

AGENDA

Meeting of Council

To be held at the

Civic Centre

511 Burwood Highway

Wantirna South

On

Monday 28 June 2021 at 7:00 PM

Please note that this Council meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 guidelines.

Please refer to Council's website for the latest up to date information on the format and arrangements for this meeting.

This meeting will be streamed live on the internet and recorded.

The live stream and recording can be access via Council's website at webcast.knox.vic.gov.au



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Tony Doyle
Chief Executive Officer

1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 24 May 2021

4 Presentations, Petitions and Memorials

5 Reports by Councillors

6 City Strategy and Integrity Officers' Reports for consideration

6.1 Report of Planning Applications Decided Under Delegation 1 May 2021 to 31 May 2021

SUMMARY: Manager, City Planning & Building, Paul Dickie

Details of planning applications considered under delegation are referred for information. It is recommended that the items be noted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the planning applications decided under delegation reports (between 1 May 2021 and 31 May 2021) be noted.

1. REPORT

Details of planning applications decided under delegation from 1 May 2021 and 31 May 2021 are attached. The applications are summarised as follows:

Application Type	No.
Building & Works: Residential	7
Other	1
Subdivision	13
Units	13
Tree Removal / Pruning	7
Single Dwelling	2
Change of Use	1
Signage	1
Liquor License	1
TOTAL	46

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Manager, City Planning & Building, Paul Dickie

Report Authorised By: Director, City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher

Attachments

Nil

Knox City Council

Planning Applications Decided - Council

1 May 2021 and 31 May 2021

No/ Type	Address	Description	Decision	Ward
2021/9058	39 Agora Boulevard FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Two (2) lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	7/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2021/6092	22 Clendon Road FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	The construction of two dwellings on the land	17/05/2021 Notice of Decision	Baird
2021/9061	18 Cinerea Avenue FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	2 Lot Subdivision (Approved Development Site)	18/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2021/6132	7 Vivienne Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Three (3) lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	6/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2021/9062	11-13 Scoresby Road BAYSWATER VIC 3153	Buildings and Works (Construction of a canopy over loading bay to the rear of the building)	12/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2021/6125	7 Cypress Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	6 Lot Subdivision (Approved Development Site)	4/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2020/6167	6 Stonehaven Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Development of the land for 6 dwellings (2 double storey and 4 3-storey)	27/05/2021 Notice of Decision	Baird
2021/6250	863 Mountain Highway BAYSWATER VIC 3153	Removal of three (3) Eucalyptus ovata (Swamp Gums)	26/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2021/6081	6/841 Mountain Highway BAYSWATER VIC 3153	Signage (Business Identification and Directional)	26/05/2021 Approved	Baird
2020/6739	307 Forest Road THE BASIN VIC 3154	Additions and alterations to dwelling for a second storey addition, deck, verandah and storage area	24/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2020/6524	391 Forest Road THE BASIN VIC 3154	Development of the land for a second dwelling	24/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6076	25 Helene Court BORONIA VIC 3155	Construction of one (1) new dwelling	24/05/2021 Approved	Chandler

No/ Type	Address	Description	Decision	Ward
2021/6183	79 Underwood Road FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Removal of two (2) Eucalyptus botryoides (Southern Mahogany) and one (1) Eucalyptus ovata (Swamp Gum)	11/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6173	15 Judith Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Development of a swimming pool within the TPZ of adjoining vegetation	20/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6146	7 Paisley Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Mitigation and Maintenance Pruning of one (1) Eucalyptus saligna (Sydney Blue Gum)	5/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6194	3 Pope Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Remove one (1) Eucalyptus camaldulensis (River Red Gum)	12/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6167	81A Albert Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Mitigation and Maintenance Pruning of one (1) Eucalyptus botryoides (Southern Mahogany)	6/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/9060	310 Dorset Road BORONIA VIC 3155	Two lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	31/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/9059	2/61 Stewart Street BORONIA VIC 3155	Construction of a front fence	14/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2020/6464	39 Albert Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Construction of three double-storey dwellings	18/05/2021 Notice of Decision	Chandler
2021/6154	5 Stoneleigh Avenue BORONIA VIC 3155	Five lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	28/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2021/6096	6A Alchester Crescent BORONIA VIC 3155	The sale of packaged liquor for consumption off the premises	27/05/2021 Approved	Chandler
2020/6648	4 Skye Road WANTIRNA VIC 3152	Construction of double storey dwelling to rear of existing dwelling	14/05/2021 Approved	Collier
2021/6141	30 Gresford Road WANTIRNA VIC 3152	Five (5) Lot Subdivision (Approved Development Site)	21/05/2021 Approved	Collier
2020/6653	569 Boronia Road WANTIRNA VIC 3152	Development of the land for the construction of six (6) dwellings and alteration of access to a road zone Category 1	31/05/2021 Approved	Collier
2021/6136	509 Boronia Road WANTIRNA VIC 3152	6 Lot Subdivision (Approved Development Site)	20/05/2021 Approved	Collier

No/ Type	Address	Description	Decision	Ward
2021/9051	1 Neville Street WANTIRNA SOUTH VIC 3152	Two lot subdivision (approved development site)	26/05/2021 Approved	Dinsdale
2021/6129	3 Cullis Parade BAYSWATER VIC 3153	Development of the land for two (2) single storey dwellings	21/05/2021 Approved	Dinsdale
2020/6356	8 Bent Court WANTIRNA SOUTH VIC 3152	The construction of two (2) double storey and one (1) single storey townhouses	28/05/2021 Approved	Dinsdale
2020/6666	5 Neville Street WANTIRNA SOUTH VIC 3152	Development of the land for two (2) double storey dwellings	5/05/2021 Notice of Decision	Dinsdale
2021/9067	41 Mountain Gate Drive FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Two Lot Subdivision (Approved Development Site)	27/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2021/6156	31 Perra Street FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Dwelling Addition	20/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2020/6528	43 Joan Avenue FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Buildings and Works (Shed) and the Removal of Vegetation	12/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2021/6211	26 Clematis Avenue FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Removal of one (1) Eucalyptus goniocalyx (Long Leaved Box)	26/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2020/6598	69 Old Belgrave Road UPPER FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	The construction of a dwelling on the site	26/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2020/6670	9 Wynette Avenue UPPER FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Extension to the existing dwelling	14/05/2021 Approved	Dobson
2020/6697	39 Adele Avenue FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Development of a double storey dwelling to the rear of the existing dwelling	12/05/2021 Approved	Friberg
2021/6088	12 Holme Road FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156	Development of a double storey dwelling to the rear of the existing dwelling	17/05/2021 Approved	Friberg
2021/6086	Egan Lee Reserve 63 Wallace Road KNOXFIELD VIC 3180	Removal of one (1) Eucalyptus cephalocarpa (Silver leaved Stringybark)	25/05/2021 Notice of Decision	Scott
2021/6026	51-53 Coromandel Crescent KNOXFIELD VIC 3180	Six (6) lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	21/05/2021 Approved	Scott

No/ Type	Address	Description	Decision	Ward
2021/6130	41 Bunnett Road KNOXFIELD VIC 3180	Three (3) lot subdivision (Approved Development Site)	6/05/2021 Approved	Scott
2021/6135	15 White Road WANTIRNA SOUTH VIC 3152	Buildings and works associated with a rooming house	20/05/2021 Approved	Scott
2021/6151	15 Jamieson Avenue ROWVILLE VIC 3178	Four (4) unit subdivision (Approved Development Site)	7/05/2021 Approved	Taylor
2020/6656	61 Sheppard Drive SCORESBY VIC 3179	The construction of a double storey dwelling attached to the side of the existing dwelling	14/05/2021 Approved	Tirhatuan
2021/6051	16-18 Kingsley Close ROWVILLE VIC 3178	Change of Use (Place of Assembly) and car parking waiver	12/05/2021 Approved	Tirhatuan
2020/6511	1096 Stud Road ROWVILLE VIC 3178	Development of the land for five (5) three-storey dwellings and one (1) double storey dwelling (Total six dwellings) and alteration of access to a Road Zone Category 1	21/05/2021 Approved	Tirhatuan
Number of Applications: 46				

6.2 Cat Curfew Order

**SUMMARY: Coordinator Community Laws, Paul Anastasi
Manager City Safety and Health, Steven Dickson**

Council at its meeting on 29 January 2019 made an Order for a pilot sunset to sunrise cat curfew, effective 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. This Order made it an offence for a cat to be at large outside its owner's premises between sunset and sunrise. This report provides a review of the pilot following its conclusion, and a recommendation for a 24 hour permanent cat curfew. This report, and the attached proposed Order under Section 25(2) of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, seeks Council's approval to make it an offence if a cat is found at large outside the premises of the owner from 1 October 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Make an Order as provided in Attachment A, to impose a 24 hour cat curfew, requiring cats to be contained to their owner's premises at all times, effective 1 October 2021.**
- 2. Request the Chief Executive Officer to implement a community education and information campaign to inform the community of the new 24 hour cat containment requirements.**

1. INTRODUCTION

A cat curfew is a regulatory tool that assists Council with the management of cats, particularly in reducing cat related nuisances, animal welfare and reduction of harm to native fauna. Curfews require cats to be contained to their owner's property to achieve a reduction in neighborhood nuisances such as spraying, defecating, unwanted litters, injury through fighting, vehicle accidents, as well as protecting native wildlife.

A curfew will assist Council in achieving the above objectives, as well as educating owners on the importance of responsible cat ownership. However, just like any form of regulatory intervention, there are varying degrees of effectiveness depending on the option of cat curfew that is implemented due to their enforceability, the resources that are invested into enforcing the regulations and community acceptance and response. It is important to understand that any form of cat curfew is only one of a number potential interventions that can be deployed to achieve the above objectives. A cat curfew on its own is unlikely to fully address the problem.

Cat containment means preventing cats from roaming off their property, either at specific times of the day or at all times (24/7). This can be achieved by keeping cats indoors, outdoors (within an enclosure, shed or other structure, cat run and/or by installing cat-proof fencing), or a combination of both.

Council proposed a Cat Curfew in its 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan to address the issue of nuisance cat problems within the municipality. At the 29 January 2019 Council Meeting an Order was made for a 12-month pilot curfew from sunset to sunrise, effective from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. The Curfew Order has now expired, and a review has taken place to

consider the future of the cat curfew. In the review a number of different curfew options were considered and these can be found in Attachment B.

2. DISCUSSION

Cat Management

Cats and Dogs are managed under the Domestic Animals Act (DAA). In this legislation, it is a requirement that dogs be contained and not freely roam outside of their owner's property, however cats are managed differently and are not subject to this requirement. The Domestic Animals Act includes a regulation to manage nuisance cats, but when it comes to cat confinement, the legislation leaves it up to individual municipalities to decide on how cats are to be managed.

Without a cat curfew, councils can still manage cats under the DAA by way of issuing a 'notice of objection'. However this process requires the property (and therefore the resident with the cat issue, 'the complainant') being identified to the cat owner. A notice of objection starts a formal legal process and can be issued to a cat owner when a cat has been on private property without permission on more than one occasion. The cat will then be prohibited from going onto that one complainant property, and if the cat returns, the owner can be fined. This process must be repeated if there are other affected neighbours, or complainants. Many residents with nuisance cat issues do not like this approach as the notice of objection will identify them to their neighbours. In addition, the notice of objection is not a tool for managing cats roaming on public land. It is also extremely resource intensive for Council.

Council manages these types of complaints by providing effected residents the loan of a cat trap. When a cat has been trapped, a Community Laws officer attends to either impound the cat (when unregistered) or return to the owner (when registered). Cat trap requests are a good indicator of neighbourhood cat issues. During 2018-19 Council received 202 cat trap requests from the public and 175 in 2019-20.

The number of 2019-20 cat trap requests was lower than expected for the period due to the program being suspended from March to November 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Without the COVID-19 impact, it would be estimated that the number of cat trap requests would have been over 230, possibly even more with the introduction of the pilot curfew.

During 2020 Council impounded 291 stray cats and kittens from residences and veterinary clinics, with this number lower than previous non-COVID figures (386 in 2018-19). Unfortunately, less than 20% of these impounded cats are reclaimed at the pound by their owner, with approximately 55% being adopted out to a new home.

Cat Curfews

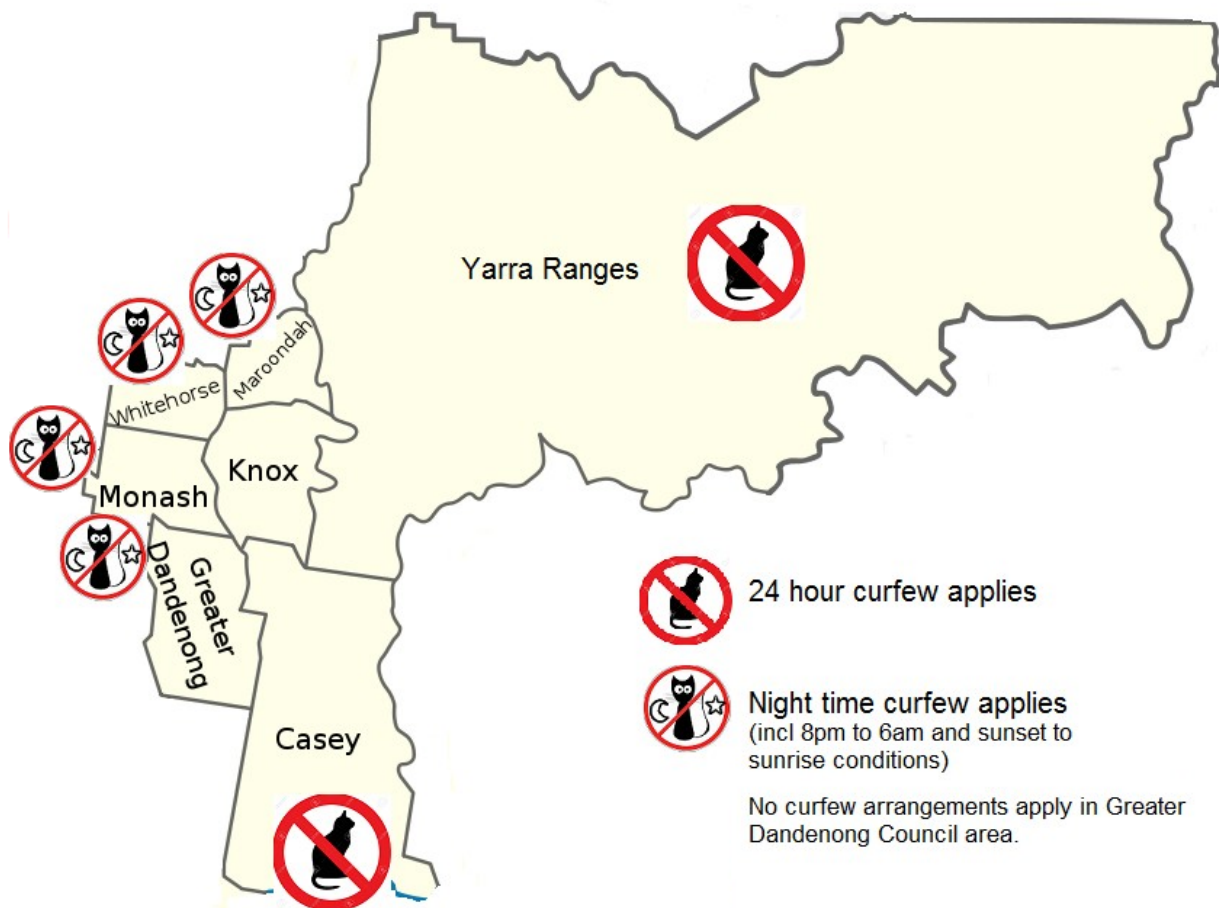
Increasingly, councils are including Cat Curfews as initiatives in their Domestic Animals Management Plans (DAMP) to help with the management of cats. All Victorian councils are required under the *Domestic Animal Act 1994* to develop a DAMP outlining Council's programs, services and strategies relating to the management of cats and dogs. One of the criteria in a DAMP is to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance. Cat Curfews are seen as one of

the most effective regulatory tools and community education initiatives to ensure that cats are not a nuisance, by restricting their movement.

Curfews require cats to be contained to their property to reduce cat related nuisances such as spraying, defecating, unwanted litters, injury through fighting, spreading cat related diseases, vehicle accidents, as well as protecting native wildlife. Curfews also provide Council with an enforcement tool and assist in the education of owners to become more responsible for their pet.

Several prominent organisations such as the RSPCA, Wildlife Victoria, Birdlife Australia, and Zoos Victoria support cat curfews. In recent years Zoos Victoria and RSPCA Victoria have teamed up for their Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife campaign (www.safecat.org.au) which promotes the benefits of keeping cats indoors and provides cat owners with a number of tools to assist.

Neighbouring councils, other than the City of Greater Dandenong, have adopted the following cat curfew arrangements:



Council's 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan proposed the introduction of a cat curfew for Knox, which was supported by public consultation and comment.

Community consultation in developing the Plan found that 85% of the 782 survey respondents supported the introduction of a cat curfew. In addition, it is interesting to note that 75% of cat owners surveyed also supported a cat curfew.

A report on the draft 2017-2021 DAMP adopted by Council on 22 January 2018, supported the introduction of a sunset to sunrise cat curfew, as opposed to a 24-hour curfew. An order for a 12 month pilot cat curfew was then adopted by Council on 29 January 2019 and commenced on 1

January 2020. As the Order has now concluded, a decision needs to be made on the future of the cat curfew.

Community Feedback

Council conducted a community survey for a six-month period during the 2020 pilot curfew and received 724 responses (Attachments C and D). 47% of respondents were cat owners and 53% were non-cat owners. When asked for their preference for the future of a cat curfew, almost half of all respondents (49.3%) were in favour of a 24-hour curfew, 37.1% were in favour of a sunset to sunrise (or similar) curfew, and 13.6% prefer no curfew at all.

Below is a summary of other responses:

- 83.2% supported the curfew pilot.
- 61.8% have had problems with a cat nuisance on their property.
- 75.3% are concerned about the impact cats have on the environment and wildlife.
- 77.4% do not have concerns about containing their own cat between sunset and sunrise.

Survey comments by those that had experienced nuisance cats and/or supported the curfew mostly related to cats trespassing; defecating and urinating in gardens, kids play areas, and on items; attacking and tormenting other animals, including other cats and causing dogs to bark; killing pet chickens, birds, rabbits and fish; being loud and yowling; killing various types of wildlife; damaging property; cats being an issue also during the day and that it should be 24 hour; and even instances of cats entering houses and attacking other pet cats.

Comments against the curfew include concerns from cat owners such as:

- that their cat may escape (beyond their control) and they may be subject to a fine
- it being an unnecessary hassle, waste of time and resources, over-regulated and over-governed
- ridiculous, cruel, it is against the nature of cats as they belong outside, cats are used to going outside, they will be unable to go outside when they need to, most are already kept indoors at night
- it will lead to an increase in pests (rodents, Indian Myna birds)
- it's hard to change a cat's behavior
- issues with sunset to sunrise times and not being realistic (especially for those with commitments, such as work and kid's sports).

Cat Curfew Options

With the 2020 cat curfew pilot now over, a review of curfew options has been undertaken and can be found in Attachment B. The options explored further were:

- 24 Hour Curfew
- Night-time Curfew - Sunset to Sunrise (as per pilot)
- Night-time Curfew - Set Times (i.e. 7pm to 7am)
- Geographically Based Curfew
- No Curfew.

The two main types of curfews are Night-time and 24 hours, which were the two main options considered and they are discussed further below.

Night-time Curfews

These types of curfews require cats to be contained to the owner's property at night and is the preferred option for cat owners. A night-time curfew has less of an impact on both the cat and its owner as it is not as restrictive as a 24 hour curfew. This is similar to Whitehorse, Monash and Maroondah. This type of curfew provides more flexibility for cat owners. However, it is more difficult to enforce.

Cat owners may simply keep their cat indoors at night and not need to do as much work to their property to ensure that their cat stays on their property.

A set time curfew would be more practical than a sunset to sunrise curfew due to it being less complex. The times of a sunset to sunrise curfew can cause confusion as they change daily, with sunrise being as early as 5:50am and as late as 7:35am, and sunset between 5:05pm and 8:45pm, depending on the time of the year. This is impractical for enforcement as it would not only require cat owners to be familiar with the changing times, but also residents wanting Council to take enforcement action regarding cats coming onto their property during the hours of the curfew.

If a night-time curfew was imposed, then consideration should be made for specific times instead of the varying times of sunset to sunrise.

Cats in breach of a Night-time Curfew

Council would be able to take action regarding any cats found off their property during the prohibited times. There are limitations due to type of curfew.

This process would rely solely on the resident with the nuisance issue trapping the cat and providing all evidence to Council. The resident will be required to ensure that the trap is set after the specified curfew time, and they will be required to check the trap in the morning prior to the end of the curfew. The resident will then need to provide a signed statement to Council for an infringement to be issued. The resident will also then be required to attend the Magistrates' Court on behalf of Council as a witness should the infringement be contested or not be paid by the cat owner. While this may cause stress for the resident, as well potentially causing neighborhood conflict, it does engage the resident as part of working towards a solution to the problems they are experiencing. Some residents may also not wish to provide the statement leaving Council unable to enforce the curfew and it being relied on more as an educational tool.

The following issues were identified with the piloted sunset to sunrise curfew:

- Cat nuisances are not fully addressed as nuisances also occur during the day
- The complexities with changing hours of sunset to sunrise for both the cat owner and effected resident
- The level of responsibility put on the resident effected by cats coming onto their property to prove an offence between the hours of the curfew
- Potential for unrealistic community expectations regarding the way the curfew can be enforced and managed (i.e. Council Officers are not out at night catching cats).

24 Hour Curfew (recommended option)

Following analysis, it is considered that a 24-hour cat curfew better addresses the problem of nuisance cats, and allows Council to enforce the Curfew Order more effectively, with less onus put

onto the community with nuisance complaints to prove an offence. However, it is important to note that this option would place significantly greater onus (and burden) on cat owners across the municipality to permanently contain their cats. This approach may be met with greater challenges around community acceptance. This is the approach employed by Yarra Ranges and Casey councils.

If a cat was to always remain on its property, then it would be unable to be a nuisance on any other property. If effective this would stop cats spraying and defecating in other gardens, injuring and fighting other cats, unwanted litters, death or injury by vehicle as well as contributing to protecting native wildlife.

RSPCA Australia advises *'there are limits to the effectiveness of cat containment regulations unless cats are required to be confined 24 hours/day within an enclosure or on a lead when outside, and such regulations are effectively enforced'*.¹

RSPCA Australia further advises that *'Cat containment regulations need to mandate 24 hours/day containment, rather than night-time curfews, if they are to significantly reduce wildlife predation, breeding of unwanted cats and cat nuisance.'*² The RSPCA report also identifies that the greatest benefit from cat containment would come from combining it with mandatory desexing and identification (so that cats found outdoors can be identified as owned). Knox already requires cats to be desexed and microchipped prior to registration, as well as wear a Council identification tag.

Although night-time curfews may reduce cat problems during the evening and early hours, they do not stop them entirely.

Cats that are active during the daytime can still wander into neighbouring properties and cause nuisance. Keeping cats indoors at night can also shift their predation into the daytime.³ There are many ways to ensure cats are adequately contained to a property.

A 24 hour cat curfew will, however, be likely to result in additional cost burdens for cat owners through the voluntary installation of fencing modifications, cat enclosures and runs. Fencing modifications can make it harder for cats to climb fences, and can be low cost DIY projects to add PVC pipe, fence toppers, or an inward hanging barrier; or more costly purpose built rollers from a hardware store (approx. \$249 for 10 metres). Basic cat runs and enclosures can be purchased for a few hundred dollars, with larger more costly enclosures also available. Owners can also comply with the requirements of a curfew by keeping their cat confined anywhere on their property, including within their house, garage or similar provided that the animal has a warm dry sleeping area, a litter tray and plenty of water.

Owners will also need to consider environmental enrichment and stimulation, as well as the cat's exercise needs. This may be able to be achieved with use of platforms at different heights in the

¹ RSPCA Australia (2018) Identifying Best Practice Domestic Cat Management in Australia [Research report].

² RSPCA Australia (2018) Identifying Best Practice Domestic Cat Management in Australia [Research report].

³ The National Environmental Science Programme. (2020). *The impact of cats in Australia*. [Research findings factsheet]. <https://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/media/eeufmpqx/112-the-impact-of-cats-in-australia-findings-factsheetweb.pdf>

vertical space connected by walkways (static and swinging), climbing frames, scratching poles and an interesting visual outlook. ⁴

It is also possible that there will be an increase in owned cat surrender or abandonment due to the added responsibility to cat ownership associated with a 24 hour curfew.

Cats in breach of a 24 Hour Curfew

A 24-hour cat curfew has the potential to eliminate the enforcement complexities associated with a night-time curfew. There is no need for the effected community member to prove that the cat was out during specific times and will rely on the Council Officer providing the relevant information.

With a 24-hour curfew, the only proof required is that a cat was not contained to its owner's property, which can be identified by an authorised officer upon collection of the cat.

Curfew Implementation

Council's approach to implementing a new curfew will be through a comprehensive education and information campaign, to promote the additional containment requirements for cat owners, as well as the benefits of containment and how to ensure contained cats are adequately cared for.

Council's 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan also outlines the following promotional activities to inform and educate the public on the introduction of a cat curfew:

- The development of communications plan to promote the introduction of a permanent curfew, including the use of social media
- Amend pet registration forms to advise of curfew requirements
- Update new animal letters advising of curfew requirements
- Provide information on DIY cat enclosures and cat proof fencing.

It is envisaged that this campaign will commence immediately after the Council determination to implement a cat curfew, and it will also integrate with a campaign to gather community feedback on the Council's new 2021-2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Following a Council determination to implement a cat curfew, an Order detailing the curfew would be published in the Victorian Government Gazette, as well as in a newspaper circulating in the municipal district, in accordance with the legislative requirements under the Act, as per Attachment A.

Council will also promote the use of cat enclosures and cat proof fencing as effective cat containment measures, which will refer residents to the range of options as promoted on the Victorian Department of Agriculture website.

Cat owners will be able to comply with the requirements of a 24-hour curfew by keeping their cat confined anywhere on their property including their house, garage, cat run or similar provided that the animal has a warm dry sleeping area, a litter tray and plenty of water. Some cat owners may wish to make some alterations or additions to their property such as installing cat proof

⁴ Animal Welfare Victoria - Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (2021). *Code of Practice for the Private Keeping of Cats*

fencing, cat enclosures and runs, and some may have already done so to comply with the sunset to sunrise pilot curfew. Cats that are not accustomed to permanently being indoors may require further training and environmental enrichment.

Upon commencement of the curfew on 1 October 2021, an authorised Council Officer may issue an infringement when an offence has been detected. However, it is proposed that there will be a six-month amnesty period where no infringements will be issued, with warning preferred, to allow for further community education, as well as additional time for cat owners to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that their cat is contained.

The value of an infringement is 0.5 of a penalty unit, or \$91. If the matter is prosecuted in Court, a Magistrate may impose up to 1 penalty unit fine for a first offence. A maximum penalty of 3 penalty units applies under the Act for a second or subsequent offence. Penalty units are set by the State Government and indexed by the Treasurer annually on 1 July. The current value of a penalty unit is \$181.74 for 2021-22. The offending cat may also be impounded, which generally occurs if the cat is not registered with Council. If the cat is registered and identifiable, attempts will be made to reunite it with its owner on the first occasion. If a cat has been out on more than one occasion, it will be taken to Council's Pound (Animal Aid, Coldstream) where the owner will need to collect it.

3. CONSULTATION

Community consultation undertaken as part of developing the 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan found that 85% of survey respondents supported the introduction of a cat curfew. In addition to the community survey, Council received 21 submissions relating to the Plan content, with most of the community feedback relating to concerns about cats being allowed to trespass onto other properties and not being subject to any type of confinement. The reasons given relate to the safety of cats, cat-fights and cat yowling (nuisance), protection of wildlife, and not wanting cats defecating or urinating in other people's properties (nuisance).

Leading up to its commencement in January 2020, Council undertook a Cat Curfew Campaign to advise residents of the pilot curfew prior to its commencement which included:

- advertisements in the Knox Leader Newspaper, extensive social media campaign, direct mail, media responses, website, Knox News, posters, digital screens, eNewsletter and messages on hold.
- Public notice in the Knox Leader, as well as quarter page advertisements featuring in two editions and a front page article was also published by the Leader on 29 October 2019.
- A flyer was mailed to all pet owners in Knox with their pet registration renewal letters as well as being made available to the customers of Knox libraries, pet stores, veterinarians and pet boarding businesses.
- Roadside banners erected in prominent locations along major arterials and a further article was published in the summer 19/20 edition of the Knox News, which was distributed to all households in Knox (<60,000).

Council ran another survey for a six-month period during the 2020 pilot curfew and received 724 responses (Attachments C and D).

Domestic Animal Management Plan

Council will commence its first phase of community consultation for the new 2021-2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) in July. It is envisaged that Council will receive further feedback on the cat curfew during this consultation process.

As cat management is a significant component of a DAMP, and there is the potential that a Council decision on the Cat Curfew may precede the DAMP consultation process, so an approach for the DAMP consultation has been devised to address this. The DAMP consultation process provides an opportunity to inform community members of Council's potential decision on the Cat Curfew and its implementation, along with including an opportunity for community members to provide feedback on what support or assistance Council may be able to offer to better enable preparation for the change. While Council would not be seeking feedback on a decision it has already made, this approach provides cat owners the opportunity to be informed and provide feedback leading up to the official introduction of a curfew. As consultation material will be distributed broadly for the DAMP, this is an opportunity to ensure cat owners across Knox are informed about and can prepare for the potential change.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Council's 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan acknowledges that many cat owners recognise the health and wellbeing associated with confining their cat. In addition, an increasing number of cat owners are taking it upon themselves to confine cats to their property or indoors 24/7 without any requirements via legislation.

'Providing their basic needs are met, cats can enjoy longer and healthier lives when safely contained to the property. Serious problems can occur if cats are allowed to roam outdoors, particularly at night (around 80% of accidents involving cats happen at night). Roaming cats can get hit by cars, injured in fights, catch fatal diseases (e.g. Feline AIDS) or become lost. Roaming cats can also kill native wildlife – even well-fed cats will hunt. Roaming cats can annoy neighbours too, by spraying, fighting, yowling and digging in gardens.'⁵ A cat curfew is expected to provide improved protection for both Knox's native wildlife and the cats themselves.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Although the implementation of the cat curfew pilot was delivered within existing budget allocations, it is expected a 24 hour cat curfew would have additional financial implications.

Council manages nuisance cat complaints by providing effected residents the loan of a cat trap, where a Community Laws officer will attend the effected property to either impound (unregistered) or return to the owner trapped cats. This process is required to establish the legislative requirement to prove that a cat has wandered onto another person's property without permission on more than one occasion.⁶

It is anticipated the introduction of a cat curfew will result in an increased demand for Council's free cat-trap loan service, managed by Council's Community Laws Officers. It is also to be expected that there will be an increase in the number cats being impounded by Council and transported to the pound.

⁵ Victorian Department of Agriculture: agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/cats/cat-confinement-enclosures-and-fencing

⁶ Section 23 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

While there may be an expectation that the intervention may be absorbed with existing City Safety and Health staffing resources, experience from other councils in introducing a cat curfew, has found an initial increase in activity impacting upon staff resources early in the introduction period. It is expected that an additional resource may be required to administer and support a permanent curfew and a business case is being prepared. This also has the potential to flow onto Council's prosecution service if enforcement or contested infringements escalate into the court process.

Introduction of a 24-hour cat curfew is likely to result in additional cost burdens on cat owners through the voluntary installation of fencing modifications or cat enclosures and runs.

Council's Biodiversity Buddies Grants program can also provide approved land owners up to \$1000 to assist with responsible pet management. Applicants must be registered participants of Council's Garden's for Wildlife program and can put the grant towards the construction of items such as cat enclosures. While this is a positive option to provide support for cat owners, the funding available is not extensive and is not expected to be far reaching.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Whilst councils generally introduce cat confinement requirements to address wider community concerns related to the protection of wildlife, nuisances and cat welfare, the community has an expectation that Council will actively enforce legislated requirements. The introduction of the cat curfew is expected to result in an increase in demand for this service, managed by Council's City Safety and Health Department.

A 24-hour cat curfew will lessen the burden of proof required to be provided by residents to prove an offence for breach of curfew, and will allow the curfew to be effectively enforced by Council.

Council's approach to managing and rolling-out the cat curfew in Knox will be through a comprehensive education and information campaign, to promote the additional containment requirements for cat owners and benefits of cat containment, as well as providing a 6 month amnesty period where only warnings will be issued.

Council will promote cat curfew resources, including the 'Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife' website (safecat.org.au), Council's Biodiversity Buddies Grants program, as well as the use of cat enclosures and cat proof fencing as effective cat containment measures, which will refer residents to the range of options as promoted on the Victorian Department of Agriculture website.

There may be some negative impact due to concerns regarding the containment of cats and effects on their health and behaviour. It is also possible that there may be an increase in owned cat surrender or abandonment due to the added responsibility to cat ownership.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

The introduction of a cat curfew in Knox supports the achievement of the following goals of Council's Community and Council Plan 2017-2021, through managing nuisance cats to minimise the impact on our native wildlife, while promoting and ensuring the humane care and treatment of all pets.

Goal 1 - We value our natural and built environment

Strategy 1.2 - Create a greener city with more large trees, indigenous flora and fauna

Goal 4 - We are safe and secure

Strategy 4.4 - Protect and promote public health, safety and amenity

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

In considering all the options set out in Attachment B, it has been determined that one of the most effective tools to assist with cat management would be a 24 hour cat curfew.

This recommendation is based on a number of factors, including:

- The ability to better address cat nuisances that occur both during the day and night, including:
 - Spraying, defecating on property
 - Reducing unwanted litters
 - Injury and disease
 - Vehicle accidents
 - Digging in gardens and damage to property
 - Yowling
 - Predation of native wildlife
- The complexities with changing hours of sunset to sunrise for both the cat owner and effected resident
- The level of responsibility put on the resident effected by cats coming onto their property to prove a night-time curfew offence
- The ability for the curfew to be effectively enforced by Council's authorised officers

Council's approval of the order in Attachment A will make it an offence if a cat is found at large outside the premises at all times under Section 25 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. This will be effective from 1 October 2021 and will be reviewed during the life of Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Council will also undertake an extensive community education and information campaign in the lead up to the curfew being implemented.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Attachments

1. Cat Curfew Order 1-2021 - Attachment A [6.2.1 - 1 page]
2. Cat Curfew Options Table - Attachment B [6.2.2 - 4 pages]
3. Cat Curfew Survey 2020 - Results - Attachment C [6.2.3 - 11 pages]
4. Cat Curfew Survey 2020 - Comments - Attachment D [6.2.4 - 50 pages]

Attachment A



**ORDER 1/2021
of
KNOX CITY COUNCIL**

Section 25(2) of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*

At its meeting on 28 June 2021, Knox City Council resolved to make the following Order under Section 25(2) of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

This Order is effective from 1 October 2021.

1. All cats within the municipal district of Knox City Council must be securely confined to the owner's premises at all times.
2. If a cat is found at large outside the premises of the owner or not securely confined to the owner's premises, the owner is guilty of an offence.

Meaning of words in this Order:

Owner has the same meaning as in the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*

Attachment A – Options for Cat Curfew in Knox

CURFEW OPTION	PROS	CONS
<p>Sunset to sunrise (as per the recent curfew pilot)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More cat owners prefer a limited curfew as opposed to a 24 hour curfew. • Less restrictive and easier for cat owners than a 24 hours curfew • Community less likely to be subject to compliance action by council officers due to the difficulty of the curfew being enforced. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need for a statement from the customer trapping the cat with the time cat was trapped and will have to attend in court as a witness. • Less of a need for cat owners to purchase or constructs cat runs and enclosures, which they may require if curfew is 24 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Times of sunset to sunrise change daily and can be confusing, times also vary significantly throughout the year. • Difficult to enforce a nighttime curfew for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Curfew operates outside of business hours so Authorised Officers are never able to observe an offence. ○ Proof required that cats were trapped during the restricted hours. ○ Burden of proof to prove an offence lies with the customer trapping the cat (i.e. Statement required with the time cat was trapped and possible attendance in court as a witness). • Seen as less effective cat curfew that does not adequately address the issue of roaming cats, which can also occur during the daytime, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urinating and defecating in other’s properties ○ Digging in people’s gardens ○ Injuries and death through fighting, dog attacks and car accidents ○ Catching and spreading disease ○ Becoming lost ○ Breeding and unwanted litters ○ Managing wild (feral) and semi owned cat populations. ○ Yowling ○ Hunting and killing Wildlife • Cat issues and nuisances that occur during the day are not addressed, and therefore unable to be regulated. • Someone needs to be home to confine/release cat (impact on shift workers etc.). • Cat owners may not want to confine their cats to their property during the curfew times.

CURFEW OPTION	PROS	CONS
<p>Set times (eg. 7pm – 7am)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set hours, so no confusion with sunset and sunrise times changing daily. • Community less likely to be subject to compliance action by council officers due to the difficulty of the curfew being enforced. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need for a statement from the customer trapping the cat with the time cat was trapped and will have to attend in court as a witness. • More cat owners prefer a limited curfew as opposed to a 24 hour curfew. • Less restrictive and easier for cat owners than a 24 hours curfew. • More cat owners prefer a limited curfew as opposed to a 24 hour curfew. • Less of a need for cat owners to purchase or constructs cat runs and enclosures, which they may require if curfew is 24 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to enforce a nighttime curfew for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Curfew operates outside of business hours so Authorised Officers are never able to observe an offence. ○ Proof required that cats were trapped during the restricted hours. ○ Burden of proof to prove an offence lies with the customer trapping the cat (i.e. Statement required with the time cat was trapped and possible attendance in court as a witness). • Seen as less effective cat curfew that does not adequately address the issue of roaming cats, which can also occur during the daytime, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urinating and defecating in other’s properties ○ Digging in people’s gardens ○ Injuries and death through fighting, dog attacks and car accidents ○ Catching and spreading disease ○ Becoming lost ○ Breeding and unwanted litters ○ Managing wild (feral) and semi owned cat populations. ○ Yowling ○ Hunting and killing Wildlife • Cat issues and nuisances that occur during the day are not addressed, and therefore unable to be regulated. • Someone needs to be home to confine/release cat (impact on shift workers etc.). • Cat owners may not want to confine their cats to their property during the curfew times.

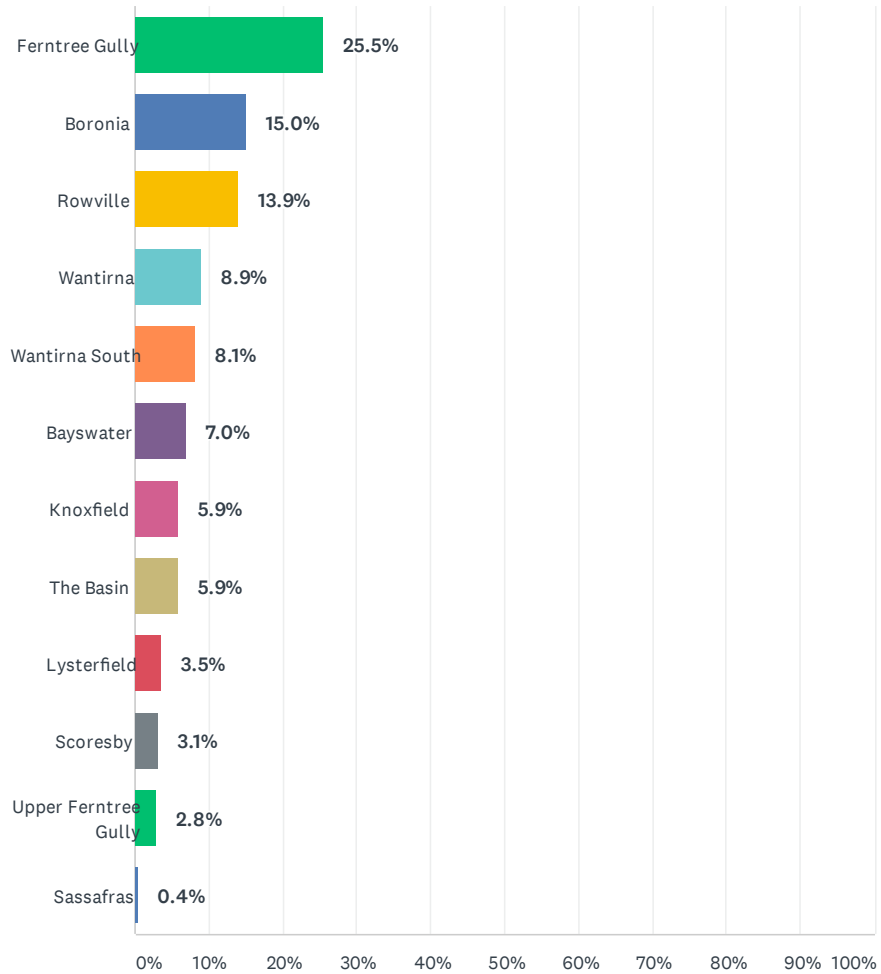
CURFEW OPTION	PROS	CONS
No Curfew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cats are not required to be contained to the owner’s property and can roam anywhere. • No need for curfew enforcement by Council • Easier on cat owners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not address responsible pet ownership and safety of cats and other animals. • Does not address the issue of roaming cats, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urinating and defecating in other’s properties ○ Digging in people’s gardens ○ Injuries and death through fighting, dog attacks and car accidents ○ Catching and spreading disease ○ Becoming lost ○ Breeding and unwanted litters ○ Managing wild (feral) and semi owned cat populations. ○ Yowling ○ Hunting and killing Wildlife • Cats are allowed to roam the neighbourhood, but nuisance issues can still be addressed under the Domestic Animal Act if someone objects to a cat coming onto their property through a Notice of Objection. This is a case by case process will identify to the cat owner the property where the cat is not permitted, with the potential to create neighbourhood conflict.
Curfew only in specified areas (geographical)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifically focuses on areas adjacent or near areas of biological significance to protect native wildlife. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confusion over where the curfew applies. • Residents cannot prevent a cat in a non-curfew area going into a curfew area. Cats have a medium home range of over 1 hectare (10,000 square meters), and can roam up to 3km a day. • Addresses only the wildlife concerns, but not other cat nuisances that impact residents in non-curfew areas. • Prohibited areas need to be set by Council.

CURFEW OPTION	PROS	CONS
<p>24 Hour curfew</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deals with both daytime and night-time cat issues. • Easier for Council to enforce with less points of proof required. • Authorised Officer can identify an offence more effectively. • No need to obtain a statement from the resident trapping the cat to identify the time the cat was trapped. • No need for the resident trapping the cat to attend court as a witness. • Achieves all responsible pet ownership outcomes both during the day and night. • Best option for the control of cat nuisances and issues that can occur due to roaming, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urinating and defecating in other’s properties ○ Digging in people’s gardens ○ Injuries and death through fighting, dog attacks and car accidents ○ Catching and spreading disease ○ Becoming lost ○ Breeding and unwanted litters ○ Managing wild (feral) and semi owned cat populations. ○ Yowling ○ Hunting and killing Wildlife • Increased responsibility of cat ownership. <p><i>“Cat containment regulations need to mandate 24 hours/day containment, rather than night-time curfews, if they are to significantly reduce wildlife predation, breeding of unwanted cats and cat nuisance.”</i> - RSPCA Australia (May 2018). Identifying Best Practice Domestic Cat Management in Australia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More of a burden for cat owners to keep their cats on their property at all times and to ensure cats are adequately cared for (i.e. litter tray, warm dry sleeping area, adequate water, environmental enrichment). • Time may be required to train cats and get them used to being confined. • The need for cat owners to purchase or construct cat runs and enclosures, or other property maintenance (cut back trees, seal gaps in fencing) and devices such as fence toppers and similar. • Cat owners may not want to confine their cats to their property at all times.

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q1 What Knox suburb do you live in?

Answered: 459 Skipped: 265



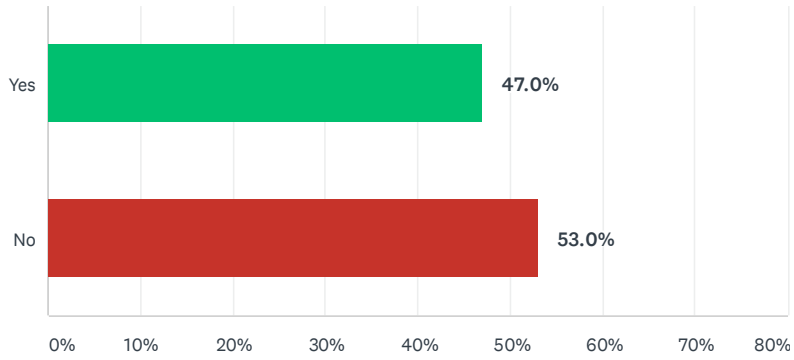
Knox Cat Curfew Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Ferntree Gully	25.5%	117
Boronia	15.0%	69
Rowville	13.9%	64
Wantima	8.9%	41
Wantima South	8.1%	37
Bayswater	7.0%	32
Knoxfield	5.9%	27
The Basin	5.9%	27
Lysterfield	3.5%	16
Scoresby	3.1%	14
Upper Ferntree Gully	2.8%	13
Sassafras	0.4%	2
TOTAL		459

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q2 Are you a cat owner?

Answered: 679 Skipped: 45

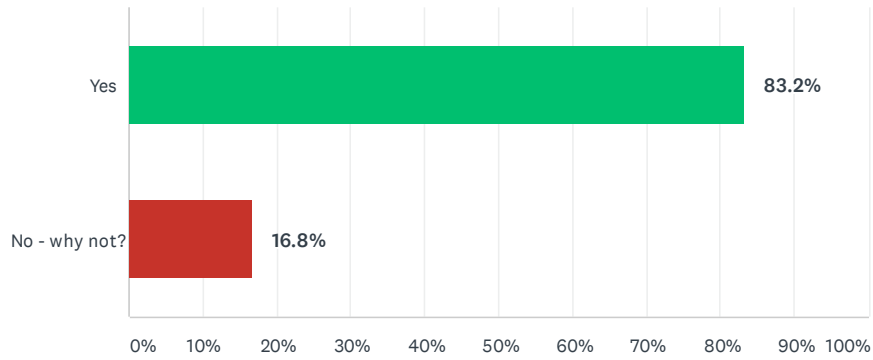


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.0%	319
No	53.0%	360
TOTAL		679

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q3 Do you support the sunset to sunrise cat curfew 12-month PILOT in Knox?

Answered: 678 Skipped: 46

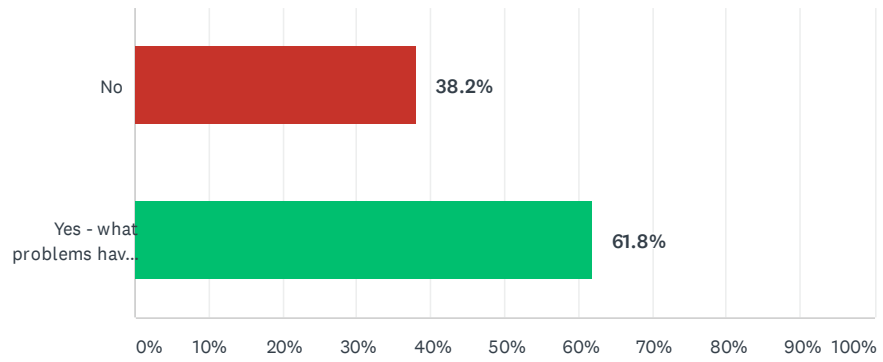


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	83.2%	564
No - why not?	16.8%	114
TOTAL		678

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q4 Have you had problems with cat nuisance on your property?

Answered: 676 Skipped: 48

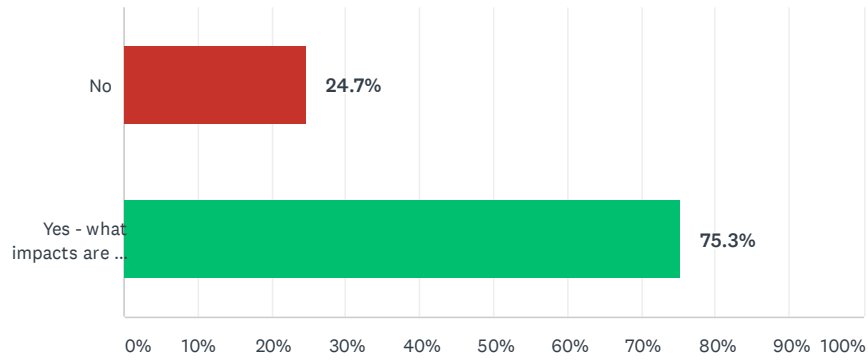


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	38.2%	258
Yes - what problems have you experienced?	61.8%	418
TOTAL		676

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q5 Are you concerned about the impacts cats have on the environment and wildlife?

Answered: 677 Skipped: 47

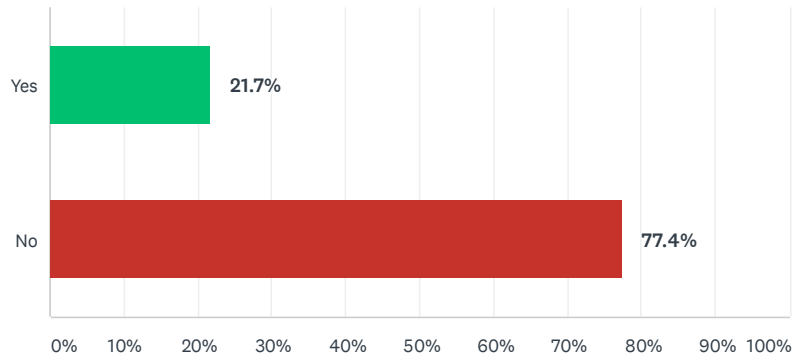


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	24.7%	167
Yes - what impacts are you concerned about?	75.3%	510
TOTAL		677

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q6 Do you have concerns about containing your cat between sunset and sunrise?

Answered: 433 Skipped: 291

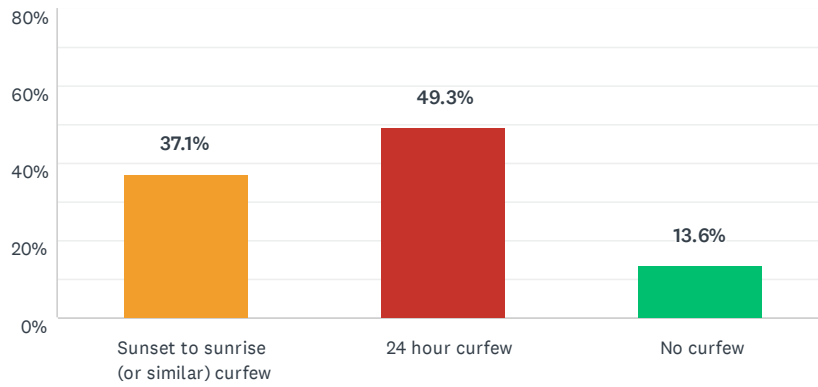


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.7%	94
No	77.4%	335
TOTAL		433

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q7 Tell us your preference for the future of cat curfew:

Answered: 669 Skipped: 55



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Sunset to sunrise (or similar) curfew	37.1%	248
24 hour curfew	49.3%	330
No curfew	13.6%	91
TOTAL		669

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

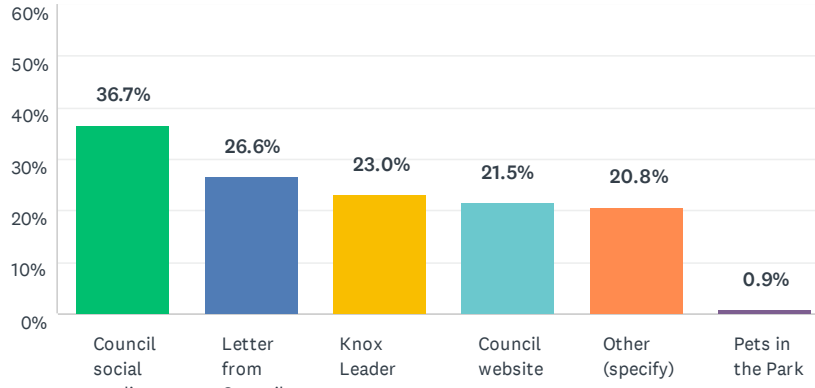
Q8 Do you have other comments about the cat curfew?

Answered: 397 Skipped: 327

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q9 How did you hear about Knox Council introducing the cat curfew?

Answered: 662 Skipped: 62



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Council social media	36.7%	243
Letter from Council	26.6%	176
Knox Leader newspaper	23.0%	152
Council website	21.5%	142
Other (specify)	20.8%	138
Pets in the Park	0.9%	6
Total Respondents: 662		

Knox Cat Curfew Survey

Q10 Your name (optional)

Answered: 144 Skipped: 580

Q3. Do you support the sunset to sunrise cat curfew 12-month PILOT in Knox?

If 'No' – Why not? (responses below)

It is an Unnecessary curfew introduced to please non cat owners.

Because my house isn't secure and my cats are trained to poo in the garden and if we lock the house up they will just escape

We are too over governed

It should be a 24 hour car curfew

it is cruel and goes against the nature of cats

I think there are more effective ways to protect native wildlife (e.g. community education)

We keep our cats in at night so they are not free to roam, mostly to keep them safe so they don't get injured in fights with other cats. They rarely catch wildlife so I'm not concerned about the impact. The majority of people do the right thing and bring their pets in at night, let's not over regulate this.

It's not necessary to enforce as the majority are already showing these behaviours (cats sleep when owners sleep) waste of resources cats dont destroy birds , humans trap bids,

Unnecessary

I do support it to a degree. I keep my cats in at night anyway. But some nights they sneak out by accident- eg and then we are in a mad panic and up half the night trying to find the cat to get it back in. Knowing our neighbours will report us.

To limit their opportunity to have negative impact on wildlife, environment and to not be a nuisance on our property.

Potential that indoor cats may escape inadvertently (kids leaving doors ajar)

My cat would not longer enjoy her life / freedom being locked indoors

Very hard to change a behaviour of a cat that has always preferred sleeping on our back veranda

I like to see the cats around the neighbourhood it breaks the ice with neighbours and is something nice to talk about

I do, if however on rare occasions a cat stays out (e.g. shut in a neighbours garage by accident, injured or hiding from a dog) I worry about it's safety, proving the case is an exception and getting a fine. I hope there is some flexibility and empathy in such cases for responsible pet owners.

As much as we love them, cats are natural born hunters and it's an instinct we can't breed out of them nor should we have to but our native wildlife is important. And I don't like cleaning up dead rat before I have my morning coffee.

My cats will stay on the property. However in this trial my cats are denied to go outside when nature calls.

i always bring my cat in as soon as i get home. If people call to advise of a cat on their property (or however it is going to work) by the time someone comes to get the cat it will have been gone. what are they going to do if the cat is in a tree or a high place, underneath someones house how are they meant to catch it. they aren't like dogs that will come for food and might be very timid. will council come out at all hours eg after 9:00pm

Increase in rodents in the area

Seems like a hassle

It's a waste of resources

Waste of time

It's ok in Summer, but in Winter it's too long to keep the cat in when she's used to be able to go out. I'd suggest setting times rather than sunrise to sunset.

It's difficult to adhere to "sunset to sunrise cat curfew" when all members of the household work and during the shorter winter days everyone has left for work before sunrise and no one gets home until after sunset

it should be for 24 hours as cats are decimating our wildlife and kill for fun

I would like to get another cat as mine had died before the curfew came in. I have 3 chooks and the cat kept the mice numbers down. I miss having a cat but could not keep it at night.

Most domestic cats are not a problem and most stay inside with their owners of a night-time now. if you take all cats in of a night there will be a huge mouse and rat problem in the area.

Yes, but cats need to be restricted to their owners' property 24 hrs, not just sunset to sunrise, just like dogs or any pet. Owners need to keep their cat in a backyard cat-run or in the house. They hunt during the day as well and are a deterrent to birds.

My cat is used to going outside for the toilet. It's hard to change an older cat's habits.

Yes BUT I think it should be a 24 hour curfew. Cat owners can build a fully enclosed Cat area, it doesn't need to be huge or cost the earth. We've lost many marsupials & birds to domestic cats' instinct to kill

My cat is already kept in when we go to bed she should be able to come and go before then as she spends most of her time inside already

Cats have never been a problem in the basin area. Many cats are used to freedom of leaving property 24h.

People should be given enough time to get home from work when they can bring their cat inside. Sunset is too early, especially in the winter. People with a full-time job don't get home from work before sunset. Or, is this a discriminatory policy only allowing people who don't work to have a cat? Or, do the cats of cat owners who work never get to spend time outdoors. Pity the hard working, single person, living alone, who can't have a cat because they work all day - and have to be alone at night, because they can't get home before sunset!

Even starving my adopted cat won't make her return at dusk and being disabled, I cannot chase her.

Up to owners to control and not all cats are disruptive.

Since the curfew Indian miner birds had gone rampant.

Understand reasons why but it's very hard keeping an old cat inside all night when they are used to going outside for the toilet.

Really hard during winter. Cats are going nuts being locked inside for 13 hours.

They can remain indoors

My cat likes to explore and it stresses me out with him not coming home until 4 am sometimes I stress he will be taken to the council and charged a hefty fine

It's cruel to keep cats locked up. My dogs are allowed outside, other animals have freedom to roam, why should cats stay locked up?

It's unrealistic for working people. Between work, picking up kids & sport it's dark during the winter months before I get home sometimes. I've always encouraged my cat to be indoors at night. And usually he is. Sometimes he just refuses. I think it should be encouraged but not enforced. Cats keep away mice & other pests etc. not just kill wildlife. My cat lets birds (big & small) eat his food & drink his water during the day. He isn't fussed.

Cats need to go out sometimes at night. It is in their nature.

Cats belong outside

My cat always comes in at dinner time but He can't tell the time so sometimes he is a bit late and I wouldn't want to be fined or have him impounded because of that

Extremely difficult to keep cat in at night that's not accustomed to that. Stressed out cat.

Way too hard to keep an outside cat, inside 6pm for 12 hrs! Their constant meowing to get out is deafening!

My cats have always gone outside whenever they wanted. They stick to my property. It's hard to teach an old cat new ways. I don't see the problem

Because u need to let your cat out at night sometimes for the bathroom

Prefer total curfew, 24 hours in house.

You have better things to spend your time implementing. I'm not paying rates so you can police housecats.

I think cats should be inside all the time

I'm happy for my cat to use the pet door to leave during the night

It makes us prisoners in our homes, when trying to come in after dark the cat can try to run out and then we face a fine. Our cat is an indoor cat and doesn't go out at night but occasionally makes a dash outside when we are putting the dog out to the toilet or when we are going/coming. My son suffers anxiety that he is going to lose his cat if it gets out due to the curfew.

Unfair treatment for the cats

It should be 24 hours, nothing prevents cats killing wildlife during the day, and we still experience cats defecating in our garden during daylight hours.

I feel cats should have some free space. Dogs roam off the lead around my street & nearby park, my footpath & front yard often has excrement from dogs & owners. The dogs chase our cat in her own front yard. We don't have

a problem with roaming cats. Barking and unleashed dogs are much more of an issue. Often frightening our cat and children as they bound into our yard

Domestic cats should not be allowed outside unless on a leash or in a outdoor enclosure period.

Have 6 neighbours cats all communing and defecating in my yard. Have had dead pets as a result. Mainly finches and rabbits. Also found 8 dead ringtail possums strewn across the footpath and driveway of my house.

Neighbours have no regard for these animals, they are out all day and all night.

My cat is an old girl and likes to be free to wander in the backyard. She doesn't leave my property and likes to stay in the dog kennel all times of the day and night and she can come and go in the house when she wants too.

I support the cat curfew, but i want the right to dispose of the cat if it does on my yard

I believe in Australia, cats should be contained 24/7.

It should be 24 hours.

Should be 24 hour

It can be challenging to find my cats at the curfew time and bring them inside as they like to hide in our yard

For a cat not housed inside only, you can rationalise with it why it can't go out. Plus, when you make leaving dog poo on my nature strip a fineable offence, then tell me to lock my cat up at night.

It doesn't serve the purpose for which they are being introduced. If the reason is damage to wildlife and environment, then such damage can happen during daylight hours as well.

Cats have a natural tendency to go out at first light, before sunrise. Therefore I think the time should be eased accordingly. I am ok with locking them up between sunset and first light.

In my view, if all site owners and bloggers made good content as you did, the internet will be much more useful than ever before. Thanks for the note worthy info! Maybe this pet blog will help :) Paws and pets

It's cruel and against a cats nature to lock them inside

Cats are nocturnal creatures and Council's Animal Control personnel do not work at night rendering them unable them to catch and/or deal with curfew breakers. My observations of numerous cats out after dark since Jan 1, 2020 suggest that the curfew is unenforceable, there's no way to put stray cats under the curfew and I think the statistics on harm of wildlife are grossly overstated.

Never had a problem. Cats didn't kill wildlife. Did't fight.

I don't understand what has changed over the previous rules which I thought were dusk to dawn anyway?

Cats are not the problem. It's the people. If you have a curfew, what are the ramifications for those cats whose people aren't doing the right thing? You'd be better off supporting a trap, neuter, return trial.

it should be q 24hr curfew .. cats are a pest

I don't have an issue with cats being out

Sometimes on warm nights I am outside and my cats like to be as well.

Hours 6:00PM to 6:00AM not realistic. Our cats are in every night. Put a curfew on teenagers instead to stop bashings, burglaries and road deaths

Not necessary

Hmm

My cat is old and toilets outside. She doesn't like litter and never leaves our property.

It's difficult with very hot weather, smoke haze, training, cost of cat run. Must present data and research specific to area vs same for damage - mitigation caused by other fauna and humans.

We have always called our cat in at bedtime and she has come willingly. She is very confused now.

Cats should not be leaving their owners property AT ALL.

My cat won't wear the watch I gave him so he wont come home by 8pm.

It is inconvenient and unnecessary. We have no local native wildlife for cats to hunt at night.

I think the curfew should be 24 hours not just 12 hours. I feel very strongly about this as we have many native birds visit our garden every day. The neighbors cat also visits our garden when we are inside our we are out as we see it leave as we arrive home.

I don't know why it's in place, I have no problems and neither do my neighbours.

Cats should not be confined, while most cats do sleep inside their owners home, there should be no penalty if a cat is outside fro. Sunset to sunrise. Encourage don't demand

I do however i also do believe they should be restricted to their own yards like dogs are instead of freelancing and becoming feral whilst killing nature and backyard chooks.

Cats do not come indoors when told to.

It's healthy and natural for cats to be outside

Because 6pm-6am in summer is not sunset/sunrise. It's still light until 9pm or later & many times I'm not home from work/kids activities at this early time. My cat also never kills anything. He lets birds eat his food & drink his water.

Our cat has many friends in the street and they socialise together as well as visiting at each other's houses. Our cat doesn't understand why we refuse to let her out. All of us remain unhappy as she stares at the door handle and cries repeatedly.

It is very difficult to enforce for cats that are used to outdoor living.

Sunrise and sunset changes. Cats are routine creatures. I leave for work at 6pmish which has sunlight in summer and darkness in winter. It doesn't allow for my schedule or the cats. I know others in the same situation. I would imagine a lot of trades would be in this position. I also know of people who don't particularly like cats and giving inflexible rules like this encourages cruel comments and threats, especially by older people with a lot of time on their hands (sorry but it's true, it causes divide)

Because it should be 24/7 curfew. Knox council needs to grow some balls and do more to protect our Wildlife

Yes but, I have made it so my cat can't get out of my back yard. I lose so much of my garden to possums. So having the cat in my back yard at night is positive to me. Cull the possums or allow me to have my cat in my back yard

Because it's ridiculous thinking you should confine a cat. It's not like you can take them for a walk, like a dog

I can't guarantee my cat to be inside during curfew times, but he is kept indoors at night for his safety.

Safer for my cat outside at night. Less traffic to get hit by car, less to be spooked by, no dogs being walked at night to attack cats

We live inner suburbia and I will always have trouble keeping my cat in of a night.

I like my sleep, also who else is going to keep the rat and mice populations down, without resorting to poisons.

Not always easy as cat doesn't always come home... he can't read a watch....

It is very hard to keep my cat inside at night as she was used to going out as I didn't use a kitty litter she did her business and would come straight back in. Now all my furniture is ruined as she scratches it because she can't go outside. We also now have lots of mice around too as that was all she caught never killed a bird so I am finding this curfew very hard as she doesn't understand why she can't go out at night

Because I just moved to here from a place that allows cats out at night I don't see how a cat could do anything harmful during the night

Yes, but it needs to be 24hr retained on the property of the owner or ideally indoors/in enclosure. Cats hunt in the daytime too.

My cat is used to go outside in the garden for doing their business

Will the council provide a subsidy for the expense required to build my cat an outdoor enclosure because of this curfew?

In humane to lock up cats

My cat sleeps inside all night but goes out for his last toilet run at about 9:30 until 10 ish, I don't want kitty litter in the house but I would have to if this went ahead and also the cat would be pretty sad to not be allowed outside

Q4. Have you had problems with cat nuisance on your property?

If 'Yes' – what problems have you experienced? (responses below)

They come and poo on our property

They come and defecate in our garden

Always cats around. I don't think people follow the curfew

Cat comes on property all the time to taunt our dog. Sits outside the window.

My cat attacked by another

Territorial cat attacking our cat, because now our cat is indoors during curfew the other cat has taken over his territory. Created a whole other problem!

Yes. Cats come and try and catch or watch our chickens. Lock them up all the time please.

Cat coming into our property sitting on our outdoor cushions leaving hair everywhere. Killed our outdoor fish.

The thing is loud and abnoxious

Cats toileting in our garden.

Cat fights

Defecation in my yard

Using my garden as a toilet

Stray cats hanging around late at night and trying to attack my cats through the windows. Yowling/calling

Cats in our back yard at night and are still often seen in the RD Egan Lee reserve at night (almost every night).

A pest against natural wildlife.

Killing native fauna

Other cats frequently come into my property and stress my cats

loud noise at night .dead ringtail possums

Annoying our dogs, killing birds. Continually coming and sorting on our verandah.

Only the cats from next door visiting our property during the daytime, but our cat is old now but always knows when they have been around, and voices his protests.

Climbing on my bird cage, shitting in my garden & carport. And when we built, a cat peed in the ducting for our heat & we thought we had a gas leak when we used it months later.

Other cats attacking our cat

A cat is seen in our back yard occasionally

Neighbours cats wandering

Two cats coming into our yard regularly/constantly to hunt birds, roam, jump on cars and camper trailers, on occasion defecate in our yard too. We've given up on our veggie patch as we're worried about cat urine etc. on our produce.

Cats urinating and defacating at front door

Cats use our property as a toilet.

Cats pooing in the kids play area. Cats stalking birds.

Killing our caged birds and local wildlife.

We have 4 cats that visit our property regularly and rile up our 3 cats, which are all indoor cats. One of which urinates on our \$600 security door and has now ruined it.

Disturbing nightly noises and excrement for to step in

Killed pet rabbits, pet chickens and local wildlife including young ringtail possums, magpies and tawny frog mouths

Cats out after hours climbing along fences

Unknown cats often come into our garden outside of the curfew times. Our sensor lights come on and we pick them up on cctv.

The cats in my neighbourhood are friendly older desexed and a joy when they visit each other

Finding cat poo in our vegetable gardens. We would go out to pick some food from the garden and find a cat had done a poo in among the vegetables. It actually stopped us from vegetable gardening for a few seasons. It was just

so disheartening when us or the children would go out to find more cat poo in the garden. We have noticed a difference since the cat curfew started.

Neighbours cats are always in my yard. Our cats are indoor only and it can stress them to see other cats in our backyard.

Found cats sitting in my driveway before

in my back yard at night

Neighbours' cats fight at night in our front yard - scares my cat, makes the dog bark

Cats on my property and killing wildlife

Stray cat had kittens under our house!

We have a cat enclosure and other cats come and spray on it with our cats in it then our male cat sprays. Nice to clean up.....not. There is always other cats on our property that drive our cats mad.

Neighbours cats roaming on my property and killing birds in my backyard.

Killing birds in back garden

Sleeping in bushes and breaking plant branches. My dogs react to cats on or near our property and constantly bark.

Cats coming through our property in the middle of the night resulting in screaming cats and us being disturbed

Killing native birds

Other cats visit our garden, which upsets our 2 cats, confined to the house and an enclosed cat-run, accessed via a cat-flap and overhead tunnel. Not a huge problem, just a nuisance.

- cat defecation - cats fighting at night (waking people up) - cat mating (waking people up) - cats seeking attention at house windows - cats interfering with local, native, fauna

Cats fighting at night, and using our sandpit as kitty litter

Cat urinating on doorstep, cats routinely pooping in any dry ground

Have trapped one feral cat with cat trap from Knox. Still have the occasional cat (appear to be pets) at night.

Continuing cat defecation issues on gardens and mulch. Found several dead birds and evidence of a possum being attacked on my property.

We have multiple cats wandering our property from dusk until dawn. They set off our cameras and also upset our dog who is kept inside at night also. She then wakes up the household barking at the cats who come right up to the windows.

Killing small creatures especially birds and lizards

continual invasion of cats on our property for a few years, until the council finally took notice

I live in a group of Units and they are all joined by a garage so cats roaming at night have the run of the roof tops and it is difficult to know who they belong to. They could be from anywhere in the local area. Between the cats and possums we can have some noisy confrontations.

Neighbours' cats wandering onto our property, stalking birds and also at night we see them wandering on the road. We used to have Pardalotes, exquisite tiny birds that nest in embankments. Cats just wait until the bird flies out.

Saw a cat killing birds on two occasions. Occasionally cat pee /poo in our garden.

Cats growling and fighting at night, sometimes right outside my bedroom window. A neighbour's cat stalking my caged bird at night. (Is the curfew currently in operation? If so it's not adhered to in Devira Crt.)

Catching birds, spraying, sitting on cars, verandah.

Cats prowling at night killing birds. Also having to clean up cat mess from my garden & front step

Neighbours cats are constantly in my yard and use my garden as their toilet, kill birds and sit on our outdoor furniture. I have mentioned it to the neighbour who takes no notice and hasn't done anything about keeping their cats on their property. I have also noted their cats out at night, despite the curfew. Cat hair in our property causes irritation to us eg asthma I would like the curfew to extend to daytime where owners are obliged to keep their cats on their own property and not allow them to wander wherever they choose.

Heaps of cat owners are not curfewing their cats

Cats killing birds and lizards

neighbours cats in the front of our property. Our dog is inside or in the backyard and our cat was inside (she died at an old age).

Cats pooping in my front yard & scratching in the garden.

chasing and catching birds and spraying

peeing in yard general destruction including birds

Coming into our Barack yard storming the native birds during the day and night.

digging up garden beds, catching blackbirds,

Using garden as a toilet and spraying on decking

Fouling gardens and leaving wildlife carcasses

Digging and fouling garden beds. Bird carcasses found.

Cats defecating in our garden beds, killing birds

Stalking birds, sunning itself when not welcome on my property, baiting my dogs by staying up high (out of reach), fighting at night on our property, leaving their faeces in our garden beds & sand pit.

Attacks on a bird and a possum

Digging up garden and using my place as toilet.

neighbours cats are not kept inside

Complaints from neighbors after stray cats set my dog barking,

Cats in our back yard or on the fence making our dogs bark in the middle of the night. Noisy cats fighting at night which also makes our dogs bark and both of those things annoy neighbours and us trying to sleep.

stranger's cat keeps coming into the yard and has to be chased away by my nephew

People are not taking the curfew seriously. Several neighborhood cats still wandering at night

Neighbours Cat urinating on driveway, fights with possums, triggers dog barking at 3am by fence jumping.

Stray cat coming into house to eat dog food.

They pee on our outdoor furniture.

defecating

2 cats continue to come onto my property through the night (caught on surveillance camera) with no change post curfew. Cat owners continue to ignore the damage their animals are doing. Have spoken to owner who doesn't believe their cats harm anything and insist their animals are not out after dark.

Cats urinating on windscreens of cars

Constant issues with cats from neighbours attacking birds and other animals on our property

other cats upsetting my indoor cat

Upsetting my indoor cat and urinating on our doorstep.

Cats urinating on our property, near doorways and in garage when door is open.

Cat still outside during the curfew time

Neighbours cat annoys my cat by being in our front yard at night, my cat claws at the curtains trying to get out to him

Fouling

Constantly on our property and fighting at least 5 times throughout the week

The neighbourhood cats are using my property as a toilet and fight club at night

i have a stray cat that visits my property every night around 2am, it isn't a problem though

Neighbour's cat is unregistered, not desexed and they don't abide by the cat curfew. This cat comes on our property day and night and fights and injures our cats.

attack bird and other animal, cat fighting, cat poop

Using our garden bed as a toilet

A cat attacking our hens

Cats scratching and meowing at our windows at night, disturbing our cat locked in the house

Cats repeatedly in our yard at night, stalking possums. Run away when you try to approach them.

Neighbours cats are always coming on my property at night

an unknown cat has come onto our property several times and has fought with our cats. this was in daytime on all but one occasion when this cat got into our garage where our 2 cats feed. the ensuing fight was vicious and luckily neither of our cats were injured plus we have not sighted or heard the other cat since

Cats jumping from the neighbouring property onto our roof causing roof damage. Cat fights under bedroom window. Cat poo on front lawn. Vehicle damage through scratching and jumping from vehicle to vehicle.

In the past yes cat fights in my front yard that wake me up and I don't own a cat

Cat opposite of out all night and we have issues with wildlife being killed on our property.

I do 'gardens for wildlife' with the council sadly they kill birds

Cats out after dark, fighting

A cat that visits at night and drives my cat crazy...I do not know where it lives,but obviously the owners don't worry about curfew.

There is a neighborhood cat who comes, usually before dawn, and upsets my cats. Mine are inside or in a cat enclosure but his presence still causes them stress.

Fighting in our carport and leaving their waste in garden beds

A cat that lives 4 doors away and opposite, regularly passes through my property

Cats doing their business on our property

They don't leave and crap in my yard and agitating my dog

Cats have killed birds on my property, some native birds.

Male cats coming around late at night causing anxiety in my female cats

killing birds I have a mostly native garden, using my yard including vegie garden as their personal toilet and waking me up at night

Feral cat attacking me on my property when I tried to catch it

Stray cats that no one seems to want to own with cat poo in garden and even paving. Smell and mess I don't want.

Almost daily cat fights in our front yard. Cat poop in our garden. Cats disturbing our dog at night & waking up sleeping everyone

Neighbour's cats kill the indigenous birds we try to attract into our garden

Pooing in and around my property

Cats peeing on door

Cat next door, stalking and killing native birds on my property

Neighbours cats still wandering at night time.

Spraying in our yard

We have constant cats wandering, fighting, killings wild life and using our property as their toilet

Cats sitting in my driveway when returning from walking my dog. This really upsets her and takes a while for her to calm down. Also cats walking along the top of the fence along the side of my backyard. If she is outside this upsets her as well.

There are many cats on my street who are out at night that fight, my neighbour has over four cats and doesn't do curfew with her cats. They have also sprayed over my property. I've even had to get cat traps from council along with another neighbour because of this problem.

Neighborhood cataka fighting in yard at night. Disturbs my indoor cats and fog

Loud Fights between cats and other wildlife in the street after the sun goes down

Entering my property and harassing native fauna

Pooing in our garden, scaring our budgies to the point we had to move them indoors. Climbing on top of the chicken coop.

Cats in backyard teasing our dogs. Cats soiling our property and making lots of noise on our roof of a night time.

Neighbours cat is always loose and in our yard

Cat next door taunts my cat by sitting on the fence well he is inside hissing at him

We have two cats that frequent our property killing birds.

At least 2 nights a week we have 2 different cats on our property (caught on cameras in the middle of the night).

We have heard them fighting throughout the night including leaving blood on our driveway. We also see them through the day and they annoy our dogs and the neighbours cats (indoor cats).

Cats fighting at night waking up my children

Had have cats fighting in my yard and I'm frustrated with poo in my garden

Wildlife killing, cat poo on lawn, cat mating at dusk (not a possum - camera evidence LOL)

Cat coming onto our property in the middle of the night and upsetting our cat through the window, waking us up and disrupting our sleep.

Someone's pet visiting. Got ill, took to vet. While in my garden no birds visited at all.

Coming into our yard and breaking plants
Cats digging and toileting in our veggie garden.
People not abiding by the curfew at all. Cats fighting and spraying around my front porch!!
Neighbour doesn't keep her cats in at night
Roaming Tom cats marking territory.
Continuous cats entering our back yard driving my dog crazy
Other people not abiding by these laws
Cat next door not being kept in at night and annoying my cat
Killing native wildlife in my yard and pooping in my garden.
Damage to property Fighting in my yard Spraying Attacking birds in our yard
Cat from over the road constantly roaming our property (almost daily), just walked over our fresh laid concrete driveway too. Also jumps out at people walking with dogs walking past and hisses at them looking for a fight, scares owners and dogs.
My neighbour's cat is always on the loose roaming on my property and pooping in my front yard.
There are always wandering cats and strays on my street
Cat meowing outside
There is a cat from a neighboring house that is out at night, I see it wandering around. I have found it asleep on my deck some mornings putting fur all over the furniture. My neighbors also get visited at night by the same cat which upsets their dogs.
Neighbours not keeping it in at night. Harassing birds and chickens
Cats fighting, defecating in my veggie patch, killed a ringtail possum
neighbours cat continually in our property & stalking the native birds
Still a lot of cats out at night
My cats are 100% indoors. They get hassled after darks with other neighborhood cats at the window, stressing my cats out. Making it quite apparent not every is abiding by the curfew.
Poop in garden and neighbour knowing her cat is out but denies it. I have photos of it in my backyard!
Neighbour has around 14 interbred cats that roam at night, defecate and pee on neighbouring properties which stinks. Also marked decline in bird numbers as these cats live opposite Llewellyn Park.
fighting at night directly outside window
Cats fighting in our yard and in the street
Yes, crawling along the back fence at night disturbing the dogs.
Constant cats coming onto the property. Urinating on my rugs, tearing up my screen doors, killing wildlife, making loud noises at night.
Not since curfew but before that we had a cat prowling our front yard and driving our cat (that had to stay inside at night) crazy
Our last cat was attacked by another cat in the street on our property our cat was always in side at night and was only outside a few hours during the day . Our Cat we have now is a inside cat and omly is outside with us on a cat harness and lead
Cats killing birds
Cat lurks around my backyard every night
Cats killing wildlife including baby possums and rosellas
bird kills, annoying possums
Cats coming onto our property which causes our dog to react and bark. Also cats fouling our garden
Using my garden as a toilet and spraying the front door
Several neighbours' (?) cats visit our garden (mostly during the day), which upsets our own 2 cats; they have an out-door run, connected to the house by an over-head tunnel and cat-flap, but are basically indoor only cats.
Using the garden as a toilet and spraying the front door.
Scat in the garden cats howling at. Night
Other neighbour's cats coming around at night looking for our cat, also toileting in our garden
Regular occurence of neighbourhood cats on our property

Fighting at night constantly Shitting in my garden

cats killing birds and ringtail possums in the back yard, Finally dealt with after 3 years of run around by the council, constant stalking of birds and poo in the garden up two 6cats sneaking through the property =2 Siamese 1 ginger tabby, 1 black and white and 2 grey tabby's.

Neighbour 's cat (5 houses away and opposite side of street) regularly passes through my property via an iron posted side gate to the property behind me. He defecates on my garden on his way home. I suspect he knows where there is a free meal. Could cat owners be required to not leave food out or feed their cat in an enclosed area? I have a native garden but hardly any birds now.

A couple of cats walking on our fence at dusk.

Neighbour's cat wanders through our garden, probably at night, and leaves its droppings.

Transiting, digging, defecating

Neighbours don't obey and their cats are out whenever. They come to our property and send our cats - inside but looking out, absolutely crazy.

cats pissing and cat poo when I have my hands in the ground weeding and birds being chased

Using our garden as a toilet

Not at all, various dogs enter our front yard, they urinate to mark their scent & poo in our front yard. Possums are also an issue, lots of possum poo & damaged trees as they leap from tree to house rooves

Our neighbours cat is always out. Have seen the cat in our kids cubby house and vegie patch. Always sets of our sensor lights at night. We believe the cat is pooing and weeing on our garden beds

They are not kept in at night

Killing birds

Cats wandering onto my property, defecating and spraying on cars and doormats.

Cat poo & evidence of bird feathers on lawn. There are still carpet owners not observing the cat curfew

The neighbors cat comes in to our back yard during the day. We have many many native birds in our yard and don't want them hurt from the cat. We only see the cat during the day light hours.

Unknown cats wondering into our garden and pooping

A regular cat visitor seen on our property, Have seen it carrying Crimson Rosellas, Rainbow Lorikeet and Noisy Miners as well as various introduced species and on occasions have seen it with what appears Ring Tail possums.

Cats leaving their doodles in our garden

Prowling at night where possums are active and native birds roost.

I watched today as a bird sat warming itself and up pounced a cat grabbing it from its wings. The cat bolted away with the poor bird screaming for it's life! My neighbor did contact Knox Council who loaned them a cage. Which it was caught in. And then handed back to Knox Council. The cat that killed that bird was the cat the council handed back to its owner.

They cause fights with other cats who are responsibly kept inside. This can cause the cats kept inside to mark places which can cause damage to rental properties.

Cats running over fences and through yard. We back on to a park and have concerns for wildlife/birds.

Entering property particularly at night

Wandering cats into our property and after the curfew times at night We have many native animals in the area fights at night, our garden being their toilet.

We have always kept our cat inside overnight but have had other cats fighting on our property at night.

A number of cats have been using our garden near the front door as thier private litter tray and the smell is bad.

Loitering at night

Killing birds and pets

Preying on native birds and animals in my garden. Cat droppings in garden beds. Noisy howling at night.

Cats that roam at nights are killing or maiming native birds

Killing native animals

Cat poo on front lawn; Cat urine on car; cat poo in front of back garage; cat fighting out front.

Our neighbours cat attacks my cat every single day and night on our property

Have 6 neighbours cats all communing and defecating in my yard. Have had dead pets as a result. Mainly finches and rabbits. Also found 8 dead ringtail possums strewn across the footpath and driveway of my house. Neighbours have no regard for these animals, they are out all day and all night.

Venturing onto property at night

I often have the neighbor directly behind me- their cat walks all over my garden and car any time of the day. Frequently seen their cat out on fences late at night (11pm one night)

Cats continually coming onto my property, defecating on my lawn and gardens, urinating on my front door and sometimes meowing incessantly; all of which occurs at night.

Noise, killing birds

Cats on the property.

Noise and mess

MY dog barks at night because there are cats out and it keeps me up at night

Cats harassing wildlife

Cat fights at night while I'm trying to sleep.

Cats trespassing on our property. Cats pooping in our garden. Cats bothering our birds.

Neighbours cats constantly on our property, they poo in our garden beds and then my dog will eat it. Then my dog licks my kids. You get the picture. I also believe those cats got in to our aviary and killed all the kids budgies.

feral and neighbors cats attempt to fight with our cat through the mesh of his enclosure. ferals defecate and urinate on our property

We have found the remains of several native animals (e.g. ring-tail possums, brush-tail possums, rosellas, lorikeets) on our property, with it occurring at least once a week

Cats have been on my property and on multiple occasions I have had to clean up the remains of possums and birds that had been killed. On some occasions limited parts of the bodies had been eaten, and in some cases the animal had just been killed and left.

We had an unfriendly cat literally come into the house via a cat door set to enter only and attack one of our own cats

Neighbours cat is always at our house & climbing on our cars

You hear them fighting at night and I have found dead rats in my front yard. One day I found a cat in my chook pen. Sometimes you find them sitting on the bonnet of the car. It's really a nuisance.

A cat comes into our yard and fights with our cat. We also had a cat living under house for a number of years, he didn't cause trouble but it was weird and he sometimes stole our cat's and the dogs' food so we had to adjust how we fed them so as not to encourage him.

Dead birds and possums in my garden plus, I'm sick of everyone's cats doing their business in my garden. I have to go through my garden beds before I can let my dog run around My own front garden, sick of it! How would cat owners like it if my dog was allowed to run into their gardens anytime they wanted to go to the toilet. Not good enough. There should be heavier fines for the people that don't abide by these laws.

Using garden as their toilet Fighting Sleeping on front door mat

Cat/s defecating on our garden.

A car coming into our backyard or front yard looking for prey (our rabbit, and killing it)

Regularly find poo left by cats on our backyard lawn, sometimes on the path next to the lawn on our property. It really is no difference from vandalizing, except the human owners of cats did not do it themselves and get away without being caught.

Urination

Cat poo and digging in my garden

Just tonight 9.45pm 2 cats fighting in my garden 4th march

Stray cats hanging around hassling my cat when he is outside before sunset when he is innocently on his own property.

Scratching out into soil and around the garden. Leaving their business behind. Finding native birds in and around my garden mauled is distressing .

Killing birds in garden as well as defecating in our garden

Neighbours cat regularly on our property and a threat to our hens.

Preying on birds, territory marking

cats digging up garden bed and defecating

Excessive amounts of cats at next door at the rental property, cat shit all over my yard and doorstep. Unsafe for my kid to play in the backyard due to disease.

lots of cat poo in my garden beds and on my driveway, paw prints on cars, cat fur on the soft top of one of my cars, dead birds or parts of dead birds in my front yard

Cats prowling around at night making "howling" noises and my cat is obviously very aware as she is sniffing out all the spots it has visited during the night.

fighting

Ongoing over last 45 years. Noise, Cat fights, smell from tom cat spraying to mark territory. Death of birds and several ringtail possums

Our neighbour's cats at 35 Dinsdale Road Boronia - she owns 4 - 5, are constantly in our yard, our shed, our deck, front porch and on our furniture. They spray our doors and outdoor furniture. They continue to roam freely at night. When she goes away for one or more nights, she leaves the cats outside. Recently the Council has been to speak to her about her cats roaming and not being registered but we have reason to believe that she has only registered one of them.

Cats killing native birds on my property

Spraying, clawing things to bits

Being a dog owner I have experienced cats sitting on the top of the fence and my dogs are jumping at the fence. It encourages dogs to want to escape the property.

Peeing on the garden and general digging Danger to local birds looking for supplied water during warm weather

See question 7

They annoy our indoor cats, spray on the front door which then gets our cats to Mark their territory inside the house so we have double the smell and mess to clean

Multiple feral cats.caught about 11 too with council cages. They used to torment my dog and I'd get in trouble if my dog barked.

Neighbours cats roam my property - yards and roof, at night. Fight with each other, wildlife and run over my roof making plenty of noise.

Our next door neighbours cat sprays our front door and has recently jumped the fence and attacked our cat, resulting in a \$200 vet bill

Stray cats entering our property (and house on occasion) taunting and fighting with our cats.

Urinating on on outdoor items, digging and pooing in the garden, killing birds

Cat shitting next to front door, walking a cars, killing birds, causing dog to bark

Yes

Yes fighting and defecating in my garden beds

Cat's fighting...using my garden and back yard to poo in...spraying both front and back doors and attacking wild life

Cat scratching in my garden at night, digging holes and crapping in it

Fighting, killing wildlife, using garden as toilet.

nigh visits which drives my dog crazy - also they pooh in my garden, I try to feed birds with lots of flowering plants and then cats come and catch them

I have had cats kill or injure many birds and baby possums

cats using our garden as a toilet.

using our vegie patch for a toilet

Killing birds, defecating, digging

Mutilated possums, frequent of late.

Urinating around patio and doors. Digging droppings into garden in process digging up vegetables and moving mulch. Killing wildlife, happening to oiften even by cats that have bells on collars, the bells are useless. Cat fights during night are annoying, but thankfully do not occur to often.

Neighbours cat defecates in my garden and enters front yard resulting in my dog barking at it.

Hunting of birds

They leave droppings and peeing in my garden beds and on my stuff in the half closed garage.

Neighbours cats always in our front and back yards. Our dog doesn't like it at all

Crying by the windows at nights, killings native birds and smaller possums and leaving them in the yard
stalking and killing birds and ringtail possums
jumping on my roof, walking on the fence, using my front yard as their toilet
Killing birds
Urinating on our cars Urinating on our security door Pooing in front of our caravan Pooing in our garden
Cats come into our property and killing birds
killing birds
Cat poo in my garden. Cats wandering around after dark and ringtail possum fur and remains in my garden
comes in during night and my sensor lights go on.
Roaming cats spraying around house.
DURING THE DAY cats will fight on our property.
Hang around, sit on outdoor furniture, kill birds, poo in sand pit.
Cats would come in property and make the mess.
cats wandering onto our property and pooing there.
Neighbours cats defecating in my garden.
Yes, cat fights.
Cat fights outside making noise disturbing the peace and quiet of the night. Smell in my garden, and dead birds
occasionally.
Other cats coming onto the property to hunt native wildlife
They wander around all night and have at times killed some birds
Chasing native birds
Neighbours cat entering my yard, meowing loudly which upset my indoor cats. The cat also ruined my veggie
garden by sleeping on seedlings and pooped in my yard.
toilet habits in my front garden
Tom cat spraying my wire door several times in a row
Using my garden next to my front door as a toilet, Also I am getting very upset at having to clean up half eaten
birds in my back yard
Eating our wildlife including sugar gliders and little birds. Although I don't own a cat I am also aware that it is not
good for their welfare to be roaming.
Neighbourhood/feral cats on my property - walking/sleeping on cars, defecating in my garden, spraying outdoor
furniture and teasing my indoor cat.
Pooing in garden
Poops in garden
Cats staring at my chickens and guinea pigs in the garden.
They kill birds in my garden ☹️
Neighbours cat tries to enter our house and garage.
Stalking birds, fighting at night
Other cats terrorizing my cats. Coming in through our cat door.
Doing their business on my land and killing birds and native animals. Howling at night
The cats in the area know each other and get along fine.
Cat hanging round bird bath and frightening away native birds.
Treat our property as a food bowl and toilet
Cats using our garden during the night
Pissing on my stuff, fighting on my property, falling off my roof, defecating in the vegetable patch, attacking the
local birds and stressing our dogs out.
Cat coming up to window & harassing indoor cats
Coming onto my property
Killing wildlife. Yowling at night. Defecating in my veggie garden repeatedly. Razzing up my dogs by entering my
yard and /or climbing nearby trees. Beheading Sugar Gliders that live in my nesting box and leaving the rest of
their body on my doorstep (wildlife camera video' thus incident) Cats on the local roads can cause car accidents.

Cats fighting with my cat, he loves sitting under things watching the world go and has received nasty scratches and wounds that have gotten infected. We also hear and see cats around after dark,

For years my neighbour's cat 'owned' my front yard. But since he died, several other neighbourhood cats have been fighting over the territory. This meant cat fights in the front yard, which then roused my dog. It wasn't a major problem - it just resulted in a few hours of lost sleep

Coming in at night, urinating, defecating on deck furniture and fittings, and worst of all, many bird attacks with the back yard often showing the scars (feathers) But quickly hasten to add, since the curfew there has been a 90% improvement.

Our neighbors cat comes into our yard during the day. We have many native birds in our back yard and I am afraid that the cat will attack the birds when we are out.

Cat droppings, digging up garden beds, wildlife killed

cats howling and fighting on front lawn at night, and disturbing the family

3 to 4 cats are roaming through the property and fighting around the house, and crapping in the veggie patch.

Next doors cat out all night coming into our place upsetting my cat who never has gone out at night

cats pooping and peeing on everything

Cat fights at night, early morning. Cats pooping in my garden.

Seen lots come in from Scoresby rd in Bayswater they try to attack my chooks!! They set off my sensor light at nights and I think it's a stranger only to find it's a darn roaming cat.

Killing of native birds and baby possums

Killing birds / baby possums in my yard during day and night times. Pooping in my garden

They make my dogs bark and the cats annoy the possums

Pissing at the front door sleeping on the flowers in the garden

The neighbours cat coming into my backyard - I really don't like cats. It has also gone into my garage and climbed all over my car.

Digging up the garden to poo

Neighbouring cats not kept in overnight. Fighting cats heard sometimes in the night.

Fouling out garden. Prowling, spraying marking of territory. Many bird and possum kills regularly found in outer property.

Coming in to garden and using as a toilet and spraying front door

Cats coming here during the night and causing SLEEPLESS nights for me. My cat is indoors and does not appreciate other cats in his (and my) territory!

Yes at times with cats defecating in my veggie patch

Another cat at night coming on to our property teasing ours that are inside at night out the window. We keep them in at night out of respect for others.

Other people's cats in my backyard and front yard attempting to catch the wattlebirds. :(

Neighbours cats coming over, poo in veggie patch

Feral cats

Neighbours cats are left out at night, often are fighting or doing mating calls which keeps me up and wakes my baby! I have to go outside and chase them off

Neighbours cat hanging around my property at night as my cats are indoor only with cat enclosure. This cat meows all night.

Cat poo in the sandpit and lots of evidence of cats hunting birds in our habitat garden (our cats are inside all the time so must be someone else's cats)

Neighbourhood cats using our garden as a litter box.

Cat comes over every night and torments our dog.

Even if I did. It's a cat. Who cares? As a caring cat owner, who gives a shit if I'm woken for 5 seconds in the middle of the night?

Dead birds and cat scat on our property

A male is hanging around on some evenings and being a pest. I have female cats who are all indoors cats. The male is a domestic cat and not a stray.

neighbors allowing cats to stray 24/7

Wildlife killing

Cats disturbing my indoor cat, peeing on things, setting off sensor lights etc

Neighbouring cats in our yard at crazy hours of the night, stirring up our cats through the windows and glass doors.

** Piss on front door mat (excuse me, language) ** Kill lots of birds, I have been sweeping up bird carcasses for more than 50 years, a lot with heads chewed off

I use to in a cat, and locked him in every night. A cat from down the road used to come to the laundry door at night, yowling, and trying to find him to pick a fight. Would also come in the daylight hours and attack him

Defecation on my property, urination on door mats and cars, loss of native birds [and introduced] due to predation.

Digging in veggie patch and pooing in all of garden. Climbing on house roof and leaving paw prints on car in carport. Killing birds in our yard.

Just with other cats bullying my cat.

Cats fighting for territory during the night, urinating on my doors, defecating in my vegetable garden, chasing and trying to kill birds.

Found dead birds and baby ringtail possums at the back door. Spraying front door, the car bonnet (the wee drips into engine and can be smelt through air vents 😞 😞).

Attacking/killing/stalking wildlife.

Cats have killed many birds on our property over the years, including parrots, black birds and doves.

Cats coming into property...fear they will attack my guinea pigs...piss and shit in my yard also.

Cats spraying and attempting to fight our cat who is inside.

- Cats marking their territory on our BBQ and deck - Neighbours' cats fighting on our property - Evidence or harm to native birds (large amounts of feathers)

Previously had cats defecating in my veggie garden

Neighbours cats fighting in my yard, causing my dog to bark and scaring my indoor cat

Noise at night. Concerned for remaining wildlife.

We have the neighbours cats doing their shit in our garden and it's disgusting!!!!

We constantly have cats on our property. There is atleast 4. They fight and mate call outside our bedroom window in the middle of the night. Causing my dogs to bark. They wake up my child in the night

Cats yowling at night, hanging around the house and trying to attack my indoor cats through the windows.

Cat poo and attacking native birds.

Nestling amongst the plants outside the windows that causes our inside dogs to bark. Cat urine on the front doormat. Cats fighting at night.

dead birds, cat poo in my kids sandpit

Urinating at door, barbecue covers are stained!

Cats run along the top of the fences and aggravate my dog. Have had dead possums in my yard and local park most likely due to cats and I'm worried my dog could eat them

Setting off sensor lights in middle of night. Hanging around pet bird cage.

Attacking wildlife in garden and pond

strays using our garden as a toilet, killing birds and generally fighting others or trying to fight our cat through the window

Cats yowling and peeing on my front porch

Neighbours cats like to toilet in my garden. Hard to prevent though

Constantly spraying our front door and furniture on our deck. Gets under our house and has destroyed our ducted heating ducts.

Daytimes the cat over the road kills native birds on our property. Also poops on all the neighbouring properties. As a dog owner, my dog is not allowed to roam so cats shouldn't either.

Killing by cats of native birds & mammals

Neighbours cats poo in our garden and eat wildlife.

Shitting in my garden beds

Cat urinating on everything around my house. The curfew wont fix that.

My two cats have 24/7 access to an enclosed cat run we have cats fighting with then at 2 am.

Wake up in the morning is possums half-eaten. Birds being eaten in my backyard curfew needs to be enforced.

Killing birds, noise, & cat faeces in garden.

Cats getting into my small backyard and doing their business. At least three different cats coming around to my front window and making my cat upset, in the middle of the night. Numerous cat fights can be heard. All of this is after midnight and before 6 am.

Outside cats roaming our garden & bothering my inside cats through the window

Cats toileting on our cat enclosure and upsetting our cats. This has been going on for years

Cats from other properties fighting our cat and harassing our birds

Not so much at night because our cat is inside, but once he is out when we leave for work, he will get into a cat fight with other cats that are on our property.

Fights and spraying urine on gardens, tyres. Digging up flower beds for toilet

Cats entering my property and peeing on the door step and driving my dog crazy when he is inside

Cat sleeping on top of a soft top convertible leaving cat hair. Cat defecating in garden beds.

Approaching my cat in the window during the middle of the night

Dead birds in backyard

Q5. Are you concerned about the impacts cats have on the environment and wildlife?

If 'Yes' – what impacts are you concerned about? (responses below)

The inevitable extinction of the unladen swallow. An endangered species.

I dint like it but it's nature and it is only a small percentage of cats that cause any problems to wildlife

Hunting of native animals

Killing birds species

Killing birds

Birds in the area

Killing birds

There should be measures in place to protect native wildlife

Cats don't just hunt at night. But also my chickens and my yard is not cat free because the neighbours have cats.

Eating our small fauna.

Birds and other native species

Wildlife

Death of birds and native animals in the wild

Catching / scaring birds away especially fledglings. Cats fighting.

native bird deaths and cats becoming feral

Killing native birds, mammals and insects

No impact

I'm in GFW, have a resident possum in a box provided by us, I don't want cats on my property. My dogs are not allowed to roam so why is it okay for cats. It's not!

Killing native animals

They kill the birds

Spreading disease amongst cats, killing wildlife, cats getting run over.

Killing of small nocturnal animals and of course birds

Killing Wildlife

Cats can not be controlled. They are a predator animal that destroy for pleasure.

Killing native fauna

Killing/injuring native wildlife

killing birds

Killing of bird life

Killing them - but not just cats.

In areas around State and National Parks, I believe there is a need for cats to be confined within a distance of these areas.

Birds being killed. We now have less cats & more birds around. So lovely.

Native wildlife loss

Killing of wildlife. Unwanted kittens, feral cats.

Birdlife specifically.

And wildlife attacking poor kitties!!!

Bird life and other small animals being killed for no purpose by cats, feral and domestic cats

They kill the wild birds.

Killing native animals

Cats are huge killers of birds and small animals. The impact they have is well documented and well known. If we want to keep living with other wild animals then cats cannot roam free

Killing wildlife

Birds being killed

Decimating already endangered fauna
Kill too many birds in Lakewood Area
Feral cats and preying/killing of species
Birds
They kill wildlife
No more so than human impacts. Especially as these impacts are mitigated by the curfew.
Their scat and killing wildlife.
Cats killing local birds that come and visit our garden. Cat poo contaminating soils.
Predation of other species
Catching wildlife, including birds and lizards
wildlife fatalities
mainly killing native birds
Death of wildlife
Killing birds
Killing of native wildlife and deterring them form area
Cats hunting wildlife.
killing and eating the wildlife
Killing native bird life
Killing birds
Killing wildlife
Killing wildlife
Killing wildlife at Lakewood Reserve
Killing wildlife
As above
Killing wild animals. Native birds and lizards.
Birds, possums
Birds are most likely to be victims of any wild predator.
Native bird life and possums
- discouraging native fauna from being in the area, and killing native fauna (e.g. birds)
Heard frequent encounters and fighting between cats and possums.
We live near the national park, there are lots of birds.
Killing the wildlife
Birds and any nocturnal wildlife
Birdlife
We are bird lovers and have designed our garden to attract small and native birds.
Destruction of the wildlife which I welcome to my garden.
Ferral cats fighting or marking their territories
Native wildlife being killed
Killing wildlife
Killing wild life ,birds and possums, defecating in the garden and on the roof of our property
Cats are a danger to the wildlife both day and night.
Birflife
I feel this only relates to feral cats .
Definitely. We are very concerned about wandering cats. It is irresponsible to allow a pet out at any time. Knox needs to make our wildlife a priority.
Killing native birds
The killing of native fauna, mainly birds.
Killing or maiming birds, small animals
Killing native birds

ferral cats only - my cat has a r=tracker and never leaves the property
 Killing birds and small rodents. Because of their presence, this same wildlife is often absent from gardens. Cats becoming feral and breed.

