



**COUNCIL MEETING OF
THE HUME CITY COUNCIL**

MONDAY, 14 AUGUST 2023

7.00PM

TOWN HALL BROADMEADOWS

OUR VISION:

Hume City Council will be recognised as a leader in achieving social, environmental and economic outcomes with a common goal of connecting our proud community and celebrating the diversity of Hume.

An audio recording of this meeting of the Hume City Council will be recorded and published in accordance with Council's Audio Recordings of Council Meetings Policy. The live stream of this meeting will not be recorded or published.

HUME CITY COUNCIL

**Notice of a
COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL**
to be held on Monday, 14 August 2023
at 7.00pm
at the Town Hall Broadmeadows

Attendees:	a: Council	Cr Joseph Haweil Cr Karen Sherry Cr Jarrod Bell Cr Trevor Dance Cr Chris Hollow Cr Jodi Jackson Cr Naim Kurt Cr Jack Medcraft Cr Sam Misho Cr Carly Moore Cr Jim Overend	Mayor Deputy Mayor
	b: Officers	Ms Sheena Frost Ms Rachel Dapiran Mr Hector Gaston Mr Adam McSwain Mr Carl Muller Ms Fiona Shanks Mr Fadi Srour	Chief Executive Officer Director City Planning and Places Director City Services & Living Director Infrastructure and Assets Director Customer & Strategy Chief People Officer Chief Financial Officer

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Hume City Council would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Country for which the members and Elders of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and their forebears have been custodians for many thousands of years. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, are the Traditional Custodians of this land. Hume City Council would also like to pay its respects to their Elders, past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who may be here today.

2. PRAYER

Hume City's religious diversity strengthens and enriches community life and supports the well-being of the citizens of Hume City. Hume City Council acknowledges the importance of spiritual life and the leadership offered by the Hume Interfaith Network (HIN). In recognition of the religious diversity of residents in Hume City, Council has invited the HIN to take responsibility for the opening prayer at Council meetings. This evening's prayer will be led by President Antonio Hellebuyck, 1st Councillor in the Craigieburn Stake Presidency, from the [Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints community on behalf of the Hume Interfaith Network.

3. APOLOGIES**4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Councillors' attention is drawn to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules in relation to the disclosure of conflicts of interests. Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest immediately before consideration or discussion of the relevant item. Councillors are then required to leave the Chamber during discussion and not vote on the relevant item.

5. CONGRATULATIONS & CONDOLENCES**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 July 2023, including Confidential Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 July 2023, including Confidential Minutes, be confirmed.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**8. OFFICER'S REPORTS**

The Mayor will ask the Councillors and gallery at the commencement of this section, which reports they wish to speak to. These reports will then be discussed in the order they appear on the notice paper.

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10. ITEMS TO BE TABLED**11. URGENT BUSINESS**

12. DELEGATES REPORTS**13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

The Meeting may be closed to members of the public to consider confidential items.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to consider the following items:

13.1 Contract – Construction of Oval 3 – Greenvale Recreation Reserve

Item 13.1 is confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(g(i)) and (g(ii)) of the Local Government Act 2020 because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets, and because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

The specified grounds apply because it contains information relating to tender and contractual matters

13.2 Contract – Construction of Additions and Alterations – Ginifer Reserve Pavilion - Updated Recommendation

Item 13.2 is confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(g(ii)) of the Local Government Act 2020 because it is private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

The specified grounds apply because the report deals with Contractual matters.

144. CLOSURE OF MEETING

**SHEENA FROST
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

9/08/2023

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REPORT NO:	8.1
REPORT TITLE:	Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2023 - Final Adoption
SOURCE:	Samuel Ferrier, Manager City Safety
DIVISION:	City Services & Living
FILE NO:	HCC21/944
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	1.3: Promote a healthy, inclusive and respectful community that fosters community pride and safety
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023</i>2. <i>Solicitor's Certificate of Legal Review pursuant to section 74 of the Local Government Act 2020</i>3. <i>Detailed Consultation Summary - Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023</i>4. <i>Summary of submissions and comments received during public exhibition</i>

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

- 1.1. This report seeks Council's adoption and making of the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No. 1 2023 in accordance with section 74 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

2.1. Having:

- 2.1.1. Completed the statutory process under Division 3, Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* for the making of the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 (included at attachment 1);
- 2.1.2. Obtained a certificate from a suitably qualified lawyer stating that, in their opinion, the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 is consistent with the local law requirements set out in section 72 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (included at attachment 2); and
- 2.1.3. Undertaken community engagement in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy in respect to the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 and having considered submissions received as summarised and included at attachment 3 and 4;
resolves to make the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No. 1 2023 with a commencement date of 12.01 am Monday 4 September 2023; and,

2.2. At this time, revokes the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2013; and,

2.3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to publish a notice stating:

- 2.3.1. The title of the new local law; and,
- 2.3.2. The objectives of the new local law; and
- 2.3.3. The effect of the new local law

in the Victorian Government Gazette and on Council's website pursuant to section 74(4) of the Local Government Act 2020; and,

REPORT NO: 8.1 (cont.)

- 2.4. **Make a copy of the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 available at Council’s office and on Council’s internet site.**

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

- 3.1. The *Local Government Act 2020* prescribes the process for the development, exhibition and adoption of local laws made by Councils.
- 3.2. Section 73 of the Act sets out the requirement for Council to publish a notice of intent to make a local law, and to consult with the community on the proposed local law prior to adoption. Section 74 requires for a certificate to be obtained from an Australian lawyer who has been admitted to the legal profession for at least five years stating that in their opinion, the proposed local laws are consistent with local law requirements.
- 3.3. Council’s Draft Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2023 was placed on public exhibition during the period 14 February to 31 March 2023 in line with Council’s requirements under section 73 of the Act.
- 3.4. The proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 has been reviewed and certified pursuant to section 74 of the Act by Kate Emily Oliver, Partner at Maddocks. This certificate is included at attachment 2.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1. The costs associated with Council publishing a notice in the Victorian Government Gazette and enacting the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 can be accommodated within exiting operational budget.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

- 5.1. There are no environmental sustainability considerations associated with this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

- 6.1. There are no climate change adaptation considerations associated with this report.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

- 7.1. Local Laws are developed within the context of other legislation, including the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (the Charter). The Charter applies to the Local Law as a whole, as well as to the substantive provisions included within.
- 7.2. The Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 has been reviewed within the context of the Charter and has been found to be compatible with Human Rights and requirements under the Charter.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

- 8.1. The Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 has been informed by extensive engagement and consultation with community members, internal and external stakeholders. This included:
 - 8.1.1. The Hume City Local Law Community Survey
 - 8.1.2. Community Focus Groups
 - 8.1.3. Analysis of Council customer service request and complaint data

REPORT NO: 8.1 (cont.)

- 8.1.4. Workshop and focus groups with internal safety and amenity stakeholders
- 8.1.5. Councillor workshops focused on exploring issues and needs in the community and to fine tune clauses and provisions within the local law.
- 8.2. During the public exhibition period, community members and stakeholders were given a further opportunity to provide feedback and input into the local law. The results of the public exhibition period are detailed within the discussion section of this report.

9. DISCUSSION:

Public submissions, comments and consideration of responses

- 9.1. During the public exhibition period, 756 people visited the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 page on Council's online engagement portal – Participate Hume.
- 9.2. Council received 108 pieces of feedback, including:
 - 9.2.1. 91 comments via the Participate Hume Konveio tool which allowed respondents to make comments against sections, clauses and provisions included in the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023; and,
 - 9.2.2. 17 individual email responses.
- 9.3. A detailed consultation report including all feedback captured during the public exhibition period is included at attachment 3.
- 9.4. All responses, comments and submissions have been carefully considered, and a summary report outlining key areas of feedback and officer consideration and analysis is included at attachment 4.

Councillor discussion and feedback relating to penalty units (Note: to be removed post briefing)

- 9.5. During a Council briefing session on 15 May 2023, officers received feedback from Councillors in relation to penalty units that had been assigned for offences included within the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No. 1 2023.
- 9.6. Given this feedback, a further, extraordinary briefing session focused on penalty units was delivered to Councillors on 29 May 2023. This session was led by Kate Emily Oliver – Partner at Maddocks legal firm.
- 9.7. In summary, this briefing session covered:
 - 9.7.1. Conditions and guidelines that should be observed and considered by Council when assigning penalty units; and,
 - 9.7.2. Implications if Council was to seek to amend proposed penalty units included in the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023, particularly if Council was inclined set these over and above the '*Attorney-General Guidelines to the Infringements Act 2006 for Legislating Agencies*'.
- 9.8. It is the advice of officers that Council proceed with adopting the Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2023 in its current format with view to carefully monitor the impact of included penalties, and to amend later if deemed necessary.

REPORT NO: 8.1 (cont.)

Post exhibition amendments to the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

- 9.9. No substantive changes are proposed to be made to the draft Hume City General Purpose Local Law No. 1 2023 as a result of submissions received during the public exhibition period.
- 9.10. Minor amendments have been made to wording and definitions included in the final Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 in response to feedback provided by the lawyer engaged by Council to perform the legal certification process. These changes were deemed necessary to improve clarity and to ensure that Council’s intended outcomes are achieved.
- 9.11. These changes do not introduce material changes to the intended outcomes of the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No. 1 2023, and as such, do not necessitate further community engagement. These changes are briefly summarised in the table below:

Section	Revision
Definitions – Page 8	Simplification of reference to ‘domestic waste and recycling bin’ to ‘domestic bin’.
Definitions – Page 9	Inclusion of definition for ‘Dog Waste’ – meaning the excreta of any dog.
Definitions – Page 9	Removal of definition and reference to ‘Council Land’ as this has been replaced with ‘Municipal Land’ throughout the document.
Definitions – Page 9	Inclusion of a definition for ‘Hoon Event’, being: Means one or more motor vehicles being driven in a manner that intentionally or recklessly leads to the motor vehicle/s: (a) losing traction; (b) racing; (c) time trialling; or (d) emitting undue noise or smoke.
Definitions – Page 10	Removal of definition of ‘moveable advertising sign’ as already captured within definition of ‘advertising sign’.
Definitions – Page 10	Removal of definition of ‘power-assisted pedal cycle’ as covered by definition of ‘wheeled recreational devices’.
Clause 18 – Storage of Vehicles, page 13	Minor alterations to subclause (18-2) to improve clarity that the effect of the clause is to prohibit parking for more than 2 months without a permit.
Clause 19 – Recreational Vehicles	Replacement of reference to ‘recreational vehicle’ to ‘wheeled recreational device’ to improve clarity on vehicles subject to this clause and in line with earlier definitions.
Clause 49 – Collection and Storage of Domestic Bins	Changes to structure of subclauses to improve clarity/avoid misinterpretation.

REPORT NO: 8.1 (cont.)

Enactment of Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

- 9.12. It is proposed that the new, Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 comes into operation at 12:01 am Monday 4th of September 2023. Council’s current Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2013 will be revoked at this time.
- 9.13. The proposed enactment date of the local law seeks to allow suitable lead time for the following activities to be completed by Council prior to the local law coming into effect:
 - 9.13.1. Publishing of notice in the Victorian Government Gazette
 - 9.13.2. Dispatch of the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 to Council customer service centres, and on Council’s website
 - 9.13.3. Update to Council officer authorisation under the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023.

Gender Impact Assessment

- 9.14. Consistent with requirements under the Gender Equality Act 2020, a Gender Impact Assessment of the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 has been conducted.
- 9.15. The assessment revealed that a gender lens has been appropriately applied during the review and development process, and that enactment of the local law is not expected to create inequitable impacts across genders, cultures or abilities.
- 9.16. In particular, the Gender Impact Assessment noted that:
 - 9.16.1. The Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 has removed gender-based language, consistent with best practice;
 - 9.16.2. The community consultation process conducted to inform the local law has provided equitable opportunities for participation from diverse community members, offering multiple avenues for community members to participate, including the delivery of in-language focus groups; and,
 - 9.16.3. The Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 incorporates multiple clauses and provisions focused on supporting and improving safety, amenity and accessibility in the Hume City community.

10. CONCLUSION:

- 10.1. The *Local Government Act 2020* prescribes the process for developing, exhibiting and adopting Local Laws.
- 10.2. Following an extensive review, development, and consultation process to deliver the Draft Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2023 commenced in early 2022, the draft was placed on public exhibition during the period 14 February – 31 March 2023.
- 10.3. Responses and submissions received during the public exhibition period have been carefully considered, and the final, proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 has been presented for final Council consideration and adoption.

REPORT NO: 8.1 (cont.)

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General Purposes Local Law No.1 2023

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Incorporated by Reference

Building and Works Code of Practice

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PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Title

(1) This Local Law is the “*General Purposes Local Law No. 1*”.

