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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 15 December 2025

Released to the public on 22 December 2025

**LIVE STREAMING OF THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON
COUNCIL'S WEBSITE.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future leaders.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



(2)

English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کی روداد کے نقاط ہیں۔ روداد کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2025

THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.08PM

The Chairperson, Mayor Emily Dimitriadis advised that the meeting was being streamed live and that audio and video would be made available on Council's website.

1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis (Mayor)
Cr. Matt Arturi (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Connie Boglis OAM
Cr. Ruth Jelley
Cr. Julie O'Brien
Cr. Kristine Olaris OAM
Cr. Alexandra Sangster
Cr. Vasilios Tsalkos
Cr. Angela Villella

Council Officers

Anne Howard - Chief Executive Officer
Caroline Buisson - General Manager Customer and Corporate
Nina Cullen - General Manager Community
Rachel Ollivier - General Manager Infrastructure, Operations and Finance
Vanessa Petrie - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
Enna Giampiccolo - Executive Manager Governance Risk and Communications

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Chairperson, Mayor Emily Dimitriadis, opened the meeting with the following statement:

I would like to start by acknowledging the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the Traditional Owners of this land. I recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture and pay my respects to Elders past, present and future leaders.

Over the past month, we have seen some important milestones towards addressing injustices and supporting self-determination, including a formal apology in Parliament House last week, and the commencement of Treaty three days ago. Together with my fellow Councillors we celebrate these milestones and remain committed to respecting self-determination and taking deliberate action towards Truth-telling.

3. APOLOGIES

Nil.

The Chairperson, Mayor Emily Dimitriadis made the following statement regarding Bondi massacre:

Before I move onto the formalities of this meeting, I'd like to pause for a moment and express our deep shock and sorrow at the terrorist attack at Bondi yesterday.

Our thoughts are with the victims, their families and friends, and indeed the Jewish community across the country, not least here in Darebin. This display of hatred and terror towards Australia's Jewish community – or any part of our community - has no place in Australia and we are heartbroken at this senseless act of violence.

In recognition of this terrible tragedy, I would now like to call for one minute of silence.

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-196

MOVED: Cr. C Boglis OAM
SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 24 November 2025 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. COUNCIL'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chairperson, Mayor Dimitriadis, made the following statement:

It is great to see everyone here this evening for our final meeting of the year. I would like to remind everyone that Council has an occupational health and safety responsibility to ensure anyone attending tonight's meeting, in person or online, feels safe both physical and emotionally.

For members of the public who are in attendance tonight, we kindly ask you to be respectful of one another and to maintain a civil tone when addressing the meeting, and remind you that members of the gallery must remain silent at all times during a Meeting, unless you are invited to address the Meeting.

If anyone does engage in conduct that is improper or disorderly, the Chairperson can direct that person to cease their conduct and the person must comply with that direction.

7. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at an Ordinary Council meeting must register to do so by submitting their questions before 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

Questions that are not lodged by 12 noon on the day of the Council Meeting will not be accepted, and no questions will be taken from the floor the night of the Meeting.

The following questions were submitted and addressed for Public Question Time.

Meiyan Lin

1. With reference to my question at the Council meeting held on 27 October 2025 re control of traffic down the shopping strip, your reply stated "Johnson Street is located in Group C....." What exactly is "Group C"?
2. Could you please advise why the Council will not build a toilet block at Johnson Street/Keon Park Station where there is a public need, whilst the council has a million dollar budget surplus this year?
3. Could you please advise why this Council demolished a toilet block in good working condition at Batman Park and then built a new one at a cost of \$120,000?

Response from General Manager City Sustainability & Strategy

1. Your Street, Your Say is an initiative focused on making local streets and neighbourhoods safer, more accessible, and enjoyable for everyone who lives, works, studies, plays, or travels through Darebin. The Group C study area includes Northcote West, Preston East, and Reservoir East, which covers Johnson Street. Johnson Street, near Arundel Avenue, has been identified as a draft priority location, and we're proposing a raised pedestrian crossing there to improve safety. Community engagement will start in early February. Properties located near proposed projects will receive a letter, and Council will promote communications through social media, its website and newsletters.
2. Council currently has no plans to construct a new toilet facility at this location. This decision is based on careful consideration of infrastructure priorities, community needs, and available resources. While we acknowledge the importance of public amenities, we also need to balance these requests against broader service delivery and capital works commitments across the municipality.

There are several public toilet facilities in close proximity to Johnson Street/Keon Park Station, including:

- Donath Skate Park – approximately 510m away
 - Donath Pavilion – approximately 700m away
 - Donath Soccer – approximately 860m away
3. Assets are replaced with consideration to infrastructure priorities, community needs and available resources. This asset was due for renewal and is in demand given its location within a public park.

Tania Kaye

1. Why is this flag up? I am writing to express my concern with the continuation of the Flag display. I suggest that it be discontinued because it excludes Jewish residents from feeling safe in the community and also isolates them. This undermines social cohesion –
2. What does it have to do with the Council day to day running? It contravenes the 7 day limit Consultation on such items must be fair and balance It continues to the increase in the rise of antisemitism which is off the charts according to the Victorian Antisemitism Report.

Response from CEO

Thank you for the questions, Tania, (and we have also had similar questions from Louise Cody, Thomas Green and Lily Levine). As Tania was the first question received, her question will be read out, and an answer will be provided that responds as one.

As the Mayor has already recognised, we are deeply saddened and shocked by the violence that transpired in Bondi yesterday. The Palestinian flag is flying following a Council resolution in December 2023 and would need a further resolution of Council to be lowered. Council had intended to consider a report tonight about its flag policy; however this has been deferred to next year. The policy will formalise a framework for managing flags on Council flagpoles. This process will also involve targeted consultations with the community.

Stef Oddo

The following two questions are in relation to Donath East Pavillion:

1. What is the money being used for?
2. How many clubs in the Darebin area have both a men's and women's team?

Response From General Manager Community

Of Darebin's soccer clubs, nine of the ten soccer clubs have women or girls teams and nine of the ten soccer clubs have men's or boys teams.

Franca Smarrelli

1. Given the safety concerns at the Cleeland Street car park in Reservoir, what plans does Council have to improve lighting throughout the facility, particularly in dimly lit areas?
2. Will Council also consider installing additional CCTV cameras to enhance security and deter anti-social behaviour, ensuring the car park is safe for all users, Can Council allocate a designated pick-up and drop-off zone within the Cleeland Street car park specifically for taxis, rideshare services, and family members collecting veterans and senior citizens?
3. Is Council committing to investigating the possibilities for timelines and funding to implement these safety and accessibility improvements at the Cleeland Street car park, to better serve our veteran and senior citizen community members?

Response From General Manager Infrastructure, Operations & Finance

We've had similar questions from Kevin Kennedy and I'll answer both together. Council is pleased to have you and Hands on Health moving into the old Reservoir police station as tenants.

As you know the use of the building was offered on an 'as is' basis and there are no plans to change the lighting or CCTV arrangements at the adjacent carpark. There is CCTV that

covers part of the car park and the nearby street lighting provides some lighting into the carpark. The main entrance for the Reservoir Community and Learning Centre is from Edwardes St where there is a taxi zone.

Jacinta Murray

1. When families are accepted to a service for three year old kindergarten why can they not be guaranteed to also attend four year old kindergarten at the same service providing continuity of care and prioritising their wellbeing? The necessity for individual new registrations and no guarantee of acceptance is hurting local families each year and causing stress.
2. Why are families in other parts of Darebin bypassing multiple kindergarten services (some newly built) to attend J.S Grey, stopping local families from being able to attend their own local kindergarten? Local zoning would potentially help this issue.
3. With a forecast deficit of 253 places in West Preston by 2036 will council be prioritising the upgrading and expansion of J.S Grey Kindergarten to create more places and resolve the issue of reduced places when the pre-prep reforms roll out? Two local kindergartens have closed in recent years and the kinder and MCHN need urgent facility upgrades to help address this.

Response From General Manager Community

We have received like questions from Meagan Foggin and Liana Mercuri, I will answer like questions together in this response. I will answer question 1 and 2 together.

Council recognises the importance of continuity of care in early childhood education and the preference of many families to attend services that are close to home. This is reflected in how Council approaches kindergarten allocations through its Central Kindergarten and Child Care Registration system. This service is currently provided to 23 of Darebin's 64 kindergarten and childcare services. Families are allocated places according to priority of access criteria from both the Department of Education's Kindergarten Funding Guide and Council's own local criteria.

The Department of Education's priority of access criteria must be applied first, prioritising for example:

- Children at risk of abuse or neglect, including children in out-of-home care
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children
- Asylum seeker and refugee children
- Children who have an identified specific disability or developmental delay.

