



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA ORDINARY MEETING

Meeting to be held at

Wellington Centre – Wellington Room

Foster Street, Sale and via MS Teams

Tuesday 15 October 2024, commencing at 5:00 PM

**or join Wellington on the Web:
www.wellington.vic.gov.au**

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
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COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the Public Gallery should note that the Council records and publishes Council meetings via YouTube to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Wellington community. These recordings are also archived and may be published on Council's Website for viewing by the public or used for publicity or information purposes. At the appropriate times during the meeting, members of the gallery may address the Council at which time their image, comments or submissions will be recorded.

Members of the public who are not in attendance at the Council meeting but who wish to communicate with the Council via the online webform should lodge their questions or comments early in the meeting to ensure that their submissions can be dealt with at the end of the meeting. Please could gallery visitors, Councillors and invited online attendees ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together to make a difference. We listen and lead to provide quality services that improve life for all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

“Wellington Shire Council acknowledges our offices are located on the traditional lands of the Gunaikurnai nation. We pay our deep respects to their Elders past, present and future and acknowledge their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to their land and waters.”

ELECTION PERIOD

Council's Election Period has commenced in preparation for the local government elections.

During this time, Council must adhere to the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Election Period Policy, to ensure that no prohibited decisions are made that could unreasonably bind the incoming Council or influence the election outcome.

Councillors are not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

3.1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 October 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 October 2024.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

5. ACCEPTANCE OF LATE AND URGENT ITEMS

6. NOTICE/S OF MOTION

7. RECEIVING OF PETITION OR JOINT LETTERS

7.1. OUTSTANDING PETITIONS

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

8. INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

9. QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

9.1. OUTSTANDING QUESTION/S ON NOTICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			

10. DELEGATES REPORT

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

2 September	Attended the Gippsland New Energy Coordination Group meeting.
3 - 4 September	Attended the Gippsland New Energy Conference, Traralgon.
4 September	Attended a Joint State/Local Government monthly CEO Forum. Attended the Gippsland Offshore Wind Alliance Launch, Traralgon. Met with Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy, The Hon Chris Bowen MP. In attendance was Mayor Bye.
5 September	Attended Committee for Wellington's monthly meeting, Sale.
6 September	Attended a Building Resilience Together forum.
9 September	Attended a Councillor Community Conversation Tour, Kilmany. In attendance was Mayor Bye and Cr Ripper.
10 September	Met with Gippsland Vehicle Collection representatives, Sale.
11 September	Met with Department of Transport representatives, Sale.
12 September	Attended the MAV Annual Conference and Dinner, Melbourne.
13 September	Met with Cameron Sporting Complex committee members, Maffra.
16 September	Attended a roundtable discussion with Shadow Treasurer, Brad Rowsell and State Member for Gippsland East, Tim Bull, Metung.
18 September	Met with Sale Music Festival committee members, Sale.
23 September – 14 October 2024	Annual Leave.

12. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

12.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To report on all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

BACKGROUND

Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* required a written record be kept of all assemblies of Councillors, stating the names of all Councillors and Council staff attending, matters considered and any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor. These records were required to be reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and recorded in the minutes. Under the new *Local Government Act 2020*, this requirement is no longer provided for however, in accordance with good governance, Council will continue to provide records of assemblies of Councillors to ensure that the community are kept informed of Councillors activity and participation.

Following is a summary of all Assembly of Councillor records received for the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Assembly of Councillors 1 October 2024 - Council Workshop Day [**12.1.1** - 1 page]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Note and receive the attached assembly of Councillors records; or
2. Not receive the attached assembly of Councillors records.

PROPOSAL

That Council note and receive the attached assembly of Councillors records during the period 23 September 2024 to 6 October 2024.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The reporting of written records of assemblies of Councillors to the Council in the prescribed format complied with Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* however, without prescription under the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council will continue to provide these records in accordance with good governance.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

While this report does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic outcome, it aligns with good governance.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE - COUNCIL DAY

COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – 1 OCTOBER 2024			
COUNCILLOR	ATTENDANCE	OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	
Cr Ian Bye	YES	Chris Hastie	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Cr John Tatterson	YES (<i>Item 1.2 only</i>)	Arthur Skipitaris	General Manager Organisational Performance and Governance
Cr Carolyn Crossley	YES (<i>Online</i>)	Vanessa Ebsworth	Acting General Manager Development
Cr Carmel Ripper	YES	Clem Gillings	General Manager Community and Culture
Cr Gayle Maher	YES		
Cr Garry Stephens	YES		
Cr Jill Wood	YES		
Cr Marcus McKenzie	YES		
Cr Scott Rossetti	YES		
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST NOTED*			
NIL			

* In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Wellington Shire Council Governance Rules a Councillor who has a conflict of interest must not participate in discussion of matters that will come before Council for a decision, or if a decision will be made by a member of staff acting under delegation.

WORKSHOP DETAILS – 1 OCTOBER 2024		
ITEM NO.	WORKSHOP TITLE	PRESENTERS
1.1	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Badger, Chair Audit & Risk Committee Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services Conflicts of Interest: NIL
1.2	FUTURE WELLINGTON ENGAGEMENT AND DELIVERY OF COMMUNITY VISION, COUNCIL PLAN AND SUB-PLANS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Billie-Jo Thorburn, Performance and Reporting Coordinator Nicole Danks, Communications and Engagement Advisor Carly Bloomfield, Manager Organisational Performance and Governance Conflicts of Interest: NIL

12.2. COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

For Council to receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report as attached.

BACKGROUND

The September 2024 Council Performance Report comprises an overview of Council finances. This includes an Income Statement, a Balance Sheet with commentary regarding any major variances, information on cash balances, the level of rates outstanding and a progress update on Council's Capital Works program.

Sections 97(1) and 97(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) requires that at least every three months, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a statement comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Quarterly Finance Report - September 2024 [12.2.1 - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

Following consideration of the attached September 2024 Performance Report, Council can resolve to either:

1. Receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report; or
2. Not receive and note the September 2024 Council Performance Report and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the attached September 2024 Council Performance Report.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Provision of a monthly financial report to the community facilitates accountability and transparency and ensures that Council and management are able to make informed decisions in a timely manner.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Sections 97(1) and 97(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that at least every three months, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a statement comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

The September 2024 Council Performance Report has been prepared in the context of existing Council policies.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 4 "Services and Infrastructure" states the following strategic outcome:

Strategic Outcome 4.1: *"A financially sustainable, high performing organisation."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcome.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



SEPTEMBER 2024 QUARTERLY FINANCE SUMMARY

INCORPORATED IN PERFORMANCE REPORT

OPERATING RESULT STATEMENT
For the period ending 30 September 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR 2024-25		
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variance
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Income						
Rates and charges	72,267	71,900	367	72,234	72,234	-
Statutory fees & fines	197	276	(79)	1,064	1,064	-
User fees	1,645	2,028	(383)	10,565	10,565	-
Grants - operating	16,927	1,443	15,484	20,501	20,501	-
Grants - capital	178	-	178	15,804	15,562	242
Contributions - operating (monetary)	-	97	(97)	393	393	-
Contributions - capital (monetary)	-	-	-	2,399	2,399	-
Contributions - non monetary	-	125	(125)	500	500	-
Other income	1,800	1,049	751	6,944	6,944	-
Total Income (Inc capital income)	93,014	76,918	16,096	130,404	130,162	242
Expenditure						
Employee costs	9,358	9,333	(25)	37,384	37,384	-
Materials and services	11,699	11,051	(648)	41,270	40,690	(580)
Bad and doubtful debts	-	4	4	15	15	-
Depreciation and amortisation	7,994	8,594	600	34,379	34,379	-
Borrowing costs	3	43	40	172	172	-
Finance cost leases	1	30	29	120	120	-
Other expenses	130	135	5	719	719	-
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	(101)	(61)	40	722	1,398	676
Total Expenditure	29,084	29,129	45	114,781	114,877	96
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	63,930	47,789	16,141	15,623	15,285	338

Note: The forecast figures reflect any known changes that have arisen since the adoption of the original budget. The forecast enables Council to more accurately monitor financial performance during the year and predict the end of year position. However, Council must report publicly against the original adopted budget on a quarterly basis.

Adopted Budget to YTD Actuals

The result for the quarter ending 30 September 2024 reflects a surplus of \$63.9M against an adopted budget surplus of \$47.8M, resulting in a favourable variance of \$16.1M. The variance is a combination of operating result (operating income less operating expense of \$16.0M and the impact of capital grants and contributions (non-monetary) of \$0.1M).

