

Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting

to be held at the Council Chamber, 32 Civic Drive, Greensborough
on Tuesday 13 May 2025 commencing at 7:00 PM.

Agenda

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive Officer

Thursday 8 May 2025

Distribution: Public

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Council Chamber Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting seating plan

Cr Peter Perkins
Ellis Ward
**(Chairperson
Planning
Matters)**

Cr Kelly Joy
Edendale Ward

Cr Naomi Joiner
Bunjil Ward
(Deputy Mayor)

Cr Kim Cope
Sugarloaf Ward

Cr Kate McKay
Swipers Gully Ward

**Cr John Dumaresq
(Mayor)**
Wingrove Ward

**Emma
Christensen**
Governance
Coordinator

Blaga Naumoski
Director
Governance,
Communications
and Community
Safety

Cr Grant Brooker
Blue Lake Ward
**(Chairperson
Consultation Matters)**

Carl Cowie
Chief Executive
Officer

Nillumbik Shire Council

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Nillumbik Shire Council

**Agenda of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting to be held
Tuesday 13 May 2025 commencing at 7:00 PM.**

1. Welcome by the Chair

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

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Acknowledgement of Country to be read by the Chairperson

Nillumbik Shire Council 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 colonial 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.

3. Apologies/Leave of Absence

Committee to note any apologies by Councillors not in attendance and or considers requests for any leave of absence submitted.

4. Declarations of conflict of interest

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

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5. Confirmation of Minutes


COM.001/25 Confirmation of Minutes Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held Tuesday 8 April 2025

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8 April 2025.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council) confirms the Minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8 April 2025 (**Attachment 1**).

Attachments

- 1 Minutes of the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on Tuesday  8 April 2025

5. Confirmation of Minutes

COM.001/25 Confirmation of Minutes Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held Tuesday 8 April 2025

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6. Officers’ reports

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

Item: Consultation Matter

Distribution: Public

Manager: Blaga Naumoski, Director Governance, Communications and Community Safety

Author: Katia Croce, Manager Governance and Property

Summary

At its Council Meeting on 25 March 2025, Council endorsed to commence public consultation process on the proposed renaming of a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View as shown on the plan in **Attachment 1 and 2** as required under Section 7 of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria – 2022 (Naming Rules) and Council’s Community Engagement Policy.

Council also resolved to consider any submissions received on the proposed road renaming at this Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting before making a final decision on the road renaming proposal at a future Council meeting.

Community consultation occurred on the road renaming proposal between Friday 28 March to Sunday 27 April 2025.

In response to the community engagement process, Council received 32 submissions via Participate Nillumbik, with 31 of these submissions in support of the road renaming proposal.

All submissions are included in **Attachment 3 (redacted)** and **Attachment 4 (unredacted)**.

This report provides a summary of the feedback received from the community consultation process in response to the proposed renaming of a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View.

Submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to their submission. In addition to the written submissions received, community members have also been invited to make verbal presentations to the Committee regarding the road renaming proposal.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):




1. Acknowledges and notes the submissions received on the proposed renaming of a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View, shown in **Attachment 1 and 2** as required under Section 7 of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria – 2022 (Naming Rules) and Council’s Community Engagement Policy.
2. Acknowledges and notes the submissions received from the community in **Attachment 3 and Attachment 4** and any verbal presentations made to the Committee on the road renaming proposal.
3. Requests a further report be presented to Council on 27 May 2025 to make a final decision on whether to proceed with the road renaming proposal.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

4. Thanks submitters for providing Council with feedback on the road renaming proposal.
5. Resolves the confidential un-redacted copy of the written submissions to the naming proposal (**Attachment 4**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Attachments

1.  Plan of Duffs Road
2.  Vicmap Plan of Duffs Road
3.  Submissions - Renaming Duffs Road
4. Unredacted Submissions - Renaming Duffs Road - *CONFIDENTIAL*

Discussion

1. Council received an enquiry from a resident of Goldmans Road, Panton Hill to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View in July 2023 as shown in **Attachment 1 and Attachment 2**.
2. The name 'Welton View' has been proposed as the Welton family have lived off Duffs Road since the 1950s.
3. The name is in honour of Mrs Welton and their relevant family history and association to the area.
4. The proposed renaming of part of Duffs Road is subject to Council undertaking the necessary process as outlined in the Naming Rules including community consultation and making a final decision on the proposed name before submitting it to Geographic Names Victoria (GNV) for approval.
5. Council resolved to commence community engagement on the road renaming proposal at the Council Meeting on the 25 March 2025.
6. Community engagement on the road renaming proposal occurred between Friday 28 March to Sunday 27 April 2025.
7. On conclusion of the community engagement process, 32 submissions were received via Participate Nillumbik, no written submissions were received. All submissions are included in **Attachment 3 (redacted)** and **Attachment 4 (unredacted)**.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