2. Authorising Provisions

(1) This Local Law is made under section 71 of the Local Government Act 2020.

3. Objectives

(1) The objectives of this Local Law are to:

- (a) Provide for the peace, order and good government of the **municipal district**;
- (b) Promote a physical and social environment free from hazards to health, in which the residents of the **municipal district** can enjoy a quality of life that meets the general expectations of the community;
- (c) Prevent and manage nuisances which may adversely affect the enjoyment of life or the health, safety and welfare of persons within the **municipal district**;
- (d) Regulate and manage activities of people which may be dangerous, unsafe or detrimental to the quality of life of other people in, or the environment of, the **municipal district**; and
- (e) Regulate and control the use of, activities on, and interference with, **municipal places, roads** and **Council** assets.

4. Commencement

(1) This Local Law commences to operate on 4 September 2023.

5. Cessation

(1) This Local Law ceases to operate on the day that is ten (10) years after the day that it commences, unless revoked earlier.

6. Revocation of Earlier Local Law

(1) On the commencement of this Local Law, Council’s General Local Law No. 1 2013 is revoked.

7. Application

- (1) This Local Law applies throughout the whole of the **municipal district**.
- (2) This Local Law does not apply where any act or thing is authorised by or under any Act, Rule, Regulation or the **Planning Scheme**.
- (3) The provisions of this Local Law do not apply to Council contractors, agents or employees to the extent that the proper discharge of their duties and obligations would otherwise constitute a breach of this Local Law.

8. Definitions

Words and phrases	Meaning
Act	Means the Local Government Act 2020.
Advertising sign	Includes any placard, inflatable sign, portable electric sign, illuminated, revolving, spinning, or flashing sign, flag, banner, A-frame structure and other object or similar sign that can be securely and safely positioned, being of a fixed or transient nature, including being affixed to a vehicle, trailer, bicycle, tricycle, trolley, or other object.
Alcohol	Has the same meaning as liquor.
Animal	Without limiting the ordinary meaning of ‘animal’, includes a bird, a dog, a cat, a pig, cattle, a horse, sheep, a goat, poultry, a rabbit, a ferret, a reptile and an insect.
Animal waste	Means the excreta of any animal.
Appointed agent	Means the person authorised in writing by an owner of a building or land to make an application, appeal, referral, or representation on their behalf and includes a property manager.
Asset Protection Permit	Means a permit issued under clause 0 of this Local Law.
Authorised Officer	Means any person appointed by Council to be an Authorised Officer under sections 224 and 224A (members of Victoria Police) of the Local Government Act 1989.
Barbeque	Means a device used for the cooking of food outdoors whether constructed or manufactured and whether powered by gas, electricity, liquid or solid fuel, or any combination of them and includes a device for spit roasting when used outdoors.
Builder	Means a person who has been nominated as the builder on a building permit and the person in charge of building work being carried out, the person actually conducting building work and the owner of the land on which building work is being carried out.
Building and Works Code of Practice	Means the Building and Works Code of Practice adopted by Council on 22 May 2023 as amended from time to time and which is incorporated in this Local Law.
Building works	Includes any work for or in connection with: (a) the construction, demolition, renovation, alteration or removal of any building or structure; (b) earthworks such as excavation, digging or boring associated with the construction, demolition, renovation, alteration or removal of any building or structure; and (c) the delivery and removal of goods or materials.
Bulk rubbish container	Means a bin, skip or other container used for the deposit of waste but excludes a domestic bin.
Busk / busking	Means performing in a public place, whether by acting, juggling, singing, playing a musical instrument or otherwise entertaining passers-by, with or without collecting money.
Camping / to camp	Means the occupation or use as accommodation of a tent, makeshift structure, caravan, mobile home or any other moveable vehicle or relocatable building or structure.
Camping area	Means any land within the Municipal District that has been declared by Council to be a ‘Camping Area’ for the purposes of this Local Law.
Caravan	Means any moveable vehicle which includes sleeping and/or living facilities, whether manufactured to luxury standard or privately converted from a standard vehicle, and includes a caravan, camper trailer, campervan, mobile home and other similar towed living/sleeping trailer facility.
Chief Executive Officer	Means the Chief Executive Officer of Council and any person acting in that position, and includes a person authorised by the Chief Executive Officer to

REPORTS – OFFICERS’ REPORTS

14 AUGUST 2023

COUNCIL MEETING

Attachment 1 - Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

Words and phrases	Meaning
	act on their behalf in relation to this Local Law.
Clothing / donation bin	Means a bin or similar container used for the collection of used clothing and/or other goods.
Council	Means Hume City Council.
Council asset	Means any municipal place or road and includes but is not limited to: (a) kerbs, drains, footpaths, street trees and vegetation; and (b) any thing on a municipal place or road which is owned by, or under the control and management of, Council.
Dog waste	Means the excreta of any dog.
Domestic bin	Means a landfill bin, recycling bin, organics bin or other designated bin provided by Council to a property.
E-cigarette	Has the same meaning as in the Tobacco Act 1987.
ESTA	Means the Emergency Service Telecommunication Authority.
E-waste	Means any waste item that uses a plug, battery or power cord.
Event	Means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social event or gathering of people.
Event amusement	Includes but is not limited to a jumping castle, pony ride, carnival ride and inflatable device.
Event infrastructure	Includes but is not limited to a marquee, gazebo, generator, portable toilet, food or beverage vendor and stage.
Fence / fencing	Means an enclosure by design or intent that is used for the confinement of an Animal or for security, privacy, amenity or boundary marking and may include (but is not limited to) a gate, grid or similar structure.
Fire	Has the same meaning as in the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.
Fire Danger Period	Has the same meaning as in the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.
Footpath	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Road Rules 2017.
GVM	Means the Gross Vehicle Mass of a vehicle.
Heavy vehicle	Has the same meaning as in the Heavy Vehicle National Law (Victoria).
Hoon Event	Means one or more motor vehicles being driven in a manner that intentionally or recklessly leads to the motor vehicle/s: (a) losing traction; (b) racing; (c) time trialling; or (d) emitting undue noise or smoke.
Incinerator	Has the same meaning as in Section 38A(1A) of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.
Infringement Notice	An Infringement Notice issued under the Infringements Act 2006.
Land	Has the same meaning as in the Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984.
Licensed premises	Means premises licensed under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 to sell or serve alcohol and includes premises which have been granted a BYO permit under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998.
Liquor	Has the same meaning as in the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998.
Long vehicle	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Road Rules 2017.
Manager	Means a person appointed by Council or the Chief Executive Officer to manage any Municipal Building, Municipal Reserve or other Municipal Place, or any other Authorised Officer or Delegated Officer.
Miniaturised motor cycle	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Act 1986.
Minor building works	Building work valued at less than \$10,000 but excludes demolition and removal of buildings and structures and the installation of swimming pools (regardless of value).
Motor cycle	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Act 1986.

REPORTS – OFFICERS’ REPORTS**14 AUGUST 2023****COUNCIL MEETING**

Attachment 1 - Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

Words and phrases	Meaning
Motor vehicle	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Act 1986.
Municipal building	Means any building (and its grounds) owned by, vested in, or under the control or management of Council, which has some or all areas designated for public or community access but may also have some or all areas designated for employee or staff only access.
Municipal district	Means the municipal district of the Council.
Municipal place	Means any place within the municipal district that is owned by, vested in, or under the control or management of Council, which the public may or may not have access to (whether an admittance fee is required or not), including a municipal reserve, library and municipal building but excluding a road.
Municipal reserve	Means any land, waterway and water course owned by, vested in, or under the control or management of Council, and used or set aside as a reserve, but excludes a road and any areas leased to other parties.
Notice to Comply	Means a Notice to Comply issued by Council or by an Authorised Officer under this Local Law.
Noxious weed	Has the meaning as in the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
Occupier / occupant	Means the person or persons in charge, or having the management or control of, or legally entitled to occupy land (including premises) and includes the owner of the land, a lessee and licensee of the land, and a person who occupies short stay rental accommodation for short stay purposes.
Online	Means electronically via Council’s website.
Outdoor eating facility	Means any tables and/or chairs that are used for commercial purposes and are located outdoors at which food or drinks are served and may be consumed.
Owner	In relation to land means the person who is registered on the Certificate of Title as the owner of the land, or the person who is entitled to be so registered, or the person who is otherwise entitled to exercise any rights of ownership of the land.
Penalty unit	Has the same meaning as in the Sentencing Act 1991.
Permit	Means a permit issued under this Local Law.
Permit holder	Means the person to whom a permit is issued.
Pest Animal	Has the same meaning as in the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
Planning Scheme	Means the Hume Planning Scheme.
Policy	Means a policy applied by Council from time to time for the purposes of the particular provision in which the term is used.
Private property	Means any land which is privately owned or occupied, and structures and fixtures on such land.
Procession	Means an organised group of people progressing along a road or gathering for a ceremony or function and includes a fun run and/or bicycle event.
Property address	Means the road name and street number allocated to a property within the municipal district and may include, where there are multiple tenements within a property or multiple properties at one street number, the use of lot or unit numbers.
Retailer	Means a person who sells goods by retail and who provides shopping trolleys to customers.
Road	Has the same meaning as in the Local Government Act 1989.
Service authority	Means an entity (whether publicly or privately owned) which provides or intends to provide emergency services, water, sewerage, drainage, gas, electricity, telephone, telecommunications or like services under the

REPORTS – OFFICERS’ REPORTS**14 AUGUST 2023****COUNCIL MEETING**

Attachment 1 - Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

Words and phrases	Meaning
	authority of an Act of the Victorian or Commonwealth Parliament.
Shipping container	Has the same meaning as in the Planning Scheme.
Smoke	Has the same meaning as in the Tobacco Act 1987.
Smoke free area	Means any area prescribed by Council as smoke free.
Street festival	Means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social gathering of people that is held in full or in part on a road.
Street party	Means an organised social gathering of people from one or several adjacent roads that is held in full or in part on a road.
Street waste bin	Means a receptacle provided by Council in a public place for the purpose of receiving packaging, papers and other litter arising during the occupation or use of the public place by any person.
Tobacco product	Has the same meaning as in the Tobacco Act 1987.
Total Fire Ban	Has the same meaning as in Section 40 of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.
Trade waste	Means any waste, refuse, slops, and other matter arising from or generated by any trade, industry, or commercial undertaking.
Trade waste bin	Means a purpose-built container for the deposit of trade waste that is ordinarily emptied by mechanical means.
Trail bike	Means a motorcycle for use on rough terrain.
Tree	Includes plants and shrubs.
Vehicle	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Act 1986.
Vehicle crossing	Means the constructed surface between the road pavement and the property boundary for vehicle access to the property, including any footpath section, crossing culverts, kerb and channel, layback or end walls.
Vermin	Means an animal that has been proclaimed as vermin under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
Wheeled recreational device	Has the same meaning as in the Road Safety Road Rules 2017.

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PART 2 – ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PLACES

Division 1 – Use of Municipal Places and Roads

This Part contains provisions to protect the amenity of municipal places and roads through controls prohibiting persons from causing damage to them or acting in a socially unacceptable manner when using them. Municipal places are areas owned or managed by Council and include buildings and reserves.

9. Behaviour in a Municipal Place

- (1) A **person** must not behave in a **municipal place** in a manner that interferes with another **person’s** reasonable use and enjoyment of that **municipal place**.
- (2) A **person** must not behave in a **municipal place** in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger a person’s health, life, property or conduct of business.

10. Defacing or Damaging a Municipal Place

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not destroy, damage, deface, remove or interfere with:
 - (a) A **municipal place**;
 - (b) Any building, structure, infrastructure or any other thing on or in a **municipal place**;
 - (c) Any thing belonging to **Council** in a **municipal place**, unless authorised by **Council** to do so under this Local Law or otherwise; or
 - (d) Any **Council** property, **Council assets** or **private property** located on or in any **municipal place**.
- (2) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not build or erect a **fence** on, or otherwise occupy or place anything on, a **municipal place**.

11. Tree and Vegetation Protection in a Municipal Place

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not, on a **road** or **municipal place**, destroy, damage, remove, prune, lop, or otherwise interfere with any **tree** or vegetation or allow any person to destroy, damage, remove, lop, or otherwise interfere with any **tree** or vegetation.

12. Obstructions in a Municipal Place

- (1) Without a **permit**, a person must not place, permit to be placed, or allow to remain on a **road** or in a **municipal place**:
 - (a) A **bulk rubbish container**;
 - (b) A **clothing/donation bin**;
 - (c) A **shipping container**; or
 - (d) Any other thing which obstructs the ordinary use of the **road** or **municipal place**.
- (2) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may designate locations in a **municipal place** for the purpose of **clothing/donation bin permits**.

13. Council Sign

- (1) A person must comply with any sign erected or installed by or on behalf of **Council** on a **road** or **municipal place**.