Killing of birds during the evening and dawn and killing wild life at night
 killing the wildlife is not on
 I am concerned about cats killing birds, possums and wildlife in general.
 killing of native creatures
 killing native wildlife
 Protecting native wildlife & cleaner environment due to pooing in the environment, the smell is also horrible/hygienic
 scaring and killing the birds especially the little ones. The bigger ones stand a chance of fighting back
 natural predators to wildlife
 Killing the native wildlife
 cats becoming feral and killing small animals & birds
 NATIVE BIRDS AND GROUND LIVING MARSUPIALS
 Killing local birds
 Obviously con earned about the native wildlife. As much as my cat toilets outside, she has slways spent the night inside. It is possible for both.
 Fouling gardens and leaving wildlife carcasses
 Fouling ground abd killing wildlife without reason - reptiles and birds.
 The loss of native animals
 Killing our beautiful fauna & disrupting our sleep. Owners are not made to be accountable as dog owners are.
 Rules should be the same for both dogs & cats
 attacking wildlife in my property
 native wildlife
 Finding dead birds in my property.
 they kill native birds and lizards
 Cats can and do destroy native animals, you know that as well as I do.
 Eating killing our native birds.
 cats eat native wildlife!
 Safety of dogs and possums in the area.
 Killing of native birds and animals
 Killing native wildlife
 Killing the wildlife
 Natural habitat can be disturbed with cats prowling
 Killing native wildlife e.g. birds
 bird life and cleaning someone else's pets issues
 The frogs killed
 Killing wildlife
 Killing native wildlife
 Them killing birds and wildlife
 Killing native birds and small mammals and reptiles.
 Cats have been long known to have a disastrous effect on wildlife
 I don't see wildlife in Wantirna - only birds, and they are pretty big and would frighten any cat.
 Damage to wildlife
 If this cat was young I would be worried she would catch wildlife, but she is too old to do more than lie in the sun.
 She doesn't leave the property now.leave my
 nil
 Reduction of indigenous species

Wildlife
That the Indian miner birds are not being controlled.
Killing native birds and possums
killing native animals and birds
Killing wildlife
birdlife
Threatening the survival of native Australian animal species
Native animals will not cope
Impacts to local birds
wildlife
Killing of birds and small animals
Wildlife
killing or maiming of especially native wildlife
Wildlife mainly as this area has some amazing birdlife
Bird life
Fighting, attacking wildlife
Damaging wildlife such as native birds -but there are other ways to stop this. Plus, cars drive over birds and dogs at the park chase and injure wildlife, not just cats
Regularly see dead possums and birds on the path that look to be killed by a cat
The amount of native wildlife that cars kill
As above
Wildlife
Cats in local wildlife corridors
Birds,lizards possums & other creatures become prey for cats.
Cats kill native wildlife, cats can injure other cats, cats can be hit and killed by cars which is distressing to owners and car drivers.
The native birds
Defacating in my garden, bird kill
Feral cats killing wildlife
In the foothills where many wildlife animals visit
All wildlife
Concerned that cats may kill native birds.
Cats can injure or kill birds and baby possums.
Destruction of native wildlife
killing native wildlife and preventing wildlife from using garden
They kill wildlife
Using my garden as a toilet. Most cats have fighting instinct which upsets me.
Attack small birds and other wildlife. Being just in the designated foothills area want a range of birds to be safe.
They've killed possums & birds in our court
Hunting birds, lizards, invertebrates. Also the potential to add to feral cat numbers, not to mention the looming extinction crisis
Native wildlife been killed by cats
We have a lot of native birds at risk
Harming wildlife
Killing native animals and fighting
Killing wildlife. We have possums and native birds in our property
Cats will kill wildlife
Cats kill small animals
They kill native birds

Wildlife mostly

Killings and scaring local wildlife

At Schulz Reserve there is a large pile of feathers so a bird has been killed most likely by a cat. There has also been a dead possum at Schulz reserve for the last week. It's arm near the building and most of its body near the Cricket pitch. This is unpleasant for children and many people let their dogs off leash and may not realise what is there.

I find dead native birds and have even had a cat attacked possum on my property that was taken to the vet and put down.

Native birds

Killing birds and lizards and marsupial mice.

Killing native animals

Killing native species

I am not sure what animals but I am guessing they fight with the possums

Killing wildlife

Predation on native fauna

They hunt birds.

Wildlife being attacked by cats, or cats attacking other cats

Killing of native animals and birds.

I am concerned for the wildlife if cats are free to roam around.

Yes I live birds, but that is why we have a bell on our cats collar

Killing bird life

I understand they hurt native animals but if leashed it should be ok to take out side for a bathroom brake

We have native wildlife in our garden that the neighbours cats are killing.

Wildlife

Killing our wildlife

Killing native animals

Killing native wildlife

Destruction, they chase birds away

Native animal's at risk

Deter and attack birds, kill lizards, geckos and littke possums.

the slaughter native wildlife.

Killing wildlife

We have many small birds, lizards, frogs and possums living in our yard. We are concerned cats may catch and eat them.

Wildlife, fighting, spraying and wandering around

Birds

Native wildlife

Killing wildlife

Wildlife

Lack of wildlife visiting my place

Attacking wildlife

Attacking local wildlife

Cats being a nocturnal predator killing and destroying native small animals

I'm concerned about strays breeding and wildlife being killed

Cats killing native wild life

The killing of wildlife

The native bird life. They can eat the wrotten Miner birds

Cutting down on native species allowing more pest species in

Killing and stalking, scaring away native birds

cats both feral & domestic are decimating our native species

Killing wildlife & disrupting habitat.

They prey on birds

Killing birds etc

Noticeable decline in bird and wildlife numbers. These cats live opposite a park and have a big impact.

Killing wildlife

We have many small birds (spinebills, thornbills etc) as well as parrots that visit gardens in our street. Also a range of other wildlife. Its well documented the impact cats have on wildlife. I have to keep my dogs contained, and cat owners should have to do the same.

Killing native wildlife

They are killing machines that slaughter wildlife.

birds and possums

Killing of the wildlife and pet owners who are not responsible

The killing of native birds and wildlife

Killing native animals

Small animals eg. Birds and possums

They will eradicate a species that is vital to our environment

cats are killers

Killing of wildlife

Killing of native fauna

Killing of wildlife

Killing of wildlife

Kill native birds and ppossums

Native wildlife

Impact to native birds, possums, native antechinus.

Shitting in my garden is a health issue

The number of small animals they kill.

cats have no place wandering around loose ,they kill for fun and spread deseases Toxoplasmosis !

native bird life

Few native birds

Wild life

The killing of the birdlife

killing birds and reptiles

Birds and small indigenous animals being killed

Wildlife being killed.

birds being attacked

Killing wildlife

Cats are feral, I've seen injured animals and birds in our area

Birds

Killing at risk native species

Loss of native birds previously common in my garden

Stalking birds & killing them. Less native birds around when cats are around

they kill wildlife

The cat stalks the pardelotes who love in our garden during the day.

All of above. I believe cats should be confined at ALL times.

Bird and skink life

Killing Native Birds and wildlife

Killing native animals - night AND day. Cats are cute but viscious.

Cats are born as bird watchers. Some chase after birds, some remain glancing afar.

small animals and birds being taken by roaming cats

Killing of native birds

At the wetlands this cat and its local friends are killing animals from the wetlands

Wildlife have enough problems with the loss of habitat and human interference without adding the stress of avoiding domestic cats because people are irresponsible.

Native wildlife - particularly birds

Killing wildlife

Killing of wildlife

wildlife threatened

native wildlife death

Killing native wildlife

Since the curfew has been implemented the Indian miner birds are taking over. It's been insane.

They are known predators

Native birds

Protecting native animals

Impact on native birds and animals. The spread of disease to humans, other animals and among cats themselves.

wildlife being killed or not nesting in our property due to other cats

I am concerned that cat owners in my neighbourhood are not confining their cats indoors to protect birds

Bird & native animal populations

Native bird deaths

A lot of cats are hunters and need to be inside at critical times.

found 8 dead ringtail possums strewn across the footpath and driveway of my house due to cats owned by neighbours being irresponsible

native wildlife....wildlife in general

Possums and Birds in my area

Quite simply, they wipe out all fauna in the vicinity, especially at night.

killing wildlife

Impact on native animals

Literally everything. I hate them

Killing of native animals

They have caused irreversible extinction of species. They are natural hunters, and pretty much a killing machine.

They kill native wildlife.

Cats killing birds, injuring and killing possums.

That cats kill thousands of native animals and don't belong outside

As mentioned above, the indiscriminate killing of native wildlife when this could be prevented by responsible cat owners. Particularly when the area we live in is in close proximity to a national park.

Hunting our vulnerable wildlife, especially at night. We have frogs that have returned to our front garden, for instance, and we want to minimise risk of little creatures like them being hunted at dusk/night (when they are mostly heard).

The amount of bird life I find killed by cats and also little ring tail possums, laws need to be much heavier.

Death of wildlife

on my pre dawn walks I regularly see domesticated cats roaming during curfew hours - and not supervised by owner

Wildlife

The loss of wildlife/birds. In the Basin where I live we have wildlife like parrots, kookaburras etc that are beautiful.

Native wildlife, birds, and family pets.

Disturbs other wild life especially nocturnal animals such as possums.

Death of wildlife by feral cats

killing of small animals

Cats hunting native animals on our property at night

Cats eat the small creatures of the night

Numbers have dwindled now with developments ,all animals are under threat. now
wildlife deaths

I am very concerned about the number of birds killed by cats

Loss of native birdlife

my property backs onto a reserve - concerned about cats killing wildlife such as native birds.
They hunt and kill the native birds in my garden, I trap indian myners to help our natives birds and the cats just kill them.

eating native animals and birds, in particular marsupial mice and small possums

Catching little birds and lizard's and prob. Lots more.

damage to wildlife and the environment

Death of small native birds (& frequent young taken from nests) and mammals.

We regularly find dead birds and an array of feathers, including those of parakeets and rosellas in our yard.

The killing of native birds

Killing native animals

Knox has lots of wonderful birds, cats and birds are traditionally not compatible.

mainly catching native marsupials and birds

Cats can be predators and hunt the birds.

As above

Loss of wildlife - birds and mammals- damage to fences

Bird life

We are a business (in LA, CA) that are dedicated to providing high-quality products and informative blog posts for everyone that enjoys our furry friends. For our web site to become what it is today, we pride ourselves on collecting the most loved products and most informational information for our websitevisitors. Take a look our pet blog for tips and tricks or our pet store

Killing native birds.

Killing wildlife

killing native birds

Killing of native birds, thier poo is toxic eaten my other animals

killing of wildlife

Preying on native animals

Killing birds and other wild life

I'm concerned about cats hunting native wildlife

Wildlife and having to pick up other people cats poo

Keeping them from roaming the street and nusing themselves on other residents properties

Cats are predatory and kill indiscriminately

Two cats arrived, 1 year later, no more small natives and rare small birds.

Cats killing the wildlife

Cats kill wildlife, Cats are also at more risk of being hit by cars

Native fauna and flora being killed

They kill native animals

the impact on bids and native wildlife

we have found the body of young birds on the ground near our tree

Killing birds

As above & bird life.

Killing birds and in some cases small lizards and possums, although possums are a pest in own right

Death of birds

Wildlife

killing of australian wildlife and birds

littering on garden beds

The bird

Finding half eaten birds and possums

a lot of small parrot species and rosellas in area. we are opposite a protected bush reserve.

birds being killed

Destruction of native wildlife

Killing of our native birds

killing the birds

The killin of Birds

they hunt nocturnal native animals and birds sleeping in trees

Attacking injuring and killing wildlife.

on the local fauna in general

Our cat keeps down vermin. RATS and MICE are often hunted by our cat

Killing native birds

attack on birds

Cats kill for pleasure

Attacking wild life. They are pests

They're an apex predator when compared to most of our wildlife and loose/feral cats have harrowed vulnerable species

Killing native birds

Killing native wildlife, breeding, strays, It is a known fact that feral cats decimate our native populations.

Cats kill so much wildlife. The wildlife in Knox is already under enough stress from urbanisation.

kill native birds

Native birds being caught

Killing bird life

Killing native wildlife

Feral cats/extinctions. Domestic cats hunting and eating small creatures and birds.

Voracious hunters that have the ability to decimate native wildlife

Bird life

Small mammal, bird, and lizard deaths.

Killing birds and small wildlife

Killing birds and lizards.

They kill birds and possums

Unnecessary deaths

My elderly cat killed 2 domestic rats that came onto our property this year

Killing birds and small animals

Harming native animals and birds.

Killing wildlife

I think humans do more damage

Killing birds, reptiles and small mammals.

Bird life reduction

Reptiles, birds and small mammals

All of them

There is too many death of innocent pigeons and rats in our area.

Bird & other small critters

I'm an ecologist so I'm aware of the devastating impacts both feral and pet cars have on wildlife

A lot of cats are hunters and need to be inside at critical times.

Killing local wildlife, particular in Springtime and early Summer when there are fledgling birds and your defenceless mammals. Killing lizards all year round

So many of our small marsupials have been attacked, and r becoming extinct, so sad.

Cats often kill native wildlife for sport

Killing native wildlife

Mainly birdlife

Stalking and killing the native birds in our yard.

see above

killing birds and other wildlife

wrens and pardalotts have now diappeared and the ruffis spinebills are also dropping in numbers also.

How much wild life they kill

The killing of birds

i see cats out all of the time, crossing roads and with no bells on, stalking wildlife. Then you see posts about a cat being run over and how angry the owners are, well i have hit a cat before and tried for hours to find it and it make me feel awful...not fair on the cats

Killing birdsa

Catching birds and other wildlife

Absolutely, i have seen one that lives close to bayswater south primary school actually climb a tree and go to pounce on magpies... its hortible to watch!

The killing mainly

Stalking birds killing birds

Killing our native wildlife

eating birds and mice

Impact on native animals

Bird life

Killing native animals

Domectic cats killing wildlife in general as they don't even eat them is it just for play

Threatening and killing the Native wildlife

Using my garden as a toilet. Birds dead in yard.

Birds and possum killings

The death of native wildlife and ringtail possums mostly concern me as well as lizzard as

The large feral cat population causes loss of native animals

Massive kill numbers of birds, small animals and reptiles

Killing wildlife

Native animals being killed. I.E ringtails.

Killing lizards and small creatures

Impact on birds

Decimation of wild birds and possums

Killing or injuring sugar gliders, feathertail gliders, lizards, frogs, birds

The impacts of cats on local wildlife

Death of innocent wildlife

Cat fights at night, killing of baby possums, but like tge idea of rat/mice control. Maybe the council needs to do something about rat and mice as a trade off

Hunting birds and lizards, becoming feral cats

Hunting and killing of local birds and other small creatures

We have a lot of wildlife here would prefer they are protected.

Fuck no. The less possums there are, the better

Yes, can reduce wildlife numbers

The birds and lizards in the area, and diseases carried by cats

Injuries to wildlife

Cats killing wildlife

Killing local birds and other wildlife

preying on native birds, mammals and reptiles

The impact on local birdlife nuisance

Impact on our wildlife

The impact on fauna

The number of animals they kill

Killing off Native animals and birds, especially those that are neglected or dumped, and go feral, if you take one to an animal place, you get the 3rd degree

Attacks on birds that come to my yard. I have a bird bath.

Birds, lizards and possums being caught and killed by cats.

Loss of native birds [and introduced] due to predation.

Killing the birds, mainly baby parrots.

Killing native animals and birds, scaring them off, digging up my garden

Killing of by ringtails

Killing native animals

Cats have killed many birds on our property over the years, including parrots, black birds and doves. Copied from Q.3.

Yes I saw a cat walking around Egan Lee reserve at midnight sure it was stalking wildlife.

Cats hunting and killing native wildlife.

Concerned about their hunting of native birds and lizards, and their flow on effects of breeding and those offspring becoming wild

Loss of wildlife due to hunting

See previous answer

They keep leaving their shit everywhere!!

We often have dead birds in our backyard left by cats I assume.

Killing wildlife and birds and spreading disease (to other cats)

Native animals need to adapt to the human built environment which isn't easy for some. Cats are natural predators and killing machines. They make it even harder (if not impossible) for wildlife to survive.

Hunting birds and other small wildlife.

the killing of wildlife

wildlife being killed

Wildlife has little chance against these predators.

Killing and injuring possums. We've taken one to the vet which I assume was euthanized.

Killing native wildlife

Killing small native species who have not evolved a defender of such a ruthless killer.

Uncontrolled reproduction is the main thing, then birds etc

They kill native animals

I'm concerned about cats killing our native fauna

Wildlife numbers

Killing birds. That's only what's I've seen myself

Birds, I think sunset is too early to let them back out, birds are still a bit active

They kill it?

Killing birds and possums

See above

All of them! The decimate populations but eating them, plus the spread of Toxoplasmosis in their faeces.

Cats that aren't de-sexed and left feral

Death of lizards, frogs & small birds

They eat birds, lizards, frogs etc

Will I go for a bike ride? I see many cats out after dark. Hopefully the council will enforce this law.

Killing of wildlife.

- Killing birds
- Killing wildlife
- Possible killing and reduction of native species
- Destruction of wildlife. Noise of fights and damage to my cat
- Killings
- Killing native animals
- Possums, birds, lizards
- Birds etc
- Killing native animals
- Killing birds
- Dead birds in my backyard. Cats get to our wildlife during the day too. 100ml
- Killing wildlife
- Obviously they are hunters but hunting occurs during the day too

Q6. Do you have concerns about containing your cat between sunset and sunrise? (responses below)

I can't keep them inside they come and go

If you cannot contain your cat between sunset and sunrise you need to have a long hard look at yourself about where you went wrong in life

We bring our pets in at night. Occasionally they don't come in and it doesn't matter what you do, if they don't want to come, they won't come. So sometimes it's just not possible to contain them. They are cats after all.

My cat gets quite anxious if inside for too long and starts scratching loudly on the door and meowing loudly. Nothing we do can stop him and he destroys our property and keeps us awake

My cats are strictly indoor only all the time

My cats are indoor only

Already provided.

Mainly because he won't use a litter tray and needs to go outside every few hours. I have stopped him going out the front now, so he can only go out to the backyard and is too old to climb fences.

99.999% fine... except the one time the kids leave the door ajar..

Cats should be inside or enclosed backyard or enclosure safe at ALL times!

Sunset in winter is quite early. 8pm would be ideal year round

My cats are indoor only.

It'll be too difficult given my work situation and I simply won't be able to do it and find it cruel

As mentioned earlier on rare occasions otherwise my cats are well trained to come in and have access to a council supported cat run (great program)

My cat is predominantly an inside cat, and when she is outside she's on a lead.

I am forced now to have a kitty litter inside instead of outside.

Cats getting anxious when locked in at night

I have a car enclosure

My cats are indoors 24/7

We have an enclosure with a cat door that the cats can go look at the stars at night if they like or sleep outside but we know where they are.

Our car is inside only due to health issues and concerns about wildlife

People should be responsible cat owners and keep cats inside 24/7. It protects the environment and the cats themselves from injury and disease.

I have Sureguard cat fencing which is amazing, and bring Grace in before dusk every night. She knows her routine, learnt very quickly

Inside cats, with enclosed cat-run, accessed via cat-flap etc.

some times my cat escapes when i let the dog out so it not always easy to get her in by sunset

As previously stated, it's too long in the Winter months to keep her in.

In general I'm okay with it but it's difficult to fully adhere all members of the household work and during the shorter winter days everyone has left for work before sunrise and no one gets home until after sunset

Our cat stays indoors 100% of the time and has done since we bought him several years ago.

My cat still resides in Monash and is easily kept indoors at night. When I move her to Knox it will be no different for her

she's always in at night and out in the day - sometimes I can't get home from work until 6pm - it is dark by then in the winter months - she just sits on the letterbox or on the door mat waiting for me to come home - would she be taken by council if I'm not home by sunset to bring her in?? This is causing me huge anxiety

I have a cat enclosure which I lock in the evening. My cat is 15 years old so doesn't move around much. He sleeps in the enclosure during the day if it's sunny, otherwise he is inside.

I have cat proofed my home. My cat is indoors

I have always had a "cat curfew" for my cat. Even before Knox created this curfew. So my cat comes inside of her own accord at about 5pm!

My cat has a cat cage and is happy with that. All necessary things are in the cage as well as cat toys, only used in short times much prefers to be inside

my cat was an inside cat and any future cats would be also

As before...toileting!

Pull cats are real home bodies but do explore & return home. I find when daylight savings changes it takes a while to adjust I think it's wonderful for cats to play outside. We've only had a couple cats come on our property & have had them attack mine.

Only in warmer months where he likes to stay outside in the heat longer.

Because sometimes she manages to getout

My cat has always been an indoor cat. I think it would be very difficult if he was used to being outside.

Think cats are safer indoors and should be contained 24 hours with an enclosed cat run if necessary.

Being disabled, I cannot chase and catch her. She comes in when it suits her, as her first five years (before living here) she ran wild 24/7. Once she is in, I shut the cat door and then feed her, but often she is too quick for me and runs outside again.

My cat is an indoor cat only

Only in summer when she accidentally sneaks outside while we are cooking a bbq. She did this once and we were so scared we would get in trouble and she was lost. She ended up falling asleep in our garage.

I already lock my cat in overnight.

Hard to train an elderly cat that is used to going outside for toileting.

All they do is howl in the house all night, so they are contained to the laundry. Neighbours complain about the noise and threatened to call the RSPCA.

I worry that during winter when days are short and it is still dark before we leave for work and dark after we get home, the cats are not inside for that hour either end of the work day and they will get picked up by animal control.

our cat never goes outside

Cats should be locked up at night

our cats have been raised to be inside late afternoon or early evening and remaining inside until let out next morning. they spend most of their day indoors but are allowed o go outside in daylight hours. both are now 12 years old and not as active as they once were

He likes to roam and will leave during the day and not come back until 4 am He doesn't seem to get into much mischievous he just likes to roam he is desexed aswell

Cat is mainly in our house or in his own outdoor accommodation. When in the garden I keep him on a harness & lead.

It's not hard. Keep them inside.

I have a cat enclosure

Our cat is a predominantly indoor cat. We only let her out into our fenced courtyard for a few minutes during daylight hours.

Doesn't always come when called especially on warm summer nights.

My cat is 15 years old, he is not used to being in by a set time. Most nights it is fine but not 100% of the time

Cats sleep through a lot of the day and depending how they are trained, go outside to wee or poo. They tend to do this after they have eaten. We now have significant increase in using litter and accidents in the house.

Our two cats are kept contained 24/7 and are perfectly happy and healthy

I never left my cat outside even before the curfew.

We have a enclosure he can safely go outside in. Cat door to cage at backdoor. \$1600 isn't much to protect wildlife. Built it before I moved the cat here 3 yrs ago.

When the daylight saving hours change or if my cat comes in a bit late I would hate to penalised or have him impounded as he can't tell the time. i always keep him him inside at night but sometimes he comes in later in the evening due to us being out till after the sunset

My boy is an indoor cat. We have built a run so he is able to go outside, but is contained. During the day I'll let him outside to go to the toilet and have a run around, he doesnt stray far from our house and will almost always come running inside when we call him.

They have never been outside cats , I have a cat run for them connected to the house

My cats have always been indoor cats. I also have a free standing cat house that I can use to put them in safely and securely outside if I want to. My older cat is nearly 19. He is deaf and blind and has not been outside in over 10 years. He is happy and content. The other cat is younger, but also happy to be inside.

My cat stays on my property 24/7

It stresses my cat

My cat is an indoor cat.

As mentioned earlier, the constant meowing to get out drives us insane. In by 6pm for 12 hrs is way to long.

My cats are used to going outside for many years. It's difficult to keep them contained inside. It feels mean.

My cat is mine, not the neighbourhoods.

our cats are completely indoor cats

They need to go outside to pee etc

Our cat is indoor only, with access to a secure catio.

I don't my cat is 100% an inside cat....others don't keep their cats in though.

I might be out and not able to lock the cat door before it gets dark. Especially in the winter months

As mentioned earlier, if the cat escapes when we open the door for other reasons. But otherwise no issues he wants to be inside.

Unsafe to lock cats up

Not always possible to curfew the cat is they decide to stay out and not come home.

Our cat is outside mostly during the day but he is more than happy to spend the night inside

This is a very long period of time to confine a cat, particularly in the winter months when when nights are long. It means that someone must be home by 5pm to let the cat in. This isn't always practicable

our cat goes out approx 4-00 and we don't see her sometimes until after dark although we call her several times to try and bring her in before 5-30

People not abiding by it

However, there has been a cat of gray tabby with yellow collar visiting our backyard several times last week. It interact with my cats between the back door. I tried to go near, it ran away. I hope to at least check his collar for a phone number or something or to contain him and take it to the vet to scan his microchip details. It seems a good cat and my cats don't dislike him.

have owned 3 cats over the years, all have been brought in by sundown and fed and happy to remain inside then. i know they are safe from roads wildlife is safe and no cat fights.

We don't have any issues keeping our cats indoors. This rule is not enforced though and I often see cats out after dark. Are you genuinely concerned about wildlife?

I feel stronger laws for keeping cats inside to protect our native wildlife is imperative. Cats make excellent hunters and should be treated as such.

We have always kept our cat in at night.

Only during summer when its warmer and my cat likes to be outdoors more of the day.

In warmer months, my cat likes to stay outside longer but usually when he comes in for dinner, he is kept inside for the night

Our cat is quite old now, she hangs around the property all day and at night is more than happy to be ushered indoors. The sunset/sunrise hours we think are extremely reasonable and attainable for every responsible owner.

Our cat is indoor and has a outdoor fully enclosed area.

Death by road kill

I am concerned to see neighbours cat still outdoors between sunset and sunrise.

Difficult to get them inside when sunset happens especially if I am working late or not home on time.

I do not have a cat

My cat stays indoors after dark and is not let out before daylight. There may be occasional days where an exception might occur. I don't need a cat curfew for that. I do my best to keep my cat indoors after sunset.

Always have kept any cat we've had, in at night. I don't want them killing animals, getting into fights or being hit by a car.

i don't have a cat

Male cats are more likely to be involved in territorial fights after dark, resulting in injury. Night time is for humans to sleep, not to listen to cat fights.

The cats roam freely and we have personally seen this occur despite the curfew.

Cats have a natural tendency to go out at first light, before sunrise. Therefore I think the time should be eased accordingly. I am ok with locking them up between sunset and first light.

I don't own a cat at present but have owned cats in the past and never allowed them out at night. I m preparing to get another cat and will have it as an indoor cat with an outdoor enclosure for its safety, the environment and the wildlife.

I don't have one.

The neighbor is not getting the message on cat curfew

Absolutely not. Indoor cat only.

We have indoor cats

In my view, if all site owners and bloggers made good content as you did, the internet will be much more useful than ever before. Thanks for the note worthy info! Maybe this pet blog will help :) Paws and pets

I don't have a cat

My cat is 14 years old and completely miserable since the curfew was Introduced. She keeps the entire house awake a night with her crying. I have two primary school aged kids and they are also miserable every morning after not getting enough sleep. My cat is too old to change her routine.

We currently have a hidden fence so they can't leave our property

Hate dealing with kitty litter and it seems unfair and unnatural to contain nocturnal creatures, especially those used to accessing outdoors at night.

It doesn't hurt for cats to be inside at night

I dont have one.

Aside from protecting our precious wildlife, This is curfew is also best for the well-being of the cats. In fact ideally people should have their cats contained in a cat enclosure/indoors permanently as they are likely to be hit by cars, be attacked by dogs or fight with other cats & possibly contract fiv during their lifetime otherwise.

don't have a cat

Do not have a cat

had cats most of my life.. Always locked in at night to prevent injuries from other cats, dogs, foxes and cars. and to ensure they did not go hunting prey at night causing trouble or getting into difficulties themselves.

NO I do not have a cat however I'm all for people having pets they bring a lot of joy but they should be confined to own the owners property so they can enjoy them and not share them with the neighbourhood. I know cat owner who have cat and have built runs and contain their cats 24x7

Never had a problem locally. We have cats, but they are indoors only. Don't punish creatures whose people are not responsible pet owners.

Though an animal advocate, I do not wish to own a cat.

Don't own a CAT

Having to keep our cat in the garage as we have a dog inside at night. Also, hoping we can get Siena inside on time. At times we may be out until late.

don't own a cat and never will

We let our cat out. I'm more concerned about being bitten by a dog or standing in dog poo from the neighbours dog doing its business on my front lawn on my property

I don't have a cat

I think cats become more active at night as I was a previous cat owner I know that after sunset they get active. Sunrise however isnt an issue but people need to know what their animals are doing most of the time. I own dogs and you dont see dogs everywhere, so what I am saying is cats should have the same rules as dogs.

Humans kill more wildlife than cats so it is ridiculous to include that question

Still light until 9:00PM in the summer. Had rats in the roof, chewed through water pipes, \$22,000 damage to unit. Cats may help keep them away

Summer.... Fine. Sunset is late. But by the time we both get back from work in the middle of winter it will quite likely already be sunset. What then? Our cat can't stay inside all day...

They stay inside with a cat run attached- it's fairly simple to keep them enriched and happy

My two cats are always indoors. It's easy to do and every cat owner should be keeping their cats indoors to protect that cat, wildlife and keep peace with neighbours. Dogs are not allowed to go roaming around, cats shouldn't be either.

My cats are indoor cats

I don't have a cat

I don't and never have owned a cat.

My cat is kept indoors 24/7

I keep my cat inside at all times and she has a good life.

I've recently moved from an area with a 24 hour curfew.

If they never roam they can enjoy their own yard. Too old to jump the fence.

Not a cat owner

Yes, mostly they are in however sometimes they escape or don't come back in time even when feeding is set to 1-hr prior. I hope the curfew pilot allows for these discrepancies.

She has always been brought in at night.

Again will not adhere to his time schedule told to him.

They don't like the litter box, they want to use the garden. It means at night just opening the door is a struggle. They want to be free to roam their garden.

For people living close to known small animal habitats, and known ringtail possum areas should be made aware of them, should be no cats outside, my daughter lives at botanic ridge, near the Cranbourne botanical Gardens, to protect the endangered bilby they r not allowed to have cats, I feel people near or on the fringe of our forests should not be allowed to have cat's.

My cat is a full time indoor cat as we have moved from Yarra Ranges

I don't have a cat.

Dont own a cat

I don't have a cat

It can be very difficult, especially in the summer.

However it can be difficult to ensure our cat is in if we get home from work after sunset. We get our cat in as soon as we can.

Dont own a cat

Difficulty to do so. Need to build an appropriate enclosure

No cats have had problems being confined in other suburbs by these regulations.

My cat lives indoors at all times

mostly no, on the odd occasion my cat won't come home for dinner so we can't lock it away. this has only happened twice so I hope there is a warning for people in this situation rather than a fine

My cats like to be outside at night

Sunset to sunrise is not 6pm-6am even though this is the times you advertised the curfew from. This should have been started in winter months when it gets dark earlier to give cats the chance to get used to it before summer.

As above. We are doing it but it makes everyone grumpy.

So long as he's got an extra meal (2nd dinner?) before we go to bed, he's fine until about 6am - but he's old & doesn't stay out long if can help it.

Don't at present have a cat but agree totally about curfew. In fact I believe cats should not allowed to roam at all, day or night.

As a above, sunrise and sunset is not fixed and changeable

My cats have been kept inside or in their outdoor enclosed run 24/7 for several years now. We no longer have to worry about birds, reptiles and possums being attached and also our cats no longer get into fights and end up with abscesses or other injuries.

We already keep ours contained indoors

But do of cat owners and not containing their cats at curfew time

Always keep our cat inside overnight anyway, have only had trouble getting her in a handful of times

I have a cat enclosure so they are always safe.

It is used to being outside, so to stop it would cause significant family sleep problems. Next cat I get wont be allowed out at night. It is a habit maybe allow a phase in of the curfew. Cat cages are just so expensive

Our cats are perfectly happy inside full time

Not a cat owner for the moment but when I do, I'm happy to keep him or her safe at home.

N/A

Because its ridiculous and doesnt provide the cat with the appropriate variety

Generally he's quite good at coming in every evening but now & again he won't come in even when i call him right up to 11pm & I am then concerned I'll be fined even though I have tried to get him in.

(I don't have a cat)

Sometimes he doesn't want to come in, waiting game

are cat cages available to residents to catch pest cats? will the council remove them once caught?

Cat body clock is complete opposite, we locked our cat up during the day and out at night because is safer for our cat. Our cat hates it outside during the day & is scared off all the noise.

Not applicable

I don't and never will own a cat.

I have a concern with other cat owners that consider cats locked up to be a pain in the bum, hence will never do it

Our cat is indoors only, with an enclosed patio.

Not applicable

Sometimes it is hard to get the cat to come home when he knows he will be locked in. What's the bet that the one night he doesnt vome in he gets caught!

No longer own a cat for at least 30 years

I find it difficult to bring her in of a night time sometimes

We contain our cat 24/7

Yes he is an arsehole, doesn't like it even for one night before a vet visit so we can find him.

N/a

My cats are already indoors 24/7

My cats are strictly indoor only day and night.

Our cat is 18 years old this year and has always been a totally inside cat.

my cats are indoor cats already as so many cats go missing to not be seen again, kit by cars and kill wildlife i would rather them be inside safe

Yes the cat don't always come home, has trouble reading his watch.

as mentioned above

My cat loves to get out of anything he gets locked into

Our cat has an outdoor enclosure to protect it and the environment

Have not done it for 12 years and now we have to change routine. Try to tell a cat that she can't get out

I don't own a cat

Will the council provide a subsidy for the expense required to build my cat an outdoor enclosure because of this curfew?

Unsafe and small areas not suitable for cats

It's pretty tricky, he keeps escaping. We've always tried to keep him in

Don't own a cat, but if I did, it would be kept inside 24/7.

I have an inside cat and an 11 year old cat which I tried to make an inside cat but he would wee on furniture and beds if we didn't let him out. So it's hard to guarantee keeping him in. Having said that he sleeps on the bed most nights. He has caught 3 rats in the last fortnight and hasn't bought anything else home in his 11 years

While i dont have cats in the promotions for the curfew ive not seen any information about how to do this other than just keep inside there are other options - ie cat proof yards so cat can get outside but not wander

My cats dont often go outdoors, so containing is no issue.

Basically I support it but it is very hard to stop a determined cat accidentally escaping from the house occasionally. I would hope there is a little leeway for such occurrences.

Our cats have always been indoor only. Occasional supervised garden visits. For their own health & safety.

We have a cat enclosure. Our cats do not go outside the house to annoy the neighborhood

Sometimes he wont be back home before sunset, we could be calling for ages, but this doesn't happen very often, he's normally home for dinner at 7.00pm, which is when he is locked in for the night. Would love a cat tracker or GPS so as we can locate him easier.

We have trained our cats to sleep inside for 40 years. They all have kept to our property during the day and come in for treats every night at 8.30. 2 pigeons and 4 rats have been killed over those years. Routine and training is easy even with rescues. 😊

My cat is family so needs to be secure at night, not roaming the streets. Not all cats are vaccinated or desexed. Have lost a cat attacked to a sick Tom who had feline HIV. Was not nice.

We have 2 cats and spent over \$2000 to install a cat run

I have provided my cats with a cat enclosure

I'm so concerned that I will get a fine. That is shit.

Us an neighbours install cat fence guards so they are enclosed in our courtyards.

Sneaky bastards still get out through the door if we're not vigilant enough when doing chores

Q8. Do you have other comments about the cat curfew?

It works. Happy for cats to be out and about during the day so I can admire them during the day while I am walking around but during the night just keep them inside and protect ring tailed possums and other defenceless animals.

It's safer for cats and wildlife for cats to be indoors 24 hours.

no

They're people's domestic pets and you can't stop them from coming into your backyard or front yard during the day. I think if you own one you should be responsible for it during the day as well

Consider how Council is going to enforce a cat curfew and the cost to ratepayers in doing so and then be transparent in your budget about the cost to ratepayers in resourcing this initiative. Do a cost analysis. If you don't plan to resource the enforcement of a cat curfew appropriately then merely make it a recommendation to pet owners to bring their cats inside rather than an enforceable offence. Educate people through a community awareness campaign on why they should bring their cats in at night ie wildlife impact, safety, help them understand why it is important, give them a reason to do the right thing. Bringing in a local law to enforce, increased local law staff being paid penalty rates and fines is not the answer. Think about how to change people's behaviour for a better outcome, fines are not going to work. Be smart about this.

People should control their pets. I wouldn't be allowed to let a dog go on someone else's property, so why should cats. People can buy enclosures for them or keep them inside.

Not necessary - consider environmental impact of overdevelopment instead.

The current curfew has meant that I have not seen any of the three cats from one neighbour which is a great improvement but the single cat of another neighbour still appears most days in our front garden.

domestic cats dont hunt, add laws to stop humans traping birds,

Please implement it permanently.

I do not want cats on my property !!!! I'm in GFW and have created a safe haven for native wildlife a resident brush tail lives in a box and Ringtails have made Dreys in our trees . My dogs are not allowed to roam freely onto other people's properties at all hours of the day or night , so it must apply cats to 24/7. An cat enclosure would be needed like a fenced yard for a dog, that dog owners take on board to do! Why then do cat owners think it's okay for their cat to free range, run on the road a slam brakes on & poop on other peoples properties as well !!

They should be kept in their own property and owners made responsible for them

Responsible owners will have secure cat runs. I know a few that do and it works well for both owner and cat.

Get it done we all know the harm cats do. I actually like cats but as a pet they should be only out during the day or not at all.

I really enjoy cats and have 2, which we keep an indoor cats. Our wildlife in Australia is too precious to allow cats outside

Cats are not domesticated.

I worked for Sherbrooke Council. When we introduced the Cat Curfew we discovered that the pet food industry was funding the opponents of the scheme.

If people aren't prepared to look after their cats properly they shouldn't have them. Dog owners are expected to maintain proper fences etc to contain their dogs, it should be the same for all pets.

In State and National Park areas, perhaps there needs to be a 24 hour curfew. In the Rosebud area, people are supposed to confine their cats within some sort of cage in their backyards at all times. A lot of people can't afford to do this due to the cost involved. Night time curfew is probably working, even though I don't like it much.

I have to keep my dog on my property so cat owners should do the same.

If we're going to be a greenbelt area, we need policies that lit that ecosystem thrive for best value.

My 14 year old has always been an inside cat. Since she can no longer climb fences or catch birds etc, due to back problems, I let her wander in the back garden. It is also safer for the cat, no car accidents, cat fights.

The current rules/curfew isn't stopping the cats from coming into our yard and causing havoc and their owners aren't doing anything to try to prevent this.

As long as the cats are secured and enclosed on the property they are safe, wildlife are safe. No FREE roaming!!!

Pet owners need to be 100% responsible where their pet is 24hrs a day

I think cats should be kept on the owners property as dogs are.

Cats should be kept indoors or in a car run at all times.

How will it be enforced?

Dogs have to stay at home, why don't cats. A dog would be declared dangerous if killed a neighbours pet but cats its just accepted

Having a curfew stops killing of skinks and small birds. Have seen cats storking birdlife in Lakewood Reserve during the day. Dogs are restricted but their instinct is not to kill whereas cats have little restrictions to stop that behaviour unless they stay at home. Cat runs are ideal and stops the carnage

How is it being police? how can you dob in a neighbour that doesn't feel the rules apply to their cat??

It's not nice to lock them up all the time such as the 24-hr curfew. I think I'd protest this.

Not working. You are relying on owners doing the right thing which obviously in my case is not happening.

I don't agree with the 24-hr curfew I don't mind no curfew

Definitely not in agreement with 24hr curfew in any way, shape or form. Sunrise to sunset is a fair compromise and mitigation strategy.

I think this is a good thing to be implemented in our community but I know there are many cat owners who won't comply to it and how could it realistically be enforced.

Modify it so cats are allowed outside on their own property. If they are seen at the neighbours then they will break curfew and a fine could apply.

If someone chooses to have a cat, it should remain on their property and indoors most of the time.

it is just part of being a responsible cat owner, same goes with dogs, making sure your fences are secure so they don't escape.

In order to increase wildlife in Knox, increase the vegetation in public and private areas and reduce the amount of buildup areas

Great initiative

I don't mind other people having their cats out during the day, that is their business, but I feel better knowing my cats are safe inside.

Is a safe measure for all domestic cats

Need a curfew Dogs are required to be in the confines of their registered addresses, cats should be no different

Cats should be registered and have to wear a bell. I also think cats should have to stay on the cat owners property. Cats prey and kill birds so the cat owner should have to be responsible for their cat's actions as required by dog owners

Cat curfews and speed humps are annoying

In my street there are still residents not adhering to the curfew with their cat still being out at night.

I believe if you wish to own a cat it needs to be contained on your property, the same as is the expected of other pet owners.

I love all animals including cats but owners must be responsible

No

Also keeps pets safer!

A cat curfew is vital to the livability of the area. Cats do not respect boundary fences, and will establish and defend large territorial areas resulting in a significant impact on the neighbors of cat owners.

Dogs aren't allowed to roam the streets.. why are cats?

I think you need to set specific times because in Winter the night is too long to keep the cat indoors.

I always keep my cat inside overnight for his own safety as well as that of other wildlife.

Residential areas boarding parks and native reserves should have a blanket ban on cats. Failing this cats should not be allowed outside except in cages.

the main from our cats being out at night is the loss of a few mice and rats which I don't believe we are interested in protecting

People should keep their cats on their own property much the same as dog owners have to

Need for cat owner education and support Need for design and display cat enclosures which meet the needs of the cat including hygiene, shelter, food and water and environmental and social stimulation and also protects local wildlife, perhaps using expertise from feline zoologists

needs to be implemented as soon as possible and heavy fines for breaching it should apply, our wildlife are too important

Dogs need to be contained and not roam around so cats should not be allowed to roam around into peoples properties day and night. Cat owners need to be responsible but sadly some members of the community do not consider anyone else and it is also difficult to police as we do not know where the cats come from. If a 24 hour cat curfew came in, there would still be those that would not abide by the curfew.

It is a good idea to keep cats safe over night and to protect wildlife. Our 16 year old cat adapted quite quickly to her change of routine from sunset to sunrise. I do think cats need to be able to go outside during the day.

Would you survey to see if dogs could wander during the day? Please look at the Book: "Cats in Australia: Companion and Killer" by Woinarski, Legge & Dickman "On average each pet cat kills about 75 animals per year, but many of these kills are never witnessed by their owners. "Whilst each urban cat kills fewer animals on average than a feral cat in the bush, in urban areas the density of cats is much higher (over 60 cats per square kilometre). As a result, cats in urban areas kill many more animals per square kilometre each year than cats in the bush." (from the book).

Only that our cat is twice as heavy as he was so now looking at not having him as long as we would of Extra weight from being locked inside all the time Would like to know how you could get him to come in at sunset ?? Or to stay only on our grounds ???

Small fines should be implemented for owners that don't contain their cats at night, but they should double for subsequent offences, and for cats that aren't desexed.

Thank you for instituting this.

Just that it is a great strategy as there are too many irresponsible cat owners who allow their cats to roam freely Please allow a later time in the winter months as I imagine a lot of people like me are not home from work before sunset.

All pets should be confined to their owners property. This includes cats! Having made enquires to council previously about how to stop cats entering my property, the onus to rectify this is on me. Not being the owner of the cat, it should not be on me to try to alleviate the problem. Make cat owners more responsible.

I live on Central Avenue, Boronia. I still see cats out in the evening and at night. There should be a way of keeping check on who is abiding by the curfew.

I believe that the cat curfew should be permanent and cats should live indoors full time

More than a cat curfew we need to educate all people who have companion animals that they need to look after them properly. We should have mandatory de-sexing of all companion animals. There are enough unwanted animals needing homes - we should not be breeding any more.

Would like other cat owners to abide by the rules

It is great to see some action to protect our wildlife.

I don,t have to put up with others dogs on my property, why should I have to put up with cats. And the curfew has not been adhered to. I wake up before sunrise and usually have to chase a cat or two away.

some form of reporting cats online

Cats need to be kept confined 24 hours a day to safe guard our wildlife day and night.

Dogs are confined to the owners property and so should cats. Many of my friends are cat lovers, but don't see it as being irresponsible to let their animals wander at large.

our cat likes to go into our neighbors and when we call her she doesn't like to come home.

FULLY SUPPORT SUNSET TO SUNRISE FOR CATS TO BE INSIDE. IF A 24 HOUR CURFEW, SOME PEOPLE MAY CHOOSE TO ABANDON THEIR CATS. A LOT OF CATS ARE HAPPY TO BE OUT IN GARDEN AND SUNSHINE AND STAY IN THEIR OWN BACK GARDENS, IN DAYLIGHT HOURS., FRIENDS WHO HAVE OWNED CATS FOR MANY YEARS, HAVE SAME UNDERSTANDING.

Keep it going

Get them off the streets and make owners responsible.

Get them off the streets

Mostly people didn't abide by it.

How will it be policed? If a cat is trespassing on my property I would like to be able to catch it in a council Trap & the. Take it to its owner to discuss Why it was in my property when not welcome. NB. my dogs don't go onto neighbours properties and are secure in My house or fenced rear yard (during the day AND at night) and they are

on leashes when exercised, I can't say the same about several cats owned by our neighbours, who think their cats can roam and can't be contained when they actu

I have had 4 cats appearing in my garden in recent weeks which is bird friendly. I have taken photos of 3 of them but can't get close enough to see numbers in Council tags.

fully support. my 2 cats are inside only cats though one Ashley is allowed outside when I am in the garden. He comes in when I come in.

Yes, keep it up.

More awareness raising needed on how many native birds and lizards are killed by cats - it is a huge issue.

There has been a noticeable decrease in cat sightings in my area, but out in the open, there should be none. They are a dangerous animal that should be controlled.

Thank you for piloting the cat curfew. I hope it stays

I think the curfew is a great compromise Cats generally sleep 20+ hours a day. If people are concerned about wildlife this will help. I like my cats to have their freedom in garden as they catch mice.

Why are cats allowed to roam free and kill while dogs get taken to the pound?

Need to make 24 hours please. So many wandering cats day and night. Especially at night there are 3 in particular who come into our property causing our dog to chase and bark.

There are lots of cat owners that do the right thing but I feel that there will be lots of non-cat owners that will exaggerate the impact that cats have on the environment and residents' homes. Don't implement a 24 hours cat curfew due to a few bad cat owners.

24 hour cat curfew should be the new law. I am sick to death of having to chase the neighbours cat away. The smell on our driveway from cat urine is appalling. The neighbours are elderly and don't care. Cat should be treated as a pest.

No

No animals should be able to roam around on other people's properties, whether it is a cat or any other pet, excluding native animals.

It has been introduced with no public involvement, I do not agree with it.

It's a responsibility to ensure you know where you pet is; especially at night when it is very difficult to see them racing across the road; roaming in someone else's backyard leaving a mess

All cats should be kept indoors as issues include feral ones et al

Owners aren't adhering. Are they even aware? Are their animal registered?

Cats are a plague in our native wildlife and should not be allowed to wreak havoc

should definitely be 24 hour cat curfew safer for cats too

I'd love to see a 24 hour cat curfew, but I do worry that it will cause cats who are used to being allowed outside to develop annoying/destructive behaviours indoors and to be surrendered or abandoned because of it. Not sure if residents could be supported with "how to" information or similar around getting outdoor cats used to being contained indoors?

Your options in 6 above are too limited. How about a curfew but let people go to work as well. Its reasonable to expect cats to be kept inside at night just not sunrise to sunset. something like 8pm to 6am would be a good compromise to trial.

I was surprised that Knox didn't have a curfew as I had thought we did have one and for quite a number of years. I support it definitely.

On a pension I cannot afford to build a huge cat pen, but I have converted a kids cubby for when I know I am going to be home after dark. I won't ever get another cat before of this curfew, and if I had known it was coming, I wouldn't have accepted this cat. I will get a dog next.

Be nice to cats

24 hr cat curfew is cruel. Animals need to be outside in nature. Inside at night is fine.

I think the trial was a good idea but I have seen an impact in the increase of Indian miner birds in the area. They are a huge problem as well.

Cats need to stay on their property either inside or caged cat runs.

It seems no one is taking it seriously.

We purchased here because there wasn't one. Sucks you make a million dollar commitment to live here and then you change the rules.

We used to own cats and always followed a sunset to sunrise cat curfew with them.

I love all animals, but in upper Gully there is a real ecological risk

i fully agree with a cat curfew

I think this is a fair time for cats to be inside- sunset to sunrise. I haven't noticed any cats coming in our property although we have a dog so....

Cats should have to be confined to their owners property and inside at night. Cat runs/enclosures should be mandatory for all Cat owners, and Cat owners homes should be inspected to ensure that Cats are appropriately contained. Cat breeders/sellers should have to prove that they are giving cats only to homes that have appropriate enclosures to keep Cats from wandering. All other pets are required to be contained within their owners property, and Cats should be no different.

I don't believe cats should stay indoors all day- I think that is an absolutely ridiculous idea.

Have checked the guidelines for catching cats but the onus appears to be on me to catch someone else's cat. This has to happen multiple times before anything happens. This situation could cause neighbourhood issues. If a cat is caught once there should be a more permanent solution other than returning it to the owner that has allowed it out once already.

I think cats should be aloud to roam if they want to It's there nature too

I want to say that my dog isn't allowed to bark to excess, sit on my neighbour's car bonnet, piss on someones front step, scream/fight in the middle of the night, walk through my neighbours back yard but someone's cat is allowed to do all this to me. Two sets of rules!!!!

Knox council should spend their time, energy, efforts and rate payers money on something more serious than a cat curfew. Look at roads, infrastructure and supporting volunerable people in the community

Cats should have a 24 hour curfew. They kill local wildlife and shouldn't be allowed to roam.

Did aren't allowed to roam the streets because they could attack, so why should cats? They get hit by cars, fight other cats, kill wildlife, dog up people's gardens.

Cats should be kept indoors, unless there is an outside cat in closure for them to be c kept in while outside

Could there be tighter controls on non desexed animals than on fixed animals

Fine a few offenders so that people obey the law and know you mean business!

24 Hour indoor cat curfew. Cats live longer healthier lives if they are indoors. And cat enclosures can allow them safe access to 'outside' for fresh air and exercise without them roaming and wandering. Parts of knox are heavily wooded areas like City of Yarra Valley who have already put 24 hr curfew in place. Plus parts of knox are also susceptible to having pets stolen for illegal dog fighting. cats are tortured as bait. Protect our wildlife and protect our cats! keep them inside 24/7

Sunrise to sunset would be ok if pet owners were required to feed them in an enclosed space eg laundry or veranda ,and not available for free roaming cats

Cats should be on owners own property 24/7

No, I agree with it.

I think as long as they're on your property it should be ok. My cat is elderly and still likes to go outside at night sometimes but she's doesn't hurt wildlife and she never leaves the property.

Most owners try to contain their cats at night for the cats own safety. However, to compare them to dogs is unrealistic as they are completely different. Dogs prefer to be inside with their owners as much as possible. Cats natural instinct is to explore.

Many of my friends have cats that live inside 24hrs per day and are quite happy

Dogs are not allowed to roam the streets so why can cats. It's also unsafe for cats that get hit by cars. It's also about protection of cats.

Thank you for finally doing it! Please make it 24/7

I'm a cat owner and don't let my car roaming even during the day. It's not safe for the cat and it impacts on wildlife. In Europe and other cities, having cats indoor is a given. Cat runs are great fun for them. I understand most people will not want a 24hr curfew so sunset to sunrise is better than nothing

Cats are part of nature their impact on our nature is way less than humans impact.

Dogs are not allowed to roam and be a nuisance to any body else, the same rules need to apply to cats. They need to be kept inside or in a cat run on the owners property at all times.

I think the curfew could be abused by cat haters actively looking for cats after sunset to do them harm, or for somebody looking to do a Neighbor harm by harming their cat or dobbing them in to the council if tbemir cat is out after sunset

I wasn't really aware of the curfew to be honest, but I keep my boy inside anyway as I worry he will be attacked by a fox or possum. I do support it though, I believe cats as family members should be inside safe rather than out stalking anything that moves.

It needs to be policed more, if I had a dog it's not allowed to roam

Will there be a way to enforce either a night curfew or 24 hour curfew? There are so many cats in my area outside often under cars and running across my road it's dangerous for drivers. It has to be enforced whatever the outcome is.

There should be a limit of two cats per house, excessive numbers and council issuing permits for more than two is counter productive as council allows more townhouses to be build and we get a bigger population in Knox. I think VCAT should be involved as council is greedy on permits and just want money and not about our environment or people enjoyment of property. Why should a house that is tenanted be allowed to have five cats next to someone who owns as pays rates and has their property destroyed by cats.

Trying to bring in 24 hr, is likely to lead to a lot of abandoned cats, as unfortunately a lot of owners should not really have them in the first place, if they can't keep them inside over night at least

Yes, please have a dog poo one where owners are fined for leaving poop in middle pathways

Meow

A cat just went through my property around 7pm tonight so not everyone following the rules?

A dog owner gets a fine for a "dog at large" if it was allowed to roam the streets, but it's perfectly acceptable for a cat to do the same. Dog owners have to pick up their dogs poo, but cats can wee and poo anywhere, in gardens, on front door mats, it's disgusting! Cats should be confined to their own yards 24/7.

We only let our cat out during the day when we are home so we can supervise our pet. Maybe this could be a suggestion to cat owners as well?

I ticked sunset to sunrise curfew but I'd prefer 24 hrs. It is better for the cat's health and well-being but I can imagine a lot of people would not like it.

Cats should not be allowed to roam around as they please. No other pets are so why should they be any different. They cause a nuisance and are a danger to our wildlife.

Maybe make it from 10pm but not 6pm.

Keep them locked in please

At bare minimum there needs to be a sunset to sunrise curfew!!

I've had cats in the past. I always liked to bring them inside before sundown. I didn't like letting them stay outside all night. Getting the cats inside at night was only a problem during daylight savings, when it didn't get dark until late.

Would like to see this enforced and penalties applied

I like it. Keep up the good work

I have noticed less cats running around at night time especially across the roads at night. One less thing too look out for

24hr cat curfew would be very unreasonable and damaging to cat wellbeing. Even with an outdoor enclosure you're still limiting a cat's natural behaviour. Fully support keeping cats indoors at night. We have been doing this for a number of years already with no issues.

Wondering if it is working as I've seen cats in Boronia on way home at night.

This cat curfew has been done in the past by Knox and like this time it will be fascinating to see how you will police it! Until that is sorted this pilot is a waste of rate payer money

I don't believe all the other cat owners in our street even know about the cat curfew. They certainly don't seem to abide by it.

Just saw the option for a 24 hour cat curfew. You should be embarrassed that this is your job.

Needs to be done, but more important people need to abide by curfews...they just don't care about neighbours or the area in which they live or where wildlife live

All pets should remain in their property as well as a bell on when outside

I feel it's pointless, you don't police it, I have called about cats that are out, I was told I would need to trap it and then it gets taken home, has to be caught numerous times for anything to be done, people don't care and I was told to approach the owners myself.....pretty hard to ask a cat where it lives and not about to risk my life talking to randoms in the area who clearly don't care.

Cats should be confined to their own yards not free to roam even during the day.

Cats should not be able to roam on people's property, do their smelly business and scaring dogs.

Cats should not be let out on its own, just like dogs. Cat owners need to take responsibility of their animals and not let it out to do "toileting business" in other people properties. They should also not let out their cats to kill native wild life (which usually happens at night)

I believe it should be 24hr. The pet cats can be protected and live longer and safer lives. The strays will be more easily identified. Wildlife won't be killed and neighbours won't be irritated by random cats.

Cat owners need to be educated to keep their cats inside and/or fined if they are roaming.

Cats should be confined to owners property, they should have bells on a collar & random checks should be done to make sure owners adhere to regulations

No

We still have cats come onto our property over night the curfew hasn't changed that but has caused stressed for those already doing the right thing.

How is this being enforced?

Needs to be enforced.

There are so many residents in our street that don't abide by the cat curfew. It needs to be a 24-hour on your property curfew, and cat owners should be fined if their cats are caught (by anyone) off their property. I am a responsible pet owner (2 dogs), I don't let my pets wander or attack wildlife. If I had a cat, it would be living a pampered life inside and with an outside enclosure. Council needs to take this more seriously, to do more education and enforcement. A sunrise to sunset curfew that allows cats to wander doesn't work, as owners are still able to let their cats out to wander. A mother cat from a few doors down had her kittens in our backyard under some corrugated iron. When I found the owner, she said she hadn't seen the cat for three months, but she'd never bothered looking for it. This is totally unacceptable. We are part of the Gardens for Wildlife program that council promotes, and they spruik the 'leafy, green, close to nature' niceties of Knox, yet this ethic of caring for nature is not backed up with a serious cat curfew. If a cat is wandering past my house, I want to be able to pick it up or trap it, and have it collected by a ranger, just like if I found a wandering dog (and have had to do on a few occasions). Please take animal welfare and wildlife care more seriously.

I'm not sure the curfew is widely known or if owners understand the consequences if there are any. We have lots of cats in our unit block and most comply but at least one owner seems to think it doesn't apply to them.

Overnight is a start. But it should be 24 hours. Another person has no right to let their private property roam around on my private property without permission and trash the place. It is a form of trespass, and totally unacceptable.

I think a 24 hour cat curfew is unreasonable for cats that enjoy the outdoors. If you have an inside/outside cat it would be impossible for them to then go to 24 hour curfew

I would like to see it being enforced further

I had a previous issue with cats in FTG, where a neighbour had a cat 'that didn't leave his property'. It did, and used to scratch the bonnet of my car, warming itself on the engine heat. I returned the cat to the neighbour a dozen times, catching it in a possum trap. They always wanted their cat back, but would never admit that it left their property. hmmm I don't believe cat owners are aware of what their cats are doing, but are well aware of their rights. Just don't want to live up to their part of the responsibility. I moved, as they weren't going to change.

I see no reason why Council should not require cats to be contained on the owner's property as are dogs. If the cat cannot be inside then a suitable enclosure should be built to enable this. If owners want any animal then it is for them not the neighbourhood to accommodate the animal.

Although not a cat owner I like cats and happily support cat ownership. However cats kept as pets should be contained to the owners property, as with dogs and other animals kept as pets.

Cats are safer (from traffic accidents and diseases as a result of fighting) indoors!

Preference is for 24 hour curfew but strongly support sunset to sunrise otherwise. Could look to offer grants to people looking to install cat runs? Or other positive incentives to facilitate change and protection of wildlife.

Should be made law as soon as possible, too many irresponsible cat owners that do not know or care what their cat is doing at night time. It wakes my son up who is not a good sleeper therefore causing our household many issues.

If you are going to introduce a curfew, the fines for breaching it should be High (In excess of \$1500) and on the spot! Photographic and video submission should be accepted as evidence without question.

Education necessary so it becomes as natural as dogs now being walked on leash and taking home faeces

Great idea! Hope it continues! Love seeing birds and echidnas.

I have been a cat owner and a dog owner in the past. There is no restricting the roaming of cats.

The curfew starting at sunset means that someone needs to be home at 5pm to bring the cat in. This doesn't fit in with regular working hours. We don't have cat problems in our area. Curfew is not needed in our area. This might be a more of an issue closer to the Dandenong Ranges. More of an issue in our area are wild foxes roaming the street. And also dogs being let off the lead.

People are not doing the right thing. Especially our neighbour. Their cat is out ALL the time

I think it has worked well, it's safer for a cat to be inside at night time, sometimes they can accidentally get out at night and I don't think people should be punished for that. I think Knox City Council should do a survey on dogs and how they fit into our community, especially with the increase of them being walked, I don't have a problem with dogs, they are lovely animals but I think their owners need to be reminded to pick up after them and put them on a lead

How are you enforcing the cat curfew? Are you relying on people's good will? People who let cats out rarely consider that their cat kills wildlife

This is great, please keep the curfew. There's no more cat poo in my garden and I haven't had a backyard full of feathers or a bird without a head since its introduction. I live next to Tirhatuan wetlands which is home to several endangered species so this is most important.

The sooner a curfew is put in place [and enforced] the better.

It is a good strategy but it must be policed to work & owners given one warning only before facing a stiff fine

I love cats but their place is inside not in our garden

What action to take with wondering cats

People who are obviously cat owners will deny the impact cats have on local wildlife. They are fooling themselves if they doubt the damage they do. Many do not only kill for food but merely for the thrill. We have had cats in the distant past and always had them inside 24 hours a day. I am not a cat hater but believe they should not be allowed to prowl at all. Well done KNOX CC and I hope you police the curfew and it is brought in permanently.

For a curfew you need enforcement, can't rely on voluntary adoption. I've seen multiple cats out at night. I'm sure it's hard to do but I haven't heard of any news of cats being captured or owners being fined. Just need a few examples for the majority to rethink their non-compliance.

Cat curfew can eliminate chances of cats go missing and you will know it is probably a missing cat or a feral if you see one but not a neighbour's free roaming cat.

for me and my cat and previous cats the sunset to sunrise curfew works well. all of my cats had loved being outside with me in the day, especially walking around the back garden and lazing in sunshine.

Knox Council native animals are getting killed by the cats in Illawarra ave, Rowville. Time for someone to understand that the cat/s have owners. The poor native animals such as the bittern and the bush rat don't have a chance at this situation. In the Summer when the creek dries more animals are killed by the cats. 24 hours a day the cats should not be permitted to be allowed to roam free to just kill!

All cats should be kept indoors. Saying they have to go our side is an excuse for people to not look after their animals. They are a danger to the wildlife and to any driver on the road. If a cat is to go outside it should be on a leash or in a contained outdoor area.

Fines for wandering cats. Increased registration fees for cats if let you roam. Dogs are required to remain on premises at all times when not out walking with owners, cats should be kept on kids properties. Mandatory enclosed cat runs if owners want their cats outside.

A 24 hour cat curfew would be CRUEL towards cats. In that case it would be kinder to forbid people to own a cat in Knox.

It should be a 24 hour curfew and not just from sunset to sunrise.

Since the curfew has been implemented the amount of Indian miner birds has increased substantially. They are extremely loud, attacking native birds, crows and magpies in the area. Swooping and attacking my cat when he is outside in the day.

Plenty of cats roaming in the evening around Victoria Avenue, Bayswater and streets surrounding. It appears resident's are not adhering to the cat curfew.

After speaking with neighbors this is a welcomed curfew

I understand that it is better for cats to be housed 24 hrs. There is less risk of cats catching and passing on disease/ less risk of injury to cats from fighting and dog attack. Cats are a happier because they feel safe, are out of the elements and have food and water close by. Not to mention human companionship. Please extend the cat curfew to 24hrs. Better outcomes for all.

Our cats are predominately indoor cats and we have had an outdoor cat run for all our cats for 20 years. They have never roamed free and have lived happy, healthy and long lives without bothering our neighbours.

Its not working as some cat owners have not behaved any differently to how they operated prior to the curfew and no one is checking on whether their cats are confined.

Thank you for finally making pet owners take responsibility

So far it is not working. We did have small dogs for 14 years, and never had an issue. But they passed on a little while back and over time cats have enjoyed killing birdlife in our backyard and going to the toilet in various areas.

I have repeatedly had our neighbours cat attack my cat on our property it's not fair they don't keep their cat inside Keep it in place. Infact raise it to 24 hours. In a suburb so close to natural forest it is terrible the impact these animals are having on the native wildlife, other peoples property, other peoples pets such as guinea pigs, tame birds and rabbits. No other domestic animal is allowed to freely roam the streets without supervision. I don't understand why these animals are allowed to disrupt, disturb, maim and kill with little to no regard to the impacts of this on the surrounds and its occupants.

Appears not to be working as walk at night & see many cats.

I'd love 24 hour Cat curfew but not really fair so at least sunset to sunrise would be good. I'm not happy about putting a compliant in as I know it results in me having to catch the cat with a supplied trap. I want to stay anonymous with these neighbours as I don't want retaliation! Mi already put up with their disgusting chain smoking in their back yard

You MUST setup an anonymous reporting facility to "dob in a neighbour" who can then be issued a warning... The current rule where you have to trap the cats on multiple occasions, then have it known to the offender who reported them/trapped their cat, is completely untenable and conducive to community disharmony!

You seem to want to treat all cats the same. Young cats are more likely to go exploring whereas older cats tend to stay at home anyway. Not all of us can afford fencing or cat enclosures and I like to let my cat be independent.

GIVE US THE RIGHT TO KILL THE CATS THAT GO ON OUR YARDS AT NIGHT

1. We walk our dog before dawn and are disappointed how many cats we see. 2. Perhaps the council could include ways to keep cats out of your yard. Thank you

Cats should not be allowed to roam the neighbourhood. Same as dogs. They should be contained to the persons property. Cats cause more harm than dogs ever do and dogs aren't allowed to roam freely.

it doesnt effect us. our animal is contained 24/7 in a large outdoor run and in the house

A curfew of sunset to sunrise is at least a start, however it doesn't go far enough because they can still hunt and kill native animals during the day. I liken it to dogs in the sense that all owners must keep their dogs confined to the property boundary at all times (unless being walked). The same should apply to cats and the only way to do that is to keep them in the house or build an outdoor structure/pen that keeps them contained and prevents them decimating our native wildlife.

I think a sunset to sunrise curfew is critical for the protection of smaller nocturnal species and should be applied to the entire municipality. A 24 hour curfew is likely appropriate to areas that fringe national parks, or areas that are sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. The value of a municipality wide 24 hr curfew may be difficult to determine and would likely be met with resistance/non-compliance given past history. I would like to note however that there seems to be disparity in the allowance of some pets having free roam and not others. While dogs probably have a greater potential for injury to people, unrestrained cats cause considerable damage to ecosystems and frequently kill animals. - I do not own a dog either.

We are just tired of our neighbour's cat in our property. We don't know also what viruses the cat could be carrying in view of the coronavirus situation

I think it's a good idea. The other night as I was going to work I nearly ran over a cat in my street. I would have ended up having an accident trying to avoid the cat.

We do have some concerns that the curfew may not be strict enough for some cats/households - a cat that likes to roam/wander and/or hunt would be better off with a 24 hour curfew, but on the other hand this would be unfair to cats that would go insane being locked indoors 24/7. So the sunset/sunrise curfew seems to strike at least some sort of balance.

Yes. I think that anyone that owns s cat should be made to have a cat run fitted into their home/property so they are kept on their property and not allowed to run free the way they all do around me!

I don't believe the Knox population are aware of this regulation. There is no supervision of this policy that I can see from my wanders through the municipality and no consequences for non-compliance

I walk my dogs every day and in the evening and there are many cats still roaming at night. In my opinion cats should not be allowed outside at all.

I'm pretty disgusted that owners in our area (Kleinert Road) do not keep their cats in during curfew (happy to provide photos if needed). I'm also frustrated that my families pet rabbit is now dead because it was attacked in his own backyard DURING CURFEW HOURS. I'm sick of coming around the bend in the road and swerving or slamming the brakes because neighbourhood cats are running across the road in front of cars. More needs to be done, I will be requesting cat traps, how ever I would like to know what the council does once these cats are caught.

People don't let their dogs roam around the neighborhood, cats likewise should not be allowed to roam around. Like children, no one lets their children roam around the neighbours, intruding, vandalizing or leaving rubbish.

Banning of cats in housing next to environmentally sensitive areas-bushland areas-known refuges for wildlife

Make it 24 hour

Just do it.....Our wildlife and environment has no voice....we must act .

I am actively involved with a 'Friends group" at a local Reserve and am very concerned when I see CCT footage of the number of cats roaming the reserve at night and the impact cats have to the local bird population.

Roaming cats should be presumed to be feral until proven otherwise. The owner of a roaming cat should pay a fee to have them returned

Cats should be contained to their own property, dogs are not allowed to roam freely nor should cats. Cats have attacked my pet chickens and ruined my gardens and dig up plants. This should not be at my expense when I don't own cats and try to plant for native animals. I hope Knox city do the responsible thing and make cat runs/cages compulsory. Not everyone wants a cat or wants it on their property I'm also allergic to cats.

even since the curfew has come into force, I regularly find fresh cat poo in my garden beds and 'bits' of birds around my front garden, so I feel like night time isn't the only time cats should be kept indoors.

I strongly oppose the idea of handing our traps to residents. Cat haters will use this to torture cats. What's stopping them to use it outside their property and during daylight hours? How can council guarantee cat abuse will not happen?

I fully agree with it but doubt a lot of people who already let their cats roam, will have changed their habits.

no

Bring it on.

If a 24 hour cat curfew was introduced, I would expect Council to contribute towards costs for owners building outdoor enclosures. It is not fair on the animals to expect them to be locked inside a house permanently, if they are used to being outside during daylight hours

I don't see how the curfew could be described as successfully if after two months since introduction of sunset to sunrise curfew has commenced, there has been no change to our neighbour's habits and in non-compliant to this curfew.

I am a responsible cat owner and lock up my cat after sunset and let it out sometime after first light well before sunrise. I haven't seen other cats in my property. I think a curfew is unnecessary. We shouldn't be penalized if our cat occasionally stays out late once in a while. Please no curfew and no traps. I know our cat will be traumatized if put in a cage.

I had already thought KNOX had a cat curfew for years. I definitely support it and I am lover of cats. I am aware they can be a nuisance in neighbourhoods and have a devastating affect on our native wildlife.

Why are cats allowed off property at all? Imagine if we had a dog curfew, and during the day dogs could just roam the streets, no problems.

NO COMMENTS. I HAVE HAD 2 CATS SO FAR IN MY LIFE, THEY ARE ALWAYS BROUGHT INTO HOME AT SUNSET AND LET OUT AT DAWN ONWARDS, ONE LIVED UNTIL 18 AND OTHER 14, (HAD CANCER) PROBABLY WOULD HAVE HAD SHORTER LIFE SPANS IF LEFT OUTSIDE OF EVENING. RESPONSIBLE CARING CAR OWNERS SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH THIS SUNSET TO DAWN CAT CURFEW.

It's a good idea but needs enforcement initial warnings etc

Cats a killers by nature. Domestic cats don't kill for food. It's more the hunt instinct once they see a bird or other animal in their garden or anyone's garden depending where they patrol. I have found dead birds in my back yard and a dead ringtail adult in a small tree with puncture wound on his body. I have created over a two year period a garden for small birds which will provide food and shelter for them. They have just started to enter the space created for them and would hate to have them attacked (just for the hell of it)and killed. In my immediate area thereare three wandering cats. One in the front of the property and up the drive and seen at 10 pm. Near the

front door and also scaling a high fence other side of drive and breaking pieces of extension trellis . Another cat came to my back door and took his time leaving the backyard late in afternoon . The third cat patrolled the front of the driveway towards the road and hides in tufts of native grass. Possums are active in trees above that area. No native animal should be killed by a cat. It's savage and you can't train them not to do what's in their nature apart from sitting on your lap and purring. Cats hurt other cats too! They also spray and I've found regurgitated grass near back door . Anything council does to prevent cats from doing damage outside. Would be welcomed by me and I have no doubt many other people. My preference would be 24 hrs indoor with access to a Secured cat run. I've Select sunset to sunrise because it's more likely to get through, though it won't fix the problem.

It would nice to have council monitor the cat curfew rather than residents having to trap a nuisance cat not being indoors during the curfew hours

In my view, if all site owners and bloggers made good content as you did, the internet will be much more useful than ever before. Thanks for the note worthy info! Maybe this pet blog will help :) Paws and pets

It seems the community have no idea about this cat curfew! Have you even notified the community with letter drops? Not just register cat owners as I can guarantee there are heaps of owners out there that haven't register their pet. Can you please notify residents or have a brochure that is able to be downloaded so I can print it out and stick it in their letter boxes!!!!

My cat doesn't chase animals nor is she a nuisance at night. She just wants to be in her natural habitat. Can we enforce a curfew on possums instead. They are the real nuisance here.

Two months into the curfew and I have been searching for our missing kitten since day one. I have observed more than 20 cats outside after nightfall while out doing late night after midnight searches. My observations suggest the curfew is unenforceable, there's no way to put all the stray cats under the curfew and I think the statistics on harm of wildlife are grossly overstated. Our well fed outdoor access domestic cats kill a rodent, wild rabbit or possum only very occasionally.

I note more of an issue with foxes than cats. Their dreadful noise can be heard at night. Remains of the last evenings kill found when out walking the next day. The kill of a brush possum which is half eaten is not from a cat. It is my experience that foxes are creating more of a threat to wildlife than cats.

Frustrated that my neighbours aren't doing the curfew

Like to live in a free world, where people make the decisions that best suit the beliefs and lifestyle.

Keep it in place. fine people who don't follow the curfew and let people report with their identity private with photo's and names of the cats that are still roaming around.

What is going to be done to enforce it. My neighbours don't care as they know it won't be enforced.

I think it's a long needed initiative. It has worked well in other areas.

Cats should not be allowed to roam around during the day either.

I think cats are safer and live longer, healthier lives if they are indoor cats. Knox could also provide assistance to home owners who wish to build enclosures or take other measures in their backyards that keep their cat in their own yard. It's better for cats, better for the environment and better for owners who have had cats hit by cars.

I believe that any domestic animal should be contained

Dogs must be restrained or kept on property so should cats!

Bring it in immediately

Cats kill wildlife during daylight hours also, not as often as at nighttime, but it still happens. Lizards are a common casualty during daylight hours.

What is council doing if people are ignoring the curfew? Could you write a letter to owners without identifying who has complained? I am fearful of repercussions if I complain.

I think it is a great law for a win for wildlife and birds. Having lived in the Knox area for over 20 years I have found that the birdlife is dwindling and much more invasive feral birds are competing for what's left.

I think all pet owners should have full responsibility on their pet well being and whereabouts at all time. It's not fair to justify their pet misbehavior to the nature of the animal. If a cat cannot be contained and satisfied in a close environment, cannot be domesticated then perhaps cats aren't suitable for domestic pet.

A few neighbours have made cat pens for 24 hour confinement but to make it compulsory standards would have to be set and supervised to ensure non cruelty. Overnight is an excellent start but cats are stubborn we still have a big fluffy black visitor some nights. How do you plan to deal with persistent offenders whose owners won't make any effort. Absolutely support responsible pet ownership and some kind of cat curfew.

I would like to see it become a 24 hour curfew

You would be better off investing in a trial of trap, neuter, return. Never had a problem locally. We have cats, but they are indoors only. Don't punish creatures whose people are not responsible pet owners.

It's a step in the right direction.

It must happen

This law is overdue.

Absolutely disagree with having cats inside 24 hours a day.

The leading questions at the start of this survey requiring a response for example question 2 asks why not? Why does it not ask for a response if you say yes?? People hate cats but I've never heard of a child being mauled by a cat in the media. This is a beat up and we know the result will be lock up your cat. Not all cats hunt Australian wildlife. My cat is registered and spayed but enjoys outdoors freely

No

Yes as stated above cats should have the same rules as dogs. Dogs are to be contained in backyard well I think cats should be treated as such but indoors. They are nuisance and cause trouble for neighborhoods. Smells, attacks. They roam as they please and that should not be.

Just another revenue raising idea from the council. How about you concentrate on real issues

10:00PM to 6:00AM would be more appropriate

Not necessary in the suburbs. Maybe far outer suburbs where there is a more likely an impact to wildlife. How about instead of wasting time on this, going back to a single day hard rubbish pick up for everyone instead of our streets looking like rubbish tips every bloody week!!!!

I completely support it, but how are you going to enforce the curfew?

All cats should legally be registered, indoors and neutered. Better still, make know a cat free zone like Bend of islands. Allow wildlife to flourish.

Please extend to 24 hrs. I also have concerns with how the curfew will be enforced? My understanding is that it would be my responsibility to catch a cat that's on my property during curfew? That's not practical for a lot of people and may create potentially dangerous conflict with the cat owner.

keep your puss home

What about shift workers who come home after dark, especially in winter. How will they be able to abide by the curfew?

Dog owners can't let their dogs roam the streets so cats should not be allowed either. Restricted to their properties boundaries is safest fr them and other animals.

Who and how would it possibly be supervised

No

Best...idea...ever

Would be great if everyone followed it.

No

These comments come from a responsible pet owner - registered, microchipped, tagged, tattooed, premium pet food, regular vet checks fiv/flu/dental etc. Just looking at all and respecting all perspectives.

Our native wildlife has suffered terribly in the fires and extinction is increasingly likely for a number of species. death by cat is at least something we can control for.

Just hope it is enforced - you will need community support to don irresponsible owners in and you will have to set cat traps at night

Maybe instead of council putting their energy into a cat curfew, they should redirect it into a fox, rat and pigeon curfew.

Bring on a 24 hour curfew asap

All cats should be contained inside or if outside in a cat run. They kill wildlife during the day as well as at night. 24hr cat curfews are the only way that we will reduce their impacts

It would be very cruel to prevent cats from spending time in their gardens. They need time outside to be happy.

I am more than happy with a sunset to sunrise curfew but definitely not a 24 hour one.

Thank you for having the guts to do this trial. Lots of residents think it's their right to allow their cats to trespass and cause death on other peoples land and on public land. You will receive so much hate mail from aggressive cat owners and I applaud this Council for weathering the abuse. Thank you very, very much on behalf of our wildlife.

Please do not cave in 🙏

I like the idea of a cat curfew but it must be enforced, I am still noticing a lot of cats around at night. 24 hours on property and inside from 6-6

Cats are efficient hunters. Feral cats have had a devastating impact on native wildlife. But even domestic cats have an impact. I know some cat owners say that 'my cat only kills the occasional bird or lizard'; but add up all the domestic cats that do this, and it totals an awful lot of wildlife. Sunset to sunrise curfew is a good start, since many Australian animals are nocturnal. But that leaves lots of other birds & animals that could be killed during the day. Confining a cat to an owner's yard won't help the wildlife that enter that yard, but will leave lots of other areas for wildlife to be free from cat attack.

It must continue

I definitely think that a 24 hour curfew is the only way to keep the native birds that visit our back yard safe from the neighbors cats.

Make it permanent and full time. Like dogs, only on leads

Strongly agree with it, especially for the sake of wildlife

All cats if not registered should be put down. and those out after curfew should be fined .

being this close to the forest there should be no cats outside at all for their safety and the wildlife

All other animals have to stay on their owners property and not roam around, unless they are being walked by their owners. So why is it different for cats. Cats runs should be used, if they want the cats outside.

I think a 24 hr curfew is too drastic. Our cat is well trained to come in and stay until sunrise. You can't suddenly make an outdoor cat indoors.

It is cruel and inhumane. Cats are normal predators in nature and this helps control the pest population.

Why does my dog get contained and teased by cats walking across the fences... its not fair?!

It's a good start

Trial is too long . 6 months is sufficient . Then enact bylaw. Knox give ratepayers a small subsidy on purchasing manufactured wire cage cat enclosures.

No

Our cat controls the rodent population and we have seen more since the curfew

The cat curfew is pointless so long as feral cats & foxes still roam. There are a lot of cats in our street but few problems with noise. There are greater concerns with the large rats that come out of the sewer drains & more risk of danger from the local snakes - a cat sitting in our doorstep is better than the red belly blacks that visit in our opinion! (Even the cats stay away from those!)

Indisputable evidence that cats will kill anything small enough for fun, not only for food.

How is council policing this trial?

The sooner the better to save further killing of our wildlife, bad in deserts etc.

Make it a fixed time or lessen the time themornings as I can't do this in winter due to work commitments. I have cats that are 9 and 13 (they don't hunt anymore) and stuck in their ways and do damage to the house as well as keep us awake if they were to stay inside all the time just in order to meet the curfew in the morning. Had I known this was going to be this way, I wouldn't have moved to Knox. I fully support a shorter timed curfew (ie, 8pm to 5am) but sunrise to sunset is unreasonable and changeable.

Dogs aren't allowed to roam, birds are kept in aviaries, why should cats get a free pass? It's safer

Good idea Should be 24/7 to owners property, dogs have to be contained to properties 24/7 and and so should cats. I don't like cats and don't want them on my property.

Add a date it all changes 3-4 years out

Thank you! Please extend to 24 hours 🙏

It's a great idea to keep wildlife safe from prolifiv hunters and to keep the cats safe from accidents.

How is it being monitored, I see cats out after sunset all the time.

Yes, its bloody stupid

Great initiative, I fully support responsible cat ownership

Pet registration, cat curfews, fines for non compliance, no joy

No.

cat owners seem to be ignoring it

Curfew Is ridiculous, cats do a great job keeping rodent & possum population down.

Harsh penalties for owners of cats that roam, kill wildlife. Name tag with owner details must be on every registered cat.

Cats should be kept in side. For their safety and that of local wildlife

I support the idea completely, especially as a cat owner.

If cats are found outside during curfew, I would prefer cats aren't trapped or people fined. I'd prefer people to be educated or reminded. I've always kept my cats in at night but there are occasions when it doesn't happen. While some cats do cause issues for the environment, there are many other contributors which aren't as easy to police. I just don't want to see the cat curfew become an easy revenue maker that is policed by vigilante neighbours.

Best thing ever, hopefully it will make owners take more responsibility for their animals

No. But I wish you'd do something serious about barking dogs. I've almost had a nervous breakdown re people allowing dogs to bark on and on. You need stricter laws there also!

There doesn't seem to be enough information about it, people don't know about it. There needs to be a letter-drop or mail targeted to registered cat owners.

Get it implemented ASAP and ENFORCE it.

Maybe not sunset to sunrise but maybe from about 10 or 11pm onwards.

Cats should be contained in a house or cat run, they kill and maim native animals and bird life.

Good initiative that brings Knox inline with other councils.

I don't think owners are seriously being proactive about bringing their cats in at night..they roam streets at night and day yet don't get penalised. Dog owners are unfairly charged when their dogs get out by accident.

It's pointless if it isn't enforced. I was awake last night with our cat upset inside with the cats that were outside trying to fight with him, how do you plan on enforcing it....do people dob each other in, what will you do to people who repeatedly offend it....who is making sure people comply with it. It's silly if some are keeping their cats in and others aren't. It's a great concept but pointless unless someone is driving around at night attempting to catch offenders and owners being fined.

As long as the sunrise and sunset clause doesn't change - I'm fine.

1 billion animals have already been lost in this season's bushfires. Knox council and residents need to do their part to protect and preserve our local native wildlife by keeping cats contained to their property under a 24 hour curfew

Can you guarantee without cats patrolling at night there will not be an increase in rats and mice populations as seen in other cat curfew areas?

I wouldn't mind a 24 hour curfew for all cats, but I understand that currently renters are limited in their options. The older generation often appears not have the same concern for wildlife, it does not always see cats as family members.

Keep it in place! I'm sick of finding cat poo in my garden, esp when i dont even own a cat! Dogs have to be kept on the property and not loiter, so cats should too (but obviously indoors!).

Dogs don't roam the streets so why do cats

I think it's great but difficult to enforce and have not seen it make a difference so far in my street where many of my neighbours let heir cats roam all the time.

This can't be voluntary compliance, that rarely works. There needs to be proper enforcement with trapping and random inspections of registered cats at night.

I think it's a great idea. If owners can't manage a total curfew then I would definitely support sunset to sunrise curfew.

I do worry about how people are containing their cats. Is it a safe warm/cool place. i worry about the treatment on hot nights and cold nights

we are really trying to encourage little birds and other wildlife in our garden. Its hard to do this with neighboring cats constantly wandering around the garden

With no curfew in place the local moggies leave little parcels in the garden and when they are mating!!! So I'm all for a 24 curfew. My daughter has a cat and there are no issues with keeping it inside..

It's nice PR but can't see how council can police it.

cat's that were allowed out at night don't understand why now they can't they are very persistent and my cat is driving our family crazy at night destroying furniture constant meowing and I can't let my cat out. She also is now very stressed at night

I wouldn't let my dog roam the streets or others properties, why should a car be allowed?

It needs to be supported by strong education campaign on why its important and how owners can be responsible. Educating some of the councillors on the science is a good place to start

I dont think cats should be permitted to just stray wherever they want during the day or night

Should only apply to cat owners that may have received complaints. There is a much bigger problem with the roaming foxes

Cats in Knox should all be compulsory de-sexed and microchipped as well as kept contained 24 hours a cat that's contained is safer and not killing wildlife.

How will it be monitored and policed?

Will the council provide a subsidy for the expense required to build my cat an outdoor enclosure because of this curfew?

Even though you have this pilot how are you policing it as our Neighbour has never had their cat inside in the past 7 years and to date this has not changed.

I think it's good.

A study should be done on the impact of cats on neighbouring properties and native animals.

Don't let the complainers get this dropped. Cats must be kept inside at a minimum dawn to dusk, but preferable 24/7. There is no way to train them not to eat wildlife and not to spread Toxoplasmosis.

No

Hopefully, the council will be able to enforce this law so we actually start getting out birds back in the areas.

People need to be responsible for their cats. Other pet owners can't just let them wander onto other people's properties or have other people have to clean up for them. And what about the killing of wildlife. A curfew is a sensible solution to the harm & nuisance caused by cats & the lack of responsibility by their owners.

I was not aware of any cat curfew but I have always kept my cat inside at night.

Great initiative to protect pets & local wildlife. Next to tackle the foxes roaming in the suburbs!

Do a letterbox drop of your information for those people that don't have their cats registered. I have spoken to some neighbors that had no idea about the curfew.

No because we always have done it.

I would support 24:7 curfew. U own a cat, u look after it... Pets are for life

All animals should remain on the property they are registered to. There has been very little advertising of this curfew

No, I completely agree with it.

No fines.

I used to own two cats who were indoors 24/7 and were quite content. Both were registered. Judging by the number of cats that I see when walking the dog after dark, there are plenty of owners who have either not heard about the curfew or do not care.

Prefer no cat curfew from a practical position but support a nighttime curfew as a good compromise.

6.3 Determination of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances

SUMMARY: Co-ordinator Governance, Andrew Dowling

The Local Government Act 2020 (the LGA 2020) has reformed the process for determining mayoral, deputy mayoral and councillor allowances, transferring responsibility for setting allowances to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal).

Until the Remuneration Tribunal makes its first determination on allowances, Council is required to conduct a review under the former provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 (the LGA 1989). Those provisions require a review to be completed by 30 June 2021.

Council commenced the review of allowances at its meeting on 26 April 2021, and proposed no changes be made to the current allowances payable to the Mayor and Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1) Note public notice of the proposed Mayoral and Councillor allowances was given and submissions invited in accordance with sections 74(4) and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.
- 2) Acknowledge the two submissions received and endorse the response to those submissions set out in Attachment 1 to the report.
- 3) Having reviewed relevant legislation, the proposed allowances, and any submissions received, resolve to:
 - Retain the current annual allowance for the Mayor of \$100,434 plus the amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee under Commonwealth taxation legislation (10 per cent, or \$10,043.40, effective 1 July 2021); and
 - Retain the current annual allowance for Councillors (including the Deputy Mayor) of \$31,444 plus the amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee under Commonwealth taxation legislation (10 per cent, or \$3,144, effective 1 July 2021).
- 4) Note the Mayor and Councillors are entitled to increases to the superannuation guarantee equivalent component of their allowances, in line with any increases legislated by the Commonwealth government.
- 5) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to notify the submitters of Council's decision and record the reasons for its decision is:
 - Preservation of the status quo is reasonable, having regard to Parliament's legislated intention that future mayoral, deputy mayoral and councillor allowances be reviewed and determined by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal.

1. INTRODUCTION

Mayors and councillors are entitled to receive remuneration in the form of an allowance while performing their duties as an elected official.

Under the LGA 2020, responsibility for setting allowances will transfer to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal. However until it makes its first determination, Council must review allowances in accordance with the relevant provisions of the LGA 1989.

Under the LGA 1989 the Victorian Government has set the upper and lower limits for all allowances paid to the mayor and councillors by Order in Council, and did so in three categories. The Minister also reviews the limits and ranges of mayoral and councillor allowances annually and a Council must increase its mayoral and councillor allowances in accordance with any adjustment factor determined by the Minister (typically effective from 1 December each year).

The latest allowance ranges for a category 3 Council approved by the Minister and effective from 1 December 2019 are:

- Mayor: up to \$100,434 per annum
- Councillor: \$13,123 - \$31,444 per annum

Section 74 of the LGA 1989 requires Council to review and determine the level of allowance no later than 30 June 2021. The allowance set will remain in effect for the full term of the Council being 2020-2024 subject to any annual review by the Minister for Local Government or a Determination by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal.

Under the LGA 1989 Knox City Council is a category 3 Council and has previously resolved to set its allowances at the maximum of the allowance range. This is consistent with nearby councils (such as Monash, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges). Council has also previously determined that the Deputy Mayor receives only the Councillor allowance.

There is also a legislative requirement for an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee under Commonwealth taxation legislation to be paid in addition to the allowance. The superannuation guarantee is currently 9.5%, rising to 10% effective 1 July 2021.

In a report to the Council meeting on 26 April 2021, in light of the impending transfer of responsibility for setting councillor allowances to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal, officers recommended that no changes be made to the current allowances payable to the mayor and councillors. Council's resolution at that meeting was:

That Council:

1) Endorse in principle:

- *the retention of the current annual allowance for the Mayor of \$100,434 plus an annual \$9,541.23 superannuation equivalent; and*
- *the retention of the current annual allowance for councillors (including the Deputy Mayor) of \$31,444 plus an annual \$2,987.18 superannuation equivalent*

2) Note the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) shall give public notice of the proposed mayoral and councillor allowances and invite submissions in accordance with sections 74(4) and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

3) Receive submissions (and hear submitters as required) and finalise the review and determination of allowances at the Council meeting on 28 June 2021.

2. DISCUSSION

Council has received two submissions in relation to the review of allowances. The submissions, and a response from officers, are included at Attachment 1 to this report.

One submitter has requested to be heard by Council in respect to their written submission and provision for this to occur has been made on the Agenda for the Council meeting on 28 June 2021 which will consider this report.

Officers are not recommending any change to the proposed allowances in response to the written submissions received.

3. CONSULTATION

Section 74(4) of the LGA 1989 provides that a person has a right to make a submission under section 223 of the LGA 1989 in respect of a review of allowances and are entitled to request in their submission that they appear in person at a meeting to be heard in support of the submission.

Council gave public notice in The Age Newspaper on 3 May 2021 specifying that the mayoral and councillor allowances were being reviewed and invited submissions.

Notice was also given on Council's Have Your Say web page which generated 42 visits.

Two submissions have been received and one submitter has requested to be heard. Details of the submissions are included in Attachment 1.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

There are no environmental / amenity issues anticipated to arise as a consequence of this report.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Council's draft 2021/22 budget includes appropriate provision for Mayoral and Councillor annual allowances, which are presently set at:

- Mayor - \$100,434 plus a \$9,541.23 (9.5%) superannuation equivalent; and
- Councillors (including the Deputy Mayor) - \$31,444 plus a \$2,987.18 (9.5%) superannuation equivalent

The legislated increase to the Commonwealth superannuation guarantee will increase the superannuation guarantee equivalent component of the allowances payable. The increases, effective 1 July 2021, will be \$502.17 per annum for the Mayor and \$157.22 per annum for councillors.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications anticipated to arise as a consequence of this report.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.1 - Build, strengthen and promote good governance practices across government and community organisations

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

It is noted that the LGA 2020 provides that a conflict of interest does not arise in relation to a decision by a Councillor on a matter that is prescribed to be exempt by the regulations. The decision required by this report in relation to allowances, is prescribed to be exempt under the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020.

9. CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council consider the written and verbal submissions (if any) in relation to Councillor allowances, and then determine Councillor and Mayoral allowances payable from 1 July 2021, in order to satisfy the requirement of the LGA 2020 and LGA 1989.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Co-ordinator Governance, Andrew Dowling

Report Authorised By: Director City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Summary of Submissions [6.3.1 - 1 page]

Submissions to the review of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances

Submitter*	Request to Be heard	Submission	Response
1	Yes	<p>NO WAY IN THIS ENVIRONEMENT WHEN ALL PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS HAVE LOST JOBS OR HAD NO PAY RISES AT ALL SINCE THIS COVID HOW DARE YOU EVEN ASK!</p> <p>NO PAY RISES AT ALL OR SUPER INCREASES DISGUSTING</p>	<p>The review of allowances was not prompted by Knox Council, nor did Council propose an increase in the allowances when the review was reported to Council in April 2021.</p> <p>Under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> responsibilities for determining mayoral, deputy mayoral and councillor allowances will transfer to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal). However, until the Remuneration Tribunal makes its first determination the allowance framework under the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> continues to apply, despite the repeal of those relevant provisions in 2020.</p> <p>Under section 74(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 councils must review and determine allowances within six months of a general election or by 30 June, whichever is later, meaning a review must be completed by 30 June 2021.</p> <p>Council is also required under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 and past determinations by the Minister for Local Government, to pay Councillors <i>"The amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee under Commonwealth taxation legislation..."</i> as part of their allowances. The Commonwealth superannuation guarantee is changing on 1 July 2020 in accordance with Commonwealth legislation and this means Councillors will be automatically entitled to an increase to superannuation guarantee equivalent component of their allowance. The increase amounts to \$502.17 per annum for the Mayor and \$157.22 per annum for councillors.</p> <p>No change to proposed allowances is recommended in response to this submission.</p>
2	No	<p>Does the Mayor and each individual councillor have Key Performance Indicators which they are required to fulfil before qualifying for their allowance their allowance? And if they do, are those results available to Ratepayers - or do they just get their allowance regardless of their performance?</p>	<p>The payment of allowances is not subject to fulfilment of any performance criteria and there is no provision in the Local Government Act 2020 that suggests Council has the power to impose any such criteria on the payment of allowances.</p> <p>No change to proposed allowances is recommended in response to this submission.</p>

*Copies of the submissions (including submitter's details) have been circulated separately to Councillors

6.4 Proposed Lease - EACH - Birchfield Childcare Centre

SUMMARY: Acting Senior Property Officer, Paige Kennett

This report recommends the signing and sealing of the Lease between Knox City Council and EACH for the occupancy of Birchfield Children’s Centre at 40 Birchfield Crescent, Wantirna South.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Enter into a lease with EACH for the occupancy of Birchfield Children’s Centre contained in Certificate of Title Volume 9377 Folio 308 known as 40 Birchfield Crescent, Wantirna South generally in accordance with this report; and**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person as the Chief Executive Officer selects) to execute all necessary documentation pertaining to the lease between Knox City Council and EACH.**
- 3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person as the Chief Executive Officer selects) to negotiate and execute all documentation necessary to extend the lease to its maximum two-year term.**

1. INTRODUCTION

EACH, part of the North East Public Health Unit Alliance, has approached Council looking for a suitable COVID-19 Pandemic immunisation site. Council officers have consulted internally, and negotiated with EACH on a suitable site for immunisation only. The lease now comes to Council to be resolved.

2. DISCUSSION

EACH is a community-based organisation delivering a range of health, disability, counselling and mental health services. EACH operates as part of the North East Public Health Unit Alliance and has recently been operating local COVID-19 testing sites out of the Illoura building in Ferntree Gully and within neighbouring municipalities. EACH’s planned expansion of services to the community includes delivering COVID-19 immunisations within the Knox community, for which they require an appropriate building. Council officers have assessed the available buildings for suitability and undertaken internal consultation and negotiation with EACH.

The building offered through the proposed lease agreement is a currently unused Family and Children’s Services Building located at 40 Birchfield Crescent, Wantirna South. The building has appropriate internal space for an immunisation facility and parking available. It is set in a neighborhood community and is set alongside an active Early Years centre. For these reasons, Council officers recommend the premises are used for immunisation only (and not testing).

It is recommended to offer EACH a lease agreement for one (1) year, with an additional one (1) year option which allows for continuation of the immunisation program if it is successful and required. The leasing rate and terms of a ‘community rate’, as approved in Council’s Adopted

Budget 2020-21, has been determined based on the community benefit that will be delivered by EACH through this COVID-19 immunisation program.

3. CONSULTATION

The lease agreement has been discussed and considered with relevant Council officers and representatives from EACH.

As the current market rental value of the land, and the annual rental fee, are less than \$50,000 a year, and the lease is for less than ten years; there is no requirement to advertise under the Local Government Act 1989.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

The building, located at 40 Birchfield Crescent, Wantirna South, is set in a neighborhood area and next to an active Early Years building. Council officers recommend that this building is only to be used as an immunisation site. This will protect and allow the current services to continue to be delivered with minimal impact and reduce any potential undesirable traffic impact to the area.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Council officers recommend offering the lease to EACH for the purpose of COVID immunization services to the community at a community rate of \$210 per annum, based on the community benefit to be delivered. The community rate for the lease agreement will be adjusted in line with Council's Adopted Budget 21-22.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Providing access to a building for EACH to deliver local COVID immunisation supports our community during this pandemic.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 4 - We are safe and secure

Strategy 4.4 - Protect and promote public health, safety and amenity

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.1 - Build, strengthen and promote good governance practices across government and community organisations

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council commence the process to lease Birchfield Children's Centre contained in Certificate of Title Volume 9377 Folio 308 at 40 Birchfield Crescent, Wantirna South to EACH for an initial term of one (1) year at \$210 per annum with an option for a further one (1) year term. It is also recommended that Council endorse execution of necessary documentation by the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Acting Senior Property Officer, Paige Kennett

Report Authorised By: Director City Strategy and Integrity, Matt Kelleher

Attachments

Nil

7 Public Question Time

Following the completion of business relating to Item 6, City Development, the business before the Council Meeting will now be deferred to consider questions submitted by the public.

8 Infrastructure Officers' Reports for consideration

8.1 Road Management Plan

SUMMARY: Manager – Sustainable Infrastructure – Matt Hanrahan

The Road Management Act (the Act) was introduced by the Victorian State Government in 2004 to ensure Councils (as Road Authorities) manage their road networks in a proactive and responsible manner. Road Management Plans provide Road Authorities with a policy defence for the management practices of inspection, maintenance and repair of roads and road related assets. Under the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016, Council is obliged, following the election of a new Council, to formally review its Road Management Plan by 30 June 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Road Management Plan review document (attachment 1) noting Council's legislative obligations to formally review its Road Management Plan by 30 June 2021;**
- 2. Undertake deliberative engagement with the Knox Community on key recommendations identified in the Road Management Plan review and present findings back to Council of this engagement as part of the formal Road Management Plan amendment process; and**
- 3. Note that the formal Road Management Plan Amendment process will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the Road Management Act.**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Knox Road Management Plan (RMP) sets out Council's approach to the inspection, maintenance and repair of its public roads and road related assets. If complied with, the RMP provides Council with a policy defence against civil liability claims associated with its management of the road network.

Under Section 39(4) of the Road Management Act (2004);

"A road authority is to be taken to have made a policy or policy decision relating to a road management function if the road authority has made a road management plan that includes provisions relating to the performance of that road management function."

The Knox Road Management Plan was initially developed in 2004 in accordance with the Road Management Act (2004), supporting Regulations and Codes of Practice. It was reviewed in 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2017. Amendments occurred in 2006, 2010 and 2015.

The RMP is now subject to formal review in accordance with the Road Management (General) Regulations (2016). These Regulations require that the review be completed by 30 June in the year following a Council election.

Council's Road Management Plan Review process has been completed and a summary review document is included as an attachment to this report.

If endorsed by Council, the review must be made publicly available as specified in the Road Management (General) Regulations (2016) – Part 3 Division 1 – (9.2), which states:

“After a road authority has completed a review of its road management plan, it must –

- (a) produce a written report summarising the findings and conclusions of the review; and*
- (b) make the report available for copying or inspection—*
 - (i) at the place where the road management plan may be inspected or obtained in accordance with section 55(1)(b) of the Act; or*
 - (ii) on an Internet site maintained by the road authority.*

The formal amendment of the Road Management Plan is a separate legislative process to the Road Management Plan review, which is also documented in the Road Management (General) Regulations (2016), noting that the amendment can occur at any time. It is the intention that, if supported by Council, the formal amendment of the RMP will occur within 12 months of the review being endorsed.

2. DISCUSSION

This review document aims to assess the appropriateness, reasonableness and deliverability of Council’s current RMP.

The assessment of appropriateness and reasonableness was based on:

- Benchmarking of Road Management Plans made by neighbouring municipalities;
- Benchmarking of Council’s performance indicators through Local Government Victoria’s Know my Council portal; and
- Customer satisfaction data and feedback from the Knox community, where available.