8. The contribution summary from all submissions received:

Type of submissions	Support the name	Not supportive of the name
Participate Nillumbik	31	1

9. The 31 submitters supportive of the name, were so for the following reasons:

- Good idea to avoid confusion for visitors, emergency services and delivery trucks
- Happy named after woman in the area
- Fantastic for family rich history
- Currently lots of cars enter as GPS is confusing
- Will stop traffic getting lost wrong end of Duffs Road
- The Weltons spent decades on this property and were crucial part of the community – well deserving tribute
- Think it is a great honour for the Welton family who raised six children, 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren in their home in Panton Hill.

10. The one submitter who did not support the name ‘Welton View’ did so as they prefer the road to be named after ‘Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung’.

11. Council officers have reviewed the name to ensure compliance with the principles within the Naming Rules for places Victoria 2022. These include:

Principle	Officer Comment
Principle A - Ensuring public safety	This section of road should be renamed to prevent confusion especially for emergency services
Principle B - Recognising the public interest	Renaming one section of Duffs Road will avoid confusion for visitors, emergency services and delivery trucks.
Principle C - Linking the name to place	Not applicable
Principle D - Ensuring names are not duplicated	Duplication is not allowed within the same locality or the following default distances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • metropolitan urban areas - 5 kilometre radius • regional urban areas, - 15 kilometre radius • rural or remote areas, within a 30 kilometre radius

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

Principle	Officer Comment
	GNV initially advised that the proposed name was too similar to another two names in close proximity being Wilton Vale Road 12.6km away and Wilton Court 14.8km away. They are now satisfied this is low risk and acceptable.
Principle E - Recognition and use of Traditional Owner languages	Not applicable to this proposal.
Principle F - Names must not discriminate or be offensive	The name is not considered to be derogatory or patently offensive, and it does not discriminate.
Principle G - Gender equality	The name is in honour of Mrs Welton and long term their family association to the area.
Principle H - Dual names	Not applicable to this naming proposal.
Principle I - Using commemorative names	Commemorative names can only be assigned once a person is deceased, so in this instance the name would be in commemoration of Mrs Welton who passed away but also in the longer term in commemoration of the Welton family history in the area.
Principle J - Using commercial and business names	Not applicable to this naming proposal.
Principle K - Language	Complies with all language requirements. Easy to pronounce, spell and write, and does not exceed three words allowance.
Principle L - Directional names to be avoided	The names complies with this.
Principle M - Assigning extent to a road, feature or locality	The Plan shown in Attachment 2 – outlines the proposed areas. This was shown during the submission phase on Participate Nillumbik and mail out to residents.

Related Council decisions

- At the Council Meeting on 25 March 2025, Council endorsed to commence public consultation process on the proposed renaming of a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View as shown on the plan in **Attachment 1 and 2** as required under Section 7 of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria – 2022 (Naming Rules) and Council’s Community Engagement Policy.

Options

- The Planning and Consultation Committee notes the submissions in **Attachment 3 and 4** and any verbal submissions.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

14. Officers will review the submissions and any verbal submissions before presenting the proposed renaming of a section of Duffs Road to Welton View at the Council Meeting on 27 May 2025.

Council plans and policies

15. This report directly supports the achievement of the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategy:
- We act in the best interests of our community.

Access, Equity and Inclusion

16. The Naming Rules include Principle G - Gender equality, which states 'Gender equality in the naming of roads, features and localities is encouraged. When developing a naming proposal consideration should be given to gender equality'.
17. Proposed names must conform to the Principles in the Naming Rules.
18. Council officers considered Mrs Welton's first name but there was a duplication of this name in close proximity on VicNames Register.
19. The proposed name 'Welton View' is in honour of Mrs Welton and their family association to the area.