A summary of major operating variances that have occurred to date include:

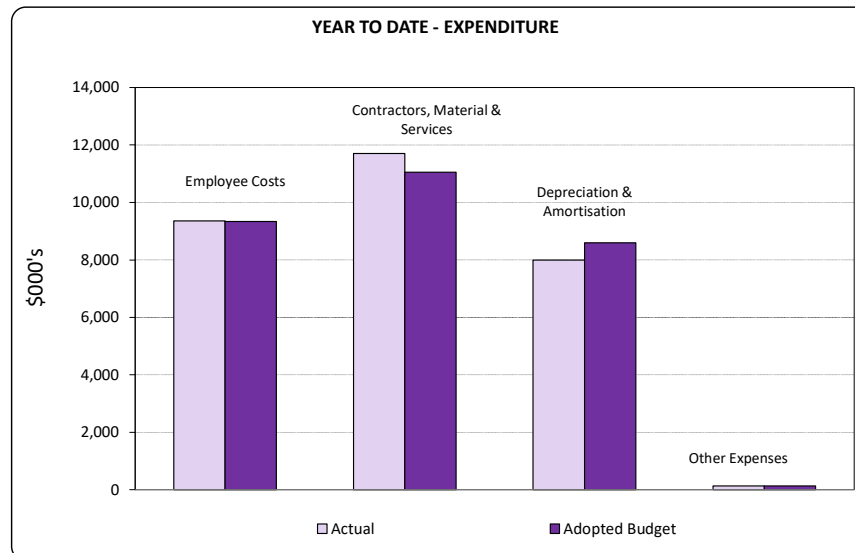
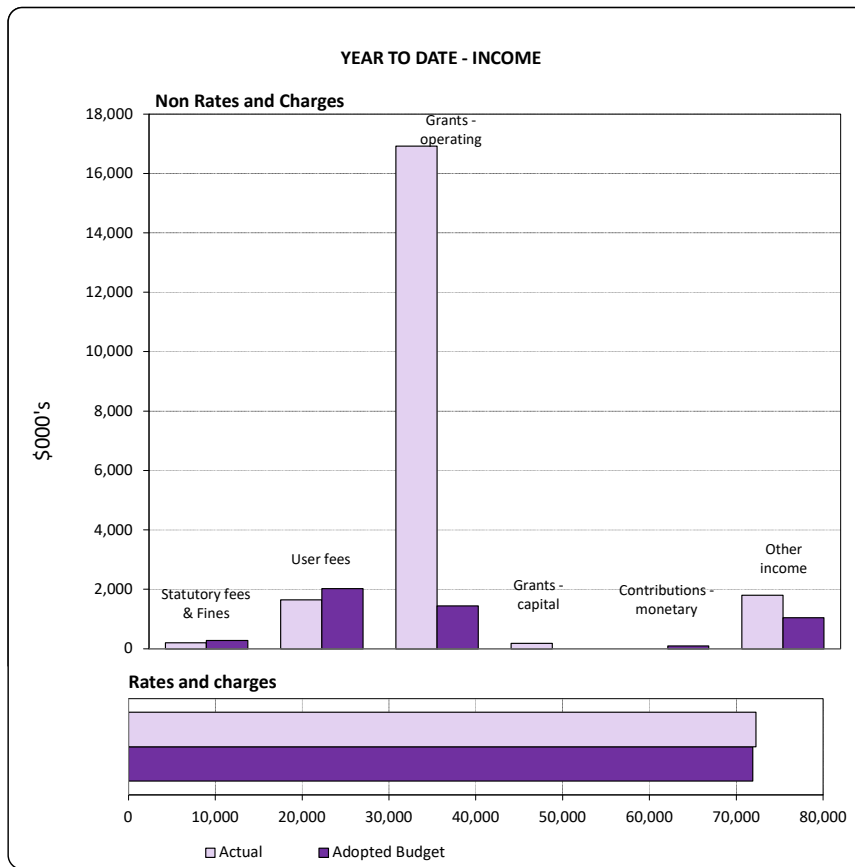
Operating Income

- **\$0.37 million** **Rates & charges** - This primarily represents additional supplementary rates of \$0.2M and garbage charges of \$0.1M raised since the 2024/25 budget adoption, due to increased building activity for new residential subdivisions and developments throughout the Shire. This will be the largest collective of supplementary rates for the year as they were completed early in the financial year in order to be included on the rate payers first instalment notices.
- **(\$0.38 million)** **User fees** - Landfill gate fees will be received on an ongoing basis throughout the year, it is currently (\$444k) under budget, although this is expected to all be fully received by year end. Aqua Energy is still undergoing its redevelopment and is (\$61k) behind its expected memberships and attendance income, the redevelopment is expected to continue for the entire financial year, although attendance is expected to pick up during the summer for outdoor pools. Saleyard revenue has increased by \$53k as closure of competitors has increased animal trade numbers, and this trend is expected to continue for the year.
- **\$15.48 million** **Grants (operating)** - The 2024/25 Victorian Grants Commission funding was budgeted to be received in 2023/24, but \$15.2 million was received in July 2024.
- **\$0.75 million** **Other income** - Other income mainly includes interest earned on investments been higher than expected.

Operating Expenditure

- **(\$0.65 million)** **Contractors, materials and services variance includes:**
All variances listed below are related to the timing of expenditure and are not expected to impact the year end results;
 - a. **(\$0.84M)** - Payment of annual software licensing fees slightly ahead of the schedule.
 - b. **\$0.12M** - Underspends in infrastructure and parks maintenance expenses during the first quarter.
 - c. **\$0.11M** - Contributions and subsidies yet to be paid on health services and community facilities.

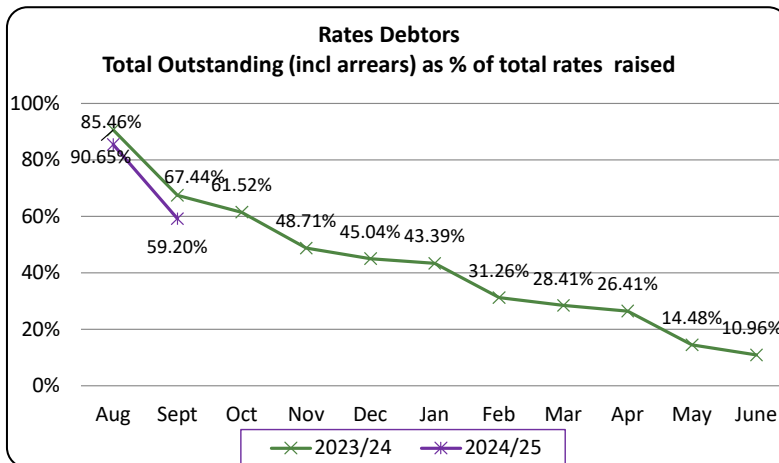
SEPTEMBER 2024 COMPONENTS AT A GLANCE



BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2024

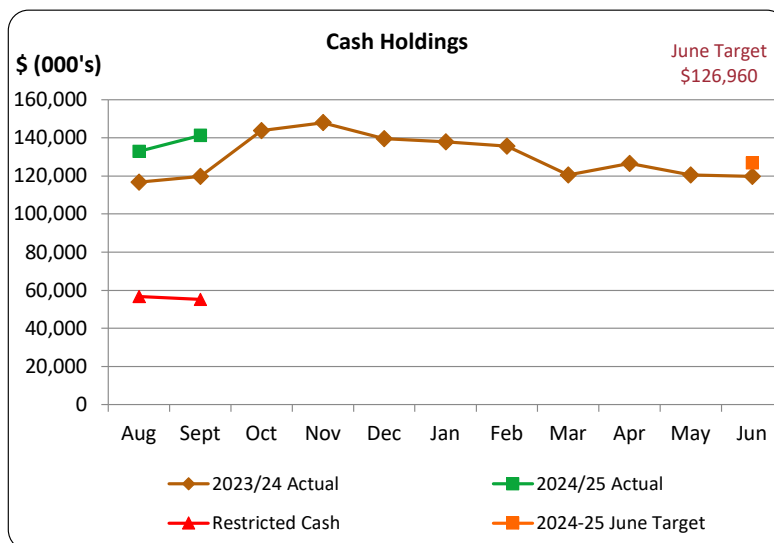
Actual		Actual	Forecast	Adopted Budget
September 23		September 24	June 25	June 25
\$000's		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Assets				
179,935	Total Current Assets	180,434	134,568	134,568
1,365,807	Total Non Current Assets	1,435,392	1,484,874	1,484,874
1,545,742	Total Assets	1,615,826	1,619,442	1,619,442
Liabilities				
30,302	Total Current Liabilities	29,385	32,784	32,784
14,935	Total Non Current Liabilities	19,211	23,328	23,328
45,237	Total Liabilities	48,596	56,112	56,112
1,500,505	Net Assets	1,567,230	1,563,330	1,563,330



The rate debtors outstanding at the end of September 2024 were \$47.7 million (59.2%) compared to September 2023 of \$51.2 million (67.4%).

The first rate instalment was due on 30 September 2024 and second instalment rate notice will be sent in October 2023 (due 30 November 2024).

Council has introduced a new rates payment platform called "Payble" allowing to pay rate instalments weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or full.



Council cash holdings at the end of September 2024 are \$141.3M, slightly lower than September 2023 of \$144.8M, due to delayed grant funding and above average expenditure for capital projects.

Current cash holdings include \$55.2M in restricted funds: \$12.8M to cover reserves, \$38.0M to cover provisions and trusts, \$4.4M associated with carried forwards.

The balance is generally working capital for ongoing operations.

Restricted cash is money that is reserved for specific purposes and therefore not available for general business use.

