



Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL

Council Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

14 April 2021

To be held at 5.30pm in the
Wannon Community Hall, Wannon

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Membership	3
2. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	3
3. Prayer	3
4. Apologies	3
5. Confirmation of Minutes	3
6. Declaration of Interest	3
7. Questions on Notice	4
8. Public Deputations	5
9. Informal Meetings of Councillors	6
10. Management Reports	14
10.1 Councillor Allowances	14
10.2 S65 Community Asset Committee – Minutes	16
10.3 Insurance Claim – Water Inundation Event January 2021	18
10.4 Greater Grants	20
10.5 Proposed Sale of Land – Moodie Avenue, Hamilton.	28
10.6 Dividing Fences Policy	33
10.7 Drainage Headworks Policy	34
10.8 Naming and Renaming of Roads and Streets Policy	35
10.9 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCIP) Progress Report	36
10.10 Community Vision 2041	40
10.11 Planning Scheme Amendment C58sgra - Coleraine Flood Investigation	57
11. Notices of Motion	61
12. Delegated Reports	62
13. Mayors and Councillors Reports	63
14. Confidential Matters	64
15. Close of Meeting	65

1. Membership

Councillors

Cr Bruach Colliton, Mayor
Cr David Robertson, Deputy Mayor
Cr Mary-Ann Brown
Cr Albert Calvano
Cr Helen Henry
Cr Greg McAdam
Cr Katrina Rainsford

Officers

Mr Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services
Mr Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development
Ms Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure

2. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Please note: All Council meetings will be audio recorded, and may be livestreamed to Council's social media platform, with the exception of matters identified as confidential items in the Agenda.

By participating in open Council meetings, individuals consent to the use and disclosure of the information they share at the meeting (including any personal and/or sensitive information).

Other than an official Council recording, no video or audio recording of proceedings of Council Meetings will be allowed without the permission of Council.

3. Prayer

Cr McAdam will lead the meeting in a prayer.

4. Apologies

5. Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 10 March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

6. Declaration of Interest

7. Questions on Notice

Questions from the public must be submitted prior to the commencement of Council Meetings.

All questions must be submitted through completion of the Public Question Time form, and be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton. All questions must be received by no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Questions must:

1. Not pre-empt debate on any matter listed on the agenda of the Ordinary Meeting at which the question is asked
2. Not refer to matters designated as confidential under the Local Government Act 1989.
3. Be clear and unambiguous and not contain argument on the subject.
4. Not be derogatory, defamatory or embarrassing to any Councillor, member of staff, ratepayer or member of the public, nor relate to a matter beyond the power of Council.

If the member of the public is in attendance at the Council Meeting the Mayor will read the question aloud and provide a response. If a question cannot be answered at the meeting, a written response will be prepared and forwarded to the person raising the question.

Residents do not need to attend the meeting for a question to be answered. If they do not attend the meeting a written response will be provided.

There are no Questions on Notice listed on tonight's agenda.

8. Public Deputations

Requests to make a Public Deputation to Council must be submitted prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting.

Anyone wishing to make a deputation to Council must complete the Request to Make a Deputation form and forward it to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton by no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes per person. Organisations may be represented at the deputation to Council by not more than 4 representatives. The names of the representatives to attend must be advised in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and 1 of the representatives to attend must be nominated as the principal spokesperson for the deputation.

Deputations wishing to make a written submission to the Council must a copy either electronically or hard copy of the submission to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the Ordinary Council Meeting. One copy will be made available to the local media representative, if requested.

All members of the public addressing the Council must extend due courtesy and respect to the Council and the processes under which it operates. If a member of the public fails to do this the Chairperson can remove them from the Chambers. All members of the public must also comply with Council's Council Meetings policy in relation to meeting procedures and public participation at meetings.

There are no Public Deputations listed on tonight's agenda.

9. Informal Meetings of Councillors

The Southern Grampians Shire Council Governance Rules require that records of Informal Meetings of Councillors that meet the following criteria:

If there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- a) took place for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- b) is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- c) is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting;

be tabled at the next convenient Council meeting and recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

An Informal Meeting of Councillors record was kept for:

- Briefing Session – 10 March 2021
- Briefing Session – 24 March 2021
- HRLX Advisory Committee – 29 March 2021
- Special Briefing Session – 31 March 2021
- CEO Remuneration – 31 March 2021

This agenda was prepared on 7 April 2021. Any Informal Meeting of Councillors between that date and the date of tonight's Meeting will appear in the agenda for the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the record of the Informal Meeting of Councillors be noted and incorporated in the Minutes of this Meeting.

Southern Grampians Shire Council
Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session
Date:	10 March 2021
Location:	MJ Hynes Auditorium
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Bruach Colliton Cr David Robertson Cr Mary-Ann Brown Cr Albert Calvano Cr Helen Henry Cr Greg McAdam Cr Katrina Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Shire Infrastructure Amy Knight, Manager Cultural Arts Parvesh Siroha, Senior Strategic Planner Eoghan McColl, Acting Manager Shire Strategy and Regulation Rohit Srivastava, Manager Assets

The Informal Meeting commenced at 12:50pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Matters Raised by Councillors	Nil
2	Council Meeting Items	Nil
3	Councillor Governance Evaluator	Nil
4	Sexual Harassment Evaluator	Nil
5	New Hamilton Gallery Update	Nil

6	Rural Land Use Strategy	Nil
7	Council Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dividing Fences• Naming/Renaming of Roads and Streets• Drainage Headworks	Nil

The Informal Meeting concluded at 4:00pm.

Southern Grampians Shire Council

Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Briefing Session
Date:	24 March 2021
Location:	MJ Hynes Auditorium
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Bruach Colliton Cr David Robertson Cr Mary-Ann Brown – virtually from 1:30pm Cr Albert Calvano Cr Helen Henry Cr Katrina Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Shire Infrastructure Amy Knight, Manager Cultural Arts Parvesh Siroha, Senior Strategic Planner Eoghan McColl, Acting Manager Shire Strategy and Regulation Rohit Srivastava, Manager Assets

The Informal Meeting commenced at 11:30am.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Matters Raised by Councillors	Nil
2	Community Vision Framework 2041	Nil
3	GHCMA Regional Catchment Strategy	Nil
4	Pedrina Park Final Design Recommendations by PCG	Nil
5	Councillor Allowances – Post Public Notice	Nil

6	Procurement of Microsoft Licensing	Nil
7	Greater Grants	Nil
8	Coleraine Flood Amendment	Nil
9	Rural Land Use Strategy	Nil

The Informal Meeting concluded at 4:35pm.

Southern Grampians Shire Council
Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	HRLX Advisory Committee Meeting
Date:	29 March 2021
Location:	Martin J. Hynes Auditorium
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Greg McAdam Cr Mary-Ann Brown
Council Staff in Attendance:	Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure Chris Dahlenburg, Livestock Exchange Superintendent Kate Kennedy, Executive Assistant to Director Infrastructure

The Informal Meeting commenced at 4.00pm.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	Fees and Charges	Nil
2	Works Update	Nil
3	OHS Matters	Nil
4	Committee Status/Governance Structure	Nil
5	Throughput Figures	Nil

The Informal Meeting concluded at 5.15pm.

Southern Grampians Shire Council
Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	Special Briefing Session
Date:	31 March 2021
Location:	MJ Hynes Auditorium
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Bruach Colliton Cr David Robertson Cr Mary-Ann Brown Cr Albert Calvano Cr Helen Henry Cr Greg McAdam Cr Katrina Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Shire Infrastructure Amy Knight, Manager Cultural Arts Natalie Martin, Acting Manager Finance

The Informal Meeting commenced at 10:00am.

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	New Hamilton Gallery	Nil
2	Finance – Standard Statements, Capital Works Budget, Revenue and Rating Strategy	Nil

The Informal Meeting concluded at 1:30pm.

Southern Grampians Shire Council
Informal Meeting of Councillors

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
Title:	CEO Performance Appraisal
Date:	31 March 2021
Location:	MJ Hynes Auditorium
Councillors in Attendance:	Cr Bruach Colliton, Mayor Cr David Robertson, Deputy Mayor Cr Helen Henry Cr Katrina Rainsford
Council Staff in Attendance:	Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer

The Informal Meeting commenced at 2pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
1	CEO Performance	Nil

The Informal Meeting concluded at 3pm

10. Management Reports

10.1 Councillor Allowances

Directorate: Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services
Author: Karly Saunders, Governance Coordinator
Attachments: None

Executive Summary

Council is required to review its Mayoral and Councillor allowances by 30 June following a General Election.

It is recommended that Council set the Mayoral Allowance at \$62,884 and the Councillor Allowance at \$21,049.

Discussion

The allowance framework under the *Local Government Act 1989* continues until the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal makes its first determination under the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Remuneration Tribunal has not yet been requested to make a determination and when it has, the Tribunal has six months to make a determination from the date requested. Consequently, councils have been advised by Local Government Victoria that they should plan to undertake their own review of allowances under s74(1) of the 1989 Act.

Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) requires that Councils review the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances within 6 months of a General Election, or by 30 June following a General Election, whichever is later.

Council is also required to give public notice of any proposal in relation to setting Allowances and invite public submissions on the proposal. Council resolved at its Meeting on 10 February 2021 to give public notice of its proposal to set the Mayoral Allowance at \$62,884 and the Councillor Allowance at \$21,049 and one submission was received in relation to the proposal.

It is recommended that Council set the Mayoral Allowance at \$62,884 and the Councillor Allowance at \$21,049.

Financial and Resource Implications

Each year the Minister for Local Government must review the limits and ranges of Mayoral and Councillor and have regard to movements in the levels of remuneration of executives within the meaning of the Public Administration Act 2004. Once an adjustment is published in relation to an adjustment of Allowances a Council must increase the level of Allowances in accordance with the notice.

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Shaun Leane, conducted a review under section 73B of the *Local Government Act 1989* and determined that no adjustment to allowances will be made in respect of all councils.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) requires that Councils review the level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances within 6 months of a General Election, or by 30 June following a General Election, whichever is later and give public notice of any proposal in relation to setting Allowances and invite public submissions.

Risk Management

There are no risk management issues in relation to the setting of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability considerations in relation to the setting of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances.

Community Consultation and Communication

Community submissions were sought through the legislated section 223 process and one submission was received.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that material or general interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive the one submission provided as a result of the public notice; and
2. Set the Mayoral Allowance at \$62,884 and the Councillor Allowance at \$21,049.

10.2 S65 Community Asset Committee – Minutes

Directorate: Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services
Author: Karly Saunders, Governance Coordinator
Attachments: 1. Minutes: 15 December 2020, 22 February 2021, 16 March 2021

Executive Summary

A number of Committees that were formerly a Section 86 Committee under the Local Government Act 1986 transitioned to a Section 65 Committee under the *Local Government Act 2020* in September 2020.

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules and section 47(4)(b) of the Act, approved minutes of the Committee are to be reported to Council Meetings to ensure governance requirements and appropriate standards of probity are being met.

Discussion

The following minutes of the Community Asset Committee meetings are attached to this report:

- Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee 15 December 2020
- Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee 22 February 2021
- Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee 16 March 2021

The minutes have been confirmed at each preceding meeting and forwarded through to Council's Governance Coordinator for reporting to the next available Council Meeting.

Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Community Asset Committees are established under Section 65 of the Local Government Act and operate under a section 47 Delegation issued by the Chief Executive Officer and are bound by Council's Governance Rules and the Committee Terms of Reference.

Risk Management

Regular reporting of the Committee Meeting Minutes ensure governance requirements and appropriate standards of probity are being met.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability considerations in relation to this report.