Sustainability implications

20. Not applicable.

Community engagement

21. Council must undertake a public consultation process on the proposed name as required under section 7 of the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria – 2022 (Naming Rules).
22. This is a key component in the process of naming roads, features and localities. Naming authorities typically consult the public on any naming proposal and must comply with the minimum requirements under Section 7.1, where relevant.
23. Section 7.1 of the Naming Rules include that consultation with the immediate and/or extended community must be a minimum of 30 days, though may be longer.
24. Community engagement on the road renaming proposal commenced Friday 28 March and closed Sunday 27 April 2025.
25. Consultation took the form of a survey on Council's Participate Nillumbik site.
26. The consultation was promoted through:
- a) Participate Nillumbik community engagement;
 - b) Letters to adjoining and nearby properties;
 - c) Letter to the relevant Emergency Service Organisations; and
 - d) The ability to submit hard copy submissions if requested.
27. Submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to their submission.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.003/25 Proposal to rename a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View

Innovation and continuous improvement

28. The Naming Rules - Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities, was reviewed and updated to fulfil Geographic Names Victoria's (GNV) requirement under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* section 6 to review the 'guidelines' once every five years.
29. The Naming Rules were developed following consultation with municipal councils, government departments and emergency response and public service providers.
30. The Naming Rules support commemorative naming of places after women.
31. Council as a statutory naming authority must comply with the Naming Rules, which includes naming principles.

Collaboration

32. Internal consultation has occurred with Governance, Social Planning and Equity, Rates, Assets, Development and Assets, Traffic Management, Community Safety, Capital Works and Infrastructure and Spatial IT Business Analyst on the proposed name 'Welton View' and all relevant departments supported the renaming of a section of Duffs Road, Panton Hill to Welton View.
33. The Captain of Panton Hill CFA advised Council prior to commencing community engagement that they are supportive of the name change for this section of Duffs Road.
34. GNV have provided 'in principal support' for the proposed name 'Welton View'.

Budget considerations

35. All costs associated with the naming proposal and community consultation process have been accounted for in the Governance and Property Department operational budget.
36. If Council resolves to rename a section of the road and the name is approved by GNV, the street signage will be paid through the capital budget for signage upgrades at a later date.

Relevant law

37. The Naming rules for places in Victoria 2022, statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities are commonly referred to as the Naming Rules.
38. The Naming Rules uphold the guidelines in the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*. They are mandatory for naming authorities in Victoria.

Regional, state and national plans and policies

39. Not applicable.

Conflicts of interest

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

6. Officers' reports

PCC.004/25 Draft Budget 2025-2026 Submissions

Item: Consultation Matter

Distribution: Public

Manager: Melika Sukunda, Acting Chief Operating Officer

Author: Robert Malignaggi, Acting Manager Finance, Assets and Procurement

Summary

This report considers submissions received from the public regarding the Draft Budget 2025-2026 (**Attachment 1**).

Council adopted the Draft Budget 2025-2026 at the Council Meeting on 25 February 2025 for the purpose of community consultation. The Draft Budget was exhibited for 28 days with 13 submissions being received. These submissions are attached to this report (**Attachment 1**).


It is proposed that the Committee considers the submissions on the Draft Budget 2025-2026 and that the matter then be considered by Council on 27 May 2025.

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Receives and notes the submissions received in respect of the Draft Budget 2025-2026, (**Attachment 1**) in accordance with the section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
2. Considers the matters contained in the submissions and the Committee's report during finalisation of the Budget.
3. Acknowledges presentations made to the Committee.
4. Resolves that the confidential un-redacted submissions contained in (**Attachment 2**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in Section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
5. Requests that a further report be presented to Council on 27 May 2025 with a recommendation on whether to adopt the 2025–2026 Budget..

Attachments

- 1  Attachment 1 - 2025-2026 Submissions_Redacted
2. Attachment 2 - 2025-2026 Submissions - *CONFIDENTIAL*

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.004/25 Draft Budget 2025-2026 Submissions

Discussion

1. The *Local Government Act* provides that a council must:
 - *Prepare a budget for each financial year – section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 2020*
 - *Ensure that the budget contains financial statements, description of services and major initiatives and a statement as to how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan, indicators of service performance that are required to be reported against in the performance statement and any other details required by the regulations– section 94(2).*
 - *Undertake public consultation in line with Council’s community engagement policy.*
 - *Adopt the budget and submit a copy to the Minister.*
2. Council adopted the Draft Budget 2025-2026 at the 25 March 2025 Council Meeting for the purpose of community consultation.