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

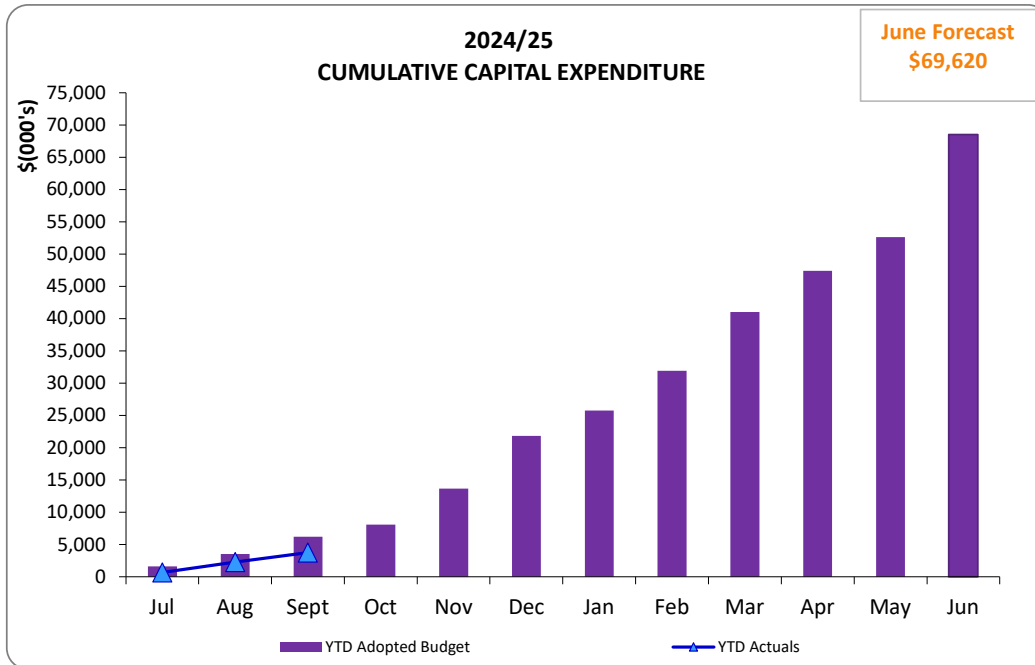
	PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024			
	Actual	Year End Forecast	Adopted Budget	Actual Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Property	2,365	28,920	29,479	(27,114)
Infrastructure	925	35,002	33,685	(32,760)
Plant and Equipment	458	4,788	4,454	(3,996)
Intangibles	-	910	910	(910)
Grand Total	3,748	69,620	68,528	(64,780)

	PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024			
	Actual	Year End Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Renewal	2,323	41,272	40,753	(38,430)
Upgrade	600	13,297	12,986	(12,386)
Expansion	825	15,051	14,789	(13,964)
New Assets	-	-	-	0
Grand Total	3,748	69,620	68,528	(64,780)

Capital Works Summary - Period Ending 30 September 2024

- Overall 5 projects are at practical completion, 14 more projects are underway and 25 projects have had contracts awarded but not yet commenced. 52 projects are in pre-planning (development of the concept design, the detail design, community consultation and seeking quotes or tenders).
- The multi year Aqua Energy Sale - Redevelopment works are continuing and are on track to be completed on time.
- Projects which have already been completed this financial year include:
 - Port of Sale Mooring Access Project.
 - West Sale Aerodrome Electrical Distribution Cabinet.
 - The Wedge Dock Hoist.
 - Gippsland Regional Livestock Exchange - Facility Improvements.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024



12.3. CONSIDERATION OF 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendation, if moved and carried by Council constitutes neither a prohibited decision in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor a significant decision within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To consider and receive Wellington Shire Council's Annual Report 2023/24 as attached.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider and receive the Annual Report 2023/24 as presented by the Mayor in accordance with section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 2020.

BACKGROUND

Each financial year Council prepares an annual report which is designed to meet legislative requirements and inform the community about our previous year's financial performance and achievements, particularly against the strategic objectives and initiatives, outlined in the Council Plan. The annual report contains a Report of Council's Operations, audited Performance Statement and audited Financial Statement.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Wellington Shire Council Annual Report 2023-24 [12.3.1 - 1 page]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To consider and receive the Annual Report 2023/24; or
2. Not receive the Annual Report 2023/24 at this meeting and refer it to another council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council consider and receive the Annual Report 2023/24 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The Annual Report is being presented in accordance with Council's obligations under Section 100 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which states '*the Mayor must report on the implementation of the Council Plan by presenting the annual report at a Council meeting open to the public*'. The Council meeting must be held no later than the day before the 2024 Local Government Elections. The obligation to present the Annual Report is not affected by the election period requirements. However, photos and references of Councillors have been redacted from the Annual Report 2023/2024, as attached and will be reinstated following the end of the 2024 Election Period at 6pm on 26 October 2024.

Council's Annual Report 2023/24 has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 4 "Services and Infrastructure" states the following strategic outcome:

Strategic Outcome 4.1: *"A financially sustainable, high performing organisation."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcome and also supports Wellington Shire Council's legislative and public transparency principles as per the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

A copy of the Annual Report 2023/24 will be published on Council's website.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

[LINK TO ATTACHMENT 12.3.1](#)



12.4. BIENNIAL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendation, if moved and carried by Council constitutes neither a prohibited decision in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor a significant decision within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To provide Council with an overview of the activities of Council's Audit & Risk Committee, including findings and recommendations, for the period April 2024 to September 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024 as attached.

BACKGROUND

Under section 54(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councils are required, biannually, to receive a report from their Audit and Risk Committee that describes the activities of the Committee, including its findings and recommendations, at a Council meeting.

Accordingly, the Audit & Risk Committee have provided the attached report that details their activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024 for Council's review.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Audit & Risk Committee Update - October 2024 [12.4.1 - 11 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024; or
2. Not receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2024 to September 2024 and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

The Council receive the biannual report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period April 2023 to September 2023.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Under Section 54(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, an Audit & Risk Committee must

- a. prepare a biannual audit and risk report that describes the activities of the Audit & Risk Committee and includes its findings and recommendations; and
- b. provide a copy of the biannual audit and risk report to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 4 "Services and Infrastructure" states the following strategic outcome:

Strategic Outcome 4.1: *"A financially sustainable, high performing organisation."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcome.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL

April 2024 – September 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Audit and Risk Committee's objective is to provide appropriate independent advice and recommendations to Council on matters relevant to the Committee's Charter to support Council in discharging its oversight responsibilities. The Audit and Risk Committee (Committee) is also responsible for ensuring that Council's policies and procedures comply with the over-arching Governance Principles, the relevant Acts, Regulations and any Ministerial Directions. The Committee acts in this capacity by monitoring, reviewing, endorsing and advising on matters as set out in the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, developed in accordance with Section 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Committee is an advisory committee to the Council and does not have executive powers or authority to implement actions in areas over which management has responsibility and does not have any delegated financial responsibility. Neither does the Committee have any management functions and is therefore independent of management.

As per Section 54(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020* the Audit and Risk Committee must prepare a biannual report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee including its findings and recommendations and table a copy of the biannual report at the next Council meeting.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

The Committee exists and functions as required by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (the "Act"). The Committee's objectives, authority, composition, tenure, roles and responsibilities along with reporting, administrative and governance arrangements are detailed in the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, updated and adopted by Council on 19 December 2023.

The Chairman of the Committee reports bi-annually to Council on the following matters –

- A summary of the work of the Committee performed to discharge its responsibilities;
- A summary of Management's progress in addressing the findings and recommendations made in internal, external and Parliamentary Committee reports;
- An overall assessment of the Council's risk, control and compliance framework, including details of any significant emerging risks or legislative changes impacting Council; and
- A summary of the Committee's performance review (annually).

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee consists of five members appointed by Council: three independent members and two Councillors. Independent members may be reappointed for subsequent terms, to a maximum of nine years. The Chair of the Committee is an independent member.

Member	Date appointed	Conclusion of Term	Meetings attended during period	Meetings eligible during period
Independent Members				
Chris Badger (Chair)	6 Dec 2016	28 Oct 2025	3	3
Sarah Heath	29 Oct 2021	28 Oct 2024	3	3
Tony Smith	2 Feb 2022	1 Feb 2025	3	3
Council Members				
Cr Garry Stephens	6 Dec 2016		3	3
Cr Gayle Maher	6 Dec 2022		3	3
Management				
David Morcom (CEO)	-	-	3	3
Arthur Skipitaris (GMCS)	-	-	3	3
Ian Carroll (MCF)	-	-	3	3

As the current term of two of the independent members will expire, one in October 2024 and one in February 2025, Expressions of Interest were sought from suitably qualified persons interested in becoming an independent member in August. Following the receipt of 21 expressions of interest and interviews of the 7 shortlisted candidates, Council resolved that:

- Tony Smith be reappointed for a term commencing 2 February 2025 to 28 October 2026; and
- Craig Nisbet be appointed for a 3-year term commencing 29 October 2024 to 28 October 2027.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee met 3 times during the reporting period: on 29 May 2024, 29 August 2024 and 9 September 2024. A quorum is three (with a minimum of 2 independent members). A quorum of Councillors and Independent Members was achieved for all meetings as outlined in the table above.

Committee Minutes Reported to Council

Minutes of each Committee meeting was presented to Council, at the next practicable ordinary meeting of Council.

Internal Auditor

Representatives from Council's Internal Auditors, HLB Mann Judd, attended two meetings during the period and presented the findings of the Cyber Security (Essential Eight), Rates Revenue (incl. data interrogation), Assurance Map and Follow Up reviews. All audit issues identified are risk rated. Recommendations are assigned to the responsible officer and tracked in the *Audit Plan* module within Council's reporting software, Pulse.

External Auditor

External Audit representatives (Crowe) from the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) attended the May meeting to present the Audit Strategy Memorandum and the September

meeting to present the Independent Audit report for 2023/24 including the Financial Report and Performance Statement. The External Auditor gave an unmodified audit opinion, the finance report and performance statement were represented accurately and fairly, and that management were well prepared and provided information in a timely manner. No new actions or improvements were identified and there were no issues in relation to fraud, inefficiencies, probity or prudence. A clean external result was achieved. The External Auditor noted a continual improvement in Management's preparedness for the audit.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee meets on a quarterly basis to consider those matters within the scope of its charter with an additional meeting in September to consider the draft Financial Report, Performance Statement and Council's Annual Report.

At each meeting of the Committee, the following standard items were considered:

- Council policies that are considered strategic in nature
- Monitoring the progress of implementation of internal and external audit recommendations
- Report of Council financials
- Register of Commissioned Reports
- Report of any known instances of fraud
- Update on information services and cyber security
- Current legal matters
- Report of insurance claims
- OH&S Matters across the organisation
- Summary of the Gifts Register (bi-annually)
- Credit card expenditure of the Chief Executive Officer (bi-annually)
- Related Party Transactions (bi-annually)
- Assessment of meeting conduct.