14. Camping in a Municipal Place

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not **camp** in a **municipal place** unless such **person** is within a **camping area**.

15. Events

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not hold or organise any **event** in a **municipal place**.
- (2) Sub-clause (1) does not apply to a social gathering of one hundred (100) **persons** or less in a **municipal place**, except where the social gathering includes the installation or use of:
 - (a) An **event amusement**; or
 - (b) **Event infrastructure**.

16. Street Parties and Street Festivals

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not hold or organise a **street party**, **street festival**, **procession** or other similar activity on a **road**.
- (2) Marches for political or industrial causes are exempt from the requirement to obtain a **permit** under sub-clause 0, provided that Victoria Police are informed prior to the march.

Division 2 – Vehicles

17. Repair of Vehicles

- (1) A **person** must not paint, service, carry out maintenance on, dismantle or repair a **vehicle**, **caravan**, **boat** or any other thing on a **road** or **municipal place**, or authorise another **person** to do so, except in an emergency breakdown for the purpose of removing it.

18. Storage of Vehicles

- (1) Without a **permit**, a person must not place or store, or allow to be placed or stored a **caravan**, boat or trailer in or on a **road** or **municipal place**.
- (2) Without a **permit**, a person must not park any **vehicle** in a **municipal place**:
 - (a) Except:
 - (i) In an area set aside for the purpose;
 - (ii) When and where directed or authorised by Council or an Authorised Officer to do so; or
 - (iii) Upon payment of such fees (if any) as may be prescribed by Council from time to time; and
 - (b) For a period of time greater than two months.
- (3) A person must not display a **vehicle** for sale in or on a **road** or **municipal place**.

19. Wheeled Recreational Devices

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not on any part of any **municipal place**, excluding a **road**:
 - (a) Drive, ride on or otherwise use; or
 - (b) Permit a **person** under their care or control to drive ride on or otherwise use,a **wheeled recreational device** unless the part of the **municipal place** has been designated for that purpose.

20. Behaviour Involving Motor Vehicles

- (1) A **person** must not participate in, encourage or attend a **hoon event**.
- (2) The driver of a **vehicle** must not stop or park, for the purposes of attending a **hoon event**, within 200 metres of a **vehicle** involved in a **hoon event**.

Division 3 – Alcohol and Smoking

21. Possession and Consumption of Alcohol

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not consume **alcohol** or have in their possession **alcohol** in an open container in or on any **municipal place** or **road**, except at the times and in the places determined by **Council**.
- (2) Where a person has contravened or is contravening sub-clause (1), an **Authorised Officer** may direct that person to:
 - (a) Empty any open container containing **alcohol** or reseal that open container; or
 - (b) Surrender any open container containing alcohol to the **Authorised Officer**.
- (3) Sub-clauses (1) and (2) do not apply where the consumption of **alcohol** is permitted under the **Planning Scheme** or *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*.

22. Smoke-Free Areas

- (1) **Council** may, by resolution, declare any **municipal place** or **event** to be a **smoke-free area**.
- (2) A **person** must not smoke a **tobacco product** or **e-cigarette** in a **smoke-free area**.

Division 4 – Trading Activities

23. Roadside Trading or Performing

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not erect or place on any **road** or **municipal place**, a **vehicle**, **caravan**, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling or offering for sale any goods or services.
- (2) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not on any **road** or **municipal place** **busk** or play any musical instrument or use any sound amplification equipment for the purpose of public entertainment or performance.
- (3) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may designate predetermined locations in a **municipal place** for the purpose of roadside trading or performing **permits**.

24. Regulation of Trading Sites

- (1) If **Council** has entered into an arrangement (by way of **permit**, lease, licence or otherwise) in relation to trading from a particular site on a **road** or **municipal place**, a second **person** other than the **person** with whom **Council** has the arrangement must not trade from that site whether or not that second **person** has a **permit** for another site or no particular site.
- (2) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not sell or offer for sale any goods or services from any **private property** or **municipal place** adjacent to a **road** .

25. Displaying Goods for Sale

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not place or display, or cause or allow another **person** to place or display, any goods for sale on any **road** or **municipal place**.

26. Use of a Municipal Place for Outdoor Eating Facilities

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not use any **road** or **municipal place** for the purposes of an **outdoor eating facility**.

27. Removing the Outdoor Eating Facility

- (1) The **permit holder** must move or remove the **outdoor eating facility** to which the **permit** relates when requested to do so by an **Authorised Officer**, a member of Victoria Police, a member of an emergency service or a member of a **service authority** to facilitate cleaning or maintenance of the site, for public safety reasons or for any other reason.

28. Advertising Signs

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not erect, place or display on any part of a **road** or **municipal place** an **advertising sign**, or cause or in any way authorise another **person** to do so.

29. Collections

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not:
 - (a) Solicit or collect any money, items or subscriptions; or
 - (b) Distribute any handbills, flyers or other printed material,

on or from any **road** or **municipal place**, or from house to house, or cause or authorise another **person** to do so.
- (2) Sub-clause (1) does not apply to
 - (a) Hand delivering printed matter to street-side letterboxes;
 - (b) Delivery of newspapers, magazines and goods at the request of the **occupier** of the premises;
 - (c) Solicitation or distribution of printed electoral material; or
 - (d) The collection of signatures for a petition.

30. Shopping Trolleys

- (1) A **person** must not leave a shopping trolley on a **road** or in a **municipal place**, except in

an area designated for the leaving of shopping trolleys.

- (2) A **retailer** who provides shopping trolleys intended for the use of customers must ensure that their name and trading name are clearly marked on the shopping trolleys.
- (3) A **retailer** who provides shopping trolleys intended for the use of customers must ensure that each shopping trolley has a coin operated lock or perimeter constraint system attached to it.
- (4) A **retailer** must ensure that shopping trolleys left outside the **owner’s** premises when the business is closed are secured so as to prevent any shopping trolley being used.
- (5) Sub-clause (3) does not apply to a **retailer** who has less than twenty five (25) shopping trolleys available for the use of customers.

PART 3 – AMENITY

Division 1 – Your Property

31. Unsightly and Dangerous Properties

- (1) An **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must ensure that the **private property** and any structure on the **private property**:
 - (a) Does not constitute a danger to health of a **person, animal** or property;
 - (b) Is not detrimental to the amenity of the surrounding area, including through a lack of effective maintenance.
- (2) Without limiting subclause (1), **private property** or any structure on it may be unsightly or detract from the amenity of the surrounding area by reason of the presence of:
 - (a) Unconstrained rubbish or **waste** material;
 - (b) Conditions conducive to the harbourage and breeding of **vermin**;
 - (c) Disused excavations;
 - (d) Excessive vegetation, including grass exceeding 150mm in height;
 - (e) Machinery, **vehicles, caravans, boats** or any or any parts of them;
 - (f) Scrap metal;
 - (g) A building which is incomplete and not currently under construction; or
 - (h) A building or other structure or thing which is detrimental to the amenity of the surrounding area.
- (3) Without limiting subclauses (1) and (2), a **Notice to Comply** issued by an **Authorised Officer** with respect to an offence against this clause may include a direction that the **private property**, building or structure be:
 - (a) Cleared of any substance, material or equipment;
 - (b) Suitably fenced, screened or otherwise enclosed in the manner specified in the **Notice to Comply**;

- (c) Boarded up or otherwise secured to prevent access or otherwise alleviate the danger, unsightliness, nuisance, detriment to general amenity or offending condition; and/or
 - (d) Protected by warning signs or barriers to alert members of the public to the presence on the **private property** of a danger to persons entering the **private property**.
- (4) For the purposes of this clause, a building includes an outbuilding, fence and any other capital improvement on the **private property**.

32. Dilapidated Building

- (1) An **owner** or an **occupier** of **private property** which is unoccupied, unfit for occupation or normal use, or not occupied most of the time must:
- (a) Not allow a building located on the **private property** to become dilapidated or further dilapidated;
 - (b) Take all reasonable steps to secure any building located on the **private property** from unauthorised access; and
 - (c) Maintain any building located on the **private property** in a state of good repair and appearance, including undertaking temporary repairs as required to ensure on-site safety and security and to avoid the appearance of neglect that is out of character with neighbourhood amenity.
- (2) For the purposes of subclause (1), a building is considered dilapidated if the exterior of the building is in a state of disrepair or has deteriorated or fallen into a state of partial ruin as a result of age, neglect, poor maintenance, misuse or has been damaged or defaced.
- (3) For the purposes of this clause, a building includes an outbuilding, fence and any other capital improvement on the **private property**.

33. Noxious Weeds and Pest Animals

- (1) An owner or occupier of **private property** must take all reasonable steps to control, reduce and remove **noxious weeds** and **pest animals** on that **private property**.

34. Obstructions from Private Property

- (1) The **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must not allow any **tree**, sign, fence, structure or other thing on that **private property** to remain in such a manner that it causes danger to traffic, drivers or pedestrians by preventing an unobstructed passage or a clear view of other **vehicles** or signs or signals installed to control, direct, guide, regulate or warn traffic.
- (2) Without limiting sub-clause (1), the **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must not allow any **tree**, sign, fence, structure or other thing on that **private property** to:
- (a) Overhang a **road** or **municipal place** at a height of less than 2.4 metres; or
 - (b) Overhang the carriageway of a **road** at a height of less than 4.5 metres.

35. Shipping Containers

- (1) A **person** must not keep, store, repair or in any other manner use a **shipping container** on **land** without a **permit** issued under this Local Law unless the **Planning Scheme** requires a planning **permit** for such use and a planning **permit** under the **Planning Scheme** has been issued.

36. Clothing/donation bins

- (1) A **person** must not keep, store, repair or in any other manner use a **clothing / donation bin** on **private property** without a **permit**.

37. Camping on Private Property

- (1) A **person** must not **camp** on vacant **private property**.
- (2) A **person** may **camp** on **private property** where there is an existing dwelling for a cumulative period of not more than six (6) months in any twelve (12) month period provided that:
 - (a) Appropriate sanitary facilities are available to the **private property**; and
 - (b) There is no detrimental effect to the amenity of adjoining **land**.
- (3) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not camp on **private property** in excess of the period prescribed in subclause (2).
- (4) For the purposes of calculating a twelve (12) month period under sub-clause (2), it will commence on the first day that a person **camp**s on the **private property** and renew every 12 months thereafter.

38. Heavy and Long Vehicles on Private Property

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not keep, store or do work on any **vehicle** over 7.5 metres in length (including any trailer and fittings) and/or a **vehicle** with a **GVM** in excess of 4.5 tonnes.
- (2) Sub-clause (1)(b) does not apply to one (1) **caravan** being stored on **private property** by the **occupier**.

Division 2 - Animals

39. Keeping of Animals

- (1) Without a **permit**, an **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must not keep or allow to be kept on the **private property** any more of each species or group of **animals** than is stated in the following table.
- (2) For the purpose of calculating the numbers of any **animal** kept under sub-clause (1), the progeny of any dog or cat lawfully kept will be counted from twelve (12) weeks after its birth

Type of animal	Maximum allowed			
	Flats, units or townhouses	Land less than 4,000 square metres	Land between 4,000 and 10,000 square metres	Land greater than 10,000 square metres
Dogs	1	2	3	4
Cats	1	2	3	4
Domestic guinea pigs, rats and mice	5	5	20	20
Rabbits	5	5	10	20

Type of animal	Maximum allowed			
	Flats, units or townhouses	Land less than 4,000 square metres	Land between 4,000 and 10,000 square metres	Land greater than 10,000 square metres
Ferrets	5	5	5	5
Poultry (excluding roosters)	0	5	20	20
Caged birds (excluding large and/or noisy birds)	5	20	No limit	No limit
Large and/or noisy birds (including roosters)	0	0	2	5
Horses and donkeys	0	0	2	5
Cattle	0	0	5	10
Sheep and goats	0	0	6	15
Pigs	0	0	0	1
Any other livestock	0	0	2	2

(3) Without a **permit**, an **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must not keep an **animal** of a species not listed in the table in sub-clause (3) on that **private property**.

40. Housing of Animals

(1) An **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must ensure that any part of the **private property** used for housing an **animal** is:

- (a) Adequately fenced, and the fence and gates maintained in a satisfactory condition, so that any **animal** kept on the **private property** cannot escape from the **private property**; and
- (b) Maintained in a clean, inoffensive and sanitary condition and does not cause a nuisance to any other **person**, including by ensuring that:
 - (iv) The part of the **private property** surrounding the place where the **animal** is kept is free from rubbish or vegetation that could attract or harbour **vermin**;
 - (v) All **animal** food for consumption kept or stored on the **private property** is kept or stored in a **vermin** and fly-proof receptacle;
 - (vi) All **animal waste** is removed from the **private property** so as not to be offensive or a nuisance to any other person;
 - (vii) Any **animal** odour emanated from the **private property** does not interfere with the immediate amenity of the area; and
 - (viii) The **private property** is kept in accordance with any relevant Codes of Practice.

