



GANNAWARRA

Shire Council

Wednesday, 19 March 2025

6:00 PM

Senior Citizens Centre

Kerang

AGENDA

Council Meeting

Councillor and Strategic Briefing Rules

- Read the Agenda and attachments prior to the meeting.
- All Councillor phones turned off or placed on silent – check messages in breaks.
- Maintain Code of Conduct.
- Treat Councillors and staff with respect.
- Debate the issue not the individual.
- Disclosure of any conflict of interest, leave the room and play no part in discussions relating to conflict.
- Meetings to start as scheduled, regardless of attendance.
- Try to be concise with replies.
- Keep an open mind.
- Listen to others.
- Promote a positive image of Gannawarra Shire Council.
- No audio or video recording is permitted.

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Geoff Rollinson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Playing of the Welcome to Country video clip.

2 OPENING DECLARATION

We, the Councillors of the Shire of Gannawarra, declare that we will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor, in the best interests of our community, and faithfully, and impartially, carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in us, to the best of our skill and judgement.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting - 19 February 2025

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

General conflict of interest

Unless exempt under Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) or regulation 7 of the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020, a Councillor or member of Council staff has a general conflict of interest in a matter if an impartial, fair-minded person would consider that the person's private interests (as defined in Section 127(2) of the Act) could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.

Material conflict of interest

Unless exempt under Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 2020* or regulation 7 of the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020, a Councillor or member of Council staff has a material conflict of interest in respect of a matter if an affected person (as defined in Section 128(3) of the Act) would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter.

Disclosure of a conflict of interest

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest and is attending a meeting of the Council must make a full disclosure of that interest by either advising:

- a) the Council at the meeting immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting; or
- b) the Chief Executive Officer in writing before the meeting –

whether the interest is a general conflict of interest or a material conflict of interest; and the nature of the interest.

Note: If a Councillor advises the Chief Executive Officer of the details under b) above, the Councillor must make a disclosure of the class of interest only to the meeting immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting.

In accordance with Section 130 of the Act, a councillor who has a disclosed a conflict of interest in respect of a matter must exclude themselves from the decision making process in relation to the matter, including any discussion or vote on the matter at any Council meeting, and any action in relation to the matter.

Failure to comply with Section 130 of the Act may result in a penalty of 120 penalty units

6 BRIEFING SESSIONS

6.1 RECORDS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS - 13 FEBRUARY 2025 TO 19 MARCH 2025

Author: Jodie Basile, Executive Assistant to CEO

Authoriser: Geoff Rollinson, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1 Council Briefing Record - 5 March 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the records of Councillor Briefings from 13 February 2025 to 19 March 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council written records of Councillor Briefings in accordance with Clause 31 of the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Officer preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in regard to this matter.

COUNCIL PLAN

Council Plan 2021-2025:

- Be a creative employer of choice through our adherence to good governance and our inclusive culture.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with Clause 32 of the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules, a written record of a meeting held under the auspices of Council is, as soon as practicable, reported at a meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that Council meeting.

The record must include:

- The names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending
- The matters considered
- Any conflict-of-interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending
- Whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest left the meeting.

CONSULTATION


Consultation with Councillors and staff has occurred to ensure the accuracy of the Councillor Briefing records.

CONCLUSION

To ensure compliance with Clause 32 of the Gannawarra Shire Council Governance Rules, it is recommended that Council note the Councillor Briefing records as attached to this report.

RECORD OF A COUNCILLOR BRIEFING



Type of Meeting	Councillor Briefing Session	
Date:	Wednesday 5 March, 2025	
Time:	9.00am – 3.30pm	
Location:	Council Chambers, Kerang	
In Attendance: (Councillors)	Cr Garner Smith Cr Charlie Gillingham Cr Pat Quinn Cr Daniel Bolitho Cr Lisa Farrant	
Apologies:	Cr Ross Stanton Cr Keith Link Brooke Arnold	
In Attendance: (Officers)	Geoff Rollinson, Paul Fernee, Wade Williams, Amanda Wilson, Jodie Basile, Leigh Hollingworth, Rebecca Hollingworth, Dylan Taylor, Jenny Keating	
In Attendance:	Jacqueline Hibbert, Greg Miles, Ross Hall, Angela Hird, David Thompson, Tom Chick, Brent McKnight	
Matters Discussed:	<p>Revised 2024/2025 Fees and Charges – Leitchville Kindergarten</p> <p>Policy No. 071 – Regulation 87, Erection of Class 10A Buildings on Vacant Allotments</p> <p>Policy No. 033 – Occupational Health & Safety</p> <p>Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt</p> <p>Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief</p> <p>Rescind Council Policy No. 140 – COVID 19 Hardship</p> <p>Audit and risk Committee Meeting – 5 February, 2025</p> <p>Capital Works 10-year Plan Review</p> <p>Draft 2 – 2025/2026 Operational Budget</p> <p>Draft Revenue and Rating Plan</p> <p>Budget 2025/2026 – Rating Strategy Options</p> <p>Draft 2 – Fees and Charges 2025/2026</p> <p>Future Listing Report</p> <p>Presentation from Kerang Progress Association and Koondrook Development Committee on K2K Rail Trail</p> <p>Presentation from Kerang Landcare group and Mid Murray Cycling Group on K2 K Rail Trail</p> <p>Councillor Issues Raised for discussion with CEO and Directors</p> <p>Councillor/CEO Only Discussion and Councillor Only Discussion</p>	
Conflict of Interest Disclosures		
Matter No.	Councillor/Officer making disclosure	Councillor/Officer left meeting Yes/No
Nil		
Completed By:	Geoff Rollinson – Chief Executive Officer	
		

7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

7.1 REVISED 2024/2025 FEES AND CHARGES

Author: Brooke Arnold, Manager Children's Services

Authoriser: Paul Fernee, Director Community Wellbeing

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the change to the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges relating to the Leitchville Kindergarten, to commence from 1 April 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year Council reviews the level of fees and charges that are applied across Gannawarra Shire Council for the provision of services, with a view to achieving a balance between affordability, encouraging greater usage, cost recovery and raising sufficient revenue to support the delivery of services.