Highlights of the period

Key Committee highlights during the period were:

- Reviewed the findings of the internal audits on –
 - Cyber Security (Essential Eight);
 - Rates Revenue (incl. data interrogation);
 - Assurance Map; and
 - Follow Up Review of previous audit actions;
- Reviewed the draft Strategic Internal Audit Plan;
- Received and reviewed the Audit Strategy Memorandum for the year ending 30 June 2024;
- Received a report on changes to Accounting Policies/Accounting Standards;
- Received and endorsed a six-monthly report of strategic risk to Council's operations;
- Received the Biannual Report to Council on Audit & Risk Committee Activities;
- Reviewed the performance of the internal auditor;
- Received an update on the draft Budget 2024/25;
- Received the VAGO report: Results of 2022-23 Audits: Local Government;
- Received an Asset Revaluation Methodology Report;
- Received a report on the Business Continuity Plan Exercise;
- Received an update on the Legislative Compliance Register;

- Received an update on the Artificial Intelligence User Policy;
- Received a Postmortem Review of the Internal Audit Tender process;
- Reviewed the Audit & Risk Committee Annual Plan;
- Evaluated the Audit & Risk Committee performance (attached);
- Received a report on reimbursements made to Councillors and members of delegated Committees;
- Received the External Auditor’s Closing Report and Final Management Letter for the year ending 30 June 2024;
- Reviewed the draft Financial Report and Performance Statement for the year ending 30 June 2024 and recommended Council provide it’s in principle agreement; and
- Reviewed the draft Annual Report 2023/24.

Audit Response (as at 12 September 2024)

	2022	2023	2024
Actions completed	261	296	318
Actions “in progress” and overdue	17	6	5
Actions “in progress” but not overdue	2	7	2
TOTAL	280	309	325

Of the 5 overdue actions, 4 have a low risk rating and 1 has a medium risk rating. It is expected that completion of the medium risk action will be achieved by the end of December 2024 as part of a new software rollout.

Council Risk, Control and Compliance Framework

Having finalised the improvement program to enhance Council’s Risk Management processes and culture, the Committee members continue to review a number of strategic risks at each meeting, which will culminate in the endorsement of all strategic risks at the meeting in December.

CHAIR’S CLOSING REMARKS

I would like to thank the management team for their support and diligence in the running of the Committee and I thank my colleagues, Sarah Heath and Tony Smith and Councillors Garry Stephens and Gayle Maher for their contribution to a strong Audit and Risk Committee.

I would particularly like to acknowledge Sarah, Gayle and Garry whose time on the committee is coming to an end. They have provided good support to the Chair and a value added contribution to Council.

Since the last update we have focussed on:

- the ongoing reduction of previous internal and external audit actions of which good progress has been made.

- review of risk Charter, Framework and strategic risks.
- the implementation of suggested improvements that continue to come from recent VAGO and IBAC investigations across numerous sectors, which the Audit & Risk Committee and Management believe can be utilised to further strengthen organisational governance and culture.
- Reviewing the OH&S action plan.
- Working with management and the external auditor to improve external audit processes particularly related to asset valuations, noting 2023 VAGO review of asset valuations and recommended actions on Management and the Committee.

The Committee's overall assessment during this period is that the Council continues to effectively manage operational and financial matters and is appropriately focusing on risk culture within the business.

Mr. Chris Badger
Chair
Wellington Shire Council Audit & Risk Committee



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL
The Heart of Gippsland

RESULTS OF AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SURVEY 2024

		Favorable	Neutral	Unfavorable
1. The Audit & Risk Committee has a Charter which sets out its role, responsibilities, composition, structure and membership requirements and is reviewed annually.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The charter has recently been reviewed (annually) and updated to reflect good practice 			
2. The Audit & Risk Committee is adequately resourced (receives timely agendas and minutes and has sufficient key Council staff attendance at meetings).		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda's are always comprehensive and issued in sufficient time to provide opportunity for Q&A which management address promptly (i.e. before, at the meeting, and follow up after the meeting). Good attendance is provided by Management at the meetings. Need to commend the work that is undertaken by management. The ARC is strongly supported by management. Management's responses are always timely and forthcoming, particularly in tight timeline turnarounds. 			
3. The Audit & Risk Committee is independent and has the technical expertise to perform its functions.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The A&RC has financial, internal audit, external audit, risk management, and governance expertise from a public and private sector perspective. 			

		Favorable	Neutral	Unfavorable
4. The members have the necessary qualifications and attributes (basic financial literacy, being, amongst other things, honest, accountable, dedicated, objective and possess reasonable knowledge of the Council's risks and controls).		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be great if sitting councillors on the ARC were offered a financial training course or Director training with the AICD or similar. It's invaluable and would be helpful particularly in understanding risk. There is good knowledge and level of expertise in regard to Councils risks and controls (i.e. policy, framework) with considerable effort provided by the committee and management in this regard need to further develop financial expertise. Financial literacy for members in the Council context can always be further developed. 			
5. The Audit & Risk Committee has direct access to internal and external auditors without Management present.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a set agenda item for every meeting and is particularly focused on for IA work plan, IA's and external audit. 			
6. The Audit & Risk Committee checks that the audit function has free and effective access to personnel and information.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per previous response. 			
7. The Audit & Risk Committee is able to seek independent advice and ensure the audit function is independent of the management function.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst there has not been a need access to internal and external auditors is readily available. 			
8. The Audit & Risk Committee ensures the scope of internal audits are adequate.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The work plan provides an outline of IA scope. It would be beneficial for members to consistently review the scopes before finalization and audit commencing. 			

		Favorable	Neutral	Unfavorable
9. The Audit & Risk Committee approves an annual internal audit plan addressing their risk profile.		4	1	
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee reviews the IA work plan annually which is referenced to Council's strategic risks, and developing audit universe. 			
10. The Audit & Risk Committee considers internal audit reports, reviews management responses to issues raised and monitors resolution of those issues.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This occurs as a regular agenda item(s) 			
11. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews major changes to policies and internal control systems.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All strategic policies are reviewed periodically by the Committee with recommended changes made to Management covering internal controls. 			
12. The Audit & Risk Committee oversees compliance with non-financial legislation and policy.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee addresses all requirements under the Local Govt Act as embedded in the Charter. It reviews the Performance Report and associated KPI's. 			
13. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews all reported issues of fraud or suspected fraud.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee has recommended the use of Fraud Red Flag indicators and these are reported upon at meetings. There has not been any issues of fraud detected in internal and external audits and/or reported to the A&RC. 			

		Favorable	Neutral	Unfavorable
14. The Audit & Risk Committee reviews the financial statements and other financial information submitted to the Council.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee reviews summary financial statements and KPI's at each meeting and comprehensive financial statements as part of Council budgets and external audit. 			
15. The Audit & Risk Committee liaises appropriately with the Auditor General or their representative (External Auditor) to, amongst other things, ensure the best use of audit resources.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee regularly meets with the external auditor to discuss the audit plan, audit findings, closing report and as needed dependent on issue(s) e.g asset revaluations. 			
16. The Audit & Risk Committee fosters an environment in which members are comfortable challenging each other and the Audit & Risk Committee Chair, as appropriate.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I find this one of the positives of the Audit and Risk committee. That members are able to challenge each other in a respectful, collegiate manner. Members are encouraged to provide perspectives on agenda items, raise questions and review responses. The committee endeavors to achieve consensus on issues via in-camera meetings and via external communication and discussion as required. 			
17. The Committee members spend adequate time individually, and as a Committee, on committee responsibilities.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general Committee members spend considerable time preparing for meetings, developing questions, reviewing responses, and providing constructive challenge. This has sometimes required considerable work outside the normal meeting cycle to ensure timely and efficient review and best utilization of meeting time e.g risk policy and framework review, policy reviews. 			

		Favorable	Neutral	Unfavorable
18. The Audit & Risk Committee has private executive sessions with Management and the internal and external auditors that result in candid discussion of pertinent issues.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee schedules (as required) in-camera and other formal/informal meetings/comms with CEO/Exec Mgt. e.g Agenda's, Risk Management, priorities and resourcing. 			
19. Audit & Risk Committee meetings are well run and productive.		5		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meetings are well run based on substantial effort in meeting preparation including review of work plan for item coverage, reviewing agenda items to determine priorities, issues for discussion, Q&A, and reaching consensus. Ensuring each member has opportunity to contribute, engage constructively with Mgt. and the Chair encouraging and exemplifying active listening by all. 			

20. Does the Committee have the capacity to fully acquit its obligations under the Charter, or is there a need to review its role, structure and/or operational arrangements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I believe that the Committee has the capacity to fully acquit its obligations under the Charter. It does have capacity to acquit its obligations as set out in the Charter. Consider the committee has the adequate capacity with a good mix of skills At present the answer is YES. There is a comprehensive expertise set available from committee members that enables this to occur. This needs to be considered for succession planning. The Committee has the capacity to meet all its obligations
21. How do you believe the Audit & Risk Committee is functioning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think it's members bring much experience and insight to the table to the benefit of the organisation as a whole. The agenda is usually full and does require a level of commitment from its members for meetings to run smoothly and on time. Members are enquiring, ask pertinent questions and have frank discussions. I believe the ARC does a good job. I believe that the Committee is a well-functioning entity that adds value to Council. The current Committee gets on very well and is able to engage in robust discussion in a positive and respectful manner. Very well as evidenced by ratings and comments provided. Extremely well at present Functioning well.

<p>22. Are there things that the Committee could be doing better?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure that appropriate time is allocated to each agenda item• Although I believe it works very well now, the Committee is always open to opportunities for improvement.• No• Ensure we maintain a strategic focus and don't dwell in detail for too long.• The committee has finally reached a level of maturity that now makes navigating the agendas easier. The table and points for discussion has been a good addition from Tony. Continuing this into the future will make it easier for fellow committee members to follow as well as a more fluid system for management to address issues raised.
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13. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

13.1. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - AUGUST 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To provide a report to Council on recent planning permit trends and planning decisions made under delegation by Statutory Planners during the month of August 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on recent Planning Permit trends and Planning Application determinations between 1 August and 31 August 2024.

