,000	Arthurs Creek	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Beal Avenue	Half the way up Beal Ave	152 O'Deas Road	130,000	Arthurs Creek	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Wallace Rd	Buttermans Track/Wallace Road	856 Buttermans Track	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Mt Wise Skyline Road North 2	Intersection of Osborne and Skyline Road North	1055 Skyline Road North	130,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Christmas Hills Hall	Christmas Hills Hall	735 Ridge Road	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Clintons Rd Watsons Crk	Clintons Road (Watsons Creek)	480 Clintons Road	44,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Catanil Boulevard	Henley Road/Catanil Bvd (east)	45 Skyline Road	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Ironbark Rd	Ironbark Road	116 Catanil Blvd	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Mt Wise Skyline Road North 1	Mt Wise (Skyline Road North)	1073 Skyline Road North	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Muir Road	Muir Road	2 Muir Road	120,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Wendy Way	Olivers Track cnr Wendy Way & Skyline	330 Skyline Rd	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Ridge Rd	Ridge Road	1 Westering Rd	120,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Sugarloaf tank	Skyline Road (Sugarloaf)	40 Simpson Road	80,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Henley tank	Skyline Road (Henley Farm)	40 Skyline Road	120,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Watsons Creek	Watsons Creek	5 Ridge Road	130,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Westering	Westering Rd	123 Westering	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Windermere	Windermere (Skyline Road North)	1405 Skyline Road North	22,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Oxley Rd tank	Intersection of Henley and Canyon Boulevard	68 Henley Rd	120,000	Christmas Hills	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Yarra River	Laughing Waters Road	100 Laughing Waters	22,000	Eltham	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Overbank	Overbank Rd	50 Overbank Road	22,000	Eltham	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Hurstbridge Arthurs Creek tank	Intersection of Hurstbridge/Arthurs Creek and Patulos	205 Hurstbridge Arthurs Creek Road	130,000	Hurstbridge	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Kendalls Lane	Intersection of SpringHills and Kendalls Lane	48 Springhill Road	130,000	Hurstbridge	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Cottles Bridge	Cottles Bridge Strathewen Road		130,000	Hurstbridge	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Hildebrand	Hildebrand Road	45 Hildebrand	22,000	Hurstbridge	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Change of cutting	Change of cutting	Old Kinglake Road	125,000	Kinglake	Graffiti, new lid, water clean, tank clean, 125mm fitting	Nov/Dec
Rodger Road	St Andrews/ KG Road and Rodger Road	570 KG St Andrews	35,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
One tree hill	One Tree Hill Road	230 One Tree Hill	44,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Rob Roy Rd	Rob Roy Road	5 Rob Roy Road	22,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Belfields	Belfields and Red Shirt Gully Road	30 Belfields	130,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Goldmans	Goldman Rd	95 Goldmans	130,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Joyces Rd Tank	Intersection of Joyces and Smiths Gully Rds	300 Smiths Gully Rd	120,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec

Bushfire Mitigation (Fire Prevention) Works Program 2022-2023
Attachment 1. Bushfire Mitigation Works Program 2022-2023