(2) An **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must not allow a structure used for housing an **animal** to be located:

- (a) less than six (6) metres from the frontage of the **private property**;
 - (b) less than one (1) metre from any boundary of the **private property**; or
 - (c) less than three (3) metres of a dwelling on adjoining **land**.
- (3) Sub-clause (2)(c) does not apply to any dog kennel, cat enclosure or bird aviary used to house small birds (excluding poultry).

41. Dog Waste on Roads and in Municipal Places

- (1) A **person** in charge of a dog on any **road** or **municipal place** must carry a facility for the effective removal of **dog waste** that may be deposited by that dog and must produce them on the request of an **Authorised Officer**.
- (2) A **person** in charge of a dog must not allow any part of **dog waste** generated by that dog to remain on any **road** or **municipal place** and must immediately collect and dispose of the **dog waste**.

42. Feeding of Wild Animals

- (1) If the feeding of an uncaged wild **animal** by a **person** is causing a nuisance, a detrimental environmental impact, or giving rise to a risk of damage to property, an **Authorised Officer** may direct the **person** to cease feeding the **animal**.

43. Wasps

- (1) An **owner** or **occupier** of **private property** must ensure that any European wasps on the **land** are destroyed.

Division 3 – Open Air Burning

44. Restrictions on Burning in the Open Air – Declared Fire Danger Period

- (1) Nothing in the following clauses permits a **person** to light a fire on any **land** in the **municipal district** during a declared **Fire Danger Period** (including a day of **Total Fire Ban**) or otherwise in contravention of the provisions of the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958* or the *Fire Rescue Victoria Act 1958*.

45. Burning of Offensive Materials

- (1) A **person** must not burn, or cause or allow to be burned, in any part of the **municipal district** any offensive materials, or any materials that may cause offensive emissions of smoke and odour to enter any neighbouring property. This includes but is not limited to:
 - (a) Manufactured chemicals or pressurised cans;
 - (b) Rubber or plastic;
 - (c) Electronic equipment and recyclable materials (excluding timber);
 - (d) Petroleum, oil or oil-based products;
 - (e) Paint or receptacle which contains or contained paint; and
 - (f) Food **waste**, fish or other offensive or noxious matter.

46. Restrictions on Burning in the Open Air – Private Property

- (1) A **person** must not place or use an incinerator on any land.
- (2) A **person** must not without a **permit**, light, or cause or allow to be lit, a **fire** in the open air on any **land** less than 4,000 square metres.
- (3) A person must not light, or cause or allow to be lit, a **fire** in the open air on any **land** 4,000 square metres or greater or in a designated bushfire prone area, except where the **fire** is lit for genuine fuel reduction purposes, and:
 - (a) The **fire** has been registered with **ESTA** and reasonable attempts have been made to notify the **occupier** of each property adjoining and immediately across the road from the **land** on which the **fire** is to be lit; and
 - (b) Until any **fire** lit has been completely extinguished:
 - (i) The perimeter of the burning area is regularly patrolled;
 - (ii) The **fire** is monitored to make sure smoke is not impacting on neighbouring properties or causing a traffic hazard;
 - (iii) An adequate number of adults and adequate **fire** suppression equipment or appliances are present; and
 - (iv) Any **fire** is extinguished and left in a state so that it does not reignite; and
 - (c) In the case of any pile **fire** burning, it is undertaken in accordance with the following:
 - (i) With a pile size no more than six (6) metres long by six (6) metres wide and three (3) metres in height of vegetation;
 - (ii) Material can be added to the **fire**, provided that the pile size is never permitted to exceed the area and height restrictions in sub-clause (i); and
 - (iii) More than one **fire** is permitted to be alight at any one time as long as there are enough people to monitor, contain and extinguish the **fires** safely and effectively if required; and
 - (d) Where a rural farming property manager, as part of their farm management practices, wishes to undertake a linear **fire** burn, being for the creation of a **fire** break along their property boundaries or for the removal of crops, grass or stubble with a slow burn type of operation, the property manager must ensure Clauses 42, 43(3)(a) and 43(3)(b) are followed.
- (4) Sub-clauses (1), (2) and (3) do not apply to fires:
 - (a) that are monitored and attended to by the **land occupant** and are:
 - (i) In a **barbecue**, pizza oven or other properly constructed appliance while it is being used for cooking food; or
 - (ii) In a chiminea, fire pit or other similar and properly constructed appliance while being used for heating;

- (b) Lit by **Council** staff members or any person contracted or authorised by **Council** for the purpose of undertaking controlled burning-off as a part of normal parks maintenance on any **road** or **municipal place**;
 - (c) Lit by **fire** and emergency services agencies carrying out training or **fire** hazard reduction activities; or
 - (d) Lit by a **person** for the purpose of enjoying their culture or practising their religion.
- (5) An **Authorised Officer** may grant exemptions or **permits** to any part of sub-clauses (1), (2) and (3) in special or unusual circumstances, such as for **fires** relating to disease control with dead stock, in emergencies, urgent circumstances or natural disasters.

47. Restrictions on Burning in the Open Air – Municipal Places

- (1) A **person** must not, without a **permit**, light or allow to be lit a **fire** in any **municipal place**.

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Division 4 – Waste and Recycling

48. Use of Domestic Bins

- (1) The **occupier** of premises to which Council provides a **Domestic Bin** for different classes of waste, recyclables or organics must use the **Domestic Bin** only for the purpose for which it was provided.
- (2) The **occupier** of premises to which **Council** provides a **Domestic Bin** must not place, or allow to be placed, in the **Domestic Bin** any:
 - (a) Slops or liquid waste;
 - (b) Concrete, masonry, bricks, building debris or soil, or machinery, engine or vehicle parts;
 - (c) **Trade waste**;
 - (d) Hazardous chemicals;
 - (e) Oil, paint, solvents, acids or similar substances or any other substance that may damage the bin or reduce its strength or effectiveness;
 - (f) The carcass of a deceased **animal**;
 - (g) Nightsoil (except that sanitary, continence aids and disposable nappies may be placed or caused to be placed in a garbage bin if they are wrapped in impervious material);
 - (h) Needles or syringes;
 - (i) Medical or infectious waste;
 - (j) **E-waste**; or
 - (k) Any other matter identified by Council from time to time by notice to **occupiers** of a **property**.

49. Collection and Storage of Domestic Bins

- (1) The **occupier** of premises may place the **Domestic Bins** out for collection on the nature strip or **road** reserve nearest the premises or in such other location as may be approved or permitted by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**, and must:
 - (a) Not place the **Domestic Bin** so as to interfere with the free movement of pedestrian or vehicular traffic;
 - (b) Place the **Domestic Bin** so that the opening of the bin is facing, and accessible from the **road**.
- (2) All **Domestic Bins** must be:
 - (a) maintained in a clean and tidy manner so as not to cause any health risk or be offensive to any **person**; and
 - (b) stored on the property to which they have been issued when not left out for collection.
- (3) A **Domestic Bin** must be covered by its lid at all times, except when items are being

deposited in or removed from the **Domestic Bin**.

- (4) A **person** must not damage or interfere with a **Domestic Bin** or its contents.
- (5) A **person** must not place materials into a **Domestic Bin** issued to another premises.

50. Hard Waste Collection

- (1) Where **Council** provides a hard waste collection, the hard waste to be collected:
 - (a) Must be left within the property’s boundary or other location directed or authorised by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**; and
 - (b) Must be left for collection in accordance with the instructions given by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** at the time of booking the hard waste collection.

51. Street Waste Bins

- (1) A **person** must not deposit any waste or recyclable material in a **street waste bin** contrary to any sign, notice or label detailing the type of waste that will be received in the **street waste bin**.
- (2) A **person** must not deposit, or authorise the deposit of, any household waste or any waste or recyclable material that has originated from a commercial activity, into a **street waste bin**.

52. Trade Waste Bins (Including Trade Recycling Bins)

- (1) Waste bins used for the collection and storage of **trade waste** or recyclables must:
 - (a) Be constructed of approved impervious material to prevent leakage, absorption or accumulation of any refuse or rubbish that may be deposited in it;
 - (b) Be water-tight, fly and vermin proof;
 - (c) If its capacity exceeds 500 litres, contain a removable drainage plug for the purpose of cleaning; and
 - (d) Be fitted with a fly and vermin proof lid with overlapping flanges, which must be kept continuously closed, except when being used for the immediate deposit of **trade waste**.
- (2) Waste bins used for the collection and storage of **trade waste** or recyclables must be regularly emptied to prevent the contents from becoming offensive.
- (3) The **owner** or **occupier** of any **private property** at which waste bins used for the collection and storage of **trade waste** are kept must ensure that the bins are kept on the **private property** on which the **trade waste** is generated except for the period from twelve (12) hours before their collection to (4) hours following their collection.
- (4) The **owner** or **occupier** of any **private property** at which waste bins used for the collection and storage of **trade waste** are kept must ensure that:
 - (a) The bin is, or bins are, stored and maintained in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition;
 - (b) Any public land, including a **road**, adjoining the storage area is kept clean and free from rubbish or run-off at all times;

- (c) The surface upon which the bin is, or bins are, stored is impervious and graded and drained to the sewer or an approved outlet with such silt traps or other treatment devices;
 - (d) The site on which the bin is, or bins are, stored is supplied with a tap connection and hose;
 - (e) The bin is, or bins are, screened from public view; and
 - (f) The bin is, or bins are, adequately constructed, located or secured in such a way as to deny access to the public.
- (5) Waste bins used for the collection and storage of **trade waste** must display a notice, sign or label indicating the:
- (a) Type of **trade waste** permitted to be deposited in that bin; and
 - (b) **Property address** at which the bin is usually kept.
- (6) A **person** must not place **trade waste**:
- (a) In a **street waste bin**;
 - (b) In a **clothing/donation** bin;
 - (c) On a hard waste collection pile;
 - (d) In a **Council** supplied bin that is for the purpose of residential collection; or
 - (e) In a **Council** supplied bin that is for commercial collection, for a property they do not own or occupy.

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PART 4 – COUNCIL ASSET PROTECTION

53. Occupation of Roads and Municipal Places

- (1) Without a **permit**, a person must not occupy all or part of a **road** or **municipal place**.
- (2) The requirement to obtain a **permit** does not apply to the occupation of a **road** or **municipal place**:
 - (a) By a **service authority** in an emergency or urgent circumstances;
 - (b) In connection with works being carried out in accordance with the *Road Management Act 2004*;
 - (c) By a contractor providing works or services to **Council**; or
 - (d) By a **person** who has been granted a **permit** under another provision of this Local Law which permits that **person** to occupy a **road** or **municipal place**.

54. Council Asset Protection – Building Works

- (1) A **builder, owner, occupier** or **appointed agent** must not carry out or allow to be carried out **building works** on or in respect of **private property** unless **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** has issued an **Asset Protection Permit** in respect of that **private property**.
- (2) An **Asset Protection Permit** may be subject to such conditions as **Council** or the **Authorised Officer** deems appropriate.
- (3) Without limiting sub-clause (2), an **Asset Protection Permit** may include a condition that the **permit holder** pays to Council a bond, in the form of a bank guarantee or such other form specified, before commencing the works to which the **Asset Protection Permit** applies.
- (4) A **builder, owner, occupier** or **appointed agent** of a **private property** must comply with any conditions or requirements in the **Asset Protection Permit** and **Council’s Building and Works Code of Practice**.
- (5) The requirements of sub-clause (1) and (2) do not apply where **minor building works** are being undertaken.

55. Drainage Tapping and Discharging Groundwater

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not:
 - (a) Tap into, destroy, damage or interfere with any drain which is the property or under the control of **Council**; or
 - (b) Discharge groundwater into any drain which is the property or under the control of **Council** or into or onto any **road** or **municipal place**.

56. Damage to Council Assets – Building Works

- (1) The **builder, owner, occupier** or **appointed agent** of **private property** on or in respect of which **building works** have been carried out must repair any damage to any Council asset caused by the carrying out of the **building works** to the satisfaction of **Council**.

- (2) Where an **Authorised Officer** determines that any **vehicle crossing** or **Council asset** has been damaged as a result of or arising out of the **building works** carried out on **private property**, the **builder, owner, occupier** or **appointed agent** of the **private property** on which the **building works** have been carried out must, if directed by **Council**:
 - (a) Repair the damage; or
 - (b) Reimburse **Council** for the cost of repairing the damage.
- (3) The amount of reimbursement for such repairs under sub-clause (2)(b) must not exceed the actual cost to **Council** of repairing any damage.