BACKGROUND

Statutory Planners have delegated authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to make planning decisions in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the Wellington Planning Scheme, including the issue of planning permits, amended permits, extensions of time, refusal of planning permits and notices of decision to grant a planning permit.

A copy of planning permit decisions made between 1 August and 31 August 2024 is included in Attachment '*Planning Decisions Report - August 2024*'.

An overview of recent planning permit trends including decisions made, efficiency of decision making and the estimated value of approved development (derived from monthly planning permit activity reporting data) is included in Attachment '*Planning Trends Report - August 2024*'.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Planning Decisions Report August 2024 [13.1.1 - 5 pages]
2. Planning Trends Report August 2024 [13.1.2 - 3 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive 1 August to 31 August 2024 planning decisions report; or
2. Not receive 1 August to 31 August 2024 planning decisions report and seek further information for consideration at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council note the report of recent planning permit trends and planning application determinations between 1 August and 31 August 2024.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

The monthly report communicates information about planning trends and determinations including the issue of planning permits, amended permits, refusal of planning permits, and notices of decision to grant a planning permit.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

All planning decisions have been processed and issued in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the Wellington Planning Scheme.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

All planning decisions have been issued after due consideration of relevant Council policy, including Council's Heritage Policy, and the requirements of the Planning Policy Framework in the Wellington Planning Scheme.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 2 "Economy and Sustainable Growth" states the following strategic outcomes:

Strategic Outcome 2.1: *"A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities."*

Strategic Outcome 2.3: *"An increase in variety of housing choice to support equitable access to housing."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcomes.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Planning decisions are made in accordance with the relevant environmental standards to ensure that environmental impacts are minimised.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

**PLANNING APPLICATION DETERMINATIONS
BETWEEN 1/08/2024 AND 31/08/2024**

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
143-1.00/2019	13/05/2019	Assessment No. 388488 LOT: 1 TP: 826060N 31 WHARF ST PORT ALBERT	Buildings & works associated with development of 2 shops & 5 dwelling.	Withdrawn 9/08/2024
10-3.00/2021	7/06/2024	Assessment No. 452698 PC: 380815S 46 MACASSAR CRES THE HONEYSUCKLES	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 6/08/2024
347-2.00/2021	8/03/2024	Assessment No. 452342 LOT: 2 TP: 85370Y MCEWAN RD COWWARR	Subdivision of the land into 7 lots.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 26/08/2024
442-2.00/2021	27/05/2024	Assessment No. 78279 CA: 8 SEC: 1 1 TYERS ST STRATFORD	Alterations to an existing building and construction of a new awning.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024
235-1.00/2022	23/05/2022	Assessment No. 294793 LOT: A PS: 835963E 21 HIHOS LANE YARRAM	Multi lot staged subdivision.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024
530-2.00/2022	24/04/2024	Assessment No. 78972 LOT: 1 TP: 229361C 20 TYERS ST STRATFORD	B & W assoc with extension to an existing dwelling & building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2024
155-1.00/2023	15/05/2023	Assessment No. 76349 PCA: 10 SEC: 24 1/58 MCFARLANE ST STRATFORD	B&W assoc with construction of 7 dwellings & 2 lot re-subdivision.	Withdrawn 2/08/2024
166-2.00/2023	21/06/2024	Assessment No. 445049 LOT: 5 PS: 729744K 8-12 ST CLAIR CT SALE	B & W associated with the extension to an industrial building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 29/08/2024
202-2.00/2023	14/06/2024	Assessment No. 359752 CA: 17 SEC: B 257 HODGES RD COONGULLA	B&W associated with constructing outbuilding & native veg removal.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024
268-1.00/2023	8/08/2023	Assessment No. 50203 LOT: 1 TP: 326375Y 122 YORK ST SALE	Use of land for a service station.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 8/08/2024
377-2.00/2023	14/08/2024	Assessment No. 31351 LOT: 1 LP: 28048 140 STAWELL ST SALE	Construction of a dwelling and 2 lot subdivision.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/08/2024

ATTACHMENT 13.1.1

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
393-1.00/2023	14/11/2023	Assessment No. 368217 LOT: 1 PS: 122248 15 BUCKLEY ST STRAIFORD	3 Lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 27/08/2024
395-1.00/2023	16/11/2023	Assessment No. 203737 CA: 301A MERTON VALE RD ROSEDALE	3 Lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 27/08/2024
39-1.00/2024	14/02/2024	Assessment No. 51896 LOT: 1 PS: 500998D 80 MACALISTER ST SALE	B & W associated with the reno & refurb of existing building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 2/08/2024
45-2.00/2024	6/08/2024	Assessment No. 305946 LOT: 1 TP: 712562 50 JOHNSON ST MAFFRA	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a fence.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 27/08/2024
77-1.00/2024	21/03/2024	Assessment No. 232207 LOT: 587 LP: 53109 4 HOLMES ST LOCH SPORT	Buildings & works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	NOD issued by Delegate of Respon/Auth 29/08/2024
90-1.00/2024	26/03/2024	Assessment No. 411140 LOT: 1 PS: 634890B 78 RENNARDS LANE WOODSIDE	2 lot subdivision of the land (house excision).	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 22/08/2024
104-1.00/2024	11/04/2024	Assessment No. 413906 LOT: 2 PS: 602211G 510 KENTUCKY RD NEWRY	U & D of land for a camping & caravan park & assoc motorbike track.	Withdrawn 30/08/2024
110-1.00/2024	15/04/2024	Assessment No. 407395 LOT: 1 PS: 548374A 13 ELMA CT GLENMAGGIE	Buildings & works associated with the construction of a deck.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 1/08/2024
111-1.00/2024	15/04/2024	Assessment No. 11445 LOT: 1 TP: 625096 67-69 RAGLAN ST SALE	4 lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 2/08/2024
120-1.00/2024	18/04/2024	Assessment No. 422501 CA: 60E1 208 CONNECTION RD CARRAJUNG SOUTH	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 2/08/2024
133-1.00/2024	1/05/2024	Assessment No. 436212 LOT: 26 PS: 736786C 249 SOMERTON PARK RD SALE	Use of land for a medical centrum and a gym.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/08/2024
145-1.00/2024	7/05/2024	Assessment No. 456277 CA: 41 83 BEAGLEYS RD DEVON NORTH	Use of the land for rural workers accommodation.	NOD issued by Delegate of Respon/Auth 9/08/2024

ATTACHMENT 13.1.1

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
154-1.00/2024	17/05/2024	Assessment No. 273383 LOT: 1 TP: 546543 24 MASONS RD YARRAM	Subdivision of the land from 3 lots into 2 new lots.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 23/08/2024
157-1.00/2024	20/05/2024	Assessment No. 94706 LOT: 2 PS: 905315E 852 LLOWALONG RD LLOWALONG	Removal of native vegetation (2 large trees).	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 8/08/2024
158-1.00/2024	20/05/2024	Assessment No. 88021 LOT: 1 TP: 108104A 17 BUSWELL AVE HOLLANDS LANDING	Buildings & works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 20/08/2024
160-1.00/2024	21/05/2024	Assessment No. 308890 CA: 1 SEC: 34 MCLEAN ST MAFFRA	Installation of a new LED scoreboard.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 1/08/2024
167-1.00/2024	27/05/2024	Assessment No. 277384 CA: 79A 70 PORT PORT ALBERT	B & W associated with the installation of a telecommunications tower.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024
179-1.00/2024	7/06/2024	Assessment No. 324160 PC: 167110 10 WINNINDOO AVE HEYFIELD	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 16/08/2024
186-1.00/2024	12/06/2024	Assessment No. 1347 LOT: 5 LP: 54399 15 CARTER ST SALE	Buildings & works associated with the construction of 5 dwellings.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 9/08/2024
190-1.00/2024	17/06/2024	Assessment No. 303933 LOT: 2 LP: 52337 5 DUKE ST MAFFRA	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a shed.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 1/08/2024
194-1.00/2024	25/06/2024	Assessment No. 424879 LOT: 1 PS: 747745F 73-89 PRINCES HWY SALE	Construction & display of illuminated business ID, promo & sky signs.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 8/08/2024
196-1.00/2024	26/06/2024	Assessment No. 259812 LOT: 1 TP: 196571T 75 SEVENTH AVE PARADISE BEACH	B & W associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 9/08/2024
199-1.00/2024	27/06/2024	Assessment No. 9076 LOT: 4 LP: 17817 140 MARLEY ST SALE	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024
200-1.00/2024	28/06/2024	Assessment No. 460477 PCA: 1 SEC: 5 18-20 CHURCH ST COWWARR	Two lot subdivision of the land (boundary realignment).	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 13/08/2024