Submissions

3. In response to the public exhibition of the Draft Budget 2025-2026, Thirteen (13) submissions were received from the community.
4. Submissions and Attachments to the Draft Budget 2025-2026 are contained in (**Attachment 1**).
5. A copy of the un-redacted Submissions and Attachments to the Draft Budget 2025-2026 are contained in (**Attachment 2**). It is recommended that these Submissions and Attachments remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in Section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
6. Submitters have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to their submissions.
7. Once the Committee has considered the submissions, the Committee must present a report to the next Council meeting. Council is required to consider the Committee’s report on submissions prior to finalising the Budget.

Related Council decisions

8. The Draft Budget 2025-2026 was endorsed for the purposes of community consultation on 25 March 2025.
9. The 2025-2026 Budget will be presented for adoption at the 27 May 2025 Council Meeting commencing 7:00pm.

Council plans and policies

10. This report directly supports the achievement of the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategy:
 - We continue to exercise sustainable and responsible financial management.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.004/25 Draft Budget 2025-2026 Submissions

Access, Equity and Inclusion

11. A Gender Impact Assessment has been conducted and Gender Responsive Budgeting included within the guidelines as a priority consideration throughout the budget development process.

Sustainability implications

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

Community engagement

14. Following on from Council's adoption of the Draft Budget 2025-2026, public notice was provided, inviting the community to lodge submissions. Public exhibition was for 28 days. The Draft Budget was available for inspection at the Civic Centre and on Council's website.
15. Following the consideration of any submissions, the Budget will be presented for adoption at the Council Meeting on 27 May 2025, whereby Council is then required to formally adopt the final Budget for 2025-2026.

Innovation and continuous improvement

16. Continuous improvement and innovation opportunities identified have been considered.

Collaboration

17. The Drafting of budget is conducted in consultation with managers and Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

Budget considerations

18. The costs of preparing and exhibiting the Budget are funded from operating budget allocations.

Relevant law

19. *Local Government Act 2020*, sections 94 and 96.
20. The approach to the budget and the composition of the financial statements are prepared reflective of the overall compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

Regional, state and national plans and policies

21. Not applicable.

Conflicts of interest

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

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.004/25 Draft Budget 2025-2026 Submissions

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6. Officers' reports

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

Item: Consultation Matter

Distribution: Public

Manager: Blaga Naumoski, Director Governance, Communications and Community Safety

Author: Elishia Jansz, Manager Community Safety (Municipal Recovery Manager)

Summary

At the Council Meeting held on 25 February 2025, Council endorsed to commence Phase 2 of community consultation on the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 **(DAMP 2025-2029) (Attachment 1)**.

Community consultation occurred on the Draft DAMP 2025-2029 between Monday 3 March to Friday 4 April 2025.

This report provides a summary of the feedback received from the community consultation process in response to development of Councils Domestic Animal Management Plan which is a four-year plan that provides a strategic approach to the delivery of animal management services across the Nillumbik Shire.

In response to the Community Engagement process, Council received 524 submissions, made up of 518 completed surveys, and 6 written submissions. A summary of the completed surveys received to date are included in Community Engagement Report – Phase 2 **(Attachment 2)** and written submissions included as **Attachments 4 and 5**.

Overall, the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029 was well received by the community, with feedback reflecting strong engagement and thoughtful contributions.

A clear theme emerged in support of shared use of sporting ovals, with 45% of respondents backing dogs off-leash outside of organised sporting activities, compared to 16% who opposed it. This indicates community support for more accessible off-leash areas, particularly where existing dog parks may not meet the needs of all users.

On cat management views were more evenly split. 42% of respondents favoured retaining the current overnight curfew, while 40% supported introducing a 24-hour curfew. These results reflect the community's interest in balancing responsible pet ownership with public amenity and environmental protection.

The public have been invited to attend this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to speak to the item and provide further feedback to help shape the future DAMP. The feedback will directly inform refinements to the final DAMP.