57. Requirement for Vehicle Crossings

- (1) An **owner** of **private property** must ensure that each point of **vehicle** access from a **road** to the **private property** has a properly constructed **vehicle crossing** between the **road** and the boundary of such **private property** abutting the **road**.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-clause (2), a **vehicle crossing** is properly constructed if:
 - (a) It was constructed by, or in accordance with the terms of an approval given by, **Council**; or
 - (b) **Council** has approved in writing the method of construction of the particular **vehicle crossing** and the **vehicle crossing** has been constructed in accordance with that approved method.
- (3) An **owner** of **private property** must, at their own cost, ensure that the **vehicle crossing** between the **road** and the boundary of such **private property** is maintained.
- (4) In the event that a **vehicle crossing** becomes redundant, **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may direct the **owner** or **occupier** of the **private property** to which the **vehicle crossing** provides access to remove it.

58. Constructing a Vehicle Crossing

- (1) Without a **permit**, a **person** must not construct, install, remove or alter a **vehicle crossing**, whether temporarily or permanently.
- (2) A **person** must not remove, prune or damage any tree growing on a **road** in the course of, or in connection with, the construction, installation, removal or alteration of a **vehicle crossing**.

59. Vehicular Site Access

- (1) The **builder, owner, occupier** or **appointed agent** of **private property** on or in respect of which **building works** have been or are being carried out must ensure that vehicular entry to the **private property** takes place only across the existing **vehicle crossing** or a temporary **vehicle crossing**.

PART 5 – ADMINISTRATION

60. Permits

- (1) An application for a **permit** under this Local Law must be
 - (a) submitted in a form approved by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**; and
 - (b) accompanied by the fee prescribed by **Council**, unless waived by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**.
- (2) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may require an applicant for a **permit** to supply more information before **Council** or the **Authorised Officer** deals with the **permit** application, or to give notice of the application in a manner specified by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**.
- (3) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may in their absolute discretion decide:
 - (a) to grant a **permit** with or without conditions; or
 - (b) to refuse to grant a **permit**.
- (4) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may cancel a **permit** if:
 - (a) the conditions of the **permit** have been breached;
 - (b) a **Notice to Comply** has been issued, but not complied with within the time specified in the **Notice to Comply**;
 - (c) there was an error or misrepresentation in the application for the **permit**; or
 - (d) there has been a change of circumstances which has occurred since the issue of the **permit**.
- (5) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may correct a **permit** if that **permit** contains:
 - (a) an unintentional error or an omission; or
 - (b) a miscalculation of figures or a mistake in the description of a **person**, thing, or property referred to in the **permit**.
- (6) Before cancelling or correcting a **permit** under sub-clause (4) or (5), **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** must notify the **permit holder** of the intention to cancel or correct the **permit** and provide the **permit holder** an opportunity to make written submissions on the proposed cancellation or correction.
- (7) **Council** may exempt a **person** or class of **persons** from the requirement to obtain a **permit** under this Local Law.
- (8) Except where expressly stated in this Local Law or in a **permit**, a **permit** expires one (1) year after the date of issue.
- (9) **Council** must keep a register of **permits** and any correction or cancellation of a **permit** must be noted in this register.

(10) The holder of a **permit** issued under this Local Law must comply with all **permit** conditions.

(11) A **person** must not make a false representation or declaration in an application for a **permit** or **permit** exemption.

61. Setting Fees and Charges

(1) **Council** may determine the fees, charges, bank guarantees or bonds to apply under this Local Law, which may include an administrative or processing fee or charge.

62. Differential or Structured Fees and Charges

(1) In determining any fees and charges, **Council** may establish a system or structure of fees and charges, including minimum and maximum and pro-rata fees or charges.

63. Waiver of Fees and Charges

(1) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may waive the whole or part of any fee or charge otherwise payable under this Local Law, with or without conditions, upon receipt of a written submission from the applicant stating reasons why any such fee or charge should be waived.

PART 6 – ENFORCEMENT

64. Exemptions

(1) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may exempt a person or class of persons from the operation of any provision of this Local Law if it is in the public interest to do so.

(2) Any exemption under sub-clause (1):

(a) must be in writing; and

(b) may be subject to conditions.

65. Power to Issue a Direction

(1) An **Authorised Officer** may, by serving a direction, request any **person** apparently responsible for a situation that contravenes this Local Law to remedy that situation.

(2) A direction issued under sub-clause (1) may be verbal or written.

(3) A person to whom a direction is issued under sub-clause (1) must comply with that direction.

66. Notice to Comply

(1) An **Authorised Officer** may issue a **Notice to Comply** to any **person** who has contravened any provision of this Local Law.

(2) A **Notice to Comply** issued under sub-clause (1) must:

(a) Specify the thing in breach of the Local Law;

(b) Specify the thing to be done or the work to be carried out work to remedy the thing in breach of this Local Law; and

- (c) State the time and date by which the thing must be done or the work carried out.
- (3) The time required by a **Notice to Comply** issued under sub-clause (1) must be reasonable in the circumstances, having regard to:
 - (a) The amount of work involved;
 - (b) The degree of difficulty;
 - (c) The availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - (d) Climatic conditions;
 - (e) The degree of potential risk posed by the breach; and
 - (f) Any other relevant factor.
- (4) Within ten (10) days of being issued a **Notice to Comply**, a **person** may make representations to **Council** or the **Authorised Officer** about matters contained in the **Notice to Comply**, unless the **Notice to Comply** is urgent and requires immediate compliance to ensure the safety of the community or an affected person or poses a danger to the environment.

67. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances

- (1) **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** may take action to remove, remedy or rectify circumstances which threaten a **person’s** or an **animal’s** life or health or any property without issuing a verbal direction under clause 65 or a **Notice to Comply** under clause 66, provided that:
 - (a) **Council** or the **Authorised Officer** determine that the circumstances are sufficiently urgent and that the time necessary, or potential difficulty in, issuing a **Notice to Comply** may place a **person, animal, property, or the environment** at risk or in danger of substantial detrimental effect; and
 - (b) The **Chief Executive Officer** or their delegate, not being the **Council Officer** administering this clause, approves of the proposed action; and
 - (c) Details of the circumstances and of the remedial action taken are as soon as practicable forwarded to the **person** apparently responsible for the circumstances that were remedied.
- (2) Action taken by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** under this clause shall not extend beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement or minimisation of the risk or danger involved.

68. Impounding

- (1) An **Authorised Officer** may seize and impound a thing which has been or is being used or possessed in contravention of this Local Law.
- (2) Where a thing has been impounded under this Local Law, **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** must, if it is practicable to do so, serve notice of the impounding personally or by post on the person who appears to be the owner of the impounded thing.

- (3) If the identity or whereabouts of the owner of a thing impounded under this Local Law is unknown, **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** must take reasonable steps to ascertain the owner’s identity or whereabouts prior to exercising their powers under Clause 08.
- (4) An impounded thing must be surrendered to
 - (a) Its owner; or
 - (b) A person acting on behalf of its owner who provides evidence to the satisfaction of an **Authorised Officer** of their authority from the owner; and
 - (c) On payment of any fee and reasonable costs of impounding determined by **Council** or an **Authorised Officer**.
- (5) Sub-clause (4) does not apply where the impounded thing cannot be kept or possessed in accordance with this Local Law or any Act or regulation.

69. Disposal

- (1) An **Authorised Officer** may sell, destroy, dispose of, or give away any thing impounded under this Local Law if:
 - (a) The owner or a **person** acting on the owner’s behalf has not claimed the impounded thing in accordance with Clause 680 within fourteen (14) days of service of the notice of impounding;
 - (b) The owner of the thing or a **person** acting on the owner’s behalf has not paid the fee and reasonable costs of impounding as determined under Clause 680 within fourteen (14) days of service of the notice of impounding; or
 - (c) After reasonable and diligent efforts and enquiries, **Council** or an **Authorised Officer** has been unable to serve a notice of impounding on the owner of the impounded thing.
- (2) If the impounded thing is perishable and will not survive the period specified in sub-clause (1), an **Authorised Officer** may dispose of the thing sooner.
- (3) **Council** is entitled to retain the proceeds of sale of any impounded thing towards its reasonable costs incurred in impounding, keeping, and selling the thing and any remaining proceeds will be returned to the owner or otherwise dealt with in accordance with the *Unclaimed Money Act 2008*.

70. Offences

- (1) A **person** is guilty of an offence if the **person** contravenes a provision of this Local Law.

71. Penalties

- (1) The maximum penalty for an offence against this Local Law is 20 penalty units.

72. Infringement Notices

- (1) As an alternative to prosecution, an **Authorised Officer** may serve an **infringement notice** on a **person** who they believe on reasonable grounds to have committed an offence against this Local Law.
- (2) The penalties for **infringement notices** are set out in Schedule 1.

- (3) If no penalty for an **infringement notice** in respect of an offence is set out in Schedule 1, the penalty for an **infringement notice** is 4 penalty units.

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SCHEDULE 1 – PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

Clause	Topic	Penalty Unit
	Part 2 – Roads and Municipal Places	
	Division 1 – Use of Municipal Places and Roads	
9	Behaviour in a municipal place	3
10	Defacing or damaging a municipal place	5
11	Tree and vegetation protection in a municipal place	5
12	Obstructions in a municipal place	3.5
13	Council sign	3
14	Camping in a municipal place	2
15	Events	4
16	Street parties and street festivals	3
	Division 2 – Vehicles	
17	Repair of vehicles	2.5
18	Storage of vehicles	2
19	Wheeled recreational devices	2
20	Behaviour involving motor vehicles	3
	Division 3 – Alcohol and Smoking	
21	Possession and consumption of alcohol	2
22	Smoke free areas	2
	Division 4– Trading Activities	
23	Roadside trading or performing	5
24	Regulation of trading sites	5
25	Displaying of goods for sale	2
26	Use of a municipal place for outdoor eating facilities	2
27	Removing the outdoor eating facility	2
28	Advertising signs	2.5
29	Collections	2
30 (1)	Shopping trolleys	1.5
(2)	Shopping trolley retailer	3.5
(3)	Shopping trolley retailer (lack coin locking or perimeter system)	4
(4)	Retailer securing trolleys	3
	Part 3 – Amenity	
	Division 1 – Your Property	
31	Unightly and dangerous properties	5
32	Dilapidated building	5
33	Noxious weeds and pest animals	2.5
34	Obstructions from private property	2.5
35	Shipping containers	5
36	Clothing/donation bins	5
37	Camping on private property	2.5
38	Heavy and long vehicles on private property	5
	Division 2 - Animals	
39	Keeping of animals	1.5
40 (1)	Housing of animals	1.5
(2)	Housing of animals (location)	2.5
41	Dog waste on roads an in municipal places	1.5
42	Feeding of wild animals	1.5
43	Wasps	1
	Division 4 – Open Air Burning	

REPORTS – OFFICERS’ REPORTS**14 AUGUST 2023****COUNCIL MEETING**

Attachment 1 - Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023

Clause	Topic	Penalty Unit
45	Burning of offensive materials	5
46	Restrictions on burning in the open air – private property	5
47	Restrictions on burning in the open air – municipal places	5
	Division 5 – Waste and Recycling	
48	Use of domestic bins	2.5
49	Collection and storage of domestic bins	1.5
50	Hard waste collection	2
51	Street waste bin	2.5
52	Trade waste bins (including trade recycling bins)	3
	Part 4 – Council Asset Protection	
53	Occupation of roads or municipal places	5
54	Council asset protection – building works	5
55	Drainage, tapping and discharging groundwater	5
56	Damage to Council assets – building works	5
57	Requirement for vehicle crossings	5
58	Constructing a vehicle crossing	5
59	Vehicular site access	5
	Part 6 – Enforcement	
65	Power to issue a direction	5
66	Notice to comply	5

RESOLUTION

The resolution for the making of this Local Law was made by Hume City Council on 22 May 2023.

The COMMON SEAL of)
HUME CITY COUNCIL)
was affixed this day of)
2023 in the presence of

.....
Mayor/Councillor

.....
Chief Executive Officer

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Solicitor’s Certificate – Section 74(1) *Local Government Act 2020*

Hume City Council
General Purposes Local Law No. 1 2023

The Hume City Council (**Council**) is proposing to make General Purposes Local Law No. 1 2023 (**proposed Local Law**).

I have been asked to provide a certificate under s 74(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (**Act**) in respect of the proposed Local Law.

In accordance with s 74(1) of the Act, I have assessed the proposed Local Law for consistency with the local law requirements, as outlined in the following table.