The assessment of deliverability was based on:

- Inspection, maintenance and repair performance, as recorded in Council’s Work Order System (Lifecycle);
- Annual internal audits, as undertaken by the Asset Strategy team within Council;
- Recent audit report recommendations as reported by:
 - Council’s Sustainable Infrastructure Department;
 - Council’s Insurer; and
 - Council’s internal auditor.
- Feedback from Council staff responsible for the implementation of the Plan including Director – Infrastructure, Manager - Operations, Manager - Sustainable Infrastructure, Executive Engineer (Operations), Coordinator - Works, Coordinator - Trees, Contracts and Reactive Parks Services, Coordinator – Asset Strategy, Asset Systems Development Officer and Asset Engineer.

The Road Management Plan review document (attached to this report) outlines in full detail the assessment process undertaken and key recommendations to inform any future amendment of

Council's Road Management Plan. The Review document will be made available to the public as part of Council's community engagement process to support the amendment of the plan.

Amendment of the Plan

Amending the Road Management Plan is a separate regulatory process which is defined by regulations 303 and 304. Notification of agreed amendments must be in accordance with regulation 303 and include gazettal and a 28 day consultation period. The regulations do not specify the timing for implementation of amendments. It is recommended, however, that Council implement the proposed amendments within 18 months of endorsement of the review. It is noted that the amendment process incorporates the opportunity for public submissions in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Council's current Road Management Plan will remain as Council's reference document until such time as any amendments are formally endorsed by Council.

3. CONSULTATION

Internal consultation was also undertaken by means of an internal RMP Reference Group, which considered and provided feedback on a number of issues raised in this review. The report on the findings and conclusions of the review must be made publicly available as defined in the Road Management (General) Regulations (2016). A community consultation phase will be undertaken as part of the amendment process to test and validate key recommendations as outlined in the review document. This consultation phase will precede and inform the Road Management plan amendment process.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Amenity of Council's roads are perceived by the community in differing ways. Council participates in benchmarking activities, such as Community Satisfaction surveys and LGPRF indicators to identify how the public currently perceives its road management responsibilities. As outlined previously in the report, Council's performance in relation to road management is generally viewed in a positive light. The implementation of the Council's new asset management system will enable officers to utilise real time information to determine an appropriate maintenance response on Council roads. There exist some environmental benefits in adopting this process in terms of reduced vehicle emissions.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Any work required to implement proposed amendments or any implications from potential amendments to maintenance service standards will be reviewed in light of existing operational budgets (Sustainable Infrastructure and Operations Departments).

A robust, reasonable and ultimately deliverable Road Management Plan provides Council with a policy defence against civil liability claims associated with the management of its road network. This has significant implications in reducing Council's risk and financial exposure as well as building a strong case for reduced insurance premiums.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The road network has an impact on all community groups by providing connectivity across the municipality, as well as by providing economic benefits. The Road Management Plan documents how Council's roads are managed and to what service standards – it is imperative it is reviewed, updated and amended regularly to reflect current community expectations and Council's available resources. The legislated review recognises the importance of the community's input by seeking to create an opportunity for residents to inform Council of their expectations.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 3 – We can move around easily

Strategy 3.1 – Enable improved transport choices supported by integrated and sustainable transport systems and infrastructure

Goal 4 – We are safe and secure

Strategy 4.1 – Encourage and support the community to take responsibility for their own safety, and the safety of others

Strategy 4.2 – Enhance community connectedness opportunities to improve perceptions of safety

Strategy 4.5 – Support the provision of emergency services

The undertaking of this review has demonstrated that Council has met its statutory obligations and has acted as a responsible steward of community assets. The review ensures that roads and related infrastructure continue to be managed in a manner that mitigates public safety risks in the most financially sustainable fashion. The public consultation process for this review has provided an opportunity for the community to determine the most appropriate way to manage the municipality's road network.

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The review of the Road Management Plan is designed to fulfil three principal objectives. The first is to ensure that Council (as a Road Authority) is constantly monitoring the appropriateness of its Road Management Plan. The second is to provide a forum for all new Councillors to become informed as to the importance of having a robust and relevant Road Management Plan. Finally, the review provides the community with an opportunity to comment on the reasonableness of the current Plan and guide the direction of any future amendment.

As noted previously, the review of the Road Management Plan was legislated to be completed no later than 30 June 2021. The purpose of the review is not to introduce amendments to the existing Road Management Plan but to examine the appropriateness of the current Plan in the way it manages risk prioritisation, inspection frequencies, intervention levels, response times and maintenance and repair standards of road-based infrastructure.

This Road Management Plan Review has enabled Council to meet its statutory requirements under the Road Management Act (2004) and ensure that Council has provided every opportunity for the community to have input into the way the Knox road network is managed.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Matt Hanrahan, Manager – Sustainable Infrastructure

Report Authorised By: Grant Thorne, Director Infrastructure

Attachments

1. RMP Research RMP Review Report 2021 DRAFT 16 06 2021 [8.1.1 - 30 pages]



Date Updated: 18/6/2021

KNOX CITY COUNCIL

Road Management Plan Review

2021

June 2021



Road Management Plan Review 2021

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Road Management Plan Review 2021

Knox City Council – Road Management Plan Review Document

1. Introduction

1.1. Executive Summary

The Knox Road Management Plan (RMP) was developed to document Council's approach to the management of public roads within the municipality. If complied with, the RMP provides Council with a policy defence against civil liability claims associated with its inspection, maintenance and repair of roads and road related assets under its management.

The RMP was developed in accordance with the Road Management Act (2004), supporting regulations and codes of practice. The RMP is now subject to formal review in accordance with the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016. This latest review is the fifth, with previous reviews being undertaken in 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2017. The RMP has been amended three times in 2006, 2010 and 2015. This report summarises the review process and findings. The review has highlighted that a number of adjustments to Council's RMP will align it more closely to common practice in the Local Government Sector, noting that such decisions will need to be tested with the community through a deliberative engagement process.

This report summarises the 2021 RMP Review scope and findings. Recommended RMP amendments are summarised under the following headings:

- Strategic
 - Review asset types to be included in the RMP as recommended by Council's insurers and internal auditor (e.g. removal of non-road infrastructure assets such as roadside vegetation);
 - Utilise, where possible, available technology to provide support for Council in meeting its Road Management Plan obligations;
- Administrative
 - Streamline the RMP to one self-contained document;
 - Further develop operating procedures, including the new system processes, to support activities required under the RMP;
 - Implement a periodic reporting regime that provides senior management detail regarding compliance with the RMP;
 - Enhance Council's in-house audit program to better monitor compliance and drive continuous improvement;
 - Update currency of document reference to reflect existing operating environment;
 - Remove any duplication of content as available in other relevant documents;
 - Improve readability of the RMP document



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- Operational (Levels of Service/ Maintenance Standards)
 - Develop a system with set timeframes to ensure regular updates to the Public Road Register;
 - Review existing data held by Council to determine priority Levels of Service/Maintenance Standards commonly captured/used;
 - Refine Levels of Service/maintenance standards as prescribed in the Road Management Plan to improve readability of the document and to simplify the number of standards against which Council's measures its Road Management performance;
 - In reviewing Levels of Service/maintenance standards, have regard for benchmarking across Local Government;
 - Review Council's current approach to Asset Inspection standards and frequency to ensure that Council meets its obligations under the Road Management Act;
 - Identify specific change proposals for maintenance intervention levels and rectification times within the Road Management Plan;
 - Consolidate key/related maintenance levels of service across assets into commonly used and readily understood categories;
 - Creating a subcategory for commonly used service levels (such as Litter & Graffiti management), rather than duplicating activities as a subset of each Asset category.

The RMP review and subsequent amendment process are outlined within the Victorian Government's Road Management (General) Regulations (2016). Even though the regulations do not strictly dictate the timing for implementation of proposed amendments, it is generally expected that the RMP will be amended during the 12 to 18 month period following Council endorsement of the review report.

Any considerable alterations may have budget or resource implications, therefore it is essential to ensure adequate stakeholder consultation during the RMP amendment process.

In order to ensure Council is capable of delivering on improved inspection and maintenance service levels and continue to proactively monitor compliance with the proposed amendments to the RMP, it is considered critical that Council continues to invest in the implementation and maintenance of its soon to be implemented Asset Management system, currently being rolled-out at Council. Without a system fully operational, record keeping will revert to being manual, onerous, lacking transparency, and make compliance monitoring increasingly difficult. By accessing data in a timely fashion, performance can be readily analysed and improvements identified and implemented rapidly.



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1.2. Purpose of the Report

Section 50 of the Road Management Act (2004) states that the purposes of a Road Management Plan are:

- a. to establish a management system for the road management functions of a road authority which is based on policy and operational objectives and available resources; and
- b. to set the relevant standard concerning the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions.

General functions of a road authority are set out in section 34 of the Act and are reproduced below:

- (1) A road authority has the following public functions —
 - a. to provide and maintain, as part of a network of roads, roads for use by the community served by the road authority;
 - b. to manage the use of roads having regard to the principle that the primary purpose of a road is to be used by members of the public and that other uses are to be managed in a manner which minimises any adverse effect on the safe and efficient operation of the road and the environment;
 - c. to manage traffic on roads in a manner that enhances the safe and efficient operation of roads;
 - c(a) to design, construct, inspect, repair, and maintain roads and road infrastructure;
 - d. to coordinate the installation of infrastructure on roads and the conduct of other works in such a way as to minimise, as far as is reasonably practicable, adverse impacts on the provision of utility or public transport services;
 - e. to undertake works and activities which promote the functions referred to in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (ca) and to undertake activities that promote the position in section (d).
- (2) The general functions conferred on a road authority under subsection (1) are not construed as limiting any other functions conferred on a road authority by or under this Act or any other Act.
- (3) In seeking to achieve its functions, a road authority should —
 - a. consult with the community and disseminate information concerning the exercise of those functions;
 - b. take steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure the structural integrity and safety of public roads under this Act.

In essence, a Road Management Plan provides several benefits to Council including, but not limited to:

- Proactive management of road and road-related assets (asset management);
- Minimisation of public safety risk;
- Greater transparency in processes;
- Improved auditability of performance;
- Reduced insurance premiums; and
- A policy defence against civil liability claims.



Road Management Plan Review 2021

2. Defining the Scope of this Review

Road Management (General) Regulations 2016, Part 3 Division 1(9) states that:

In conducting a review of its road management plan, a road authority must ensure that the standards in relation to, and the priorities to be given to, the inspection, maintenance, and repair of the roads and classes of roads to which the Plan relates are appropriate.

Similar to the Review undertaken in 2017, this Review takes a fresh look at all aspects of the current RMP and assesses whether each element remains **appropriate, reasonable** and **deliverable**. All elements of Council's existing Road Management Plan (including all attachments) have been considered on this basis.

The assessment has considered changes to the Road Management Act and other relevant regulations and codes of practice enacted since the last Review in 2017.

The assessment of **appropriateness** and **reasonableness** was based on:

- Benchmarking of Road Management Plans made by neighbouring municipalities;
- Benchmarking of Council's performance indicators through Local Government Victoria's Know my Council portal; and
- Customer satisfaction data and feedback from the Knox community, where available.

Assessment of **deliverability** was based on:

- Inspection, maintenance and repair performance, as recorded in Council's Work Order System (Lifecycle);
- Annual internal audits, as undertaken by the Asset Strategy team within Council;
- Recent audit report recommendations as reported by:
 - Council's Sustainable Infrastructure Department;
 - Council's Insurer; and
 - Council's internal auditor.
- Feedback from Council staff responsible for the implementation of the Plan including Director – Infrastructure, Manager - Operations, Manager - Sustainable Infrastructure, Executive Engineer (Operations), Coordinator - Works, Coordinator - Trees, Contracts and Reactive Parks Services, Coordinator – Asset Strategy, Asset Systems Development Officer and Asset Engineer.

Council's Instrument of Delegation, road and path hierarchies, and recommendations from relevant plans and strategies were also reviewed.

In addition to meeting the legislated review requirements, the review process has been used to recommend work practice improvements to improve ongoing compliance with the RMP.

Where evidence suggests aspects of the RMP are unrealistic or unachievable, based on data analysis, changes to the RMP have been recommended. Care has been taken to ensure all proposed changes



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have a rational or plausible basis and are not unduly liberal so that the “policy defence” remains available.

3. Assessment of Reasonableness and Deliverability

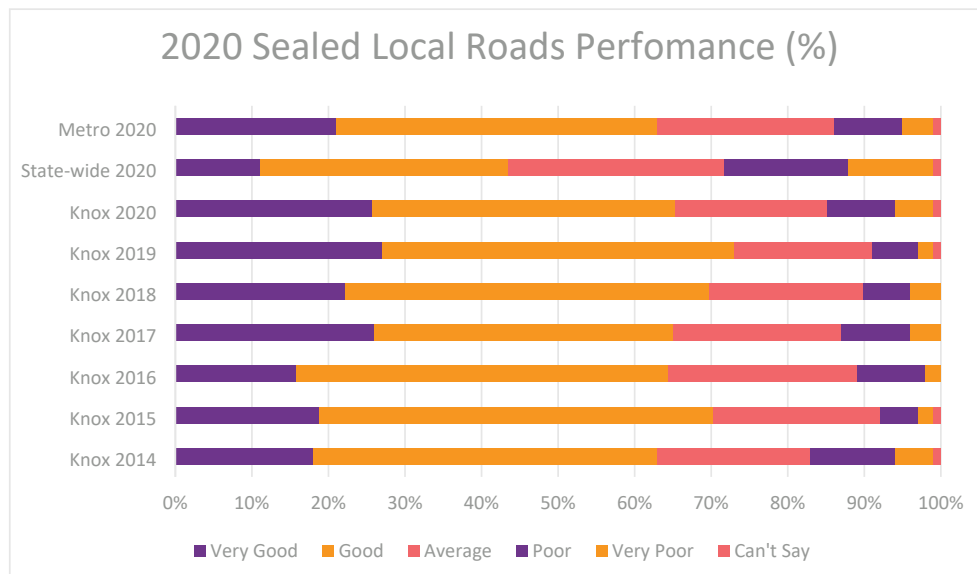
3.1. Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey

Council participates in the annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey (LGCSS), which is coordinated by the Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning.

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the Council and their community. Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

The CSS provides Council with feedback on community satisfaction each year. Council performance is benchmarked against the performance of 77 other Victorian Councils. Although the survey is pitched at a relatively high level, it provides local government with information about how its performance is rated over time by the communities they represent.

The only survey question relative to the RMP Review is that of "How has Council performed on the 'condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months". The question was introduced in the 2014 survey. Council's scores against Metropolitan 'Metro' and State averages are displayed in Figure1. The results identify that the scores for Knox have been favourable in comparison to the metro and state benchmarks for the past three years.





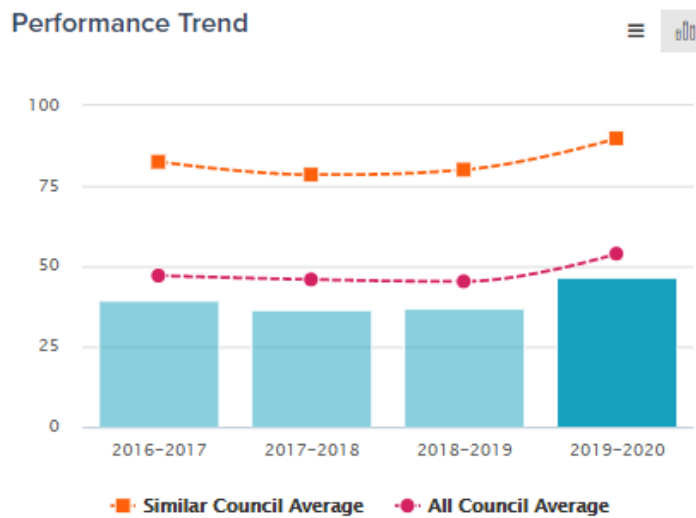
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3.2. Know your Council – Performance Summary: 2019-2020

Council participates in the annual Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) coordinated by Local Government Victoria. The framework ensures that all councils are measuring and reporting on their performance consistently. The LGPRF was introduced in 2012 with mandatory reporting commencing July 1 2014. Three indicators contained within the LGPRF are relevant to the RMP Review:

Sealed local road requests per 100km of sealed local roads:

Number of sealed local road requests received by Council per 100 kilometres of sealed local road

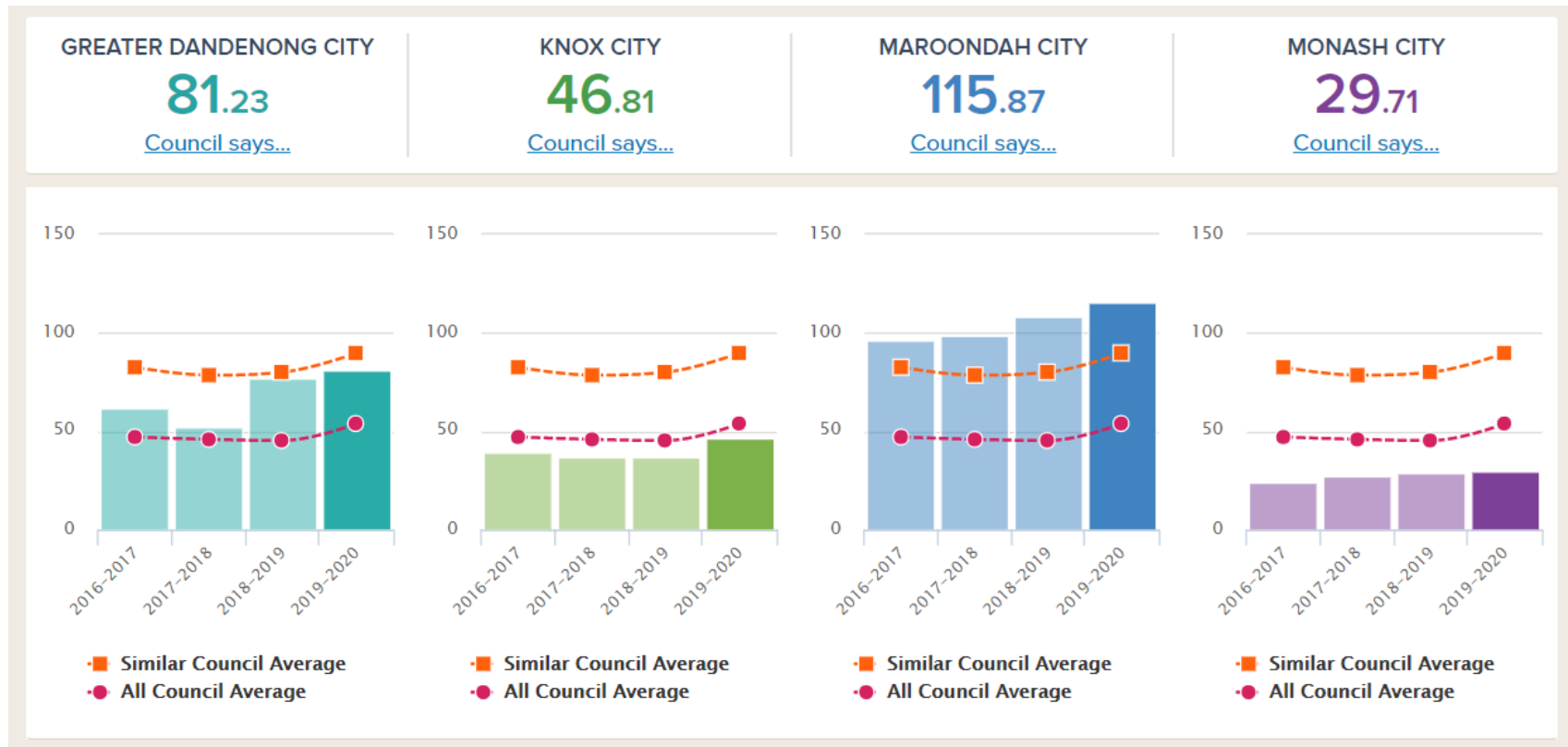


The variation is attributed to an unusual rise in customer requests categorised as potholes, of which half were determined not to exceed the Council's intervention level. The ease of use offered by mobile applications such as Snap Send Solve is recognised as having some influence.



Comparison to Neighboring Councils

Sealed local road requests per 100km of sealed local roads:

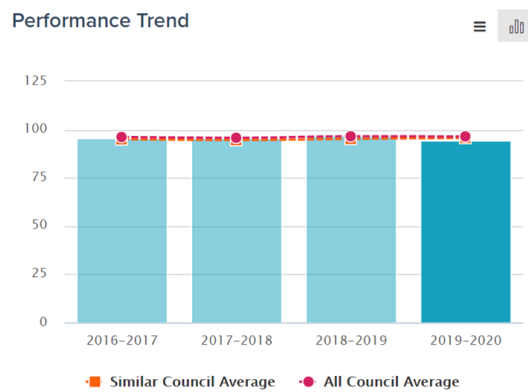




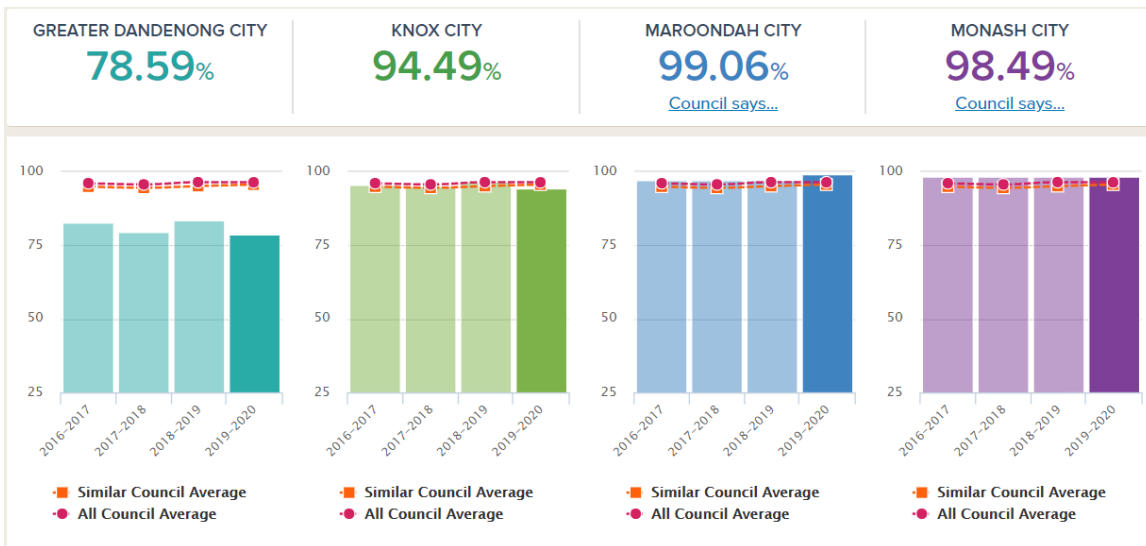
Road Management Plan Review 2021

Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards

Percentage of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council and therefore do not require renewal.



Comparison to Neighboring Councils

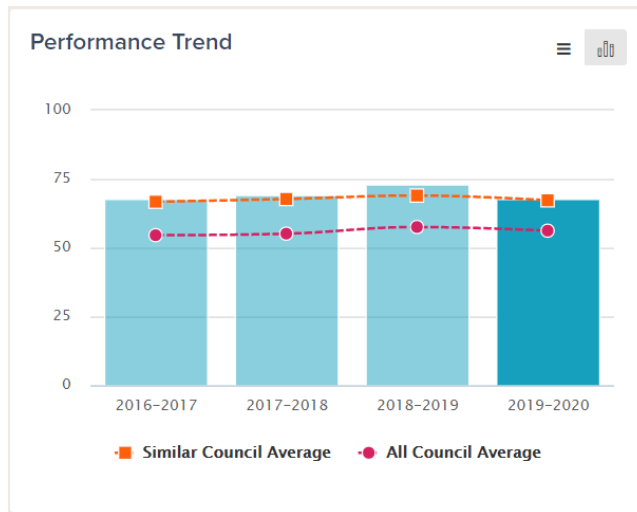




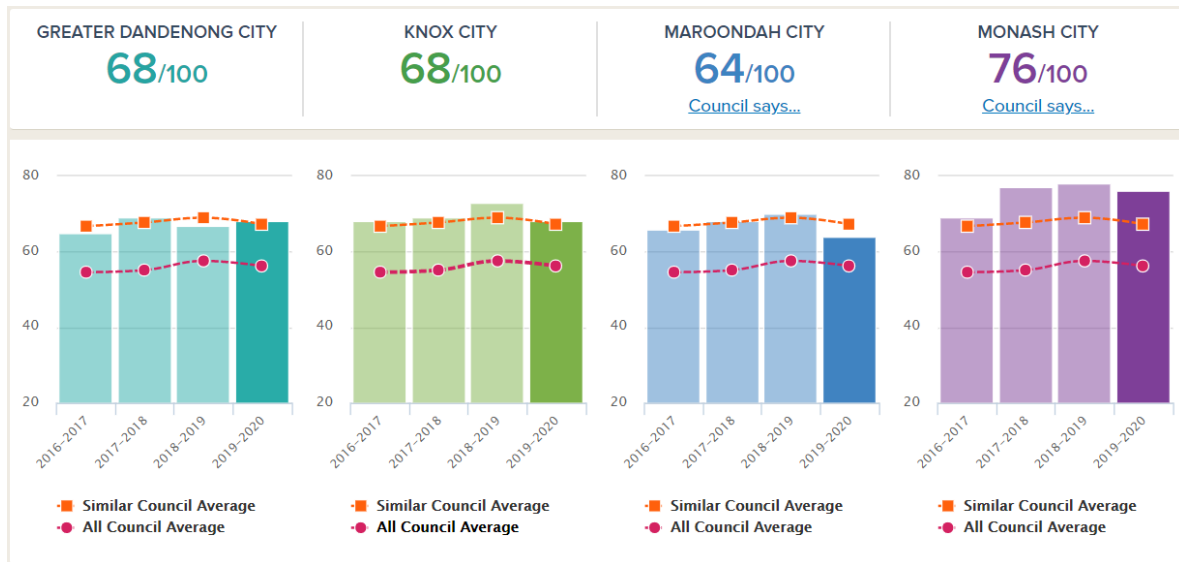
Road Management Plan Review 2021

Community satisfaction with sealed local roads

Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads



Comparison to Neighboring Councils





Road Management Plan Review 2021

Council generally performs well from a community satisfaction when benchmarked against similar Councils and there do not appear to be any compelling arguments for altering its broader road management approaches based on the above.

3.3. Work Order System - Customer Requests.

Further to the LGCSS and LGPRF results, which focus on the Road Surface asset class, as per previous years, Council has also analysed its Works Order System (WOS) data from its current Asset Management System 'Lifecycle' to obtain the quantity of customer requests for all asset classes listed within its RMP. The analysis compared the amount of customer requests raised annually during the current review period (2016-2020) to the quantity of customer requests submitted during the previous RMP review period (2013-2016). Of the thirteen asset classes reported, nine reported a decrease in the quantity of customer requests raised during the current review period. A decreasing number generally suggests that customer satisfaction is improving. Of the remaining three asset classes, which identified an increase in the quantity of customer requests, two asset classes were excluded from a more detailed investigation due to relatively low counts (< 60) of customer requests over a four year period, or a minimal percentage variation between the two review period (+/- 6%) results.

Although this investigation has produced results explicitly for the RMP review, Council continuously monitors its customer request performance and investigates root causes of issues, ultimately resulting in improved processes. Further investigation was made to determine current compliance to service levels and how modifying these inspection and rectification times alter the compliance that would have been evaluated over the assessed period of 2016-2020.

3.4. Benchmarking - Road Management Plans of neighbouring Councils

Council has reviewed its RMP service levels (i.e. maintenance intervention levels, maintenance response times, hazard inspection frequencies) against similar and neighbouring Councils:

- Maroondah City Council
- Monash City Council
- Casey City Council
- Frankston City Council
- Yarra Ranges Shire Council
- Kingston City Council
- VicRoads

The top twelve RMP maintenance activities, having the most numerous customer requests, and equating to >90% of the total quantity of customer requests raised during the current RMP review period (2016-2020), were chosen for comparison.

Of the road related maintenance standards, three of the twelve maintenance activities being compared were found to have no matching activity within the Road Management Plans of benchmarked Councils and the Department of Transport. These are primarily related to the management of trees/roadside vegetation. Council has been an outlier among other Councils in metropolitan Melbourne by including its maintenance standards for trees and roadside vegetation within its Road Management Plan.



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The discrepancy is also the subject of a recommendation identified by Council's insurer during its *Roads, Footpaths, Pathways and Trees Management Compliance Review completed in 2015*, (Section 3.6). Council's insurer recommends:

"removing and relocating non-road related asset maintenance activities and inspections from the RMP into other Council asset management plans and strategies to ensure service levels are maintained".

This position was recently reinforced in May 2021, when Council's Internal Auditors identified in its Draft Report to be presented to Council's Internal Audit Committee that management should:

"review asset types to be included in the RMP (eg. Remove non-road assets such as roadside vegetation);"

These positions have been supported by internal stakeholder discussions within Council and represent key recommendations of the Road Management Plan review. It should be noted that Council does not intend to change its operational procedures and maintenance standards in relation to trees, it will simply result in these standards not being incorporated within Council's Road Management Plan, once final amendments are made.

The RMP review also identified that neighbouring councils and Department of Transport approaches in setting rectification times, and service level standards differ. Several surrounding Councils and Department of Transport set these response and intervention levels based on a combination of risk assessment and road/footpath hierarchies. As customer expectations change and/or budgetary constraints have an effect, it will be necessary to review the levels of service (including response times) as currently stated in the Plan.

Table 1 provides one example. Council applies its RMP rectification time targets at maintenance activity level using a "one-size fits all approach" based on its lowest hierarchy of asset class. Some neighbouring councils apply their rectification time targets by maintenance activity for each hierarchy of asset class.



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Council	Asset Class	Activity Code	Maintenance Activity	Description	Rectification Times
Knox	Road Surface	RS-REA-002	Pothole Repair / Minor Patching	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair when potholes between 25 and 50mm in depth and/or >300mm in diameter, or considered likely to deteriorate to this extent prior to the following routine hazard inspection Potholes > 500mm diameter or distressed area >1m ²	All Roads: 32 days
Maroondah	Road	RD07	Pothole	Greater than or equal to 30mm in depth and length/width greater than or equal to 100mm. The intervention level is measured as the vertical difference between the edge bituminous surface of the pothole and the point where the vertical depth is at a maximum (usually the centre)	All Roads: 35 days
Moreland	Road Pavements	Item 1.1	Pothole Patching (Sealed)	When a pothole >= 40mm in depth and/or >= 400mm in diameter.	Local: 30 days Collector: 30 days Access: 30 days ROW: 30 days
Casey	Roads and street Furniture	Unspecified	Sealed roads pothole patching	Repair all potholes greater than 300mm diameter and 50mm depth	All Roads: 10 working days
Yarra Ranges	Pavement	Unspecified	Sealed road – Pavement – Potholes	Patch potholes <1m ² , in the travelled way using bituminous and other appropriate materials to restore the riding surface to a smooth condition	Roads with major on-road bike lanes: 10 working days Other Roads: 15 working days
Frankston	Sealed Road Surface	RS-REA-001 RS-REA-002	Pothole Repair	RS-001 Potholes >25mm deep and/or >150mm diameter on designated on-road cycle path RS-002 Potholes >50mm deep and/or >150mm diameter in trafficable lane.	All Roads: 20 days
Kingston	Sealed Roadway	Unspecified	Pothole Patching	Pothole depth > 50 mm; and/or Pothole diameter > 300 mm	Likelihood – Severity - Risk Likely – Moderate-High = 5 days Likely – Minor – High = 15 days Moderate – Minor – Med =45 days
VicRoads	Pavement or Surface	Unspecified	Pothole Patching	Potholes in traffic lane of a sealed pavement greater than 300mm in diameter and greater than 100mm deep or in the traffic lane of an unsealed pavement greater than 500mm diameter and 150mm deep	Metro Freeway- 4hrs Major Arterial - 24hrs Med Arterial- 7days Rural high traffic- 7 days Rural low traffic- 30 days

Table 1 – Rectification time - Comparison



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As a result of reviewing equivalent Councils and Department of Transport's different approaches to road management, the comparison of some maintenance activities became technically complex and, in some instances, unattainable.

Council's insurer during its *Roads, Footpaths, Pathways and Trees Management Compliance Review* completed in 2015 has recommended:

"that Council consider adopting a system that ensures defects identified on roads/footpaths/pathways that are of a higher category within the RMP hierarchy are required to be repaired quicker than those in lower categories".

Another factor considered by the review reference group is Council's initial assessment process of customer requests which initiates and accelerates a temporary rectification when a risk to the public is identified as Extreme or High. Council's processes ensure that temporary works occur promptly, within 1 or 5 days in the case of Extreme or High risks, respectively. This practice offsets the potential risks associated with Council's longer rectification timeframes.

The comparison exercise generally indicates that Council's maintenance activity rectification times are reasonable compared to those of its neighbouring councils and VicRoads. In some instances, Knox offers a relatively high level of service (e.g. more responsive rectification times), but for the most part, its inspection/rectification times generally align with those of other Councils.

3.5. Assessment of Recent Performance

The Road Management Act (2004) provides relevant Road Authorities a policy defence on the premise it complies with its Service Levels outlined in its RMP. If the Road Authority demonstrates compliance, this can mitigate the exposure to personal and property claims.

The following performance areas are presented:

- 94.4% (average) of initial responses completed in accordance with RMP
- 91.3% (average) of rectification works completed in accordance with RMP

Recent performance is summarised for the period June 1 2016 to June 1 2020. June 1 2020 was selected for the end date due to the impact of CoVID 19 on Council operations. Due to restrictions and the reduced operations of Council, using data beyond this set date wouldn't be indicative of how Council would generally perform.

Maintenance Activity		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bridges & Culverts	Initial Response	100.0%	100.0%	96.7%	97.9%	100.0%
	Rectification Time	100.0%	66.7%	77.8%	98.1%	100.0%
Bus Shelters	Initial Response	95.9%	50.0%	83.4%	100.0%	87.5%
	Rectification Time	35.0%	100.0%	100.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Drainage	Initial Response	95.4%	92.8%	95.7%	93.8%	89.7%
	Rectification Time	86.4%	85.1%	85.6%	91.9%	100.0%
Footpaths	Initial Response	91.5%	90.1%	87.9%	92.5%	90.0%
	Rectification Time	88.2%	92.9%	87.6%	96.4%	100.0%



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Kerb & Channel	Initial Response	96.7%	95.7%	90.9%	90.6%	78.3%
	Rectification Time	65.8%	100.0%	84.0%	96.9%	100.0%
LATMs	Initial Response	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Rectification Time	100.0%	100.0%	75.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Road Furniture	Initial Response	96.8%	94.3%	96.4%	97.6%	88.3%
	Rectification Time	93.5%	94.0%	89.4%	88.5%	86.1%
Road Pavement	Initial Response	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Rectification Time	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Road Surface	Initial Response	92.3%	95.1%	92.0%	94.8%	77.2%
	Rectification Time	87.0%	90.4%	99.4%	95.8%	99.2%
Road Vegetation	Initial Response	97.1%	96.0%	93.9%	95.5%	91.9%
	Rectification Time	98.0%	99.2%	98.3%	98.9%	97.8%
Shared Paths	Initial Response	98.9%	99.2%	95.9%	99.5%	95.5%
	Rectification Time	89.8%	88.5%	98.8%	99.5%	100.0%
Signs	Initial Response	97.5%	96.0%	96.7%	93.0%	91.9%
	Rectification Time	85.3%	98.8%	99.0%	99.1%	99.6%
Unsealed Roads	Initial Response	99.3%	97.6%	95.4%	96.8%	100.0%
	Rectification Time	100.0%	98.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	Initial Response	97.0%	92.8%	94.2%	96.3%	91.5%
	Rectification Time	86.8%	85.7%	91.9%	93.5%	98.7%

Table 1: Summary RMP Initial Response and Rectification Performance Data

*** Categories to be considered for exclusion from the next Road Management Plan.

3.6. Summary Recommendations

Based on the above benchmarking exercise and key analysis from both internal and external auditing process, the RMP Review has resulted in the following recommendations for consideration in its next amendment of its Road Management Plan.

Review Recommendation 1: That Council remove all non-road infrastructure assets such as roadside vegetation from its Road Management Plan, noting that the maintenance levels of service will still drive service provision, however that they sit within Council's operational documents such as relevant Asset Management Plans.

Review Recommendation 2: That Council simplify its Road Management Plan to bring it into alignment with those of other Road Authorities. This will be achieved by aggregating and reducing the number of maintenance service levels in the document.

Review Recommendation 3: That Council consider the benefits of using road and path hierarchies to define its maintenance service standards when next updating its Road Management Plan.

Review Recommendation 4: That the above proposals be tested with the community as part of a community engagement process prior to formal amendments to Council's Road Management Plan being presented to Council for consideration



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4. NEXT STEPS

4.1. Finalisation of the Review

The Review and subsequent amendment process are defined in the Road Management (General) Regulations (2016). Firstly, a report on the findings and conclusions of the Review must be made publicly available.

Conduct of Review of road management plan

(1) In conducting a review of its road management plan, a road authority must ensure that the standards in relation to, and the priorities to be given to, the inspection, maintenance and repair of the roads and classes of road to which the Plan applies are appropriate.

(2) After a road authority has completed a review of its road management plan, it must—

(a) produce a written report summarising the findings and conclusions of the Review; and

(b) make the report available for copying or inspection—

(i) at the place where the road management plan may be inspected or obtained in accordance with section 55(1)(b) of the Act; or

(ii) on an Internet site maintained by the road authority.

(3) If a road authority has completed a review of its road management plan and decides that it will not amend its road management plan or that it will amend its road management plan in a manner that does not require notice to be given under regulation 10, the road authority must provide notice stating—

(a) that the road authority has completed the Review of its road management plan; and

(b) that the road authority has decided that it will not amend its road management plan or that it will amend its road management plan in a manner that does not require notice to be given under regulation 10 (as the case may be); and

(c) where any relevant written report produced in accordance with sub-regulation (2) may be inspected or obtained; and

(d) if the road authority decides that it will amend its road management plan in a manner that does not require notice to be given under regulation 10, that it is a requirement under regulation 13(3) that the road authority record on the Plan—

(i) the substance of the amendment; and

(ii) the date of effect of the amendment.

(4) A notice under sub-regulation (3) must be published in the Government Gazette and a newspaper generally circulating in the area in which the roads to which the road management plan applies are situated.



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4.2. Amendment of the Road Management Plan

The amendment and notification of amendment defined by Part 3, Division 2 and regulations 10, 11, 12 and 13 must be followed.

Division 2—Amendment of road management plans

Procedure for certain amendments to road management plans

(1) Subject to regulation 11, if a road authority proposes to amend a road management plan and the amendment relates to the determination of a standard of construction, inspection, maintenance or repair under section 41 of the Act, the road authority must give notice —

- (a) stating or describing the purpose and general purport of the proposed amendment; and stating or describing the roads, roadways, pathways, road infrastructure or road-related infrastructure or classes of roads, roadways, pathways, road infrastructure or road-related infrastructure affected by the proposed amendment; and
- (b) stating where a copy of the proposed amendment may be obtained or inspected; and
- (c) stating where any relevant written report produced in accordance with regulation 9(2) may be inspected or obtained; and
- (d) stating that any person who is aggrieved by the proposed amendment may submit the proposed amendment to the road authority within the period specified in the notice, being not less than 28 days after the date on which the notice is published in the Government Gazette.

(2) A notice under this regulation—

- (a) must be published in the Government Gazette and a daily newspaper generally circulating in the area in which the roads, roadways, pathways, road infrastructure or road-related infrastructure or classes of road, roadway, pathway, road infrastructure or road-related infrastructure to which the road management plan applies are situated; and
- (b) may be given by the road authority to any person whom the road authority believes may be affected by the proposed amendment.

When notice of proposed amendment is not required

(1) A road authority is not required to give notice under regulation 10 if the Chief Executive Officer (however described) of the road authority certifies in writing that the proposed amendment to the road management plan results in the determination under section 41 of the Act of a standard that is higher than a relevant standard previously determined under section 41 of that Act.

Example

The Chief Executive Officer may give a certification if the proposed amendment to the road management plan results in the determination of a standard that—

- would provide for more frequent inspection or maintenance of a road; or
- would decrease the period within which defects are to be repaired.



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(2) A road authority is not required to give notice under regulation 10 if the Chief Executive Officer (however described) of the road authority certifies in writing that the proposed amendment to the road management plan results in the determination under section 41 of the Act of a standard and the determination of the standard only relates to—

- (i) a road or part of a road for which the road authority has become the coordinating road authority; or
- (ii) a road or part of a road for which the road authority is the coordinating road authority that has become a public road — since the relevant road management plan was made or since that Plan was last reviewed under section 54(5) of the Act and these Regulations.

Example

The Chief Executive Officer of a coordinating road authority may give a certification if the proposed amendment to the road management plan results in a determination of a standard for

—

- a road in a new subdivision that has been constructed since the authority's road management plan was made or last reviewed; or
- a road for which the road authority has become the coordinating road authority because of a reclassification of that road under section 14 of the Act that occurred since the authority's road management plan was made or last reviewed; or
- an existing road that has become a public road by registration under section 17(3) of the Act since the authority's road management plan was made or last reviewed.

(3) A road authority is not required to give notice under regulation 10 if the Chief Executive Officer (however described) of the road authority certifies in writing that the proposed amendment to the road management plan relates to the determination under section 41 of the Act of a standard and the proposed amendment only deals with changes to administrative procedures or responsibilities of a road authority or is of a fundamentally declaratory or machinery nature.

Example

The Chief Executive Officer may give a certification if the proposed amendment to the road management plan is required because of —

- the name of a road changing; or
- the road authority ceasing to be the coordinating road authority in respect of a road; or
- a road being discontinued; or
- a road ceasing to be a public road.



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4.3. Date of effect of Plan or amendment

If a road management plan or an amendment to a road management plan does not specify the date on which it is to take effect, it takes effect on the day after it is made.

4.4. Availability of amendments to road management plans

(1) If a notice of the proposed amendment has been given under regulation 10(1) and the road authority amends its road management plan, the road authority must cause notice of the making of the amendment to be published in the Government Gazette and a newspaper generally circulating in the area in which the roads to which the amended road management plan is to apply are situated.

(2) There must be included in a notice under sub-regulation (1), a statement that the amended road management plan, any incorporated document or any amendment to an incorporated document, as the case may be, may be inspected —

(a) at the office of the road authority specified in the notice; or

(b) on an Internet site maintained by the road authority (which may include links to other separately maintained Internet sites in the case of any incorporated document or any amendment to an incorporated document provided that access to those documents is free of charge).

(3) If a road authority amends a road management plan, the road authority must record on that Plan —

(a) the substance of the amendment; and

(b) the date of effect of the amendment.

The regulations do not specify the timing for implementation of amendments.

Most administrative or increased service standard amendments can begin to be implemented as soon as this review report has been endorsed by Council, made public via a notice and certified by the Chief Executive Officer. It is recommended that Council work towards undertaking the amendment process for its Road Management Plan during 2021 to completely implement the recommended changes in a timely fashion.



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5. Summary of Recommendations

Proposed RMP Amendments described in this report are summarised in the table below:

ID	Proposed Amendment
1	Further develop operating procedures, including the new system processes, to support activities required under the RMP.
2	Streamlining the RMP to one document. Further Review of asset types to be included in the Road Management Plan as recommended by the MAV. Investigating removal of non-road infrastructure assets such as roadside vegetation and moving to store these Service Levels in relevant AMPs.
3	Developing systems for compliance to be more proactively monitored rather than the current reliance on excel measurements. Compliance levels of inspection activities should be measured regularly and reported to senior management.
4	Implementation of a periodic reporting regime designed to provide senior management detail regarding compliance with the RMP.
5	That Council remove all non-road infrastructure assets such as roadside vegetation from its Road Management Plan, noting that the maintenance levels of service will still drive service provision, however that they sit within Council's operational documents such as relevant Asset Management Plans.
6	That Council simplify its Road Management Plan to bring it into alignment with those of other Road Authorities. This will be achieved by aggregating and reducing the number of maintenance service levels in the document.
7	<i>That Council consider the benefits of using road and path hierarchies to define its maintenance service standards when next updating its Road Management Plan.</i>
8	<i>That the above proposals be tested with the community as part of a community engagement process prior to formal amendments to Council's Road Management Plan being presented to Council for adoption.</i>



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6. Appendix 1 – Draft Proposed Maintenance Activities

Maintenance Activity	Intervention Standard	Initial Response	Rectification Time
Bridges & Culverts			
Structural Maintenance	Component damage or deterioration is presenting a hazard to road or path users	2 days	64 days
Retaining Walls	Damage to retaining walls on approach to Bridge or Culvert obstructing regular use.	2 days	64 days
Bus Shelters			
Bus Shelter & Surrounds Repair	Temporary repair/ protective works to broken/ damaged panels, seating and spouting of Council owned bus shelters.	3 days	64 days
Bus Shelter Cleaning	Remove graffiti in line with Graffiti and Vandalism Management Plan and other graffiti within rectification timeframes. If offensive remove within 1 day compliant with the Levels of Service set under Litter & Graffiti	1 day(offensive)-5 days(other)	64 days



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Drainage/Stormwater			
Clear Blocked Drainage Pits, Pipes & Culverts	Clean any debris from pit and pipe inlet where obstruction blocks water flow - for all drainage pits within road reserves and shared path underpasses.	3 days	120 days
Drainage Pit Lids, Lintel Structure Repair	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pit covers is broken, missing, or dangerously displaced. • Lintel has collapsed to obstruct the stormwater flow or reinforcement is exposed 	3 days	120 days
Household Drainage Connection Repair	Treatment to repair and/or replace non-functional household drainage connections (within the road reserve where it is proven that a Council Asset was the primary cause.	3 days	90 days
Footpaths			
Hazardous or Damaged Path	Provide Temporary or permanent repair of surface if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asphalt / Concrete : 20mm Displacement • Brick : 20mm Vert Displacement / 10mm paver gap • Unsealed : >50mm deep pothole 	3 days	50 days
Dangerous Path Surrounds (Edge Drop/Shoulder Repair)	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair of depressions (with topsoil, gravel or sand) at the interface of the nature strip and surrounding constructed paths for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) depressions >50mm for Commercial routes b) depressions >75mm for other routes 	5 days	64 days



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Litter & Graffiti			
Graffiti Removal	Remove offensive graffiti in line with Graffiti and Vandalism Management Plan and other graffiti within rectification timeframes	1 day(offensive)-5 days(other)	32 days
Litter Clearing/ Dumped Rubbish/ Debris/ Animal carcass	Removal of litter/ dumped rubbish that poses a hazard to pedestrians and/or obstructs stormwater flows and traffic movements (excluding cigarette butts & gum). Temporary works may include placement of litter/ dumped rubbish on nature strips until litter can be removed.	3 days	7 days
Kerb & Channel			
Kerb & Channel Repair	Provide temporary repair measures only for damaged kerb & channel < 4.8m in length which is likely to result in ponding of stormwater on trafficable areas along link, collector and industrial roads.	3 days	150 days
Local Area Traffic Management Devices (LATMs)			
Kerb & Constructed Infill / Structural Maintenance	Treatment to repair and/or regulate damaged, dislodged or settled traffic island and roundabout kerbs and/or constructed Provide temporary repair measures only for damaged kerb & channel < 4.8m in length which is likely to result in ponding.	3 days	150 days
Weed Control and Surrounds Cleaning	Treatment to clean debris & remove weeds from constructed (brick paved/ concrete or asphalt) infill areas of traffic islands and Local Area Traffic Management Treatments. Remove weeds >200mm high.	5 days	96 days



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Road Furniture			
Hazardous or Damaged Fencing or Guideposts	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair to maintain functionality (i.e. rotten, corroded, broken, missing, vandalised) and/or if fencing poses a hazard to the public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distressed fencing >15m • 50% of Guidepost is noticeably degraded • Replace posts when more than 10% of posts are missing on straights, more than 5% are missing on curves, or where more than two posts in a row are missing. 	3 days	64 days
Hazardous or Damaged Guardrails	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair if guardrail is non-effective, misaligned or broken.	2 days	96 days
Hazardous, Damaged or Missing Fire Hydrant or Plug Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of fire hydrants as per South East Water protocols. • Straighten, repaint posts and/or replace markers. 	3 days	32 days
Hazardous or Damaged Non-Standard Street Lighting	Provide temporary and/or permanent repair to damaged standards/ poles/ arms & masts for street lights that are non-functional or a hazard to road users/ pedestrians or property.	5 days	150 days
Hazardous or Damaged Bike Racks or Miscellaneous Street Furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace non-functional or missing bike racks with standard bike racks. • Provide temporary and/or permanent repair if furniture is non-functional, broken, vandalised, rotten, corroded or a hazard to road users/ pedestrians and/or property. 	10 days	150 days



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Road Pavement			
Repair Pavement Collapse (Digouts / Major Patching)	Provide temporary repair when failed area is >500mm in diameter and >50mm in depth with potential for pavement collapse and/or where other treatments have failed to remediate the pavement. Distressed areas > 5m ² are managed to mitigate risk and programmed for renewal.	2 days	32 days
Road Surface			
Hazardous Road Surface	Provide temporary repair when failed area is >500mm in diameter and >50mm in depth with potential for pavement collapse and/or where other treatments have failed to remediate the pavement. Distressed areas > 5m ² are managed to mitigate risk and programmed for renewal.	2 days	32 days
Pavement Linemarking	Replace damaged/ dislodged or missing pavement markers (RRPMs & RPMs) on link, collector and industrial roads. Reinstate faded line marking on link roads and stat-com markings associated with link roads, collector roads and designated school crossings. Reinstate faded line marking (<50% effective reflectivity) on All Roads to meet Australian Standard AS1743.	3 days	150 days
Clear Liquid Spillage	Temporary measures to limit access and clear spill from road surface where there is a potential danger to traffic and/or potential for stormwater pollution.	5 days	32 days
Clear Fuel Spillage	Temporary measures to limit access and clear fuel spill from road surface where there is a potential danger to traffic and/or potential for stormwater pollution.	1 day	1 day



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Roadside Vegetation			
Pruning - Street Trees & Shrubs	Prune Street Trees and Shrubs (where no overhead powerlines exist) to comply with the following clearance limits: • Footpaths & Shared Paths - 2.5m • Roadway - 5m (Link/Industrial -3.5m (other) Remove vegetation where no overhead powerlines exist within clearance sight triangles as per Austroads Guidelines Part 5 - Intersections at Grade (Table 5.3).	3 days	64 days
Tree & Stump Removal	Provide temporary protection works and/or remove dangerous street trees, tree stumps and/or limbs posing a potential hazard to road users/pedestrians or property. Trees/shrubs within identified significant vegetation areas are referred for impact assessment by Sustainability department prior to works.	3 days	92 days
Blackberry Removal	Remove or control Blackberry infestations	5 days	120 days
Mowing / Edge Trimming - Nature Strip	a.) Mow grass > 500mm high posing fire hazard and/or resulting in the accumulation of pests	3 days	32 days
Shared Path			
Hazardous or Damaged Path	Provide Temporary or permanent repair of surface if: • Asphalt / Concrete : 20mm Displacement • Brick : 20mm Vert Displacement / 10mm paver gap • Unsealed : >50mm deep pothole	3 days	45 days
Vegetation	Clear dirt, silt & debris that is likely to cause slipping or obstruction of stormwater flow into spoon drains. a) Edge trim grass/ weeds extending >200mm onto shared path - for All Shared paths; b) Remove weeds within constructed shared path area - for All Shared paths.	3 days	32 days



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Signage			
Hazardous, Damaged, Missing or obstructed Signage	a) Provide temporary and/or permanent repair of damaged/missing/faded sign. b) Straighten sign posts when it becomes noticeable that it is not vertical, or replace when damage renders sign ineffective. c) Repair school crossing signage and posts to meet AS1742.10-1990 Pedestrian Control & Protection. d) Prune foliage obstructing regulatory/ warning and special purpose/ directional/ street name/ parking signs.	3 days (Regulatory) 10 days(Directional/Street/Other)	45 days(Regulatory) 150 days (Directional/Street/Other)
Unsealed Roads			
Hazardous Unsealed Road (Grading / Edgedrop)	a) Install temporary measures and/ or grade unsealed roads when rutting and corrugations exceed 50mm over 20% of the unsealed road surface and/or potholes exceed 450mm in diameter and 50mm deep over 20% of the unsealed road surface. Treatment may include spot gravelling with crushed rock. b) Grade shoulder when edge drop from traffic lane to shoulder exceeds 50mm over 20m length under a 1.5m straight edge or when shoulder becomes rough or scoured. Trim lower edge of shoulder when build up holds water.	3 days	32 days
Unsealed Vehicle Crossover Maintenance	Repair/ replace culvert if access to property access is restricted and/or clean culvert condition impedes stormwater flow	5 days	96 days



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Proactive Maintenance	Inspection Frequency (within the period of)
DRAINAGE	
D-ROU-064 - Clear Blocked Drainage Pits	2 year cycle
D-ROU-067 - Litter Basket Maintenance	3 month cycle
D-ROU-068 - Gross Pollutant Trap Maintenance	6 month cycle
TD-ROU-070 - Table/ Open/ Outfall Drain Maintenance	1 year cycle
FOOTPATHS	
FP-ROU-027 - Concrete Footpath Maintenance	1 year cycle
FP-ROU-013 - Litter Clearing/ Dumped Rubbish	1 week cycle
LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DEVICES (LATMs)	
LATM-ROU-019 - Weed Control and Surrounds Cleaning	1 year cycle
LATM-ROU-020 - Pruning - Shrubs	5 week cycle
LATM-ROU-021 - Replanting - Shrubs	1 year cycle
ROAD FURNITURE	
RF-REA-057 - Fire Hydrant Maintenance	Undertaken by South East Water
ROAD SURFACE	
RS-ROU-012 - Street Sweeping	7 week cycle
RS-ROU-009 – Pavement Markings Maintenance	3 year cycle
ROADSIDE VEGETATION	
RV-ROU-038 - Line Clearance	2 year cycle
RV-ROU-039 - Pruning - Street Trees & Shrubs	3 year (road reserve)- 6 month (shared path) cycle
RV-ROU-040 - Tree Watering	Seasonal - 3 week cycle during Summer months
RV-ROU-047 - Garden Bed Maintenance	5 week cycle
RV-REA-043 - Pest and/or Vegetation Disease Control	2 year cycle
RV-ROU-048 - Blackberry Removal	1 year cycle
RV-ROU-041 - Mowing/ Edge Trimming - Nature Strip	4 week cycle - schools/shopping/community centres , 3 week cycle - senior centres , 1 week cycle - KCC civic centre
RV-ROU-041A - Mowing - Tree Reserves	5 week cycle - Winter (April to Oct) 3 week cycle - Summer (Nov to March)
RV-ROU-041B - Mowing - Road Reserves & Road Closures	4 week cycle (April to Oct) & 3 week cycle (Nov to March) -Road Closures 5 week cycle (April to Oct) & 3 week cycle (Nov to March) - Road Reserves (Group A) 6 month cycle - Road Reserves (Group B) 1 month cycle – Outer Separators (arterial roads) 3 month cycle – Road Reserves (arterial roads) 1 year cycle – Batters (arterial roads)
RV-ROU-045 - Weed Control - Significant Vegetation Areas	1 year cycle
RV-ROU-044 - Bushland Management	2 month cycle



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SHARED PATHS	
SP-ROU-012 - Shared Path Sweeping/ Cleaning	1 week cycle
SP-ROU-019 - Weed Control /Edge Trimming	3 month cycle
UNSEALED ROADS	
US-ROU-023 - Unsealed surface repair – Grading (Grading)	5 nominated roads (Refer to Schedule III - Grading Program) - 1 week cycle Other roads on program - 3 month cycle
US-ROU-022 - Dust Suppression	1 year cycle

8.2 Advanced Waste Processing - Next Steps and Special Purpose Vehicle

SUMMARY: Coordinator – Waste Management, Misty Johannsen

Knox City Council is participating in a collaborative procurement project for Advanced Waste Processing (AWP), as facilitated by the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery group (MWRRG). This project is progressing with 15 other Councils within the South East Melbourne Region and aims to address the issue of limited landfill capacity in our region, whilst providing improved environmental, social and economic outcomes, compared with the current landfill treatment for waste.

Through the Expression of Interest phase, a shortlist of 3 potential providers was identified and endorsed. Council resolved to continue with the project in July 2020. The current stage has involved engaging with these providers on their industry expertise and possible solutions. These conversations are aimed at learning from industry in order to develop the specification for a final tender, framework and evaluation methodology. The project and process to date has been technology agnostic and has been a robust process, drawing upon technical/environmental, legal, financial and probity advisors.

This report sets out to consider Council's participation in the establishment of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to deliver the facility together with the associated establishment costs.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note that :
 - a. Council is currently governed by the Local Government Act 1989 (the LGA 1989) and under section 193 has the power to establish a company limited by shares.
 - b. The Local Government Act 2020 (the LGA 2020) will replace the LGA 1989 on 1 July 2021 and under section 110 Council has the power to participate in the formation of a corporation; and
 - c. Council does not intend to implement any decision to exercise its beneficial enterprise powers under the LGA 2020 until on or after 1 July 2021.
2. Note the risk assessment report (as set out in Confidential Attachments 5 and 6) which has been prepared for the purposes of determining whether the Council will exercise its beneficial enterprise powers under the LGA 2020.
3. Having had regard to the requirements of Section 110 of the LGA 2020, and the risk assessment report, resolve to exercise its beneficial enterprise powers to participate in the establishment of a company (the Special Purpose Vehicle or SPV) to facilitate Council's access to an Advanced Waste Processing facility and authorise the Chief Executive Officer on or after 1 July 2021 to:
 - a. Make a financial contribution to the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group for the establishment of a Special Purpose Vehicle, site selection activities and planning approvals.

- b. Execute relevant associated documents for participation in the Special Purpose Vehicle, tender processes and financial contribution related to the project.**
- 4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person the Chief Executive Officer selects) to provide informed advice to the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group regarding project objectives and tender criteria, including price parameters.**
- 5. Note that a future report will be presented to Council after completion of the tender process which will consider, as part of the SPV, the decision to enter a contract with the successful tenderer.**

1. INTRODUCTION

Advanced Waste Processing is the process of treating residual waste (landfill) via a technology solution, as is commonplace in many advanced parts of the world. This is as an alternative to burying waste as landfill, which is the current practice.

With landfill capacity in our region reducing with the imminent closure of the last landfill site (Suez in Hampton Park) in coming years, there is a growing reliance on one provider, and transporting waste further distances. There is also the desire for improved waste treatments to the current arrangement of landfilling waste, to achieve better environmental and social outcomes.

It is a reality that despite plans to substantially reduce waste across the state via implementing food waste services as well as other levers and activities to reduce waste, it is anticipated that with a growing population and community lifestyles, residual waste will continue to be a growing waste stream which Knox and other Councils need to manage.

For these reasons, Council is participating in a Collaborative process with other Councils in the South East to procure Advanced Waste Processing technologies via a long term contract. This project, managed by the MWRRG, with the support of a number of legal and technical advisors and has involved regular meetings and work over many years to progress.

Throughout the process, the recommended approach to procuring these services is via a Special Purpose Vehicle contract model, where participating Councils would be shareholders in the contracting entity.

Council has had previous briefings and meetings on this important project, including in the wider context of our strategic waste services planning over many years.

2. DISCUSSION

What is Advanced Waste Processing and why Council is part of this project

Historically, landfills were the only option available for managing residual waste streams and were perceived to offer a low cost, reliable and long-term solution to dispose of waste that could not be recycled.

Other proven alternatives to landfill, which are widely used internationally, are being realised as an accepted alternative to landfill disposal in Australia. These technologies are collectively known

as Advanced Waste Processing. Project fact sheets related to Advanced waste processing, the benefits, and how they are regulated can be seen in Attachment 1, 2 and 3.

Continuing to rely solely on landfill to manage residual waste will not deliver the best outcomes for Knox City Councils' community. The most significant impacts from landfill include:

- Environmental and social impacts – Emissions from landfill make up a significant proportion of greenhouse gas emissions. Other potential issues include odours, litter, vermin, and legacy contamination issues;
- Lost opportunity to recover resources – landfills don't fully capture the value of discarded resources, despite containing materials with commercial value;
- Placing a financial and environmental burden on future generations with respect to the ongoing treatment and management of landfills; and
- Rising costs and reduced environmental and social outcomes due to longer travel distances to utilise landfills that are located in north/west Melbourne.

The Regional Business Case for Advanced Waste Processing, which was prepared by MWRRG, with input from council officers and support from external legal, financial and technical advisors, was released in September 2018. This document set out clear benefits to exploring AWP as an alternative to landfill.

Policy settings

Recycling Victoria

As part of the *Recycling Victoria* policy, AWP solutions will play a significant role in achieving the Victorian Government's new target to divert 80 per cent of household rubbish from landfill by 2030.

The policy sets out alignment to the EPA's Waste Hierarchy, where best practice outcomes will be achieved by minimising our waste, reusing and recycling including separation of food and green waste for composting. What is left over can go to AWP, which is more productive than burying it in the ground.

The final technology solution selected as part of the AWP project will need to align with the *Recycling Victoria* policy objectives.

Landfill levy

As part of the *Recycling Victoria* policy and EPA reforms, the State Government also announced increases to the Landfill Levy, which will increase from approximately \$66 per tonne to \$126 per tonne over the next 3 years. This levy is in addition to the contracted landfill disposal gate fees. This change will align Victoria's landfill levy to be similar in price to other states. While the AWP Business case already showed that 3 of the 4 technology solutions were more cost effective over the long term than Business as Usual landfill services, this increase will further add to the case for change to AWP from a financial benefit perspective.

Previous Council Resolutions

In June 2019, a confidential report was discussed and resolved related to the Collaborative Procurement for Advanced Waste Processing Solutions.

At its Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 27 July 2020, the following resolution was passed:

That Council:

1. Supports participating in Stage 2, the Solution Development phase, for Advanced Waste Processing, as facilitated by the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG);
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make the necessary decisions and enter into agreements to progress the Solution Development phase; and
3. Note that any processes, agreements or documents associated with Council participating in the Special Purpose Vehicle will be assessed for compliance with Council's obligations under Section 193 of the Local Government Act 1989; and / or any relevant obligations under the new Local Government Act 2020.

Special Purpose Vehicle - Progress

Establishing the new processing infrastructure will require substantial investment, and the aggregation of waste streams by participating Councils will be the key enabler to drive investment from the private sector.

MWRRGs legal advisors recommended that Councils form a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) – a company with its own assets and liabilities, as well as its own separate legal identity. A comprehensive risk assessment has been developed, which Council must have regard to in its decision to join the SPV.

An SPV would provide the following benefits:

- create economies of scale for the contract (by aggregating waste streams);
- be attractive to the market as a single contracting entity;
- limit a Council's liability to its shareholding in the SPV, protecting Council's financial position and wider asset pool;
- facilitate clear decision making structures and administration processes for a large Council group;
- provide the vehicle to attract investment grants from other levels of government; and
- allow the SPV to own, operate or apply for planning permission for a facility.

The SPV will be seeking to secure a site as an option for the successful proponent, and will engage a land agent to assist with this. This is a preferred approach in order to keep the project on track and avoid potential delays to the commissioning date. This will also mean the SPV and Councils are in a stronger position to be able to select a successful tendered based on the whole proposal and solution, rather than who has the best site. It has been estimated that the costs associated with establishing the SPV is between \$700k and \$870k, which would be divided between the participating Councils.

3. CONSULTATION

The Environment Advisory Committee were briefed in February 2019 on a variety of issues, including Advanced Waste Processing, with overall support. There have been many strategic and operational briefings with Council along the journey of this project.

Upon release of the EOI phase in March 2020, the MWRRG undertook the following communication activities:

- Exclusive editorial in the Herald Sun;
- Advertisements (print and online) in Victorian, Australian and international newspapers and trade journals; and
- Radio interviews with key spokespeople.

Officers have also received appropriate legal advice through the MWRRG to inform this report.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

The Regional Business Case for AWP considered air quality, carbon abatement, and transport impacts of various reviewed technologies. Of the four technologies reviewed, all had lower environmental impacts than landfill.

Achieving better environmental outcomes has been a long standing objective of this project. Environmental elements featured strongly in the EOI phase and review of the competitive dialogue phases. A full review of the environmental and amenity issues will be assessed during the final phases of the procurement process.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The Business Case for AWP outlined the long term financial benefits of entering into a long term contract for AWP via a collaborative contract model. The early stages did not provide costings - this will come through the final tender phase. Respondents were required to provide financial data and reporting, which was reviewed by the Financial advisor and fed into the Evaluation process.

To join the SPV will require an estimated investment of up to \$55,000 for each participating Council. It is expected that this could be funded from within the Waste Service Budget, as funded by the residential Garbage charge.

Outside of the SPV establishment costs, Councils will not need to fund the facility, but rather commit to being a long term customer of the successful tenderer and pay the agreed gate fee for every tonne of waste over the contract term.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Business Case considered air quality, carbon abatement, job creation and transport impacts. All four technologies reviewed, had lower social impacts than landfill.

Ongoing review of these implications would occur through the tender evaluation phase.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 1 - We value our natural and built environment

Strategy 1.1 - Protect and enhance our natural environment

Goal 2 - We have housing to meet our changing needs

Strategy 2.1 - Plan for a diversity of housing in appropriate locations

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

Considering the progress to date, and the opportunity to treat waste better than current practices whilst achieving long term secure contracts, it is in Council's best interest to continue with the project.

To achieve this, the next phase is joining the SPV, which will require Council to contribute to the establishment costs, and costs associated with identifying a suitable site option for the successful tenderer.

Post the tender phase, as a member of the SPV, Council will have the option to accept or reject the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel and enter a contract with the successful tenderer. If Council wishes to not enter a contract, they will be able to exit the SPV and the project.

It should be noted, however that achieving long term, secure, and best practice waste treatment would be difficult without the successful delivery of this project.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Attachments 4, 5 and 6 are included in the confidential agenda, as they contain confidential information pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, as they relate to:

- land use planning information [regarding property zoning or likely property sales / purchases] that might encourage or enable speculation in land values if prematurely released.
- legal privileged information, being confidential communication between Council and its lawyer created for the dominant purpose of the lawyer providing legal advice to Council.
- private commercial information, that if released, would unreasonably expose AWP tenderers to disadvantage/advantage.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Advanced Waste processing - A Smarter Solution [**8.2.1** - 4 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Advanced Waste Processing - About AWP Fact Sheet [**8.2.2** - 5 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Advanced waste processing - Regulating brief [**8.2.3** - 3 pages]

Confidential attachments 4,5 and 6 have been circulated under separate cover



Finding a smarter solution for household rubbish

Project overview

A group of councils from the south and east of Melbourne have partnered with the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG) to seek proposals from industry for a smarter way to deal with household rubbish.

The project will deliver a vital alternative to landfill that will transform how household rubbish is managed by putting it to good use instead of burying it in the ground.

Which councils are involved?

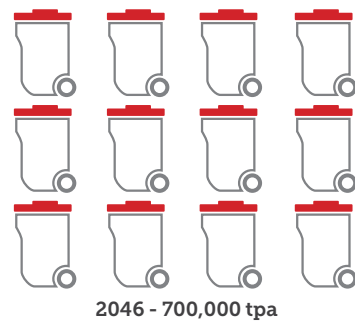
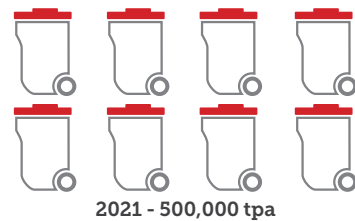
- Bayside City Council
- Frankston City Council
- Borondara City Council
- Glen Eira City Council
- Cardinia Shire Council
- Knox City Council
- City of Casey
- Manningham City Council
- City of Greater Dandenong
- Maroondah City Council
- City of Kingston
- Mornington Peninsula Shire
- City of Monash
- Shire of Yarra Ranges
- City of Whitehorse
- Stonnington City Council.

Why this project is needed

The south east has some of Melbourne’s fastest growing suburbs, and the population is expected to grow substantially in coming years.

More people produce more rubbish—household rubbish in the 16 councils is projected to increase by 40% over the next 25 years.

It will all be sent to landfill unless another solution is found.





We shouldn't rely on landfill

Household rubbish is sent to landfill and buried. But relying on landfill to dispose of rubbish isn't a sustainable solution:

- Landfills in the south east of Melbourne are filling up and no more are planned to be built. So councils will have to transport large amounts of waste across Melbourne to other landfills.
- Food and green waste in landfill breaks down and creates methane, a potent greenhouse gas.
- Future generations have to deal with the problem as rubbish contained in landfills breaks down over decades.
- Landfill is a costly way to dispose of rubbish and costs are expected to keep going up.
- Advanced waste processing solutions will play a significant role in achieving the Victorian Government's new target to divert 80 per cent of household rubbish from landfill by 2030.

But why bury rubbish when the average rubbish bin contains materials that could be put to better use?

Advanced waste processing — an alternative to landfill

MWRRG and 16 councils have been exploring an alternative to landfill called advanced waste processing.

Advanced waste processing solutions are proven technologies that recover valuable materials or produce electricity and heat from rubbish.

Advanced waste processing facilities are being used safely and reliably around the world, including in the United Kingdom, Europe, Asia and North America.

Modern, best practice facilities have strong safety track records

They provide an essential and cost effective service to local authorities and businesses.

Advanced waste processing technologies can include:

- advanced sorting to extract recyclables (e.g. metals) plus treatment of food and garden waste to reduce the amount of organic material that is sent to landfill
- technologies that transform waste to energy and produce electricity, heat or gas.

Modern, best practice facilities have strong safety track records and are designed to meet strict emissions standards. They are inspected and tested regularly to ensure safety and environmental standards are achieved.

Advanced waste processing solutions have great potential as part of a total approach to managing the rubbish we produce. Alongside recycling, and separating food and green waste for composting, advanced waste processing is a smarter solution for household rubbish than burying it in the ground.

These solutions are also a financially viable option for councils compared to projected landfill costs.

Best outcomes will be achieved by minimising our waste, reusing or recycling, and then what is left over can go to advanced waste processing.



Next steps

Currently, there are no advanced waste processing facilities that can handle the metropolitan Melbourne quantities of household rubbish - new facilities are needed.

MWRRG is leading a procurement process on behalf of the 16 councils to seek proposals from bidders to design, build and operate an advanced waste processing facility.

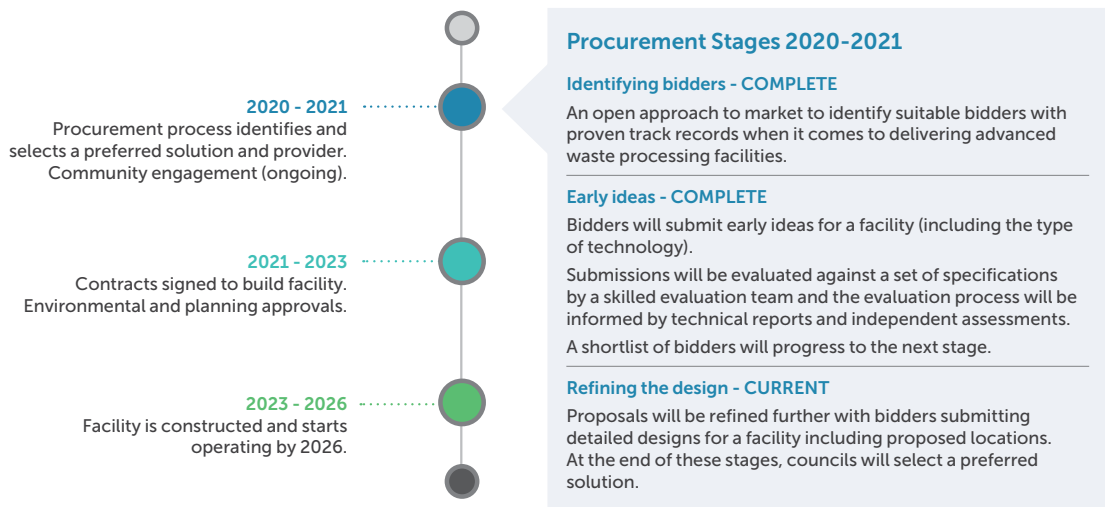
No technology or site has been selected yet. These will be identified during the procurement process.

The procurement process will take a couple of years to rigorously explore all the options in detail. During this

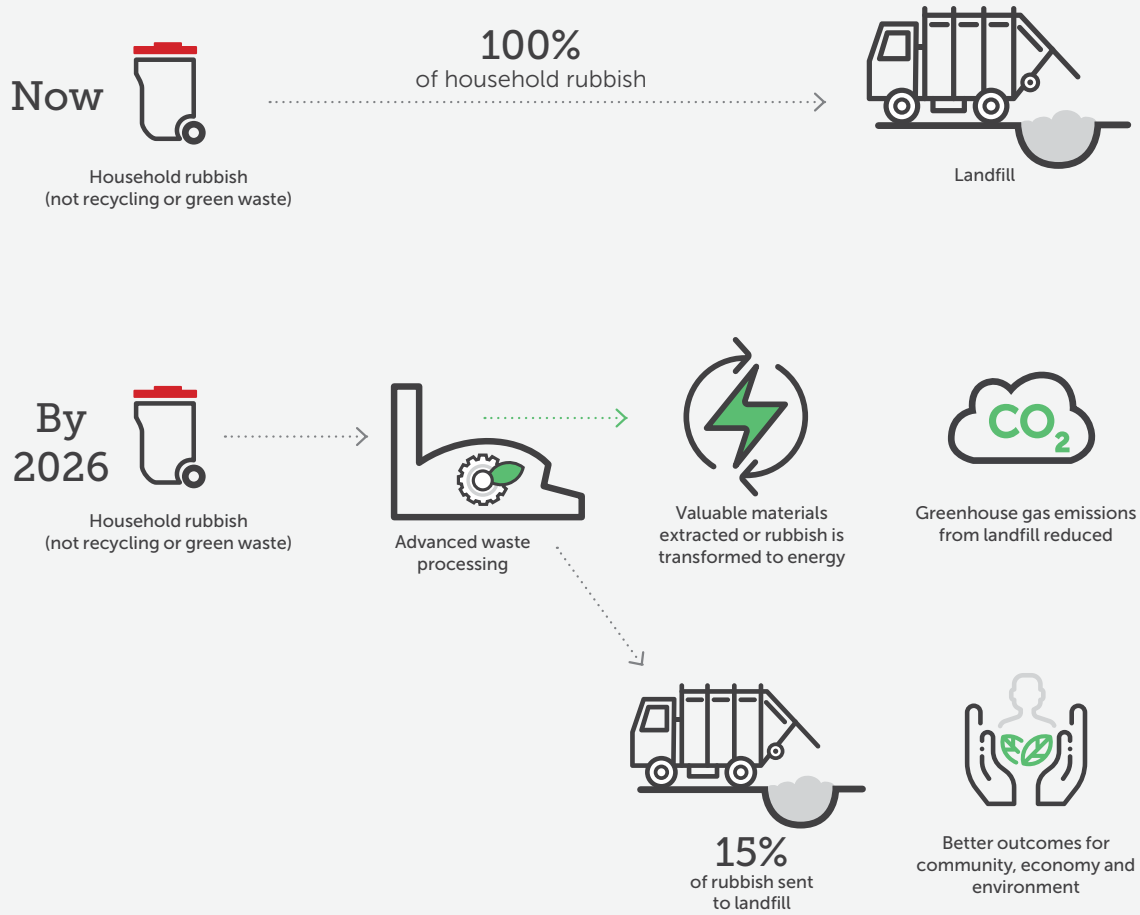
process, we will also actively talk with communities to understand their views.

At the end of the two years, councils will have a preferred solution with very detailed designs and specifications.

Once a preferred solution is selected, it will need to get environmental and planning approvals before it can be built. Construction will take approximately three years.



What will be achieved



More information

www.mwrrg.vic.gov.au/smartersolution
smartersolution@mwrrg.vic.gov.au

Please contact us if you would like this information in an accessible format.
Published by the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group.
March 2020.





About advanced waste processing

Different technologies are being used successfully overseas to recover recyclables or produce electricity and heat.

Advanced waste processing facilities are being used safely and reliably around the world, including in the United Kingdom (UK), Europe, Asia and North America. They provide an essential and cost effective service to local authorities and businesses.

Best practice facilities have strong safety track records and are characterised by:

- proven and efficient technology
- strict emission controls and safety standards
- transparent operations that are open to the local community
- appropriate locations and a design that is sympathetic to the surrounding area
- excellent transport links
- ongoing and effective community engagement.

A medium sized plant can process 300,000-400,000 tonnes each year (the waste from around 10 or more councils in Melbourne). Combustion is the most commonly used technology overseas.

Advanced waste processing solutions are proven technologies that make better use of household rubbish than burying it in the ground.

PART OF A TOTAL SOLUTION

Advanced waste processing solutions have great potential as part of a total approach to managing the waste we produce.

Best outcomes will be achieved by minimising our waste, reusing or recycling, and then what is left over can go to advanced waste processing.

Converting waste to energy is better than putting waste in landfill, but only material that can't be viably recycled should be transformed into energy.



Severnside Energy Recovery Centre, UK

Used reliably and safely around the world

Large cities overseas rely on advanced waste processing to manage residual waste, with landfill as a last resort.

It is common for plants to be modernised over time with up to date technology. This ensures that plants continue to operate efficiently and economically, and be as environmentally friendly as possible.

Exterior designs range from industrial style buildings to architect designed landmarks.

Here are just a few examples of advanced waste processing facilities from the UK and Europe.



Suffolk Energy From Waste Facility, UK

This combustion facility processes 269,000 tonnes of waste a year from households and some businesses, and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75,000 tonnes a year. The facility generates electricity and metals are extracted from the ash that is left over. An educational visitor centre and tours let the local community see the facility in action.



Spittelau Waste to Energy Facility, Austria

Behind this unusual façade in central Vienna is a combustion facility that processes 250,000 tonnes of household rubbish every year. It produces electricity, heat and scrap iron.



Twence, The Netherlands

Twence is an integrated waste processing centre established by 14 municipalities. Originally a landfill site, Twence includes facilities for anaerobic digestion of organic household waste, a biomass power plant that uses waste wood and a combustion plant. These facilities produce electricity, heat, steam for industry and waste metals.



Vernéa Integrated Waste Treatment Facility, France

Vernéa handles household and similar waste, and processes 230,000 tonnes of waste each year. This facility combines advanced sorting, anaerobic digestion/composting and combustion. The facility produces electricity, agricultural compost, and materials that can be used in steelworks or construction.



Marchwood Energy Recovery Facility, UK

Marchwood is located on the Southampton Water estuary. It processes 165,000 tonnes of residual waste each year for the Hampshire County, Southampton City and Portsmouth City councils. It supplies enough electricity to power 22,000 homes. The unusual design was created through consultation with local residents, councils and architects.



Ruhleben Waste to Energy Facility, Germany

Modernised in 2012, the Ruhleben combustion facility can process 520,000 tonnes of residual waste each year. The plant provides electricity and heat. It also recycles around 12,000 tonnes of ferrous metals every year.



Ardley Energy Recovery Facility, UK

Ardley is a combustion facility that processes 326,000 tonnes of waste a year. It diverts at least 95% of Oxfordshire’s residual waste from landfill and generates enough electricity to power 53,000 homes. The facility also processes residual waste from businesses and other local authorities.

How safe are facilities?

Modern waste to energy plants use sophisticated emission control equipment to minimise pollution. The newest facilities in Europe and North America are designed to meet strict emissions standards. Facilities have real-time emission monitoring and they are inspected and tested regularly to ensure safety standards are achieved, and many outperform standards.

All large industrial facilities have to manage the risks of pollution. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria has strict standards for new waste to energy facilities to protect people’s health and the environment.

According to EPA, waste to energy is an established disposal method used globally with international best practice standards available. An independent literature review commissioned by EPA found that there was little potential for health impacts or risk from exposure to air emissions from modern facilities.¹

Similarly, in the UK, the Health Protection Agency (now Public Health England) produced a report in 2010 on the impact on health of air emissions from combustion facilities.² The report states that modern, well-managed combustion facilities make only a very small contribution to local concentrations of air pollutants, and that “It is possible that such small additions could have an impact on health but such effects, if they exist, are likely to be very small and not detectable”.

A study funded by Public Health England³ and published in 2017, found that particle levels caused by combustion facilities are extremely low, and could often not be distinguished from other background sources such as traffic.

¹ EPA. Australian Paper waste to energy works approval decision. 2018, Publication 1717

² Maynard, R L et al. The impact on health of emissions to air from municipal waste incinerators. Health Protection Agency. 2010. [PDF file]

³ Douglas, P et al. Estimating particulate exposure from modern municipal waste incinerators in Great Britain. Environ. Sci. Technol. 2017, 51, 7511–7519

How do they work?

There are two broad types of advanced waste processing that are commonly used to process household rubbish.

Waste to Energy

Waste to energy technologies all recover energy from waste to produce electricity, heat or gas. The three most common technologies are:



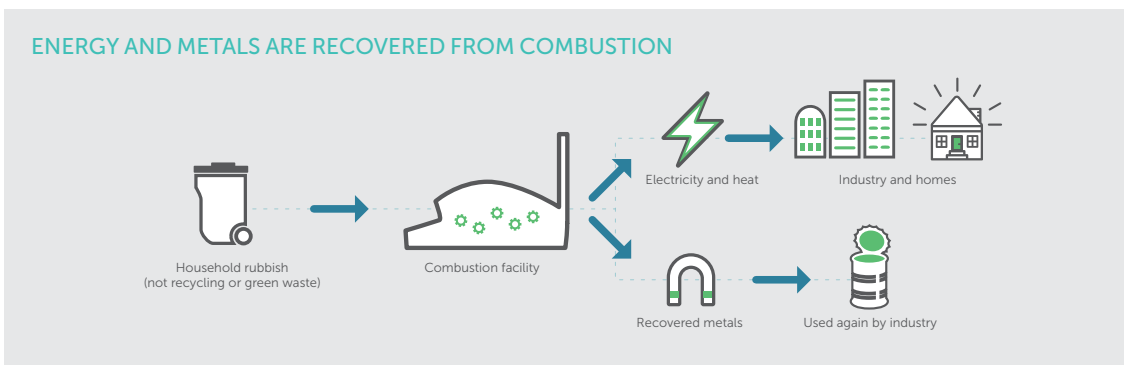
Anaerobic digestion—a biological process (e.g. microbes) used to produce gas from organic waste. The gas can be used in an engine or turbine to generate electricity. Digestate (what is left over from the process) is sent to landfill.



Combustion—waste is burned to produce heat. The heat is used to create steam that turns a turbine to produce electricity. Metals can be extracted from the ash that is left over. Ash and residues are sent to landfill.

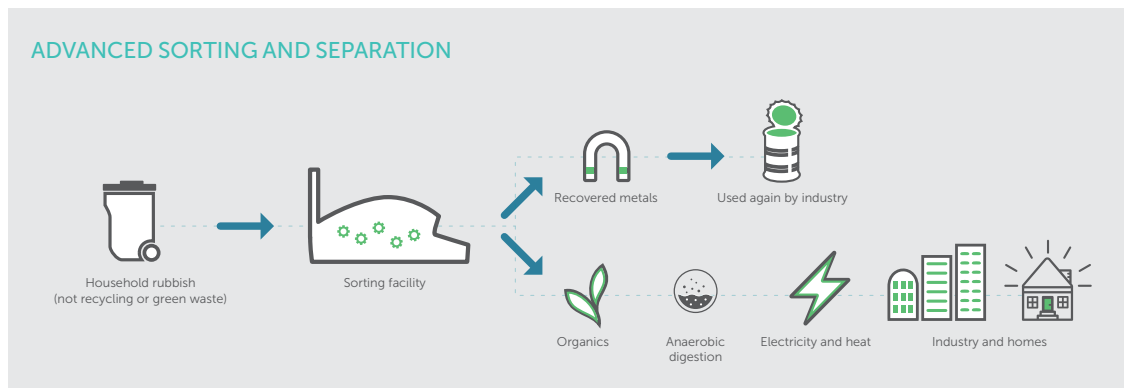


Gasification—waste is heated (but not burned) to release gases that can be used in a gas engine or furnace to produce electricity. Metals can be extracted from the ash that is left over. Ash and residues are sent to landfill.



Advanced sorting and separation

Also known as Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT), advanced sorting and separation extracts hard recyclables (e.g. metals) and then treats the food and garden waste to reduce the amount of organic material that is then sent to landfill. The organic treatment can produce energy (e.g. anaerobic digestion).



Advanced waste processing in Australia

There are some advanced waste processing solutions already operating in Australia, however there are no facilities that can handle the metropolitan Melbourne quantities of household rubbish. Councils are seeking proposals from businesses to design, build and operate facilities to meet the needs of their local communities.

- The Kwinana Waste to Energy facility will be located in the Kwinana Industrial Area, south of Perth, Western Australia. Co-developed by Macquarie Capital (Australia) Limited and Phoenix Energy Australia Pty Ltd, the project has sourced financing from the private sector and government to build the \$668 million facility. When complete in 2021, the combustion facility will process 400,000 tonnes of residual, commercial and industrial waste each year, and generate enough electricity to power more than 50,000 homes.
- In New South Wales, the recently commissioned Woodlawn MBT facility is able to process 144,000 tonnes of waste a year from six councils. The plant will recycle metals and divert approximately 55% of general waste from landfill.
- German company REMONDIS has announced plans to build a \$400 million waste-to-energy facility in Swanbank, south of Ipswich, Queensland. The proposed plant will process 300,000–500,000 tonnes of waste each year.
- In Victoria, Australian Paper has proposed a large combustion facility in Maryvale to process up to 650,000 tonnes of residual waste as well as commercial and industrial waste. The facility would provide steam and electricity to Australian Paper’s Maryvale mill. EPA granted works approval in late 2018, which was amended and resolved in 2019.
- Recovered Energy Australia is proposing to construct a gasification facility in Laverton North, Victoria to process 200,000 tonnes of residual waste each year. A works approval was issued by the EPA in 2019, and a planning permit was issued by the City of Wyndham in 2019.

REGULATED BY EPA

Since 1970, EPA has regulated the operations of industries to prevent harm to the environment and people—industries such as petrol refineries, landfills, abattoirs, chemical manufacturers, power stations and sewage treatment plants.

EPA sets standards that facilities must operate within, and regularly monitors compliance with these standards through reporting and inspections.

Advanced waste processing facilities are also regulated by EPA. Any facility will need to be appropriately located, constructed and operated according to strict regulations that minimise risks to the environment and people.

Benefits of advanced waste processing



Send less waste to landfill



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Recover more resources from household waste



Can transform waste into energy to power homes and businesses



Better outcomes for community, economy and environment



Preserve land for better uses than burying waste



Regulating advanced waste processing facilities



Overview

Advanced waste processing facilities are regulated by Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) and councils. Facilities must be appropriately located, constructed and operated according to strict regulations.

EPA regulates the operations of industries to prevent harm to the environment and people—industries such as petrol refineries, landfills, abattoirs, chemical manufacturers, power stations and sewage treatment plants. Advanced waste processing facilities are also regulated by other agencies, such as WorkSafe and the councils to ensure all permits are complied with.

In 2021, EPA will get new regulatory powers that will strengthen its ability to regulate advanced waste processing facilities and place an even stronger focus on the prevention of harm.

Advanced waste processing solutions are proven technologies that process household rubbish and put it to good use.

Advanced waste processing technologies can include:

- advanced sorting to extract valuable materials (e.g. metals) plus treatment of food and garden waste to reduce the amount of organic material that is sent to landfill
- technologies that transform waste to energy and produce electricity, heat or gas.

EPA approval to build advanced waste processing facilities

Most advanced waste processing facilities will require a works approval from EPA before they can be built. EPA's works approval process is designed to ensure that new facilities don't adversely impact the environment and community.

To obtain the works approval, the proposal must show that the design, construction and operation of the facility will be able to meet all legislative and policy requirements, including the use of best available techniques to protect the surrounding environment. Protection of public health is also an essential requirement for works approval.

New proposals must:

- demonstrate that the proposed technology is proven, well understood and best practice
- show how emissions will be minimised and managed (including pollutants, odour and noise)
- be on appropriately zoned industrial land, meet local planning requirements, and have a buffer distance around the facility that minimises impacts on communities, the environment and public health.



Licensing and ongoing monitoring

An EPA licence will set conditions such as emissions limits, reporting requirements and how waste must be accepted, stored and treated.

Once built, most advanced waste processing facilities will need an EPA licence to operate. Penalties apply if licence conditions are breached.

A facility must have a monitoring program to ensure it complies with the licence and an annual performance statement must be provided to EPA each year, showing how each licence condition has been met. There are severe penalties for providing false or misleading information.

EPA will also conduct regular compliance inspections of facilities to ensure licence conditions are being met.

How overseas facilities meet standards

Advanced waste processing facilities are being used safely and reliably around the world.

Here's three ways waste to energy facilities overseas maintain the highest environmental and health standards.

Minimising emissions

Waste to energy facilities minimise emissions by using extensive pollution control systems that capture particles, absorb heavy metals and other pollutants, and neutralise gases. Computer systems constantly monitor pollution levels to make sure the facility is meeting strict air quality standards.

In Victoria, facilities will need to be designed, built and operated to world's best practice, which includes meeting the European Union Industrial Emission Directive limits. Facilities will need to publicly report monitoring results.

Disposing of ash or digestate

Anything left over from a waste to energy process such as ash (from combustion or gasification facilities) or digestate (from anaerobic digestion) must be tested before disposal or reuse. If it is contaminated, then it must be sent to a landfill that is specially designed and licenced to receive hazardous waste.

Controlling odour

To manage the smell of waste, most facilities have an enclosed area that stores rubbish under a negative pressure—this can prevent unpleasant smells from escaping into the surrounding environment.

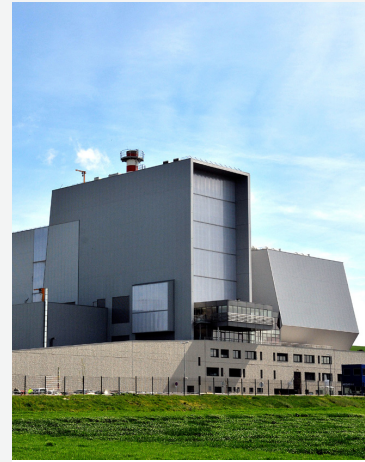
Waste to energy safety record

International experience has shown that well run, modern facilities (in the European Union) are capable of preventing impacts to human health and the environment. In Victoria, an independent literature review commissioned by EPA found that exposure to air emissions from modern facilities posed little potential health impacts or risk, noting there are few studies available. The objective of the literature review was to determine possible impacts on the health of residents living close to waste to energy facilities.

Similarly, in the UK, the Health Protection Agency (now Public Health England) produced a report

in 2010 on the impact on health of air emissions from combustion facilities.¹ The report states that modern, well-managed combustion facilities make only a very small contribution to local concentrations of air pollutants, and that "It is possible that such small additions could have an impact on health but such effects, if they exist, are likely to be very small and not detectable."

A recent study by Public Health England², found that particle levels caused by combustion facilities are extremely low, and could often not be distinguished from other background sources such as traffic.



¹ Maynard, R L et al. The impact on health of emissions to air from municipal waste incinerators. Health Protection Agency. 2010. [PDF file]

² Douglas, P et al. Estimating particulate exposure from modern municipal waste incinerators. 2017

More information

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 March 2020.



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8.3 Contract 2357 - Pruning and General Arboricultural Services

SUMMARY: Coordinator Active Open Space, Lara Wilson

This report considers and recommends that the lump sum and reactive components of Contract 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services are extended for the final year of the contract to enable ongoing service delivery.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approve the contract extension option for an additional one (1) year for the lump sum and reactive components of Contract 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services, generally in accordance with the Officer’s report; and**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or such person as the Chief Executive Officer selects) to notify the contractors of Council’s intention to exercise the extension option under Contract 2357, subject to mutual agreement, and execute all necessary documentation to give effect to the extension.**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Strategic Planning Committee resolved on 12 June 2018 to accept the tenders submitted by the Contractors below for lump sum and schedule of rates works to be carried out under Contract 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services, which commenced on 1 July 2018.

There are two components to Contract 2357. The first component is the lump sum component which relates to programmed tree inspection and maintenance to ensure compliance with electrical line clearance regulations and Council’s Road Management Plan. This component was awarded to the contractor below.

Type of Works	Contractor
Lump sum tender	Active Tree Services Pty Ltd
Proactive zone pruning component to comply with Electrical Safety (Line Clearance 2015) and Council’s Road Management Plan	

The second component of the contract is delivered under a schedule of rates and relates to reactive tree works arising from customer requests, internal asset inspection cycles and in house programs. The schedule of rates components were awarded to the contractors below.

Type of Works	Recommended Tenderer
Tree Pruning & Removal	R&J Stewart Travel Tower Hire Pty Ltd Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd Active Tree Services Pty Ltd

	<p>Batt Brothers Pty Ltd</p> <p>Falbury Pty Ltd as trustee for the KJ Wallace Discretionary Trust trading as ETS Vegetation Management (ETS)</p> <p>Vegetation Group Australia Pty Ltd</p>
<p>Tree Stump Removal</p> <p><i>*the majority of works are associated with tree removal undertaken by the Lump Sum and reactive tree removal service providers</i></p>	<p>Herbamac Pty Ltd</p> <p>R&J Stewart Travel Tower Hire Pty Ltd</p> <p>Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd</p> <p>Active Tree Services Pty Ltd</p> <p>Batt Brothers Pty Ltd</p> <p>Falbury Pty Ltd as trustee for the KJ Wallace Discretionary Trust trading as ETS Vegetation Management (ETS)</p> <p>Vegetation Group Australia Pty Ltd</p>
Pest Control (Elm Leaf Beetle)	Arborspray Pty Ltd
Tree Root Control	Just Roots Pty Ltd
Tree Report Writing/Inspections	ENSPEC Pty Ltd
<p>Afterhours</p> <p><i>*Is mandatory for the Lump Sum service provider</i></p>	<p>Active Tree Services Pty Ltd</p> <p>R&J Stewart Travel Tower Hire Pty Ltd</p> <p>Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd</p> <p>Batt Brothers Pty Ltd</p> <p>Falbury Pty Ltd as trustee for the KJ Wallace Discretionary Trust trading as ETS Vegetation Management (ETS)</p>
Disposal of Mulch	<p>Active Tree Services Pty Ltd</p> <p>R&J Stewart Travel Tower Hire Pty Ltd</p> <p>Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd</p> <p>Batt Brothers Pty Ltd</p> <p>Falbury Pty Ltd as trustee for the KJ Wallace Discretionary Trust trading as ETS Vegetation Management (ETS)</p> <p>Vegetation Group Australia Pty Ltd</p>

Whilst R & J Stewart Travel Tower Hire Pty Ltd ceased delivering works under the contract in 2019 all other contractors remain active under 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services.

The resolution at the Strategic Planning Meeting on 12 June provided extension options, however the resolution requires Council approval to grant the extensions.

2. DISCUSSION

The contractors delivering services under Contract 2357 – Pruning and General arboricultural Services have all delivered their respective services to a high standard over the life of the contract, despite challenges faced during the pandemic.

Each contractor's past performance has been considered under various criteria including value for money, occupational health and safety, quality of service and community relations to determine whether the contract extension option should be recommended to Council.

All contractors have delivered a high level of service to Council, ensuring that Knox maintains its leafy green image and that Council's tree assets are managed to the highest standard.

3. CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred during the existing contract period with stakeholders including the current contract officer, relevant Council staff and with the contractors on the contract. All consultations have been positive towards the contract performance.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

The services delivered under Contract 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services are key in preserving and enhancing canopy cover throughout the municipality. Specifically, trees;

- Improve mental, spiritual and physical health;
- Maintain air quality, by absorbing pollutant gases and providing oxygen;
- Help prevent water pollution by filtering toxins in their root system;
- Provide shade from the sun and cool streets;
- Reduce noise;
- Absorb carbon dioxide as they grow and store carbon;
- Reduce wind speeds and cool air as they lose moisture;
- Reduce flooding and soil erosion;
- Provide urban character by beautifying the area and strengthening communities;
- Compete with other assets for space;
- Pose potential fire/safety hazards;
- Host birds, bees, insects, lichen fungi, etc. and provide cover for animals

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The contractor providing the lump sum component of this contract has requested a price increase as is allowable under the contract conditions. Revised contractor rates have been market assessed, are considered competitive and provide good value for money for Council.

Officers will work closely with all contractors to ensure an appropriate level of maintenance can be achieved within the parameters of the 2021/22 budget allocations.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

See 4. Environmental/Amenity Issues.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 1 - We value our natural and built environment

Strategy 1.1 - Protect and enhance our natural environment

Strategy 1.2 - Create a greener city with more large trees, indigenous flora and fauna

Goal 4 - We are safe and secure

Strategy 4.3 - Maintain and manage the safety of the natural and built environment

Strategy 4.4 - Protect and promote public health, safety and amenity

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

Following a review of the performance of Contract 2357 - Pruning and Arboricultural Services and the current panel of contractors, it was determined that:

- The existing contract conditions are meeting Council's requirements;
- Contractors are meeting and exceeding Council expectations in the delivery of works; and
- Revised contractor rates have been market assessed, are considered market competitive and provide good value for money.

It is therefore recommended that Council exercise its option under Contract 2357 – Pruning and General Arboricultural Services to extend the contract for its final year. The contract will be complete on 1 July 2022.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Coordinator Active Open Space, Lara Wilson

Report Authorised By: Director, Infrastructure, Grant Thorne

Attachments

Nil

8.4 Contract 2812 - 2021-2022 Road Renewal Construction Package

SUMMARY: Coordinator Project Delivery – Community Infrastructure, Hans Pelgrim

This report considers and recommends the appointment of a tenderer for Contract 2812 – Road Renewal Construction Program 2021-22.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Accepts the tender submitted by Etheredge Mintern Pty Ltd for the Lump Sum Price of \$2,016,517.36 including GST (\$1,833,197.60 excl. GST) for Contract 2812 – Road Renewal Construction Program 2021-22, subject to the approval of the Annual Budget 2021-22;**
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute all necessary contract documentation to give effect to Council’s decision; and**
- 3. Advises all tenderers accordingly.**

1. INTRODUCTION

This report considers the tender submissions, under conditions of Contract 2812, and recommends the appointment of a tenderer to perform works for the 2021/2022 Road Renewal Construction Program, subject to Budget approval.

To provide for the timely and efficient delivery of the identified road renewal projects, several road renewal projects identified for delivery as part of the 2021/22 Road Renewal Program have been grouped together to form a single contract. This approach in recent years has demonstrated to provide economy of scale and a more seamless and flowing construction program.

This contract comprises the following projects identified for construction within the 2021/2022 Capital Works Program budget for Program 1001 – Road Sub-structure and Kerb & Channel program detailed below:

- A. Project No. 1228, Malvern Street, Edelmaier St to Scoresby Rd, Bayswater;
- B. Project No. 1230, Wanaka Close, Rowville;
- C. Project No. 1231, Winnifred Crescent, Allister Close to Christie Close, Knoxfield;
- D. Project No. 1428, Violen Court, Bayswater;
- E. Project No. 1429, Edinburgh Road, Boronia Rd to The Haven, Boronia & Project No. 1430, Wilhelma Avenie, The Haven to Scoresby Road, Boronia;
- F. Project No. 1431, Manuka Drive, Park Blvd to Western Road, Ferntree Gully;
- G. Project No. 1432, Murene Court, Boronia; and
- H. Project No. 1229, Sullivan Court, Wantirna

It is recommended that this contract be awarded as a single Lump Sum contract.

2. DISCUSSION

The objective of this program for each of the projects is to rehabilitate the road pavement and renew kerb and channel along with associated works, and to ensure that works are carried out to accord with Council’s engineering design standards.

2.1 Tender Assessment

The contract was advertised in The Age on Saturday 17 and 24 April 2021, as a Lump Sum, Quality Assured contract.

Seven tenderers submitted tenders electronically via Council's e-tendering portal.

Tenderers were received from the following contractors:

Etheredge Mintern Pty Ltd
Parkinson Group (Vic) Pty Ltd
J & R Earthworks
Prestige Paving Pty Ltd
JNR Civil Pty Ltd
CDN Constructors Pty Ltd
Bildinfrastructure Pty Ltd

2.2 Tender Evaluation Results

Tender submissions were analyzed in detail and assessed against the established tender criteria of:

- Submitted Price to undertake the works,
- Evidence of relevant demonstrated experience, capability, supervision required and past quality of road renewal works,
- Traffic management,
- Contract components:
 - submitted works program,
 - tender conditions,
 - use of local suppliers and recycled content,
 - Resources available to undertake the works,
- Local, social and environmental considerations,
- Integrated management system – Quality, environmental and safety.