Motschalls Tk	Motschalls Road	135 Broad Acres Rd	130,000	Panton Hill	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Pegionbank tank	Kangaroo/Ground/Warrandyte Road	195 Kangaroo Ground-Warrand	120,000	North Warrandyte	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
The Chase WT	The Chase	The chase	90,000	North Warrandyte	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Bald Spur tank North 1	Bald Spur Road tank 1 (south of National Park)	25 Ninks Road	22,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Bald Spur Tank South 2	Bald Spur Road tank 2	215 Rankines Road	44,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Flora Cres Tank	Intersection of Flora Cres and St Andrew/ KG road	60 Flora Cres	120,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Sutton	Intersection of Caledonia and Heidelberg Kinglake Rd	39-61 Caledonia Street	120,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Varga Tank	Intersection of Varga and St Andrews/Panton Hill Roads	870 St Andrews/Panton Hill Road	130,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Hweitts Rd Tank	Hweitts and Jackson Rds	35 Jacksons Road	130,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Jackson Rd Tank	Jackson Rd	290 Jacksons Road	130,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Olives Lane Tank 1	Corner of Olives Lane/Heidelberg Kinglake Rd	2270 Heidelberg-Kinglake Ro	22,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Olives Lane Tank 2	Corner of Olives Lane/Heidelberg Kinglake Rd	2270 Heidelberg-Kinglake Ro	90,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Shaws Tank	Hilderbrand Road and Shaws Road	Hilderbrand Road	130,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Marshalls Tk	Marshalls Road	50 Marshalls Road	44,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Mittons Bridge	Mittons Bridge/Heidelberg Kinglake Rd	2075 Heidelberg Kinglake Rd	125,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Yow Yow tk	Buttermans Track & Yow Yow	15 Yow Yow Creek Road	44,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Dinsdale tk	Dinsdale road	80 Wild DOG Creek Rd	44,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Youngs tk	Heidelberg/Kinglake Rd & Youngs	165 Youngs	80,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Ninks tk	Ninks Road	145 Ninks Road	120,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Dodd Tank	Dodds and Brens	130 Dodds	80,000	ST Andrews	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Licola 1	Corner of Licola/Mooney Roads	171 North Oatlands Road	22,000	Yarrambat	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec
Licola 2	Corner of Licola/Mooney Roads	171 North Oatlands Road	22,000	Yarrambat	Vegetation Works and Brushcutting	Nov/Dec

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Nillumbik's Mental Health and Wellbeing Advocacy Priorities - DRAFT

Accessible Services

1. Advocate to increase accessibility to services by leveraging opportunities to co-locate mental health and wellbeing services in community settings.
2. Advocate for all new infrastructure projects to align with health and social needs to provide accessible community spaces and places that enhance prevention and service provision.
3. Advocate for standalone LGBTIQ+ service provision in Nillumbik Shire.
4. Advocate for greater Youth focused service provision in Nillumbik.

Service Navigation

5. Advocate for more effective service navigation processes, broadly and within Nillumbik e.g. integrated service providers and/or hub.

Appropriate Services

6. Advocate for more funding for services to address drivers for the high prevalence mental health disorders of anxiety and depression experienced in Nillumbik.

Intersectional Services

7. Advocate for a greater number of intersecting wrap-around services within the municipality, including attracting more private practitioners to the region.

Systemic Issues

8. Advocate to State Government for greater resourcing and advice to be provided regarding Council's role and partnership opportunities in the prevention sector. Specifically, in regards to issues that have successful outcomes when prevention is addressed, and that directly impact Nillumbik, including anxiety and depression and vulnerability to the threat of climate change.
9. Advocate for targeted resourcing within Council to better support service provider attraction to the municipality, service integration and partnerships.
10. Advocate for greater integrated multidisciplinary service provision in Nillumbik to reflect the changing Nillumbik demographic profile.

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Nillumbik Mental Health Mapping Project –Report Summary

Background

This project was conceptualised to align with work Council is undertaking as a member of the Northern Councils Alliance (NCA). The NCA is undertaking regional advocacy to develop an approach to supporting mental health in the Northern Council Region to improve outcomes in mental health and ensure a collective approach to advocacy with a focus on prevention. Council's alignment with the NCA will support regional priorities. However, it was acknowledged that Nillumbik has a range of unique factors that are impacting community mental health and wellbeing that also requires independent and targeted advocacy priorities that align with the community's needs.

The Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System was tabled in Victorian Parliament in March 2021; the final report outlining immediate priorities and recommendations to transform the Victorian mental health system. In the wake of the report, Nillumbik Shire Council sought to undertake an audit of current mental health service provision across the municipality to identify gaps in access and availability, as well as to understand work being undertaken locally in the prevention space. The purpose of this research project was to establish mental health and wellbeing advocacy priorities for Nillumbik Shire Council.