Council's local priority of access criteria is then applied, prioritising :

- Families who are Darebin residents
- Children whose sibling attended a service within the last 2 years
- Services closest to the family's address
- Children who attended a 3-year-old program wishing to attend 4-year-old kindergarten at the same service.

3. Expanding kindergarten facilities in response to State Government early years reforms is a key initiative in Our Darebin Plan 2025-29. To support this work, Council has partnered with the State Government to update Darebin's Kindergarten. Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) which forecasts unmet demand across much of the municipality.

Council works with State Government and the early childhood education and care sector to identify and pursue projects that will increase kindergarten capacity and deliver value to the Darebin community.

Preston West (where J.S. Grey Kindergarten is situated) is certainly an area of focus for the Department of Education and Council, given it has the highest projected unmet demand in Darebin by 2036 (253 15-hour places). At its meeting on 24 November 2025, Council resolved to write to the Minister to formally acknowledge the projected unmet demand in Preston West and advocate for State Government funding to support projects in the area.

Meagan Foggin

1. What are council's plans for Edwardes Lake and is there capacity to create a shared indoor community hub for general purpose and early childhood services to share (for bush kinder)?

Response From General Manager Community

Council does not have a current plan for the development of early childhood education and care facilities at Edwardes Lake. Council is exploring opportunities to expand kindergarten capacity across all of Darebin, including options for Bush Kinder.

Adrian Zacharias

1. WeCycles Current community program is under threat of not having a appropriate location to operate its program into the future, What is the council doing to support and protect an origination that has deep connections to the inter north cycling corridor?
2. Has the council considered other locations on arterial bicycle corridors with comparable or higher amounts of bicycle traffic as what is experienced in the current location along St George's roads cycleway?
3. Has council contacted other councils inside the inner northern cycle corridor like Melbourne City Council or Merri Bek City Council to see if they have a more suitable location on or close to a high traffic northern bicycle corridor, specifically on or close to a bicycle-way?

Response From General Manager Infrastructure, Operations & Finance

1. Council has run an expression of interest process relating to 26 sites including one that WeCycle has been the tenant for. This process has been run with strong governance to ensure it is a fair and open for everyone involved. There is a report recommending council make a decision and offer leases or licences at 6 sites tonight. I cannot preempt the decision, but you are welcome to stay to see the outcome. Separate to the provision of building space, Council's partnership arrangement with Wecycle remains in place and there are no changes proposed.
2. I will take this as a suggestion or a comment given the decision on the agenda tonight
3. Council hasn't specifically contacted other Councils on WeCycle's behalf. It is open to WeCycle to do so.

Matthew Zammit

1. What are the organisational values of Darebin Council?
2. If a supplier failed to meet their professional obligations as set out by their professional regulatory body, would this automatically disqualify them from providing services to Darebin Council, given the ethical and integrity requirements set out in Darebin Council's Social Procurement Policy and its "Doing Business with Darebin Council" guide?

Response From General Manager Customer & Corporate

Darebin Council's organisational values centre around making a difference for the community, they emphasise Accountability, Integrity, Respect, Collaboration, and Creativity. They are detailed in the Code of Conduct guiding employees in serving a diverse population.

Response From General Manager Infrastructure, Operations & Finance

When Council engages professional services it require evidence of appropriate compliance certificates and must be provided annually. All contracts have a duty for suppliers to disclose to the Council issues that would stop a supplier fully delivering on the contract and if this occurs, Council would use the provisions of the contract to rectify the issue or terminate the contract.

Kemran Mestan

1. How is Council planning to rectify the under-investment in active transport?
2. How is Council engaging with State Government to improve investment in walking and cycling?
3. However, will Council meet its target to increase the mode share for people on bikes, pedestrians, and public transport by 20 percentage points by 2028?

Response From General Manager City Sustainability & Strategy

1. Each year, Council carefully considers priorities for investment across all its assets and services, including active transport. Council will soon start to consider what to invest in through the 2026/27 financial year. A draft proposal will be open for community feedback through May 2026, and I encourage you to have your say.
2. Officers are engaging with the State Government to improve investment in walking and cycling in the following ways:
 - Regular meetings at officer level to advocate for active travel outcomes. This recently resulted in safer speeds being delivered by the State Government along Merri Parade and Westgarth Street.
 - Letters are written to the relevant Ministers seeking their support in delivering community priority projects on State-managed roads. When grant funding is made available, officers work directly with State Government to present projects for funding.
3. The strategic goal for increasing the mode share of people riding, walking and using public transport is currently off-track. Council continues to advocate for improved alternative transport modes through Darebin.

Serena O'Meley

1. The Member for Preston, Nathan Lambert, has recently stated in the Victorian Parliament that Darebin Council may use its new Local Laws powers to remove the corroded and unsafe building frame at 1C Macartney Street, Reservoir; will Darebin Council act on this advice and exercise those powers?
2. At the Council meeting on 22 September 2025, I specifically asked whether Council was "prepared to take decisive action, including demolishing the site," and was advised that no action would be taken while the site held a current permit; why was it not made clear at that time that Council could, under its new Local Laws, demolish the structure despite the permit?

Response From General Manager City Sustainability & Strategy

Council acknowledges that this partially constructed property has a long history, dating back to 2009 when the original building permit was issued for three dwellings, of which only two were constructed. Between 2020 and 2023 Council has prosecuted the matter in an effort to bring the property into compliance, resulting in a Building Order being placed on the property.

A new building permit was issued on 31/07/25, requiring the removal of the existing structure as a condition. The owner must begin works within 12 months of the permit date. The structure was previously inspected and was not at that time unsafe. Council will make enquiries of the private building surveyor to ensure that the structure does not present an immediate risk to public safety.

Authorised officers of council undertook an inspection of the property on 12/12/25 and were satisfied the property was compliant with the provisions of the Local Law. As a subordinate document, the Local Law only comes into effect when higher legislation is silent on the matter. The demolition of the existing frame is not subject to the provisions of the Local Law.

John Gorman

1. Darebin Council's recent annual report revealed that its WorkCover premium paid last year was more than \$4 million, which is quite significantly higher than nearby Councils, or those with similar staff numbers. What changes is Darebin Council making in light of this?
2. What is Darebin Council's comparable WorkCover Employer Performance Rating, and why was this rating removed from Darebin Council annual reports from 2023 onwards? I note that many other Council's include the figure in their annual reports.
3. How many standard WorkCover claims were accepted in respect of Darebin Council for the last financial year?

Response From General Manager Customer & Corporate

1. Darebin Council is strongly committed to the safety and wellbeing of its staff. Over the past two years, Council has enhanced the classification and reporting of injuries, incidents, hazards, and near misses. This improvement enables more accurate risk identification and better targeting of preventive actions.

We have implemented a range of initiatives, from managing claims quickly and effectively to longer-term actions that address root causes. These initiatives include:

- An organisation-wide review of OHS risks to ensure appropriate preventive and mitigating actions are in place.
- Increased staffing in the Safety and Wellbeing team to develop and implement a psychological safety framework and strengthen proactive hazard reviews and case management
- Targeted training programs for staff and leaders.
- A review of safety forums, including improvement to safety reporting to the executive and senior leadership teams.

A WorkCover Employer Performance Rating would typically been provided by the WorkCover insurer. Darebin Council has not been provided with a comparable rating by our current WorkCover Insurer, Gallagher Bassett.

2. It can be difficult to compare within Local Government due to scope of services differing e.g. Darebin provides Waste and Aged Care Services in house when many other Council's do not. These services inherently carry more risks.
3. Occupational health and safety information, including related to WorkCover claims, is published in the 2024/25 Annual Report (p. 45-47). We treat the WorkCover claim count as internal-only information. However, the annual report provides helpful context and trends analysis, so Darebin can report on WorkCover claim history as transparently as possible.

SUBMISSIONS

The following community members each made two minute verbal submissions to Item 9.1 JC Donath East Pavilion - Scoping Options:

1. *Ke Chong Kuok*
2. *Jessica Halabi*
3. *Busra Mankir*
4. *Elif Boyaci*
5. *Emily Outsikas*
6. *Beritan Altun*
7. *Joumana Albarri*
8. *Boushra El Khatib*
9. *Emine Denman*
10. *Noula Lekanis*

The following community member made a two minute verbal submission in relation to Item 9.4 Transport Projects and Strategic Goals:

1. *Kemran Mestan*

8. PETITIONS

Nil.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING FOR
A BREAK**

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-197

MOVED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)
SECONDED: Cr. V Tsalkos

That the meeting be adjourned for a break.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.02pm – The meeting adjourned for a break.
7.20pm – The meeting resumed.