Community Engagement and Communication

Not applicable.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Minutes from the following Community Asset Committees:

1. Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee meeting held 15 December 2020;
2. Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee meeting held on 22 February 2021;
and
3. Coleraine Sporting Grounds Committee meeting held on 16 March 2021.

10.3 Insurance Claim – Water Inundation Event January 2021

Directorate: Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services
Author: Mike Shanahan, Acting Manager Organisational Development
Attachments: None.

Executive Summary

Early January 2021 a severe weather event caused water to inundate multiple Council owned and managed sites including the Upstairs Brown Street Office Complex which suffered significant damage.

Our insurer has procured Pattersons Insurerbuild Pty Ltd to repair/reinstate the damaged building at a cost of \$157,363.80 (inclusive GST).

A contract for that work is to be signed between Council as the asset owner and Pattersons Insurerbuild Pty Ltd.

Discussion

The severe weather event caused water to inundate multiple Council owned and managed sites including the Upstairs Brown Street Office Complex and the Senior Citizens club room on Lonsdale Street both of which suffered significant damage.

This weather event resulted in an insurance claim which included:

- Furniture, hardware and product losses.
- Minor building damage to PAC, Customer Service, Community Relations, Finance, HILAC, Library.
- Significant building and content damage upstairs offices at Brown Street.
- Building and flooring damage to Hamilton Senior Citizens facility.

The insurance company broke the claim into smaller 'projects'. They determined Brown Street upstairs to be major project which would be managed directly by themselves.

They organized inspections by an independent Building Consultant and preparation of scope of works for upstairs Brown Street project.

Scope of works involves

- Repair, repaint PAC entrance foyer ceiling (ground floor).
- Replace ceiling panels, repaint upstairs business center.
- Remove, inspect, replace and repaint water affected internal walls, wall components, upstairs business centre and PAC upper foyer.
- Repair and repaint water effected ceiling elements, PAC upper foyer
- Inspect, test and approve electrical components, hydronic heating elements, split system air conditioners

The insurance company followed their procurement procedures and secured two quotes for reinstatement works in accordance with the Scope of Works. They invited quotes from local builders but we were unable to get anyone local to provide a quote.

The insurance company will pay reinstatement costs to Pattersons Insurerbuild PTY Ltd of:

- \$157,363.80 – Brown Street Upstairs Office Complex

Contract will be a standard building contract prepared by Pattersons with input from the insurance company and Council. Pattersons instructed by the insurance company on 30 March 2021 to provide this to Council.

Payment of the building remediation works is direct to Pattersons by the Insurance Company.

Financial and Resource Implications

- Payment of the building remediation works is direct to Pattersons by the Insurance Company.
- There are no financial risks in relation to recommendations made in this report.
- There are no resource implications if the recommendation of this report are adopted.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Nil

Risk Management

The contract between Council and Pattersons offers a level of control and protection to Council, particularly in terms of defect liability issues

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

The adoption of this recommendation will not negatively impact Council from an environmental or sustainability perspective.

Community Consultation and Communication

No other consultation or communication is required.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Accept the Brown Street Business Centre building reinstatement proposal by Pattersons Insurerbuild Pty Ltd to the value of \$157,363.80(inclusive GST); and
2. Direct the contract documents to be signed and sealed by the CEO.

10.4 Greater Grants

Directorate: Evelyn Arnold, Director Community and Corporate Services
Author: Lachy Patterson, Manager Community Relations
Attachments: None

Executive Summary

This report provides Council with information regarding community grant applications (Tourism and Events, Sustainability, Community Strengthening, Community Infrastructure, Arts and Culture categories) that have been recommended for Greater Grants program funding.

Discussion

The Greater Grants program was established to deliver Council grants that are responsive to the needs and opportunities of the community, inclusive and equitable to all, and one that facilitated the flexible delivery of key strategies identified within the Council Plan 2017-2021 across the social, economic and environmental spectrum.

This program consolidates Council's extensive range of grant opportunities into one program to enable better integration and co-ordination of grant administration and improved marketing of those grant opportunities.

Greater Grants assistance is considered for organisations, groups, committees and individuals with proposals that directly benefit the Southern Grampians Shire region. Applications are assessed using pre-determined evaluation criteria for each grant category taking into consideration strategic objectives within the Council Plan, other Council Strategies and Community Plans.

The current round of grants includes five grants above delegation totalling \$36,964.24 and 21 grants under delegation across the following categories (Tourism and Events, Sustainability, Community Strengthening, Community Infrastructure and Arts and Culture) totalling \$41,414.49

Due to COVID restrictions impacting on a number of grant opportunities, particularly in the events and tourism stream during 2020, a balance of \$30,559.88 remains after the two rounds of Greater Grants for the 2020/21 financial year. It is proposed to use these funds to again deliver the Quick Wins initiative, last delivered in the 2017 with unspent Greater Grants funds.

Southern Grampians Shire Council undertook extensive community consultation over the month of March 2020 to seek feedback and input into the new Council Plan (2021-2025). Sessions were held across all townships, including a Shire-wide feedback session in Hamilton. Over 200 community members took part in the engagement, with additional feedback being accepted in the form of letters / emails, feedback postcards and in person. The community was asked to provide thoughts, visions and ideas on five themes (Community, Economy, Governance, Infrastructure and Environment) that would support the development of the new Council Plan.

All feedback and responses from the Council Plan engagement were collated and placed into township spreadsheets. The Community Engagement team reviewed this data and identified the emerging priorities and projects for each community. Communities were appreciative to have Councillors, the CEO and senior staff in their towns discussing local

issues on a local level. The Quick Wins (Table 2 below) were developed in direct response to these conversations, providing the community with funds to build local capacity and complete some smaller scale projects.

Below is the summary of grant applications received in round two, which requested funds above \$2,500 (Table 1). The application's total is \$36,964.24.

Category	Applicant	Project	Ask Amount	Funding Amount	Total Project Cost
Community Infrastructure	Coleraine Golf Club	Replacement Clubhouse Roof	\$ 11,784.00	\$ 11,784.00	\$ 23,568.00
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Scout Group	Equipment Purchase - Ride-On Mower	\$ 3,145.00	\$ 3,145.00	\$ 6,291.00
Community Infrastructure	Branxholme Wallacedale FNC	Digital Scoreboard	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Hall	Windows Upgrade	\$ 6,487.74	\$ 6,487.74	\$ 18,384.00
Community Infrastructure	HIRL - BBQ Shelter	BBQ Shelter Works	\$ 5,547.50	\$ 5,547.50	\$ 11,095.00
Total			\$ 36,964.24	\$ 36,964.24	\$ 81,338.00

Table 1: Grant Applications Round Two

Table 2: Quick Wins

Township	Group	Project	Amount
Cavendish	Cavendish Men's Shed	Cavendish Men's Shed Cellular Connectivity and street light infrastructure at mailboxes	\$ 3,000.00
Tarrington	Tarrington Recreation Reserve/Cricket Club	Funding towards Community Centre Development Plans (female toilets and changerooms)	\$ 3,000.00
Glenthompson	Glenthompson Recreation Reserve	Funding towards Recreation Reserve Playgound Upgrade	\$ 3,000.00
Penshurst	Penshurst Progress Association	Historical Signage	\$ 3,000.00
Byaduk	Byaduk Recreation Reserve	Funding to Rec Reserve towards seating / shade-sail/ toilet & changerooms	\$ 3,000.00
Dunkeld	3 Peaks Festival	Funding for youth activity / events (3 Peaks Festival)	\$ 3,000.00
Branxholme	Branxholme Progress Association	Funding towards gym equipment	\$ 3,000.00
Coleraine	Coleraine - Hamilton Rail Trail Committee	Funding towards Coleraine-Hamilton Rail trail (promotion)	\$ 3,000.00
Hamilton	Youth Live4Life Committee	Funding for youth activity / events (Live4Life)	\$ 3,000.00
Balmoral	Chameleon Arts Committee	Community Art Projects	\$ 3,000.00
TOTAL			\$ 30,000.00

Below is the summary of grant applications received in round two, which requested funds under \$2,500 (Table 3). The application's total is \$41,414.49

Category	Applicant	Project	Ask amount	Funding amount	Total Project Cost
Community Strengthening	Hamilton Wool & Craft Guild	50th Anniversary Honour Board & Book	\$ 3,669.00	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 7,669.00
Community Strengthening	Hamilton Running Club	CPR Training & Uniforms	\$ 2,280.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 2,280.00
Community Strengthening	Hamilton Bowls Club	Hamilton Bowling Club Equipment Purchase	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,138.00
Community Strengthening	Penshurst Creative Arts	Community Day and Photography Show	\$ 1,453.35	\$ 1,453.35	\$ 3,453.35
Arts and Culture	Hamilton Brass	Sheet Music and Stands	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Tourism and Events	Lions Club Balmoral	Balmoral Easter Market	\$ 2,205.00	\$ 2,205.00	\$ 2,395.00
Tourism and Events	WDHS Drive In	Drive In Movie Event	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,212.00
Tourism and Events	Cricket Victoria	Cricket Victoria Under 19 Representative Carnival	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 60,000.00
Tourism and Events	Baimbridge College	Go Bandicoots - Outdoor School Production	\$ 2,490.00	\$ 2,490.00	\$ 5,090.00
Sustainability	Coleraine-Hamilton Railway Reserve	Monivae Gates - gates & fencing materials	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 2,450.00
Heritage	Dunkeld Museum	World War 2 Cemetery Plaque	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,550.00
Heritage	Wannon Nigretta Group	Wannon History Signage	\$ 936.00	\$ 936.00	\$ 936.00
Heritage	St Marys Anglican Church	Engineers Report - St Mary's Anglican Church Dunkeld	\$ 2,068.00	\$ 2,068.00	\$ 2,068.00
Community Infrastructure	Glenthompson Rec Reserve	BBQ Shed Upgrade	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 7,550.00
Community Infrastructure	Victoria Lagoon Rec Reserve (Mooralla)	Security Equipment Upgrade	\$ 2,404.84	\$ 2,404.84	\$ 2,404.84
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Running Club (Linemarker)	Linemarker Extension	\$ 1,292.30	\$ 1,292.30	\$ 1,292.30
Community Infrastructure	Parklands Golf Club	Defibrillator	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Running Club	Defibrillator	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Community Infrastructure	Coleraine Croquet Club	Equipment Purchase - Croquet Hoops	\$ 565.00	\$ 565.00	\$ 565.00
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Croquet Club	Boundary Fence Replacement	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,552.00
Community Infrastructure	Dunkeld Arboretum	Run-off mitigation works - Dunkeld Arboretum	\$ 720.00	\$ 720.00	\$ 720.00
Total			\$ 46,083.49	\$ 41,414.49	\$ 121,825.49

Table 3 – Greater Grants under delegation

Financial and Resource Implications

The collaborative approach across Council grant categories opens opportunities for Council to work with the community to broaden the scope of ideas identified within applications to position these projects and or events to leverage external funding.

Applications for \$2,500 or greater must demonstrate cash or in-kind contributions and must provide evidence of cash held, or applicants must be able to demonstrate their financial capacity to complete the project.

The grant amount approved by Council cannot be increased post-funding approval. In the case of a funding shortfall, funding will not be made available by way of a Council loan.

Finance for Quick Wins has been allocated from unspent Greater Grants budgets.

In many cases, amount awarded will not cover total project costs however communities, through consultation are confident in delivering the project with this financial assistance.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

The Greater Grants Policy was adopted in July, 2018.