Council engaged a Consultant to map and engage with service providers and community partners throughout the Shire to collate an understanding of the Nillumbik service network and communities' current needs, gaps and opportunities. The report presents findings regarding barriers, stakeholder consultation, gaps, opportunities and priorities specific to the Nillumbik Shire municipality. The findings indicate a fragmented sector with increased demand, a strained workforce, and one that is reactive rather than preventative. This common voice conveys that the greatest challenge for mental health service provision in the Shire is connecting people with timely and appropriate support. There is an overwhelming desire for improvement, greater cohesion and more support for professionals within the sector and for those seeking help from the sector.

The findings of this project convey the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of the community, in addition to the many societal factors that contribute to mental health impacts. The complexities surrounding mental health and the increasing number of people requiring support indicate that the findings and content of this report are just one small part of the overall picture and that there are many fundamental changes that will be required to create improvement. The findings of this report are representative of a "point in time", which has assisted in identifying opportunities for advocacy and recommendations for to address the community's needs,

The findings provide context to the future development of initiatives that will address broad issues in Nillumbik Shire. Collectively, these findings have led to the development of the Nillumbik mental health advocacy priorities. Using the platform council has as Local Government to advocate for the community's needs

Findings

Complexity of Presenting Issues

The most common mental health issues presented across Nillumbik services were stated to be: anxiety, depression, trauma and stress. Through this project, 58% of service provider respondents reported anxiety and depression as commonly presenting issues.

Many service providers expressed that many people were seeking mental health support for the first time and also expressed that most presentations were now more complex than previously noted in Nillumbik, with many intersecting issues. The pandemic, coinciding with extreme climate events and geopolitical instability, are all believed to have contributed to the rise in volume and complexity of presentations.

Severity of Presentations

Service providers and community partners reported an increase in the complexity of presenting issues, resulting in more time to meet the needs of each person in need. Kids Helpline have reported that due to increased complexities and vigilance in duty of care, responses take longer to handle which has a negative impact on the volume of overall responses. Headspace indicate approximately a 20% increase on service delivery when comparing the past 12 months with pre-covid data.

Service Provision Gaps and Limitations

The following gaps were identified by mental health service professionals and key community partners consulted throughout the data collection:

- Overall workforce capacity - inadequate numbers of professionals working across all areas of service provision was identified to meet existing demand.
- Youth - despite the existence of Headspace locally, youth was continually mentioned as a chronically under-resourced area. There is inadequate supply of public services catering to this demographic.
- Neurodiverse– accessibility to local service providers and supports needs to be improved for neurodiverse people. Services advised that they were inclusive however it is unknown how comfortable targeted groups are accessing mainstream services.
- LGBTIQ+ young people – accessibility to local service providers and supports needs to be improved for LGBTIQ+ young people. Services advised that they were inclusive however it is unknown how comfortable targeted groups are accessing mainstream services. Anecdotally Greensborough Headspace also identifies LGBTIQ+ as their highest priority group.
- Children - primary school aged children (5-12 years) are noted to be experiencing mental health and wellbeing impacts manifesting in illness requiring treatment at unprecedented rates. It was stated that the provision youth and children services in Nillumbik are not meeting current needs and this a gap compared to other LGAs.
- Older People - there has been a reduced presentation of aged (55 years+) people requiring mental health care services. However identified impacts on this demographic such as isolation, loss, lack of connection to community and perceived

stigma are likely leading to a misrepresentation of the number of people in this demographic requiring help.

- System navigation - the lack of a centralised location for mental health service provider information and ease of navigation was repeatedly identified throughout the consultation.
- The “missing middle” - people with non-acute issues, or complex mental health needs, who require more specialised support than most private practitioners can provide but who are not acute enough for public mental health services can slip through the gaps.
- Poor access to services in regards to how many services available in more regional areas of the shire.
- Turnover of staff in Local Government, agencies and service providers has led to loss of knowledge of local services and has made it more difficult to connect people with appropriate services.
- Inadequate number of specialised Eating Disorder services servicing Nillumbik Shire
- Limited availability of services provided through NDIS funding. NDIS will not fund clinical mental health support.
- Not enough CAT (Crisis Assessment and Treatment) teams servicing Nillumbik Shire.
- Increased attendances at emergency departments due to people being unable to access adequate mental health support services.
- Almost all service providers stated that ‘everyone is welcome’, however that they did not specifically cater for LGBTIQ+ or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders. Anecdotally, service providers indicated a rise in demand in response to issues arising from gender issues.