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

9.1 JC DONATH EAST PAVILION - SCOPING OPTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The JC Donath East Pavilion Renovation project is delivered under Council's Capital Works Program across financial years 2025-26 and 2027-28. The project is co-funded by Council and State Government, with allocations of \$1.45 million and \$0.60 million respectively. The State Government contribution was announced in 2022 as a state election funding commitment to provide women's and girls' change room facilities for Keon Park Football Club (Keon Park FC).

The project scope was premised on renovation of the current pavilion to establish four gender-inclusive change rooms. Four changerooms aligns with the number of grounds at Donath Reserve supported by this pavilion (2 cricket in summer; 2 soccer in winter) and is generally consistent with the provision of changerooms for grounds across Darebin. Further extension could be considered in the future, however that scale of development would not be needed until such a time as Council determines to increase the number of soccer pitches (and lighting). There are no plans to seek Council's consideration of an expansion at this time.

During stakeholder consultation, Keon Park FC advocated for a significant expansion of scope, including an increase to the number of changerooms or a new pavilion. The club has communicated this aspiration to officers, councillors and local MPs. Options have been explored and costed and are presented in this report.

Having considered options, it is recommended that Council proceed with the current project scope and renovate the pavilion and transition to four gender-inclusive change rooms. This report is being put for decision in December 2025 to meet agreed State Government funding agreement deadlines.

This meeting agenda includes a separate report responding to a Council resolution made at its meeting on 27 October 2025. The resolution sought (i) a project update, (ii) investigation into modular construction methodologies, (iii) exploration for tenants to share facilities throughout the year and (iv) engagement with the Keon Park Football Club.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Thanks the Keon Park Football Club, Donath Cricket Club and North Metro Cricket Association for their valuable feedback and active participation in stakeholder consultation.
 - (2) Proceeds with the JC Donath East Pavilion Renovation project at the current planned scope (Option 3: current scope) to enable Council to secure the State Government Funding and deliver essential functional and compliance needs, along with the provision of four gender-inclusive changerooms.
 - (3) Notes that the current project scope doesn't preclude consideration of a future project to support expansion of facilities at this site.
 - (4) Notes that practical options to share the facility will be explored in consultation with tenants and formalised through licence agreements prior to project completion.
-

Motion

MOVED: Cr. K Olaris OAM

SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That Council:

- (1) Acknowledges the successful growth of the Keon Park Football Club which currently has 21 teams and 330 players of which 38% are women.
- (2) Notes that 11 years ago, the 2014 Donath Reserve Master Plan identified opportunities to increase soccer pitches during winter predicting future growth as a long-term opportunity.
- (3) Notes that soccer is played all year round and the facilities need to meet the demands of the sport.
- (4) To accommodate the increasing demand (estimated to be in the vicinity of 450-500 by 2027) and commitment to gender inclusion, as per Darebin Council policy, Keon Park Football Club needs 6 changerooms.
- (5) Notes there are currently 4 changerooms. If the allocated funding is spent on only 4 changerooms – the purpose of the funding (to increase girls' participation all year round) will not be achieved because they can only play 6 months of the year.
- (6) Notes that discussions on the renovations with the clubs began nearly 4 years ago and will not be completed until 2028.
- (7) Notes the projected growth in point 4 therefore it would make financial sense to build 6 changerooms now to avoid inevitable cost increases.
- (8) Commits to building the extra 2 changerooms to the building as it currently stands as a priority. The cost is approximately \$450,000. The remainder of the allocated funding (approx. \$1,600,000) is then used for other features to be determined in consultation with the clubs.

Cr. Tsalkos proposed an amendment to point (8) the motion and to include an additional point (9):

(8) Commits to building the extra 2 changerooms to the building as it currently stands as a priority. ~~The cost is approximately \$450,000.~~ The remainder of the allocated funding (approx. \$1,600,000) is then used for other features to be determined in consultation with the clubs.

(9) Endorses the inclusion of Option 2A as a design-only component and notes that the current project scope doesn't preclude consideration of a future project to support future expansion of facilities at this site.

Cr. Villella as the mover of the motion, and Cr. Tsalkos, both sought clarification from officers in relation to the amendment, following this, Cr. Tsalkos withdrew the amendment.

THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-198**MOVED: Cr. A Villella****SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)****That Council:**

- (1) Acknowledges the successful growth of the Keon Park Football Club which currently has 21 teams and 330 players of which 38% are women.
- (2) Notes that 11 years ago, the 2014 Donath Reserve Master Plan identified opportunities to increase soccer pitches during winter predicting future growth as a long-term opportunity.
- (3) Notes that soccer is played all year round and the facilities need to meet the demands of the sport.
- (4) To accommodate the increasing demand (estimated to be in the vicinity of 450-500 by 2027) and commitment to gender inclusion, as per Darebin Council policy, Keon Park Football Club needs 6 changerooms.
- (5) Notes there are currently 4 changerooms. If the allocated funding is spent on only 4 changerooms – the purpose of the funding (to increase girls' participation all year round) will not be achieved because they can only play 6 months of the year.
- (6) Notes that discussions on the renovations with the clubs began nearly 4 years ago and will not be completed until 2028.
- (7) Notes the projected growth in point 4 therefore it would make financial sense to build 6 changerooms now to avoid inevitable cost increases.
- (8) Commits to building the extra 2 changerooms to the building as it currently stands as a priority. The cost is approximately \$450,000. The remainder of the allocated funding (approx. \$1,600,000) is then used for other features to be determined in consultation with the clubs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2

JC DONATH EAST PAVILION: RESPONSE TO NOM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to respond to a Council resolution passed on 27 October 2025 arising from a Councillor Motion.

The resolution asked for:

- A status update on the JC Donath East Pavilion project,
- A summary of investigations into modular construction methodologies,
- An exploration of options for tenants to share the facility throughout the year, and
- Engagement with Keon Park Football Club.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-199**MOVED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)****SECONDED: Cr. V Tsalkos****That Council:**

- (1) Notes this report has been prepared in response to the Council resolution from 27 October 2025 and includes a project update.
- (2) Notes that an assessment has been undertaken regarding the likely benefits and issues relating to modular construction of sporting pavilions or similar buildings.
- (3) Notes that the sporting user groups, including Keon Park committee members, have been consulted about the modular construction assessment and have provided feedback which has been considered in the preparation of this report.
- (4) Notes that refurbishment of the existing building to provide gender inclusive changerooms is a more cost effective approach than the construction of a new facility to deliver an equivalent outcome.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 MERRI COMMON AND SURROUNDS OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES AND FINAL CONCEPT DESIGNS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the outcomes of the community consultation process for the Merri Common and Surrounds Program and presents the updated draft concept designs for consideration and adoption.

In 2022, an election commitment was made for a new vision for the Merri Common Pocket Park. This was subsequently incorporated into the State Government Budget. The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) established a grant to implement this commitment via the Better Parks and Playground Program and sought applications for open space improvements at Merri Common, a State Government site owned by VicTrack and managed by Metro Trains Melbourne.

At its meeting on 23 October 2023, Council resolved to apply for a grant to deliver upgrades across Merri Common and several surrounding locations: Caddayes Corner, Peters Reserve, and Green Memorial Reserve.

The Victorian Government awarded Council a grant of \$1.5 million. Since this time, several milestones have been reached, including completion of the project plan and draft concept designs, and finalisation of due diligence assessments, including contamination, flora and fauna, heritage, arborist, statutory planning, flood risk, and other heritage-related considerations.

Community consultation included public exhibition of draft concept designs between 13 March and 6 April 2025. A special interest group session with key community stakeholders was also held on 29 May 2025. The consultation included an online survey and two community pop-up sessions. The key themes raised through the process were:

- Improved community infrastructure and amenity across sites
- Improved pathways and connectivity
- Improved site maintenance

The consultation summary report is available publicly via the dedicated Yoursay project page.

Improvements at Merri Common Reserve and Caddayes Corner remain contingent on landowner/lessee approval. In developing recommendations for improvement, officers have sought to balance grant requirements, community aspirations, site-specific conditions, budget constraints, and, where possible, low-maintenance design solutions to deliver a proposal which encourages broader community use and opportunities for rest, relaxation, physical activity and play. It is important to note that ultimately, approval of the project and specific enhancements are not within Council's jurisdiction.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Thanks the community and stakeholders for their valuable contributions and feedback about the Merri Common and Surrounds Program.
- (2) Adopts the draft concept designs for Merri Common, Caddayes Corner, and Peters Reserve, as presented in **Appendix A**, which include a range of new elements and adjustments following consideration of community feedback.
- (3) Notes that the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner (VicTrack) is still considering the draft concept designs and may request changes to the designs prior to providing approval.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to incorporate any changes to draft concept designs required by the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner on the basis that they are achievable within the current project budget.
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with delivery of improvements at Council's sites in advance of progressing improvements of State Government owned sites, subject to approval of the grant provider (DEECA).