Based on the tender assessment, the tender submitted by Etheredge Mintern Pty Ltd for the price of \$2,016,517.36 including GST (\$1,833,197.60 excl. GST) offers the best value for money to Council in completing these works. It is recommended that this tender be accepted for Contract No. 2812 – Road Renewal Construction Program 2021/2022.

3. CONSULTATION

Residents along each of the streets will be advised by Council of the impending works and the appointment of the contractor via a letter drop once approval for an appointment is confirmed. The contractor will also be required to do a more detailed letter drop to the residents advising residents of more specific project works timing and contact details.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

The nominated project sites do not adjoin a sensitive vegetation zone but contain tree assets adjacent to the road. This was taken into account, with no adverse impact expected.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The projected project costs and funds available for this project are summarized as follows:

Projected Costs

<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost (excluding GST)</u>
Contract Lump Sum Price	\$1,833,197.60
Project Management Fees	\$55,000.00
Advertising and Tender Documentation	\$2,500.00
Contingencies	<u>\$209,302.40</u>
Total Estimated Project Costs	\$2,100,000.00

Funds available

Based on the allocated funding within for the draft 2021/2022 Capital Works Program – 1001 Road Sub-Structure and Kerb and Channel (Construction) Program, subject to Budget approval, the total funding available adequately meets the contract sum of the preferred tenderer, plus associated costs, if the works are awarded under the terms of Contract No. 2812.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This project will have social implications during construction in terms of temporary inconvenience and access restrictions for abutting residents and local traffic. All tenderers were to demonstrate an ability to manage these interruptions and have shown systems and experience to be able to manage these implications in a satisfactory manner and be pro-active in their response to public relations.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 1 - We value our natural and built environment

Strategy 1.3 – Ensure the Knox local character is protected and enhanced through the design and location or urban development and infrastructure.

Goal 3 - We can move around easily

Strategy 3.1 - Enable improved transport choices supported by integrated and sustainable transport systems and infrastructure

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The tender representing best value for Contract No. 2812 – Road Renewal Construction Program 2021/2022 was presented by Etheredge Minter Pty Ltd for the lump sum price of \$2,016,517.36 including GST (\$1,833,197.60 excluding GST).

The company is adequately resourced and available to successfully undertake this contract within the constraints of time, quality and cost as detailed in the contract documentation.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Attachment 1 is included in the confidential agenda, having been declared confidential information pursuant to Section 77(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989, as the information relates to:

Private commercial information, that if released, would unreasonably expose tenderers to disadvantage because it would release financial information about the business that is not generally available to their competitors [other reasons may be available];

- Confidential information is contained in the attachments in the confidential agenda, in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, as the information relates to contractual matters; and premature disclosure of the information could be prejudicial to the interests of Council or other persons.

Report Prepared By: Coordinator Project Delivery – Community Infrastructure, Hans Pelgrim

Report Authorised By: Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne

Attachments

Confidential Attachment 1 has been circulated under separate cover

9 Connected Communities Officers' Reports for consideration

9.1 Bayswater Multipurpose Hub Investigation

SUMMARY: Coordinator Community Planning and Places, Linda Merlino

In 2010, Knox City Council undertook a needs analysis of services in Bayswater that identified the requirement for a high-quality, multipurpose community hub (the "Hub") in the Bayswater Activity Centre. In particular, the results identified the need for a variety of safe, accessible community meeting spaces, specifically those that service youth and older people, with the opportunity of co-locating with other services such as a kindergarten and the Bayswater Library. This report was recently reviewed, updated and endorsed by Council in September 2020.

The Pine Road Carpark site was identified as the preferred site to investigate for the Hub. However, Council resolved to include the site at 750 Mountain Highway to be investigated in addition. Budget was not allocated to these more extensive investigations, which conceptually, are complex to compare. It is, therefore, recommended to remove a site from further investigation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve, notwithstanding the decision of 21 September 2020 to:

- 1. Proceed with the investigation into the Pine Road carpark (46 Station Street and 15 High Street Bayswater), as a potential location for a Multipurpose Hub in Bayswater.**
- 2. Not proceed with further investigation into 750 Mountain Highway, Bayswater.**

1. INTRODUCTION

In 2019, City Futures undertook a study of Council's assets to research and assess strategic leveraging and "wealth building" potential. As part of this work, a further investigation of five Council owned sites in the Bayswater Activity Centre was undertaken with particular focus on finding the best location/site for the Hub.

In the existing financial year (2020/2021), there is budget allocated in the Capital Works Program to undertake scoping/concept plans for the Bayswater Multipurpose Hub.

2. DISCUSSION

Investigation into the highest and best use for five Council owned sites in the Bayswater Activity Centre included calculating the residual land value (market value proxy) as well as considering environmental and economic factors. These sites are currently used mostly as carparks, open space or are vacant and have potential to leverage greater financial and social value for the community through uses, such as housing, retail, offices or a multipurpose community facility. The five sites assessed were:

1. Valentine Street Carpark – 5A James Street;
2. James Street Carpark – 3 Railway Parade;
3. 750 Mountain Highway;

4. Pine Road Carpark – 15 High Street & 46 Station Street; and
5. Former Bayswater Youth Hall – 58 Station Street.

Of the five sites assessed, the Pine Road Carpark and 750 Mountain Highway were subject to specific attention. Pine Road was identified as the leading site for a community facility investment due to having the highest value score and 750 Mountain Highway was chosen as per Councillor request.

In comparing the two sites, criteria was used to rate each site such as:

- Highest and best use, i.e., joint venture partnerships/alternative capital raising.
- Residual Land Value.
- Bayswater Multipurpose Community Hub Needs Analysis.
- Access – pedestrian and vehicle.
- Construction costs.

Ultimately, Pine Road Carpark scored as the more favourable of the two sites to accommodate a new multipurpose community facility, including residential, retail and commercial uses that could reduce the cost to Council.

Undertaking the further investigations and preparing concept plans for the two sites will not be a like-for-like exercise and will not produce comparable results. Each site has different constraints and complexities, and the two sites have vastly differing development models, with the Pine Road Carpark having the potential to utilise a joint venture development model and, therefore, reducing the cost to Council and leveraging additional benefits for the activity centre.

Essentially, the Pine Road Carpark is less constrained, has vehicle access and car parking, has a high return on investment and excellent integration with the rest of the Bayswater Activity Centre, such as the shopping centre and train station. The site at 750 Mountain Highway is an established feature to the new Bayswater Station, contributing to open space in the centre including, with the risk of the much-loved artwork and DDA pedestrian connection to Mountain Highway and the Shopping Centre all potentially compromised.

At the September 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council, Officers presented the Bayswater Multipurpose Community Hub Needs Analysis 2020 Review Report for adoption. The Council officer recommendation was as follows:

“RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse the Bayswater Multipurpose Community Hub Needs Analysis 2020 Review Report.”

The following alternate recommendation was tabled:

“That Council:

1. Endorse the Bayswater Multipurpose Community Hub Needs Analysis 2020 Review Report.
2. The site at the corner of Mountain Highway and Station Street (750 Mountain Highway) be included in the concept design work for a Community Facility along with the Pine Road Carpark site.

CARRIED”

While noting Council has made a resolution to progress the investigations and concept designs, the decision occurred via an alternate motion with limited capacity for the full implications to be canvassed with Council.

In the existing financial year (2020/2021) there is budget allocated in the Capital Works Program to undertake scoping and concept plans. This would allow for investigation into multiple conceptual models at the Pine Road Carpark. There are numerous opportunities at Pine Road Carpark given its larger capacity and zoning options. To investigate two sites would limit the plans to basic block concept plans for the two sites and wouldn't allow multiple models for each site.

3. CONSULTATION

A number of Council Departments have contributed to the background studies, including Community Wellbeing, Family and Children's Services, Community Access and Support, Sustainable Infrastructure, and Active and Creative Communities.

City Futures have begun the process of updating/recreating the "Bayswater Activity Centre Structure Plan". Like the existing plan, the document will contain initiatives to improve land use mix, built form, accessibility, public open space and the wellbeing of the Bayswater community.

As the Hub project progresses, community consultation will be undertaken in concurrence with City Futures timeframes where possible.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

Leveraging a Council-owned site will result in positive environmental and amenity impacts for the community. This is likely to be the result of improved access, better technology available in upgraded facilities, and energy efficiencies. A hub in the heart of an activity centre has the potential to bring a high sense of community pride and high-use.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

With key strategic assets in the Bayswater Activity Centre, Council has the potential to realise significant financial and economic benefits including revenue generation, a cost-effective multipurpose community facility, and improved economic impacts for the community.

To undertake concept plans for both sites using the existing budget presents the following options:

- Reduce the models for Pine Road Carpark to one; and
- Provide further budget for concepts for multiple models on both sites.

Each site has its own complexities and constraints requiring separate reporting such as service location, site surveys, arborist reports, traffic reports, etc.

The design and construction of the Hub is in the long-term capital works plan beginning in the 2026/2027 financial year.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed Hub is envisaged to facilitate community group access to service, meeting and activity spaces, and encourage programming of activities and services which respond to significant

social drivers including social isolation and socio-economic disadvantage, fostering community gathering and connections. The envisioned new community hub will be a flexible, multi-purpose centre which will fulfil the unique characteristics and needs of the Bayswater community including opportunities for volunteering, youth engagement, social inclusion for older people and lifelong learning. The Hub will be used by all facets of the community.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 5 - We have a strong regional economy, local employment and learning opportunities

Strategy 5.2 - Plan for a range of key strategic centres that provide a diversity of employment, services and amenities to support the changing needs of our community

Strategy 5.4 - Increase and strengthen local opportunities for lifelong learning, formal education pathways and skills development to improve economic capacity of the community

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

Goal 7 - We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity

Strategy 7.2 - Celebrate our diverse community

Strategy 7.3 - Strengthen community connections

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

In accordance with officer investigation, the existing budget for concept plans and the required modelling, it is recommended that 750 Mountain Highway be dropped and the full investigation for the Bayswater Multipurpose Hub be undertaken at the Pine Road Car Park.

Subject to Council approval, the following is proposed to be undertaken:

- Officers will commission concept plans for the preferred site(s) by end of year (pending reporting timeframes);
- Concept plans will be presented to Council for consideration;
- Community consultation on the site with concept plans/proposed Hub will be undertaken by early 2022; and
- A formal decision by Council on the proposed location and Hub design will be made in 2022, considering operational requirements, EFT and building design.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Coordinator Community Planning and Places, Linda Merlino

Report Authorised By: Director Connected Communities, Tanya Scicluna

Attachments

Nil

9.2 Funding Outcomes - Supporting Local Services and Hot Meals Grant Programs

SUMMARY: Coordinator Health Planning and Liveability, Raini Nailer and Coordinator Community Partnerships, Saskia Weerheim

In May 2020, Council endorsed the COVID-19 Pandemic Stage 2 Community and Business Support Package. This Package was developed in response to emerging social challenges as identified by local community and not-for profit organisations. The Package comprised 13 initiatives, two of which were the Supporting Local Services Fund and the Hot Meals for Vulnerable Families Grant. These grants were created to respond specifically to increasing demands on community services and to address the rising levels of food insecurity in our community.

Both grant streams provided one-off funding to organisations to support community needs and are already showing great social and wellbeing outcomes in our community. Both funding streams were fully subscribed and no further applications are being accepted. The funded projects are currently operating to support the community with ongoing support from Council officers. It is expected that all funded projects will be completed by October 2021.

This report outlines the successful applications for both streams of funding as well as some interim outcomes of the funded projects. A complete evaluation and acquittal process will be undertaken at the conclusion of the funding period, with a further report prepared for Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the impact and outcomes of the funding allocation under the two community-focused COVID-19 Pandemic response grants, Supporting Local Services Fund and Hot Meals for Vulnerable Families.

1. INTRODUCTION

In response to the evolving impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the COVID-19 Pandemic Stage 2 Community and Business Support Package was developed to address the social and economic ramifications of the closure of workplaces and the cessation of services provided across the municipality. The Package comprised a range of initiatives identified by both the Community Wellbeing and City Futures Departments and focused on providing relief and recovery for local community organisations, local service providers and local business operators. In some cases, these initiatives were complementary to Federal and State Government initiatives, and in others they responded to the gaps and lack of funding at the local level and are based on feedback from local relief agencies, community groups and businesses.

The measures responded to a very real crisis that has played out in our community and the hardships that Knox residents have experienced since Council approved the Package at the May 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council. From a social and health perspective, residents have been grappling with financial insecurity, housing stress, escalating mental health illness, family violence, social isolation and computer access and literacy.

This report provides Council with the outcomes of the community-focused grant allocation. The impact of these grants will be measured and evaluated over time and a further report will be prepared for Council once the funded programs conclude.

2. DISCUSSION

During the COVID-19 Pandemic lockdown many community members lost their employment and/or experienced changes in their lives and routines that were beyond their control. More people turned to community services for relief and assistance as a way to cope in the new context, with many seeking support for the first time.

In response, Council's COVID-19 Pandemic Stage 2 Community and Business Support Package included two new grant streams to support this unprecedented community demand. These one-off grants supplied a total of \$515,000 to community organisations supporting the Knox community, with \$200,000 allocated for the Supporting Local Services Fund and \$315,000 allocated to the Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families Grant.

The purpose of the grants was to provide support to community and service organisations who were serving the community on the front-line and were inundated by the increased demand and challenged in operation by State Government restrictions.

2.1 Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families Grant

The Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families Grant was a one-off allocation of funding made available to support local service providers to increase hot and frozen meals and food parcels for Knox residents during, and into the recovery period, of COVID-19 Pandemic. The funds were allocated in an uncontested and contested stream to applicable Knox community agencies:

2.1.1 Uncontested

Foothills Community Care Inc. (Foothills) and St Paul's Church of Boronia (St Paul's) and its affiliated churches (Hope Christian Church, Waverley; Waverley Christian College, Wantirna South; St Joseph's Catholic Church, Boronia; and Knox Community Baptist Church, Boronia) remained the only agencies to continue to operate under the strictest COVID restrictions, and for this reason were chosen as partners for the uncontested grant.

Foothills, who are a large agency were provided with \$155,800 to scale up their food operations, whilst St Paul's and partners (a much smaller operation) accepted a smaller amount than offered (\$28,212) to help them maintain business as usual. In keeping with the unpredictable and changing times, the service agreements offered to these agencies were flexible allowing for budgets to be reallocated or scaled up in the case of St Paul's.

The needs and performance of these organisations are being evaluated and paid quarterly to respond to changing COVID situations and community needs.

2.1.2 Contested

Established food relief providers servicing Knox, were invited to apply for support from the contested stream before 23 September 2020. Twelve applications were received from emergency relief providers including: Church of Christ Boronia (two applications), Temple Society, Rowville Lions Club, City Life Community Care, Hari Krishna Fries, Shree Swaminarayan Temple,

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) – Wantirna, Ferntree Gully, Rowville Lysterfield (three applications as encouraged by the COVID Supporting Local Services Panel), Wellington Care Centre and Mental Health Foundation Australia. Ten of these applications were granted. The

grant applications for this stream amounted to \$48,087.40 in value, with a total of \$50,500 set aside for this grant stream.

The successful applicants and projects are detailed in Attachment 1 – Contested and Uncontested Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families Grant 2020 Outcomes.

2.2 Supporting Local Services Fund

The COVID-19 Pandemic Supporting Local Services Fund was a one-off allocation of \$200,000 to support local service providers, based in Knox, or providing services and support to Knox residents. The Fund assisted not-for-profit community organisations to address local community priorities that arose as a result of COVID-19 Pandemic. The priority areas that were addressed through this Fund included:

- Homelessness and lack of crisis accommodation;
- Housing stress;
- Mental health;
- Food insecurity;
- Family violence;
- Technology issues including technology literacy;
- Financial counselling; and
- Social isolation.

In addition to addressing one or more of the listed priority areas, applicant organisations were also required to demonstrate either an increase in demand for their services due to the Pandemic, or a need to adapt their service delivery model to meet community need.

A total of 35 grant applications were received for the Supporting Local Services Grant with a total of 13 grants awarded to 12 organisations. The remainder of the applications were more suited for other Council grant programs with: twelve referred to Council's Business Support Grants; two referred to Council's Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families; and eight referred to Council's Minor Grants Program.

A total of \$199,999.68 was distributed. The successful applicants and projects are detailed in Attachment 2 – Supporting Local Services Funding Outcomes 2021.

2.3 Outcomes

Whilst acquittal documents and reporting are not yet due for either stream of funding, early indications of the impact of these grants has been reported to Council by the funded agencies.

Within the Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families stream, some funded organisations have reported the estimated number of meals and hampers they have already provided to the Knox community. In the contested stream for those organisations sharing their data (five organisations) more than an estimated 5,500 meals and 300 hampers were provided to the community in the first three-month period. While organisations that received funding in the uncontested grant stream have provided approximately 7,715 meals in the first quarter of their funding period.

At such a rate, it is expected that around 53,000 meals and 1,600 additional hampers could be delivered to the community over the entire funding period (one year). More accurate data will be provided once official acquittal and reporting commences in October 2021. Most importantly, no Knox funded agency has turned people in need away in the first quarter due to shortage.

Similarly, feedback provided by Supporting Local Services Fund grant recipients indicates the expected impact this funding will have in the community. Some feedback is included as follows:

- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Ferntree Gully Conference, passed on their thanks to Council for supporting their work to deliver food hampers to the most vulnerable in the community of Ferntree Gully. The local conference confirmed that the 2020 Christmas Hampers were delivered to approximately 65 families in Ferntree Gully;
- Anchor told Officers that they are so appreciative of the support as they had 252 people living in motels at the time; and
- Rotary Club of Knox were grateful for Council's support for their work with individuals who were in need of extra mental health help and said:

“Please accept our gratitude and appreciation for having faith in us to deliver a much-needed service to the residents of Knox who are doing it tough as they battle COVID-19 Pandemic and all the uncertainties it has brought to our lives.”

3. CONSULTATION

Extensive engagement was undertaken with local community organisations and service providers at the beginning of the pandemic and throughout the remainder of the year. This engagement assisted Council in understanding the current and expected needs of local not-for-profit organisations, the community they service and the demands on their services, which informed the need for the two community-focused grant streams. The need for these streams of grant funding was assessed via community organisational connections at the beginning of the pandemic period. The Community Wellbeing Department reached out to all known contacts and service providers to understand their current needs and demands on their services. This consultation informed the need and set up of these two grant streams.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

There are no environmental or amenity issues associated with this report.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The total allocation of funding for the two grant programs was \$515,000. However, the expected social benefits outweigh the value of committed revenue as discussed in Section 6.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The social implications arising from the allocation of these will be significant. It is noted that the impact of these grants is being monitored and will be evaluated as the funds are expended to support the Knox community. As well as evaluating the projects, organisations will be required to complete a financial acquittal.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.1 - Mitigate lifestyle risks such as smoking, risky alcohol consumption and drug use, obesity, lack of physical activity and poor nutrition

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

Goal 7 - We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity

Strategy 7.3 - Strengthen community connections

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.2 - Enable the community to participate in a wide range of engagement activities

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The community-focused COVID-19 Pandemic grants were an important part of Council's response to the pandemic and the anticipated effects on the Knox community. Through these grants, Council has provided support to organisations who were serving the community on the front-line, whilst contending with increases in demand or a need to change their service delivery model to comply with restrictions. Initial data indicates that these grants have made an impact in the local community, but further evaluation will be undertaken at the conclusion of the projects with the findings presented to Council at a future date.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report prepared by: Coordinator Health Planning and Liveability, Raini Nailer and
Coordinator Community Partnerships, Saskia Weerheim

Report Authorised by: Director, Connected Communities, Tanya Scicluna

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Contested and Uncontested Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable [9.2.1 - 3 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Supporting Local Services Funding Outcomes [9.2.2 - 4 pages]

Attachment 1

Hot Meals Program for Vulnerable Families Grant 2020 Outcomes

Uncontested Stream			
Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
Foothills Community Care Inc.	To provide hot, frozen meals, pantry items, personal care packages and Pay It Forward vouchers to the Knox Community.	\$155,800	Being paid quarterly according to need, up to \$38,950
St Pauls Anglican Church Boronia	To provide hot, frozen meals, pantry items, personal care packages and Pay It Forward vouchers to the Knox Community.	\$28,212 (reduction in agreed funds requested)	Being paid quarterly according to need, up to \$7,053
Total		\$184,012	\$46,003

Contested Stream			
Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
Church of Christ Boronia	Expand the provision of hot meals from The Hub cafe take-away meals (Thursdays and Sundays) and free Community Meals (1st and 3rd Mondays).	\$5,000	\$5,000
Shree Swaminarayan Temple	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnered with Knox InfoLink to serve the local Knox residents under their Emergency Relief Support Services Extend current services which prepare and distribute hot meals (Vegetarian and Vegan) from their premises and also deliver all over Knox. They have provided hot meals to the Ferntree Gully Foothills team and would be more than happy to join hands with other organisations in Knox as required to deliver the program. Also have been providing food packages. 	\$5,000	\$5,000
Temple Society	CHAMPION is currently feeding over 300 Knox residents every month. The grant will go towards purchase pantry supplies of essential items from Foodbank Victoria, to continue to feed the people we are currently helping, as well as have enough food for the anticipated influx of new clients.	\$4,230	\$3,920

Attachment 1

Contested Stream (cont'd)			
Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
CityLife Community Care	Due to COVID CityLife moved to providing frozen meals for families and individuals as part of pre-packed food parcels, along with fresh produce. They have formed a partnership with a local cafe owner who has agreed to make healthy and economical meals for us which can be frozen and given out to those in need. CityLife anticipate they will need at least 100 meals per week (based on what they are giving out each week).	\$5,000	\$5,000
ADRA- Wantirna	Require more food and essential items for care packages which can't be met by current partners: Foodbank and Secondbite. There is a shortage across all food rescue agencies and ADRA need to meet the demand asap. All centres support people in need with food deliveries to over 150 people every week at a cost of \$195,000 per annum.	\$5,000	\$5,000
ADRA- Ferntree Gully	Require more food and essential items for care packages which can't be met by current partners: Foodbank and Secondbite. There is a shortage across all food rescue agencies and ADRA need to meet the demand asap. All centres support people in need with food deliveries to over 150 people every week at a cost of \$195,000 per annum.	\$5,000	\$5,000
ADRA- Rowville/Lysterfield	Require more food and essential items for care packages which can't be met by current partners: Foodbank and Secondbite. There is a shortage across all food rescue agencies and ADRA need to meet the demand asap. All centres support people in need with food deliveries to over 150 people every week at a cost of \$195,000 per annum.	\$5,000	\$5,000
Mental Health Foundation Australia	MHFA has been delivering approximately 500-700 meals per day to those requiring support. Working with: Salvation Army, DHHS, Australian Multicultural Foundation and the Federation of Indian Associations of Victoria. The MHFA has delivered over 30,000 meals thus far. They are also working in partnership with Nirankari Mission in Knox (Rowville). Meals are being delivered in a refrigerated van and cooked by MHFA volunteers at the commercial kitchen of Imperial College in South Oakleigh.	\$5,000	\$2,000

Attachment 1

Contested Stream			
Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
Wellington Care Centre	Expanded to now provide a delivery service to Knox residents who are unable to leave their homes due to age, health or transportation reasons. Individuals receiving parcels have been referred through their service and the individual provide a list of specific items they require each week, which are then delivered to them.	\$2,400	\$2,400
Church of Christ Boronia	Expand the Community Meals to reach the Bayswater community by starting a free Community Meals program on Fridays from their Bayswater church.	\$5,000	\$5,000
Totals		\$46,630	\$43,320

Hot Meals For Vulnerable Families (Contested and Uncontested) Grant Total	Amount Available	Amount Distributed
	\$315,000	\$227,332

Attachment 2

Supporting Local Services Grants Funding Outcomes

No.	Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
1	Anchor	Funding provided for a regional response and collaboration between Anchor, The Salvation Army, Box Hill Institute (BHI) Lakeside Campus and all members of Melbourne's Eastern Region HEART (Housing and Emergency Accommodation Response Team) in response to the alarming increase of families experiencing housing crisis during the pandemic. Priority for this program was given to families with young children who were home-schooling, with families being placed in safer crisis accommodation options with intensive support provided.	\$16,200.00	\$16,200.00
2	Bridges Connecting Communities	COVID 19 has highlighted the need for an alternative communication channel with Bridges creating a digital communication and learning strategy. A key deliverable of the strategy was to provide a communication and learning platform for social interaction and communications with volunteers. The funding provided by Council will allow for the recruitment of a part-time digital literacy trainer, which is the first step in the implementation of their new digital strategy. Having a dedicated digital literacy trainer within Bridges will allow them to start working with their clients to improve their digital literacy.	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00
3	Different Journeys auspiced by Interchange Outer East	This project aims to reconnect the autism community through online social inclusion events to help overcome crippling isolation, build confidence and develop independence. Different Journeys will deliver 11 online sessions – 6 for adults and 5 for all ages, over an eleven week period, using a youth specific organisation called The Misfit Project (who employ autistic young people to co-facilitate every session) to facilitate the online events with Different Journeys.	\$4,990.68	\$4,990.68

Attachment 2

No.	Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
4	Hands Off Foundation	Since the introduction of pandemic restrictions, the Hands Off Foundation experienced an increase in requests for help from survivors of sexual assault and/or family violence. The Hands Off Foundation project aims to increase social inclusion for survivors of sexual assault or family violence in the local Knox community. This will be done through the provision of funding (in the form of vouchers) for activities that increase social interaction as well as for items such as new clothing; petrol/transport; and other items to enable social participation.	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
5	Knox Infolink	The Knox Community Christmas Support project has been a long standing support for families in financial and emotional crisis, providing a Christmas Hamper and toys to approximately 1,000 Knox residents each year. Unfortunately, with the COVID 19 crisis, the capacity to fundraise was severely affected. The funding provided by Council supported Knox Infolink with additional food and gifts for the hampers, allowing them to respond to an expected increase in demand due to the pandemic.	\$35,000.00	\$6,000.00
6	Knox Opportunity Shop Bayswater Inc	The Knox Opportunity Shop in Bayswater was established to support the needs of vulnerable Knox residents with all profits going to the Knox Welfare Fund (an independent community fund that supports a number of local charities through an annual grant program). The Op Shop provides community connection and support for those who are disadvantaged or at risk of social isolation. It has faced challenges as pandemic restriction eased, with the need for them to comply with new COVID safe regulations. Funding was allocated as a contribution to the retail space to ensure COVID-safe operations that will benefit both volunteers and customers, and in recognition of the Op Shop's ongoing support of the Knox Welfare Fund.	\$21,899.00	\$6,400.00

Attachment 2

No.	Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
7	Orana Neighbourhood House (on behalf of Knox Learning Alliance comprising the five Knox neighbourhood houses)	The partner organisations experienced an urgent need to adapt their delivery models to meet the needs of the community. The funded project will benefit several thousand Knox Learning Alliance and Volunteer for Knox participants by creating a range of flexible options for engaging in social, recreational and volunteering activities alongside a strategy to increase participant's digital skills through a range of methods.	\$54,143.00	\$54,143.00
8	Relationships Australia Victoria	Funding was provided to Relationships Australia to offer online family violence and mental health support to the Knox community. The first aspect of this project was to support moving their Men's Behaviour Change Programs online (a program for men wanting to end their use of controlling and abusive behaviours including violent incidents, and other problematic behaviour in their relationships). The second aspect of this project was to support the Boronia office to provide counselling services online.	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
9	ROBWC Inc (formerly known as Reaching Out Because We Can Inc.)	ROBWC aims to make a house a home for people escaping family violence or homelessness. They do this through the provision of basic household item packs. ROBWC saw an increased need in the Knox area during the pandemic, for both people escaping family violence and homelessness, and they have not been able to meet the increased demand. This funding will provide 30 new fridges and 30 washing machines to people in need, who are establishing a new home.	\$32,580.00	\$32,580.00
10	Rotary Club of Knox	Rotary Club of Knox was funded to assist disadvantaged Knox residents needing additional counselling over and above what is covered by Medicare rebates under the mental health system. Funding will be utilised for a qualified counsellor to provide additional counselling services for the Knox community.	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

Attachment 2

No.	Organisation	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Received
11	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continued to take calls and visit people in need in the Knox community throughout the pandemic. Due to the lockdowns, Society of St. Vincent de Paul had no income from its opportunity shops which put a strain on their finances. This project will assist the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to continue providing food hampers to those in need in the Knox community.	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
12	The Basin Community House	This project aims to improve community mental health by supporting people to reconnect via an online platform. This project will provide a safe online environment, with a qualified health facilitator, to address those barriers and to increase resilience in individuals so they gain confidence to connect socially in a digital world, as well as readying them to embrace face-to-face connections once restrictions are eased.	\$16,779.00	\$11,410.00
13	The Basin Community House	This project will offer pop up meals and demonstrations on how to cook rescued/donated food for vulnerable community members when they collect an emergency food hamper. Pop-up events will be offered to the community, in partnership with CHAMPION Community Hub (Temple Society) and Knox Infolink, and may also include community meals at the neighbourhood house to compliment the pop-ups.	\$10,276.00	\$10,276.00
Totals			\$251,867.68	\$199,999.68

9.3 Minor Grants Program 2020-21 Monthly Report

SUMMARY: Community Partnerships Officer, Deb Robert

This report summarises the grant applications recommended for approval in June 2021 for the Minor Grants Program. All applications have been assessed against the criteria set out in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Applications under the Minor Grants Policy are limited to a maximum of \$3,000 within the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve 12 applications for a total of \$25,523.40 as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Boronia Road Uniting Church	Replacement of old chairs	\$2,625.00	\$2,013.00
Days for Girls Ferntree Gully Chapter	Purchase of two heavy duty sewing machines	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Boronia Bayswater Community Church of Christ	Provision of meals for the vulnerable	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Lions Club of Rowville	Lions' logo winter jackets	\$750.00	\$750.00
Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Inc	Heating/Cooling Split System	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Templeton Cricket Club	Purchase of Square register and iPads for scoring	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
Flamingo Community Group	Replacement of puzzles	\$717.55	\$717.55
Fab Nobs Theatre Group	Theatre Speakers	\$2,958.00	\$2,259.00
Scoresby 55+ Social Circle	Laptop/Notebook	\$1,865.00	\$1,865.00
The Basin Theatre Group	Pump Replacement - Sewage Treatment Plant	\$1,562.00	\$1,562.00
Heany Park Scout Group	Tablets (iPads) for Terrain documentation	\$2,456.85	\$2,456.85
St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater	Food Hampers & Breakfast for Bayswater West Primary School families	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
TOTAL		\$26,384.40	\$25,073.40

2. Note the approval under delegation of one grant application for under \$500 in accordance with Clause 6.3 of the Minor Grants program policy as detailed below:

Applicant Name	Project Title	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group	Knitting for Charity (wool supplies)	\$450.00	\$450.00

3. Note that inclusive of all the above recommended grants totalling \$25,523.40, a total of \$179,680.46 has been awarded to date under the 2020-2021 Minor Grants Program supporting 78 local community-based organisations and their activities and programs.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Minor Grants Program provides a pool of grant funding that can respond on a monthly basis to requests for small amounts of funding to assist with short term, one-off projects or initiatives that are relatively minor in nature.

The objective of the Minor Grants Program is to be an accessible and responsive funding source to assist a wide range of community led activities across the municipality and support volunteer effort and civic participation.

It operates under the principles of other Knox Council grants programs to ensure:

- Funded projects will provide benefit to the Knox community and help meet Council objectives;
- Co-operation and collaboration between groups will be encouraged;
- The grant process will be consistent, equitable and transparent; and
- The grant process will support and strengthen community groups in developing local solutions to local needs.

Applications are assessed against criteria specified in the Minor Grants Program Policy (updated and approved in April 2020) to determine the eligibility of the applicant organisation and the eligibility of the grant application.

The Policy sets out an open and transparent grant program that meets the principles of good governance and is compliant with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

In accordance with the Policy, applications for funding have been assessed by the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, for Council's approval.

2. DISCUSSION

This report presents to Council the recommendations for recent Minor Grant applications in accordance with the Policy.

Thirteen complete grant applications were received since the Council meeting on 24 May, 2021 requesting grants totalling \$26,834.40.

Ten of the applicant groups are eligible for the grant amounts requested and have been recommended for funding to support a range of volunteer activity and service in the Knox community. One application was approved under delegation.

Two other applicant groups, Fab Nobs Theatre Group Inc and the Boronia Road Uniting Church, requested amounts that exceeded their grant limit for the current financial year. The approved amounts have been adjusted accordingly.

The application from St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater was initially assessed as ineligible in accordance with Clause 6.28 of the Minor Grants Program Policy, being for retrospective expenses incurred late in 2020. An exemption under Clause 7 – Crisis Response Provision for Minor Grants - is sought to waive Clause 6.28 in this instance, on the basis that the grant is to assist in costs of provision of food aid to families impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is of note that St Stephens did not receive its usual support from the Knox Community Welfare Fund due to diminished fundraising capacity in the pandemic.

It is evident that the Minor Grants Program will continue to be a valued support to community groups and local services recovering and reconnecting in the COVID Pandemic environment, as conventional fundraising and revenue streams continue to be impacted.

All application details are provided in Attachment 1.

3. CONSULTATION

Consultation is undertaken with organisations in relation to their grant applications whenever possible and if necessary, to clarify details regarding their applications prior to Council's consideration.

Advice or information may be sought from officers across Council in relation to either the applying organisation or the proposed project, or both, if considered necessary.

The Policy specifies assessment can occur by the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, and make recommendation for Council's determination.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

There are no environmental or amenity issues associated with this report.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The approval of Minor Grants is managed within Council's adopted budget. The 2020-2021 budget provides \$213,454 for the Minor Grants Program (comprising the annual allocation of \$148,500 plus an additional \$51,500.00 allocated through the COVID Community and Business Support Package and \$13,454 in unspent funds carried forward from the 2019/20 Minor Grants Program, as per the Minor Grants Policy).

Recommended applications for the June period total \$25,523.40. If approved as recommended, the remaining unspent Minor Grants budget for 2020-21 will total \$38,429.33 before GST adjustments.

In accordance with Clause 6.42 of the Minor Grants Program Policy, any unallocated funds at the conclusion of the current financial year will be carried forward and allocated to Council's Minor Grants Program for the following financial year.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Minor Grants Program allows Council to respond promptly to requests from Knox- based community groups for small amounts of funding to assist a variety of community-based programs, projects or activities. Council's Minor Grants are a simple and streamlined source of funding that can make a significant difference for local community organisations in need of short-term, specific purpose assistance.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.1 - Mitigate lifestyle risks such as smoking, risky alcohol consumption and drug use, obesity, lack of physical activity and poor nutrition

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

Goal 7 - We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity

Strategy 7.1 - Protect and preserve our local cultural heritage

Strategy 7.2 - Celebrate our diverse community

Strategy 7.3 - Strengthen community connections

Strategy 7.4 - Promote and celebrate the contribution of our volunteers

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

This report contains the recommendation for funding through the Minor Grants program.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There are no items of a confidential nature in this report.

Report Prepared By: Community Partnerships Officer, Deb Robert

Report Authorised By: Director, Connected Communities, Tanya Scicluna

Attachments

1. ATTACHMENT 1 - Minor Grants Applications - June - 2021-06-28 [9.3.1 - 74 pages]

Attachment 1

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021**Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020****Application 55- MGP - 2020-21 From St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater**

Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 3:34pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM**Minor Grants Information**

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category**Application Amount**

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details**Organisation Name ***

St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

e/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 55- MGP - 2020-21 From St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater
 Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 3:34pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

Address, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

52 909 810 905

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	52 909 810 905
Entity name	St Stephen's Anglican Church Bayswater
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Unincorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3153 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 4:00am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

Not applicable

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 55- MGP - 2020-21 From St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater
 Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 3:34pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Food Hampers for Bayswater West Primary School families and Bayswater South Primary School families plus food for 8 breakfasts for children at Bayswater West Primary School.

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

1. Purchase of 20 x \$50 gift cards for food (no cigarettes, alcohol or phone cards) from Coles or Woolworths and 20 x \$50 meat vouchers from Farmer Joe's in Boronia for 20 school families who find it difficult to find extra money at Christmas time and in the middle of the year.

2. Provide a breakfast each month for a class level at Bayswater West Primary School for children who come to school without having breakfast.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

The vouchers and gift cards provide food for families who are struggling due to lack of work caused by the covid-19 pandemic.

The breakfasts provide food for children who come to school hungry.

Project Start Date *

01/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

30/06/2022

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$2,250.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$2,250.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 55- MGP - 2020-21 From St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater
 Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 3:34pm AEST

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
20 x \$50 Coles or Woolworths gift cards (no cigarettes, alcohol or phone cards)	\$1,000.00
20 x \$50 meat vouchers from Farmer Joe's in Boronia.	\$1,000.00
Food for school breakfasts	\$250.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$2,250.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: QUOTE FOR GRANT.pdf

File size: 1.9 MB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: QUOTE FOR GRANT.pdf

File size: 1.9 MB

Evidence of Public Liability

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 55- MGP - 2020-21 From St Stephens Anglican Church Bayswater
Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 3:34pm AEST

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: INSURANCE AND RISK COVER.pdf
File size: 661.1 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

20/10/2021
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Outreach Coordinator and Parish Council member.

Declaration Date *

18/05/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 118- MGP - 2020-21 From Heany Park Scout Group
 Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 8:57pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Heany Park Scout Group

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 118- MGP - 2020-21 From Heany Park Scout Group
 Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 8:57pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

s.

Please provide your ABN

39 662 387 026

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	39 662 387 026
Entity name	The Scout Association Of Australia Victorian Branch
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3149 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 9:41am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Auspice Details**Auspice Organisation Name ***

The Scout Association of Australia, Victorian Branch

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 118- MGP - 2020-21 From Heany Park Scout Group
 Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 8:57pm AEST

Auspice ABN
 39 662 387 026

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	39 662 387 026
Entity name	The Scout Association Of Australia Victorian Branch
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3149 VIC

Information retrieved at 9:41am today

Must be an ABN.

Auspice Project Contact *

[REDACTED]

Auspice Position *

Executive Manager

Auspice Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

alian phone number.

Auspice Email *

[REDACTED]

Signature of auspice representative - permission required *

Filename: Auspice letter-kitchen.pdf

File size: 240.1 kB

Please upload signed declaration from auspice representative

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Tablets for section Terrain documentation

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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The Scouting Association has introduced an electronic way of tracking the youth members awards scheme. As such the availability of a tablet for each section would enable the Leaders & older youth

to document the milestones as they occur for each of the youth members.

As we have Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers at Heany Park scout group it would be ideal to have at least 3 tablets to document the youth members attendance and their progress through the Terrain program.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

By having the technology on hand we would be able to keep track of the members that have been at the groups activities and also their awards scheme as it happens.

This would keep the youth members engaged in the scouting process and encourage them to continue with the scouting movement, learning life skills and developing a community mindedness that would see them give back to the communities that they live in.

Project Start Date *

30/06/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

30/06/2022

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$2,456.85

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$2,456.85

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
3 x Apple ipad 32GB wifi /cellular	\$2,097.00
3 x Griffin survivor all terrain case for ipad	\$359.85

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	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$2,456.85

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: iPad quote.pdf

File size: 459.2 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: letter-of-incorporation-aug-2019.pdf

File size: 211.4 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: scouts-victoria-public-products-liability-coc-vmia-2020-2021.pdf

File size: 272.6 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/11/2021

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 118- MGP - 2020-21 From Heany Park Scout Group
Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 8:57pm AEST

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Grants co-ordinator

Declaration Date *

11/06/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 125- MGP - 2020-21 From Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group
 Form Submitted 13 May 2021, 10:33am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 125- MGP - 2020-21 From Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group
 Form Submitted 13 May 2021, 10:33am AEST

Contact Name

[Redacted]

Project Contact Address *

[Redacted]

Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[Redacted]

Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[Redacted]

phone number.

Email *

[Redacted]

Please provide your ABN

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	
Main business location	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? *

Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Auspice Details

Auspice Organisation Name *

Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation

Auspice ABN

67 990 548 408

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 125- MGP - 2020-21 From Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group
 Form Submitted 13 May 2021, 10:33am AEST

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	67 990 548 408
Entity name	Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Local Government Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3152 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 2:46am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

Auspice Project Contact *

[REDACTED]

Auspice Position *

Team Leader

Auspice Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

phone number.

Auspice Email *

[REDACTED]

Signature of auspice representative - permission required *

Filename: DOC120521.pdf

File size: 6.7 kB

Please upload signed declaration from auspice representative

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Knitting for Charity

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

Money to purchase yarn for the group. We donate items to the following charities. Angliss Hospital, Ferntree Gully Angliss Hospital auxiliary, Royal Children's Hospital auxiliaries,

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Ferntree Gully Friends of Red Cross, Wantirna Health Palliative Care & Geriatric Medicine Hospital, Menarock Life Sherbrooke aged care, Yooralla and Knit One Give One(KOGO).

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

The items produced by our group are donated to the local community and charities. Since 2015 we have donated 8333 items.

Project Start Date *

01/02/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

31/12/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$450.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$450.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
Knitting Yarn	\$450.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$450.00

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
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This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: Screenshot 2021-05-11 112014 Lyncraft.png
 File size: 384.8 kB

Filename: Screenshot 2021-05-11 112239 Spotlight.png
 File size: 79.9 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- **A project plan**
- **Evidence of Incorporation**

Attach relevant documentation:

No files have been uploaded

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation - Certificate of Currency Annual.pdf
 File size: 52.8 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/06/2021

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

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Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 125- MGP - 2020-21 From Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group
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Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Group Coordinator

Declaration Date *

13/05/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

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EFT PAYMENT CONSENT

*** indicates a required field**

Payment of Grant

Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer into the Organisation's bank account. Please provide details of the Organisation's bank account below.

Bank Account *

Account Name:

BSB Number:

Account Number:

Must be a valid Australian bank account format.

Contact Name *

[REDACTED]

Position *

Group Coordinator

Organisation *

Ferntree Gully Library Knitting for Charity Group

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Contact Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

alian phone number.

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Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
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Date *
13/05/2021
Must be a date.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 128- MGP - 2020-21 From The Basin Theatre Group
 Form Submitted 14 May 2021, 11:35am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

The Basin Theatre Group

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

te/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 128- MGP - 2020-21 From The Basin Theatre Group
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Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

te/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

12 396 788 687

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	12 396 788 687
Entity name	The Basin Theatre Group Inc
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3154 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 4:15am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

A0003379G

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 128- MGP - 2020-21 From The Basin Theatre Group
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PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Sewage Treatment Plant - Pump replacement

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

Our sewage treatment plant has two pumps which run side by side, one of the pumps was replaced in 2019. We have been advised by the maintenance contractor the second pump is no longer working and needs to be replaced. We are seeking the funds to fully fund or partially fund as we have not had any income the past 12 months.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

Community benefit is not direct; the treatment plant was implemented to keep the patrons and group members safe by avoiding the old style of septic sewage system, the theatre grounds are not on mains water. The seasonal use and disuse was problematic for septic sewage.

Project Start Date *

01/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

31/07/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$1,562.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$1,562.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure

\$

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Supply & Installation of new .75w single phase pump	\$1,562.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$1,562.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: QU000009891.pdf

File size: 1.3 MB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

No files have been uploaded

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Vital Pack Policy Schedule D251272-000.pdf

File size: 87.5 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

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Application 128- MGP - 2020-21 From The Basin Theatre Group
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30/04/2022
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Treasurer

Declaration Date *

14/05/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
 Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Scoresby 55+ Social Circle

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

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Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
 Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

Contact Name

[Redacted]

Project Contact Address *

[Redacted]

Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[Redacted]

Australian phone number.

Email *

[Redacted]

Please provide your ABN

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	
Main business location	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? *

Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Auspice Details

Auspice Organisation Name *

Rowville Neighbourhod Learning Centre

Auspice ABN

45 733 747 388

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
 Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	45 733 747 388
Entity name	Rowville Neighbourhood Learning Centre Inc.
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3178 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 9:40am yesterday</i>	

Must be an ABN.

Auspice Project Contact *

[REDACTED]

Auspice Position *

Manager

Auspice Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

an phone number.

Auspice Email *

[REDACTED]

Signature of auspice representative - permission required *

Filename: Auspice Application Declaration Form(1).pdf
 File size: 238.1 kB
 Please upload signed declaration from auspice representative

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Laptop/Notebook

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

A Laptop/Notebook, slimline lightweight to enable the Scoresby 55+ Social Circle's records to be kept in one place. Light and compact enough so that it can be taken to and from

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
 Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

meetings where registration of new and existing members can be completed.

Can also be used for Power Point presentations and to assist any members who wish to learn more about basic computer operation.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

Records are all in one place. At registration time when the majority of our members object to registering online, they can easily be registered at the meetings without the need for someone from Rowville Community Learning Center having to bring their laptop and spend one or two meetings registering everyone.

Peer support re technology. Entertainment and information presentations for the group.

Project Start Date *

01/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

01/09/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$1,865.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$1,865.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
Laptop,	\$1,399.00
Microsoft Office Home & Student	\$198.00
Belkin computerbag	\$50.00
Set-up cost	\$150.00
Laser Presentaton Remote	\$68.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
 Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$1,865.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: 20210518_141623.jpg

File size: 2.1 MB

Filename: 20210518_141655.jpg

File size: 1.9 MB

Filename: 20210518_142142.jpg

File size: 2.8 MB

Filename: doc00239520210603151821.pdf

File size: 129.8 kB

Filename: doc00239720210603154106.pdf

File size: 91.0 kB

Filename: Logitech R500 Laser Presentation Remote.docx

File size: 19.4 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

* indicates a required field

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

No files have been uploaded

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: RNLC Public Liability Insurance.pdf

File size: 284.8 kB

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 131- MGP - 2020-21 From Scoresby 55+ Social Circle
Form Submitted 7 Jun 2021, 11:15am AEST

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/06/2021

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Coordinator's Assistant

Declaration Date *

07/06/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
 Form Submitted 31 May 2021, 10:55am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Fab Nobs Theatre

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
 Form Submitted 31 May 2021, 10:55am AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Australian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

87 959 657 279

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	87 959 657 279
Entity name	Fab Nobs Theatre Inc.
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	No
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3136 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 1:32am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

AOO4347IT

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
 Form Submitted 31 May 2021, 10:55am AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

* indicates a required field

Request Details

Project Title *

Theatre Speakers

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

Currently our theatre company needs to hire front of house and stage foldback speakers each time we stage a show. These extremely heavy speakers need to be taken up and down on a ladder each time we open and close a show, concert, or other event. If we had our own speakers, not only would we avoid extra costs, we would also ensure a 'one off' installation of the speakers, which would ensure a safer work environment. We have also included the required cables in our request.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

Our venue and company is gaining a larger audience and clientele every year. Due to the commitment of our volunteer sound crew, our sound quality for every show has also improved greatly over the years. We often have comments from audience, musicians and cast members referring to the 'professional sound quality', particularly for a venue that is a converted factory. We have been so fortunate to have dedicated and skilled sound operators and designers who volunteer their time to produce the fabulous sound for our productions. The only drawback is the cost, effort, manpower and risk in temporary installment of Front of House (audience sound) and Stage Foldback (for cast/performers) speakers for our many events throughout the year. If we could lower the cost of hire (by purchasing our very own speakers), we could use that saved money elsewhere to perhaps lower ticket costs for our patrons within the community. It would also benefit our sound volunteers (who are now 50 and 60+) who would no longer experience the danger of climbing ladders.

Project Start Date *

01/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

01/07/2022

Must be a date.

BUDGET

* indicates a required field

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$2,958.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
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(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$2,958.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
4 x AVE Ultra10" Powered 2 Way Speak	\$1,361.82
2 x AVE Bassboy 12" Powered Subwoofer (600W)	\$961.82
6 x Cable XLR M-F 10 Metre	\$174.54
2x Cable Stagebox 8 send 10 metre	\$190.91
GST	\$268.91
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total**Total Expenditure Amount**

\$2,958.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses**Attach quotes for expenses here. ***

Filename: Minor Grant - Speakers & Cables Quote 2021.pdf
 File size: 353.4 kB

Other Grant Funding**(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? ***

Yes No

Other Fund Details**Year of Application:**

2019&2020

Grant Program:

Minor Grant, Community Development Fund, Placemaking and Liveable Communities,
 Creative Facilitation Stream

Amount:

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
Form Submitted 31 May 2021, 10:55am AEST

\$23,529.00

Must be a dollar amount.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- **A project plan**
- **Evidence of Incorporation**

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Fab Nobs - Certificate of Incorporation.jpg
File size: 119.7 kB

Filename: Project Plan - Speakers.docx
File size: 12.6 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Fab Nobs Theatre Inc - Community Theatre Liability - Certificate of Currency.pdf
File size: 114.0 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

31/03/2022

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

President

Declaration Date *

17/05/2021

Must be a date.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 137- MGP - 2020-21 From Fab Nobs Theatre
Form Submitted 31 May 2021, 10:55am AEST

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 138- MGP - 2020-21 From Flamingo Community Group
 Form Submitted 12 May 2021, 12:31pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Flamingo Community Group

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

Address, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 138- MGP - 2020-21 From Flamingo Community Group
 Form Submitted 12 May 2021, 12:31pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Australian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

79 546 533 014

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	79 546 533 014
Entity name	Flamingo Community Group Inc
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3152 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 3:18am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

A0015488R

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 138- MGP - 2020-21 From Flamingo Community Group
 Form Submitted 12 May 2021, 12:31pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Replacement of puzzles

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

We would like to replace some of the ageing puzzles at our 3 year old kindergarten service. Our current puzzles are becoming brittle and fragile. We would like to replace these with new safer and more durable products.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

We are a not for profit community service so funds for additional equipment is not easy to find. All of the children currently attending our 3 year old kindergarten will benefit from these additional resources as well as the numerous children who will attend in the many years to come. We believe that puzzles are an important educational learning tool as they provide many skills and cognitive benefits. These puzzles will assist to enhance children's problem solving, fine motor development, hand eye coordination, social skills, self esteem and much more!

Project Start Date *

24/05/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

24/06/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$717.55

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$717.55

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Expenditure	\$
Bubbles Puzzle	\$39.95
Farmyard puzzle	\$19.95
Hygiene sequence-set of 3 puzzles	\$82.95
Our environment-set of 8 puzzles	\$299.95
Vehicle-set of 6 puzzles	\$94.95
Rainbow serpent puzzle	\$35.95
Aboriginal flag puzzle	\$42.95
Aboriginal inspired art-set of 4 puzzles	\$57.95
Plant sequence puzzle	\$42.95
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$717.55

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: MTA puzzle quote-May 2021.pdf
 File size: 54.3 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Current association purpose and rules.pdf

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 138- MGP - 2020-21 From Flamingo Community Group
Form Submitted 12 May 2021, 12:31pm AEST

File size: 176.0 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Flamingo Community Group Inc. - 2020-21 - Certificates of Currency.pdf
File size: 177.7 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/06/2021
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

* indicates a required field

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Treasurer

Declaration Date *

12/05/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

EFT PAYMENT CONSENT

* indicates a required field

Payment of Grant

Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer into the Organisation's bank account. Please provide details of the Organisation's bank account below.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 138- MGP - 2020-21 From Flamingo Community Group
Form Submitted 12 May 2021, 12:31pm AEST

Bank Account *

Account Name:

[REDACTED]

Account Number:

[REDACTED] format.

Contact Name *

[REDACTED]

Position *

Treasurer

Organisation *

Flamingo Community Group

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Must be an email address.

Contact Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Must be an Australian phone number.

Date *

12/05/2021

Must be a date.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020 (Version 2 of 2)
Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
 Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 11:26am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Templeton Cricket Club Inc

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020 (Version 2 of 2)
Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
 Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 11:26am AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

67 166 894 583

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	67 166 894 583
Entity name	Templeton Cricket Club Incorporated
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	No
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3152 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 2:44am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
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PROJECT DETAILS

* indicates a required field

Request Details

Project Title *

Purchase of Square Register & iPads

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

This application is a request for funds to enable the purchase of (A) a Square Register and (B) iPads (two) for cricket scoring for Templeton Cricket Club (TCC).

A. Square Register

Last season TCC trialed the Square Point of Sale (POS) system in our canteen. This system utilised an iPad that was donated by a member and a Square stand purchased by the Club.

The results of this trial included:

1. Ease of use compared to the previous computer based POS systems: the user friendly interface made it far easier for volunteer canteen staff to use (largely teenagers). This made it less intimidating and helped the Club recruit new volunteers.
2. Stock control: the Square system allows for the addition / deletion of new products, alteration of prices and monitoring of stock levels (minimising wastage) to be done easily and remotely. This makes these tasks far easier for Club management
3. Superior reporting: online sales reports and the ability to "tag" product types made the task of recording sales for accounting purposes easier and more accurate.
4. Transportable - we successfully used the Square system offsite at a Bunnings BBQ fundraiser, which enabled us to take card payments which was a Covid requirement.
5. Cost benefits: the costs to run the the Square system is less that the merchant fees paid to our bank for the use of a EFTpos unit.

Due to the success of this trial, TCC wishes to extend the POS system this upcoming season to run in our bar - this would require a seperate POS register to be purchased. A seperate system is necessary, as frequently both the canteen and bar are run simultaneously and a POS is required at each location. For this purpose, TCC would like to purchase a Square Register, which is a new fully integrated product and does not require a seperate iPad for the display. A built in screen is more robust than adding & removing an iPad.

B. iPads for Cricket Scoring

Many Clubs in the Ringwood Cricket Association have over the past 1-2 years adopted Cricket Australia's MyCricket online scoring system. TCC's experience, like other clubs, has been that this method of scoring is greatly preferred by volunteers (parents, players) for its ease of use when compared to the traditional score book method. My direct experience has shown that the parents of first time players (girls teams and Under 10s, 12s) will only volunteer to score if the online MyCricket system is used.

To enable MyCricket to be used for scoring, TCC has been reliant upon parents from teams to provide their own iPads for this purpose. To remove this reliance, TCC would like to provide iPads at 2 home grounds for scoring. The iPads would be connected to the internet via an SMS card.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

The Square POS system would enable the TCC to expand the aforementioned benefits to our

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
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bar including, increased volunteerism for bar assistance (of RSA holders), improved stock control, better reporting and reduced costs.

The purchase of iPads for scoring would remove the current reliance upon parents to provide iPads and would improve volunteerism rates of parents to score at junior games.

Project Start Date *

01/09/2021
 Must be a date.

Project End Date *

01/10/2021
 Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$2,506.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$2,200.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
Square register with display cable	\$1,114.00
2 x iPad 8th Gen 10.2" WiFi/Cellular 32GB Space Silver	\$1,392.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$2,506.00
 This number/amount is calculated.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020 (Version 2 of 2)
Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 11:26am AEST

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: iPad cellular.png
File size: 270.6 kB

Filename: Square register.png
File size: 752.7 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Certificate of Incorporation - A0003951R (1).pdf
File size: 74.1 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Certificate of Currency 2019_20.pdf
File size: 150.9 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/06/2021
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020 (Version 2 of 2)
Application 140- MGP - 2020-21 From Templeton Cricket Club Inc
Form Submitted 18 May 2021, 11:26am AEST

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

President

Declaration Date *

17/05/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

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Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 145- MGP - 2020-21 From Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 2:22pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

code, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 145- MGP - 2020-21 From Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 2:22pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

78 706 936 968

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	78 706 936 968
Entity name	Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	No
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3156 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 1:23am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

A000675M

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 145- MGP - 2020-21 From Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 2:22pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Heating/Cooling Split System

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

Our main pavillion does not currently have either a heating or cooling system. An adequate system would provide a greater level of comfort during the summer and winter seasons for spectators, players and the greater membership of the club.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

A greater level of comfort for patrons attending the Pavillion. This will provide a greater level of comfort for our players, spectators and wider membership when at the club for games, functions, meetings etc. We have also been approached by the Upper Ferntree Gully CFA who have requested that they would like to hold their annual Christmas dinner at our Pavillion and they are supportive of a split system heating/cooling being installed to provide a greater level of comfort for attendees.

Project Start Date *

01/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

31/07/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$5,596.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$3,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

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Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 145- MGP - 2020-21 From Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 2:22pm AEST

Expenditure	\$
Split system Heating/Colling	\$3,000.00
Club funds shortfall	\$2,596.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$5,596.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: ss.pdf

File size: 102.3 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Certificate of Inc.pdf

File size: 72.1 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Certificate of Currency 2020-21.pdf

File size: 759.4 kB

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 145- MGP - 2020-21 From Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club Incorporated
Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 2:22pm AEST

Public Liability Expiry Date *

31/08/2021

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Secretary

Declaration Date *

08/06/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 149- MGP - 2020-21 From Lions club of Rowville
 Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Lions club of Rowville

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 149- MGP - 2020-21 From Lions club of Rowville
 Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

ate/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

70 977 340 038

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	70 977 340 038
Entity name	Lions Club of Rowville Inc
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	No
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	3178 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 1:02am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

A0027176U

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 149- MGP - 2020-21 From Lions club of Rowville
 Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

To cover the cost of purchasing winter Lions logo jackets

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

This application is intended to request from you a grant to cover the cost of purchases Lions logo winter jackets

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

Our club members are being out side going projects most of the time. We are working out side with bad weather and members are wearing their own jackets to protect them self from cold. So we wanting to recognise by public that Rowville Lions members are doing project or helping community. We would like to purchases those jackets for our club members' wellbeing.

Project Start Date *

31/05/2021
 Must be a date.

Project End Date *

30/06/2021
 Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$750.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$750.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure **\$**

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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 Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

Lions logo Jackets	\$750.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount
 \$750.00
 This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: Lions Hoodie.png
 File size: 732.9 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *
 Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- **A project plan**
- **Evidence of Incorporation**

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: p4.jpg
 File size: 110.9 kB

Filename: p7.jpg
 File size: 56.7 kB

Filename: p9.jpg
 File size: 60.7 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 149- MGP - 2020-21 From Lions club of Rowville
Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: certificate of currency 2020-2021.pdf
File size: 79.7 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

01/09/2021
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

* indicates a required field

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

President

Declaration Date *

26/05/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

EFT PAYMENT CONSENT

* indicates a required field

Payment of Grant

Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer into the Organisation's bank account. Please provide details of the Organisation's bank account below.

Bank Account *

Account Name:
BSB Number:

[REDACTED]

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 149- MGP - 2020-21 From Lions club of Rowville
Form Submitted 26 May 2021, 9:56pm AEST

Account Number: [REDACTED]
Must be a valid Australian [REDACTED]unt format.

Contact Name *

[REDACTED]

Position *

President

Organisation *

Lions club of Rowville

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Must be an email address.

Contact Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Must be an Australian phone number.

Date *

26/05/2021

Must be a date.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 152- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Bayswater Community Church of Christ
 Form Submitted 2 Jun 2021, 8:44pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Boronia Bayswater Community Church of Christ

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
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 Form Submitted 2 Jun 2021, 8:44pm AEST

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

te/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

ess.

Please provide your ABN

90 538 296 934

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	90 538 296 934
Entity name	Church Of Christ Boronia
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Unincorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3155 VIC
<i>Information retrieved at 3:51am today</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? * Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details**Please provide your Incorporated number**

A0054273F

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 152- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Bayswater Community Church of Christ
 Form Submitted 2 Jun 2021, 8:44pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Continuing The Provision Of Meals For The Vulnerable at 59 Boronia Rd., Boronia

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

We are requesting additional funding in order to continue the provision of hot meals for our free Community Meals at Boronia Community Church of Christ (59 Boronia Rd., Boronia) every Monday at 12 noon.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

We have a regular clientele of 30 who attend every Monday for a hot main meal and a dessert. This program also provides a space for the community to interact with others. We have a number of people from our church community who come and share a meal and conversation with our clients. This program helps people in crisis by providing a hot meal every Monday.

Project Start Date *

05/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

04/07/2022

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$3,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$3,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure

\$

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 Form Submitted 2 Jun 2021, 8:44pm AEST

Fresh meat and produce	\$2,700.00
Take away containers	\$300.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$3,000.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: Cook & Dine Food Containers 750mL _ Coles Online.pdf
 File size: 48.7 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

Other Fund Details

Year of Application:

2019

Grant Program:

Hot Meals For Vulnerable People

Amount:

\$5,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- **A project plan**
- **Evidence of Incorporation**

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 152- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Bayswater Community Church of Christ
Form Submitted 2 Jun 2021, 8:44pm AEST

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Christmas 2018.jpg
File size: 3.2 MB

Filename: Project Plan - Boronia Meals - May 2021.pdf
File size: 273.8 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Certificates of Currency - Liability - 21-22 - Boronia.pdf
File size: 142.7 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

31/03/2022
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

* indicates a required field

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Administrator

Declaration Date *

29/05/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 155- MGP - 2020-21 From Days For Girls Ferntreey Gully Chapter
 Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 3:08pm AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Days For Girls Ferntreey Gully Chapter

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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Application 155- MGP - 2020-21 From Days For Girls Ferntreey Gully Chapter
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Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Contact Name

[REDACTED]

Project Contact Address *

[REDACTED]

State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

an phone number.

Mobile Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

tralian phone number.

Email *

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

77 599 800 484

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	77 599 800 484
Entity name	Days For Girls Australia Limited
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes (Item 1)
ATO Charity Type	Public Benevolent Institution More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Exemption, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	4051 QLD
<i>Information retrieved at 12:40am yesterday</i>	

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? *

Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Incorporation Details

Please provide your Incorporated number

ACN 612 493 213

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 Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 3:08pm AEST

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details

Project Title *

Purchase of Two Heavy Duty Sewing Machines

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

We require heavy duty sewing machine for our volunteers to use at our sewing workshop in Erica Avenue, Boronia. Our current lightweight machines have done a lot of work and have now developed some on-going issues.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *

Days for Girls Ferntree Gully provides an opportunity for volunteers from Knox to learn and develop skills of sewing, leadership and fundraising enabling them to experience quality friendships. Our sewing group continues to offer support to some who work for the Centrelink payment, ladies who live alone, those who are vulnerable and some with health issues. Ladies from all walks of life from the Knox area enjoy the friendship, support and Chaplaincy in the workshop space. Our volunteers benefit by contributing to a worthwhile cause giving them a feeling of inclusion and satisfaction.

Project Start Date *

06/07/2021

Must be a date.

Project End Date *

06/09/2021

Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *

\$3,598.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *

\$3,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

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Expenditure	\$
Janome Skyline S 6 Sewing Machine	\$1,799.00
Portion of 2nd Janome Skyline S 6 Sewing Machine	\$1,201.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$3,000.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: Quote for Sewing Machines 2021.docx
 File size: 21.3 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- A project plan
- Evidence of Incorporation

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: DFGAL_Company Certificate of Registration.pdf
 File size: 266.4 kB

Filename: Project Plan 2021.docx
 File size: 14.3 kB

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Form Submitted 11 Jun 2021, 3:08pm AEST

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: DfG Insurance to June 30 2022.pdf
File size: 111.4 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/06/2022
Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Treasurer

Declaration Date *

11/06/2021
Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

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Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 159- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Road Uniting Church
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 11:20am AEST

MINOR GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Minor Grants Information

To meet the policy requirements for funding applications under the Minor Grants Program, requests must meet the following criteria:

1. Applications must be from individuals who reside in Knox or community groups that provide services to the Knox community.
2. Applications for funding cannot be made retrospectively and must be received before the event or activity to which the funding relates is undertaken.

Application Amount	Incorporated or Auspiced?	Assessment & Determination	Acquittal
< \$500	No	Assessed and determined by the CEO or delegate.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$501 to \$1,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Proof of expenditure / purchase (i.e. receipt).
\$1,001 to \$3,000	Yes	Assessed by the CEO or delegate. Determined by Council at the monthly ordinary meeting of Council.	Funding Agreement & Acquittal required.

Application Category

Application Amount

< \$500 \$501 to \$1,000 \$1,001 to \$3,000

APPLICANT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Details

Organisation Name *

Boronia Road Uniting Church

Organisation Address *

[REDACTED]

State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please provide your ABN

59 472 343 549

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	59 472 343 549
Entity name	Uca Boronia Rd
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Unincorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	3809 VIC

Information retrieved at 11:56am yesterday

Must be an ABN.

provide ABN of auspice organisation if relevant. If no ABN please complete a Statement by Supplier declaration.

Is your organisation Incorporated? *

Yes No

If No please provide details of Auspice below

Auspice Details

Auspice Organisation Name *

Boronia Road Uniting Church

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Auspice ABN

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	
Main business location	

Must be an ABN.

Direct Contact *

[REDACTED]

Auspice Position *

Vice Chairperson

Auspice Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Must be an Australian phone number.

Auspice Email *

[REDACTED]

Must be an email address.

Signature of auspice representative - permission required *

[REDACTED]

Please upload signed declaration from auspice representative

PROJECT DETAILS

*** indicates a required field**

Request Details**Project Title ***

Replace old chairs with new more suitable ones

(a) Briefly describe details of the request: *

We are two years into a four year program to replace at least 50% of the 200 forty-year-old

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
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 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 11:20am AEST

very basic chairs we currently have for use in our buildings. Our aim is to replace 25 basic chairs with more suitable, comfortable chairs with arm rests, each year during a four-year period.

(b) What community benefit is gained from this project / activity? *
 Our buildings are used by many Knox-based community groups. In the last year or so it has become obvious that we don't provide adequately for the older and less-able members of some of these groups. In this current COVID environment the new chairs are more easily sanitized after use, making our facilities safer for all community users.

Project Start Date *
 01/11/2019
 Must be a date.

Project End Date *
 31/10/2023
 Must be a date.

BUDGET

*** indicates a required field**

(d) What is the total cost of the project / activity? *
 \$10,500.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

(c) What amount is being requested? *
 \$2,625.00
 Must be a dollar amount.
 What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Minor Grant Expenses

Please detail the items you would like the Minor Grants Program to fund.

Expenditure	\$
25 Chairs with arm-rests	\$2,625.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 159- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Road Uniting Church
 Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 11:20am AEST

Minor Grant Budget Total

Total Expenditure Amount

\$2,625.00

This number/amount is calculated.

Quotes For Planned Expenses

Attach quotes for expenses here. *

Filename: CIVIC QUOTE for chairs.pdf

File size: 968.6 kB

Other Grant Funding

(e) Have funds been sought / provided from other Council grants? *

Yes No

Other Fund Details

Year of Application:

2019

Grant Program:

CDF

Amount:

\$2,580.00

Must be a dollar amount.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

*** indicates a required field**

Please attach relevant supporting documentation, including:

- **A project plan**
- **Evidence of Incorporation**

Attach relevant documentation:

Filename: Knox CDF Grant outcome.docx

File size: 12.9 kB

Evidence of Public Liability

Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance must be supplied *

Filename: Cert of Currency Insurance.pdf

Minor Grants Program - 2020 - 2021
Minor Grants Program Application Form 2020
Application 159- MGP - 2020-21 From Boronia Road Uniting Church
Form Submitted 8 Jun 2021, 11:20am AEST

File size: 143.9 kB

Public Liability Expiry Date *

30/11/2021

Must be a date.

DECLARATION

*** indicates a required field**

I declare that all information within this application is true and correct. If successful I will provide an acquittal of all funds to Council as outlined in the Minor Grants Program Policy.

Name *

[REDACTED]

Position (if organisation) *

Boronia Road Uniting Church

Declaration Date *

08/06/2021

Must be a date.

Privacy Statement

The personal information requested in this application form is for the purposes of administering the Minor Grants Program and will only be used by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes. Whilst information relating to groups and the specific request/project details will be published, personal information in regards to individuals will not be disclosed except as required by law.

9.4 Knox Mental Health Action Plan

SUMMARY: Coordinator Health Planning and Liveability, Raini Nailer

The Knox Mental Health Action Plan (KMHP) details the current mental health situation in Knox and provides recommendations on how to address this to increase health and wellbeing in the community. The KMHP specifically outlines current demographic data, active services and relevant mental health risk factors including those created by the pandemic.

This Plan, which was designed with the input and assistance of expert stakeholders in the field of mental health, illustrates areas for partnership and Council leadership in this area. Most importantly, this Plan will help guide specific initiatives over the coming years that will improve mental health, as well as health and wellbeing outcomes more generally for our community.

Through recent engagements, mental health was raised as one of the most significant health and wellbeing challenges currently facing the Knox community and as a result it will also be addressed in the upcoming Knox Council and Community Plans. This Action Plan will assist Council in delivering critical requirements of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) as well as engaging in essential actions to enhance the health and wellbeing of the community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Knox Mental Health Action Plan as set out in Attachment 1 of the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

In July 2020 the Knox COVID-19 Pandemic Household Impact Survey found that the community were grappling with two main health and wellbeing issues: social isolation and mental health. Upon learning this, Council devised specific actions to assist the community to recover from COVID-19 Pandemic and its implications, paying much attention to upscaling actions in mental health.

The first step in this journey was to seek advice, support and partnership with stakeholders from mental health service agencies and peak bodies. In December 2020, Council hosted the first in a series of Mental Health Forums to bring together these stakeholders to discuss the challenges and opportunities in the current mental health landscape of Knox.

The Knox Mental Health Action Plan (KMHP) was developed in response to stakeholder advice from this forum. Since this time, a second forum has been held in February 2021 to showcase the draft KMHP and revise information and recommendations according to expert advice. The current Plan (refer Attachment 1) is a result of the refinement of the second forum.

This Action Plan focuses on a variety of factors that impact the mental health of the community, which include social isolation, anxiety, racial discrimination, family violence and alcohol consumption. Recommended actions are detailed in the Plan to address all of these underlying areas to effectively improve the determinants of mental health.

The Plan promotes areas for Council leadership as well as partnership opportunities. Most importantly, this Plan will coordinate and create collective impact outcomes for the municipality, which will improve the effectiveness of the actions within our region. Through actioning this Plan

we will ensure that Council and its partners continue to promote and create healthy environments through future plans and initiatives.

2. DISCUSSION

There are many reasons why mental wellbeing is important. Not only is it protective against physical illnesses and linked to greater productivity, but the mental wellbeing of a population is essential for sustainability, long-term growth and development. Recently, the mental health of our population has been challenged, by the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is, therefore, essential that Council incorporate mental health into COVID-19 recovery efforts to assist the community into a healthier and more productive future.

The KMHAP is a piece that fits into a much broader health promotion strategy at Knox City Council. It focuses on evidence-based associations and causes of ill-health, which are often multifaceted and thus act as underlying causes to a range of other adverse health outcomes. Importantly, the Plan provides a road map of specific actions to improve mental health, and as a by-product, general health over the coming years.

Consequently, the KMHAP relates to multiple strategies in the Community and Council Plan by addressing lifestyle risks and strengthening community connections, as well as addressing mental health itself. Furthermore, recent engagements (March 2021) with community, stakeholders and Council staff for the requirements of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) have illustrated once again, that mental health and social connection are top priorities for our community.

Many of the suggestions to address mental health made by these cohorts are already encompassed in several KMHAP recommendations. Essentially, the KMHAP will help guide Council to work on improving current mental health issues, while importantly, also meeting the vocalised needs of the community on this issue.

Some examples of the recommendations outlined in the report include:

- Address and challenge all forms of discrimination, exclusion or marginalization in the community (racism, bullying, homophobia, people with mental health issues, people with AOD challenges etc.), including the enhancement of existing programs to include mental health prevention.
- Undertake an analysis of suburbs reporting higher rates of social isolation during the pandemic lockdowns (through a placed based Liveability Assessment).
- Establish a Knox Mental Health Round Table- for collective impact partnered approaches to mental health actions with key partner organisations.
- Partner with ACCHOs to support existing initiatives for the increased health and wellbeing of First Nations people.

3. CONSULTATION

The Knox COVID-19 Pandemic Household Impact Survey conducted in July 2020, highlighted the need for increased action in the mental health and wellbeing space, with particular focus on social isolation. Specific engagements with local mental health peak bodies, organisations and front-line professionals were carried out through two Mental Health Forums, in addition to one-on-one conversations with these agencies. These engagements allowed Council officers to gain a deeper

understanding of the needs and opportunities for initiatives and current services in the mental health landscape of Knox. This provided us with important perspective and knowledge needed to understand where opportunities for action exist.

Key agencies who have supported the development of the plan include:

- Anglicare.
- EACH.
- Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC).
- Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (EMPHN).
- Headspace.
- Mental Health Victoria.
- Mind Australia.
- Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP).
- Naemi.
- Wellways.
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

The draft KMHAP has been presented to these stakeholders since these forums, providing them the opportunity to comment and make recommendations to refine this Plan.

Mental health was also an issue presented more recently through the Health and Wellbeing Engagement for the Council and Community Plans (MPHWP requirements). Within these engagements (six in total), mental health was the most prominent issue for the community, especially amongst youth. The KMHAP, therefore, has incorporated the information provided by community and stakeholders through these extensive consultations.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

The KMHAP includes analysis of the physical and service environments and their relation to mental health. The recommendations within this Plan make note on areas that can be addressed to enhance public health. These largely include areas for action on aspects such as liveability and advocacy and partnership in service environments.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial and economic implications regarding this report.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Currently, the Knox community are experiencing serious mental health challenges, especially after the lockdowns and social disconnection caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, and this has specifically impacted youth. Action in this area is vital to community recovery, and to enhance community wellbeing more generally. This Plan will aid Council and its partners to actively address the most pressing health issue in our community, which will result in positive health and economic outcomes in the future.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 6 - We are healthy, happy and well

Strategy 6.1 - Mitigate lifestyle risks such as smoking, risky alcohol consumption and drug use, obesity, lack of physical activity and poor nutrition

Strategy 6.2 - Support the community to enable positive physical and mental health

Goal 7 - We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity

Strategy 7.3 - Strengthen community connections

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The KMHAP is a detailed action plan that provides Council and partners with coordinated interventions to achieve better mental health in the community. Through health and wellbeing engagements and the COVID-19 Pandemic Household Impact Survey, we know that mental health is a top priority for the community moving forward, and to recover from the pandemic specifically.

The Plan uses an environmental and social lens to ensure that interventions are varied, complimentary and importantly will impact the known drivers of mental health. Essentially the KMHAP provides a roadmap for Council and its partners to follow into the future to ensure that we are successfully and continuously addressing mental health in a collective and coordinated approach.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

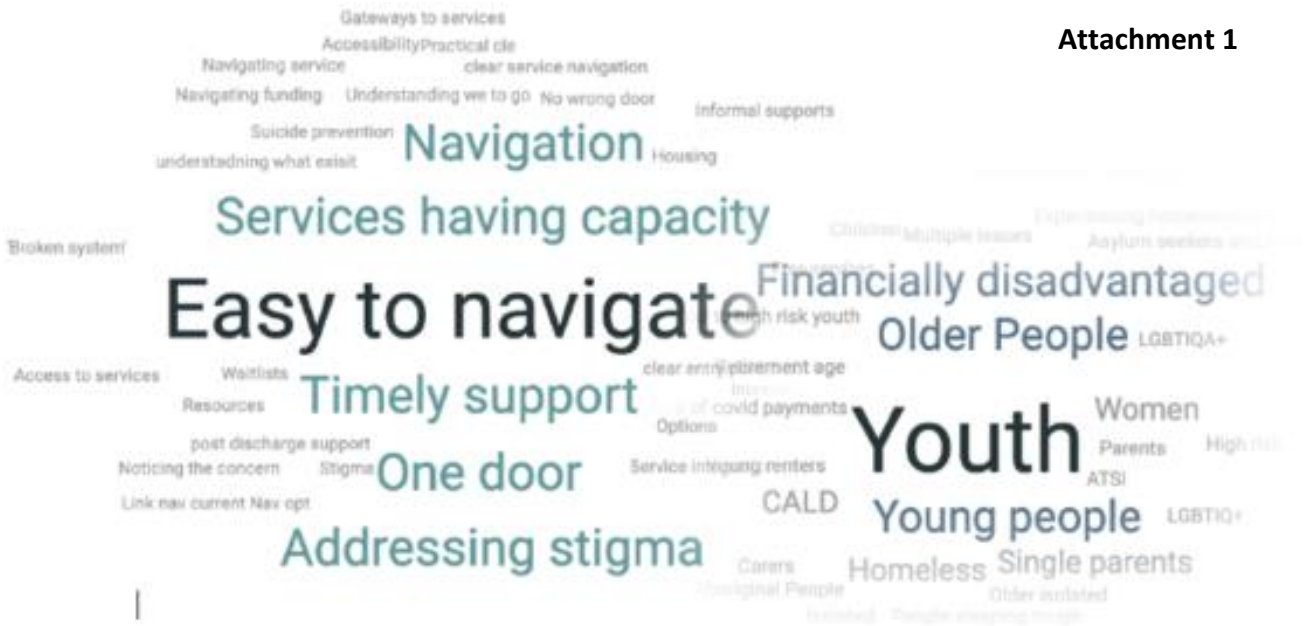
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Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Knox Mental Health Action Plan - Revised Final - 2021-06-28 [9.4.1 - 45 pages]

Attachment 1



Knox City Council Mental Health Action Plan 2021-2025



Knox City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the city of Knox, the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation

This document was written by Knox City Council, Community Development Department, February 2021.

A special thank you to all participating organisations who contributed to this document:

- Anglicare
- EACH
- Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC)
- Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (EMPHN)
- Headspace
- Mental Health Victoria
- Mind Australia
- Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP)
- Neami
- Wellways
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)

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Executive Summary

The mental health of Knox residents has been in decline over the past four years with the current Covid-19 pandemic exacerbating these issues. Results from the *Knox COVID-19 Household Impact Survey* conducted in July 2020 revealed mental health and social isolation resulting in feelings of loneliness to be the most pressing issues for the community. Council has in many ways acted upon improving the state of mental health across the municipality over these four years, however with the sharper decline occurring during the pandemic, council has decided to take a stronger stance in its approach.

To gain a deeper understanding into the current mental health landscape of Knox and highlight possible areas of opportunity and potential partnerships, a range of local service organisations were engaged in a Mental Health Forum in December 2020. It is clear that initiatives to address mental health in the community are best done through partnership and coordination with other organisation to achieve collective impact. Council has consulted with and will continue to work with a number of peak body agencies and service organisations, some of which include Mental Health Victoria, Prevention United, EACH, Headspace and Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place.

In addition to the forum, one-on-one meetings were held between council and partners to further explore partnerships and understand services. Input from these organisations were used to outline a shared vision and commitment to future action on mental health. The *Knox City Council Mental Health Action Plan* is the manifestation of this advice and recommendations arising from the forum and meetings, with support from wider demographic and best practice research.

To provide context to the current mental health landscape in Knox, this document shows the wide variety of current activity and interventions employed by council and partners to address mental health. The vast variety of interventions appears to address all areas of the prevention spectrum, as well as largely across the socio-ecological categories, on which they were mapped. Suggesting, that services and interventions are catering for a large variety of people and a diversity of needs. Despite this wealth of service provision and intervention initiatives, the challenge is reported to be capacity to deal with current demand. Cost is a secondary challenge and barrier to mental health service access, particularly for vulnerable cohorts. Individuals struggling with their mental health may claim up to 20 sessions a year with a mental health professional through Medicare, once they have received a mental health care plan from their doctor (Services Australia, 2021). However, these sessions may incur an out-of-pocket cost if Medicare does not cover the full fee (Services Australia, 2021). Essentially, further treatment and access to professional mental health care can be expensive and ongoing. Thus, making them increasingly inaccessible and resulting in many individuals, especially vulnerable cohorts, falling through the cracks. Therefore, efforts must be directed to mental health promotion and prevention that can be accessed by all, regardless of individual circumstances and privilege, which will also support the secondary and tertiary initiatives.

Mental health initiatives were also scoped against liveability domains in addition to the socio-ecological model to truly capture both the physical and social environments at play in health and

wellbeing. This scoping found that fewer initiatives were viewed through a liveability lens and thus may provide an opportunity for council to act in this space of primary prevention to support partner organisations in their current actions.

This exploration of services also showed many cases where council are best placed to partner with active organisations and support their current work. One such example being the promotion of lesser known services utilising council engagement channels, or gauging need through community connections to tailor existing programs to our community.

An array of recommendations can be seen in *Table 1* and were formed in line with four key areas identified by partner organisations in the forum; *health promotion, community education, sector coordination and collaboration and advocacy*. These recommendations were made with a specific focus on population cohorts such as youth, older people, financially disadvantaged, women and people of culturally diverse backgrounds. These cohorts were considered at most need.

Table 1: Mental Health Action Plan Recommendations

Health Promotion
1. Enhance Liveability factors of all suburbs in Knox City Council (e.g walkability, housing , food)
2. Address and challenge all forms of discrimination, exclusion or marginalization in the community (racism, bullying, homophobia, people with mental health issues, people with AOD challenges etc.), including the enhancement of existing programs to include mental health prevention
3. Undertake an analysis of suburbs reporting higher rates of social isolation during the pandemic lockdowns (through a placed based Liveability Assessment)
4. Improve the state of third places to promote social gathering and cohesion for the strengthening of social capital
5. Focus on Family Violence Prevention as a key driving factor, with specific consideration to trauma and cultural sensitivity
6. Focus on decreasing alcohol consumption and other drug use as a key factor to poor mental health and broader relating issues
7. Promote the Achievement Program to early years settings, schools and workplaces within Knox City Council
8. Focus on specific underutilized health promotion subject areas to support marginalized communities (e.g. LGBTQIA+, multicultural community, First Nations people)
9. Focus on promoting mental health and wellbeing in the Knox City Council workforce
10. Promote, support or deliver family and carer support groups in the region
Community Education

<p>11. Promotion of existing partner programs through council channels to increase awareness to 'hard to reach' groups (e.g. homeless, language other than English)</p> <p>12. Implement parenting and relationship programs to enhance the quality of relationships - Baby Makes 3 (BM3), RRR</p> <p>13. Implement programs and initiatives to support the first 1000 days of life: INFANT, BM3 as well as family support and resilience</p> <p>14. Promote and run mindfulness programs and/ or mental health first aid through council for all residents and select cohorts</p> <p>15. Work with primary, secondary and tertiary education settings, targeting students to build resilience skills to address mental health (e.g relaxation, mindfulness, psychoeducation, meditation, yoga, wayapa, resilience, coping mechanisms, positive mental health practices, arts), in addition to health promoting behaviours (physical activity, healthy eating, adequate sleep, consumption of alcohol)</p> <p>16. Promote culturally appropriate mental health awareness and intervention in antenatal and postnatal cohorts</p>
Sector Coordination and Collaboration
<p>17. Knox Mental Health Round Table- for collective impact partnered approaches to mental health actions</p> <p>18. Implement a mental health and wellbeing specific community grants program- to support community organisations lead initiatives</p> <p>19. Greater use and activation of third places to foster social connection (e.g running free place based physical activity programs like Active Maribyrnong)</p> <p>20. Partner with and utilise existing facilities in Knox to deliver and strengthen current social connection initiatives, including leisure centres, libraries, neighbourhood houses</p> <p>21. Encourage the co-location of services, potentially leveraging existing council facilities</p> <p>22. Partner with ACCHOs to support existing initiatives for the increased health and wellbeing of First Nations people</p> <p>23. Work collaboratively with carers, families and support people to address their needs and connect them to appropriate services</p>
Advocacy
<p>24. Seek advice and input into initiatives from those with lived experience (e.g community representation group), including those from vulnerable groups, families, carers and supporters</p> <p>25. Promote participation in wellness practices (yoga, meditation, yarning circles, waypa etc.) with guidance from specific cultural groups</p> <p>26. Support the engagement of existing services, facilities and programs (e.g. Headspace, Men's Shed, community gardens, multicultural services, First Nations specific services)</p>

27. Promote and support First Nations peoples cultural health in schools through partnerships with KESOs.
28. Increase understanding of the needs of women in regards to mental health across different life stages (youth, pregnancy, retirement etc.), and across different cultural groups
- 29. Advocate for resources that enable collaboration and partnerships**
30. Advocate for adaptable service delivery to improve experiences and support families, carers and other supporters of those living with mental illness

****Bolded initiatives indicate the actions most pertinent to partnering organisations***

It is the hope that this *Mental Health Action Plan* forms the basis of strong partnership efforts, collective goals and actions that will improve the mental health of residents, and ensure poor mental health is prevented at the earliest stage.

Introduction

The purpose of this *Mental Health Action Plan* is to provide a strategic framework to address the current and emerging mental health needs of the Knox community and to assist in the coordination of interventions in our community moving forward. This action plan comes as a response to the consequences of COVID-19, but also to respond to the ongoing needs of the community more generally.

Broad social and environmental aspects of mental health will be explored to provide scope for primary prevention opportunities from council with the aim of promoting mental health and wellbeing at the earliest stage. Importantly, this document will also examine the state of mental health in Knox and available interventions, before exploring opportunities for further council impact and greater support for partner organisations. Effectively, this action plan aims to facilitate commitment and strategic action which will make Knox a more liveable setting for its community.

Background to Mental Health Action in Knox

Knox City Council has long engaged in mental health through different actions and across different departments. In 2018 the *Knox Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee* lead and hosted a Mental Health Workshop, attended by local service organisations from a wide variety of fields. The purpose of this workshop was to forge a shared vision and commitment to future action on mental health. The outcomes resulting from this workshop were:

- Establishment of a mental health and support network to strengthen collaboration¹
- Increasing community access to mental health first aid training²
- Advocacy in identifying gaps in NDIS funding³

Additionally, Knox City Council maintains a strong collaborative connection and relationship with EMHSCA (Eastern Mental Health Service Coordination Alliance) as signatories to the EMHSCA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Alliance aims to improve the experience of mental health consumers, carers and practitioners through supporting the delivery of more accessible, appropriate and coordinated services.

Since this time, the COVID-19 pandemic has thrown yet more challenges and changes at our community. The *Knox COVID-19 Household Impact Survey* (the survey) conducted in July 2020 found that many of the challenges born by the pandemic have resulted in self-reported mental health and social isolation issues (causing feelings of loneliness), as the current major challenges for the

¹ This group functions as a community of practice gathering mainly local government employees

² Funding was provided to Neighbourhood houses for the training of community members

³ Knox participation in Eastern Mental Health Service Coordination Alliance (EMHSCA) and has included mental health actions in its Municipal Disability Leadership Plan

community. Both issues being interrelated, have negative long term consequences for community wellbeing and population health.

In gaining understanding of this current situation, council decided to drastically ramp up its actions within the municipality to firstly improve population health generally, but also as a key response to COVID-19 recovery. To better understand the areas Knox could partner and act, a *Knox Mental Health Forum* was held in December 2020 to discuss the survey findings, as well as share learnings from other key organisations.

This forum invited select mental health experts from peak bodies and service delivery organisations operating in Knox to provide advice on recommended future mental health actions for council. Participating organisations included:

- Anglicare
- EACH
- Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC)
- Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (EMPHN)
- Headspace
- Mental Health Victoria
- Mind Australia
- Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP)
- Neami
- Wellways

These peak bodies and organisations provide mental health services and initiatives directly to the Knox community. The key focal themes for Knox City Council suggested by these agencies were:

- Health Promotion
- Community Education
- Sector Coordination and Collaboration
- Advocacy

These recommendations were made with a specific focus on population cohorts such as youth, older people, financially disadvantaged, women and people of culturally diverse backgrounds. These cohorts were considered at most need.

Knox Mental Health Action Plan

The following pages of this document outline the demographics of Knox with specific reference to aspects contributing to mental health, the service and intervention landscape of the municipality and future projects and initiatives for partnership and action. This will provide a detailed insight into where opportunity may exist for new and strengthened interventions, as well as further discussion for mental health primary prevention in Knox.

This action plan takes into account the complex and interrelated nature of mental health, looking at a range of individual, environmental, personal and social circumstances which collectively influence the mental health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. Mental health has many known drivers, this action plan has chosen to focus on a variety of drivers that are supported by the most recent findings of the *Knox COVID-19 Household Impact Survey* (Knox City Council, 2020). These areas include: social isolation, anxiety, financial vulnerability, racial discrimination, family violence and alcohol consumption.

Focusing on evidence-based associations and causes of ill-health, this *Mental Health Action Plan* is a piece that fits into a much broader, health promotion strategy at Knox City Council and partner organisations.

Knox Mental Health Profile

Mental health is an essential component to overall health and wellbeing and must be at the forefront of interventions that promote a healthy community. Since 2017, Knox residents have reported higher rates of psychological distress than the Victorian average. Residents of the Outer Eastern Melbourne (OEM) of which Knox is part, also reported slightly lower levels of life satisfaction than the Victorian average (Department of Health & Human Services [DHHS], 2017; DHHS, 2018a)⁴. Consequently, over a quarter of Knox residents have been diagnosed with anxiety or depression at some point in life, indicating that these poor signifiers may translate to diagnosable mental health conditions (DHHS, 2017). All of these issues are signifiers of poor mental health amongst our community.

Although the Knox community has been experiencing negative mental health factors, different cohorts within this community record worse experiences of mental health than others. Such disparities can be seen in the self-harm rate of females in Knox as opposed to males for example, which increased from 2017 to 2018 (Women's Health Atlas, 2018). Similarly, residents living in select suburbs in Knox reported higher rates of social isolation during the Covid-19 period. This geographical difference draws further attention to inequalities within the community and possible environmental features influencing poor mental health (Knox City Council 2020).

It is important to note, the impact of mental illness not only effects the individual experiencing the health issue, but also carers, friends and families of those with mental illnesses. This can have direct negative influences on their own mental health and wellbeing (Shah et al., 2010). Thus, services and initiatives must also address these support networks to ensure their mental health and wellbeing needs are also addressed.

The Impact of COVID-19

During the pandemic, mental health among the Knox cohort declined even further, as shown by the survey (Knox City Council, 2020). Recent evidence from the Black Dog Institute (2020) also supports this finding, stating that those with pre-existing anxiety disorders and other mental health disorders, including depression, are at risk of increased anxiety during the pandemic. Given our existing exacerbated mental health challenges, mental health and its drivers must be well understood and remain a high priority for Knox City Council.

Pandemic Mental Health Impacts

One of the major survey findings stated that 75% of residents reported a big, or slight impact⁵ on their mental health, which was most prominent in those aged 18-29 and least prominent in 65+ year olds (Knox City Council, 2020). Indicating the level of impact on mental health declined across increasing age groups⁶. However, mental healthcare traditionally focuses on adult population during crisis events, meaning more focus is needed on prevention and early intervention in younger years to minimise the risk of poor mental health developing and transitioning to adulthood (Black et al., 2017).

This disproportionate impact was further observed in those in a family household, compared to lone persons and couples with no children (Knox City Council, 2020). Discrepancies may be due to increased difficulties in managing domestic loads during lockdown as a consequence of home-schooling, limited

⁴ Effectively, life satisfaction saw a slight fall in OEM between 2017-18 compared to Victoria (DHHS, 2018a).

⁵ Survey participants were asked: *In what ways, if any, has the Coronavirus impacted on you?* This questions was open to both positive and negative impacts. An opportunity to provide further information was given later in the survey.

⁶ This is important to consider as approximately three quarters of mental illness occurs before the age of 25 years (McGorry & Mei, 2018).

childcare and reduced support from family and friends⁷ (Pierce et al., 2020). Renters were an additional subgroup reporting higher levels of mental health impact, which may be explained due to a higher percentage of renters experiencing changes to employment during the pandemic⁸, leading to increased stress and thus poorer mental health (Australian Housing and Urban Research institute, 2020).

Social Isolation

With 96% of respondents reporting an impact on time spent with family and friends, and an additional 39% naming social isolation as a setback; social isolation clearly emerges as a primary consequence of Covid-19 (Knox City Council, 2020). With already reported high rates of psychological distress, anxiety and depression, social isolation in Knox must be addressed to ensure rates stabilise and decrease to improve the mental health of residents.

Interestingly, as mentioned, the largest discrepancies in those experiencing social isolation occurred between different geographic regions⁹ (Knox City Council, 2020). Areas experiencing higher rates of social isolation include the Hills region¹⁰, Rowville, Wantirna and Wantirna South. This suggests broader environmental aspects may influence levels of social isolation, linking into the notion of liveability¹¹. Examples of geographical discrepancies could include the greater number of missing footpath links in Rowville (David Lock Associates, 2005), and consequently, the lowest walkability score of all Knox suburbs (Walk Score, 2021). This effectively may have impact on physical activity and accessibility of services¹². The interrelationship between liveability and mental health from a place-based perspective is complex and should be explored.

Anxiety

Levels of anxiety¹³ however, differed slightly across varying Knox cohorts during the pandemic, with higher rates of worriedness experienced in females, those who speak a language other than English, Rowville residents and those below the poverty line. These higher rates in females may be due to the higher rates of adopting household tasks while working, including home schooling when compared to males (Knox City Council, 2020), whilst higher rates in those who speak a language other than English may be due to ineffective official coronavirus health communications¹⁴ (Grey, 2020).

Financial Vulnerability

One of the primary impacts from Covid-19¹⁵ was financial vulnerability, with almost 70% of respondents reporting an impact on their financial position (Knox City Council, 2020). Financial

⁷ Social support acts as a protective factor for mental health, while decreased social support can lead to social isolation and thus decreased mental health (Kawachi & Berkman, 2001)

⁸ Including decreased hours and reduced income

⁹ This is particularly interesting as this issue did not differ by population groups as with most other indicators

¹⁰ Includes the suburbs of Upper Ferntree Gully, The Basin and Lysterfield

¹¹ A city in which people can “live in appropriate housing, within walking, cycling or rapid and reliable public transport distance to employment and education, social and health services, health food, and good quality public open space” (Whitzman et al., 2012) is considered a liveable city. Liveable cities have increasingly been linked to positive health¹¹ (Wood et al., 2017)

¹² Similarly, on average residents in Rowville have less than one restaurant, bar or café within a 5-minute walk and thus may have contributed to social isolation in a time where people had very little reason to travel beyond their neighbourhood (lockdown restrictions) (Walk Score, 2021)

¹³ Anxiety measures used in the Covid-19 household survey include measures of security, worriedness, confusion and relaxation. The most frequently reported anxiety measure was feeling (very much so) worried, followed by (not at all) relaxed, and (not at all) secure (Knox City Council, 2020).

¹⁴ Another reason could relate to cultural concepts of health and the way the question was posed

¹⁵ As reported in the Knox Covid-19 household survey

vulnerability was particularly felt by those aged 18-29, renters and those below the poverty line (Knox City Council, 2020). This may suggest those aged 15-24 years are considerably more likely to be employed on a casual basis and therefore have a less stable income than older adults (Gilfillan, 2018). Therefore, financial vulnerability should be recognised as a broader determinant in addressing mental health.

Health Improvements during the Pandemic

Although the pandemic had a large variety of adverse effects on resident's health and wellbeing, many individuals experienced improvements over this period. The most commonly reported improvement was spending more time with kids and family¹⁶, which may have acted as a protective factor to both social isolation and consequent decreased mental health for some cohorts as explained previously. Residents also enjoyed a slower pace of life and increase time for hobbies and projects which again may act as a protective factor to mental health¹⁷ (Head to Health, 2019).

The pandemic has presented unique experiences that have affected the mental health of some individuals. However, there are other broader context issues that also impact mental health regardless of the pandemic of lockdown restrictions; some of which include existing inequalities and behaviours which are discussed below.

Racial Discrimination

Racial discrimination is another broader determinant that impacts mental health and wellbeing. Knox is a diverse and multicultural community¹⁸, however, negative perceptions towards multiculturalism have existed in the past. Consequently, only half of Knox residents previously agreed that multiculturalism makes life in the area better; a lower proportion than Melbourne (Knox City Council, 2016). Whilst the percentage of adults agreeing with this statement has increased in the OEM region (DHHS, 2018a), the Australian Human Rights Commission (2019; 2020) saw a rise in complaints received against the *Racial Discrimination Act* over the past year. One third of racism complaints made between February and May 2020 were related to Covid-19, indicating the pandemic led to a spike in racism in Victoria (Tan, 2020). This is problematic, as individuals experiencing racism are at increased risk of developing mental health issues including anxiety and depression.

Due to Knox's multicultural nature, past attitudes, and the increase in racism in Victoria throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, racism should be elevated as an area of consideration in addressing mental health.

Alcohol Consumption

Knox has the equal¹⁹ highest alcohol related hospital admission incident per capita compared to neighbouring Local Government Areas (LGAs) (AODstats, 2018, as sighted in Knox City Council, 2019). This is in line with the high monthly increased lifetime risk of alcohol-related harm experienced by adults in Knox (DHHS, 2017). Additionally, the survey showed considerable proportion of respondents reporting an increase in alcohol consumption during the pandemic, with well over a quarter of 30-39 year olds and 40-49 year olds reporting this increase (Knox City Council, 2020). Furthermore, the

¹⁶ The impact on seeing family and friends was also seen as a negative (mentioned above), but this negative most likely relates to restrictions to see people outside one's household.

¹⁷ Individuals with hobbies often experience less stress and have a decreased risk of low mood and depression (Head to Health, 2019).

¹⁸ 30.1% of residents were born overseas in 2016, and a quarter of residents speak a language other than English at home (idcommunity, n.d). In addition, Knox has a growing Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander community (idcommunity, n.d).

¹⁹ Knox has equal rates to Maroondah City Council

survey also showed that families with children at home reported an increase in alcohol consumption at a higher rate than lone person households and couples with children. This may indicate alcohol as a coping mechanism for increased stress around helping children with remote learning (Sonnenschein & Grossman, 2020). Conversely, males, 18-29 year olds and lone person households experienced a decrease in alcohol consumption, which may be due to decreased socialisation (Knox City Council 2020).

Family Violence

Tying into mental health, family violence is of concern in Knox²⁰. Although incident rates are lower than Victoria, rates in Knox have seen an overall increase since 2016, and are higher than neighbouring²¹ LGAs. Of concern is a small number of respondents from the Covid-19 household survey reporting concerns about anger and violence at home (Knox City Council, 2020). This spike in family violence incidents was a predicted consequence of the pandemic restrictions (Liotta, 2020).

Other Pandemic Impacts

Further impacts of Covid-19 felt in the Knox community included decreased exercise, eating less healthy food and experiencing trouble buying food. Although these are not immediate mental health factors, they are part of the broader determinants of health and act as risk factors for poor mental health. Residents in Ferntree Gully, Knoxfield and Scoresby experienced higher instances of difficulty buying food²², whilst Wantirna South and the Hills region had higher rates of exercising less (Knox City Council, 2020).

Mental Health in the Youth of Knox

It is important to consider the youth living in Knox as a special interest group, especially as good mental health in childhood and adolescence translates into good mental health in adulthood (McDaid et al., 2017). According to the *Communities that Care* survey, some groups of Knox students are experiencing significantly higher rates of depressive symptomology than Australian students²³; rates which have increased in Year 8 and 10 students from 2014 to 2018 (Hosseini et al., 2019). This rate increase is seen progressively from Year 6 to year 10, as well as rates of lifetime alcohol use²⁴, binge drinking²⁵ and lifetime marijuana use, all of which are risk factors for poor mental health (Hosseini et al., 2019).

When compared to Australian data, some groups of Year 8 and 10 students in Knox have significantly higher rates of lifetime alcohol use, recent alcohol use²⁶ and binge drinking, in addition to higher rates of cigarette use and suspension (Hosseini et al., 2019). These areas indicate significant need for intervention to address these behaviours which can have adverse effects on both mental and physical health and wellbeing (Headspace, 2018; Letcher et al., 2015).

The unequal distribution of poor mental health seen in youth is also reflected at present in the huge demand and wait lists for most mental health services, particularly for this cohort as well as children (Pers. Comm. Pritchard 11th February 2020)²⁷.

²⁰ Knox saw a considerable increase in total family violence incidents from 2019 to 2020 (Crime Statistics Agency, 2020).

²¹ Maroondah, Manningham and Yarra Ranges (Crime Statistics Agency, 2020).

²² In addition to reporting eating less healthily than Knox as a whole

²³ The Communities that Care Knox Youth Survey collects data pertaining to health behaviours of students in years 6, 8 and 10.

²⁴ Age of first alcoholic drink

²⁵ Considered four or more drinks in one session

²⁶ In the last 30 day period

²⁷ Personal Communication Pritchard, R (EMPHN), 11th February 2020

Given the complex and interrelated nature of factors affecting the mental health of Knox residents, an array of interventions are needed to target different risk factors and cohorts to promote mental health and wellbeing. The next section will discuss services and interventions that are currently available in the Knox area.

DRAFT

The Mental Health Intervention Environment of Knox

The following chapter aims to summarise and present some existing mental health interventions in Knox at the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention levels.

In addressing mental health, it is crucial to take a broad approach and understand the wider determinants that work to facilitate positive mental health. The determinants utilised within this chapter come from the socio-ecological model of health which highlights the importance of focusing on multi-level factors influencing behaviour. The environment in which people work, live and recreate also plays a strong part in influencing mental as well as general health. Factors such as public open space, housing, food access and transport to name a few, shape opportunities and ways of being. These more tangible environmental factors are seen as indicators for liveability. As mentioned, the liveability of an environment has a direct impact on the health and wellbeing of residents and thus, are important to consider in taking a preventive approach to mental health (Lowe et al., 2013). Using both the socio-ecological and liveability models to understand possible interventions allows a holistic and experience driven approach.