The Schedule of Fees and Charges is to be included in Council's Annual Budget document.

Since the adoption of the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges in June 2024 and the implementation of Pre-Prep as part of the State Government's *Best Start Best Life* reforms, Council Officers have identified an opportunity to implement a new fee that would enable children in the Leitchville area an additional day of three-year-old kindergarten.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to include a new fee into the 2024/25 Fees and Charges relating to the Leitchville Kindergarten.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

DISCUSSION

Since the adoption of the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges in June 2024 and the implementation of Pre-Prep under the State Government's *Best Start, Best Life* reforms, Council Officers have identified an opportunity to introduce a new fee to support an additional day of care for children enrolled in Leitchville Kindergarten's three-year-old program.

Leitchville Kindergarten currently operates a Pre-Prep program on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM during school terms, with eight children enrolled. On Mondays and Thursdays, the three-year-old program also runs, with ten children attending. These programs operate as a combined group, supported by three staff members throughout the day.

To enhance the quality of education and support the continuity of learning, socialisation, and skill development for all children, Leitchville Kindergarten proposes offering an additional 7.5-hour day

to three-year-old kindergarten children. As these extra hours are not covered by state government kindergarten funding, a fee would apply for families accessing this service.

Increasing attendance would not only enrich the learning environment but also provide greater consistency in programming and peer interactions. Additionally, this initiative would help alleviate pressure on local Family Day Care Educators, who are currently at capacity, and offer families increased flexibility to meet work commitments with reliable, high-quality care.

As the Pre-Prep program is already operational, the costs associated with expanding the service to additional children would be minimal. Staffing levels would remain unchanged, and building usage costs would remain stable. Any minor increases in operational expenses, such as materials, would be covered by the proposed fee.

Participation in the additional day would be optional, with families required to commit for a full term to allow for effective program planning. A recent survey indicated that over 50% of families are seeking additional care and would consider enrolling for an extra day if available.

As the Child Care Subsidy does not apply to this fee, affordability has been a key consideration. The proposed fee structure would be \$300 per term, equating to approximately \$35 per session.

This initiative aligns with Council's commitment to supporting early childhood education and ensuring families have access to flexible, high-quality kindergarten services.

Proposed addition to fees & charges: Leitchville Kindergarten Additional Day - \$300 per Term.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council adopted the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges at its June 2024 Council Meeting.

OPTIONS

Council may wish to endorse the changes to the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges to include a \$300 per term charge for additional hours of kindergarten at Leitchville Preschool, or alternatively choose not to make any changes at this time.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

During the review of fees and charges, Council seeks to ensure balance between affordability, encouraging greater usage, cost recovery and raising sufficient revenue to support the delivery of services.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council employees have engaged with the educators and families utilising the Leitchville Kindergarten Service to seek input and ideas on how to improve access the early years services in the Leitchville Community.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The proposed model is based on a similar approach implemented by another Victorian kindergarten service. It has been designed to address the specific needs of families within this

community, leading to a creative solution that expands access to early childhood education for families seeking additional support.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The proposed adjustment to the Fees and Charges schedule ensures there are no ongoing financial costs to the Council while providing Leitchville Preschool with additional funding to support the ongoing viability of the service.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Gannawarra Shire Council Plan 2021-2025:

Goal 3: Achieve long-term financial and environmental sustainability.

Goal 1: Strategic Priority 1 - Improve the health, safety, and wellbeing of our community through partnerships, services and programs.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report will be presented in an open Council Meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officer preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in regard to this matter.

7.2 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 FEBRUARY, 2024

Author: Dylan Taylor, Governance Officer
Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the summary of the discussions of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 5 February 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) met on 5 February 2025. The agenda included reports related to financial, governance, compliance, and risk management matters.

PURPOSE

This report outlines the actions of the ARC to meet its responsibilities to ensure compliance with Council policies, monitor financial performance, monitor risk and fraud control, and overview the audit functions. This report complies with Section 54 (4) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to review the ARC's performance against the Charter. This includes reporting on audit and risk issues as required by Section 54 (5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

DISCUSSION

The details of the 5 February 2025 ARC Meeting are summarised below:

Member attendees:

Frank Crawley – Independent Member - Chair
Laura Conti - Independent Member
Jarrah O'Shea – Independent Member
Mayor Garner Smith – Councillor Representative

In attendance:

Shivam Goel - VAGO Audit Service Provider, RSD Audit
Josh Porker - VAGO Audit Service Provider, RSD Audit
Brad Ead – Internal Audit Service Provider, AFS
Geoff Rollinson – Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Wilson – Director Corporate Services
Dylan Taylor – Governance Officer
Rebecca Hollingworth – Acting Chief Financial Officer
Melissa Mathers – Manager People Culture
Logan Touhey – Financial Accountant