Motion

MOVED: Cr. J O'Brien
SECONDED: Cr. A Sangster

That Council:

- (1) Thanks the community and stakeholders for their valuable contributions and feedback about the Merri Common and Surrounds Program.
- (2) Adopts the draft concept designs for Merri Common, Caddayes Corner, and Peters Reserve, as presented in Appendix A, which include a range of new elements and adjustments following consideration of community feedback.
- (3) Notes that the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner (VicTrack) is still considering the draft concept designs and may request changes to the designs prior to providing approval.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to incorporate any changes to draft concept designs required by the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner on the basis that they are achievable within the current project budget.
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with delivery of improvements at Council's sites in advance of progressing improvements of State Government owned sites, subject to approval of the grant provider (DEECA).
- (6) **Notes that the State Government has asked Council if it would consider maintaining Merri Common on a fee-for-service basis, noting that this has not yet been put as a formal request.**
- (7) **Agrees in principle to maintain Merri Common on a fee-for-service basis, and authorises the Chief Executive Officer explore, negotiate and execute a maintenance agreement with the Victorian State Government for Merri Common subject to the following conditions, or any others the CEO requires:**
 - a. **Maintenance costs are fully funded by the State Government.**

- b. Council would not undertake management of any land contamination issues at the site, nor would liabilities transfer to Council relating to this.
- c. Any special requirements relating to working in the rail corridor, including permitting or specialist training requirements are factored into the cost model.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-200

MOVED: Cr. J O'Brien
SECONDED: Cr. A Sangster

That Council:

- (1) Thanks the community and stakeholders for their valuable contributions and feedback about the Merri Common and Surrounds Program.
- (2) Adopts the draft concept designs for Merri Common, Caddayes Corner, and Peters Reserve, as presented in Appendix A, which include a range of new elements and adjustments following consideration of community feedback.
- (3) Notes that the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner (VicTrack) is still considering the draft concept designs and may request changes to the designs prior to providing approval.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to incorporate any changes to draft concept designs required by the landowner of Merri Common and Caddayes Corner on the basis that they are achievable within the current project budget.
- (5) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with delivery of improvements at Council's sites in advance of progressing improvements of State Government owned sites, subject to approval of the grant provider (DEECA).
- (6) Notes that the State Government has asked Council if it would consider maintaining Merri Common on a fee-for-service basis, noting that this has not yet been put as a formal request.
- (7) Agrees in principle to maintain Merri Common on a fee-for-service basis, and authorises the Chief Executive Officer explore, negotiate and execute a maintenance agreement with the Victorian State Government for Merri Common subject to the following conditions, or any others the CEO requires:
 - a. Maintenance costs are fully funded by the State Government.
 - b. Council would not undertake management of any land contamination issues at the site, nor would liabilities transfer to Council relating to this.
 - c. Any special requirements relating to working in the rail corridor, including permitting or specialist training requirements are factored into the cost model.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4TRANSPORT PROJECTS AND STRATEGIC GOALS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a response to Council's decision on 26 May 2025, regarding endorsed transport projects and progress on achieving strategic goals.

Council has a responsibility to assess road safety risk, design improvements and make safety changes on Council's transport network. Decisions are informed by Council's strategic goals and national design standards and guides. The delivery of projects relies on funding from Council or grants.

Officers have prepared a list of transport safety improvement projects that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018 (**Appendix A**). The programs that have informed the list of projects have all included consultation. There are over 150 projects that are yet to be delivered with a combined estimated value of \$30.63 million. Delivery of these projects are considered through the budget process.

Officers have prepared a table of strategic goals with progress status and the actions being taken (**Appendix B**). Progress has been made to improve safety. A State Government fact sheet shows that compared to other local governments, Darebin is performing 'worse than average' for vehicle occupants, motorcyclists and pedestrians, and 'much worse than average' for cyclists (**Appendix C**).

A report will be tabled in early 2026 about managing transport in Darebin.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the list of projects in **Appendix A** that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018.
- (2) Notes the actions being taken and the progress that has been made on Council's strategic goals as shown in **Appendix B**.
- (3) Receives further information at a briefing session in February 2026 regarding new approaches to prioritising and investing in network improvements to inform a report to a Council Meeting no later than April 2026.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. R Jelley
SECONDED: Cr. A Sangster

That Council:

- (1) Notes the list of projects in **Appendix A** that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018.
- (2) Notes the actions being taken and the progress that has been made on Council's strategic goals as shown in **Appendix B**.
- (3) Receives further information at a briefing session in February 2026 regarding new approaches to prioritising and investing in network improvements to inform a report to a

Council Meeting no later than April 2026, including how the 2026-27 budget process can:

- a) **Prioritise transport projects that work towards achieving the Darebin Transport Strategy targets.**
- b) **Increase the available capital funding for transport improvement projects.**
- c) **Support the development of the new transport strategy.**

Cr. Olaris foreshadowed an alternated motion - to move the officer recommendation, should Cr. Jelley's motion not be carried.

Cr. Arturi also foreshadowed an alternate motion, should Cr. Jelley's motion not be carried.

THE MOTION WAS PUT TO VOTE AND LOST:

Motion

MOVED: Cr. R Jelley
SECONDED: Cr. A Sangster

That Council:

- (1) Notes the list of projects in **Appendix A** that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018.
- (2) Notes the actions being taken and the progress that has been made on Council's strategic goals as shown in **Appendix B**.
- (3) Receives further information at a briefing session in February 2026 regarding new approaches to prioritising and investing in network improvements to inform a report to a Council Meeting no later than April 2026, including how the 2026-27 budget process can:
 - a) Prioritise transport projects that work towards achieving the Darebin Transport Strategy targets
 - b) Increase the available capital funding for transport improvement projects
 - c) Support the development of the new transport strategy

LOST

For: Cr's Sangster, O'Brien, and Jelley (3)

Against: Cr's Arturi, Boglis, Olaris, Tsalkos, Villella, and Dimitriadis (6)

Motion

MOVED: Cr. K Olaris OAM
SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That Council:

- (1) Notes the list of projects in **Appendix A** that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018.
- (2) Notes the actions being taken and the progress that has been made on Council's strategic goals as shown in **Appendix B**.
- (3) Receives further information at a briefing session in February 2026 regarding new approaches to prioritising and investing in network improvements to inform a report to a

Council Meeting no later than April 2026.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-201

MOVED: Cr. K Olaris OAM

SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That Council:

- (1) Notes the list of projects in **Appendix A** that have been endorsed or developed through a Council endorsed program since 2018.
- (2) Notes the actions being taken and the progress that has been made on Council's strategic goals as shown in **Appendix B**.
- (3) Receives further information at a briefing session in February 2026 regarding new approaches to prioritising and investing in network improvements to inform a report to a Council Meeting no later than April 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5

FEDERAL BLACKSPOT PROGRAM 26/27

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Federal Black Spot Program aims to improve road safety by reducing serious injuries and fatalities on Australian roads. It funds projects that address high-risk locations where crashes have occurred or are likely to occur.

The Australian Government is offering grants of up to \$3 million per project, fully funded subject to eligibility criteria.

Following a detailed assessment of potential sites, two priority locations have been identified for funding applications:

- Gilbert Road, Reservoir (Union St – Edwardes St)
- Arundel Avenue / Finton Grove, Reservoir.

These projects strongly align with Safe System principles and the objectives of Darebin Community Vision 2041 and Darebin Plan 2025–29, particularly in creating safer streets, protecting vulnerable road users, and supporting sustainable travel modes such as walking and cycling.

If successful, both projects will be 100% funded through the Black Spot Program, with no additional capital or operational costs to Council beyond standard lifecycle maintenance.

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 25-202**

MOVED: Cr. A Villella
SECONDED: Cr. C Boglis OAM

That Council:

- (1) Ratifies the application submitted for funding under the Federal Government's Black Spot Program for Gilbert Road Reservoir, between Union Street & Edwardes Street.
- (2) Ratifies the application submitted for funding under the Federal Government's Black Spot Program for Arundel Avenue / Finton Grove, Reservoir.
- (3) Acknowledges that if its funding applications to the Federal Government's Black Spot Program are successful, Council will be responsible for project delivery will be required to underwrite these projects.
- (4) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute funding agreement on behalf of Council if either or both applications are successful.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**9.6 PROPERTY MATTERS - SALE OF MINOR ASSETS -
VICTORIAN SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY (VSBA)
APPLICATION FOR ROAD DISCONTINUANCE -
RESERVOIR VIEWS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a request from the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) to discontinue a Council owned road and for it to be transferred to the Department of Education (DE) as a gift, at no cost.