The final Draft DAMP 2025-2029 is proposed to be tabled for Council consideration at future council meeting.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

Recommendation

That the Committee (acting under delegation from Council):

1. Receives and notes the summary Community Engagement Report – Phase 2 of submissions received in respect of the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 (**Attachment 2**).
2. Acknowledges presentations made to the Committee.
3. Requests Officers to consider submissions made from the public in finalising the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 prior to seeking Council endorsement a future Council meeting.
4. Resolves the confidential un-redacted copy of the written submissions (**Attachment 5**) remain confidential on the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Attachments

1. Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029
2. Community Engagement Report – Phase 2
3. Community Engagement Report - Phase 1
4. Written submissions - Redacted
5. Written submissions - *CONFIDENTIAL*

Discussion

1. Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (Act) requires all Victorian councils to prepare a Plan every four-years, and to adopt this within specified time frame. The Domestic Animal Management Plan (**DAMP**) will reflect the expectations of the Nillumbik Community’s vision for the next four years.
2. The DAMP identifies ten themes that must be responded to in order to ensure consistency across the state of Victoria:
 - Training of authorised officers
 - Programs to promote and encourage responsible ownership and compliance with legislation
 - Programs to address over-population rates and high euthanasian rates
 - Registration and identification

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

- Nuisance
 - Dog attack
 - Dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs
 - Domestic animal business
 - Other matters
 - Annual review of plan and annual reporting.
3. Each theme in the DAMP has an objective, a set of strategies and strategic indicators.
 4. The Act requires Councils to periodically evaluate any program, service strategy or review outlined in the DAMP. The Act requires an annual review of the DAMP and an evaluation of its implementation which is published in Council's Annual Report.
 5. An annual report will be presented to Council and the community at the end of each financial year at a Council Meeting.

Related Council decisions

6. The current Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 (**DAMP 2021-2025**) was adopted at the 30 November 2021 Council Meeting.
7. On 30 November 2021, Council resolved to adopt an existing order under s26 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* which made the following orders:
 - *Dogs must be under effective control of a person by means of a leash no longer than three metres:*
 - a. *In all public parks and reserves except where designated by signs in areas listed in section (4).*
 - b. *Within five metres of a shared use path.*
 - c. *On all streets, roads, public car parks and footpaths.*
 - *Dogs and cats are not permitted whether restrained or otherwise:*
 - a. *Within five metres of any children's playground or public barbeque.*
 - b. *In environmentally sensitive areas where designated by signs (i.e. in the parks listed below).*
 - c. *In schools, kindergartens and childcare centres unless with the prior permission of the Principal or Director.*
 - *Cats are required to be securely confined between the hours of 7.30 pm and 6 am.*
 - *Dogs are permitted off-leash but must be under effective control whether restrained or otherwise in the following parks and reserves (as designated by signs):*
 - a. *Eltham Lower Park, Eltham*
 - b. *Griffith Park, Eltham*
 - c. *Plenty River Drive Reserve, Greensborough*
 - d. *Eltham East Linear Reserve north of Diosma Road, Eltham*

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

- e. *Falkiner Street Park, Eltham (Barrack Bushland)*
 - f. *Susan Street, Eltham*
 - g. *Gumtree Reserve, Research*
 - h. *Woodridge Linear Park, Eltham*
 - i. *Fergusons Paddock, Hurstbridge South side of path only: Dogs are prohibited from entering the wetlands areas as signposted*
 - j. *Nillumbik Park, Diamond Creek: Dogs are prohibited from entering sporting oval and wetlands*
 - k. *Diamond Creek Reserve, Diamond Creek: Dogs prohibited from entering wetlands areas where signposted and sporting oval (except at Council approved events).*
 - *As a guide for implementation, a dog shall be deemed to be under effective control of its owner if:*
 - a. *It will return to its owner upon command;*
 - b. *The owner retains a clear unobstructed view of the dog;*
 - c. *It does not bother or worry other people or animals; and*
 - d. *It stays within 50 metres of its owner.*
 - *Dogs and cats are not permitted to enter the following public places in the following parks and reserves (as designated by signs)*
 - a. *Diamond Creek Reserve, Diamond Creek; dogs prohibited from entering wetlands areas.*
 - b. *Sweeneys Flats, Eltham – Parks Victoria Land.*
 - c. *Professors Hill Reserve, North Warrandyte.*
 - d. *Chase Reserve, North Warrandyte.*
 - e. *Blue Tongue Bend Reserve, North Warrandyte.*
 - f. *Temple Ridge and Bailey Gully Reserve, Wattle Glen.*
 - g. *Reserve, Watsons Creek*
 - h. *Marngrook Oval, Diamond Creek.*
 - i. *Coventry Oval, Diamond Creek*
 - j. *All sporting ovals in Hurstbridge.*
 - *Council may exempt any of the provisions of this Order at any time*
8. The current DAMP 2021-2025 will expire in October 2025.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

Council plans and policies

9. This report directly supports the achievement of the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategy:
- We seek to enhance community safety, public health, amenity and the environment through improved planning and community engagement, prioritising fair and transparent approaches to managing compliance and enforcement.