Apologies:

Deputy Mayor Ross Stanton – Councillor Representative

The following agenda items were considered by the ARC at the meeting:

	Report	Resolution
5.1	Minutes of previous meeting	The ARC adopted the Minutes of the meeting held 12 December 2024. Notes that a summary of the meeting was presented to the December 2024 Council meeting.
5.2	Internal Audit Program Status Update and Propose Audit Scope	The ARC noted the status update of the Strategic Internal Audit Program and approved the proposed scope for the procurement internal audit.
5.3	Recent Reports and Publications – Local Government	The ARC received and noted the Local Government reports and publications of interest report.
5.4	VAGO Audit Strategy Year Ending 30 June 2025	The ARC received and noted the External Auditor’s – VAGO Draft Audit Strategy for the year ending 30 June 2025.
5.5	Quarterly Budget Report – Quarter Ending 31 December 2024	The ARC received and noted the Quarterly Budget Report – Quarter Ending 31 December 2024.
5.6	2025/2026 Draft Operational Budget	The ARC received and noted the 2025/2026 Draft Operational Budget Report.
5.7	Draft Schedule Fees and Charges 2025/2026	The ARC received and noted the draft schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/2026.
5.8	Councillor Expenditure and Allowance Report	The ARC received and noted the Councillor Expenditure Report for the period 1 October – 31 December 2024.
5.9	CEO Credit Card Expenditure and Work-Related Reimbursements	The ARC received and noted the CEO Credit Card Expenditure and Work Related Reimbursements report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2024.
5.10	Risk Management Report	The ARC endorsed the commencement of a risk project to deliver a risk management framework, risk appetite, revised policies, and associated training and implementation.
5.11	Outstanding Internal Audit Actions Update	The ARC approved the closure of one outstanding internal audit action, the item relating to OH&S.
5.12	OH&S and WorkCover Update	The ARC received and noted the Occupational Health and Safety and WorkCover health check update for Q2 – October 2024 to December 2024 as presented in the report.
5.13	Communication of Council’s Employee Code of Conduct to Employees and Contractors and Compliance Monitoring	The ARC received and noted the Communication of Council’s Employee Code of Conduct to Employees and Contractors and Compliance Monitoring.
5.14	Policy No. 092 – Councillor Allowances and Support	The ARC endorsed Policy No. 092 – Councillor Allowances and Support.

5.15	Verbal Fraud and Corruption Report Presented by the Chief Executive Officer	The ARC received and noted the verbal fraud and corruption report presented by the Chief Executive Officer.
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RELEVANT LAW

Section 53 and 54 *Local Government Act 2020*.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

The ARC was established by Council at its meeting on 19 August 2020.

OPTIONS

There is no decision associated with this report, it is for noting in accordance with the reporting requirements of Section 54 (4) and (5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The *Local Government Act 2020* gives the ARC a broader focus and a stronger emphasis on key responsibility areas in financial and performance reporting, internal control environment (ICE), risk management, fraud prevention, internal audit, external audit, and compliance management risks.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The three independent members on the ARC ensure that there is involvement by key community members.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The self-assessment survey conducted by the ARC involves reviewing current practices to analyse whether there is a better way of doing things, which reflects a continuous improvement approach.

COLLABORATION

Reports from various agencies were included in the agenda.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The ARC is operating within the adopted budget.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

A review of Council policies is a key component of the Internal Control Environment Plan.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report will be considered in an open Council meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officer preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in regard to this matter.

7.3 POLICY NO. 071 - REGULATION 87, ERECTION OF CLASS 10A BUILDINGS ON VACANT ALLOTMENTS

Author: Wade Williams, Director Infrastructure and Development

Authoriser: Wade Williams, Director Infrastructure and Development

Attachments: 1 Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments
2 Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Lots - Revised

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the revised Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council officers have undertaken a review of Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments. Following this review, amendments have been made to enhance clarity on conditions for Class 10a buildings (domestic sheds), statutory declaration requirements, and procedural elements. This report seeks Council's endorsement of the revised policy.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the revised Council Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments for Council's consideration and endorsement. Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments (Revised 2025)

ATTACHMENTS

Policy No. 071 - Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments

Class 10a Building on Vacant Lots – Revised Policy No. 071

DISCUSSION

Council officers routinely review policies to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and alignment with current planning and building practices. Policy No. 071 governs the conditions under which Class 10a buildings (such as sheds and garages) may be erected on vacant allotments in General Residential Zone 1 (GRZ1) and Low-Density Residential Zones (LDRZ).

The key amendments to the policy include:

- Clarification on Approval Conditions: Council approval will only be granted if an application has been submitted for a dwelling or another class of building, and a Building Permit has been issued before the construction of a Class 10a building (domestic shed).
- Statutory Declaration Requirement: A Statutory Declaration must be provided, confirming that the Class 10a building will not be used for habitation and must be removed if construction of the dwelling does not commence within 12 months (or as otherwise agreed by Council).

- Disclosure Obligation: Before the Certificate of Occupancy is issued, the Statutory Declaration must be disclosed to all prospective purchasers and included in any contract of sale to the satisfaction of the Director of Infrastructure and Development.
- Procedural Elements: Approval processes now require submission of Report & Consent prior to determining if a Class 10a building is permissible on vacant land under the Planning Scheme.