In order to determine what appropriate interventions could be developed or strengthened, it is first important to establish what is already available in the Knox community. To capture this information, a range of stakeholders and organisations were engaged in semi-structured interviews to explore what is currently available to the community. The information provided by each agency was collected to create a map of available interventions and services in Knox, which can be seen in *Appendix 1*. Council and partners had a wide variety of programs that influence mental health, however for the scope of this exercise, only programs that were intended to affect mental health directly were included. Services and interventions were mapped according to prevention level, and were sorted by intervention type. A summarised table looking at the number of interventions and initiatives against the socio-ecological model, and liveability domains can be seen below in *Table 2*. This is useful to easily see the agglomeration of services, whilst exposing opportunities for further intervention.

For the purpose of this mapping exercise, the following definitions were used to categorise interventions:

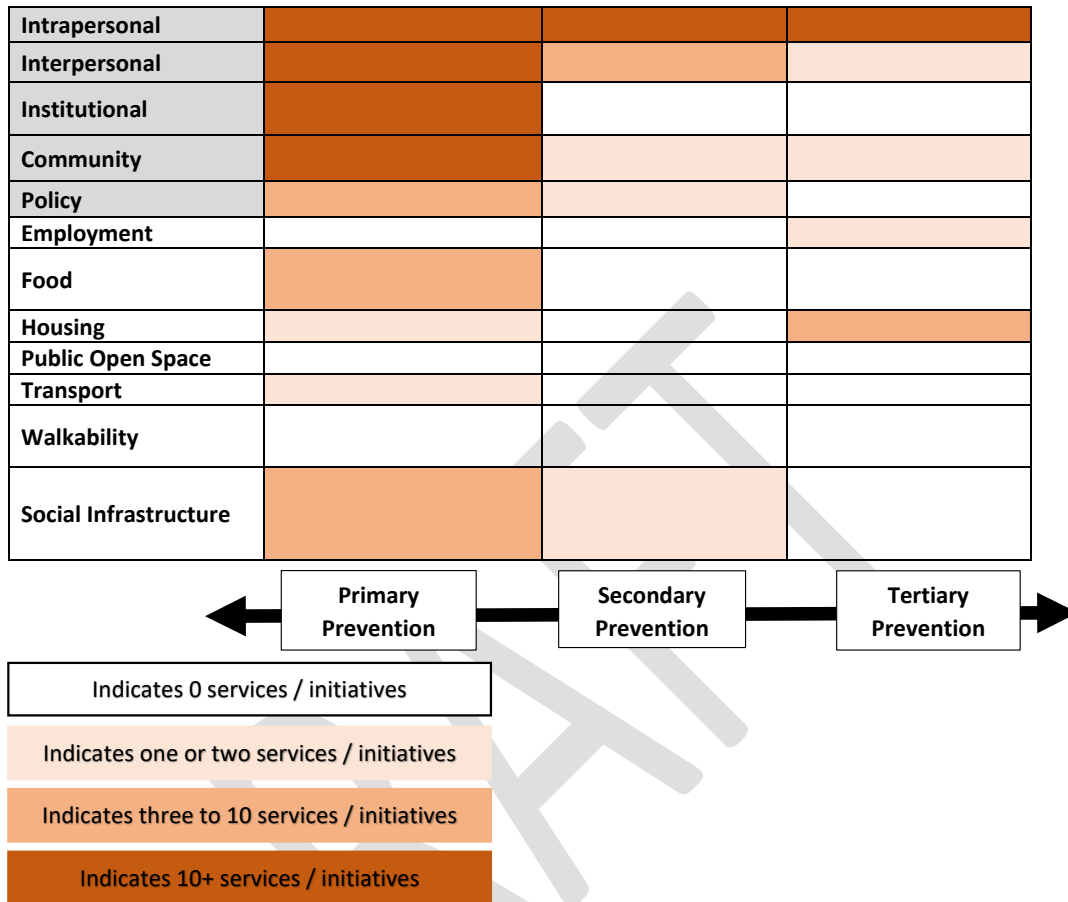
- **Primary Prevention:** aims to prevent the onset of a condition by stopping it from occurring in the first place
- **Secondary prevention:** focuses on the detection and treatment of a mental health condition at its earliest possible stage to reduce its duration and severity
- **Tertiary prevention:** aims to reduce the impact of an established condition on an individual's functioning, quality of life and longevity through treatment and psychosocial supports

(Carbone, 2020)

The mental health service system whose pathways sits largely upon the tertiary end of the spectrum, have not been extensively mapped. This is because it is a large and complex set of clinical services that lie outside the scope of this body of work. Instead, intervention points to access these pathways have been listed. See *Appendix 2* for more details on the tertiary access points.

This mapping is not an exhaustive list of all services and interventions in the municipality, but aims instead to provide a snapshot of the breadth and variety of programs and services currently available to our residents, which importantly allows us to consider further work and partnerships.

Table 2: Summary Map of Mental Health Services and Initiatives in Knox.



Addressing Mental Health in Knox City Council Catchment

Mental health is a significant burden to our community and has a variety of impacts on individuals and families. According to the Productivity Commission (202 p.4) mental health is a key driver of economic participation and productivity in Australia. Unfortunately, the implications of mental health on individuals, families and communities are immense and can be years in duration. The Royal Commission (2019) indicated that there are several issues in the mental health system that cause harm in our communities, some include general lack of support available to families and carers, and higher prevalence of some cohorts experiencing mental health issues. Effectively mental health affects a major part of our populations and inhibits its functioning and wellbeing.

Fortunately, many mental health conditions such as anxiety, certain behavioural disorders in childhood, as well as alcohol and substance use conditions can be prevented (Carbone, 2020). Anxiety and depression were amongst the most prevalent mental health conditions reported in the Knox community (Knox City Council, 2020), which would indicate that much of the mental health disparities experienced within our municipality are preventable. One of the largest problems outlined by the Productivity Commission (2020) is the under-investment in prevention and early intervention initiatives, which results in too many people living with mental ill-health for too long. Effectively, people need to seek assistance earlier and live in health promoting environments to aid in the prevention of mental ill health in the first place.

Mental health services and interventions can take on many modalities, addressing mental health itself specifically, or addressing drivers and known correlating issues such as relationships and drug and alcohol use for example. The previous chapter highlighted the significant work of partner organisations in this catchment, as well as council itself, in addressing mental health issues. Despite these extensive efforts, more work, planning and partnerships can be leveraged to contribute to a mentally and physically healthy community. This chapter will explore the possible interventions and partnerships for the Knox catchment.

Best Practice Interventions in Mental Health

The area of mental health is immense, extremely complex and largely intertwined with other aspects of health and wellbeing. Essentially the social determinants of health play a substantial role in producing mental health. The Royal Commission (2019 p. 8) suggest that inclusive, tolerant and supportive communities play a vital role in nurturing good mental health and wellbeing. In fact, evidence suggests that a large and diverse social network is a protective factor against depression, while social isolation is a key risk factor linked to mental illness and a range of adverse health effects²⁸ (Bhatti & Haq, 2017; Hawthorne 2006; Luanaigh & Lawlor, 2008).

In addition to a diverse network, research has also found that the quality of relationships is fundamental to mental health (Carbone, 2020 p22). Effectively relationships and community cohesion are essential to positive mental health in individuals and the community as a whole. Thus interventions that foster social cohesion and social capital in Knox, will make substantial strides towards positive mental health. Addressing aspect like racism, as indicated earlier, will be a key factor in addressing mental health, as evidence shows a correlation between experiencing racism and poorer mental and physical outcomes in Aboriginal Australians (Larson et al., 2007; Paradies, 2006; VicHealth, 2012).

²⁸ Including anxiety and depression, emotional distress, suicide and suicide ideation in addition to poor sleep, dementia development, high blood pressure and reduced immune function

In a similar capacity, natural and built environments have also been shown to have a significant impact on mental health. Experiencing nature, with specific reference to green and blue environments, has shown positive mental health benefits with reductions in depression and anxiety symptoms (Carbone, 2020). It has been well established that direct interaction with nature has perceived restorative benefits to mental health (Francis et al. 2012; Herzog et al., 1997; Kaplan 1995; Parks Victoria 2015). Knox is home to over 300 parks, reserves and fields that cater for a range of leisure and recreational activities, providing ample opportunity to draw on existing resources in promoting mental health. Built environments are also essential to mental health through the social capital and cohesion that can be facilitated in third places (Jeffres et al., 2009). Libraries, parks and neighbourhood houses all offer opportunities for interaction, and thus should be utilised in providing and strengthening mental health initiatives in Knox.

Other factors as discussed previously that indirectly impact mental health in an adverse manner include financial vulnerability, alcohol and experiencing family violence. Financial vulnerability can lead to stress and significantly higher levels of mental distress, in addition to exacerbating and potentially evoking instances of family violence (Simha et al., 2020; WHO, 2006). Those experiencing family violence often experience longer-term, adverse mental health impacts and are at increased risk of developing mental health problems and mental illness²⁹ (DHHS, 2018b). Conversely, individuals experiencing mental illness report higher rates of family violence compared to those without mental illness (DHHS, 2018b). Furthermore, alcohol is a depressant drug and can negatively affect one's thoughts and feelings, including anxiety and stress, in addition to contributing to the development or exacerbation of mental health issues (Newton et al., 2018). Alcohol consumption may additionally exacerbate other negative risk factors. Thus, alcohol is a risk factor that should be considered when addressing mental health.

Addressing other social determinants such as physical activity and healthy eating have also been shown to have a positive effect on mental health. In fact, community level programs targeting other outcomes like obesity, have been found to have positive outcomes on mental health presumably through their impacts on shared risk factors (Carbone, 2020 p27): physical activity, healthy eating, outdoor recreation and social interaction. A prospective cohort study, found that: "12% of future cases of depression could have been prevented if all participants had engaged in at least one hour of physical activity each week" (Carbone, 2020 p. 23). Consequently, promoting health through physical activity and healthy eating should form a component in responding to mental health.

Mental health is heavily influenced by people's living conditions and social position, thus addressing social determinants and the environments people live in is essential for improvement (Carbone, 2020 p5).

In addition to environment and social connections there are certain life stages that are more critical in preventing mental ill health than others. The first 1000 days are critical to a person's future mental health and wellbeing and should be addressed with respective importance (Carbone, 2020 p.7; Royal Commission, 2019). In addition to particular age groups, certain cohorts such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people of diverse ethnic background, LGBTIQ+, refugee and many other groups experience higher rates of mental ill health compared to the white Australian majority (Royal Commission, 2019 p.10). This may be because life conditions, racism and resource access can differ to that of the majority. Therefore, special consideration should be taken when developing and

²⁹ Including but not limited to depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and suicidal ideation

strengthening mental health related initiatives to ensure all groups and cohorts in Knox have access to what they need for health and wellbeing.

Further areas of research that have shown to have significant positive impacts on mental health include:

- Parenting programs
- Social and emotional development programs (mindfulness)
- Creating supportive environments for mental health (programs to enhance social networks of older people, bullying prevention programs at school)
- Community level programs that enhance social cohesion

In addition, interventions in placed based settings such as schools, workplaces, sports clubs etc. have shown significant impact on mental health (Carbone, 2020 p9). This is because these environments are experienced on a daily basis and they combine social capital and built environment factors.

To successfully address mental health, a broad approach must be taken, one which focuses on prevention, environments, fostering of positive relationships and opportunities within the community.

[Mental Health Action Plan Examples in Australia](#)

Given the breadth of drivers that influence mental health, it is possible to focus on a great deal of health priorities. The focus on general health and wellbeing through the social determinants would have a significant effect on the community. Many governments and other agencies have attempted to address mental health disparities in Australian communities. The Queensland Government (n.d. p.14) for example, have chosen to focus on a few areas in their own action plan including:

- Being socially connected
- Having control over one's life
- Having a sense of purpose and future
- Meaningful participation in learning, work and community
- Having access to housing, income and other resources
- Being safe and free from violence and discrimination

More details of their approach can be seen in *Figure 1*.

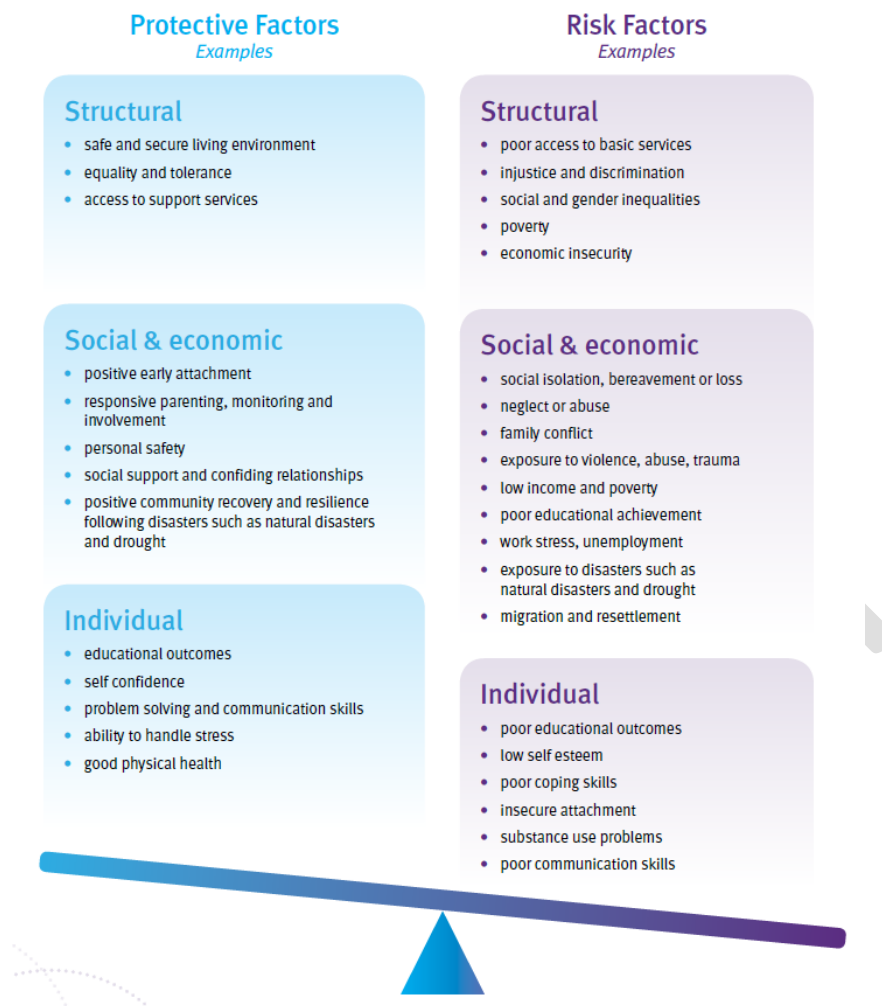


Figure 1 Queensland Mental Health Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention Action Plan model (Queensland Government no date p. 16)

Federal and State Government Actions into Mental Health

Importantly, both Federal and State Governments take action in tackling mental health in Australian communities. Their actions will affect the residents of Knox and therefore the actions that Knox City Council and its partners should take.

Federal Government Focus on Mental Health

The Mental Health Inquiry Report (Productivity Commission, 2020) outlines mental health priorities for the country as being:

- Prevention and early help for people (new parents, stigma, social/emotional development of school aged children)
- Improve people’s experience with mental healthcare (person-centred mental health system)

- Improve people's experience with services beyond the health system (recover well and live in community)
- Equip workplaces to be mentally healthy (psychological health and safety in workplaces)
- Instill incentives and accountability for improved outcomes (national strategies, regional planning)

Please see *Appendix 3* for more details.

State Government of Victoria Focus on Mental Health

A Royal Commission into mental health was launched by the Victorian Government in 2019. The full report was scheduled for public delivery in February 2021, however the recent pandemic has delayed the process. The interim report however, outlines the following immediate actions:

- a new approach to funding, comprising a new revenue mechanism to enable a substantially increased investment in mental health. This will facilitate delivery of the reforms required to establish a contemporary and enduring mental health system
- the creation of the Victorian Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing to bring together expertise in lived experience, research and clinical and non-clinical care, disseminating the practice of evidence-informed treatment, care and support across the state
- an additional 170 acute mental health beds for young people and adults in areas of need to help respond to demand
- funding all area mental health services to offer the Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement program to expand follow-up care and support for people after a suicide attempt, along with the creation, delivery and evaluation of the first phase of a new assertive outreach and follow-up care service for children and young people who have self-harmed or who are at risk of suicide
- the creation of an Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing Centre and the establishment of social and emotional wellbeing teams in Aboriginal communities throughout the state to support appropriate models of care
- the establishment of Victoria's first residential mental health service designed and delivered by people with lived experience of mental illness
- the development and implementation of supports and structures designed to enhance and expand consumer and family-carer lived experience workforces in the mental health system
- increased opportunities to expand and develop the workforce—including funded graduate positions, postgraduate scholarships and psychiatry rotations, supported overseas recruitment, leadership development and improved data.

In addition to these immediate actions the current recommendations of this interim report include:

- Victorian Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Targeted acute mental health service expansion
- Suicide Prevention
- Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing
- A service designed and delivered by people with lived experience
- Lived experience workforces
- Workforce readiness
- New approach for mental health investment

- The Mental Health Implementation Office

Opportunities in the Knox Mental Health Prevention Environment

The mapping of the service environment discussed in chapter 3 outlines an extensive range of services and initiatives in the Knox community. However, in discussion with each partner organisation, it was noted that while a good variety of programs, services and interventions exist, the main problem was that functioning capacity had been reached, and organisations were unable to service everyone when they need it. Given the evidence of significant quantity and variety of interventions, the focus of council and its partnership efforts should be pitched at prevention to assist in the support of these services and programs further downstream. The domains of liveability were the area of least focus within the analysis and thus prove to be a good area for council to focus on early intervention, in addition to supporting partnerships in other areas.

Given the unique capacity of council to influence and change the physical environment, addressing the broader determinants of health; including many of the liveability domains presented in *Table 2*, should be of focus. In addition to improving liveability domains, council has the capacity to provide and prepare environments and facilities for better use for partner organisations and their initiatives to address mental health. Therefore, council has the ability to address environments through liveability domains in order to facilitate primary prevention in a way that is not possible for external bodies.

Recommendations

Considering the information provided in this report, a number of recommendations have been made in line with key themes identified by partner organisations. These recommendations have been developed through careful deliberation and research into expert opinion and current best-practice methods to ensure all are evidence based. These recommendations offer a broad scope and aim to address a wide variety of areas across the socio-ecological and liveability domains.

Proposed Interventions

Health Promotion
31. Enhance Liveability factors of all suburbs in Knox City Council (e.g walkability, housing , food)
32. Address and challenge all forms of discrimination, exclusion or marginalization in the community (racism, bullying, homophobia, people with mental health issues, people with AOD challenges etc.), including the enhancement of existing programs to include mental health prevention
33. Undertake an analysis of suburbs reporting higher rates of social isolation during the pandemic lockdowns (through a placed based Liveability Assessment)
34. Improve the state of third places to promote social gathering and cohesion for the strengthening of social capital
35. Focus on Family Violence Prevention as a key driving factor, with specific consideration to trauma and cultural sensitivity
36. Focus on decreasing alcohol consumption and other drug use as a key factor to poor mental health and broader relating issues
37. Promote the Achievement Program to early years settings, schools and workplaces within Knox City Council
38. Focus on specific underutilized health promotion subject areas to support marginalized communities (e.g. LGBTQIA+, multicultural community, First Nations people)
39. Focus on promoting mental health and wellbeing in the Knox City Council workforce
40. Promote, support or deliver family and carer support groups in the region
Community Education
41. Promotion of existing partner programs through council channels to increase awareness to 'hard to reach' groups (e.g. homeless, language other than English)
42. Implement parenting and relationship programs to enhance the quality of relationships - Baby Makes 3 (BM3), RRR
43. Implement programs and initiatives to support the first 1000 days of life: INFANT, BM3 as well as family support and resilience
44. Promote and run mindfulness programs and/ or mental health first aid through council for all residents and select cohorts
45. Work with primary, secondary and tertiary education settings, targeting students to build resilience skills to address mental health (e.g relaxation, mindfulness, psychoeducation, meditation, yoga, wayapa, resilience, coping mechanisms, positive mental health practices, arts), in addition to health promoting behaviours (physical activity, healthy eating, adequate sleep, consumption of alcohol)
46. Promote culturally appropriate mental health awareness and intervention in antenatal and postnatal cohorts
Sector Coordination and Collaboration

<p>47. Knox Mental Health Round Table- for collective impact partnered approaches to mental health actions</p> <p>48. Implement a mental health and wellbeing specific community grants program- to support community organisations lead initiatives</p> <p>49. Greater use and activation of third places to foster social connection (e.g running free place based physical activity programs like Active Maribyrnong)</p> <p>50. Partner with and utilise existing facilities in Knox to deliver and strengthen current social connection initiatives, including leisure centres, libraries, neighbourhood houses</p> <p>51. Encourage the co-location of services, potentially leveraging existing council facilities</p> <p>52. Partner with ACCHOs to support existing initiatives for the increased health and wellbeing of First Nations people</p> <p>53. Work collaboratively with carers, families and support people to address their needs and connect them to appropriate services</p>
Advocacy
<p>54. Seek advice and input into initiatives from those with lived experience (e.g community representation group), including those from vulnerable groups, families, carers and supporters</p> <p>55. Promote participation in wellness practices (yoga, meditation, yarnning circles, waypa etc.) with guidance from specific cultural groups</p> <p>56. Support the engagement of existing services, facilities and programs (e.g. Headspace, Men’s Shed, community gardens, multicultural services, First Nations specific services)</p> <p>57. Promote and support First Nations peoples cultural health in schools through partnerships with KESOs.</p> <p>58. Increase understanding of the needs of women in regards to mental health across different life stages (youth, pregnancy, retirement etc.), and across different cultural groups</p> <p>59. Advocate for resources that enable collaboration and partnerships</p> <p>60. Advocate for adaptable service delivery to improve experiences and support families, carers and other supporters of those living with mental illness</p>

**Bolted initiatives indicate the actions most pertinent to partnering organisations*

Conclusion

Mental health in Knox has always been a challenge, however the recent pandemic has exacerbated this issue. There are currently many initiatives happening to address mental health and its drivers across the prevention spectrum in the municipality. Despite having a good range of services, many organisations are inundated and functioning at capacity; effectively leaving many people waiting for the services they need. In addition to capacity issues, community members may also face barriers in terms of cost getting the ongoing services they need after their Mental Health Plans are utilized.

Prevention of ill mental health and wellbeing is an essential part of the service delivery environment, for any health and wellbeing issue. Importantly a variety of work is being done at the prevention level in the mental health space, as seen in *Table 2*. However, most of this work is at individual level and little is focused on the environmental drivers that can be addressed through a liveability lens. This gap leaves a significant opportunity for council and one which plays to its strengths.

Next Steps...

Despite the significant work and opportunities that are presented to the Knox catchment, a collective and unified approach to mental health must be taken to make positive impact and address the current issues in the future. This document details a variety of interventions and opportunities that can assist the Knox community in mental health and be delivered over the space of many years. However for these interventions to be effective they require strategic planning, guidance and support from a range of experts and organisations with a variety of capacities in the field of mental health. Thus the first point of business to improve mental health in the city of Knox is to establish a Mental Health Round Table which can set priorities, goals and timelines in which to execute and coordinate the recommended actions and other arising opportunities.

Essentially a collective and diverse partnership is the next essential step to successfully address mental health in the Knox community.

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Glossary

ACCHOs – Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations; ‘a primary health care service initiated and operated by the local Aboriginal community to deliver holistic, comprehensive, and culturally appropriate health care to the community which controls it, through a locally elected Board of Management’ (NACCHO, n.d.).

Achievement Program – a free health and wellbeing program that helps schools, early years’ settings and workplaces create a healthier environment. There are a number of focus areas within the program that differ slightly for each setting but include healthy eating, physical activity and mental health and wellbeing. The program is aligned to the World Health Organization’s model for Health Promoting Schools and Health Workplaces, is delivered by Cancer Council Victoria and is supported by the Victorian Government (State of Victoria, n.d.).

Active Maribyrnong-

Baby Makes 3 (BM3) – a family violence primary prevention program aimed at first time parents that works through ‘promoting equal and respectful relationships between men and women during the transition to parenthood’ (VicHealth, 2011).

Financial vulnerability – refers to financial instability, or being exposed to financial risk and / or shock (Lee & Sabri, 2017)

INFANT

Intrapersonal – individual factors influencing behaviour (Golden & Earp, 2012).

Interpersonal – influence from social relationships (Golden & Earp, 2012).

Knox COVID-19 Household Impact Survey – A survey conducted by Council and completed by 1,615 residents from 20 July to 5 August 2020, with the aim of collecting data pertaining to the impacts on Covid-19 in the community.

KESO- Koori Education Support Officer

Liveability – a liveable community can be understood as one that promotes the health and wellbeing of community members, in addition to building supportive communities and promoting a sustainable society. The key indicators for a liveability utilised in this report include: employment, food, housing, public open space, transport, walkability and social infrastructure. (Lowe et al., 2013).

Place Based – approaches that are tailored to a specific place / environment by engaging local community members and promoting active participation through shared decision-making in development and implementation (State Government of Victoria, 2020).

Primary Prevention – aims to prevent the onset of a condition by stopping it from occurring in the first place (Carbone, 2020).

Secondary Prevention - focuses on the detection and treatment of a mental health condition at its earliest possible stage to reduce its duration and severity (Carbone, 2020).

Socio-ecological model of health – encompasses the interrelated and interactive nature of individual and environmental characteristics influencing health (Golden & Earp, 2012). For the purpose of this report, the socio-ecological factors considered include intrapersonal, interpersonal, institutional, community and policy influences.

Tertiary Prevention - aims to reduce the impact of an established condition on an individual's functioning, quality of life and longevity through treatment and psychosocial supports (Carbone, 2020).

Third Place - environment in the community which fosters community connection and enable communication and socialisation among people outside of home (first place) and work (second place). Examples may include parks, libraries, recreation centres, coffee shops and public places where people gather (Jeffres et al., 2009).

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Appendices

Appendix 1. Available Interventions and Services in Knox LGA

Intrapersonal (e.g beliefs, attitudes, behaviors)	1J, 1K, 1M, 1E, 1F, 1O, 1H, 1P, 1Q, 1R 3A, 3B 4A 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E 6A, 6B, 6J 8C 9B, 9F, 9I, 9J, 9K, 9N, 9Q 10 11A, 11B, 11C	1A, 1B, 1N 2A, 2B*, 2C*, 2D*, 2E, 2F 3C, 3D, 3E 4D 5B, 5E 6D 9G	1G, 1I 2E, 2G, 2H*, 2I, 2J*, 2K 4D 5A 6E, 6F, 6G, 6H 8A, 8B, 8E 9A, 9C, 9D, 9E, 9L, 9M
Interpersonal (e.g building of social capital/networks)	1J, 1K, 1E, 1C, 1H, 1P, 1Q 4B 6A 10 11A, 11B, 11D	2L* 5E 8C	8D
Institutional (socio-culture of schools, health care admin, faith based orgs)	1J, 1M, 1E, 1H 4A 5B, 5C 6J 7 9B, 9K, 9N, 9Q 10		
Community (e.g. relationships and communications between organisations and institutions)	1J, 1L, 1M, 1E, 1A, 1C, 1D, 1F, 1H, 1R 3A, 3B 4C 5C 9B, 9K, 9N, 9O, 9P 10	2M 3E	6G 8E
Policy (e.g. national, local laws, policy etc.)	1C 6C 7 9H	2M	
Employment			6I
Food	6A 7 9H		
Housing	1A		2E, 2N 8A
Public Open Space			
Transport	1R		
Walkability			
Social Infrastructure	1D, 1G 7 9H	1G	

Intervention Map of Mental Health Services and Initiatives in Knox

** Intervention points leading to tertiary mental health pathways*

The following table provides an overview of the initiatives listed in the first table in this appendix.

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1. Knox City Council

- A. **Advocacy** – Adult Mental Health Centre and the HeadtoHelp Hub
- Standalone facilities providing collocated multidisciplinary services addressing of social disadvantage including financial vulnerability, homelessness, family violence, elder abuse and addictive behaviours
- B. **HeadtoHelp hubs** – Boronia
- Primarily focus on providing care for first time sufferers as a result of Covid-19, but also for long time sufferers
 - Complementary, although separate to Adult Mental Health Centres
- C. **Strategic Planning**
- Mental Health Forum
 - Mental Health Action Plan
- D. **Community Wellbeing Grants**
- As part of our Community and Business Support package
 - Covid-19 Supporting Local Services Fund, increased funding to the Minor Grants stream and annual Community Development Fund enabled local community organisations to provide programs and support to their communities' mental health and wellbeing
- E. **Sporting Club Mental Health Awareness Training**
- Free sessions on mental health, resilience and wellbeing awareness offered to all sporting clubs in Knox, delivered by Headspace
- F. **Youth team Headspace partnership**
- Addressing mental health through a number of initiatives, for example mental health support webinars
- G. **Disability Team advocacy** for increased mental health services that provide early intervention and support services for community
- H. **Youth Services programs**
- Offers a range of programs for different cohorts (LGBTQIA+ young people, young parents, schools etc.). including mental health education sessions, and social inclusion programs
 - Ongoing Indigenous Program in partnership with EACH
- I. **Youth Services** counselling services
- J. **Public Housing Estates Project** – Council will work alongside people over 55 years old living in housing estates to be socially included and improve their mental and physical wellbeing
- K. **Be Kind Campaign** – to be used as part of the messaging for the public housing estates project
- L. **Working in partnership with NEAMI** to support their Preventive Health Initiative (see 5E)
- M. **Health and Wellbeing 'Re-Connect' sessions** delivered by Sport and Life Training (SALT) in 2020
- N. **Provide information sessions** to support community to navigate the mental health service system
- Disability Team
- O. **Explore opportunities** to support parents and carers to participate in mental health first aid training
- Disability Team
- P. **Zest4Life** – over 55s program
- Events, activities, workshops, information sessions; including education on health and social bus outings
- Q. **Bright Ideas Network** – offers a range of information, news and events, including a newsletter
- Ageism photo and film exhibition
 - Housing expo
 - Advocacy
- R. **Living Our Best Life Directory**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes groups and services in the community that might help individuals improve their health and wellbeing
2. Eastern Health³⁰	<p>A. Head to Help – mental health services navigation support</p> <p>B. Better Access – a mental health care plan is needed in consultation with an individual’s GP to then access one on one counselling with a mental health practitioner. Potential for a partial payment need</p> <p>C. Stepped Care – Private mental health services and direction for disadvantaged individuals</p> <p>D. Neami Psychosocial Support Service – for those not services by an Eastern Mental Health Case Manager</p> <p>E. PARC (Prevention and Recovery Care) – Step Up and Step Down Care: housing for up to 10 people providing psychosocial support and clinical staff to help people stay out of hospital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either individuals coming from hospital who are not well enough to enter the community, or those from the community as a stepping stone to try and prevent hospital admission • Delivered by Wellways for those that are case managed through Eastern Health <p>F. HYDDI – Homeless Youth Dual Diagnosis Initiative</p> <p>G. Crisis Assessment Treatment Services</p> <p>H. Tertiary mental Health Services – via Eastern Health Mental Health Triage</p> <p>I. Inpatient services</p> <p>J. NDIS support and service providers</p> <p>K. Specialist Services – e.g. personality disorder services, eating disorder services, neuropsychiatric services</p> <p>L. Community Supports – community health services, community houses, self-help and support groups</p> <p>M. Share Care Protocol – principles of collaboration and communication across sectors, understanding pathways to get good recovery oriented services</p> <p>N. Homeless outreach services</p> <p>O.</p>
3. Eastern Community Legal Centre	<p>A. Mabels Program – early intervention family violence with maternal health nurses within hospitals (not in Knox yet due to funding restrictions)</p> <p>B. Women Engaging and Living Safely (WELS) – family violence and child safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide women who are at risk of, or experiencing family violence with free, confidential legal advice • For women attending Eastern Health maternity services <p>C. Referral Service to mental health services – referral to lawyer and social worker for individuals that approach in dire need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largely around engaging and supporting homeless people <p>D. SAGE – wrap around family violence service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For women in immediate danger • Team composed of a manager, lawyer, social worker and financial counsellor to consider all aspects of what the individual is experiencing e.g. risk of homelessness, mental health issues, if children are involved etc. <p>E. Elder Abuse Program (similar to SAGE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a lawyer, advocate and financial counsellor with expertise around elder abuse • ECLC works with Eastern Health to deliver this program

³⁰ Access points and referral pathways through Eastern Health are complex with different access points for varying needs and conditions. Head to Help is the best access point for all navigation support and can be accessed by anyone through a central phone number (1800 595 212). Please refer to Appendix 2 for mental health treatment access points, and psychosocial support access points.

4. Headspace

- A. Community Engagement** (stalls at events and presentations)
- For example, presentations at camps about bullying, online presentations for schools, communities and sporting clubs, stalls at events such as university O week, Knox festival
- B. Group Programs** (usually in person, online during Covid-19) – regular, free and capped numbers
- Dungeons and Dragons for 12-21 year olds
 - Rainbow Support Groups (in conjunction with Knox City Council)
 - Paws for Thought
 - School Holiday Programs (online due to Covid-19)
- C. Liaison at Knox City Council**– strong relationships with schools in Knox
- Schools often contact Headspace for advice, services, programs etc. to promote to students
- D. Free walk-in mental health services** for young people aged 12-25
- General counselling, drug and alcohol counselling, education support, general practitioner access
 - These are separate from group initiatives so individuals can access these services without being involved in anything else at Headspace

5. Neami and Life Connect

A. Preventive Health Initiative (PHI)

- Short-term, targeted physical health support for people aged 18+ years experiencing mental health conditions through one-on-one sessions

B. Partners in Wellbeing – psychosocial approach

- Free, self-refer services, accessed through a central phone number, to help improve wellbeing, develop strategies to cope better and provide emotional support
- Follows a mental health coaching model which takes a holistic assessment
- Small business component that includes wellbeing support, financial counselling and business coaching delivered by external organisations
- Eligible individuals include those who are 16+ years experiencing increased life stressors and usual coping strategies are not working, noticing signs of anxiety/depression that have lasted more than a few weeks, and are not currently using a community mental health psychosocial support service
- Funded by the Victorian Government and delivered by Naemi National, EACH and ACSO

Life Connect – An externally funded service of Naemi

C. Suicide Prevention Training: Reach out and Connect

- 3 x 2.5-hour workshops (across two days when online), facilitated by a team of multi-disciplinary mental health professionals
- Part 1: Suicide in Context
- Part 2: The Suicide Conversation
- Part 3: The Suicide Intervention
- Delivered to workplaces and community groups etc. to upskill in understanding and prevalence of suicide to destigmatise and normalise those feelings
- Delivered by lived experience workers

D. LifeSkills Wellbeing Workshops

- Manage stress and develop resilience (seen as an important part of suicide prevention)
- Open for anyone in the community

E. Support after Suicide

- Bereavement counselling to people impacted by suicide
- Group support – provide a supportive environment to process grief and connect with others
- Community support response – offered in settings such as workplaces, schools & clubs, family and friendship groups
- Care coordination – find and connect with services to support wellbeing

6. Swinburne University

- A. **H.Squad** (student health ambassadors)
 - Online resources surrounding mental health, on-campus events (e.g. R U OK Day, Nutrition Week), small group workshops, nutrition classes, mindfulness workshops
- B. **Health Information and Advice**
 - Mental health specific (in addition to sexual health, nutrition and healthy living, alcohol and other drugs)
 - Online educational articles e.g. 'a guide to seeing a mental health professional'
 - Links to external resources including Headspace, Beyond Blue and Black Dog Institute
- C. **Respect. Now. Always. National Initiative**
 - Initiative by Universities Australia to prevent sexual violence in universities and improve university responses to and support those who have been affected
- D. **Assault reporting and help**
 - Safer Community Team: offers advice, support, intervention and risk management for students who have experienced or witnessed inappropriate, concerning or threatening behaviour
 - 'Make a report' link to report assault on the university website
 - 24-hour campus security – free security escort services after hours
- E. **After hours' crisis line**
- F. **On campus crisis support** – Wantirna campus nurse
- G. **Psychology and counselling services** (generally free access to all services)
 - Mental health nurses, psychologists and social workers
 - Specialised support services for sexual assault, drug addiction, trauma, Asperger's and ADHD
 - Sexual assault and family violence; in partnership with ECASA and EDVOS
 - Alcohol and drug use; in partnership with Access Health and Community (Hawthorn Campus)
- H. **Accessibility Services**
 - Education Access Plan (EAP)
 - Equitable assessment arrangements
- I. **Employment Assistance Program**
- J. **Staff wellbeing programs/activities/information/advice**

7. Cancer Council- Achievement Program	<p>Free health and wellbeing program facilitated by EACH in the city of Knox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program is a framework composed of seven key areas of health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthy Eating and Oral Health ○ Physical Activity and Movement ○ Sexual Health and Wellbeing ○ Mental Health and Wellbeing ○ Sun Protection ○ Safe Environments ○ Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs • Each of these areas have a specific set of targets to achieve, leading to healthy changes to the school's physical environment, policies and practices, and health promoting activities • Once achieved, schools receive Victorian Government recognition <p>Schools participating in Knox include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birch Street Children and Family Centre • Scoresby West Preschool • Templeton Orchards Preschool • Bayswater North Kindergarten (Maroondah) • Alice Johnson Preschool • Cooina Kindergarten, Boronia West • Windermere Preschool • The Basin Preschool • Oban Preschool (Maroondah) • Upper Ferntree Gully Kindergarten • Birch Street Children and Family Centre • Scoresby West Preschool • Holy Trinity Primary School, Wantirna
8. Wellways	<p>A. Pathways to home – outreach program primarily delivered in Maroondah as part of the Victorian Government Homeless and Rough Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engages with people experiencing rough sleeping by supporting them to connect with their community, and connect with services they need including physical and mental health services, drug and alcohol services, legal and housing services <p>B. NDIS program support and service provider</p> <p>C. Family, friends and carer support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free of charge <p>D. Community and peer education programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs for people experiencing mental health issues and for families, friends and carers <p>E. PARC in partnership with Eastern Health (see 2E)</p>

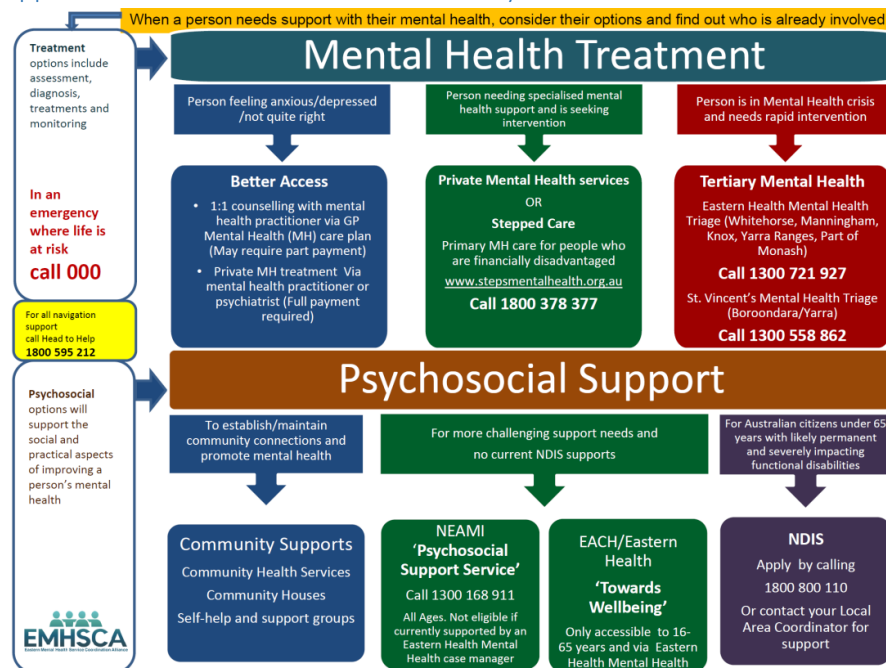
9. EACH	<p>A. Ngarrang Gulinj-al Boordup Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Team (AHWT) – Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The AHWT support and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community members to access required health and community services ii. The team includes Aboriginal Health Facilitators, a Nurse Care Coordinator and an Outreach Worker Aboriginal Health Promotion Officer who work together to provide support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community members with chronic health conditions (including mental illness) to improve their self-management <p>B. Life Connect in partnership with Neami (see 5C)</p> <p>C. Preventive Health Initiative (PHI) (See 5E)</p> <p>D. Counselling based services for adults</p> <p>E. Tertiary mental health services</p> <p>F. Financial counselling – funded and in partnership with Knox City Council</p> <p>G. Partners in Wellbeing (see 5F)</p> <p>H. Achievement program (see 7)</p> <p>I. Promotion of health tips via social media channels</p> <p>J. Telehealth tip sheet for internal customers during the pandemic</p> <p>K. Suicide Prevention Training Package developed in partnership with LivingWorks and delivered to 300 staff via a webinar</p> <p>L. Alcohol and other drugs programs</p> <p>M. Project Hope & Thrive – predominantly drug and alcohol service operating under a holistic and dual diagnosis framework addressing being with co-occurring substance use and mental health needs</p> <p>N. Communities That Care – evidence-based community-change process for reducing youth problem behaviours. Through the analysis of data collected in 2014 and 2018 CTC youth surveys for students in year 6, 8 and 10, Communities that Care Knox aim to use evidence based programs to reduce alcohol consumption in young people under 18, strengthen families, and strengthen young people’s commitment to school.</p> <p>O. Partnering with Pledge – Grassroots focus in Knox to address gender equity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Knox Local Champions for Gender Equity Awards – given to individuals who have made a significant contribution towards achieving greater gender equality in Knox iv. Poster competition – designing posters around what gender equality means to them <p>P. Together for Equality and Respect</p> <p>Q. Gender equality tubs containing resources and activities given to early years’ services</p>
10. Eastern Football and Netball League	<p>Information sessions outlining available supports within the community, and key challenges/issues presenting as a result of Covid-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with Eastern Health, SALT and Headspace

**11. Mullum Mullum
Indigenous Gathering**

- A. **Elders network** – informal, relaxed and culturally safe environment providing opportunities for social interaction
- B. **Youth programs** – Planned activities, Culture Group and Hip Hop
- Share experiences and develop relationships with other young Indigenous youth in the Eastern Metropolitan Area
- C. **Women's network** – promoting health and wellbeing
- Provides social activities for Indigenous Women and their families
- D. **Men's network** – support men's group to strengthen families
- Focus groups based on culture, recreation and education is the core basis of engaging the men as well as building linkages to other Indigenous Men's group around the region
 - Envisage men's group providing mentorship to other programs

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Appendix 2. Mental Health Service Pathways



In terms of mental health treatment, there are three main access points:

1. Better Access – for people feeling anxious, depressed or not quite right. This involves consulting with a GP to develop and receive a Mental Health (MH) care plan, before accessing 1:1 counselling with a mental health practitioner
2. Private Mental Health Services or Stepped Care – for people needing specialised mental health support and are seeking intervention. Stepped Care is primarily mental health care for people who are financially disadvantaged
3. Tertiary Mental Health – for people in Mental Health crisis and in need of rapid intervention. Occurs through presenting to the Emergency Department, ideally or through Eastern Health Mental Health Triage

Eastern Health further offer access points for psychosocial support as follows:

1. Community Supports including community health services, community houses and self-help and support groups to establish and maintain community connections and promote mental health
2. NEAMI 'Psychosocial Support Service' for those of all ages who are not supported by an Eastern Health Mental Health case manager, and EACH/Eastern Health 'Towards Wellbeing' for those aged 16-65 years via Eastern Health Mental Health. These services address more challenging support needs for those without current NDIS supports
3. NDIS support and services for those under 65 years and eligible

The EMPHN has commissioned a new online navigation platform for Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug supports to improve the ease of navigation for consumers.

Appendix 3. Federal Government Mental Health Actions

Priority reforms

 Prevention and early help for people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the mental health of new parents • Make the social and emotional development of school children a national priority • National stigma reduction strategy • Follow-up care for people after suicide attempts • Empower Indigenous communities to prevent suicide
 Improve people's experiences with mental healthcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a person-centred mental health system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Evidence-based mental health assessment and referral processes that help people find the services that are best for them – Identify, support and include families and carers as part of mental healthcare • Get people the right services at the right time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Expand supported online treatment, group therapies and access to mental healthcare via telehealth – Review limits on psychological treatment funded through Medicare and trial variations – Alternatives to emergency departments that are designed for people with mental illness – Expand community-based mental healthcare, including hospital outpatient clinics and outreach services • Improve mental healthcare outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Address adverse outcomes from prescribing practices of mental health medication – Reduce the gap in life expectancy for people with severe mental illness and physical illness • Care continuity and coordination
 Improve people's experiences with services beyond the health system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet demand for community support services that help people with mental illness recover and live well in the community • Commit to no discharge from care into homelessness • Increase assistance for police responding to mental illness related incidents • Legal representation for people facing mental health tribunals
 Equip workplaces to be mentally healthy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate importance of psychological health and safety in workplaces • No liability clinical treatment for mental health related workers compensation claims • Expand the individual placement and support program for people with mental illness
 Instil incentives and accountability for improved outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop implementation plans for national strategies that integrate healthcare and other services • Commit to regional planning, decision making and commissioning, with systemic cooperation and creation of new commissioning agencies if outcomes not improved • Expand the remit and independence of the National Mental Health Commission • Consumer and carer participation and advocacy in all aspects of the mental health system • Strengthen evaluation culture, focusing on outcomes that matter to people and reporting at service provider level

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9.5 Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel Recruitment 2021-2022

SUMMARY: Coordinator Community Partnerships, Saskia Weerheim

The Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel (the Panel) exists to annually assess grant applications for Council's Community Development Fund Program and to make recommendations to Council regarding the allocation of the grants budget in accordance with Council's Community Development Fund Policy.

During April and May 2021, an Expression of Interest and recruitment process was conducted for new Panel members to fill two vacancies. This report seeks approval for the appointment of two new Panel members for a four-year term from May 2021 to May 2025 (refer to Confidential Attachment 1).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Appoint the following applicants to the Knox Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel for the period May 2021 to May 2025, as presented in Confidential Attachment 1.**
- 2. Thank the following outgoing Panel members for their valuable contribution:**
 - Lance Deveson; and**
 - Jeff Somers.**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Community Development Fund (CDF) Grants Program provides annual grants to locally focused, not-for-profit organisations to encourage and support community activities and initiatives of Knox residents. The CDF Grants Program encourages one-off or short-term projects, as well as offering support to established community events that have been held annually for over three years.

The annual assessment of grant applications is undertaken by the CDF Evaluation Panel which is a Specific Purpose Committee of Council. The composition and conduct of the Panel is prescribed in the CDF Evaluation Panel Terms of Reference.

As well as assessing CDF grant applications, the Panel also evaluates the ongoing implementation of the Community Development Fund at the conclusion of each funding round and recommends any appropriate changes in policy and procedure to Council.

The updated Panel Terms of Reference was adopted at the April 2021 Ordinary Meeting of Council and is attached (refer to Attachment 2).

The objectives of the Panel are to:

- Ensure that Community Development Fund grants are assessed in a fair and transparent manner in the best interests of the Knox community in accordance with Council's Community Development Fund Policy;**

- Advise Council on the recommended allocation of funding under the Community Development Fund; and
- Ensure that the annual recommended Community Development Fund grant allocations support relevant Council policies, programs and strategies.

2. DISCUSSION

The selection and recruitment of new members of the Panel followed the process outlined in Section 3.1 of the Terms of Reference (refer to Attachment 2).

The current two Panel vacancies were due to:

- One Panel member completing a two-year term (appointed due to a casual vacancy); and
- One Panel member completing a four-year term.

2.1 Selection Process

The promotion of the Expression of Interest (EOI) process occurred through Council's social media, electronic mail, and via various networks in April 2021.

A Selection Panel was established to interview and assess the applicants in accordance with the Panel's Terms of Reference. The Selection Panel comprised Councillor Nicole Seymour (Chairperson), Councillor Susan Laukens, and one Council officer from the Community Partnerships team within the Community Wellbeing Department.

Council received eight applications through the EOI process, with all eight of the applicants shortlisted for an interview.

The following criteria was used to assess the applicants:

1. Being a Knox resident;
2. Having a connection to the community through personal involvement in community groups in the Knox municipality; and/or
3. Having one or more of the following:
 - Knowledge of and understanding of the issues important to community groups in Knox;
 - Having an understanding of the importance of grants to both community and Council;
 - Having direct links to local community group/s; and/or
 - Understanding or dealing with community-based policies, grants and projects.

The Recruitment Panel met on 18 and 20 May 2021 to interview the eight applicants. All interviews were conducted individually via Zoom.

The selection process involved reviewing the application and applicant against the selection criteria and the applicant's knowledge and experience, as well as their incentive for wanting to join the Committee.

Recommendations and the assessment of applicants, including applicants not recommended for appointment are provided in Confidential Attachment 1.

3. CONSULTATION

Due to the confidential nature of the Panel recruitment, no consultation has taken place.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

There are no specific environmental/amenity issues arising from this report.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The Panel is supported by existing resources within Council's Community Partnership Team in the Community Wellbeing Department.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The CDF grants are a means by which Council supports not-for-profit community groups and assists them to be active, sustainable and resilient. The Program is a valuable connection point for Council staff to gauge community activity and identify new community initiatives.

The operation of the CDF Evaluation Panel, with membership of both Councillors and community Panel members working together to assess and recommend on annual grant allocations, contributes to the accountability of Council's grants assessment process.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 7 - We are inclusive, feel a sense of belonging and value our identity

Strategy 7.3 - Strengthen community connections

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.1 - Build, strengthen and promote good governance practices across government and community organisations

Strategy 8.2 - Enable the community to participate in a wide range of engagement activities

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The CDF Evaluation Panel has an important role to play in assessing applications for Council's Community Development Fund Program grants and to making recommendations to Council regarding the allocation of the grants budget in accordance with Council's Community Development Fund Policy. The recommended applicants will continue to support this important process.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Attachment 1 is included in the confidential agenda, as it contains confidential information pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to personal information including the names and details of prospective Panel members which would be unreasonable to disclose publicly, or to disclose before they are appointed.

Report Prepared By: Coordinator Community Partnerships, Saskia Weerheim

Report Authorised By: Director Connected Communities, Tanya Scicluna

Attachments

Confidential attachment 1 has been circulated under separate cover

1. Attachment 2 - Terms of Reference - Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel 2021-2025 [9.5.1 - 5 pages]



Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel

Directorate:	Connected Communities	Responsible Officer:	Manager – Community Wellbeing
Approval Date:	April 2021	Review Date:	April 2025

1. Purpose

The Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel (the 'Panel') exists to:

- Annually assess applications for Council's Community Development Fund Program grants and to make recommendations to Council regarding the allocation of the grants budget in accordance with Council's Community Development Fund Policy; and
- Evaluate the ongoing implementation of the Community Development Fund at the conclusion of each funding round and recommend any appropriate changes in policy and procedure to Council.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Panel are to:

- Ensure that Community Development Fund grants are assessed in a fair and transparent manner in the best interests of the Knox community in accordance with Council's Community Development Fund Policy;
- Advise Council on the recommended allocation of funding under the Community Development Fund; and
- Ensure that the annual recommended Community Development Fund grant allocations support relevant Council policies, programs and strategies.

3. Membership, Period of Membership and Method of Appointment

The Panel shall comprise the following:

- Three (3) community representatives who will have voting rights; and
- Three (3) Councillors who will have voting rights.

The annual meeting to review the preceding grant process may include the Councillors and community representatives from that period to facilitate the crossover of ideas.

3.1 Selection and Recruitment of Community Representative Members

- Community members will be appointed to the Panel for a period of four (4) years based on a registration of interest and selection process.
- Successive re-applying is permitted as part of the recruitment and selection process.
- Incumbent Panel community members reapplying for a successive term can be appointed for a further period of no more than two (2) years.
- Vacancies for community positions on the Panel will be advertised in local newspapers and on Council's website and through social media.



Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel

- Casual vacancies which occur due to community members being unable to complete their appointments may be filled by co-opting suitable candidates from the most recent selection process for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term. Staff in consultation with the Chairperson will make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to appoint the recommended candidate to the Panel for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term. Where there are no suitable candidates identified, a formal expression of interest and selection process is required.
- New applicants will be required to submit an application addressing specified selection criteria and to attend a selection panel interview upon request.
- The selection panel will consist of Council staff and Councillors who are current representatives on the Panel, and will make recommendations of appointment of community representatives to Council.
- Previous community representatives may re-apply via the advertised process.

The Panel may invite observers to meetings from time to time. This is at the discretion of the Panel.

Guests may also be invited to attend and participate at meetings, this would generally be for a specific purpose and/or specified period of time. This is at the discretion of the Panel.

3.2 Councillors

Council will appoint Councillor representation annually.

Unless otherwise appointed to the Panel by Council, the Mayor is, by virtue of the Office, an ex officio member of the Panel. It is important that whilst the Mayor may not chair these meetings, appropriate recognition should be given to the presence of the Mayor if in attendance.

3.3 Council Officers

Council officers will be nominated to support the Panel by the CEO as required to provide advice and administrative support to the Panel.

4. Delegated Authority and Decision Making

The Panel acts in an advisory capacity only and has no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council.

Decisions made by the Panel will be reflected as recommendations to the relevant decision maker (Council, a delegated committee, or an officer with delegated powers).

The Local Government Act 2020 (Section 124) provides that a Councillor must not intentionally direct, or seek to direct, a member of Council staff in:

- The exercise of a delegated power, or the performance of a delegated duty or function; and/or
- In relation to advice (in a report or otherwise) provided to the Council or a delegated committee.

The Panel cannot make decisions outside the agreed scope detailed in its Terms of Reference.



Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel

5. Meeting Procedures

The Panel will meet approximately five to six (5-6) times per year, predominantly during the submission assessment period.

To proceed with a meeting a minimum of five (5) members are required to be present, including one (1) Council officer, two (2) Councillors and two (2) community representatives.

The Panel is not required to give public notice of its meetings and its meetings are not open to the public.

Meetings will follow standard meeting procedure protocols which are in summary:

- Commence on time and conclude by the stated completion time;
- Be scheduled and confirmed in advance with all relevant papers distributed (as appropriate) to each member;
- Encourage fair and reasonable discussion and respect for each other's views;
- Focus on the relevant issues at hand; and
- Provide advice to Council as far as possible on a consensus basis.

6. Chair

The position of Chairperson shall be held by a Councillor and shall be reviewed annually immediately following Councillor appointments to committees.

The position of Chairperson is to be agreed upon between Councillors. When this cannot be achieved, the Mayor of the day shall determine the Chair.

If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, any other Councillor who has been appointed to the Panel shall be appointed Chairperson.

The Panel may determine, with consent of the Councillor representative/s, to appoint another member other than the Councillor representative/s as Chairperson.

7. Agendas and Meeting Notes

Agendas must be prepared for each meeting. The Agenda should be provided to members of the Panel as soon as practicable in advance of the meetings.

Panel Meetings will typically constitute an informal meeting of Councillors as per the definition contained in Chapter 6 of the Council's Governance Rules. Consequently, a written record is to be kept of the meeting. The Record meeting notes of a must:

- (a) Contain details of the proceedings;
- (b) Be clearly expressed;
- (c) Be self-explanatory; and
- (d) Incorporate relevant reports or a summary of the relevant reports considered.

Draft meeting notes should be:

- (a) Distributed to all Panel Members within 14 days of the meeting; and



Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel

- (b) Submitted to the next meeting of the Panel for information.

In compliance with section 58 of the 2020 Act and the requirements of the Council's Public Transparency Policy the agenda and minutes of this group will be made available on Council's website unless:

- The information contained in the agenda and/or minutes is confidential by virtue of the 2020 Act or any other Act; or
- The public availability of the information has been deemed by the Chief Executive Officer or nominee to be contrary to the public interest.

8. Voting

As this is an advisory committee, voting on issues is not required. Any recommendations will generally be developed through consensus. When the Panel is unable to determine a matter by consensus, the matter will be determined by a vote. Councillors and community members have voting rights. Council staff provide support and advice to the Panel and have no voting rights.

In the event of an equality of votes, the Panel should endeavour to achieve consensus through discussion and further consideration of the applications. Where a decision cannot be reached in this manner, the Chairperson will have a second vote.

9. Conflict and Interest Provisions

In performing the role of a specific purpose or strategic purpose committee member, a person must:

- Act with integrity;
- Impartially exercise his or her responsibilities in the interests of the local community;
- Not improperly seek to confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person;
- Treat all persons with respect and have due regard to the opinions, beliefs, rights and responsibilities of other persons;
- Commit to regular attendance at meetings; and
- Not make improper use of information acquired because of their position or release information that the member knows, or should reasonably know, is confidential information.

Meetings of the Panel will typically constitute a Meeting Conducted under the Auspices of Council pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Councillors are consequently required to comply with the conflict of interest provisions as set down in section 131 of the 2020 Act and Chapter 5 of the Council's Governance Rules.

Councillors must:

- Disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present immediately before the matter is considered;
- Absent himself or herself from any discussion of the matter; and
- As soon as practicable, provide the CEO with a written notice recording the nature of the conflict.

Where a member of staff or a community member has a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest in relation to a matter before the Group, they must disclose the matter to the group before the matter is considered or discussed. Disclosure must include the nature of the interest and be recorded in the meeting notes. It will be at the



Community Development Fund Evaluation Panel

discretion of the Chairperson if the staff and/or community member remains or leaves the room whilst the matter is discussed, and this must also be recorded in the notes of the meeting.

All members shall participate in training on the Conduct and Interest Provisions which will be run by the Governance team.

10. Reporting

The Panel will provide its recommendations as an annual report to the Council.

11. Administration Support

Administration support will be provided by relevant officers in Council's Connected Communities directorate.

12. Contact with the Media

Contact with the media by Panel members will be conducted in accordance with the Councillor and Staff Media Policies. Community members should defer any media enquiries to the Chairperson in the first instance and should take care not to respond as a representative of the Panel.

13. Review Date

To ensure currency, these Terms of Reference will be reviewed as a minimum every four years. If the Panel continues to have a relevant function after four years, a report will be presented to Council to review the Panel's Terms of Reference.

14. Meals

The provision of refreshments during the course of Panel meeting will be provided in accordance with the Meals and Beverages for Council Committees Policy.

15. Administrative Updates

From time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this Terms of Reference, such a change may be made administratively. Examples of minor administrative changes include change to names of Council departments or positions, change to names of Federal or State Government departments or a minor amendment to legislation that does not have material impact. Where any change or update may materially change the intent of this Terms of Reference, it must be considered by Council at a Council or delegated Committee meeting.

10 Office of the CEO Reports for consideration

10.1 Annual Budget 2021-22

SUMMARY: Coordinator Management Accounting, James Morris

In accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) and Sections 7-8 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget by 30 June each year.

Key components of the Annual Budget 2021-22 include:

- A \$127.984 million capital works program of which \$39.255 million is allocated to maintaining and renewing community assets. \$88.729 million is to be invested in new and upgraded community assets.
- A 1.50% increase in rates for 2021-22 in accordance with the rate cap requirements outlined in Section 94(3) of the Act.
- Continuation of the \$100 rebate in relation to rates and charges for all eligible recipients.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the submissions received in response to the Proposed Budget 2021-22, thank the submitters and provide a written response notifying submitters of the decision;
2. Adopt the Annual Budget 2021-22 as set out in Attachment 1 in accordance with Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*;
3. Declare the Rates, Levies and Annual Service Charges for the 2021-22 financial year provided in Attachment 2;
4. Adopt the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 as set out in Attachment 3 in accordance with Section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and
5. Grant a rebate in relation to rates and charges to all Knox City Council residents eligible within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 1986, with \$100 being the maximum rebate amount.

1. INTRODUCTION

At its Ordinary meeting of 26 April 2021, Council resolved to advertise its Proposed Budget 2021-22, calling for submissions in accordance with Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The public submission period opened 27 April 2021 and closed 26 May 2021.

Public comment was invited on the Proposed Budget 2021-22 during the period of public consultation. In total, twenty-one submissions were received.

At its meeting held on 7 June 2021, a Committee comprising nine Councillors heard submissions on the Proposed Budget 2021-22. Copies of all submissions received are provided as Attachment 4. All submissions were tabled, with eight submitters speaking to their submission.

The following amendments have been made to the Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 as a result of recent submissions :

- An additional \$0.080M towards the development of a plan for Koolunga Native Reserve.

- Addition of an ongoing officer position for planning enforcement commencing 1 January 2022, with an additional cost of \$0.066 in 2021-22.

The Proposed Revenue and Rating Plan was placed on public exhibition together with the Proposed Budget 2021-22. No submissions were received on the Proposed Revenue and Rating Plan, and no amendments have been made to the Plan.

2. DISCUSSION

The Annual Budget 2021-22 seeks to balance the competing demands for Council services and infrastructure using prudential financial management principles to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

While Council continues to respond to the impacts of the pandemic, this budget looks to the future and focuses on delivering programs that are of high priority to Knox residents and businesses to support a stronger city into the future.

Significant investment in the capital works program of \$127.984 million provides an increased ability to fund asset renewal requirements and new capital works to support the delivery of the Community and Council Plan.

Significant capital projects for 2021-22 include:

- \$23.946 million to improve parks, reserves and community facilities including \$8.250 million for Knox Regional Netball Centre;
- \$27.000 million towards the development of Knox Regional Sports Park;
- \$15.428 million to improve and expand community buildings, including \$4.840 million towards the Fairpark Reserve pavilion upgrade;
- \$18.107 million on roads, footpaths, drainage and other civil infrastructure.

The Annual Budget 2021-22 is premised on an increase in total general rates income of 1.50% as set by general order and in accordance with Section 94(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The additional Council eligible pensioner rebate of \$100 will be maintained.

The Budget includes an increase in the Residential Garbage Charge from \$232 to \$257, a \$25 increase (10.78%). This charge has been set at an amount to ensure only full cost recovery inclusive of the State Government Landfill Levy.

Council has implemented user fees and charges increases that are both manageable and sustainable for its community.

The Annual Budget 2021-22 comprises the Budgeted Financial Statements and the Fees and Charges Schedule for the financial year ending 30 June 2022 (refer Attachment 1).

The Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 outlines Council's decision-making process on how revenues are calculated and collected (refer Attachment 3).

3. CONSULTATION

Council placed the Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan on public exhibition for 28 days and called for public submissions via Council's Have Your Say platform. A Committee comprising nine Councillors heard all submissions on 7 June 2021.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

The Annual Budget 2021-22 recognises the leadership role Council has within the community to actively address the impacts of sustainability and to facilitate other levels of government and the community to act in a similar vein.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The Annual Budget 2021-22 has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* and relevant Australian Accounting Standards.

The Annual Budget 2021-22 accords with the financial frameworks established by Council in its Long Term Financial Forecast.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Annual Budget 2021-22 contains resourcing for a wide range of programs to deliver important community services to the Knox community.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.1 - Build, strengthen and promote good governance practices across government and community organisations

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The Annual Budget 2021-22 forms an integral part of Council's overall strategic planning framework and endeavours to resource the directions that have been established in the Community and Council Plan.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

There is no content in this report that meets the definition of confidential information from the Local Government Act 2020.

Report Prepared By: Coordinator Management Accounting, James Morris

Report Authorised By: Chief Executive Officer, Tony Doyle

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Annual Budget 2021-22 [**10.1.1** - 105 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Declaration of Rates and Charges 2021-22 [**10.1.2** - 11 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 [**10.1.3** - 30 pages]
4. Attachment 4 - Public Submissions Table - Proposed Budget 2021-22 [**10.1.4** - 38 pages]

KNOX

your city



Annual Budget 2021-22

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Schedule of Fees and Charges

Mayor & CEO's Introduction

On behalf of Knox City Council, we are pleased to present our Annual Budget for 2021-22.

This budget finds Council and the wider Knox community at an incredibly unique time in our history. After a year that disrupted much of the way we work, live and play, it was important to us to produce a budget that invests in growing and strengthening Knox while recognising the continued challenges many in our community still face.

While we continue to respond to the impacts of the pandemic this budget looks to the future and focuses on delivering programs that are of high priority to Knox residents and businesses to support a stronger city into the future.

Incorporating feedback from the community, we've identified key priorities for the coming year, including building and maintaining community infrastructure, expanding kindergarten services, responding to climate change and supporting health and wellbeing.

The budget outlines the broad range of services provided by Council to meet the diverse needs of the people of Knox. These range from early years programs, support for older residents, and providing services for the vulnerable members of our community, through to urban planning and critical infrastructure delivery.

Recognising the need for urgent and decisive action on climate change, the budget includes funding to implement the Climate Response Plan, including converting public lighting to energy-efficient LED lights and expanding Council's electric vehicle fleet.

The budget also invests in key areas of health and wellbeing that have emerged as a result of the pandemic. These include a financial literacy program for women to support financial independence and prevention of family violence, as well as a Mental Health Action Plan to address challenges identified by the community such as depression and anxiety, social isolation, and substance abuse.

In addition, our investment in community facilities will increase to \$127.98 million over the next year. Public and community facilities play an important role in providing space for the community to gather and connect through shared interests, activities and cultures. Building and maintaining these facilities also provides a valuable opportunity to boost local construction and employment opportunities.

This budget includes \$27 million towards the redevelopment of Knox Regional Sports Park, which will deliver 12 new indoor basketball courts for domestic and elite use, high performance basketball facilities, gymnastics facilities as well as new administration areas, food and café facilities, car parking and landscaping. The redevelopment will cement Knox as the heartland of basketball in the country and provide more people with the opportunity to participate in their favourite sports.

Other highlights of the 2021-22 capital works program include:

\$23.9 million to improve parks, reserves and community facilities, including:

- \$8.3 million on Knox Regional Netball Centre;
- \$3.2 million in playground upgrades and renewals;
- \$9.8 million to renew ovals, tennis courts, cricket nets and other recreation facilities; and

- \$1.1 million on lighting upgrades at Knox Park Athletics Centre, Kings Park, Lewis Park and Templeton Reserve

\$15.4 million to improve and expand community buildings, including \$4.8 million on Fairpark Reserve pavilion; and

\$18.1 million on roads, footpaths, drainage and other civil infrastructure.

These spaces and facilities have been crucial for our community during times of restrictions and will be equally important in supporting our recovery.

While the impact of rate capping continues to present challenges in maintaining current service delivery levels, Council has worked hard to deliver a budget that is not only financially sustainable but continues to deliver on the priorities that matter to our community.

The budget includes a 1.5% rate increase balancing the financial pressures facing our community with the need for continued investment in community services, infrastructure and reinvigorating the local economy. For an average Knox household, this equates to an additional \$28 a year or \$2.30 a month, and allows us to deliver on the services and programs our community expects as well as supporting those most in need.

Council's Garbage Charge has been set at an amount to ensure only full cost recovery inclusive of the State Government Landfill Levy. The Residential Garbage Charge will increase by \$25 (10.8%) in line with the projected increase in costs.

This budget aims to look to the future and focus on recovery, while being conscious of the unique circumstances, challenges and changes our community has experienced over the past year and still faces today. We are confident this is a financially responsible budget and thank the community who played a role in shaping its priorities.



Cr Lisa Cooper
Mayor



Tony Doyle
Chief Executive Officer

Budget at a glance

\$194.8 million total operating revenue

\$188.2 million total operating expenditure (excluding net loss on property)

\$126.3 million total rates and charges

\$128.0 million on capital projects

\$50.0 million to be borrowed to fund capital works

719.4 full time equivalent employees

1.5% increase on average to rates



17.8km of roads being renewed or reconstructed



8.8km of new or renewed cycling paths



60,000 plants (incl trees, shrubs or groundcover)



Building works on 60 community facilities (incl early years, leisure, libraries, and recreation)



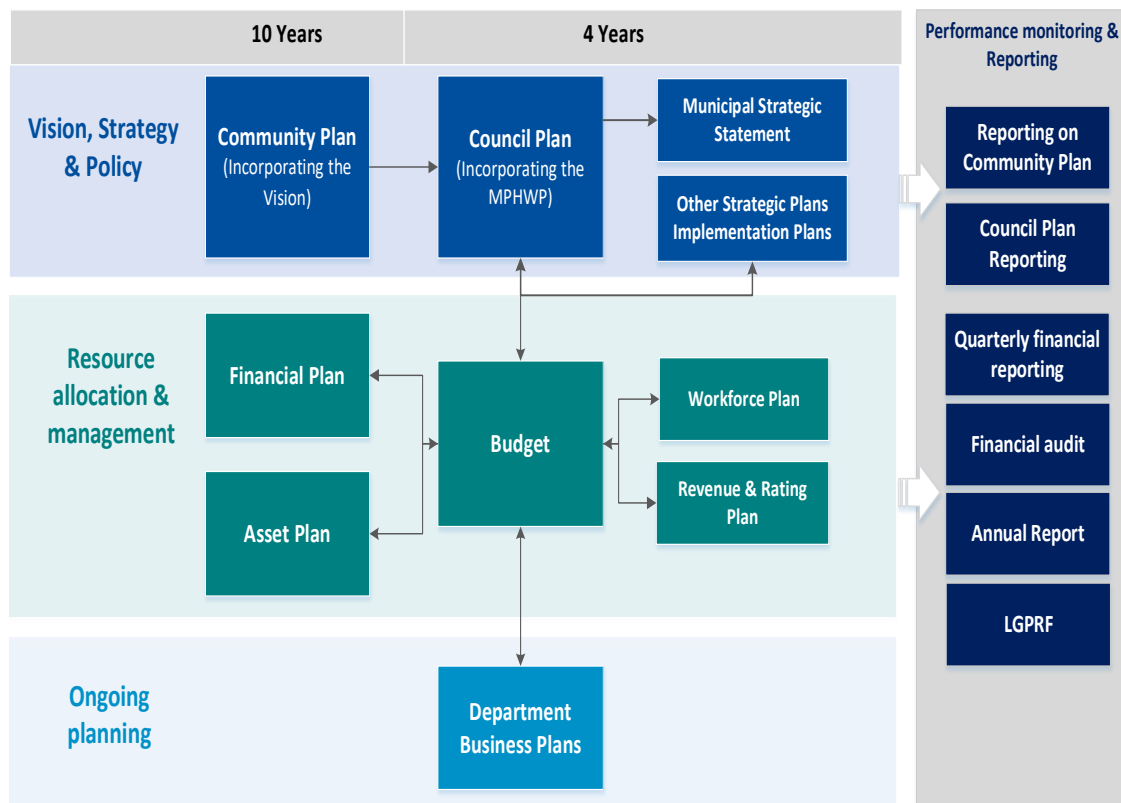
10 playgrounds or reserves upgraded

Link to the Community and Council Plans

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community and Council Plans within an overall integrated planning and reporting framework. This framework guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community and Financial Plans), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

Planning and Accountability Framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the key directions described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts Knox’s integrated planning and reporting framework. At each stage of the integrated planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



Our Community Vision

Knox's ten year community vision was developed with and for the community and forms part of the Community Plan 2021-31. The Community Plan 2021-31 and Council Plan 2021-25 are currently under development and will be adopted by 31 October 2021.

Knox: where we connect with our people and our environment, ensuring they are safe, supported and have every opportunity to thrive.

Key Directions

Together with the community, Council identified five key directions, with associated strategies, as the framework for progressing towards achievement of the vision.

Opportunity and innovation

Knox strives to be a city of opportunity, embracing innovation and change, and providing local learning and employment opportunities for all. It's a place where people and business can thrive.

Neighbourhoods, housing and infrastructure

Building on what's great about our city, Knox's housing and infrastructure will meet the changing needs of our community.

Natural environment and sustainability

Knox's environment is protected and enhanced to ensure sustainability for future generations.

Connection, resilience and wellbeing

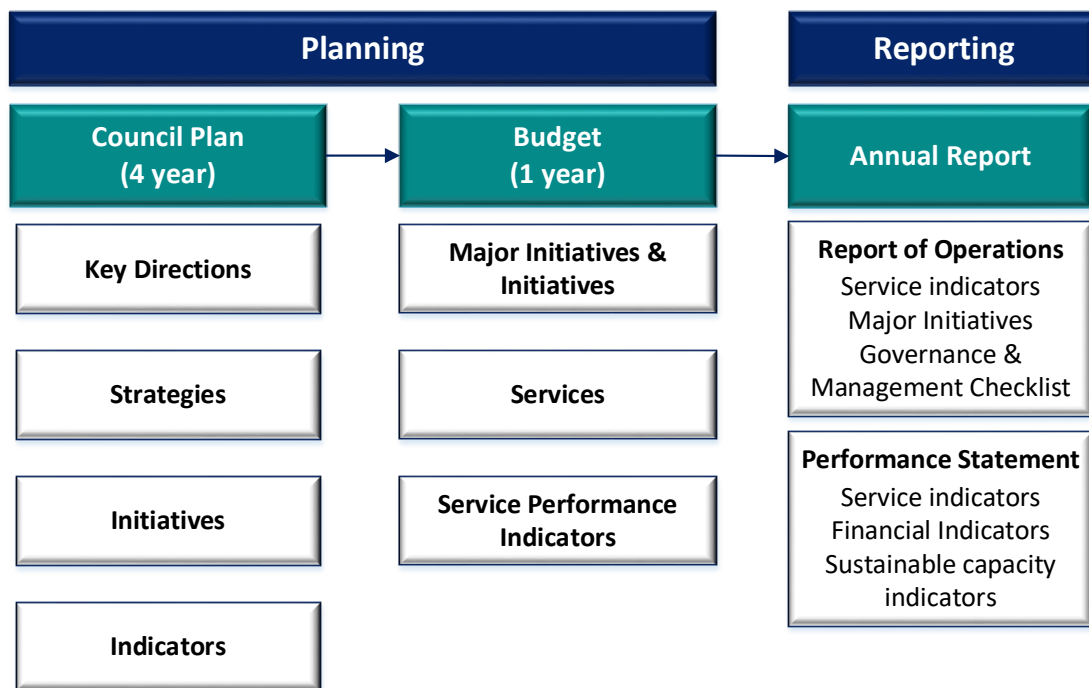
Knox is a place to call home. Our community is strong, healthy and we support and respect each other.

Civic engagement and integrity

Knox Council is a trusted and respected leader in our community, acting appropriately and ensuring all voices are heard

Services and Service Performance Indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2021-22 year and how these will contribute to achieving the key directions outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council’s operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below



Opportunity & Innovation

Knox strives to be a city of opportunity, embracing innovation and change, and providing local learning and employment opportunities for all. It's a place where people and business can thrive.

Strategies

The strategies we will undertake to achieve success in this area are:

Maximise the local economy by supporting existing businesses and attracting new investment

Encourage and support opportunities for skills development and lifelong learning for all people in Knox

Support organisations in Knox to navigate recovery and new ways of working

Services

The services, major initiative, initiatives and service performance indicators are described below.

Service	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	
	Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000	
Economic Development				
The Economic Development service aims to realise Knox's potential as a prosperous, sustainable economy. It provides an integrated approach to information, advice and action to generate local employment opportunities, encourage and attract new investment, and position the municipality as a leading vibrant and diverse place of business. The services focuses on initiatives and projects around business support, partnerships and alliances, investment facilitation and research. The service contributes to the overall health and wellbeing of the Knox Community.	Inc	21	502	13
	Exp	1,276	2,331	1,490
	Net	1,255	1,829	1,477
	Deficit			
Investment & Partnership				
This service creates the projects and implementation frameworks required to help Council activate its priorities from the Community and Council Plans. The service employs a venture planning and partnership building approach to align people, capital and ambition to create a sustainable and resilient City.	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	451	500	536
	Net	451	500	536
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Innovation				
The Innovation service is responsible for the development and deployment of strategies to support the organisation transforming to a customer centric, innovative, continuous improvement capable organisation. The service is responsible for the development, deployment and support of Knox LEAN and other innovation methods as developed and assessed suitable for Council. The team tracks and reports the organisational activity and benefits associated with the programs.	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	693	142	768
	Net	693	142	768
	Deficit			
TOTAL				
	Inc	21	502	13
	Exp	2,419	2,973	2,795
	Net	2,399	2,471	2,782
	Deficit			

Initiatives

Major Initiative	Implement business recovery programs identified through Knox recovery planning and continue to monitor the impacts of COVID to inform future programs.
	Coordinate the implementation of Knox's Retail Activation Strategy.
	Support, connect and strengthen the creative industry sector through arts, cultural and economic development programs.
Initiatives	Support the implementation of the State Government Reform for the roll out of 3 year old kindergarten in the Knox municipality.
	Work alongside the State Government on the implementation of the Wantirna Health Precinct Masterplan.
	Work with Maroondah and Yarra Ranges Councils to deliver key initiatives of the Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy.

Neighbourhoods, housing and infrastructure

Building on what's great about our city, Knox's housing and infrastructure will meet the changing needs of our community.

Strategies

The strategies we will undertake to achieve success in this area are:

Plan for and support diverse housing to meet changing community needs

Create, enhance and maintain places and spaces for people to live, work, play and connect

Provide, maintain and advocate for accessible and sustainable ways to move around Knox

Services

The services, major initiative, initiatives and service performance indicators are described below.

Service	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
	Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Asset Management			
The Asset Management service provides strategic direction for asset management incorporating the development of processes and systems to maintain and regularly update Council's asset register and management system, collection of asset condition data and the development and implementation of strategic asset management plans for all asset categories. The service also provides asset preservation and protection functions in areas associated with subdivision, private developments; Council capital infrastructure projects and works undertaken by service authorities; contractors and government agencies. The service also manages the coordination, planning, development and monitoring of the delivery of Council's Capital Works Program.	Inc	6	0
	Exp	1,429	1,727
	Net	1,423	1,727
	Deficit		1,589
Building			
Council's Building service provides for building assessment and regulatory services in accordance with the Building Act 1993 and other relevant legislation. The service issues Building Permits, performs building inspections, responds to complaints with inspections; and performs swimming pool inspections.	Inc	838	953
	Exp	1,394	1,411
	Net	555	458
	Deficit		193

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Community Transport				
Council's Community Transport service offers residents who are older, who have a disability and/or are in other ways disadvantaged, to be engaged in community life through the provision of transport. The buses in operation enable people to do activities such as shopping, participate in senior citizen clubs or go to the library. The Community Transport Service is also used to transport residents to attend Council events, for the Council induction program and other Council activities.	Inc	21	7	28
	Exp	281	282	349
	Net Deficit	260	274	321
Facilities				
Facilities provides building services, including capital construction, programmed and reactive maintenance and ancillary services (e.g. graffiti control, security, essential safety measures) for all Council buildings; internal architectural advice and building management services on land where Council has an interest.	Inc	50	13	14
	Exp	3,120	2,707	2,729
	Net Deficit	3,070	2,694	2,715
Major Initiatives				
The Major Initiatives Unit provides for the delivery of major projects supplementing the full program of capital projects being delivered by the various delivery teams across Council. The Unit utilises a combination of internal and specialist skills – and include architectural, quantity surveying, project management, construction management, specialist engineering and site supervision services.	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	331	274	350
	Net Deficit	331	274	350
Municipal Strategic Social Planning				
The Municipal Strategic Social Planning service supports the planning and implementation of the Community and Council Plans and related Council strategic plans and enables Council and community partners to make informed, effective decisions. The service conducts research, strategic planning, analysis and community consultation to identify relevant data to inform the development of evidence-based social policy and strategic planning responses and strategies for Council. This Service supports and advises on service planning and community facility development within Knox service and facility proposals.	Inc	40	3	0
	Exp	445	448	278
	Net Deficit	405	445	278

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Open Space Management				
Open Space Management provides planning, design, consultation and implementation of enhanced passive open space. The service also includes the development of policy and provision of planning and landscape architectural design expertise for other areas of Council.	Inc	316	235	206
	Exp	11,288	11,615	11,706
	Net	10,972	11,379	11,500
	Deficit			
Operations				
Operations is responsible for the management and delivery of maintenance services and delivery of new, renewed and upgraded Council infrastructure assets. This includes Parks Services, Works Services, Construction, and Fleet Management. The service provides well maintained infrastructure assets that meet present day and future needs of the community, in compliance with various Acts and regulations and Council policies.	Inc	211	286	241
	Exp	3,349	2,912	3,451
	Net	3,138	2,626	3,210
	Deficit			
Planning				
The Planning Approvals service provides for statutory planning assessment and enforcement and regulatory services under of the Planning and Environment Act and related Acts and Regulations.	Inc	1,644	1,696	1,810
	Exp	3,345	3,439	3,807
	Net	1,701	1,742	1,996
	Deficit			
Social and Community Infrastructure				
The Social and Community Infrastructure service supports the organisation through an integrated approach to the development of community infrastructure plans relevant to the needs of local communities and the broader municipality. The service also manages the development, monitoring, compliance and review of all Community Wellbeing community facility licences and leases.	Inc	111	15	122
	Exp	389	448	497
	Net	279	433	375
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Strategic Land Use Planning				
<p>The Strategic Land Use Planning Service undertakes research to inform planning policies and decisions. It also proactively updates the Knox Planning Scheme to reflect the Community and Council Plans. This includes the preparation and assessment of planning scheme amendments, internal referral responses to planning applications, provision of general strategic land use planning advice to internal and external customers, and a statutory requirement to review the Knox Planning Scheme every four years. Community engagement and consultation is a core part of this service.</p>	Inc	4	124	20
	Exp	1,895	2,749	2,276
	Net	1,891	2,625	2,255
	Deficit			
Traffic and Transport				
<p>Traffic and Transport provides local traffic management (on roads, footpaths, shared paths, etc.), advice and advocacy for broad transport choices for a range of traffic and transport services as provided by Council and others.</p>	Inc	31	20	20
	Exp	3,581	3,641	3,619
	Net	3,549	3,621	3,599
	Deficit			
Total				
	Inc	3,272	3,352	3,697
	Exp	30,848	31,651	32,080
	Net	27,576	28,300	28,382
	Deficit			

Initiatives

Major Initiative	Facilitate and support the implementation of actions of the Boronia Renewal program.
	Develop a Social and Affordable Housing Strategy and Action Plan to increase the supply of social housing and address homelessness in Knox.
	In response to the Victorian Government's Kindergarten Expansion Reform, continue to work with the State Government to plan for early years infrastructure in the municipality.
	Advocate to State and Federal Governments for funding to implement Stage 2 of the Lewis Park Master Plan.
	Update Council's flood modelling across Knox.
Initiatives	Advocate to State Government for improved public transport and arterial road connectivity in Knox.
	Implement Knox's Parking Strategy.
	Review and develop the Knox Domestic Animal Management Plan.
	Progress implementation of the Knox Central program.

Service Performance Indicators

Service	Indicator	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Forecast	2021-22 Budget
Statutory Planning	Decision Making	58.62%	58.00%	59.00%
Roads	Satisfaction	68.00	68.00	69.00

Natural environment and sustainability

Knox's environment is protected and enhanced to ensure sustainability for future generations.

Strategies

The strategies we will undertake to achieve success in this area are:

Preserve our biodiversity and waterways, and enhance our urban landscape

Prepare for, mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change

Lead by example and encourage our community to reduce waste

Services

The services, major initiative, initiatives and service performance indicators are described below.

Service		2019-20 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Forecast \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000
Biodiversity				
Biodiversity provides for the conservation, enhancement and celebration of local biodiversity within the City of Knox. The service provides bushland management to protect and enhance over 40 Council bushland reserves, over 120 sites of biological significance as well as education/awareness programs in order to increase the appreciation and understanding of the values of biodiversity within the broader community. This includes encouraging and supporting active participation by members of the community in the conservation and enhancement of remnant vegetation on public and private land.	Inc	12	5	40
	Exp	1,361	1,319	1,404
	Net	1,349	1,314	1,364
	Deficit			
Integrated Water Management				
The Integrated Water Management service provides technical and strategic advice and drainage advice/ services related to developer and resident enquiries and the provision of integrated water management. The service aims to safeguard the community against flooding, provide a municipal drainage system that is safe and fit for purpose, ensure that stormwater is a valued and well used resource and maintain clean waterways.	Inc	81	60	45
	Exp	3,022	2,953	2,280
	Net	2,941	2,893	2,235
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Sustainable Futures				
Sustainable Futures provides for environmental planning, community engagement in sustainability, policy development and project implementation. The service provides a range of learning and engagement programs that focus on supporting Council and the community to move towards environmental, social and economic sustainability.	Inc	101	0	0
	Exp	486	597	603
	Net	385	597	603
	Deficit			
Waste Management				
The Waste Management service aims to minimise waste and provides waste collection and disposal services for the Knox community.	Inc	8,817	8,957	8,074
	Exp	16,494	20,893	23,191
	Net	7,676	11,936	15,117
	Deficit			
TOTAL				
	Inc	9,011	9,022	8,159
	Exp	21,362	25,763	27,477
	Net	12,351	16,741	19,318
	Deficit			

Initiatives

Major Initiative	Undertake vegetation mapping analysis and habitat corridor planning to manage our urban biodiversity
Initiatives	Commence implementation of the high priority Year 1 actions of the Climate Response Plan including the development of a landfill solar farm business case.
	Enhance Knox's Waste and Recycling Education programs to focus on reducing waste to landfill and increasing recycling

Service Performance Indicators

Service	Indicator	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Forecast	2021-22 Budget
Waste Collection	Waste Diversion	53.44%	53.00%	54.00%

Connection, resilience and wellbeing

Knox is a place to call home. Our community is strong, healthy and we support and respect each other.

Strategies

The strategies we will undertake to achieve success in this area are:

Support our community to improve their physical, mental and social health and wellbeing

Foster inclusivity, equality, belonging and safety within our community

Support the community to identify and lead community strengthening initiatives

Honour and integrate First Nations culture into actions and environments

Services

The services, major initiative, initiatives and service performance indicators are described below.

Service		2019-20 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Forecast \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000
Active Communities				
Active Communities works to encourage Knox residents as they get older to socialise and participate in activities that will enable them to have greater independence and live active and healthy lives in the community. This is achieved by promoting active ageing and by providing events and programs, support to 11 Senior Citizens Clubs and other older person's support groups within the municipality. Food Services provides meals that are nutritionally balanced, and can cater for people with special dietary needs or allergies.	Inc	995	1003	662
	Exp	2352	2367	2102
	Net Deficit	1356	1364	1441
Active Living				
Active Living provides a range of Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) services that support over 2,500 frail older people, people who have a disability and their carers. The service helps eligible Knox residents maximise their independence, remain living in their own homes, stay connected to the community and enhance their quality of their life.	Inc	4,660	4,784	800
	Exp	4,709	4,889	1,134
	Net Deficit	48	105	334

Service		2019-20 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Forecast \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000
Arts & Cultural Services				
Arts and Cultural Services delivers and engages the local community in a range of arts and cultural services and programs, including performing arts, events, festivals, arts courses, performances and public art projects.	Inc	267	72	198
	Exp	2,008	1,816	2,314
	Net	1,741	1,743	2,116
	Deficit			
Business Performance (Community Access & Support)				
Business Performance provides Home Maintenance and Home Modification services through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) and supports frail older people, people who have a disability and their carers. The service helps eligible Knox residents maximise their independence, remain living in their own homes, stay connected to the community and enhance their quality of their life.	Inc	384	433	443
	Exp	717	791	806
	Net	333	357	363
	Deficit			
Community Access, Equity and Safety				
The Community Access, Equity and Safety service supports and advocates for the disadvantaged and marginalised communities and fosters an accessible, inclusive, safe and supportive Council and community.	Inc	73	0	0
	Exp	784	788	782
	Net	711	788	782
	Deficit			
Community Partnerships				
Community Partnerships supports and strengthens local not-for-profit groups to be active, sustainable and resilient. This service also supports the development of new community organisations and community mobilisation and activity, as appropriate, in response to changing community needs and dynamics.	Inc	3	0	0
	Exp	1,798	2,704	2,042
	Net	1,795	2,704	2,042
	Deficit			
Community Safety				
This service provides advice, support and programs to strengthen community safety in order that neighbourhood amenity is protected, people feel safe and enjoy public spaces and individual rights are preserved.	Inc	857	418	890
	Exp	2,488	2,588	2,308
	Net	1,631	2,171	1,418
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Emergency Management				
Emergency Management coordinates and delivers Council's legislative and community focused responsibilities for emergency and fire management. It includes services to mitigate risk to people and property, preparedness/ planning through to response and recovery.	Inc	69	8	9
	Exp	470	598	574
	Net	401	590	566
	Deficit			
Integrated Services (Family and Children's Services)				
Integrated Services provides high quality, integrated early years and family support services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated early years hubs (where Council's centre-based early education and care services are located and integrated with Maternal and Child Health, playgroup and funded kindergarten (preschool)) • Maternal and Child Health • Community and supported playgroups • State Government funded kindergarten (preschool) – Council is an Early Years Management Organisation • Additional support (including the Preschool Field Officer Program) • Coordination and support for early years service operations and facility management 	Inc	13,752	15,350	16,008
	Exp	19,220	20,137	21,212
	Net	5,468	4,787	5,205
	Deficit			
Leisure Services				
Leisure Services provides strategic advice and management for Council's leisure facilities to enable the provision of sport, leisure, recreation and wellbeing to the Knox municipality. Attracting over 1.9 million annual visitations across the major leisure facilities, the strategic management provided by Leisure Services to community organisations contributes to the positive physical and mental health outcomes for the community. This service includes the management, operation and/or support for Council's leisure facilities including 2 Council managed leisure centres (including aquatic facilities).	Inc	1,844	1,408	2,605
	Exp	3,416	3,791	3,732
	Net	1,572	2,383	1,127
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Libraries				
The Libraries service provides resources and programs and a variety of media for education, information, leisure and personal development. There are currently five branch libraries in Knox and one library service bus. The service is managed by the Eastern Regional Library Corporation, a formal partnership between Maroondah, Yarra Ranges and Knox Councils	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	4,805	4,742	5,140
	Net	4,805	4,742	5,140
	Deficit			
Local Laws				
This service provides local law and parking enforcement, school crossing supervision, and animal management programs to the community.	Inc	3,300	2,775	4,035
	Exp	4,383	4,116	5,396
	Net	1,082	1,341	1,361
	Deficit			
Occupational Therapy				
Occupational Therapy provides a service that aims to maximise the safety and independence of frail older people, people who have a disability and their carers in their home. This is achieved by providing education about alternate ways of completing tasks and the use of aides and equipment. The Occupational Therapist (OT) can also make recommendations for the home modifications service and/or referrals to other useful local services, such as a podiatrist.	Inc	155	209	160
	Exp	179	229	279
	Net	24	20	118
	Deficit			
Strategy, Learning and Evaluation (Family and Children's Services)				
Strategy, Learning and Evaluation provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic planning for children and families in the municipality, including Council's early years services and infrastructure. • Strategic policy development, research, monitoring, and evaluation for projects and matters impacting children and families in the Knox community. • Support for Council's Early Years Advisory Committee. • Partnerships between Council and non-Council early years services and community managed programs. • Coordinated professional development, quality assurance and policy development for Council's early years services. 	Inc	3	70	250
	Exp	662	833	829
	Net	659	763	579
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Youth Services				
Youth Services promotes, develops and encourages physical, social and mental wellbeing of young people by providing, facilitating, planning, funding and advocating for the needs of young people, their families and their community. Youth Services includes delivery of youth counselling and referral, youth leadership development, parenting programs, and partnerships with schools in Knox.	Inc	195	309	106
	Exp	1,157	1,299	1,116
	Net	962	991	1,010
	Deficit			
TOTAL				
	Inc	26,558	26,838	26,166
	Exp	49,148	51,688	49,766
	Net	22,590	24,849	23,600
	Deficit			

Initiatives

Major Initiative	Respond to emerging social and health issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Initiatives	Prioritise mental health and wellbeing initiatives by focusing on community partnerships and collective impact.
	Work in partnership with local First Nations people, relevant services and key networks to progress Reconciliation.
	Develop a Resilience Plan to support the community to cope with stresses, emergencies and disasters.
	Contribute to the collective efforts in preventing and responding to family violence.

Service Performance Indicators

Service	Indicator	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Forecast	2021-22 Budget
Animal Management	Service Standard	5.00	8.00	8.00
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	1.69	2.50	2.50
Food Safety	Health & Safety	100%	100%	100%
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	76.27%	80.00%	80.00%
	Participation by Aboriginal children	80.36%	81.00%	82.00%
Libraries	Participation	12.87%	13.00%	13.00%

Civic engagement and integrity

Knox Council is a trusted and respected leader in our community, acting appropriately and ensuring all voices are heard.

Strategies

The strategies we will undertake to achieve success in this area are:

Provide opportunities for all people in Knox to have their say

Manage our resources effectively to ensure financial sustainability and improved customer experience

Ensure our processes are transparent and our decisions are accountable

Services

The services, major initiative, initiatives and service performance indicators are described below.

Service		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Communications				
Communications is responsible for providing the community with information about how Council is investing its resources in order to respond to the needs of the community and facilitating community access to services. Functions include media relations, reputation management, advocacy, digital experience and internal communication.	Inc	17	0	0
	Exp	1,589	1,905	1,943
	Net	1,572	1,905	1,943
	Deficit			
Customer Service				
Council's Customer Service is designed to support the delivery of a range of programs and services to the community via telephone and counter contact centres. The service supports the organisation to provide personalised, responsive customer service via all Council's contact channels, including online. The team provides guidance and support for all customer interactions and exists to support information and connection between Council and the community.	Inc	37	8	0
	Exp	1,526	1,951	2,089
	Net	1,489	1,943	2,089
	Deficit			

Service		2019-20 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Forecast \$'000	2021-22 Budget \$'000
Financial Services				
Financial Services provides the strategic thinking, leadership, service delivery and management of all matters relating to financial management. The service is responsible for leading the processes for budgeting and forecasting, regular financial reporting, Annual Financial Accounts preparation, rating services and management of the debtors and creditors and provides oversight of Council's property management obligations. The service works closely with Governance to develop and support the organisational financial compliance frameworks and works across the organisation educating and supporting stakeholders.	Inc	926	850	895
	Exp	3,843	3,279	3,336
	Net Deficit	2,917	2,430	2,441
Governance				
The Governance service provides key internal and external services to Councillors, staff and the community to facilitate a well governed organisation. The service has overall responsibility for legislative compliance, Councillor support and development, Council meetings and the maintenance of the Civic Centre meeting rooms. The service is responsible for Council's integrity framework, including the Audit Committee, fraud and corruption prevention, privacy compliance and Freedom of Information.	Inc	52	219	1
	Exp	3,872	4,663	3,950
	Net Deficit	3,821	4,445	3,949
Human Resources				
The Human Resources service provides strategic and operational leadership, services and programs for all aspects of human resource management. These include industrial and employee relations, recruitment, induction, corporate learning and development, leadership development, organisational culture, performance management workforce planning, remuneration and employee safety, health and wellbeing. This service works across the organisation, developing and implementing programs, and works with stakeholders to educate and build capability and continuously develop their teams. This service also includes Council's risk management systems, insurances and the front line support to customers and residents for insurance related issues.	Inc	635	2,888	148
	Exp	7,802	11,117	7,568
	Net Deficit	7,167	8,229	7,420

Service	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	
	Actual	Forecast	Budget	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Information Technology				
Information technology incorporates provision of information technology services and IT support for the organisation. This encompasses hardware and software support as well as internal and external telecommunications. This service is a key foundation platform for efficient service delivery for the community and the organisation.	Inc	1	0	0
	Exp	6492	6792	7240
	Net Deficit	6491	6792	7240
Research and Mapping				
Research and Mapping supports an evidence-based approach to policy development and decision-making by undertaking specialist research and mapping activities. The service also provides advice, builds organisational capacity and develops and implements new tools and applications in the area of research and mapping. The service is responsible for the maintenance of Council's GIS system, spatial database and on-line data resources	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	88	84	107
	Net Deficit	88	84	107
Strategy and Business Intelligence				
The Strategy and Business Intelligence team is an integrated suite of functions designed to enhance business insights, strategic planning and engagement to shape decision-making. The team leads the organisation in the development and implementation of Councils Strategic Planning Framework, including the Community and Council plans and aims to improve outcomes for the Knox community through developing and sharing crucial insights.	Inc	0	0	0
	Exp	460	794	965
	Net Deficit	460	794	965
TOTAL				
	Inc	1,668	3,965	1,045
	Exp	25,673	30,585	27,199
	Net Deficit	24,005	26,620	26,154

Initiatives

Major Initiative	Develop a Customer Experience Strategy and Action Plan.
Initiatives	Implement priority actions of the Community Engagement Framework and Action Plan. Develop a procurement policy to ensure commercial and best practice outcomes.