Barriers to Access

The following were identified to be the key barriers to access of services in Nillumbik at this point in time. Please note those that are bolded were found to be the most significant reason impacting access to services.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Cost | 7. Mental Health Care Plans |
| 2. Availability | 8. Stigma |
| 3. System Navigation | 9. Expectations |
| 4. Telehealth | 10. Vulnerability |
| 5. Acute vs non acute care | 11. Sector Professional Regulations |
| 6. Distance | |

Next Steps

The project found significant resourcing, system and process gaps in the Mental Health and Wellbeing sector within Nillumbik Shire. Those gaps identified that sit within Council's ability to mitigate as Business as Usual will be addressed. However, the mapping of Nillumbik's system network and community's needs identified clear funding gaps. Using the findings of the project, Council has established Mental Health and Wellbeing Advocacy Priorities to meet the emerging and urgent need.

Accessible Services

1. Advocate to increase accessibility to services by leveraging opportunities to co-locate mental health and wellbeing services in community settings.
2. Advocate for all new infrastructure projects to align with health and social needs to provide accessible community spaces and places that enhance prevention and service provision.
3. Advocate for standalone LGBTIQ+ service provision in Nillumbik Shire.
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9. Advocate for targeted resourcing within Council to better support service provider attraction to the municipality, service integration and partnerships.
10. Advocate for greater integrated multidisciplinary service provision in Nillumbik to reflect the changing Nillumbik demographic profile.

Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5.00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee
	Date:	Monday 15 August 2022
	Location:	Virtual meeting
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Sally Johnson
	Other:	Independant Chairperson – Allan Bawden
APOLOGIES:		Cr Karen Egan and Cr Peter Perkins

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Finalise 2022/2023 CEO Performance Plan including KPIs and measures	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 5.59pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Sally Johnson Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5.04pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Tuesday 16 August 2022
	Location:	Virtual
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy(5.08pm) Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Peter Perkins and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie, Vince Lombardi, Sally Johnson, Hjalmar Philipp, Corrienne Nichols, Rosa Zouzoulas, Jeremy Livingston, Nichole Johnson, Lawrence Seyers, , Nicola Clutton, Katie Camilleri, Heath Gillett, Ayman Williams, Eleishia Jansz, Anna Maio, Alex Marshall
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Youth Summit summary report	No disclosures were made
2	Community Safety Parking Infringement Service Review	No disclosures were made
3	Traffic and Transport Update	No disclosures were made
4	Events Policy	No disclosures were made
5	Mayor update with Councillors	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 6.42pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Sally Johnson Acting Executive Manager Governance, Communications and Engagement
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 7pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC)
	Date:	Wednesday 17 August 2022
	Location:	Council Chambers
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Ben Ramcharan,
	Council Staff:	Lisa Pittle, Kirsten Reedy, Nicola Clutton, Warren Tomlinson
	Other:	Fieke Van Der Kamp, Malcolm Cock, Doug Evans, Kahn Franke, John Huf, Vasundhara Kandpal, Anne-Marie King, Kate McCracken, Alan Thatcher, Lynlee Tozer
APOLOGIES:		Andrew McMahon, Sue Rosenhain, Laura Nix

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Climate Action Plan – Implementation Plan	No disclosures were made
2	Smart Farms project update	No disclosures were made
3	Nillumbik – Edendale biodiversity forum update	No disclosures were made
4	Biodiversity Strategy review	No disclosures were made
5	Other business	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 9pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Laura Nix
	Officer Title:	Environment Project Officer

Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5.03pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Council Meeting Pre-Meet
	Date:	Tuesday 23 August 2022
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Peter Perkins, Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Karen Egan, Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Ben Ramcharan and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Vince Lombardi, Hjalmar Philipp, Corrienne Nichols, Jeremy Livingston, Rosa Zouzoulas, Nichole Johnson, Leigh Northwood, Enrique Gutierrez, Sean Diffey, Paul Fyffe, Natalie Town, Jodie Leahy, Katie Camilleri, Lawrence Seyers, Anna Maio, April Wilson, Lisa Pittle, Alex Marshall, Molly Jessop, Nicola Clutton, Sarah Hammond, Emma Christensen, Katia Croce
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Council Meeting Pre-Meet	Cr Ramcharan disclosed a Conflict of Interest regarding item CM.092/22 Deer Control Contractor Panel and left meeting during discussion of this item. (temporarily left meeting at 6.06pm and returned 6.07pm) No other disclosures were made.

The Meeting concluded at 6.11pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Katia Croce Acting Executive Manager Governance Comms and Engagement
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 7:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee
	Date:	Monday 15 August 2022
	Location:	Council Chambers & Zoom (hybrid)
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr. Paine, Cr Duffy
	Council Staff:	Corrienne Nichols, Nichole Johnson, Sarah Hammond, Paul Fyffe, Sean Diffey, Jodie Leahy, Angela Bailey, Renee Cosgrave, Saleh Hadi
	Other:	Leanne Ipsen, Sandra Miller, Dennis Coard, Cassie May, Alli Spoor, Liezl Shnookal, Rebecca Davies, Chris Cook, Elsa Ch'ng, Terrie Waddell, Mel Paine, Jean Verso, Chloe Mann.
APOLOGIES:		Cr Perkins, Hana Zreikat

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Recruitment of Coordinator Arts and Cultural Development	No disclosures were made
2	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Members 2022-24 ACAC term. • 2022-26 Arts and Culture Strategy Update • In person social event for Committee • Cultural Gift. Rick Amor, The Path of Fire 2009-2021, 2022, Oil on canvas, framed, 117cmx162cm • Artist recommendations from Committee and promotion of the Stay Connected opportunities. • 2022-23 History and Heritage Grants – Committee volunteers 	No disclosures were made
3	Gender Equality Presentation	No disclosures were made
4	Eltham Library Community Gallery Program Update	No disclosures were made
5	Neighbourhood Character Strategy Presentation	No disclosures were made
6	Curator and Collections Management Update	No disclosures were made
7	Arts Development Update	No disclosures were made
8	Community Arts and Cultural Engagement Update	No disclosures were made

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
9	Other Business	No disclosures were made
10	2022 Meetings and Future Dates for Diary	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 9pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name/Title:	Sarah Hammond, Acting Coordinator Arts and Cultural Development
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 10:00am

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee
	Date:	Friday 26 August 2022
	Location:	Council Chambers, Civic Drive, Greensborough 3088
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Perkins, Cr Ramcharan, Cr Duffy
	Council Staff:	Nicky Forster, Angela Clare, Lawrence Seyers, Paul Fyffe, Sean Diffey
	Externals	Sheila Cleary
	Committee Members:	Neville Coutts, Rhonda Bain, Inbar Niv, Inbar Niv, Alison Stanyer David O'Connor, Diana Warrell
APOLOGIES:		Angela Lampard (Coordinator, Disability Inclusion and Volunteering), Helen Ryan, Aisling McCabe, Lorna MacRae

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Memory Care Cafe	No disclosures were made
2	Advocacy regarding new FlexiRide Bus	No disclosures were made
3	International Day of People with Disability: Grant application assessments	No disclosures were made
4	Draft Neighbourhood Character Strategy	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 1pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Angela Clare Disability Inclusion Officer
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 12.10pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Positive Ageing Advisory Committee
	Date:	Friday 2 September 2022
	Location:	Council Chamber and Zoom
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Natalie Duffy. Cr Frances Eyre
	Council Staff:	Fiona Vuong, Iwona Trickett, Nichole Johnson, Jade Zigenbine, Angela Lampard, Mitchell Walker
	Other:	Tianjian Shen, Philip Green, Anne Fitzpatrick, Janice Crosswhite, Sabi Buehler, Sue Riley, Deanna Finn, Richard Kottek, Ray Carroll, Jan Taylor
APOLOGIES:		