The road is not currently used as a road and nor is it needed as a road in the future. Therefore it is recommended that Council proceed with the discontinuance.

It is recommended that Council offer to transfer the land, but not for nil consideration. Instead it is recommended that Council offer VSBA three options: payment at market value, exchange with an equivalent parcel of land, or construction of community infrastructure.

A further report will be presented to Council to consider the findings of the consultation and the response from VSBA.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-203

MOVED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

SECONDED: Cr. V Tsalkos

That Council:

- (1) Notes that to support the school's use of the site, Council has entered into a license agreement with the Victorian School Building Authority.
- (2) Writes to the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) outlining Council's willingness to consider transfer of the land to VSBA in exchange for payment in any of the following ways:
 - a) Payment based on market value
 - b) Exchange of a State Government land parcel of equivalent value within the Darebin region that Council has interest in
 - c) Construction of community infrastructure in nearby public places or streets
- (3) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 to discontinue a Council road, running through the centre of Reservoir Views Primary School at 110-116 St Vigeons Road, Reservoir shown hatched in **Appendix A**.
- (4) Gives public notice under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website of the intention to discontinue the road and sell the land to the adjoining property owner by private treaty in accordance with Council's Sale of Minor Assets Policy May 2022.
- (5) As part of its Community Engagement process, Council invites both written and verbal submissions on the proposed sale and deal with any submissions received in line with the principles set out in section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- (6) A further report will be presented to Council to consider the findings of the consultation and the response from VSBA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 DAREBIN PROPERTY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - TRANCHE 2

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 26th May 2025, Council decided to offer 26 properties (including 16 parcels of land across the Merrilands Estate in Reservoir) for use by community and commercial organisations, via an open, equitable and transparent Expression of Interest (EOI) process, with the aim of identifying organisations interested in leasing or licensing these properties.

The EOI campaign ran from 14 July to 22 September 2025 through various channels. At EOI close, 29 submissions were received, relating to 14 Council properties, out of which:

- Council resolved how to proceed in relation to 7 Properties on 24th November 2025 (**Tranche 1**)
- 7 properties are covered in this Report (**Tranche 2**)

Following evaluation by an independent assessment panel in accordance with the approved evaluation criteria and probity advice, Council officers recommend the following:

1. Proceed with negotiating Heads of Agreement (HoA) with preferred organisations for five Tranche 2 properties, with the intention to formalise lease or license agreements
2. Invite four Respondents (for two Tranche 2 properties) to a detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) phase, to encourage Respondents to submit their “Best and Final Offers”, before returning to Council in 2026 to seek Council decision on next steps.
3. Take a bespoke approach for two Tranche 2 properties, having regard to the property context and the submissions received.

EOI Tranche 2 Properties	Recommended next steps
Pioneer’s Retreat – 152-154 St Georges Road	HoA – Lease Agreement
2 Wingrove Street Alphington	HoA - License Agreement (2 parties)
43 James Street Northcote	HoA - Lease Agreement
15-17 Ralph Street Reservoir (old Reservoir Library)	☐ RFP ☐ HoA – License Agreement (2 parties)
8 Robinson Road, Reservoir	RFP
59B Roseberry Avenue Preston (old Preston Police Station)	Other
Edwardes Lake Boathouse	☐ HoA – License Agreement ☐ Other

Refer to the Confidential **Appendix A** (Confidential Full Officer Recommendation) and **Appendix B** (Confidential Property EOI Tranche 2 Evaluation Report) for full details.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Thanks all applicants for their interest in Council properties.
- (2) Notes the outcomes of the assessment against the evaluation criteria for Tranche 2 Sites (as outlined in confidential **Appendix B – Confidential Property EOI Tranche 2 Evaluation Report**)
- (3) For the property known as Pioneers Retreat, located at 152-154 St Georges Road, Northcote– Offer **Submitter 1** a 9-year lease, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the lease agreement.
- (4) For the property at Sheds 2 and 4 within Building 1D at 2 Wingrove Street Alphington, offer:
 - a. **Submitter 2**, a 3-year license (or until 2028 – whichever is earlier), and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.
 - b. **Submitter 3** a 3-year license (or until 2028 – whichever is earlier) and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.
- (5) For the property at 43 James Street Northcote, offer **Submitter 4** a 9-year lease, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the lease agreement.
- (6) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, offer an interim license agreement to **Submitter 5** for 12 months, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.
- (7) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, known as the old Reservoir Library, invites **Submitter 6** to a detailed Request for Proposal stage with a view to obtain a **Best and Final Offer (BAFO)** within a mutually agreed timeframe, following which Council officers will return to Council for a decision on next steps (as outlined in **Appendix B**).
- (8) For the property at 8 Robinson Road, Reservoir, invites – **Submitter 7, Submitter 8 & Submitter 9**, to a Request for Proposal stage, with the Respondents to confirm their “Best and Final Offer” (BAFO) within 30 business days, commencing from 15 January 2026. Following assessment of BAFOs received Council officers will return to Council for a decision on the preferred Respondent(s) and key terms.
- (9) For the property at 200 Edwardes Street Reservoir:
 - a. **Offer Submitter 10** a 3-year licence (in accordance with full details outlined in **Appendix B**), and
 - b. **Proceed** with the recommended actions, as outlined in **Appendix B**.
- (10) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to:
 - a. Make public the selected applicant organisation’s name, the term of the offer, and a brief description of the proposed use, and in due course, any other non-confidential information relating to the leases or licenses.
 - b. Release Request for Proposals, negotiate and execute Heads of Agreement and lease and/or licence agreements, in accordance with the key terms outlined in this resolution and **Appendix B**, noting that for the avoidance of doubt, this resolution takes precedence over any conflicting key terms in **Appendix B**.
 - c. Formally notify and provide feedback to unsuccessful parties.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. R Jelley
SECONDED: Cr. J O'Brien

That Council:

- (1) Thanks all applicants for their interest in Council properties.
- (2) Notes the outcomes of the assessment against the evaluation criteria for Tranche 2 Sites (as outlined in confidential **Appendix B** – Confidential Property EOI Tranche 2 Evaluation Report)
- (3) For the property known as Pioneers Retreat, located at 152-154 St Georges Road, Northcote **defer the decision until the next ordinary Council meeting.** ~~Offer **Submitter 1** a 9-year lease, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the lease agreement.~~
- (4) For the property at Sheds 2 and 4 within Building 1D at 2 Wingrove Street Alphington, **defer the decision until the next ordinary Council meeting offer:**
 - a. ~~**Submitter 2**, a 3-year license (or until 2028 – whichever is earlier), and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.~~
 - b. ~~**Submitter 3** a 3-year license (or until 2028 – whichever is earlier) and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.~~
- (5) For the property at 43 James Street Northcote, offer **Submitter 4** a 9-year lease, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the lease agreement.
- (6) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, offer an interim license agreement to **Submitter 5** for 12 months, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.
- (7) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, known as the old Reservoir Library, invites **Submitter 6** to a detailed Request for Proposal stage with a view to obtain **a Best and Final Offer (BAFO)** within a mutually agreed timeframe, following which Council officers will return to Council for a decision on next steps (as outlined in **Appendix B**).
- (8) For the property at 8 Robinson Road, Reservoir, invites – **Submitter 7, Submitter 8 & Submitter 9**, to a Request for Proposal stage, with the Respondents to confirm their “Best and Final Offer” (BAFO) within 30 business days, commencing from 15 January 2026. Following assessment of BAFOs received Council officers will return to Council for a decision on the preferred Respondent(s) and key terms.
- (9) For the property at 200 Edwardes Street Reservoir:
 - a. **Offer Submitter 10** a 3-year licence (in accordance with full details outlined in **Appendix B**), and
 - b. **Proceed Further consider** with the recommended actions, as outlined in **Appendix B including any capital investment in the Boathouse facility, during development of the 2026-27 budget**
- (10) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to:
 - a. Make public the selected applicant organisation's name, the term of the offer, and a brief description of the proposed use, and in due course, any other non-confidential information relating to the leases or licenses.

- b. Release Request for Proposals, negotiate and execute Heads of Agreement and lease and/or licence agreements, in accordance with the key terms outlined in this resolution and **Appendix B**, noting that for the avoidance of doubt, this resolution takes precedence over any conflicting key terms in **Appendix B**.
- c. Formally notify and provide feedback to unsuccessful parties.