Service Performance Indicators

Service	Indicator	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Forecast	2021-22 Budget
Governance	Satisfaction	58.00	59.00	60.00

Service Performance Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation
Animal Management	Health and safety	Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful)	Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)	Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Population
Food safety	Health and safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100
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)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the performance of Council in making decisions in the interest of the community
Libraries	Participation	Active library borrowers. (Percentage of the population that are active library borrowers)	[The sum of the number of active library borrowers in the last 3 financial years / The sum of the population in the last 3 financial years] x100
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the MCH service. (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation
Maternal and Child Health		Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children. (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100
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)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads.
Statutory planning	Decision making	Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT. (Percentage of planning application decisions subject to review by VCAT and that were not set aside)	[Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside Council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100
Waste collection	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. (Percentage of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is 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

Reconciliation with Budgeted Operating Result

Key Directions	Income \$'000	Expenditure \$'000	Net Cost \$'000
Opportunity and innovation	13	2,795	2,782
Neighbourhoods, housing and infrastructure	3,697	32,080	28,382
Natural environment and sustainability	8,159	27,477	19,318
Connection, resilience and wellbeing	26,166	49,766	23,600
Civic engagement and integrity	1,045	27,199	26,154
Total Net Cost of Activities and Initiatives	39,079	139,316	100,237
Non Attributable Expenditure			
Effective corporate governance			2,903
Depreciation			25,576
Amortisation - intangible assets			778
Amortisation - right of use assets			1,311
Capital projects - operational expenses			17,461
Borrowing costs			743
Finance costs - leases			69
Total Non Attributable Expenditure			48,841
Deficit before Funding Sources			149,078
Funding Sources			
Rates and charges			108,860
Garbage charges			15,368
Victoria Grants Commission (VGC) - grants - operating - recurrent			6,522
Interest			150
Developers' contributions			6,000
Grants - capital			15,111
Contributions and donations - capital			1,685
Contributions - non monetary assets			2,000
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment			(40,645)
Total Funding Sources			115,051
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year			(34,028)

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2021-22 has been supplemented with projections to 2024-25.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Statement of Human Resources

3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
INCOME						
Rates and charges	4.1.1	122,130	126,258	130,499	135,217	140,707
User fees	4.1.2	13,833	16,212	17,547	20,017	21,061
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.3	2,682	4,098	4,545	4,610	4,670
Grants - operating	4.1.4	29,920	21,757	20,247	20,624	21,000
Grants - capital	4.1.4	9,468	15,111	3,172	2,504	1,953
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	7,872	8,326	8,088	18,200	7,729
Contributions - non-monetary	4.1.5	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Other income	4.1.6	1,136	1,031	1,037	1,048	1,059
TOTAL INCOME		189,041	194,793	187,135	204,220	200,179
EXPENSES						
Employee costs	4.1.7	79,651	75,557	75,678	77,289	79,117
Materials and services	4.1.8	69,860	77,650	69,438	70,859	70,383
Contributions and donations	4.1.9	6,683	5,787	5,758	5,815	5,870
Depreciation	4.1.10	24,133	25,576	26,806	27,863	28,734
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.1.11	778	778	778	778	778
Amortisation - right of use assets	4.1.12	992	1,311	1,346	1,390	1,403
Borrowing costs		153	743	1,394	1,500	1,392
Finance costs - leases		25	69	71	73	74
Bad and doubtful debts		145	75	76	77	78
Net loss (gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(567)	40,645	(3,280)	(4,880)	(2,380)
Other expense	4.1.13	656	630	669	643	654
TOTAL EXPENSES		182,509	228,821	178,734	181,407	186,103
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		6,532	(34,028)	8,401	22,813	14,076
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		6,532	(34,028)	8,401	22,813	14,076
LESS						
Grants - capital - non recurrent		7,569	13,200	1,250	570	0
Contributions and donations - capital		2,280	1,685	900	10,500	0
Contributions - non-monetary		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
UNDERLYING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(5,317)	(50,913)	4,251	9,743	12,076

3.2 Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents		39,443	26,850	29,057	30,847	31,191
Other financial assets		0	0	0	0	0
Trade and other receivables		16,135	16,639	17,217	17,847	18,561
Other assets		550	558	568	579	594
Inventories		6	6	6	6	6
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4.2.1	56,134	44,053	46,848	49,279	50,352
NON CURRENT ASSETS						
Investments in associates		4,920	4,920	4,920	4,920	4,920
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		2,015,070	2,040,062	2,066,717	2,081,052	2,091,846
Right-of-use assets	4.2.4	813	813	813	813	813
Intangible assets		614	614	614	614	614
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	4.2.1	2,021,417	2,046,409	2,073,064	2,087,399	2,098,193
TOTAL ASSETS		2,077,551	2,090,462	2,119,912	2,136,678	2,148,545
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Trade and other payables		14,139	14,350	14,601	14,890	15,266
Trust funds and deposits		1,616	1,640	1,669	1,702	1,745
Provisions		18,788	19,268	19,761	20,267	20,786
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	4.2.3	3,835	8,565	11,387	11,976	12,977
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	362	362	362	362	362
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	4.2.2	38,740	44,185	47,780	49,197	51,136
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Provisions		3,954	3,983	4,012	4,043	4,074
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	4.2.3	36,121	77,586	95,011	87,516	83,337
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	459	459	459	459	459
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	4.2.2	40,534	82,028	99,482	92,018	87,870
TOTAL LIABILITIES		79,274	126,213	147,262	141,215	139,006
NET ASSETS		1,998,277	1,964,249	1,972,650	1,995,463	2,009,539
EQUITY						
Accumulated surplus		715,066	692,632	700,979	723,236	740,755
Reserves		1,283,211	1,271,617	1,271,671	1,272,227	1,268,784
TOTAL EQUITY		1,998,277	1,964,249	1,972,650	1,995,463	2,009,539

3.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Notes	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2021 FORECAST					
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,991,745	697,657	1,255,640	38,448
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		6,532	6,532	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment (decrement)		0	0	0	0
Transfer to other reserves		0	(5,134)	0	5,134
Transfer from other reserves		0	16,011	0	(16,011)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,998,277	715,066	1,255,640	27,571
2022 BUDGET					
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,998,277	715,066	1,255,640	27,571
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(34,028)	(34,028)	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment (decrement)		0	0	0	0
Transfer to other reserves	4.3.1	0	(6,054)	0	6,054
Transfer from other reserves	4.3.1	0	17,648	0	(17,648)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	4.3.2	1,964,249	692,632	1,255,640	15,977
2023					
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,964,249	692,632	1,255,640	15,977
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		8,401	8,401	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment (decrement)		0	0	0	0
Transfer to other reserves		0	(6,554)	0	6,554
Transfer from other reserves		0	6,500	0	(6,500)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,972,650	700,979	1,255,640	16,031
2024					
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,972,650	700,979	1,255,640	16,031
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		22,813	22,813	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment (decrement)		0	0	0	0
Transfer to other reserves		0	(7,056)	0	7,056
Transfer from other reserves		0	6,500	0	(6,500)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,995,463	723,236	1,255,640	16,587
2025					
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,995,463	723,236	1,255,640	16,587
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		14,076	14,076	0	0
Net asset revaluation increment (decrement)		0	0	0	0
Transfer to other reserves		0	(7,057)	0	7,057
Transfer from other reserves		0	10,500	0	(10,500)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		2,009,539	740,755	1,255,640	13,144

3.4 Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Rates and charges		121,653	125,923	130,099	134,772	140,189
User fees		13,717	16,093	17,423	19,886	20,926
Statutory fees and fines		2,632	4,047	4,492	4,554	4,611
Grants - operating		29,920	21,757	20,247	20,624	21,000
Grants - capital		9,468	15,111	3,172	2,504	1,953
Contributions - monetary		7,872	8,326	8,088	18,200	7,729
Interest received		70	150	150	150	150
Other receipts		1,066	881	887	898	909
Net movement in trust deposits		32	24	29	33	43
Employee costs		(79,231)	(75,048)	(75,156)	(76,753)	(78,567)
Materials and services		(69,716)	(77,521)	(69,273)	(70,655)	(70,104)
Contributions and donations		(6,683)	(5,787)	(5,758)	(5,815)	(5,870)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(7)	(8)	(8)	(8)	(8)
Other payments		(649)	(622)	(661)	(635)	(646)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY / (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	4.4.1	30,144	33,326	33,731	47,755	42,315
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		4,361	20,532	14,067	15,667	13,167
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(74,309)	(110,523)	(63,026)	(51,764)	(49,092)
Payments for investments		0	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from sale of investments		9,900	0	0	0	0
NET CASH PROVIDED BY / (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	4.4.2	(60,048)	(89,991)	(48,959)	(36,097)	(35,925)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Finance costs		(153)	(743)	(1,394)	(1,500)	(1,392)
Proceeds from borrowings		40,906	50,030	28,811	4,480	8,800
Repayment of borrowings		(950)	(3,835)	(8,565)	(11,385)	(11,977)
Interest paid - lease liability		(25)	(69)	(71)	(73)	(74)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(1,015)	(1,311)	(1,346)	(1,390)	(1,403)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY / (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES	4.4.3	38,763	44,072	17,435	(9,868)	(6,046)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		8,859	(12,593)	2,207	1,790	344
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		30,584	39,443	26,850	29,057	30,847
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR		39,443	26,850	29,057	30,847	31,191

3.5 Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
PROPERTY						
Land and Buildings		34,715	37,701	31,463	23,967	20,910
TOTAL PROPERTY		34,715	37,701	31,463	23,967	20,910
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT						
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,751	2,135	2,457	2,011	2,695
Computers and telecommunications		7,324	10,421	4,809	4,805	3,100
Artworks		185	120	123	124	125
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		10,260	12,676	7,389	6,940	5,920
INFRASTRUCTURE						
Roads		10,431	9,141	9,794	10,409	10,913
Bridges		1,441	545	467	425	385
Footpaths and cycleways		5,525	4,643	5,614	5,360	5,856
Drainage		3,818	5,486	4,545	3,184	3,381
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		17,397	56,097	11,339	7,699	6,948
Off street car parks		984	1,168	1,240	1,326	848
Other infrastructure		796	527	252	259	266
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE		40,392	77,607	33,251	28,662	28,597
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE	4.5.1	85,367	127,984	72,103	59,569	55,427
REPRESENTED BY						
Asset renewal		36,116	39,255	36,688	35,053	37,324
Asset upgrade		20,264	35,970	20,560	21,485	14,787
Asset new		26,125	44,800	14,435	2,961	3,281
Asset expansion		2,862	7,959	420	70	35
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE	4.5.1	85,367	127,984	72,103	59,569	55,427
CAPITAL WORKS FUNDING SOURCE						
EXTERNAL						
Loan proceeds		40,906	50,030	28,811	4,480	8,800
Grants - capital		9,468	15,111	3,172	2,504	1,953
Contributions - capital		2,280	1,685	900	10,500	0
TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDING		52,654	66,826	32,883	17,484	10,753
INTERNAL						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		3,167	20,532	14,067	15,667	13,167
Movement in reserve funds		12,724	16,944	6,500	6,500	10,500
Rate funding		16,822	23,682	18,653	19,918	21,007
TOTAL INTERNAL FUNDING		32,713	61,158	39,220	42,085	44,674
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS FUNDING SOURCES	4.5.1	85,367	127,984	72,103	59,569	55,427

3.6 Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
STAFF EXPENDITURE					
Employee costs - operating	79,651	75,557	75,678	77,289	79,117
Employee costs - capital	3,228	2,454	3,684	3,507	3,595
TOTAL STAFF EXPENDITURE	82,879	78,011	79,362	80,796	82,712
STAFF NUMBERS					
Full time equivalent (FTE) employees	717.03	719.43	716.83	714.13	714.13
TOTAL STAFF NUMBERS	717.03	719.43	716.83	714.13	714.13

A summary of human resources expenditure categorized according to the organizational structure of Council is included below:

	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Comprises			
		Permanent			
		Full Time \$'000	Part Time \$'000	Casual \$'000	Temporary \$'000
DEPARTMENT					
CEO	3,158	2,565	593	0	0
City Centre	4,228	2,936	1,293	0	0
City Strategy and Integrity	16,750	12,543	3,866	200	140
Connected Communities	27,956	13,584	13,349	149	874
Infrastructure	15,940	14,169	1,049	5	717
People and Innovation	7,525	5,170	2,052	8	295
TOTAL PERMANENT STAFF EXPENDITURE	75,557	50,967	22,202	362	2,026
Capitalised labour costs	2,454				
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	78,011				

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

	Budget 2020-21 FTE	Comprises			
		Permanent			
		Full Time FTE	Part Time FTE	Casual FTE	Temporary FTE
DEPARTMENT					
CEO	21.43	16.00	5.43	0.00	0.00
City Centre	42.07	30.00	12.07	0.00	0.00
City Strategy and Integrity	151.28	105.00	42.86	1.92	1.50
Connected Communities	280.94	140.00	132.01	1.70	7.23
Infrastructure	165.40	151.00	7.55	0.05	6.80
People and Innovation	58.31	42.00	13.03	0.08	3.20
TOTAL PERMANENT STAFF FTE	719.43	484.00	212.95	3.75	18.73

3.7 Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
CEO				
Permanent - Full Time	2,519	2,580	2,643	2,706
Female	1,832	1,876	1,922	1,968
Male	687	704	721	738
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	639	654	670	687
Female	639	654	670	687
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total CEO	3,158	3,234	3,313	3,393
City Centre				
Permanent - Full Time	2,521	2,782	2,862	2,948
Female	2,003	2,210	2,274	2,342
Male	518	572	588	606
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	1,708	1,885	1,940	1,996
Female	1,599	1,765	1,816	1,869
Male	109	120	124	127
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total City Centre	4,229	4,667	4,802	4,944
City Strategy and Integrity				
Permanent - Full Time	11,337	11,445	11,681	11,907
Female	5,393	5,411	5,522	5,629
Male	5,944	6,034	6,159	6,278
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	5,072	5,089	5,194	5,295
Female	3,765	3,778	3,856	3,931
Male	1,307	1,311	1,338	1,364
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total City Strategy and Integrity	16,409	16,534	16,875	17,202
Connected Communities				
Permanent - Full Time	12,796	12,563	12,845	13,162
Female	11,381	11,178	11,429	11,711
Male	1,415	1,385	1,416	1,451
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	14,137	13,836	14,148	14,498
Female	13,353	13,069	13,363	13,693
Male	784	767	785	805
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Connected Communities	26,933	26,399	26,993	27,660

	2021-22 \$'000	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000
Infrastructure				
Permanent - Full Time	14,560	14,580	14,926	15,294
Female	2,903	2,907	2,976	3,049
Male	11,657	11,673	11,950	12,245
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	658	659	674	692
Female	658	659	674	692
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Infrastructure	15,218	15,239	15,600	15,986
People and Innovation				
Permanent - Full Time	5,384	5,259	5,330	5,488
Female	3,106	3,034	3,075	3,166
Male	2,278	2,225	2,255	2,322
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	1,838	1,796	1,821	1,874
Female	1,838	1,796	1,821	1,874
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total People and Innovation	7,222	7,055	7,151	7,362
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	2,388	2,550	2,555	2,570
Capitalised labour costs	2,454	3,684	3,507	3,595
Total staff expenditure	78,011	79,362	80,796	82,712

	2021-22 FTE	2022-23 FTE	2023-24 FTE	2024-25 FTE
CEO				
Permanent - Full Time	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Female	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Male	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	4.44	4.44	4.44	4.44
Female	4.44	4.44	4.44	4.44
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total CEO	21.44	21.44	21.44	21.44
City Centre				
Permanent - Full Time	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Female	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Male	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	17.07	17.07	17.07	17.07
Female	15.91	15.91	15.91	15.91
Male	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total City Centre	42.07	42.07	42.07	42.07

	2021-22 FTE	2022-23 FTE	2023-24 FTE	2024-25 FTE
City Strategy and Integrity				
Permanent - Full Time	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00
Female	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00
Male	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	45.86	45.86	45.86	45.86
Female	33.83	33.83	33.83	33.83
Male	12.03	12.03	12.03	12.03
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total City Strategy and Integrity	147.86	147.86	147.86	147.86
Connected Communities				
Permanent - Full Time	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00
Female	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00
Male	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	143.00	143.00	143.00	143.00
Female	134.65	134.65	134.65	134.65
Male	8.35	8.35	8.35	8.35
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Connected Communities	272.00	272.00	272.00	272.00
Infrastructure				
Permanent - Full Time	151.00	151.00	151.00	151.00
Female	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Male	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.55
Female	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.55
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total Infrastructure	158.55	158.55	158.55	158.55
People and Innovation				
Permanent - Full Time	41.00	41.00	41.00	41.00
Female	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
Male	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Permanent - Part Time	14.03	14.03	14.03	14.03
Female	14.03	14.03	14.03	14.03
Male	0	0	0	0
Self-described gender	0	0	0	0
Total People and Innovation	55.03	55.03	55.03	55.03
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	22.48	19.88	17.18	17.18
Capitalised labour costs	0	0	0	0
Total staff expenditure	719.43	716.83	714.13	714.13

5. Notes on the Financial Statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2021-22 the FGRS cap has been set at 1.5%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate will increase by 1.5% in line with the rate cap.

Council's Residential Garbage Charge for the 2021-22 financial year has been set at an amount to ensure only full cost recovery inclusive of the State Government Landfill Levy. The Residential Garbage Charge will increase by \$25 (10.78%) in line with the projected increase in costs.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2021-22 to \$126,258,319, exclusive of optional services.

4.1.1 (a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
General rates *	107,130	109,234	2,104	2.0%
Rate rebates	(1,205)	(1,205)	0	0.0%
Residential garbage charge	13,871	15,368	1,497	10.8%
Service rates and charges	2,043	2,030	(13)	(0.6%)
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	291	250	(41)	(14.1%)
Interest on rates and charges	0	581	581	100.0%
Total rates and charges	122,130	126,258	4,128	3.4%

* General rates are subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS

4.1.1 (b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

Type or Class of Land	Budget 2020-21 cents/\$CIV	Budget 2021-22 cents/\$CIV	Change %
Differential rate for Vacant Land or Derelict Land	0.52177	0.51311	-1.7%
Differential rate for Retirement Village Land properties	0.13465	0.12828	-4.7%
Differential rate for Commercial Land properties	0.42078	0.42759	1.6%
Differential rate for Industrial Land properties	0.44603	0.45325	1.6%
Differential rate for Residential Land properties	0.16831	0.17104	1.6%
Recreational Land rate for rateable recreational properties	0.16831	0.17104	1.6%

4.1.1 (c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

Type or Class of Land	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Rates				
Vacant Land or Derelict Land	1,674	1,628	(46)	(2.7%)
Retirement Village Land	1,195	1,214	19	1.6%
Commercial Land	14,265	14,566	301	2.1%
Industrial Land	17,432	17,688	256	1.5%
Residential Land	72,798	74,328	1,530	2.1%
Recreational Land Rate	57	60	3	5.3%
Total amount to be raised by general rates *	107,421	109,484	2,063	1.9%

* Total rates to be raised in the 2021-22 Budget includes Supplementary Rates of \$250,000. The total rates to be raised in the 2020-21 Forecast includes Supplementary Rates of \$290,967.

4.1.1 (d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

Type or Class of Land	Budget 2020-21 Number	Budget 2021-22 Number	Change Number	%
Vacant Land or Derelict land	435	410	(25)	(5.7%)
Retirement Village Land	1,887	1,884	(3)	(0.2%)
Commercial Land	2,524	2,529	5	0.2%
Industrial Land	3,636	3,672	36	1.0%
Residential Land	59,423	59,805	382	0.6%
Recreational Land Rate	7	7	0	0.0%
Total number of assessments	67,912	68,307	395	0.6%

4.1.1 (e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV)

4.1.1 (f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

Type or Class of Land	Budget	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Vacant Land or Derelict Land	320,750	307,440	(13,310)	(4.1%)
Retirement Village Land	868,125	888,105	19,980	2.3%
Commercial Land	3,392,277	3,410,610	18,333	0.5%
Industrial Land	3,908,340	3,906,985	(1,355)	(0.0%)
Residential Land	43,236,675	43,509,058	272,383	0.6%
Recreational Land Rate	34,925	34,925	0	0.0%
Total value of land	51,761,092	52,057,123	296,031	0.6%

4.1.1 (g) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	Per Rateable	Per Rateable	Change	
	Property 2020-21 \$	Property 2021-22 \$	\$	%
Residential Garbage Charge	232	257	25	10.8%
Garbage Surcharge – 120 Litre Bin	54	54	0	0.0%
Additional Household Bins	255	289	34	13.3%
Optional Household Green Waste Bin	109	95	(14)	(12.8%)
Additional Recycle Bin	88	84	(4)	(4.5%)
Additional Recycle Bin - Industrial / Commercial	159	159	0	0.0%
Optional Industrial / Commercial Garbage, Daily Service	1,294	1,651	357	27.6%
Optional Industrial / Commercial Garbage, Weekly Service	423	478	55	13.0%
Waste Management and Recycling for Non Rateable Properties – Daily Service (240 Litre Bin)	1,080	1,294	214	19.8%
Waste Management and Recycling for Non Rateable Properties – Weekly Service (240 Litre Bin)	232	257	25	10.8%
Waste Management and Recycling for Non Rateable Properties – Weekly Service (120 Litre Bin)	172	217	45	26.2%
<i>Dorset Square</i>				
– Annual Waste Charge, office based premises	305	336	31	10.2%
– Annual Waste Charge, retail based premises	908	999	91	10.0%
– Annual Waste Charge, food based premises less than 200 square metres floor area.	2,722	2,994	272	10.0%
– Annual Waste Charge, food based premises greater than 200 square metres floor area.	6,347	6,982	635	10.0%
Additional Hard Waste Service	NEW	115	115	100.0%

4.1.1 (h) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

Type of Charge	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21	2021-22	\$	%
	\$	\$	\$	%
Residential Garbage Charge	13,871,192	15,368,600	1,497,408	10.8%
Garbage Surcharge – 120 Litre Bin	2,042,820	2,029,644	(13,176)	(0.6%)
Additional Household Bins	265,200	322,524	57,324	21.6%
Optional Household Green Waste Bin	4,900,000	4,129,650	(770,350)	(15.7%)
Additional Recycle Bin	80,384	75,432	(4,952)	(6.2%)
Optional Industrial / Commercial Garbage Service	1,241,731	1,250,924	9,193	0.7%
Non Rateable Properties	75,903	75,432	(471)	(0.6%)
<i>Dorset Square:</i>				
Office based premises	5,185	5,704	519	10.0%
Retail based premises	12,712	12,984	272	2.1%
Food based premises less than 200 square metres floor area	8,166	8,983	817	10.0%
Food based premises greater than 200 square metres	12,694	13,963	1,269	10.0%
Total	22,515,987	23,293,840	777,853	3.5%

4.1.1 (i) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21	2021-22	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Total General Rates to be Raised				
- Refer item 4.1.1(c)	107,421	109,484	2,063	1.9%
Total Service Charges and Service Rates to be Raised				
- Refer item 4.1.1(h)	22,516	23,294	778	3.5%
Total rates and charges	129,937	132,778	2,841	2.2%

4.1.1 (j) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

Knox City Council is fully compliant with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the Fair Go Rates System.

	2020-21	2021-22
Total Rates	\$ 105,274,841	\$ 107,866,329
Number of Rateable Properties	67,912	68,307
Base Average Rate	\$ 1,550.17	\$ 1,579.14
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	2.00%	1.50%
Capped Average Rate	\$ 1,581.17	\$ 1,602.83
Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 107,380,338	\$ 109,484,324
Revenue	\$ 107,130,337	\$ 109,234,324
Budgeted Supplementary Rates	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Budgeted Total Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	\$ 107,380,337	\$ 109,484,324

4.1.1 (k) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2021-22: estimated \$250,000 and 2020/21: \$290,967)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa.

4.1.1 (l) Differential rates

The rate and amount of rates payable in relation to land in each category of differential are:

- A general rate of 0.51311% (0.51311 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) for all rateable Vacant Land or Derelict Land; and
- A general rate of 0.12828% (0.12828 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) for all rateable Retirement Village Land; and
- A general rate of 0.17104% (0.17104 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) for all rateable Recreational Land; and
- A general rate of 0.45325% (0.45325 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) rateable Industrial Land; and
- A general rate of 0.42759% (0.42759 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) for all rateable Commercial Land; and
- A general rate of 0.17104% (0.17104 cents in the dollar of capital improved value) for all rateable Residential Land.

Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described below) by the relevant percentages indicated above.

Council believes each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions. Details of the objectives of each differential rate, the types of classes of land which are subject to each differential rate and the uses of each differential rate are set out below

Vacant Land or Derelict Land

Definition/Characteristics

Any land on which there is no building that is occupied or adapted for occupation, or contains a building that is ordinarily adapted for occupation which is abandoned, unoccupied and in a very poor condition resulting from both disuse and neglect.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Encouragement of development/and or improvement of land; and
2. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
3. Development and provision of health and community services; and
4. Provision of general support services; and
5. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake it's strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Retirement Village Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a retirement village.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council on behalf of the retirement village sector.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Residential Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is not Vacant Land or Derelict Land, Retirement Village Land, Industrial Land, Commercial Land, or Cultural and Recreational Land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Commercial Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a commercial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Industrial Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of an industrial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Recreational Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land upon which sporting, recreational or cultural activities are conducted, including buildings which may be ancillary to such activities, in accordance with the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council in cultural and recreational sporting programs and infrastructure.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

4.1.2 User fees

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Waste management services	6,656	5,944	(712)	(10.7%)
Child care/children's programs	2,076	3,652	1,576	75.9%
Leisure centre and recreation	1,177	2,489	1,312	111.5%
Registration and other permits	1,574	2,161	587	37.3%
Building services	671	618	(53)	(7.9%)
Aged and health services	813	469	(344)	(42.3%)
Other fees and charges	866	879	13	1.5%
Total user fees	13,833	16,212	2,379	17.2%

User fees relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of Council's services. The principal sources of fee income arise from services such as child care, kindergartens, recreational facilities and projected income from home care and garbage charges for optional services. User fees are budgeted to increase by 17.20% on the current year forecast.

The user fees in the current year forecast have been impacted by COVID-19, in particular due to the closure of Community facilities during the pandemic, the waiving of fees for not-for-profit organisations and other leisure groups, and the waiving of food premises permit fees. The decrease in parent fees for Council's early year hubs and kindergartens was offset by an increase in Government grants received.

4.1.3 Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Permits	2,002	2,332	330	16.5%
Infringements and costs	430	1,341	911	211.9%
Town planning fees	139	161	22	15.8%
Court recoveries	0	152	152	100.0%
Land information certificates	110	111	1	0.9%
Other statutory fees and fines	1	1	0	0.0%
Total statutory fees and fines	2,682	4,098	1,416	52.8%

Statutory fees and fines relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, planning fees and parking fines. Increases in statutory fees and fines are made in accordance with legislative requirements. Statutory fees and fines are budgeted to increase by 52.80% on the current year forecast due to an expected increase in infringements and related costs.

A detailed listing of fees and charges is included as Appendix A.

4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's annual budget.

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Grants were received in respect of the following:				
Summary of grants				
Commonwealth funded grants	18,172	21,244	3,072	16.9%
State funded grants	21,216	15,624	(5,592)	(26.4%)
Total grants received	39,388	36,868	(2,520)	(6.4%)
(a) Operating grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Victoria Grants Commission	6,458	6,522	64	1.0%
Family and children - early years hubs	3,428	3,804	376	11.0%
General home care	4,108	660	(3,448)	(83.9%)
Aged care	231	147	(84)	(36.4%)
Recurrent - State Government				
Family and children - kindergarten	5,290	5,690	400	7.6%
Family and children - maternal and child health	1,757	1,727	(30)	(1.7%)
General home care	920	800	(120)	(13.0%)
School crossing supervisors	704	721	17	2.4%
Family and children - early years hubs	433	474	41	9.5%
Community health	144	138	(6)	(4.2%)
Family and children - youth services	299	102	(197)	(65.9%)
Aged care	0	6	6	0.0%
Other	35	35	0	0.0%
Total recurrent operating grants	23,807	20,826	(2,981)	(12.5%)
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
General home care	227	0	(227)	(100.0%)
Community health	54	0	(54)	(100.0%)
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Family and children - kindergarten	2,043	890	(1,153)	(56.4%)
Environmental planning	154	20	(134)	(87.0%)
Aged care	68	11	(57)	(83.8%)
Community health	10	10	0	0.0%
Family and children - early years hubs	251	0	(251)	(100.0%)
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	30	0	(30)	(100.0%)
Family and children - youth services	10	0	(10)	(100.0%)
Community safety	0	0	0	0.0%
Other	3,266	0	(3,266)	(100.0%)
Total non-recurrent operating grants	6,113	931	(5,182)	(84.8%)
Total operating grants	29,920	21,757	(8,163)	(27.3%)

Operating grants include all monies received from State and Federal Government sources which assists Council in funding the delivery of services to ratepayers. Overall, the level of operating grants is projected to decrease by 27.28% or \$8.163 million compared to 2020-21. Grants received in 2020-21 related to COVID-19 include \$2.766 million received for the Working for Victoria Fund and \$0.500 million received for the outdoor dining program. \$2.043 million was received from the State Government for the Kindergarten service, with parent fees being waived. There will be a reduction in grants received for general home care in 2021-22, with this program to cease.

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
(b) Capital grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Victoria Grants Commission - local roads	1,166	1,178	12	1.0%
Roads to recovery	733	733	0	0.0%
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	550	0	(550)	(100.0%)
Recurrent - State Government				
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,750	5,000	3,250	185.7%
Roads and bridges	2,000	0	(2,000)	(100.0%)
Buildings	117	0	(117)	(100.0%)
Total recurrent capital grants	6,316	6,911	595	9.4%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Roads and bridges	367	4,800	4,433	1,207.9%
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	850	3,400	2,550	300.0%
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,116	0	(1,116)	(100.0%)
Roads and bridges	628	0	(628)	(100.0%)
Bridges	71	0	(71)	(100.0%)
Other	120	0	(120)	(100.0%)
Total non-recurrent capital grants	3,152	8,200	5,048	160.2%
Total capital grants	9,468	15,111	5,643	59.6%
Total grants	39,388	36,868	(2,520)	(6.4%)

Capital grants include all monies received from State and Federal Government and community sources which assists Council in funding the capital works program. Overall the level of capital grants is projected to increase by 59.60% or \$5.643 million compared to 2020-21. This increase is due to specific funding expected for some large capital works projects in 2021-22.

Refer to section 4.5 'Capital works program' for a more detailed analysis of the grants and contributions expected to be received during the 2021-22 financial year.

4.1.5 Contributions

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Monetary	7,872	8,326	454	5.8%
Non-monetary	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Total contributions	9,872	10,326	454	4.6%

Monetary contributions include charges paid by developers in regard to recreational lands, drainage and car parking in accordance with planning permits issued for property development. Monetary contributions are budgeted to increase by 5.77% on the current year forecast.

Non-monetary contributions are assets which transfer to Council from property developers at the completion of subdivision work. The assets generally consist of land used for public open space or infrastructure assets. Council recognises these new assets at 'fair value'. No cash is transferred but the fair value of the assets is recorded as revenue in the year of the transfer.

4.1.6 Other income

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Rent	484	551	67	13.8%
Reimbursements	524	211	(313)	(59.7%)
Interest	70	150	80	114.3%
Other	58	119	61	105.2%
Total other income	1,136	1,031	(105)	(9.2%)

Other income relates to a range of items such as interest, cost recovery and other miscellaneous income items.

4.1.7 Employee costs

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Wages and salaries	58,193	57,653	(540)	(0.9%)
Annual leave and long service leave	8,234	8,420	186	2.3%
Superannuation	5,791	6,061	270	4.7%
Agency staff	5,676	1,960	(3,716)	(65.5%)
WorkCover	1,498	1,163	(335)	(22.4%)
Fringe benefits tax	259	300	41	15.8%
Total employee costs	79,651	75,557	(4,094)	(5.1%)

Employee costs include all labour related expenditure such as wages and salaries, and on-costs including allowances, leave entitlements, employer superannuation and WorkCover. Employee costs are budgeted to decrease by 5.14% on the current year forecast. An increase has been allowed to cover the estimated Enterprise Agreement (EA) increment, together with an allowance for other periodic increments in employee banding structure provided for in Awards, and the increase in the superannuation guarantee rate from 9.50% to 10.00%. The superannuation guarantee rate will increase 0.50% per year, until it reaches 12.00% in 2025-26.

The 2020-21 forecast employee costs have been inflated by the employee costs relating to the Working for Victoria Fund. Corresponding grant income was received to offset these costs.

4.1.8 Materials and services

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Contract payments				
Waste Management	19,589	21,060	1,471	7.5%
Operating Projects Expenditure	11,058	17,461	6,403	57.9%
Operations Maintenance	6,494	5,706	(788)	(12.1%)
Active Ageing & Disability	1,134	1,107	(27)	(2.4%)
People & Culture	778	603	(175)	(22.5%)
Corporate Services	1,122	526	(596)	(53.1%)
Community Law	338	483	145	42.9%
Other	3,148	2,737	(411)	(13.1%)
Administration costs	7,380	8,143	763	10.3%
Information technology	3,410	3,363	(47)	(1.4%)
Consultants	3,237	4,098	861	26.6%
Utilities	3,294	3,511	217	6.6%
Consumable materials and equipment	3,468	3,353	(115)	(3.3%)
Insurance	1,899	1,898	(1)	(0.1%)
Building maintenance	1,718	1,572	(146)	(8.5%)
Finance and legal costs	1,040	1,142	102	9.8%
General maintenance	753	887	134	17.8%
Total materials and services	69,860	77,650	7,790	11.2%

Materials and services include payments for the provision of services by external providers, materials and utility costs including electricity, water, gas and telephones. Materials and services are expected to increase by 11.15% on the current year forecast.

Contract payments includes capital expenditure which is operational in nature. This is budgeted to increase by \$6.403 million on the current year forecast due to the capital projects being undertaken (including capital works to be carried forward to 2021-22).

4.1.9 Contributions and donations

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Contribution to the Eastern Regional Libraries Corporati	4,114	4,383	269	6.5%
Community support payments	2,569	1,404	(1,165)	(45.3%)
Total contributions and donations	6,683	5,787	(896)	(13.4%)

Contributions and donations relate predominately to Council's share of costs associated with the Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation and funds for the Community Grants Scheme.

Council's funding of the Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation is budgeted to increase 6.54% on the current year forecast. The 2020-21 forecast expenditure is lower than budgeted due to a COVID-19 related reduction in the amount paid in the first quarter of the 2021 financial year due to the closure of all libraries.

4.1.10 Depreciation

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Property	4,761	5,050	289	6.1%
Plant and equipment	1,736	1,952	216	12.4%
Infrastructure	17,636	18,574	938	5.3%
Total depreciation	24,133	25,576	1,443	6.0%

Depreciation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for Council's property, plant and equipment including infrastructure assets such as roads and drains. Depreciation is budgeted to increase by 5.98% on the current year forecast. This increase is due to the forecast completion of the 2020-21 capital works program and the full year effect of depreciation on the 2020-21 capital works program.

Refer to section 4.5 'Capital works program' for a more detailed analysis of Council's capital works program for the 2021-22 financial year.

4.1.11 Amortisation – Intangible assets

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Intangible assets	778	778	0	0.0%
Total amortisation - intangible assets	778	778	0	0.0%

Amortisation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an intangible asset over its useful life. Council's intangible assets is software. Amortisation of intangible assets is budgeted to be consistent with the current year forecast.

4.1.12 Amortisation – Right of use assets

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Right of use assets	992	1,311	319	32.2%
Total amortisation - right of use assets	992	1,311	319	32.2%

Commencing for the 2019-20 financial year, the implementation of AASB 16 Leases requires most operating leases to be recognised on the balance sheet, including the creation of a right of use asset. Similar to intangible assets, right of use assets are amortised over the life of the lease.

4.1.13 Other expenses

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Councillors allowances	391	399	8	2.0%
Auditor's remuneration - internal	150	160	10	6.7%
Auditor's remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	60	63	3	5.0%
Operating lease rentals - short term, low value	55	8	(47)	(85.5%)
Total other expenses	656	630	(26)	(4.0%)

Other expenses relate to a range of unclassified items including Councillor allowances, audits and low value lease expenses. Other expenses are budgeted to decrease by 3.96% on the current year forecast.

4.2 Balance Sheet

4.2.1 Assets

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	39,443	26,850	(12,593)	(31.9%)
Other financial assets	0	0	0	0.0%
Trade and other receivables	16,135	16,639	504	3.1%
Other assets	550	558	8	1.5%
Inventories	6	6	0	0.0%
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	56,134	44,053	(12,081)	(21.5%)
NON CURRENT ASSETS				
Investments in associates	4,920	4,920	0	0.0%
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2,015,070	2,040,062	24,992	1.2%
Right-of-use assets	813	813	0	0.0%
Intangible assets	614	614	0	0.0%
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	2,021,417	2,046,409	24,992	1.2%
TOTAL ASSETS	2,077,551	2,090,462	12,911	0.6%

Cash and cash equivalents include cash held in the bank, petty cash, and the value of investments in term deposits or other highly liquid investments with short maturities of three months or less. Other financial assets include term deposits held with an original maturity of greater than 90 days. These balances are projected to decrease by \$12.593 million during the year mainly to fund the capital works program during the year.

Trade and other receivables are monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others. Short term debtors are budgeted to increase by 3.12% on the current year forecast.

Other assets includes items such as prepayments for expenses that Council has paid in advance of service delivery.

Investments in associates is Council's 36.39% ownership interest in Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is the largest component of Council's worth and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment etc. which has been built up by Council over many years. The \$24.992 million increase in this balance is attributable to the anticipated capitalisation of the budgeted capital works program of \$127.984 million and the contribution of non-monetary assets of \$2.000 million. This is offset by \$26.354 million in depreciation and amortisation expense, \$17.461 million in capital expenditure deemed to be operational in nature, and the disposal of \$61.177 million of non-current assets through the sale of property, plant and equipment. The majority of the disposal of non-current assets is the transfer of the Knox Regional Sports Park assets to the State Government.

The implementation of AASB 16 Leases requires most operating leases to be recognised on the balance sheet as a right of use asset. Council's right of use assets relate to property and information technology leases.

4.2.2 Liabilities

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	14,139	14,350	211	1.5%
Trust funds and deposits	1,616	1,640	24	1.5%
Provisions	18,788	19,268	480	2.6%
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	3,835	8,565	4,730	123.3%
Lease liabilities	362	362	0	0.0%
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	38,740	44,185	5,445	14.1%
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Provisions	3,954	3,983	29	0.7%
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	36,121	77,586	41,465	114.8%
Lease liabilities	459	459	0	0.0%
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	40,534	82,028	41,494	102.4%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	79,274	126,213	46,939	59.2%

Trade and other payables are those to whom Council owes money as at 30 June. Trade and other payables are budgeted to increase by 1.49% on the current year forecast.

Trust funds and deposits include refundable deposits, the fire services levy and retention amounts. Trust funds and deposits are budgeted to increase by 1.49% on the current year forecast.

Provisions include accrued annual leave and long service leave owing to employees. These employee entitlements are split between those entitlements expected to be paid within twelve months and those expected to be paid beyond the next year. Total provisions are budgeted to increase by 2.24% on the current year forecast.

Interest-bearing loans and borrowings are split between Council borrowings expected to be repaid within the next twelve months and those expected to be repaid beyond the next year. Refer to section 4.2.3 'Borrowings' for further information on Council's interest-bearing loans and borrowings.

The implementation of *AASB 16 Leases* requires most operating leases to be recognised on the balance sheet as a lease liability. The lease liability is split between lease liabilities expected to be repaid within the next twelve months and those expected to be repaid beyond the next year.

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	0	39,956
Amount proposed to be borrowed	40,906	50,030
Amount projected to be redeemed	950	3,835
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	39,956	86,151

Borrowings are generally utilised for the provision of major community assets that will provide community benefit over a number of years. This is considered sound practice and governments at all levels have regularly enacted this approach. The use of borrowings enables the cost of community assets to be spread inter-generationally and smooths the impact of the borrowings on the long term financial structure for the Council.

4.2.4 Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of *AASB 16 Leases*, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below.

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000
RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS		
Property	457	457
Computers and telecommunications	356	356
TOTAL RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS	813	813
LEASE LIABILITIES		
Current lease liabilities		
Property	193	193
Computers and telecommunications	169	169
Total current lease liabilities	362	362
Non-current lease liabilities		
Property	264	264
Computers and telecommunications	195	195
Non-current lease liabilities	459	459
TOTAL LEASE LIABILITIES	821	821

4.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

4.3.1 Reserves

	Opening Balance \$'000's	Transfer to Reserve \$'000's	Transfer from Reserve \$'000's	Closing Balance \$'000's
Statutory Reserves				
HACC Capital Grant	341	0	0	341
Open Space	11,717	6,000	6,872	10,845
Total Statutory Reserves	12,058	6,000	6,872	11,186
Discretionary Reserves				
Aged Care Reserve	4,357	0	1,081	3,276
Basketball Stadium infrastructure	100	26	0	126
Blue Hills Reserve	3	0	0	3
City Futures	247	0	0	247
Knox Regional Sports Park - Football Renewal	727	0	727	0
Mountain Gate Reserve	140	0	0	140
Revegetation Net Gain	406	0	0	406
Revolving Energy Fund	31	0	0	31
Scoresby Recreational Reserve	144	28	0	172
Stamford Park Project	8,654	0	8,264	390
State Basketball Centre Asset Renewal	704	0	704	0
Total Discretionary Reserves	15,513	54	10,776	4,791
Total Reserves	27,571	6,054	17,648	15,977

Statutory reserves must be applied for specified statutory purposes in accordance with various legislative and contractual requirements. Whilst these funds earn interest revenues for Council, they are not available for other purposes.

Discretionary reserves are funds set aside by Council for a specific purpose but are not protected by statute. The nature and purpose of the reserves are as follows:

HACC capital grant reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to refurbish, upgrade and maintain minor capital within the Home and Community Care funded programs.

Open space reserve

The Open Space Reserve is used to provide funding for future purchases and improvements of open space. Funding is provided from developer's contributions for open space which is initially recognised in the comprehensive income statement and then transferred to the reserve from accumulated surplus to facilitate separate tracking of the total funds received but not yet spent.

Aged care reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to set aside the proceeds from the divestment of the Amaroo Gardens Aged Care Facility by Council on 2 November 2011 for aged services and infrastructure within the Knox municipality.

Basketball stadium infrastructure reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to improve basketball stadium facilities within the Knox municipality.

Blue Hills reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to construct the Early Years Hubs facilities for the benefit of the Knox Community.

City futures fund

The purpose of this reserve is to construct major facilities within the Knox municipality.

Knox Regional Sports Park - Football pitch replacement fund

The purpose of this reserve is to provide for future football pitch replacement at Knox Regional Sports Park.

Mountain Gate reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to enhance community facilities within Mountain Gate.

Revegetation net gain reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to ensure any loss of vegetation through development is re-established in a sustainable location.

Revolving energy fund

The purpose of this reserve is to re-invest savings in energy costs to be invested in further works to minimise energy consumption.

Scoresby Recreation reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to invest the income derived from lease of this site into the Scoresby Recreation Reserve.

Stamford Park reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to develop the Stamford Park site for the benefit of the Knox Community.

State basketball centre asset renewal fund

The purpose of this reserve is to provide for asset renewal works at the State Basketball Centre (Knox Regional Sports Park).

4.3.2 Equity

	Forecast 2020-21 \$'000	Budget 2021-22 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
EQUITY				
Accumulated surplus	715,066	692,632	(22,434)	(3.1%)
Reserves	1,283,211	1,271,617	(11,594)	(0.9%)
TOTAL EQUITY	1,998,277	1,964,249	(34,028)	(1.7%)

Total equity always equals net assets and is made up of the following components:

- Asset revaluation reserve which represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations.
- Other reserves that are funds that Council wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. These amounts are transferred from the Accumulated Surplus of the Council to be separately disclosed.
- Accumulated surplus which is the value of all net assets less reserves that have accumulated over time. \$34.028 million of the \$20.290 million decrease in accumulated surplus results directly from the surplus for the year. An amount of \$11.594 million (net) is budgeted to be transferred from other reserves to accumulated surplus. This reflects the usage of investment cash reserves to partly fund the capital works program. This is a transfer between equity balances only and does not impact on the total balance of equity.

The net decrease in equity or net assets of \$34.028 million results directly from the 2021-22 financial year budgeted operating surplus.

4.4 Statement of Cash Flows

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities

Description	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Cash flow from operating activities				
Rates and charges	121,653	125,923	4,270	3.5%
User fees	13,717	16,093	2,376	17.3%
Statutory fees and fines	2,632	4,047	1,415	53.8%
Grants - operating	29,920	21,757	(8,163)	(27.3%)
Grants - capital	9,468	15,111	5,643	59.6%
Contributions - monetary	7,872	8,326	454	5.8%
Interest received	70	150	80	114.3%
Other receipts	1,066	881	(185)	(17.4%)
Net movement in trust deposits	32	24	(8)	(25.0%)
Employee costs	(79,231)	(75,048)	4,183	(5.3%)
Materials and services	(69,716)	(77,521)	(7,805)	11.2%
Contributions and donations	(6,683)	(5,787)	896	(13.4%)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(7)	(8)	(1)	14.3%
Other payments	(649)	(622)	27	(4.2%)
Net cash provided by operating activities	30,144	33,326	3,182	10.6%

Operating activities refers to the cash generated or used in the normal service delivery functions of Council. Cash remaining after paying for the provision of services to the community may be available for investment in capital works, or repayment of debt.

The 2021-22 budgeted capital grants income is budgeted to increase by \$5.643 million. This is due to specific funding for some large capital works projects in 2021-22. Refer to section 4.5 'Capital works program' for a more detailed analysis of Council's capital works program for the 2021-22 financial year.

The 2021-22 operating grants income is budgeted to decrease by \$8.163 million on the 2020-21 forecast. This is mainly due to the operating grants received in 2020-21 related to COVID-19 including \$2.766 million received for the Working for Victoria Fund and \$0.500 million received for the outdoor dining program. \$2.043 million was received from the State Government for the Kindergarten service, with parent fees being waived. There will be a reduction in grants received for general home care in 2021-22, with this program to cease.

Materials and services are budgeted to increase by \$7.805 million. Included in materials and services is capital expenditure which is operational in nature. This expenditure is budgeted to increase by \$6.403 million on the current year forecast due to capital projects being undertaken (including capital works to be carried forward to 2021-22). Materials and services also includes \$21.060 million for waste management. This is an increase of \$1.471 million on the current year forecast.

4.4.2 Net cash flows provided by/used in investing activities

Description	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Cash flow from investing activities				
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	4,361	20,532	16,171	370.8%
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(74,309)	(110,523)	(36,214)	48.7%
Payments for investments	0	0	0	0.0%
Proceeds from sale of investments	9,900	0	(9,900)	(100.0%)
Net cash used in investing activities	(60,048)	(89,991)	(29,943)	49.9%

Investing activities refers to cash generated or used in the enhancement or creation of infrastructure and other assets. These activities also include the acquisition and sale of other assets such as vehicles, property, plant and equipment.

The decrease in net cash inflows from investing activities is mainly due to a \$36.214 million increase in payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment, together with a \$9.900 million decrease in proceeds from the sale of investments (term deposits held longer than 90 days). This is partially offset by a \$16.171 million increase in proceeds from the sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment.

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities

Description	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	\$'000	%
Cash flow from financing activities				
Finance costs	(153)	(743)	(590)	385.6%
Proceeds from borrowings	40,906	50,030	9,124	22.3%
Repayment of borrowings	(950)	(3,835)	(2,885)	303.7%
Interest paid - lease liability	(25)	(69)	(44)	176.0%
Repayment of lease liabilities	(1,015)	(1,311)	(296)	29.2%
Net cash used in financing activities	38,763	44,072	5,309	13.7%

Financing activities refers to the cash generated or used in the financing of Council functions and include proceeds from and repayment of borrowings from financial institutions.

The 2021-22 budget includes new borrowings of \$50.030 million. The new borrowings are forecast to take place at the end of the financial year.

Refer to section 4.2.3 'Borrowings' for further information on Council borrowings.

4.5 Capital Works Program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2021-22 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as current budget or carried forward from prior year.

4.5.1 Summary

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	2020-21	2021-22	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Property	34,715	37,701	2,986	8.6%
Plant and equipment	10,260	12,676	2,416	23.5%
Infrastructure	40,392	77,607	37,215	92.1%
Total contributions	85,367	127,984	42,617	49.9%

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expans'n	Grants	Contrib.	Council Cash*	Borrowings
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	37,701	10,674	6,032	13,470	7,525	3,000	160	18,531	16,010
Plant and equipment	12,676	1,514	7,316	3,411	434	0	0	12,676	0
Infrastructure	77,607	32,611	25,907	19,089	0	12,111	400	31,076	34,020
Total	127,984	44,800	39,255	35,970	7,959	15,111	560	62,283	50,030

* Council cash represents council rates, reserves and proceeds from the sale of fixed assets.

4.5.2 Current Budget

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property Buildings	15,428	185	5,532	4,092	5,619	3,000	160	8,084	4,184
Knox Athletics Track - New Shade Structure	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Schultz Reserve - New Shade Structure	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	0
Modular Building Program (Modern Construction System) (Scoping Only)	35	35	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
Replacements of components for all Council owned buildings based on Building Asset Management Systems	5,532	0	5,532	0	0	0	0	5,532	0
Stamford Park Development Facility Upgrades as per Buildings Asset Management Plan	1,230	0	0	1,230	0	0	0	1,230	0
Boronia Precinct Planning (Design Only)	500	0	0	500	0	0	0	0	500
Community Toilet Replacement Program	361	0	0	361	0	0	0	361	0
Family & Children Buildings and Facilities Upgrades	309	0	0	309	0	0	0	0	309
Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Facility Management (Scoping Only)	278	0	0	278	0	0	0	88	190
Upgrades to Early Years Facilities	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	0	250
Knox Leisureworks - Major Redevelopment (Scoping Only)	200	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	200
Millers Homestead Upgrade	155	0	0	155	0	0	0	0	155
Early Years Facility Emergency Warning System	150	0	0	150	0	0	0	0	150
Solar panels in Community Facilities	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
Energy Retrofits in Community Buildings	80	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	80
Schultz Reserve - Pavilion Refurbishment	75	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	75
Installation of Electronic Entry System	60	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	60
Updates all Kindergarten Signage	60	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	60
Council Kindergartens Lockers Installation	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	50
Boronia Progress Hall Upgrade	40	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	40
Kitchen Retrofitting Program at sports pavilions	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25
Milpera Reserve - Pavilion Refurbishment (Design Only)	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	20
Park Ridge Reserve - Pavilion Refurbishment (Design Only)	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	20
Ferntree Gully Library - Café Blinds	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	20
The Basin Community House - Kitchen Upgrade	10	0	0	10	0	0	0	10	0
Fairpark Reserve - Pavilion Upgrade	4,840	0	0	0	4,840	3,000	160	0	1,680
Carrington Park Activity Centre - Redevelopment	569	0	0	0	569	0	0	569	0
Alice Johnson Kindergarten - Verandah Extension	65	0	0	0	65	0	0	65	0
Berrabri Preschool - Verandah Upgrade	55	0	0	0	55	0	0	55	0
Knox Infolink Redevelopment	30	0	0	0	30	0	0	30	0
Park Crescent Children and Family Centre Refurbishment (Scoping Only)	30	0	0	0	30	0	0	30	0
Liberty Avenue Kindergarten - Verandah Extension (Design Only)	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
Park Ridge Kindergarten - Verandah Extension (Design Only)	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
Billoo Kindergarten - Storage & Verandah Extension (Scoping Only)	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
Total Property	15,428	185	5,532	4,092	5,619	3,000	160	8,084	4,184

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
Plant and Equipment									
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,135	0	2,135	0	0	0	0	2,135	0
Plant and machinery replacement program	2,135	0	2,135	0	0	0	0	2,135	0
Computers and telecommunications	6,149	767	3,655	1,457	270	0	0	6,149	0
Artworks	80	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	0
Public Art Project	80	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	0
Total Plant and Equipment	8,364	847	5,790	1,457	270	0	0	8,364	0
Infrastructure									
Roads	9,061	0	8,658	403	0	1,911	0	7,150	0
Road Surface Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	5,193	0	5,193	0	0	1,911	0	3,282	0
Wilhelma Avenue, Bayswater	525	0	525	0	0	0	0	525	0
High Risk Road Failure Program Malvern Street, Bayswater	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	500	0
Edinburgh Road, Bayswater	418	0	418	0	0	0	0	418	0
Murene Court, Boronia	400	0	400	0	0	0	0	400	0
Industrial Road Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	350	0	350	0	0	0	0	350	0
Violen Street, Bayswater	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	250	0
Winnifred Crescent, Knoxfield	175	0	175	0	0	0	0	175	0
Programmed works from June Yearly Audits Sullivan Court, Wantirna	165	0	165	0	0	0	0	165	0
Wanaka Close, Rowville	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	0
Avalon Road, Rowville (Design Only)	135	0	135	0	0	0	0	135	0
Mountain Gate Drive - Ferntree Gully (Design Only)	97	0	97	0	0	0	0	97	0
Mossfield Avenue, Ferntree Gully (Design Only)	70	0	70	0	0	0	0	70	0
Faraday Street, Boronia (Design Only)	65	0	65	0	0	0	0	65	0
Studfield Shops, Rear Laneway, Wantirna South (Design Only)	45	0	45	0	0	0	0	45	0
Adele Avenue, Ferntree Gully (Design Only)	45	0	45	0	0	0	0	45	0
Amesbury Road - Bike Lane	40	0	40	0	0	0	0	40	0
Buckingham Drive, Rowville - Local Area Traffic Management Treatment	40	0	40	0	0	0	0	40	0
Parking Management Plan Implementation Sasseuss Avenue - Parking Lane & Sharrow (Design Only)	40	0	40	0	0	0	0	40	0
Alma Avenue - New School Crossing	30	0	30	0	0	0	0	30	0
Liberty Avenue - Local Area Traffic Management (Design Only)	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	15	0
Moira Avenue - Splitter Island	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	15	0
Dobson Street - Traffic Device	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	0
Maryborough Road - Rumble Strips	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	0
Kelletts Road - Lakesfield Drive Footpath link (Design Only)	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Bridges	545	0	545	0	0	0	0	545	0
Bridge Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	545	0	545	0	0	0	0	545	0
Footpaths and cycleways	4,381	1,079	3,303	0	0	732	0	3,649	0
High Street Road, Wantirna South - Shared Path	347	347	0	0	0	347	0	0	0
Napoleon Road, Lysterfield - Shared Path	156	156	0	0	0	156	0	0	0
Bergins Road, Rowville	130	130	0	0	0	130	0	0	0
Malvern Street, Bayswater	120	120	0	0	0	100	0	20	0
Mountain Highway, Upper Ferntree Gully - North Side between Jersey Road and Army Road (Design Only)	80	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	0
Ferntree Gully Road - Shared Path	80	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	0
Francis Crescent, Ferntree Gully	44	44	0	0	0	0	0	44	0
Short Street, Boronia	35	35	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	29	0
Regency Terrace, Lysterfield - Shared Path	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	24	0
Cypress Avenue, Boronia	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	20	0

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
Pleasant Road, Ferntree Gully	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
Ferntree Gully Road, Ferntree Gully	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Footpaths Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	2,786	0	2,786	0	0	0	0	2,786	0
Shared Path Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	517	0	517	0	0	0	0	517	0
Drainage	4,120	30	2,800	1,290	0	2,218	0	1,902	0
Gilbert Reserve - Wetland Scoping and Analysis (Design Only)	30	30	0	0	0	0	0	30	0
Drainage Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	2,750	0	2,750	0	0	2,218	0	532	0
Water Sensitive Urban Design System Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Cardiff Street - Flood Mitigation Design	640	0	0	640	0	0	0	640	0
Olive Bank Road - Water Sensitive Urban Design	400	0	0	400	0	0	0	400	0
Flood Mitigation Reactive Upgrade Works	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	250	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	23,946	3,600	7,951	12,395	0	7,050	400	9,476	7,020
Knox Hockey Facility Development	3,500	3,500	0	0	0	0	400	0	3,100
Tormore Reserve - Safety Fencing	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	100	0
Egan Lee Reserve - Oval (Top) Renewal	1,500	0	1,500	0	0	0	0	1,500	0
Playground Renewal Program	1,145	0	1,145	0	0	0	0	1,145	0
Windermere Reserve - Oval Renewal	850	0	850	0	0	850	0	0	0
Street Tree Replacement Program	525	0	525	0	0	0	0	525	0
Glenfern Park - Tennis Court Renewal	400	0	400	0	0	0	0	400	0
Eildon Park Reserve - Tennis Court Renewal	350	0	350	0	0	0	0	350	0
Reta Matthews Reserve - Tennis Courts Renewal	350	0	350	0	0	0	0	350	0
Fairpark Reserve - Netball Court Renewal	300	0	300	0	0	0	0	300	0
Fairpark Reserve - Re-turfing	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	250	0
Talaskia Reserve - Cricket Net Renewal	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	250	0
Dobson Park - Cricket Net Renewal	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	250	0
Significant Municipal Site Renewal	229	0	229	0	0	0	0	229	0
Carrington Park Reserve - Tennis Court Renewal	175	0	175	0	0	0	0	175	0
Knox Gardens Reserve - Oval #2	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	0
Kings Park - Sportsfield Drainage (Oval #2)	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	0
Lewis Park - New Irrigation (Oval #2)	150	0	150	0	0	0	0	150	0
Knox Regional Netball Centre - Court Renewal	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	0
Park Furniture Renewal	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	75	0
Bush Boulevard Renewal	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	75	0
Parkland Asset Renewal	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	75	0
Reserve Paths Renewal	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	75	0
Reactive Sportsfield Surface Renewal	60	0	60	0	0	0	0	60	0
Oversowing of Sportsfields	60	0	60	0	0	0	0	60	0
Stormwater Harvesting Infrastructure Renewal	60	0	60	0	0	0	0	60	0
Knox Gardens - Tennis Courts Renewal	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Exner Reserve - Tennis Courts Renewal	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Wantirna Reserve - Tennis Courts Renewal (Design Only)	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Public Tennis / Netball / Basketball Court Renewal	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Golf Practice Nets Installations	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0
Open Space Asset Artwork Renewal	42	0	42	0	0	0	0	42	0
Reactive Park Signage Renewal	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	20	0
Llewellyn Reserve - Cricket Pitch Renewal (Oval #1)	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	20	0
Wantirna Reserve - Sportsfield Renewal	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	15	0
Knox Regional Netball Centre, Ferntree Gully - Building Redevelopment and Associated Works	8,250	0	0	8,250	0	5,000	0	0	3,250

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
HV Jones, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Stage	610	0	0	610	0	0	0	610	0
Lewis Park, Wantirna South - Masterplan (Design Only)	515	0	0	515	0	0	0	515	0
Quarry Reserve, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Stage 3	400	0	0	400	0	400	0	0	0
Kings Park Reserve - Masterplan Implementation	400	0	0	400	0	0	0	400	0
Knox Park Athletics - Track Lighting	300	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	300
Kings Park - Oval #1 Floodlighting Upgrade	300	0	0	300	0	300	0	0	0
Carrington Park Precinct	300	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	300
Lewis Park - Oval #1 Floodlighting Upgrade	250	0	0	250	0	250	0	0	0
Upgrade	250	0	0	250	0	250	0	0	0
Llewelyn Reserve - Masterplan Implementation	200	0	0	200	0	0	0	200	0
Wally Tew Reserve - Stormwater Harvest Upgrade Design	120	0	0	120	0	0	0	120	0
Principal Avenue Tree Works	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0
Replanting of priority areas within Knox including tree reserves and open space.	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0
Carrington Park Reserve - Stormwater Harvest Upgrade Design	80	0	0	80	0	0	0	80	0
Knox Community Gardens - New Facility Planning	70	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	70
Fairpark Reserve - Safety Fencing	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	0
Major Crescent Reserve - Landscape Plan (Design Only)	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	0
Lakesfield Reserve - Masterplan (Design Only)	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	0
Flamingo Reserve - Landscape Plan (Design Only)	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	0
Schultz Reserve - Landscape Plan (Design Only)	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	0
Off street car parks	965	35	700	230	0	0	0	965	0
Gilmour Reserve - New Car Park (Design Only)	35	35	0	0	0	0	0	35	0
Program for asphalt resurfacing, patching, linemarking and kerb and channel renewal	700	0	700	0	0	0	0	700	0
Knox Skate & BMX Park - Access Road & Carpark	155	0	0	155	0	0	0	155	0
Wally Tew Reserve - Carpark Upgrade	40	0	0	40	0	0	0	40	0
Egan Lee Reserve - Carpark Extension (Design Only)	35	0	0	35	0	0	0	35	0
Other infrastructure	15,012	14,620	242	150	0	0	0	512	14,500
Knox Regional Sport Park - Facility Contribution	14,500	14,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,500
Community Placemaking Program - Murals & Lighting	105	105	0	0	0	0	0	105	0
Scoping/Installation of Public Charging Outlets	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
Knox Pop Up Events Kit Upkeep	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Fire Hydrant replacement program	142	0	142	0	0	0	0	142	0
Street furniture renewal program	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	0
Asbestos Removal Program	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0
Essential Service Building Code Measures	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	0
Total Infrastructure	58,030	19,364	24,199	14,468	0	11,911	400	24,199	21,520
Total Capital Works	81,822	20,396	35,520	20,018	5,889	14,911	560	40,647	25,704

* Council cash represents council rates, reserves and proceeds from the sale of fixed assets.

4.5.3 Works carried forward from 2020-21 year

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
Property									
Land and Buildings	22,273	10,489	500	9,378	1,906	0	0	10,446	11,827
Operations Centre Relocation	4,000	4,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,000
Westfield Library	3,864	3,864	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,864
Modular Building Program (Modern Construction System)	2,616	2,616	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,616
Heany Park - Scout/Community Pavilion	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
Replacements of components for all Council owned buildings based on Building Asset Management Systems	500	0	500	0	0	0	0	500	0
Stamford Park Development	8,800	0	0	8,800	0	0	0	8,800	0
Facility Upgrades as per Buildings Asset Management Plan	420	0	0	420	0	0	0	0	420
Arts Facility Upgrade	70	0	0	70	0	0	0	70	0
Millers Homestead Upgrade	68	0	0	68	0	0	0	68	0
F W Kerr Preschool - External Upgrade	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	20	0
Carrington Park Activity Centre - Redevelopment	920	0	0	0	920	0	0	920	0
Rowville Children and Family Centre - Refurbishment	500	0	0	0	500	0	0	0	500
Fairpark Reserve - Pavilion Upgrade	426	0	0	0	426	0	0	0	426
Park Crescent Children and Family Centre Refurbishment	60	0	0	0	60	0	0	60	0
Total Property	22,273	10,489	500	9,378	1,906	0	0	10,446	11,827
Plant and Equipment									
Computers and telecommunications	4,272	627	1,527	1,954	164	0	0	4,272	0
Artworks	40	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	0
Public Art Project	40	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	0
Total Plant and Equipment	4,312	667	1,527	1,954	164	0	0	4,312	0
Infrastructure									
Roads	95	0	24	71	0	0	0	95	0
Chandler Road, Boronia	24	0	24	0	0	0	0	24	0
Macaulay Place - Shared Safety Zone	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	0
Parking Management Plan Implementation	21	0	0	21	0	0	0	21	0
Footpaths and cycleways	262	262	0	0	0	0	0	262	0
Burwood Highway, Upper Ferntree Gully - Shared Path Link 1	162	162	0	0	0	0	0	162	0
Mountain Highway, The Basin	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	100	0
Drainage	1,366	250	421	695	0	0	0	1,366	0
Egan Lee Reserve - Wetland Construction Water Sensitive Urban Design System Renewal Program across multiple locations within Knox	421	0	421	0	0	0	0	421	0
1825 Ferntree Gully Road - Flood Mitigation Works	435	0	0	435	0	0	0	435	0
Forest Road to Koolunga Reserve, Ferntree Gully - Wetland Construction	200	0	0	200	0	0	0	200	0
Albert Street and Chandler Road Irrigation	60	0	0	60	0	0	0	60	0
Off street car parks	203	0	0	203	0	0	0	203	0
Rowville Recreation Reserve - Carpark	163	0	0	163	0	0	0	163	0
Wantirna Reserve - Carpark Upgrade	40	0	0	40	0	0	0	40	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	5,150	237	1,263	3,651	0	199	0	4,951	0
Dog Parks - Installations	200	200	0	0	0	0	0	200	0
Gilbert Park Reserve - New Drainage	37	37	0	0	0	37	0	0	0
Playground Renewal Program	545	0	545	0	0	0	0	545	0
Wantirna Reserve - Tennis Court Renewal	468	0	468	0	0	0	0	468	0
Eildon Park Reserve - Tennis Court Renewal	143	0	143	0	0	0	0	143	0
Renewal	108	0	108	0	0	0	0	108	0

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Knox Regional Netball Centre, Ferntree Gully - Development and Subsequent Implementation of Masterplan	1,046	0	0	1,046	0	0	0	1,046	0
Peregrine Reserve, Rowville - Masterplan Stage 2	376	0	0	376	0	0	0	376	0
Talaskia Reserve, Upper Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Stage 3	362	0	0	362	0	0	0	362	0
Lewis Park, Wantirna South - Masterplan	300	0	0	300	0	0	0	300	0
HV Jones , Ferntree Gully - Development of Masterplan	277	0	0	277	0	0	0	277	0
Scoresby Reserve - Masterplan Stage 4	208	0	0	208	0	0	0	208	0
Quarry Reserve, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Stage 3	200	0	0	200	0	0	0	200	0
Knox Regional Netball Centre - Outdoor Courts Floodlight	198	0	0	198	0	0	0	198	0
Gilbert Park, Knoxfield - Masterplan	163	0	0	163	0	163	0	0	0
Llewelyn Reserve - Masterplan Implementation	115	0	0	115	0	0	0	115	0
Revegetation - Strategic Road Corridors Bush Boulevards - Design and Implementation	108	0	0	108	0	0	0	108	0
Principal Avenue Tree Works	87	0	0	87	0	0	0	87	0
Gilbert Park - Floodlighting Upgrade	50	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	0
The Basin Triangle - Masterplan	30	0	0	30	0	0	0	30	0
Kings Park Reserve - Masterplan	30	0	0	30	0	0	0	30	0
Other infrastructure	12,500	12,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,500
Knox Regional Sport Park - Facility Contribution	12,500	12,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,500
Total Infrastructure	19,577	13,248	1,708	4,620	0	199	0	6,877	12,500
Total Carried Forward Capital Works 2020/21	46,162	24,405	3,735	15,952	2,070	199	0	21,636	24,327

* Council cash represents council rates, reserves and proceeds from the sale of fixed assets

4.6 Summary of Capital Works Expenditure

For the four years ended 30 June 2025

2022/23	Total Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
Property									
Buildings	31,463	11,235	6,022	14,206	0	0	900	6,022	24,541
Total Property	31,463	11,235	6,022	14,206	0	0	900	6,022	24,541
Plant and Equipment									
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,457	0	2,457	0	0	0	0	2,457	0
Computers and telecommunications	4,809	0	3,120	1,689	0	0	0	4,809	0
Artworks	123	80	43	0	0	0	0	123	0
Total Plant and Equipment	7,389	80	5,620	1,689	0	0	0	7,389	0
Infrastructure									
Roads	9,794	0	9,449	345	0	0	0	9,794	0
Bridges	467	0	467	0	0	0	0	467	0
Footpaths and cycleways	5,614	1,765	3,849	0	0	0	0	3,899	1,715
Drainage	4,545	1,000	2,800	745	0	0	0	4,545	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	11,339	350	7,534	3,455	0	1,250	0	7,534	2,555
Off street car parks	1,240	0	700	120	420	0	0	1,240	0
Other infrastructure	252	5	247	0	0	0	0	252	0
Total Infrastructure	33,251	3,120	25,046	4,665	420	1,250	0	27,731	4,270
Total Capital Works Expenditure	72,103	14,435	36,688	20,560	420	1,250	900	41,142	28,811

2023/24	Total Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrow-ings \$'000
Property									
Buildings	23,967	1,250	5,947	16,770	0	0	10,500	8,987	4,480
Total Property	23,967	1,250	5,947	16,770	0	0	10,500	8,987	4,480
Plant and Equipment									
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,011	0	2,011	0	0	0	0	2,011	0
Computers and telecommunications	4,805	0	3,100	1,705	0	0	0	4,805	0
Artworks	124	80	44	0	0	0	0	124	0
Total Plant and Equipment	6,940	80	5,155	1,705	0	0	0	6,940	0
Infrastructure									
Roads	10,409	0	10,184	225	0	0	0	10,409	0
Bridges	425	0	425	0	0	0	0	425	0
Footpaths and cycleways	5,360	1,006	4,354	0	0	0	0	5,360	0
Drainage	3,184	20	2,884	280	0	0	0	3,184	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	7,699	600	5,129	1,970	0	570	0	7,129	0
Off street car parks	1,326	0	721	535	70	0	0	1,326	0
Other infrastructure	259	5	254	0	0	0	0	259	0
Total Infrastructure	28,662	1,631	23,951	3,010	70	570	0	28,092	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	59,569	2,961	35,053	21,485	70	570	10,500	44,019	4,480

2024/25	Total Cost \$'000	Asset Expenditure Types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expans'n \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash* \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property									
Buildings	20,910	1,250	6,083	13,577	0	0	0	12,110	8,800
Total Property	20,910	1,250	6,083	13,577	0	0	0	12,110	8,800
Plant and Equipment									
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,695	0	2,695	0	0	0	0	2,695	0
Computers and telecommunications	3,100	0	3,100	0	0	0	0	3,100	0
Artworks	125	80	45	0	0	0	0	125	0
Total Plant and Equipment	5,920	80	5,840	0	0	0	0	5,920	0
Infrastructure									
Roads	10,913	0	10,653	260	0	0	0	10,913	0
Bridges	385	0	385	0	0	0	0	385	0
Footpaths and cycleways	5,856	1,036	4,820	0	0	0	0	5,856	0
Drainage	3,381	60	2,971	350	0	0	0	3,381	0
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	6,983	850	5,568	530	35	0	0	6,983	0
Off street car parks	813	0	743	70	0	0	0	813	0
Other infrastructure	266	5	261	0	0	0	0	266	0
Total Infrastructure	28,597	1,951	25,401	1,210	35	0	0	28,597	0
Total Capital Works Expenditure	55,427	3,281	37,324	14,787	35	0	0	46,627	8,800

5. Financial Performances Indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The financial performance indicators below are the prescribed financial performance indicators contained in Part 3 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Indicator	Measure	Expected Bands	Notes	Actual 2019-20	Forecast 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Projections			Trend + / o / -
							2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	
Operating Position (measures whether a council is able to generate an underlying surplus)										
Adjusted Underlying Result	Adjusted Underlying Surplus (Deficit) / Adjusted Underlying Revenue	> 0%	1		(3.00%)	(28.62%)	2.32%	5.10%	6.09%	+
Liquidity (measures whether a council is able to generate sufficient cash to pay bills on time)										
Working Capital	Current Assets / Current Liabilities	100.00% - 200.00%	2		144.90%	99.70%	98.05%	100.17%	98.47%	o
Unrestricted Cash	Unrestricted Cash / Current Liabilities	50.00% - 100.00%	3		69.41%	32.96%	35.13%	36.76%	43.04%	+
Obligations (measures whether the level of debt and other long term obligations is appropriate to the size and nature of the Council's activities)										
Loans and Borrowings	Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings / Rate Revenue	< 80.00%	4		32.72%	68.23%	81.53%	73.58%	68.45%	-
Loans and borrowings	Interest and Principal Repayments / Rate Revenue	0% - 10.00%	4		0.90%	3.63%	7.63%	9.53%	9.50%	-
Indebtedness	Non Current Liabilities / Own Source	< 80.00%	5		27.88%	53.18%	61.86%	54.58%	50.15%	-
Asset Renewal	Asset Renewal Expenditure / Depreciation	90.00% - 110.00%	6		149.65%	153.48%	136.86%	125.80%	129.89%	o
Stability (measures whether a council is able to generate revenue from a range of sources)										
Rates Concentration	Rate Revenue / Adjusted Underlying Revenue	50.00% - 80.00%	7		68.93%	70.97%	71.32%	70.74%	71.00%	o
Rates Effort	Rate Revenue / Property Values (CIV)	0.20% - 0.60%	8		0.24%	0.24%	0.25%	0.26%	0.26%	o

Indicator	Measure	Expected Bands	Notes	Actual 2019-20	Forecast 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Projections			Trend + / o / -
							2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	
Efficiency (measures whether a council is using resources efficiently)										
Expenditure Level	Total Expenditure / No. of Assessments	N/A			\$2,687	\$3,349	\$2,593	\$2,609	\$2,654	o
Revenue Level	Residential Rate Revenue / No. of Residential Assessments	N/A			\$1,581	\$1,609	\$1,640	\$1,674	\$1,717	o
Workforce Turnover	No. of Resignations & Terminations / Average No. of Staff	5.00% - 10.00%			10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	o

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes on indicators

5.2.1 Adjusted underlying results

Adjusted underlying result is the net surplus or deficit for the year (per Australian Accounting Standards) adjusted for non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure, non-monetary asset contributions, and contributions to fund capital expenditure other than grants and non-monetary asset contributions. It is an indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance is expected over the period. The significant decrease in 2021-22 is largely driven by the net loss anticipated on the disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment, in particular the transfer of the Knox Regional Sports Park assets to the State Government. This transfer has been carried forward from the 2020-21 financial year.

5.2.2 Working capital

Working capital (current assets / current liabilities) is the proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets. It is a general measure of the organisation's liquidity and its ability to meet its commitments as and when they fall due. The working capital ratio is anticipated to remain around 100% for the four year period, with the decline from the current year forecast due to a reduction of cash and cash equivalents together with the utilisation of interest-bearing loans and borrowings to fund the Capital Works Program.

5.2.3 Unrestricted cash

Unrestricted cash means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash, including cash that will be used to fund capital expenditure from the previous financial year. Restricted cash means cash and cash equivalents, within the meaning of Accounting Standard *AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows*, that are not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted. The decline from the current year forecast demonstrates a reduction of cash and cash equivalents together with the utilisation of interest-bearing loans and borrowings to fund the Capital Works Program. Statutory reserve balances will remain steady before a decrease in 2024-25.

5.2.4 Debt compared to rates

Loans and borrowings means interest bearing loans and borrowings compared to rates and charges revenue. The balance of interest bearing loans and borrowings is shown as a percentage of rates revenue. Loans and borrowings also refers to interest and principal repayments compared to rate revenue. The ratio describes Council's cash flow debt repayment capacity through the inclusion of interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings as a percentage of rate revenue. The trend indicates an increased reliance on debt against annual rate revenue in 2021-22 due to borrowings to fund the Capital Works Program, with further increases in the subsequent years.

5.2.5 Indebtedness

Indebtedness compares non-current liabilities to own source revenue. Own source revenue is defined as adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of Council (including government grants). Interest-bearing borrowings will increase in 2021-22 to fund the Capital Works Program. There will be a further increase in 2022-23 followed by slight decreases in the following two years.

5.2.6 Asset renewal

Asset renewal is calculated as asset renewal expenditure as a percentage of depreciation. This indicates the extent of Council's renewal of assets against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets. Council's asset renewal indicator is greater than 100% through the four year outlook.

5.2.7 Rates concentration

Rates concentration is measured as rate revenue compared to adjusted underlying revenue. Adjusted underlying revenue is defined as total income excluding non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure, non-monetary asset contributions, and contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than grants and non-monetary contributions. Rates concentration reflects the extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's on-going services. The trend is relatively steady for rates concentration.

5.2.8 Rates effort

Rates effort, which is intended to examine the community's capacity to pay, presents rate revenue as a percentage of the capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality. The trend is relatively steady for rates effort.

6. Schedule of Fees and Charges

This appendix presents the fees and charges which will be charged in respect to various goods and services during the financial year 2021-22. Note that this schedule only includes fees set by Council. There are other fees that are set by statute and charged by Council in addition to this listing. These are statutory fees and are made in accordance with legislative requirements. These fees are updated as of 1 July 2021 and will be reflected on Council's website.

Knox City Council

2021-22 Fees & Charges



Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
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CEO - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

REVENUE & PROPERTY SERVICES

Land Information Certificates are a standard charge fixed by State Government (Statutory) legislation. Summons Costs recovered are fully recoverable from the outstanding rate debtors.

	Scale of Costs	Scale of Costs	Scale of Costs	
Summons Costs Recovered (Legal Costs)	Scale of Costs	Scale of Costs	Scale of Costs	N
Land Information Certificates - Urgent Requests Additional Fee	Per Certificate	\$37.50	\$39.00	Y
Reproduction of a Valuation and Rate Notice - Electronic Delivery Only - Up to 3 years old	Per Notice	\$12.00	\$13.00	Y
Reproduction of a Valuation and Rate Notice - Mail of Printed Document - Up to 3 years old	Per Notice	\$37.50	\$39.00	Y
Reproduction of a Valuation and Rate Notice - greater than 3 years old	Per Hour	\$80.00	\$84.00	Y
Recovery of cost incurred to undertake a Field Call	Per Field Call	\$80.00	\$84.00	Y
Recovery of Council's Agency's Professional Costs to prepare Field Call documentation.	Per Field Call	\$70.00	\$73.00	Y

Knox City Council

2021-22 Fees & Charges



Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
City Strategy and Integrity - City Planning and Building				
PLANNING SERVICES				
<i>The Planning and Subdivision fees indicated below are for the processing and administration of development applications. Most of these fees are prescribed by State Regulations. Only those that are at the discretion on Council are indicated below.</i>				
Secondary Consent & Extension of Time Requests				
Secondary Consent Requests	Per Request	\$385.00	\$400.00	Y
Extension of Time Request - For all permits other than Multi Dwelling Permits for more than two dwellings or tree removal on single dwelling sites	Per Request	\$260.00	\$270.00	Y
Extension of Time Request - For Tree Removal or Pruning (single dwelling sites only).	Per Request	\$80.00	\$85.00	Y
Extension of Time Request - For Multi Dwelling Permits of more than two dwellings	Per Request	\$680.00	\$708.00	Y
Bonds (Refundable)				
Works Bond	Per Request	150% of the estimated cost of works. Minimum bond amount - \$5,000 for incomplete works bond and \$2,000 for maintenance bond.	150% of the estimated cost of works. Minimum bond amount - \$5,000 for incomplete works bond and \$2,000 for maintenance bond.	N
Landscaping Bond	Per Request	\$6,300.00	\$6,600.00	N
Fee to process Bonds for uncompleted works bonds, landscaping bonds and maintenance bonds.	Per Request	\$365.00	\$400.00	Y
Fee to provide a quote for a Bond for uncompleted works bonds, landscaping bonds and maintenance bonds.	Per Request	\$120.00	\$125.00	Y
Application Advertising				
- Public Notice sign for displaying on site	Per Site	\$55.00	\$60.00	Y
- Erection and Management of Public Notices	Per Site	\$220.00	\$230.00	Y
- Mail notices up to 10 inclusively	Flat Rate	\$192.00	\$200.00	Y
- Each additional mail notices between 11 and 50 for mail notices up to 10 is to be added on plus each additional mail notice charge).	Per Additional Notice	\$19.00	\$15.00	Y
- Mail notices between 51 and 100 inclusively	Flat Rate	\$1,000.00	\$1,040.00	Y
- Mail notices between 101 and 200 inclusively	Flat Rate	\$2,185.00	\$2,273.00	Y
- Mail notices greater than 200	Flat Rate	\$2,755.00	\$2,866.00	Y
- Standard letter request for planning information	Flat Rate	\$85.00	\$90.00	Y
Planning (Miscellaneous)				
Planning Application - tree removal (Single dwelling sites only - Development sites fee is as specified in Clause 21 of the Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016)	Per Application	\$165.00	\$170.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Planning Application - tree pruning (Single dwelling sites only - Development sites fee is as specified in Clause 21 of the Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016)	Per Application	\$83.00	\$85.00	Y
Planning File Recall (Residential)	Per Request	\$190.00	\$198.00	Y
Planning File Recall (Industrial / Commercial)	Per Request	\$270.00	\$280.00	Y
Refund Request	Per Request	Cost of Service	Cost of Service	Y
Planning Historical Searches Residential (Provision of Permit Details where there are 5 or more planning permits that apply to the site)	Per Request	\$75.00	\$78.00	Y
Planning Historical Searches Commercial (Provision of Permit Details where there are 5 or more planning permits that apply to the site)	Per request	\$250.00	\$260.00	Y
Net Gain Fee	Per Plant	\$37.00	\$39.00	Y
Pre-Application Request	Per Request	\$260.00	\$275.00	Y
Dishonoured Cheque Fee	Per Cheque	\$33.00	\$35.00	Y
BUILDING SERVICES				
<i>The Building Services fees provide for the assessment, administration and inspection works necessary for the issue of Building Permits and other miscellaneous site inspections. Most Building Surveying and Permit services are open to market competition (hence GST applies to these), and the fees should be varied on a commercial basis.</i>				
Domestic Permits				
Single Dwellings #	Per Permit	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$2,500.00	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$2,500.00	Y
Multi Dwelling applications (Class 1) #	Per Permit	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$3,700.00	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$3,700.00	Y
Dwellings Additions (including Dependant Relative Units) #	Per Permit	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$1,350.00	Value/100 or minimum fee of \$1,350.00	Y
Variation Permits / Renewals #	Per Permit	\$290.00	\$300.00	Y
Signs, Aerials, Retaining Walls etc #	Per Permit	\$590.00	\$600.00	Y
Sheds, Carports, (non brick) Garages, Verandas, decks, Above Ground Swimming Pools etc. #	Per Permit	\$730.00	\$750.00	Y
In ground Swimming Pools and Brick Garages #	Per Permit	\$885.00	\$900.00	Y
Demolitions #	Per Permit	\$790.00	\$820.00	Y
Minor Variation to Report & Consent decisions #	Per request	\$95.00	\$99.00	N
Industrial / Commercial Permits				
Minor works up to \$10,000 #	Per Permit	\$590.00	\$600.00	Y
Minor works \$10,000 to \$30,000 #	Per Permit	\$1,250.00	\$1,300.00	Y
Fit out Permits	Per Permit	\$1,250.00	\$1,300.00	Y
Classes 2 - 9 (up to \$10,000) #	Per Permit	\$590.00	\$600.00	Y
Classes 2 - 9 (\$10,000 - \$50,000) #	Per Permit	\$1,900.00	\$1,950.00	Y
Classes 2 - 9 (above \$50,000) #	Per Permit	(Cost/2,000 + square root of cost) * 4.5 or minimum fee of \$2,100	(Cost/2,000 + square root of cost) * 4.5 or minimum fee of \$2,100	Y
# Fees may be varied by up to 20% by either the Manager City Planning or Co-ordinator Building Services.				

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Building (Miscellaneous)				
Building over easements. Building over public space (other than where the public space will be occupied for 6 months or more and the cost of the project exceeds \$5m), and other Council approvals. *	Per request	\$300.00	\$310.00	N
Building Over public space - where public land is occupied for 6 months or more and the cost of the project exceeds \$5m	Per Week Occupied	\$2 per square metre per day (minimum fee of \$200 per week & maximum fee of \$500 per week)	\$2 per square metre per day (minimum fee of \$200 per week & maximum fee of \$500 per week)	N
Council notification of Report and Consent applications	Per Request	\$285.00	\$295.00	Y
Extension of Time Request for existing Building Permit - 12 Months *	Per Request	\$185.00	\$190.00	Y
Sundry Additional Inspection (In Area) *	Per Inspection	\$205.00	\$215.00	Y
Building File Recall Residential	Per Permit	\$190.00	\$198.00	Y
Building File Recall Industrial/Commercial	Per Permit	\$270.00	\$280.00	Y
Occupancy Permit - Public Entertainment *	Per Permit	\$590.00	\$615.00	Y
Occupancy Permit - Public Entertainment - 5 Year Permit *	Per Permit	\$1,210.00	\$1,260.00	Y
Building Historical Searches Residential (Provision of Permit Details where there are 5 or more building permits that apply to the site)	Per Information	\$75.00	\$78.00	Y
Building Historical Searches Commercial (Provision of Permit Details where there are 5 or more building permits that apply to the site)	Per Information	\$250.00	\$260.00	Y
Refund Request	Per Request	Variable	Variable	Y
Dishonoured Cheque Fee	Flat Rate	\$33.00	\$35.00	Y
* Non Statutory Fees may be varied by up to 20% by either the Manager City Planning or Co-ordinator Building Services.				
City Strategy and Integrity - City Futures				
Custom and/or Printed Maps				
<i>Quoted prices available upon request</i>				
Electronic Files and/or Printed Copies	Per Request	Variable	Variable	Y
City Strategy and Integrity - City Safety and Health				
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT, ANIMAL CONTROL & LOCAL LAWS				
<i>Fees relate to Council's Amenity Local Law, Domestic Animals Act and Road Rules Victoria. Infringement fines are set in legislation. Permit application, Annual Renewal & Registration fees are at Council's discretion and have been calculated based on cost recovery. For ease of use, administration fees have been rounded.</i>				
Permit (including Application) Fees				
More than 2 dogs				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
More than 2 cats				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
More than 25 small birds				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
More than 5 large birds				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
More than 5 reptiles or rodents				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
More than 5 poultry				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Permit (other) - i. e. any other permit triggered by the Local Law				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Temporary Accommodation/Camping (on public or private land)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Per Permit	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Display or sell goods or services on public land				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Permit fee for single day use	Charge	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal fee for period up to 12 months	Per Permit	\$433.00	\$451.00	N
Fitness Groups - Seasonal Permit (Max. 10 sessions) - on public land not managed by Council's Leisure Services	6 Monthly	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
To place tables and chairs on footpath (street furniture)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee - Per seated person	Per Person	\$37.00	\$39.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee - Each Table	Per Table	\$29.00	\$31.00	N
Roadside Trading				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Permit for one day only	Per Application	\$213.00	\$222.00	N
Permit for 2-7 days	Per Application	\$421.00	\$438.00	N
Permit for up to one month	Per Application	\$1,180.00	\$1,228.00	N
Municipal-Wide Trading Permit (including shared bicycle/scooter operators or other business models)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$572.00	\$595.00	N
Permit for up to one month	Per Application	\$1,612.00	\$1,677.00	N
Place a Commercial Waste Bin				
Application Fee	On Application	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Place a clothing recycling bin on public land				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee - directly operated by fundraising organisation under the Fundraising Act 1998	Per Bin	\$135.00	\$141.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee - Other	Per Bin	\$568.00	\$591.00	N
Place a Rubbish Skip bin on public land				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Accredited provider Permit/ Renewal Fee - including up to 20 placements per annum	Annual	\$909.00	\$946.00	Y
Accredited provider - placement of additional bin over 20	Per Bin	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y
Permit Fee - Single Placement	Per Bin	\$94.00	\$98.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
To garage a long or heavy vehicle (in a residential area)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Permit Fee	Annual	\$209.00	\$218.00	N
Keeping of more than 2 unregistered vehicles on private land				
Application Fee	On Application	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	N
Permit Fee	Per Permit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Fireworks on public land				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Permit Fee	Per Permit	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Fundraising				
Application Fee	On Application	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Permit Fee	Per Permit	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Signage				
To erect an "A" frame sign or other sign less than 600mm by 900mm in size (on Public Land)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$83.00	\$87.00	N
Erect or place a sign (up to 1800mm by 900mm in size) (on Public Land)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$140.00	\$146.00	N
Erect or place Large Sign (greater than 1800mm x 900mm) (on Public Land)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee	Annual	\$201.00	\$210.00	N
Temporary signage in a public place				
Application Fee	On Application	\$146.00	\$152.00	N
Permit Fee - up to 6 weeks	Per Permit	\$83.00	\$87.00	N
Real Estate - Open for Inspection/ Auction signage (on Public Land) (per office location)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Permit/ Renewal Fee - Single Placement	Per Permit	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Initial Permit/ Renewal Fee - Annual Permit	Annual	\$627.00	\$653.00	N
Real Estate - Advertising Board specifically for a property for lease/ sale (on Public Land)				
Application Fee	On Application	\$152.00	\$159.00	N
Permit Fee - up to 3 months	Per Permit	\$86.00	\$90.00	N
Burning Off Permits				
Permit issued outside the bushfire management overlay area	Per Permit	\$67.00	\$70.00	N
Permit issued within the bushfire management overlay area	Per Permit	No Charge	No Charge	
Works undertaken on private property				
Land management fee for works undertaken on private property (i.e. unsightly properties/fire hazard clearances or similar)	Charge	\$194.00 + Actual cost of works	\$202.00 + Actual cost of works	N
Parking Permits (Domestic)				
Initial permit (up to 2 permits)	No Charge	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Third and subsequent permit	Per Permit	\$51.00	\$54.00	N
Replacement (lost, stolen or changeover vehicle)	Per Permit	\$26.00	\$28.00	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Parking Permits (Commercial)				
Service provided by Council on behalf of private business (Sec 90D Road Safety Act) - optional service provided at request by private business	Per Permit	\$25.00	\$28.00	Y
Operated by Council initial permit (up to 4 permits)(Council land)	Per Permit	\$25.00	\$28.00	Y
Operated by Council (Fifth and subsequent permits)	Per Permit	\$51.00	\$54.00	Y
Replacement (lost, stolen or changeover vehicle)	Per Permit	\$25.00	\$26.00	Y
Private Parking Area Agreements (Sec 90D Road Safety Act)				
Application Fee	Per Permit	\$853.00	\$888.00	Y
Permit/ Renewal Fee	Per Permit	\$325.00	\$344.00	Y
Registration Fees				
<i>The fee structure for animal registration renewals reflects Government fees associated with animal registrations of \$4.10 (to increase by CPI on the 01/07/21) per dog or cat and \$20 per Domestic Animal Business.</i>				
<i>Fees in this section have been rounded up or down consistent with Councils strategic approach to animal registrations within the Domestic Animal Management Plan. All Animal Registration Fees below, unless otherwise noted, apply for the 2021 Animal Registration year, which registers an animal for the period 10 April 2021 to 9 April 2022 in accordance with the Domestic Animal Act.</i>				
Category 1D - Dog that meets any one of the following: * Desexed; * over 10 years old; * registered and owner current member of an approved association; * kept for breeding at licensed premises; * kept for working stock. * undergone obedience training which complies with the regulations.	Annual	\$50.00	\$52.00	N
Category 1DP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Category 1D (Dog Desexed - also over 10 years old, current member of an approved association, kept for breeding at licensed premises, kept for working stock)	Annual	\$25.00	\$26.00	N
Category 2DH - Dog Unsterilised and Microchipped - Only applies to current registrations and not new registrations.	Annual	\$88.00	\$92.00	N
Category DLP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Category 2DH (Dog Unsterilised and Microchipped) - Only applies to current registrations and not new registrations.	Annual	\$33.00	\$34.00	N
Category 1J - Dog or Cat meets 3 categories (i.e. desexed, microchipped, obedience trained, breeder etc) (registered pre 10 April 2016)	Annual	\$34.00	\$36.00	N
Category 1JP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Dog or Cat meets 3 categories (i.e. desexed, microchipped, obedience trained, breeder etc) (registered pre 10 April 2016)	Annual	\$17.00	\$18.00	N
Category 2D - Dog Unsterilised	Annual	\$196.00	\$204.00	N
Category 2DP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Dog Unsterilised	Annual	\$98.00	\$102.00	N
Category 2R Declared Menacing Dog, Restricted Breed Dog, Declared Dangerous Dog (no Pensioner Concession Rebate applies)	Annual	\$330.00	\$344.00	N
Category 1DF - Dog that is kept in foster care by a registered foster carer	Annual	\$8.00	\$8.00	N
Cat 1C - Cat that meets any one of the following: * desexed; * over 10 years old; * current member of an approved association; * kept for breeding at licensed premises.	Annual	\$46.00	\$48.00	N
Category 1CP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Cat 1C - Cat Desexed (also over 10 years old, current member of an approved association)	Annual	\$23.00	\$24.00	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Category 2C - Cat Unsterilised (exempt under the Domestic Animal Act from requirement to be desexed)	Annual	\$196.00	\$204.00	N
Category 2CP - Pensioner Concession Rebate for Cat 2C - Cat unsterilized (exempt under the Domestic Animal Act from requirement to be desexed)	Annual	\$98.00	\$102.00	N
Category 2CH - Cat Unsterilised and Microchipped - Only applies to current registrations and not new registrations.	Annual	\$88.00	\$92.00	N
Category 1CF - Cat that is kept in foster care by a registered foster carer	Annual	\$8.00	\$8.00	N
Registration incentive (dog) - first year of registration is free with evidence that the dog is purchased from a registered animal shelter (ie. Vic Animal Aid, RSPCA, Lost Dogs Home) - within 30 days of purchase.	First Registration Per Animal	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Registration incentive (cat) - first year of registration is free with evidence that the cat is purchased from a registered animal shelter (ie. Vic Animal Aid, RSPCA, Lost Dogs Home) - within 30 days of purchase.	First Registration Per Animal	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Unsterilised Puppy registration - discounted initial registration at the desexed registration rate for unsterilised puppies under 6 months of age.	First Registration Per Animal	\$50.00	\$52.00	N
Accessing of Pet register information	Per Entry Inspected	\$11.50	\$12.00	N
Refund of Animal Registration: Eligible if animal dies within 1 month of new registration, or 1 month from 10 April for registration renewals.		Refund of the applicable registration fee	Refund of the applicable registration fee	
50% pro-rata of Animal Registration fees apply on 10 October. (Does not apply for animals registered at the Pound (upon release after being impounded)).		50% of the applicable registration fee	50% of the applicable registration fee	
Domestic Animal Business Registration				
Animal Business Registration	Annual	\$265.00	\$276.00	N
Foster Carer Registration				
Foster Carer Registration	Annual	\$54.00	\$57.00	N
Pound Release Fees				
Release of domestic dog from pound (reclaim within 8 days) - unregistered	Per Animal	\$296.00	\$308.00	N
Release of domestic dog from pound (reclaim within 8 days) - registered	Per Animal	\$250.00	\$250.00	N
Release of domestic cat from pound (reclaimed within 8 days) - unregistered	Per Animal	\$156.00	\$163.00	N
Release of domestic cat from pound (reclaimed within 8 days) - registered	Per Animal	\$122.00	\$122.00	N
Per day sustenance fee (if held beyond the 8 days impounding fee period)	Per Animal Per Day	\$35.00	\$37.00	N
Livestock				
Impounding fees for large animal - horse, cow or similar	Per Animal	\$374.00	\$389.00	N
Impounding fees for sheep, goat, pig or similar sized animal	Per Animal	\$250.00	\$260.00	N
Posting formal notice	Per Notice	\$22.00	\$23.00	Y
Advertisement in newspaper (animal to be sold at auction after statutory 14 day impound period)	Per Advert	\$314.00	\$327.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Offences under the Amenity Local Laws				
<i>Fines and penalties applied under legislation are not reported in this document.</i>				
Release of Impounded goods				
Large Sign (greater than 1800mm x 900mm) i.e. real estate board	Per Sign	\$260.00	\$271.00	N
Medium sign (greater than 900mm or 600mm or less than 1800mm x 900mm) i.e. A-frame sign	Per Sign	\$175.00	\$182.00	N
Small sign (less than 900mm in height or 600mm in width) i.e. pointer board	Per Sign	\$78.00	\$82.00	N
Shopping trolley	Per Trolley	\$125.00	\$130.00	N
Skip bin / Bulk waste container / Shipping container / Clothing recycling bin	Per Item	\$638.00	\$664.00	N
Other Items not mentioned above	Per Item	\$191.00	\$199.00	Y
Impounded Vehicle Release				
Impounded Vehicle Administration fee	Per Vehicle	\$292.00	\$304.00	N
Towing fee for Car	Per Vehicle	\$238.00	\$248.00	N
Towing fee for Oversized Vehicle (incl Truck, Bus, large trailer, etc)	Per Vehicle	\$584.00	\$608.00	N
Storage fee (up to 5 days)	Per Vehicle	\$303.00 + actual costs for offsite storage (if required)	\$316.00 + actual costs for offsite storage (if required)	N
Day storage fee (day 6 onwards)	Per Vehicle Per Day	\$52.00 + actual costs for offsite storage (if required)	\$55.00 + actual costs for offsite storage (if required)	N
Archived records retrieval fee	Per Request	\$29.00	\$31.00	N
HEALTH SERVICES				
Public Health & Wellbeing Act Registration Fee				
Skin Penetrators / Beauty Therapies - single operation	Per Annum	\$165.00	\$172.00	N
Hairdressers / Skin Penetrators / Beauty Therapies - multiple operation	Per Annum	\$224.00	\$233.00	N
One-off registration for Hairdressing business/ premise (unchanged proprietor) - single operation	One-off registration	\$270.00	\$281.00	N
Aquatic Facilities Category 1 (high usage e.g. Leisure Works/Learn to Swim programmes)	Per Annum	New Fee	\$315.00	N
Aquatic Facilities Category 1 (low usage)	Per Annum	New Fee	\$215.00	N
Health Act Accommodation Registration Fees				
Up to 20 residents	Per Annum	\$371.00	\$386.00	N
21-40 residents	Per Annum	\$573.00	\$596.00	N
More than 40 residents	Per Annum	\$865.00	\$900.00	N
Food Act Registration Fees -Includes Food Act Legislative amendments. Registration Fees include registration and first follow up inspection.				
Class 1A Hospitals	Per Annum	\$632.00	\$658.00	N
Class 1A Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$223.00	\$232.00	N
Class 1B Aged Care Facilities, Child Care Centres, Meals on Wheels	Per Annum	\$485.00	\$505.00	N
Class 1B Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$148.00	\$154.00	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Class 2A Large Supermarkets - 3 plus departments	Per Annum	\$2,055.00	\$2,138.00	N
Class 2A Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$297.00	\$309.00	N
Class 2B Minimarts, Bakery, Food Manufacturer small, Restaurant, Take Away Food Premises, Caterers, mobile and temporary premises. (50% discount for mobile food vans and temporary premises linked to a fixed premises located in the municipality of Knox).	Per Annum	\$632.00	\$658.00	N
Class 2B Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$225.00	\$234.00	N
Class 2CG Class 2 Community Group registration	Per Annum	\$159.00	\$166.00	N
Class 2CG Class 2 Community Group registration - single event registration	Per Application	\$88.00	\$92.00	N
Class 2 Commercial business - single event registration	Per Application	\$148.00	\$154.00	N
Class 2 Food vending machines	Per Vending Machine	\$85.00	\$89.00	N
Class 2HB Home Businesses	Per Annum	\$451.00	\$470.00	N
Class 2HB Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$133.00	\$139.00	N
Class 2ES Supermarkets - 3 plus departments. That hold non standard FSP	Per Annum	\$2,163.00	\$2,250.00	N
Class 2ES Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$297.00	\$309.00	N
Class 2E Premises that hold non standard FSP's and are subject to independent audit	Per Annum	\$514.00	\$535.00	N
Class 2E Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$224.00	\$233.00	N
Class 3S Large Supermarkets that sell potentially hazardous pre-packed foods. e.g. ALDI	Per Annum	\$1,622.00	\$1,687.00	N
Class 3S Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$213.00	\$222.00	N
Class 3 Accommodation Meals, Health Food Premises, Bar, Kiosks, Fruit and Vegetable Premises, Confectionary Packaging, Food Vehicles, Pre Packaged Food Premises (High Risk), Full Year Sporting Clubs, Mobile and Temporary Premises, Distributor, Importer, Winery, Warehouse. (50% discount for mobile food vans and temporary premises linked to a fixed premises located in the municipality of Knox)	Per Annum	\$355.00	\$370.00	N
Class 3 Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$133.00	\$139.00	N
Class 3CG Class 3 Community Group - single event registration	Per Application	\$88.00	\$92.00	N
Class 3CG Class 3 Community Group events - annual registration	Per Annum	\$159.00	\$166.00	N
Class 3 Commercial business - single event registration	Per Application	\$148.00	\$154.00	N
Class 3 Food vending machines	Per Vending Machine	\$85.00	\$89.00	N
Class 3 Club - Seasonal Sporting Club	Per Annum	\$179.00	\$187.00	N
Class 3 Club Additional Inspection Fee	Per Inspection	\$133.00	\$139.00	N
Late Payment Fee for Food Registration Renewals	Per Annum	25% of Registration fee	25% of Registration fee	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Other Fees				
Transfer of Health or Food Act registrations	Per Request	50% of Current Year registration fees	50% of Current Year registration fees	N
Property inquiry/ inspection of business on request (10 Working Day Turnaround)	Per Request	\$243.00	\$253.00	Y
Property inquiry/ inspection of business on request (4 Working Day turnaround)	Per Request	\$335.00	\$349.00	Y
Second and subsequent property inquiry/ inspection of business on request	Per Request	\$110.00	\$115.00	Y
Pro Rata Refund of Registration Fees	Per Request	\$47.00	\$49.00	Y
Establishment Fee - Food Act Premises	Per Request	\$337.00	\$351.00	Y
Establishment Fee - Businesses Registrable under Public Health and Wellbeing Act	Per Request	\$154.00	\$161.00	Y
Establishment Fee - Food Act Home Based Businesses and Mobile businesses	Per Request	\$154.00	\$161.00	Y
Septic Tanks permit to install	Per Request	\$509.00	\$530.00	N
Food laboratory sampling of second sample (failed)	Per Sample	Actual costs + \$175 reinspection fee	Actual costs + \$182 reinspection fee	N
Archived records retrieval fee	Per Request	\$30.00	\$32.00	N
Vaccines Provided at Public Sessions				
Boostrix (Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis)	Per Injection	\$52.00	\$55.00	Y
Chicken Pox	Per Injection	\$74.00	\$77.00	Y
Flu - Quad Valent	Per Injection	\$27.00	\$29.00	Y
Hepatitis A (Adult)	Per Injection	\$62.00	\$65.00	Y
Hepatitis B (Adult)	Per Injection	\$37.00	\$39.00	Y
Twinrix (Hepatitis A & B) Adult	Per Injection	\$103.00	\$108.00	Y
Nimerix (Meningococcal ACWY)	Per Injection	\$85.00	\$89.00	Y
Administration of Unsubsidised Vaccine Supplied by Government Health Departments	Per Injection	\$19.00	\$20.00	Y
MMR	Per Injection	\$58.00	\$61.00	Y
BEXSERO (Meningococcal B)	Per Injection	New Fee	\$135.00	Y
Service Provided at Clients Business				
Corporate Businesses Service - Two Nurses minimum charge	Per First Hour for 2 Nurses	\$379.00	\$395.00	Y
Corporate Businesses Service - Additional Hours	Per Nurse Per Hour	\$140.00	\$146.00	Y
Boostrix (Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis)	Per Injection	\$52.00	\$55.00	Y
Hepatitis A (Adult)	Per Injection	\$62.00	\$65.00	Y
Hepatitis B (Adult)	Per Injection	\$37.00	\$39.00	Y
Twinrix (Hepatitis A & B) Adult	Per Injection	\$103.00	\$108.00	Y
Flu - Quad Valent	Per Injection	\$27.00	\$29.00	Y
MMR	Per Injection	\$58.00	\$61.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
City Strategy and Integrity - Governance				
OFFICE ACCOMMODATION				
<i>The Civic Centre meeting rooms are available for business and community functions at a competitive fee. The fee includes hall keeper and building costs to ensure cost recovery is achieved. Discounts and concessions apply under the policy for community and charitable organisations. Amounts have been rounded up to the nearest dollar as a practical fee for quoting and administering room bookings.</i>				
Non Profit / Charitable				
<u>Meeting Rooms 1 or 2</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Hour	\$64.00	\$67.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$107.00	\$112.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$140.00	\$146.00	Y
Commercial				
<u>Meeting Rooms 1 or 2</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Day	\$665.00	\$692.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$337.00	\$351.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm	Per Day	\$1,181.00	\$1,229.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$591.00	\$615.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday	Per Day	\$1,575.00	\$1,638.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$792.00	\$824.00	Y
Non Profit / Charitable				
<u>Meeting Rooms 3 or 4</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Hour	\$93.00	\$97.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$140.00	\$146.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$191.00	\$199.00	Y
Commercial				
<u>Meeting Rooms 3 or 4</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Day	\$1,046.00	\$1,088.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$526.00	\$548.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm	Per Day	\$1,575.00	\$1,638.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$787.00	\$819.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday	Per Day	\$2,087.00	\$2,171.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$1,047.00	\$1,089.00	Y
Non Profit / Charitable				
<u>Meeting Rooms - Full Function Area</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Hour	\$186.00	\$194.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$275.00	\$286.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday for a minimum 3 Hours	Per Hour	\$328.00	\$342.00	Y
Commercial				
<u>Meeting Rooms - Full Function Area</u>				
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm	Per Day	\$2,086.00	\$2,170.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$1,046.00	\$1,088.00	Y
Monday to Friday After 5.00pm	Per Day	\$3,161.00	\$3,288.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$1,580.00	\$1,644.00	Y
Saturday or Sunday	Per Day	\$3,674.00	\$3,821.00	Y
- Half Day Rate - 3 Hours or Less	Half Day	\$1,837.00	\$1,911.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)				
<i>The Freedom of Information Act 1982 sets an application fee at two fee units under the Monetary Units Act 2004. For detailed and complex requests additional charges can be made based on a fee for service basis.</i>				
F.O.I. Requests - Complex Requests	Per Application Per Request	Charge based on Service	Charge based on Service	N
City Strategy and Integrity - Strategic Procurement and Property				
PROPERTY RENTALS				
<i>This is a nominal fee paid annually by community groups subject to a licence agreement for the use of the facility. Occupancy arrangements are undertaken in accordance with the 'Leasing and Licensing' Policy.</i>				
Annual Licence Fee	Per Annum	\$210.00	\$220.00	Y
Annual Licence Fee - Scout Groups	Per Annum	\$10.00	\$10.00	Y
Essential Safety Measures (for commercial properties)	Per Annum	New Fee	\$392.00	Y