Following the review and consideration of relevant planning and building regulations, these amendments ensure the policy remains clear, enforceable, and aligned with Council objectives.

RELEVANT LAW

- Building Regulations 2018
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Local Government Act 2020

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Policy No. 071 was last reviewed by Council on 17 March 2021 and is due for review in 2025.

OPTIONS

1. Council may choose to endorse the policy without changes.
2. Council may request further review and potential amendments.
3. Council may choose to revoke the policy if deemed unnecessary.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Regular policy reviews ensure ongoing compliance and relevance to current regulations and practices.

COLLABORATION

Council officers collaborated with relevant departments, including planning and building services, to ensure that the policy remains aligned with regulatory requirements and best practices.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Not applicable.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Policy No. 071 aligns with the provisions of the Building Regulations 2018 and relevant planning frameworks.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

- Gannawarra Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025
- Policy No. 074 – Information Privacy and Health Records
- Policy No. 083 – Email, Internet and Intranet
- Policy No. 107 – Public Interest Disclosure
- Policy No. 109 – Procurement
- Policy No. 141 – Public Transparency

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report will be considered in an open Council meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officer preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in relation to this matter.



Building Regulations 2018 – Regulation 87 – Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 071

1. POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to control the erection of class 10a Buildings on vacant allotments on land other than the General Residential Zone or Low Density Residential Zone of the Gannawarra Planning Scheme. 10a Buildings on vacant allotments are prohibited in these zones.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 That Council approval shall not be granted unless evidence is provided that an application has also been made for the erection of a dwelling or building of another class and that the Building Permit has been issued for the dwelling or building of another class prior to the erection of the shed or the like.
- 2.2 That the dwelling or building of another class must be commenced within 12 months of the Building Permit being issued.
- 2.3 That this policy shall have no effect on Class 10a buildings otherwise approved under the Subdivision Act 1988.
- 2.4 That conditions 1 and 2 may be varied providing a Statutory Declaration stating that the shed shall not be used for habitation is completed to the satisfaction of the Director Infrastructure and Development.

3. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review this policy as required but always within twelve months after a general election of the Council. At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to Director Infrastructure and Development on (03) 5450 9333.



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Originally adopted:	1997		
Reviewed:	25/10/2006	Minute Book Reference:	5366
Reviewed:	17/03/2010	Minute Book Reference:	7882
Reviewed:	17/04/2013	Minute Book Reference:	9849
Reviewed:	20/09/2017	Minute Book Reference:	12584
Reviewed:	21/11/2018	Minute Book Reference:	13752
Reviewed:	17/03/2021		
To be reviewed by:	2025		



~~Building Regulations 2018 – Regulation 87 – Erection of Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Allotments – Regulation 87 – Class 10a Buildings on Vacant Lots~~

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 071

1. POLICY PURPOSE

~~The purpose of this policy is to control the erection of class 10a buildings on vacant allotments on land other than the General Residential Zone or Low Density Residential Zone of the Gannawarra Planning Scheme. 10a buildings on vacant allotments are prohibited in these zones.~~

~~This policy prohibits the construction of Class 10a buildings (domestic sheds) on vacant allotments within General Residential Zone 1 and Low Density Residential Zones unless they are associated with an existing dwelling or have been approved under a Planning Permit for a dwelling-related Class 10a building (domestic shed).~~

2. POLICY

~~2.1 That Council approval shall not be granted unless evidence is provided that an application has also been made for the erection of a dwelling or building of another class and that the Building Permit has been issued for the dwelling or building of another class prior to the erection of the shed or the like.~~

~~2.2 That the dwelling or building of another class must be commenced within 12 months of the Building Permit being issued.~~

~~2.3 That this policy shall have no effect on Class 10a buildings otherwise approved under the Subdivision Act 1988.~~

~~2.4 That conditions 1 and 2 may be varied providing a Statutory Declaration stating that the shed shall not be used for habitation is completed to the satisfaction of the Director Infrastructure and Development.~~

~~2.1 Council approval will only be granted if evidence is provided that an application has been submitted for a dwelling or another class of building, and a Building Permit has been issued for that dwelling or building before the construction of a Class 10a building (domestic shed) or similar structure.~~

~~2.2 The dwelling or building of another class must commence construction within 12 months of the Building Permit being issued.~~

~~2.3 This policy does not apply to Class 10a buildings (domestic sheds) approved under the Subdivision Act 1988.~~

~~2.4 Conditions 2.1 and 2.2 may be varied if a Statutory Declaration is provided, stating:~~

- ~~• The Class 10a building (domestic shed) will not be used for habitation.~~
- ~~• The shed must be removed if construction of the dwelling has not commenced within 12 months (or as otherwise agreed in writing by Council).~~
- ~~• Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the Statutory Declaration must be disclosed to all prospective purchasers and included in any contract of sale to the satisfaction of the Director of Infrastructure and Development.~~

3. POLICY REVIEW

~~Council will review this policy as required but always within twelve months after a general election of the Council. At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.~~

~~Council will review this policy as required, but at a minimum, within twelve months following a general Council election.~~

~~At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act~~

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2006.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to Director Infrastructure and Development on (03) 5450 9333;

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

For further enquiries, contact the Manager of Planning & Regulatory Services at (03) 5450 9333.