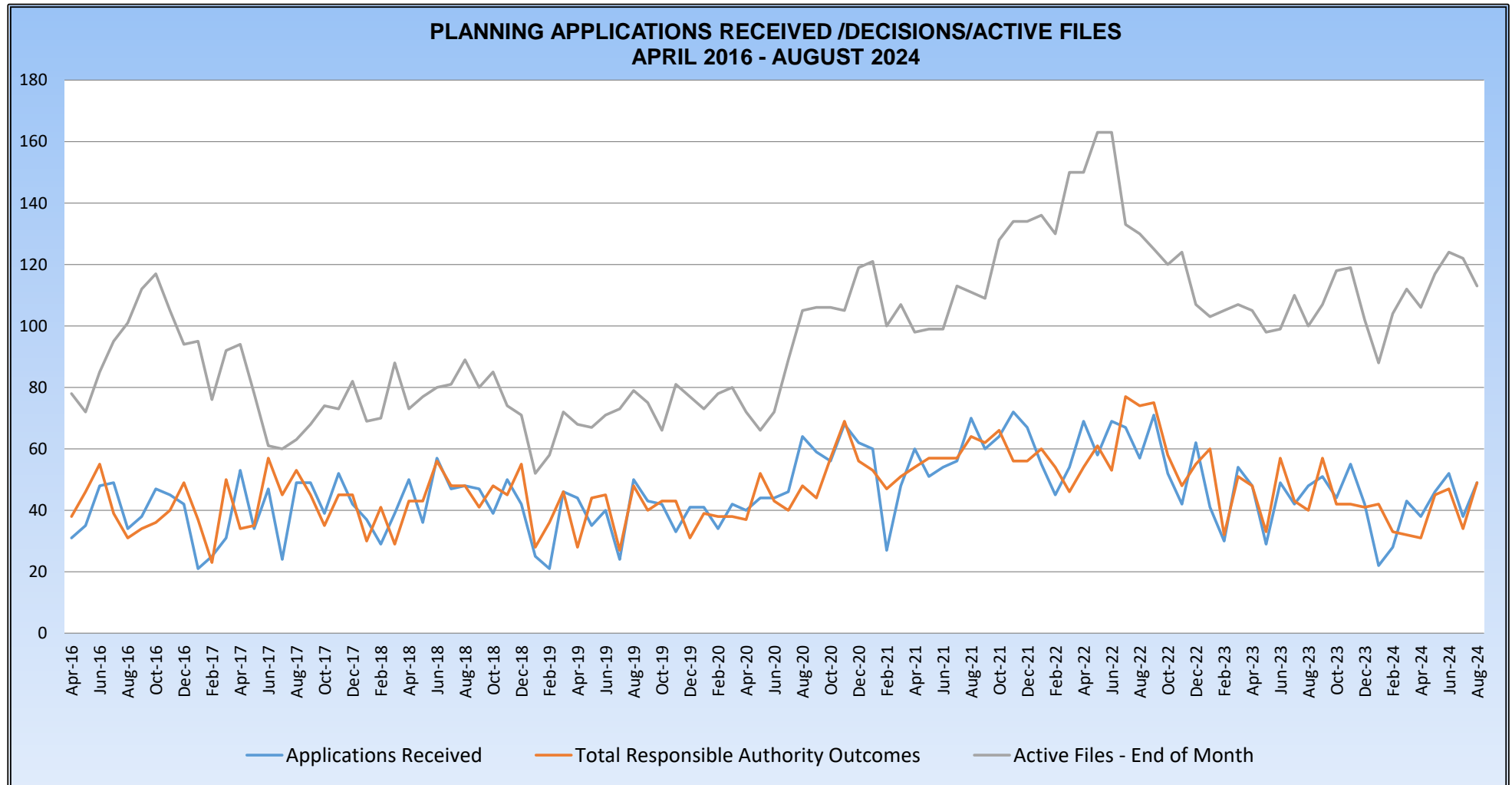
ATTACHMENT 13.1.1

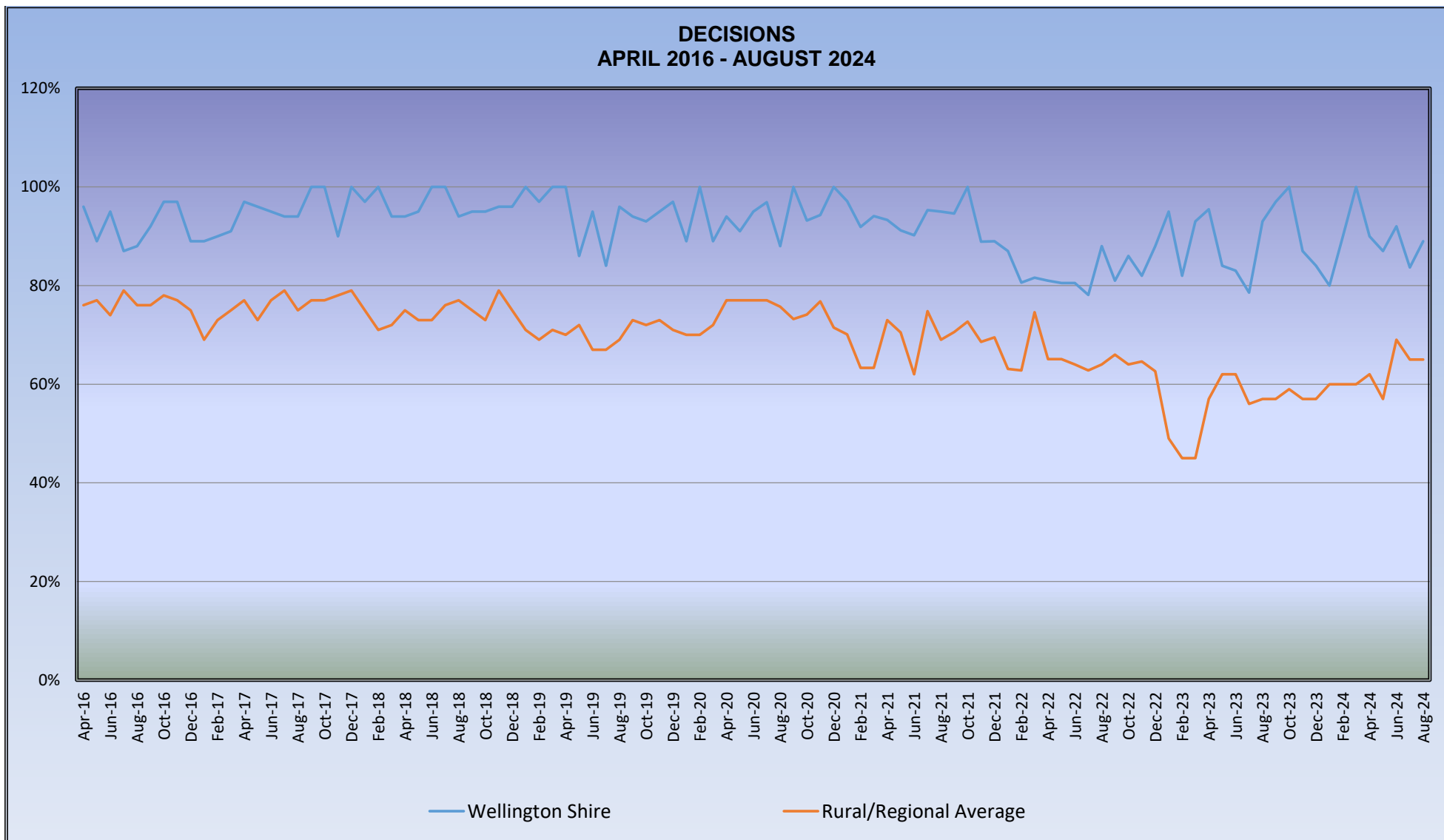
Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
211-1.00/2024	3/07/2024	Assessment No. 265751 LOT: 1 PS: 905294K 39 MCALPINE RD CARRAJUNG LOWER	B&W assoc. with the extend to a dwelling & const of a new outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 15/08/2024
215-1.00/2024	3/07/2024	Assessment No. 295204 LOT: 18 LP: 14225 49 JAMES ST YARRAM	U & D of the land for community care accommodation.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 30/08/2024
221-1.00/2024	9/07/2024	Assessment No. 245969 PC: 382061J 85 WALLABY ST LOCH SPORT	B & W associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 5/08/2024
222-1.00/2024	9/07/2024	Assessment No. 363333 PC: 353909L MEWBURN PARK RD MAFFRA	B & W associated with the construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2024
225-1.00/2024	11/07/2024	Assessment No. 261503 LOT: 10 PS: 300837U 14 PROGRESS RD LOCH SPORT	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a building.	Withdrawn 28/08/2024
226-1.00/2024	11/07/2024	Assessment No. 248260 LOT: 2672 LP: 70943 19 WHITE CRES LOCH SPORT	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/08/2024
228-1.00/2024	12/07/2024	Assessment No. 108191 CA: 48 SEC: 18 3,782 TRARALGON-MAFFRA HEYFIELD	Use of the land for a home-based business (gym).	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 15/08/2024
231-1.00/2024	16/07/2024	Assessment No. 208306 LOT: 8 PS: 118094 90 VALE RD LONGFORD	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 8/08/2024
241-1.00/2024	23/07/2024	Assessment No. 330571 LOT: 1 TP: 743714B WEIR RD GLENMAGGIE	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Withdrawn 5/08/2024
246-1.00/2024	29/07/2024	Assessment No. 321281 PTP: 2 TP: 231092Q 67 MAFFRA RD HEYFIELD	B/W assoc with construction of an extension to an existing building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 12/08/2024
249-1.00/2024	31/07/2024	Assessment No. 363234 LOT: 2 PS: 319193J 114 MEWBURN PARK RD TINAMBA	B & W associated with a small second dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 16/08/2024
250-1.00/2024	31/07/2024	Assessment No. 363671 LOT: 1 PS: 532294M 241 MONTGOMERY RD BUNDALAGUAH	Buildings and works associated with an agricultural shed.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 7/08/2024

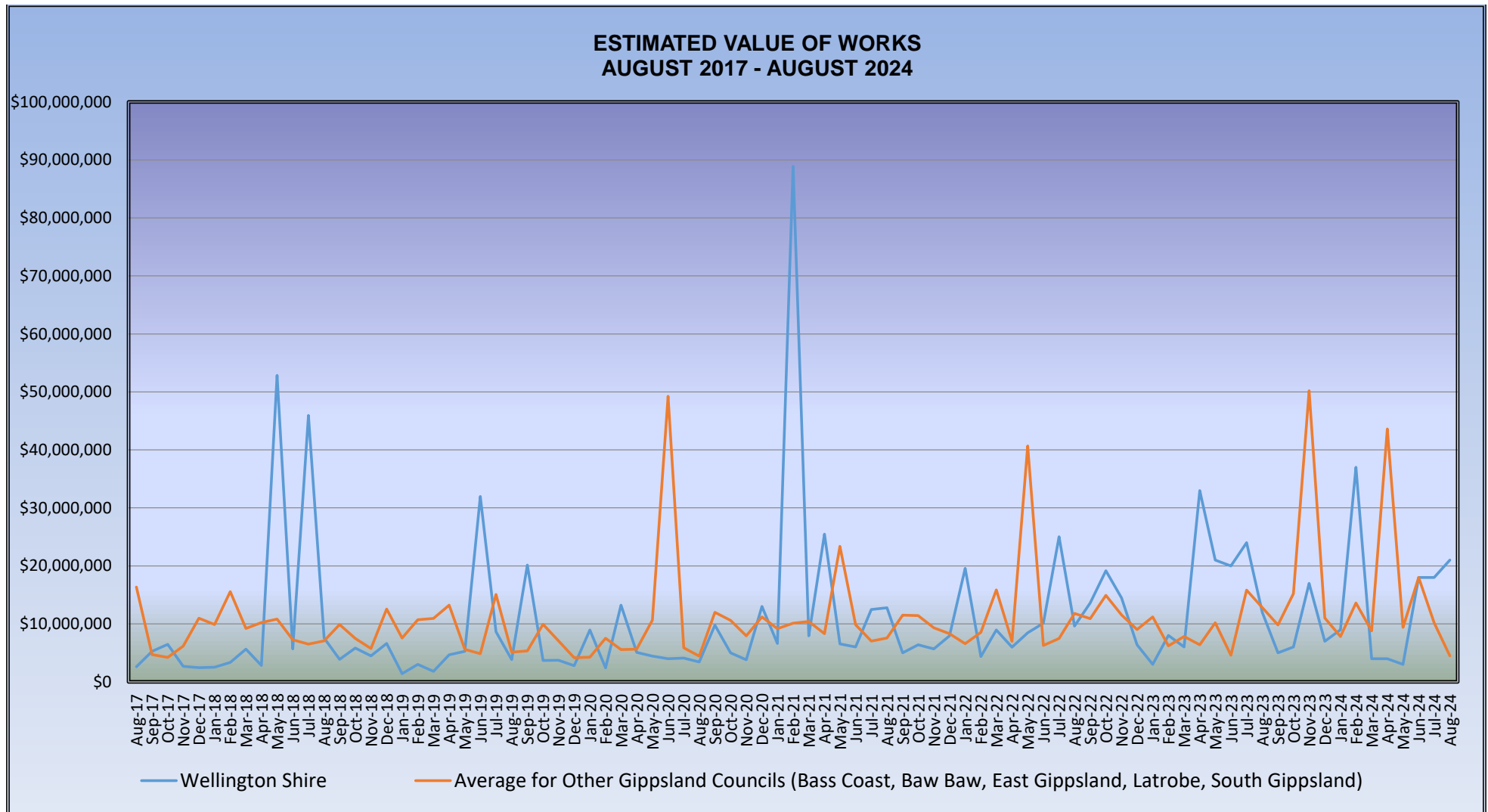
ATTACHMENT 13.1.1

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
256-1.00/2024	8/08/2024	Assessment No. 7575 LOT: 1 PS: 28316N 1/19 MACARTHUR ST SALE	2 lot re-subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 16/08/2024
260-1.00/2024	12/08/2024	Assessment No. 324640 LOT: 2 PS: 221156A 214 ANGLE CHANNEL RD HEYFIELD	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/08/2024

Total No of Decisions Made: 49







13.2. STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING PROJECT REVIEW GROUP - THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy 2023, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

To update Council on the strategic land use planning work program for the third quarter July-September 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program included in the attached "Current Strategic Planning Work" report.

BACKGROUND

The strategic land use planning work program is regularly reviewed by Council's Strategic Land Use Planning Projects Review Group (Review Group), the Councillor representation for which was appointed by Council at the Ordinary Council meeting of 5 December 2023 at agenda item 11.2 "Appointment of Committees & Delegates 2023/24".

The Review Group considered it beneficial to provide Council and the community with a quarterly update of the strategic land use planning work program, which comprises various prioritised projects and planning scheme amendments as outlined in attachment "Current Strategic Planning Work".

ATTACHMENTS

1. Current Strategic Planning Work [13.2.1 - 5 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program;
or
2. Not receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program and seek further information for consideration at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

To receive the third quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

All strategic land use planning matters are considered in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and/or any relevant legislation.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 2 "Economy and Sustainable Growth" states the following strategic outcomes:

Strategic Outcome 2.1: *"A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities."*

Strategic Outcome 2.3: *"An increase in variety of housing choice to support equitable access to housing."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcomes.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.



WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

Attachment 1

Current Strategic Planning Work

1. Strategic Planning Projects

<p><u>West Sale Industrial Land – Technical Reports and Development Plan</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2024</p>
<p><u>Purpose / Background</u></p> <p>A recommended action of the 'West Sale and Wurruk Industrial Land Supply Strategy (April 2018)' (the Strategy) is the preparation of several detailed technical reports to address issues relating to cultural heritage, vegetation, drainage, traffic etc. These matters are required to be addressed prior to the development of 55Ha of industrial land (to the east of the West Sale Airport).</p>
<p><u>Current Status</u></p> <p>Technical reports have now been completed and will now inform the preparation of a detailed Development Plan for the site, which is anticipated to be prepared in the second half of 2024.</p>
<p><u>Maffra Structure Plan Implementation / Development Contributions</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2024/2025</p>
<p><u>Purpose / Background</u></p> <p>The <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i>, was formally adopted by Council at the Ordinary meeting of 17 May 2022, and includes a list of 'Actions' required to implement the recommendations and further associated work to be undertaken over the life of the <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i>. One of these Actions includes investigating and implementing a development contributions mechanism that facilitates the funding and delivery of key infrastructure.</p> <p>An updated <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i> was formally adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting of 16 July 2024. Changes to the <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i> include minor updates to <i>Figure 28: Proposed Overlay Plan</i> (page 73) and the wording of Action A8 on pages 34 and 68.</p>
<p><u>Current Status</u></p> <p>Work is continuing on the costings of key infrastructure items associated with a development contributions mechanism (or similar) to support the future growth areas identified within the <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i>. These costings are expected to be finalised by the end of 2024. The preparation of a funding mechanism to equitably</p>

apportion the costs across land associated with the provision of these key infrastructure items will then commence.

See Section 2 of this Attachment - *Current Council Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments* for further information regarding the *Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)* implementation / translation.

Sale Western Growth Area – Wurruk Development Plan – Infrastructure Contributions

Priority: High

Anticipated Completion: 2024/2025

Purpose / Background

The final 'Wurruk Development Plan' was presented to Council for approval at the Ordinary meeting of 21 June 2022.

In accordance with Clause 43.04-4 of the Wellington Planning Scheme, an associated Developer Contribution Mechanism, which addresses the anticipated timing and details of all key items of infrastructure required to facilitate a full development scenario of the Sale Western Growth Area, still requires approval from Council.

Current Status

A draft Contribution Plan is currently with the proponents for finalisation following Council feedback.

Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy

Priority: High

Anticipated Completion: Ongoing

Purpose / Background

At the Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved to adopt the *'Residential Stocktake and Facilitation Strategy Report' ('Report')*.

A key recommendation of the Report was the preparation of a formal Wellington-specific Policy to provide a transparent and logical basis for future Council decisions relating to the possible 'forward funding' of key development infrastructure (with shared public benefit) to better expedite residential growth across the Shire.

Following a Councillor Workshop on 5 April 2022, Council adopted the *'Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy'*, at the Ordinary Meeting of 3 May 2022.

Current Status

Council Officers have had initial discussions with two subdivision proponents (one in Yarram and one in Wurruk) that could be considered for funding and have also recently sought funding support via the Commonwealth's National Housing Support Program.

Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study Implementation

Priority: High

Anticipated Completion: Ongoing

Purpose / Background

The primary focus of this Study was to determine the 'readiness' of key towns in the southern area of the Shire to service and support new renewable energy project proposals. This includes residential and industrial land demand and supply conditions and existing infrastructure challenges.

A secondary focus of the Study was to investigate economic issues and opportunities associated with planned investment, such as skills needs, business opportunities and supply chain requirements across the municipality and broader region.

<p>Current Status</p> <p>The Study has now been completed and was adopted by Council at its ordinary meeting of 21 March 2023. Further work has now been completed to support lodgement of a funding application to the Commonwealth Government, with a focus on advancing strategic planning (and infrastructure planning) to provide additional residential and industrial land in Yarram. An announcement on the funding application is pending.</p> <p>State Government funding support has been obtained to undertake an initial drainage assessment of potential growth areas in Yarram as the first stage of investigation, with drainage assessment work now complete.</p>
<p>Wellington Growth Management Strategy Priority: Medium Anticipated Completion: 2024</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>The key purpose of the Strategy is to develop a Shire-wide land use planning framework to direct and manage future urban growth, with a focus on the role and growth potential of the six (6) main urban centres within the Wellington Shire.</p> <p>A secondary purpose of the Strategy is to identify priority economic development opportunities and actions to support job creation and investment across the municipality.</p> <p>The Strategy 'as a whole' should provide Council, relevant agencies/stakeholders, investors and the community with clear strategic direction and realistic actions to support the urban and economic growth of the municipality over the next 20 years.</p> <p>It is noted that the Strategy will not rezone land but provide overarching policy to guide decisions as to where future growth should be best directed.</p>
<p>Current Status</p> <p>The final Wellington Growth Management Strategy was adopted by Council on 6 August 2024. Work on Planning Scheme implementation via a future Planning Scheme Amendment is underway.</p>

2. Current Council Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments

<p>C120well: Maffra Structure Plan Translation (and associated work) Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2025</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>Planning Scheme Amendment C120well proposes to translate the adopted <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i> into the Wellington Planning Scheme. It provides direction for potential future residential growth areas, commercial and industrial development translated through updated planning policy. The amendment supports the long-term growth of Maffra and acknowledges its role as the second largest township within the Wellington Shire.</p>
<p>Current Status</p> <p>At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 16 July 2024, Council resolved to authorise Amendment C120well (along with updates to the <i>Maffra Structure Plan (Mesh, 2022)</i>).</p>

On 18 September 2024, a formal request for Authorisation to prepare and exhibit Planning Scheme Amendment C120well was lodged with the Minister for Planning.

Exhibition dates are yet to be finalised, however this process is likely to occur in late 2024/early 2025.

3. Privately Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments

There are currently no privately initiated Planning Scheme Amendments formally in progress.

4. Development Plans

DPO1 – Licola Road East Development Plan, Heyfield

Purpose / Background

As a long-established area identified for general residential development in the 'Heyfield Structure Plan (December 2011) including update on Firebrace Road (2013)', the land subject to the Development Plan Overlay 1 (DPO1) was rezoned with the approval of the Minister for Planning via Planning Scheme Amendment C72 in December 2014 to allow standard density residential development to occur. The fundamental principle of general residential living on the land has therefore been formally established in legislation.

As a requirement of the Wellington Planning Scheme, the Development Plan has been prepared to demonstrate, in detail, how the land can be developed for general residential purposes, in accordance with the relevant planning provisions contained in DPO1.

The draft Development Plan proposes 78 residential lots with an average lot size of 1,100m².

Current Status

The Development Plan was approved on 2 August 2024.

DPO1 – Carter Street Development Plan, Stratford

Purpose / Background

As a long-established area identified for future general residential growth, the subject land has been zoned for such since at least the new format Wellington Planning Scheme (post amalgamation) was introduced through Amendment NPS1 on 15 June 2000. The fundamental principle of general residential development on the land has therefore been formally established in legislation.

As a requirement of the Wellington Planning Scheme, the draft Development Plan has now been prepared to demonstrate, in detail, how the land can be developed for residential development purposes, in accordance with the relevant planning provisions contained in DPO1.

The concept subdivision plan indicates that the subject land would be divided into 68 residential lots with an average lot size of 657m² in area. A reserve with an area of 3,478m² is proposed to be located in the centre of the site.

Current Status

The Development Plan was on public notification from 5 August 2024 – 30 August 2024 (4 weeks). During this time 12 submissions were received; mostly from community members, with the majority supportive of the proposal.

A final assessment of the proposal is currently underway and anticipated to be complete in the next month.

DPO8 - Rural Living Area Bound By Williams Road, Willung Road, Hoopers Road And Friends Road, Rosedale - Development Plan

Purpose / Background

As a long-established area identified for future rural living growth within the '*Rosedale Structure Plan (2012)*', the land subject to the draft Development Plan was rezoned to allow rural living development to occur with the approval of the Minister for Planning via Planning Scheme Amendment C86, in October 2015. The fundamental principle of rural living development on the land has therefore been formally established in legislation. As a requirement of the Wellington Planning Scheme, the draft Development Plan has now been prepared to demonstrate, in detail, how the land can be developed for rural living purposes, in accordance with the relevant planning provisions contained in DPO8.

The Draft Development Plan proposes 85 rural residential lots (average lot size 8,279m² in area) in the Rural Living Zone 1 (RLZ1).

Current Status

Applicant has submitted updated documentation for review. Feedback on changes is currently being provided by Council Officers.



14. GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

14.1. COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER COMMUNITIES, FACILITIES AND EMERGENCIES

This report is being considered by Council during an election period. The recommendations, if moved and carried by Council constitute neither prohibited decisions in accordance with section 69 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, nor significant decisions within the meaning of Council's Election Period Policy.

Councillors are reminded that, under the Wellington Shire Council Election Period Policy, they cannot make a decision during the election period that would be binding on the incoming Council.

Councillors are also not permitted to use the public forum provided by the Council Meeting for purposes of campaigning, or to use their position to gain electoral advantage or to disadvantage another candidate.

PURPOSE

For Council to receive the annual report highlighting the activities and performance of Council's five Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note an annual report highlighting the activities and performance of the five Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24; and***
- 2. Acknowledge the volunteer contribution made by the Community Asset Committee members during this period.***

BACKGROUND

Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) provides for councils to establish Community Asset Committees for the purpose of managing assets within the municipality and requires the CEO to submit an annual report to Council in relation to the activities and performance of these committees.

The following Community Asset Committees are currently established in accordance with the provisions of the Act;

- Briagolong Recreation Reserve Committee
- Cameron Sporting Complex Committee
- Gordon Street Reserve Committee
- Maffra Recreation Reserve Committee
- Newry Recreation Reserve Committee.

Council acknowledges and appreciates the commitment of the community volunteers in supporting the management and operation of these important community assets.

This report summarises the activities and performance of these Community Asset Committees during 2023/24. For this report, activities are summaries of general information and key achievements provided by the committees, whilst performance has been assessed against the powers, duties and functions formally delegated to its members.

Briagolong Recreation Reserve Committee

Cash Reserves

The Committee has approximately \$15,000 in cash reserves before payment of the annual Risk & Maintenance Subsidy.

Key Achievements

During the reporting period the Committee have focussed on addressing maintenance issues and users have worked on increasing participation.

Performance

The Committee continues to face challenges regarding volunteers and has arranged a prison crew to support regular mowing once a month.

Despite regular requests, the Committee has not operated within the requirements of its delegation and does not provide appropriate reporting. Council Officers will continue to offer support to improve governance processes.

Cameron Sporting Complex Committee

Cash Reserves

The Committee has approximately \$106,000 in cash reserves.

Key Achievements

The Committee continues to work with Council Officers on significant maintenance issues such as lighting, roof leaks and sewer pump.

Performance

The Committee has been able to operate within the powers, duties and functions delegated to its members, including holding an AGM and regular general meetings.

Gordon Street Recreation Reserve Committee

Cash Reserves

The Committee has approximately \$18,000 in cash reserves.

Key Achievements

During the reporting period, the Committee has worked through governance process improvements and is working with a community group on the establishment of a community garden.

Performance

The Committee has been able to operate within the powers, duties and functions delegated to its members, including an AGM and regular general meetings.

Maffra Recreation Reserve Committee

Cash Reserves

The Committee has approximately \$20,000 in cash reserves.

Key Achievements

The Committee managed and successfully delivered the replacement of the operable wall in the function room and are working on replacement of the electronic scoreboard. The Committee continues to hold significant events at the Reserve.

Performance

The Committee has been able to operate within the powers, duties and functions delegated to its members, including holding an AGM and regular general meetings.

Newry Recreation Reserve Committee

Cash Reserves

The Committee has approximately \$30,000 in cash reserves.

Key Achievements

The Newry Golf Club has completed the move into the Reserve Clubrooms and have invested significant funds and volunteer hours into addressing maintenance issues.

Performance

Despite having small Committee membership, the Committee has been able to operate within the powers, duties and functions delegated to its members.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the annual report highlighting activities and performance of the Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24.
2. Not receive the annual report highlighting activities and performance of the Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24 and seek further information for a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive the annual report highlighting activities and performance of the Community Asset Committees for the period 2023/24, and acknowledge the contribution provided by many community volunteers in the management of these facilities.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

This report provides Council with an annual update on the activities and performance of the five Community Asset Committees in respect of which the members have been given a delegation as required by Section 47(6) of the Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2021-25 Theme 3 “Liveability and Wellbeing” states the following strategic outcome:

Strategic Outcome 3.1: *"An inclusive, diverse, and resilient community."*

Strategic Outcome 3.2: *"An actively engaged community."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcomes.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is no effect to consider at this time.

15. FURTHER GALLERY AND ONLINE COMMENTS

Gallery comments are an opportunity for members of the public to raise any particular matter they wish. This allows those in the gallery to speak directly to Councillors but is not a forum designed for open discussion or debate. We will listen respectfully to what you have to say and make the commitment that if your query requires a written response, we will advise you that a response will be forthcoming, and a copy of that response will be circulated to all Councillors.

This is not a forum for members of the public to lodge complaints against individuals, including Councillors and staff, particularly as that individual gets no public right of reply to any matter raised. We take complaints seriously, and in line with the guidance from the Victorian Ombudsman and the local Government Inspectorate, we request that any specific complaint against an individual be put in writing. This way, your concern can be properly dealt with while ensuring fairness to all parties concerned.

If you wish to speak, we remind you that this part of the meeting is being recorded and broadcast on our website. Council's official Minutes will record that you have spoken to Council and the subject you spoke to Council about but will not record specific comments. We ask you to state your name in full, where you are from, and you have three minutes.

ONLINE COMMENTS –

FURTHER GALLERY COMMENTS –

Meeting declared closed at:

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close.

16. IN CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 to consider matters under Section 66(5)(b) as defined by Section 3(1) being:

- a) Council business information*
- b) Security information*
- c) Land use planning information*
- d) Law enforcement information*
- e) Legal privileged information*
- f) Personal information*
- g) Private commercial information*
- h) Confidential meeting information*
- i) Internal arbitration information*
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information*
- k) Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information*
- l) Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989*

IN CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

That Council move into open session and ratify the decision made in closed session.