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Welcome/ introductions	No disclosures made
2.	Nillumbik 'older person's collective	No disclosures made
3.	Nillumbik Neighbourhood Character Strategy	No disclosures made
4.	Introduction to Mitch Walker	No disclosures made
5.	Roundtable	No disclosures made

The Meeting concluded at 2.15pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name:	Fiona Vuong
	Officer Title:	Positive Ageing Officer

Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 4:00pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Youth Council Advisory Meeting
	Date:	Monday 5 September 2022
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Natalie Duffy
	Council Staff:	Nichole Johnson, Katie Camilleri, Nicola Clutton, Frances Biggar, Paul Fyffe, Sean Diffy
	Other:	Brianne Keogh, Fieke Van Der Kamp, Lachlan Wadsworth, Maali Kerta-Rice, Orianna Edmonds, Indi Sandwell, Kirra Imbriano, Niamh Coffey, Ava Grzechnik, Rhys Warrillow
APOLOGIES:		Nil

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	<p>We know your name but not your story project brief.</p> <p>Officers briefed youth council on upcoming project to collect feedback and advice on project plan.</p>	No disclosures were made
2	<p>Draft Neighborhood Character Strategy.</p> <p>Officers instructed youth council on how they can provided feedback on the draft strategy.</p>	No disclosures were made

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
3	<p>Youth Council Project Updates</p> <p>Brianne and Orianna provided updates to the youth council on their youth led projects. Youth In Basketball and St Andrews activations.</p>	No disclosures were made
4	<p>Youth Development Updates</p> <p>Officers provided update on the upcoming youth projects, BMX, gender equity and school holidays.</p>	No disclosures were made
5		

The Meeting concluded at 6:00pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Nicola Clutton Officer Title: Team Leader Youth Development
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5.04 pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing
	Date:	Tuesday 6 September 2022
	Location:	Virtual
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy(5.42pm), Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Peter Perkins and Cr Richard Stockman
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie, Vince Lombardi, Blaga Naumoski, Hjalmar Philipp, Nichole Johnson, Rosa Zouzoulas, Melika Sukunda, Heath Gillett, Melissa Butler, Katie Camilleri, Sarah Hammond, Anna Maio
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr Karen Egan

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	End of Financial Year 2021-2022 Position briefing	No disclosures were made
2	Franklin St, Eltham - Road Closure	No disclosures were made
3	Mental Health Advocacy Priorities	No disclosures were made
4	CEO Update with Councillors	No disclosures were made
5	Nillumbik Health and Wellbeing Plan - Year 1 Progress Report	No disclosures were made
6	Nillumbik Pandemic Recovery Plan Final Progress Report	No disclosures were made
7	Arts and Culture Strategy and Year 1 Action Plan	No disclosures were made
8	Place Activation Concept – Nillumbik Great Wall	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 7.43pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Blaga Naumoski Director Governance and Communications
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Informal Meeting of Councillors Record

The Meeting commenced at 5.03pm

MEETING DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing and PCC Pre-meet
	Date:	Tuesday 13 September 2022
	Location:	Council Chamber
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Frances Eyre, Cr Natalie Duffy, Cr Geoff Paine, Cr Ben Ramcharan, Cr Karen Egan, and Cr Peter Perkins
	Council Staff:	Carl Cowie (virtually), Vince Lombardi, Blaga Naumoski, Rosa Zouzoulas, Nichole Johnson, Andrew Feeney, Leigh Northwood, Rowena Cairns, Katia Croce
	Other:	
APOLOGIES:		Cr Richard Stockman

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Draft Diamond Creek Community Infrastructure Strategic Plan – Exhibition findings	No disclosures were made <i>Carl Cowie, Leigh Northwood and Andrew Feeney left the meeting at the conclusion of this item at 5.35pm</i>
2	PCC Meeting Pre-meet	No disclosures were made

The Meeting concluded at 6.04pm

RECORD COMPLETED BY:	Officer Name: Officer Title:	Katia Croce Governance Lead
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