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Atlas Folder – 3.000518

Originally adopted:

1997

Reviewed:

25/10/2006

Minute Book Reference:

5366

Reviewed:

17/03/2010

Minute Book Reference:

7882

Reviewed:

17/04/2013

Minute Book Reference:

9849

Reviewed:

20/09/2017

Minute Book Reference:

12584

Reviewed:

21/11/2018

Minute Book Reference:

13752

To be reviewed by:

2025

7.4 FINANCE POLICIES

Author: Rebecca Hollingworth, Acting Chief Financial Officer

Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate Services

Attachments:

- 1 Policy No. 025 - Outstanding Debt
- 2 Policy No. 034 - Rate Relief
- 3 Policy No. 140 - COVID-19 Hardship

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. adopt Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt;
2. adopt Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief; and
3. rescind Policy 140 – COVID-19 Hardship.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council officers undertake regular reviews of Council policies to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practices. This report addresses the following policies which have recently been reviewed:

- **Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt**

Outstanding Debt applies to ratepayers and other clients who have an outstanding debt with Council and sets out the steps that Council will take to recover these debts.

- **Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief**

Rate Relief is the policy that has traditionally provided for assistance to ratepayers experiencing general and financial hardship, specifically around rates and charges raised by Council.

- **Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship**

The COVID-19 Hardship policy was implemented in response to the global pandemic in 2020 and the potential impact to local businesses. Following several reviews and extensions of this policy it is officers recommendation that this policy is no longer relevant and should be rescinded.

PURPOSE

This report addresses three recently reviewed policies for the consideration of Council.

ATTACHMENTS

Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt

Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief

Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship

DISCUSSION

Council officers undertake regular reviews of Council policies to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practice. Council policies are reviewed as needed, however most policies must be reviewed within either 12 months or two years after a General Election. Reviewed policies are presented to Council for endorsement, or for repeal if it has been determined the policy is no longer required.

Council policies provide guidance to staff, Council and the community and are published on Council's website.

Below is a summary of recommended adjustments to reviewed policies.

Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt

- Inclusion of instalments in 4.1 Rates and Charges.
- Final notices listed for Children's services fees in 4.2.
- Removal of reference to Home and Community Care services, Meals on Wheels and National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief

- List Municipal Charge and Fire Services Property Levy/Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund payments that cannot be deferred.
- Including the process of valuation objections to rate increases of more than 50%.
- Removal of Financial Hardship – COVID – 19.

Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship

- It is recommended that his policy be rescinded as it is no longer required or relevant.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 2020 – section 120 – Council may charge interest on unpaid money

Local Government Act 1989 – Sections 170 (Deferred payment); and 171A (Waiver by application – financial hardship).

Local Government Act 1989 – section 172(2) – Council may charge interest on unpaid rates and charges

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt was last reviewed on 21 April 2021.

Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief was last reviewed on 16 March 2022.

Council adopted Policy No. 140 - COVID-19 Hardship on 15 April 2020. The policy was reviewed and extended on 16 September 2020.

Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship was expanded to include assistance to commercial ratepayers making multiple waste charges on 16 December 2020.

Policy No. 140 – COVID-19 Hardship was reviewed and extended on 17 March 2021 and again in June 2021 and was last reviewed by Council in September 2021.

OPTIONS

Council may wish to endorse the recommended, or alternative adjustments or decide to not make any adjustments to the policies at this time.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council policies provide guidance to Council, staff and the community in decision making and service delivery.

Policies are reviewed as required however most policies must be reviewed within either 12 months or two years of a Council election. Regular reviews of Council policies ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practices.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Gannawarra Shire Council Plan 2021 – 2025

Council Policy No. 025 – Outstanding Debt

Council Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report will be considered in an open Council meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in regards to this matter.



Outstanding Debt

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 025

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To confirm the manner in which Council will recover outstanding debt.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to ratepayers and other clients who have an outstanding debt with Council and sets out the steps that Council will take to recover these debts.

3. REFERENCES

Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020

4. POLICY

4.1 Rates and Charges

In the instance rates and charges remain outstanding following the final date for payment Council will issue a Final Notice. This will apply to ratepayers on either full payment or installment options. If the assessment remains unpaid after 14 days of the final notice being issued, or a suitable payment arrangements have not been made within that timeframe, Council will commence legal action via Council's Collection Agency to assist with recovery of the amount owing.

Penalty interest is to be charged on overdue amounts in accordance with Section 172(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

4.2 Private Works/Hire and General Debtors (Including childcare, leases, etc.)

Council will issue invoices for private works/hire and general debtors. Where these accounts are unpaid after 60 days, Council will commence legal action to assist with recovery of the amount owing. In relation to outstanding children services fees a final notice will be issued prior to proceeding to legal action to assist with the debt recovery.

Interest may be charged on amounts unpaid for in excess of 60 days in accordance with Section 120 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

5. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed within twelve months after a general election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna Offices, or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Corporate Services on (03) 5450 9333.

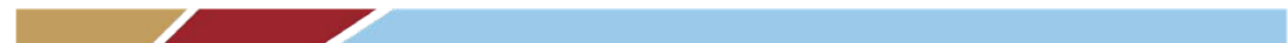
Records – 3.000518

Reviewed:

To be reviewed by:

21/04/2021

March 2029





Rate Relief

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 034

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To outline options for Council to assist ratepayers who are experiencing general and financial hardship make payments of rates and charges raised by Council.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to ratepayers who have an outstanding rate or charge account with Council and that ratepayer is experiencing general or financial hardship.