Knox City Council

2021-22 Fees & Charges



Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Connected Communities - Family and Children's Services				
KINDERGARTEN SERVICES				
Kindergarten Fee (for Calendar Year 2021)	Per Child	\$1,553.00	\$1,640.00	N
Kindergarten Fee (for Calendar Year 2022)	Per Child	\$1,640.00	\$1,752.00	N
Kindergarten Fee Sibling 10% discount (for Calendar Year 2021)	Per Child	\$155.30	\$164.00	N
Kindergarten Fee Sibling 10% discount (for Calendar Year 2022)	Per Child	\$164.00	\$175.20	N
Kindergarten Fee 3YO (for Calendar Year 2021)	Per Child	New Fee	\$0.00	N
Kindergarten Fee 3YO (for Calendar Year 2022)	Per Child	New Fee	\$584.00	N
CHILD CARE				
Long Day Care				
Per Day (all centres)	Per Day	\$147.07	\$151.45	N
Occasional Care	Hourly	\$17.00	\$17.50	N
THREE YEAR OLD ACTIVITY PROGRAM				
Activity Program Fee	Per 10 Weeks	\$237.00	\$432.50	Y
NETBALL CENTRE OCCASIONAL CARE				
Child Minding Fees	Per Child Per Game	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
INTEGRATED EARLY YEARS OPERATIONS				
License Fee for Early Years users, using Council owned facilities	Per Annum	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Licence Fee for Playgroup Committees using Council-owned facilities	Per Annum	\$0.00	\$0.00	N
Connected Communities - Community Access and Support				
HOME & COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES				
Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) client fees are based on Community Health Income Ranges/Centrelink Income Test for pensioners. Clients are not disadvantaged by inability to pay, fee waiving is approved as assessed as appropriate by Service Provider Coordinator. The income ranges per annum, effective July 2019 are as follows: Individual Low fee < \$39,089 Medium fee \$39,089 - \$86,208 High fee > \$86,208 Couple Low fee < \$59,802 Medium fee \$59,802 - \$115,245 High fee > \$115,245 *Family (1 Child) Low fee < \$66,009 Medium fee \$66,009 - \$118,546 High fee > \$118,546 *plus \$6,206 per additional child				
HOME MAINTENANCE/MODIFICATIONS				
Clients pay for the cost of materials plus the hourly rate.				
Low:				
S - Single (Income Range less than \$39,089 pa) C - Couple (Income Range less than \$59,802 pa) F - Family (1 Child) (Income Range less than \$66,009 pa) (plus \$6,206 additional child per annum)	Per Hour	\$16.40	\$17.00	N
Medium:				
S - Single (Income range \$39,089 - \$86,208 pa) C - Couple (Income range \$59,802 - \$115,245 pa) F - Family (Income range \$66,009 - \$118,546 pa) (plus \$6,206 additional child per annum)	Per Hour	\$20.80	\$21.70	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
High:				
S - Single (Income range more than \$86,208 pa) C - Couple (Income range more than \$115,245 pa) F - Family (Income range more than \$118,546 pa) (plus \$6,206 additional child per annum)	Per Hour	\$63.00	\$66.00	N
Undisclosed income or compensation	Per Hour (& as per receipt for materials)	\$96.00	\$100.00	N
Service Cancellation - less than 24 hours notice prior to service provision	Per Booking	100% of service booking	100% of service booking	N
FOOD SERVICES				
Centre based & home delivered meals				
Three (3) Course Meal Vulnerable Person as assessed by Specialised Access Team (SAT)	Per Meal	\$5.00	\$5.00	N
Three (3) Course Meal Low Income Medium Income	Per Meal	\$10.40	\$10.80	N
Three (3) Course Meal High Income	Per Meal	\$18.20	\$19.00	N
Two (2) Course Meal Vulnerable Person as assessed by Specialised Access Team (SAT)	Per Meal	\$4.00	\$4.00	N
Two (2) Course Meal (Entrée and Main, or Main and Dessert) Low Income Medium Income	Per Meal	\$8.20	\$8.50	N
Two (2) Course Meal Entree and Main, or Main and Dessert High Income	Per Meal	\$14.00	\$14.60	N
Service Cancellation - less than 24 hours notice prior to service provision	Per Booking	100% of service booking	100% of service booking	N
ALLIED HEALTH - OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY				
Low Income	Per Consultation	\$11.50	\$12.00	N
Medium Income	Per Consultation	\$17.40	\$18.00	N
High Income	Per Hour	\$114.00	\$119.00	N
Easy Living Equipment Kits - provided at cost to approved reablement clients. Individual items from \$6.40 to \$38.50 each.	Per Kit	\$42.00	\$42.00	N
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT				
Regular bus route passenger	Return Trip	\$6.00	\$6.00	N
Regular bus route passenger	One Way Trip	\$3.00	\$3.00	N
Community Outing	Per Day or Part Day	\$8.70	\$8.70	N
Outing Service Cancellation - less than 24 hours notice prior to service provision	Per Booking	100% of service booking	100% of service booking	N
Casual Group Usage				
In core (business hours) per use - maximum 8 hours	Per Use	\$130.00	\$130.00	Y
Out of core per hour drive time	Per Hour	\$71.00	\$71.00	Y
Out of core booking fee	Per Booking	\$71.00	\$71.00	Y
Emergency Services Groups - Training Courses max. of 8 hours	Per Use	\$135.00	\$135.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
ACTIVE AGEING				
Events / Workshops - Seniors Festival Events etc	Per Event	\$7.00	\$7.00	N
Connected Communities - Active and Creative Communities				
RECREATIONAL RESERVES				
<i>Recreation and Sporting Grounds / Tennis and Netball Courts / Turf Wickets / Parks and Reserves</i>				
Tennis Courts				
Court Fees	Per Court Per Annum	\$125.00	\$130.00	Y
Tennis Pavilions				
Batterham Park	Per Annum	\$974.00	\$1,013.00	Y
Reta Matthews Reserve (Boronia)	Per Annum	\$937.00	\$975.00	Y
Eildon Park	Per Annum	\$1,036.00	\$1,078.00	Y
Glenfern Park (Ferntree Gully)	Per Annum	\$922.00	\$959.00	Y
Guy Turner Reserve (Guy Turner)	Per Annum	\$659.00	\$686.00	Y
Coleman Road Reserve (Knox City)	Per Annum	\$1,914.00	\$1,991.00	Y
Knox Gardens Reserve (Knox Gardens)	Per Annum	\$1,260.00	\$1,311.00	Y
Carrington Park (Knoxfield)	Per Annum	\$768.00	\$799.00	Y
Miller Park	Per Annum	\$974.00	\$1,013.00	Y
Seebeck Reserve (Rowville)	Per Annum	\$978.00	\$1,018.00	Y
Exner Reserve (Scoresby)	Per Annum	\$1,124.00	\$1,169.00	Y
Templeton Reserve (Templeton)	Per Annum	\$1,617.00	\$1,682.00	Y
Wantirna Reserve (Wantirna)	Per Annum	\$1,022.00	\$1,063.00	Y
Windermere Reserve (Windermere)	Per Annum	\$1,050.00	\$1,092.00	Y
Cricket				
Junior / Vets / Women's / All Abilities Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$85.00	\$89.00	Y
Senior Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$546.00	\$568.00	Y
Winter Senior Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$364.00	\$379.00	Y
Football				
Junior / Vets / Women's / All Abilities Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$336.00	\$350.00	Y
Senior Teams (includes U 19 and Reserves)	Per Team Per Season	\$2,423.00	\$2,520.00	Y
Soccer				
Junior / Vets / Women's / All Abilities Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$213.00	\$222.00	Y
Senior Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$1,463.00	\$1,522.00	Y
Baseball				
Junior / Vets / Women's / All Abilities Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$57.00	\$60.00	Y
Senior Teams	Per Team Per Season	\$417.00	\$434.00	Y
Netball / Court				
Training	Per Court Per Annum	\$88.00	\$92.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Facility License Agreements				
Knox Obedience Dog Club	Per Annum	\$2,252.00	\$2,343.00	Y
B.M.X. Club (Knox Park)	Per Annum	\$703.00	\$732.00	Y
Fitness Groups - Community / Not for profit (up to 10 sessions per week)	6 months	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
Fitness Permit - Commercial (up to 10 sessions per week)	6 months	\$ 1,480.00	\$1,540.00	Y
Eastern Football Netball League - use of Tormore Reserve for the Senior Football Finals series	Per Annum	\$ 3,240.00	\$3,564.00	Y
Eastern Football Netball League - use of Marie Wallace Bayswater Oval for the Senior Football Finals series	Per Annum	\$ 3,240.00	\$3,564.00	Y
Preparation of Turf Wickets				
Tormore Reserve (1 oval)	Per Season	\$8,681.00	\$9,029.00	Y
Marie Wallace - Bayswater Oval (2 ovals)	Per Season	\$11,572.00	\$12,035.00	Y
Reserves / Ovals	Per Point Per Oval Per Season	\$226.00	\$236.00	Y
<i>Charges are seasonal and are based on Council's rating of 1 to 9 points per oval, at a fixed rate per point.</i>				
Casual Users - Sporting Reserves				
Knox Schools and School Sports Associations	No Charge	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
Knox Community / Non Profit Usage	No Charge	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
Non Knox Schools / Non Knox Community Usage	Per Day	\$99.00	\$103.00	Y
Commercial Usage (Corporate and Business Activities / Purposes)	Per Day	\$390.00	\$406.00	Y
Pavilions – Rental				
Batterham No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Batterham Reserve No 2	Per annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Bayswater Oval	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Bayswater Park	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Benedikt Park No. 1	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Carrington Park	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Chandler Park	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Colchester Park	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Dobson No. 1	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Egan Lee No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Eildon No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Exner Reserve (Scoresby)	Per annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Fairpark No. 1	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Gilbert	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Guy Turner	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
HV Jones Reserve	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Kings Park Athletics	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Kings Park No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Kings Park B / Ball No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Knox Gardens No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Knox Gardens No 2	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Knox Park Soccer	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Lakesfield	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Lewis Park No. 1	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Liberty Ave Reserve	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Llewellyn No. 1	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Miller	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Milpera	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Parkridge	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Pickett	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Rowville No. 1	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Rowville No 2	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Sasses	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Schultz	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Stud Park	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Talaskia	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Templeton	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Tormore	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Walker Wantirna South Res	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Wally Tew Reserve (Ferntree Gully)	Per Annum	\$1,154.00	\$1,201.00	Y
Wantirna	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Windermere	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
Netball Pavilions				
Fairpark Netball Shed	Per Annum	\$164.00	\$171.00	Y
Mountain Gate Netball Club Pavilion	Per Annum	\$164.00	\$171.00	Y
Walker Reserve Netball Pavilion	Per Annum	\$578.00	\$602.00	Y
FESTIVALS & EVENTS				
<i>All Council run events</i>				
Stall Holders (Commercial and Other)				
Craft and / or Theme Makers Market Site	Per Day	\$80.00	\$84.00	Y
Commercial Food - Large	Per Day	\$436.00	\$454.00	Y
Commercial Food - Medium	Per Day	\$327.00	\$341.00	Y
Commercial Food - Small	Per Day	\$225.00	\$234.00	Y
Market Site - Large	Per Day	\$289.00	\$301.00	Y
Market Site - Medium	Per Day	\$217.00	\$226.00	Y
Market Site - Small	Per Day	\$146.00	\$152.00	Y
Additional - Chairs	Per Item Per Day	\$5.00	\$6.00	Y
- Tables	Per Item Per Day	\$24.00	\$25.00	Y
- Marquees (3x3)	Per Item Per Day	\$236.00	\$246.00	Y
- Marquees (6x3)	Per Item Per Day	\$631.00	\$657.00	Y
Electricity - 10 amps	Per Site Per Day	\$21.00	\$22.00	Y
- 15 amps	Per Site Per Day	\$32.00	\$34.00	Y
- 30 amps	Per Site Per Day	\$53.00	\$56.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Weights (marquee)	Per Site Per Day	\$10.00	\$11.00	Y
Stall Holders (Community)				
Community Food Vendor Package - Small 3x3m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
Community Food Vendor Package - Medium 3x6m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$200.00	\$208.00	Y
Community Food Vendor Package - Large 3x9m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$289.00	\$301.00	Y
Market Site Package - Small 3x3m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y
Market Site Package - Medium 3x6m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$130.00	\$136.00	Y
Market Site Package - Large 3x9m (includes marquee 1x table, 2x chairs)	Per Day	\$193.00	\$201.00	Y
FERNTREE GULLY COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE				
Regular Hire Groups (minimum 2 hire bookings per term)	Per Hour	\$34.00	\$36.00	Y
Casual Hire / Room (weekdays)	Per Hour	\$40.00	\$42.00	Y
Saturday Night Function	Per 6 Hours	\$723.00	\$752.00	Y
Saturday Night Function	Per Hour	\$153.00	\$160.00	Y
Clean Up Fee	Per Hour or Part Thereof	\$194.00	\$202.00	Y
Delay Exit Fee	Per Hour or Part Thereof	\$194.00	\$202.00	Y
<i>Bonds (refundable) - Refer to the end of the Community Services Facilities section.</i>				
Activities				
<i>Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre offers a range of community arts classes.</i>				
Pottery Classes Fees - Adult	Per 3 Hour Class	New Fee	\$25.00	Y
Arts/Cultural Class Fees - Adult	Per 2 Hour Class	New Fee	\$20.00	Y
Art Equipment Sales (Clay Blocks - Students only)	Per 10 Kg block	New Fee	\$13.00	Y
Pottery Firing Fees (Students Only)	Per Firing	New Fee	\$5.00	Y
Pottery Classes Fees - Children	Per 1.5 Hour Class	New Fee	\$17.00	Y
Arts/Cultural Class Fees - Children	Per 1.5 Hour Class	New Fee	\$17.00	Y
ROWVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE				
Hire Type				
Multi - purpose Hall - Function	Per Hour	\$135.00	\$141.00	Y
Multi - purpose Hall - Function - 6 Hours	Per 6 Hours	\$661.00	\$688.00	Y
Multi - purpose Hall - Sports	Per Hour	\$40.00	\$42.00	Y
Multi - purpose Hall - Show Concert	Per Hour	\$142.00	\$148.00	Y
Multi - purpose Hall - Activity	Per Hour	\$50.00	\$52.00	Y
Multi - Purpose Hall - Meetings and Seminars	Per Hour	\$142.00	\$148.00	Y
Meetings / Regular Hire MR 1 and 2 (One Room)	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
Meetings / Regular Hire MR 1 and 2 (Both)	Per Hour	\$60.00	\$63.00	Y
Meetings / Regular Hire MR 3 and 4 (One Room)	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Meetings / Regular Hire MR 3 and 4 (Both)	Per Hour	\$60.00	\$63.00	Y
Meetings / Regular Hire - Interview Room 1	Per Hour	\$27.00	\$29.00	Y
Meetings / Regular Hire - Interview Room 2	Per Hour	\$29.00	\$31.00	Y
Function Hire / MR 5,6 and 7	Per Hour	\$111.00	\$116.00	Y
Function Hire / MR 5, 6 and 7 - 6 Hours	Per 6 Hours	\$650.00	\$676.00	Y
Function Hire / MR 8 and 9	Per Hour	\$86.00	\$90.00	Y
Function Hire / MR 8 and 9 - 6 Hours	Per 6 Hours	\$524.00	\$545.00	Y
Function Hire Cleaning / MR 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9	Per Hour or Part Thereof	\$100.00	\$104.00	Y
School Hire (Knox Schools are entitled to a 20% discount)				
Function - Tennis Pavilion	Per Hour	\$60.00	\$63.00	Y
Function - Tennis Pavilion - 4 Hours	Per 4 Hours	\$191.00	\$199.00	Y
Meetings - Tennis Pavilion	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
Kitchen (max 3 hours)	Per Hour	\$33.00	\$35.00	Y
Stage	Per Hour	\$11.50	\$12.00	Y
Basketball Court Hire - Single Casual Entry "Drop In"	Per Hour	\$3.50	\$3.50	Y
Badminton Court Hire *	Per Hour	\$23.00	\$24.00	Y
Tennis Court Hire *	Per Hour	\$22.00	\$23.00	Y
Tennis Court Hire (including lighting)	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
<i>* Senior sports people are eligible to received a 40% discount on court hire charges specified above.</i>				
Soccer / Futsal Court Hire	Per Hour	\$27.00	\$29.00	Y
Soccer / Futsal Court Hire (including lighting)	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
Clean Up Fee	Per Hour or part thereof	\$197.00	\$205.00	Y
Delay Exit Fee	Per Hour or part thereof	\$197.00	\$205.00	Y
Activities				
<i>The Centre co-ordinates a range of leisure activities i. e. Yoga, Aerobics, "Living Longer Living Stronger". The determination of fees associated with these programs considers direct and indirect costs and fees charged by competitors.</i>				
Yoga	Per Session	\$14.00	\$15.00	Y
Stretch and Tone	Per Session	\$10.00	\$11.00	Y
Living Longer Living Stronger	Per Session	\$7.00	\$7.00	Y
Gentle Exercise	Per Session	\$7.00	\$7.00	Y
Senior Sports - Session	Per Session	\$5.50	\$5.50	Y
Administration / Cancellation Fee (Activity Group Program)	Per Term	\$60.00	\$63.00	Y
KNOX REGIONAL NETBALL CENTRE (KRNC)				
Stadium Charges - For Competition				
Junior	Per Court Per Game	\$28.00	\$30.00	Y
Junior	Per Court Per Game	\$63.00	\$66.00	Y
Door Entry - Night Senior / Players and Spectators	Per Admission	\$3.00	\$3.00	Y
Stadium Charges - For Training				
Weekdays / Court	Per Court Per Hour	\$38.00	\$40.00	Y
Weekends / Court	Per Court Per Hour	\$47.00	\$49.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Room Hire				
Meeting Rooms - Association	Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
Meeting Room - Casual hire	Per Hour	\$36.00	\$38.00	Y
Saturday Association Room	Per Saturday	\$130.00	\$136.00	Y
MDNA Administration Office	Per Annum	\$1,260.00	\$1,311.00	Y
Outdoor Courts				
Casual Hire	Per Court Per Game	\$22.00	\$23.00	Y
Casual Hire - Day (Tournaments)	Per Day	\$506.00	\$527.00	Y
Association - Saturday	Per Court Per Annum	\$373.00	\$388.00	Y
Night Use (lights) Per Court per hour	Per Court Per Hour	\$30.00	\$32.00	Y
KRNC Competitions				
Ladies Competitions (KRNC)	Per Team Per Game	\$60.00	\$60.00	Y
Mixed Competitions (KRNC)	Per Team Per Game	\$60.00	\$60.00	Y
Team Registration KCC Competition - Ladies Competition	Per Team Per Season	\$60.00	\$60.00	Y
Team Registration KCC Competition - Mixed Competition	Per Team Per Season	\$60.00	\$60.00	Y
Functions				
Casual Hire - Entire Stadium Netball Usage	Min 8 Hours	\$629.00	\$655.00	Y
Casual Hire - Functions	Min 8 Hours	\$945.00	\$983.00	Y
CARRINGTON PARK LEISURE CENTRE				
Not for Profit / Community Group Rates:				
Activity Room	Per Hour	\$ 19.50	\$21.00	Y
Art	Per Hour	\$ 10.50	\$11.00	Y
Gym	Per Hour	\$ 19.50	\$21.00	Y
Meeting Room 1	Per Hour	\$ 10.50	\$11.00	Y
Meeting Room 2	Per Hour	\$ 12.50	\$13.00	Y
Meeting Rooms 1 and 2	Per Hour	\$ 22.50	\$24.00	Y
Office	Per Hour	\$ 10.50	\$11.00	Y
Squash Courts	Per Hour	\$ 13.50	\$15.00	Y
KNOX COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE				
Not for Profit / Community Group Rates:				
Supper / Meeting Room (up to 6 hours)	Per Hour	\$38.00	\$40.00	Y
Supper / Meeting Room (6 hours plus)	Per Hour	\$34.00	\$36.00	Y
Theatre - No Biobox (house lights only). Eg. rehearsals, meetings, seminars etc.	Per Hour	\$38.00	\$40.00	Y
Theatre - With Biobox. Includes a compulsory venue technician for biobox operation. Includes access to kitchen, green room and audience access to foyer with supper room opened as required. Minimum 4 hour booking. Eg. Theatre shows, productions, stage presentations.	Per Hour	\$116.00	\$121.00	Y

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Entire Facility Functions, productions and performances etc that require exclusive access to all areas. Includes bio box and one compulsory technician. Minimum 6 hour booking.	Per Hour	\$146.00	\$152.00	Y
Commercial / Other Group Rates				
Supper / Meeting Room (up to 6 hours)	Per Hour	\$59.00	\$62.00	Y
Supper / Meeting Room (6 hours plus or regular hirers)	Per Hour	\$51.00	\$54.00	Y
Theatre - No Biobox (house lights only). Eg. rehearsals, meetings, seminars etc.	Per Hour	\$64.00	\$67.00	Y
Theatre - With Biobox. Includes a compulsory venue technician for biobox operation. Includes access to kitchen, green room and audience access to foyer with supper room opened as required. Minimum 4 hour booking. Eg. Theatre shows, productions, stage presentations.	Per Hour	\$194.00	\$202.00	Y
Entire Facility Functions, productions and performances etc that require exclusive access to all areas. Includes bio box and one compulsory technician. Minimum 6 hour booking.	Per Hour	\$243.00	\$253.00	Y
COMMUNITY SERVICES FACILITIES				
Community Services Facilities - Bonds (Refundable)				
All Functions with alcohol - Level 3	Per Function	\$1,175.00	\$1,175.00	N
Major Functions (over 150 persons) without alcohol - Level 2	Per Function	\$700.00	\$700.00	N
Smaller Functions (1 to 150 persons) without alcohol - Level 1	Per Function	\$360.00	\$360.00	N

Knox City Council

2021-22 Fees & Charges



Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
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People and Innovation - People Partnerships

RISK MANAGEMENT

Council provides a service for hirers of Council facilities to take out one off Insurance Cover to support their event. All users must hold appropriate insurance to obtain a booking.

Public Liability Insurance for external hirers of Council facilities

Attendances 0 - 100	Per Hire	\$83.00	\$87.00	Y
Attendances 101 +	Per Hire	\$125.00	\$130.00	Y

Knox City Council

2021-22 Fees & Charges



Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Infrastructure - Community Infrastructure				
CHARGEABLE WORKS				
<i>Chargeable works are levied to provide reinstatement of damage to Council's assets, i. e. Road, nature strip openings and special works requests from residents. This work is charged on a total cost recovery plus a 50% administration charge.</i>				
Chargeable Works (Total direct costs + 50%)	Per Job	1.5 x (total direct cost)	1.5 x (total direct cost)	N
Road Opening Inspections:				
Nature strip opening	Per Opening	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Connection to Council Drain or Kerbing	Per Opening	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Road Opening	Per Opening	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Concrete Crossing	Per Opening	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
General Concrete Works	Per Opening	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Weekend Supervision up to 3 hours	Per Hour	\$166.00	\$173.00	N
Weekend Supervision greater than 3 hours	Per Hour	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Asset Protection Fees	Per Inspection	\$187.00	\$195.00	N
Information Request	Per Request	\$33.00	\$35.00	N
COUNCIL RESERVES				
<i>Chargeable works are levied to provide reinstatement of damage to Council's assets, i. e. Road, nature strip openings and special works requests from residents. This work is charged on a total cost recovery plus a 50% administration charge.</i>				
Bonds (refundable)				
All access permits	Per Application	\$1,490.00	\$1,550.00	N
Temporary on - site storage material bonds	Per Application	\$745.00	\$775.00	N
MILLERS HOMESTEAD				
Wedding Ceremony	Per Wedding	\$383.00	\$399.00	Y
Wedding Photographs	Per Wedding	\$248.00	\$258.00	Y
Council Training				
Programs / Seminar	Per Day	\$225.00	\$234.00	Y
Programs / Seminar (4 hours)	Half Day	\$124.00	\$129.00	Y
Council Functions	Per Function	\$180.00	\$188.00	Y
Sustainable Infrastructure				
REFUSE DISPOSAL				
<i>Fees and charges strongly correlate to Contracted rate.</i>				
GARBAGE, WASTE & RECYCLE COLLECTION				
Industrial / Commercial 240 litre bin:				
Garbage weekly service, includes recycle weekly	Per Service	\$423.00	\$478.00	N
Garbage 5 weekday service, includes recycle weekly	Per Service	\$1,294.00	\$1,651.00	N
Additional 240 litre Recycle Bin	Per Bin	\$159.00	\$159.00	N
Dorset Square Service:				
Office based premises	Annual	\$305.00	\$336.00	N
Retail based premises	Annual	\$908.00	\$999.00	N

Type of Fees and Charges	Unit Charge Rate	Adopted 2020-21 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	Proposed 2021-22 Fee GST Incl. (where applicable)	2021-22 GST Applied 10% Y/N
Food based premises less than 200 square metres floor area	Annual	\$2,722.00	\$2,994.00	N
Food based premises greater than 200 square metres floor area	Annual	\$6,347.00	\$6,982.00	N
Non- Rateable Properties 240 litre bin:				
Garbage weekly service, includes recycle fortnightly	Per Service	\$232.00	\$257.00	N
Garbage 5 weekday service, includes recycle fortnightly	Per Service	\$1,080.00	\$1,294.00	N
Additional 240 litre Recycle Bin	Per Bin	\$88.00	\$84.00	N
Non- Rateable Properties 120 litre bin waste with 240 litre bin recycle:				
Garbage weekly service, includes recycle fortnightly	Per Service	\$172.00	\$217.00	N
Additional 240 litre Recycle Bin	Per Bin	\$88.00	\$84.00	N
Residential:				
120 litre bin Surcharge	Per Bin	\$54.00	\$54.00	N
Optional 240 litre Green Waste Bin	Per Bin	\$109.00	\$95.00	N
Additional 240 litre Recycle Bin	Per Bin	\$88.00	\$84.00	N
Additional 120 litre Household Bin	Per Bin	\$255.00	\$289.00	N
MISCELLANEOUS WASTE CHARGES				
Hard Waste services				
Additional Hard Waste Service	Per Booked Service	New Fee	\$115.00	N
Infrastructure - Operations				
OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT				
Tree Removal				
Removal of tree due to installation of new crossover	Per Request	Amenity value + Removal costs + Tree planting costs + 2 years maintenance	Amenity value + Removal costs + Tree planting costs + 2 years maintenance	Y

2021-22 DECLARATION OF RATES, CHARGES AND REBATES

With respect to the 2021-22 financial and rating year and in accordance with Sections 158 and 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Knox City Council declares:

1. That an amount of \$132,778,164 is intended to be raised by General Rates and Service Rates Charges, calculated as follows:

a. General Rates	\$109,484,324
b. Residential Garbage Charge	\$15,368,600
c. Optional Garbage Charges	\$3,795,590
d. Optional Green Waste Charges	\$4,129,650

2. General Rates will be raised by the application of differential rates.

3. Council considers that differential rates will contribute to the equitable and efficient delivery of Council functions that:
 - a. The respective objectives of each differential rate be those as specified in the schedule to this declaration;
 - b. The respective types or classes of land which are subject to each differential rate be those as defined in the schedule to this declaration;
 - c. The respective uses and levels of each differential rate in relation to those respective types or classes of land be those as described in the schedule to this declaration; and
 - d. The relevant use of, geographical locations of, planning scheme zonings of and types of buildings on the respective types or classes of land be those as identified in the schedule to this declaration.

4. That the General Rates will be raised by the application of the differential rates to the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land.

5. That six (6) differential rating categories be declared for the rateable land have the characteristics specified below, which will form the criteria for the differential rate so declared:
 - a. **Vacant Land or Derelict Land (refer Schedule A)**
Any Land on which there is no building that is occupied or adapted for occupation, or contains a building that is ordinarily adapted for occupation which is abandoned, unoccupied or in a very poor condition resulting from both disuse and neglect.

 - b. **Retirement Village Land (refer Schedule A)**
Any Land which is used primarily for the purposes of a retirement village.

 - c. **Commercial Land (refer Schedule A)**
Any Land which is used primarily for commercial purposes.

 - d. **Industrial Land (refer Schedule A)**
Any Land which is used primarily for industrial purposes.

e. Recreation Land (refer Schedule A)

Any Land as defined as Cultural and Recreational Land in accordance with the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*.

f. Residential Land (refer Schedule A)

Any Land which is not Vacant Land, Retirement Village Land, Commercial Land, Industrial Land or Recreation Land.

6. The rates to apply to the differential categories declared are as follows:

Differential Category	Cents in the Dollar of Capital Improved Value
Vacant Land or Derelict Land	0.51311
Retirement Village Land	0.12828
Commercial Land	0.42759
Industrial Land	0.45325
Residential Land	0.17104
Recreational Land	0.17104

7. No municipal charge to be declared.

8. Declare an annual service charge, to be known as the Residential Garbage Charge, in the sum of \$257.00 in respect of each separate parcel of Rateable and Non-Rateable Residential Land.

9. Declare an annual service charge for the collection and disposal of refuse in the sum of, and based on the criteria, as follows:

- a. Any land within Council's municipal district which is used primarily for residential purposes:
 - i. \$54.00 per service for each land, where the service is for the optional 120 litre bin used for the collection of domestic waste.
 - ii. \$95.00 per service for each land, where the services is for the optional 240 litre bin for the collection of green waste.
 - iii. \$289.00 for each additional 120 litre bin supplied in respect of the land for the collection of domestic waste.
 - iv. \$84.00 for each additional 240 litre recycling bin supplied in respect of the land.
 - v. \$115.00 for each additional hard waste service in respect of the land.
- b. Any land within Council's municipal district which is used primarily for commercial or industrial purposes:
 - i. \$478.00 per service for each land, where the service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) and is for the collection and disposal of the contents of a bin at the frequency of once per week.

- ii. \$1,651.00 per service for each land, where the service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) and is for the collection and disposal of a bin at the frequency of five (5) times per week.
 - iii. \$159.00 for each additional 240 litre recycling bin supplied in respect of the land.
 - iv. \$336.00 per annum for each office based premise, where the access to a waste removal service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) at Dorset Square, Boronia.
 - v. \$999.00 per annum for each retail based premise, where the access to a waste removal service is requested by the owner of the land (or agent of the owner) at Dorset Square, Boronia.
 - vi. \$2,994.00 per annum for each food based premise less than 200 square metres, where the access to a waste removal service is requested by the owner (or agent of the owner) at Dorset Square, Boronia.
 - vii. \$6,982.00 per annum for each food based premise greater than 200 square metres, where the access to a waste removal service is requested by the owner (or agent of the owner) at Dorset Square, Boronia.
- c. Any land within Council's municipal district which is not rateable land:
- i. \$257.00 per service for each land, where the service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) and is for the collection and disposal of the contents of a 240 litre bin at the frequency of once per week.
 - ii. \$1,294.00 per service for each land, where the service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) and is for the collection and disposal of the contents of a 240 litre bin at the frequency of five (5) times per week.
 - iii. \$217.00 per service for each land, where the service is requested by the owner of the land (or the agent of the owner) and is for the collection and disposal of the contents of a 120 litre bin at the frequency of once per week.
 - iv. \$84.00 for each additional 240 litre recycling bin supplied in respect of the land.
 - v. \$115.00 for each additional hard waste service in respect of the land.
10. Declare a rebate to each owner of rateable land who is an eligible recipient within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*. The rebate in respect of each rateable land so owned is a maximum of \$100.00.
11. Declare a rebate, to be known as the Cultural and Recreational Community Land Rebate (refer Schedule A), to each owner of rateable Recreation Land. The rebate in respect of each rateable land so owned is a maximum of 35% of the general rates payable.

12. Declare a rebate, to be known as the Community Benefit Land Rebate (refer Schedule A) to each owner of eligible Community Benefit Land. The rebate in respect of each rateable land so owned is a maximum of 75% of the general rates payable.
13. Subject to Sections 171, 171A, 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council will require a person to pay interest on any rates and charges which:
 - a. That person is liable to pay; and
 - b. Have not been paid by the date specified for their payment.
14. An interest rate of 10.00% per annum be charge on all outstanding rates and debtor accounts.
15. The dates for payments of rates and charges being as follows:
 - a. Payment in Full in a lump sum on or before 15 February 2022; or
 - b. Payment made by four (4) instalments, with instalments due as follows:
 - i. 1st Instalment 30 September 2021
 - ii. 2nd Instalment 30 November 2021
 - iii. 3rd Instalment 28 February 2022
 - iv. 4th Instalment 31 May 2022; or
 - c. Payment made by nine (9) instalments, with instalments due as follows:
 - i. 1st Instalment 30 September 2021
 - ii. 2nd Instalment 31 October 2021
 - iii. 3rd Instalment 30 November 2021
 - iv. 4th Instalment 31 December 2021
 - v. 5th Instalment 31 January 2022
 - vi. 6th Instalment 28 February 2022
 - vii. 7th Instalment 31 March 2022
 - viii. 8th Instalment 30 April 2022
 - ix. 9th Instalment 31 May 2022

SCHEDULE A**Vacant Land or Derelict Land****Definition/Characteristics:**

Any land on which there is no building that is occupied or adapted for occupation, or contains a building that is ordinarily adapted for occupation which is abandoned, unoccupied and in a very poor condition resulting from both disuse and neglect.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Encouragement of development/and or improvement of land; and
2. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
3. Development and provision of health & community services; and
4. Provision of general support services; and
5. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Retirement Village Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a retirement village.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health & community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council on behalf of the retirement village sector.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-22 financial year.

Commercial Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a commercial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health & community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-22 financial year.

Industrial Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of an industrial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health & community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-22 financial year.

Recreational Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land upon which sporting, recreational or cultural activities are conducted, including buildings which may be ancillary to such activities, in accordance with the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health & community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council in cultural and recreational sporting programs and infrastructure.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Residential Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is not Vacant Land or Derelict Land, Retirement Village Land, Industrial Land, Commercial Land, or Cultural and Recreational Land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health & community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021-22 financial year.

Community Land Rebates

In accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Knox City Council declares the following rebates, to be known as Community Land Rebates.

1. A Cultural and Recreational Community Land Rebate will be granted under Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* for all land that is:
 - a. Recreational Land as defined by the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*; and
 - b. Subject to Council's Recreational Land Rate.

The rebate in respect of each rateable land so owned is a maximum of 35% of the general rates payable.

2. A Community Benefit Land Rebate will be considered under Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* for all Community Benefit Land. Community Benefit Land, for the purposes of considering a rebate under Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* is all land that:
 - a. Is vested in or occupied by a body corporate or unincorporate which exists for the purpose of providing or promoting cultural or sporting recreational or similar facilities or objectives, and is bound by its constitution or rules of association to apply its profits in promoting its objectives and prohibits the payment of any dividend or amount to its members;
 - b. Is subject to Council's Commercial Land Rate or Industrial Land Rate; and
 - c. Does not generate income from the operation of electronic gaming machines.

The owner of Community Benefit Land must apply for the Community Benefit Land Rebate each financial year. An application for a Community Land Rebate, submitted to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration, must include:

- d. A copy of the body's rules or constitution where incorporated, or evidence of the body's purposes where not incorporated;
- e. Audited financial statements;
- f. A statement outlining the community services delivered or to be delivered and/or community benefits provided or to be provided during the year in which the Community Benefit Land Rebate was/will be granted.

Where granted, the rebate in respect of each rateable land so owned is a maximum of 75% of the general rates payable.

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Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22

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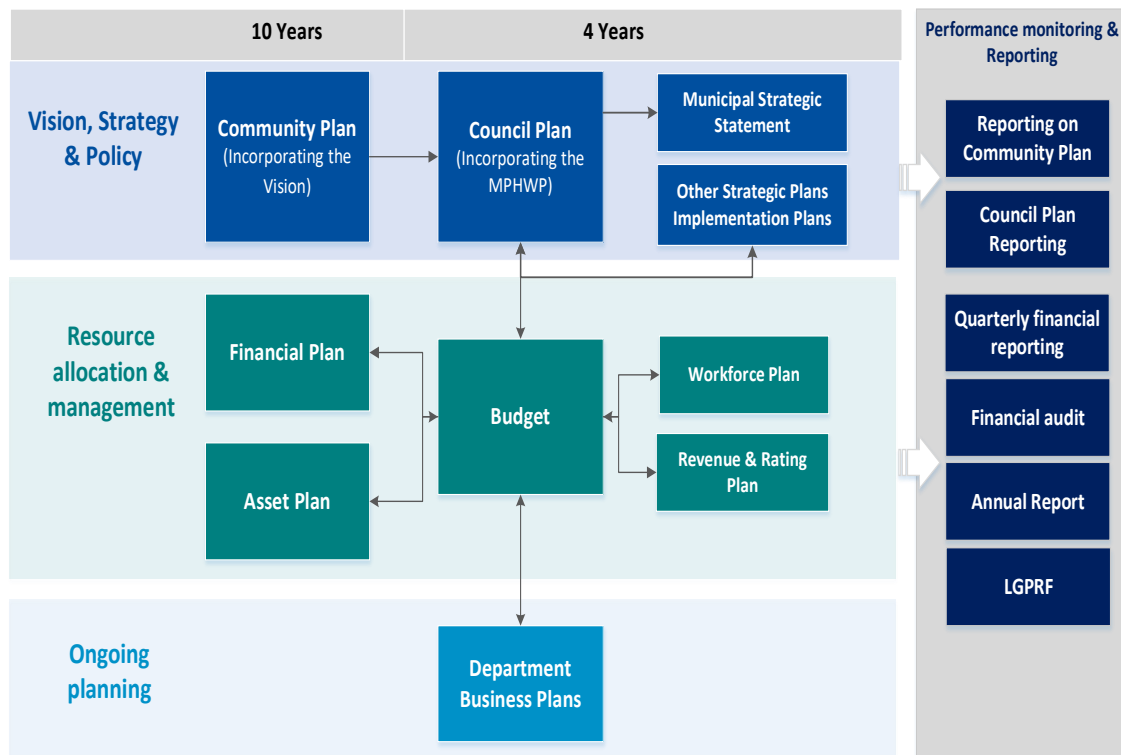
1. Purpose

The purpose of the Revenue and Rating Plan is to determine the most appropriate and affordable revenue and rating approach for Council which, in conjunction with other income sources, will adequately finance the objectives in the Council Plan.

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires each council to prepare a Revenue and Rating Plan to cover a minimum period of four years following each Council election. The Revenue and Rating Plan establishes the revenue raising framework within which the Council proposes to work.

This plan is an important part of Council’s integrated planning framework, all of which is created to help Council achieve its community vision: *“Knox: where we connect with our people and our environment, ensuring they are safe, supported and have every opportunity to thrive”*.

Strategies outlined in this plan align with the key directions contained in the Community and Council Plans and will feed into our budgeting and long-term financial planning documents, as well as other strategic planning documents under our Council’s strategic planning and reporting framework.



This plan will explain how Council calculates the revenue needed to fund its activities, and how the funding burden will be apportioned between ratepayers and other users of Council facilities and services.

In particular, this plan will set out decisions that Council has made in relation to rating options available to it under the *Local Government Act 1989* and *Local Government Act 2020* to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of rates across property owners. It will also set out principles that are used in decision making for other revenue sources such as fees and charges.

It is also important to note that this plan does not set revenue targets for Council, it outlines the strategic framework and decisions that inform how Council will go about calculating and collecting its revenue.

2. Introduction

Council provides a number of services and facilities to our local community, and in doing so, must collect revenue to cover the cost of providing these services and facilities.

Council's revenue sources include:

- Rates and Charges
- Waste and garbage charges
- Grants from other levels of Government
- Statutory Fees and Fines
- User Fees
- Cash and non-cash contributions from other parties (ie developers, community groups)
- Interest from investments
- Sale of Assets

Rates are the most significant revenue source for Council and make up just under 65% of total annual revenue, with 20% of income from grants and 9% raised through user fees, statutory fees and fines and 5% from contributions.

The introduction of rate capping under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) has brought a renewed focus to Council's long-term financial sustainability. The FGRS continues to restrict Council's ability to raise rate revenue above the rate cap unless application is made to the Essential Services Commission for a variation. Maintaining service delivery levels and investing in community assets remain key priorities for Council. This strategy will address Council's reliance on rate income and provide options to actively reduce that reliance.

Council provides a wide range of services to the community, often for a fee or charge. The nature of these fees and charges generally depends on whether they relate to statutory or discretionary services. Some of these, such as statutory planning fees are set by State Government statute and are commonly known as regulatory fees. In these cases, councils usually have no control over service pricing. However, in relation to other services, Council has the ability to set a fee or charge and will set that fee based on the principles outlined in this Revenue and Rating Plan.

Council revenue can also be adversely affected by changes to funding from other levels of government. Some grants are tied to the delivery of council services, whilst many are tied directly to the delivery of new community assets, such as roads or sports pavilions. It is important for Council to be clear about what grants it intends to apply for, and the obligations that grants create in the delivery of services or infrastructure.

3. Community Engagement

The Revenue and Rating Plan outlines Council's decision-making process on how revenues are calculated and collected. Deliberative community engagement is not prescribed for a Revenue and Rating Plan in either the *Local Government Act 2020*, or the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

However, the following public consultation process will be followed to ensure due consideration and feedback is received from relevant stakeholders.

Revenue and Rating Plan community engagement process:

- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan prepared;
- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan placed on public exhibition at April Council meeting for a period of 28 days and calling for public submissions via Council's Have Your Say platform;
- Community engagement through local news outlets and social media;
- Hearing of public submissions in early June; and
- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan (with any revisions) presented to June Council meeting for adoption.

4. Rates and Charges

Rates are property taxes that allow Council to raise revenue to fund essential public services to cater to their municipal population. Importantly, it is a taxation system that includes flexibility for councils to utilise different tools in its rating structure to accommodate issues of equity and to ensure fairness in rating for all ratepayers.

Council has established a rating structure comprised of two key elements. These are:

- General Rates – Based on property values (using the Capital Improved Valuation methodology), which are indicative of perceived capacity to pay and form the central basis of rating under the *Local Government Act 1989*; and
- Service Charges – A ‘user pays’ component for council services to reflect benefits provided by Council to ratepayers who benefit from a service.

Striking a proper balance between these elements will help to improve equity in the distribution of the rate burden across residents.

Council makes a further distinction when applying general rates by applying rating differentials based on the purpose for which the property is used. That is, whether the property is used for residential, commercial / industrial, or farming purposes. This distinction is based on the concept that different property categories should pay a fair and equitable contribution, taking into account the benefits those properties derive from the local community.

The Knox City Council rating structure comprises six differential rates (residential, retirement village, commercial, industrial, recreational and vacant or derelict). These rates are structured in accordance with the requirements of Section 161 ‘Differential Rates’ of the *Local Government Act 1989*, and the Ministerial Guidelines for Differential Rating 2013.

For the 2020-21 financial year the differential rates are set as follows:

- Residential 100%
- Retirement Village 80%
- Commercial 250%
- Industrial 265%
- Recreational 100%
- Vacant 310% and Derelict

The formula for calculating General Rates, excluding any additional charges, arrears or additional supplementary rates is:

- Valuation (Capital Improved Value) x Rate in the Dollar (Differential Rate Type)

The rate in the dollar for each rating differential category is included in Council’s annual budget.

Rates and charges are an important source of revenue, accounting for around 65% of operating revenue received by Council. The collection of rates is an important factor in funding Council services.

Planning for future rate increases is therefore an essential component of the long-term financial planning process and plays a significant role in funding both additional service delivery and the increasing costs related to providing Council services.

Council is aware of the balance between rate revenue (as an important income source) and community sensitivity to rate increases. With the introduction of the State Government's Fair Go Rates System, all rate increases are capped to a rate declared by the Minister for Local Government, which is announced in December for the following financial year.

Council currently utilises a service charge to fully recover the cost of Council's waste services and provide for future landfill rehabilitation costs. The garbage service charge is not capped under the Fair Go Rates System, and Council will allocate any surplus funds from this charge towards the provision of waste services.

4.1 Rating Legislation

Following the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020*, council operates under provisions in the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The legislative framework set out in the *Local Government Act 1989* determines council's ability to develop a rating system. The framework provides significant flexibility for Council to tailor a system that suits its needs.

Section 155 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides that a Council may declare the following rates and charges on rateable land:

- General rates under Section 158
- Municipal charges under Section 159
- Service rates and charges under Section 162
- Special rates and charges under Section 163

The recommended strategy in relation to municipal charges, service rates and charges and special rates and charges are discussed later in this document.

In raising Council rates, Council is required to primarily use the valuation of the rateable property to levy rates. Section 157(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides Council with three choices in terms of which valuation base to utilise. They are: Site Valuation, Capital Improved Valuation (CIV) and Net Annual Value (NAV).

The advantages and disadvantages of the respective valuation basis are discussed further in this document. Whilst this document outlines Council's strategy regarding rates revenue, rates data will be contained in the Council's Annual Budget as required by the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Section 94(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that Council must adopt a budget by 30 June each year (or at another time fixed by the Minister) to include:

- a) the total amount that the Council intends to raise by rates and charges;
- b) a statement as to whether the rates will be raised by the application of a uniform rate or a differential rate;
- c) a description of any fixed component of the rates, if applicable;
- d) if the Council proposes to declare a uniform rate, the matters specified in section 160 of the *Local Government Act 1989*; and
- e) if the Council proposes to declare a differential rate for any land, the matters specified in section 161(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Section 94(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* also states that Council must ensure that, if applicable, the budget also contains a statement:

- a) that the Council intends to apply for a special order to increase the Council's average rate cap for the financial year or any other financial year; or
- b) that the Council has made an application to the ESC for a special order and is waiting for the outcome of the application; or
- c) that a special Order has been made in respect of the Council and specifying the average rate cap that applies for the financial year or any other financial year.

This plan outlines the principles and strategic framework that Council will utilise in calculating and distributing the rating burden to property owners, however, the quantum of rate revenue and rating differential amounts will be determined in the annual Knox City Council budget.

In seeking to achieve its primary objective, Council must have regard to the following objectives:

- a) Promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district;
- b) Ensure resources are used efficiently and effectively;
- c) Improve the overall quality of life of the people in the local community;
- d) Promote appropriate business and employment opportunities;
- e) Ensure services and facilities provided are accessible and equitable
- f) Ensure the equitable imposition of rates and charges; and
- g) Ensure transparency and accountability in Council decision making.

The issue of equity must therefore be addressed in the Revenue and Rating Strategy, and this strategy has paid careful attention to this aspect.

In 2019 the Victorian State Government conducted a Local Government Rating System Review. The Local Government Rating System Review Panel presented their final report and list of recommendations to the Victorian Government in March 2020. The Victorian Government subsequently published a response to the recommendations of the Panel's report. However, at the time of publication the recommended changes have not yet been implemented, and timelines to make these changes have not been announced.

Exemptions from Rating

Section 154 of the *Local Government Act 1989* declares that all land is rateable with a number of exceptions including land occupied for municipal purposes, land used exclusively for charitable purposes, land used exclusively for religious or religious education purposes, and land used exclusively for certain clubs or memorials under the *Veterans Act 2005*, Returned Services Leagues and related associations as defined.

4.2 Rating Principles

Having determined that Council must review its rating strategy in terms of the equitable imposition of rates and charges, it is a much more vexed question in terms of how to define and determine what is in fact equitable in the view of Council.

In considering what rating approaches are equitable, Council needs to have regard to the principles of taxation which are:

- Wealth Tax
- Equity
- Efficiency

- Simplicity
- Benefit
- Capacity to Pay
- Diversity.

Wealth Tax

The “wealth tax” principle implies that the rates paid are dependent upon the value of a ratepayer’s real property and have no correlation to the individual ratepayer’s consumption of services or the perceived benefits derived by individual ratepayers from the expenditures funded from rates.

Equity

Equity is a subjective concept that is difficult to define. What is considered fair for one person may be considered unfair for another. There are two main equity concepts used to guide the development of rating strategies (and taxation more generally):

Horizontal equity – refers to justice or fairness in the treatment of like properties. In other words, ratepayers in similar situations should pay similar amounts of rates (ensured mainly by accurate property valuations, undertaken in a consistent manner, their classification into homogenous property classes and the right of appeal against valuation).

Vertical equity – refers to the justice or fairness in the treatment of properties in different circumstances. Those who are better off should pay more rates than those worse off (the rationale applies for the use of progressive and proportional income taxation. It implies a “relativity” dimension to the fairness of the tax burden). In the case of property rates, it may be considered equitable for one type of property to have to bear more or less of the rates burden than another type of property. In achieving vertical equity in its Revenue and Rating Strategy, Council must consider the valuation base it chooses to adopt to apply property rates and the application of the various rating tools available to it under the Act (e.g. differential rates).

Efficiency

Economic efficiency is measured by the extent to which production and consumption decisions by people are affected by rates.

Simplicity

How easily a rates system can be understood by ratepayers and the practicality and ease of administration.

Benefit

The extent to which there is a nexus between consumption/benefit and the rate burden. One of the more misunderstood elements of the rating system is that residents seek to equate the level of rates paid with the amount of benefit they individually achieve. The reality is however property rates are a system of taxation not dissimilar to P.A.Y.G tax. In paying a tax on salaries, it is rarely questioned what benefit is received with it being acknowledged that tax payments are required to pay for critical services such as health, education and social support. Local Government is not dissimilar, with rates being required to subsidise the delivery of services and capital works that would otherwise be unaffordable if charged on a case by case basis.

Capacity to Pay

The capacity of ratepayers or groups of ratepayers to pay rates. The valuation of property is an imperfect system in which to assess a resident’s capacity to pay annual rates but one which Council is restricted to under the Act. A frequently raised example is in relation to pensioners who may live in their family home which carries a high value, but live on a pension. The equity question for consideration however, is should Council support residents in this situation with lower rates that will eventually be to the financial benefit of estate beneficiaries? Or alternatively should the ability to defer rates (in total or in part) represent a more

equitable outcome for all ratepayers?

Diversity

The capacity of ratepayers within a group to pay rates. Despite the “likeness” of members of property classes, there will also be considerable diversity with each class.

Summary

Simultaneously applying all of these criteria it is imperative to ensure a balanced approach as possible. The rating challenge for Council therefore is to determine the appropriate balancing of competing considerations.

4.3 Rates and Charges Revenue Principles

Property rates will:

- be reviewed annually;
- not change dramatically from one year to next; and
- be sufficient to fund current expenditure commitments and deliverables outlined in the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan.

Differential rating should be applied as equitably as is practical and will comply with the *Ministerial Guidelines for Differential Rating 2013*.

4.4 Determining which Valuation Base to Use

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council has three options as to the valuation base it elects to use. They are:

- Capital Improved Value (CIV) – Value of land and improvements upon the land.
- Site Value (SV) – Value of land only.
- Net Annual Value (NAV) – Rental valuation based on CIV.

For residential and farm properties, NAV is calculated at 5 per cent of the Capital Improved Value. For commercial and industrial properties, NAV is calculated as the greater of the estimated annual rental value or 5 per cent of the CIV.

Capital Improved Value (CIV)

Capital Improved Value is the most commonly used valuation base by local government with over 90% of Victorian councils applying this methodology. Based on the value of both land and all improvements on the land, it is generally easily understood by ratepayers as it equates to the market value of the property.

Under the CIV method Councils also have the ability to apply differential rates.

Section 161 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides that a Council may raise any general rates by the application of a differential rate if:

- a) It uses the capital improved value system of valuing land; and
- b) It considers that a differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of its functions.

Where a council does not utilise CIV, it may only apply limited differential rates in relation to farm land, urban farm land or residential use land.

Advantages of using Capital Improved Value (CIV)

- CIV includes all property improvements, and hence is often supported on the basis that it more closely reflects “capacity to pay”. The CIV rating method takes into account the full development value of the property, and hence better meets the equity criteria than Site Value and NAV.
- With the increased frequency of valuations (previously two year intervals, now annual intervals) the market values are more predictable and has reduced the level of objections resulting from valuations.
- The concept of the market value of property is more easily understood with CIV rather than NAV or SV.
- Most councils in Victoria have now adopted CIV which makes it easier to compare relative movements in rates and valuations across councils.
- The use of CIV allows council to apply differential rates which greatly adds to council’s ability to equitably distribute the rating burden based on ability to afford council rates. CIV allows council to apply higher rating differentials to the commercial and industrial sector that offset residential rates.
- The Fire Services Property Levy is calculated on the CIV and continued use of this reinforces the principle of calculating rates based on CIV.

Disadvantages of using CIV

- The main disadvantage with CIV is the fact that rates are based on the total property value which may not necessarily reflect the income level of the property owner as with pensioners and low-income earners.

Site Value (SV)

There are currently no Victorian councils that use this valuation base. With valuations based simply on the valuation of land and with only very limited ability to apply differential rates, the implementation of Site Value in a Knox City Council context would cause a shift in rate burden from the industrial/commercial sectors onto the residential sector, and would hinder council’s objective of a fair and equitable rating system.

In many ways, it is difficult to see an equity argument being served by the implementation of site valuation in the Knox City Council.

Advantages of Site Value

- There is a perception that under site value, a uniform rate would promote development of land, particularly commercial and industrial developments. There is, however, little evidence to prove that this is the case.
- Scope for possible concessions for urban farm-land and residential use land.

Disadvantages of using Site Value

- There would be further rating movements away from modern townhouse style developments on relatively small land parcels to older established homes on quarter acre residential blocks.
- Under SV, there will be a significant shift from the industrial/commercial sector onto the residential sector of council. The percentage increases in many cases would be in the extreme range.
- SV is a major burden on property owners that have large areas of land. Some of these owners may have much smaller/older dwellings compared to those who have smaller land areas but well developed dwellings - but will pay more in rates. A typical example is flats, units, or townhouses which will all pay low rates compared to traditional housing styles.
- The use of SV can place pressure on council to give concessions to categories of landowners on

whom the rating burden is seen to fall disproportionately (e.g. Farm land and residential use properties). Large landowners, such as farmers for example, are disadvantaged by the use of site value.

- SV will reduce Council's rating flexibility and options to deal with any rating inequities due to the removal of the ability to levy differential rates.
- The community may have greater difficulty in understanding the SV valuation on their rate notices, as indicated by many inquiries from ratepayers on this issue handled by council's customer service and property revenue staff each year.
- The Fire Services Property Levy is calculated on the CIV and use of different valuations could also cause confusion as this levy is shown on the Rates Notice.
- SV may not necessarily reflect the income level/capacity to pay of the property owner.

Net Annual Value (NAV)

NAV, in concept, represents the annual rental value of a property. However, in practice, NAV is loosely linked to capital improved value for residential and farm properties. Valuers derive the NAV directly as 5 per cent of CIV.

In contrast to the treatment of residential and farm properties, NAV for commercial and industrial properties are assessed with regard to actual market rental. This differing treatment of commercial versus residential and farm properties has led to some suggestions that all properties should be valued on a rental basis.

Overall, the use of NAV is not largely supported. For residential and farm ratepayers, actual rental values pose some problems. The artificial rental estimate used may not represent actual market value, and means the base is the same as CIV but is harder to understand.

Summary Valuation Base

In choosing a valuation base, councils must decide on whether they wish to adopt a differential rating system (different rates in the dollar for different property categories) or a uniform rating system (same rate in the dollar). If a council was to choose the former, under the *Local Government Act 1989* it must adopt either of the CIV or NAV methods of rating.

Knox City Council will apply Capital Improved Value (CIV) to all properties within the municipality to take into account the fully developed value of the property. This basis of valuation takes into account the total market value of the land plus buildings and other improvements. This application is for the following reasons:

- CIV is considered to be the closest approximation to an equitable basis for distribution of the rating burden.
- CIV provides Council with the option to levy a full range of differential rates if required. Limited differential rating is available under the other rating bases.
- It should be noted that most of the 79 Victorian Councils apply CIV as their rating base and as such, it has a wider community acceptance and understanding than the other rating bases.

Differential rating allows (under the CIV method) council to shift part of the rate burden from some groups of ratepayers to others, through different "rates in the dollar" for each class of property.

The perceived advantages of utilising a differential system are:

- There is greater flexibility to distribute the rate burden between all classes of property, and therefore link rates with the ability to pay and reflecting the tax deductibility of rates for commercial and industrial premises;
- Differential rating allows Council to better reflect the investment required by Council to establish infrastructure to meet the needs of the commercial and industrial sector;
- Allows Council to reflect the unique circumstances of some rating categories where the application

- of a uniform rate may create an inequitable outcome; and
- Allows Council discretion in the imposition of rates to facilitate and encourage appropriate development of its municipal district in the best interest of the community.

The perceived disadvantage in applying differential rating is the justification of the differential rate can at times be difficult for the various rating groups to accept. Some rating categories may feel they are unfavourably treated because they are paying a higher level of rates than other ratepayer groups. This gives rise to queries, objections and complaints where the differentials may seem to be excessive.

Section 161(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* outlines the requirements relating to differential rates, which include:

- a) A Council may raise any general rates by the application of a differential rate, if Council considers that the differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of its functions.
- b) If a Council declares a differential rate for any land, the Council must specify the objectives of the differential rate, which must be consistent with the equitable and efficient carrying out of the Councils functions and must include the following:
 - i. A definition of the types or classes of land which are subject to the rate and a statement of the reasons for the use and level of that rate.
 - ii. An identification of the type or classes of land which are subject to the rate in respect of the uses, geographic location (other than location on the basis of whether or not the land is within a specific ward in Council's district).
 - iii. Specify the characteristics of the land, which are the criteria for declaring the differential rate.

Once the Council has declared a differential rate for any land, the Council must:

- a) Specify the objectives of the differential rates;
- b) Specify the characteristics of the land which are the criteria for declaring the differential rate.

The purpose is to ensure that Council has a sound basis on which to develop the various charging features when determining its revenue strategies and ensure that these are consistent with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The general objectives of each of the differential rates are to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council. There is no limit on the number or types of differential rates that can be levied, but the highest differential rate can be no more than four times the lowest differential rate.

All three types of valuation method have a common basis in that rates are based on the property value which may not necessarily reflect the annual income of the ratepayer for example pensioners and low income earners.

4.5 Property Valuations

The *Valuation of Land Act 1960* is the principle legislation in determining property valuations. Under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, the Victorian Valuer-General conducts property valuations on an annual basis. Knox City Council applies a Capital Improved Value (CIV) to all properties within the municipality to take into account the full development value of the property. This basis of valuation takes into account the total market value of the land including buildings and other improvements.

The value of land is always derived by the principal of valuing land for its highest and best use at the relevant time of valuation.

Council needs to be mindful of the impacts of revaluations on the various property types in implementing the differential rating strategy outlined in the previous section to ensure that rises and falls in council rates remain affordable and that rating ‘shocks’ are mitigated to some degree.

There is a common misconception that if a property’s valuation rises then Council receives a “windfall gain” with additional income. Any increase to total valuations of the municipality is offset by a reduction to the rate in dollar (ad valorem rate) used to calculate the rate for each property. The implementation of the Fair Go Rates System (also known as Rate Capping) places a cap on the average rates per assessment.

4.6 Supplementary Valuations

Supplementary valuations are carried out for a variety of reasons including rezoning, subdivisions, amalgamations, renovations, new constructions, extensions, occupancy changes and corrections. The Victorian Valuer-General is tasked with undertaking supplementary valuations and advises council on a monthly basis of valuation and Australian Valuation Property Classification Code (AVPCC) changes.

Supplementary valuations bring the value of the affected property into line with the general valuation of other properties within the municipality. Objections to supplementary valuations can be lodged in accordance with Part 3 of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*. Any objections must be lodged with Council within two months of the issue of the supplementary rate notice.

4.7 Objections to Property Valuations

Part 3 of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960* provides that a property owner may lodge an objection against the valuation of a property or the Australian Valuation Property Classification Code (AVPCC) within two months of the issue of the original or amended (supplementary) Rates and Valuation Charges Notice (Rates Notice), or within four months if the notice was not originally issued to the occupier of the land.

A property owner must lodge their objection to the valuation or the AVPCC in writing to the Knox City Council. Property owners also have the ability to object to the site valuations on receipt of their Land Tax Assessment. Property owners can appeal their land valuation within two months of receipt of their Council Rate Notice (via Council) or within two months of receipt of their Land Tax Assessment (via the State Revenue Office).

4.8 Rating Differentials

Council believes each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of council functions. Details of the objectives of each differential rate, the classes of land which are subject to each differential rate and the uses of each differential rate are set out below.

Residential Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is not Vacant Land or Derelict Land, Retirement Village Land, Industrial Land, Commercial Land, or Cultural and Recreational Land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake it's strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Retirement Village Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a retirement village.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council on behalf of the retirement village sector.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Commercial Land**Definitions/Characteristics:**

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of a commercial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget

adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year

Industrial Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land which is used primarily for the purposes of an industrial land.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Enhancement of the economic viability of the commercial and industrial sector through targeted programs and projects; and
6. Encouragement of employment opportunities; and
7. Promotion of economic development; and
8. Analysis, maintenance and construction of public drainage infrastructure; and
9. Requirement to ensure that infrastructure investment and promotional activity is complementary to the achievement of industrial and commercial objectives.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives

specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

Types of Buildings:

All buildings which are now constructed on the land or which are constructed prior to the expiry of the 2019-20 financial year.

Recreational Land

Definitions/Characteristics:

Any land upon which sporting, recreational or cultural activities are conducted, including buildings which may be ancillary to such activities, in accordance with the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
2. Development and provision of health and community services; and
3. Provision of general support services; and
4. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations; and
5. Recognition of expenditures made by Council in cultural and recreational sporting programs and infrastructure.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Vacant Land or Derelict Land

Definition/Characteristics

Any land on which there is no building that is occupied or adapted for occupation, or contains a building that is ordinarily adapted for occupation which is abandoned, unoccupied and in a very poor condition resulting from both disuse and neglect.

Objective:

To ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including the:

1. Encouragement of development/and or improvement of land; and
2. Construction and maintenance of public infrastructure; and
3. Development and provision of health and community services; and
4. Provision of general support services; and

5. Requirement to ensure that Council has adequate funding to undertake its strategic, statutory, and service provision obligations.

Types and Classes:

Rateable land having the relevant characteristics described in the definition/characteristics.

Use and Level of Differential Rate:

The differential rate will be used to fund some of those items of expenditure described in the Budget adopted by Council.

The level of the differential rate is the level which Council considers is necessary to achieve the objectives specified above.

Geographic Location:

Wherever located within the municipal district.

Use of Land:

Any use permitted under the relevant Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Zoning:

The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme.

4.9 Municipal Charge

Another principle rating option available to Councils is the application of a municipal charge. Under Section 159 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council may declare a municipal charge to cover some of the administrative costs of the Council. The legislation is not definitive on what comprises administrative costs and does not require Council to specify what is covered by the charge.

The application of a municipal charge represents a choice to raise a portion of the rates by a flat fee for all properties, rather than sole use of the CIV valuation method.

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council's total revenue from a municipal charge in a financial year must not exceed 20 per cent of the combined sum total of the Council's total revenue from the municipal charge and the revenue from general rates (total rates).

The municipal charge applies equally to all properties and is based upon the recovery of a fixed cost of providing administrative services irrespective of valuation. The same contribution amount per assessment to cover a portion of council's administrative costs can be seen as an equitable method of recovering these costs.

The argument against a municipal charge is that this charge is regressive in nature and would result in lower valued properties paying higher overall rates and charges than they would if it was removed. The equity objective in levying rates against property values is reduced by using a municipal charge as it is levied uniformly across all assessments.

Knox City Council's strategy position is that it will not apply a Municipal Charge.

4.10 Special Rates and Charges

The *Local Government Act 1989* recognises that councils need help to provide improved infrastructure for their local communities. Legislation allows councils to pass on the cost of capital infrastructure to the owner of a property that generally receives a unique benefit from the construction works. The technical explanation of a Special Charge comes from legislation (under the *Local Government Act 1989*) that allows councils to recover the cost of works from property owners who will gain special benefit from that work.

The purposes for which special rates and special charges may be used include road construction, kerb and channelling, footpath provision, drainage, and other capital improvement projects.

The special rate or special charges may be declared on the basis of any criteria specified by the council in the rate (Section 163 (2)). In accordance with Section 163 (3), council must specify:

- a. the wards, groups, uses or areas for which the special rate or charge is declared; and
- b. the land in relation to which the special rate or special charge is declared;
- c. the manner in which the special rate or special charge will be assessed and levied; and
- d. details of the period for which the special rate or special charge remains in force.

The special rates and charges provisions are flexible and can be used to achieve a wide range of community objectives. The fundamental principle of special rates and charges is proof “special benefit” applies to those being levied.

In relation to the performance of a function or the exercise of a power of the Council, if the Council considers that the performance of the function or the exercise of the power is or will be of special benefit to the persons required to pay the special rate or special charge, Section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989* enables Council to declare a special rate or charge or a combination of both for the purposes of:

- Defraying any expenses; or
- Repaying with interest any advance made or debt incurred or loan raised by Council.

There are detailed procedural requirements that Council needs to follow to introduce a special rate or charge, including how Council can apply funds derived from this source.

Section 185 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides appeal rights to VCAT in relation to the imposition of a special rate or charge. The Tribunal has wide powers, which could affect the viability of the special rate or charge. It can set the rate or charge completely aside if it is satisfied that certain criteria are not met. Council should be particularly mindful of the issue of proving that a special benefit exists to those that are being levied the rate or charge.

Differential rates are much simpler to introduce and less subject to challenge. There may be instances however where a special charge is desirable due to the raising of the levy by use of CIV not being equitable.

Special rates for retail associations are an effective tool utilised across the sector to assist in delivering the business development and employment strategies within the particular business district. The special rates collected from the businesses operating in these shopping centres/ business districts are utilised for projects endorsed by business district retail associations and provided to Council.

Special rates schemes are reviewed at their expiry and not during the budget process. Special charges are subject to consultation and resolution of Council for a charge to be declared.

Council’s position is that it may consider the use of special rates and charges in instances that fit the

following circumstances:

- Funding of narrowly defined capital projects (e.g. streetscape works) where special benefit can be shown to exist to a group of property owners.
- Raising funds for a dedicated purpose where the use of CIV is not the most equitable method of calculating property owner contributions.
- Covering the cost of an expense relating to a specific group of ratepayers (e.g. Business precincts).

Knox City Council does not have in place any special rates and charges.

4.11 Service Rates and Charges

Section 162 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides council with the opportunity to raise service rates and charges for any of the following services:

- a. The provision of a water supply;
- b. The collection and disposal of refuse;
- c. The provision of sewage services;
- d. Any other prescribed service.

Council currently applies a Residential Garbage Service Charge for the collection and disposal of residential waste to all residential land properties eligible for a Council waste service. The Residential Garbage Charge provides for the collection and disposal of general waste, recyclables, kerbside bundled green waste and kerbside hard rubbish.

For declared residential service areas, the service composition is an 80L general waste bin and a 240L recycling bin. In addition, kerbside bundled green waste and kerbside hard waste services are provided. Residents may apply for a 120L general waste bin or a 240L green waste bin. These are both charged services.

Council retains the objective of setting the service charge for waste at a level that fully recovers the cost of the waste services, including providing for the cost of rehabilitation of the council's landfill once it reaches the end of its useful life.

User fees and charges are in place for the provision of residential green waste, commercial waste disposal and collection, industrial waste disposal and collection, and residential services above those covered by the Residential Garbage Service Charge.

It is recommended that council retain the existing Residential Garbage Service Charge. Should council elect not to have a waste service charge, this same amount would be required to be raised by way of an increased general rate, meaning that residents in higher valued properties would substantially pay for the waste service of lower valued properties.

Whilst this same principle applies for rates in general, the mix of having a single fixed charge combined with valuation driven rates for the remainder of the rate invoice provides a balanced and equitable outcome.

4.12 Collection and Administration of Rates and Charges

The purpose of this section is to outline the rate payment options, processes, and the support provided to ratepayers facing financial hardship.

Payment Options

Rates and charges can be paid in full or by instalments on or before the following dates.

Payments in full must be paid by 15 February.

In accordance with section 167(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* ratepayers have the option of paying rates and charges by way of four instalments. Payments are due on the prescribed dates below:

- 1st Instalment: 30 September
- 2nd Instalment: 30 November
- 3rd Instalment: 28 February
- 4th Instalment: 31 May

Knox City Council also offer payment by nine instalments, with due dates as follows:

- 1st Instalment: 30 September
- 2nd Instalment: 31 October
- 3rd Instalment: 30 November
- 4th Instalment: 31 December
- 5th Instalment: 31 January
- 6th Instalment: 28 February
- 7th Instalment: 31 March
- 8th Instalment: 30 April
- 9th Instalment: 31 May

Council offers a range of payment options including:

- in person at Council offices (cheques, money orders, EFTPOS, credit/debit cards and cash);
- online via Council's ratepayer portal, direct debit (available for in full, four and nine monthly instalment payments);
- BPAY;
- Telephone (credit card);
- Australia Post (over the counter); or
- by mail (cheques and money orders only).

The *Local Government Act 1989* provides that incentives for prompt payment may be offered. Discounts for early payment should be based on cash flow benefit to council.

Council does not offer incentives for prompt payment primarily as:

- It would only benefit cash rich ratepayers;
- Council already provides a number of payment options and methods for ratepayers to pay their rates; and
- It would be administratively cumbersome and costly.

Interest on Arrears and Overdue Rates

Interest is charged on all overdue rates in accordance with Section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The interest rate applied is fixed under Section 2 of the *Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983*, which is determined by the Minister and published by notice in the Government Gazette.

Pensioner Rebates

Holders of a Centrelink or Veteran Affairs Pension Concession card or a Veteran Affairs Gold card which stipulates TPI or War Widow may claim a rebate on their sole or principal place of residence. Upon initial application, ongoing eligibility is maintained, unless rejected by Centrelink or the Department of Veteran Affairs during the annual verification procedure. Upon confirmation of an eligible pensioner concession status, the pensioner rebate is deducted from the rate account before payment is required by the ratepayer.

With regards to new applicants, after being granted a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC), pensioners can then apply for the rebate at any time throughout the rating year. Retrospective claims up to a maximum of one previous financial year can be approved by Council on verification of eligibility criteria, for periods prior to this claims may be approved by the relevant government department.

In addition to the State Government pensioner rebate, Knox City Council offers a flat rebate for each eligible property (currently \$100) which supplements the State rebate.

Community Land rebates

Council will declare two Community Land Rebates to acknowledge the contribution to Knox by community groups and bodies:

- Cultural and Recreational Community Land Rebate – a maximum rebate of 35% of the general rates payable will be applied to all rateable Recreational Land properties.
- Community Benefit Rebate – a maximum rebate of 75% of the general rates payable for all rateable Commercial Land or Industrial Land properties that apply and are successful in recognition as Community Benefit Land as defined in Schedule A of the Declaration of Rates, Charges and Rebates as adopted by Council each financial year.

Deferred payments

Under Section 170 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council may defer the payment of any rate or charge for an eligible ratepayer whose property is their sole place of residency, allowing ratepayers an extended period of time to make payments or alternatively to forestall payments on an indefinite basis until the ratepayer ceases to own or occupy the land in respect of which rates and charges are to be levied.

Deferral of rates and charges are available to all ratepayers who satisfy the eligibility criteria and have proven financial difficulties. Where Council approves an application for deferral of rates or charges, interest will continue to be levied on the outstanding balance of rates and charges but at an interest rate fixed annually by Council. This deferred interest rate will typically be well under the penalty interest rate levied by Council on unpaid rates and charges.

Ratepayers seeking to apply for such provision will be required to apply for a payment plan or extension via the Council website. If an online application cannot be made, Council can be contacted directly on 03 9298 8000.

Payment Assistance Policy

It is acknowledged at the outset that various ratepayers may experience financial hardship for a whole range of issues and that meeting rate obligations constitutes just one element of a number of difficulties that may be faced. The purpose of the Payment Assistance Policy is to provide options for ratepayers facing such situations to deal with the situation positively and reduce the strain imposed by financial hardship.

Ratepayers may elect to either negotiate a rate payment plan or apply for a rate deferral. Ratepayers seeking to apply for such provision will be required to apply for a payment plan or extension via the Council website. If an online application cannot be made, Council can be contacted directly on 03 9298 8000.

Council does not waive rates and charges levied on a property. Council assesses each case on its merits when considering assistance.

Debt recovery

Council makes every effort to contact ratepayers at their notified address but it is the ratepayers' responsibility to properly advise Council of their contact details. The *Local Government Act 1989* Section 230 and 231 requires both the vendor and buyer of property, or their agents (e.g. solicitors and or conveyancers), to notify Council by way of notice of disposition or acquisition of an interest in land.

In the event that an account becomes overdue, Council will issue an overdue reminder notice which will include accrued penalty interest. In the event that the account remains unpaid, Council may take legal action without further notice to recover the overdue amount. All fees and court costs incurred will be recoverable from the ratepayer.

If an amount payable by way of rates in respect to land has been in arrears for three years or more, Council may take action to sell the property in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* Section 181.

Fire Services Property Levy

In 2013 the Victorian State Government passed legislation (the *Fire Services Property Levy Act 1989*) requiring the Fire Services Property Levy to be collected from ratepayers. Previously this was collected through building and property insurance premiums. The Fire Services Property Levy helps fund the services provided by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) and Country Fire Authority (CFA), and all levies collected by Council are passed through to the State Government.

The Fire Services Property Levy is based on two components, a fixed charge, and a variable charge which is linked to the Capital Improved Value of the property. This levy is not included in the rate cap and increases in the levy are at the discretion of the State Government.

The pensioner concession for the Fire Services Property Levy applies to those who are eligible to receive a pensioner concession from their local council for rates. The pensioner concession is currently a \$50 reduction for the eligible pensioner's property, which is used exclusively as the owners' principal place of residence.

Property owners who currently receive a council rates concession for their principal place of residence automatically receive the Fire Services Property Levy concession.

5. Other Revenue Items

5.1 User Fees and Charges

Knox City Council provides a wide range of services, for which users pay a fee or charge which covers at least part of the cost of supply. The level of some fees and charges are statutorily set, however many are at the discretion of Council. Legislation provides for local governments to levy fees and charges.

User fees and charges are those that Council will charge for the delivery of services and use of community infrastructure.

Sound financial management of community service delivery requires fees and charges to reflect the cost of providing a service of a particular quality, moderated by considerations of affordability, accessibility and equity, as well as community expectations and values.

Council's financial resources are limited. The majority of Council's revenue comes from rates. Although a relatively small proportion; fees and charges are an important source of income and increasingly so in a rate-capped environment.

Examples of user fees and charges include:

- Kindergarten and Childcare fees
- Waste Management fees
- Aged and Health Care service fees
- Leases, recreational reserve and facility hire fees

The provision of infrastructure and services form a key part of council's role in supporting the local community and enhancing community wellbeing. In providing these, council must consider a range of 'Best Value' principles including service cost and quality standards, value-for-money, and community expectations and values. Council must also balance the affordability and accessibility of infrastructure and services with its financial capacity and in the interests of long-term financial sustainability.

Councils must also comply with the government's Competitive Neutrality Policy for significant business activities they provide and adjust their service prices to neutralise any competitive advantages when competing with the private sector.

In providing services to the community, council must determine the extent of cost recovery for particular services consistent with the level of both individual and collective benefit that the services provide and in line with the community's expectations.

Services are provided on the basis of one of the following pricing methods:

- a. Market Price
- b. Full Cost Recovery Price
- c. Subsidised Price

Market pricing (A)

This includes services that provide discretionary activities not mandated by legislation or agency agreements. These activities may provide revenue support and complement other social policy actions.

Ideally, the price should achieve full cost recovery and be at a level similar to those charged in the market as a whole. If a price less than full cost recovery is contemplated, Council may consider a review of whether it

should provide the service, or whether there is a community service obligation that warrants a public interest test.

Council is required to price services that compete in the open market on a 'level playing field' basis and to make any decision to depart from a commercial basis for pricing of services transparent. Any Council service that competes in the open market may be subject to competitive neutrality requirements if it is a significant business activity as determined by market share or sales volume.

Full cost recovery price (B)

Full cost recovery price aims to recover all direct and overhead costs incurred by Council. This pricing should be used in particular where a service provided by council benefits individual customers specifically, rather than the community as a whole. In principle, fees and charges should be set at a level that recovers the full cost of providing the services unless there is an overriding policy or imperative in favour of subsidisation.

Subsidised pricing (C)

Subsidised pricing is where council subsidises a service by not passing the full cost of that service onto the customer. Subsidies may range from full subsidies (i.e. council provides the service free of charge) to partial subsidies, where council provides the service to the user with a discount. The subsidy can be funded from council's rate revenue or other sources such as Commonwealth and state funding programs. Full council subsidy pricing and partial cost pricing should always be based on knowledge of the full cost of providing a service.

Council will develop a table of fees and charges as part of its annual budget each year. Proposed pricing changes will be included in this table and will be communicated to stakeholders before the budget is adopted, giving them the chance to review and provide valuable feedback before the fees are locked in.

5.2 Statutory Fees and Charges

Where fees are set by State Government statute (Statutory Fees); Council has no ability to alter the fee. These fees are fixed and result in a growing cost to the general ratepayer to provide services as the level of cost recovery is diminished over time. Fees will be amended in line with any increases should one be determined by State Government over the course of the year.

Examples of statutory fees and fines include:

- Planning and subdivision fees
- Building and Inspection fees
- Infringements and fines
- Land Information Certificate fees

Penalty and fee units are used in Victoria's Acts and Regulations to describe the amount of a fine or a fee.

Penalty units

Penalty units are used to define the amount payable for fines for many offences. For example, the fine for selling a tobacco product to a person aged under 18 is four penalty units.

One penalty unit is currently \$165.22, from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

The rate for penalty units is indexed each financial year so that it is raised in line with inflation. Any change to the value of a penalty unit will happen on 1 July each year.

Fee units

Fee units are used to calculate the cost of a certificate, registration or licence that is set out in an Act or Regulation. For example, the cost of depositing a Will with the Supreme Court registrar of probates is 1.6 fee units.

The value of one fee unit is currently \$14.81. This value may increase at the beginning of a financial year, at the same time as penalty units.

The cost of fees and penalties is calculated by multiplying the number of units by the current value of the fee or unit. The exact cost may be rounded up or down.

5.3 Grants

Grant revenue represents income usually received from other levels of government. Some grants are singular and attached to the delivery of specific projects, whilst others can be of a recurrent nature and may or may not be linked to the delivery of projects.

Council will pro-actively advocate to other levels of government for grant funding support to deliver important infrastructure and service outcomes for the community. Council may use its own funds to leverage higher grant funding and maximise external funding opportunities.

When preparing its financial plan, council considers its project proposal pipeline, advocacy priorities, upcoming grant program opportunities, and co-funding options to determine what grants to apply for. Council will only apply for and accept external funding if it is consistent with the Community Vision and does not lead to the distortion of Council Plan priorities.

Grant assumptions are then clearly detailed in council's budget document. No project that is reliant on grant funding will proceed until a signed funding agreement is in place.

5.4 Contributions

Contributions represent funds received by council, usually from non-government sources, and are usually linked to projects.

Contributions can be made to council in the form of either cash payments or asset hand-overs.

Examples of contributions include:

- Monies collected from developers under planning and development agreements;
- Monies collected under developer contribution plans and infrastructure contribution plans;
- Contributions from user groups towards the upgrade of facilities;
- Assets handed over to council from developers at the completion of a subdivision, such as roads, drainage, and streetlights.

Contributions should always be linked to a planning or funding agreement. Council will not undertake any work on a contribution-funded project until a signed agreement outlining the contribution details is in place.

Contributions linked to developments can be received well before any council expenditure occurs. In this situation, the funds will be identified and held separately for the specific works identified in the agreements

5.5 Interest on Investments

Council receives interest on funds managed as part of its investment portfolio, where funds are held in advance of expenditure, or for special purposes. The investment portfolio is managed per council's Investment Policy, which seeks to invest public funds in a manner which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security of invested capital while meeting the daily cash flow demands of Council.

5.6 Sale of Assets

Council's Asset Management Policy states that decisions to rationalise assets will be aligned with service planning requirements and relevant Council policies. Disposal of surplus assets shall be based on a lifecycle costs assessment and service planning demand data.

The purpose of council's Sale of Land and Buildings Policy is to:

- optimise the value of property assets to the community, including the evaluation of unused or redundant assets and realising the funds tied up in these assets in order to acquire, develop or improve other assets;
- guide the strategic management of its property portfolio for the long-term best interests of the community; and
- define the process for identifying and proceeding with the sale of any Council owned land (with or without improvements) and to identify how the proceeds from land sales are to be allocated.

The decision to sell Council owned land is made carefully, considering the current and future needs of the municipality, and maximising public value (both financial and non-financial).

Public Submissions – Proposed Budget 2021-22

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
1.	<p>Kirrily Whatman</p> <p>To be heard at 6.30pm</p> <p>(Kirrily Whatman was an apology as she was unable to attend the hearing)</p>	<p>I wish to appeal to Council to consider making room in this 2021-22 Budget for additional trained personnel to consistently uphold the landscape conditions included on planning approvals. That such a vast and vital area of your operation does not already have a more robust system of enforcing permit compliance is alarming.</p> <p>Recently, I received a response from the Director – City Strategy and Integrity to questions regarding land use and whether landscape conditions in permits were in place in perpetuity (it was confirmed they are: The permit stays with the land, regardless of change of ownership).</p> <p>The Director’s suggested stopgap for Knox’s current overwhelm is to rely on residents to report suspected breaches. It was outlined that lack of resourcing is the cause for the council’s inability to be pro-active in this area. While this is understood, asking for residents’ assistance would not resolve the demand for more enforcement officers — it would essentially add to it, without first having additional trained staff available to investigate in realtime. Residents are not privy to what is deemed “satisfactory” or in contravention for each individual planning permit. Given the current resourcing constraints, this would simply lead to an increase of unresolved cases. As the responsible authority by law, you should have the staff quota to more readily meet this requirement.</p> <p>As a resident, one has to ask if the present lack is a matter of under-staffing, under-performance or both. Without Knox City Council working together with property owners to ensure compliance with any stipulated permit conditions, the apathetic message being sent is that Knox is neither strong with its regulations nor is it serious about leading its own charge as a “green and leafy municipality nestled at the foot of the Dandenong Ranges”.</p> <p>You are considering implementation of your new Climate Response Plan to “protect and preserve Knox” in this Budget — property owner landscape compliance also goes hand in glove with this. If ever there was a new way forward and an opportunity for this Council to stamp its mark on the history of a modern Knox City Council, it is this.</p> <p>Therefore, please include in this Budget a reform for ongoing, effective landscape compliance monitoring. One that supports a departmental structure that permanently places more trained officers out on the ground in Knox to conduct the required administration to detect and/or (importantly) act on reported permit contraventions.</p> <p>Again, Knox City Council as the “responsible authority” is required by law to administer and enforce its planning scheme and any planning permit conditions and agreements it sets out under section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of my request.</p>	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
2.	Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club To be heard at 6.35pm	<p><i>As well as the full budget submission below, a new clubroom proposal from 2019 is attached.</i></p> <p>On behalf of the Boronia Hawks Football Netball club we write for the Knox Council to further consider funding for architectural build drawings for our New Clubroom Proposal submitted to council in 2019 - see attached.</p> <p>As a premier club within the Knox Council we are one of the only football clubs in the council that have not had any facilities updates to help assist with the rapid growth via the inclusion of women in both our Football and Netball programs. We note that back in 2017 the Knox Council identified Tormore Reserve as 'currently operating at capacity' in the City of Knox Boronia Renewal Project – Boronia Community Services and Facilities Review, 2017 - Appendix E Facility Analysis. The clubrooms are now 36 years of age and provide two change rooms, each with one urinal and one cubical - insufficient for a team of women. We currently occupy the ground and clubrooms 7 days a week and can no longer have a "whole club" meeting or function due to restricted room and amenities. This grossly limit's our ability to compete with other "like clubs" within the Knox Council who can offer superior facilities.</p> <p>As part of the Knox Council "Ordinary Meeting of Council" held on Monday 24th February 2020 it was proposed that our New Clubroom submission be referred to the 2020/21 budget discussions for consideration under Program 3000 – Major Projects, as part of Council's five (5) year Capital Works Program. Refer to section 8.2 - Modifications and upgrades of Tormore Reserve. It was subject to council support which we believe was voted as 7 to 2 in favour of the proposal. We ask that our request be considered again for the upcoming 2021/22 budget and hope that funds can be allocated to progress with actual architectural build drawings as part of the initial plan.</p> <p>Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club are an inclusive club who have successfully hosted the Division 1 EFNL finals series for the past 7 years and will continue to do so for the next 4 years based on the recent agreement between Knox Council and the EFNL. Every year the club hosts tens of thousands of locals who embark on Tormore Reserve utilising the facilities.</p>	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
3.	<p>Darren Wallace</p> <p>To be heard at 6.40pm</p>	<p>I request that Knox City Council increase it's loan borrowing by 20 million dollars for the express purpose of investing in a large scale solar farm, grid connected and with a battery storage in Knox.</p> <p>A stand-alone 4.99 mega-watt solar farm is typically 7.5 million dollars, a grid connection is one million dollars and a 4 MW battery around seven million when constructed on your own land.</p> <p>The balance of any money remaining could be used for small-scale solar locally or any other infrastructure investment that reduces CO2 emissions and ultimately generates revenue.</p> <p>With Council's need to respond to the Local Government Act 2020 requirements and climate response planning to address CO2 emission reductions, investment in big solar seems to be the obvious action bringing the greatest "bang for buck".</p> <p>It is a great time to borrow money to invest in infrastructure, with a ten year fixed interest rate loan, which I believe to be available at 2.6%.</p> <p>With CPI currently at around 1.6% and increasing, and with the likely cost escalation factor in construction being considered over coming years, the loan borrowings are effectively at a 0% interest rate for infrastructure!</p> <p>A stand-alone 4.99 Mega Watt, grid connected solar farm with a 4 MW battery solar facility in Knox, on Knox City Council owned land is predicted to have a payback period of around 15 years.</p> <p>For those that are uncomfortable about debt servicing on such a project, I ask you to compare your discomfort of this with how you feel about the future risk of litigation for failing to act on reducing emissions, increased extreme heat days, tree canopy decline, biodiversity loss and heat and flood related damage to infrastructure from a changing climate.</p> <p>Leadership is about doing your bit, even at the risk that some others might not!</p> <p>It's time for a big move by Knox City Council on reducing CO2 emissions, above and beyond those identified in the Council Draft Climate action response plan 2021-2031.</p> <p>Finally, if this council is truly serious about reducing it's CO2 emissions, and in a way that would return the best value on its investment, it should seriously consider the buy in, or partnership of a solar facility to the value of 20 million dollars in a location with excellent solar access, North of the divide in the Northern Victoria where it is significantly sunnier and where it will deliver more power, reduce more CO2 emissions, have a quicker payback period and then generate greater financial returns after this payback period.</p> <p>These are all factors which will demonstrate best value, good governance and would undoubtedly see increased support from the ratepayers of Knox who are ultimately funding such an investment.</p> <p>For Council's most serious consideration.</p>	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
4.	<p>Jess Bower Knox BMX Club</p> <p>To be heard at 6.45pm</p>	<p><i>Following is an extract from the submission – a copy of the full submission is attached.</i></p> <p>Requesting financial support to maintain the safety and quality of the polymer aggregate coating on the BMX track.</p> <p>Knox BMX has been known for years for having excellent track conditions. This was very labour intensive and required a lot of volunteer hours, so once the completion to the start hill in 2019 the committee decided to cover the track in Sic surface. There were many reasons for this decision –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoother and consistent track in different types of weather • The track is not as affected by rain • Safer track • Faster track • Less maintenance <p>To have the Sic Surface applied a lot of work was required by the volunteers to prepare the track. The surface was laid in December 2019 at a cost \$37,000. This was paid for by the funds raised by the club. It was resurfaced in March 2021 to complete the initial surfacing of our track. Ideally this would have been completed sooner but was delayed due to Covid restrictions preventing Sic Surface travelling from Queensland to Victoria.</p> <p>Volunteer members have been trained in how to care for the track, patch damaged areas and general upkeep.</p> <p>The professionals from Sic Surface have said that if it was just club use then we could have our track resurfaced approximately every 5 years pending conditions.</p> <p>With an open track, comes much more traffic and extra damage as not all of the community use the track appropriately. Due to this, we have been advised that the resurfacing will be required annually. This will be at a cost of \$[REDACTED]. Currently Knox BMX Club cannot financially support an annual cost of \$[REDACTED], as opposed to this amount over a period of 5 years.</p> <p><u>Key Points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knox BMX is well kept facility by volunteers that is used predominately by the public and is an asset to Knox City Community. Enjoyed by many. • The club fundraised to pay \$37,000 for the initial surfacing of the track, there was no corporate sponsorship or large donations made. • With the additional use from the public resurfacing will be required annually rather than every 5 years. • Knox BMX cannot afford to pay \$[REDACTED] for annual resurfacing. 	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
5.	<p>David Renkin President Scoresby Football & Netball Club</p> <p>To be heard at 6.50pm</p>	<p><i>Following is an extract from the submission – a copy of the full submission is attached.</i></p> <p>On behalf of the Scoresby Football and Netball Club, Scoresby Cricket Club, Scoresby Tennis Club and the Scoresby Over 55s Club I wish to provide this submission for review of the current budget allocation to works at Scoresby Recreation Reserve.</p> <p>It is our understanding that Stage 3 of the works program is due to commence within the 21/22 Financial Year, but this does not include works to complete the car parking and drive way works on the North side of the oval (Stage 4 of Masterplan).</p> <p>We the User Groups of this reserve, respectfully request Council bring forward the Stage 4 car parking and driveway works into the 21/22 budget either by re-ordering the Stage 3 / Stage 4 phasing of works or consolidating the Stage 4 carpark and driveway works into Stage 3 masterplan delivery.</p>	Yes
6.	<p>Bill Waite</p> <p>To be heard at 6.55pm</p>	<p>This budget proposes an increase in rates to balance the financial pressures with the need for continued investment, and notes the continued challenges as a result of the pandemic, which have touched all residents. The key directions stated in the budget include strategies for maintaining places and spaces for people to live, work, play and connect, to improve community social health and wellbeing, and supporting the community to identify and lead community strengthening initiatives. Open spaces in Knox are one of the greatest benefits to people in connection, facilitating social health and community wellbeing, especially in this pandemic.</p> <p>Large open areas for passive recreation are at a premium everywhere, and Koolunga Reserve is one of these areas, being used for many complimentary activities, from unstructured family recreation and exercising dogs off lead on its large green open spaces, to viewing the natural fauna and flora in the trees & bushland areas. The reserve as it is provides a wonderful balance of settings for these activities in the community.</p> <p>Koolunga needs a Master Plan to be developed in consultation and by working with the whole community, to protect the much valued open areas, and the balance of trees and bushland, for the community into the future. This Master Plan could be used to define what the whole community actually want to see happen in the Reserve, and should be in place before any proposals for any changes to the current setting of the Reserve are considered by Council, to allow sound, community - acceptable investment. The current budget does not seem to have an item set aside for the development of a Master Plan for Koolunga.</p> <p>Please could Council incorporate in the budget a funding provision for the development and completion of a Master Plan for Koolunga during the coming financial year, and before any changes to the current setting of the Reserve are considered, including all the consultation and other processes required. This great initiative would be welcomed by the community.</p>	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
7.	Liselotte Geary To be heard at 7.00pm	<p><i>Following is an extract from the submission – a copy of the full submission is attached.</i></p> <p>I would love to see a basketball ring and court installed in the neighbourhood, as there is no schools or anything like that around where the kids can access a basketball ring. I feel that it would encourage some of the older children to get out to “shoot some hoops” and hopefully meet others in the same age group from the area which would lead to better community connectedness.</p> <p>A brief poll in our neighbourhood Facebook group found great support for this idea and has generated some suggestions.</p> <p>Of those, I believe the most realistic ones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grassed area at the bottom of Juniper Road, by the boke track and opposite the outdoor gym equipment. • The Melbourne Water land at Cash Hues Place, where use may be negotiated under its <i>Our Space. Your Place</i> initiative <p>The community would love the opportunity to discuss the idea and any options with council’s Open Space Team. I’m happy to coordinate a community catch-up via our Facebook group and letter drop if required.</p> <p>I also respectfully ask that an additional \$50,000 is allocated for the development of a new basketball court in the area west of Wantirna Road and north of Boronia Road (the neighbourhood entered via Clarence Road), ideally in the 2021/22 budget, but if that is not possible in the coming financial year/s.</p> <p>I really feel that the sooner the better as this would hugely benefit some of Knox’s teenagers that have had a pretty rough year with the pandemic and lockdowns and invite them back into the communities we want them to be part of.</p>	Yes
8.	Irene Kelly, Jess Lye, Anne Morton, Erica Peters, Maxene Fowkes Gardens for Wildlife Volunteers To be heard at 7.05pm	<p><i>Following is an extract from the submission – a copy of the full submission is attached.</i></p> <p>As volunteers in the program we are, of course, enthusiastic supporters of Gardens for Wildlife and have explored and envisaged great potential for the program in the future.</p> <p>This submission requests extra funding so that the desired outcomes and efficacy of the program is not hampered by an inability and struggle by providers to service the ongoing and rising demand of residents. At the same time it would be great if additional resources to enable the program to explore how the ethos at the heart of the program can develop in support of the Council strategies, policies and vision for protecting and enhancing Knox’s green leafy image and mitigating the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Gardens for wildlife is a program that empowers residents to deliver outcomes using their own resources on their own property for the benefit of the community and with the appropriate investment it can continue to grow and to do that effectively, but it has potential to encourage whole communities to share responsibility with Knox Council to nurture future Knox.</p>	Yes

TO BE HEARD			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
9.	Max Shearman To be heard at 7.10pm	<p>Hey how's it going, My name is Max Shearman and I am local environmentalist in the area. I think the budget for natural environment and sustainability should be increased to better manage the local Park and Reserves etc. we have in the Knox region.</p> <p>The last couple of years the budget has majorly been on focusing on big pieces of land. However there are Several Small Parks and Playgrounds around the Knox Area that haven't had anything much done to them in decades. Slowly these park get maintained not correctly with the right knowledge and if left long enough may be ground for rezoning. What once was a beautiful park with a thriving biodiversity is now an overgrown mess of weeds and noxious weeds. Either it's not taken care off with the right knowledge or it's just left to its own devices.</p> <p>With how the triage system works with the local council these parks and playgrounds will not see anything done to them in years if anything at all, as the council rates there importance as low-mid. So I suggest that the budget be increased for the natural environment and sustainability/biodiversity area so that the council can hire more knowledgeable people to look after and deal with these parks. As the Normal Council Mowing team is causing more damage than it helps, with mowing local Indigenous plants.</p> <p>As a park degrades more and more it goes down on the list for the council to approve reworks. So I see this as a problem that will never get fixed with the current budget. We need more experienced people so we can help protect what we already have.</p> <p>Well Avenue Playground is one of these such parks, it has many trees of significant, indigenous local grass, herbs and ground covers, but due to the current maintenance of the park these plants cannot expand and get taken over by weeds killing the plant. If nothing is done about this issue then slowly over time these parks well lose their significant and either be overgrown with weeds or rezoned for other things.</p> <p>I love the small parks we have in the local Knox area. I aim to promote the biodiversity so that the next generation can enjoy and appreciate it like I did. Cheers Max Shearman</p>	Yes

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
10.	Abbie Adams	The proposed increased to childcare fees seem extreme in relation to fees charged by similar services in the same area these fees are at least \$20-\$50 more expense per day. This is making it less affordable for families in Knox.	No
11.	Eva Orlowski	<p>The Bayswater Strikers Soccer Club and the Bayswater Sharks Cricket Club share tenancy of Guy Turner Reserve in Bayswater and both club have had an increased issue with excessive dog poo on the reserve. Since the reserve has been upgraded with the Hub, playgrounds and walking tracks around the reserve there has been an increase in local participation to the reserve which is great but it has also resulted in an increase in dog participation and in turn poo. Both clubs spend time before each game walking the pitches and surrounding areas picking up dog poo which is a health and safety hazard for players.</p> <p>We have contacted Knox Council on many occasions over the years and have asked for 2 dog poo bins with plastic rubbish bags attached (similar to bins at the Knox dog park at the end of Scoresby Rd, FTG) to be installed at the reserve. Both clubs are happy to refill the plastic bags weekly on training nights or game days to make sure they are maintained.</p> <p>Support in this endeavour would be much appreciated by all the players and members of both clubs and no doubt the local community.</p>	No
12.	Amy Cornall	<p>I would like to see a focus on sustainability and the environment reflected in the budget.</p> <p>I would also like to see the Arts and Culture area better supported. For example, when Knox Immerse runs again, it would be great to have artist fees provided to all of the participating artists, in line with the NAVA Code of Practice.</p>	No

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
13.	Richard Faragher President Knox Environment Society	<p>The Knox Environment Society (KES) would like to see a more robust structure within the Directorate responsible for landscape compliance and enforcement.</p> <p>The increase in development approvals and subsequent landscape requirements appears to be causing a bottleneck at the point of follow-through for regular site visits to check compliance, not just at the time of permit approval but for the mandated timeframe.</p> <p>If a report was run on the number of planning applications with landscape conditions compared to number of site visits and frequency of visits to those sites, it is KES's view that this would show a discrepancy. One example of this is the Peregrine Heights Estate in Ferntree Gully which, at its inception, was billed as a "landmark" estate, with promising landscape conditions set for the residents who bought in; some fifteen years on, based on the requirement of planting between 5 and 8 indigenous canopy trees per property alone, it would appear the estate overall has not achieved this benchmark.</p> <p>The solution is not to reduce the achievable landscape requirements, as KES considers this is now the least that needs to be done to strengthen and regenerate Knox's once "green and leafy" image from here. Rather, the staffing levels in this area of the Knox City Council should be constantly growing. The task feed-in is continuously increasing, yet the staff numbers are not increasing to match.</p> <p>As such, we wish to see more resources included in the budget for this Department so that site visits and enforcement of mandated landscape conditions are regular and ongoing.</p>	No
14.	Debra Yule	<p><i>As well as the full budget submission below, the submission including photos is attached.</i></p> <p>I would like to ask that the Kent Park Playground be updated within the coming Financial Year (2021/22) due to its dilapidated and potentially dangerous condition.</p> <p>You will see from the photos (attached) that many of the structural posts are badly rotted, also the top support beams on the swingset have deteriorated badly and started to splinter and the whole structure moves when children use the swing. Even the weight of our 3 year old granddaughter causes the whole structure to move!</p> <p>Once again there are many young children in the estate and when the weather is appropriate there are plenty of children (including many grandchildren) enjoying the playground.</p> <p>It would be terrible to see any of those children injured due to the failure of the playground equipment.</p> <p>I understand that the council has many projects to manage but safety is of prime importance and this playground equipment has passed its use by date.</p>	No

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
15.	Shirley Young	<p>I believe that rates should be consistent. I am not costing the Council more than any other rate-payer. I am, in fact, less of a financial burden on the Council, but am being charged significantly more.</p> <p>Due to financial reasons and lack of work due to the impact of Covid 19, I have not been able to afford to build. The decision to escalate my rates appears to be an arbitrary increase, especially as my vacant block is not imposing additional financial burden on Council. In fact this rate increase means I will have less money to build.</p> <p>Up until now, as it is a difficult block to build upon, I have had difficulty finding a suitable builder to take on the building project.</p> <p>The Essential Services Commission at 2016, restricts rates that Council's can impose greater than 1.5 % compared to the previous year. My last year's rates were \$613 per quarter and this current financial year has increased to \$713 per quarter. (Both these figures were taken from the last quarter of the financial year - due 31st of May - for both years).</p> <p>I feel that this extra financial burden is very unfair.</p>	No
16.	Michael Koclega	<p>See my questions below on noted deviations between last years budget and the current proposed budget for FY 20/21. See attached Excel for my analysis.</p> <p>3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement What was the main driver for 20/21 FY expenses being \$34.7M (-%16) less than budgeted?</p> <p>3.2 Balance Sheet "NON CURRENT ASSETS - Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment" - What is the main driver for the \$101M deviation in the forecast from the budget for FY 20/21? What is the main driver for the -78% deviation in the forecast from last years budget on Right-of-use assets (4.2.4) for FY 20/21?</p> <p>3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement What is the main driver in the 184% deviation in "Net movement in trust deposits Employee costs" from the FY 20/21 forecast vs last years budget?</p> <p>3.5 Statement of Capital Works What is the main driver for -42% deviation in the forecast from last years budget on "Total Property" for FY 20/21?</p> <p>For "TOTAL INTERNAL FUNDING", what is the main driver in the -57% deviation seen for FY 20/21</p>	No

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
17.	Greg Bain	<p>Knox Council need to allocate urgent funding for the development of a Master Plan for Koolunga Native Reserve in Boronia. This reserve is designated a Neighbourhood Open Space (KCC Open Space Strategy) and its management is guided by an outdated management plan, now 27 years old.</p> <p>Recent proposals by Knox Council to build a wetland has triggered significant community concern and over 700 concerned residents have signed petitions demanding the wetland proposal is stopped and the community consulted through a new Management Plan. Knox City Council need to listen to their local community and undertake true engagement on the future of the Koolunga Native Reserve.</p> <p>An allocation of \$100,000 should be enough to develop this new plan with the community and will ensure sound future investment proposals and more importantly, stronger community ownership of the outcomes.</p>	No
18.	Rowan Jennion Vice President Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve	<p><i>Following are extracts from the submission – a copy of the full submission is attached.</i></p> <p>Pest species management</p> <p>We request funding be made available to implement the strategic pest animal plan actions. If the strategic plan is not complete, we request interim funding for on ground actions to start making a bigger impact.</p> <p>Cat curfew implementation</p> <p>We request appropriate budget be made available for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. implementation of a permanent cat curfew 2. education and awareness programs, and 3. enforcement action which is unfortunately necessary sometimes. <p>Preventing rubbish washing into to Knox's creeks</p> <p>The problem remains, so in lieu of infrastructure we request that street sweeping cycles be increased in areas with higher rates of pollution. Ideally this would reduce from the current 7-week cycle which is clearly ineffective to a reasonable period that that captures a significant proportion of the rubbish.</p> <p>Climate change</p> <p>We request that more than just Year 1 actions are commenced and council staff resources on this issue increases sooner.</p> <p>Biodiversity team</p> <p>We request that the staffing / contractor resources be reviewed against increasing demand for their services to ensure it's sufficient to meet Knox's environmental needs and meeting the objective for future generations.</p>	No

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
19.	Bill Waite	<p>The Liverpool Road retarding basin is an open area used by people in the Alchester, Basin, Bayswater and Kilsyth South areas for off lead exercise of dogs, especially larger dogs. There are no bins for waste in the retarding basin car park.</p> <p>There are reports of people leaving bags of dog waste at the entrance to the park. This could be solved very simply by the provision of a bin for refuse at the basin area entrance - most people will do the right thing if you give them the opportunity to do so.</p> <p>Whilst recognising that Parks Victoria administer the land, the users are mainly Knox ratepayers. Please could Knox Council consider working with Parks Victoria in the provision of a waste bin at the entrance to the Liverpool Road retarding basin reserve, and allowing a sum in the 2021-22 budget for the provision and regular maintenance of a waste bin at this location.</p>	No
20.	Claudine Evans	<p>The open area called Norton's Park is used by many people on the Western side of the Knox municipality for many activities. There is also a fixed barbecue area in the Park. It has recently had a new dog recreation area established specifically for that purpose in one corner of the Park.</p> <p>Whilst this is used by many people with dogs, there are no waste bins at all in the Park. Whilst acknowledging that the Park is administered by Parks Victoria, they do seem to have a ideological problem with the provision of waste receptacles for users of the amenities they administer. In this case, there are even waste bin footings and dog waste bag holders installed in the dog area, but no bins! People will normally do the right thing if you give them the opportunity, so this attitude in what is certainly not a bushland setting seems a little odd.</p> <p>As many people that use the Park are likely to be Knox residents, please would Council consider working with Parks Victoria (and possibly the City of Monash), to improve the opportunity for residents to do the right thing, and allow in this budget for the funding of the installation and maintenance of one or more waste bins at this well used public open space.</p>	No

TO BE CONSIDERED			
No.	Name	Submission	Request to be Heard
21.	Erica Peters	<p>As a regular visitor to Knox's "green and leafy" reserves I ask that Council strongly consider an increase to two areas of the Budget for 2021-22.</p> <p>More money is needed for the Bushcrew and Biodiversity Departments, to show that Knox is serious about improving health of our people, by strengthening health and ecologies of precious green spaces and corridors.</p> <p>The current practice of outsourcing to contractors is a false economy which unwittingly slashes plantings, introduces more weeds into reserves and disheartens volunteers.</p> <p>From the Municipal Survey in March 2020, "Care for the environment" and "bushland and natural spaces" are a priority for "90% and "89% of residents surveyed, and 46% and 60% were "not satisfied with current care".</p> <p>Tree canopy and shrubs need renewal and maintenance. The DELWP "Melbourne Urban Vegetation Cover" Report of 2018, graphs Knox as having less than 18% vegetation and tree canopy and diminishing.</p> <p>Bush Crews do their best to deal with weeds, feral animals, maintenance, planting, nurturing the rare and threatened plants and building healthy ecologies. There are not enough personnel, and their budget needs to be increased.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Department supports and spreads expertise.</p> <p>The highly successful Gardens for Wildlife program alerts and educates people to the wonder of and threats to our unique plants and creatures.</p> <p>We need a practical and well financed plan to enable Bushcrews and Biodiversity to extend, strengthen and maintain the natural green spaces for the health of people of Knox.</p>	No

Budget Submission No. 2



Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club Inc
P.O Box 491 Boronia Victoria, 3155
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August 2019

Proposal for upgrade of clubrooms at Tormore Reserve



Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club



Boronia Cricket Club

www.boroniahawks.com.au



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Executive Summary

The Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club is a thriving, inclusive, community-based club that aspires to offer its players, members and supporters' facilities that will meet the needs of our ever-growing participants for the foreseeable future. Our club has a very clear mission statement and that vision guides us in every decision that we make. We present this proposal for a facility upgrade at Tormore Reserve as our intentions moving forward is to be able to offer all stakeholders at our Football / Netball and Cricket Clubs a facility that will meet our needs for the next 50 years and beyond.