Each Grant category requests that applicants ensure that their project or idea demonstrates a link to the Council Plan outcomes, or endorsed Strategic Plans of Council. Such plans include but are not limited to:

- Economic Development Strategy
- Tourism Strategic Plan
- Disability Action Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Sustainability Strategy
- Arts and Culture Strategy

The Greater Grants program assists Council to deliver on key outcomes of the Council Plan 2017-2021.

Outcome 1.1 Soundly Based Decisions:

Strategy 1.1.2 Develop and enact policies, plans and strategies to ensure consistency in decision making

Strategy 1.1.3 Demonstrate leadership through ethically, socially and environmentally responsible conduct

Strategy 1.1.4 Work together to develop a highly responsive Council organisation

Outcome 1.3 Financial Responsibility and Security:

Strategy 1.3.3 Maintain a continuous improvement approach to all Council operations

Outcome 2.3 A strong, innovative and distinctive tourism sector:

Strategy 2.3.1 Attract conferences and events to the Shire and facilitate and enrich the local events program

Strategy 2.3.2 Enhance, facilitate and promote existing and new experiences

Outcome 3.2 Community appreciation of and participation in Arts and Cultural activities:

Strategy 3.2.4 Encourage and support innovation in the arts

Outcome 4.2 A Dynamic Community:

Strategy 4.2.1 Provide support and services to enable communities to flourish

Strategy 4.2.2 Support the growth, development and provision of training to volunteers and community organisations

Strategy 4.2.3 Providing the information and assistance that supports community empowerment

Strategy 4.2.4 Assisting all communities to realize their individual community identity, strengths and opportunities through the development and implementation of Community Plans

Outcome 4.3 An inclusive and diverse community:

Strategy 4.3.2 Provide opportunities for youth participation and development

Outcome 5.1 Waste Management and Minimisation

Strategy 5.1.1 Reduce the volume of waste going to landfill

Strategy 5.1.4 Increase the volume of recycled materials through continued community education programs

Outcome 5.2 Adaptation to climate change and reduced emissions:

Strategy 5.2.2 Reduce carbon emissions from Council facilities, equipment and plant

Risk Management

Each grant category has predetermined assessment criteria and a set weighting for each criteria to identify and assess the risk exposure within each application. The assessment criteria ensure that projects and events have adequate control measures in place to ensure the successful and safe delivery

Each grant applicant must also demonstrate that they comply with any legal or statutory regulations relevant to the project which they are seeking Greater Grants funding. This includes (where relevant) appropriate insurances, food handling permits, liquor licences etc.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

No Environmental and Sustainability Considerations identified.

Community Consultation and Communication

Various Council staff engage with the community in relation to the Greater Grants program at a range of meetings (including Councillor Engagement, Progress Association, club and user groups, committee of management and, event organiser meetings, etc). Staff also engage with applicants on a 1:1 basis, to provide support through the Greater Grant process.

Grant recipients across all categories are required to complete a grant acquittal report. As part of the acquittal, Council seeks feedback from the grant recipient on ways in which the delivery of grants to the community could be improved.

The Annual Tourism and Events Forum, held in June each year (not under COVID restrictions), provides an opportunity for Greater Grants applicants to hear the latest updates about the program, provide feedback to grant owners, and learn how to get the best outcome from their application.

The decision will be communicated through a media release to the general public, via letters to the Grant recipients and through Council's Community Newsletter and township newsletters. The successful applicants will be notified by phone call and mail, and successful projects will be promoted on Council's website.

Quick Wins has been developed in direct response to the Council Plan Engagement sessions. Council staff extensively engaged with community at a range of meetings and interviews over the engagement phase. Subsequent to the Council Plan engagement sessions, staff discussed with the various township progress associations regarding their priority projects. These are reflected in the recommendations.

The decision will be communicated via letters to the Quick Wins recipients and through Council's Community Newsletter and township newsletters. The successful applicants will be notified by phone call and mail, and successful projects will be promoted on Council's website.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the \$41,414.49 for Greater Grants approved under delegation.
2. Resolves to allocate \$36,964.24 as per the projects outlined in the summary table below (table one).
3. Resolves to allocate \$30,000 of unallocated Greater Grants funds to township 'Quick Wins' as outlined in the table below (table two).

TABLE ONE

Category	Applicant	Project	Ask Amount	Funding Amount	Total Project Cost
Community Infrastructure	Coleraine Golf Club	Replacement Clubhouse Roof	\$ 11,784.00	\$ 11,784.00	\$ 23,568.00
Community Infrastructure	Hamilton Scout Group	Equipment Purchase - Ride-On Mower	\$ 3,145.00	\$ 3,145.00	\$ 6,291.00
Community Infrastructure	Branxholme Wallacedale FNC	Digital Scoreboard	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
Community Infrastructure	Penshurst Hall	Windows Upgrade	\$ 6,487.74	\$ 6,487.74	\$ 18,384.00
Community Infrastructure	HIRL - BBQ Shelter	BBQ Shelter Works	\$ 5,547.50	\$ 5,547.50	\$ 11,095.00
Total			\$ 36,964.24	\$ 36,964.24	\$ 81,338.00

TABLE TWO

Township	Group	Project	Amount
Cavendish	Cavendish Men's Shed	Cavendish Men's Shed Cellular Connectivity and street light infrastructure at mailboxes	\$ 3,000.00
Tarrington	Tarrington Recreation Reserve/Cricket Club	Funding towards Community Centre Development Plans (female toilets and changerooms)	\$ 3,000.00
Glenthompson	Glenthompson Recreation Reserve	Funding towards Recreation Reserve Playground Upgrade	\$ 3,000.00
Penshurst	Penshurst Progress Association	Historical Signage	\$ 3,000.00
Byaduk	Byaduk Recreation Reserve	Funding to Rec Reserve towards seating / shade-sail/ toilet & changerooms	\$ 3,000.00
Dunkeld	3 Peaks Festival	Funding for youth activity / events (3 Peaks Festival)	\$ 3,000.00
Branxholme	Branxholme Progress Association	Funding towards gym equipment	\$ 3,000.00
Coleraine	Coleraine - Hamilton Rail Trail Committee	Funding towards Coleraine-Hamilton Rail trail (promotion)	\$ 3,000.00
Hamilton	Youth Live4Life Committee	Funding for youth activity / events (Live4Life)	\$ 3,000.00
Balmoral	Chameleon Arts Committee	Community Art Projects	\$ 3,000.00
TOTAL			\$ 30,000.00

10.5 Proposed Sale of Land – Moodie Avenue, Hamilton.

Directorate: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Author: Tendai S. Mhasho, Property Officer
Attachments: 2. Submissions and Responses
3. QRTA Risk Assessment (Trees) Report 16 Moodie Avenue

Executive Summary

The vacant block in Moodie Avenue has recently been transferred to Council ownership. It measures approximately 2,439m² and according to the Southern Grampians Shire Planning Scheme the land is zoned General Residential Zone 1.

According to Council's Asset Disposal Policy, the sale of buildings and assets greater than \$150,000.00 must be approved by Council resolution. This block has been assessed by Officers as surplus to Council's needs. In order to sell this lot Council is legislatively required to give notice of its intention to sell in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 and seek feedback on the proposal.

At its meeting on 9 December 2020, Council resolved to undertake a community engagement process to inform the community about Council's intention to sell the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue in accordance with s114(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020. According to s(114(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 2020, it was also resolved that a valuation be obtained for the vacant block from a registered valuer.

At the close of the public submission period on Monday 1 February 2021, the following had been received;

- A petition signed by 60 people;
- 7 written submissions; and
- A public deputation.

A valuation report for this vacant block has also been received from a registered valuer.

It is recommended:

- That having given public notice of its intention to sell the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue and having received a petition, submissions and a public deputation, Council resolves to sell the vacant block known as 16 Moodie Avenue, Hamilton;
- That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to appoint a local estate agent(s) to sell the vacant block known as 16 Moodie Avenue and to execute all the paperwork necessary for the sale and transfer of this block; and
- That Council allocate a new street number for this block to avoid confusion and duplication of street numbers due to there already being a 16 Moodie Avenue allocated.

Discussion

In early 2017, neighbours in Moodie Avenue (a neighbouring block) wrote a letter to Council stating that for a number of years they have been complaining about the gum trees on the vacant block next door to them in Moodie Avenue, Hamilton.

Council has over the years maintained this block on the assumption that it was Council owned land. A General Law search conducted with the assistance of our solicitors at Melville

Orton and Lewis (MOL) revealed that the block was not owned by Council but that the land was privately owned and is subject to the Recreation Reserve status set out on Plan of Subdivision GL210.

Melville Orton and Lewis (MOL) advised us that this land was un-transferred out of conveyance and that the previous owners were now deceased. The probate of will identified the legal owners and beneficiaries to this estate.

The beneficiaries visited the block and they decided that they did not want this block of land and would like to donate it to Council. It was made clear to them that, if the land is transferred to Council, Council would likely declare it as surplus land to its requirements and may sell the block. The process of transferring this land to Council is now complete.

This vacant piece of land measures approximately 2,439m². According to the Southern Grampians Shire Planning Scheme this land is zoned General Residential Zone 1 (GRZ1), although it has been referred to as a Recreation Reserve under the General Law search.

Council officers are currently working to arrange for a new street number for this block to avoid confusion and duplication of street numbers as the neighbouring property is also number 16 Moodie Avenue.

The process to complete the sale of this block of land is presented below:

- Council to consider the petition, written submissions and public deputation received after the close of the community engagement process.
- Council obtains from a registered valuer, a valuation of the vacant block for sale which is not more than 6 months prior to the sale.
- Council to appoint a local estate agent(s) to sell the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue.
- The Chief Executive Officer to execute all paperwork necessary for the sale and transfer of this vacant block.

The location of the land and some photographs of the block are presented below.



Site Plan showing the vacant block at (16) Moodie Avenue



Location pictures of the vacant block at (16) Moodie Avenue

Financial and Resource Implications

The transfer of this block to Council means that Council now has full responsibility for this land until sold. Council will be required to maintain this block through regular mowing and upkeep. Other ongoing costs include installation of some perimeter fences and the removal of a dilapidated post and wire fence which needs replacement as well as removal of dangerous trees. The cumulative costs of these items is approximately \$55,000 over the next 10 years (\$25,000 for trees and fences + \$3,000pa for maintenance).

The other complication is that, as raised by a number of submitters, the block is being used a thoroughfare (it appears for both foot and vehicle traffic) which is also of concern from risk management and public liability insurance point of view.

Alternatively, Council would bear the costs associated with the sale of this block i.e. costs of appointing a local estate agent(s), advertising costs, transfer of land costs etc. however these would be offset by the receipt of the proceeds of the sale of this block.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council advertised and gave public notice of its intention to sell the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue, Hamilton for a minimum of 28 days by a Notice published in the Hamilton Spectator on Tuesday 29 December 2020. A petition, written submissions and a public deputation were received from the public (**Attachment 1**). Council has also obtained a valuation for the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue.

Council Policy relating to this report is the Asset Disposal Policy.

Risk Management

The risk to Council is that if the lot remains unsold long-term, regular maintenance and upkeep will need to be undertaken. Council obtained a QRTA Risk Assessment report for the trees located on this block (**Attachment 2**).

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

Council will have to maintain the lot through regular mowing and managing the trees so that there is no risk of damage to the neighbouring properties.

Community Consultation and Communication

Under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council undertook a community engagement process by giving public notice of its intention to sell the vacant block in Moodie Avenue for a minimum of 28 days by a Notice published in the Hamilton Spectator and on Council's website.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Having given public notice of its intention to sell the vacant block at 16 Moodie Avenue and having received a petition, submissions and a public deputation, Council resolves to sell the vacant block known as 16 Moodie Avenue, Hamilton;
2. Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to appoint local estate agent(s) to sell the vacant block known as 16 Moodie Avenue and to execute all the paperwork necessary for the sale and transfer of this block; and
3. Council allocate a new street number for this block to avoid confusion and duplication of street numbers due to there already being a 16 Moodie Avenue allocated.