Access, Equity and Inclusion

10. Under the Gender Equality Act 2020 the Council is required to undertake a gender impact assessment when developing or reviewing any policy, program or service that has a direct and significant impact on the public.
11. A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) has been undertaken on the community engagement plan and recommendations formed from the assessment have been considered in the finalisation of this plan.
12. A further Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) will be undertaken on the final DAMP 2025-2029 once the final DAMP 2025-2029 has been established.

Sustainability implications

13. The DAMP demonstrates Council’s approach to ensure that effective animal management and responsible pet ownership is achieved in an accountable manner that protects animal welfare, promotes education, responsible pet ownership and encourage ways to reduce domestic animal impact on the environment, including Council controlled land and residential properties.

Community engagement

14. Phase 1 of community consultation was conducted from 3 June – 14 July 2024 for a period of 5 weeks, on Participate Nillumbik.
15. The community and key stakeholders were invited to provide feedback and inform Council of “Tell us, what’s important to you” with relation to responsible pet ownership.
16. Feedback was sought from community on a number of matters including:
- Animal management services
 - Programs or strategies
 - Review of Councils section 26 orders relating to off leash areas and cat control
17. This was conducted through a survey with targeted questions to assist us to understand community sentiment regarding animal management topics including dogs on ovals, confinement of cats and to identify current issues that were not included in the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025.
18. At the end of the community consultation period, 707 submissions were received with 2041 visits to the website and 7 separate submissions received for the Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 (**Draft DAMP 2025-2029**).
19. The comprehensive insights gained from the initial Phase 1 of community engagement is provided in the Community Engagement Report (**Attachment 3**). This informed the development of the Draft DAMP 2025-2029.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

20. Phase 2 of community engagement, aimed at gathering feedback on the Draft DAMP 2025-2029 was conducted from 3 March – 4 April 2025 for a period of 5 weeks, on Participate Nillumbik.
21. The community and key stakeholders were invited to provide feedback on the Draft DAMP 2025-2029, consultation occurred through:
 - networking
 - case investigations
 - pop ups
 - attendance at dog parks
 - advertising on corflute signage posted at dog parks
 - social media posts
 - promoting in various newsletters; and
 - through a survey with targeted questions based on the feedback received from Phase 1 of community engagement around the community preference of dogs on or off leash on ovals outside of sporting use and cat curfew considerations.
22. At the conclusion of the community consultation period, a total of 524 submissions were received in relation to the Draft DAMP 2025–2029, made up of 518 completed surveys, and 6 written submissions, with 1,640 visits to the website.
23. Further consideration will be given to public submissions from individuals who have been invited to address this meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee.

Innovation and continuous improvement

24. Opportunities for innovation and continuous improvement will be identified through the development and implementation of the DAMP.

Collaboration

25. Effective implementation of the DAMP relies on strong partnerships and cross-sector collaboration.
26. During Phase 2 of engagement, internal collaboration with relevant Council departments was undertaken to assess the potential impacts across various areas of Council operations.
27. Council will continue to collaborate with other levels of government, relevant agencies, and the community to support the successful delivery of the DAMP's strategies.

Budget considerations

28. Costs associated with the development of the Draft DAMP 2025-2029 and Community engagement costs have been met from existing budget allocations.
29. Further financial consideration would be required to implement DAMP initiatives.

Relevant law

30. Pursuant to Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 every Council in Victoria is required to produce a DAMP which is renewed every four years.

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

31. In addition, Nillumbik Shire Council's General Local Law 1 holds provisions which are relevant to this DAMP process, including:
- Clause 29 - Collection and disposal of animal excrement
 - Clause 30 - Keeping of animals
 - Clause 31 – Animal buildings and cleanliness
 - Clause 32 – Animal noise.

Regional, state and national plans and policies

32. Consideration to align with comprehensive cat management framework and initiatives to be delivered as outlined in Victorian Cat Management Strategy 2025 -2035.

Conflicts of interest

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

6. Consultation Matters

PCC.005/25 Domestic Animal Management Plan - Phase 2 Community Engagement

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