The Policy allows Council to consider an application for deferral or waiver for all or part of the rate or charge levied.

3. REFERENCES

Local Government Act 1989

4. POLICY

Council will give consideration to assisting a ratepayer experiencing general or financial hardship in the following manner:

- Deferred Payment of rate or charge
- Waiver or all or part of rate or charge.

Applications for consideration of assistance must be received by Council in writing.

Deferred Payment [Refer s170 *Local Government Act 1989*]

The intent of providing a deferral for payment of rates will be to assist a ratepayer who owns and occupies a single rateable property and who can demonstrate, via a Certified Statement of Financial Position, that payment of rates will cause hardship.

Council will consider an application for a deferred payment for such period as it thinks fit and if granted, will be based on the following conditions:

- That the ratepayer pays interest on the amount affected by the deferral at the interest rate adopted by Council for the rating year.
 - The deferral ceases and the deferred rates and accrued interest are immediately payable if the ratepayer ceases to own or occupy the property on which the rates are imposed.
 - The deferral ceases if Council, in its discretion, revokes the deferral. In such cases, Council will notify the ratepayer in writing and request full payment of the deferred rates and accrued interest within 30 days.
 - The deferral will be reviewed each year within one month of the issue of the annual rate notice.
- The granting of a deferral for payment of rates does not apply to the garbage charge, municipal charge and Fire Services Property Levy/Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund, nor will it alter the due date for payment of rates. An increase in the valuation of a property and a subsequent increase in rates cannot be considered grounds for a deferred payment of rates.



Waiver of Rates and Charges [Refer s171 *Local Government Act 1989*]

The intent of providing a waiver or partial waiver of rates and charges (including interest) will be to assist a ratepayer, who is the owner/occupier of a single rateable property that is used exclusively for residential purposes, to overcome immediate and significant financial difficulties.

Council will consider an application for a waiver or partial waiver of rates and charges (including interest) where such difficulties can be demonstrated and if granted, the waiver or partial waiver will apply only for the rating year in which the application was made.

An increase in rates exceeding 50%, arising from a valuation objection of an owner-occupied single-rateable residential property, may be considered grounds for a partial waiver if it can be demonstrated that the payment of such an increase would impose significant financial difficulties. Applications for waiver cannot be considered if rates increases are caused by valuation increases where improvements or additions to the land have occurred.

Ratepayers that apply for a waiver or partial waiver must be:

- eligible for a rates concession under the *State Concessions Act 1983*
- the owner and occupier of a single rateable property that is used exclusively for residential purposes
- able to provide a Certified Statement of Financial Position
- able to provide documented support for a waiver from a welfare agency, financial counsellor or government agency
- able to provide a Financial Plan to ensure future rates and charges and other household payments can be made.

Financial Hardship

Under Section 171A of the Act a person suffering financial hardship may make application to Council for a waiver of the whole or part of any rate, charge or interest.

Where a ratepayer is unable to make rate payments and the charging of interest would cause undue financial hardship, an application under section 171A will be considered subject to the following conditions:

1. This assistance will only be considered –
 - a. for a property used for residential purposes and is the sole or principal place of residence of the applicant
 - b. for land classified as farm land and is the sole or principal place of residence of the applicant
 - c. for land classified as commercial/industrial and is owned and operated by the applicant.
2. The applicant is able to provide a –
 - a. Certified Statement of Financial Position signed by a qualified accountant or financial counsellor.
 - b. Financial Plan to ensure future rates and charges can be paid.
3. That an application will only apply for the current rating financial year after which a review will be required.

5. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review the Rate Relief Policy within twelve months after a General Election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.



6. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gsc.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Director Corporate Services on (03) 5450 9333.

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Reviewed: 16/03/2022
To be reviewed by: March 2029





COVID-19 Hardship

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 140

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To outline options for Council to assist ratepayers who are experiencing temporary financial hardship due to the impacts of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on the 30 January 2020 and a State of Emergency was declared in Victoria on the 16 March 2020.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to ratepayers who have an outstanding rate or charge account with Council who are experiencing temporary financial hardship due to COVID-19.

The policy also applies to pro rata relief for assessments paying a multiple commercial garbage charge who are impacted by COVID-19.

This policy allows Council to withhold interest raised on outstanding charges levied, place a hold on referring accounts to Council's debt collection agency for recovery and allows Council to put in place payment plans tailored specifically to the debt holders needs.

3. REFERENCES

Local Government Act 1989

4. POLICY

Council to hold interest on all outstanding debts during the COVID-19 pandemic and hold off on legal action of rates and charges.

The interest hold date will begin from the declaration of the State of Emergency, 16 March 2020 and stay in place until a further review on or before 31 March 2022.

If the debt is not paid in full by this time and COVID-19 Hardship policy has not been extended, Council's Rate Relief – Policy No. 034 will apply and interest will be accrued from policy end date.

Rates notices will continue to be issued while interest holds are in place.

5. RELATED POLICIES

- Policy No. 034 – Rate Relief

6. RESPONSIBILITY

Council will review the COVID-19 Hardship policy on or before 31 March 2022.