(11) For the property 59B Roseberry Ave, Preston (the old Preston Police Station), defer the decision until next ordinary Council meeting.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-204

MOVED: Cr. R Jelley
SECONDED: Cr. J O'Brien

That Council:

- (1) Thanks all applicants for their interest in Council properties.
- (2) Notes the outcomes of the assessment against the evaluation criteria for Tranche 2 Sites (as outlined in confidential **Appendix B – Confidential Property EOI Tranche 2 Evaluation Report**)
- (3) For the property known as Pioneers Retreat, located at 152-154 St Georges Road, Northcote defer the decision until the next ordinary Council meeting.
- (4) For the property at Sheds 2 and 4 within Building 1D at 2 Wingrove Street Alphington, defer the decision until the next ordinary Council meeting.
- (5) For the property at 43 James Street Northcote, offer **Submitter 4** a 9-year lease, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the lease agreement.
- (6) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, offer an interim license agreement to **Submitter 5** for 12 months, and proceeds to negotiate Heads of Agreements to enter into the license agreement.
- (7) For the property at 15-17 Ralph Street, Reservoir, known as the old Reservoir Library, invites **Submitter 6** to a detailed Request for Proposal stage with a view to obtain a **Best and Final Offer (BAFO)** within a mutually agreed timeframe, following which Council officers will return to Council for a decision on next steps (as outlined in **Appendix B**).
- (8) For the property at 8 Robinson Road, Reservoir, invites – **Submitter 7, Submitter 8 & Submitter 9**, to a Request for Proposal stage, with the Respondents to confirm their “Best and Final Offer” (BAFO) within 30 business days, commencing from 15 January 2026. Following assessment of BAFOs received Council officers will return to Council for a decision on the preferred Respondent(s) and key terms.
- (9) For the property at 200 Edwardes Street Reservoir:
 - a. **Offer Submitter 10** a 3-year licence (in accordance with full details outlined in **Appendix B**), and
 - b. Further consider with the recommended actions, as outlined in **Appendix B** including any capital investment in the Boathouse facility, during development of the 2026-27 budget.
- (10) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to:

- a. Make public the selected applicant organisation's name, the term of the offer, and a brief description of the proposed use, and in due course, any other non-confidential information relating to the leases or licenses.
 - b. Release Request for Proposals, negotiate and execute Heads of Agreement and lease and/or licence agreements, in accordance with the key terms outlined in this resolution and **Appendix B**, noting that for the avoidance of doubt, this resolution takes precedence over any conflicting key terms in **Appendix B**.
 - c. Formally notify and provide feedback to unsuccessful parties.
- (11) For the property 59B Roseberry Ave, Preston (the old Preston Police Station), defer the decision until next ordinary Council meeting.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Arturi, Boglis, Jelley, O'Brien, Olaris, Sangster, Tsalkos, and Dimitriadis (8)
Against: Cr's Villella (1)

9.8 PLANNING AMENDMENT (BETTER DECISIONS MADE FASTER) BILL 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025* has been introduced to the Victorian Parliament. The Bill proposes changes to the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*.

The Government has described the Bill as the “*biggest overhaul of Victoria’s planning laws in decades...*”

Victoria’s 79 councils are currently the primary users of the *Planning and Environment Act* (the Act) and the primary decision-makers on planning proposals in Victoria. Councils have had very limited consultation, and community have not been consulted on the Bill.

There are elements of the Bill that are positive and will strengthen the planning system in Victoria.

There are also elements that will benefit from consultation and further consideration. These elements include the extent of change, potentially significant cost and resource implications for councils, and significantly reduced community ability to make submissions and to appeal planning decisions.

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has prepared the ‘*Local Government Position: Planning Amendment Bill 2025*’ position paper (**Attachment A**) that provides an analysis of the impact of the Bill and makes 32 recommendations for improvement. A key ask is that the Bill be referred to a public inquiry to allow further consideration of the proposed reforms.

It is recommended that Council endorses the MAV’s position paper.

Revised Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the Municipal Association of Victoria’s Local Government Position: Planning Amendment Bill 2025 at **Attachment A**.
- (2) **Notes on 9 December 2025 the Legislative Council passed the *Planning Amendment Bill (Better Decisions Made Fast) 2025*.**

Motion

MOVED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)
SECONDED: Cr. R Jelley

- (1) Endorses the Municipal Association of Victoria’s Local Government Position: Planning Amendment Bill 2025 at **Attachment A**.
- (2) Notes on 9 December 2025 the Legislative Council passed the *Planning Amendment Bill (Better Decisions Made Fast) 2025*.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-205

MOVED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

SECONDED: Cr. R Jelley

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the Municipal Association of Victoria's Local Government Position: Planning Amendment Bill 2025 at Attachment A.
- (2) Notes on 9 December 2025 the Legislative Council passed the *Planning Amendment Bill* (Better Decisions Made Fast) 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is undertaking a review of its advisory committee model, which currently comprises 15 specific-purpose advisory committees. The review has so far assessed the model's operational effectiveness and its alignment with Council's strategic priorities and has identified a series of strategic and operational opportunities. In particular, the review has found that while the current approach has provided valuable input into Council decision-making, it has also led to fragmented advice, limited strategic alignment, and operational inefficiencies.

To address these issues and maximise impact, this report recommends transitioning to fewer, more broadly focussed advisory committees that more clearly align to Council Plan themes and strategic objectives. This streamlined model would strengthen the strategic focus of community advice, better recognise intersectionality and how different issues overlap and affect people in different ways, and help Council to address complex issues more effectively.

An in-principle decision to this extent will enable the review to be finalised with more detailed planning and recommendations presented at the March 2026 Council meeting.

To support a smooth transition, it is proposed that the operation of the current 15 advisory committees be extended to 30 June 2026, and that the new model commence on 1 July 2026.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-206

MOVED: Cr. K Olaris OAM
SECONDED: Cr. V Tsalkos

That Council:

- (1) Notes that the Advisory Committee Review is still underway and has already identified a range of strategic and operational opportunities.
- (2) Provides in-principle support for transitioning towards a model of fewer, more-broadly based advisory committees that more clearly align to Council Plan themes and strategic objectives.
- (3) Approves the extension of the current 15 advisory committees to 30 June 2026 to enable further work and Council consideration with a view to implementing the new model from 1 July 2026.
- (4) Receives a report at the March 2026 Council meeting with more details about the proposed future model including the number and scope of advisory committees, Terms of Reference and relevant transition processes.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Arturi, Jelley, O'Brien, Olaris, Sangster, Tsalkos and Dimitriadis (7)
Against: Cr's Boglis and Villella (2)

9.10

**2025-26 Q1 PERFORMANCE REPORT - ENDING 30
SEPTEMBER 2025**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to prepare a Council Plan containing the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives, and indicators to monitor the achievement of those objectives.

The 2025-26 Q1 Performance Report includes Q1 updates for Our Darebin Action Plan, Customer Experience Performance, Health & Wellbeing, and Service Performance.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-207

MOVED: Cr. V Tsalkos
SECONDED: Cr. J O'Brien

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Q1 Performance Report ending 30 September 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.11

PROJECT AND INITIATIVE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Every year Council delivers capital works projects, operating projects and other initiatives to support community, reform policy, renew and improve a wide range of community assets such as drainage, buildings, roads, footpaths, cycle lanes, parks, and more.

Occasionally, it becomes necessary to revisit initial project budget allocations to ensure projects remain aligned with their intended scope and objectives. In keeping with Council's commitment to transparency and responsible financial stewardship, any recommended adjustments to project budgets are outlined in Table 1 and Table 2 of this document.

This is the second monthly report presented to Council. Ongoing updates will continue to be provided at future Council meetings.

To enable Council's consideration of project budget adjustments each month, two 'project accounts' (within the financial system) have been established that have the effect of quarantining returned or unallocated program budget funds – one for Capital Works Program funds and one for unallocated Operating Projects and Special Initiatives funds. A key purpose of quarantining these funds is to enable Council to respond should projects encounter budget challenges or unplanned needs or to consider time critical initiatives that may arise outside of the annual budget cycle.