10.6 Dividing Fences Policy

Directorate: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Author: Rohit Srivastava, Manager Assets
Attachments: 4. Dividing Fences Policy

Executive Summary

Council Dividing Fences Policy requires review and update every four years. The last update was done in the year 2014. The attached policy (Appendix – A) has been due for review and approval. The policy has been made clear on its implementation.

Discussion

Council's Dividing Fences Policy was last reviewed and adopted in the year 2014. It has to be reviewed every four years and has been due for review.

Council officers have made minor grammatical changes and added a clear sentence that the quotes must be received and reviewed by the Council before the works are commenced on site.

Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

This policy is informed by the Victorian Fences Act 1968 and Fences Amendment Act 2014.

Risk Management

The Policy reduces risk by increasing transparency and accountability by having a clear policy on when and how a contribution would be made.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability considerations in relation to this report.

Community Engagement and Communication

The Policy will be made available on the Council website.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Dividing Fences Policy.

10.7 Drainage Headworks Policy

Directorate: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Author: Rohit Srivastava, Manager Assets
Attachments: 5. Drainage Headworks Policy

Executive Summary

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for imposing a charge on subdivision developers to meet the cost to develop, upgrade and/or renew drainage infrastructure downstream of any subdivision development. The policy (Appendix – A) has been updated to reflect the new base cost for calculation of drainage charges per Lot.

The policy was last reviewed and approved in the year 2014. It is recommended that the attached policy be adopted.

Discussion

Council's Drainage Headworks Policy has to be reviewed every four years and has been due for review and Council adoption.

Council officers have updated the base cost used for calculation of charges per Lot. The policy is clear and an example is presented on how the calculation would be made.

Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Nil

Risk Management

The Policy reduces risk by increasing transparency and accountability by having a clear policy Drainage Headworks and its associated calculations.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability considerations in relation to this report.

Community Engagement and Communication

The Policy will be made available on the Council website.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Drainage Headworks Policy.

10.8 Naming and Renaming of Roads and Streets Policy

Directorate: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Author: Rohit Srivastava, Manager Assets
Attachments: 6. Naming and Renaming of Roads and Streets Policy

Executive Summary

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the approval, assignment or change of name of any street, road, walkway or footpath within the Municipal district. The attached policy (Appendix – A) has been due for review and approval. The policy has been made clear on its implementation by including steps to be undertaken while naming or renaming any roads and streets, including walking tracks, bike paths or fire tracks.

Discussion

Council's Naming and Renaming of Roads and Streets Policy has to be reviewed every four years and has been due for review and Council adoption.

Council officers have made the policy clear by including the statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016.

Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

This policy is informed by the Geographic Place Names Act 1998 and has also been amended to include reference to the Gender Equality Act 2020.

Risk Management

The Policy reduces risk by increasing transparency and accountability by having a clear policy on naming and renaming of roads and streets including walking tracks, bike paths or fire tracks.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

There are no environmental or sustainability considerations in relation to this report.

Community Engagement and Communication

The Policy will be made available on the Council website.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Naming and Renaming of Roads and Streets Policy.

10.9 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCIP) Progress Report

Directorate: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Author: Belinda Johnson, Acting Director Infrastructure
Attachments: None

Executive Summary

Outlined below is a progress report of the projects identified to be funded under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund (LRCIP).

It is recommended that the report be noted and that the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to amend projects included, if necessary, to ensure the full allocation is utilised.

Discussion

On the 22 May 2020 the federal Government announced a \$500M Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) to support Councils in stimulating the economy. The program is administered by the Federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

The allocation from this program for Southern Grampians Shire Council is \$1,985,254 and all projects delivered under this program need to be completed by 30 June 2021.

On 8 July 2020, Council resolved that the following projects be included:

- Gallery Lift (Improve accessibility of community facilities) (\$200,000)
- Hamilton Gateway (Landscaping Improvements) (\$125,000)
- Lake Hamilton Development (Toilets and Playgrounds) (\$125,000)
- Rural Road Numbering (Safety)(\$150,000) (current Allocation is \$63,000)
- Upgrade common street lights with VicRoads to LED (Local Roads) (\$320,000)
- Dunkeld Visitor Hub (Visitor Economy) (\$400,000)
- Additional Township Footpath repairs (Local Roads) (\$250,000)
- Additional Rural Culvert and Drainage works (Local Roads) (\$250,000)
- Blackwood Road narrow culvert (Local Roads Safety) (\$100,000)

Total: \$1,920,000 + Project Management Costs (\$100,000) Total: \$2,020,000

In late 2020, Round 2 of the LRCIP was announced with Council allocated \$1,746,721. Works under this round must be completed by 31 December 2021.

On 9 December 2020, Council resolved to submit \$1,600,000 to the Pedrina Park Netball Courts, confirm eligibility under the Program of the Soccer Pitch drainage works: and if deemed eligible allocate the remaining \$146,721 to the Soccer Pitch Drainage Project with the remaining \$345,279 in the 2021-2022 Council Budget.

On 10 March 2021, Council resolved to remove the Blackwood Road narrow culvert and include \$100,000 of the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange Underpass Project.

The following table summarises expenditure as at 31 March 2021 and the expected expenditure to 30 June 2021.

Project	Allocation	Expenditure to 31 March 2021 + Commitments	Anticipated Expenditure to 30 June 2021
Gallery Lift <i>Improve accessibility of community facilities</i>	\$200,000	\$203,427	\$210,000
Hamilton Gateway <i>Landscaping Improvements</i>	\$125,000	\$140,712	\$149,000
Lake Hamilton Development <i>Toilets & Playgrounds</i>	\$125,000	\$107,377	\$125,000
Rural Road Numbering <i>Safety</i>	\$150,000	\$105,030	\$115,000
Upgrade Common Street Lights with VicRoads to LED <i>Local Roads</i>	\$320,000	\$286,790	\$320,000
Dunkeld Visitor Hub <i>Visitor Economy</i>	\$400,000	\$243,493	\$300,000
Additional Township Path Repairs <i>Local Roads</i>	\$250,000	\$198,239	\$250,000
Additional Rural Culvert & Drainage Works <i>Local Roads</i>	\$250,000	\$84,040	\$250,000
Blackwood Road narrow culvert <i>Local Roads Safety</i>	\$100,000		
HRLX Underpass <i>Health & Safety</i>	\$100,000	\$9,306	\$100,000
Project Management	\$100,000		\$100,000
Total of Round 1 Projects Allocation: \$1,985,254	\$2,020,000	\$1,378,414	\$1,919,000

Project	Allocation	Expenditure to 31 March 2021 + Commitments	Anticipated Expenditure to 31 Dec 2021
Pedrina Park Netball Courts <i>Improve accessibility of community facilities</i>	\$1,600,000		
Soccer Pitch Drainage Works <i>Improve accessibility of community facilities</i>	\$146,721		
Total of Round 2 Projects Allocation: \$1,746,721	\$2,020,000		

The ability to deliver on some of the listed projects has been hindered by various factors such as inability to secure contractors, approval process delays, shipping delays and other factors outside the control of Council.

The current process of seeking Council approval for each amendment is also proving difficult in the final months of the program to make any amendments and then carry out the necessary project works.

In order to ensure Council is able to claim the full amount of funding available, future works programs have been reviewed with the aim to bring forward works which could be delivered quickly to meet the timeframes. Alternatively increasing and/or decreasing the allocation of existing projects.

To facilitate this nimble approach, it is requested that the CEO be authorised to amend the funding agreement project scopes and their amounts to be claimed.

It is also requested, that should it be necessary, the CEO be authorised to add projects into the program up to a project maximum of \$150,000.

Financial and Resource Implications

Failure to deliver the projects by the 30 June 2021 timeframe may mean that grant funding will not be paid with Council having to bear the cost of the incomplete works.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

This report is in keeping with the following legislation and Council Policies:

- *Local Government Act (2020)*
- *Asset Management Policy (2019)*
- *Road management Plan (2018)*

This report is also consistent with the:

- *Recreation and Leisure Plan (2019)*
- *Pedrina Park Masterplan (2019)*

Risk Management

This program will deliver on strategic plans of Council and enable funding for future of projects to reduce the financial risk to Council to fund these projects.

The current risk is that Council may lose funding if it is not able to amend projects with the funding body in a timely manner.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

Sustainable practices have been included in tendering processes.

Community Consultation and Communication

Project amendments would be projects that have already been part of prior community consultation programs such as Council Plans, Budgets and Community Engagement sessions.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that material or general interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council note the progress report,
2. Council authorise the CEO to amend existing project scopes and their funding amounts and include additional projects up to \$150,000 in compliance with the program guidelines to ensure full grant expenditure, and
3. Progress reports be provided as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter detailing changes made and final allocations, until completion in December 2021.

10.10 Community Vision 2041

Directorate:	Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development
Author:	Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development
Attachments:	7. Attachment A – Community Vision Framework 2041: Consultation Outcomes; 8. Attachment B – Summary of Issues 9. Attachment C – Community Plans and a simplified framework as part of integrated planning process

Executive Summary

CVF 2041 represents a 20 year vision for the Shire, identifying priorities and opportunities that should be further investigated and delivered. It is based on extensive community engagement and a holistic perspective on the role of Council in delivering facilities and services to its community. A set of updated advocacy priorities will also be reflected upon.

The delivery of CVF 2041 is driven by at least four compelling needs, being:

1. **Legislatively required** under Part 4 Division 1 S88 of the *Local Government Act 2020* whereby Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community, in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices (S88(1)) with a scope of at least 10 years (S88(2)) of the Act;
2. Specific deliverable or **key performance indicator** (KPI) for delivery by Council and its Chief Executive Officer;
3. **Strategic framework** that maps how strategies developed and delivered by Council on behalf of its community integrate into a work plan; and
4. Critical need for a **regional perspective** that extends into a wider view of how the Shire is situated within the region and its partnerships with agencies operating in those regions.

The Consultation Outcomes Report for CVF 2041 represents phase two of a three-phase process that will ultimately deliver a 20 year strategic framework for the Shire.

CVF 2041 will define the long term roadmap for the Shire and inform and support Council's other strategies plans and strategies including the upcoming Council Plan for 2021-2025 (which forms the first 4 years of the 20 year plan). Both documents will be exhibited concurrently and adopted concurrently. With each new Council elected it would be expected that the 20 year Community Vision Framework will be updated to remain relevant to the changing needs of the Shire's communities and the strategic direction of the organisation. The *Local Government Act 2020* directly confirms this to be the process to be followed by councils in Victoria.

The CVF 2041 project began in 2019, prior to the emergence of COVID-19. The virus has changed perceptions of regional areas and sparked new interest in regional relocations to places such as Hamilton, driven working from home and different retail spending behaviours. For CVF 2041's phase two engagement, COVID-19 required a move away from face-to-face citizen juries to online engagement workshops that were significantly augmented by online surveys and polling and one-on-one interviews with stakeholders. The process and tools for engagement changed to deliver COVID-safe activities but the outcome remained strong with 488 people engaged and delivery of 17 workshops and 75 one-on-one interviews. The result is a confidence level of 95% on the findings.



What does the vision say?