Council will notify account holders of outstanding balances at the expiry of COVID-19 Hardship policy timeframe.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies at Gannawarra Shire Council's Kerang and Cohuna offices or online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Records – Document Profile No. 3.000518
Originally adopted: 15 April 2020
Reviewed: 16 September 2020
Reviewed: 16 December 2020
Reviewed: 17 March 2021
Reviewed: 16 June 2021
Reviewed: 30 September 2021
To be Reviewed: 31 March 2022

7.5 POLICY NO. 033 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Author: Dylan Taylor, Governance Officer

Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate Services

Attachments: 1 Policy No. 033 - Occupational Health and Safety

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt Policy No 033 – Occupational Health and Safety.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy outlines Council’s commitment to providing a safe and healthy work environment for employees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors. It establishes clear responsibilities for all parties, ensures compliance with the *Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*, and promotes proactive risk management.

The policy covers key areas such as incident reporting, hazard control, consultation, training, and continuous improvement of workplace safety practices. Reviews ensure alignment with legislative requirements and industry standards, reinforcing Council’s commitment to reducing workplace risks and fostering a strong safety culture.

PURPOSE

This report provides the reviewed Council Policy 033 – Occupational Health and Safety for Council adoption.

The policy has been reviewed to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practices.

ATTACHMENTS

- Policy No. 033 – Occupational Health and Safety

DISCUSSION

Council officers undertake regular reviews of Council policies to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practice. Council policies are reviewed as needed; however, most policies must be reviewed within either 12 months or two years after a General Election. Reviewed policies are presented to Council for endorsement, or for repeal if it has been determined the policy is no longer required.

Council policies provide guidance to staff, Council and the community and are published on Council’s website.

Proposed adjustments to this policy include:

- Wording refinements for clarity and consistency.
- New sections introduced:
 - Incident Reporting and Response – to define reporting requirements, investigation processes and WorkSafe Notifications

- Consultation and Communication – emphasising safety meetings and engagement with the OHS Committee
- General Safety Requirements – outlining individual responsibilities for maintaining workplace safety.

RELEVANT LAW

Local Government Act 1989

Local Government Act 2020

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Policy No. 033 – Occupational Health and Safety was last reviewed on 16 December 2020.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to approve the recommendation, provide alternative adjustments or decide to not make any adjustments to the policy at this time.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council policies provide guidance to Council, staff and the community in decision making and service delivery.

Policies are reviewed as required however most policies must be reviewed within either 12 months or two years of a Council election. Regular reviews of Council policies ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that they are reflective of current practices.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council Policy No. 033 – Occupational Health and Safety

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report will be considered in an open Council meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers preparing this report declares that they have no conflict of interest in regard to this matter.



Occupational Health and Safety

COUNCIL POLICY NO. 033

1. POLICY

Gannawarra Shire Council is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for all employees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors. This policy outlines Council's responsibilities and approach to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses and ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

Objectives:

- Prevent work related accidents, injuries, and illnesses.
- Maintain a safe working environment for all employees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors.
- Promote health and well-being through safe work practices.
- Provide clear procedures and instructions to ensure safe work systems.
- Ensure compliance with legislative requirements and current industry standards
- Provide necessary training, supervision, and resources to maintain a safe workplace.

Commitment:

Gannawarra Shire Council acknowledges its legal obligations under the *Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* and other legislation. Management and supervisors play a key role in ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all individuals within the organisation. To fulfil this commitment, Council will:

- Identify, assess and control workplace hazards through proactive risk management.
- Ensure compliance with all relevant OHS legislation, standards and best practices.
- Maintain safe work systems, including emergency response plans.
- Provide and maintain safe plant, vehicles, equipment, and substances.
- Ensure safe handling, storage, and transport of hazardous materials.
- Provide appropriate facilities to support employee welfare.
- Deliver comprehensive OHS training and supervision.
- Consult with employees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors to enhance workplace safety.
- Allocate sufficient resources, including financial and human resources, to support OHS initiatives.
- Regularly review and improve OHS policies and procedures through audits and inspections.
- Establish measurable OHS objectives and targets to ensure continued improvement in eliminating workplace risks.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

Chief Executive Officer

- Has ultimate responsibility for the implementation and review of the Gannawarra Shire Council OHS Management System.

Managers and Supervisors

- Are responsible for the effective implementation and regular review of the OHS Management System and Policy.
- Must observe, implement and fulfil responsibilities under the Acts and Regulations which apply to OHS, and comply with Australian Standards and approved Codes of Practice.
- Must ensure that the agreed procedures for regular consultation between management and those designated and elected OHS responsibilities are followed.
- Are responsible for ensuring that the OHS Management System is effectively implemented, and aligned with Gannawarra Shire Council objectives.
- Must ensure that all significant risks associated with hazards in their operation are identified, controlled, registered and reviewed in consultation with employees and other affected persons.
- Must ensure all incidents within their area of control are reported, investigated and that corrective actions are implemented.

Employees and Volunteers

- Must take reasonable care of their own health and that of others in the workplace.
- Are responsible for the proper use and maintenance of their allocated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Have a duty to actively participate in OHS related programs.
- Must comply with relevant OHS policies, procedures and programs.
- Must not bypass or misuse systems, plant, vehicles, equipment or substances provided for OHS purposes.
- Must report incidents and any unsafe conditions that come to their attention.

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

- To be consulted regarding OHS Management System, including policy, procedure and program review and implementation.

Contractors

- Must complete and submit all required pre - qualification documentation via the Rapid Contractor System.
- Must follow health and safety directions from designated officers.
- Must ensure any place of work under their control is maintained in a condition that is safe and without risk to health.
- Must provide and maintain a safe working environment for employees and sub-contractors, including adequate welfare facilities.
- Must ensure that any person affected by their work are not exposed to risks to health and safety.
- Must comply with all relevant Acts, Regulations, Codes of Practice and relevant Council policies.