If Council approves the recommended adjustments, the quarantined funds would be:

- Unallocated Capital Works Program Account: \$48,237
- Unallocated Operating Projects and Special Initiatives Program Account: \$105,000

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-208

MOVED: Cr. V Tsalkos
SECONDED: Cr. A Villella

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Project Budget updates and **approves** adjustments for the Capital Works Program as per Table 1 of this report.
- (2) Notes the Project Budget updates and **approves** adjustments for the Operating Projects as per Table 2 of this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12

GOVERNANCE REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Summary of Councillor attendance at Advisory Committees Meetings, Councillor Briefings, and other informal meetings of Councillors (**Appendix A**).
- Activity Reports by Mayor and Councillors.
- Status of petitions tabled during the current Council Term (November 2024 to 24 November 2025) (**Table A**)
- Bi Annual Confidential Resolutions Review for the period of 1 June 2025 to 1 December 2025 (**Table B**)
- Amendment to the “Eligibility & Conditions - Rented Homes” for the Energy Support Program.
- Audit and Risk Committee Revised Charter (**Appendix B**)

**Revised Officer
Recommendation****That Council:**

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – December 2025.
- (2) Notes the summary of attendance at Advisory Committees Meetings, Councillor Briefings, and other informal meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report.
- (3) Notes that the activity reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Notes that there were no public questions taken on notice at the Council Meeting on 24 November 2025.
- (5) Notes the status of petitions tabled during the current Council term (November 2024 to 24 November 2025) (**Table A**).
- (6) Notes the confidential items considered by Council for the period of 1 June 2025 to 1 December 2025 that have been reviewed and are required to remain confidential.
- ~~(7) Endorses a correction to the Item 9.13 Climate Emergency Plan – Energy Support Program, as endorsed at the 24 November 2025 Council Meeting and amends Appendix A, so that the first dash point under “Eligibility & Conditions – Rented Homes” reads follows:

“~~_____ Total household income must be no more than \$120,000 for a single-income household, or the average of \$60,000 per adult income earner up to a combined \$180,000 for family households or a combined \$300,000 for share households.~~”~~
- (7) Endorses the Audit and Risk Committee Charter (**Appendix B**).

Motion

MOVED: Cr. V Tsalkos

SECONDED: Cr. J O'Brien

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – December 2025.
- (2) Notes the summary of attendance at Advisory Committees Meetings, Councillor Briefings, and other informal meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report.
- (3) Notes that the activity reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Notes that there were no public questions taken on notice at the Council Meeting on 24 November 2025.
- (5) Notes the status of petitions tabled during the current Council term (November 2024 to 24 November 2025) (**Table A**).
- (6) Notes the confidential items considered by Council for the period of 1 June 2025 to 1 December 2025 that have been reviewed and are required to remain confidential.
- (7) Endorses the Audit and Risk Committee Charter (**Appendix B**).

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 25-209

MOVED: Cr. V Tsalkos

SECONDED: Cr. J O'Brien

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Governance Report – December 2025.
- (2) Notes the summary of attendance at Advisory Committees Meetings, Councillor Briefings, and other informal meetings of Councillors at **Appendix A** to this report.
- (3) Notes that the activity reports by Mayors and Councillors submitted prior to the meeting and circulated to Councillors, will be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) Notes that there were no public questions taken on notice at the Council Meeting on 24 November 2025.
- (5) Notes the status of petitions tabled during the current Council term (November 2024 to 24 November 2025) (**Table A**).
- (6) Notes the confidential items considered by Council for the period of 1 June 2025 to 1 December 2025 that have been reviewed and are required to remain confidential.
- (7) Endorses the Audit and Risk Committee Charter (**Appendix B**).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTIVITY REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS – 15 DECEMBER 2025**REPORT OF CR. EMILY DIMITRIADIS MAYOR**

Cr. Dimitriadis reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities

Monday, 24 November

- Council Meeting

Tuesday, 25 November

- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 26 November

- Creating an Inclusive Narrative Round Table Series - Bahá'í Australia & Darebin Council

Thursday, 27 November

- Meeting with Nathan Lambert MP
- Greek-Australian Society x NUGAS Victoria End of Year Drinks

Friday, 28 November

- Mayoral Leadership Program at VLGA

Monday, 1 December

- Meeting with Kat Theophanous MP
- Councillor Briefing Session
- Councillor Budget Workshop

Tuesday, 2 December

- Feministmas

Wednesday, 3 December

- Councillor Session with Polykala

Thursday, 4 December

- Northern Business Achievement Awards (NBAA) Grand Finale & NORTH Link 30th Anniversary Dinner

Friday, 5 December:

- The Hellenic Medical Society of Australia End of Year Celebration

Saturday, 6 December

- Christmas Songs at the Lake (Edwards Lake Park)

Monday, 8 December

- Councillor Briefing Session

Tuesday, 9 December

- Visit to A Blanck Canvas

Wednesday, 10 December

- Christmas Lunch – Australian Ex-Servicemen's Elderly Greek Seniors Club of Northcote
- East Preston Community Centre - End of Year BBQ Invitation
- Christmas lunch at SPAN

Thursday, 11 December

- Centre of Greek Ex Servicemens Elderly Citizens Club of Darebin & Districts - Christmas Lunch
- Our Songs: Northcote Civic Square event

Friday, 12 December

- Victorian Roller Derby League – Community Skate
- LIVE interview on ERT in Greece

Saturday, 13 December

- Our Songs at Keon Park Children's Hub

Weekly meetings

- CEO/Mayor Weekly Catch up

REPORT OF CR. MATT ARTURI

Cr. Arturi reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- 21 November 2025 - Meeting with the Mayor
- 24 November 2025 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 28 November 2025 – VLGA Mayoral Leadership Program
- 29 November 2025 – Opening of Darebin Chess Tournament
- 1 December 2025 – Councillor Briefing and Budget Workshop
- 4 December 2025 – NBAA Grand Final Gala Event
- 6 December 2025 – Christmas Songs at the Lanke, Reservoir
- 8 December 2025 – Councillor Briefing Session
- 10 December 2025 – Audit and Risk Committee (Observing)
- 13 December 2025 – Meeting with Keon Park Football Club and Cr Tsalkos
- 15 December 2025 – Meeting with the Mayor

REPORT OF CR. CONNIE BOGLIS OAM

Cr. Boglis reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- November 27th - Mary Rogers Award finalist (emerging leader) – Parliament House
- November 29th – Reservoir Traders Christmas event Reservoir Library
- December 1st – Meeting with Community
- December 2nd – Meeting with Community & Domestic Animal management committee
- December 4th – Northern business awards – Novotel Bell St, Preston

- December 10th – East Preston Community Centre event & Darebin Audit and Risk Committee
- December 11th - Northcote Town Hall, "Awkward Christmas photo"
- December 14th – Penders park Yoga
- December 15th – Darebin Council meeting
- December 17th – Council Christmas party
- December 18th – Animal facility tour (Djerring)

REPORT OF CR. RUTH JELLEY

Cr. Jelley reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

Council meetings:

- Ordinary Council meeting, 24 November
- Councillor briefings: 1 December (attended online & departed early due to illness), 8 December
- Facilitated discussion on managing difficult decisions, 3 December

Committee meetings as Darebin Council representative

- Metropolitan Transport Forum Annual General Meeting, 3 December
- Metropolitan Transport Forum Executive end-of-year lunch, 5 December

Events attended as Councillor

- Walk Against Family Violence, 28 November

Other:

- Various meetings and correspondence with residents

REPORT OF CR. JULIE O'BRIEN

Cr. O'Brien reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Nov Ordinary Council Meeting
- Councillor Briefing Meeting x 2
- Budget Workshop
- Facilitated Workshop – Managing Difficult Decisions
- Committee Meeting – Attended MCMC AGM
- Council Event – One Night Only at Northcote Town Hall
- Committee Meeting – Chaired LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee
- Community Event – Northern Business Achievement Awards
- Council Event – Our Songs: Christmas Songs at Edwardes Park Lake
- Council Event – Our Songs: Christmas Festivities at Northcote Town Hall
- Reading and analysis of papers for all meetings, briefings, training etc.

- Contact (in person/online) with residents on various matters including:
 - Consultation – Follow up on submissions made to Council Plan process
 - Council Services – Creche closure at NARC
 - Planning Matter – Follow up about McDonalds planning application
 - Safe Transport – Infrastructure issues and fear of safety for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers @NARC
 - Community Amenity – Dumped Rubbish at Charity Bins
 - `Policy – Differing community concerns about the flag policy and implications for the Palestinian flag
 - Climate Action – Concerns about item on Council Agenda
 - Property Queries – Private and Street Tree Management, ROW Safety

REPORT OF CR. KRISTINE OLARIS OAM

Cr. Olaris reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

Monday 24 November

- Council Meeting

Tuesday 25 November

- Handover meeting with Mayor Dimitriadis
- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Thursday 27 November

- Mary Rogers Awards for Women in Local Government

Monday 1 December

- Councillor Briefing Session
- Councillor Workshop

Tuesday 2 December

- LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

Wednesday 3 December

- Councillor workshop
- Meeting with CEO

Thursday 4 December

- Governing in the Climate Emergency Session
- Northern Business Achievement Awards Grand Final Gala

Saturday 6 December

- Our Songs - Christmas Songs at the Lake event

Monday 8 December

- Meeting with Alex Makes Meals Founder and Head of Operations

- Councillor Briefing Session

Wednesday 10 December

- Christmas lunch - Australian Ex-Servicemen's Elderly Greek Seniors Club of Northcote
- East Preston Community Centre – End of Year BBQ
- Darebin Audit and Risk Committee meeting

Thursday 11 December

- Christmas Lunch – Centre of Ex-Servicemen's Elderly Citizens Club of Darebin and Districts
- Our Songs - Northcote Civic Square event

REPORT OF CR. ALEXANDRA SANGSTER

Cr. Sangster reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities

- I have attended the Facilitated Conversation with Polykala.
- Attended the Arts and Heritage Meeting.
- Attended all council briefings and meetings.
- Attended the Screening of Bathtub Analogy at Bundoora Homestead.
- Attended Climate Emergency Australia meeting
- Attended the Community Carols at Edwardes Lake
- Met with Alex Makes Meals
- Attended the Northern Councils Interfaith Gathering.
- Participated in Hamper Packing with Bridge.