For school students¹ ...*the overarching sentiment was that young people wanted more things to see and do, more opportunities for study, travel and work, and improved sporting facilities. They expect or want to have a professional, trade or well-paid job and their future professional opportunities and financial security is of concern. A significant proportion, 80%, expect to leave the Southern Grampians by 2041. This was due to a desire to live, work, study and travel elsewhere but also because of a perceived lack of opportunities for them locally. There was also an interest in maintaining and having a clean natural environment with native wildlife.*

For surveyed results ...*The importance of community came through across all questions, noting the importance of being socially aware, inclusive and caring as well as connected.*

As for what will the Southern Grampians be known for, the top responses were a dynamic, diverse, inclusive innovative and caring community, and liveability.

Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- The population demographic, with respondents noting the aging population (and need for services to support these), the loss of younger people and the need to attract more youth and young families to the area - noting that services needed to support an increased population too.
- The need for improved public transport and increased availability, both locally and to quickly connect the region to other major towns and cities. All forms of transport were commented upon, including road, rail and air.
- More opportunities for employment, and diversity of employment, was highly referenced. This included more job opportunities for young people, more opportunities for women (including 50+ age bracket), and more skilled roles generally rather than offering predominantly traditional employment such as agriculture.
- The lack of educational opportunities for youth was referenced regularly, noting the loss of students to larger centres for tertiary education, both university and other training, (as well as the lack of suitable employment for their qualifications for them to return to). There were also several references to improving the local schools, and one reference to the need for day care.

¹ From Baimbridge College, Monivae College, Tarrington Lutheran School and St Marys Primary School.

- The need to invest and improve in local infrastructure was referenced regularly. This included roads, power and building and asset maintenance. In the current challenges for the Southern Grampians survey question, the number of vacant shops was particularly noted with comments about the appearance of the main business and shopping precincts looking tired.
- The local economy (financial resources) and funding by all levels of government was noted as a challenge. This included securing funding for projects.
- Following from the theme above, several respondents referenced the need to retain existing businesses while also needing to attract new and more diverse businesses and industries as a challenge.
- Housing supply, affordability and rising living costs including Council rates was noted as a challenge.
- Effects of climate change and environmental challenges were considered a challenge, particularly by 2041.
- The need for local health services to support the needs of the community, including mental health and aged care support, was noted as a challenge.

Opportunities

- The natural environment and wildlife;
- Tourism – investing and supporting tourism, especially eco and nature tourism;
- The location of the Southern Grampians in relation to the coast, major regional centres, and cities and the space available (including for development and growth);
- Agriculture as a core industry, as well as opportunities to improve farming practices;
- The local people – their talents, skills, care for each other and their sense of community;
- Education – it was noted there are high quality schools in the area, providing early learning to Year 12 schooling, as well as the opportunity to provide tertiary education options locally. See also technical training (eg SW TAFE), adult education (SGAE) and agricultural college (RIST) training opportunities;
- Liveability of the region, including the climate;
- Parks, gardens, sport facilities and sporting opportunities, including bike/hike trails;
- Cultural arts and local events, noting the existing art gallery and cultural facilities as well as the opportunity to create a cultural scene as a tourist attractor; and
- The existing hospital facilities were noted, however this was coupled with the growing need for additional health services to cater for the community more fully.

When prompted, improved transport, addressing climate change, supporting renewables, better digital connectivity, increasing population and promoting aboriginal assets rated more highly than unprompted. When generating their own responses, the location and space

afforded by the region, the local people themselves, education, parks and sporting facilities, cultural arts and health services emerged more highly as priorities.

Way Forward

For now, the Consultation Outcomes Report is in essence a dive into the issues that concern the wider community. It is commended to Council accordingly for its endorsement as what it purports to be, a summary of community input on their vision of the next 20 years. The next phase, being the strategy will enable Council to place its interpretation on the findings and priorities that enable a tactical response to achieve the vision foreshadowed.

Discussion

What is CVF 2041

As a recap, CVF 2041 is a key project for the Shire, representing a longer term vision as to how Council can act best for its community both in delivering services but also working collaboratively with others. Whilst having a four year strategy for the life of the Council has been typical until now, this situation is rapidly changing.

Progressively local government across Victoria is moving towards 10+ year strategies.

Why invest effort in CVF 2041?

The delivery of CVF 2041 is driven by at least four compelling needs, being:

1. **Legislatively required** under Part 4 Division 1 S88 of the *Local Government Act 2020* whereby Council must maintain a Community Vision that is developed with its municipal community, in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices (S88(1)) with a scope of at least 10 years (S88(2)) of the Act;
2. Specific deliverable or **key performance indicator** (KPI) for delivery by Council and its Chief Executive Officer;
3. **Strategic framework** that maps how strategies developed and delivered by Council on behalf of its community integrate into a work plan; and
4. Critical need for a **regional perspective** that extends into a wider view of how the Shire is situated within the region and its partnerships with agencies operating in those regions.

Principles behind CVF 2041

The five principles behind CVF 2041 are set out below – the 5A's, being aspirational, adaptable, accountable, affordable and aligned.

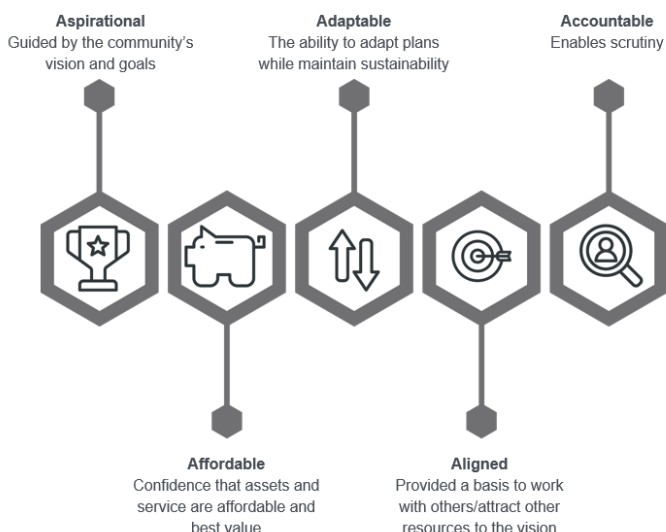


Figure 1 The five 'A' principles

The importance of these principles is numerous, noting that:

- Alignment is critical. Strategies need to be connected. It is of no value for instance to say we want to deliver regionally significant performing arts without investing in our venues.
- We also need to focus on affordability as our income is generally fixed or limited and major projects often have major price tags.
- Accountability is fundamental to good governance. This involves the use of data, analysis and the quality of reporting gives clear choices and responsibility to say we will do what we say.

Stage of project

The Consultation Outcomes Report for CVF 2041 represents phase two of a three phase process.

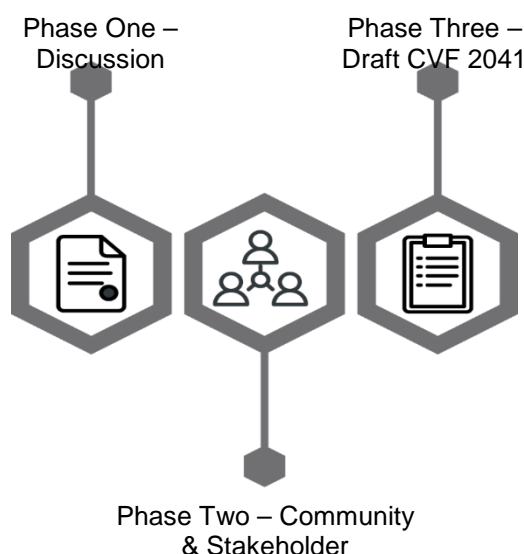


Figure 2 Three phases in the development of CVF 2041

How this fits with other key work – Council Plan and other key strategies

Work completed to date in CVF 2041 and that soon to follow (phase 3 – the strategy) will provide a solid foundation for work delivered through the Council Plan, the 4 year action plan. The actions in the Council Plan will be contained in CVF 2041 just as identified opportunities from CVF 2041 will be reflected in the Council Plan. Both will be exhibited concurrently and adopted concurrently.

With each new Council elected it would be expected that the 20 year vision gets updated as live and relevant guiding strategic directions. The *Local Government Act 2020* directly confirms this to be the process followed by councils in Victoria.

How CVF 2041 links/aligns with a raft of other important work either already delivered or in the process of development is explained below (Figure 3)².



Figure 3 How CVF 2041 integrated with other key strategic work concerning land use

² There are also a much wider range of strategic connections between CVF 2041 and how Council delivers services and assets. Refer to Attachment C for a possible integrated planning framework.

What does the vision say?

School Students³ said ...

The overarching sentiment was that young people wanted more things to see and do, more opportunities for study, travel and work, and improved sporting facilities. They expect or want to have a professional, trade or well-paid job and their future professional opportunities and financial security is of concern. A significant proportion, 80%, expect to leave the Southern Grampians by 2041. This was due to a desire to live, work, study and travel elsewhere but also because of a perceived lack of opportunities for them locally.

There was also an interest in maintaining and having a clean natural environment with native wildlife. When asked about their expectations for future transport and food supply, there was little change expected in comparison to 2020, with cars as the most likely form of transport and the supermarket as a key source of food.

Surveyed results suggested ...

Workshop participants and survey respondents were asked to consider the Southern Grampians region in 2041 and share their aspirations, hopes and ideas. The importance of community came through across all questions, noting the importance of being socially aware, inclusive and caring as well as connected.

What will the Southern Grampians be known for?

The top responses were a dynamic, diverse, inclusive innovative and caring community, and liveability.

Data findings

Key findings included:

- Most important current services and facilities – HILAC followed by sports ovals and facilities, botanical gardens (Figure 2 of Report).
- For youth the current services and infrastructure most used are entertainment and leisure along with sporting facilities (Figure 3 of Report).
- Things missed are better entertainment and leisure facilities (Figure 4 of report).
- The top 4 challenges and opportunities across the survey and workshop groups is set out below (Figure 5 of Report) – noting this was asked in a regional sense.
 - Improved transport linkages was rated highest
 - Capitalising on natural assets was second
 - Supporting renewable energy production and industry was third
 - Addressing climate change came fourth

Drilling down further it was notable that liveability was seen as a population attractor, digital connectivity was rated highly as was growing tourism. Promoting aboriginal culture was rated higher than local tertiary education.

³ From Baimbridge College, Monivae College, Tarrington Lutheran School and St Marys Primary School .

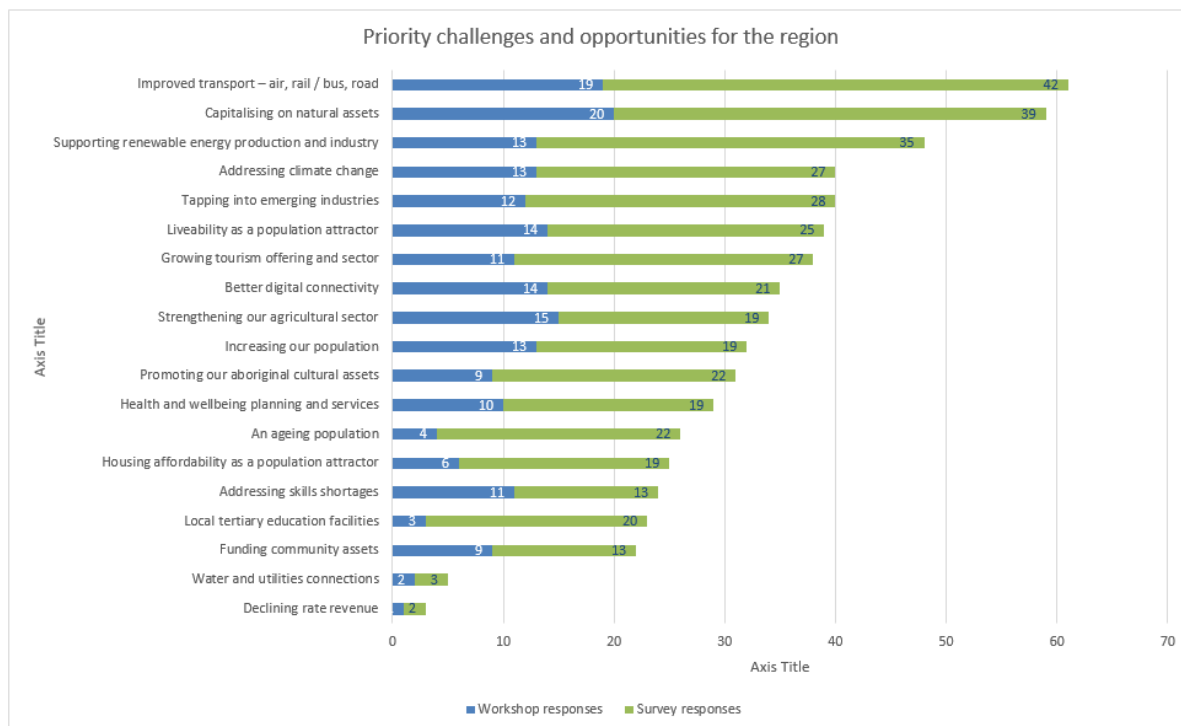


Figure 4

- Population decline was the biggest challenge identified by workshop participants followed by transport/accessibility (Figure 6 of Report).
- Challenges faced within the Shire today didn't rate climate change as high as elsewhere in the report, suggesting it is seen as an emerging challenge not one which is of greatest concern today (Figure 7 of Report). Significantly, issues today did identify opportunities and attractors for young people and families as a challenge now. Infrastructure – whether it be roads, power, building or asset maintenance scored as a presently significant challenge.
- In 2041 the challenges faced in the Shire reflect that people can and do see differences between today and 20 years from now. Population decline, infrastructure and climate change impacts score as the three highest challenges faced (Figure 8 of Report)

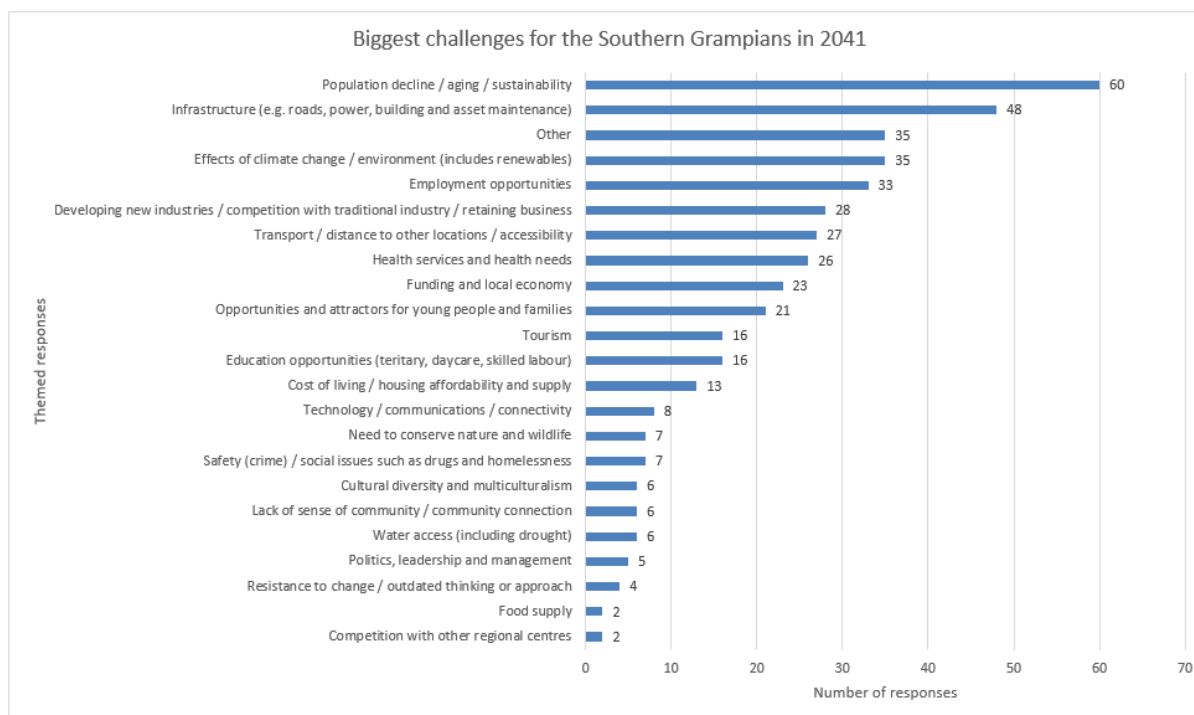


Figure 5

- When asked about assets and opportunities respondents flagged strongly natural environment and wildlife, tourism, location and space, agriculture, the community and their talents. Parks and gardens, cultural arts and medical facilities also get notable mentions (Figure 9 of Report).

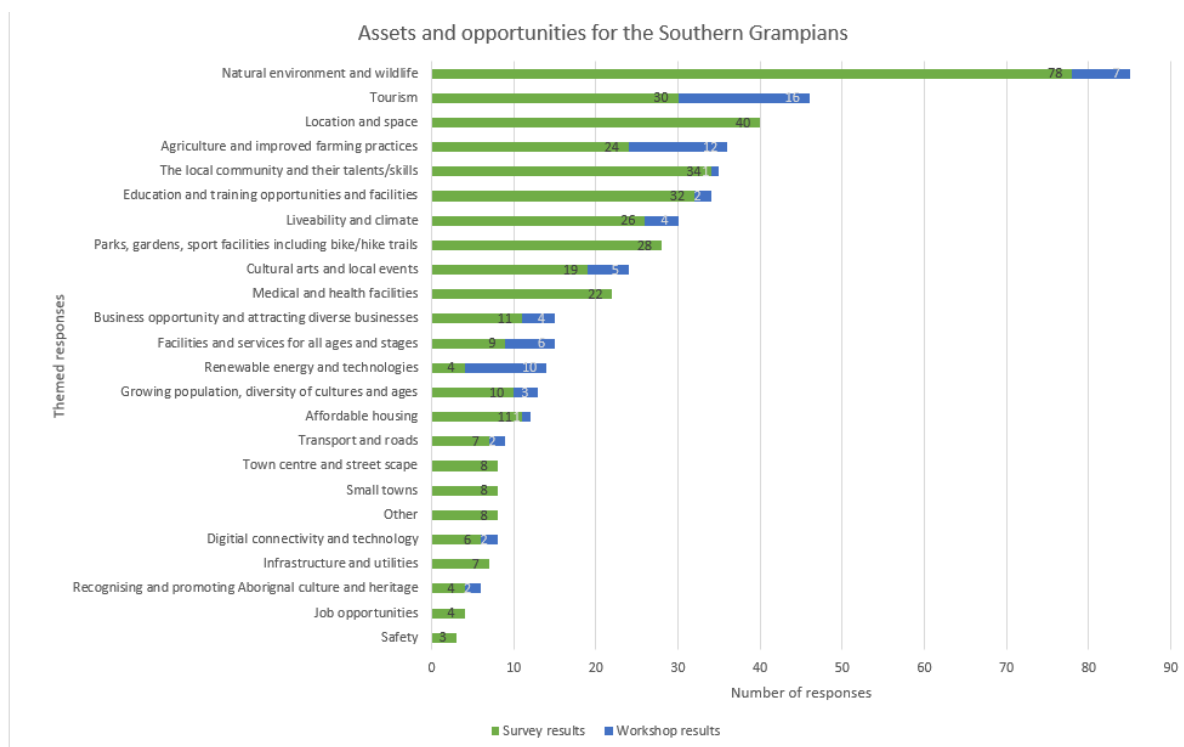


Figure 6

- The question ‘what will the Southern Grampians be known for in 2041 is a particularly useful question (Figure 10 of Report). It is about what you will take away from

experiencing the place, how you will describe it to others. The importance of community came through across all questions, noting the importance of being socially aware, inclusive and caring as well as connected.

- Values are critical to consider as they link with beliefs. The character of our communities in 2041 are expressed below (Figure 11 of Report). Survey participants were asked to select their preferred choice to describe their community in 2041. ‘Feel connected, valued and respected’ was the top rating response for the intercept survey by a reasonable margin. From the internal survey results that could be assessed, ‘Be strong and vibrant’ was the top response. 27 responses (22% of responses) were either left blank or did not show a clear preference for one option.

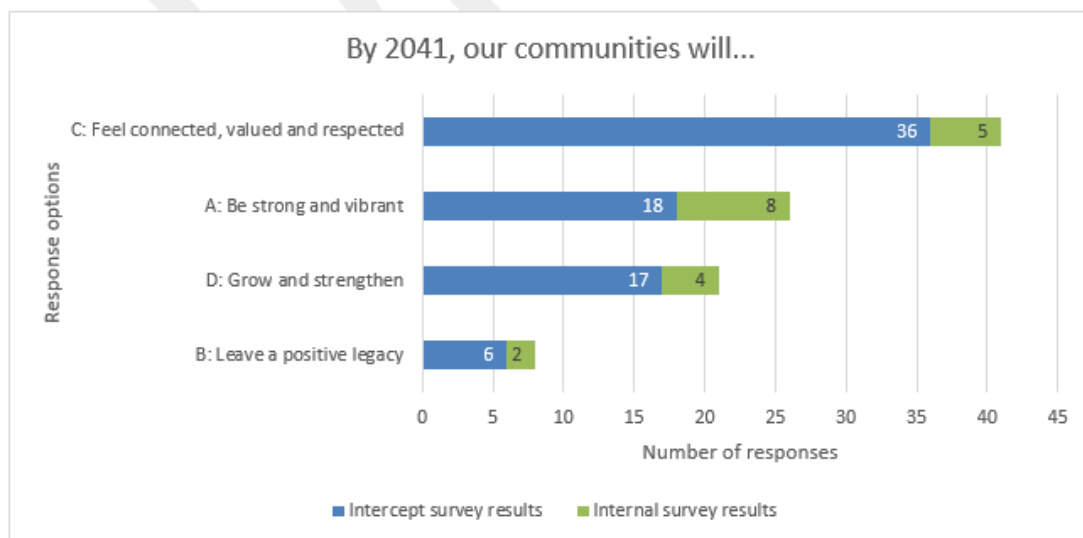


Figure 7

- Feedback on the business sector from workshop participants is provided as to what we expect of the business sector in terms of their character and behaviour. Overall there was a strong desire for the business sector to be an integral part of the community, work together, and support and invest in the local people. There was also a desire for local business to thrive, innovate, lead, and be vibrant and sustainable.
- Finally, the threats that ‘keep you up at night’ was considered (Figure 14 of Report). It was only asked of workshop participants. Climate change, the environment and wildlife preservation was a clear ‘winner.’ Followed second was ‘no opportunities for youth to attract or keep them in the area and third, by the need to maintain and improve assets, facilities and services.