3. INCIDENT REPORTING & RESPONSE

- All workplace incidents, injuries, and hazards must be reported to a Safety Representative, Supervisor and/or Manager within twelve hours.
- Serious incidents must be reported to WorkSafe, the Chief Executive Officer, Manager People Culture, relevant director and Governance Officer immediately, in accordance with legal requirements.
- Incident investigations will be conducted to determine root causes and implement corrective measures.
- Council will maintain records of all incidents and ensure corrective actions are tracked.



4. CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

Council values open communication and consultation regarding workplace safety. This will be achieved through:

- Consultation with the OHS Committee on policies and procedures.
- Active participation in risk assessments and workplace safety initiatives.
- Encouraging employees and volunteers to provide feedback on safety manners.

5. GENERAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All Gannawarra Shire Council employees, volunteers, contractors, and visitors are responsible for maintaining a safe work environment by:

- Following safe work practices and procedures.
- Reporting any suspected health or safety risks to their manager or safety representative.
- Using and maintaining PPE as required.
- Reporting all incidents, injuries, and near misses as soon as possible.

Ensuring that any work-related notifiable incident is reported to WorkSafe, the Chief Executive Officer, Manager People Culture, relevant director and Governance Officer immediately.

6. POLICY REVIEW

Council will review the Occupational Health and Safety policy as required but always within twelve months after a general election of the Council.

At the time of review, this policy was compliant with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

Members of the public may inspect all Council policies online at www.gannawarra.vic.gov.au.

Any enquiries in relation to this policy should be directed to the Manager People Culture or Governance Officer on (03) 5450 9333.

Records – 3.000518
Originally adopted:1995
Last Reviewed: 19/03/2025

8 URGENT BUSINESS

9 NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - 96 - VNI WEST POWERLINE PROJECT

Author: Geoff Rollinson, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

MOTION

I, Councillor Daniel Bolitho, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 19 March 2025, I intend to move the following motion:-

1. That the Gannawarra Shire Council write to the Minister for Energy expressing deep concern regarding the VNI West powerline project, particularly in relation to landholder consultation, consideration, compensation, and community benefit.
 2. That the Gannawarra Shire Council requests immediate and thorough action from the proponents of the of the VNI West transmission line project to address the following issues:
 - Re-open the route planning process and consultation, with a focus on the financial, mental, and physical health impacts on landholders. This process must apply stronger scrutiny and weighting against the impact on hosting and surrounding landholders.
 - Compensation for landholders is substantially increased, including the implementation of a benefit structure for easement landholders and near neighbours. These benefits must be provided proportionate to the lifespan of the transmission line.
 - Economic benefits are provided to all residents of the Gannawarra Shire, including an assessment of (but not limited to) an exemption to transmission charges associated with the transmission and distribution networks and access to energy at an equivalent value to wholesale energy feed-in tariffs.
-

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

10 QUESTION TIME

Question Time provides an opportunity for members of the public to submit questions, in advance, to gain a response at the Council meeting.

QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY

Completed Question Time forms must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer via email council@gsc.vic.gov.au no later than 5:00pm on the day prior to the Council meeting.

A maximum number of two questions may be submitted in writing by any one person.

Questions will be read by the author, Mayor or Chief Executive Officer.

The Mayor or Chief Executive Officer may indicate that they require further time to research an answer. In this case, an answer will be provided in writing generally within ten (10) business days.

Questions will be answered at the meeting, or later in writing, unless the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer has determined that the relevant question seeks confidential information defined in Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* such as:

- Council business information
- security information
- land use planning information
- law enforcement information
- legal privileged information
- personal information
- private commercial information
- confidential meeting information
- internal arbitration information
- Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information
- an issue outside the Gannawarra Shire Council core business

or if the question is:

- defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable in language or substance
- repetitive of a question already answered (whether at the same or an earlier meeting)
- asked to embarrass a Councillor or Council officer.

No debate or discussion of questions or answers shall be permitted and all questions and answers shall be as brief as possible.

11 DELEGATES REPORTS

11.1 DELEGATES REPORTS

Author: Jodie Basile, Executive Assistant to CEO

Authoriser: Geoff Rollinson, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has memberships with peak Local Government associations, local and regional forums, along with statutory committees. Some memberships require that a Councillor be appointed to act as a delegates to formally represent Council, typically in a voting capacity.

This Agenda item provides an opportunity for Council appointed delegates to present a verbal update on any pertinent matters arising from Council's membership with the following associations.

COUNCILLOR COMMITTEES 2024/2025	
COMMITTEE	COUNCILLOR
Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC)	Cr Garner Smith, Mayor
Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils (LCGC)	Cr Garner Smith, Mayor
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA)	Cr Daniel Bolitho
Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC)	Cr Lisa Farrant
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)	Cr Lisa Farrant
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	Cr Ross Stanton
Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)(x 2)	Cr Garner Smith Cr Ross Stanton
Transport Committee including Rail Freight Alliance	Cr Pat Quinn
Rural Councils Victoria (RCV)	Cr Charlie Gillingham
Timber Towns Victoria (TTV)	Cr Pat Quinn
Community Halls Community Asset Committee	Cr Keith Link

12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil