



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 16 April 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.”

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

PURPOSE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 April 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 April 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. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT

10.1. MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORT - MARCH 2024

ACTION OFFICER: COUNCILLOR IAN BYE

RECOMMENDATION	
<i>That the Mayor and Councillors report be noted.</i>	

DATE	EVENT	ATTENDEES
1 March	Gippsland Art Gallery: Annemeike Mein Exhibition, Sale.	Mayor Bye, Cr McKenzie, Cr Crossley, Cr Maher, Cr Wood, Cr Stephens and Cr Ripper
4 March	Tarra Festival Committee meeting, Yarram.	Cr McKenzie
6 March	Youth Council Formal meeting, Sale.	Cr Crossley and Cr Wood
7 March	Loch Sport Business & Tourism Association meeting, Loch Sport.	Mayor Bye and Cr McKenzie
	GERF General Committee meeting, online.	Mayor Bye
8 March	Wellington Shire International Womens Day Event, Sale.	Mayor Bye, Cr Maher, Cr Wood and Cr Ripper
	Women in New Energy International Womens Day event, Carrajung.	Cr Maher, Cr Crossley and Cr Ripper
	Wellington Renewable Energy Forum, Sale.	Mayor Bye and Cr McKenzie
10 March	Sale Music Festival, Sale.	Mayor Bye
13 March	BOC Longford Community Session, Sale.	Cr Crossley
14 March	CEDA State of the State Lunch Address hosted by Premier Jacinta Allen, Melbourne.	Mayor Bye
	Business Boost meeting, online.	Cr Maher and Cr Wood

15 March	Coastal Roundtable 2024 hosted by Mornington Peninsula Council, Safety Beach MAV: Chairing Meetings session, Melbourne Victorian Local Government Association: Leading Under Pressure session, Melbourne Rotary Club Maffra Mardi Gras, Maffra	Mayor Bye Cr McKenzie Cr Crossley Mayor Bye and Cr Ripper
18 March	Gippsland Art Gallery Advisory Group meeting, Sale	Cr Rossetti and Cr Crossley
20 March	Community Update – Heyfield and District, Heyfield OneGippsland Delegation, Melbourne	Cr Ripper Mayor Bye
21 March	Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel meeting, Melbourne Heyfield Healthy Ageing session, Heyfield Wellington MEMPC Debrief, Sale	Mayor Bye Cr Rossetti Cr Crossley
22 March	Fulham Correctional Centre Graduation Ceremony, Fulham	Mayor Bye
23 March	Youth Event: Future Proof, Sale Yarram Men’s Breakfast, Yarram	Cr Ripper Cr Stephens
25 March	Tarra Festival Committee meeting, Yarram	Cr McKenzie
26 March	Councillor Community Conversation, Yarram Gormandale Draft Local Emergency Directory – Drop in Session, Gormandale	Mayor Bye, Cr McKenzie, Cr Crossley, Cr Maher, Cr Stephens and Cr Ripper Cr McKenzie
27 March	SEATS Executive meeting, online RAAF Air Force Week Reception, East Sale	Cr Tattersson Mayor Bye and Cr Ripper
30 March	Tarra Festival Easter Bonnet Parade – Judging, Yarram	Cr McKenzie

**COUNCILLOR IAN BYE
MAYOR**

11. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

11.1. YOUTH COUNCIL MAYOR'S REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: YOUTH MAYOR, TAHLIA SCHNEIDER

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Youth Mayor's Quarterly Report.

Good evening Councillors, I am Tahlia Schneider and this year I was elected as Youth Mayor for the Wellington Shire Youth Council.

Our leadership team was elected in February just before our formal induction with representatives from council and our families present.

We then unanimously adopted our action plan for this year in the first formal meeting which was held in early March. The plan for this year has a strong focus on youth engagement and helping everyone to take on healthy habits for their physical and mental wellbeing.

Our first event as a council was a huge success. In partnership with the Parks Unit, we held a colour run at the Port of Sale on 2 March 2024. More than 250 people attended. It was a fantastic day with chances for everyone to get active and engage with the community. A huge thank you to all staff and volunteers who contributed to make it such a fun event, including Cr Crossley who was on hand to help toss colour.

Last week we travelled to the FReeZA Youth Summit in Melbourne. It was an amazing chance to get to know each other better on the train ride down, including a first ever trip on a train for one of our younger members! We learnt so much about live music production and tech, how to design a dream all ages event and even the chance to make our own music. We also got to meet and work with other youth volunteers from across the state.

This ANZAC Day many of our council are keen to attend the services in the surrounding areas. We will also make a post on social media to inform and remind fellow youth about the importance of this day.

We are busy helping the disability and inclusion team create a community event for Autism Acceptance Month. Then there are plans to participate in events to commemorate Reconciliation Week and celebrate NAIDOC week in May and July. Finally, planning is well underway for UPSWING our youth mental health festival.

Thank you for your time.

**TAHLIA SCHNEIDER
YOUTH MAYOR**

12. DELEGATES REPORT

13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

13.1. BIENNIAL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

PURPOSE

To provide Council with an overview of the activities of Council's Audit & Risk Committee, including findings and recommendations, for the period October 2023 to March 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the biennial report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period October 2023 to March 2024 as attached.

BACKGROUND

Under section 54(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councils are required to receive a biennial 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 October 2023 to March 2024 for Council's review.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Audit & Risk Committee Summary report to Council April 2024 [**13.1.1** - 4 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the biennial report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period October 2023 to March 2024; or
2. Not receive the biennial report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period October 2023 to March 2024 and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

The Council receive the biennial report on the Audit & Risk Committee's activities, findings and recommendations for the period October 2023 to March 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

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

October 2023 – March 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	2	2
Sarah Heath	29 Oct 2021	28 Oct 2024	2	2
Tony Smith	2 Feb 2022	1 Feb 2025	1*	2
Council Members				
Cr Garry Stephens	6 Dec 2016		2	2
Cr Gayle Maher	6 Dec 2022		2	2
Management				
David Morcom (CEO)	-	-	1	2
Arthur Skipitaris (GMCS)	-	-	2	2
Ian Carroll (MCF)	-	-	1	2

* Member unable to attend one meeting but undertook review of policies, risks and agenda and provided relevant comments.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee met 2 times during the reporting period: on 30 November 2023 and 26 February 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 were presented to Council, at the next practicable Ordinary meeting of Council.

Internal Auditor

Representatives from Council's Internal Auditors, HLB Mann Judd, attended both meetings during the period and presented the findings of the Workforce Planning review. 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) were not required to attend either meeting during the period. However, representatives will be present at the next scheduled Committee meeting to provide information on the external audit plan.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee meets on a quarterly basis to consider those matters within the scope of its charter.

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 audit recommendations and the status of Council's actions in relation to any identified improvements from various Agencies
- 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 audit on Workforce Planning;
- Received and endorsed a six-monthly report of strategic risk to Council's operations;
- Reviewed the Audit & Risk Committee Charter;
- Received the Biannual Report to Council on Audit & Risk Committee Activities;
- Received a report on the process to appoint a contractor for the supply of Internal Audit Services;
- Received a report on the Business Continuity Plan Exercise;
- Elected Chris Badger as Chair for 2024;
- Received a report on excessive staff leave balances; and
- Commenced a process to review strategic risks at each meeting.

Audit Response (as at 28 February 2024)

Actions completed, reviewed again by Auditors and deemed complete	132
Actions completed, as advised by responsible officer	177
Actions "in progress" and overdue	7
Actions "in progress" but not overdue	2
TOTAL	318

Of the 7 overdue actions, 5 have a low risk rating and 2 have a medium risk rating. Both the medium risk actions are well managed but have been delayed due to staff changes. At this stage it is expected that all the outstanding risk actions should be completed by mid 2024.

Council Risk, Control and Compliance Framework

The improvement program to enhance Council's Risk Management processes and culture was finalised during the previous period. A process has been introduced that will allow the Committee members to review a number of strategic risks at each meeting, culminating in the endorsement of all strategic risks at the November meeting.

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.

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. Note - no outstanding external audit action items.
- the re-appointment (subject to market testing) of an internal auditor, HLB Mann Judd.
- 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 and making recommendations regarding OH&S best practice encompassing psychosocial requirements.
- Working with management and the external auditor to improve external audit processes particularly related to asset valuations.

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

13.2. MARCH 2024 COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE

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

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

The March 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 - March 24 [13.2.1 - 7 pages]

OPTIONS

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

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

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and note the attached March 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 March 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.



MARCH 2024 QUARTERLY FINANCE SUMMARY

INCORPORATED IN PERFORMANCE REPORT

OPERATING RESULT STATEMENT
For the period ending 31 March 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR 2023-24		
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variance
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Income						
Rates and charges	69,874	69,148	726	70,151	69,638	513
Statutory fees & fines	692	769	(77)	1,035	982	53
User fees	7,132	6,524	608	10,393	9,617	776
Grants - operating	4,634	3,507	1,127	26,936	21,545	5,391
Grants - capital	5,380	7,394	(2,014)	15,299	11,098	4,201
Contributions - operating (monetary)	553	286	267	841	380	461
Contributions - capital (monetary)	15	-	15	-	-	-
Contributions - non monetary	2,530	-	2,530	1,950	-	1,950
Other income	5,188	3,597	1,591	9,461	4,839	4,622
Total Income (Inc capital income)	95,998	91,225	4,773	136,066	118,099	17,967
Expenditure						
Employee costs	26,682	26,662	(20)	34,564	35,197	633
Materials and services	33,560	31,175	(2,385)	49,909	41,690	(8,219)
Bad and doubtful debts	20	-	(20)	20	15	(5)
Depreciation and amortisation	25,422	23,678	(1,744)	33,925	31,572	(2,353)
Borrowing costs	22	27	5	42	42	-
Finance cost leases	7	14	7	18	18	-
Other expenses	1,129	475	(654)	1,512	740	(772)
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	3,028	640	(2,388)	3,543	997	(2,546)
Total Expenditure	89,870	82,671	(7,199)	123,533	110,271	(13,262)
Surplus for the year	6,128	8,554	(2,426)	12,533	7,828	4,704

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 31 March 2024 reflects a surplus of \$6.1 million against an adopted budget surplus of \$8.6 million, resulting in a unfavourable variance of (\$2.4 million). The variance is a combination of operating result (operating income less operating expense of (\$0.6M) and the impact of capital grants and contributions (non-monetary) of (\$1.8M).

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

Operating Income

- **\$0.73 million** **Rates & charges** - This primarily represents additional supplementary rates of \$0.5M and garbage chargers of \$0.25M raised since the 2023/24 budget adoption, due to increased building activity for new residential subdivisions and developments throughout the Shire.
- **\$0.61 million** **User fees** - Income raised from reimbursements for the year is higher than anticipated mainly for East Gippsland Shire Council shared services arrangements. Registration and permits revenue for animal services and environmental health were higher than expected due to increased activities to date.
- **\$1.13 million** **Grants (operating) -**
The favourable operating grants variance is mainly represented by;
 - Additional receipt of Victoria Grant Commission allocation for 2023/24 of \$0.6M.

Other major grant funding received or recognised as of 31 March includes:

 - Great Southern Rail Trail Extension project \$0.8M, which will be completed in the coming months.
 - Sports and community lighting program \$0.2M.

This is partly offset by funding received for municipal emergency programs (\$0.25M) and land use planning projects (\$0.2M), which are yet to be fully recognised due to delay in completion.
- **\$1.59 million** **Other income** - Interest on investments earned being greater than budget due to higher interest rates \$1.8M. This is slightly offset by lower rental earned from caravan parks and commercial properties (\$0.2M).

Operating Expenditure

- **(\$2.39 million)** **Contractors, materials and services variance includes:**
 - a. **(\$2.0M)** - Contractor expenses associated with recovery and reconstruction work for recent storm and flood emergencies. The majority of the expenses will be claimable once the works are fully completed and lodged within the due dates.
 - b. **(\$1.4M)** - Contractor payments yet to be incurred for community infrastructure projects such as Stratford Recreation Reserve Social Rooms upgrade and Great Southern Rail Trail Extension works that are nearing completion.
 - c. **(\$1.2M)** - Expenses associated with EPA compliance works and facility maintenance were higher than projected. The Kilmany landfill Leachate collection and disposal is expected to be \$1.2M over the budget by the year end due to continuous recent wet weather.
 - d. **(\$0.35M)** - Insurance premiums incurred for the year 2023/24 were higher than expected due to inflationary factors.
 - e. **\$2.2M** - Mobile garbage bins replacement program costs will be recognised as part of the year end process in June 2024.
 - f. **\$0.4M** - Consultant payments yet to be incurred on planning projects, community facilities and emergencies, aerodromes and parks initiatives.
- **(\$1.74 million)** **Depreciation & amortisation** - Overall higher than expected depreciation (non cash) mainly in buildings (\$1.9M) offset by lower than expected depreciation for open space streetscapes \$0.5M. Annual depreciation charges are impacted by the timing of project completions plus the projects moving from work in progress to completion. Final calculations will be completed as part of the year end process in June 2024.
- **(\$0.65 million)** **Other expenses** - This primarily represents assets written off during the year mainly for parks open space (York Street Central).
- **(\$2.39 million)** **Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment** - The variance is a combination of proceeds from plant and vehicle sales being higher than expected. And written down value for assets replaced mainly for partial disposal of Aqua Energy indoor complex (\$2.8M).

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

Capital Income

- **(\$2.01 million)** **Grants (capital)** - Major capital grants yet to be received/claimed include:
 - Sale-Toongabbie Road Widening works are progressing with culvert extensions and signs and expected to be completed in April 2024 (\$0.75M).
 - Bennison Drive Wurruk Rehabilitation (\$0.6M) works underway and finishing in April 2024. The Rodgers Street Yarram - Reconstruction (\$0.4M) works completed and awaiting final invoices for line marking.
 - Sale-Toongabbie Road Reconstruction program works for this year completed and waiting on final invoices (\$0.4M).
 - Stratford Memorial Park Toilets project completed and awaiting on outstanding invoices (\$0.3M).

- **\$2.53 million** **Contributions - capital (non monetary)** - Gifted assets recognised during the year mainly for drainage, land, roads and footpaths.

Full Year - Forecast to Adopted Budget

The full year forecast to adopted budget reflects a favourable variance of \$4.7M for the year ending 30 June 2024.

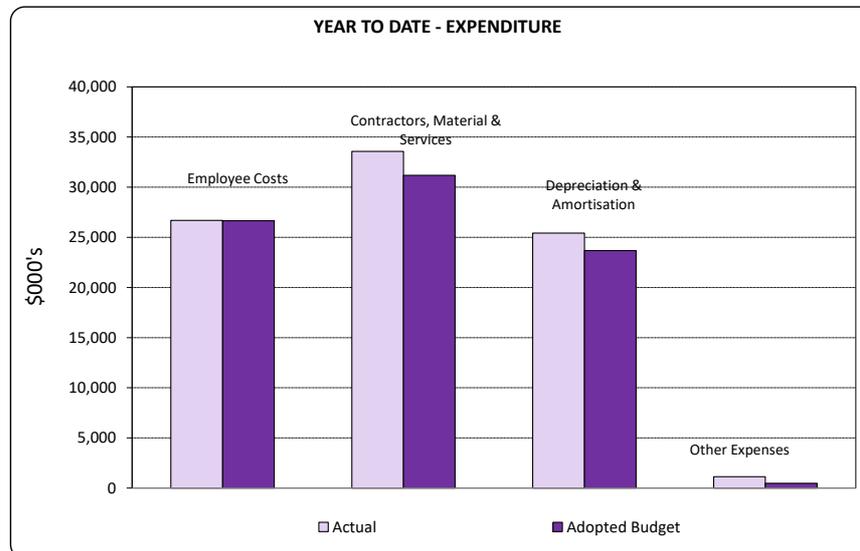
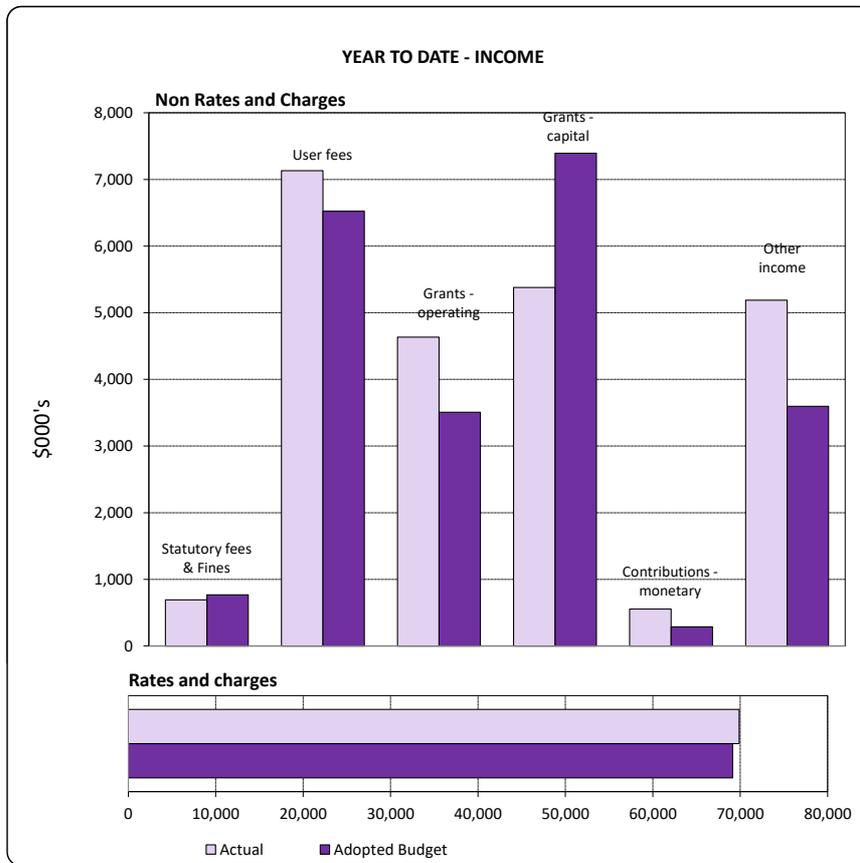
New and additional operating grant funding for community infrastructure projects; such as Stratford Recreation Reserve Social Room upgrade \$1.2M, Great Southern Rail Trail Extension \$1.2M and York Street works \$0.8M; will be claimed by year end.

Major capital grant funding yet to be fully recognised includes Aqua Energy, Sale - Redevelopment \$2.0M, Sale-Cowwarr Road Construction \$0.9M and Sale-Toongabbie Stage 2 \$0.5M.

Funding expected by 30 June 2024 for recovery and reconstruction efforts for past natural disaster events will be approximately \$2.4M. Additional user fees raised \$0.5M from leisure centres and registrations and other permits. Capital contributions (non cash) recognised from gifted assets total \$1.9M to date.

These new or additional funding streams are partly offset by increases in contractor and material expenditure by (\$8.2M), which have been incurred mainly in relation to natural disaster recovery and other community infrastructure projects.

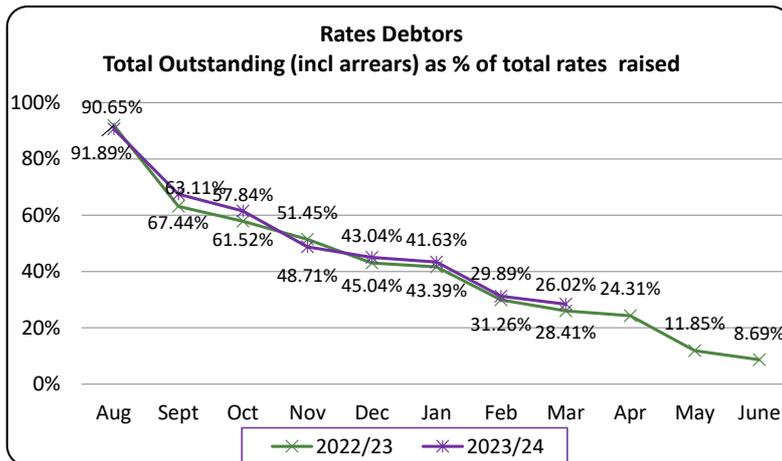
MARCH 2024 COMPONENTS AT A GLANCE



BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2024

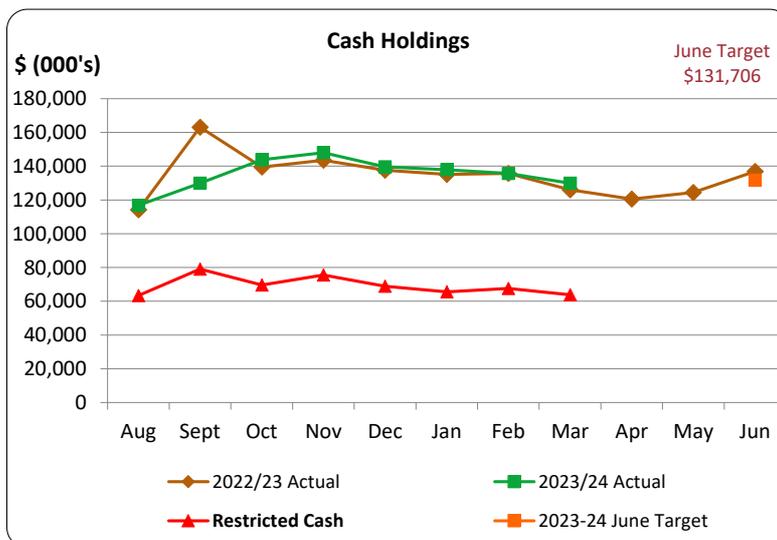
Actual		Actual	Forecast	Adopted Budget
March 23		March 24	June 24	June 24
\$000's		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Assets				
140,132	Total Current Assets	146,401	146,592	147,167
1,142,490	Total Non Current Assets	1,351,469	1,346,684	1,322,705
1,282,622	Total Assets	1,497,870	1,493,276	1,469,872
Liabilities				
32,126	Total Current Liabilities	33,106	34,005	41,444
17,551	Total Non Current Liabilities	14,554	20,672	18,784
49,677	Total Liabilities	47,661	54,677	60,228
1,232,945	Net Assets	1,450,209	1,438,599	1,409,644



The rate debtors outstanding at the end of March 2024 were \$21.7 million (28.4%) compared to March 2023 of \$18.9 million (26.0%).

The final rate instalments for the year is due on 31 May 2024.

Council is continuing its efforts on collection of outstanding rates through various measures including regular payment plans.



Council cash holdings at the end of March 2024 are \$130.0M, higher than March 2023 of \$126.0M, due to receipt of new/additional grant funding and delayed expenditure mainly towards capital projects.

Current cash holdings include \$63.8M in restricted funds: \$12.7M to cover reserves, \$41.5M to cover provisions and trusts, \$5.3M associated with carried forwards, and \$4.3M linked to the VGC advance for 2023/24.

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

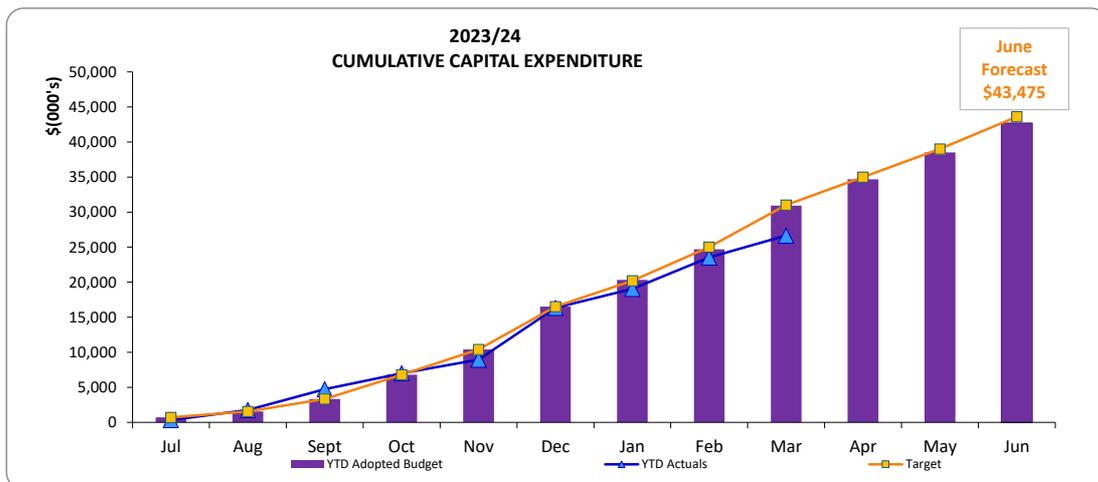
As at 31 March 2024

	YEAR TO DATE 2023-24			FULL YEAR 2023-24		
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Year End Forecast	Adopted Budget	Actual Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Property	4,230	4,384	(154)	6,541	6,760	(2,530)
Infrastructure	19,195	23,767	(4,572)	31,785	31,245	(12,050)
Plant and Equipment	2,850	2,903	(53)	4,564	4,264	(1,414)
Intangibles	382	375	7	585	425	(43)
Grand Total	26,657	31,429	(4,772)	43,475	42,694	(16,037)

	YEAR TO DATE 2023-24			FULL YEAR 2023-24		
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Variance	Year End Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variance to Adopted
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Renewal	18,046	20,814	(2,768)	30,677	25,650	(7,604)
Upgrade	3,015	5,166	(2,151)	5,695	8,063	(5,048)
Expansion	5,382	5,434	(52)	6,889	8,616	(3,234)
New Assets	214	15	199	214	365	(151)
Grand Total	26,657	31,429	(4,772)	43,475	42,694	(16,037)

Capital Works Summary - Financial Year Ending 31 March 2024

- Overall 65 projects are at practical completion, 43 more projects are underway and 13 projects have had contracts awarded but not yet commenced. 7 projects are in pre-planning (development of the concept design, the detail design, community consultation and seeking quotes or tenders).
- Aqua Energy Sale - Redevelopment works have continued with stage 1 Toilets complete and operational. Gym entrance is nearing completion, demolition is complete and foundations have commenced.
- Desailly Street and Macarthur Street Intersection works commenced in mid February 2024 and expect to be completed in May 2024.
- Rodgers Street Yarram - Reconstruction works are complete.
- Rosedale Prince Street Reserve Old School Stage 1 roof works are complete.
- Urban Path Plan works are complete in Yarram and Heyfield with Rosedale paths to be completed in April 2024.
- The Final Seals, Reseal Rural Roads, and Reseal Urban Streets works are now complete.



13.3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT - MARCH 2024

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

<p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p><i>That the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.</i></p>

1 March	Attended a Work Well PGG meeting. Hosted the Gippsland Art Gallery: Annemeike Mein Exhibition Opening, Sale.
4 March	Met with Mark Dykgraaf, CEO of Central Gippsland Health, Sale. Attended a Telstra Local Government Connectivity Planning Strategy meeting.
7 March	Attended a Committee for Wellington monthly meeting, Sale. Met with VicGrid representatives, Sale. Attended a Loch Sport Business & Tourism Association meeting, Loch Sport.
13 March	Attended an Industry Leaders Roundtable event hosted by Telstra CEO, Vicki Brady, Morwell.
20 March	Attended a OneGippsland State Delegation, Melbourne. Included meetings with Minister D'Ambrosio, Minister Tierney, Minister Horne and the Office of Minister Kilkenny.
22 March	Attended a OneGippsland CEO Forum. Met with Gippsland Water representatives, Sale.
26 March	Attended the Councillor Community Conversation tour in Yarram. Attended a OneGippsland State Delegation meeting with Minister Dimopoulos.

14. GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

14.1. ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS REPORT

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

OBJECTIVE

To report on all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 25 March 2024 to 7 April 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 25 March 2024 to 7 April 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, under Council's good governance framework, 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 25 March 2024 to 7 April 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Aqua Energy Redevelopment Project Reference Group 27 March 2024 [**14.1.1** - 1 page]
2. Assembly of Councillors Council Day 2 April 2024 [**14.1.2** - 2 pages]

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 25 March 2024 to 7 April 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 as part of Council's good governance framework.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

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

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and while it does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic outcome, it does align with Council's good governance framework.

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 – 27 March 2024

MEETING	COUNCILLORS, OFFICERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (NAME AND POSITION)					
Aqua Energy Redevelopment Project Reference Group	Councillor Name	Attendance	Conflict of Interest	Officer Name	Attendance	Item No.
	Cr Ian Bye	Yes		D Morcom, CEO	No	
	Cr Carolyn Crossley	No		A Skipitaris, GMCS	No	
	Cr John Tatterson	No		C Gillings, GMC&C	No	
	Cr McKenzie	No		C Hastie, GMB&NE	No	
	Cr Jill Wood	No		R, MCWHIRTER, A/GMCC	YES	
	Cr Gayle Maher	No				
	Cr Carmel Ripper	No				
	Cr Scott Rossetti	No				
	Cr Garry Stephens	No				
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (NAME AND POSITION)			MATTERS/ITEMS CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING			
Sale Swimming Club - Cath Vassiliou, Steve Allen, Kylie Watson			Update on current project status; communications and engagement; scope; schedule and funding			
WSC - Ross McWhirter (Chair), Sam McPherson, Mark Benfield, Ray Weber, Kim Salleh, Julie Baker (Minutes),						

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - COUNCIL DAY

COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – 2 APRIL 2024			
COUNCILLOR	ATTENDANCE	OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	
Cr Ian Bye	YES	Chris Hastie	Acting CEO, General Manager Built & Natural Environment
Cr John Tatterson	NO (<i>Leave</i>)	Arthur Skipitaris	General Manager Corporate Services
Cr Carolyn Crossley	YES	Ross McWhirter	Acting General Manager Community & Culture
Cr Carmel Ripper	YES	Andrew Pomeroy	General Manager Development
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 – 2 APRIL 2024		
ITEM NO.	WORKSHOP TITLE	PRESENTERS
1.1	BUILT ENVIRONMENT UPDATE INCLUDING DRAINAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Sam Pye, Manager Built Environment</i> <i>Lucy Spooner, Coordinator Infrastructure Development</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>
1.2	AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE UPDATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services</i> <i>Chris Badger, Chair ARC</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS - COUNCIL DAY

WORKSHOP DETAILS – 2 APRIL 2024		
ITEM NO.	WORKSHOP TITLE	PRESENTERS
1.3	2024/25 BUDGET OVERVIEW INCLUDING AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services</i> • <i>Ian Carroll, Manager Corporate Finance</i> • <i>Peta Crawford, Coordinator Accounting & Payroll</i> • <i>Chris Badger, Chair Audit & Risk Committee</i> • <i>Anthony Smith, Independent Member Audit & Risk Committee</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>
1.4	COMMUNITY & CULTURE DIVISION UPDATE – LEISURE SERVICES AND ARTS & CULTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ross McWhirter, Acting General Manager Community & Culture</i> • <i>Suzanne Snooks, Manager Arts & Culture</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>
1.5	MACALISTER FRESH AND MID UPDATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mark Coleman, Economic Development Officer</i> • <i>External - Terry Flynn, Southern Rural Water</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>
1.6	ARTS & CULTURE STRATEGY – CONSULTATION FINDINGS AND EMERGING THEMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Suzanne Snooks, Manager Arts & Culture</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>
1.7	PROGRESS OF 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN AND HEALTHY WELLINGTON 2021-25, QUARTER 2 2023/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Billie-Jo Thornton, Performance & Reporting Coordinator</i> <i>Conflicts of Interest: NIL</i>

14.2. RESOLVE TO ADVERTISE DRAFT 2024/25 BUDGET, PROPOSED RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER CORPORATE FINANCE

PURPOSE

For Council to resolve to advertise its draft 2024/25 Budget and seek public submissions in accordance with section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council advertise its draft 2024/25 Budget (as attached) including:**
 - **fees and charges; and**
 - **multi-year capital projects*****in accordance with Section 96 of the Local Government Act 2020; and***
- 2. Council consider submissions for the draft 2024/25 Budget at a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 16 May 2024 at 5pm; and**
- 3. Council meet on Tuesday 4 June 2024 at 5pm to consider the formal adoption of the 2024/25 Budget; and**
- 4. Council make the following declarations regarding rates and charges for the period commencing on 1 July 2024 and concluding on 30 June 2025:**
 - A) Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 158, 161 and 162 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, these remain saved provisions under the 1989 Act), the Wellington Shire Council hereby resolves to declare that the amount it intends to raise by rates and annual service charges is \$72.2M:**

Type of Rates or charge	\$'000
General Rate:	63,785
Cultural & Recreational Land rates	81
Garbage Charge:	5,914
Waste Infrastructure Charge:	1,884
State Government EPA Levy Charge:	497
Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge	14

- B) (1) It be further declared that, subject to paragraph 4 of this Part, the general rate be raised through the application of differential rates.**
- (2) A rate in the dollar of 0.003489 be specified as the general rate (subject to final valuation outcomes).**
- (3) It be confirmed that the general rate for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined so that the amount payable be the Capital Improved Value multiplied by the rate in the dollar of 0.003489 (subject to final valuation outcomes)**
- (4) a) It be recorded that Council considers that a differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions.**
- b) A differential rate be declared for that rateable land having the characteristics specified below, which characteristics will form the criteria for the differential rate so declared:**
- (i) Farm Land:**
- Means any land that:**
- Is “Farm Land” within the meaning of Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960 (paras a) and b)) and other criteria as defined by Council in c) hereunder**
- a) that is not less than 2 hectares in area; and**
- b) that is used primarily for grazing (including agistment), dairying, pig-farming, poultry-farming, fish-farming, tree-farming, bee-keeping, viticulture, horticulture, fruit-growing or the growing of crops of any kind or for any combination of those activities; and**
- c) where the ratepayer is a Primary Producer with any evidence/ruling confirmed by the Australian Taxation Office, registered ABN and business plan.**
- C) Garbage Charge:**
- (1) An annual service charge of \$285.00 be declared for the collection and disposal of garbage in respect of Residential premises to which the service is available – whether, or not, the owner or occupier of any such premises avails themselves of the service.**
- D) Waste Infrastructure Charge:**
- (1) An annual service charge be declared for the development of Landfills, Recycling facilities, Transfer Stations and the rehabilitation of Landfill sites, and provision of facilities for ongoing monitoring of landfills, to ensure that Council can continue to provide a waste disposal service.**
- (2) The charge be \$60.00 for each property in respect of which a municipal charge may be levied. This charge will not apply to properties identified as being within the Ninety Mile Beach Restructure Plan Stages 7 – 22, with the exception of those properties with an existing dwelling, where the charge will still apply.**

E) EPA Levy Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$24.00 be declared to cover the costs levied by the State Government Environment Protection Authority on the operation of landfills, not otherwise recouped.**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property to which a Garbage Charge is applied, at the rate of one EPA Levy Charge for each Garbage Charge.**

F) Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge:

- (1) An annual service charge of \$521.00 be declared for wastewater availability in respect of Residential and Commercial premises in the township of Boisdale, to contribute towards the costs of operation and management of the Boisdale Common Effluent System (the System).**
- (2) The charge be levied on each property which is connected to the System, at the rate of one charge per tenement connected.**

G) Cultural and Recreational Land:

- (1) The amount of \$80,700 (excluding service charges) be declared as payable in accordance with Section 4 of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963, having regard to the services provided by the Council in relation to such lands and the benefit to the community derived from this recreational land.**

H) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989 (currently, this remains as a saved provision under the 1989 Act), Council resolves to declare a Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for conservation purposes.

- (1) Council considers that this rebate will ensure that the biodiversity values of the land will be protected for the benefit of the broader community.**
- (2) The rebate will apply only to the land that is affected by a covenant as described in the covenant document.**
- (3) The rebate will be applied at \$15 per hectare, with a minimum rebate of \$100 and a maximum equal to the annual general rate on the property for that portion of land.**
- (4) Conditions apply as per Council's Policy No. 4.1.12 – Rates Rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for Conservation Purposes.**

BACKGROUND

Council has developed the draft 2024/25 Budget, for the financial year commencing 1 July 2024 and ending 30 June 2025. Council undertook several workshops in early 2024 as part of the budget development, which reviewed the implications of the 2024/25 Rate Cap, proposed capital projects, operational costs, service levels and fees and charges.

This draft document outlines the broad range of services provided by Council and details the funding that is required to deliver these services as well as continuing to maintain and improve community infrastructure.

The 2024/25 budget forecasts a year of restraint, balancing substantial cost pressures with spending responsibly when it comes to the infrastructure, maintenance and services needed by our local community.

While we're still planning for Future Wellington, we're extremely mindful of external influences affecting Council's revenue. Like most, Council's expenses have increased due to high inflation, however income has been restrained by a rate cap of just 2.75% (set by the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System) and slowed government grant funding. Simply put, everything is more expensive, and our income isn't growing sufficiently to cover our increased expenses.

Following a review of current waste management costs, the Garbage Charge will increase from \$275.00 to \$285.00. The EPA Levy Charge will remain unchanged at \$24.00 which covers the impact of the prescribed Municipal and Industrial waste levies as set by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Waste Infrastructure Charge has remained at \$55.00 for the past 6 years but will increase to \$60.00 for 2024/25 to cover the increasing costs and demands of waste infrastructure at our landfill and transfer station sites.

Fees and charges set by Council have also been reviewed and increases proposed where appropriate.

The next step in the process is for Council to formally advertise the 2024/25 Draft Budget and to receive and consider submissions on the 2024/25 Draft Budget, so that Council is able to consider the adoption of the proposed budget at the 4 June 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Wellington Shire Council 2024-25 Draft Budget [**14.2.1** - 71 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To resolve to advertise the draft 2024/25 Budget, seeking submissions from the public; or
2. To seek further information and present the draft 2024/25 Budget to Council for consideration as a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council:

1. Resolve to advertise the draft 2024/25 Budget (as attached) in accordance with Section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and
2. Consider submissions on the draft 2024/25 Budget at a Special Council Meeting on Thursday 16 May 2024 at 5pm; and
3. Meet on Tuesday 4 June 2024 at 5pm to consider the formal adoption of the 2024/25 Budget; and
4. Make declarations regarding rates and charges for the period commencing on 1 July 2024 and concluding on 30 June 2025.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated amount to be raised by general rates and the proposed rate in the dollar is reflected in the table below:

Type of Property	Proposed Rate in the dollar	Total Income \$'000
General Residential	0.003489	41,736
Commercial/Industrial	0.003489	13,976
Farm	0.004791	8,073
Cultural and Recreational Land	N/A	81
Total		63,866

The estimated amount to be raised through service charges and the proposed charge per property is as follows:

Type of Charge	Per rateable property	Total Income \$'000
Kerbside collection (Garbage)	285.0	5,914
Waste Infrastructure Charge	60.0	1,884
EPA Levy Charge	24.0	497
Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge	521.0	14
Total		8,309

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

All individuals or organisations making submissions in response to the draft 2024/25 Budget will have an opportunity to provide feedback to Council on Thursday 16 May 2024 and will be advised in writing of the outcome once Council has considered their submission.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

As soon as practicable after a Council has prepared a proposed budget, the Council must give public notice that it is available for public consideration under Council's Community Engagement Policy and in accordance with Section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Budget, including the financial statements, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 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.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

The outcomes of the budget process will have an impact on the level of resources available in the 2024/25 financial year and the staffing levels of Council.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The draft 2024/25 Budget reflects the financial impact of the services provided by Council to the community and, as such, will impact on the community through enhanced services especially in infrastructure construction, maintenance, recreation programs and facilities, and strengthening community participation.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Council considers that the declaration of a rate rebate on land with a Deed of Covenant for conservation purposes will ensure that the biodiversity values of the land will be protected for the benefit of the broader community.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Section 96(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that Council develop the budget in line with its Community Engagement Policy. To ensure that Council provides ample and varied opportunity for community engagement, Council will place the draft 2024/25 Budget on Council’s website and advertise that it has done so. Advertisements will be placed in local newspapers, on Facebook and Council’s website seeking community submissions on the draft 2024/25 Budget and inviting the public to speak to and in support of submissions at a special Council meeting to consider any submissions received.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

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



WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

Draft Budget 2024/25

16 April 2024

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is for general guidance only. It is not professional advice and should not be used, relied upon or treated as a substitute for specific professional advice. Given the changing nature of laws, rules and regulations, and the inherent hazards of electronic communication, there may be delays, omissions or inaccuracies in information contained in this document.

The budget, including financial statements, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this document has been accurate and complies with relevant Victorian legislation, each Council remains responsible to ensure that the budget they prepare is compliant with all statutory requirements.

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Mayor's Introduction

In this budget, Council is getting back to basics. The 2024/25 budget forecasts a year of restraint, balancing substantial cost pressures with spending responsibly when it comes to the infrastructure, maintenance and services needed by our local community.

While we're still planning for Future Wellington, we're extremely mindful of external influences affecting Council's revenue. Like most, Council's expenses have increased due to high inflation, however income has been restrained by a rate cap of just 2.75% (set by the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System) and slowed government grant funding. Simply put, everything is more expensive, but our income isn't growing enough to cover it.

This means Council has made some tough choices on what is delivered.

Wellington Shire's population of 45,600 is spread across 10,900 square kilometres - compared with Victorian metropolitan counterparts, which average more than 147,000 residents across 66 square kilometres. This causes challenges when it comes to calculating how to continue funding more than 140 Council services, while maintaining the geographically third largest shire in Victoria.

It's becoming harder to tender for big projects and infrastructure, because it's costing more than it ever has. That's why it was so important this year we compiled a responsible budget that returned to delivering on core services.

Let's start with roads. We've had a tough time recently with 14 declared emergency events, like floods and bushfires, hitting us between March 2021 and February 2024. Last year alone, we had five big emergencies that set us back with unprecedented challenges.

These emergency events have resulted in an estimated \$12 million in damage to our infrastructure, including roads, drains and bridges which led to more than 230 road closures across the Shire. A big focus will be fixing roads in 2024/25, because it's crucial for communities that depend on them for safe access and the economic flow-on benefits of industry and tourism.

This year we have budgeted \$68.9 million for capital works, with \$45.8 million funded from Council operations and \$20.1 million from external grants and contributions.

\$21.1 million has been allocated to road reseal and resheeting programs, \$5.6 million for bridges and drainage, and a further \$7.8 million for rural areas and on regular roads maintenance programs, including roadside vegetation management, fire breaks, rural road reseals and drainage, and gravel roads. Fixing and maintaining 3,114 kms of Shire roads remains a huge expense for Council. We estimate that over 250 roads were directly affected by flooding over the last three years.

To really understand how much money is needed, we've listed some key road projects earmarked for this financial year – these include:

- Duke Street, Yarram Reconstruction - \$1.25M
- Velore Road, Kilmany Reconstruction- \$1.2M
- Sale Toongabbie Road Stage 3 Reconstruction - \$900K
- Dargo Emergency Slip Rectification, Upper Dargo - \$800K
- Mills Street, Heyfield Rehabilitation - \$750K
- Sale Cowwarr Road Stage 2 Reconstruction- \$600K
- Glencairn Road, Licola Slip Rehabilitation - \$600K
- Heyfield Seaton Road Reconstruction - \$600K

This year, we have prioritised the development of the Sale Integrated Centre for Children and Families on Gibsons Road, with \$5.575 million allocated over two financial years to its construction. The new centre will provide a combined 122 new childcare and kindergarten places, multi-purpose consulting suites, and meeting and activity spaces for early childhood services and community use.

In preparation of this centre and the new Sale College, we are also planning to start construction of a \$2.3 million roundabout at the intersection of Gibsons Road and Cobains Road in Sale.

We're moving full steam ahead with the redevelopment of the Aqua Energy Leisure Centre, setting aside \$16.796 million of the \$23 million project cost in this year's budget for this major transformation. This project is a turning point for our community in Wellington. When finished, it will feature a new, accessible 25m indoor pool, improved changing rooms, a 24/7 gym, and a water play area that the kids will love. This isn't just an upgrade; it's a vital step forward in making our community a better place to live, play and stay healthy.

Our community facilities remain a priority and although we can't fund every request, we're happy to announce that projects like the installation of LED lights at Maffra Lawn Tennis Club, costing \$365K, and a \$920K changerooms upgrade at Maffra's Cameron Sporting Complex will go ahead this year, dependent on securing external funding.

We're setting aside \$1.14 million to make improvements at Yarram Pool, including updating electrical systems, pumps and pipes, as well as systems that clean and filter the water. Our aim is to streamline programming across the next Summer Swim Season and we're looking forward to working with the Yarram community on this work.

Dealing with waste is a big deal too. We recently successfully introduced new kerbside bins across the Shire, and this year we'll be spending \$1.5 million on expanding Cell 4 at Kilmany Landfill.

Renewable energy remains a key focus for us. In line with our current Council Plan, we're working hard to support the local economy to deliver on our renewable energy priorities, unlocking the economic potential of renewable energy investments and advocating for employment and supply chain opportunities that will benefit the entire Wellington community.

We'll keep pushing for more funding from state and federal governments. Our goal is to explore every opportunity for extra funding, to avoid extra costs for our residents.

We've got some great projects underway in Wellington and we are heading into an exciting time for Future Wellington. Our main goal for 2024/25 is to balance our core services while preserving our finances for the long term.

Councillor Ian Bye
Mayor

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Financial Snapshot

Key Statistics	2023/24 Forecast \$000's	2024/25 Budget \$000's
Total Income	136,066	131,547
Total Expenditure	123,533	115,233
Surplus for the year	12,533	16,314

Note: The surplus for the year reflects the anticipated annual performance of Council's day to day activities.

Underlying operating surplus / (deficit)	(5,028)	(2,892)
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Note: The Underlying operating result is an important measure of financial sustainability as it excludes all funds which are used for capital from being allocated to cover operating expenses. In 2024/25 capital funds are defined as recurrent capital grants (Road to Recovery funding) of \$2.9M, non-recurrent grant funding of \$13.7M, contributions, and donations (including ratepayer contributions to special street charge schemes) of \$3.9M, and other capital adjustments of \$0.3M, and all have been excluded to determine the underlying result.

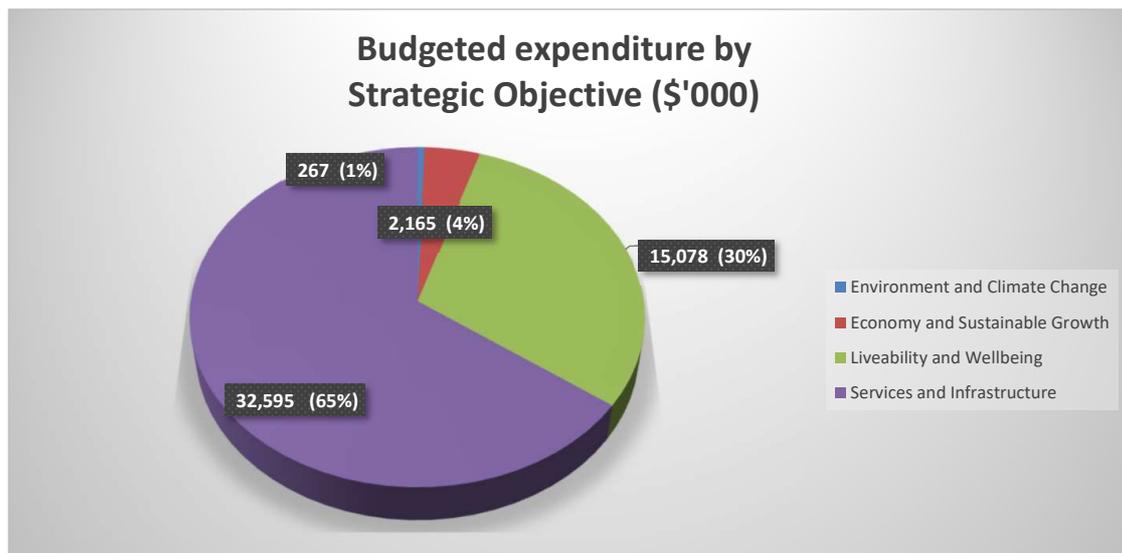
Net Cash result	5,433	(21,982)
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This is the net funding result after operations, capital works and financing activities. Refer Statement of Cash Flow in Section 3.

Capital works program	43,475	68,894
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Funding the capital works program

Cash and Reserves	21,426	45,790
Borrowings	7,000	3,000
External grants and contributions (recurrent and non-recurrent)	15,049	20,104
	43,475	68,894



2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Economic Assumptions

Assumption	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend
		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Rate Cap Increase	1	1.75%	3.50%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	+
Population Growth	2	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	+
Investment Interest Rate	3	4.00%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.00%	4.00%	+
Borrowing Interest Rate	4	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	+
Expense Growth	5	2.01%	4.10%	3.10%	2.60%	2.60%	2.60%	+
User Fees	6	2.00%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	+
Grants - Recurrent	7	1.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	+
Employee Costs	8	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	+
Contractors, consultants and materials		1.75%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	+
Utilities	9	8.60%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	+

Notes to Assumptions

1. Rate Cap

Base rate revenue will increase by 2.75% for the 2024/25 year, based on the state government rate cap, with estimated future annual increases in line with the Victorian Government Budgeted CPI increases. Rating increases are prepared in line with the Revenue and Rating Plan.

2. Population Growth

The Victorian Government's "Victoria in Future" forecasts suggest that between now and 2036, population will grow by an annual average rate of 1.2% in Wellington Shire.

3. Investment Interest Rate

The average rate of investment has been steadily increasing, it is assumed the rate will peak in 2024/25. This has a significant impact on the revenue raising ability of Council.

4. Borrowing Interest Rate

The current borrowing rate is expected to increase in the next few years.

5. Expense Growth

The Expense Growth has been projected to reflect Council's experiences.

6. User Fees

User Fees are determined to be based on a cost recovery status no higher than market rate as determined in the Revenue and Rating Plan. In the 2024/25 budget fees (refer 4.1.3) have typically been increased inline with the Rate Cap percentage.

7. Grants - Recurrent

Grants Recurrent are expected to continue for the next four years. These include Roads to Recovery and several smaller operating grants that enable Council to maintain its current service levels.

8. Employee Costs

Employee costs have increased with an estimated 2.5% rise in compliance with the current Enterprise Agreement (EA) schedule. Superannuation expenses are forecast to continue to increase in line with government requirements.

9. Utilities

Utilities increased significantly in 2022/23 mainly due to the gas supply significantly increasing prices within that year. Price increases are expected to consistently and steadily increase for the next four years at a rate of 3% which takes into account and expected rise less efficiencies from LED lighting which are reducing our consumption and overall electricity costs.

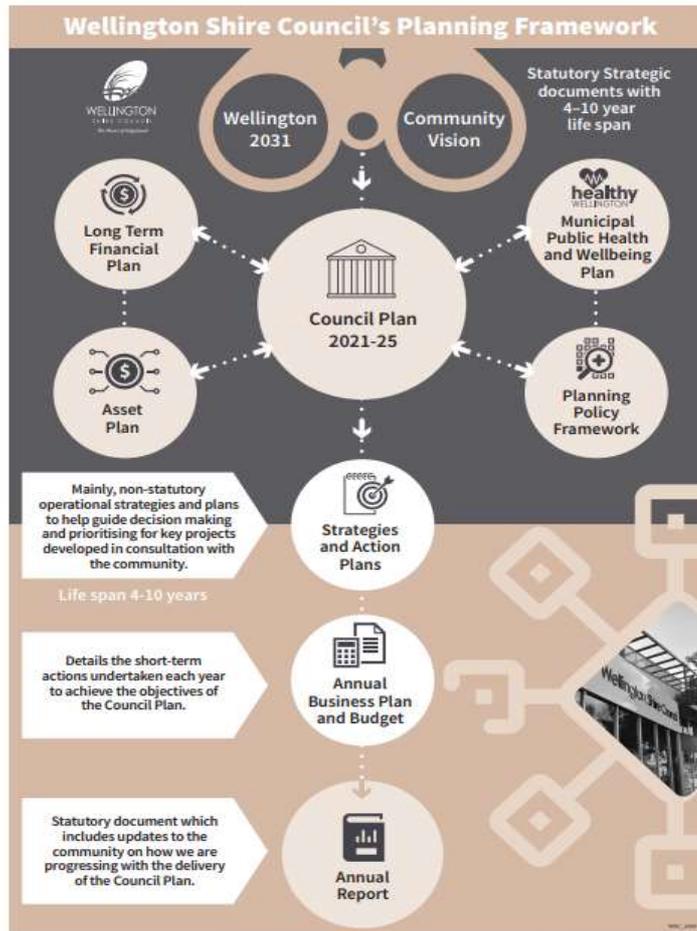
2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

1. Link to the Council Plan

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated strategic planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative Planning and Accountability Framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

1.1.2 Key Planning considerations

Service level planning

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services - such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning - most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works.

Community consultation is in line with council's adopted Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy.

1.2 Our purpose

Our vision

"Happy people, healthy environment and thriving communities."

Our mission

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

Our values

- **Cooperation** : *Working together, teamwork, collaboration and being solution oriented.*
- **Integrity** : *Acting with respect, honesty, reliability, trust, tolerance and understanding.*
- **Balance** : *Demonstrating fairness, equity and flexibility. Considering work-life balance, and balancing community needs against resources.*
- **Professionalism** : *Personal development and meaningful work, being competent, innovative and courageous, focusing on excellence and continuous improvement.*
- **Sustainability** : *Going above and beyond to demonstrate commitment to leading sustainable practices and encouraging and supporting others to do the same.*

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

1.3 Strategic Objectives

Council delivers services and initiatives in over 145 service categories. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the strategic objectives under each of four themes as set out in the Council Plan for the years 2021-25, and listed in the following table. The four strategic directions define the actions Council will take to achieve these and other community priorities. These priorities and strategic directions will keep us focused on our regional advantages and community aspirations.

Strategic Objective	Description
1 Environment and Climate Change	<p>We are a climate resilient community with sustainable practices and places.</p> <p>1.1 A climate and disaster resilient community.</p> <p>1.2 Assist community to transition to a low carbon economy via adoption of sustainable practices and renewable energy.</p> <p>1.3 The natural environment is valued, protected and accessible.</p> <p>1.4 Council is an environmental steward with a reducing carbon footprint.</p>
2 Economy and Sustainable Growth	<p>We are a growing, sustainable and prosperous community.</p> <p>2.1 A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities.</p> <p>2.2 A community that has the capacity and skills to meet our economic needs.</p> <p>2.3 An increase in variety of housing choices to support equitable access to housing.</p> <p>2.4 Infrastructure investment is targeted to maximise jobs and housing growth.</p>
3 Liveability and Wellbeing	<p>We are a liveable, engaged, and supported community.</p> <p>3.1 An inclusive, diverse and resilient community.</p> <p>3.2 An actively engaged community.</p> <p>3.3 Opportunities for everyone to work, learn, create, play and share.</p>
4 Services and Infrastructure	<p>We are a connected community with access to the services and infrastructure we require.</p> <p>4.1 A financially sustainable, high performing organisation.</p> <p>4.2 Services deliver operating efficiencies and best value.</p> <p>4.3 Well planned and sustainable towns, facilities and infrastructure that service community need.</p> <p>4.4 Safe and well-used transport connections across all modes of travel.</p>

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2. Services and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2024/25 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives, and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

2.1 Strategic Objectives for 'Environment and Climate Change'

- A climate and disaster resilient community.
- Assist community to transition to a low carbon economy via adoption of sustainable practices and renewable energy.
- The natural environment is valued, protected and accessible.
- Council is an environmental steward with a reducing carbon footprint.

The activities and initiatives for each service category and key strategic activities are described below:

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Business area	Description of services provided		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Land Use Planning	The Land Use Planning unit, through statutory planning and strategic land use planning services, aims to develop and improve forward looking land use planning policies and plans that guide and support future sustainable growth and facilitate appropriate land use and development outcomes. Many of these services are provided through and driven by statutory legislation. The unit aims to provide services that satisfy community needs by encouraging and supporting well-designed development that meets required standards.	Exp	273	683	594
		Rev	(0)	(145)	-
		NET COST	273	538	594

Major Initiatives					
Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.1.1	In line with revised State Government policy documents, establish and implement a policy position around the impacts of sea level rise, flooding and bushfire on land use planning.				
Councillors, Chief Executive and Executive Team	This area of governance includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management Team and associated support which covers service provision across the entire organisation.	Exp	449	480	486
		Rev	(3)	0	-
		NET COST	446	480	486

Major Initiatives					
Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.1.2	Deliver organisation-wide integrated implementation of the climate change aspects of the Council's Sustainability Strategy 2020-24, Healthy Wellington 2021-25 and Planning Policy Framework including our zero net carbon emissions target by 2040.				

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Natural Environment & Parks (Sustainability, Special Projects, Waste Management)	The Natural Environment & Parks (NEP) business unit covers a range of activities related to the operational management of public open space, which includes approximately 320 hectares of parkland and associated infrastructure, such as picnic shelters, BBQs, seating, boardwalks, fences and public toilets. The NEP business unit also proactively manages around 70,000 urban trees and is responsible for the management, design and development of parks and streetscapes in urban areas. Also being responsible for moving the Wellington community towards a more sustainable future by managing waste and resource recovery services including kerbside collection, recycling, transfer station/landfill operations, community education and the coordination of sustainability projects. Key priority areas include biodiversity, water consumption and quality, waste management and energy use.	Exp	12,049	14,305	11,022
		Rev	(11,008)	(11,898)	(12,989)
		NET COST	1,040	2,407	(1,967)

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.1.3 *Educate the community to increase understanding of the risks and impacts of climate change and the need for adaptation and sustainable living.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.4.1 *Progress towards our 2040 net zero emissions target by reviewing our roadmap, strengthening our governance and exploring carbon offset opportunities.*

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 1.1.6 *Increase the extent of our urban forests and trees (also considering urban agriculture) to help our townships cope better with future temperatures increases.*

Council Plan Initiative no 1.2.2 *Advocate for uptake of electric and hybrid vehicles across our broader community and support this through delivery of charging stations.*

Council Plan Initiative no 1.2.4 *Help build a diverse and resilient energy economy by supporting the uptake of community-owned renewable energy capture and storage through education, capacity building and targeted investment.*

Council Plan Initiative no 1.4.3 *Advocate for alternate waste technologies to increase diversion of valuable resources and contaminated waste from landfill. Encourage and facilitate investment into resource recovery by private industries or partnerships.*

Council Plan Initiative no 1.4.4 *Investigate glass collection and diversion options to separate glass streams to facilitate the circular economy.*

Council Plan Initiative no 1.4.5 *Accelerate Council's delivery of renewable energy and energy saving projects through delivering Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and investigating tools like an internal capital fund and process to rank and prioritise return on investment for projects.*

Communities, Facilities & Emergencies	The Communities, Facilities and Emergencies teams provide opportunities for communities to work in partnership with local government to achieve identified priorities. These teams work to ensure all members of the community have equal opportunity to participate in community activities. Special focus is given to those who have traditionally remained marginalised such as the young, elderly, disabled and transport disadvantaged.	Exp	1,031	1,647	1,281
		Rev	(579)	(951)	(743)
		NET COST	452	695	538

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.1.4 *Build disaster resilience and improve adaptation and recovery in high-risk and vulnerable communities by facilitating community-led emergency management planning and preparedness.*

Economic Development	Council's Economic Development service aims to support business growth and employment, the sustainable management of Council's commercial properties, and the active promotion of both lifestyle opportunities and our vibrant tourism sector.
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Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.2.1 *Advocate for, educate, and facilitate the adoption of regenerative agriculture and investment to improve water security and assist farmers to increase resilience and profitability in a warmer, drier climate.*

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 1.3.2 *With key stakeholders, encourage access, appreciation and use of our natural areas through well-planned and sustainable nature-based and cultural tourism.*

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Municipal Services	The Municipal Services unit works with people to ensure the life, health and safety of the community is maintained through educating and enforcing Environmental Health (including food safety support programs), Building and Local Laws regulations and animal management services.	<i>Exp</i>	759	786	917
		<i>Rev</i>	(469)	(427)	(402)
		NET COST	290	359	516

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 1.3.3 Better utilise existing water resources, improve waterway health, increase biodiversity values and investigate bio link opportunities through implementing the Wellington Shire Council Integrated Water Management Plan and Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.

Finance	The Finance unit provides financial, payroll, rating and property valuation services to the organisation, community and external stakeholders. These services underpin the drive to be a financially sustainable Council, comply with the necessary legislative requirements and meet community needs. The unit also aims to provide a safe, reliable and sustainable fleet of vehicles to support the organisation in achieving its goals. The significant procurement goal is that of gaining good value from our purchasing.	<i>Exp</i>	70	97	100
		<i>Rev</i>	(0)	0	0
		NET COST	70	97	100

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 1.4.2 Commence the green fleet transition to corporate electric and hybrid vehicles.

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE OBJECTIVE **2,570** **4,576** **267**

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Performance Measure	2022/23 Actual	Target 2025
Community satisfaction with Council performance in environmental sustainability	Community Satisfaction Survey	61/100 (2023)	Higher than large rural Councils (60/100 in 2020)
Percentage of tree canopy cover within town boundaries	iTree analysis	20% (2020)	1.5% improvement
Solar penetration rate – the percentage of electricity generation from solar facilities	Australian PV Institute	31.6% (2022/23)	+ 5%
Wellington Shire community greenhouse gas emissions intensity (emissions per person)	Co2 Emissions Community Snapshot	42.75 tonnes per person (2021/22)	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
Percentage of households located within 400m of quality open space	Geocortex	73% (2014)	85%
Corporate Greenhouse Gas emissions (aiming for net zero emissions by 2040)	WSC Carbon Accounts	4294.4 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (18.10% decrease from 2018)	23% reduction
Percentage waste diversion rate from kerbside collection	Local Government Performance Reporting Framework	32.17% (2022/23)	65%

* refer to table at end of section 2.5 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2.2 Strategic Objectives for 'Economy and Sustainable Growth'

- A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities.
- A community that has the capacity and skills to meet our economic needs.
- An increase in variety of housing choices to support equitable access to housing.
- Infrastructure investment is targeted to maximise jobs and housing growth.

The activities and initiatives for each service category and key strategic activities are described below.

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Business area	Description of services provided		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Economic Development	Council's Economic Development service aims to support business growth and employment, the sustainable management of Council's commercial properties, and the active promotion of both lifestyle opportunities and our vibrant tourism sector.	Exp	790	955	769
		Rev	(63)	(232)	(83)
		NET COST	726	723	686

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.1.1 *Encourage and facilitate investment in the local mainstay industries with the potential to generate significant economic growth: Defence, Health, Agriculture, Tourism, Education, Timber, Renewables and the Oil and Gas transition. This includes encouraging modernisation and identifying supporting industries, encouraging their establishment in Wellington Shire.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.1.4 *Continue to advocate for the sustainability of the timber industry in Wellington Shire.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.1.6 *Use 'The Middle of Everywhere' campaign to promote the Shire as an events destination and as a place to explore, learn, live, invest, play and to do business.*

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 2.1.2 *Attract diversified and large-scale agriculture and food manufacturing and processing, including poultry, to meet Food and Fibre Gippsland objectives: Gippsland the Food Bowl of Victoria. Leverage off the significance of the Macalister Irrigation District while ensuring development does not contradict the principles of the WSC Sustainability Strategy.*

Council Plan Initiative no 2.1.5 *Continue to investigate options for developing aviation related activity at the West Sale Airport and facilitate industrial growth on adjacent land.*

Council Plan Initiative no 2.2.1 *Support our training facilities to develop a range of vocational, tertiary and higher education courses suited to our changing economy and industry needs.*

Council Plan Initiative no 2.4.3 *Adopt a 'buy local' approach for Council procurement processes aligned with best value (the most advantageous combination of cost, quality and sustainability to meet requirements).*

Council Plan Initiative no 2.4.4 *Increase access to and usage of internet and digital technologies throughout Gippsland, continuing the shift to online delivery of services and advocating for reduction of identified 'black spots'. Use access to networks to shape population attraction strategies and target industry development.*

Land Use Planning	The Land Use Planning unit, through statutory planning and strategic land use planning services, aims to develop and improve forward looking land use planning policies and plans that guide and support future sustainable growth and facilitate appropriate land use and development outcomes. Many of these services are provided through and driven by statutory legislation. The unit aims to provide services that satisfy community needs by encouraging and supporting well-designed development that meets required standards.	Exp	1,774	1,516	2,086
		Rev	(1,140)	(968)	(958)
		NET COST	634	548	1,128

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.3.1 *Satisfy housing demand by facilitating the development of a range of living settings and lifestyle choices including response to an ageing demographic and facilitating affordable and social housing models.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.3.2 *Promote and facilitate appropriate land release/ incentives and subsequent housing development in growth areas, being guided by sustainable development principles.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.4.1 *Prepare a Shire-wide Growth Management and Economic Development Strategy to establish a hierarchy of growth areas and identify priority projects.*

Council Plan Major Initiative no 2.4.2 *Prioritise investment projects in the main growth areas, including exploring all options for upgrades to trunk stormwater drainage, sewer, water reticulation, internet, and gas that will stimulate growth and housing.*

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Arts & Culture	The Art Gallery and Libraries, as part of the Arts & Culture unit, seek to assist in the development of a vibrant, culturally active community that promotes expression and participation through visual, literary and performing arts; informs and educates the community on various aspects of the arts; enhances the lifestyle of Wellington residents; and encourages visitors to explore the heritage and culture of the region.	<i>Exp</i>	400	566	386
		<i>Rev</i>	(29)	(173)	(35)
		NET COST	371	393	351
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 2.1.3	<i>Attract and facilitate development and growth in creative industry (arts) organisations to assist with COVID-19 recovery of the sector and grow local arts businesses, and Wellington's reputation as a cultural centre for Gippsland.</i>				
TOTAL ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OBJECTIVE			1,731	1,664	2,165

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Performance Measure	2022/23 Actual	Target 2025
Annual growth rate of real Gross Regional Product	REMPPLAN economy	Wellington - \$3.898B (.87% decrease) Gippsland \$20.039B (3.68% growth)	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
Unemployment rate by sex, age and education level	ID economic profile	Wellington - 3.6% (June 2023 quarter) Gippsland - 3.7% (April 2023 quarter)	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
Destinations of Wellington year 12 or equivalent completers six months after leaving school	Department of Education and Training 'On track' data	9.3% unemployed 44% further study 10.7% apprentices / trainees (2022/23)	5% unemployed 56% further study
Number of dwellings across the Shire	ID forecast	23,544 dwellings (2022/23)	24,790 dwellings (2026 projection)
Number of new housing units built in the municipality	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing	679 houses/units (2022/23)	+26 beds
Wellington Shire total % population increase	ID profile	44,754 1.46% increase (2023 estimate)	Approximately 1% increase per annum

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2.3 Strategic Objectives for 'Liveability and Wellbeing'

- An inclusive, diverse and resilient community.
- An actively engaged community.
- Opportunities for everyone to work, learn, create, play and share.
- Improved access to and participation in support services focussing on those who are vulnerable including: young children, youth, people living with a disability and seniors.

The activities and initiatives for each service category and key strategic activities are described below:

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Communities, Facilities & Emergencies	The Communities, Facilities and Emergencies teams provide opportunities for communities to work in partnership with local government to achieve identified priorities. These teams work to ensure all members of the community have equal opportunity to participate in community activities. Special focus is given to those who have traditionally remained marginalised such as the young, elderly, disabled and transport disadvantaged.	Exp	2,369	1,905	2,020
		Rev	(1,462)	(1,912)	(341)
		NET COST	907	(7)	1,679

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.1.1	<i>Implement a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to build relationships, improve cultural awareness and reconciliation with Gunaikurnai people, and deliver on cultural, environmental, and economic projects in the spirit of the Gunaikurnai Whole of Country Plan.</i>
Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.4.1	<i>Investigate gaps in service provision for vulnerable community members, review options and determine Council's future role.</i>
Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.4.2	<i>In response to the Federal Government reforms for Home and Community Care determine the most appropriate supports to be facilitated by Council for people to age positively in community.</i>
Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.4.5	<i>Create a Wellington Shire Health and Wellbeing Partnership with health and community agencies which focuses on preventing, supporting and responding to health and wellbeing issues as outlined in the Healthy Wellington 2021-25 Strategy.</i>
Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.4.6	<i>Use Healthy Wellington 2021-25 to focus on the health and wellbeing needs of the senior population. Prevent and address barriers to accessing community, social, health and lifelong learning services.</i>
Council Plan Major Initiative no 3.4.4	<i>Support employers with the attraction, recruitment and long term retention of health specialists and allied health workers into hospitals and schools and to service NDIS and My Aged Care packages.</i>

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 3.1.3	<i>Sensitively consider and support people to participate, contribute and be represented in our community without barriers due to disability, gender, age, sexuality or culture via the development and implementation of a Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.</i>
Council Plan Initiative no 3.3.1	<i>To assist in recovery from COVID-19, facilitate support for and capacity building of community volunteers in Committees of Management and other groups that deliver community outcomes.</i>
Council Plan Initiative no 3.4.3	<i>Advocate for increased access to appropriate health services to meet the modern health challenges of the community including increased mental health and wellbeing services and education to reduce the stigma of accessing services in a post-COVID environment.</i>
Council Plan Initiative no 3.4.7	<i>Achieve Rainbow Tick accreditation of Council services to reduce stigma and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people.</i>

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
			Actual	Forecast	Budget
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Economic Development	Council's Economic Development service aims to support business growth and employment, the sustainable management of Council's commercial properties, and the active promotion of both lifestyle opportunities and our vibrant tourism sector.	<i>Exp</i>	1,413	1,335	949
		<i>Rev</i>	(629)	(524)	(31)
		NET COST	784	811	918
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 3.3.2	<i>Support formal and informal education providers to offer transitions to different learning environments based on people's life circumstances. Aim to improve educational attainment and aspiration within Wellington Shire recognising that the delivery of secondary school VCE will commence a transition process in the coming years to ensure it remains appropriate and relevant.</i>				
Councillors, Chief Executive and Executive Team	This area of governance includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management Team and associated support which covers service provision across the entire organisation.				
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 3.4.7	<i>Advocate for local and regional priorities and issues that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.</i>				
Natural Environment & Parks	The Natural Environment & Parks (NEP) business unit covers a range of activities related to the operational management of public open space, which includes approximately 320 hectares of parkland and associated infrastructure, such as picnic shelters, BBQs, seating, boardwalks, fences and public toilets. The NEP business unit also proactively manages around 70,000 urban trees and is responsible for the management, design and development of parks and streetscapes in urban areas. Also being responsible for moving the Wellington community towards a more sustainable future by managing waste and resource recovery services including kerbside collection, recycling, transfer station/landfill operations, community education and the coordination of sustainability projects. Key priority areas include biodiversity, water consumption and quality, waste management and energy use.	<i>Exp</i>	6,585	7,194	7,490
		<i>Rev</i>	(171)	(138)	(127)
		NET COST	6,415	7,056	7,363
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 4.3.3	<i>Ensure green infrastructure (trees and vegetation) provision is a key component of the built environment and design of the public realm facilitates sustainability, liveability, and social connectivity.</i>				
Leisure Services	The Leisure Services unit provides services and functions directed at fostering a healthier and more active community through the facilitation and provision of a range of recreation, fitness and community activities and programs at Council's recreation facilities. They ensure Council owned recreation facilities are managed sustainably, are fully utilised and accessible to people of all abilities.	<i>Exp</i>	3,343	3,150	3,344
		<i>Rev</i>	(2,255)	(2,076)	(2,174)
		NET COST	1,088	1,074	1,170
Municipal Services	The Municipal Services unit works with people to ensure the life, health and safety of the community is maintained through educating and enforcing Environmental Health (including food safety support programs), Building and Local Laws regulations and animal management services.	<i>Exp</i>	2,375	2,409	2,562
		<i>Rev</i>	(1,311)	(1,235)	(1,387)
		NET COST	1,063	1,175	1,174
Arts & Culture	The Art Gallery and Libraries, as part of the Arts & Culture unit, seek to assist in the development of a vibrant, culturally active community that: promotes expression and participation through visual, literary and performing arts; informs and educates the community on various aspects of the arts; enhances the lifestyle of Wellington residents; and encourages visitors to explore the heritage and culture of the region.	<i>Exp</i>	4,149	5,013	4,456
		<i>Rev</i>	(1,314)	(2,728)	(1,682)
		NET COST	2,835	2,284	2,774
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 3.1.2	<i>Facilitate activities and events that celebrate and promote inclusion and engagement of our culturally and socially diverse communities. Deliver via defining and resourcing Council and the community's role in place activation and event delivery.</i>				
Council Plan Initiative no 3.3.4	<i>Work with the community to understand which arts and cultural services and opportunities are important to them and facilitate development in these areas.</i>				
TOTAL LIVEABILITY & WELLBEING OBJECTIVE			13,092	12,394	15,078

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Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	Target 2025
Community satisfaction with perception of diversity and accessibility in the community	Community Satisfaction Survey	Indicator review completed. Additional question included in the 2024 Community Satisfaction Survey.	Identify baseline. Continual improvement on WSC score
Community satisfaction with Council decisions	Community Satisfaction Survey	54/100 (2023 large rural was 48/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Community satisfaction with Council engagement	Community Satisfaction Survey	53/100 (2023 large rural was 49/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Community satisfaction with level of Council lobbying	Community Satisfaction Survey	55/100 (2023 large rural was 49/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Participation rates in kindergarten for 4-year-olds	Department of Education and Training	Participation rate 93% Enrolment rate 99.1% (2022/23)	Better than Gippsland average
Active library members in municipality	Know Your Council	10% (2022/23)	15%
Participation at Council-run performing arts events	Internal data	20,652 visits (2022/23)	Increase by 2%
Participation in Gippsland Art Gallery programs and events	Internal data	39,611 visits (2022/23)	Increase by 2%
Availability of NDIS services within Wellington Shire to meet service demand	NDIS Demand Map	70% of NDIS funding used by participants (Q4 2022/23)	80%
Proportion of children attending Maternal and Child Health 3.5 years ages and stages visit	Department of Education and Training	71.3% (2017)	90%

* refer to table at end of section 2.5 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2.4 Strategic Objectives for theme 'Services and Infrastructure'

- A financially sustainable, high performing organisation.
- Services deliver operating efficiencies and best value.
- Well planned and sustainable towns, facilities and infrastructure that service community need.
- Safe and well-used transport connections across all modes of travel.

The activities and initiatives for each service category and key strategic activities are described below:

Services

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Assets and Projects	The Assets and Projects unit manages a diverse range of services for Council including the implementation and management of capital projects across the organisation in the order of \$41M to \$50M per annum and providing asset management and information systems and support.	<i>Exp</i>	6,252	5,041	2,455
		<i>Rev</i>	(5,414)	(2,063)	(20)
		NET COST	838	2,977	2,435
Built Environment	The Built Environment unit manages the maintenance, renewal and improvement of Council's road and boating infrastructure, in addition to various civic facilities and buildings, including roadways, paths, drainage, boat ramps and jetties etc. This includes planning for new infrastructure development opportunities and managing Council's road maintenance teams and ensures that maintenance of Council's road and other infrastructure is performed in a coordinated way to maximise benefits to the community and other users.	<i>Exp</i>	14,130	16,562	14,098
		<i>Rev</i>	(9,801)	(8,686)	(6,443)
		NET COST	4,329	7,876	7,655

Service area	Description of services provided		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Communities, Facilities & Emergencies (Community Facility Planning)	The Communities, Facilities & Emergencies team provides services and functions directed at fostering a healthy, well serviced community with a primary focus on community infrastructure planning, priorities and projects; project funding attraction; management and governance of community facilities and administration of Council's community assistance grants scheme. The team plans for and supports recreation facilities that encourage the community to participate in physical and general wellbeing activities and the development of community infrastructure that addresses community service needs.	<i>Exp</i>	3,605	4,677	2,790
		<i>Rev</i>	(157)	(258)	(151)
		NET COST	3,448	4,419	2,640

Major Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 4.4.2 *Advocate strongly to State Government and local stakeholders for improvements to the inter-town transport network connecting major towns to key regional centres in Gippsland.*

Other Initiatives

Council Plan Initiative no 4.3.5 *Support volunteer facility managers whose work contributes to improved community mental and physical health by activating, upgrading, and repurposing existing multi-use sporting, cultural and social facilities in preference to establishing new.*

Council Plan Initiative no 4.4.3 *Address community road safety and connection issues via active travel projects (education) and road and footpath improvements which will build a physically active, safe, and connected community.*

Finance	The Finance unit provides financial, payroll, rating and property valuation services to the organisation, community and external stakeholders. These services underpin the drive to be a financially sustainable Council, comply with the necessary legislative requirements and meet community needs. The unit also aims to provide a safe, reliable and sustainable fleet of vehicles to support the organisation in achieving its goals. The significant procurement goal is that of gaining good value from our purchasing.	<i>Exp</i>	2,529	2,722	3,342
		<i>Rev</i>	(64)	(75)	387
		NET COST	2,465	2,647	3,729

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Information Services	The Information Services unit provides a range of cost effective, centralised, and integrated services related to technology, data management, cybersecurity, ICT infrastructure and telecommunications, Information Management, Business Systems and Application Management and new and emerging technologies; to assist Council to meet its business and legislative requirements and to support Council staff to deliver services in a smart, productive, and efficient way.	<i>Exp</i>	4,330	5,648	6,190
		<i>Rev</i>	(927)	(665)	(866)
		NET COST	3,403	4,982	5,323
Organisational Performance and Governance	The Organisational Performance & Governance business unit is responsible for delivering legislated and strategic services and expert advice to the organisation in the areas of: Governance: Corporate Governance and compliance including Council Meetings, Conflicts of Interest, Delegations and Authorisations, Gifts Benefits and Hospitality declarations, Council elections, Councillor orientation induction and training, Council policy management and Business Continuity Planning. Integrated planning and reporting: Coordination and delivery of all levels of Council's planning, including the development, engagement and monitoring of the Council Plan, and the operationalisation of the Council Plan through business unit planning, service delivery indicators and the annual reporting of achievements. Insurance and risk management: Coordination and delivery of activities to mitigate risk, including the risk management framework, organisational insurance and claims management.	<i>Exp</i>	1,772	2,806	3,316
		<i>Rev</i>	(2)	(29)	(30)
		NET COST	1,770	2,778	3,286
Councillors, Chief Executive and Executive Team	This area of governance includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management Team and associated support which covers service provision across the entire organisation.	<i>Exp</i>	3,269	3,884	4,298
		<i>Rev</i>	(4)	0	-
		NET COST	3,265	3,884	4,298
Major Initiatives					
Council Plan Major Initiative no 4.4.1	<i>Advocate strongly to State Government and local stakeholders for improvements to the passenger train service to key regional centres.</i>				
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 4.2.1	<i>Provide services that are easy to use, valued by the community and give best overall worth back to Council and the community.</i>				
Communications and Media	The Communications and Media Business Unit offers comprehensive support across communications, media, community engagement, and advocacy. With a focus on keeping the Wellington Shire community well-informed about Council projects, initiatives, and events, the team utilises a range of digital and traditional media channels. Additionally, the Communications and Media team plays a crucial role in supporting the organisation's brand and reputation, ensuring transparency, consistency, and clarity across all messaging and engagement opportunities.	<i>Exp</i>	434	698	982
		<i>Rev</i>	-	-	-
		NET COST	434	698	982
Municipal Services	The Municipal Services unit works with people to ensure the life, health and safety of the community is maintained through educating and enforcing Environmental Health (including food safety support programs), Building and Local Laws regulations and animal management services.	<i>Exp</i>	514	517	549
		<i>Rev</i>	(69)	(97)	-
		NET COST	445	420	549
Economic Development	Council's Economic Development service aims to support business growth and employment, the sustainable management of Council's commercial properties, and the active promotion of both lifestyle opportunities and our vibrant tourism sector.	<i>Exp</i>	1,550	1,457	1,502
		<i>Rev</i>	(1,606)	(1,127)	(1,289)
		NET COST (REVENUE)	(56)	330	213
Other Initiatives					
Council Plan Initiative no 4.3.2	<i>Plan for the key growth communities across the shire from a 'place-based' approach holistically considering the built environment, community, and economic directions concurrently.</i>				
Council Plan Initiative no 4.3.4	<i>Assess our key tourism areas and benchmark against like towns to ensure the right mix of Council services and facilities is provided to meet peak tourist demand and ongoing community requirements.</i>				
People & Capability	The People & Capability unit provides expert and responsive advice and services in providing end-to-end Human Resources Management.	<i>Exp</i>	1,368	1,376	1,486
		<i>Rev</i>	(114)	(0)	0
		NET COST	1,254	1,376	1,486
TOTAL SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE OBJECTIVE			21,596	32,388	32,595

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	Target 2025
Working capital (Current assets as a percentage of current liabilities)	Know Your Council	470.80% (2022/23)	Within LGV Acceptable Range
Loans and borrowings as a percentage of rates	Know Your Council	0.67% (2022/23)	Within LGV Acceptable Range
Community satisfaction rate with Council's overall performance	Community Satisfaction Survey	58/100 (2023 large rural was 52/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Reduction in the Wellington Shire retail vacancy rate	CBD vacancy audit	7.98% (2023)	10%
% of Community Managed Facilities accessibility audit recommendations delivered	Internal data	12% audit recommenda tions delivered (2022/23)	10% each year
Community satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads	Customer Satisfaction Survey	50/100 (2023 large rural council was 40/100)	>52/100
Increase in kilometres of active travel routes in Wellington Shire as identified under the urban paths plan	Internal data	269.5km (2022/23)	Increase by 2km of paths annually

* refer to table at end of section 2.5 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2.5 Performance statement

Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation
Governance	Consultation and engagement	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement. (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement
Statutory Planning	Service standard	Planning applications decided within required timeframes (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated timeframes)	[Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits / Number of planning application decisions made] x100
Roads	Condition	Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	[Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100
Libraries	Participation	Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)	[Number of registered library members/Population] x 100.
Waste management	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. (Percentage of garbage, recyclable and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins/ Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x 100
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population).	Number of visits to aquatic facilities/Population.
Animal Management	Health and safety	Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful).	Number of successful animal management prosecutions/Total number of animal management prosecutions.
Food Safety	Health and safety	Critical and major non-compliance notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council).	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up/ Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x 100.
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the MCH service. (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service) Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children. (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2.6 Reconciliation with budgeted comprehensive result

	Revenue \$'000	Expenditure \$'000	Net Cost \$'000	
Environment and Climate Change	14,133	14,400	267	
Economy and Sustainable Growth	1,076	3,241	2,165	
Liveability and Wellbeing	5,742	20,820	15,078	
Services and Infrastructure	8,411	41,007	32,596	
Total	29,362	79,468	50,106	
Expenses added in:				
Depreciation and amortisation			34,703	
Finance costs			172	
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant & equipment			1,398	
Others			145	
Deficit before funding sources			86,524	
Funding sources added in:				
General Rates			(63,866)	
- Waste charge revenue			(1,884)	
Victoria Grants Commission (general purpose)			(11,914)	
Capital income			(20,166)	
Others			(5,008)	
Total funding sources			(102,838)	
Combined (surplus) for the year			(16,314)	(Surplus)

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2024/25 has been supplemented with projections to 2027/28.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Comprehensive Income Statement

Balance Sheet

Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Human Resources

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Income/Revenue						
Rates and Charges	4.1.1	70,151	72,587	76,691	78,599	81,242
Statutory fees & fines	4.1.2	1,035	1,064	1,096	1,135	1,174
User fees & charges	4.1.3	10,393	10,647	10,374	10,729	11,106
Grants - Operating	4.1.4	26,936	20,278	20,725	21,485	22,127
Grants - Capital	4.1.4	15,299	16,673	7,985	5,645	6,833
Contributions - monetary - Operating	4.1.5	841	393	404	418	432
Contributions - monetary - Capital	4.1.5	-	2,271	888	253	70
Contributions - non-monetary	4.1.5	1,950	500	515	533	552
Other income - Operating	4.1.6	9,451	5,974	5,572	5,620	5,866
Other income - Capital	4.1.6	10	1,160	720	20	20
Total income/Revenue		136,066	131,547	124,970	124,437	129,422
Expenses						
Employee costs	4.1.7	34,564	37,384	38,747	40,197	41,568
Materials and Services	4.1.8	49,916	40,682	41,661	42,624	45,085
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	4.1.9	13	15	16	17	17
Depreciation	4.1.10	32,672	33,522	34,501	35,255	36,253
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.1.11	858	832	849	732	747
Depreciation - right of use assets	4.1.12	395	349	359	371	383
Borrowing Costs	4.1.13	42	172	225	298	350
Finance Cost - leases	4.1.14	18	120	110	96	78
Other expenses	4.1.14	1,512	759	781	807	834
Net loss / (gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	4.1.15	3,543	1,398	29	32	35
Total expenses		123,533	115,233	117,278	120,429	125,351
Surplus for the year		12,533	16,314	7,692	4,008	4,071
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit:						
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		120,116	7,533	20,884	9,147	75,133
Total other comprehensive income		120,116	7,533	20,884	9,147	75,133
Total comprehensive result		132,649	23,848	28,576	13,155	79,204

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Assets						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		36,293	14,311	9,376	7,105	5,046
Trade and other receivables		11,759	11,638	10,928	10,846	11,241
Other financial assets		108,096	110,257	108,052	105,891	103,773
Prepayments		809	809	811	810	810
Other assets		72	74	74	78	80
Total current assets	4.2.1	157,029	137,089	129,241	124,731	120,950
Non-current assets						
Trade and other receivables		2,929	3,007	3,245	3,530	3,777
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment		1,465,736	1,507,462	1,541,513	1,557,974	1,639,003
Right-of-use assets		57	2,881	2,610	2,320	2,011
Intangible assets		901	2,532	3,913	3,809	6,925
Total non-current assets	4.2.1	1,469,623	1,515,883	1,551,282	1,567,633	1,651,716
Total assets		1,626,652	1,652,972	1,680,522	1,692,364	1,772,665
Liabilities						
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables		7,491	6,815	7,018	7,228	7,544
Trust funds and deposits		4,024	4,145	4,269	4,397	4,529
Contract and other liabilities		10,037	9,535	9,821	10,116	10,419
Provisions		7,031	11,331	9,691	10,531	7,121
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	4.2.3	229	642	658	674	812
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	71	315	341	372	361
Total current liabilities	4.2.2	28,883	32,783	31,798	33,318	30,786
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions		17,796	12,011	10,891	7,531	10,781
Interest Bearing loans and borrowings	4.2.3	7,000	8,731	10,073	10,900	11,578
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	-	2,626	2,364	2,063	1,764
Total non-current liabilities	4.2.2	24,796	23,368	23,328	20,494	24,123
Total liabilities		53,679	56,151	55,127	53,812	54,909
Net assets		1,572,973	1,596,820	1,625,395	1,638,552	1,717,756
Equity						
Accumulated surplus		486,324	502,701	512,665	516,127	521,324
Other Reserves	4.3.1	10,124	10,061	7,789	8,335	7,210
Asset Revaluation Reserve		1,076,525	1,084,058	1,104,942	1,114,089	1,189,222
Total equity		1,572,973	1,596,820	1,625,395	1,638,552	1,717,756

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2024 Forecast					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,440,323	471,077	956,409	12,837
Adjusted opening balance		1,440,323	471,077	956,409	12,837
Surplus for the year		12,533	12,533	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		120,116	-	120,116	-
Transfer to other reserves		-	(3,687)	-	3,687
Transfer from other reserves		-	6,400	-	(6,400)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,572,973	486,324	1,076,525	10,124
2025 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,572,973	486,324	1,076,525	10,124
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		16,314	16,314	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		7,533	-	7,533	-
Transfer to other reserves	4.3.1	-	(4,064)	-	4,064
Transfer from other reserves	4.3.1	-	4,127	-	(4,127)
Balance at end of the financial year	4.3.2	1,596,820	502,701	1,084,058	10,061
2026					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,596,820	502,701	1,084,058	10,061
Surplus for the year		7,692	7,692	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		20,884	-	20,884	-
Transfer to reserves		-	(4,638)	-	4,638
Transfer from reserves		-	6,910	-	(6,910)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,625,395	512,665	1,104,942	7,789
2027					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,625,395	512,665	1,104,942	7,789
Surplus for the year		4,008	4,008	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		9,147	-	9,147	-
Transfer to reserves		-	(4,837)	-	4,837
Transfer from reserves		-	4,291	-	(4,291)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,638,552	516,126	1,114,089	8,335
2028					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,638,552	516,126	1,114,089	8,335
Surplus for the year		4,071	4,071	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		75,133	-	75,133	-
Transfer to reserves		-	(5,166)	-	5,166
Transfer from reserves		-	6,291	-	(6,291)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,717,756	521,322	1,189,222	7,210

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
		Inflows	Inflows	Inflows	Inflows	Inflows
		(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)	(Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities						
Rates and charges		68,986	72,060	75,414	77,314	79,896
Statutory fees and fines		1,125	1,167	1,203	1,245	1,289
User fees		11,297	11,682	11,439	11,769	12,189
Grants - Operating		26,616	20,226	20,694	21,422	22,086
Grants - Capital		15,117	16,631	8,700	5,837	6,739
Contributions- monetary		841	3,824	2,012	691	522
Interest received		341	350	361	373	386
Trust funds and deposits taken		-	121	124	128	132
Other receipts		10,357	6,926	7,275	7,201	7,366
Net GST refund/payment		6,570	8,667	7,057	6,673	6,793
Employee costs		(35,436)	(37,688)	(38,635)	(40,078)	(41,465)
Materials and services		(56,295)	(45,116)	(45,740)	(46,802)	(49,384)
Other payments		(1,705)	(3,852)	(5,113)	(3,501)	(4,371)
Net cash provided by operating activities	4.4.1	47,815	54,997	44,791	42,272	42,177
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(47,748)	(76,677)	(52,942)	(47,117)	(46,677)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		767	309	312	315	318
Payments for investments		(126,120)	(127,402)	(127,757)	(129,035)	(130,325)
Proceeds from investments		124,000	125,240	129,963	131,196	132,443
Net cash used in investing activities	4.4.2	(49,100)	(78,529)	(50,424)	(44,640)	(44,242)
Cash flows from financing activities						
Finance costs		(42)	(172)	(225)	(298)	(350)
Proceeds from borrowings		7,000	3,000	2,000	1,500	1,500
Repayment of borrowings		(221)	(856)	(642)	(658)	(684)
Interest paid - lease liability		(18)	(120)	(110)	(96)	(78)
Repayment of lease liabilities		-	(302)	(325)	(351)	(384)
Net cash provided by financing activities	4.4.3	6,719	1,550	698	98	5
Net increase (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		5,433	(21,982)	(4,935)	(2,271)	(2,059)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year		30,860	36,293	14,311	9,376	7,105
Cash & cash equivalents at end of the financial year		36,293	14,311	9,376	7,105	5,046

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Property						
Land		751	410	-	-	-
Land Improvements		30	1,530	1,500	100	3,300
Total land		781	1,940	1,500	100	3,300
Buildings		5,760	28,711	13,870	7,905	6,067
Total property		6,541	30,651	15,370	8,005	9,367
Plant & Equipment						
Plant, machinery and equipment		3,864	3,686	2,759	3,057	2,778
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		341	-	50	50	50
Computers and telecommunications		112	981	935	760	741
Library books		248	270	271	271	271
Total plant & equipment		4,565	4,938	4,015	4,137	3,840
Infrastructure						
Roads		21,653	21,070	17,480	19,315	18,825
Bridges		890	1,565	1,940	1,775	1,400
Footpaths and cycleways		4,204	1,523	1,207	1,232	1,257
Drainage		470	4,034	1,370	1,750	1,390
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		758	2,560	2,774	1,850	2,373
Waste management		390	888	1,700	1,700	200
Parks, open spaces and streetscapes		643	585	845	1,540	1,800
Aerodromes		553	135	40	40	40
Off street car parks		120	100	75	100	500
Other infrastructure		2,103	420	200	450	450
Total Infrastructure		31,784	32,880	27,631	29,752	28,235
Intangibles		585	425	450	460	480
Total Intangibles		585	425	450	460	480
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	43,475	68,894	47,466	42,354	41,922
Represented by:						
New asset expenditure		214	-	-	-	-
Asset renewal expenditure		30,677	40,993	28,749	31,748	29,710
Asset upgrade expenditure		5,695	13,169	5,631	6,180	6,148
Asset expansion expenditure		6,889	14,733	13,086	4,426	6,064
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	43,475	68,894	47,466	42,354	41,922
Funding sources represented by:						
Grants		15,049	16,673	7,985	5,645	6,833
Contributions		-	3,431	1,608	273	90
Council cash		21,426	45,790	35,874	34,937	33,499
Borrowings		7,000	3,000	2,000	1,500	1,500
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.1	43,475	68,894	47,466	42,354	41,922

Projects within these categories can be completed over multiple years during this resource plan.

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Staff expenditure					
Employee costs - operating	35,616	38,642	40,041	41,423	42,837
Employee costs - capital	(1,052)	(1,258)	(1,294)	(1,226)	(1,269)
Total staff expenditure	34,564	37,384	38,747	40,197	41,568
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers					
Employees	361.3	360.2	353.5	345.1	345.1
Total Staff numbers	361.3	360.2	353.5	345.1	345.1

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Division	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time \$'000	Part Time \$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Chief Executive Officer	1,210	1,096	114	-	157
Built & Natural Environment	12,715	12,540	175	20	631
Development	6,668	5,039	1,629	382	619
Corporate Services	5,649	5,095	554	-	842
Community and Culture	4,963	3,865	1,098	3,301	1,485
Total permanent staff expenditure	31,205	27,635	3,570		
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	7,437			3,703	3,734
Capitalised Labour costs	(1,258)				
Total operating expenditure	37,384				

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Division	Budget 2024/25 FTE	Comprises			
		Permanent		Casual	Temporary
		Full Time	Part Time		
Chief Executive Officer	8.0	8.0	-	-	1.6
Built & Natural Environment	131.2	129.0	2.2	0.2	5.2
Development	59.9	45.0	14.9	3.2	2.8
Corporate Services	50.0	45.0	5.0	-	7.0
Community and Culture	52.4	40.0	12.4	22.3	16.4
Total permanent staff	301.5	267.0	34.5		
Total casuals and temporary staff	58.7			25.7	33.0
Total Staff	360.2				

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

**Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure
For the four years ended 30 June 2028**

	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Chief Executive Officer				
Permanent - Full time	1,096	1,122	1,151	1,180
Women	630	646	662	678
Men	466	478	490	502
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	114	117	120	123
Women	114	117	120	123
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Chief Executive Officer	1,210	1,239	1,271	1,303
Built & Natural Environment				
Permanent - Full time	12,540	12,854	13,176	13,504
Women	2,432	2,493	2,555	2,619
Men	10,108	10,361	10,620	10,885
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	175	179	185	189
Women	175	179	184	188
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Built & Natural Environment	12,715	13,034	13,360	13,694
Development				
Permanent - Full time	5,039	5,166	5,294	5,426
Women	1,995	2,045	2,096	2,148
Men	3,044	3,120	3,198	3,278
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,629	1,670	1,711	1,755
Women	1,316	1,349	1,383	1,417
Men	313	321	329	337
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Development	6,668	6,836	7,005	7,181
Corporate Services				
Permanent - Full time	5,095	5,222	5,353	5,487
Women	2,892	2,964	3,038	3,114
Men	2,203	2,258	2,315	2,372
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	554	568	582	597
Women	554	568	582	597
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	5,649	5,790	5,935	6,083
Community and Culture				
Permanent - Full time	3,865	3,962	4,061	4,163
Women	2,450	2,511	2,574	2,638
Men	1,415	1,450	1,487	1,524
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,098	1,124	1,154	1,182
Women	827	848	869	891
Men	271	278	285	292
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Community and Culture	4,963	5,087	5,214	5,345
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	7,437	8,055	8,638	9,232
Capitalised labour costs	(1,258)	(1,294)	(1,226)	(1,269)
Total staff expenditure	37,384	38,747	40,197	41,568

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Summary of Planned Human Resources FTE
For the four years ended 30 June 2028

	2024/25 FTE	2025/26 FTE	2026/27 FTE	2027/28 FTE
Chief Executive Officer				
Permanent - Full time	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Women	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Men	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	-	-	-	-
Women	-	-	-	-
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Chief Executive Officer	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Built & Natural Environment				
Permanent - Full time	129.0	129.0	129.0	129.0
Women	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Men	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Women	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Men	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Built & Natural Environment	131.2	131.2	131.2	131.2
Development				
Permanent - Full time	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
Women	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Men	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.9
Women	11.6	11.6	11.6	11.6
Men	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Development	59.9	59.9	59.9	59.9
Corporate Services				
Permanent - Full time	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
Women	29.0	29.0	29.0	29.0
Men	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Women	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Men	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Community and Culture				
Permanent - Full time	40.0	34.0	34.0	34.0
Women	25.0	22.0	22.0	22.0
Men	15.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	12.4	12.7	12.7	12.7
Women	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.7
Men	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Community and Culture	52.4	46.7	46.7	46.7
Casuals and temporary staff	58.7	57.7	49.3	49.3
Total staff numbers	360.2	353.5	345.1	345.1

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

4. Notes to financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1 Rates and Charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2024/25 the FGRS cap has been set at 2.75%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 2.75% in line with the rate cap.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2024/25 to \$72.6 million.

4.1.1(a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

		Forecast Actual	Budget	Change	
		2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
General rates*	1	61,900	63,866	1,966	3.2
Garbage Charge		5,695	5,914	219	3.8
Waste Infrastructure Charge		1,660	1,884	224	13.5
State Government EPA Levy		497	497	-	-
Boisdale Sewage Scheme		11	14	3	27.3
Special charge	2	47	62	15	31.9
Interest on rates and charges		341	350	9	2.6
Total rates and charges		70,151	72,587	2,436	3.5

*This item is subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS.

Comments

(1) This item includes \$80,700 Cultural and Recreational Land rates income which is not included in the FGRS calculations (refer 4.1.1(j)).

(2) Special charge relates to owner contributions raised as a special charge for ratepayers' contribution towards street reconstructions.

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4.1.1(b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under Section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year.

Type or class of land	2023/24 cents/\$CIV	2024/25 cents/\$CIV	Change
General residential	0.003430	0.003489	1.72%
Commercial/Industrial	0.003430	0.003489	1.72%
Farm	0.002744	0.002791	1.72%
Cultural & Recreational Land Act (rate concession)	N/A		N/A

4.1.1(c) The estimated amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates compared with the previous financial year.

Type or class of land	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Residential	40,257	41,736	1,479	3.7
Commercial/Industrial	13,466	13,976	510	3.8
Farm	8,098	8,073	(25)	(0.3)
Cultural & Recreational Land	79	81	2	2.5
Total amount to be raised by general rates	61,900	63,866	1,966	3.2

- Additional supplementary property valuations and new assessments occurring after the 2023/24 budget will be struck in June 2024, are fully annualised and are included in the budget for 2024/25.

4.1.1(d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year.

Type or class of land	2023/24 Forecast No.	2024/25 No.	Change	
			No.	%
General residential	27,616	27,835	219	0.8
Commercial/Industrial	1,655	1,666	11	0.7
Farm	3,156	3,109	(47)	(1.5)
Cultural & Recreational Land	36	36	-	-
Total number of assessments	32,463	32,646	183	0.6

4.1.1(e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV).

4.1.1(f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year.

Type or class of land	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
General residential	11,635,387	11,904,574	269,187	2.3
Commercial/Industrial	2,340,181	2,263,332	(76,849)	(3.3)
Farm	4,830,014	5,007,859	177,845	3.7
Recreational Land	39,170	39,170	-	-
Total value of land	18,844,752	19,214,935	370,183	2.0

Movements in individual valuations have been determined by the State Valuer General and represent significant adjustment to the valuation of properties across the shire. This valuation increase will be effective from 1 January 2024, rated from the 1 July 2024.

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4.1.1(g) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year.

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property	Per Rateable Property	Change	
	2023/24 \$	2024/25 \$	\$	%
Residential Garbage collection	275.0	285.0	10.0	3.6
Waste Infrastructure Charge (Landfill operations)	55.0	60.0	5.0	9.1
EPA Levy Charge	24.0	24.0	-	-
Boisdale Common Effluent System and Pump out Charge	421.0	521.0	100.0	23.8

Service rates and charges are not covered by FGRS

4.1.1 (h) The estimated amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year.

Type of Charge	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Kerbside collection (Garbage) *	5,695	5,914	219	4.0
Waste Infrastructure Charge	1,660	1,884	224	13.5
EPA Levy Charge	497	497	-	-
Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge	11	14	3	27.3
Total amount to be raised by service rates or charges	7,863	8,309	446	5.7

* Recycle processing charges and management of Council's landfills and transfer stations.

4.1.1(i) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year:

	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	Change \$'000
Rates and charges	69,763	72,175	2,412
Total	69,763	72,175	2,412

4.1.1(j) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

Wellington Shire Council is compliant with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System.

	2023/24	2024/25
Total Rates	61,233,205	63,880,420
Number of rateable properties	32,211	32,610
Base Average Rates	\$ 1,901.00	\$ 1,958.92
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	3.50%	2.75%
Capped Average Rate	\$ 1,967.54	\$ 2,012.79
Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue Allowable*	\$ 63,376,367	\$ 65,637,132
Budgeted General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue*	\$ 61,233,205	\$ 63,880,420
Budgeted Supplementary Rates	\$ -	\$ -
Budgeted Total Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue*	\$ 61,233,205	\$ 63,880,420

* Excludes Cultural and Recreational Land rates income

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4.1.1 (k) Any significant changes, that affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges.

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2024/25: estimated \$0.47 million and 2023/24: \$0.48 million)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals);
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa;
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa; and
- Consolidation of farm properties and land subdivisions.

4.1.1(l) Differential rates

Rates to be levied

The rate in the dollar to be applied to the CIV in relation to land in each category of differential is:

- A general rate of 0.003489 for all rateable general properties; and

Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described below) by the relevant percentages indicated above.

Council considers that each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions. Details of the types of classes of land, which are subject to each differential rate are set out below.

Farm Land

80% of general rate in the dollar

Definition:

Any land which is "Farm Land" within the meaning of Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960 (paras a) and b)) and other criteria as defined by Council in c) hereunder:

- a. Farm Land means any rateable land that is 2 or more hectares in area;
- b. used primarily for primary producing purposes from its activities on the land; used primarily for grazing (including agistment), dairying, pig-farming, poultry farming, fish farming, tree farming, bee keeping, viticulture, horticulture, fruit growing or the growing of crops of any kind or for any combination of those activities;
- c. where the ratepayer is a Primary Producer with any evidence/ruling confirmed by the Australian Taxation Office, registered ABN and business plan, and commercial intent as outlined below;

That is used by a business –

- That has a significant and substantial commercial purpose or character;
- That seeks to make a profit on a continuous or repetitive basis from its activities on the land; and
- That is making a profit from its activities on the land, or that has a reasonable prospect of making a profit from its activities on the land if it continues to operate in the way that it is operating.

Objectives:

To ensure that the differential rate in the dollar declared for defined Farm Rate land properties is fair and equitable. Having regard to the cost and the level of benefits derived from provision of Council services with considerations to maintain agriculture as a major industry in the municipal district. To facilitate the longevity of the farm sector and achieve a balance between providing for municipal growth and retaining the important agricultural economic base.

Recreational land

Recreational land is land, which is as defined in accordance with Section 4 of the *Cultural & Recreational Lands Act 1963*:

- controlled by a non-profit organisation which exists for the purpose of providing or promoting culture or sporting recreation facilities which is used for sporting, recreation or cultural purposes or which is used for agricultural showgrounds.

The amounts levied on recreational land have regard to the services provided by the Council in relation to such lands, and the benefit to the community derived from such recreational lands.

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4.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
Infringements and costs	150	176	26	17.3
Permits	141	144	3	2.1
Land & Building Information Certificates	170	170	-	-
Planning Fees	574	574	-	-
Total statutory fees and fines	1,035	1,064	29	2.8

Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and includes *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* registrations, provision of property information and fines. Increases in statutory fees are made in accordance with legislative requirements.

Comments:

The 2024/25 budget for statutory fees and fines is expected to remain relatively consistent with 2023/24 budgets. Infringements and costs income has increased to recognise election fines.

4.1.3 User fees

		Forecast	Budget	Change	
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
Reimbursements	1	741	1,538	797	107.6
Waste management services	2	3,790	3,990	200	5.3
Leisure centres	3	2,080	2,189	109	5.2
Saleyards	4	399	438	39	9.8
Registration and other permits		1,053	1,080	27	2.6
Emergency Works - Call Outs		75	85	10	13.3
The Wedge		459	465	6	1.3
Other fees and charges		304	307	3	1.0
Animal Services		42	43	1	2.4
Wellington Centre	5	1,450	512	(938)	(64.7)
Total user fees		10,393	10,647	254	2.4

User fees relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of Council's services. These include use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities. In setting the budget, the key principles for determining the level of user charges are CPI and market levels, with some consideration towards cost recovery.

Comments:

Budgeted user fees are expected to increase by \$0.3M over 2023/24.

(1) The increase to reimbursement income is primarily driven from sale of Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates (VEEC) for LED Streetlight Project Stage 2 and Reimbursement from Transport for Victoria contribution LED Streetlight Project Phase 2 – Major roads, and expanding the shared services partnership with East Gippsland Shire Council.

(2) Commercial tipping and animal registrations fees charged by Council are anticipated to increase slightly during 2024/25.

(3) Leisure fees have increased due to the addition of GRSC inflatables, plus additional aquatics income expected with the use of the West Sale pool while Aqua Energy is closed for redevelopment.

(4) GRLE fees charged by Council are expected to increase slightly during 2024/25, and the addition of the new transit stock fee is expected to bring in additional income.

(5) Wellington Centre income forecast for 2023/24 includes the Annemieke Mein exhibition concluding in June 2024 which is anticipated to bring in a one-off \$1.3M of ticketing and merchandise sales. A further \$422k of merchandise income is expected in 2024/25 with ongoing Annemieke merchandise sales and merchandise for a non-ticketed exhibition at the end of the year.

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4.1.4 Grants

Grants are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

		Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
				\$'000	%
Grants were received in respect of the following:					
Summary of grants					
State funded grants		11,906	10,365	(1,541)	(12.9)
Commonwealth funded grants		30,329	26,586	(3,743)	(12.3)
Total grants received		42,235	36,951	(5,284)	(12.5)
(a) Operating Grants					
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government					
	Victoria Grants Commission	17,820	18,310	490	2.7
	Roads to Recovery - Operating	-	-	-	-
Total Recurrent Commonwealth Grant		17,820	18,310	490	2.7
Recurrent - State Government					
Libraries		354	354	-	-
	Municipal emergency	224	239	15	6.7
	Cultural Services	233	234	1	0.4
	School crossing supervisors	167	168	1	0.6
	Parks & Environmental services	126	127	1	0.8
	Environmental health	73	67	(6)	(8.2)
	Other	5	-	(5)	(100.0)
	Community support programs	57	32	(25)	(43.9)
Total Recurrent State Grants		1,239	1,221	(18)	(1.5)
Non-Recurrent - State Government					
	Community & Recreation Facilities upgrade	1,674	69	(1,605)	(95.9)
	Economic Development	544	31	(513)	(94.3)
	Community Support programs	318	214	(104)	(32.7)
	Municipal Emergency	368	153	(215)	(58.4)
	Planning	145	-	(145)	(100.0)
	Natural Disaster Funding	2,562	240	(2,322)	(90.6)
	Parks & Environmental Services	26	40	14	53.8
	Infrastructure	2,076	-	(2,076)	(100.0)
	Cultural services	164	-	(164)	(100.0)
Total Non-Recurrent grants		7,877	747	(7,130)	(90.5)
Total Operating Grants		26,936	20,278	(6,658)	(24.7)

Comments:

Budgeted operating grants are expected to decrease by (\$6.6M) over 2023/24, primarily due to the receipt of one off grants for York Street Works of \$4.8M and Natural Disaster claims received of \$2.0M during previous financial year.

(1) 100% advance receipt of the Victoria Grants Commission annual allocation for 2024/25 is budgeted to be received in the 2023/24 budget year.

(2) Funding expected towards Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program in 2024/25 will be slightly lower than previous year.

(3) The 2022-2024 Freeza program concludes in December 2024, funding for future years is unknown.

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(4) One-off community infrastructure grants received in 2023/24 for Stratford Recreation Reserve Social Room (\$1.3M), Sports and Community Lighting Program (\$0.2M) and BRV community facility volunteer support projects (\$0.15M).

(5) Economic development initiated one-off grants received in 2023/24 for Local Development Strategy (\$0.4M) and Heyfield Manufacturing Cluster (\$0.1M).

(6) Increased municipal emergency grant funding was received in 2023/24 for Community led recovery support, Preparing Australian Communities and Remote Emergency Relief Centre.

(7) One off grant funding received for in 2023/24 for planning future projects and Wellington Coastal Strategy.

(8) Multiple natural disaster funding claims were forecast in 2023/24 for a Storm event in December 2023 and a flood event in November 2023, totalling approximately \$2.5M. Final claims will be lodged once the works are completed within the due dates.

(9) Funding received in 2023/24 for York Street Landscaping and tree replacement, facility planning, Coastal Saltmarsh Protection and Thermal and solar study. Some sustainability and parks projects were one off and will not recur in 2024/25.

(10) Funding for Great Southern Rail Trail Extension \$1.2M and York Street Works \$0.9M was received in 2023/24.

(11) One-off grants received to deliver the Council Rapid Antigen Test Program in 2023/24 and to enhance Digital Literacy for Senior programs.

		Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
(b) Capital Grants					
<u>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</u>					
Roads to Recovery	1	5,131	2,928	(2,203)	(42.9)
Total Recurrent Commonwealth Government grants		5,131	2,928	(2,203)	(42.9)
<u>Non-Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</u>					
Buildings	2	3,910	1,888	(2,022)	(51.7)
Bridges		50	692	642	1,284.0
Aerodromes		30	-	(30)	(100.0)
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes	4	14	-	(14)	(100.0)
Recreational Leisure & Community Facilities		50	-	(50)	(100.0)
Roads	3	2,937	2,768	(169)	(5.8)
Footpaths	4	387	-	(387)	(100.0)
Total Non-Recurrent - Commonwealth grants		7,378	5,348	(2,030)	(27.5)
Total - Commonwealth Government grants		12,509	8,276	(4,233)	(33.8)
<u>Non- Recurrent - State Government</u>					
Other Infrastructure	5	93	20	(73)	(78.5)
Bridges		-	-	-	100.0
Footpaths	6	1,734	-	(1,734)	(100.0)
Parks, Open Space & Streetscapes		-	-	-	100.0
Roads		700	1,425	725	103.6
Drainage		-	1,000	1,000	-
Recreational Leisure & Community Facilities		-	658	658	-
Intangibles	5	250	-	(250)	(100.0)
Buildings	5	13	5,294	5,281	40,623.1
Total Non- Recurrent State Government grants		2,790	8,397	5,607	201.0
Total Capital Grants		15,299	16,673	1,374	9.0
Total Grants		42,235	36,951	(5,284)	(12.5)

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Comments:

Capital grants include all monies received from State and Federal government for the purposes of funding specific capital works projects and are expected to increase by (\$1.4M) compared to 2023/24.

(1) 2023/24 is the fifth year of the Roads to Recovery program and includes the Sale Cowwarr Road Reconstruction Stage 1, Bennison Drive Wurruk Rehabilitation, Park Avenue Cowwarr, and road reconstructions. The total five year allocation is \$19.9M.

(2) Works commenced on the multi year Aqua Energy Redevelopment \$3.0M in 2023/24 and will continue in 2024/25. Projects forecast to be completed in 2023/24 Munro Hall - Extend Outdoor Area, Gumnuts Child Care Centre Roof and Yarram Regent Theatre Sound System.

(3) Sale-Toongabbie Road Reconstruction works commenced in 2022/23 financial year (1.1M) and continued in 2023/24 financial year (\$1.4M).

(4) Dargo shared path works commenced in 2022/23 will be completed in 2023/24.

(5) State grant funded projects to be completed in 2023/24 include the Civica EDRMS Implementation (\$250k), Seaspray Levee Upgrade (\$61k) and Heyfield EV Charger Project (\$30k).

(6) Great Southern Rail Trail Works to be completed in 2023/24 \$1.7M.

4.1.5 Contributions

		Forecast	Budget	Change	
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
Monetary	1	841	2,664	1,823	216.8
Non-monetary	2	1,950	500	(1,450)	(74.4)
Total contributions		2,791	3,164	373	13.4

Comments:

Cash contributions include all monies received from community sources or other non government bodies towards the delivery of Council's services to ratepayers (operating) and capital works program.

(1) Monetary contributions for 2023/24 included public open space and developer contributions (\$350k), funding towards the Flooding Creek Masterplan Implementation (\$200k), the Air Show (\$130k), and EGSC Datacentre works (\$75k). Monetary contributions for 2024/25 include the Gibsons and Cobains Road Roundabout (\$2.1M) and public open space and developer contributions (\$350k).

(2) Non monetary contributions are gifted and donated assets relating to infrastructure assets from new subdivisions, and land acquired under the Wellington Coastal Strategy Voluntary Assistance Scheme. Non-monetary developer contributions of \$500k have been budgeted for Roads in 2024/25.

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4.1.6 Other income

		Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
				\$'000	%
Donations	1	126	1,308	1,182	938.1
Miscellaneous income (Volunteer Income)		250	250	-	-
Other rent	2	580	839	259	44.7
Interest on Investments	3	4,600	4,700	100	2.2
Sponsorship		19	19	-	-
Interest on debtors		21	18	(3)	(14.3)
Insurance recovery	4	19	-	(19)	(100.0)
Recognition of assets	5	3,846	-	(3,846)	(100.0)
Total other income		9,461	7,134	(2,327)	(24.6)

Comments:

Budgeted other income is expected to decrease by (\$2.3M) over 2023/24.

(1) Forecast for 2023/24 includes the biennial John Leslie Art Prize donation of \$50k. The 2024/25 Budget includes donations towards the Aqua Energy Redevelopment, the Live4Life Program, and Art Gallery exhibitions.

(2) New tenancies at Fulham TAFE site, plus updated lease agreements for various commercial properties and caravan parks have resulted in an increase to the budgeted rent income over 2023/24.

(3) Improvements in the interest rate arena expected to result in higher interest earned on investments in 2024/25.

(4) Insurance recoveries are typically not budgeted for, and were received in 2023/24 for storm damage and vandalism.

(5) Recognition of West Sale Aerodrome Museum and Pool during 2023/24, asset recognition is typically not budgeted for.

4.1.7 Employee costs

		Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
				\$'000	%
Salaries & Wages	1	27,455	30,069	2,614	9.5
Superannuation	2	3,156	3,649	493	15.6
Workcover	3	423	617	194	45.9
Other On-Costs	4	802	845	43	5.4
FBT		226	246	20	8.8
Casual Staff	5	2,503	1,958	(545)	(21.8)
Total employee costs		34,565	37,384	2,819	8.2

Comments:

Budgeted employee costs are expected to increase by \$2.8M over 2023/24.

(1) The 2023/24 forecast is lower than the 2023/24 budget by \$1.8M, partly due to leave arrangements and vacancies, with casuals being heavily utilised instead. It is anticipated that permanent staffing levels will be at full capacity in 2024/25, with a total of 6.6 EFT added. In addition there are the annual Enterprise Agreement increases and movement within bands. As per Enterprise Agreement 11, a 2.5% salary increase has been included in the 2024/25 budget.

(2) The superannuation guarantee is budgeted to increase from 11.0% to 11.5% in 2024/25.

(3) Workcover is budgeted at 1.0% of total wages. The increase is due to a reduced rate provided in 2023/24, however no discount has been budgeted for in 2024/25.

(4) Increase is primarily comprised of additional training, conferences, and study costs.

(5) The Casual staff 2023/24 forecast is \$808k higher than the 2023/24 adopted budget to cover the shortfall in permanent staff. This overspend is expected to be alleviated with the increase in permanent staff. Approximately \$280k has been budgeted for casual staff at West Sale pool during the Aqua Energy Redevelopment project, which was not included in the 2023/24 budget.

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4.1.8 Materials and services

		Forecast	Budget	Change	
		Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Consultants	1	1,280	1,893	613	47.9
Insurances		2,237	2,408	171	7.6
Authority fees		1,910	2,050	140	7.3
Building Maintenance		1,546	1,550	4	0.3
Utility payments		2,609	2,597	(12)	(0.5)
Contributions	2	2,669	2,282	(387)	(14.5)
Infrastructure & Parks Maintenance		9,381	8,770	(611)	(6.5)
Waste Management Services	3	4,796	4,284	(512)	(10.7)
Materials	4	9,791	7,343	(2,448)	(25.0)
Contractors	5	13,697	7,504	(6,193)	(45.2)
Total Materials and services		49,916	40,681	(9,235)	(18.5)

Comments:

Budgeted materials and services are expected to decrease by (\$9.2M) over 2023/24.

(1) Consultants expenses expected to rise due to engagement in GLGN shared services (\$452k) and SLUPP (Strategic Land Use Planning Project review group) projects (\$200k).

(2) Contributions movement is primarily due to fewer emergency response contributions being anticipated resulting in a saving of \$150k, and Air Show not being held in 2025 resulting in a saving of \$130k.

(3) Waste Management Services to drop in 2024/25 due to higher Leachate collection and disposal costs incurred during 2023/24 because of wet weather.

(4) Materials costs to drop significantly due to project to replace every bin in the shire with a new bin completed in 2023/24.

(5) The net decrease for contractors is driven primarily by 2023/24 forecast expenditure of \$1.6M on York Street works, \$1.2M on the Great Southern Rail Trail, \$1.3M on Stratford Recreation Reserve Social Room, and \$1.9M on disaster recovery. The only significant project to occur in 2024/25 is the Wetlands Trail (\$428k).

4.1.9 Bad and doubtful debts

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Rate debtors	13	15	2	15.4
Total bad and doubtful debts	13	15	2	15.4

4.1.10 Depreciation

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Infrastructure	21,452	22,012	560	2.6
Property	8,857	9,216	359	4.1
Plant and equipment	2,363	2,294	(69)	(2.9)
Total depreciation	32,672	33,522	850	2.6

Comments:

Budgeted depreciation is expected to increase by \$0.8M, due to the increase in the asset value of building and roads and as a result of the completion of the 2023/24 capital works program as well as the full year effect of depreciation on the 2022/23 capital works program.

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4.1.11 Amortisation - Intangible assets

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual	2024/25		
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Intangible assets	858	832	(26)	(3.0)
Total amortisation - intangible assets	858	832	(26)	(3.0)

Comments:

Budgeted amortisation is expected to decrease by (\$26k) due to the available space in the landfills reducing as they are filled, offset by the new landfill airspace asset being created in 2024/25.

4.1.12 Depreciation - Right of Use assets

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual	2024/25		
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Right of use assets	395	349	(46)	(11.8)
Total depreciation - right of use assets	395	349	(46)	(11.8)

Comments:

Budgeted amortisation is expected to decrease by \$46k, primarily due to the major right of use asset nearing the end of its specified timeframe.

4.1.13 Borrowing costs

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual	2024/25		
	2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Interest - Borrowings	42	172	130	309.8
Total borrowing costs	42	172	130	309.8

Comments:

As current borrowings are repaid interest payments will slightly reduce. New borrowings in 2024/25 will increase interest payments to the future.

4.1.14 Other expenses

		Forecast	Budget	Change	
		Actual	2024/25		
		2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Auditor's remuneration - VAGO	2	53	64	11	20.8
Volunteer Cost of Service		250	250	-	-
Councillors allowances	1	384	375	(9)	(2.3)
Auditor's remuneration - Internal		50	30	(20)	(40.0)
Landfill rehabilitation expenses		-	40	40	-
Total other expenses		737	759	22	3.0

Comments:

Budgeted other expenses are expected to increase by \$22k in 2024/25.

- (1) Slight difference in expected volume of audited acquittals expected in 2024/25.
- (2) Mayoral & Councillor allowances are not paid during the election period which falls in October 2024.

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4.1.15 Net Loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
WDV Assets Replaced	3,941	1,373	(2,568)	(65.2)
Proceeds from sale of assets	(697)	(281)	415	(59.6)
Written Down Value of assets sold	298	306	8	2.7
Total Net loss (gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3,543	1,398	(2,145)	(60.5)

Comments:

Proceeds from the disposal of Council Assets relates mainly to the planned cyclical replacement of part of the plant, equipment and vehicle fleets.

4.2 Balance Sheet

4.2.1 Assets

Budgeted "Total assets" are expected to increase by \$38.2M, as an increase of \$47.8M in non-current assets.

The decrease of (\$9.7M) in current assets is the result of reduced cash and cash equivalents (\$11.9M) as well as an increase in other financial assets \$2.2M.

The increase of \$47.8M in non-current assets is attributable to the net result of the capital works program; \$68.9M and depreciation and amortisation of assets (\$34.8M).

4.2.2 Liabilities

Budgeted "Total liabilities" are expected to increase by \$10.3M, being an increase of \$3.3M in current liabilities and a net increase of \$7.0M in non-current liabilities.

The increase of \$3.3M in current liabilities is primarily due to an increase in provisions of \$4.3M.

The net increase of \$6.9M in non-current liabilities relates to a decrease in provisions (\$5.8M); with an increase in interest bearing liabilities \$10.1M, and lease liabilities \$2.6M.

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast	Budget
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	449	7,229
Amount proposed to be borrowed	7,000	3,000
Amount projected to be redeemed	(220)	(856)
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	7,229	9,373

Borrowings are utilised by Council to spread the impact across generations of the community utilising assets.

Borrowings are planned for major capital works infrastructure including funding the Aqua Energy Redevelopment.

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

4.2.4 Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of AASB 16 Leases, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below.

	Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000
Right-of-use assets		
Plant and equipment	53	2,859
Photocopiers	4	22
Total right-of-use assets	<u>57</u>	<u>2,881</u>
Lease liabilities		
Current lease Liabilities		
Plant and equipment	67	309
Photocopiers	4	6
Total current lease liabilities	<u>71</u>	<u>315</u>
Non-current lease liabilities		
Plant and equipment	-	2,610
Photocopiers	-	16
Total non-current lease liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>2,626</u>
Total lease liabilities	<u>71</u>	<u>2,941</u>

Where the interest rate applicable to a lease is not expressed in the lease agreement, Council applies the average incremental borrowing rate in the calculation of lease liabilities. The current incremental borrowing rate is 4.00%.

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

4.3 Statement of changes in Equity

4.3.1 Reserves

		2024/25 \$'000
Forecast at 30 June 2024		10,124
Proposed Transfer to Reserves 2024/25		
Discretionary Reserves		
-Asset Improvement	1	-
-Plant Replacement	2	1,100
-Waste Infrastructure	3	2,334
Non- Discretionary Reserves		
-Recreational Land	4	350
-Infrastructure Contributions	5	-
-Art Gallery Acquisition/Contribution Reserves	5	5
-Leased Property Improvements	6	275
Total transfers to reserves		4,064
Proposed Transfer from Reserves 2024/25		
Discretionary Reserves		
-Asset Improvement	1	-
-Plant Replacement	2	1,125
-Waste Infrastructure	3	2,368
Non-Discretionary Reserves		
-Recreational Land	4	250
-Art Gallery Acquisition/Contribution Reserves	5	44
-Leased Property Improvements	6	340
Total transfers from reserves		4,127
Budget at 30 June 2025		10,061

Comments

Total other reserves are expected to decrease by (\$63,000) over 2024/25.

(1) Asset Improvement Reserve is to fund specific future capital improvements.

(2) Plant Replacement Reserve is to fund future purchases of major plant and equipment and will decrease compared to 2023/24 by (\$24,800).

(3) Waste Infrastructure Reserve is to fund the establishment of recycling and transfer stations, remediation of existing and closed landfills and an increase in landfill capacity in the future. This will decrease by (\$33,000) compared to 2024/25.

(4) Recreational Land Reserve is to fund future open space facilities as per Section 18 of Subdivision Act. During 2024/25 it is anticipated to transfer funds from this reserve to fund new playgrounds.

(5) Art Gallery Acquisition and Contribution Reserves are to fund future art acquisitions and major exhibitions including the John Leslie Art Prize.

(6) Leased Property Improvements Reserve is to fund future works on leased properties (caravan parks and Port of Sale Moorings) in accordance with Crown Land Act. Funds transferred to reserve in 2024/25 include lease related payments received from Caravan Park lessees and mooring fees.

4.3.2 Equity

Total Equity is anticipated to increase by \$23.8M, being for the expected 2024/25 surplus of \$16.3M and Asset Revaluations of \$7.5M.

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4.4 Statement of Cash Flows

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by operating activities

The decrease of (\$9.3M) in cash inflows from operating activities is represented by a reduction in operating grants (\$6.4M), and other receipts (\$3.5M), which is partially offset by increased capital grants of \$3.8M and cash flows from rates and charges \$3.0M. Operating cash outflows are projected to decrease by \$9.0M due to cash outflows from materials and services \$11.4M partially offset by increased employee costs (\$2.3M) and other payments (\$2.1M).

4.4.2 Net cash flows used in investing activities

Cash out flows from investing activities is budgeted to increase in 2024/25 by (\$29.4M). This is composed of an increase of (\$28.9M) in payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (PIPE) and a decrease in the proceeds from the sale of PIPE of (\$0.5M).

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by financing activities

Net cash flow provided by financing activities has increased by \$9.5M, predominantly the result of an increase of \$10.0M in borrowings, with minor movements in lease repayments, finance costs, and repayment of borrowings.

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

4.5. Capital Works Program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2024/25 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as current budget or carried forward from prior year. Note some multi year projects span up to three years on an ongoing basis, and include Aqua Energy Redevelopment, and Maffra Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) construction.

4.5.1 Summary

		Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Property	1	6,541	30,651	24,110	368.6%
Plant and equipment	2	4,565	4,938	373	8.2%
Infrastructure	3	31,784	32,880	1,096	3.4%
Intangibles	4	585	425	(160)	(27.4%)
Total		43,475	68,894	25,420	58.5%

Intangibles are included as a reconciling item to match Statement of Capital Works (Section 3).

1 Aqua Energy Redevelopment and Sale Early Years Gibson Road.

2 Water Tanker and Network Infrastructure Renewal.

3 Investment in large infrastructure projects such as Sale Cowwarr Road, Urban Path plan, Sale Toongabbie Road Reconstruction and Sale North East Drainage.

4 Civica ERDMS Implementation 2023/24

	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contributions	Council cash	Borrowings
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	30,652	-	14,263	4,336	12,052	7,183	1,150	19,319	3,000
Plant and equipment	4,453	-	3,651	307	496	-	20	4,434	-
Infrastructure	32,880	-	22,269	8,426	2,184	9,490	2,261	21,127	-
Intangibles	910	-	810	100	-	-	-	910	-
Total	68,894	-	40,993	13,169	14,733	16,673	3,431	45,790	3,000

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

4.5.2 Current Budget

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<u>PROPERTY</u>									
LAND									
Maffra Drainage Strategy Land Purchases	50	-	-	-	50	-	-	50	-
TOTAL LAND	50	-	-	-	50	-	-	50	-
LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS									
Kilmany Landfill Cell Design & Construction	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
TOTAL LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
BUILDINGS									
Council Managed Facilities - Annual Small Site Air Conditioning Program	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-
Council Managed Facilities - Annual Floor Renewal Program	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-
Sale Clock Tower - Safe Access Works (Year 1 Investigation and design)	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-
Council Managed Facilities Minor Works Program	220	-	220	-	-	-	-	220	-
Solar & Energy Efficiency Rolling Program	100	-	-	-	100	-	-	100	-
Wellington Centre Improvement Design/Construct	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
The WEDGE - Back Stage Airconditioning Units Replacement	240	-	240	-	-	-	-	240	-
Sale Early Years - Gibson's Rd	5,575	-	-	-	5,575	4,000	150	1,425	-
Stead St Hall Refurbishment	50	-	40	10	-	-	-	50	-
Community Facility Renewal Program - Rosedale Old School Year 2 Works	110	-	110	-	-	-	-	110	-
Community Facility Roof Renewal Program - Yarram Seniors	22	-	22	-	-	-	-	22	-
Community Facility Roof Renewal Program - Newry Recreation Reserve	66	-	66	-	-	-	-	66	-
Cameron Sporting Complex - Changeroom Redevelopment	920	-	828	92	-	864	50	6	-
Early Years Infrastructure Program - Hyland Kinder Major Maintenance	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Aqua Energy Redevelopment	16,796	-	10,077	3,359	3,359	1,000	950	11,846	3,000
Required Maintenance - OA Ruff and RFDS	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-
TOTAL BUILDINGS	24,404	-	11,808	3,561	9,034	5,864	1,150	14,390	3,000
TOTAL PROPERTY	25,954	-	11,808	3,561	10,584	5,864	1,150	15,940	3,000

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<u>PLANT & EQUIPMENT</u>									
PLANT, MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT									
Plant Replacement Program	1,215	-	1,215	-	-	-	-	1,215	-
Water Tanker - Rural East	275	-	-	-	275	-	-	275	-
NE&P Plant Replacement Program	191	-	191	-	-	-	-	191	-
Fleet Replacement	1,665	-	1,665	-	-	-	-	1,665	-
The WEDGE - Stage Line Upgrade	120	-	60	60	-	-	-	120	-
Kilmany Landfill Loader	180	-	-	-	180	-	-	180	-
TOTAL PLANT, MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	3,646	-	3,131	60	455	-	-	3,646	-
FURNITURE & FITTINGS									
TOTAL FURNITURE & FITTINGS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COMPUTERS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS									
Built Environment Operations Modernisation	147	-	-	147	-	-	-	147	-
Network Infrastructure Renewal - Replacement of End-Of-Life-Network Switch	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
ICT Equipment & Corporate and Public Wifi Infrastructure Renewal program -	100	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-
TOTAL COMPUTERS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS	397	-	250	147	-	-	-	397	-
LIBRARY BOOKS									
Library AV Acquisitions	58	-	58	-	-	-	-	58	-
Library Cataloguing & Processing	46	-	46	-	-	-	-	46	-
Library Book Acquisitions	166	-	166	-	-	-	-	166	-
TOTAL LIBRARY BOOKS	270	-	270	-	-	-	-	270	-
ART WORKS									
Art Gallery Acquisitions	40	-	-	-	40	-	20	20	-
TOTAL ART WORKS	40	-	-	-	40	-	20	20	-
TOTAL PLANT & EQUIPMENT	4,354	-	3,651	207	496	-	20	4,334	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE									
ROADS									
Kerb and Channel Replacement Program	400	-	400	-	-	-	-	400	-
Reconstruct Unsealed Roads - Annual Program	1,800	-	1,800	-	-	-	-	1,800	-
Mill Street Heyfield Rehabilitation	750	-	600	150	-	-	-	750	-
Urban Street Resealing - Annual Program	220	-	220	-	-	-	-	220	-
Resealing Rural Roads - Annual Program	3,400	-	3,400	-	-	-	-	3,400	-
Final Seals - Annual Program	380	-	380	-	-	-	-	380	-
Urban Streets Asphalt Resheeting - Annual Program	600	-	600	-	-	-	-	600	-
Macarthur Street and Lansdowne Street Roundabout	1,224	-	612	612	-	1,224	-	-	-
Unsealed Road Intersection Upgrades - Annual Program	100	-	60	40	-	-	-	100	-
Sale - Toongabbie Road Reconstruction - Stage 3	900	-	900	-	-	900	-	-	-
Sale - Cowwarr Road Reconstruction - Stage 2	600	-	600	-	-	-	-	600	-
Rural Road Rehabilitation Program	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
Crest Widening Program - Annual Program	350	-	245	105	-	-	-	350	-
Project Development	400	-	200	120	80	-	-	400	-
Glencairn Road, Licola Landslip Rehabilitation	600	-	600	-	-	-	-	600	-
Duke Street, Yarram - Reconstruction	1,250	-	1,000	250	-	-	-	1,250	-
Residential Road and Street Construction - Special Charge Schemes	2,070	-	1,035	1,035	-	2,008	62	-	-
Velore Road, Kilmany Reconstruction	1,200	-	1,200	-	-	1,200	-	-	-
Heyfield - Seaton Road Reconstruction	600	-	600	-	-	600	-	-	-
Gibsons and Cobains Road, Sale Roundabout Construction	2,300	-	-	2,300	-	-	2,100	200	-
Rural Road Drainage Program	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
Riversdale Road, Riverslea Black Spot Safety Improvements	201	-	-	201	-	201	-	-	-
Johns Street, Sale Upgrade	375	-	187	188	-	187	-	188	-
Freestone Creek, Briagolong Road Slip Rectification - Year 2	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
Dargo Emergency Slip Works - Upper Dargo Road and Talbotville Road	800	-	800	-	-	800	-	-	-
Brayakaulung Close, Sale Traffic Improvements	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
TOTAL ROADS	21,070	-	15,889	5,101	80	7,120	2,162	11,788	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
BRIDGES									
Bridge Works and Rehabilitation Program	250	-	250	-	-	-	-	250	-
Major Culvert Renewal - Annual Program	250	-	200	50	-	-	-	250	-
Bridge and Culvert Safety Barrier Renewal - Annual Program	200	-	120	80	-	-	-	200	-
Delta Bridge, Briargolong Strengthening	865	-	-	865	-	692	-	173	-
TOTAL BRIDGES	1,565	-	570	995	-	692	-	873	-
FOOTPATHS									
Annual Footpaths Renewal Program	400	-	400	-	-	-	-	400	-
Urban Paths Plan Program	500	-	-	-	500	-	-	500	-
Gravel Path Renewal Program	280	-	280	-	-	-	-	280	-
Boardwalk Renewal Program	72	-	72	-	-	-	-	72	-
TOTAL FOOTPATHS	1,252	-	752	-	500	-	-	1,252	-
DRAINAGE									
Drainage Minor Capital Works Program	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
Relph Avenue, Sale Drainage Improvements	80	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	-
North-East Maffra Drainage Improvements	150	-	75	75	-	-	-	150	-
Sale - North East Drainage Development	488	-	244	244	-	-	-	488	-
Developer Contribution Works Program	500	-	-	-	500	-	-	500	-
Yarram Outfall Drain Assessment and Clearing	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
TOTAL DRAINAGE	1,388	-	569	319	500	-	-	1,388	-
RECREATIONAL LEISURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES									
GRSC, Sale Netball Court Resurfacing	430	-	430	-	-	-	-	430	-
Outdoor Pool Shell Rehabilitation Program	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-
Indoor and Outdoor Pools - Major Equipment Renewal Program	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-
Community Facilities LED Lighting Program - Maffra Lawn Tennis	365	-	329	37	-	250	20	95	-
Community Facilities LED Lighting Program - Sale Oval	510	-	459	51	-	408	25	77	-
Yarram Recreation Reserve AFL Goal Posts Renewal	35	-	35	-	-	-	14	21	-
Yarram Pool Plant Upgrade	1,140	-	900	240	-	-	-	1,140	-
Hardcourt Renewal Program	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-
TOTAL RECREATIONAL LEISURE & COMMUNITY FACILITIES	2,560	-	2,233	328	-	658	59	1,843	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
WASTE MANAGEMENT									
Street Sweeper Waste Storage Works, Kilmany	30	-	-	-	30	-	-	30	-
Kilmany Transfer Station - Walking Floor Alteration	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Waste Management - Minor Works	200	-	70	75	55	-	-	200	-
TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT	280	-	120	75	85	-	-	280	-
PARKS, OPEN SPACE & STREETSCAPES									
Park Light Replacement Program	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-
Playground Renewal Program	260	-	260	-	-	-	-	260	-
Accessibility & Inclusivity Audit Improvement Program	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Project Development- Natural Environment & Parks	50	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-
Sale Depot - Potting Bench Renewal	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Basketball Ring/Shade Structure Renewal Program	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	-
Pump Track Reseal Program	20	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-
Sale Depot Safety & Minor Renewal	70	-	70	-	-	-	-	70	-
TOTAL PARKS, OPEN SPACE & STREETSCAPES	585	-	585	-	-	-	-	585	-
AERODROMES									
Minor Capital Works West Sale Airport	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Yarram Aerodrome - LOT 3 concrete floor	15	-	-	15	-	-	-	15	-
Western Apron Towlane (Taxiway F) West Sale Airport	80	-	-	-	80	-	40	40	-
TOTAL AERODROMES	135	-	40	15	80	-	40	95	-
OFF STREET CAR PARKS									
Off Street Carpark Reconstruction	100	-	80	20	-	-	-	100	-
TOTAL OFF STREET CAR PARKS	100	-	80	20	-	-	-	100	-
OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE									
Robertsons Beach Seawall Rehabilitation	40	-	40	-	-	20	-	20	-
Port Albert Seawall Rehabilitation	40	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-
Boisdale Effluent System Improvement Works	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
Swing Bridge Restoration	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-
Additional "The Middle of Everywhere" Boundary Signage	60	-	-	-	60	-	-	60	-
TOTAL OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE	270	-	110	100	60	20	-	250	-
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	29,205	-	20,948	6,953	1,305	8,490	2,261	18,454	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<u>INTANGIBLES</u>									
Business System Upgrade - Asset Management System Replacement	300	-	200	100	-	-	-	300	-
GIS Imagery Renewal Program	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-
Business System Upgrade - GIS Renewal	150	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-
Business Systems Upgrades	400	-	400	-	-	-	-	400	-
TOTAL INTANGIBLES	910	-	810	100	-	-	-	910	-
TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS 2023/24	60,421	-	37,217	10,821	12,384	14,354	3,431	39,636	3,000
Works carried forward from the 2023/24 year (Work funded in 2023/24 and carried forward)									
<u>PROPERTY</u>									
LAND									
Maffra Drainage Strategy Land Purchases	350	-	-	-	350	-	-	350	-
Education Department Land - Raymond Street	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	10	-
TOTAL LAND	360	-	-	-	360	-	-	360	-
LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS									
Kilmany Landfill Cell 4	30	-	-	-	30	-	-	30	-
TOTAL LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS	30	-	-	-	30	-	-	30	-
BUILDINGS									
Sale Early Years - Gibsons Road Facility Planning	267	-	-	-	267	-	-	267	-
Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum, Port Albert	83	-	83	-	-	-	-	83	-
Yarram Court House - Roof Repairs	200	-	200	-	-	-	-	200	-
Dargo Public Toilet Septic Upgrade	60	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-
The WEDGE Redevelopment	362	-	109	109	144	-	-	362	-
Aqua Energy, Sale - Redevelopment	3,336	-	2,002	667	667	1,318	-	2,018	-
TOTAL BUILDINGS	4,308	-	2,454	776	1,078	1,318	-	2,990	-
TOTAL PROPERTY	4,698	-	2,454	776	1,468	1,318	-	3,380	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
<u>PLANT & EQUIPMENT</u>									
COMPUTERS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS									
Built Environment Operations Modernisation	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
TOTAL COMPUTERS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
TOTAL PLANT & EQUIPMENT	100	-	-	100	-	-	-	100	-
FOOTPATHS									
Golden Beach Shoreline Drive Path	271	-	-	-	271	-	-	271	-
TOTAL FOOTPATHS	271	-	-	-	271	-	-	271	-
DRAINAGE									
George Street Stormwater Drainage Upgrade	858	-	429	429	-	-	-	858	-
Sale - North East Drainage Development	1,788	-	894	894	-	1,000	-	788	-
TOTAL DRAINAGE	2,646	-	1,323	1,323	-	1,000	-	1,646	-
WASTE MANAGEMENT									
Street Sweeper Waste Storage	80	-	-	-	80	-	-	80	-
Kilmany Landfill Leachate Pond Evaporation	470	-	-	-	470	-	-	470	-
Maffra Tfer Station - Resource Recovery	58	-	-	-	58	-	-	58	-
TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT	608	-	-	-	608	-	-	608	-
OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE									
Boisdale Common Effluent System	150	-	-	150	-	-	-	150	-
TOTAL OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE	150	-	-	150	-	-	-	150	-
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	3,675	-	1,323	1,473	879	1,000	-	2,675	-
TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD CAPITAL WORKS 2023/24	8,473	-	3,777	2,349	2,347	2,318	-	6,155	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset Expenditure Type				Summary of Funding Sources			
	Cost \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
MULTI - YEAR PROJECTS									
2023 - 24 Aqua Energy Redevelopment	3,385	-	2,031	677	677	3,018	-	367	7,000
2024 - 25 Aqua Energy Redevelopment	20,132	-	12,079	4,026	4,026	2,318	950	6,864	3,000
2025 - 26 Aqua Energy Redevelopment	100	-	80	10	10	-	-	100	-
2023 - 24 Sale Early Years - Gibson's Road	500	-	-	-	500	-	-	500	-
2024 - 25 Sale Early Years - Gibson's Road	5,842	-	-	-	5,842	4,000	150	1,692	-
2025 - 26 Sale Early Years - Gibson's Road	7,575	-	-	-	7,575	4,000	150	1,425	2,000
2024 - 25 Kilmany Landfill Cell 4	1,530	-	-	-	1,530	-	-	1,530	-
2025 - 26 Kilmany Landfill Cell 4	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
2026 - 27 Kilmany Landfill Cell 4	100	-	-	-	100	-	-	100	-
2027 - 28 Kilmany Landfill Cell 4	3,300	-	-	-	3,300	-	-	3,300	-
2024-25 Maffra Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) construction	58	-	-	-	58	-	-	58	-
2025-26 Maffra Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) construction	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
2027-28 Maffra Resource Recovery Facility (Transfer Station) construction	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
2024-25 Gibsons and Cobains Road Roundabout	2,300	-	-	2,300	-	-	2,100	200	-
2025-25 Gibsons and Cobains Road Roundabout	400	-	-	400	-	-	-	400	-
2024-25 The WEDGE Redevelopment	362	-	145	109	109	-	-	362	-
2025-26 The WEDGE Redevelopment	1,500	-	500	500	500	-	550	950	-
2026-27 The WEDGE Redevelopment	1,000	-	-	500	500	-	-	1,000	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

Summary of Planned Capital Works Expenditure
For the years ending 30 June 2026, 2027 & 2028

2025/26	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvements	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Total Land	1,500	-	-	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Buildings	13,990	-	3,922	868	9,200	13,990	4,246	700	7,044	2,000
Total Buildings	13,990	-	3,922	868	9,200	13,990	4,246	700	7,044	2,000
Total Property	15,490	-	3,922	868	10,700	15,490	4,246	700	8,544	2,000
Plant and Equipment										
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,639	-	2,539	-	100	2,639	-	20	2,619	-
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	50	-	50	-	-	50	-	-	50	-
Computers and telecommunications	935	-	715	220	-	935	-	-	935	-
Library books	271	-	271	-	-	271	-	-	271	-
Total Plant and Equipment	3,895	-	3,575	220	100	3,895	-	20	3,875	-
Infrastructure										
Roads	17,480	-	14,765	2,635	80	17,480	2,098	815	14,568	-
Bridges	1,940	-	758	1,183	-	1,940	692	-	1,248	-
Footpaths and cycleways	1,207	-	707	-	500	1,207	-	-	1,207	-
Drainage	1,370	-	1,070	150	150	1,370	-	-	1,370	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,774	-	2,339	435	-	2,774	874	73	1,828	-
Waste management	1,700	-	70	75	1,555	1,700	-	-	1,700	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	845	-	845	-	-	845	-	-	845	-
Aerodromes	40	-	40	-	-	40	-	-	40	-
Off street car parks	75	-	60	15	-	75	-	-	75	-
Other infrastructure	200	-	150	50	-	200	75	-	125	-
Total Infrastructure	27,631	-	20,804	4,543	2,285	27,631	3,739	888	23,005	-
Intangibles	450	-	450	-	-	450	-	-	450	-
Total Intangibles	450	-	450	-	-	450	-	-	450	-
Total Capital Works Expenditure	47,466	-	28,750	5,631	13,085	47,466	7,985	1,608	35,874	2,000

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2026/27	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvements	100	-	-	-	100	100	-	-	100	-
Total Land	100	-	-	-	100	100	-	-	100	-
Buildings	7,905	-	3,905	2,100	1,900	7,905	1,000	-	6,905	-
Total Buildings	7,905	-	3,905	2,100	1,900	7,905	1,000	-	6,905	-
Total Property	8,005	-	3,905	2,100	2,000	8,005	1,000	-	7,005	-
Plant and Equipment										
Plant, machinery and equipment	3,057	-	3,017	-	40	3,037	-	-	3,037	-
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	50	-	50	-	-	70	-	20	50	-
Computers and telecommunications	760	-	630	130	-	760	-	-	760	-
Library books	271	-	271	-	-	271	-	-	271	-
Total Plant and Equipment	4,137	-	3,967	130	40	4,137	-	20	4,117	-
Infrastructure										
Roads	19,315	-	16,953	2,283	80	19,315	2,975	-	16,340	-
Bridges	1,775	-	1,103	673	-	1,775	375	-	1,400	-
Footpaths and cycleways	1,232	-	732	-	500	1,232	-	-	1,232	-
Drainage	1,750	-	1,350	150	250	1,750	-	-	1,750	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,850	-	1,600	250	-	1,850	1,020	253	578	-
Waste management	1,700	-	70	75	1,555	1,700	-	-	1,700	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	1,540	-	1,040	-	500	1,540	-	-	1,540	-
Aerodromes	40	-	40	-	-	40	-	-	40	-
Off street car parks	100	-	80	20	-	100	-	-	100	-
Other infrastructure	450	-	450	-	-	450	275	-	175	-
Total Infrastructure	29,752	-	23,417	3,450	2,885	29,752	4,645	253	24,855	-
Intangibles	460	-	460	-	-	460	-	-	460	-
Total Intangibles	460	-	460	-	-	460	-	-	460	-
Total Capital Works Expenditure	42,354	-	31,749	5,680	4,925	42,354	5,645	273	36,437	-

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

2027/28	Asset Expenditure Types					Funding Sources				
	Total \$'000	New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Total \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property										
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvements	3,300	-	-	-	3,300	3,300	-	-	3,300	-
Total Land	3,300	-	-	-	3,300	3,300	-	-	3,300	-
Buildings	6,067	-	3,335	1,394	1,338	5,067	-	-	5,067	-
Total Buildings	6,067	-	3,335	1,394	1,338	6,068	1,000	-	5,068	-
Total Property	9,367	-	3,335	1,394	4,638	9,368	1,000	-	8,368	-
Plant and Equipment										
Heritage plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,778	-	2,488	-	290	2,778	-	20	2,758	-
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	50	-	50	-	-	50	-	-	50	-
Computers and telecommunications	741	-	371	371	-	741	-	-	741	-
Library books	271	-	-	-	271	271	-	-	271	-
Total Plant and Equipment	3,840	-	2,909	371	561	3,840	-	20	3,820	-
Infrastructure										
Roads	18,825	-	16,023	2,723	80	18,825	4,125	-	14,700	-
Bridges	1,400	-	915	485	-	1,400	375	-	1,025	-
Footpaths and cycleways	1,257	-	757	-	500	1,257	-	-	1,257	-
Drainage	1,390	-	1,050	40	300	1,390	-	-	1,390	-
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,373	-	1,553	820	-	2,373	1,134	69	1,170	-
Waste management	200	-	70	75	55	200	-	-	200	-
Parks, open space and streetscapes	1,800	-	1,100	500	200	1,800	-	-	1,800	-
Aerodromes	40	-	40	-	-	40	-	-	40	-
Off street car parks	500	-	500	-	-	500	-	-	500	-
Other infrastructure	450	-	450	-	-	450	200	-	250	-
Total Infrastructure	28,235	-	22,458	4,643	1,135	28,235	5,834	69	22,332	-
Intangibles	480	-	480	-	-	480	-	-	480	-
Total Intangibles	480	-	480	-	-	480	-	-	480	-
Total Capital Works Expenditure	41,922	-	29,181	6,407	6,334	41,922	6,834	89	34,999	-

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5. Performance Indicators

5a. Targeted performance indicators

The following tables highlight Council's current and projected performance across a selection of targeted service and financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The targeted performance indicators below are the prescribed performance indicators contained in Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Targeted performance indicators - Service

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Governance									
Consultation and engagement (Council decisions made and implemented with community input)	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council	1	55	53	53	53	53	53	0
Roads									
Condition (sealed local roads are maintained at the adopted condition standard)	Sealed local roads below the intervention level Number of kms of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kms of sealed local roads	2	97.50%	98.50%	98.00%	97.50%	97.00%	96.51%	-
Statutory planning									
Service standard (planning application processing and decisions are in accordance with legislative requirements)	Planning applications decided within the relevant required time Number of planning application decisions made within the relevant required time / Number of planning application decisions made	3	85.77%	86.23%	85.77%	88.00%	90.00%	90.00%	+
Waste management									
Waste diversion (amount of waste diverted from landfill is maximised)	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins	4	32.50%	32.17%	28.95%	27.50%	30.25%	33.28%	+

Targeted performance indicators - Financial

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Liquidity									
Working Capital (sufficient working capital is available to pay bills as and when they fall due)	Current assets compared to current liabilities Current assets / current liabilities	5	471%	544%	418%	406%	374%	393%	-

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Obligations

Asset renewal (assets are renewed as planned)	Asset renewal compared to depreciation Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation	6	97.1%	111.3%	161.6%	99.7%	107.6%	98.9%	+
Stability									
Rates concentration (revenue is generated from a range of sources)	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	7	56.97%	57.98%	63.75%	63.60%	63.61%	63.13%	+
Efficiency									
Expenditure level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Expenses per property assessment Total expenses / no. of property assessments	8	\$3,312	\$3,700	\$3,491	\$3,575	\$3,650	\$3,778	+

5b. Financial Performance Indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The financial performance indicators below are the prescribed financial performance indicators contained in Part 3 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend +/-
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	
Operating position									
Adjusted underlying result (an adjusted underlying surplus is generated in the ordinary course of business)	Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue	9	9.9%	-4.4%	-2.6%	-2.1%	-2.0%	-2.8%	-
Liquidity									
Unrestricted cash (sufficient cash that is free of restrictions is available to pay bills as and when they fall due)	Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities Unrestricted cash / current liabilities	10	470.8%	543.7%	418.2%	406.4%	374.4%	392.9%	-
Obligations									
Loans and borrowings (level of interest bearing loans and borrowings is appropriate to the size and nature of Council's activities)	Loans and borrowings compared to rates Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	11	0.7%	10.4%	13.1%	14.4%	15.0%	15.6%	+
Loans and borrowings (level of interest bearing loans and borrowings is appropriate to the size and nature of Council's activities)	Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue		0.5%	0.4%	1.4%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	+
Indebtedness (level of long term liabilities is appropriate to the size and nature of a Council's activities)	Non-current liabilities compared to own-source revenue Non-current liabilities / own source revenue		21.4%	28.1%	26.2%	24.8%	21.2%	24.2%	+

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Indicator	Measure	Notes	Actual 2022/23	Forecast 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Strategic Resource Plan Projections			Trend +/-
						2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	
Stability									
Rates effort (rating level is set based on the community's capacity to pay)	Rates compared to property values Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipal district	12	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	-
Efficiency									
Revenue level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Average rate per property assessment General rates and municipal charges / no. of property assessments	13	1,792.55	2,215.19	2,305.09	2,348.72	2,413.87	2,480.52	+

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecast improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecast deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to indicators

5a

1. Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement

The previous result for satisfaction with community consultation and engagement was a score of 55. The target set aligns with the 2021 - 2025 Council Plan commitment to continual improvement for this indicator.

2. Sealed local roads below the intervention level

The result for Wellington Shire Council in 2022/23 was 97.50%. Wellington Shire has received an increased number of rainfall events over the last 2 years, which has resulted in the deterioration of many rural roads. Works are currently underway, or planned for capital works, for many roads in poor condition within Wellington. Once completed, these works will improve the overall condition of Council's road network.

3. Planning applications decided within the relevant required time

A combination of ongoing staff shortages and levels of development are contributing factors resulting in the decrease of planning applications decided within required timeframes.

4. Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill

The previous average for waste diverted from kerbside collection is 32.5%, the target set aligns with the state average for a 2 bin system.

5. Working Capital

The proportion of current liabilities covered by current assets. Working capital is forecast to increase due to a higher cash balance.

6. Asset renewal

This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewals and upgrades against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets.

7. Rates concentration

Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenue to fund all of Council's on-going services. Trend indicates Council's reliance on rate revenue compared to all other revenue sources will marginally increase over the four year period.

8. Expenditure level

Expenses have increased due to impacts of Council's annual capital works program and rises in CPI and staff costs.

9. Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. The adjusted underlying result calculation includes recurrent capital funding (i.e. Roads to Recovery funding), loss from sale/disposal from property, plant and equipment and other capital income but excludes non-recurrent capital grant and contributions.

10. Unrestricted cash

Council's liquidity is in a strong financial position due to a high cash balance. As Council borrows funds in future years, the loan repayments which are included in current liabilities increases which results in reducing unrestricted cash.

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11. Debt compared to rates

Trend indicates Council's reliance on debt against its annual rate revenue through management of long term debt. The 2023/24 forecast demonstrates a minimal current debt balance. Additional borrowings are required to fund development infrastructure projects and major capital works from 2024/25 onwards.

12. Rates effort

Assessment of whether Councils set rates at an appropriate level. Lower proportion of rate revenue suggests a reduced rate burden on the community.

13. Revenue level

Assessment of whether resources are being used efficiently to deliver services. A positive trend is projected over the next four year period.

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6. Schedule of Proposed Fees and Charges at 1 July 2024 (GST inclusive)

This appendix presents the fees and charges which will be charged in respect to various goods and services during the financial year 2024/25.

Note that this schedule is not exhaustive. There may be other fees that are set by statute and charged by Council in addition to this listing. These are statutory fees, and are made in accordance with legislative requirements. These fees are updated as of 1 July 2024 and will be reflected on Council's website.

SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
ART GALLERY					
Art Gallery Life Drawing Classes (Each)	C	Yes	29.00	30.00	1-Jan-25
Art Gallery Life Drawing Classes (6 week course)	C	Yes	169.00	175.00	1-Jan-25
Adult Art Workshop - Full Price	C	Yes	53.00	55.00	1-Jan-25
Adult Art Workshop - Friends Discount	C	Yes	31.50	32.50	1-Jan-25
Art Gallery Education – Subscriptions					
Primary Schools under 150	C	Yes	116.00	120.00	1-Jan-25
Primary Schools over 150	C	Yes	236.00	244.00	1-Jan-25
Secondary Schools	C	Yes	251.00	260.00	1-Jan-25
Specialist Schools	C	Yes	116.00	120.00	1-Jan-25
Kindergartens	C	Yes	116.00	120.00	1-Jan-25
Tertiary Institutions	C	Yes	390.00	405.00	1-Jan-25
Children's Workshops - First Child	C	Yes	16.00	16.50	1-Jan-25
Children's Workshops - Each Additional Child	C	Yes	11.00	11.50	1-Jan-25
Maffra Exhibition Space Rental	C	Yes	172.00	178.00	1-Jan-25
Image Reproduction Fees	C	Yes	129.00	133.50	1-Jan-25
THE WEDGE					
Main Stage Hire Rates					
Commercial Rate per day (Max 14 hours)	C	Yes	1,650.00	1,695.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial Rate - Extra time per half hour	C	Yes	181.00	186.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial - Second performance on the same day	C	Yes	800.00	822.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial - Pre-Rig	C	Yes	850.00	873.00	1-Jul-24
Community Rate per day (Max 14 hours)	C	Yes	910.00	935.00	1-Jul-24
Community Rate - Half Day (max 6 hours)	C	Yes	740.00	760.00	1-Jul-24
Community Rate - Extra time per half hour	C	Yes	100.00	102.00	1-Jul-24
Community - second performance on the same day	C	Yes	335.00	344.00	1-Jul-24
Community - Pre-Rig	C	Yes	425.00	436.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial per Week	C	Yes	8,250.00	8,475.00	1-Jul-24
Community per Week	C	Yes	4,050.00	4,160.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial Rate - Short hire (max 3 hours)	C	Yes	1,050.00	1,075.00	1-Jul-24
Community Rate - Short hire (max 3 hours)	C	Yes	575.00	590.00	1-Jul-24
Studio per day (Max 8 hours)	C	Yes	325.00	334.00	1-Jul-24
Studio - Short hire (Max 4 hours)	C	Yes	170.00	174.00	1-Jul-24
Studio - Extra time per half hour	C	Yes	27.00	27.50	1-Jul-24
Café Closure Fee	C	Yes	1,750.00	1,795.00	1-Jul-24
Admin Fee - Recurring date change	C	Yes	310.00	318.00	1-Jul-24
Outdoor Stage					
Outdoor Stage Hirer Commercial	C	Yes	2,000.00	2,055.00	1-Jul-24
Outdoor Stage Hirer Community	C	Yes	800.00	822.00	1-Jul-24
Cancellation Fees					
Cancellation fee 30 days or less	C	Yes	50% Of Fee + Full Marketing Cost		1-Jul-24
Cancellation 5 days or less	C	Yes	100% of Fee + Full Marketing cost		1-Jul-24
Ticket Fees					
Ticket fees per ticket - Commercial	C	Yes	4.70	4.80	1-Jul-24
Ticket fees average per ticket - Community	C	Yes	3.10	3.15	1-Jul-24
Complimentary Ticket Fee	C	Yes	1.00	1.05	1-Jul-24
Credit Card Surcharge on Tickets	C	Yes	A maximum of 1.08% for credit cards only.		1-Jul-24
Tech Labour					
Tech Labour Charge Out per hour - Commercial	C	Yes	70.00	72.00	1-Jul-24
Tech Labour Charge Out per hour - Community	C	Yes	55.00	57.00	1-Jul-24
Tech Labour Charge Out per hour - Commercial after 8 hours	C	Yes	90.00	92.00	1-Jul-24
Tech Labour Charge Out per hour - Community after 8 hours	C	Yes	70.00	75.00	1-Jul-24

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
THE WEDGE Cont'd					
Labour Front of House					
FOH Labour Charge out per hour - Commercial	C	Yes	70.00	72.00	1-Jul-24
FOH Labour Charge out per hour - Community	C	Yes	55.00	57.00	1-Jul-24
FOH Labour Charge out per hour - Commercial After 8 hours	C	Yes	90.00	92.00	1-Jul-24
FOH Labour Charge out per hour - Community after 8 hours	C	Yes	70.00	75.00	1-Jul-24
Marketing Fees					
Poster Distribution	C	Yes	300.00	308.00	1-Jul-24
Direct Marketing	C	Yes	200.00	205.00	1-Jul-24
Media Release	C	Yes	200.00	205.00	1-Jul-24
Social Media	C	Yes	150.00	154.00	1-Jul-24
Website Homepage Feature	C	Yes	150.00	154.00	1-Jul-24
Selected Show Flying	C	Yes	150.00	154.00	1-Jul-24
Foyer Monitors	C	Yes	100.00	102.00	1-Jul-24
Season Brochure	C	Yes	750.00	770.00	1-Jul-24
Outdoor Screen	C	Yes	300.00	308.00	1-Jul-24
Content Creation Fee	C	Yes	250.00	257.00	1-Jul-24
Equipment					
Use of Grand Piano - Commercial	C	Yes	287.00	295.00	1-Jul-24
Use of Grand Piano - Community	C	Yes	170.00	175.00	1-Jul-24
Piano Tune	C	Yes	Cost price + 15%	Cost price + 15%	1-Jul-24
Consumables (charged at cost +15%)	C	Yes	Min \$50 per show	Min \$50 per show	1-Jul-24
Hired in Equipment	C	Yes	Cost price + 15%	Cost price + 15%	1-Jul-24
Rider	C	Yes	Cost price + 20%	Cost price + 20%	1-Jul-24
Damage Charge	C	Yes	Cost price + 15%	Cost price + 15%	1-Jul-24
Merchandise	C	Yes	Cost price + 15%	Cost price + 15%	1-Jul-24
LIBRARY					
Printing/Photocopies B&W A4 per page	C	Yes	0.20	0.20	1-Jul-22
Printing/Photocopies B&W A3 per page	C	Yes	0.40	0.40	1-Jul-22
Printing/Photocopies Colour A4 per page	C	Yes	0.80	0.80	1-Jul-22
Printing/Photocopies Colour A3 per page	C	Yes	1.50	1.50	1-Jul-22
Microfilm Printing A4 per page	C	Yes	0.20	0.20	1-Jul-22
Interlibrary loans - Victorian municipal libraries fee	C	Yes	4.30	4.40	1-Jul-24
Interlibrary Loans - Books per transfer	C	Yes	29.50	30.00	1-Jul-24
National facsimile fees (1st page)	C	Yes	5.50	5.60	1-Jul-24
National facsimile fees Additional Pages per page	C	Yes	1.40	1.50	1-Jul-24
Overseas facsimile fees (1st page)	C	Yes	11.00	11.00	1-Jul-23
Overseas facsimile fees Additional Pages per page	C	Yes	2.70	3.00	1-Jul-24
Library Receiving Faxes per page	C	Yes	1.40	1.50	1-Jul-24
Mini-earphones	C	Yes	5.40	5.50	1-Jul-24
Library Laminating A4 size	C	Yes	2.00	2.10	1-Jul-24
Library Laminating A3 size	C	Yes	3.50	3.60	1-Jul-24
Library Book Covering	C	Yes	11.00	11.50	1-Jul-24
Library Binding Repairs (thin book approx. 10 mins)	C	Yes	11.00	11.50	1-Jul-24
Library Binding Repairs (thick book approx. 15 mins)	C	Yes	16.00	16.50	1-Jul-24
Replacement membership cards	C	Yes	3.60	3.70	1-Jul-24
Replacement CD for Talking Book set	C	Yes	RRP	RRP	1-Jul-17
Lost Book, Magazine or Audio-Visual item	C	Yes	RRP	RRP	1-Jul-13
GIPPSLAND REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX					
Indoor Courts					
Court Hire (peak) per hour	C	Yes	55.00	57.00	1-Jul-24
Court Hire (off peak) per hour	C	Yes	40.00	41.50	1-Jul-24
Training Casual Use (adult and concession - One Fee from now on)	C	Yes	5.00	5.00	1-Jul-24
Outdoor Courts					
Outdoor Court with Lights - per hour (Capped at 6 Courts)	C	Yes	12.00	13.00	1-Jul-24
Outdoor Court no Lights - per hour (Capped at 6 Courts)	C	Yes	6.00	6.50	1-Jul-24
Associations					
Association Court Hire Fee (Season based)(peak) per hour	C	Yes	48.50	50.00	1-Jul-24
Association Court Hire Fee (Season based) (off peak) per hour*	C	Yes	39.00	40.50	1-Jul-24

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
GIPPSLAND REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX Cont'd					
Synthetic Pitch Hire					
Full Field per hour	C	Yes	66.50	69.00	1-Jul-24
Full Field Lights per hour	C	Yes	44.00	45.00	1-Jul-24
Half Field per hour	C	Yes	40.00	41.50	1-Jul-24
Half Field Lights per hour	C	Yes	26.50	27.50	1-Jul-24
Off Peak (Weekday rate - Full field) per hour	C	Yes	53.50	55.50	1-Jul-24
Off Peak (Weekday rate - Half field) per hour	C	Yes	32.00	33.00	1-Jul-24
Facility Hire					
Office Annual Hire Fee	C	Yes	360.00	372.00	1-Jul-24
Meeting Room 1 or Meeting Room 2 per hour	C	Yes	20.00	21.00	1-Jul-24
Conference Room Commercial Hire or Single Use Hire. Two hour minimum booking, includes kitchen	C	Yes	40.00	41.50	1-Jul-24
Kiosk Annual Hire	C	Yes	2,120.00	2,195.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial Facility Hire (Minimum hourly charge for Non-GRSC User Groups)	C	Yes	40.00	41.50	1-Jul-24
Other					
Social Sports Participation (Term Fee, Individual)	C	Yes	\$60.00 to \$85.00	40.00 to 110.00	1-Jul-24
Birthday Party Host per hour	C	Yes		41.50	1-Jul-24
Program Facilitator per hour	C	Yes		41.50	1-Jul-24
Inflatable Hire Fee (Small)	C	Yes		120.00	1-Jul-24
Inflatable Hire Fee (Medium)	C	Yes		180.00	1-Jul-24
Inflatable Hire Fee (Large)	C	Yes		240.00	1-Jul-24
Inflatable Zone	C	Yes		15.00	1-Jul-24
Hockey Pavilion Hire	C	Yes		21.00	1-Jul-24
Administrative Fees					
Booking Cancellation Fee	C	Yes	27.00	28.00	1-Jul-24
AQUA ENERGY					
Aquatics Casual Entry					
Aquatic Adult	C	Yes	7.30	7.60	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Concession	C	Yes	5.80	6.10	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Child (0-15)	C	Yes	4.90	5.10	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Family (Medicare card)	C	Yes	19.50	20.30	1-Jul-24
Aquatic School Group - per Student	C	Yes	3.90	4.10	1-Jan-25
Aquatic School Group - Cost of Instructor	C	Yes	49.20	50.90	1-Jan-25
Group Fitness & Gym Casual Entry					
Group Fitness Adult	C	Yes	16.10	16.70	1-Jul-24
Group Fitness Concession	C	Yes	12.90	13.40	1-Jul-24
Group Fitness Schools - per student	C	Yes	8.60	8.90	1-Jan-25
Gym Adult	C	Yes	18.00	18.60	1-Jul-24
Gym Concession	C	Yes	14.40	14.90	1-Jul-24
Gym Teen (classes or gym)	C	Yes	8.10	8.40	1-Jul-24
Gym School Group - per student	C	Yes	9.60	9.90	1-Jan-25
Gym User Group - per participant			9.60	9.90	1-Jan-24
Allied Health Gym User			10.00	10.30	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger (gym/fitness classes)	C	Yes	7.80	7.50	1-Jul-24
Multi Visit Passes					
10 visit Swim - Adult	C	Yes	65.70	68.40	1-Jul-24
10 visit Swim - Child	C	Yes	44.10	45.90	1-Jul-24
10 visit Swim - Concession	C	Yes	52.20	54.90	1-Jul-24
10 visit Swim - Family	C	Yes	175.50	182.70	1-Jul-24
10 visit Gym - Adult	C	Yes	162.00	167.40	1-Jul-24
10 visit Gym - Concession	C	Yes	129.60	134.10	1-Jul-24
10 visit Group Fitness - Adult	C	Yes	144.90	150.30	1-Jul-24
10 visit Group Fitness - Concession	C	Yes	116.10	120.60	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger 4 week	C	Yes	52.80	54.60	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger 6 week	C	Yes	79.00	81.80	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger 8 week	C	Yes	105.70	109.40	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger 10 Session Pass	C	Yes	70.20	75.00	1-Jul-24
Other					
Fitness Room Hire - Full Day	C	Yes	60.70	62.80	1-Jul-24
Fitness Room Hire - Half Day	C	Yes	30.30	31.40	1-Jul-24
Meeting Room Hire - per hour	C	Yes	20.50	21.20	1-Jul-24
Pink Ribbon	C	Yes	5.60	5.80	1-Jul-24

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
AQUA ENERGY Cont'd					
Pool Hire					
Swimming Pool Hire - whole pool per hour	C	Yes	166.70	172.50	1-Jul-24
Swimming Pool Hire - lane per hour	C	Yes	51.70	53.50	1-Jul-24
Pool Inflatable Hire - per hour	C	Yes	111.30	115.20	1-Jul-24
Additional Lifeguard - per hour	C	Yes	49.80	51.50	1-Jul-24
Learn to Swim Lessons					
Swim lessons - 30mins - Non-Member	C	No	19.80	20.50	1-Jul-24
Swim lessons - 45mins - Non-Member	C	No	21.10	21.80	1-Jul-24
Swim lessons - 1hour - Non-Member	C	No	22.60	23.40	1-Jul-24
Private 1:1 - Half Hour - Non-Member	C	No	52.40	52.40	1-Jul-24
Private 1:1 Concession - Half Hour - Non-Member	C	No	41.90	41.90	1-Jul-24
Holiday Swim Program - Member	C	No	72.30	72.30	1-Jul-24
Disability - Achiever Program 1:1	C	No	32.80	33.90	1-Jul-24
Swim lesson - 30mins - Non-Member Direct Debit - fortnight	C	No	32.80	33.90	1-Jul-24
Swim lesson - 45mins - Non-Member Direct Debit - fortnight	C	No	35.10	36.30	1-Jul-24
Swim lesson - 1hour - Non-Member Direct Debit - fortnight	C	No	37.60	38.90	1-Jul-24
Group Adult Swimming Lessons			10.00	10.30	1-Jul-24
Admin					
Membership card replacement fee	C	Yes	10.00	10.30	1-Jul-24
Term Memberships					
Joining Fee (Component of all new memberships, not included in renewals)	C	Yes	79.00	82.00	1-Jul-24
Base Aquatic Adult Fee (12 Month Renewal Fee)					
Aquatic 12mth - Adult	C	Yes	503.00	521.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Concession Renew	C	Yes	340.00	352.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Concession	C	Yes	419.00	434.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Child Renew	C	Yes	283.00	293.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Child	C	Yes	362.00	375.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Family Renew	C	Yes	707.00	732.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 12mth - Family	C	Yes	786.00	814.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 6mth - Adult	C	Yes	291.00	302.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 6mth - Concession	C	Yes	249.00	258.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 6mth - Child	C	Yes	221.00	229.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 6mth - Family	C	Yes	472.00	489.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 3mth - Adult	C	Yes	185.00	192.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 3mth - Concession	C	Yes	164.00	170.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 3mth - Child	C	Yes	150.00	156.00	1-Jul-24
Aquatic 3mth - Family	C	Yes	256.00	265.00	1-Jul-24
Base Gold Adult Fee (12 Month Renewal Fee)					
Gold 12mth - Adult	C	Yes	1,131.00	1,171.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 12mth - Concession Renew	C	Yes	1,210.00	1,253.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 12mth - Concession	C	Yes	905.00	937.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 12mth - Family Renew	C	Yes	984.00	1,019.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 12mth - Family	C	Yes	1,885.00	1,952.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 6mth - Adult	C	Yes	1,964.00	2,034.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 6mth - Concession	C	Yes	645.00	668.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 6mth - Family	C	Yes	532.00	551.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 6mth - Family	C	Yes	1,022.00	1,058.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 3mth - Adult	C	Yes	362.00	375.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 3mth - Concession	C	Yes	306.00	317.00	1-Jul-24
Gold 3mth - Family	C	Yes	551.00	570.00	1-Jul-24
Direct Debit Memberships - Fortnightly					
Aquatic Direct Debit - Adult	C	Yes	16.40	16.90	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Direct Debit - Concession	C	Yes	13.10	13.60	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Direct Debit - Child	C	Yes	10.90	11.30	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Direct Debit - Family	C	Yes	27.20	28.20	1-Jul-24
Gold Direct Debit - Adult	C	Yes	43.50	45.10	1-Jul-24
Gold Direct Debit - Concession	C	Yes	34.90	36.10	1-Jul-24
Gold Direct Debit - Family	C	Yes	72.50	75.10	1-Jul-24
Living Longer Living Stronger Direct Debit	C	Yes	34.00	35.20	1-Jul-24
Corporate Adult 5+ Direct Debit	C	Yes	39.20	40.60	1-Jul-24
Corporate Family 5+ Direct Debit	C	Yes	65.30	67.60	1-Jul-24

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
AQUA ENERGY Cont'd					
Direct Debit - Teen Gym - Fortnightly	C	Yes	34.00	35.20	1-Jul-24
Direct Debit - Boot Camp - Fortnightly (6 sessions per f/n)	C	Yes	68.30	70.70	1-Jul-24
Personal Training					
Personal Training 1 Hour Session	C	Yes	55.60	57.50	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 1/2 Hour Session	C	Yes	27.80	28.80	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 1 Hour Session 1:2	C	Yes	66.70	69.00	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 1 Hour Session 1:3	C	Yes	100.00	103.50	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 1 Hour Session 1:4	C	Yes	133.30	138.00	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 3 Pack - 3 x 30 min	C	Yes	83.40	86.30	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 3 Pack - 3 x 60 min	C	Yes	166.70	172.50	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 5 Pack - 5 x 30 min	C	Yes	139.10	144.00	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 5 Pack - 5 x 60 min	C	Yes	278.00	287.70	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 10 Pack - 10 x 30 min	C	Yes	278.00	287.70	1-Jul-24
Personal Training 10 Pack - 10 x 60 min	C	Yes	555.90	575.40	1-Jul-24
Boot Camp (per session, casual rate)	C	Yes	17.10	17.70	1-Jul-24
Summer Season Passes - 15 Weeks					
Adult	C	Yes	122.30	126.60	1-Jul-24
Concession	C	Yes	98.10	101.50	1-Jul-24
Child (5-15)	C	Yes	81.60	84.50	1-Jul-24
Family	C	Yes	203.90	211.20	1-Jul-24
OUTDOOR POOLS					
Single Admission (All Pools)					
Adult	C	Yes	7.30	7.60	1-Jul-24
Concession	C	Yes	5.80	6.10	1-Jul-24
Child (4-15)	C	Yes	4.90	5.10	1-Jul-24
Family	C	Yes	19.50	20.30	1-Jul-24
Summer Season Passes - 15 Weeks					
Adult	C	Yes	122.30	126.60	1-Jul-24
Concession	C	Yes	98.10	101.50	1-Jul-24
Child (4-15)	C	Yes	81.60	84.50	1-Jul-24
Family	C	Yes	203.90	211.20	1-Jul-24
ANIMALS					
Standard Fee - Domestic Animals - Dog Registrations					
Dangerous, Menacing or Restricted Breed	C	No	165.00	169.50	1-Jan-25
Guard Dog	C	No	230.00	236.00	1-Jan-25
Reduced Fee (Sterilised, over 10 years old, kept for breeding at a licensed premises, owner a member of approved association, kept for working stock, obedience trained with an approved organisation) not applicable to dangerous, menacing, guard dog or restricted breeds	C	No	165.00	169.50	1-Jan-25
Pension Concession on above of 50%	C	No	51.50	53.00	1-Jan-25
	L	No	-	-	?
Standard Fee - Domestic Animals - Cat Registrations					
Reduced Fee (Sterilised, over 10 years old, kept for breeding at a licensed premises, owner a member of approved association)	C	No	165.50	169.50	1-Jan-25
Pension Concession on above of 50%	C	No	51.50	53.00	1-Jan-25
	L	No	-	-	?
Animal Cage Deposits (Refundable)	C	No	76.50	78.50	1-Jan-25
Domestic Animal Business Registration	L	No	287.50	295.00	1-Jan-25
DAB Information Access Fee (Request for information specific to the business)	C	No	82.00	84.00	1-Jan-25
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeders 3-10 Fertile Dogs	C	No	\$2900 + vet fee if applicable	\$2970 + vet fee if applicable	1-Jan-25
Domestic Animal Business Registration - Breeders requiring Ministerial Approval	C	No	\$3060 + vet fee if applicable	\$3136 + vet fee if applicable	1-Jan-25
Release Penalty Dogs & Cats Registered					
Release Penalty Unregistered Dogs & Cats, or subsequent impound of Registered animal	C	No	160.00	160.00	1-Jul-21
	C	No	190.00	190.00	1-Jul-21
Release Penalty Small Livestock - includes Sheep, Goats and Pigs	L	No	\$85.00 for 1st animal \$44.50 per subsequent animal + invoiced transport costs	87.00 for the 1st animal 45.50 per subsequent animal + invoiced transport costs	1-Jan-25
	L	No	\$136.50 for 1st animal, \$45 per subsequent animal + invoiced transport costs	140.00 for 1st animal 45.50 for subsequent animal + invoiced transport costs	1-Jan-25
Release Penalty Large Livestock - includes Cattle and Horses	L	No			1-Jan-25
Sustenance fee, per day per animal - fee may be increased dependent on seasonal availability.					
Small Livestock - includes Sheep, Goats and Pigs	C	No	17.50	18.00	1-Jan-25
Large Livestock - includes Cattle and Horses	C	No	25.00	26.00	1-Jan-25

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
LOCAL LAWS					
Alfresco Dining Permit Annual Fee	C	No	200.00	205.00	1-Jul-24
Roadside Trading Permit (12 Weeks fee)	C	No	820.00	843.00	1-Jul-24
Roadside Trading Permit (26 Weeks fee)	C	No	1,430.00	1,470.00	1-Jul-24
Roadside Trading Permit (52 Weeks fee)	C	No	2,530.00	2,600.00	1-Jul-24
Local Laws permit - 1 year	C	No	76.50	78.50	1-Jul-24
Local Law permit - 3 years	C	No	180.00	185.00	1-Jul-24
Impounded Vehicle release fee	C	No	350.00	360.00	1-Jul-24
Local Law Fines	L	No	185.00	192.00	1-Jul-24
VicRoads - Emergency works callout up to 3hrs	C	Yes	670.00	688.00	1-Jul-24
General Local Laws Impound Release Fee	C	No	130.00	133.50	1-Jul-24
HEALTH					
Premises Inspection Fee	C	No	310.00	315.00	1-Jan-25
Registration - Food Act - Class 1*	C	No	530.00	545.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations - Food Act: Class 2. 50% discount applies for a once off event*	C	No	530.00	545.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations: Food Act - Class 2 (Low volume). 50% discount applies for a once off event	C	No	310.00	318.00	1-Jan-25
Registration - Food Act: Class 3. 50% discount applies for a once off event*	C	No	310.00	318.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations: Food Act - Class 3 (Low volume). 50% discount applies for a once off event*	C	No	129.50	130.00	1-Jan-25
Registration - Food Act: Class 3A. 50% discount applies for a once off event*	C	No	310.00	318.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations: Food Act - Class 3A (Low volume). 50% discount applies for a once off event*	C	No	129.50	133.00	1-Jan-25
Additional Registration Fee - per additional staff over 5 EFT Registrations - Hairdressers or Temporary Makeup Lifetime one off fee*	C	No	20.00	remove	
Registrations – Hair/Beauty/Skin Penetration*	C	No	280.00	285.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations - Prescribed Accommodation*	C	No	156.50	160.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations - Prescribed Accommodation*	C	No	228.50	235.00	1-Jan-25
Aquatic Facilities - Category 1	C	No	191.50	195.00	1-Jan-25
Registrations – Caravan Parks per site	L	No	As per Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Moveable Dwellings Registration and Standards Regulations 2020)		1-Jun-24
* A 50% discount applies to new registrations from 1 August					
* A 50% discount applies to registration of each additional temporary or mobile component(s) against a premises					
Transfer of Registration	L	No	50% of annual registration fee		1-Jun-24
Transfer of Registration Caravan Parks	L	No	Registration and Standards Regulations 2020		1-Jun-24
Registration Late fee additional 50%	C	No	Additional 50%		1-Jul-24
Additional Inspection Fee - used when a premises does not comply with first or second inspection requirements - includes non compliant food samples	C	No	181.00	185.00	1-Jul-24
Penalties - refer to relevant legislation. Penalty amounts are determined as per the Monetary Unit Act	L	No			
Vaccines	C	No	Cost + admin fee		1-Jul-24
Site Visit Fee for Corporate Vaccinations	C	Yes	400.00	400.00	1-Jul-24
BUILDING					
Building Report and Consents	L	No	311.80	321.15	1-Jul-24
Building Report and Consents - Hoarding Permits	L	No	316.40	325.80	1-Jul-24
Building Plan Copy	C	Yes	98.00	102.00	1-Jul-24
Building Plan Search Fee	C	Yes	72.30	74.40	1-Jul-24
Building Levy	L	No	0.20	0.20	1-Jul-24
Building Information Certificates	L	No	50.70	52.20	1-Jul-24
Copy of Building Permit, Occupancy Permit or Certificate of Final Inspection	C	Yes	43.50	44.80	1-Jul-24
Heritage/Demolition Response	L	No	91.40	94.10	1-Jul-24
Lodgement Fees – Domestic & Commercial	L	No	130.90	134.80	1-Jul-24
Caravan Park - Application for a Rigid Annexe	C	No	296.00	310.80	1-Jul-24
Stormwater Discharge Point	L	No	155.30	159.90	1-Jul-24
Places of Public Entertainment (POPES)	C	Yes	368.00	386.40	1-Jul-24
Aquatic Facilities (Incl. Pools & Spas)					
Inspection Fee (incl. Certificate Lodgement Fee)	C/L	No	370.00	385.00	1-Jul-24
Pool Registration Fee	C/L	No	34.20	35.20	1-Jul-24
Search Fee (with no Final Cert or Occupancy Permit)	C/L	No	50.70	52.20	1-Jul-24
Certificate Lodgement Fee	L	No	21.90	22.50	1-Jul-24
Non-Compliance Fee	L	No	413.40	425.80	1-Jul-24

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ONSITE WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM					
Minor Alteration of an OWMS	L	No	569.55	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-22
Construct, Install or Alter an OWMS	L	No	777.20 Additional \$97.30 per hour up to a maximum of \$2153.35	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Additional inspections	L	No	Additional \$97.30 per hour up to a maximum of \$2153.35	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Renew a permit	L	No	132.15	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Transfer a permit	L	No	157.90	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Amend a permit	L	No	165.05	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Reissue of Permit	C	Yes	72.50 \$233.25 for assessments not exceeding 2.6 hours.	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Exemption	L	No	Additional 94.45 per hour up to a maximum of \$976.40	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
Report and Consent Request - unsewered areas	L	No	311.80	To be advised once fee unit is advertised by State Government	1-Jul-24
PLANNING					
Development Advice Request	C	Yes	100.00	100.00	1-Jul-22
Planning Permit & Endorsed Plans Search and Copy	C	Yes	160.00	160.00	1-Jul-22
Planning Permit - Extension of Time	C	Yes	300.00	300.00	1-Jul-20
Preparation/Review Section 173 Agreement	C	Yes	680.40	680.40	1-Jul-23
Strategic Planning Written Advice	C	Yes	100.00	100.00	1-Jul-22
Valuation (Public Open Space Contribution)	C	Yes	Cost of Valuation	Cost of Valuation	1-Jul-17
Fees for Applications for Permits under Section 47 (Regulation 9) of the Planning & Environment Act 1987	L	No	The full schedule of fees can be accessed from the DELWP Legislation and Regulation page.		
Fees for Applications to Amend Permits Under Section 72 (Regulation 11) of the Planning & Environment Act 1987	L	No	The full schedule of fees can be accessed from the DELWP Legislation and Regulation page.		
Council Variations					
Amend an endorsed plan where the cost of the change is \$10,000 or less or for a minor amendment to the conditions where there is no requirement for new referrals or for public notice.	C	No	206.40	206.40	1-Jul-23
Sub-division trees	C	Yes	640.00	700.00	1-Jul-23
Heritage	C	No	NO FEE	NO FEE	1-Jul-18
Liquor Licence Only	C	No	200.00	200.00	1-Jul-20
Native Vegetation Removal					
<10 Hectares	C	No	400.00	400.00	1-Jul-23
FACILITY HIRE					
Gwen Webb Arts Activity Centre - Hire Charges					
Gwen Webb Centre Hire - Full Day*	C	Yes	61.00	63.00	1-Jul-24
Regular Hire (6 hours or less)	C	Yes	37.50	39.00	1-Jul-24
LEVEL 2 FACILITY HIRE CHARGES: Stephenson Park - Main Oval, Sale Main Oval, Sale Velodrome, Sale Lions Park (Little Athletes)					
Part or full day hire - (community groups) #	C	Yes	128.50	133.00	1-Jul-24
Part or full day hire - (schools casual hire)	C	Yes	Free	Free	1-Jul-24
Regular School Use - per season/per ground	C	Yes	253.50	262.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial/Private- Full Day*	C	Yes	415.00	430.00	1-Jul-24
Stephenson Park - Baseball Pitch Hire Charges (Level 2) (Includes Baseball Oval)	C	Yes	129.50	134.00	1-Jul-24
LEVEL 3 FACILITY HIRE CHARGES: Wurruk Oval					
Part or full day hire - (community groups) #	C	Yes	97.50	100.00	1-Jul-24
Part or full day hire - (schools casual hire)	C	Yes	Free	free	1-Jul-24
Regular School Use - per season/per ground	C	Yes	188.50	195.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial/Private- Full Day*	C	Yes	280.00	290.00	1-Jul-24
LEVEL 4 FACILITY HIRE CHARGES: Stephenson Park - Rotary Oval or Baseball Oval (excluding pitch), Stead Street Oval					
Part or full day hire - (community groups) #	C	Yes	66.50	69.00	1-Jul-24
Part or full day hire - (schools casual hire)	C	Yes	Free	Free	1-Jul-24
Regular School Use - per season/per ground	C	Yes	126.50	130.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial/Private- Full Day*	C	Yes	140.00	145.00	1-Jul-24

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FACILITY HIRE Cont'd					
Stephenson Park Multipurpose Room					
Seasonal user group subsidised rate - Full Day ^{^A}	C	Yes	62.50	65.00	1-Jul-24
Non seasonal user Community Group - Full Day [*]	C	Yes	254.00	263.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial/Private- Full Day [*]	C	Yes	410.00	425.00	1-Jul-24
Light Usage Fee/Hr (includes plug-in portable lighting)	C	Yes	21.00	22.00	1-Jul-24
Light Usage Fee/Hr 150 lux at Stephenson Park	C	Yes	36.50	38.00	1-Jul-24
Toilet cleaning charges to be added to Casual hire if applicable	C	Yes	36.50	38.00	1-Jul-24
<i>*Half day hire = 4 hours or less. Charge is 50% of scheduled full day fee.</i>					
<i>* Seasonal Hire includes use of toilets and rubbish disposal and is only available at a full day rate.</i>					
<i>^{^A}Usage by seasonal hirers during scheduled training and games is free, usage outside of the regular booking dates will attract this fee.</i>					
<i># A 90% discount is applied to Seasonal Users of the part or full day community group hire. Seasonal use is defined as 1 or more use per week.</i>					
MEETING ROOMS					
Yarram Meeting Rooms					
Meeting Room 1 or 2 (max 25 people) per day Community Rate	C	Yes	Free usage for community groups		1-Jul-19
Both Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 (max 50 people) per day Community Rate	C	Yes	Free usage for community groups		1-Jul-19
Both Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 (max 50 people) per day Standard Rate	C	Yes	248.50	248.50	1-Jul-23
Both Meeting Rooms (max 50 people) half day rate	C	Yes	127.00	127.00	1-Jul-23
Consulting Room 1 or 2 per hour	C	Yes	12.00	12.00	1-Jul-23
Consulting Room 1 or 2 per day	C	Yes	47.50	47.50	1-Jul-23
Wellington Centre Meeting Rooms					
Wayput Room per half day Standard Rate	C	Yes	139.50	144.00	1-Jul-24
Wayput Room per day Standard Rate	C	Yes	220.00	227.50	1-Jul-24
Carang Carang Room per half day Standard Rate	C	Yes	171.50	177.50	1-Jul-24
Carang Carang Room per day Standard Rate	C	Yes	320.00	331.00	1-Jul-24
Wellington Room per half day Standard Rate	C	Yes	221.50	229.00	1-Jul-24
Wellington Room per day Standard Rate	C	Yes	440.00	455.00	1-Jul-24
Function Gathering area per half day Standard Rate	C	Yes	171.00	177.50	1-Jul-24
Function Gathering area per day Standard Rate	C	Yes	320.00	331.00	1-Jul-24
Setup fee for room configuration (optional)	C	Yes	54.00	56.00	1-Jul-24
LAKESIDE ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS FACILITY (LEAF)					
Weddings and Commercial Organisations	C	Yes	210.00	210.00	1-Jul-22
Not for profit/community organisations	C	Yes	-	-	1-Jul-20
Use of Concertina Doors	C	Yes	195.00	195.00	1-Jul-22
Use of Concertina Doors Community Groups	C	Yes	100.00	100.00	1-Jul-22
CIRCUS					
Recreation Reserve Fees (Circus) Daily Fees	C	Yes	1,000.00	1,000.00	1-Jul-22
MOORINGS					
Mooring Fees - Annual Licence	C	Yes	1,050.00	1,101.45	1-Jul-24
Mooring Temporary, Weekly, Min 2 weeks, Max 12 weeks	C	Yes	64.00	67.14	1-Jul-24
Transfer of Mooring Fee	C	Yes	55.00	57.70	1-Jul-24
AERODROMES					
Establishment fee for setting up user agreements - for new user agreements on Council Owned or Controlled Land	C	Yes	129.10	133.00	1-Jul-24
West Sale Airport Service Charge – Terminal Access – Per day for charter/commercial flights	C	Yes	130.20	134.10	1-Jul-24
Rate capped to 100 days p.a.					
West Sale Airport Service Charge – Use of Airside Apron Areas – per m2/p.a. Aircraft parking or equipment storage.	C	Yes	40.15	41.35	1-Jul-24
User agreement to be established for periods in excess of 28 continuous days					
Minimum charge \$300.00 (based on 100m2 for 1 month).					
West Sale Airport - User Access Charges / Landing Fees					
Fee applied per aircraft movement.					
Local aircraft* <1,550kg MTOW and RAAF exempt.	C	Yes	\$8.20/tonne pro-rata	\$10.25/tonne pro-rata	1-Jul-24
Yarram Aerodrome - User Access Charges / Landing Fees					
Fee applied per aircraft movement.					
Local aircraft* <1,550kg MTOW and RAAF exempt.	C	Yes	\$3.91/tonne pro-rata	\$5.10/tonne pro-rata	1-Jul-24
<i>*Registered address of aircraft or owner/operator based within a hangar at the West Sale or Yarram aerodrome.</i>					

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SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
SALEYARDS					
Prime Sales					
Weighted Cattle	C	Yes	24.70	26.00	1-Jul-24
Weighted Bulls	C	Yes	32.80	34.50	1-Jul-24
Unweighted Cattle	C	Yes	17.50	18.40	1-Jul-24
Unweighted Bulls	C	Yes	24.70	26.00	1-Jul-24
Calves	C	Yes	4.10	4.40	1-Jul-24
Goats	C	Yes	2.10	2.30	1-Jul-24
Pigs	C	Yes	3.40	3.60	1-Jul-24
Droving Fee	C	Yes	4.30	4.60	1-Jul-24
Store Sales					
Unweighted Cattle	C	Yes	17.50	18.40	1-Jul-24
Unweighted Bulls	C	Yes	24.70	26.00	1-Jul-24
Unit (Cow and Calf)	C	Yes	21.50	22.60	1-Jul-24
Calves	C	Yes	4.10	4.40	1-Jul-24
Buyer / NLIS Fee					
Store Sales, Wednesday Calf Sales	C	Yes	3.20	3.40	1-Jul-24
Clearing Sales	C	Yes	3.20	3.40	1-Jul-24
Sheep Sales					
Sheep Sales	C	Yes	2.20	2.40	1-Jul-24
Other					
Weigh Only	C	Yes	13.10	13.80	1-Jul-24
Scan Only	C	Yes	7.10	7.50	1-Jul-24
On Delivery Fee - Cattle	C	Yes	7.10	7.50	1-Jul-24
Post Breeder Tags - No Tag, Saleyard tag applied by GRLE	C	Yes	42.80	44.90	1-Jul-24
Agent Fee - Special Sales	C	Yes	179.00	187.80	1-Jul-24
Auctioneers Fees	C	Yes	151.90	159.40	1-Jul-24
Buyers Reports	C	Yes	0.30	0.40	1-Jul-24
Truck Wash	C	Yes	2.30	2.30	1-Jul-24
Unprocessed Compost	C	Yes	24.50	25.80	1-Jul-24
Transit Stock Fee - Per Head	C	Yes	5.00	5.30	1-Jul-24
Stock Feed Fee	C	Yes	26.60	28.00	1-Jul-24
Sheep Scanning Fee	C	Yes	0.40	0.50	1-Jul-24
Call Outs (After Hours) - Feed Fee First Hour	C	Yes	238.80	250.60	1-Jul-24
Call Outs (After Hours) - Additional Hours	C	Yes	119.40	125.30	1-Jul-24
Shower Facilities	C	Yes	No cost	No cost	1-Jul-22
TIPPING FEES					
Commercial Tonne	C	Yes	262.00	295.00	1-Jul-24
Commercial m3	C	Yes	106.00	114.00	1-Jul-24
Domestic m3	C	Yes	47.00	50.00	1-Jul-24
Greenwaste m3	C	Yes	16.00	17.00	1-Jul-24
Timber waste	C	Yes	32.00	34.00	1-Jul-24
Clean Concrete Tonne	C	Yes	36.00	37.00	1-Jul-24
Clean Concrete m3	C	Yes	50.00	52.00	1-Jul-24
Separated Recyclables m3	C	Yes	-	-	1-Jul-19
Asbestos per tonne	C	Yes	100.00	100.00	1-Jul-16
Single Mattress (inner spring)	C	Yes	30.00	30.00	1-Jul-23
Single Mattress (foam/other)	C	Yes	30.00	30.00	1-Jul-22
Double/queen Mattress (inner spring)	C	Yes	50.00	50.00	1-Jul-23
Double/queen Mattress (foam/other)	C	Yes	50.00	50.00	1-Jul-22
E-Waste Fees	C	Yes	-	-	1-Jul-20
Recyclable Plastic Drums (Non Drummuster) <5lt	C	Yes	1.00	2.00	1-Jul-24
Recyclable Plastic Drums (Non Drummuster) 20lts	C	Yes	2.00	4.00	1-Jul-24
Clean Fill m3	C	Yes	367.00	392.00	1-Jul-24
Clean Fill Tonne	C	Yes	262.00	280.00	1-Jul-24
Gas bottles <10kg	C	Yes	13.00	15.00	1-Jul-24
Gas Bottles 10kg - 45kg	C	Yes	13.00	15.00	1-Jul-24

2024/25 Budget - Wellington Shire Council

SERVICE	C/L	GST	2023/24 Fee Including GST \$	2024/25 Fee Including GST \$	Effective Date of Increase
TIPPING FEES Cont'd					
Cat/dog (Kilmany Only)	C	Yes	17.00	18.00	1-Jul-24
Cow/horse (Kilmany Only)	C	Yes	74.00	77.00	1-Jul-24
Sheep/calf (Kilmany Only)	C	Yes	37.00	38.00	1-Jul-24
Passenger/Motorcycle Tyres	C	Yes	14.00	15.00	1-Jul-24
Passenger/Motorcycle Tyres on Rim	C	Yes	28.00	30.00	1-Jul-24
4WD/Light Truck Tyre (off Rim accepted only)	C	Yes	28.00	30.00	1-Jul-24
SUSTAINABILITY					
EV charger fees	C	Yes	\$0.40 / kwh	\$0.40 / kwh	1-Jul-22
Enviro Ed Centre - Room hire (Full Day)	C	Yes	300.00	300.00	1-Jul-22
Enviro Ed Centre - Room hire (Half Day)	C	Yes	160.00	160.00	1-Jul-22
MAP SALES					
Hardcopy - Standard Map (Dekho, Internet, VicRoads) A3 Colour	C	Yes	13.20	13.50	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Standard Map (Dekho, Internet, VicRoads) A2 Colour	C	Yes	19.40	19.50	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Standard Map (Dekho, Internet, VicRoads) A1 Colour	C	Yes	32.60	33.00	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Aerial Photo Plot A4	C	Yes	13.20	13.50	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Aerial Photo Plot A3	C	Yes	19.40	19.50	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Aerial Photo Plot A2	C	Yes	32.70	33.00	1-Jul-24
Hardcopy - Aerial Photo Plot A1	C	Yes	44.40	45.00	1-Jul-24
Softcopy - Aerial Photo - sent to email address	C	Yes	10.70	11.00	1-Jul-24
ROADS					
Rechargeable works	C	Yes	By Quote		1-Jul-18
Consent for Works Within Road Reserve	L	No	\$91.70 - \$659.00	\$95.40 - \$685.30	1-Jul-24
Swing Bridge Special Openings (minimum of 7 days notification)	C	Yes	469.00	473.00	1-Jul-24
Processing MoA Applications	C	Yes		\$75.70 - \$642.80	1-Jul-24
FIRE HAZARD RECOVERY					
Recovery cost for Fire Hazard Removal Contractor plus admin fee	C	Yes	Admin Cost \$112 + contractor cost	115.00 + contractor cost	1-Jul-24
Recovery cost for Contractor "call out" plus an administration fee	C	Yes	Admin Cost \$112 + contractor cost	115.00 + contractor cost	1-Jul-24
FINANCE					
Dishonoured Direct Debit Fees	C	No	30.00	30.00	1-Jul-16
Dishonoured Cheque Fees	C	No	30.00	30.00	1-Jul-22
Reissue Payment Fee	C	No	15.00	15.00	1-Jul-18
Land Information Certificates	L	No	28.80	28.80	1-Jul-23
Land Information Certificate – Urgent Fee	C	Yes	80.00	80.00	1-Jul-18
Duplicate Rate Notice	C	Yes	10.00	10.00	1-Jul-16
Rate Related Archive Search per hour	C	Yes	51.00	51.00	1-Jul-18
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION					
Freedom of Information Request	L	No	30.60		
Freedom of Information Search Charges per hour or part of an hour (except if on a computer)	L	No	22.90		
Freedom of Information Supervision Charges Per Quarter hour	L	No	5.70		
Freedom of Information Photocopies-A4 (per page)	L	No	0.20		

14.3. PROGRESS OF 2021-25 COUNCIL PLAN AND HEALTHY WELLINGTON QUARTER 2, 2023/24

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

PURPOSE

To provide Council and the community with the Quarter 2, 2023/24 progress update towards achievement of our Council Plan 2021 – 2025.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the attached update on progress of the 2021-25 Council Plan for Quarter 2, 2023/24.

BACKGROUND

Our Council Plan 2021-25 was adopted by Council in 2021 in accordance with section 90(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Council Plan 2021-25 sets Council's priorities and direction over the four-year period. Contained within the plan are 104 actions including Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects addressing the four Strategic Directions, along with 31 Indicators of Success that align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Progress is provided to the community through regular Council Reports in addition to the Annual Report.

The attached document provides the following overview of the 2021-25 Council Plan:

- Progress of Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects linked to each Council Plan strategic direction and outcome;
- Progress of Healthy Wellington considerations for those Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects which contain linkages to the Wellington Shire Council's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, Healthy Wellington 2021-2025; and
- 2022/23 Indicators of Success. Indicators of success are updated annually at the conclusion of the financial year.

Major Initiatives are significant projects that will directly contribute to the achievement of the Council Plan during the financial year and have a major focus in the budget.

Initiatives are actions that are one-off in nature and/or lead to improvements in service.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Progress Update Report [14.3.1 - 44 pages]
2. At A Glance Progress Report [14.3.2 - 5 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To receive the attached update on progress of the 2021-25 Council Plan for Quarter 2, 2023/24 or
2. Not receive the attached update on progress of the 2021-25 Council Plan for Quarter 2, 2023/24 and seek further information for consideration at a later Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive the attached update on progress of the 2021-25 Council Plan for Quarter 2, 2023/24.

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 Council Plan communicates Council's strategic direction to the community. The Council Plan can also be used by Council to communicate its vision and direction to other tiers of government, organisations, government agencies and funding bodies.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The provision of a Council Plan report (report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year) is a requirement of Local Government Performance Reporting Framework - Governance and Management checklist which is enacted by 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

Reporting on Council plan progress aligns with Council's good governance framework and the Council Plan 2021-25 which commits to the following:

Council will provide regular updates to the community on how we are progressing through a variety of reporting mechanisms.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

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

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Council continues to work in partnership with the community of Wellington Shire to deliver the Council Plan 2021-25.

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 PLAN** 2021-25

PROGRESS UPDATE REPORT QUARTER 2, DECEMBER 2023



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

We are a climate resilient community with sustainable practices and places.

OUTCOMES

- 1.1. A climate and disaster resilient community.
- 1.2. Assist community to transition to a low carbon economy via adoption of sustainable practices and renewable energy.
- 1.3. The natural environment is valued, protected and accessible.
- 1.4. Council is an environmental steward with a reducing carbon footprint.

2



ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

We are a growing, sustainable and prosperous community.

OUTCOMES

- 2.1. A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities.
- 2.2. A community that has the capacity and skills to meet our economic needs.
- 2.3. An increase in variety of housing choice to support equitable access to housing.
- 2.4. Infrastructure investment is targeted to maximise jobs and housing growth.

3



LIVEABILITY AND WELLBEING

We are a liveable, engaged, and supported community.

OUTCOMES

- 3.1. An inclusive, diverse, and resilient community.
- 3.2. An actively engaged community.
- 3.3. Opportunities for everyone to work, learn, create, play, and share.
- 3.4. Improved access to and participation in support services focussing on those who are vulnerable including: young children, youth, people living with a disability and seniors.

4



SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

We are a connected community with access to the services and infrastructure we require.

OUTCOMES

- 4.1. A financially sustainable, high performing organisation.
- 4.2. Services deliver operating efficiencies and best value.
- 4.3. Well planned and sustainable towns, facilities, and infrastructure that service community need.
- 4.4. Safe and well-used transport connections across all modes of travel.

DIRECTION

1

Environment and Climate Change



'We are a climate resilient community with sustainable practices and places.'

Key projects*

- Resource Recovery Hub at Kilmany Landfill site (1.4.3)
- Longford Landfill Rehabilitation (1.4)
- Lake Guyatt Environmental Education Centre (1.1.3, 3.1.1) ❤️
- Food Organics and Green Organics (FOGO) kerbside collection service (1.4)
- Maffra Resource Recovery Facility (1.4.3)
- Electric vehicle charging stations (1.2.2)
- Amendment C99 review of flood planning provisions within the Wellington Planning Scheme to reduce risks of flooding and coastal /river inundation as sea levels rise (1.1.1) ❤️
- Great Southern Rail Trail Extension - Alberton to Welshpool (1.3.2)
- Solar or alternate energy rollout across community facilities (1.2.4)
- Preparing Remote Emergency Response Centres (1.1.4, 1.1.5)

*subject to successful business case and funding

SALE BOTANIC GARDENS

Council Plan Strategic Direction 1: Environment and Climate Change

 - linked to Healthy Wellington Plan

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
1.1.1 	Major Initiative - In line with revised State Government policy documents, establish and implement a policy position around the impacts of sea level rise, flooding and bushfire on land use planning.	Regulator	Awaiting State Government finalisation of sea level rise policy and planning benchmarks to enable Council to progress Amendment C99 (updated flood overlays). Bushfire Management Overlay from State Government now implemented into Planning Scheme.	Progressing	90%	Planning Scheme initiatives align with Healthy Wellington Objectives
1.1.1.1 	Key Project - Amendment C99 review of flood planning provisions within the Wellington Planning Scheme to reduce risks of flooding and coastal/river inundation as sea levels rise.	Advocate, Facilitator, Funder, Provider	Awaiting State Government finalisation of planning benchmarks for sea level rise. Without this guidance Council is unable to further develop a planning scheme amendment to assist in identifying areas impacted. Project may not progress to completion within this Council Plan due to external factors.	Progressing	40%	Amendment C99 aligns with Healthy Wellington Objectives
1.1.2 	Major Initiative - Deliver organisation-wide integrated implementation of the climate change aspects of the Council's Sustainability Strategy 2020-24, Healthy Wellington 2021-25 and Planning Policy Framework including our zero net carbon emissions target by 2040.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Sustainability education programs for schools continue to be delivered out of Nakunbalook Environmental and Cultural Education Centre. 2023/24 Urban Forest planting program commenced with planting in Stratford. A range of agreed priority projects for the Gippsland Alliance for Climate Action group to deliver over the next 15 months include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate risk mapping; 	Progressing	75%	Community support and information is provided via information sessions and social media including the quarterly Eco News newsletter which helps support climate change objectives of Healthy Wellington Plan.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric Vehicle fleet transition plan; • Environmentally Sustainable • Design policy for council buildings; • Decarbonisation and gas removal in council buildings; • Emissions monitoring system (software now implemented for emissions monitoring and evaluation); and • Communications and training. <p>Emergency Management Team is continuing with the implementation of Local Incident Management Plans for 6 vulnerable communities across Wellington Shire.</p>			
1.1.3 	Major Initiative - Educate the community to increase understanding of the risks and impacts of climate change and the need for adaptation and sustainable living.	Facilitator	<p>Our Sustainability Education Officer has held or partnered in 5 Community events with 140 community members engaged. Events held include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 primary school events engaging 750 students • 5 preschool events with 150 participants • 3 Staff Kilmany Resource Recovery Facility Visits with 37 attendees. 	Progressing	70%	Various events held relating to noticing nature, birds, biodiversity and growing summer vegetables.
1.1.3.1 	Key Project - Lake Guyatt Environmental Education Centre.	Facilitator, Provider	Nakunbalook Environmental and Cultural Education Centre was completed in late 2022.	Completed	100%	Provides the opportunity to undertake education programs, to assist the community with the transition to a low carbon economy.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
1.1.4 	Major Initiative - Build disaster resilience and improve adaptation and recovery in high-risk and vulnerable communities by facilitating community-led emergency management planning and preparedness.	Provider, Facilitator	Council is working with various high-risk communities and agencies across the Wellington Local Government Area to develop community emergency plans and increase emergency preparedness and resilience.	Progressing	50%	Health and Climate Change is considered through this work as it aims to build the community's resilience and preparedness for future natural disasters.
1.1.4.1	Key Project - Preparing Remote Emergency Response Centre's.	Provider, Facilitator	Loch Sport Hall heating and cooling upgraded as part of project. Port of Sale Backup Generator also delivered under funding. Dargo Hall heating and cooling works also to be completed. Walpole Stadium (Yarram Secondary College) Public Address system upgrade to be delivered shortly.	Progressing	70%	Not applicable
1.1.5	Initiative - Ensure municipal emergency management plans are developed collaboratively with lead agencies to achieve better coordination of emergency mitigation to coordinate resources, protect lives, property, and the environment.	Facilitator	Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2023-2026 updated and approved by Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee (REMPC) in November 2023.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
1.1.6 	Initiative - Increase the extent of our urban forests and trees (also considering urban agriculture) to help our townships cope better with future temperatures increases.	Provider	Contractor has been engaged to undertake the bulk of the tree planting and is anticipated to commence in July 2024 and take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete the work. Almost 1,500 trees to be planted as part of the 2024 Urban Forest Renewal Program. Planning for consultation underway with focus on completing Greening Stratford and, focusing on tree condition, canopy cover and socio-economic status,	Progressing	90%	Increasing the extent of our urban forest through significant tree planting in streetscapes and in parks and reserves will see great sequestration of carbon stored within the Living Infrastructure.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>proactive tree planting and maintenance works will look to commence urban greening of Sale.</p> <p>This will be part of the 2025 Urban Forest Renewal Program.</p> <p>Forestree is continuing to be populated - current numbers are 12,802 total trees with 1,116 planting locations identified for future planting programs.</p>			
1.2.1	Major Initiative - Advocate for, educate, and facilitate the adoption of regenerative agriculture and investment to improve water security and assist farmers to increase resilience and profitability in a warmer, drier climate.	Facilitator, Advocate	<p>Council is continuing to engage with (and support) the Gippsland Agricultural Group and Food and Fibre Gippsland to identify opportunities to create a more resilient agricultural community.</p> <p>Council has engaged with Southern Rural Water to understand the benefits and opportunities that will be generated by the 'Macalister Fresh' project.</p> <p>The \$660,000 Macalister Fresh project, funded by the Victorian Government and Southern Rural Water, will be delivered over 18 months in four phases.</p>	Progressing	80%	Not applicable
1.2.2	Initiative - Advocate for uptake of electric and hybrid vehicles across our broader community and support this through delivery of charging stations.	Advocate, Provider	Private electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure tender to market February, installation and commissioning proposed by August 2024.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.2.2.1	Key Project - Electric Vehicle charging stations.	Advocate, Provider	<p>The Expression of Interest (EOI) process was completed for the provision of the Stratford electric vehicle charger at Memorial Park.</p> <p>A tender document is being prepared for a private electric vehicle charger to be</p>	Progressing	75%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>installed with the area licenced to successful company.</p> <p>Tender process closing April 2024 with installation anticipated by August 2024.</p>			
1.2.3	Major Initiative - Advocate alongside our renewable energy industry and community to secure priority transmission upgrade funding and aim for the area for our off-shore wind projects to be declared the first renewable energy zone.	Advocate, Facilitator, Regulator	In December 2022, the Minister for Climate Change and Energy declared an area in the Bass Strait off the coast of Gippsland as being suitable for offshore renewable energy.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
1.2.4	Initiative - Help build a diverse and resilient energy economy by supporting the uptake of community-owned renewable energy capture and storage through education, capacity building and targeted investment.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	<p>Expression of Interest closed for electric vehicle charging station in Stratford, Tender will be released early 2024.</p> <p>Community support and information is provided via information sessions and social media.</p>	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.2.4.1	Key Project - Solar or alternate energy rollout across community facilities.	Advocate, Facilitator, Regulator	Tender process has commenced for Gippsland Regional Sports Complex (GRSC) Hockey Pavilion solar and battery supply & installation, closing February with installation to be completed by June 2024.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.3.1	 Initiative - Maintain a high-quality network of local parks, open space and urban forests which help to lessen the impacts of extreme heat and are managed for community and environmental benefit.	Provider	<p>The Parks Services team continue to service local parks and open spaces in line with service standards to ensure maximum social and environmental benefits for the community.</p> <p>A small increase in staff resources to Council's horticultural team recognises the expanding responsibility of green assets management.</p> <p>Park audits continue to demonstrate high standards of maintenance are</p>	Ongoing	100%	<p>Public parks and open spaces continue to be embraced and well utilised by the Wellington community due to their high standards, maintenance and overall attractiveness which makes residents want to engage in physical, outdoor and community related activities.</p> <p>Urban forest program community engagement enables residents to liaise with experienced Council</p>

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>occurring and practices being improved as a result of the data.</p> <p>Public parks and open spaces continue to be embraced and well utilised by the Wellington community.</p> <p>The urban forest tree planting program is preparing a major street tree planting program for the western half of Stratford township.</p> <p>This will see street trees planted in all available and suitable nature strips in 2024.</p> <p>Community consultation with Stratford community was completed in Sept/Oct 2023 where the community has been able to select suitable tree species from a selections list.</p> <p>The program will deliver greening, shade and cooling for Stratford community in future years.</p> <p>The 'Forestree' management software tool is now being populated with resourced support.</p> <p>This will ensure the proactive data collection and maintenance of Councils tree assets for the long term.</p>			officers in understanding the value of trees in adaptable and sustainable communities to impending climate change.
1.3.2 	Initiative - With key stakeholders, encourage access, appreciation and use of our natural areas through well-planned and sustainable nature-based and cultural tourism.	Advocate, Facilitator, Funder, Regulator	<p>Working with East Gippsland on an Indigenous trail through Wellington and East Gippsland highlighting areas such as Blue Pool and Den of Nargun.</p> <p>We continue to work with Destination Gippsland on The Dark Skies project which highlights star gazing in both Loch</p>	Progressing	80%	Through events we continue to work to educate and expose the community to sustainable practices and the benefits of renewable energy and try where possible to have renewable energy companies onsite at events.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>Sport and Dargo with the support of local Indigenous groups, Department of Energy, Environment Climate Action, Councils and Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation.</p> <p>This is a trail that runs through all of Gippsland.</p> <p>Greater focus on bird watching and education at the Sale Common with a new write up and links on The Middle Of Everywhere Website.</p> <p>Added sustainability guidelines to Wellington Events Guide.</p> <p>Working with Rosedale Community to develop and deliver an event/festival highlighting sustainable living, home produce, recycling and upcycling and living off the land scheduled for February 2024.</p> <p>Exploring the opportunity of a Botanical Gardens Open Day with our Parks and Gardens team - with a focus on sustainability and conservation.</p> <p>Continue to highlight through The Middle of Everywhere social media the sustainable nature-based and cultural tourism aspects of our region.</p>			
1.3.2.1	Key Project - Great Southern Rail Trail Extension - Alberton to Welshpool.	Advocate, Facilitator, Funder, Regulator	Works are complete with some areas required to be repaired following recent rainfall events.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
1.3.3	Major Initiative - Better utilise existing water resources, improve waterway health,	Advocate, Facilitator,	The Onsite Domestic Wastewater Management Plan (OWMP) and	Progressing	70%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
	increase biodiversity values and investigate bio link opportunities through implementing the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.	Funder, Regulator	<p>associated codes and ministerial guidelines continue to guide decision making for development works involving wastewater management in sensitive areas to improve the health of waterways.</p> <p>Suitable consultant options are being investigated to facilitate the newly developed risk assessment training for Environmental Health Officers.</p> <p>Our Environmental Health team continue to play an active role in the Blue Green Algae portfolio to reduce the potential health impacts on residents, visitors and parks staff.</p> <p>Assessing the role we play in the Wellington Integrated Water Management Plan.</p>			
1.4.1	Major Initiative - Progress towards our 2040 net zero emissions target by reviewing our roadmap, strengthening our governance and exploring carbon offset opportunities.	Provider	<p>New electric vehicle charger installation at Stratford expressions of interest are completed and due for tender stage.</p> <p>GRSC Hockey Pavilion Solar and Battery installation Tendered and due for awarding.</p> <p>Options assessment of Facilities Portfolio undertaken to explore opportunities for solar installations and upgrade.</p> <p>Emissions software platform 'Trelis' now operational and accruing data on energy use, profile and efficiencies across Facilities portfolio.</p> <p>Software will aid in targeting energy efficiency and renewable infrastructure</p>	Progressing	75%	Not Applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			investment to reduce Council's carbon emissions and progress Council towards its 2040 Net Zero Goal.			
1.4.2	Initiative - Commence the green fleet transition to corporate electric and hybrid vehicles.	Provider	<p>A combination of Hybrid and Electric vehicles are being introduced to our fleet based on the following determinants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of short and long term vehicle costs • Regional and geographical practicalities • Vehicles being fit for purpose • Vehicles reaching a kilometres travelled target and/or time owned <p>At this stage 30% of our 10 shared pool vehicles now include 2 Hybrid and 1 Electric Vehicle.</p>	Progressing	50%	Not applicable
1.4.3	Initiative - Advocate for alternate waste technologies to increase diversion of valuable resources and contaminated waste from landfill. Encourage and facilitate investment into resource recovery by private industries or partnerships.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	<p>Elecsome are currently collecting solar panels for processing.</p> <p>Finalising negotiations with processor for implementation of Food & Garden Organics kerbside collection.</p> <p>Council officers are re-assessing options for alternative residual waste treatment in future years as technology advances and regulations are finalised.</p>	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.4.3.1	Key Project - Resource Recovery Hub at Kilmany Landfill site.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	Elecsome solar panel recycling processing plant under construction, due to be operational end February 2024.	Progressing	80%	Not applicable
1.4.3.2	Key Project - Longford Landfill Rehabilitation.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	Capping design and audit report has been completed and approved.	Progressing	25%	Not applicable

Council Plan Progress Report Quarter 2 | 2023/24

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			Tender preparation to commence mid 2024.			
1.4.3.3	Key Project - Food Organics and Green Organics (FOGO) kerbside collection service.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	Finalising contract negotiations with preferred tenderer as part of the Gippswide Kerbside joint procurement process.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.4.3.4	Key Project - Maffra Resource Recovery facility.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	<p>Preparation of a development plan is underway and expected to be completed March 2024.</p> <p>Site design concept is currently under review, a revised design is due for completion by June 2024.</p> <p>Planning permit application submission is planned for August 2024.</p> <p>Construction is to be undertaken in 2025/26 FY with expected operation by December 2026.</p>	Progressing	30%	Not applicable
1.4.4	Initiative - Investigate glass collection and diversion options to separate glass streams to facilitate the circular economy.	Provider	<p>Audit of kerbside bins planned 2024/25 financial year.</p> <p>The audit results will determine the need for community education campaigns relating to a separated glass implementation while also providing data for ascertaining service frequency and size of bin.</p>	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
1.4.5	Initiative - Accelerate Council's delivery of renewable energy and energy saving projects through delivering Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and investigating tools like an internal capital fund and process to rank and prioritise return on investment for projects.	Funder, Facilitator	Gippsland Alliance for Climate Action working on Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) policy for Council buildings for 2023/24 financial year.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable

Council Plan Progress Report Quarter 2 | 2023/24

Indicators of Success:	Baseline	2021-22 Result	2022-23 Result	2025 Target
Outcome 1.1 A climate and disaster resilient community				
Community Satisfaction with Council Performance in Environmental sustainability	(2020) Wellington Shire 59/100 (Large Rural 49/100)	Wellington Shire 62/100 (Large Rural 59/100)	Wellington Shire 61/100 (Large Rural 58/100)	Higher than large rural Councils
Percentage of Tree Canopy cover within Town Boundaries	(2020) 20% Tree Canopy coverage	Not due until 2025	Not due until 2025	1.5% improvement
Outcome 1.2 Assist community to transition to a low carbon economy via adoption of sustainable practices and renewable energy				
Solar penetration rate – the percentage of electricity generation from solar facilities (SDG 7.2.1)	(2018) 21%	27.7% (6941 dwellings with PV)	31.6% (7387 dwellings with PV)	50%
Wellington Shire community greenhouse gas emissions intensity (emissions per person) (SDG 13.2.2)	(2019/20) 43.57* tonnes per person <i>*corrected from 31.3 tonnes per person (source: Snapshot Climate)</i>	(2020/21)# 41.57* tonnes per person <i>*corrected from 30.66 tonnes per person #12 month lag in reporting</i>	(2021/22)# 42.75 tonnes per person	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
Outcome 1.3 The natural environment is valued, protected and accessible				
Percentage of households located within 400m of quality open space (SDG 11.7.2)	(2014) 73%	Due 2023. Will be measured as part of updated Public Open Space Plan to be completed 2023.	Measurements will occur as part of the Public Open Space Plan which is scheduled for 2023/24.	85%
Domestic travel visitor numbers to Wellington Shire (SDG 8.9)	(2020) 750,000 travel visitors	686,000 travel visitors	858,000 travel visitors (14.4% increase on baseline)	2% increase
Outcome 1.4 Council is an environmental steward with a reducing carbon footprint				
Corporate Greenhouse Gas emissions (aiming for zero net emissions by 2040) (SDG 13.2.2)	(2017/18) 5244 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions	4120.5* tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (21.4% decrease from 2018) <i>*corrected from 4221 tonnes and 19% decrease from 2018</i>	4294.4 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (18.10% decrease from 2018)	23% reduction
Percentage waste diversion rate from kerbside collection (SDG 12.5)	(2019-20) 35% waste diversion	33.5% waste diversion	32.17% waste diversion	65% waste diversion

DIRECTION

2

Economy and Sustainable Growth

Key projects*

- York Street Streetscape enhancement (2.4.2)
- Commence Port of Sale Masterplan priorities (2.4.2)
- Tertiary Study Hub (2.2.2)
- Maffra and Sale Growth Area Drainage Strategies (2.4.2)
- Shire-wide Growth Management and Economic Development Strategy (2.4.1)
- Renewable Energy Readiness Project (1.2.3, 2.1.1)
- Yarram and Heyfield Timber Transition Local Development Strategies (2.1.1, 2.1.4)
- Residential stocktake and incentive project - addressing the acute shortage of housing (2.3.1, 2.3.2)
- Maffra stormwater retention basin and outfall improvement works (2.4.2, 1.3.3)

*subject to successful business case and funding

'We are a growing, sustainable and prosperous community.'

BUSHY PARK

Council Plan Strategic Direction 2: Economy and Sustainable Growth

 - linked to Healthy Wellington Plan

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
2.1.1	Major Initiative - Encourage and facilitate investment in the local mainstay industries with the potential to generate significant economic growth: Defence, Health, Agriculture, Tourism, Education, Timber, Renewables and the Oil and Gas transition. This includes encouraging modernisation and identifying supporting industries, encouraging their establishment in Wellington Shire.	Facilitator, Advocate	Council is working closely with potential successful windfarm licence proponents to ensure local procurement is an integral part of their project to deliver energy from offshore windfarms. Successful proponents expect to be advised early in 2024 and Council continues to advocate for Barry Beach and Port Anthony to be a critical piece of infrastructure for the ongoing maintenance of the farms.	Progressing	85%	Not applicable
2.1.1.1	Key Project - Renewable Energy Readiness Project.	Facilitator, Advocate	Wellington Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study adopted by Council on 21 March 2023.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.1.2	Initiative - Attract diversified and large-scale agriculture and food manufacturing and processing, including poultry, to meet Food and Fibre Gippsland objectives: Gippsland the Food Bowl of Victoria. Leverage off the significance of the Macalister Irrigation District while ensuring development does not contradict the principles of the WSC Sustainability Strategy.	Facilitator, Advocate	Council is continuing to support the Gippsland Agricultural Group and Food and Fibre Gippsland to research and deliver sustainable agricultural initiatives. Most recently, have engaged with Southern Rural Water to understand the benefits and opportunities that will be generated by the 'Macalister Fresh' project. The \$660,000 Macalister Fresh project, funded by the Victorian Government and Southern Rural Water, will be delivered over 18 months in four phases.	Progressing	90%	Not applicable
2.1.3	Initiative - Attract and facilitate development and growth in creative	Facilitator, Advocate	Council is committed to delivering a new Arts and Culture Strategy for 2024-2029.	Progressing	50%	The commitment to supporting creative industries across the

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
	industry (arts) organisations to assist with COVID-19 recovery of the sector and grow local arts businesses, and Wellington's reputation as a cultural centre for Gippsland.		<p>Extensive community and staff consultation has been undertaken by the consultant, Polis Planning.</p> <p>The consultation phase has resulted in the development of a paper highlighting key findings and emerging themes in the development of the Strategy.</p> <p>This report will be presented to the Corporate Management Team and Council in March and April 2024.</p>			municipality which help shape the Shire's identity, support its economy and foster community wellbeing.
2.1.4	Major Initiative - Continue to advocate for the sustainability of the timber industry in Wellington Shire.	Advocate	<p>Council continues to work with impacted communities particularly through the delivery of the Local Development Strategies in both Heyfield and Yarram.</p> <p>Council is also advocating to ensure the financial support packages promised by the State Government are being delivered.</p>	Progressing	85%	Not applicable
2.1.4.1	Key Project - Yarram and Heyfield Timber Transition Local Development Strategies.	Advocate	<p>Having finalised the required Context Analysis documents for both Yarram and Heyfield, officers are working with their respective community groups to advance the opportunities that have been identified and agreed to.</p> <p>The next phase of the strategy is to create a structure that will allow the community to own these projects and continue to advance them.</p>	Progressing	90%	Not applicable
2.1.5	Initiative - Continue to investigate options for developing aviation related activity at the West Sale Airport and facilitate industrial growth on adjacent land.	Facilitator, Funder, Advocate	<p>Planning for the 2024 Anzac Weekend Airshow is underway.</p> <p>The airshow highlights aviation activity and capability of West Sale Airport.</p>	Progressing	80%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>Organisers are aiming to grow attendance to over 10,000.</p> <p>Budget initiatives are being considered for strategic work to look at business attraction and development opportunities.</p> <p>Preliminary designs are also being considered to provide access to land suitable for industrial or commercial development and will service an existing large hangar.</p> <p>Industrial land adjacent to West Sale Airport has been assessed from an aviation safety impact perspective with no unacceptable risks identified - this paves the way for finalising efforts to then attract up to 55 hectares of industrial development.</p>			
2.1.6 	Major Initiative - Use 'The Middle of Everywhere' campaign to promote the Shire as an events destination and as a place to explore, learn, live, invest, play and to do business.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>A number of events have been scheduled for 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 March - 26 May - Annemieke Mein: A Life's Work - A Retrospective at the Gippsland Art Gallery in Sale. • 8 March - Victorian Square Dancing Association State Convention at the Memorial Hall, Sale. • 10 March - Sale Music Festival - Port of Sale • 16 March - Maffra Mardi Gras - Johnson Street, Maffra • 14 April - Tinamba Food and Wine Festival - Main Street Tinamba 	Progressing	90%	We are aiming to support an incredibly diverse range of events to ensure a broad range of social connectedness and opportunity to meet like minded people

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19 April - 5 May - Stratford Shakespeare Festival – Stratford 27-28 April - ANZAC Weekend Airshow - West Sale Airport 15 - 16 June - True Grit - Licola Rd, Glenmaggie 			
2.2.1	Initiative - Support our training facilities to develop a range of vocational, tertiary and higher education courses suited to our changing economy and industry needs.	Facilitator, Advocate	Officers continue to support and facilitate events including career-expos that create more awareness of the opportunities offered by emerging economies including new energy, trades and defence.	Progressing	90%	Not applicable
2.2.2	Initiative - Ensure that secondary and tertiary students have a well-established and promoted study facility in our local area.	Facilitator, Advocate	Study hub fully established in Sale in collaboration with Wellington Shire Council (WSC), Beyond Bank, Gippsland TAFE and the Gippsland East Local Learning and Employment Network (GELLEN).	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.2.2.1	Key Project - Tertiary Study Hub.		Study hub located in Sale was launched in July 2022.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.2.3	 Initiative - Respond to significant economic shocks (including COVID-19) by delivering on State and Federal Government initiatives to provide economic resilience programs that assist community and businesses.	Facilitator	Wellington Shire Council (WSC) provided businesses with direct support through business concierge program through Covid lockdown periods. Also directly assisted hospitality businesses with support as part of the State Government Outdoor Dining Grant Program to enable more outdoor dining options during the Covid outbreak. Council will continue to support local business however all government funding programs to support Covid recovery have now been acquitted.	Completed	100%	The Economic Development team assisted hospitality businesses with support as part of the Outdoor Dining Grant Program providing the community with increased opportunities to reconnect in a social setting.

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Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			Council has no further action in delivery of Covid recovery programs for business.			
2.2.4 	Initiative - Continue advocacy for the creation of Sale College One Campus to establish a modern and efficient secondary school precinct to attract families, industry and students, while catering for a growing population.	Provider, Facilitator	State Government funding has been committed to the Sale College One Campus project.	Completed	100%	Equality - Reduces the barriers for people trying to access education.
2.3.1 	Major Initiative - Satisfy housing demand by facilitating the development of a range of living settings and lifestyle choices including response to an ageing demographic and facilitating affordable and social housing models.	Regulator, Facilitator	Three Planning Scheme Amendments (C114/115/116) have been adopted by Council to support future urban growth and have now been approved by the Minister for Planning. Other land supply initiatives include implementation of the Maffra Structure Plan and processing subdivision and dwelling applications across the municipality.	Progressing	90%	Not applicable
2.3.1.1	Key Project - Residential stock take and incentive project - addressing the acute shortage of housing.	Regulator, Facilitator	Residential Stocktake Project and the forward funding of infrastructure policy have previously been adopted by Council to help activate residential land release across the municipality. Funding options and project options are currently being further considered to implement the forward funding of infrastructure policy.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.3.2 	Major Initiative - Promote and facilitate appropriate land release/ incentives and subsequent housing development in growth areas, being guided by sustainable development principles.	Facilitator, Regulator, Advocate	Various planning permit approvals and Planning Scheme Amendments have been completed to support urban growth across the municipality.	Progressing	90%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
2.4.1 	Major Initiative - Prepare a Shire-wide Growth Management and Economic Development Strategy to establish a hierarchy of growth areas and identify priority projects.	Provider, Advocate	A draft Strategy is currently being prepared, which will be presented to Council in March 2024 prior to community release.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
2.4.2	Major Initiative - Prioritise investment projects in the main growth areas, including exploring all options for upgrades to trunk stormwater drainage, sewer, water reticulation, internet, and gas that will stimulate growth and housing.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	Ongoing with various planning projects/approvals and Planning Scheme Amendments completed to support urban growth across the municipality. Ongoing consideration being given to potential forward funding of development infrastructure once development costs are more clearly established by subdivisional proponents.	Progressing	90%	Not applicable
2.4.2.1	Key Project - York Street Streetscape enhancement.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	This project is now complete with significant upgrades to both York and Foster Street, including footpaths, kerbs, asphaltting, street lighting and landscaping. In addition, the Cunninghame Street intersection was upgraded with traffic lights as part of this project. All works are now complete.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.4.2.2	Key Project - Commence Port of Sale Masterplan priorities.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	Steering group formed, a list of priorities has been developed for implementation. Contractor engaged in development of moorings for commercial leases and project has commenced. Further updates will be provided to Council as this project continues.	Completed	100%	Not applicable

Council Plan Progress Report Quarter 2 | 2023/24

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			As the clear deliverable within this action was to commence these projects, this action is now complete.			
2.4.2.3	Key Project - Maffra and Sale Growth Area Drainage Strategies.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	North Sale Development Plan and Infrastructure Funding Arrangement Reports have been adopted by Council. Maffra Structure Plan has also been adopted by Council, with implementation now progressing. Plans were informed by drainage assessments.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
2.4.2.4	Key Project - Maffra stormwater retention basin and outfall improvement works.	Funder, Provider, Advocate	Current status - of the 4 acquisitions required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 complete • 1 in the stages of being finalised • 2 not progressing due to no agreement being reached at this stage. Acquisition of all 4 properties is required for the project to progress.	Progressing	50%	Not applicable
2.4.3	Initiative - Adopt a 'buy local' approach for Council procurement processes aligned with best value (the most advantageous combination of cost, quality and sustainability to meet requirements).	Provider, Funder	Council's Procurement Policy directs that in the first instance quotes must be obtained from a Local Supplier, and only where the local business cannot supply it, are deemed not capable, or cannot provide value for money, can suppliers outside of the local area be invited to quote. Council also applies Best Value Principles to ensure the best value is achieved for the community.	Progressing	75%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
2.4.4 	Initiative - Increase access to and usage of internet and digital technologies throughout Gippsland, continuing the shift to online delivery of services and advocating for reduction of identified 'black spots'. Use access to networks to shape population attraction strategies and target industry development.	Advocate	Council is working with NBNco to develop an updated and ongoing Digital Plan for Wellington Shire. The plan will include a local context section incorporating a regional snapshot, digital ability, mapping (nbn Fibre, Fixed Wireless and Satellite coverage), mobile coverage and new developments.	Progressing	85%	Reduce barriers for people who are trying to access or feel included in community life (work, education, and recreation).

Indicators of Success:	Baseline	2021-22 Result	2022-23 Result	2025 Target
2.1 A diverse economy that creates jobs and opportunities				
Annual growth rate of real Gross Regional Product (GRP) (SDG 8.2.1)	(2020) Wellington - \$3.652B Gippsland - \$18.277B (as per REMPLAN)	Wellington - \$3.898B (6.73% growth) Gippsland - \$19.327B (5.74% growth)	Wellington - \$3.864B (.87% decrease) Gippsland - \$20.039B (3.68% growth)	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
Unemployment rate by sex, age and education level (SDG 8.5.2)	Wellington - 5.5% (June 2021 quarter) Gippsland - 5.4% (April 2021 quarter)	Wellington - 4.9% (March 2022 quarter) Gippsland - 3.9% (April 2022 quarter)	3.6% Wellington (June 2023 quarter) Gippsland - 3.7% (April 2023 quarter)	Equal to or better than Gippsland average
2.2 A community that has the capacity and skills to meet our economic needs				
Destinations of Wellington Year 12 or equivalent completers six months after leaving school (SDG 8.6.1)	7.8% unemployed 46.9% further study 10.2% apprenticeships/ trainees	9.3% unemployed 44% further study 10.7% apprenticeships/ trainees	9.3% unemployed 44% further study 10.7% apprenticeships/ trainees	5% unemployed, 56% further study
2.3 An increase in variety of housing choice to support equitable access to housing				
Number of dwellings across the Shire (SDG 11.3)	(2021) 23,383 dwellings (source ID profile next census date 2026)	23,554 dwellings	23,554 dwellings	24,790 dwellings (2026 projection)
Number of new housing units built in the municipality (SDG 11.1.1)	(2021) 655* houses/units *corrected from 520 as per DFFH website	669* houses/units * updated data available from DFFH website	679* houses/units (source: DFFH website)	+26 beds
2.4 Infrastructure investment is targeted to maximise jobs and housing growth				
Wellington Shire total % population increase (SDG 11.3)	(2020 estimate) 44,770 (source: ID profile population and dwelling estimate)	45,092 0.72% increase	45,754 1.46% increase	Approximately 1% increase per annum

DIRECTION

3

Liveability and Wellbeing

*'We are a liveable,
engaged, and supported
community.'*

PORT OF SALE LIBRARY

Key projects*

- Wedge Performing Arts Centre Redevelopment business case (3.3.5) ❤️
- Develop Early Learning Facilities with a focus on multi-use spaces (3.3.3) ❤️
- VicHealth Youth Mental Health project (3.4.3) ❤️
- Yarram and Sale Early Years Feasibility Studies (3.3.4)
- Gippsland Art Gallery blockbuster exhibitions commencing with Archibald Prize 2021 (3.3.4, 3.3.5, 3.3.6)
- Respond to the Federal Government Home and Community Care funding reform (3.4.2) ❤️

*subject to successful business case and funding

Council Plan Strategic Direction 3: Liveability and Wellbeing

 - linked to Healthy Wellington Plan

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
3.1.1 	Major Initiative - Implement a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to build relationships, improve cultural awareness and reconciliation with Gunaikurnai people and deliver on cultural, environmental, and economic projects in the spirit of the Gunaikurnai Whole of Country Plan.	Facilitator	As stated in the last quarter update, Council is awaiting direction from GLaWAC on the preferred approach to an alternative Reconciliation Action Plan.	Progressing	80%	Council continues to build relationships, programs and initiatives that focus on key priority groups within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, these include Early Years, Youth, Women and Families. There has been considerable collaboration between Council and Ramahyuck for children aged 0-12 through strong partnerships with the Early Years team.
3.1.2 	Initiative - Facilitate activities and events that celebrate and promote inclusion and engagement of our culturally and socially diverse communities. Deliver via defining and resourcing Council and the community's role in place activation and event delivery.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	Council is committed to delivering a new Arts and Culture Strategy for 2024-2029. Extensive community and staff consultation has been undertaken by the consultant, Polis Planning. The consultation phase has resulted in the development of a paper highlighting key findings and emerging themes, including the community's preference for future events and activations. This report will be presented to the Corporate Management Team and Council in March and April 2024.	Progressing	60%	The commitment to supporting increased social connectedness and inclusion of Wellington Shire's diverse communities through its annual calendar of events and activations.
3.1.3 	Initiative - Sensitive consider and support people to participate, contribute and be represented in our community without barriers due to disability, gender,	Facilitator, Provider, Advocate	Council is working towards the draft of the new, yet to be titled, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.	Progressing	60%	In the last quarter there has been an increase in sustainable community programming that has focused on accessibility for people from all

	age, sexuality or culture via the development and implementation of a Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.		However, Council continues to support people in Wellington to participate without barriers such as age, gender, sexuality, culture etc. This is achieved through programming and initiatives delivered throughout Council facilities by Council officers.			demographics, with consideration of people from priority groups as highlighted in Healthy Wellington.
3.1.4 	Initiative - Implement a Gender Equality Action Plan to improve gender equity and fairness within the workplace and amongst our community.	Provider, Facilitator	The Gender Equality Action Plan has been established and is being implemented as an ongoing business-as-usual body of work. There is a Gender Equality Committee meeting regularly and overseeing the broader Gender Equality obligations under the Gender Equality Act 2020.	Completed	100%	Gender Equality Action Plan is underway, as is a Gender Equality Committee to oversee work in this space. The Social Connection and Inclusion team are also working on community aspects of gender equality and diversity initiatives to support this work.
3.2.1	Initiative - Highlight community voices in Council's decision making and the community's active engagement at the core of our operation. Listen and provide leadership, especially in complex matters.	Provider, Facilitator	Community voices are captured and highlighted through consultation and engagement to inform Ageing Well in Wellington Strategy development, the Library Services Review, Aqua Energy Redevelopment design process and the Arts & Culture Strategy development.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
3.2.2	Initiative - Advocate for local and regional priorities and issues that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.	Advocate	Council continues to collaborate with Gippsland Alliance for Climate Action (GACA) and is partnering with One Gippsland and Gippsland Womens Health. These alliances are supporting regional climate action, improving workplace mental health and increasing awareness off and reducing domestic violence within our shire. These ongoing alliances will continue to build upon the groundwork in place.	Progressing	85%	Not applicable

3.2.3	Initiative - Use a range of online and in person methods to provide clear communication about decisions and plans that affect communities, making sure to close the loop and feedback on consultation outcomes.	Provider	Detailed community engagement plans developed for major initiatives such as Library Services review, Ageing Well in Wellington, and the Cat Curfew initiative, all involve fully informing community of the initiatives, actively seeking input, and providing information regarding final outcomes via online and direct face to face focus group opportunities.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
3.3.1	 Initiative - To assist in recovery from COVID-19, facilitate support for and capacity building of community volunteers in Committees of Management and other groups that deliver community outcomes.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	<p>The Reactivating Community Facility Volunteers project, funded by Black Summer Bushfire Recovery and Latrobe Valley Authority (LVA) has resulted in the creation of a Committee Volunteer Support Officer role.</p> <p>This position is funded until March 2025 and directly supports volunteer facility managers by increasing volunteer capacity and direct delivery of events and programs.</p> <p>A 12 month calendar of volunteer capacity building training has been delivered and future calendar currently being planned.</p>	Progressing	60%	The Reactivating Community Facilities Volunteers project delivers programs and projects resulting in volunteer capacity building which in turn results in increased participation at facilities, increased awareness of needs and efficient use of facilities.
3.3.2	 Initiative - Support formal and informal education providers to offer transitions to different learning environments based on people's life circumstances. Aim to improve educational attainment and aspiration within Wellington Shire recognising that the delivery of secondary school VCE will commence a transition process in the coming years to ensure it remains appropriate and relevant.	Facilitator, Advocate	<p>In November 2023 Council partnered with APM Employment Services to connect employers, education providers, and job seekers to help promote the careers and job opportunities on offer in Wellington via a Careers-Expo held in Sale.</p> <p>Council also continues to support the Committee for Wellington Education sub-committee which continues to advocate for better linkages between employers, education providers and students.</p>	Progressing	85%	<p>Improve access and participation to activities, programs and services that support good mental health.</p> <p>Reduce barriers for people who are trying to access or feel included in community life (work, education, and recreation)</p>

3.3.3 	Major Initiative - Respond to future Early Years' service gaps, particularly in childcare and kindergarten in major towns.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>Funding acquired to expand the early years provision in Yarram via the Victorian Government's Building Blocks - Modular program.</p> <p>Design works underway with on-site construction anticipated to commence in August 2023 and completed in time to operate from Term 1 2024.</p> <p>Funding acquired to progress the concept and schematic design for the Sale Integrated Centre for Children and Families through the Victorian Government's Building Blocks - Planning program.</p> <p>Design tender is anticipated to be awarded in August 2023.</p>	Completed 100%	Equality objective is considered through this major initiative as the projects being delivered aim to reduce barriers for people to access key educational services.
3.3.3.1 	Key Project - Develop Early Learning Facilities with a focus on multi-use spaces.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>Funding acquired to expand the early years provision in Yarram via the Victorian Government's Building Blocks - Modular program.</p> <p>Design works underway with on-site construction anticipated to commence in August 2023 and completed in time to operate from Term 1 2024.</p> <p>Funding acquired to progress the concept and schematic design for the Sale Integrated Centre for Children and Families through the Victorian Government's Building Blocks - Planning program.</p> <p>Design tender is anticipated to be awarded in August 2023.</p>	Completed 100%	Equality objective is considered through this major initiative as the projects being delivered aim to reduce barriers for people to access key educational services.
3.3.3.2	Key Project - Yarram and Sale Early Years Feasibility Studies.	Facilitator, Funder,	Reports completed late 2022.	Completed 100%	Not applicable

		Provider, Advocate				
3.3.4 	Initiative - Work with the community to understand which arts and cultural services and opportunities are important to them and facilitate development in these areas.	Provider, Funder	<p>Council is committed to delivering a new Arts and Culture Strategy for 2024-2029. Extensive community and staff consultation has been undertaken by the consultant, Polis Planning.</p> <p>The consultation phase has resulted in the development of a paper highlighting key findings and emerging themes, including the community's preference for future events and activations.</p> <p>This report will be presented to the Corporate Management Team and Council in March and April 2024.</p>	Progressing	50%	<p>The Arts and Culture Strategy highlights actions that will promote health, education and creative engagement across Wellington Shire.</p> <p>There are opportunities to develop and engage new audiences and to further address the social and cultural needs of Wellington Shire communities.</p>
3.3.4.1	Key Project - Gippsland Art Gallery blockbuster exhibitions commencing with Archibald Prize 2021.	Provider, Funder	<p>Planning for the first 'blockbuster' exhibition since the Archibald Prize is well under way, with 'Annemieke Mein: A Life's Work' to be presented from 2 March to 26 May 2024.</p> <p>This will be followed by 'The Americans: Master Works from the NGA' in December 2024, and 'Turner & Australia' in June 2025.</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable
3.3.5	Initiative - Investigate opportunities for alternative cost-effective models for delivery of quality cultural, leisure and recreation facilities and programs that encourage access and participation across our community.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	<p>Final report received, findings presented to the Corporate Management Team and Council in December 2023.</p> <p>Council direction was to remain with in-house operating model, with the understanding of further operational review of how services are delivered.</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable
3.3.5.1 	Key Project - Wedge Performing Arts Centre Redevelopment business case.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	<p>Business case completed.</p> <p>Concept design and funding sourcing currently underway.</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable

3.3.6 	Initiative - Improve access to arts and cultural experiences by pursuing partnerships and creating programs that activate our open spaces and facilities to increase community connection.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	The Gallery partnered with the other Arts and Culture business units to help deliver the 'Day @ the Port' Festival on 4 February 2023.	Completed 100%	'Day @ The Port' attracted people from a diverse range of backgrounds to come together and celebrate the Port of Sale precinct. 'Day @ the Port' is an important annual accessible event for community-building, with activities for young people outside to more contemplative spaces inside the Gallery.
3.4.1 	Major Initiative - Investigate gaps in service provision for vulnerable community members, review options and determine Council's future role.	Facilitator	Council continues to provide community programming and initiatives that encourage participation from vulnerable people in the community. Council continues to advocate for increased services through networking with key stakeholders in early years, youth, positive aging, disability and gender. There has been an increase in community activities that focus on recognising, celebrating and raising awareness of diversity in partnership with local agencies and organisations. This quarter has seen several community programs start and significant outreach from Council officers.	Progressing 70%	The Ageing Well in Wellington strategy is a developing document to help guide Council to improve access and participation in support services, focusing on those who are vulnerable including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • young children • youth • people living with a disability; and • seniors.
3.4.2 	Major Initiative - In response to the Federal Government reforms for Home and Community Care determine the most appropriate supports to be facilitated by Council for people to age positively in community.	Facilitator, Funder, Advocate	The 'Ageing Well in Wellington' strategy continues to be under revision. However, Council continues to implement recommendations from the strategy to ensure support for people to age positively in Wellington. Programming and activities are facilitated by Council employed Positive Ageing and	Progressing 85%	Council continues to implement programming and activities to ensure people in the community feel connected and included. Barriers such as transport or technology have been mitigated with programming being facilitated in various locations across Wellington.

			Disability Officer in partnership with key organisations and agencies throughout Wellington.			
3.4.2.1 	Key Project - Respond to the Federal Government Home and Community Care funding reform.	Facilitator, Funder, Advocate	A review of the suggested adjustments to the 'Ageing Well in Wellington' strategy have been considered. The strategy will be presented to Council in 2024 to be endorsed.	Progressing	95%	Council continues to be actively advocating for all demographics, with focus on priority groups including, seniors and people living with a disability.
3.4.3 	Initiative - Advocate for increased access to appropriate health services to meet the modern health challenges of the community including increased mental health and wellbeing services and education to reduce the stigma of accessing services in a post-COVID environment.	Facilitator, Advocate	This quarter has seen Wellington Shire become a Live4Life community. Live4Life is a whole of community approach to mental health and suicide prevention with Youth Mental Health First Aid being delivered to youth in all schools in Wellington. The program is a partnership between the six Secondary schools, agencies, Council, Victoria Police and others. The Live4Life model will assist in helping to address the modern-day challenges for youth and other priority groups.	Progressing	70%	The partnership, with Council as the lead agency, has established the implementation plan for 2024.
3.4.3.1 	Key Project - VicHealth Youth Mental Health project.	Advocate, Facilitator	The Youth Mental Health Project - Wellington Ways to Wellbeing, has been successfully implemented. Council continues to work with some of our schools to implement/support the leadership framework as this ensures the project's continuation and sustainability.	Completed	100%	Wellington Ways to Wellbeing has been successfully implemented across several secondary schools within Wellington. This program aims to provide a framework to support good mental and physical health for young people.
3.4.4 	Major Initiative - Support employers with the attraction, recruitment and long-term retention of health specialists and allied health workers into hospitals and schools and to service NDIS and My Aged Care packages.	Facilitator, Advocate	Council continues to provide assistance where appropriate, and in particular extending the offer to utilise The Middle of Everywhere branding to attract workforce applicants.	Progressing	85%	Improve access to and participation in activities, programs and services that support good mental health. Improve access to services that support and maintain mental health.

<p>3.4.5 </p>	<p>Major Initiative - Create a Wellington Shire Health and Wellbeing Partnership with health and community agencies which focuses on preventing, supporting and responding to health and wellbeing issues as outlined in the Healthy Wellington 2021-25 Strategy.</p>	<p>Facilitator</p>	<p>The first quarter of 2024 will see the first facilitated session of the 'Wellington Health and Wellbeing Coalition'.</p> <p>The coalition will comprise of key health and wellbeing agencies in Wellington.</p> <p>One of the key priorities of the coalition will be to prevent, support and respond to health and wellbeing issues and trends in Wellington Shire.</p>	<p>Progressing 70%</p>	<p>Council is involved in many health and community partnerships.</p> <p>Campaigns such as 'Breath Easy' Gippsland is an example of the collaborative and collective work and expertise that Council provides to local health agencies and vice versa.</p>
<p>3.4.6 </p>	<p>Major Initiative - Use Healthy Wellington 2021-25 to focus on the health and wellbeing needs of the senior population. Prevent and address barriers to accessing community, social, health and lifelong learning services.</p>	<p>Facilitator, Funder, Advocate</p>	<p>There has been an increase in collaboration between Council and Neighbourhood Houses to deliver programs aimed at Seniors.</p> <p>Programming aims to increase connection between seniors, digital literacy and physical activity.</p> <p>Collaborative programming has ensured that activities are available at all regional townships.</p>	<p>Progressing 70%</p>	<p>Active living has been a focus for programming for seniors.</p> <p>Many regional facilities have been activated to offer soft exercise on a regular basis.</p>
<p>3.4.7 </p>	<p>Initiative - Achieve Rainbow Tick accreditation of Council services to reduce stigma and discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people.</p>	<p>Provider, Facilitator</p>	<p>Council continues to work towards gaining 'Rainbow Ready' status through the internal Rainbow Tick working group.</p> <p>In 2024, there will be recommendations of best practice for Council and also highlighting policies, procedure and initiatives within Council that promote inclusion.</p>	<p>Progressing 40%</p>	<p>The findings of the internal audit have highlighted some inclusive initiatives that Council has already implemented, such as pronouns on email signatures, name badges and business cards.</p> <p>Council has also adopted IDAHOBIT as an annual day of celebration.</p>

Indicators of Success:	Baseline	2021-22 Result	2022-23 Result	2025 Target
3.1 An inclusive, diverse, and resilient community				
Community satisfaction with perception of diversity and accessibility in the community (SDG 10.2)	Not currently measured	Indicator being reviewed	Indicator review completed. Additional question included in the 2024 Community Satisfaction Survey	Identify baseline. Continual improvement on WSC score.
3.2 An actively engaged community				
Community satisfaction with Council decisions (SDG 16.7.2)	(2020) Wellington Shire 58/100 (Large Rural was 52/100)	Wellington Shire 59/100 (Large Rural 51/100)	Wellington Shire 54/100 (Large Rural 48/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Community satisfaction with Council engagement (SDG 16.7.2)	(2020) Wellington Shire 57/100 (Large Rural was 54/100)	Wellington Shire 55/100 (Large Rural 51/100)	Wellington Shire 53/100 (Large Rural 49/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
Community satisfaction with level of Council lobbying (SDG 16.7.2)	(2020) Wellington Shire 57/100 (Large Rural was 53/100)	Wellington Shire 59/100 (Large Rural 51/100)	Wellington Shire 55/100 (Large Rural 49/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
3.3 Opportunities for everyone to work, learn, create, play and share				
Participation rates in kindergarten for 4 year olds (SDG 4.2.2)	(2020) Participation rate 91.89%	Participation rate 89.9% Enrolment rate is 98.7%	Participation rate 93% Enrolment rate is 99.1%	Better than Gippsland average
Active library members in municipality (SDG 4.6)	(2019-20) 13% active library members	10.68% active library members	10% active library members	15%
Participation at Council-run performing arts events (SDG 4.7)	(2018-19) 21,300 visits	17,296 visits	20,652 visits	Increase by 2%
Participation in Gippsland Art Gallery programs and events (SDG 4.7)	(2018-19) 39,600 visits	48,475 visits (includes 26,000 visits to the Archibald Prize)	39,611 visits	Increase by 2%
3.4 Improved access to and participation in support services focussing on those who are vulnerable including: young children, youth, people living with a disability and seniors				
Availability of NDIS services within Wellington Shire to meet service demand (SDG 10.2)	(2020) 49% of NDIS funding used by participants	LGA data not available, overall Victorian result 72% of NDIS funding used by participants	70% of NDIS funding used by participants as at Q4 2022/23	80% of NDIS funding used by participants
Proportion of children attending Maternal and Child Health 3.5 years ages and stages visit (SDG 3.8)	(2017) 71.3%	Yarram & District Health Service 52% Central Gippsland Health Service 45%	Results not available until November 2023	90%

DIRECTION

4

Services and Infrastructure



'We are a connected community with access to the services and infrastructure we require'

AQUA ENERGY, SALE

Key projects*

- Accelerate Urban Paths Plan delivery (4.4.3) ❤️
- Aqua Energy redevelopment (3.3.5 , 4.3.5) ❤️
- Investigate delivery of Gippsland Regional Sports Complex Stage 2B (4.3.5)
- Briarolong Tennis Court refurbishment (4.3.5)
- LED lighting upgrades at Stratford Recreation Reserve and Rosedale Recreation Reserve (4.3.5)
- Streetscape improvements: Cowwarr and Port Albert (4.3.1)
- 'A Warmer Pool for Yarram' project (4.3)
- Stephenson Park, Sale, changerooms redevelopment (4.3.5)
- Stratford outdoor pool solar upgrade and pool blanket (4.3)
- Seacombe boat ramp upgrade (4.3.4)
- Town entry improvement program: Maffra and Heyfield (4.3)
- Port Albert Mechanics Institute facade and rising damp treatment (4.3.5)
- Wurruk pump track (4.3)
- Seaspray levy rehabilitation (4.3)

*subject to successful business case and funding

Council Plan Strategic Direction 4: Services and Infrastructure

 - linked to Healthy Wellington Plan

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
4.1.1	Initiative - Investigate a shared services operating model to expand innovative activities, enable operational efficiencies, contain costs, and take advantage of other revenue generating opportunities to benefit the organisation and community.	Provider, Facilitator	Both the Wellington Shire Council (WSC) and East Gippsland Shire Council (EGSC) have investigated the myriad of available options for establishing a Shared Services operating model. Both Councils are currently working towards improving and standardising ICT systems and processes across both organisations and once this program of work is completed the shared service operating model options will be reviewed and discussed again.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.1.2	Initiative - Continue to improve our long-term finance and asset planning to ensure that the Council remains financially sustainable.	Provider	Our current Long-term Financial Plan (LTFP) denotes strong financial sustainability and aligns with our asset plans. Council's 2021/25 Asset Plan was adopted by Council in June 2021 alongside the LTFP. Planning has commenced on the next iteration of Council's Asset Plan. The purpose of the Asset Plan is to demonstrate responsible management of Wellington Shire Council infrastructure assets, comply with the Local Government Act 2020 and model the funding required to maintain assets in their current condition.	Completed	100%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			It includes dashboard summaries of the following asset classes- Roads, Paths, Bridges & Major Culverts, Drainage, Property and Open Space.			
4.2.1 	Initiative - Provide services that are easy to use, valued by the community and give best overall worth back to Council and the community.	Provider	<p>Council's operational reviews of the Library Services Network and the Gippsland Livestock Exchange Facility are pending completion.</p> <p>The Aqua Energy redevelopment has commenced with whole facility practical completion estimated for 30 June 2025.</p> <p>These reviews and the enhancement of Aqua Energy will inform and establish future enhancements to service delivery and opportunities for efficient operations for our community.</p>	Progressing	75%	Conducting thorough service reviews will ensure services are resourced and structured to meet understood community needs, and optimise community engagement and social connections, thus enhancing community resilience and wellbeing.
4.3.1 	Initiative - Work to ensure that our town centres are activated, safe, clean, have appropriate facilities and are well-maintained.	Provider, Regulator	<p>High community satisfaction with urban streetscapes and amenity.</p> <p>Teams are adhering to service level requirements in and around Central Business District's (CBD's), as well as connected public open spaces (parks and reserves).</p> <p>Streetscapes, facilities and supporting infrastructure are renewed and upgraded in line with relevant plans.</p> <p>Community activities to increase social connectedness and create opportunities for inclusion in community life are supported in collaboration with Council's Economic Development team and Communities & Culture team, during Parks Week and other programs. E.g.</p>	Ongoing	100%	<p>Increase participation in organised sports, fitness, and recreational activity - ongoing growth in enquiries/bookings to utilise council maintained sports grounds and parks/open space for a range of organised sports and active recreation pursuits.</p> <p>Increase participation in passive recreational activities such as walking and cycling - gravel path renewal works across the shire ensuring passive recreation opportunities are maintained.</p>

Council Plan Progress Report Quarter 2 | 2023/24

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			Festivals, Parades and other street events.			
4.3.1.1	Key Project - Streetscape improvements: Cowwarr.	Provider, Regulator	Project completed during the 2022/23 financial year.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.1.2	Key Project - Streetscape improvements: Port Albert.	Provider, Regulator	All work on the Tarraville Road footpath and the Wharf Street streetscape upgrade has been completed.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.1.3	Key Project - Town entry improvement program: Maffra.	Provider, Regulator	Shoulder sealing works undertaken by Department of Transport and Regional Roads Victoria. Project is complete.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.1.4	Key Project - Town Entry improvement program: Heyfield.	Provider, Regulator	Project completed during the 2022/23 financial year.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.1.5	Key Project - Seaspray levee rehabilitation.	Provider, Regulator	All works excluding a small section located on private property has been completed. This section of land is above the flood level but does not have the 300mm freeboard.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.2	 Initiative - Plan for the key growth communities across the shire from a 'place-based' approach holistically considering the built environment, community, and economic directions concurrently.	Provider, Facilitator	A draft Growth Management and Economic Development Strategy is currently being prepared, which will be presented to Council in March 2024 prior to community release.	Progressing	85%	Reduce barriers for people who are trying to access or feel included in community life (work, education, and recreation).
4.3.3	 Initiative - Ensure green infrastructure (trees and vegetation) provision is a key component of the built environment and design of the public realm facilitates sustainability, liveability, and social connectivity.	Provider, Advocate	Contractor has been engaged to undertake the bulk of the tree planting and is anticipated to commence in July 2024 and take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete the work.	Progressing	90%	Shading active transport routes, creating cooler neighbourhoods and improving the amenity of our streetscapes all contribute to achieving goals set in Healthy Wellington, the Council Plan and Wellington 2031.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			<p>Almost 1,500 trees to be planted as part of the 2024 Urban Forest Renewal Program.</p> <p>Planning for consultation underway with focus on completing Greening Stratford and, focusing on tree condition, canopy cover and socio-economic status, proactive tree planting and maintenance works will look to commence urban greening of Sale.</p> <p>This will be part of the 2025 Urban Forest Renewal Program.</p> <p>Forestreet is continuing to be populated - current numbers are 12,802 total trees with 1,116 planting locations identified for future planting programs.</p>			
4.3.4	Initiative - Assess our key tourism areas and benchmark against like towns to ensure the right mix of Council services and facilities is provided to meet peak tourist demand and ongoing community requirements.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	<p>Currently working on a high level document to represent Council's position that will guide future tourism activities and investments.</p> <p>The document will bring our tourism areas into the spotlight and provide a focus going forward.</p> <p>It will draw on recent works done by Tourism Ninja and Destination Gippsland as well as the future of The Middle of Everywhere.</p>	Progressing	80%	Not applicable
4.3.4.1	Key Project - Seacombe boat ramp upgrade.	Funder, Provider, Facilitator	Completed in late 2022, providing improved boating access to Seacombe and The Straits.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.5	 Initiative - Support volunteer facility managers whose work contributes to improved community mental and physical health by activating, upgrading, and	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	The Reactivating Community Facility Volunteers project, funded by Black Summer Bushfire Recovery and Latrobe Valley Authority (LVA) has resulted in the	Progressing	65%	The Reactivating Community Facilities Volunteers project delivers programs and projects resulting in volunteer capacity building which in turn results

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
	repurposing existing multi-use sporting, cultural and social facilities in preference to establishing new.		<p>creation of a Committee Volunteer Support Officer role.</p> <p>This position is funded until March 2025 and directly supports volunteer facility managers by increasing volunteer capacity and supporting delivery of events, programs and volunteer support initiatives.</p> <p>To improve the condition and access of facilities Committees of Management have been supported with Risk & Maintenance Subsidies totaling \$942,392 and direct maintenance support of over \$250,000.</p> <p>No new facilities acquired or built.</p>			in increased participation at facilities, increased awareness of needs and efficient use of facilities.
4.3.5.1	Key Project - Investigate delivery of Gippsland Regional Sports Complex Stage 2B.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Request for Quote closed on 19 December and evaluation underway. Works to commence in January / February.	Progressing	10%	Not applicable
4.3.5.2	Key Project - Briagolong Tennis Court refurbishment.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Final works completed in November 2023 providing the community with 4 compliant tennis courts, one which also serves as a multipurpose court enabling competition/training netball and social basketball and soccer.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.5.3	Key Project - LED lighting upgrades at Stratford Recreation Reserve and Rosedale Recreation Reserve.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>LED lighting infrastructure installed on the main oval at Rosedale Recreation Reserve with funding through the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund.</p> <p>LED lighting infrastructure installed on the main oval at Stratford Recreation Reserve with funding through the</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
			Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund - LED Lighting program.			
4.3.5.4	Key Project - 'A Warmer Pool for Yarram'.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>Project delivered in time for 2022/23 season.</p> <p>Community consultation completed with Yarram Community to understand programming desires and expectations.</p> <p>New facility infrastructure has enabled additional programming, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn to Swim (over 120 participants); • Warm water exercise sessions (3 sessions per week); • Increased school usage; • Increased lap swimming; • Increased recreational swimming.; <p>Increased programming has resulted in attendances being up 48% from a 5-year average, which is the highest ever recorded season.</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.5.5	Key Project - Stephenson Park, Sale, changerooms redevelopment.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Works completed in time for the 2022 Football / Netball Season.	Completed	100%	Not applicable
4.3.5.6	Key Project - Stratford outdoor pool solar upgrade and pool blanket.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	<p>Project delivered on time and within budget.</p> <p>Increased water temperature has enabled additional patronage from previous seasons.</p>	Completed	100%	Not applicable

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
4.3.5.7	Key Project - Port Albert Mechanics Institute facade and rising damp treatment.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Rising Damp treatment project being managed by the Assets & Projects team.	Progressing	60%	Not applicable
4.3.5.8	Key Project - Wurruk pump track.	Facilitator, Funder, Provider, Advocate	Project to be refocused on renewal of BMX track. Timing of renewal works to be confirmed.	Not Progressing	0%	Not applicable
4.4.1 	Major Initiative - Advocate strongly to State Government and local stakeholders for improvements to the passenger train service to key regional centres.	Advocate	Council continues to advocate to the Minister for Transport for an increase in train services for Sale. Funding for new train stabling at Bairnsdale was provided in the 2022-23 State Budget. Awaiting completion of level crossing removal program.	Progressing	85%	Advocating for the continual improvement and upgrading of rail services will promote healthier, safer, cleaner and more cohesive community. In addition to the economic benefit, any improvement will also provide the community easier access to other regional services.
4.4.2 	Major Initiative - Advocate strongly to State Government and local stakeholders for improvements to the inter-town transport network connecting major towns to key regional centres in Gippsland.	Advocate	Council continues to advocate for inter-town connection. Investigation into various funding sources and initiatives are continually being reviewed with focus on community run transport programs.	Progressing	55%	Increased inter-town transport remains a significant barrier for people across all groups of any age. Council continues to advocate for increased travel connectivity and during the interim, deliver programs and activities as a place centred approach where applicable.
4.4.3 	Initiative - Address community road safety and connection issues via active travel projects (education) and road and footpath improvements which will build a physically active, safe, and connected community.	Provider, Funder	Council continues to deliver active travel and road safety programs. Submissions for funding for 2024/25 have opened with Council submitting an application with an in-depth action plan of how programming will be delivered in the next financial year.	Progressing	80%	In 2024, engagement with more primary schools and kindergartens will see an increase in children in Wellington learning about active travel and safe routes to school.

Initiative Code	Key initiatives and priorities to achieve these outcomes	Council's role	Progress update comments	Status	Progress	Healthy Wellington Framework Considerations:
4.4.3.1 	Key Project - Accelerate Urban Paths Plan delivery.	Provider, Funder	The Urban Paths Program budget has been increased over the term of this council plan to accelerate delivery of actions under the plan. Total budgets are reflected in the 10-year capital works program.	Completed	100%	Path construction allows improved pedestrian access for the Wellington community.

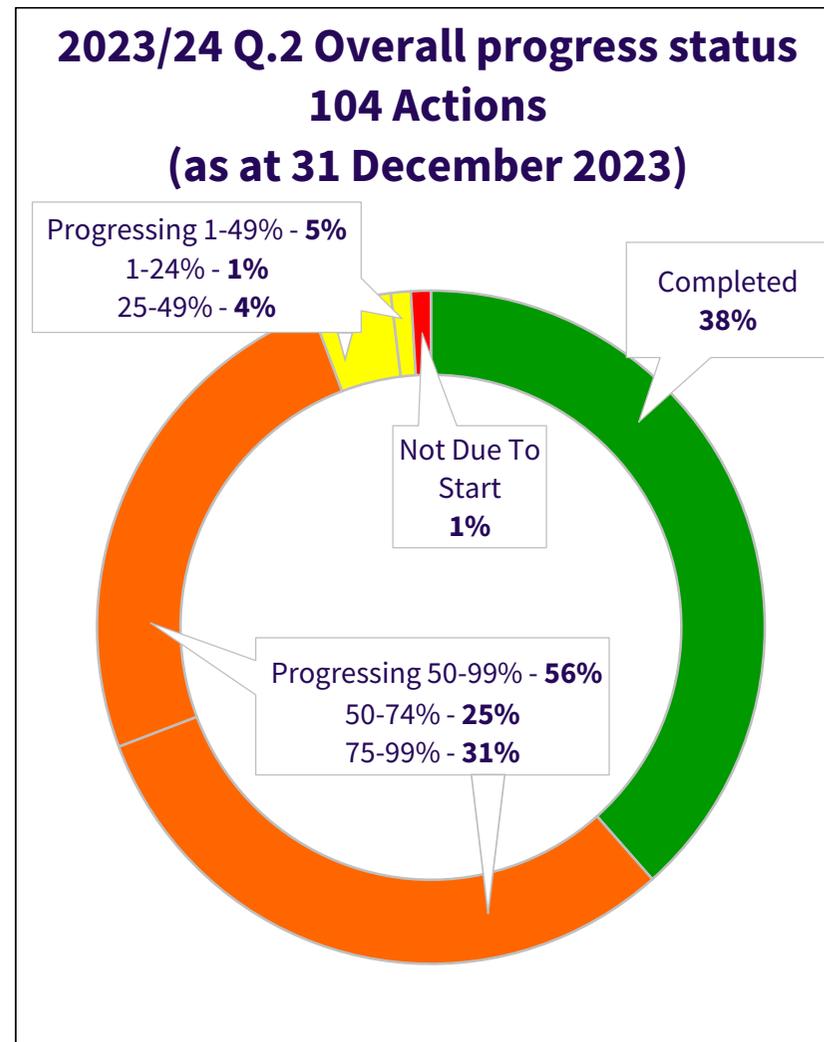
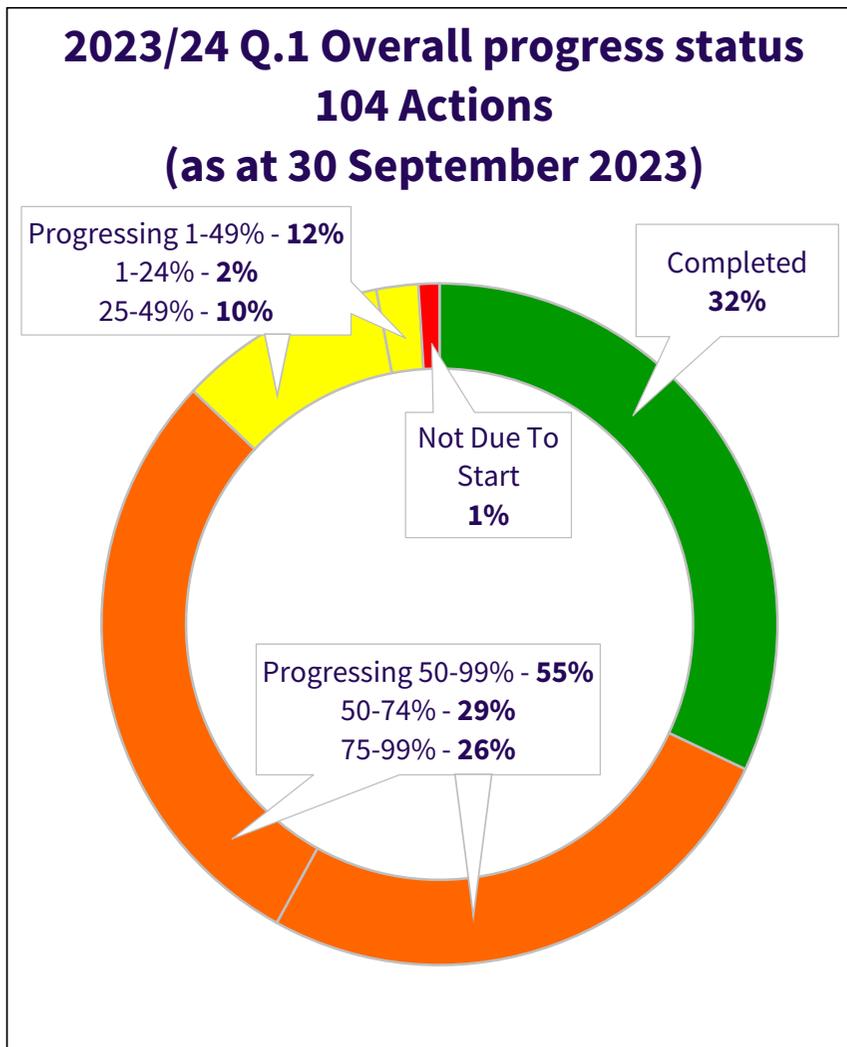
Indicators of Success:	Baseline	2021-22 Result	2022-23 Result	2025 Target
4.1 A financially sustainable, high performing organisation				
Working capital (Current assets as a percentage of current liabilities) (SDG 16.6)	(Similar Councils 2019-20) 299.58%	324.89%* *corrected from 326.58	470.80%* *corrected from 409.98%	Better than similar councils
Loans and borrowings as a percentage of rates (SDG 16.6)	(Similar councils 2019-20) 18.73%	1.13%	0.67%	Better than similar councils
4.2 Services deliver operating efficiencies and best value				
Community satisfaction rate with Council's overall performance (SDG 16.6.2)	(2020) Wellington Shire 62/100 (Large Rural was 55/100)	Wellington Shire 62/100 (Large Rural 55/100)	Wellington Shire 58/100 (Large Rural Council 52/100)	Continual improvement on WSC score
4.3 Well planned and sustainable towns, facilities and infrastructure				
Reduction in the Wellington Shire retail vacancy rate (SDG 11.a)	(2021) 6.7%* * Baseline corrected from 11.40%	6.0%	7.98%	10%
% of Community Managed Facilities accessibility audit recommendations delivered (SDG 9.1)	(2020) 5% of items	10% audit recommendations delivered	12% audit recommendations delivered	10% each year
4.4 Safe and well-used transport connections across all modes of travel				
Community satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads (SDG 9.1)	(2020) Wellington Shire 59/100 (Large Rural 47/100)	Wellington Shire 54/100 (Large Rural 45/100)	Wellington Shire 50/100 (Large Rural 40/100)	>52/100
Increase in kilometres of active travel routes in Wellington Shire as identified under the urban paths plan (SDG 11.2)	(2021) 259km* * Baseline corrected from 237km	264km	269.5km	Increase by 2km of paths annually



2023/24 Q2 Council Plan Progress – at a glance

Includes: Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects

Current as at 31 December 2023





2023/24 Q2 Council Plan Progress – at a glance

Includes: Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects

Current as at 31 December 2023

1 – Environment and Climate Change

Total Actions - 28



Completed



Progressing



Not Due to Start

8 Major Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

10 Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

10 Key Projects



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start



2023/24 Q2 Council Plan Progress – at a glance

Includes: Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects

Current as at 31 December 2023

2 – Economy and Sustainable Growth

Total Actions - 24



Completed



Progressing



Not Due to Start

7 Major Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

9 Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

8 Key Projects



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start



2023/24 Q2 Council Plan Progress – at a glance

Includes: Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects

Current as at 31 December 2023

3 – Liveability and Wellbeing

Total Actions - 26



Completed



Progressing



Not Due to Start

7 Major Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

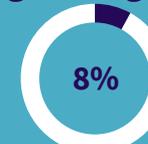
13 Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

6 Key Projects



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start



2023/24 Q2 Council Plan Progress – at a glance

Includes: Major Initiatives, Initiatives and Key Projects

Current as at 31 December 2023

4 – Services and Infrastructure

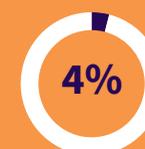
Total Actions - 26



Completed

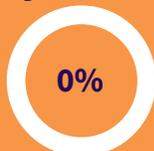


Progressing



Not Due to Start

2 Major Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%

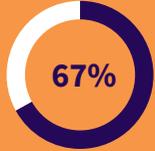


Not Due To Start

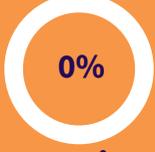
9 Initiatives



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%

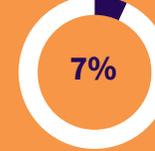


Not Due To Start

15 Key Projects



Completed



Progressing 50-99%



Progressing 1-49%



Not Due To Start

14.4. INTENTION TO DISPLAY DRAFT GOVERNANCE LOCAL LAW 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

PURPOSE

For Council to consider the public display and community engagement of the draft Governance Local Law 2024 and associated Community Impact Statement, as attached.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Publish a notice in accordance with section 73(3) of the Local Government Act 2020; and***
- 2. Undertake a community engagement process for the draft Governance Local Law 2024 and associated draft Community Impact Statement for a period of three weeks, from 17 April 2024 to 8 May 2024.***

BACKGROUND

Law No. 1 – Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement and Penalties) is due to sunset on its tenth anniversary in October 2024. It is necessary to remake this Local Law as use of the common seal cannot be addressed through Governance Rules, nor can offences be created.

A new local law titled Governance Local Law 2024 has been drafted to incorporate the same elements that were included in Law No. 1 – Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement and Penalties).

Council must make a local law in accordance with section 73 of the *Local Government Act 2020* which includes publishing a notice stating:

- (a) the objectives of the proposed local law; and
- (b) the intended effect of the proposed local law; and
- (c) that a copy of the proposed local law is available for inspection —
 - (i) at the Council's office; and
 - (ii) on the Council's Internet site; and
- (d) the community engagement process that applies in respect of the making of the local law.

The community engagement process utilised for the Governance Local Law 2024 will be facilitated on Council's online community engagement and communication tool 'Your Wellington, Your Say'. The attached Community Impact Statement has also been developed to inform the community about the proposed Local Law and to assist any members of the public who may wish to participate in the community engagement process.

Both the proposed draft Governance Local Law and draft Community Impact Statement documents have been reviewed by a registered legal practitioner. After the three week period of community engagement, any community feedback will be provided to Council for consideration with a recommendation for formal adoption of the finalised Governance Local Law.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Governance Local Law 2024 [14.4.1 - 14 pages]
2. Draft Community Impact Statement [14.4.2 - 13 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To publish a notice of the proposed draft Governance Local Law 2024 and associated draft Community Impact Statement and undertake a community engagement process; or
2. To request a further review of the draft Governance Local Law 2024 and proposed Community Impact Statement for a future meeting of Council.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council

1. Publish a notice in accordance with section 73(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and
2. Undertake a community engagement process for the draft Governance Local Law 2024 and associated draft Community Impact Statement for a period of three weeks, from 17 April 2024 to 8 May 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

Council must make a local law in accordance with s73 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

This impact has been assessed and while it does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic outcome, it does align with Council's good governance framework.

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 addressed in detail in the attached draft Community Impact Statement.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

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

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Council is required to facilitate a community engagement process in respect of the proposed local law. This will be facilitated on Council's online community engagement and communication tool 'Your Wellington, Your Say'. The attached Community Impact Statement has also been developed to inform the community about the proposed Local Law and to assist any members of the public who may wish to participate in the community engagement process.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and addressed in detail in the attached draft Community Impact Statement.



Governance Local Law 2024

The Resolution for making this Local Law was passed at a meeting of the Wellington Shire Council held on DD Month 2024.

The Common Seal of WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL)
was affixed this day of 2024)
in accordance with the Governance Local Law 2024)

in the presence of:

.....

Chief Executive Officer

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PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1.1 Title

- 1) This Local Law is the Wellington Shire Council Governance Local Law 2024 and is referred to as **this Local Law**.

1.2 Authorising Provisions

- 1) This Local Law is made under the provisions of Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

1.3 Objectives

- 1) The objectives of this Local Law are to:
 - a. Regulate the use of the common seal;
 - b. Prohibit unauthorised use of the common seal or any device resembling the common seal and determine offences and associated penalties;
 - c. Determine offences and associated penalties relating to conduct at Meetings;
 - d. Provide for the administration and exercise of Council powers and functions; and
 - e. Revoke any redundant Local Laws.

1.4 Operation Date

- 1) This Local Law comes into operation at the beginning of the day immediately following the day on which it was made, at which time Local Law No. 1 - Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement and Penalties) is revoked.

1.5 Revocation Date

- 1) Unless this Local Law is revoked sooner, its operation will cease on the tenth anniversary of its making.

1.6 Scope

- 1) This Local Law applies to the whole of the **municipal district**.

1.7 Division of Parts

- 1) This Local Law is divided into Parts. Each Part is divided into separate clauses. Some of the clauses may be divided into paragraphs. Further:
 - a. Schedules form a part of this Local Law.
 - b. References to a particular provision of this Local Law or one of its Schedules may appear abbreviated, for example:
 - i. 2.1 means clause 2.1 of this Local Law
 - ii. SCH1 means Schedule 1 of this Local Law
- 2) As to Local Law provisions, Administration of this Local Law, and their Relationships:
 - a. Parts 2 and 3 of this Local Law set out substantive provisions and imposes obligations.
 - b. Parts 4 and 5 of this Local Law set out administration and enforcement requirements.
 - c. Schedule 1 to this Local Law sets out penalties for infringement notices which may be issued in respect of offences against this Local Law

1.8 Definitions

- 1) In this Local Law and any other incorporated documents, unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Act**” means the *Local Government Act 2020*.

“**Authorised Officer**” means a person authorised by the **Council** under Section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

“**Chairperson**” means the Chairperson of a **Meeting** and includes an acting, temporary and substitute Chairperson.

“**Chief Executive Officer**” means the member of **Council** staff appointed by the **Council** to be its Chief Executive Officer or any person acting in that position.

“**Council**” means Wellington Shire Council.

“Governance Rules” means the Governance Rules adopted (and amended from time to time) by the **Council** in accordance with the **Act**.

“Meeting” means a meeting of the **Council** or a Delegated Committee of the **Council**.

“Penalty Unit” has the same meaning as given in the *Sentencing Act 1991*.

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- 2) For Ceremonial documents, the Wellington Shire Council Common Seal may read as:

The Common Seal of WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL)
was affixed this day of 20)
in accordance with the Governance Local Law 2024)
in the presence of:
.....
Chief Executive Officer
.....
Mayor
.....
Councillor

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PART 3 – MEETING CONDUCT

Summary: To maintain order at **Meetings** and ensure the effective conduct of **Council** business, the **Council** requires enforcement mechanisms. This Part creates offences as one enforcement mechanism and accompanies the standards of conduct for **Meetings** set out in the **Governance Rules**.

3.1 Conduct at Meetings

- 1) A person must comply with any lawful direction given to them by the **Chairperson** in relation to the conduct of a **Meeting**.
- 2) Any person, not being a Councillor, who fails to comply with a lawful direction of the **Chairperson** in relation to the conduct of the **Meeting** is guilty of an offence.

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PART 4 – ADMINISTRATION

4.1 Related documents

- 1) This Local Law is to be read in conjunction with the **Governance Rules**.
- 2) This Local Law and the **Governance Rules** must be made available for inspection at the principal office of the **Council** during normal working hours, and on the **Council's** website.

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PART 5 – ENFORCEMENT

5.1 Offences

- 1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
 - a. does something which a provision of this Local Law prohibits; or
 - b. fails to do something which a provision of this Local Law requires.
- 2) If a person charged with an offence against this Local Law is a corporation, any person who is concerned or takes part in the management of the corporation may be charged with the same offence.

5.2 Exercise of Discretions

- 1) In exercising any discretion contained in this Local Law the **Council** must have regard to:
 - a. the objectives of this Local Law; and
 - b. the **Governance Rules**.

5.3 Review Rights

- 1) If any person is aggrieved by the level of fairness of any action taken by the **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** under this Local Law, they may request the **Chief Executive Officer** to review the fairness or reasonableness of the action taken.
- 2) Where the **Chief Executive Officer** reviews the fairness or reasonableness of any action taken by the **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**, the result of that review must be communicated to the person who made the request.

5.4 Penalties

- 1) Except where otherwise indicated the maximum penalty for breach of any provision of this Local Law is ten (10) **penalty units**.
- 2) Maximum penalties may be imposed by a Court when:
 - a. the **Council** chooses to prosecute an offence, rather than issue an infringement notice, or

- b. a person receiving an infringement notice chooses to have the matter heard in Court.

5.5 Infringement Notices

- 1) An **Authorised Officer** may serve an infringement notice on a person who has committed an offence under this Local Law.
- 2) Schedule 1 to this Local Law sets out penalties for infringement notices which may be issued in respect of offences against this Local Law where the **Council** or one of its **Authorised Officers** determines to issue an infringement notice.
- 3) The provisions of this clause are subject to the *Infringements Act 2006*.

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SCHEDULE 1: FIXED PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

Clause	Offence	Penalty Units
2.1 (3)	Use of the Common Seal without the authority of the Council	5
2.1 (4)	Use of a replica of the Common Seal without the authority of the Council	5
3.1 (2)	Any person, not being a Councillor, who fails to comply with a lawful direction of the Chairperson in relation to the conduct of the Meeting is guilty of an offence.	2

Note - the value of a **penalty unit** is in accordance with Section 110 of the *Sentencing Act 1991*.

REVISION HISTORY

VERSION	DATE	UPDATE TYPE	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
1.0 Draft	March 2024	Wellington Shire Council Governance Local Law 2024 adopted after the revocation of Local Law No 1: Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement and Penalties)	Title change Reduction in penalty units Formatting of document updated for consistency. Inclusion of a Preliminary Part with definitions Community Impact Statement developed

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Community Impact Statement

Governance Local Law 2024

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1. Background

Wellington Shire Council Local Law No. 1 Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement & Penalties) (Local Law No.1) was made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* (the '1989 Act') and commenced operation in October 2014. Amendments to Local Law No. 1 were made on 1 September 2020 in order to meet compliance requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the '2020 Act'). Local Law No. 1 is used to regulate the use of the common seal, set offences for unauthorised use of the common seal and set offences for conduct at meetings. Local Law No. 1 will sunset on its tenth anniversary, being 20 October 2024.

A Local Law is still necessary once Local Law No. 1 sunsets, as the use of the common seal cannot be addressed through Governance Rules or a policy. Nor can appropriate Council governance offences be created without a Local Law.

Council must have a common seal (see section 14(b) of the 2020 Act). A common seal is a rubber stamp that is used for the execution of documents. Council's common seal is used for various documents, including planning documents, appointments and agreements. Use of the common seal may or may not be appropriate, depending on the applicable legal requirements.

Council is proposing to title the new local law the 'Governance Local Law 2024'.

This Community Impact Statement has been prepared to inform the community about the proposed Governance Local Law 2024. The statement will assist any member of the public who intends to provide feedback during the consultation process which has been developed in accordance with Council's community engagement policy.

The proposed Governance Local Law 2024 has been reviewed by a qualified legal practitioner prior to being made available for public consultation.

2. Objectives

The proposed Governance Local Law 2024 will incorporate the current elements of Local Law No.1.

This will allow the new provisions to operate for a ten-year period (unless revoked sooner).

WSC COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT GOVERNANCE LOCAL LAW 2024
April 2024

The general objectives of the proposed Local Law are to

- Regulate the use of the common seal;
- Prohibit unauthorised use of the common seal or any device resembling the common seal;
- Prohibit unauthorised use of the common seal or any device resembling the common seal and determine offences and associated penalties;
- Determine offences and associated penalties relating to conduct at Meetings; and
- Revoke Local Law No. 1.

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3. Evaluation of the Local Law

Subject	Evaluation
Measures of Success of proposed Local Law	<p>The success of the proposed Local Law will be best measured by the extent to which it enhances the governance framework; including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regulation and use of the common seal, including offences relating to misuse; and • meeting conduct requirements. <p>Council will assess these outcomes as part of its periodic reviews of its governance framework.</p>
Existing legislation that might be used instead	<p>There is no existing legislation that could be used instead of the Local Law.</p> <p>Councils may make local laws for or with respect to any act, matter or thing in respect of which the council has a function or power under the 2020 Act or any other Act.</p> <p>Section 14(2b) of the 2020 Act stipulates that the common seal must be used in accordance with any applicable local law.</p> <p>This also provides the mechanism to create a local law that makes it an offence (carrying an infringement penalty) for a person who uses the common seal without authority or does not follow the direction given by the meeting Chair.</p>
Overlap with Existing Legislation	Inapplicable. There are no alternative mechanisms or instruments that can be used for this purpose.
Overlap with Planning Scheme	The proposed Local Law has no relevance to any Planning Scheme.
Risk Assessment	A thorough risk assessment was undertaken when drafting the proposed Local Law and is attached to this document.

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Subject	Evaluation
Legislative Approach Adopted	<p>The proposed Local Law is necessitated by provisions of the 2020 Act.</p> <p>Council’s Common Seal: While the proposed Local Law adopts a regulatory approach, this approach is considered appropriate as it provides clear accountability for the appropriate use and safekeeping of the common seal.</p> <p>Conduct of Meetings: The proposed Local Law adopts a regulatory approach in relation to conduct at meetings. This approach is considered appropriate to facilitate the safety, order and security of meetings.</p> <p>Provision for an internal review process for infringement notices is included within the proposed Local Law.</p>
Restriction of Competition	<p>The proposed Local Law relates only to Council processes with no National Competition Policy implications associated.</p>
Penalties	<p>Offences created under the proposed Local Law attract a maximum of 10 penalty units if the matter is taken to Court.</p> <p>Should an infringement notice be issued the value is between 3 and 5 penalty units.</p> <p>Council has compared the general level of penalties provided for in the proposed Local Law with the local laws of neighbouring and other like councils.</p> <p>Council is satisfied that the penalties are similar in nature to those of neighbouring and like councils, being sufficient to act as a deterrent for most offences while also reflecting the seriousness of those offences.</p> <p>In conjunction with the Wellington Shire Council Local Laws Framework, Council has produced Enforcement</p>

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Subject	Evaluation
	<p>Guidelines to adhere to the principles of natural justice, during the delivery of enforcement action by Council officers. The principles outlined in the Enforcement Guidelines allow staff to gauge the compliance response on a spectrum from education through to prosecution. This reduces the opportunity for bias and personal attitudes to influence the approach plus importantly to create consistency.</p>
Permits	<p>The proposed Local Law relates only to Council processes with no permit implications associated.</p>
Fees	<p>The proposed Local Law relates only to Council processes with no fee implications associated.</p>
Performance Standards or Prescriptive	<p>The use of the common seal is prescriptive, which is a requirement of the 2020 Act.</p> <p>The overarching provision for conduct at meetings is from the Governance Rules, which have adopted a blend of principle and prescriptive approaches that is considered appropriate given their purpose. The prescriptive nature of the Governance Rules provides procedural certainty for Councillors, Council staff and the community. It is consistent with overarching governance principles and processes necessitated by the Act.</p>
Comparison with Neighbouring and Like Councils	<p>The proposed Local Law has been compared with those of neighbouring and like councils, including the general level of penalties provided for as detailed under 'Penalties' above.</p>
Charter of Human Rights	<p>The Proposed Local Law has been reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i> (Charter).</p> <p>The restrictions on the use of the common seal or replica of the common seal engage the right of freedom of expression (see section 15(2) of the Charter). The restrictions imposed represent reasonable limits on the</p>

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Subject	Evaluation
	<p>exercise of that right, given that they are directed at discouraging fraud or the misrepresentation of Council activities.</p> <p>Similarly the right to freedom of expression is engaged by the restriction on conduct at meetings. The restrictions constitute reasonable limits on that right, since they are designed to prevent the undue disruption of a meeting by any member of the public.</p> <p>This is equally the case in relation to the right to take part in the conduct of public life (as to which see section 18(1) of the Charter). Preventing undue disruption of a meeting is a legitimate objective, and the restrictions imposed are no more than what is necessary to ensure the achievement of that objective.</p>
Consultation	<p>The proposed Local Law has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders, including Councillors, Council staff and an external legal firm.</p> <p>Community engagement will be undertaken as part of the statutory process outlined in the 2020 Act.</p> <p>Council will publish a notice stating —</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the copy of the proposed objectives of the proposed Local Law; • the intended effect of the proposed Local Law; and • that a copy of the proposed Local Law is available for inspection at Council's principal office, and on Council's Internet site. <p>The proposed Local Law will be available for a period of three weeks on Your Wellington, Your Say, which is an online consultation platform.</p>
Feedback	Feedback will be considered after undertaking the community engagement process outlined above.

4. Key Changes to Proposed Governance Local Law 2024

Section or Part	Result
Title of Local Law	<p>The title of the Local Law has been changed from Governance Local Law 2024 Local Law No. 1 Processes of Municipal Government (Common Seal and Enforcement & Penalties) to Governance Local Law 2024. This title is consistent with the Community Local Law 2021, which is also in force. The year referenced in the title corresponds with the year that Council adopted the local law.</p>
Design of document	<p>The proposed Local Law 2024 has been designed to incorporate the same elements of Local Law No.1</p> <p>The design of the proposed Governance Local Law has been developed to assist with readability for flow and easy navigation of the proposed provisions.</p>
Part 1 – Preliminary	<p>A preliminary section has been added to achieve consistency with industry practice and Wellington Shire Council Community Local Law 2021.</p> <p>The following headings have been added for clarity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorising Provisions • Objectives • Operation Date • Revocation Date • Scope • Division of Parts • Definitions. <p>A definitions clause has been included for improved understanding of the proposed Local Law.</p>

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April 2024

Section or Part	Result
Penalties	<p>The penalty units shown in the proposed Local Law are the maximum penalties which a Court can impose. It is always open to a Court to impose no penalty or a lesser penalty. The proposed Local Law reduces the maximum penalty for an offence under this Local Law from 20 penalty units to 10 penalty units.</p> <p>The value of a penalty unit as at March 2024 is \$192.31</p>
Infringements	<p>Fixed penalties for infringement notices have been reduced as follows:</p> <p>Use of common seal with the authority of Council has been reduced from 20 penalty units to 5 penalty units.</p> <p>Use of a replica of the common seal without the authority of Council has been reduced from 20 penalty units to 5 penalty units.</p> <p>The fixed penalty relating to meeting conduct has been reduced from 20 penalty units to 2 penalty units.</p>
Part 5 – Enforcement	<p>This Part was previously titled Enforcement and Penalties. This Part has been retitled Enforcement to achieve consistency with the Wellington Shire Council Community Local Law 2021. Subheadings include Offences, Exercise of Discretions, Review Rights, Penalties and Infringement Notices.</p>
Schedule 1	<p>The list of offences has been updated to correspond to the relevant clause and description in the proposed Local Law.</p>
Schedule 2	<p>Has been deleted. This schedule noted that the infringement notice would be in the form provided by section 81 of the 2020 Act. There is no need to repeat this in the proposed Local Law.</p>

WSC COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT GOVERNANCE LOCAL LAW 2024
April 2024

5. Risk Assessment of Proposed Local Law

Problem	Impact on Council Objective	How does the Local Law deal with the problem?
The 2020 Act specifies that the Common Seal must be used in accordance with any applicable local law.	Significant	Regulates the use of the common seal.
Unauthorised use of the common seal	Significant	Allows Council to prohibit unauthorised use of the common seal or any device resembling the common seal.
Conduct at Council Meetings	Significant	Creates an offence as one enforcement mechanism, to accompany the standards of conduct for Meetings as set out in the Wellington Shire Council Governance Rules.

WSC COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT GOVERNANCE LOCAL LAW 2024
April 2024

REVISION HISTORY

VERSION	DATE	UPDATE TYPE	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
Draft V.1	April 2024	New document	Document created to accompany the Governance Local Law 2024

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14.5. S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION (ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017)

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council's approval for the designated Council Officers responsible for administration and enforcement of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* to be appointed and authorised as an Authorised Officer under the Act.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council, in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 224 of the Local Government Act 1989 and the other legislation referred to in the attached S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (the instrument), resolve that:

- 1. The specified officers be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument as provided in Attachment 14.5.1; and***
- 2. The instrument be signed by the Chief Executive Officer.***

BACKGROUND

Authorised Officers are appointed under the *Environment Protection Act 2017* s 242(2) and authorised under s 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, either generally or in a particular case, to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in the attached instrument of authorisation.

Council recently approved a new streamlined S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation encompassing all Environmental Health Officers, however it has since been discovered that Council's Local Laws officers should have also been included.

This further updated instrument includes all necessary officers.

ATTACHMENTS

1. S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017) [14.5.1 - 2 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. To appoint and authorise the specified Environmental Health and Local Laws Officers as Authorised Officers as outlined in the attached Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation, or;

2. To not appoint and authorise the specified Environmental Health and Local Laws Officers as Authorised Officers and seek further clarification and or information.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council appoint and authorise the specified officers as Authorised Officers as outlined in the attached Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation.

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

Section s 242(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* provides Council with the authority to approve the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

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

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and while it does not meet a specific Council Plan strategic outcome, it does align with Council's good governance framework.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

Following adoption, our processes ensure that all staff are notified including updating of Council processes and procedures as required.

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.

***S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(Environment Protection Act 2017 only)***



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL
The Heart of Gippsland

***S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation by Council
(Environment Protection Act 2017 only)***



Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Environment Protection Act 2017*)

In this Instrument 'officer' means –

Coordinator Environmental Health
Coordinator Local Laws
Environmental Health Officer
Local Laws Officer

By this Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation Wellington Shire Council –

under s 242(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* ('Act') and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021 - appoints the officers to be authorised officers for the purposes of exercising the powers and functions set out in the Instrument of Direction of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021.

It is declared that this Instrument -

- revokes all previous S11B Instruments of Appointment and Authorisation (*Environment Protection Act 2017*);
- comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- remains in force until varied or revoked.

This Instrument is made by the Chief Executive Officer of Wellington Shire Council in the exercise of his authority to act on Council's behalf, which includes the authority conferred by resolution of Council made on 16 April 2024.

CHRIS HASTIE
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council

Date: / / 2024

15. GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

15.1. QUARTERLY STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING UPDATE REPORT FIRST QUARTER 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

PURPOSE

To update Council on the strategic land use planning work program for the first quarter January – March 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the first quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program (included in Attachment 15.1.1 - Current Strategic Planning Work).

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 15.1.1 – Current Strategic Planning Work.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Current Strategic Planning Work [**15.1.1** - 5 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the first quarterly update on the strategic land use planning work program; or
2. Not receive the first 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 first 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 outcome:

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>Purpose / Background</p> <p>A recommended action of the ‘<i>West Sale and Wurruk Industrial Land Supply Strategy (April 2018)</i>’ (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>Current Status</p> <p>Technical reports have now been completed and will now inform the preparation of a Development Plan for the site, which will be prepared in the first half of 2024.</p>
<p><u>Maffra Structure Plan Implementation / Development Contributions</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2024/2025</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>The <i>Maffra Structure Plan (2022)</i> (the Structure Plan), 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 Plan.</p>
<p>Current Status</p> <p>Work is continuing on the costings of key infrastructure items such as highway intersections and drainage works that are required to support the future growth areas identified within the Structure Plan.</p> <p>Requirements for the water/drainage and traffic contributions are expected to be finalised in the first half of 2024. The preparation of a funding mechanism to equitably apportion the costs across land associated with the provision of these key infrastructure items will then commence.</p> <p>A Planning Scheme Amendment to formally translate the <i>Maffra Structure Plan (2022)</i> into the Wellington Planning Scheme, along with other changes, is likely to commence mid-2024.</p>

<p><u>Sale Western Growth Area – Wurruk Development Plan – Infrastructure Contributions</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2024/2025</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>The final Wurruk Development Plan was presented to Council for approval at the Ordinary meeting of 21 June 2022.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Current Status</p> <p>A draft Developer Contribution Plan to equitably apportion the costs associated with the provision of key infrastructure items required to support future development is still an outstanding matter to be addressed.</p>
<p><u>Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: Ongoing</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>At the Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved to adopt the <i>‘Residential Stocktake and Facilitation Strategy Report’</i> (<i>‘Report’</i>).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Following a Councillor Workshop on 5 April 2022, Council adopted the <i>‘Funding and Procurement of Public Infrastructure Works Policy’</i>, at the Ordinary Meeting of 3 May 2022.</p>
<p>Current Status</p> <p>Council Officers have had initial discussions with two subdivision proponents (one in Yarram and one in Wurruk) that could be considered for funding. Discussions with potential project proponents are continuing.</p>
<p><u>Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study Implementation</u> Priority: High Anticipated Completion: 2024/2025</p>
<p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>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.</p>

A secondary focus of the Study is 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.

Current Status

The Study has now been completed and was adopted by Council at its ordinary meeting of 21 March 2023. Further work has now been prepared to support an application for Commonwealth Government funding support, with a focus on advancing strategic planning (and infrastructure planning) to provide additional residential and industrial land in Yarram. State Government funding support has recently 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 underway.

Wellington Growth Management Strategy

Priority: Medium

Anticipated Completion: 2024

Purpose / Background

The 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.

A key secondary purpose of the Strategy is to identify priority economic development opportunities and actions to support job creation and investment across the municipality.

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.

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.

Current Status

SGS Economics and Planning Pty Ltd have been appointed to undertake the Strategy for Council. Background analysis on future housing need has been completed to inform preparation of the Strategy. A draft Strategy has been prepared which is currently being reviewed/updated. Following the updated Strategy being presented to Council for consideration, it will be released for community and stakeholder feedback.

2. Current Council Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments

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

3. Privately Initiated Planning Scheme Amendments

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

4. Development Plans

<p>DPO1 – Licola Road East Development Plan</p> <p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>As a long-established area identified for general residential development in the ‘<i>Heyfield Structure Plan (December 2011) including update on Firebrace Road (2013)</i>’, 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The draft Development Plan proposes 78 residential lots with an average lot size of 1,100m².</p> <p>Current Status</p> <p>The draft Development Plan was on public notification from 12 February 2024 to 12 March 2024. During this time 7 submissions were received and are currently being reviewed.</p>
<p>DPO8 - Rural Living Area Bound By Williams Road, Willung Road, Hoopers Road And Friends Road, Rosedale - Development Plan</p> <p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>As a long-established area identified for future rural living growth within the ‘<i>Rosedale Structure Plan (2012)</i>’, 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Draft Development Plan proposes 85 lots (average lot size 8,279sqm) in the Rural Living Zone 1 (RLZ1).</p> <p>Current Status</p> <p>Awaiting the submission of updated information post public notification period from the applicants, for review.</p>
<p>DPO14 – Summerhill Precinct Plan, Longford - Development Plan</p> <p>Purpose / Background</p> <p>As a long-established area identified for general residential development in the ‘<i>Sale, Wurruk & Longford Structure Plan (2010)</i>’ and the ‘<i>Longford Development Plan (2015)</i>’ the land subject to</p>

the Development Plan Overlay 14 (DPO14) was rezoned with the approval of the Minister for Planning via Planning Scheme Amendment C116 in June 2023 to allow rural residential development to occur. The fundamental principle of rural 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 rural residential living purposes, in accordance with the relevant planning provisions contained in DPO14, and consistent with the endorsed Longford Development Plan (2015).

The Draft Development Plan proposes 188 lots in the Rural Living Zone - Schedule 5 (6,000sqm minimum) at 216 & part of 286 Longford-Loch Sport Road, Longford.

Current Status

The Development Plan was approved 21 February 2024.



15.2. MONTHLY PLANNING DECISIONS - FEBRUARY 2024

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER LAND USE PLANNING

PURPOSE

To provide a report to Council on recent planning permit trends and planning decisions made under delegation by the Statutory Planning Team during the month of February 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 February and 29 February 2024, contained in the attachments to this report.

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 February and 29 February 2024 is included in Attachment 15.2.1, '*Planning Decisions Report – February 2024*'.

Attachment 15.2.2, '*Planning Trends Report – February 2024*', provides 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).

ATTACHMENTS

1. Planning Decisions Report - February 2024 [**15.2.1** - 3 pages]
2. Planning Trends Report - February 2024 [**15.2.2** - 3 pages]

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Receive the February 2024 planning decisions report; or
2. Not receive the February 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 February and 29 February 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 1/02/2024 AND 29/02/2024**

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
236-4.00/2015	9/01/2024	Assessment No. 263749 LOT: 1 PS: 142441 1,247 YARRAM-MORWELL STACEYS BRIDGE	B & W associated with the construction of replacement dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 2/02/2024
352-3.00/2021	23/01/2024	Assessment No. 184044 LOT: 227 LP: 82059 5 CROSBY ST THE HONEYSUCKLES	B & W associated with construction of a dwelling & outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/02/2024
380-2.00/2021	9/02/2024	Assessment No. 451013 LOT: 4 PS: 631506W 26 NORTHLAND DR SALE	B & W associated with the construction of an industrial building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 16/02/2024
299-2.00/2022	5/12/2023	Assessment No. 461764 PTL: 1 LP: 98732 41 BLACKBURN ST STRATFORD	2 lot subdivision of the land & const of 2 dwellings.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 9/02/2024
149-2.00/2023	17/11/2023	Assessment No. 204974 LOT: 1 PS: 915373.NICO2 2,023 PRINCES HWY ROSEDALE	B & W associated with the extension to an Existing Dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 15/02/2024
272-1.00/2023	11/08/2023	Assessment No. 205625 LOT: 1 TP: 821264 ROSEDALE-LONGFORD RD ROSEDALE	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 12/02/2024
273-2.00/2023	12/02/2024	Assessment No. 49783 LOT: 25 LP: 143120 5 WATSON CT WURRUK	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	No Permit Required 19/02/2024
315-1.00/2023	13/09/2023	Assessment No. 396051 LOT: 13 PS: 524065Y 13 GALWAY DR STRATFORD	2 lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 22/02/2024
410-1.00/2023	29/11/2023	Assessment No. 218396 LOT: 779 LP: 52648 14 DOLPHIN AVE GOLDEN BEACH	Removal of native vegetation.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 1/02/2024
412-1.00/2023	30/11/2023	Assessment No. 88153 LOT: 194 LP: 82021 21 LE GRAND AVE HOLLANDS LANDING	Buildings & works associated with a dwelling.	Withdrawn 26/02/2024
414-1.00/2023	30/11/2023	Assessment No. 208843 LOT: 1 TP: 515484Q WILLUNG SOUTH RD GORMANDEALE	B & W associated with the construction of two sheds.	Withdrawn 26/02/2024

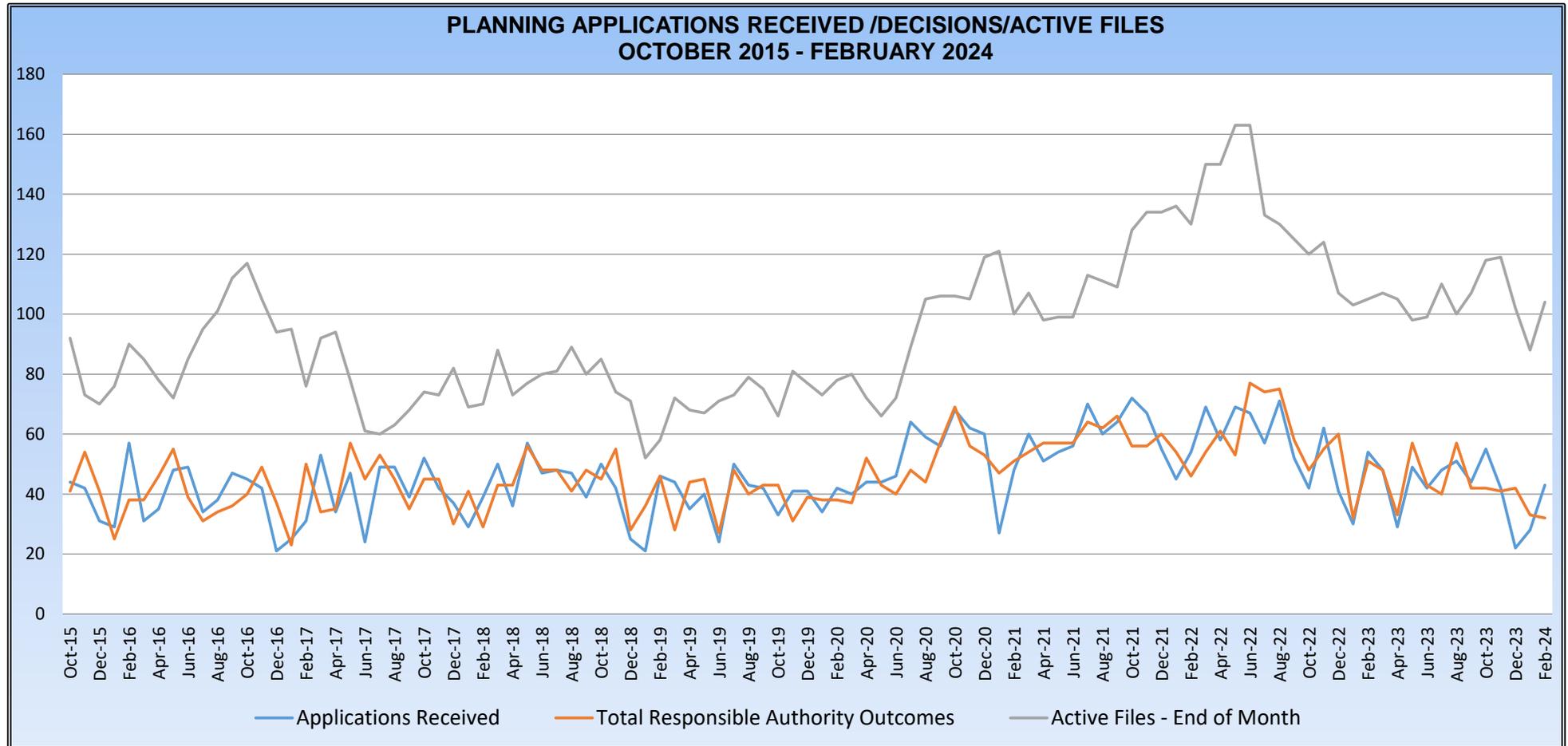
ATTACHMENT 15.2.1

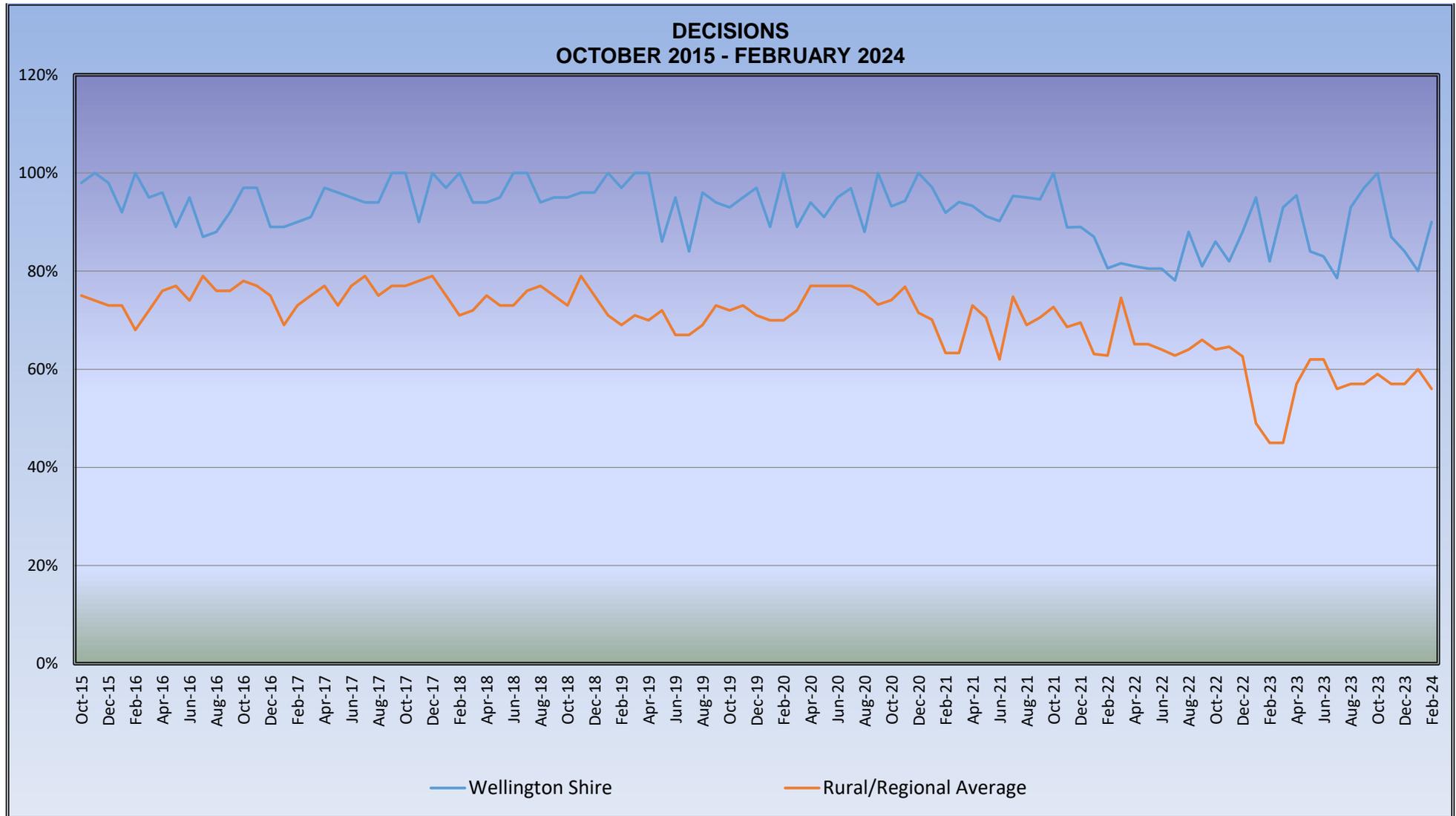
Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
416-1.00/2023	4/12/2023	Assessment No. 403568 LOT: 2 PS: 708938P 31 MUMFORDS RD YARRAM	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 27/02/2024
419-1.00/2023	5/12/2023	Assessment No. 78352 PC: 155865 39-41 TYERS ST STRATFORD	Use of the land to sell and consume liquor.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 15/02/2024
421-1.00/2023	8/12/2023	Assessment No. 78758 LOT: 1 TP: 95985C 80 TYERS ST STRATFORD	Buildings & works associated with extension of an existing building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/02/2024
423-1.00/2023	12/12/2023	Assessment No. 184382 LOT: 264 LP: 82059 29 MACASSAR CRES THE HONEYSUCKLES	Buildings and works associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 23/02/2024
424-1.00/2023	12/12/2023	Assessment No. 75994 LOT: 3 LP: 44409 19 MCALISTER ST STRATFORD	Two lot subdivision of the land.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 19/02/2024
2-1.00/2024	4/01/2024	Assessment No. 244806 LOT: 19 LP: 30043 38 VICTORIA PDE LOCH SPORT	B & W associated with an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 2/02/2024
5-1.00/2024	8/01/2024	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 14/02/2024
8-1.00/2024	16/01/2024	Assessment No. 245555 LOT: 1116 PS: 54791 22 CAMERONS RD LOCH SPORT	B & W associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 15/02/2024
11-1.00/2024	17/01/2024	Assessment No. 217232 LOT: 659 LP: 52648 19 SEA BREEZE AVE GOLDEN BEACH	B & W associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/02/2024
15-1.00/2024	22/01/2024	Assessment No. 460733 CA: 105 170 SEATON-GLENMAGGIE SEATON	B & W associated with the construction of a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 22/02/2024
17-1.00/2024	24/01/2024	Assessment No. 450452 LOT: 2 PS: 805308J MERRIMANS CREEK RD GORMANDALE	Use and development of the land for a dwelling.	Withdrawn 6/02/2024
24-1.00/2024	1/02/2024	Assessment No. 362970 LOT: 1 PS: 626550X 669 UPPER MAFFRA RD MAFFRA WEST UPPER	Buildings & works associated with extension to a dwelling.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/02/2024

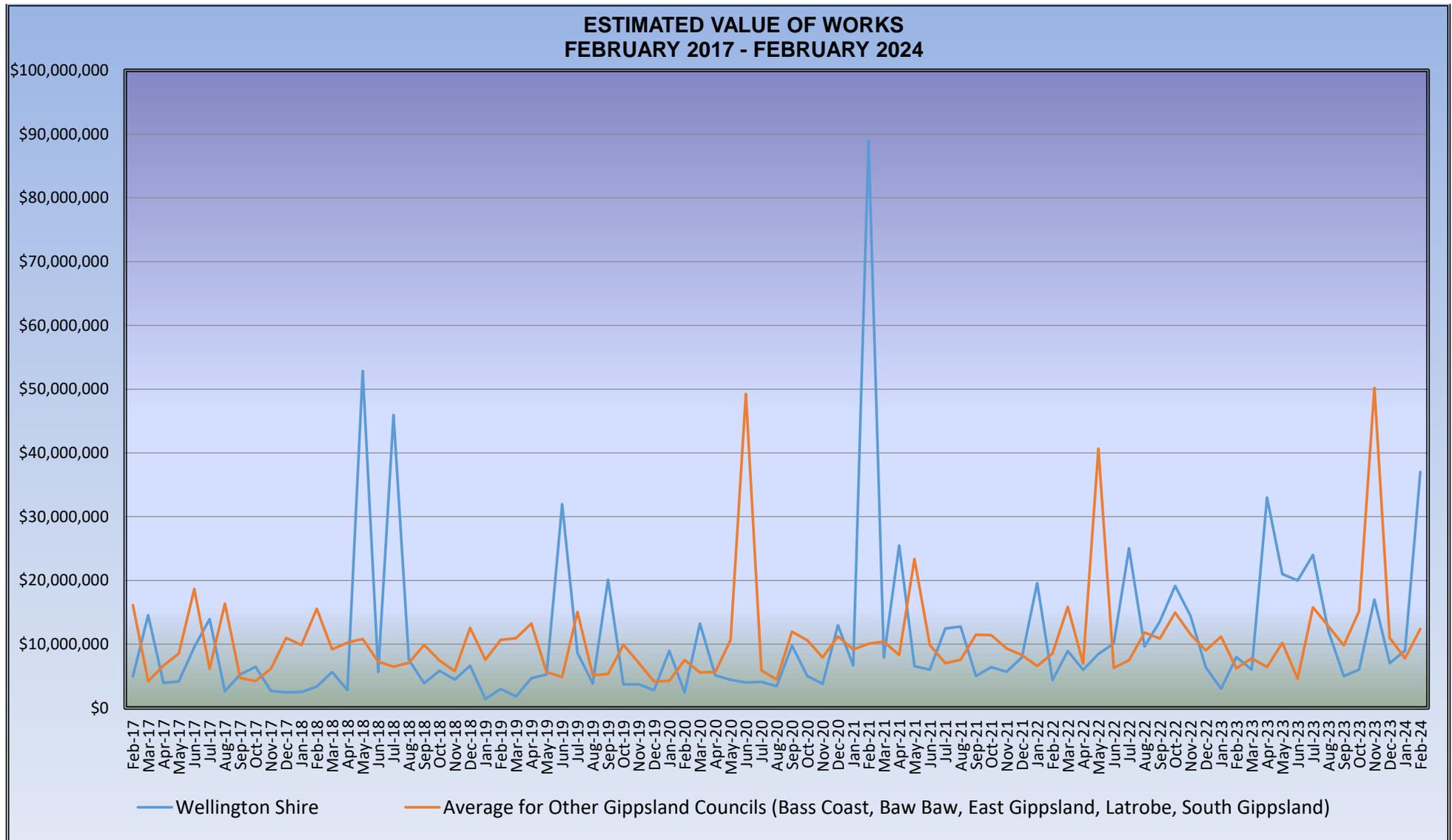
ATTACHMENT 15.2.1

Application No/Year	Date Received	Property Title & Address	Proposal	Status
26-1.00/2024	2/02/2024	Assessment No. 42531 LOT: 1 LP: 47669 154 MACALISTER ST SALE	Demolition of an existing outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 14/02/2024
27-1.00/2024	2/02/2024	Assessment No. 265306 LOT: 1 TP: 187547 2,119 GRAND RIDGE RD BALOOK	Buildings & works associated with construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 9/02/2024
34-1.00/2024	12/02/2024	Assessment No. 196980 CA: 28 SEC: 4 55 SHORELINE DR SEASPRAY	Buildings & works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/02/2024
40-1.00/2024	14/02/2024	Assessment No. 37853 LOT: 1 PS: 915366E 190 FOSTER ST SALE	B & W associated with the extension of an existing building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 16/02/2024
41-1.00/2024	15/02/2024	Assessment No. 206813 LOT: 1 PS: 139649 947 SEASPRAY RD LONGFORD	Building and works associated with the construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 23/02/2024
42-1.00/2024	15/02/2024	Assessment No. 283457 LOT: 1 TP: 5298G 8,543 SOUTH GIPPSLAND ALBERTON	B & W associated with construction of an outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 23/02/2024
44-1.00/2024	16/02/2024	Assessment No. 461376 LOT: 2 PS: 909780D 211 HEYFIELD-SEATON RD HEYFIELD	B & W associated with construction of a dwelling & outbuilding.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 21/02/2024
45-1.00/2024	19/02/2024	Assessment No. 305946 LOT: 1 TP: 712562 50 JOHNSON ST MAFFRA	B & W associated with the construction of a fence.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 29/02/2024
53-1.00/2024	26/02/2024	Assessment No. 113209 LOT: 2 PS: 205241 2,323 TRARALGON-MAFFRA COWWARR	B & W associated with the construction of an agricultural building.	Permit Issued by Delegate of Resp/Auth 28/02/2024

Total No of Decisions Made: 32







15.3. VICGRID TRANSMISSION OPTIONS

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE

For Council to consider VicGrid's preferred transmission option (and associated consultation documentation) for the first stage of offshore wind development in Gippsland and in response to seek a meeting with VicGrid and the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, to provide feedback.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note VicGrid's preferred transmission option and associated consultation documentation – available on the Engage Victoria website – for the first stage of offshore wind development in Gippsland; and***
- 2. Seek a meeting with VicGrid and the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, to provide feedback.***

BACKGROUND

Strategic context – renewable energy investment/transition

The [2021-2025 Council Plan](#) sets the strategic actions, priorities, and key projects for Council to deliver. The Council Plan was developed with significant community consultation during 2021 and also aligns with the long-term goals the community have expressed in the Wellington 2031 Community Vision. The Council Plan identifies Climate Change as the priority strategic issue in the Wellington Shire and also has a focus on attracting new investment and transitioning to a renewable energy future.

The Council adopted [Wellington Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study](#) which summarises the cumulative scale and impact of planned renewable energy investment in the Wellington Shire (and broader Gippsland area), with more than \$40 billion of planned investment (the majority of which is offshore wind). The Wellington Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study also documents State Government policy support for the Gippsland 'Renewable Energy Zone' and the Commonwealth Government's declaration of Bass Strait as the first area in Australia suitable for offshore wind development.

Given the scale and speed of renewable energy transition in the Wellington Shire and the high level of community interest, on 6 June 2023 Council adopted a Position Statement on renewable energy, which is supportive of new energy transition/investment in the Wellington Shire (subject to appropriate consultation and statutory approval processes for individual projects). In relation to transmission, the Position Statement identifies the following:

- Council acknowledges the need for the establishment of new onshore transmission to the Latrobe Valley electricity network and will continue to advocate to the responsible

State Government agency (VicGrid) for well-planned and coordinated transmission to avoid a ‘spaghetti effect’ of transmission.

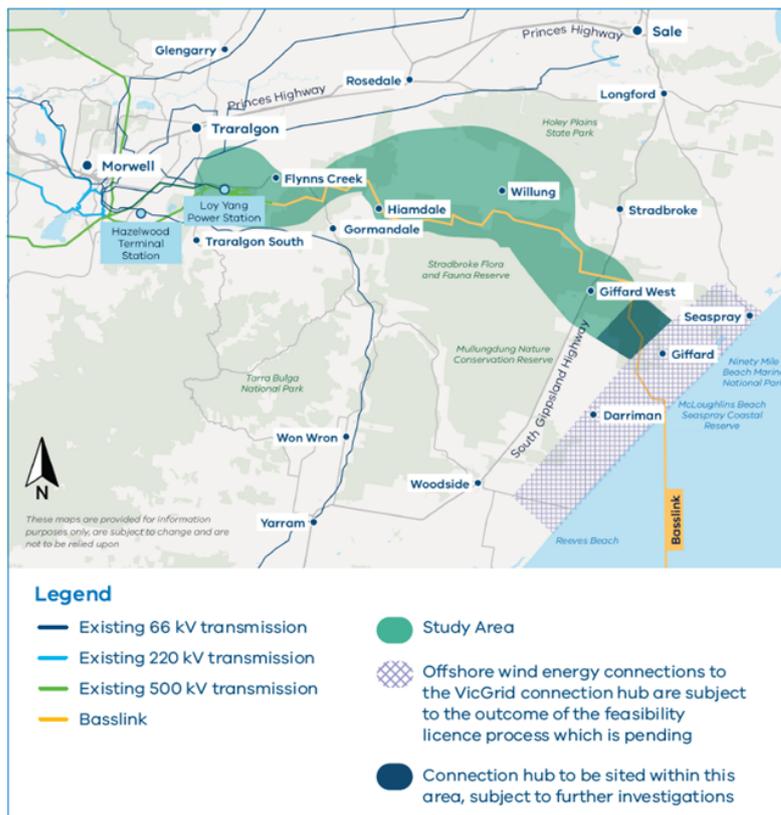
- Council will continue to advocate to VicGrid for transmission solutions to be developed in consultation with the Wellington Shire community.
- Council acknowledges that final decisions about the form of transmission (underground or above ground, or a combination of both) do not ultimately rest with Council, but all viable options (including undergrounding in areas of greatest sensitivity) should be considered to help minimise impact on the Wellington Shire community.
- In all cases, and particularly where overhead transmission is required, Council will continue to advocate to the State Government/relevant agencies for the implementation of ‘industry best practice’ compensation for affected landowners.

Current VicGrid consultation/release of the first preferred area for transmission

VicGrid have recently commenced a public consultation process for the first stage of transmission to support offshore wind in Gippsland, with details and supporting documentation available via the Engage Victoria website at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/offshore-wind-transmission>. VicGrid’s initial focus is on the infrastructure required to support the Victorian Government’s first offshore wind energy target of at least 2 Gigawatts (GW) by 2032.

A broad study area (shown below in green) has been identified as the preferred area for future investigation of an overhead transmission solution (from a new connection hub near Giffard to a grid connection point near Loy Yang Power Station).

Study Area and indicative connection hub



The preferred study area has been identified following an assessment and evaluation of multiple route corridors and potential technologies (overhead and underground transmission).

According to the consultation documentation, the assessment found that the High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) 330 kV (kilovolts) and 500 kV overhead options scored the highest overall (when evaluated against other options including undergrounding), particularly due to lower cost impacts to energy consumers and lower engineering complexities. In terms of the preferred corridor, the documentation identifies (compared to other options investigated) the benefits of better separation from major residential areas, a lower proportion of agricultural land affected, opportunities to explore alignment with other infrastructure and the area being central to the declared offshore wind area (providing flexibility to respond to upcoming offshore wind investment).

While the scoring used by VicGrid considered community preferences for undergrounding, overhead options scored more highly when balanced against other criteria, particularly project costs. The consultation documentation identifies that for the first 2GW offshore wind energy target, the preferred overhead option is estimated to cost between \$700 million-\$1.5 billion, compared to approximately \$2 billion-\$4.5 billion for undergrounding. In other words, VicGrid's initial estimates are that the cost of underground solutions are three times higher than VicGrid's preferred overhead solution.

Further, the consultation material states overhead transmission offers expandable generation capacity, easy maintenance access and importantly, the ability to connect new renewable generation projects, including onshore wind and solar along the line.

VicGrid acknowledge that the assessment undertaken to date is based on desktop analysis and other inputs (e.g. consultation feedback), with the need for specific on-site investigations and more detailed analysis and consultation still to be undertaken. Further, the preferred corridor requires further discussion with Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) to better understand cultural heritage sensitivities.

Further transmission solutions required for onshore renewables and offshore wind

As identified in the Wellington Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study, up to 12GW of future transmission is estimated to be required to facilitate planned renewable energy investment (both onshore and offshore), meaning that further transmission corridors will need to be identified.

VicGrid are yet to provide any specific details about a broader transmission plan and solution for Gippsland's future needs, although further details are expected via the upcoming Victorian Transmission Plan by mid-2025 (see <https://engage.vic.gov.au/victransmissionplan>). Recent feedback from VicGrid suggests that a second transmission line in a separate corridor is likely to be required to meet State Government targets of 9GW by 2040.

To bring investor and community certainty, Officers are of the view that resolution of a comprehensive overall transmission plan for Gippsland should be a matter of priority, instead of progressing on a 'corridor' by 'corridor' basis. It is considered an opportunity lost to not identify a second transmission corridor/technical solution at this point in time. Such an approach would be transparent for the community and allow for integrated decision making.

Given the importance of having transmission solutions in a timely manner, it would have been advantageous for the transmission corridor option being advanced by AusNet via the Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone (GREZ) project (see <https://grez.com.au/>) to have been assessed and evaluated, given that the GREZ project is well advanced and subject to private sector investment. The GREZ project is planned to unlock 3-4GW of power and is being designed to provide a connection for multiple new renewable generators to connect to the

proposed AusNet infrastructure, including for offshore and onshore renewables (for planned onshore projects, such as the Giffard wind farm, see <https://www.giffardwindfarm.com.au/>).

Having an overall transmission plan 'upfront' to meet Gippsland's longer-term needs, which caters for planned onshore and offshore investment (and that has regard for well advanced projects such as GREZ), would seem to be the most logical planning response, and provide the Wellington community with certainty over the impacts of this infrastructure.

Request meeting with VicGrid and the Minister for Energy and Resources

Given the social, economic, environmental and cultural significance of planned renewable energy investment in the Wellington Shire and the high level of community interest (particularly as transmission options advance), it is considered appropriate that Council seek a meeting with the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP (and with VicGrid representatives). Of particular importance is the need to ensure the development of a timely and integrated overall transmission plan for Gippsland and to ensure that the best transmission options are being advanced to meet the needs of onshore and offshore investors and to minimise impacts (as far as practicable) on the Wellington Shire community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. That Council note VicGrid's preferred transmission option (and associated consultation documentation) for the first stage of offshore wind development in Gippsland and seek a meeting with VicGrid and the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP to provide feedback.
2. That Council seek further information or response for consideration at an upcoming Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

That Council note VicGrid's preferred transmission option (and associated consultation documentation) for the first stage of offshore wind development in Gippsland and seek a meeting with VicGrid and the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP to provide feedback.

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

VicGrid are leading communication and community engagement on transmission planning in Gippsland. Details of community engagement sessions and access to the consultation documentation are outlined on the Engage Victoria at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/offshore-wind-transmission>.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

All renewable energy project proposals (including for transmission) will need to secure required State and/or Commonwealth Government statutory approvals.

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 1 “Environment and Climate Change” states the following strategic outcomes:

Strategic Outcome 1.1: *“A climate and disaster resilient community.”*

Strategic Outcome 1.2: *“Assist community to transition to a low carbon economy via adoption of sustainable practices and renewable energy.”*

Strategic Outcome 1.3: *“The natural environment is valued, protected and accessible.”*

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 2.2: *“A community that has the capacity and skills to meet our economic needs.”*

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

VicGrid are leading communication and community engagement on transmission planning in Gippsland. Community members are encouraged to liaise and provide feedback to VicGrid on the preferred first stage transmission area and technology. Council’s Position Statement acknowledges that divergent community views exist and the breadth of impacts (both positive and negative) associated with new energy transition will result in different community views.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

All renewable energy (and transmission) project proposals will need to secure required State and/or Commonwealth Government statutory approvals, incorporating consideration of environmental effects.

ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

VicGrid are leading communication and community engagement on transmission planning in Gippsland.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

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

16. GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

16.1. RESPONSE TO PETITION FALLS LANE BUNDALAGUAH

ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER BUILT ENVIRONMENT

PURPOSE

For Council to consider the response to a petition received at the Ordinary Council meeting of 19 March 2024 requesting sealing of Falls Lane, Bundalaguah.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Executive Officer write to the head petitioner advising Council will continue to maintain Falls Lane, Bundalaguah in line with its Road Management Plan and provide information regarding a full cost recovery special charge scheme.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 19 March 2024 Council received a petition regarding Falls Lane, Bundalaguah. The petition requested that Wellington Shire Council undertake works to seal Falls Lane, Bundalaguah.

Wellington Shire Council's procedure for upgrading residential streets is in accordance with its Residential Road and Street Construction Plan via a special charge scheme, where both Council and the benefitting property owners contribute to the works. The Residential Road and Street Construction Plan only applies to Urban Centres and Small and Coastal Townships.

As Falls Lane and the properties abutting it are wholly located within the farming zone, the Residential Road and Street Construction Plan does not apply.

Any upgrade of Falls Lane would typically be via a Special Charge Scheme where the full cost of the upgrade would be borne by the scheme participants. There are approximately 20 properties which abut the unsealed section of Falls Lane which includes a rail level crossing and a Highway Intersection.

Council officers have undertaken a high-level costs estimate to upgrade and seal Falls Lane, Bundalaguah which is in the order of \$1,350,000. No allowance in this estimate has been made for any significant upgrades to the rail crossing or the highway intersection. Should Council consider a Special Charge Scheme for these works this cost would need to be fully and appropriately apportioned among the scheme participants. There are no plans for Council to upgrade and seal Falls Lane, Bundalaguah as part of a future capital works program.

There are approximately 1560km of maintained unsealed rural roads within the Wellington Shire. These roads serve as the primary access to homes and farms for a significant proportion of the community.

Wellington Shire have received several requests in the past for the upgrade and sealing of similar rural roads with more recent examples including Banks Road, Gormandale, Devon North Connection Road, Devon North and Warragul-Toms Creek Road, Newry. Response to previous requests have been in line with the recommendation of this report in that any upgrades would need to be funded under a full cost recovery special charge scheme by scheme participants.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. That Council continue to maintain Falls Lane, Bundalaguah in line with its Road Management Plan and provide information regarding a full cost recovery special charge scheme to the head petitioner.
2. That Council continue to maintain Falls Lane, Bundalaguah in line with its Road Management Plan.

PROPOSAL

That Council continue to maintain Falls Lane, Bundalaguah in line with its Road Management Plan and provide information regarding a full cost recovery special charge scheme to the head petitioner.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Maintenance of Falls Lane, Bundalaguah in line with Council's Road Management Plan is allowed for within existing road maintenance budgets.

There would be no cost impact to Council should a full cost recovery special charge scheme be adopted in the future.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

The nominated Council officer will respond to the head petition in line with the adopted resolution of Council.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Wellington Shire Council is the responsible road authority for Falls Lane, Bundalaguah, within the meaning of the *Road Management Act 2004*.

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 4.4: *“Safe and well-used transport connections across all modes of travel.”*

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

If further engagement is required, will be undertaken in line with Council’s standard practices relating to customer engagement and special charge schemes.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

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

17. GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

17.1. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY AND RECREATION FACILITIES

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

PURPOSE

To report to Council on the feasibility of appointing a professional recreational planning consultant to undertake a review of Council's current processes for maintenance, planning, management and support of Community and Recreation facilities, with a further report, detailing the consultant's findings, to be provided to Council by August 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note this report; and***
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to progress Stage One works, comprising of:***
 - the review of management structures (including the direct managed facilities in Sale),***
 - the development of facility management plans – particularly for significant assets, including those within Level 1b and Level 2 of the current hierarchy model, and***
 - the further development of the Facilities Hierarchy model to include specific details around service level provision, specific to individual facilities; and***
- 3. Note that a further Council Report detailing the outcomes and recommendations of Stage One will be presented at a future Council meeting; and***
- 4. Note that following the completion of Stage One, Stage Two works will commence in the 2025 calendar year.***

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday, 19 March 2024, Council resolved:

That Council officers provide a report at the 16 April 2024 Council meeting regarding the feasibility of:

- 1. Appointing a professional recreational planning consultant to undertake a review of Council's current processes for maintenance, planning, management and support of Community and Recreation facilities and provide a report to Council by August 2024.***

- 2. The review should consider current planning documents and make recommendations on future changes to processes with implementation timelines including, but not limited to the following:**
 - a. Capital planning processes and current programs**
 - b. Current management models:**
 - i. Specifically direct management of facilities in Sale**
 - c. Facility maintenance support and subsidies**
 - d. Number and purpose of Hierarchies**
 - e. Role of service levels for each hierarchy/facility**
 - f. Levels of facility use and opportunities for rationalisation.**

This report provides background information on existing Council policy and an assessment on the feasibility of the request work being undertaken, and reported back to Council, by August 2024.

Council has several adopted strategic documents which are used to guide decisions relating to community, sporting and recreational facilities throughout the municipality. This portfolio of infrastructure assets consists of over 160 facilities.

The core suite of these documents include:

- Community Managed Facilities Strategy 2020-2025 (adopted by Council 7 July 2020)
- Community Infrastructure Plan 2021-2031 (adopted by Council 1 February 2022)
- Sporting Infrastructure Plan 2020-2031 (adopted by Council 1 February 2022)
- Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2021-2031 (adopted by Council 1 February 2022)
- Sale and District Feasibility Study (adopted by Council 2 November 2022)
- Committees Policy (approved by Council 19 December 2023)
- Council Provision of Recreation/Community Facilities Policy (approved by Council 19 December 2023)
- Fair Access Policy (approved by Council 19 December 2023)

These documents cover a range of areas relating to community facilities including how they are managed, the support provided to volunteer committees of management, the establishment of a facilities hierarchy model, and project identification and prioritisation. In several instances, professional, external planning consultants were engaged in the development of these documents, and the scope included benchmarking of key items against other like councils or industry best practice.

Given the number of facilities involved and the range of existing policy requested for review (from overarching strategy to operational process), the work involved in achieving the scope requested in the Resolution is significant, both in terms of time and cost. Based on the proposed scope of works, acknowledging this would require further refinement to allow for a consultant to be engaged, officers estimate it would take a minimum of 12 months to complete the work to point where a final report could be presented to Council. This timeframe excludes the initial procurement and engagement of the consultant which could add an additional 12-14 weeks to this timeframe depending on market conditions and consultant availability. This timeline far exceeds the requested deadline of by August 2024.

The financial and resourcing impacts are discussed in further detail later in this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

OPTIONS

Council has the following options available:

1. Note the report and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to implement its recommendations;
2. Request further information be presented at a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

Considering the length of time required to undertake the breadth of work requested in the Council resolution of 19 March 2024, it is unfeasible for this to be completed and a final report presented back to Council by August 2024.

The position of Council Officers remains that the wholesale review of all policies and processes at once is not warranted and that a staged approach, in line with existing review cycles, is the appropriate course of action, with these activities commencing progressively over the next 18 months.

Following previous briefings with Councillors, most recently in November 2023, it was identified and agreed that a number of policy areas require further investigation and some additional detailed work in order to provide a clear and consistent Council position.

Specifically, this includes:

- the review of management structures (including the direct managed facilities in Sale),
- the development of facility management plans – particularly for significant assets, and
- the further development of the Facilities Hierarchy model to include specific details around service level provision, specific to facilities.

This identified work has been included in the draft 2024/25 Operational Budget and officer workplan.

The Community Managed Facilities Strategy is nearing renewal. A review of the current Strategy is planned to commence in mid 2025, with further consultation, including with Councillors, to be undertaken in the second half of the year.

Based on this approach, it is proposed that the work be undertaken by a professional recreational planning consultant in conjunction with Council officers, across the following two stages:

Stage One

Comprising of:

- the review of management structures (including the direct managed facilities in Sale),
- the development of facility management plans – particularly for significant assets, and

- the further development of the Facilities Hierarchy model to include specific details around service level provision, specific to facilities.

This work is budgeted for as part of the of the 2024/25 Operational Budget. Preparation and procurement of the works would commence in mid-May 2024 to ensure the physical consultancy works would commence as early as possible in the new financial year.

Stage Two

This stage would consist of the review and renewal of the Community Managed Facilities Strategy.

The scope of this project would undergo further development throughout the first half of 2025 with an expected commencement mid that year.

The budget associated with this work would be included as part of the 2025/26 Operational Budget.

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, as the requested work is largely unbudgeted, there will be a financial impact in both the current and next financial year.

Based on initial estimates, officers expect the required works to cost between \$100,000 to \$150,000 to complete.

Of the works already planned to be undertaken in the new financial year, \$60,000 has been included in the draft 2024/25 Operational Budget.

To fund the remaining \$90,000 the following projects would need to be either rescope, cancelled entirely, paused, or deferred:

- Social and Affordable Housing position paper
- Project Management Framework review and development
- Design of the refurbishment of the Stead Street Hall
- Further progression of the concept designs for The Wedge redevelopment.

The alteration of the above projects may also have flow on impacts and delays to other projects or strategic priorities.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and further assessment would be required following the finalisation of the project scope.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

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

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and the proposed works may have a substantial effect on Council policy as the items being considered are the current, adopted, Council position.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

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

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

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

Strategic Outcome 4.3: *"Well planned and sustainable towns, facilities, and infrastructure that service community need."*

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic outcomes.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and, at the current time, the proposed work is unable to be delivered within the existing staff resources without significantly compromising projects currently underway.

These projects include:

- Schematic and detailed design, and funding attraction, for the Sale Integrated Centre for Children and Families (Gibsons Rd Hub)
- Fair Access Policy toolkit development and implementation
- Review and options analyse of community infrastructure in Maffra and Stratford
- Review of the Gippsland Regional Sports Complex Stage 2B business case
- Progress of projects identified for delivery in the 2024/25 Capital Works program.

The contractual impact of delaying some of these projects where a consultant has been engaged have not been considered as part of this assessment.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This impact has been assessed and there is considered to be minimal impact at this time. More significant community impact would likely stem from the implementation of subsequent recommendations or changes to Council policy.

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 identified that further assessment would be required following the finalisation of a scope of works and the development of a stakeholder engagement plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

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

18. 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.

19. 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.