REPORT OF CR. VASILIOS TSALKOS

Cr. Tsalkos reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- KP Hardiman Reserve Pavilion Opening (7 November 2025)
- Hellenic Women's Federation of Victoria – Zorba and Baklava Dance (8 November 2025)
- Speech at the Big Community Picnic of Unity Event (9 November 2025)
- Darebin Community Awards Presentation Night (9 November 2025)
- Councillor Briefing (10 November 2025)
- Councillor Briefing (11 November 2025)
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (12 November 2025)
- Councillor Mandatory Professional Development (14 November 2025)
- Conversations with Councillors | Reservoir (15 November 2025)
- Fairfield Traders | Philhellenika Festival (16 November 2025)
- Councillor Briefing (17 November 2025)

- Agapi Care – International Men’s Day (19 November 2025)
- Special Meeting – Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor (20 November 2025)
- Pre Council Meeting (24 November)
- Council Meeting (24 November 2025)
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (25 November 2025)
- One Night Only by Jackson Castiglione and Rawcus (27 November 2025)
- Councillor Briefing (1 December 2025)
- Darebin Nature Trust Advisory Committee (2 December 2025)
- NBAA Grand Finale Gala (4 December 2025)
- Christmas Songs at the Lake (6 December 2025)
- Councillor Briefing (8 December 2025)
- Darebin Audit and Risk Committee meeting (10 December 2025)
- Northcote Civic Square Event (Our Songs) (11 December 2025)
- Meeting with Keon Park Soccer Club and Cr Arturi (13 December 2025)
- Meeting with Reservoir East Primary School | Nathan Lambert MP, Ged Kearney MP (15 December 2025)

REPORT OF CR. ANGELA VILLELLA

Cr. Villella did not submit an activity report.

9.13

**APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR DELEGATES TO
COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATIONS - 2026****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of appointment of Councillor Delegates to:

- State-wide, Metropolitan, Regional and Darebin-based Organisations (**Table A**)
- Audit and Risk Committee and CEO Employment Matters Committee (**Table B**)

**Revised Officer
Recommendation**

That Council:

- (1) Appoints Councillor representatives to the State-wide, Metropolitan, Regional and Darebin-based Organisations and entities as listed in ~~the report at~~ **Table A below** for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.
- (2) Appoints Councillor representatives to the Audit and Risk Committee and CEO Employment Matters Committee as listed in ~~the report at~~ **Table B below** in the Report for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.

Motion

MOVED: CR. R JELLEY

SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That Council:

- (1) Appoints Councillor representatives to the State-wide, Metropolitan, Regional and Darebin-based Organisations and entities as listed in **Table A** below for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.
- (2) Appoints Councillor representatives to the Audit and Risk Committee and CEO Employment Matters Committee as listed **Table B** below in the Report for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 25-210**

MOVED: Cr. R Jelley

SECONDED: Cr. M Arturi (Deputy Mayor)

That Council:

- (1) Appoints Councillor representatives to the State-wide, Metropolitan, Regional and Darebin-based Organisations and entities as listed in **Table A** below for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.
- (2) Appoints Councillor representatives to the Audit and Risk Committee and CEO Employment Matters Committee as listed **Table B** below in the Report for a period of 12 months, or until such time as Council makes a further resolution on the matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TABLE A State-Wide, Metropolitan, Regional and Darebin-Based Organisations - 2026 APPOINTMENTS:

State-wide, metropolitan or regional organisation	Nominees required for 2026	Appointments 2026
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	One Councillor and one proxy	Cr Arturi Proxy: Cr Boglis OAM
M9 Alliance	Mayor of Day and proxy CEO	Mayor: Cr Dimitriadis Proxy: CEO
Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum	Mayor of Day and proxy	Cr Villella Proxy: Cr Dimitriadis
Friends of Baucau Inc.	One Councillor	Cr O'Brien
Climate Emergency Australia	One Councillor	Cr Sangster
Metropolitan Transport Forum	One Councillor	Cr Jelley
Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action	One Councillor	Cr Tsalkos
Northern Council Alliance	Mayor of the Day, one proxy and Chief Executive Officer	Mayor: Cr Dimitriadis CEO Proxy: Cr Arturi
Merri Merri Wayi	One Councillor	Cr Sangster
Darebin Ethnic Communities Council	Two Councillors	Cr Villella Cr Boglis OAM
Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)	One Councillor	Cr Boglis OAM
Darebin Creek Management Committee Inc.	Two Councillors <i>(This is a legally separate Incorporated Association of which Council is a member. Committee members need to act in the Association's interests when in this role (it is not a representative role). Council can nominate up to 2 committee members but does not have to. The AGM of the Association receives Council's nomination and then decides whether to appoint the nominee. Historically it has nominated 1 Councillor.)</i>	Cr Arturi Cr Sangster

State-wide, metropolitan or regional organisation	Nominees required for 2026	Appointments 2026
Merri Creek Management Committee Inc.	One Councillor <i>(This is a legally separate Incorporated Association of which Council is a member. Committee members need to act in the Association's interests when in this role (it is not a representative role). The AGM of the Association receives Council's nomination and then decides whether to appoint the nominee.)</i>	Cr O'Brien

Table B - Standing Committees - 2026 APPOINTMENTS

Standing Advisory Committees	Nominees required for 2026 (Based on adopted Charter and/or the <i>Local Government Act</i>)	Appointments 2026
Audit and Risk Committee	Mayor of the Day One Councillor One Proxy	Mayor: Cr Dimitriadis Cr Tsalkos Proxy: Cr O'Brien Proxy: Cr Olaris OAM
CEO Employment Matters Committee	When there is a vacancy in the position of CEO and the Committee is advising Council on the recruitment and appointment process: - Independent Chair - All Councillors	All Councillors
	— All other times: - Independent Chair - Mayor of the day - Deputy Mayor - 3 Councillors	

10. ITEMS TO BE TABLED

Nil.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 DAREBIN'S CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 15 December 2025, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

- (1) *Receives a report no later than the March 2026 Council meeting on the implications of, and requirements for shifting Council's emphasis in addressing the climate emergency to adaptation, including:*
 - a. *The current measures Council is taking to adapt to climate change*
 - b. *Options for how Council can increasingly shift its emphasis to climate adaptation in light of the now substantial incentives being offered by other levels of government to encourage emissions reductions by households and businesses*
 - c. *Advice on the emphasis that other local governments place on adaptation verses mitigation*
 - d. *Options for strengthening and prioritising climate adaptation in its planning and implementation of works and activities during the remainder of the Council term.*
 - e. *Options for ensuring that Council's actions around the climate emergency are increasingly directed to improvement of its key assets (especially roads and open space), via improved coordinated planning and works, to ensure optimal mitigation of climate extremes for the community.*

Notice Received: 26 November 2025

Notice Given to Councillors 26 November 2025

Date of Meeting: 15 December 2025

MOTION

MOVED: CR. A Villella

SECONDED: -

That Council:

- (1) *Receives a report no later than the March 2026 Council meeting on the implications of, and requirements for shifting Council's emphasis in addressing the climate emergency to adaptation, including:*
 - a. *The current measures Council is taking to adapt to climate change*
 - b. *Options for how Council can increasingly shift its emphasis to climate adaptation in light of the now substantial incentives being offered by other levels of government to encourage emissions reductions by households and businesses*

- c. Advice on the emphasis that other local governments place on adaptation verses mitigation
- d. Options for strengthening and prioritising climate adaptation in its planning and implementation of works and activities during the remainder of the Council term.
- e. Options for ensuring that Council's actions around the climate emergency are increasingly directed to improvement of its key assets (especially roads and open space), via improved coordinated planning and works, to ensure optimal mitigation of climate extremes for the community.

LAPSED (FOR WANT OF A SECONDER)

12. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

13. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Nil.

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

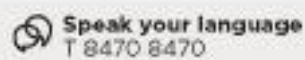
The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CITY OF DAREBIN

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