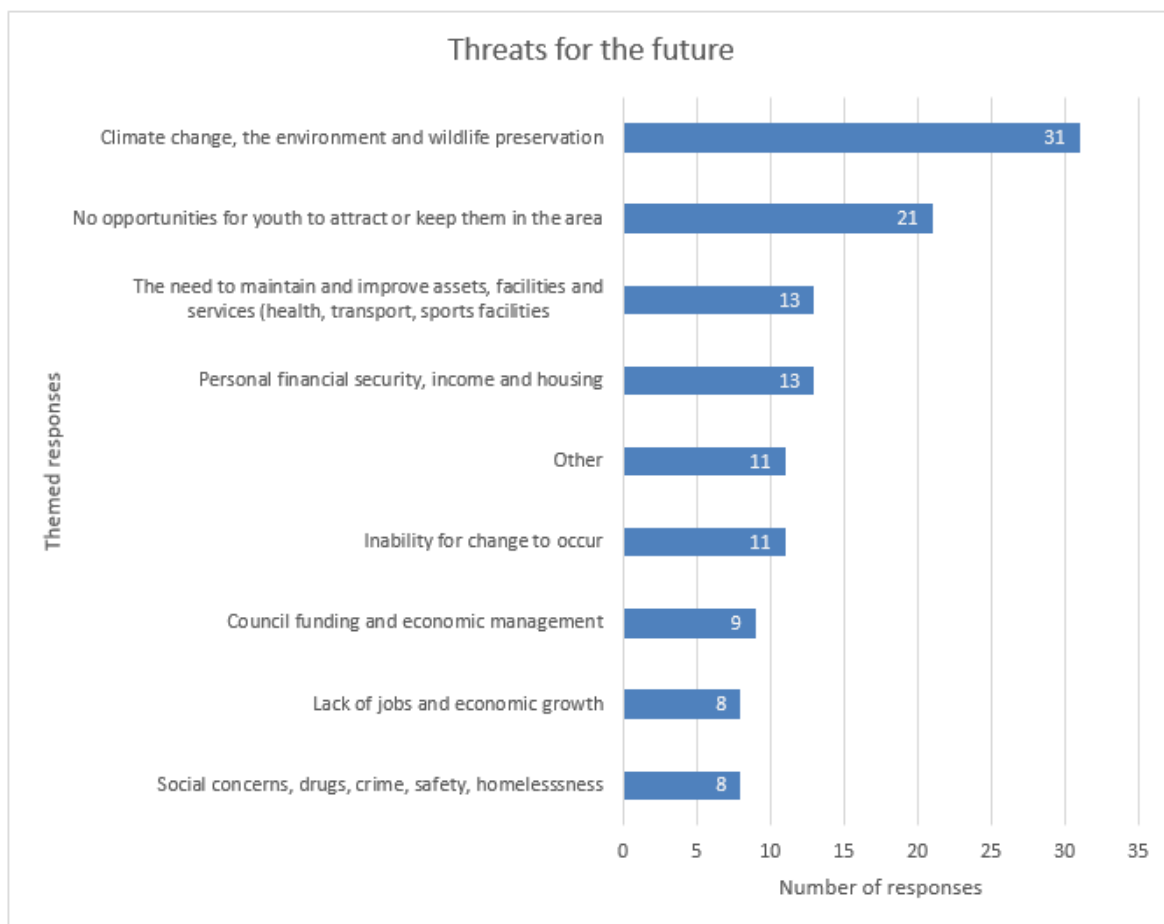



Figure 8




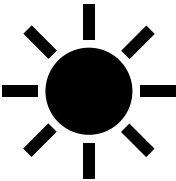


Challenges and Opportunities – reflections on the survey data and interview feedback




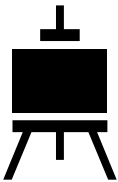



Beyond the survey engagement, a further significant piece of work was undertaken to obtain feedback from 75 agencies and organisations through workshops and one-on-one interviews collected between December 2020 and February 2021. A brief review of the qualitative data is provided below.

Challenges faced in Southern Grampians Shire, from limited population growth through to competing budget priorities identified in the phase one work remain relevant today.

The following is a summary of the opportunities identified through CVF 2041. A more detailed summary can be found at Attachment B.

	<p>Agriculture – in particular broadacre agricultural sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local confidence in agriculture is underpinned by a strong local history, favourable seasons, soil and climate advantages. • Competitive advantage is strengthened through key resources of Rural Industries Skills Centre (RIST) and the National Centre for Farmers Health. • There is scope to better connect intensive agriculture to water resource management.
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	<p>Sustainable water management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolving approaches to licensing regulation and information sharing as the use of water becomes more contested. • Pilot horticulture projects and demands for cultural flows for First Nations are likely within the landscape. • A more sophisticated approach to catchment management strategies via Glenelg Hopkins CMA is emerging.
	<p>Increased tourism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant economic pillar linked to the wider region - Grampians National Park, Budj Bim and the Great Southern Touring Route, the volcanic landscapes, Limestone Coast and Great Ocean Road. • The quality of the experiences from natural assets to accommodation and support services will be critical. • A hierarchy of natural assets will enable Council to focus on partnering with other stakeholders and deliver to visitor needs (signage, trails, parking etc). • Dunkeld has a tourist brand as southern gateway to the Grampians National Park. The impact of this on Dunkeld will need to be monitored. Elsewhere tourism growth can be linked to cultural drivers – volcanic landscapes, Budj Bim, new art gallery etc.
	<p>Enhanced digital infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To aid tourism, agriculture, education and business. Enhanced digital infrastructure connects us all together.
	<p>Renewable energy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net zero carbon targets for VIC is likely to bring more renewable projects into the Shire. • Challenge to balance effectively engaging communities on community grants and training opportunities and limiting adverse impacts.
	<p>Adapt, mitigate and respond to climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Council responds will be discussed in the final phase of CVF 2041.
	<p>Effective environmental stewardship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a local level stewardship may be concerned with how agencies work together. • Protecting redgums and roadside reserves and major Crown reserves (eg Lake Linlithgow, Mount Napier, Byaduk Caves, Nigretta Falls) will flag our success in retaining biodiversity across the Shire.

	<p>Transport links and networks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A subsidy scheme (Mode Shift Incentive Scheme) exists for incentivising rail freight. • Within industry there is a push for A-double trucks for road freight tasks but many roads aren't built for those loadings. • Passenger rail and advocacy has been discussed within the Shire since 1981. More work and data collection is needed to satisfy State Government to invest further in these areas.
	<p>Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary and secondary year facilities are a key strength of the Shire, providing high quality education and facilities. The level of investment in schools, especially independent schools is a strong characteristic of the Shire. • SW TAFE and Rural Industries Skills Training (RIST) provide vocational training • Gap in tertiary education opportunities but role of online study and study hubs will assist.
	<p>Effective waste management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping materials in the region is key for the circular economy. • Impacts of waste charges on business, especially in the tourism sector were noted by a number of operators.
	<p>Cultural arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new gallery would bring new opportunities and enhance liveability and tourism. • The brand of Hamilton could be strengthened though cultural tourism investment.
	<p>Fit-for purpose buildings and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council advocacy and support to ensure key agencies deliver the services that make the Shire a great place to live. • Core services which support the broader catchment and liveability include Baimbridge College, WHDS, Ambulance Victoria, CFA and SES. • Timely investment is important for their ongoing role, attracting key staff and remaining appropriate to task.
	<p>Key worker housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental to people choosing to live in the Shire, especially for VicPol, CFA, Council, WDHS. • Council's role as a landowner to address identified needs should be further explored.
	<p>Mining and extractive industries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant resources and/or infrastructure exist in or near the Shire including mineral sands processing plants (ILUKA) and mineral deposits in Stavely east of Glenthompson. • Opportunity to create new economic opportunities.







	<p>Forestry industry sector and the Green Triangle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merits of plantation forestry can be a polarising and a mature debate on how forestry can be managed to spread greater benefit in the community is warranted. • Waste to energy opportunities (biofuel), opportunities to buy local campaigns using Green Triangle products and even recent examples of wind farms in forestry plantations are noted opportunities.
	<p>Youth support services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap around (comprehensive) youth support services are critical • Services, activities and facilities for young people were mentioned by most groups engaged throughout CVF 2041. • Retention of youth is a key concern of many in the community.
	<p>Alcohol and drug dependency services as well as mental health and social disadvantage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring access to support amongst youth and the wider community. • These issues often chase each other and manifest in specific housing needs, education/training as well as food and other support services including transport. • The Health and Wellbeing Plan amongst other work may warrant a further review of these local needs.
	<p>First Nations communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a roadmap to enable Council and the general community to more comprehensively partner with First Nations peoples.
	<p>Managing volunteer fatigue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical role of volunteers in emergency management, religious institutions and sport and underpinning much of civic life today. • Some sectors struggle with recruitment, diversity of volunteers and the services they provide, especially as these change over time to meet changing community needs.
	<p>Partnerships with key agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage the capacity of key agencies and reduce the resource burden of each through co-ordinated sharing of information, resources and capacities.

Figure 9 Key themes

As a final end point, there are multiple specific issues emerging from the engagement undertaken which are not captured above. Two points should be noted:

1. CVF 2041 asks many of the key questions but cannot provide all the solutions. Issues such as the best location of new parks in towns, how we protect wetlands and so forth are best addressed in the other strategic analysis foreshadowed in Figure 3.

- It will be a challenge to prioritise what needs to gain most Council attention. The above is a high level summary. But a good way to visualize the challenge ahead is via a regional liveability framework. These are being explored from Warrnambool to the Hunter Valley in NSW. Collection of data is at the core of the project and setting goals of where we wish to set our level of commitment. Figure 10 explores these aspects of life as a different way of identifying needs, beyond the more traditional Health and Wellbeing frameworks.

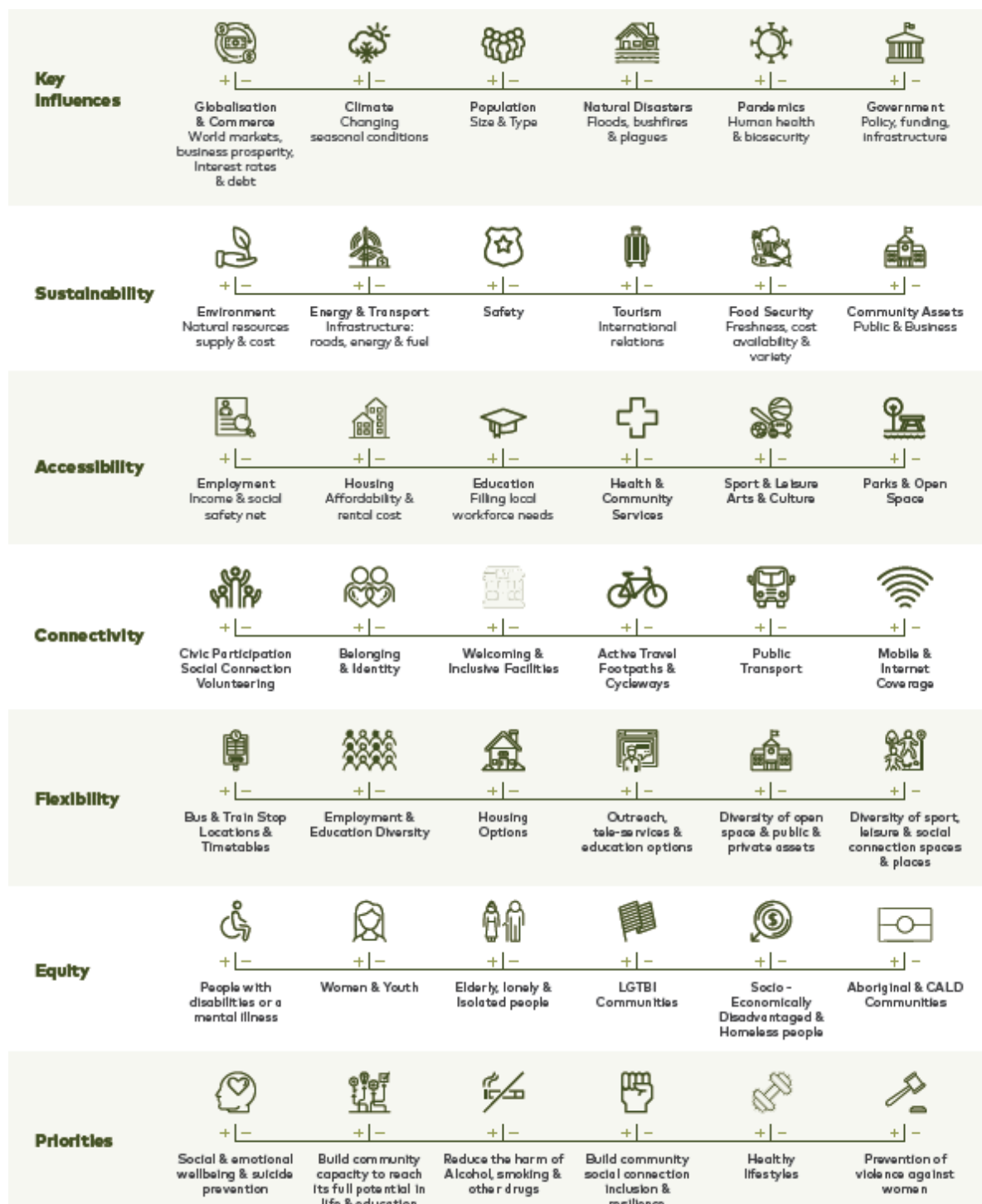


Figure 10 A Systems View of Liveability (SW Primary Care Partnership)

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

The *Local Government Act 2020* explicitly states that Council need to provide and maintain a community vision statement that extends beyond 10 years. CVF 2041 provides Council the opportunity to drive that conversation and provide community leadership. See S88 and 89 of the Act.

Financial and Resource Implications

CVF 2041 is funded within the operational budget of Council and has been tendered and awarded accordingly.

Risk Management

There are no risk management issues identified. In endorsing the Consultation Outcomes Report Council is able to provide a clear indication that it has not only engaged and listened to its community but is progressing towards an over-arching direction to inform each successive 4 year plan required currently under the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

CVF 2041 will likely facilitate more holistic responses by Council on a range of issues. The need for priority to be given to natural resource management is significant and currently not present in advocacy including *Towards 2030* for instance.

The existing advocacy on public transport as well as freight networks should include further details on the benefits of rail and public transport generally to limit carbon emissions as well as road impacts.

More comprehensive policy positions on water management (groundwater and surface water) is closely connected to environmental flows, integrated water management and value-added agriculture. Likewise, policy positions on sustainable energy and climate change have economic as well as environmental foundations to address.

CVF 2041 provides an opportunity to reflect further on what the priorities for the next 20 years will look like, with environment and sustainability being core concerns.

Community Consultation and Communication

Community engagement on CVF 2041 has occurred over many years. Back in 2019 there was agency engagement via workshops in Hamilton and Melbourne. This shaped the identification of issues reflected in the phase one work.

For CVF 2041's phase two engagement, COVID-19 required a move away from face-to-face citizen juries to online engagement workshops that were significantly augmented by online surveys and polling and one-on-one interviews with stakeholders. The process and tools for engagement changed to deliver COVID-safe activities but the outcome remained strong with 488 people engaged and delivery of 17 workshops and 75 one-on-one interviews. The result is a confidence level of 95% on the findings.

The interview process in particular is a significant investment of time and effort. Agencies and key individuals across the Shire were generous with time and insight. This work will be reflected in the identified opportunities and work priorities to be discussed in phase 3 of CVF 2041.



A final comment on engagement is also appropriate. Council in its day to day operations engages with the community in many ways – from listening posts to receiving community plans, and budget submissions. Each year Council also engages with its community on a range of strategies that impact the form of services and the management of assets. The level of engagement is significant, informing a view as to what issues our residents wish addressed.

One of the tasks in delivering CVF 2041 was to reflect on how this engagement is reflected in the operations of Council and its allocation of resources. Some reflections on this are provided in **Attachment C**.

Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no general or material interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive and endorse the CVF 2041 Consultation Outcomes Report for purposes of placing on Council’s website seeking comment for a period of 30 days.
2. Progress phase 3 of CVF 2041 as outlined in this report taking into account:
 - a. any additional feedback gained from comment received on Council’s website.
 - b. Consultation findings and priorities as set out in the Council Plan engagement process that occurred in March 2021.
3. Report back to Council with the phase 3 CVF 2041 Strategy concurrently with the Council Plan 2021-25.

10.11 Planning Scheme Amendment C58sgra - Coleraine Flood Investigation

Directorate: Andrew Goodsell, Director Planning and Development
Author: Parvesh Siroha, Senior Strategic Planner
Attachments: 10. C58sgra Panel Report

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to consider the Planning Panel's report on Amendment C58sgra and recommends Council adopts the amendment and resolve to refer the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Council considered submissions received to the public exhibition of Amendment C58sgra (Coleraine Flood Investigation) at its 9 December 2020 Ordinary Meeting. At this meeting Council resolved to refer all submissions for consideration by an Independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning. The Panel conducted a directions hearing on 25 January 2021, and considered all submissions received. The Panel decided that there was no need for a Panel Hearing as the landowner who made a submission objecting the amendment, wished to rely upon their written submission, while the remaining submissions from agencies had been addressed.

Council officers have reviewed the Panel report. The Panel supports Amendment C58sgra including the changes adopted by Council to address agency concerns. Council are now asked to consider the Panel report and resolve to adopt the Amendment with or without changes or abandon the Amendment.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Amendment with changes and submit it to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Recommendations

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 27(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, consider the Amendment C58sgra Panel report received;
2. Pursuant to section 29(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, adopt Amendment C58sgra, Coleraine Flood Investigation to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme in full, with changes as outlined in the Planning Panel report;
3. Pursuant to section 31(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, submit and request to approve the Amendment C58sgra with changes to the Minister for Planning.

Discussion

Amendment C58sgra seeks to implement the findings of Coleraine Flood Investigations into the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme. The Amendment is the culmination of the combined efforts of Council, the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority (GHCMA) and the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP). It involved extensive investigations on the potential for flooding in Coleraine and surrounds. Investigations commenced in 2016 and included detailed flood modelling of the Bryan Creek and KoonongWootong Creek catchments.

At its meeting on 9 December 2020, Council resolved to consider all submissions received, amend the exhibited flood mapping and refer any unresolved submissions to an Independent Planning Panel. A Directions Hearing was subsequently held on 25 January 2021. In summary, the Independent Panel fully supports Amendment C58sgra and recommends that it be adopted as exhibited, subject to the changes previously endorsed by Council.

The Panel considered the Amendment to be well-founded and strategically justified and noted that the Amendment involved comprehensive background work by Council. The amendment also included detailed consultation with the community. The Panel concludes the issues raised in the submission do not override the need for refinements to be made to the flood controls for Coleraine.

The Panel noted that the subject land at 66 Whyte Street was nominated as a site where flooding is possible. The landowners made a submission bringing the site to the attention of Council. This resulted in a change to the proposed amendment to remove the FO from the land, after council sought advice from consultants.

The Panel recommended the Amendment given the broader objective of protecting the Coleraine Township, and nearby locations. The Panel therefore agrees with the Council agreeing that the only change to the Amendment should be to remove the FO from 66 Whyte Street, Coleraine.

Community Consultation and Engagement

Amendment C58sgra was placed on formal public exhibition from 20 August to 21 September 2020. The Amendment was advertised in the local newspaper and on Council's website. All affected landowners were directly notified by Council in writing. One submissions received from private landowners during the exhibition period objecting to the Amendment. Two submissions were received from Wannon Water and Department of Transport. Submitters to the Amendment were directly contacted by Council officers and encouraged to discuss their specific concerns after the close of the exhibition period.

An online meeting was organized on 4 Nov 2020 with the objectors to address their concerns. Council's consultants, Venant Solutions Ltd (flood Investigation consultant) and GHCMA were engaged to participate in the online meeting. Experts provided their reasoning and recommended changes to the flood mapping, where it is noted a number of the submissions were able to be resolved.

A Directions Hearing was conducted on 25 January 2021 and considered all submissions received. The Panel decided that there was no need for a Panel Hearing given:

- a) The landowner submitter relied upon the written submission.

- b) The submission by the Department of Transport was for noting.
- c) Wannon Water withdrew its submission as it is satisfied its concerns around the need for a planning permit have been addressed.

Financial and Resource Implications

A \$30,000 grant for implementing a planning scheme update has been granted under National Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme.

Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

The application of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* relies on data from this investigation to apply flood overlays into the planning scheme.

Council Plan - Support our Community:

- Information from this investigation is intended to be used to support an empowered and resilient community.
- A safe community is contributed to by the urban design and regulatory services components of this investigation.

Plan for our built environment and infrastructure:

- The application of the overlay will not prevent future development of the land, rather it will ensure that the siting and design of any development proposed within the overlay areas takes into account the potential for flooding. This could include siting a building away from the deepest waters or channels, and/or building the floor level above the flood level (i.e. stumps instead of a slab floor). In some cases, particularly where a Flood Overlay is being proposed, there may be some challenges in developing land (as this is where the deepest and fastest flowing waters have been modelled), however this simply reflects the flood risk that exists, and land owners would need to work with Council and the GHCMA to explore development options that may be acceptable.

Promote our natural environment:

- By accurately reflecting the flood risk areas in the Planning Scheme, the amendment protects designated flood paths and the riverine areas from development and encroachment from other activities. It also contributes to minimising flood risks to people, assets and properties.

Risk Management

Introducing the planning scheme amendment provides surety for landowners where developers are informed of flood overlay implications as early as possible in the development approval process.

Council has an obligation to the community to ensure that its planning controls accurately reflect risk. If Council does not pursue the mapping update, it could result in risks for Council and the community. These risks could be:

- The prospective buyers could buy land that they later learn has limited development potential
- Incorrect perception of reduced development potential
- Develop their land which is subject to flooding.

The introduction of flood overlay information in the planning scheme reduces Council's vulnerability to legal risk exposure. In practical terms, the risk is that if Council issues planning permits devoid of flood data that cannot be prosecuted in the building phase due to the late input of flood information. In essence the planning permit process is flawed where known flooding risk cannot be considered. This risk has been noted in other councils and has led to protracted and expensive litigation.

Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

Implementing the planning scheme amendment as recommended will contribute to improved sustainability of future development by avoiding unnecessary increases in flood related damage to private and public property.

Communication

Submitters will be notified on the outcome of the meeting.

Disclosure of Interests

Nil.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 27(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, consider the Amendment C58sgra Panel report received;
2. Pursuant to section 29(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, adopt Amendment C58sgra, Coleraine Flood Investigation to the Southern Grampians Planning Scheme in full, with changes as outlined in the Planning Panel report;
3. Pursuant to section 31(1) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, submit and request to approve the Amendment C58sgra with changes to the Minister for Planning.

11. Notices of Motion

There are no Notices of Motion listed on tonight's agenda.

12. Delegated Reports

Reports on external Committees and Representative Bodies for which Councillors have been appointed as a representative by Council.

13. Mayors and Councillors Reports

Address from the Mayor and Councillors in relation to matters of civic leadership and community representation, including acknowledgement of community groups and individuals, information arising from internal Committees, advocacy on behalf of constituents and other topics of significance.

14. Confidential Matters

There are no Confidential Matters listed on tonight's agenda.

15. Close of Meeting

This concludes the business of the meeting.