Tormore Reserve is located in the heart of Boronia and is utilised 12 months of the year by more than 700 members across 6 subdivisions within the two sporting clubs:

- Boronia Football Netball Club (Seniors)
- Boronia Football Netball Club (Juniors)
- Boronia Football Netball Club (Auskick) – 1 of 2 accredited Triple AAA rated clinics in the EFL.
- Boronia Cricket Club (Seniors)
- Boronia Cricket Club (Juniors)
- Boronia Cricket Club (Woolworths Blast)

Playing members have increased by 24% over the past 5 years and social membership 85%

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the proposed upgrade of the ageing clubrooms at Tormore Reserve so that it can cater for the growth and development of both summer and winter sports. The proposed improvements to Tormore Reserve support achievement of the following strategies and objectives:

- City of Knox Boronia Renewal Project – Boronia Community Services and Facilities Review, 2017 - Appendix E Facility Analysis > Identified Tormore Reserve as currently operating at capacity, pavilion 32 years old (now 34)
- Eastern Football League Strategic Business Plan 2019-2023 > SWOT analysis identified "Lighting and facilities across the league" as a WEAKNESS. It was also identified that there was a Lack of Government/Council funding for facilities and infrastructure" as a THREAT.
- Growth of Women teams – strong focus of both the EFL & RDCA to develop the introduction of more women's teams into both associations with a sustainable model that creates capacity and facilities to support this goal.
- Victorian Budget 19/20 – recognising that local sporting clubs are the heart and soul of local communities allocating \$175 million in grants for community sport infrastructure.

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Sporting Infrastructure Analysis – Eastern Suburbs

Tormore Reserve is home of 2 sporting clubs incorporating 6 sub divisions:

- Boronia Football Netball Club (Seniors) 180 playing members
- Boronia Football Netball Club (Juniors) 160 playing members
- Boronia Football Netball Club (Auskick) 105 playing members
- Boronia Cricket Club (Seniors) 65 playing members
- Boronia Cricket Club (Juniors) 55 playing members
- Boronia Cricket Club (Woolworths Blast) 20 playing members

Currently there are approximately 600 playing members across the current six sporting sub divisions. There is a huge number of volunteers across the association, including committees, coaches, team managers, coterie group and support staff (e.g. canteen managers, Auskick Coordinators, etc). With volunteers, non-playing members, coaching/administration staff, the total community using facilities at Tormore Reserve is over 700 people.

Facilities at Tormore Reserve are used year-round, with training and playing occurring up to 7 days and nights per week.

In 2019, Knox council made a significant investment in lighting for the main oval which will further increase the usage of Tormore Reserve to cater for the growth of girl teams entering our football and cricket clubs.

With the increase of both sporting codes, this also puts pressure on the Eastern Football League & Ringwood District Cricket Association to have access to premier grounds and facilities to host finals. Tormore Reserve is recognised as having one of and if not the best oval surface in the eastern region. This is a major factor in the that the Boronia Football Club has been trusted to host the Division 1 finals series for over the last few years. Sadly, the Tormore Reserve Clubrooms are not a prime function (e.g. luncheons etc..) of these final series due to their capacity and condition.

Below map indicates the investment allocated to other sporting clubs within the Tormore Reserve area.



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Needs Assessment

During 2019 both clubs identified a list of issues with the off-field facilities. The most critical issues to be address were:

- Congested and open showers – not in line with AFL requirements of cubicles to cater for women football
- Restriction on numbers that can be seated in main clubroom
- No change rooms for umpires
- Congested makeshift Gym area
- Restricted and aged kitchen – limited on catering and dishwashing for functions

Current facilities photos



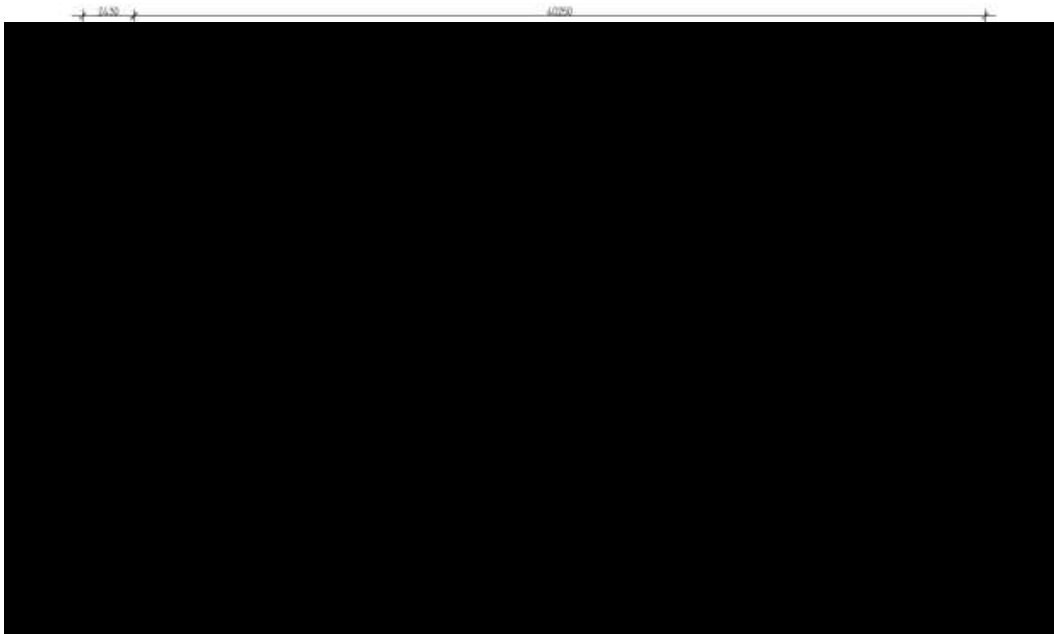
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Proposed New Clubroom – concept plans



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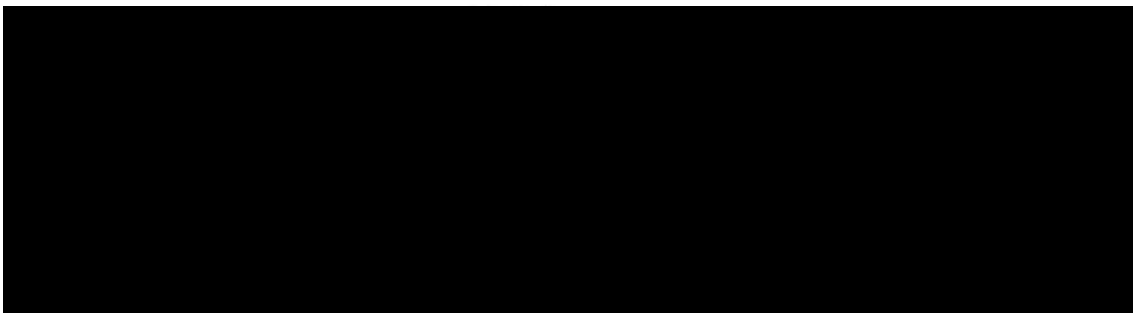
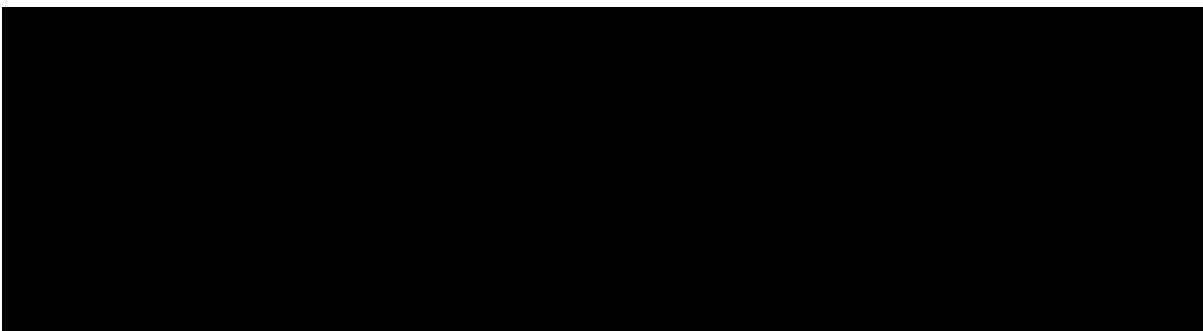
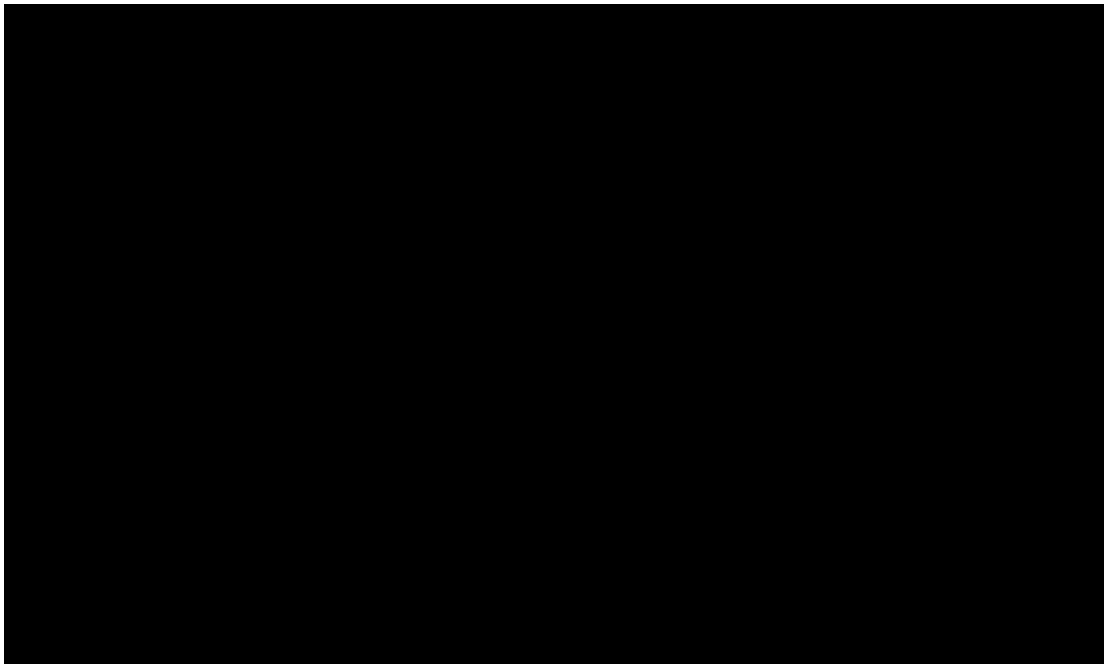


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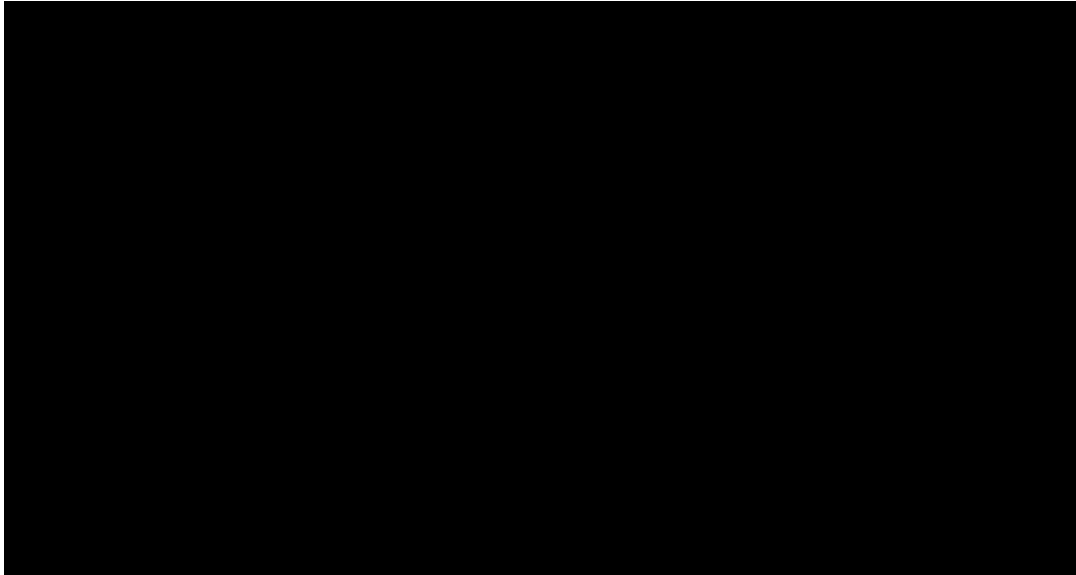


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Budget Submission No. 4

Knox BMX Submission to the Knox City Council 2021-22 Budget

Requesting financial support to maintain the safety and quality of the polymer aggregate coating on the BMX track.

About Knox BMX Club

Knox BMX is located at in Bunji Way Knoxfield, Friberg Ward. Our club was formed in 1980 and our original track was located on Lewis Rd. We moved to our current location in 1993.

Our club is run by volunteers, including all committee members. We pride ourselves on creating an inclusive, family-oriented environment. Knox BMX is a smoke and alcohol-free club. The club has hosted many State Championships and has a state of the art start gate and hill, with people travelling from all over Australia to race the track. As well as it being the only BMX track to have a big screen for race scoring and family entertainment.

We have 225 members from 138 families, we have quite a few parents that ride with their children. We have members with additional needs that have been welcomed to the club. This includes Autism, ADD, Intellectual delay and a deaf rider. We ensure that all our members are given the support they need to participate. From traffic lights at the gates (for our deaf rider), ensuring all officials know who needs to support during the races and helping a rider with all bookings.

Our coaches have all started in the sport as junior members with the club and are now young adults, coaching the next generation and being great mentors to our junior members. They are also fully trained and accredited by Auscycling, the national cycling body.

Our canteen prides itself on providing healthy affordable options on race nights, ensuring that families have options for the whole family.

The community

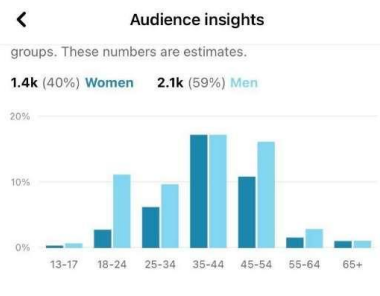
Our track is popular with many members of the Knox community and surrounding areas. The track is open to the wider community, with access only limited by club events, such as coaching and race nights. Even with club events closing the track for a few hours, there is still public access 7 days a week all year round. We like to ensure that that members of the community know what is happening at our track to avoid disappointment. Our volunteers run two Facebook pages, one for our members and one for the wider community. Our community Facebook page is updated weekly with the track availabilities and any other messages we need to get

to members and the general community. We currently have 3,620 followers, who interact with our page regularly. (see below photos for audience insights). We also have an Instagram account with 1,130 followers.

The community is always welcome along to our races as free spectators and to enjoy our track.

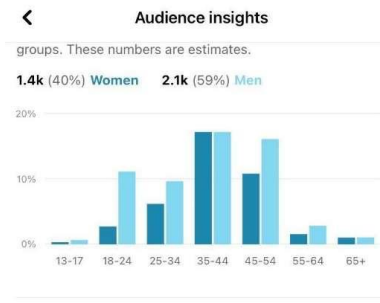
Having the excellent track surface, our new pump track, picnic tables, grassed areas, rubbish bins and a playground makes our track very family friendly. Having these facilities open to the public for free encourages, family time, people enjoying the outdoors, exercise and is available to all members of the community no matter their financial status.

Although we do not have exact numbers, after school and weekends particularly on sunny days our track is always full of families enjoying the track and open space. We also know that lots of children have birthday parties at our track. The track is a safe and free location for families to visit. It is an asset to the Knox Community.



Top locations
People who like your Page are in these locations. These numbers are estimates.

Towns/Cities	Countries
Melbourne, VIC, Australia	2k
Adelaide, SA, Australia	110
Brisbane, QLD, Australia	104
Sydney, NSW, Australia	92
Bendigo, VIC, Australia	55
Geelong, VIC, Australia	55
Gold Coast, QLD, Australia	45
Perth, WA, Australia	44
Warrnambool, VIC, Australia	41
Ballarat, VIC, Australia	37



Top locations
People who like your Page are in these locations. These numbers are estimates.

Towns/Cities	Countries
Australia	3.4k
New Zealand	47
United States of America	42
United Kingdom	17
Thailand	13
France	13
Indonesia	10
Mexico	6
Malaysia	6
Philippines	5

Our major events attract riders from all over Victoria and the country. We support local businesses, encouraging our guests to stay local, eat local and support local business. We encourage all of our members and guest riders to use a local bike shop for purchase and repairs in Ferntree Gully, as well as supporting other local businesses where possible for all of our purchases. We feel strongly about being part of the community and we ask our members and visitors to do the same.

Track usage information

We have coaching for 9.5hrs per week during school terms.
With the addition of 18 Friday night races starting from 6pm.
One weekend a year for our large Race meet Thunderdome.
One day in January for our race that is part of Track Attack series.
Occasional Sunday working bees.

The track is open to public all other times. This means that is open on average 80 daylight hours per week to the public.

Please note that Friday night racing and some of our coaching is held after dark, with club events running under track lights. There is no public lighting outside of event times, so the track would not be accessible to the general public after nightfall. Therefore, many club events do not encroach on public use of the track.

The track Surface

Knox BMX has been known for years for having excellent track conditions. This was very labour intensive and required a lot of volunteer hours, so once the completion to the start hill in 2019 the committee decided to cover the track in Sic surface. There were many reasons for this decision –

- Smoother and consistent track in different types of weather
- The track is not as affected by rain
- Safer track
- Faster track
- Less maintenance

To have the Sic Surface applied a lot of work was required by the volunteers to prepare the track. The surface was laid in December 2019 at a cost \$37,000. This was paid for by the funds raised by the club. It was resurfaced in March 2021 to complete the initial surfacing of our track. Ideally this would have been completed sooner but was delayed due to Covid restrictions preventing Sic Surface travelling from Queensland to Victoria.

Volunteer members have been trained in how to care for the track, patch damaged areas and general upkeep.

The professionals from Sic Surface have said that if it was just club use then we could have our track resurfaced approximately every 5 years pending conditions.

With an open track, comes much more traffic and extra damage as not all of the community use the track appropriately. Due to this, we have been advised that the resurfacing will be required annually. This will be at a cost of [REDACTED]. Currently Knox BMX Club cannot financially support an annual cost of [REDACTED], as opposed to \$this amount over a period of 5 years.



What is Sic Surface?

Sic Surface® is a weatherproof and hard-wearing polymer aggregate coating for applicable surface material such as road base, decomposed granite, concrete and suitable compactable fill.

**Knox BMX Fundraising**

Most of our fundraising raising for our club is through our canteen at each of the race meets. We get a small amount of money from membership and entries to our races. We use this money to pay rent, power bills, track maintenance (including mowing the grounds), insurance, equipment for maintenance of the surrounds, club bikes for new members use and any other general costs that arise. We actively apply for grants. Paying for annual resurfacing is unachievable to the club.

Key Points

- Knox BMX is well kept facility by volunteers that is used predominately by the public and is an asset to Knox City Community. Enjoyed by many.
- The club fundraised to pay \$37,000 for the initial surfacing of the track, there was no corporate sponsorship or large donations made.
- With the additional use from the public resurfacing will be required annually rather than every 5 years.
- Knox BMX cannot afford to pay [REDACTED] for annual resurfacing.

If our submission was successful-

If our submission is successful, the club committee are happy to project manage the resurfacing of the track and report to council about the progress. This would save Knox City Council having to use a staffed resource for this project.

Attachments below -

Quote from Sic Surface to resurface our track

Supporting Letter from Auscycling our governing body

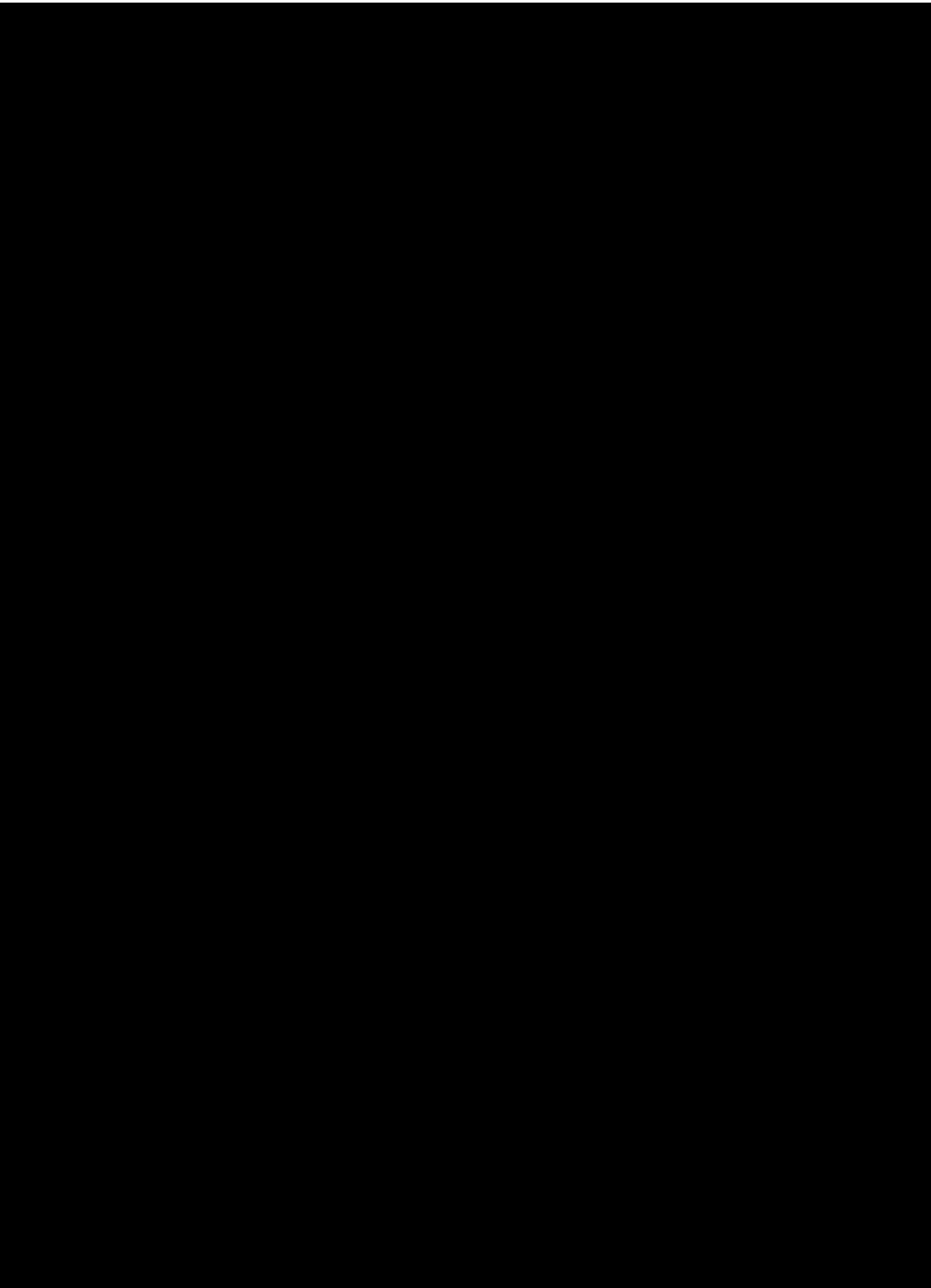
Thank you for taking the time to read our submission we look forward to presenting our submission in June.

If you require more information, please contact

Jess Bower



Info@knoxbmx.com.au





May 12, 2021

REF: Letter of Support: Knox BMX Club

To Whom It May Concern,

AusCycling is the recognised Australian member National Federation of the International Cycling Union (UCI) and Oceania Cycling Confederation (OCC). The Australian government recognises AusCycling as the National Sports Organisation through Sports Australia, the Australian Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Australia and Paralympics Australia.

The following affiliated club is a club in good standing with AusCycling and holds all valid insurances and accreditation to administrate a community sporting organisation.

We support the club's desire to have council contribute to the yearly maintenance of the track as it is open to the public.

Club Name: Knox BMX Club
Affiliation Expiry: 31st October 2021

Please contact [REDACTED] should you require any further information on the club.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Agostino Giramondo".

Agostino Giramondo
General Manager - Commercial, Member & Club Development | AusCycling
[REDACTED]



Budget Submission No. 5



Date: 25th May 2021

City of Knox Council
Budget Committee

Dear Committee Members,

Re: Submission to bring forward budget allocation

On behalf of the Scoresby Football and Netball Club, Scoresby Cricket Club, Scoresby Tennis Club and the Scoresby Over 55s Club I wish to provide this submission for review of the current budget allocation to works at Scoresby Recreation Reserve.

It is our understanding that Stage 3 of the works program is due to commence within the 21/22 Financial Year, but this does not include works to complete the car parking and driveway works on the North side of the oval (Stage 4 of Masterplan).

We the User Groups of this reserve, respectfully request Council bring forward the Stage 4 car parking and driveway works into the 21/22 budget either by re-ordering the Stage 3 / Stage 4 phasing of works or consolidating the Stage 4 carpark and driveway works into Stage 3 masterplan delivery.

The reasons the User Groups are calling for this reprioritisation and bringing forward of works are as follows;

- Scoresby Recreation Reserve supports three core sporting tenancies, Scoresby Football & Netball Club, Scoresby Cricket Club and Scoresby Tennis Centre. There are often carpark capacity issues affecting User Groups during peak activity times due to the car parking also being publically accessible to support visitation to the Scoresby Village shops, new Scoresby Reserve playground and Pinnacle Gym.
- The delivery of Stage 1 and 2 of the Scoresby Recreation Reserve has activated this area and through good design is drawing people to this reserve for a wide variety of purposes due to its improved amenity and access to Scoresby Village. This is putting extra capacity pressure on the existing carparks especially during peak usage times.
- Community consultation during the master planning process identified issues for neighbouring residents of dust caused by vehicle movement on the North side of the oval, as this area is used as unsealed car parking and provides unsealed access to the

cricket nets. The churn of dust is particularly problematic on high attendance game days and during the EFNL football finals held at Scoresby Recreation Reserve.

- The car parks in Scoresby Recreation Reserve are used as overflow car parking for shoppers and traders of Scoresby Village creating additional demand on the spaces available.

All User Groups are very appreciative of Knox Council's investment in Scoresby Recreation Reserve through its master planning of the reserve. The works to date have had a tremendous impact in improving amenity for our members, players, visitors and the Scoresby community more broadly. We look forward to the delivery of the final stages of the masterplan and trust Council can appreciate the pressure higher utilisation is creating for the re-prioritisation of the planned stage 4 works.

Club representatives including myself met with Council Officers and our Ward Councillor Nicole Seymour on Thursday 13th May to discuss facility issues we are experiencing. The meeting was an opportunity to consider the feasibility of delivering Stage 4 carpark and driveway works as well as discuss cost estimates for such works. It was from this discussion, we the User Groups identified the urgency in requesting this budget submission.

In support of this application, we would like the opportunity to meet with the Budget Committee to provide any further information they may require to support this submission.

Should there be any need to provide further information prior to when the Committee convenes next, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below

Kind regards



David Renkin
President
Scoresby Football & Netball Club

Cc: John Cunningham, President Scoresby Cricket Club; Craig Douglas, President Scoresby Tennis Centre

Budget Submission No. 7

Dear Knox councillors and staff,

As a Knox resident with a long-standing connection to the local government area, and new resident in Clarence Road, Wantirna, I want to commend you for the great work you do in Knox as a whole.

After moving into our new neighbourhood in June last year, we have loved exploring our neighbouring Bateman's Reserve Bushland and the nearby walking and cycling track along the Dandenong Creek.

Our neighbours are lovely; we had a Christmas street party in Clarence Road last December, and a Facebook group has started up where neighbours are connecting and sharing tips and ideas.

I'm also impressed with the new playground in Juniper Reserve and it was so lovely to see it come alive after last year's lockdown.

However, there is one thing I feel the area is missing and that is a connection point for teenagers, who are arguably among the cohort who were most impacted by last year's lockdown.

Indeed, as referenced in this [news article](#), Australia ranks 140th out of 146th, worldwide, for sedentary behaviours in 11-17-year-olds and I feel this has not been helped by the lockdowns.

I would love to see a basketball ring and court installed in the neighbourhood, as there is no schools or anything like that around where the kids can access a basketball ring. I feel that it would encourage some of the older children to get out to "shoot some hoops" and hopefully meet others in the same age group from the area which would lead to better community connectedness.

A brief poll in our neighbourhood Facebook group found great support for this idea and has generated some suggestions.

Of those, I believe the most realistic ones include:

- The grassed area at the bottom of Juniper Road, by the boke track and opposite the outdoor gym equipment.
- The Melbourne Water land at Cash Hues Place, where use may be negotiated under its *Our Space. Your Place* initiative

The community would love the opportunity to discuss the idea and any options with council's Open Space Team. I'm happy to coordinate a community catch-up via our Facebook group and letter drop if required.

I also respectfully ask that an additional \$50,000 is allocated for the development of a new basketball court in the area west of Wantirna Road and north of Boronia Road (the neighbourhood entered via Clarence Road), ideally in the 2021/22 budget, but if that is not possible in the coming financial year/s.

I really feel that the sooner the better as this would hugely benefit some of Knox's teenagers that have had a pretty rough year with the pandemic and lockdowns and invite them back into the communities we want them to be part of.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Liselotte Geary

██████████
██████████
██████████

Budget Submission No. 8

1

Gardens for Wildlife

Thank you Knox Council for supporting the Knox Gardens for Wildlife Program for over 15 years. As the pioneer, the success of our program has promoted the formation of Gardens for Wildlife Victoria that assists and facilitates emerging Council programs; 20 GFW programs in other municipalities at the last count.

We would like to make a budget submission on behalf of Gardens for Wildlife to provide some additional funding for the program to

- have sufficient resources to support the demands of the program's growth, the needs of the residents and the needs and development of volunteers.
- provide resources to explore and tap into potential growth areas within the program reach.

The Gardens for Wildlife program has had 1100 registrations over its fifteen year plus history and the appeal of the program for residents never flags.

At present there is a backlog of 50 registrations waiting for a visit and advice from GFW volunteers. Under Covid restrictions GFW addressed some of the backlog by developing and providing a zoom GFW consultation, taken up by some residents and serviced by a small pool of volunteers, which proved very successful and was enjoyed and appreciated by everyone involved. One participant, a teacher working alone from home, told the program it was the best thing that happened to her in the entire Covid period. Health and wellbeing benefits of the program have been well documented, alongside the gardening for wildlife benefits for our flora and fauna. (*Strengthening Wellbeing in Urban Communities Through Wildlife Gardening*, L. Mumaw).

Although the present backlog was to some extent influenced by the Covid limitations for face to face visits, it has been a constant that the appeal of GFW promotes a steady stream of registrations no matter how many visits are carried out. GFW is supported by a pool of volunteers who carry out the visits and offer advice to the resident. As the program has grown the officer and volunteer hours required to co-ordinate and arrange the GFW visits has increased dramatically and recently we lost our two volunteer schedulers who found full time employment. In addition there is the need to support the volunteers, provide opportunities for training and innovation whilst looking to opportunities to renew the pool of experienced garden visitor volunteers even as we try to catch up with the backlog and meet the demands of the growing program.

There is still huge untapped potential for growth as there are many Knox residents who are unaware of the program. In the next decades there will be more residents as there are large sites proposed for housing developments across Knox, e.g. MIRVAC former quarry development, Caribbean market site, former Horticultural Research Station site and former Boronia Heights Secondary College. It would be great to have allocated some developmental resources to be able to promote the ethos and benefits of gardening for wildlife to this untapped larger audience and to prospective residents of the developments before and as their gardens emerge rather than try to play catch up after the event. Gardens for Wildlife in this space will connect people with their community as it delivers positive outcomes for Knox wildlife, flora and fauna.

Further, the Gardens for Wildlife program and ethos is now recognised as a community engagement success story and embedded in a myriad of Council policy, strategies and documents setting the objectives for the future of Knox, amongst them Knox Council Street Tree Management Plan, Knox Council and Community Plan, the Green Streets Policy 2019 and Resilient Melbourne – Living Melbourne Strategy.

In line with this, imagine if we were to broaden the notion of gardening for wildlife – nurture Knox.

2

During Covid lockdown Knox residents took to the streets in great numbers for their daily exercise, loving their leafy streets, their parks and their bushland and many expressed how lucky they were to live where they lived. When Council Biodiversity gave away a free plant for National Tree Day there were over 200 residents who took up the offer – “unprecedented”. So in this climate there exists enormous goodwill for the environment. Potentially there is opportunity with increased resourcing to use the Gardens for Wildlife program to offer the garden for wildlife ethos more broadly and develop a promotion that invites residents to care about and care for and protect their special outdoor place at a neighbourhood hub level; that not only encourages residents to garden for wildlife on their own property, to retain or plant canopy trees on their property, plant indigenous plants, remove environmental weeds, but also to adopt and care for their street trees, plant up their nature strips for wildlife connection to local bushland and manage their pets effectively. As an example, a promotion that fosters residents caring for their own street trees could reduce vandalism, pet damage, mower damage, tree loss due to hot dry spells - trees that the Council’s Street Tree Management Plan refers to as having to be able to cope in an alien inhospitable environment at a cost of \$350 per tree. Trees that planted today in 2021 will be part of Knox’s aspiration of 30% canopy cover as part of the climate mitigation target (Resilient Melbourne – Living Melbourne Strategy).

As volunteers in the program we are, of course, enthusiastic supporters of Gardens for Wildlife and have explored and envisaged great potential for the program in the future.

This submission requests extra funding so that the desired outcomes and efficacy of the program is not hampered by an inability and struggle by providers to service the ongoing and rising demand of residents. At the same time it would be great if additional resources to enable the program to explore how the ethos at the heart of the program can develop in support of the Council strategies, policies and vision for protecting and enhancing Knox’s green leafy image and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Gardens for wildlife is a program that empowers residents to deliver outcomes using their own resources on their own property for the benefit of the community and with the appropriate investment it can continue to grow and to do that effectively, but it has potential to encourage whole communities to share responsibility with Knox Council to nurture future Knox.

Thank you.

Gardens for Wildlife Volunteers - Irene Kelly, Jess Lye, Anne Morton, Erica Peters.

██████████

██████████

3

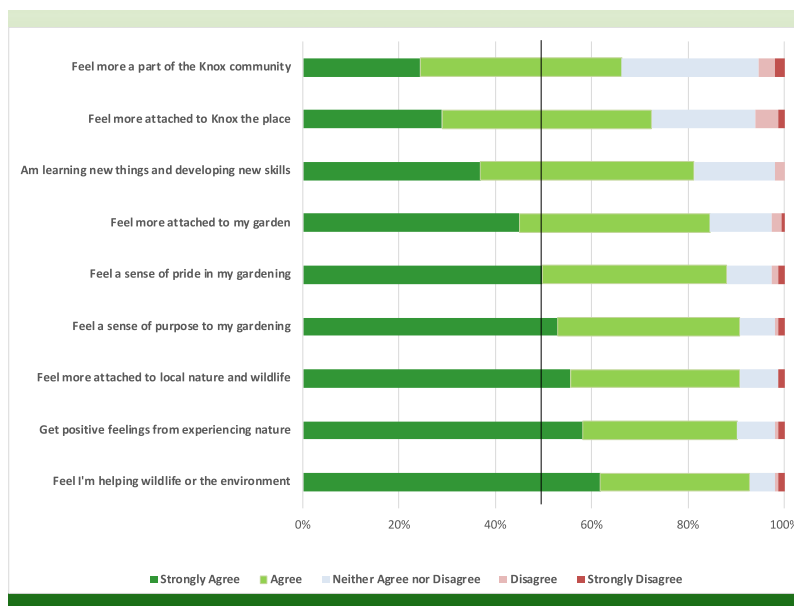
Following 3 postscripts - some references that informed our discussions.

Postscript 1:

Survey

In 2017 early observations of wellbeing benefits for residents in the program were confirmed.

Dr. Laura, Mumaw, Gardens for Wildlife Vic. Steering Group, as part of her PHD conducted a survey of 550 participants; 157 answered . (Green = Strongly agree (dark), Light green = agree).



4

Postscript 2: Total Tree Canopy Cover Existing and projected Target for Knox

Table 2: Targets for tree canopy, and for canopy and shrubs, by region to 2050

Region	Local government authorities	Existing 2015		Target 2030		Target 2040		Target 2050	
		Total % tree canopy	Total % tree canopy & shrubs	Total % tree canopy	Total % tree canopy & shrubs	Total % tree canopy	Total % tree canopy & shrubs	Total % tree canopy	Total % tree canopy & shrubs
Western	Drimbark, Hobsons Bay, Maribymong, Melton, Moonee Valley, Wyndham	4	15	9	20	14	25	20	30
Northern	Banyule, Dandenong, Hume, Mitchell, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea	12	24	17	29	22	34	27	39
Inner	Melbourne, Port Phillip, Yarra	13	18	18	23	23	28	28	33
Southern	Casoy, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Cardinia, Mornington Peninsula	16	34	21	39	26	44	30	50
Inner South-East	Bayside, Boroondara, Glen Eira, Stonnington	22	39	24	44	27	49	30	50
Eastern	Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Whitehorse, Yarra Ranges	25	44	27	49	29	50	30	50

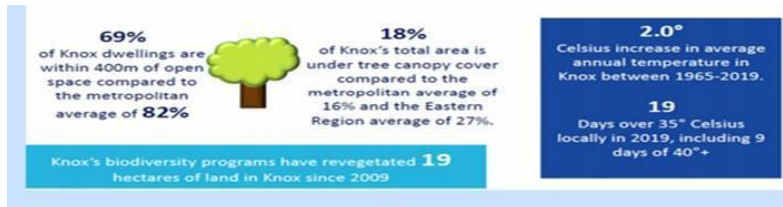
Note: figures rounded to nearest whole number

Taken from Resilient Melbourne - Living Melbourne Strategy Page 50

5

Postscript 3:

Research in 2020 shows



In our Municipal Survey (conducted in March 2020) the community told us:



Community Forums (September 2020)

At the recent community forums, participants were asked to rate the goal from 1 to 5 – where 5 meant that the goal was still very relevant and important, through to 1 which meant it was less relevant and important.

Of all the goals, Goal 1 was ranked the highest with an average rating of 4.8 out of 5.

Taken from Council and Community Plan Review document.

D21-119890

Budget Submission No. 14

KENT PARK PLAYGROUND UPGRADE

(Located on Cambden Park Pde, Ferntree Gully)

I would like to ask that the Kent Park Playground be updated within the coming Financial Year (2021/22) due to its dilapidated and potentially dangerous condition.

You will see from the photos that many of the structural posts are badly rotted, also the top support beams on the swingset have deteriorated badly and started to splinter and the whole structure moves when children use the swing. Even the weight of our 3 year old granddaughter causes the whole structure to move !

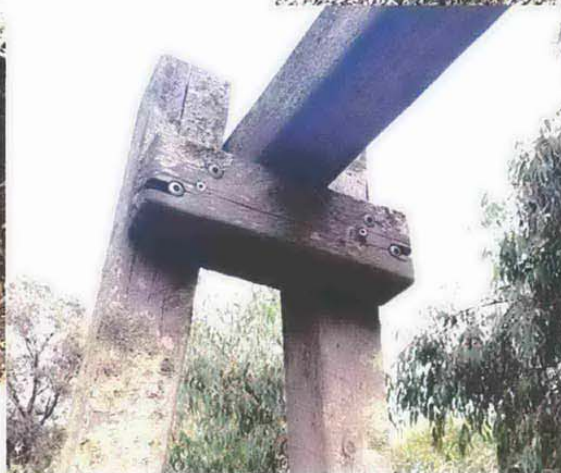
Once again there are many young children in the estate and when the weather is appropriate there are plenty of children (including many grandchildren) enjoying the playground.

It would be terrible to see any of those children injured due to the failure of the playground equipment.

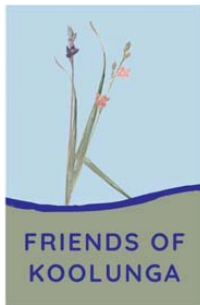
I understand that the council has many projects to manage but safety is of prime importance and this playground equipment has passed its use by date.

Regards Debra Yule

[Redacted signature area]



Budget Submission No. 18



FRIENDS OF KOOLUNGA NATIVE RESERVE

A strong and healthy environment, providing essential habitat for a larger connected landscape

Dear Councillors,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the 2021-22 draft budget. There has clearly been a lot of work in its preparation and we look forward to seeing some minor refinement as a result of community feedback.

Pest species management

Introduced pest species cause immeasurable damage to Knox's flora and fauna and place them risk of local extinction.

A major initiative of the 2020-21 budget was '1.1.9 Develop and implement a strategic pest animal plan'. The 2021-22 proposed budget doesn't mention any pest animal actions and there does not appear to be additional budget of substance in related areas (ie. biodiversity service) that would indicate the plan is being implemented.

We request funding be made available to implement the strategic pest animal plan actions. If the strategic plan is not complete, we request interim funding for on ground actions to start making a bigger impact.

Cat curfew implementation.

Pet cats kept inside generally living longer. Roaming increases the risk from harm, other animals, disease and causing neighbourhood problems so it's for everyone's best interest to keep them indoors.

Disturbingly research by the Threatened Species Recovery Hub estimates pet cats (not feral) kill 390 million animals per year in Australia. Both Council and volunteer efforts across Knox aim to protect and enhance habitat for birds, skinks, frogs, mammals, invertebrates etc but our work is diluted because of this issue.

Council held a trial cat curfew in 2020 and we eagerly await the report and implementation of actions.

We request appropriate budget be made available for:

1. implementation of a permanent cat curfew
2. education and awareness programs, and
3. enforcement action which is unfortunately necessary sometimes.

Preventing rubbish washing into to Knox's creeks

As volunteers we don't enjoy walking through the creek picking up other people's rubbish that has flowed from the street gutters. Not only is pollution a problem for the environment it also takes away the enjoyable aesthetics a healthy creek gives to the community.

We have discussed the idea of installing gross pollutant traps at drain outlets to tackle this never-ending issue. Unfortunately, the response is always about installation cost being a barrier, despite the draft budget having a \$125.98 million capital works program.

The problem remains, so in lieu of infrastructure we request that street sweeping cycles be increased in areas with higher rates of pollution. Ideally this would reduce from the current 7-week cycle which is clearly ineffective to a reasonable period that captures a significant proportion of the rubbish.

Climate change

Often too narrowly described as just 'another environment issue', climate change is importantly about keeping people safe, health, reducing cost, reducing risk, creating new jobs and having a strong economy.

But, we are also concerned about the increasing rate of change and our native vegetation being unable to adapt quick enough. For example, long lived mature trees with hollows are essential for our native wildlife to reproduce. The process to create natural hollows takes over 100 years. Concerningly some tree species are expected to die before more resilient species can grow for another 100 years and create hollows. Our native wildlife can't wait a century so how can they survive?

The Paris Agreement is already considered outdated by scientists globally and it's a matter of time before new targets are expected to be made. If the draft Climate Response Plan is based on this, is Knox already falling behind?

We request that more than just Year 1 actions are commenced and council staff resources on this issue increases sooner.

Biodiversity team

After the 2020 lockdowns there's been a growing community appreciation and connection to Knox's bushland reserves. We are thankful for the ongoing support from the Biodiversity area and their work in trying to protect, maintain and enhance Knox's natural environment.

We note the Biodiversity budget remains relatively consistent with previous years despite an ever-growing list of sites to manage, public engagement and education, and having major initiatives. Unlike many other areas within council, the job is never finished and there's always more to be done and.

We request that the staffing / contractor resources be reviewed against increasing demand for their services to ensure it's sufficient to meet Knox's environmental needs and meeting the objective for future generations.

Again, thank you and we look forward to seeing community feedback incorporated in the final budget.

Kind Regards

Rowan Jennion,
Vice President, Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve

11 City Centre Reports for Consideration

Nil

12 Items for Information

12.1 Capital Works Program Report

SUMMARY: Coordinator, Capital Works, Gene Chiron

The Capital Works Program Report shows projects on Council's Capital Works Program and indicates the status of each project as of 7 June 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Capital Works Program Report, as of 7 June 2021.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report summarises Council's Capital Works Program for the 2020/21 financial year.

The aim of this report is to provide a regular and succinct status summary of each project over the last month. The Capital Works Report, as of 7 June 2021, is attached as Attachment A.

Highlights of the Works Report as of 7 June 2021 include:

- Local Area Traffic Management Scheme Program - Complete.
- Boronia Progress Hall - Upgrade - Complete.
- Arcadia Reserve (Scouts), Rowville - Carpark Upgrade – Complete.
- Talaskia Reserve Safety Fencing and Floodlighting – Complete.
- Milpera Reserve and Knox Gardens Reserve Floodlighting – Complete.
- Footpath Renewal and Road Resurfacing Programs – Complete.

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

There are no items of a confidential nature in this report.

Report Prepared by: Coordinator – Capital Works, Gene Chiron

Report Authorised by: Director Infrastructure, Grant Thorne

Attachments

1. Capital Works Program - Works Report as at 7 June 2021 [**12.1.1** - 22 pages]

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1	Bridges Renewal Program	\$736,925
All Wards	AWS bridge contractor currently undertaking minor repair works on various bridges identified in safety audit.	
4	High Risk Road Failures	\$500,000
All Wards	Program complete.	
7	Road Surface Renewal Program	\$4,738,000
All Wards	Last few streets being resurfaced for completion of financial year.	
8	Drainage Pit and Pipe Renewal Program	\$2,200,000
All Wards	Program nearing completion.	
9	Footpath Renewal Program	\$2,260,850
All Wards	Program completed.	
10	Bicycle / Shared Path Renewal Program	\$700,000
All Wards	Program nearing completion.	
16	Building Renewal Program	\$5,991,707
All Wards	Program is 70% committed/expended. Works commencing nearing completion over June include: Leisureworks - hvac renewals, waterslide lifeguard station cabinetry; Civic Centre - partial carpet replacement; Picketts Reserve - kitchen renewal; HV Jones Community Pavilion - switchboard replacement; Rowville Community Centre Pavilion - decking/retaining wall replacement works; Bellbird Senior Citizens - kitchen renewal; Eildon Parade Tennis Pavilion - toilet renewals, DDA retrofitting; Colchester Pavilion - kitchen renewal; Parkridge Pavilion - external painting; Knox Park Athletics Pavilion - external toilet floor recoating; Knox Park Public Toilets - floor recoating; Alchester Preschool Preschool - kitchen renewal; Knoxfield Preschool - light fitting renewal; Alexander Magit - light fitting renewal; Wattleview Preschool - light fitting renewal; Coonara Community House - light fitting renewal.	
17	Playground Renewal Program	\$1,858,674
All Wards	Construction works for the 2020/21 playgrounds are currently out for public tender. Consultation for Stud Park Playground continues with engagement with local school users groups.	
22	Fire Hydrant Replacement Program	\$168,000
All Wards	Payment to South East Water due in June.	
24	Carpark Renewal	\$750,000
All Wards	Carpark program 100% completed.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
25	Plant & Machinery Replacement Program	\$2,751,000
All Wards	Fleet Renewal Program on track - 75 % funds committed - 50% of funds expended.	
26	Street Tree Replacement Program	\$637,750
All Wards	Tree planting works are in progress. All purchase orders have been raised.	
31	Stamford Park Redevelopment	\$11,028,811
Tirhatuan	The Lake/Ephemeral precincts are subject to final Melbourne Water approval. Additional documents and drawing amendments are currently being prepared for submission.	
104	Roadside Furniture Renewal Program	\$100,000
All Wards	Budget spent 100% completed.	
147	Energy Retrofits for Community Buildings	\$153,899
All Wards	Awaiting quotes for lighting upgrade at Coonara Community House and heat reflective paint at Carrington Leisure Centre.	
229	Building Code Australia Compliance	\$50,000
All Wards	Program of works scheduled for completion by end of June.	
345	Asbestos Removal	\$100,000
All Wards	Asbestos audits currently being undertaken to inform future works program. Asbestos removal projects planned continuing in June.	
347	Miscellaneous Industrial Roads - Pavement Rehabilitation	\$250,000
All Wards	Program 100% complete.	
409	Parks Furniture Renewal	\$107,601
All Wards	Furniture ordered. Awaiting delivery so installation can begin.	
410	Parks Signage Renewal	\$20,000
All Wards	Signage renewals progressing as required. Discussions occurring between Parks and Communications Team in relation to signage design and responsibility throughout open Space areas in Knox.	
412	Water Sensitive Urban Design Renewal	\$521,336
All Wards	Koolamara Wetland works achieved practical completion.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
441	Tim Neville Arboretum Renewal	\$437,149
Dobson	Further renewal/repair works in discussions with contractor, including lawn works, rotunda improvements, drainage works and pathway renewals/repairs to be completed by end of June.	
443	Reserves Paths Renewal	\$65,000
All Wards	Koolamara Waters path renewals completed. Awaiting quotations for link paths at Tirhatuan Reserve.	
492	Food Act Compliance - Kitchen Retrofitting	\$25,000
All Wards	Program of works established with rollout from April. Primary project is Picketts Reserve Pavilion kitchen, scheduled to be completed by end of June.	
516	Rumann and Benedikt Reserves - Open Space Upgrade Stage 2	\$141,691
Tirhatuan	All masterplan works are complete.	
536	Parkland Asset Renewal	\$75,000
All Wards	Contractor engaged for initial survey of Knox Dog Park for drainage works. Plant orders completed for upcoming garden bed renewals.	
537	Bush Boulevard Renewal	\$70,000
All Wards	Blow in mulching of bush boulevards and roadsides underway.	
566	Artwork Renewal	\$68,319
All Wards	Meridian Sculpture has been procured for restoration of 3 major public art works. Work will be begin in new financial year due to availability of supplier. Carry forward will be required.	
576	Emergency Warning Systems in Early Years Facilities	\$50,000
All Wards	Program of works completed for Fields, Templeton and Liberty Preschools - Cooinda to be undertaken across July holidays.	
587	Upper Ferntree Gully Neighbourhood Activity Centre Works	\$289,756
Dobson	Commenced Working Group for Upper Ferntree Gully streetscape enhancement works as part of the Suburban Revitalisation Program Grant. Currently engaging with lighting consultants in relation to potential designs to present for community engagement.	
593	Marie Wallace Reserve - Masterplan Implementation Stage 4	\$279,583
Dinsdale	Majority of masterplan implementation has been completed. Currently working on reserve signage project.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
649	Scoresby (Exner) Reserve - Masterplan Implementation Stage 4	\$250,000
Tirhatuan	Preparing design brief for Stage 4 of masterplan implementation. This includes outdoor gym equipment, path connections and solar lighting.	
664	Stormwater Harvesting Program Development	\$199,925
All Wards	Works on Batterham, Eildon, Fairpark and Knox Gardens Reserves are complete. The commissioning of the works, Practical Completion and formal handover achieved on 26 May. Awaiting invoice.	
675	Public Art Project	\$225,154
All Wards	Stamford Park Public Art and Heritage Project - planned installation for early 2022. Project significantly delayed due to difficulties with the wetlands. Allocated funds will need to be carried forward to FY21/22. Lupton Way Public Art Lighting Project Expression of Interest has been shortlisted for stage 2 and is being delivered according to timeline - due for artwork installation in February 2022. Knox Regional Netball Centre Public – artists in Stage 2 shortlisting, projecting on time with 2x public artworks to be installed April 2022. Knox Skate and BMX Park Pavilion, project in delivery stage, will completed by June 30. The Laneway Lightboxes Project Brief is being prepared and due for installation by August in preparation for Immerse. Immerse now in project implementation phase – 3 Hubs and several satellite locations to be activated in September, artists will soon begin invoicing for stage 1 payments. Project is being delivered according to timeline. DJPR funding received for 'Beautify Boronia' project - some additional funding from capital works will contribute to the overall project budget. Planned delivery July - December, funding acquitted by April 2022. Artlink and Public Art Trail – digital engagement projects have been delayed due rollout of new website. Allocated resources will need to be carried forward to FY21/22. Macaulay Place mural project delayed until early 2022 due to delay of street facade upgrade. Allocated funds will need to be carried forward. Carry forward required due to external delays extending timelines.	
708	Cricket Run Up and Goal Square Renewal Works	\$40,000
All Wards	Remaining funds to be carried forward. Turf unavailable until September.	
717	Knox Central Package	\$18,235,000
Dinsdale	Negotiations to acquire parcels for future road corridor and delivery of Knox Central Masterplan continue. Residual funding from the Operations Centre land acquisition to remain allocated to the project should additional land be required.	
724	Knox (Interim) Library	\$0
Dinsdale	Funds have been transferred to Westfield (permanent) Library project, for design and fit out.	
733	Kindergarten Office/Storage - Minor Works	\$40,865
All Wards	Project complete.	
737	Meals on Wheels site reconfiguration - Stage 2	\$50,000
Dinsdale	Relocation complete.	

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07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
746	Revegetation Plan	\$181,088
All Wards	Planting has commenced on key revegetation sites and will be complete by the end of June.	
755	Talaskia Reserve, Upper Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Implementation Stage 2	\$571,826
Dobson	Stage 2 of Masterplan implementation works are now complete. Maintenance period has come to an end. Remaining funds to be carried forward for final stage of Masterplan implementation.	
761	Dandenong Creek Gateways - Strategic Road Corridors Revegetation	\$138,434
All Wards	Open Space and Biodiversity Departments combining expertise to design planting along creek corridors.	
834	Oversowing of Sports Fields	\$60,000
All Wards	Fertilising schedule ongoing.	
837	Westfield (Permanent) Library - Design and Fitout	\$3,864,205
Dinsdale	The project is currently on hold, awaiting for Westfield to provide new base build design drawings to allow completion of library concept design.	
838	Bayswater Community Hub - Scoping	\$70,000
Dinsdale	Site investigation to be considered at Council meeting on 28 June.	
849	Repurposing Scoping of Facilities from Hub Projects.	\$56,252
All Wards	Installation of change tables across kindergarten services in preparation for 3 year old's - carry forward required.	
867	Knox Regional Netball Centre Extension	\$4,750,000
Dobson	Site establishment complete. Tree protection works underway.	
868	H V Jones, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Implementation Stage 2	\$384,933
Friberg	Stage 3 design has commenced which includes the netball courts, carpark and lighting.	
869	Gilbert Park, Knoxfield - Masterplan Implementation Stage 2	\$738,072
Friberg	Stage 1 masterplan implementation complete and open to the public. This included basketball court, shelter and skateable wall. Stage 2 works in progress including relocation of the playground and new equipment.	
871	Energy Performance Contract Implementation	\$1,849,840
All Wards	Air Conditioning works at Rowville Community Centre completed - commissioning and tuning underway. Power Factor Correction at Knox Leisureworks completed. LED lighting and Solar works due in June at some sites. Boiler replacement and some other lighting projects are to be completed in July and August.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
891	Henderson Road Bridge, Rowville	\$195,564
Friberg	Project complete.	
935	Scoresby (Exner) Reserve - Tennis Court Renewals	\$40,000
Tirhatuan	Defect works completed. Need to assess behaviour of sub-base following recent inspection. Follow-up Geotechnical investigation arranged and assessment to be made prior to programming surface re-coat.	
941	Knox Regional Netball Centre - Court Renewals	\$90,000
Dobson	Project will be carried forward due to cold, wet weather.	
942	Tree Management	\$63,321
All Wards	Works undertaken as required in conjunction with Council initiatives.	
944	Knox Central (Operations Centre Remediation)	\$4,445,212
Dinsdale	Remediation works ongoing.	
946	Boronia Precinct Planning	\$309,000
Baird	Further work has commenced to review and update the Draft Boronia Renewal Strategy in response to comments from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. City Futures is also coordinating the application process for the Suburban Revitalisation Fund, for projects to be completed by June 2022 in Boronia.	
948	Modular Building Program	\$4,186,063
All Wards	Lakesfield Pavilion Contractor appointed for delivery of New Pavilion for early November completion. Factory build progressing after late May commencement. Demolition of existing building and construction of carpark to follow with full project completion expected early 2022. Gilbert Park Pavilion currently progressing through design development. Marie Wallace Modular also progressing through design development.	
951	Community Toilet Replacement Program	\$772,208
All Wards	Modular public toilets progressing for Templeton, Tormore, Scoresby and Talaskia reserves. Services work to commence in early June. Projects expected to be completed by end of June.	
961	Knox Regional Netball Centre Floodlight Outdoor Courts 5 to 8	\$198,130
Dobson	Works to be undertaken after completion of redevelopment project at the centre.	
968	Flamingo Kindergarten, Wantirna South - Verandah Extension	\$101,886
Collier	Project complete.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
994	Picketts Reserve, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Implementation Stage 3	\$284,250
Baird	Project at Practical Completion stage. Bench seats to be received from supplier and installed shortly.	
995	Peregrine Reserve, Rowville - Masterplan Implementation Stage 2	\$566,927
Taylor	Preparing tender documentation for Stage 2 of the masterplan implementation. This stage, to be completed in 2021/22, includes a junior BMX pump track and outdoor gym equipment.	
997	Llewellyn Reserve, Wantirna South - Masterplan Implementation	\$395,483
Scott	Project has commenced and is currently in the design phase of the project.	
999	Lewis Park, Wantirna South - Masterplan Implementation	\$969,228
Dinsdale	Waterways - detailed design work being completed. Sport & Play - scoping work completed, so moving on to the concept design phase. Community Gardens - carpark and fencing likely to be completed in coming two months.	
1001	Scoresby Village Reserve, Masterplan Implementation	\$316,147
Tirhatuan	Masterplan works have now been completed.	
1002	Egan Lee Reserve, Knoxfield Masterplan Implementation - Stage 2	\$624,589
Scott	Public Tender has been evaluated and awaiting approval to be awarded.	
1003	Wantirna Reserve - Masterplan	\$30,000
Collier	Works on hold pending soil report outcome.	
1005	Neighbourhood Green Streets	\$48,998
All Wards	Planting has commenced.	
1006	Bush Boulevards	\$190,870
All Wards	First stage of planting along Boronia Road has been completed. Second stage of remaining planting to be completed shortly - including additional planting in requested locations and new trees to replace vandalised trees.	
1046	Scoresby Recreation Reserve - New DDA Toilet	\$114,095
Tirhatuan	Works complete - remaining budget to be transferred to Knox Skate Park Project.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1054	Knox Regional Sports Park - Stages 2 and 3	\$12,619,440
Scott	The expansion of the State Basketball Centre is being managed by the State Government through Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) and Development Victoria (DV) on behalf of stakeholders including Council as project partner. The procurement process for the expansion works is progressing and is in the final stages. The detailed design of the Victorian Association of Radio Model Soaring (VARMS) to establish a new clubhouse at the Rowville Recreation Reserve is being project managed by Council as a part of the overall expansion project and is progressing.	
1068	Rowville (Seebeck) Reserve - Multipurpose Community Facility	\$397,324
Taylor	Construction of the Rowville Community Workshop is completed.	
1101	Cathies Lane, Wantirna South (103 to 125 Cathies Lane) - Reconstruction	\$405,000
Collier	Part of overall contract package of road renewal projects. Contract works completed. Anticipate Practical Completion inspection soon.	
1102	Lydford Road, Ferntree Gully (Adele Avenue to Elton Road) - Reconstruction	\$540,000
Friberg	Part of overall contract package of road renewal projects. Contract works completed. Anticipate Practical Completion inspection to be completed.	
1103	Laser Drive, Rowville (19 Laser Drive to Henderson Road) - Reconstruction	\$660,000
Tirhatuan	Part of overall contract package of road renewal projects. Contract works completed. Anticipate Practical Completion inspection to be completed.	
1106	Batterham Reserve, The Basin - Change Room Extension (female change):	\$100,000
Chandler	Works complete.	
1113	Barry Street, Bayswater (60 Barry Street to Holloway Drive) - Reconstruction	\$205,000
Baird	Contract works essentially complete with only line-marking works still outstanding.	
1114	Studfield Shopping Centre Pavement Renewal	\$185,766
Dinsdale	Works complete.	
1115	Milpera Reserve, Wantirna - Oval Renewal	\$50,000
Collier	Project complete.	
1119	Wantirna Reserve, Wantirna - Tennis Court Renewals	\$518,279
Collier	Survey, Geotech and Tennis Court Pavement Investigation completed. Extent of contamination mapped out. Consultant appointed to assist Council in specialist design. Design underway including consideration of concrete slab design in conjunction with lighting design to work around existing site limitations. Presentations of different surface types arranged with club and suppliers to showcase options to club. Consultation continuing.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1120	Templeton Reserve, Wantirna - Tennis Court Renewals	\$1,058,092
Collier	Electrical services relocated near Courts 7 & Courts 1 - 8 now completed. Practical Completion inspection completed and courts handed over to Club.	
1121	Eildon Park, Rowville - Cricket Net Renewal	\$258,500
Taylor	Project progressing, posts have been erected, chainmesh to follow.	
1122	Knox Regional Sports Park - Soccer Cages Renewal	\$11,044
Scott	Works identified, boards to be replaced.	
1123	Public Tennis / Netball / Basketball Court Renewals	\$100,000
All Wards	Quotations received, contractor appointed for works. Carry forward may be required if weather prevents court painting.	
1124	Sporting Oval Fencing Renewals	\$183,626
All Wards	Lakesfield and Gilbert Park still awaiting final plans. Work to be carried forward.	
1125	Stormwater Harvesting Infrastructure Renewal	\$95,965
All Wards	Seebeck pumps work completed. Carrington reserve requires work.	
1126	Knox Skate & BMX Park – New Youth Pavilion	\$647,554
Friberg	Works complete. Awaiting final invoice.	
1128	Gilbert Park Reserve, Knoxfield - New Drainage	\$36,500
Friberg	Project design being considered. Project to carry forward to align with masterplan work.	
1132	Arcadia Reserve (Scouts), Rowville - Carpark Upgrade	\$91,325
Tirhatuan	Works complete.	
1134	Ferntree Gully Arts Centre & Library Deck Enclosure	\$50,000
Dobson	Project being rescoped. Carry forward of budget required.	
1136	Arts Facility Upgrades	\$150,000
All Wards	Contractors appointed. Works progressing for end of June completion on projects designated for 20/21. Remainder to be carried forward.	
1144	Boronia Road, Bayswater (Edinburgh Rd to Scoresby Rd) - Footpath - Construction	\$97,909
Dinsdale	Works completed.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1145	Glenfern Road, Ferntree Gully (Norman St to Trafalgar St) - Footpath - Construction	\$65,810
Dobson	Design Review completed with minor alterations. Telstra quote for asset relocation finalised and approved. Construction submitted construction quote - now awaiting advice for budget shortfall.	
1146	Wellington Road, Rowville (Straughan Close to Napoleon Road) - Shared Path - Construction	\$135,430
Taylor	98% complete. Line marking still to be done.	
1148	Montana Avenue, Boronia - Footpath - Construction	\$66,529
Chandler	Consultation still progressing.	
1150	Knoxfield LATM Precinct Stage 2 - Installation	\$67,166
Scott	Project complete.	
1152	Burwood Hwy, Upper Ferntree Gully Shared Path Link 1 (Construct)	\$161,806
Dobson	On hold. To be incorporated with Burwood Hwy shared path bridge design contract.	
1153	Napoleon Rd, Lysterfield (Kelletts Rd to Anthony Dr) - Shared Path	\$200,000
Dobson	Project complete.	
1155	Kelletts Road, Rowville (Stud Rd to Taylors Lane) - Shared Path	\$280,000
Taylor	All approvals now received. Works started in May.	
1162	Templeton Street, Wantirna - Linemarking and Intersection Treatments	\$70,000
Collier	Off-road paths at Burwood Hwy/Templeton St intersection to be reviewed following advice from Road Safety Audit. On-road bike lanes - information fact sheet ready for residents and line marking plans ready for contractor.	
1163	Renou Road, Wantirna South - Intersection Treatments	\$197,000
Collier	On-road cycle lanes - line marking completed. Off-road paths at Burwood Hwy/Templeton St intersection to be reviewed following advice from Road Safety Audit.	
1165	Mowbray Drive, Wantirna South - Parking and Intersection Treatments	\$240,000
Scott	On-road bike lanes - information fact sheet sent to residents. Construction programmed for June.	
1166	Timothy Drive, Wantirna South - Intersection Treatments	\$35,000
Scott	On-road bike lanes - information fact sheet sent to residents. Construction programmed to start in June.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1170	Mountain Highway, Boronia (near Scoresby Rd) - Footpath Connection 4	\$80,000
Baird	To be incorporated with Mountain Highway Shared User Path. Continuing discussions about a property access/license agreement.	
1173	Quarry Reserve, Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Implementation Stage 2	\$450,000
Dobson	Contractor has been engaged for sewer works. Waiting on new sewer connection permit from SEW. Preparing Design & Construct tender documents for toilet block.	
1174	Principal Avenue - Dorset Road Streetscape Upgrade	\$136,802
Chandler	Planning for future planting works.	
1176	Solar in Community Facilities	\$75,000
All Wards	Solar installs at Mariemont and Knoxfield are scheduled for mid June. Solar installs for Wattleview Pre-school, Carrington Senior Citizens Centre and Lakesfield Reserve Pavilion to be completed at the end of the construction works and repair works in late 2021.	
1180	Koolunga Reserve, FTG - Wetland Construction	\$390,806
Chandler	Feedback summary has been published on Knox Have Your Say page. Letters notifying this update to affected residents are to be posted shortly. A quotation for engaging Community Consultation expert is underway. The project is on hold.	
1182	Norvel Quarry Reserve Water Quality System - Design & Construction	\$70,000
Baird	Project alternatives are being investigated further.	
1183	Peregrine Reserve - Wetland treatment system - Design	\$60,000
Taylor	Community engagement process will be developed with Communications Team and carried out next financial year prior to finalising the wetland design.	
1184	Egan Lee Reserve Masterplan - Wetland treatment system - Design	\$550,000
Scott	Community engagement process will be developed with Communications Team and carried out next financial year prior to finalising the wetland design.	
1216	Carrington Park Reserve, Knoxfield - Cricket Net Renewal	\$245,285
Friberg	Project progressing. Posts have been erected, chainmesh to follow.	
1217	Boronia Activity Centre and Station Precinct Renewal Project	\$59,536
Baird	The Draft Boronia Train Station Concept Plan has been endorsed by Council and sent to key State Government stakeholders. Further discussion with key stakeholders are anticipated to resolve the key components of the draft plan.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1225	Commercial Road, Ferntree Gully (Burwood Hwy to Wilson St) - Reconstruction	\$587,096
Baird	Contractor appointed and construction well underway with works approximately 60% complete. Majority of kerb & channel works on east side and drainage works completed. Kerb & channel works on west side well underway. Splitter islands being prepared. Contract works expected to be completed in June.	
1226	Lewis Road, Wantirna South (Tilba Pl to Kanooka Rd) - Reconstruction	\$655,000
Dinsdale	Contract works underway with kerb & channel works well underway on both sides and asphalt pavement works also now underway. Overall works approximately 60% complete.	
1227	Albert Street, UFTG (Talaskia Rd to Townley Place) - Reconstruction	\$500,000
Dobson	Contract works well underway with kerb & channel works completed on north side and footpath works taking shape on south side with kerb & channel works underway. Overall works approximately 35% complete.	
1228	Malvern Street, Bayswater (Edelmaier St to Scoresby Rd) - Design	\$29,441
Baird	Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway. Report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	
1229	Sullivan Court, Wantirna (Rachelle Drive to End) - Design	\$7,185
Collier	Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway. Report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	
1230	Wanaka Close, Rowville (Erie Avenue to End) - Design	\$5,186
Tirhatuan	Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway. Report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	
1231	Winnifred Crescent, Knoxfield (Allister Close to Christie Close) - Design	\$13,086
Friberg	Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender process underway with tenders closing 11 May and report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	
1232	Chandler Road, Boronia (Floriston Rd to Albert Ave) - Design	\$29,441
Chandler	Initial survey of Chandler Rd completed. Project deferred until scope direction obtained from Boronia Renewal Project Working Group.	
1233	Knox Park Reserve, Knoxfield - Turf Renewal	\$250,000
Friberg	Works completed. Spend reflects turf work including projects 1383 and 1317 as per contract 2685.	

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1234 Friberg	Knox Athletics Track, Knoxfield - Pathway Renewals Track repairs complete.	\$20,000
1237 Friberg	Carrington Park - Multi Purpose Facility Construction commenced on 3 May. In ground works well under way and demolition complete.	\$1,571,594
1238 All Wards	BAMP Facility Upgrades Variation submitted proposing budget transfer to Modular Program for Liberty Reserve works. Carry forward required for program development commencing from July.	\$905,274
1260 Dinsdale	Bayswater Bowls Club - New Accessibility Pathway Design integrated with carpark design. Works Authorisation approved and total construction approximately 40% complete.	\$4,907
1261 Collier	Wantirna Reserve - Car Park Upgrade (Design) Project Team scoping discussions held. Project on hold pending outcome of further discussions in relation to results of geotechnical investigations of old landfill site and direction of Masterplan. Project to be carried forward to 2021/22.	\$40,000
1262 All Wards	Cultural Facilities - Knox Pop Up Events Trailer & Kit Purchase of a trailer to house the Pop Up Events equipment has been delayed due to COVID. Selection of new trailer supplier in progress.	\$11,581
1264 Dobson	Knox Regional Netball Centre - Amenities Upgrade Funds transferred to Knox Regional Netball Centre Extension Project.	\$0
1265 Baird	Park Crescent Children and Family Centre Refurbishment, Boronia - Design Carry forward required. Detailed design on hold whilst small works package is progressed in short term.	\$128,500
1266 Tirhatuan	Rowville Children and Family Centre Refurbishment Tender currently underway. Assessment and report to follow with expectation to appoint Contract in July/August.	\$1,042,000
1267 All Wards	Early Years Facilities - Landscaping Upgrades Carry over required remainder amount will go towards redevelopment of early years outdoor play spaces 2021/2022.	\$180,737
1268 Taylor	The Fields Kindergarten (north side), Rowville - Verandah Works complete.	\$100,000

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1269 Tirhatuan	Rosa Benedikt Community Centre, Scoresby - Minor Upgrade Proposal under consideration by Senior Management.	\$37,238
1270 Taylor	Heany Park Scout/Community Pavilion, Rowville - Scoping Concept design completed.	\$28,055
1271 Collier	Wantirna Community Infrastructure Planning Project brief will be developed in June.	\$40,000
1273 Dobson	Myrtle Crescent, Ferntree Gully (West Side at Moore Street) - Footpath Land has been transferred into Council ownership and Title has been received. Construction in progress.	\$41,029
1274 Chandler	Mountain Hwy, The Basin (Wicks Road - Claremont Ave) - Footpath Concept Design completed and design approach confirmed after internal consultation. Detailed design 65% with structural consultant appointed. Geotechnical investigation and design underway. Initial Arborist assessment completed - tree removal permit is being arranged. Awaiting confirmation of budget approach due to insufficient funds.	\$440,000
1276 Chandler	Liverpool Road The Basin (Mountain Hwy to Liverpool Rd retarding basin) - Footpath Design Feature survey has been done. Path alignment yet to be confirmed. Ongoing discussion with Salvation Army about possibility of path being constructed within their property.	\$16,731
1277 Dobson	Blackwood Park Drive, Ferntree Gully - Bridge Replacement Works completed.	\$561,525
1278 Tirhatuan	Clauscen Drive, Rowville LATM - Installation Project complete.	\$170,000
1279 Friberg	Elton Road and Holme Road, Ferntree Gully, Isolated Traffic Treatment (Hot Spot) Program Project complete.	\$30,000
1281 Tirhatuan	Ferntree Gully Road (Stud Road - Henderson Road) - Shared Path (Design) Section of path from Stud Road to O'Connor Road has been constructed with Federal funding under Project 1436. Remaining section between O'Connor Road and Henderson Road is being scoped.	\$32,000
1282 Friberg	Ferntree Gully Road (Rushdale Street - Bunjil Way), Knoxfield - Shared Path - Scoping Possible path alignment still to be determined.	\$10,000

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Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1297	Amesbury Avenue, Wantirna - Intersection Treatments - Design	\$13,427
Collier	Alignment plans are currently being reviewed. Ongoing consultation with the school on shared path and works on Amesbury Ave.	
1300	Parking Management Plan Implementation	\$71,380
All Wards	Letters sent to residents in sections of Yorkminster Drive and Rachele Drive in line with the Wantirna Parking Management Plan.	
1303	Napoleon Road, Rowville (Bus Stop 15209 to School Crossing) - Footpath Connection	\$29,560
Taylor	Construction in progress. Completion in mid June.	
1306	Dog Park - Emerson Place Reserve	\$426,352
All Wards	Project has reached practical completion. Signage to be installed as soon as current Covid restrictions are eased. Official opening originally scheduled for 1 June to be rescheduled.	
1307	Batterham Park, The Basin - Masterplan Implementation	\$60,000
Chandler	Contractor has been engaged for new drinking fountain works. Finalising the location on site with stakeholders.	
1308	Kevin Ave, FTG, Flood Investigation - Design	\$25,310
Dobson	Survey, underground service locating and proving completed. Detailed Design underway and around 75% complete. Awaiting plan review.	
1309	1825 Ferntree Gully Road - Flood Mitigation Works	\$858,876
Friberg	Drainage upgrade within Commercial Rd area included within road renewal package awarded for Commercial Rd. Drainage construction works approximately 90% complete. Additional area - detailed design completed with design under review. Arborist consultation completed with preliminary assessment. Recommendations incorporated in the detailed design.	
1310	Flood Mitigation Reactive Complaints Upgrade Works	\$250,000
All Wards	Emergency works undertaken as required.	
1311	Major Roads LED Streetlight Replacement - Design	\$92,550
All Wards	Design has been completed. Awaiting final invoice. As the implementation has been pushed to the 2022/23 financial year, the pre-procurement activities will be moved to the 2021/22 year for commencement.	
1312	Landfill Sites as Solar Farms - Feasibility Study	\$92,269
All Wards	Enterprise Arrangement Options Paper presented to an Issues Briefing meeting on 31 May. Carry forward required for additional work in the 2021/22 financial year.	

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1315	Fairpark Reserve - Pavilion Upgrade (incorporating U3A extension)	\$899,408
Baird	Work continues on the design development of the new facility. Council is also continuing stakeholder consultation with the four key user groups and engagement with the broader community on the project.	
1316	Rowville Recreation Reserve - Car Park Upgrade	\$168,000
Taylor	Design completed. Plan signing underway and construction quote being sought. Consideration of carpark includes separate discussion on informal area adjacent to Stud Rd or extension of internal carpark. Consultation with Department of Transport (VicRoads) and internal stakeholders regarding utilising road reserve within Stud Road in progress.	
1317	Batterham Reserve, The Basin - Oval/Turf Renewal	\$45,000
Chandler	Project complete. Spend reflects turf work including projects 1233 and 1383 as per contract 2685.	
1318	Miller Park Reserve - Cricket Net Renewal	\$268,750
Chandler	Project is currently out to tender. Tender closes 8 June.	
1319	Gilbert Park Reserve, Knoxfield - Batting Cage Renewal	\$107,500
Friberg	Request for quotations to be sent out by mid June.	
1320	Eildon Park Reserve, Rowville - Tennis Court Renewals	\$531,508
Taylor	Contract scope packaged with Miller Reserve Tennis Club works. Contractor appointed. On site meeting with clubs completed and now works underway and approximately 40% complete. Expect works to be completed by late July, weather permitting.	
1321	Millers Reserve, The Basin - Tennis Court Renewals	\$525,000
Chandler	Contract scope packaged with Eildon Reserve Tennis Club works. Contractor appointed. On site meeting with clubs completed and works underway and approximately 15% complete. Expect works to be completed by August, weather permitting.	
1322	Glenfern Park (FTGTC) - Tennis Court Renewal	\$350,000
Dobson	Contractor appointed and awaiting further documentation in order to issue Possession of Site. Contract documents being compiled for signatures. Preconstruction meeting with Contractor, Council and Tennis Club completed.	
1357	Batterham Reserve, The Basin - Pavilion Refurbishment & Path and Access Works	\$337,397
Chandler	Works complete.	
1363	Lupton Way Shared Zone Construction and Public Art Lighting.	\$50,000
Baird	Construction Team is in the process of engaging contractors. Metro Trains Melbourne approval works is also currently progressing. Construction is scheduled in September.	

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1365	Programmed Road Renewal Works from June annual Audits	\$200,000
All Wards	Funds utilised to supplement funding requirements of Tender process for Commercial Rd road renewal works.	
1367	Rowville Tennis Court Renewal	\$0
Taylor	Works still to be scheduled. Upon further discussion with the club last year, extra funding to repair baselines was sought. Project stalled with Covid-19 lockdown and still required. Contractors to be appointed by August.	
1382	Kings Park - Baseball Infield Drainage	\$80,000
Dobson	Project complete with project 1387 as part of contract 2684.	
1383	Knox Park - Junior Pitch Improvements	\$100,000
Friberg	Project complete. Spend reflects turf work including projects 1233 and 1317 as per contract 2685.	
1384	Kings Park - Baseball Fencing Upgrade (Outfield)	\$200,000
Dobson	Fence works nearing completion. Main fence has been erected, bottom rails to be added to stop baseballs travelling under bottom bar.	
1385	Templeton Reserve - Sportsfield Renewal Works	\$270,000
Collier	Project complete.	
1386	Parks - Coring Plant	\$120,000
All Wards	Plant expected to arrive in August. COVID restrictions have created a backlog.	
1387	Liberty Reserve - Sportsfield Drainage	\$178,956
Taylor	Project completed with project 1382 as per tendered contract 2684. To be reconciled in June.	
1388	Knox Regional Sports Park - Pitch Resurfacing	\$2,500,000
Scott	Pitch condition classified as good. At least two years before replacement required. Project postponed till 2022.	
1389	Egan Lee Reserve Renewal - Top Oval (Design)	\$15,000
Scott	Design discussions are continuing.	
1390	Golf Practice Nets	\$30,000
All Wards	Work has commenced with the first practice net at Wally Tew Reserve.	

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1391	Knox Hockey Facility Development	\$125,000
Tirhatuan	Alternate council motion passed on 26/4/2021. Hockey Facility Detailed Design Development for Benedikt Reserve on hold until further alternative site investigations undertaken.	
1392	3-Year Old Kindergarten Facility Management	\$200,000
All Wards	Reviewing Council's early years infrastructure and management, in the process of designing a strategic early years facilities plan.	
1393	Knox Gardens Reserve - Floodlighting Upgrade (Oval 1)	\$270,000
Scott	Works complete - awaiting final invoice payment.	
1394	Knox Park Athletics - Changeroom Upgrade	\$60,000
Friberg	Quotations currently being assessed. Expectation that works can now proceed over June for late June completion.	
1395	Milpera Reserve - Floodlighting	\$250,000
Collier	Works complete - awaiting final invoice payment.	
1396	Gilbert Park - Floodlighting Upgrade (Diamonds 1 and 2)	\$500,000
Friberg	Tender to be let early June with expectation that Contractor will be appointed by mid July.	
1397	Talaskia Reserve - Lighting Upgrade	\$250,000
Dobson	Works complete. Awaiting payment reconciliation of final invoice.	
1398	Templeton Reserve - Safety Fencing/Netting	\$40,000
Collier	Works have commenced - approximately 50% completed. Expected completion mid June.	
1399	Talaskia Reserve - Perimeter Safety Fencing	\$50,000
Dobson	Works complete.	
1400	Gilbert Park - Protective Netting	\$80,000
Friberg	This project is proposed to be merged in with the modular pavilion (project 948) contract.	
1401	Fairpark Reserve - Reversible Netball/Basketball Ring	\$6,000
Friberg	Project to be included with netball court renewals next year. Service locating has been undertaken.	
1402	Bayswater Bowls Club - Car Park Upgrade	\$151,159
Dinsdale	Works integrated with New Accessibility Pathway project. Works Authorisation approved and construction underway and approximately 50% complete.	

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1403	Fairpark Reserve - Car Park Extension (Design)	\$0
Friberg	Works integrated into scope of works for Fairpark Reserve works package.	
1404	Berrabri Kindergarten - Verandah Space upgrade (Design)	\$10,000
Tirhatuan	Design underway and nearing completion with quotes to be sought in June for July school holiday completion.	
1405	F W Kerr Kindergarten, Ferntree Gully - External upgrade	\$20,000
Dobson	Officers are in the process of reviewing Council's early years infrastructure. This project will now be deferred to the 21/22 program while further early years infrastructure and planning is completed across Council's early years services.	
1406	Miller's Homestead - Upgrade	\$67,500
Chandler	Works not yet detailed due to Covid restrictions for site visits and assessments. Various structural considerations need to be further investigated (inclusive of heritage limitations) including kitchen and bathroom upgrade, accessibility compliance, repairs of water damaged areas, artwork tracking upgrades and external signage, security and lighting. The required works are currently being assessed and scoped with view to finalise by late June for preparation of specification for works package.	
1407	Boronia Progress Hall - Upgrade	\$50,000
Baird	Works are completed.	
1408	St John's Ambulance Hall - Upgrade	\$25,000
Baird	Proposal under consideration by Senior Management.	
1409	Albert Street, UFTG, Ferndale Road - 14 Albert Street - Footpath	\$100,000
Dobson	Works incorporated into Road Renewal project. Works underway and expect to be completed by late June.	
1410	Moonah Rd and Tate Ave, Wantirna - Roundabout	\$50,000
Dinsdale	Construction completed.	
1411	Mountain Hwy, Bayswater, Scoresby Road to Jersey Road - Shared Path	\$315,000
Baird	Feature survey completed. Continuing discussions with owner. Consulting with Landscaping Assessment Officer.	
1412	Macauley Place, Bayswater - Shared Safety Zone	\$250,000
Dinsdale	On hold. Construction works involved in the redevelopment of Mountain High Shopping Centre will require partial closure of Macauley Place.	

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1413	Kings Park Reserve, Upper Ferntree Gully - Masterplan Implementation Dobson Preparing design brief to engage consultants.	\$75,000
1414	Cardiff Street - Flood Mitigation Works (Design) Baird Project design is required to be carry forward to next financial year.	\$60,000
1415	Olivebank to Underwood & Alexander Cres Reserve FTG - Wetland Treatment System (Scoping & Analysis) Dobson Project cancelled and savings declared as part of program review.	\$10,000
1416	Eildon Park Reserve - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Taylor Practical Completion achieved on 26 May. Awaiting invoice.	\$120,000
1417	Batterham Reserve - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Chandler Practical Completion achieved on 26 May. Awaiting invoice.	\$120,000
1418	Wally Tew (FTG Reserve) - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Dobson Quotation process complete. Anticipated project completion 30 June.	\$25,000
1419	Carrington Park Reserve - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Friberg Quotation process complete. Anticipated project completion 30 June.	\$25,000
1420	Bayswater Oval (Marie Wallace) - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Dinsdale Quotation process complete. Anticipated project completion 30 June.	\$25,000
1421	Kings Park Reserve - Stormwater Harvesting Upgrade Dobson Quotation process complete. Anticipated project completion 30 June.	\$25,000
1422	Gilbert Reserve - Wetland (Scoping & Analysis) Friberg Gilbert Park concept design will be reassessed to verify the impact of the damaged Melbourne Water outfall drain.	\$30,000
1423	Jenola Parade Wantirna Reserve - Wetland (Design) Scott Project cancelled and savings declared as part of program review.	\$10,000
1424	Allora Avenue FTG - Wetland (Scoping) Dobson Project cancelled and savings declared as part of program review.	\$30,000

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1425 All Wards	Albert Street UFTG and Chandler Road Boronia - Passive irrigation (Research and Development) This project is in partnership with Melbourne University and is deferred to 2021/22.	\$60,000
1426 Chandler	The Basin Triangle Masterplan Project Brief being prepared.	\$60,000
1428 Dinsdale	Violen Street, Bayswater - Design Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway, report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	\$20,000
1429 Baird	Edinburgh Road, Boronia - Design Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway, report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	\$25,000
1430 Baird	Wilhelma Avenue, Boronia - Design Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway, report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	\$30,000
1431 Baird	Manuka Drive, FTG - Design Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway, report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting and awaiting Federal Government funding advice.	\$25,000
1432 Baird	Murene Court, Boronia - Design Design completed and included within road renewal projects packaged for tender for Contract 2812. Tender closed 11 May and evaluation process underway, report expected to be presented to June Council Meeting.	\$20,000
1433 Friberg	Carrington Park Leisure Centre Upgrade - Scoping Scoping works completed.	\$60,000
1434 Scott	Harcrest Estate Lake & Wetland Renewal Harcrest Estate wetland Ring Wall repair work as required.	\$127,718
1435 Chandler	Mountain Hwy, Boronia - north side (opp Army Road to Colchester Road) - Shared Path Majority of construction works have been completed. Awaiting advice from Ausnet about relocating a power pole stay and from Telstra about lifting a pit lid. Final grant payment from Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Australian Government program, to come.	\$150,000

Knox City Council Project Status Report

07-Jun-2021

Project Number	Project Name	Total Adjusted Budget
1436 Tirhatuan	Ferntree Gully Road, Knoxfield from Stud Road to opposite O'Connor Road - Shared Path Path works complete. Some additional signage still has to be installed. Final grant payment from Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Australian Government program, to come.	\$100,000
1437 Dobson	1000 Steps Car Parking and Shared Use Path Bridge - Study Design options for shared path bridge currently being developed, noting ongoing stakeholder Engagement required. Public consultation process to follow development of design options.	\$300,000
Total:		\$125,657,336

12.2 ICT Capital Works Report

SUMMARY: Chief Information Officer, Scott Coleman

The ICT Capital Works Report shows projects on Council's ICT Capital Works Program and indicates the status of each project as at 18 June 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the ICT Capital Works Report, as at 18 June 2021.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report summarises Council's ICT Capital Works Program for the 2020/2021 financial year. The aim of this report is to provide a regular and succinct status summary of each project over the last month. The Capital Works Report, as of 18 June 2021 is attached in the Confidential section of Council's agenda.

Highlights of the Capital Works Report as at 18 June 2021 include:

789 - Facilities Booking Solution

The new Priava meeting room and fleet booking solution went live to staff on 14 December 2020.

Additional meeting rooms for the new Operation Centre and Knox Community and Leisure Centres were made available for staff bookings.

A planned second phase will extend booking capabilities to the general public enabling booking of Knox external facilities including halls, pavilions, reserves etc.

812 - Asset Management Information System

'Lifecycle' system is a critical tool to manage Council Assets. This project is to replace the current Asset Management Information system (AMIS) with contemporary, modern, well supported equivalent that meets Council's current and future AMIS needs. The project is in implementation Build/Test Stages with activity presently focused on the finalisation of data transfer, validation, and integration configuration. Acceptance Testing is near completion for the Works Order and Asset Register. System integration to Council's business systems: Pathway, Computron, Knox Explorer and IntraMaps is well progressed. The overall project implementation timelines will see a staged Go Live implementation commencing in August, and completing in November 2021.

827 - Digital Customer Channels Transformation (DCCT) - Phase 3 Cust Portal & Integration

This phase will expand on earlier delivery of the program, with the implementation of a secure portal to Knox staff, a Knox business hub, and fully integrate with Knox systems. The phase will commence 2021.

977 - Pathway Program

Completed in May: The roll out of the BPAY payment option for applications has commenced – this will be a phased implementation with planning permit application payments the first to be enabled with this option. Customers can now pay invoices such as advertising fees directly from

their own banking institution's BPAY facility. In future, this will be implemented for Building, Landscape Bonds, Subdivision and Developer Contribution Fee payments, and other post lodgement fees. This payment channel will expand on current options already available to customers i.e. online, telephone and in person, and align with other payment types where this channel already exists rates and animal registrations.

The Health Services process review has progressed, with changes now implemented including the auto-creation of next inspections in the Production system this month. New dashboards to monitor health non-compliance matters and escalated requests were also created. A showcase was also held to demonstrate a new online service to enable new food and health premises registrations to be submitted to Council, with modifications based on feedback obtained to occur in June.

Work has commenced on scoping Council's new user pays hard waste collection process, with the development of an online service to manage this requests Work has commenced on scoping Council's new user pays hard waste collection process, with the development of an online service to manage requests for this service as expected to commence in July 2021.

The new animal renewal follow-up system process changes have been delayed due to lack of availability of Pathway vendor consultancy to assist with the development of this process. An update will be provided on this in next month's report.

1031 - Spatial Capability

The Spatial Capability program looks to improve processes and tools by utilising geographical information such as mapping. Spatial Capability is currently being delivered as an outcome of all ICT Projects, however remaining desired capability will be delivered near the end of the ICT Roadmap. The project is therefore in hiatus whilst the roadmap progresses and available GIS resources are engaged in other ICT projects. New Geo Spatial Analyst has joined the GIS team and will be working to establish a GIS strategy and scope for the ICT Spatial Capability Project to restart.

1034 - Business Intelligence

The Business Intelligence Project is focused on delivering increased analytical capability across Council, and standardising Microsoft Power BI to set up automated reports for improved decision making. The Project is in the final stage of implementation and will transition to BAU by the end of June 21. 11 departments have been covered over 16 use cases as set out in the project objectives. Transition workshops have been initiated with the business to prepare for BAU. Ongoing training to improve adoption and self service capability as well as advanced BI and analytics trainings for BI team in progress.

1036 - HR System

New systems are now in place for Recruitment, Learning, Onboarding, Time and Attendance, Performance, and Succession Planning. Business use of Succession Planning will commence from September 2021 following the development of Performance Plans. The project is in its final closure phase. Project reviews and benefits tracking were undertaken during May. Transition to Business As Usual is commencing in June with final handover to be complete by 30 June 2021.

1037 - Project Management Office - ICT Governance

This budget allocation is to cover costs associated with ICT governance including independent members of the ICT Governance Committee.

1242 - Digital Customer Channels Transformation (DCCT) - Phase 1 Website Development

All website development work, content preparation, system testing and staff training now complete. Community website usability testing was undertaken 24 - 29 May, resulting in positive feedback and a small number of minor recommendations which will be applied before go-live. The website is ready to move to final deployment and go-live scheduled for Wednesday 16 June.

1245 - Corporate Reporting Solutions

The Corporate Reporting Project will deliver improved process and technical solutions for risk management and business planning. A Business Readiness Assessment has been facilitated with business sponsors, as an initiation activity to ensure the project is well placed to commence in June 2021.

1257 - Project Management Office

Project Management Office oversees quality aspects of the overall Portfolio of ICT, and the budget for this function continues to be managed according to plan.

1368 - Data Integration

New Chief Information Officer has engaged a consultant group to review Enterprise Architecture practice which will include a deeper focus on future state requirements for data integration to deliver the optimal community customer experience when navigating Council services online.

1369 - Master Data Management

Master Data Management (MDM) is a cultural change program focused on the collaborative effort between service areas, people, systems and processes to form a common understanding of how the Council will maintain and support key datasets. The project has successfully created a job description for a Data Lead role, for which recruitment will commence in June. The project is commencing analysis on how we can record and report on changes to customer data. Progress continues to be made on Project Scoping.

1371 - Participation Platform

This project has successfully implemented the Knox Have Your Say platform on Go Live in February 2021. The solution underpins the policy and framework for Knox's engagement with the community on decision making that affects them. Additional staff awareness sessions and on-demand training available to support the ongoing use of the tool. Handover and transition activities undertaken. Project closure approved by Project Scoping.

1373 - Active Aging System Platform

The Active Aging Project will review service requirements, ensuring the correct solution is in place to meet process and technical requirements, whilst also delivering a better experience for our online community. The Active Ageing & Disability Services manager has requested that the ICT project is commenced later on the ICT roadmap to allow for an embedding of recent changes in

service provision in the team. The current Carelink contract will expire in 2024 and the project will be established to tender for ongoing support, which will commence in 2022.

1374 - Early Years Platform

The Project Initiation Document was presented to, and approved by, the ICT Steering Committee on 18th May. Project planning has commenced with a focus on benchmarking Local Councils and developing a Request for Quote to research customer experience when dealing with teams and services within the Family and Children's Services department.

1376 - Digital Customer Channels Transformation - DCCT Ph2

The project will implement a new Intranet to replace with a new modern equivalent to support staff effectiveness in service provision to our community. The Project is Phase 2 of the Digital Customer Channels Transformation Program, and is scheduled to commence mid-2021.

1377 - Cloud Solutions

Project waiting to be scheduled.

1379 - Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

Customer Relationship Management refers to all strategies, techniques, tools, and technologies used by Council for effectively servicing our community based customers. This project is due to commence in late 2021 in line with the completion of the Customer Experience Strategy.

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidential information is contained in Attachment 1 in the confidential agenda, in accordance with Sections 3 and 66 of the Local Government Act 2020 as the information relates to contractual matters; and the premature disclosure of the information could be prejudicial to the interests of Council or other persons.

The information also meets the definition of confidential information under the Local Government Act 2020 on the basis that the information includes:

- Council business information the disclosure of which may prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations; and/or
- Private commercial information that may unreasonably expose a business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage if disclosed; and/or
- Information which has previously been declared as confidential information for the purposes of Section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Report Prepared By: Chief Information Officer, Scott Coleman

Report Authorised By: Executive Manager Strategy, People & Culture, Interim Information Technology and Transformation (Change), Sam Stanton

Attachments

Confidential Attachment 1 is circulated under separate cover.

13 Notices of Motion

14 Supplementary Items

15 Urgent Business

16 Questions Without Notice

17 Confidential Items