Local Law Requirement	Consistent
<p>A local law must not be inconsistent with any Act (including the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i>) or regulations.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As at the date of this certificate, the proposed Local Law does not overlap or conflict with, or duplicate, existing legislation. The proposed Local Law is therefore not inconsistent with any Act or regulations, nor, with respect to the <i>Sex Work Decriminalisation Act 2022</i> does it undermine the objectives of that Act.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law has been reviewed for compatibility with the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i> (Charter). The proposed Local Law engages a number of rights, including the rights to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief (see cls 14, 15, 16, 29(1), 46(2), 47); • freedom of expression (see cls 9, 16, 23(2) and 29(1)); • peaceful assembly (see cls 15 and 16); • enjoy cultural rights (see cls 14, 37 and 46(2)); and • not be deprived of their property (see cl 68). <p>Each of these matters has been assessed and it has been determined that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most activities which engage the Charter can be conducted with a permit issued by Council; and • each limit, if any, is proportionate and can be demonstrably justified taking into account the matters set out in s 7 of the Charter. <p>The proposed Local Law, having been reviewed for compatibility with the Charter, is therefore considered to be compatible with the Charter.</p>
<p>A local law must not duplicate or be inconsistent with a planning scheme that is in force in the municipal district.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law is drafted so as not to operate where it concerns matters which are otherwise addressed under the Hume Planning Scheme.</p>
<p>A local law for or with respect to the issuing of film permits must not be inconsistent with the film friendly principles.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Not applicable – the proposed Local Law does not address film permits.</p>

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Local Law Requirement	Consistent
<p>A local law must not exceed the power to make local laws conferred by this Act or any other authorising Act.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters for or with respect to which Council has a function or power under the Act and other Acts. The proposed Local Law is therefore consistent with, and does not exceed, the scope of Council's powers to make Local Laws under the Act.</p>
<p>A local law must be consistent with the objectives of this Act or any other authorising Act.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters of municipal concern and matters that have been reasonably understood to be within the province of municipal government because they affect the safety, amenity, welfare and good government of the municipal district and its inhabitants and are consistent with the overarching governance principles set out in s 9 of the Act.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law furthers the objects of accountable, transparent, collaborative and efficient operations of Council in a manner that engages with the municipal community and its needs.</p>
<p>A local law must be expressed as clearly and unambiguously as is reasonably possible.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law is as clear and unambiguous as is reasonably possible. The purpose of each of its provisions and the means adopted to implement the purpose is discernible from the provision itself.</p> <p>This certificate has not sought to interrogate Council as to whether the purpose of each of the proposed Local Law provisions as drafted, and the manner in which the proposed Local Law seeks to implement those purposes, is as Council had intended them to be when drafting the proposed Local Law. This Certificate assumes that Council is aware of the purpose behind each provision and has familiarised itself with, and accepts the manner in which, that purpose is implemented by the Local Law.</p>
<p>Unless there is clear and express power to do so under this Act or any other authorising Act, a local law must not—</p> <p>(i) seek to have a retrospective effect; or</p> <p>(ii) impose any tax, fee, fine, imprisonment or other penalty; or</p> <p>(iii) authorise the sub-delegation of powers delegated under the local law.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not seek to have retrospective effect; • makes provision for the imposition of penalties in respect of offences that are created, which penalties are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consistent with s 79 of the Act; ○ similar in nature when compared to like councils; and ○ sufficient to act as a deterrent for most offences while also reflecting the seriousness of those offences; • makes provision for the setting and imposition of fees in a manner that is consistent with s 77 of the Act; and • does not authorise the sub-delegation of any powers.
<p>A local law must comply with any details prescribed in the regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>No regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws have, at the time of preparing this certification, been made.</p>



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This Certificate is only valid as at the date below. I cannot predict what may occur in future with respect to:

- a) amendments to the proposed Local Law that Council may make;
- b) other legislation that may be made or amended which brings the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law (including future regulations);
- c) a decision of a Superior Court which fundamentally changes the accepted principles or precedent regarding the inconsistency of laws;
- d) amendments to the Hume Planning Scheme which bring the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law; or
- e) the manner in which Council administers or makes decisions with respect to the granting of permits or exemptions under the proposed Local Law which may bring the proposed Local Law into conflict with other legislation.

I, Kate Emily Oliver, Partner at Maddocks, certify that I:

- am an Australian lawyer who has been admitted to the legal profession for at least 5 years;
- am not a Councillor of Council;
- have reviewed the proposed Local Law against the local law requirements; and
- am of the opinion that the proposed Local Law is consistent with the local law requirements set out in s 72 of the Act.

Signed by Kate Oliver
in Victoria on 27 April 2023

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GENERAL PURPOSE LOCAL LAW 2023 DRAFT: CONSULTATION

BACKGROUND

In September/October 2022 the first round of consultation about Hume City Council's Local Law was undertaken. This feedback, in addition to other information, was used to create the draft General Purpose Local Law.

Community members were invited to provide feedback on the draft before it will be presented to Councillors for final consideration and adoption.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the **Error! Reference source not found.**project are to:

- Inform the community about the updated Local Law
- Inform the community of additions/deletions to the Local Law
- Assess community feedback to see if the draft Local Law requires changes

METHODOLOGY

The consultation page on Participate Hume was open between 14 Feb to 31 March 2023. People were able to give feedback via:

- Commenting on the document using the Konveio tool
- A customised email address
- Land mail

The following methods were used to let community members know consultation on the draft was taking place:

- Mailchimp campaign 17 February to people from the first consultation (n = 267) who wanted to be informed
- Facebook post 24 February on Hume City Council profile
- Facebook post 24 February on Mayor of Hume profile

KEY FINDINGS

Of the 756 people who visited the Participate page, 10.1% informed themselves further about the project and 14.2% engaged with the online mapping tool. A total of 107 comments were left on the document using the Konveio tool.

Table 1: Statistics from the Participate page

Level of engagement	No.	Explanation
Aware	756	Visited the site or project but did not take any further action (e.g. click on something) Note: can include multiple visits from the same person
Informed	183	An informed visitor has taken the 'next step' from being aware and clicked on something.
Engaged	107	Comments on Konveio document tool

The consultation attracted 108 respondents:

Table 2: Number of respondents accessing each type of feedback mode

Feedback via	Count	Per cent
Participate’s Konveio tool	91	84.3%
Emailed customised account	17	15.7%
Postal feedback	0	
Total	108	

The feedback received has been split into what was online and what was via email.

Table of comments placed on document via Konveio

This table contains the comments left on the draft General Purpose Local Law. It has been sorted by page number as this groups comments by topic.

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#003	11	It's reasonable to allow people to refill their coolant or windscreen wiper water reservoir while parked on the side of the road. This forbids that as it's reasonably considered to be carrying out maintenance on a road. With dwelling sizes getting smaller, not everyone has a driveway and garage.	0	0
#001	11	Not wanting people doing major stuff like pulling an engine out with an engine crane in the street I understand, but what about minor repair/maintenance for those that don't have a driveway or garage? For example, replacing the battery or changing a tyre or putting in child seats etc etc. I think minor repair or maintenance in that sense should be acceptable or reasonable	0	0
#004	11	Therefore if I've got a Carsales sticker on my back window, my car can no longer leave my driveway? This needs a rethink.	0	0
#002	11	What if your driving the car daily but it also has a for sale sticker on the back window? Surely that's reasonable?	0	0
#005	13	29.2.e - School and charity fundraising activities School students should have the option to sell chocolates and the like door to door to their neighbours for fundraising activities.	0	0
#007	13	Clarity needs to be improved - although under the Trading Activities heading, item 26 in isolation forbids picnics.	0	0
#006	13	Nobody likes seeing unattended shopping trolleys in their neighbourhood, but a valid scenario to accept is for people without a car (especially on low incomes) to be able to do their weekly grocery shop on foot with a trolley. If a perimeter constraint system blocks that option, and the only alternative is a coin operated lock requires people to carry coins (it's 2023 - we don't all carry coins) then this should be revisited.	0	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		Consider changing the focus to be less discriminative and put the impetus for tidiness on the business that offers trolleys instead: clearly branded trolleys with an option to report abandoned trolley, which needs to be actioned within 48 hours, for example.		
#008	15	What about trees on nature strips that obscure road visibility from pedestrians: who is responsible? This should be made clear here.	0	0
#010	18	Need to add Treated wood	2	0
#011	18	This should include things like treated or painted wood like fence palings which are treated with toxic, poisonous and carcinogenic chemicals	0	0
#009	18	Treated timber with various chemicals is also very toxic, especially when burnt and should be included in this section.	0	0
#102	19	<p>4a2 and 4d, yeah, I think this could be a bit of a problem</p> <p>First off, when you got fires like these, there's gonna be smoke. And you know what? Smoke ain't that great for people's health. It can make it harder to breathe and can bother folks with allergies or asthma. So, allowing these fires might not be the best idea for everyone living around them.</p> <p>And, let's not forget about the fire risk! We all know that fires can spread real quick, especially if there's a strong wind or something. Those embers can fly up and around, and before you know it, we got a bigger problem on our hands.</p> <p>So, I guess what I'm saying is, this new section might not be the best idea for Hume. We gotta think about everyone's health and safety, right? Just my two cents.</p>	7	0
#030	19	About the extra allowances for the open air burning. This not good idea, because smoke from them fires can cause many health problems for people living nearby. Small children, elderly and those who have breathing problems like asthma will suffer more. Also, people might misuse and abuse these allowances to just burn for fun, causing more health risks and trouble for neighbors.	8	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>We have high-density area, many houses are very close together and have small backyards. This make it easy for smoke from chiminea, fire pit or other fires to enter nearby homes. We all know how important it is to maintain good air quality for our health, so allowing these fires for heating or culture is not necessary. We should focus on keeping the air clean and safe for everyone to breathe.</p> <p>Lastly, I want to remind that there are other ways to celebrate culture and stay warm without using open fires. Please reconsider these allowances in the new law and change them. We preferred the old one for the open air burning where only cooking with fire was allowed.</p>		
#105	19	<p>About the pits fires for heating, culture and religion enjoyment, those that derived this may have thought how nice/cool it would be to allow people to have open fires for some kind of pleasure but this ignores the very serious health impacts that the smoke from these fires that is imposed on all neighboring residents. It definitely does not address it in any way. This toxic air pollution is not wanted and is unfair to have that imposed on everyone else and to then suffer from health issues from it afterwards.</p>	4	0
#092	19	<p>Another excuse added to the Local Laws for more smoke pollution in Hume that people can lie about to just burn off.</p> <p>This draft has only added more ways to justify more burning creating toxic smoke in the neighbourhoods causing health hazards.</p> <p>These additional subclauses should be removed. We want a healthy and toxic smoke free environment to live in.</p>	11	0
#053	19	<p>As I live in Hume, I'm very concerned and worried about the recent changes made to the local law on open-air burning. I object to sub-clause (4), which states that sub-clauses (1), (2), and (3) do not apply to fires lit by individuals for heating or cultural or religious purposes. This change can be misused as a loophole by those who wish to have bonfires and pit fires in their backyards, causing a nuisance and health issues to their neighbors.</p> <p>It is not uncommon for individuals to take advantage of</p>	4	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>such loopholes. They may claim that they are practicing their religion or culture while simply enjoying a fire in their backyard for some kind of (usually drunken) party. This can lead to an increase in fires and the release of harmful pollutants into the air, causing health issues for those around them. This completely contradicts the objectives of the local law update, which aims to promote a physical and social environment free from hazards to health and prevent and manage nuisances that adversely affect the enjoyment of life or the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the municipal district.</p> <p>Even from a legitimate perspective, a neighbor might light a fire in their backyard for the purpose of enjoying their culture or practicing their religion. However, if the fire produces excessive smoke and pollutants, it can harm the health and well-being of other residents in the area. Furthermore, it could cause damage to property, which violates the objective of promoting peace, order, and good government within the municipal district.</p> <p>Sub-clause (4) can contradict sub-clause (1) of the same section, which prohibits the use of incinerators on any land. This clause aims to prevent the burning of hazardous materials and waste in the open air, which could pose a significant threat to the health and safety of the residents. However, the exemption granted in sub-clause (4) to cultural and religious fires can lead to the misuse of this clause.</p> <p>So The inclusion of sub-clause (4) in the local law update is a cause for concern. It can be misused as a loophole by individuals who wish to have bonfires and pit fires in their backyards for any other reason under false guise that its for heating or culture (which becomes difficult to argue- especially after the fact), causing a nuisance and health issues to their neighbors. This contradicts the objectives of the local law update and can lead to environmental degradation and health hazards.</p> <p>I urge the council to reconsider this change and remove those sub-clause (4) parts from the updated local law.</p>		
#098	19	<p>Backyards in populated suburbia are not remote campsites for fires producing toxic wood smoke which will obviously affect neighbors of close proximity. Council should have considered the negative health</p>	9	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		effects of this on residents before putting this in. It should be removed. Backyard fires like this are not necessary for warmth and are detrimental to health and the environment and this goes against the purpose of the review which was to make Hume a healthier place to live.		
#064	19	Considering the effects on health and safety, why not get the resident get a permit for the fire to ensure that this is registered and they are doing it properly?	3	0
#046	19	Cooking yes I understand but the other reasons or acceptions are bad news for other people near by because of the smoke affecting their lungs and Thier children and old people's lungs. This should just be for cooking only.	4	0
#012	19	Council of Hume: How is this set of local laws intended to be and improvement to the previous one? Heating and culture/religious reasons??? Do you not realise that the pollution from these fires poses a risk to the health of other residents? Not to mention the superfluous fire risk created by floating embers that could start a wildfire. You should be concerned with the welfare of the community, not placing them in peril. Reconsider this proposal before it's too late.	5	0
#088	19	Dear Hume Council This open air burning will be big problem for health. Smoke from fires have bad things for breathing, more in places with many houses close together where many neighbors feel it more. Rules for fires for heating and culture maybe not used right, make big fires smoke that is not good and not healthy. Please think to change rules for clean air and good for everyone in community. Best wishes Ahmed.	6	0
#068	19	Disagree with 46-4-aii and 46-4-d These types of backyard fires are often ubused with serious health effects on neighbours These subclause sections have only introduced more ways for people to do this freely and create these toxic wood smoking fires not only allowable but excusable but to be far more frequent and common.	7	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		Also note that subclause 4-d is not restricted in any way to causing smoke inhalation harm to the health (or obvious nuisance) of close neighbours.		
#077	19	<p>Extra reason for people can burn in backyard, it problem for old people because smoke.</p> <p>My mother, she have health problem, breathing difficult and asthma.</p> <p>In our area, we have neighbour we know they want burn much in backyard always, now this extra reason they say it for heating or culture.</p> <p>If happen like this, serious problem for us and mother. this not healthy law. Please change.</p>	9	0
#038	19	<p>Hello, I am just find out about new Draft for local law, Hume Council is proposing. It have good objectives for making community safe and healthy, but one part is not looking so good for these goals.</p> <p>Section 46-4a(ii) and 46-4d of law is allowing open-air burning in chimineas, fire pits or other appliances like that for heating, and fires for cultural and religious purpose. But we are in 2023, and we having better heating options like electric heaters and heat pumps which is more effective and environment friendly.</p> <p>Now, think if people allowed to have open fires like this and they let it burn for many hours. It is not just about smoke and bad smell bothering neighbors, it is also big problem for people with asthma, breathing problems, and vulnerable people like kids and old people. It is also going against the idea for making healthy and enjoyable environment for all people in community.</p> <p>Apart from health risks, there is also danger of fire hazards. In areas where houses are close and small backyards, open fires can be very risky. Only need little wind or stray ember, and you can have big emergency situation.</p> <p>Smoke from these fires is not just annoying, it can have serious health impacts. Like breathing problems, heart issues, and irritation in eyes, nose, and throat. Long time exposure can lead to chronic respiratory diseases and reduced lung function, specially in children.</p> <p>So, Hume Council maybe need to think again about this</p>	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		part of local law. Open fires may look nice and traditional, but they are not worth the health risks and dangers they bring. We should use cleaner and safer alternatives we have and keep our community healthy and safe as much as possible.		
#025	19	Hey Hume Council, what are you thinking? Your proposed draft allowing open air burning in thing like fire pits for all these extra unnecessary reasons is a terrible idea. This will have a major impact on the health of residents, as the smoke generated from these fires will be harmful to everyone's lungs. And what about the fire risk? Embers can easily fly up and start a fire. It's unnecessary and dangerous. Please reconsider this draft and prioritize the safety and well-being of your community.	4	0
#021	19	Hey Hume Council, what's up with your new Draft local law that allows open air burning in chimineas, fire pits or similar appliances for all the things other than cooking? Do you not realize the health risks this poses to other residents due to the smoke generated by these fires? Not to mention the unnecessary fire risk created by embers flying around and potentially causing a wildfire. You're supposed to be looking out for the well-being of the community, not putting them in danger. Get your act together and reconsider this proposal before it's too late.	2	0
#044	19	Hey, I'm a resident and I've got some serious issues with the new subsection bits on open air burning that the Hume council proposed. They're saying it's cool to have fires in a fire pit or whatever supposedly for heating, and also for religious or cultural stuff. But I'm really concerned about the environment, and burning things outside is terrible for it. The smoke and stuff can make it hard to breathe, cause heart problems, and even shorten lives. And it's not just bad for us, it also hurts the planet by adding to climate change. So, allowing open air burning is basically going against what we're trying to do to make things better. I want the council to think more about the environment and our health.	1	0
#024	19	How is this meant to be a better collection of local laws than the last one? Do you realise how dangerous the smoke from these flames is to the wellbeing of other residents? Not to mention the needless fire risk posed by embers floating around and possibly igniting a	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		conflagration. You're meant to be concerned about the community's well-being, not endangering it. We want less fires and smoke, not more.		
#014	19	How this is more healthy plan??? Lots of smoke will be bad for us the breathe because neighbors will have many fires many times and they say for heating or culture. This is crazy. This is bad change.	4	0
#091	19	Hume: It looks like want to satisfy those that want to entertain themselves with fires in their backyards (and they are be a minority) AND you also want to establish laws that make a healthier environment for everyone - This is Bit of a massive contradiction don't you think? Do you not realise how toxic this smoke is to breath? What do you think the smoke inhalation is going to do to people, the many neighbours in order to satisfy some peoples desire to have pit fires burning god knows what and for how long and when. Sorry but this doesn't work and we want to be able to breathe here at Hume not be covered in fire smoke by the selfish few. These new allowances do not work and should be removed. It's more appropriate to only allow this kind of thing for cooking. At least with cooking they have to keep the fire down and not burn toxic wood and stuff with their food in mind.	2	0
#101	19	I agree with this comment. Yes the subclause is too broad and vague and open to be manipulated and abused for the wrong reasons and would be very difficult for local laws officers to challenge or manage when people do this and clearly causing disruption, nuisance and smoke pollution-based health hazards to neighbors. Also, while I respect people's right to culture and religion, I think that other people's physical health and the right to no have to breath toxic smoke pollution totally outweighs this. The subclause should be removed or written in a way so that it's clear that it should not affect the health of others in the surrounding area or close vicinity.	0	0
#028	19	I am deeply concerned about the proposed new law that allows outdoor fires in chimineas, fire pits, for heating and "culture" reasons/'enjoyment'. This reckless decision could have devastating consequences for our health and wellbeing. Smoke from these fires can cause respiratory	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>problems, making it hard to breathe and putting people with respiratory issues at even greater risk. What's worse is that this law can be easily abused, leading to harmful and dangerous fires that are a nuisance and health risk for our neighbors.</p> <p>In densely populated areas, such as ours, the impact of smoke can be felt by many people. It's not fair that our health and comfort should be sacrificed for the sake of someone else's pleasure. With so many cleaner and safer ways to cook and heat our homes, there's no need for such a dangerous law. We should always prioritize the health and safety of our community over someone's desire for an outdoor fire.</p> <p>Therefore, I urge you to reconsider this proposal and make sure that any outdoor fires are tightly regulated and smoke-free. We have a responsibility to protect our community, and this law is a direct threat to our health, safety and wellbeing.</p> <p>Please, let's make the right choice and put people's health first.</p>		
#065	19	<p>I am very concerned about this with such open allowances for outdoor fires in parts a(ii) and d. Smoke from these fires can cause respiratory problems and lead to health issues. There is also a risk of fire to nearby areas. We need strict regulations to ensure that any outdoor fires are tightly controlled, smoke-free, and pose no risk of fire. Please prioritize our community's health, wellbeing and safety.</p>	4	0
#101	19	<p>I am worried about a new rule that the Hume council wants to make. This rule would let people have fires outside for cultural or religious reasons, without any restrictions. I understand that people have the right to practice their religion or culture, but I disagree with this rule because it could be used as an excuse for people to have fires in their backyard just for fun, which would bother their neighbors and be bad for their health.</p> <p>This rule doesn't match the goals of the updated Local Law. When people burn things outside, it can create dangerous smoke that can harm people, especially older people, children, and those who are already sick. It can also be annoying for neighbors and hurt the environment.</p>	10	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>This rule would make it harder for the council to keep things calm and healthy for everyone who lives in the area.</p> <p>This new rule could also be a way for people to get around the other rules about having fires outside. They could just say that they're doing it for cultural or religious reasons, even if they're not. This could be dangerous and bad for the environment, too.</p> <p>I hope the Hume council will think about this new rule again and change it. I support people's right to practice their religion or culture, but I don't think this rule is a good idea because it could be used in the wrong way.</p>		
#036	19	<p>I don't think the council is able to control the existing offenders of lighting fires. How are they going to manage the additional freedoms? Can the council please explain what the current process is when a neighbour lights fires for no good reason. In my experience I was told to contact the CFA. CFA told me it was a council problem.</p>	1	0
#075	19	<p>I have nothing against BBs/Giros/Spits/Pizza Ovens etc, but why on earth in 2023 would we still resort to burning things in a chimenea for heating???</p> <p>In my experience, I only ever witnessed people use things like chimeneas and fire pits as incinerators to get away with burning off all kinds of things and they would lie and say either for heating or cooking something when asked about it or when someone complained.</p> <p>I and my family am against this especially for fire pits and even a chimenea also does not reduce effect of smoke and embers and all other health hazardous toxicity that comes with it, especially when the top half of it is taken off (only put back on when authority comes to inspect).</p> <p>We are not living in the 18th century and burning like this is not necessary for heating and neighbors should not be using their backyards like campsites with fires.</p> <p>This addition to the Local Laws should be removed.</p> <p>We want a healthy and toxic smoke free environment to live in.</p>	11	0
#074	19	<p>I have serious concerns about these new subsections related to open air burning allowances. While I understand the intention to respect cultural and religious practices, as well as the desire for outdoor heating, the potential health impacts and the risk of misuse of these</p>	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p style="text-align: right;">allowances must be considered.</p> <p>Smoke generated from open fires, regardless of the intent, contains harmful pollutants and particulate matter that can have significant impacts on human health, especially for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions. The risks include exacerbation of asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory ailments, as well as potential long-term effects on lung function.</p> <p>In high-density residential areas, where houses are within close proximity and have small backyards, the smoke generated by these fires can easily affect numerous neighboring residents. The exclusions for chimineas, fire pits, and other appliances used for heating, as well as fires for cultural and religious purposes, can be easily manipulated by individuals who may create large, smokey fires. This not only poses a nuisance to neighbors but also exposes them to toxic smoke.</p> <p>Furthermore, these allowances may be abused in various ways. For example, individuals might claim that a large bonfire in a big fire pit is for cultural or religious purposes when it is, in fact, a social gathering. This can lead to frequent incidents of smoke pollution and disturbances, affecting the quality of life and health of residents in the community.</p> <p>Considering the widespread availability of alternative heating options and the increasing awareness of environmental issues, it is unnecessary to allow open fires for heating purposes. Additionally, while respecting cultural and religious practices is essential, it is crucial to balance this with the health and well-being of all community members.</p> <p>I strongly urge the Hume Council to reconsider the inclusion of these open air burning exclusions in the Draft Local Law, prioritizing the air quality and health of residents in high-density areas. The health risks associated with the smoke generated by these fires, along with the potential for misuse and abuse, must be carefully weighed against the intended benefits.</p>		

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#045	19	<p>I just found out about the proposed changes to the local law on open air burning, and I'm really concerned. My kids have asthma and I also have lung problems, so the thought of people having more fires in their backyards really worries me because of all the smoke this will make.</p> <p>I get that they're trying to make exceptions for heating and cultural and religious reasons, but I think it'll just lead to more people lighting fires for fun and claiming it's for those reasons. This could be a real problem, especially in our urban area where houses are so close together. I also think the idea of allowing people to have open fires in their yards to keep warm is unnecessary.</p> <p>Even if people were to do the right thing, this still causes an issue with health damaging smoke. There's a lot of evidence on that and I don't understand why council is ignoring this fact and still trying to call this proposal a healthier one than the previous one.</p> <p>Not only will this affect our health, but it could also be bad for the environment and increase the risk of fires spreading. It seems like they're putting the desires of a small group of people above the health and well-being of the whole community, which is definitely not cool.</p> <p>I don't think there should be such exceptions made for open fires. It's just too detrimental to health and the environment and these exceptions are so open that they will be abused and make these issue much worse for everyone that has to live in and breath the same (smoke filled) air.</p> <p>My suggested improvement is that these exemptions 4a(ii) and 4d are removed and return it to where only cooking was acceptable for backyard open fires like these.</p>	2	0
#061	19	<p>I just heard about Hume Council's new Draft for a local law allowing open air burning in chimineas, fire pits, and stuff like that for what is really personal entertainment purposes. Honestly, I don't think this is a good idea, and I'd like to share my thoughts on why it's a bad move for our community.</p> <p>Firstly, the smoke from these fires is a big concern for our</p>	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>health, especially for families like mine. Smoke from burning wood can cause all sorts of breathing problems and make life pretty miserable for those with asthma or other lung conditions. We need to think about our neighbors and make sure everyone can enjoy clean air, right?</p> <p>Also, there's a real risk of fires spreading because of the embers flying around. We all know how fast fire can spread, and these embers can easily catch on nearby trees, bushes, or even homes. It's just too dangerous, especially during the dry season when things can get out of control in a heartbeat.</p> <p>So, I'm really against this new Draft, and I hope the Council reconsiders. We should be looking out for the health and safety of everyone in our community. Let's keep Hume a safe and healthy place for everyone!</p>		
#103	19	<p>I know they're trying to make it okay to use chimineas and fire pits for warmth, but I'm anxious about the smoke.</p> <p>Imagine a neighbour's backyard fire spreads smoke to all the local homes. In densely populated areas, this may happen often. It's not wise to risk everyone's health.</p> <p>Smoke from these burns can seriously harm health. It can make breathing difficult, cause asthma attacks, and even heart problems. Lung and allergy sufferers may be in danger.</p> <p>Let's face it—these burns aren't necessary for warmth. There are obviously less toxic and polluting ways to stay warm. It's not worth risking our health for this. I think this section 4 should be changed.</p>	7	0
#035	19	<p>I love multiculturalism but while this clause may have been well intended, It's obvious as to how it can be abused/misused by those that will justify their fires untruthfully as being cultural and it'll be too difficult to argue when it's not. The air pollution and health issues that this causes is not worth it.</p> <p>For this reason I don't agree with having this clause included as by putting this in you effectively might aswell not have a local law at all on backyard burning/fires.</p>	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#069	19	<p>I remember the original online survey last year and I also noticed how it could be manipulated where people could anonymously give feedback many times over, by reloading the survey and doing it again. I'm sure some pyro firepit 'enthusiasts' have done this while everyone else was busy dealing with life. The majority of people would not want to live in smoke and fire ashes and embers, just like there are many more non smokers than there are smokers.</p> <p>The current surveys are rigged in the same way (look at the current animal one which is done the same way), where someone can repeat the survey over and over many times and do it anonymously as there was no account registration required. How could the council think that this method gives any real community feedback? (I had to make an account for this comment which was tedious and confusing and I can only post once unlike the original survey).</p> <p>I urge the council to apply some common sense in this (open burning sections) and understand the importance of actual human health in an environment not filled with adverse health effecting smoke and fire hazards, and instead of opening these laws up for more fires, actually restrict it further for less burning. We are not cave people and we don't live on campsites. This is a dense urban environment where such things are completely inappropriate. Subsections 4a(ii) for heating and 4d should be struck out.</p>	6	1
#029	19	<p>I say this for my whole family about this local law</p> <p>This local law need to very much consider the health and safety of the people first above any personal desires of few peoples that want to burn in the backyard</p> <p>There should not be such exception like heating or culture for back yard burning, which anyone can say. There will be a lot more smoke and bad for everyone health.</p> <p>Some people that want backyard fire may like it, but most people will not want the smoke which is bad for the health of every body to breathing.</p> <p>The houses are too close for this burning. We dont live in the country with big land for the smoke to not get to other houses.</p> <p>This section 4 must be change for the health of all people and take away the exceptions for the backyard burning.</p>	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#051	19	<p>I strongly oppose new draft proposition that permits open air burning for heating, and anything that can be defined as cultural or religions enjoyment. The detrimental effects of open burning on the environment are well documented, and it is crucial that we take measures to minimize such activities to safeguard our environment.</p> <p>Open burning of any kind, be it in a chiminea or fire pit, releases harmful toxins and pollutants into the air. These pollutants can have severe environmental impacts, such as contributing to the depletion of the ozone layer, acid rain, and climate change. The resulting emissions can also exacerbate respiratory and cardiovascular problems for those exposed to the pollutants.</p> <p>Moreover, it is not just the environment that is affected by open air burning. The health impacts on local residents cannot be overlooked. The fine particulate matter released by burning can cause respiratory problems such as asthma and bronchitis. These health issues can lead to increased hospital admissions and even premature death.</p> <p>It is also unreasonable and contradictory to suggest that the new draft is a healthy law while ignoring its potential health and environmental impacts. It is essential that the council takes a real and serious stance on the environment and public health.</p> <p>In light of these concerns, I urge the Hume council to reconsider this draft and impose stricter regulations on open air burning to minimize its environmental and health impacts. We must take responsibility for protecting our environment and our health, and this draft fails to do so.</p>	2	0
#016	19	<p>I think it might cause some problems. You know, when people use open chimineas or fire pits to "warm up" or any other reason, the smoke from the fires can affect everyone's health. It's not good to breathe that stuff in!</p> <p>Plus, there's the fire risk. Embers can fly up and around, and that could start a fire somewhere else. It's a bit dangerous, don't you think? We need to consider these things before letting everyone have open fires.</p>	6	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		I suggest not having exclusions for fire pits and things like that where there are many small properties in a built up area and in fact disallow the use of these things altogether.		
#100	19	<p>I thought this was supposed to aid in making a healthier Hume !?!</p> <p>Opening up the open air burning section to allow burning for things like "heating" or "culture" which are very open and ambiguous subjects will only empower those that just want to burn stuff seemingly for the hell of it and smoking up their neighborhood. It really sounds like a "free for all" and "do whatever you want", "burn away!"</p> <p>This will only dramatically increase air pollution with toxic smoke that others will suffer from having to breath it in within their own living space. The serious effects of fire smoke (even wood fire smoke) on human health are scientifically well established and documented facts and it is not something to take lightly. Having a backyard fire might sound cool, but this will be overused and abused and while some people might get a kick out of it (probably while getting drunk with mates), it's their neighbours, the majority who will suffer from the health problems in the long term.</p> <p>Additionally, the way this is written, ("(4) Sub-clauses (1), (2) and (3) do not apply to fires"), pretty much says that these fires don't have to be monitored or properly handled or extinguished. This is a safety hazard aswell. Even while I read this knowing how some people like to have fires (more like large drunken bonfires in an "approved fire pit" with embers flying everywhere), I can predict the statistical increase in house fires across Hume.</p> <p>I'm very disappointed that Hume has even entertained the addition of these exceptions to the local laws where little thought has been made toward the real health and safety of others.</p>	11	1
#018	19	<p>I wanted to share my thoughts on the new Draft for a local law, which includes open air burning exceptions for heating and culture. I think it's not good for our health, no? The smoke from chimineas, fire pits and fires for religion or culture will be very harmful for all the people living around. The air quality is so important for us to be healthy, but these fires will make it very bad. With so many houses close together and small backyards, the smoke will reach to many neighbors and they will suffer</p>	8	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		breathing problems and other health issues. Also, I am worried that some people may misuse this law and create more problems for the community. They can burn things just for fun or to disturb others, making life difficult for everyone around. We don't need these fires for heating or culture, as there are many other ways we can do these things without hurting our health. I request you to think about the health of all people living in our area and reconsider allowing these fires. We should prioritize clean air for everyone's well-being.		
#080	19	I worried about this new draft and about the health problem cause by the smoke from these fires. I think exclusions here in the draft can easily be lied about by people who want to have big smoky fires for long times that will be bad for their neighbors and cause toxic smoke, more when houses are close together and have small backyard. I think it important for the council to consider the health of all the residents and redo this part of draft to address these things.	4	0
#033	19	I would like to express my concern about the health impacts of the proposed inclusion in the Hume council's draft regarding open air burning. Allowing fires in chimineas, fire pits or similar appliances while being used for heating, or for cultural or religious purposes, can result in smoke pollution that can be harmful to the health of neighboring residents. The allowances can also be misused and abused, leading to constant smoke pollution that can be a nuisance and a health risk. This inclusion is particularly inappropriate in high-density areas with houses that are within close proximity to each other, where the smoke can easily drift into neighboring homes and cause health problems. In the interest of community health and well-being, I believe that open air burning in this way should not be included in the new local law.	8	0
#060	19	I'd like to say something about the new draught rule for burning in the open air in our Hume council area. First, I think that the smoke from chimineas, fire pits, and other fires used for additional allowances for heating, culture, and religion will cause serious health problems for everyone who lives nearby. You know that smoke has harmful chemicals in it that can cause breathing problems, allergies, and lung diseases, especially in kids	6	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>and older people. Also, people with asthma or other lung problems will have a harder time breathing because of this smoke and it will aggravate and worsen their condition.</p> <p>Second, some people may take advantage of this new rule and use it too much, which might irritate other people and put their health at risk. It's not a good idea in areas with lots of houses and small backyards. These kinds of fires should only just be used for cooking or lit by an authority.</p>		
#054	19	<p>If this going to be so much easy justify as the heating or culture then there will be lots of bad smoke. We have already people that do backyard burn and the smoke come in our house but now it will happen lot more and many more people and more smoke. We will have to leave home to breathe. This will be very bad for my family health. This must be changed for our health.</p>	5	0
#104	19	<p>If you ask me, I don't there should be backyard fires for any reason. There's so much evidence about how the smoke damages health and how bad it is for the environment (not to mention also the additional house fire risks and injury/death from these spreading) and I think council should prioritise protecting people from this over any personal enjoyment some people may have playing with fire in their backyards, even if it does involve a "properly constructed appliance" (which could technically be a big metal bowl from Bunnings, which really doesn't make it any safer or less pollutant)</p>	4	0
#056	19	<p>I'm against the new additions in section 4, particularly the unconstrained use of fire pits or similar for "heating" or "culture" (which has very open interpretation)</p> <p>The council needs to prioritise the actual health needs of the people that live in its municipality over the desire of some that like to have smoke generating fires in their backyards. And opening this up to give pyromaniacs extra excuse and opportunity to pollute their neighbours air with smoke that they can't escape from in their own homes/property is not the way to do it.</p>	9	1
#017	19	<p>I'm concerned about the new Draft for local law on open air burning due to health risks from smoke. It can cause breathing issues for all, particularly the elderly, children,</p>	6	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>and those with lung problems. Also, people might misuse this allowance, burning rubbish and creating more pollution.</p> <p>Our area has closely packed houses and small backyards, making smoke a big nuisance for neighbors. Air quality and health should be prioritized over these fires. There are other ways for heating and to enjoy culture and religion without harming others.</p> <p>Kindly reconsider this law, focusing on community health and avoiding potential misuse.</p>		
#097	19	<p>I'm opposed to these proposed additional allowances for open air burning due to the negative environmental and health impacts. Open air burning releases pollutants that contribute to air pollution, climate change, and ozone depletion. These emissions can cause respiratory issues, aggravate existing health conditions, and increase the risk of heart disease and stroke. These fires also pose additional fire hazards as they can spread via embers.</p> <p>Allowing open air burning undermines the council's commitment to environmental sustainability and public health. I urge you to explore alternatives that address residents' needs for heating, cultural, or religious purposes without compromising our community's health, wellbeing, safety and the environment.</p>	1	0
#096	19	<p>I'm opposed to this</p> <p>There are serious potential consequences to health impacts of the proposed open air burning allowances in the Draft Local Law. Smoke from fires contains harmful pollutants that can exacerbate respiratory conditions and affect vulnerable populations. In high-density areas, smoke from fires can impact numerous neighboring residents.</p> <p>The exclusions for heating appliances and fires for cultural or religious purposes can be misused, leading to large, smokey fires causing nuisances and health risks. Alternatives to open fires for heating are widely available, and balancing cultural and religious practices with community health is crucial.</p> <p>I urge the Council to reconsider these exclusions,</p>	4	1

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		prioritizing air quality and residents' health over the allowances for open air burning.		
#027	19	<p>Im struggling to think of how this could legitimately apply to culture or religion, unless we're talking about ancient times.</p> <p>This is a problem because anyone could literally make anything up to justify an unruly fire that's choking their neighbors to be culturally or religiously related for thier purposes. I sorry, but this is way too open ended and its easy to see how this will be exploited to the detriment of other peoples health.</p>	5	0
#071	19	<p>I'm worried about the health problems from the open air burning stuff in the new Draft Local Law. Smoke from fires is bad for our lungs and can hurt a lot of people, especially in crowded neighborhoods.</p> <p>People might take advantage of the rules for heating, culture, or religion and make huge, smokey fires that bother everyone. There are other ways to keep warm and we should think about everyone's health when it comes to cultural or religious fires.</p> <p>Please think about changing the rules to focus more on clean air and keeping people healthy.</p>	5	0
#076	19	<p>It is not difficult to imagine a scenario where individuals who wish to have bonfires and pit fires in their backyards use the pretext of cultural or religious practice to circumvent the restrictions on open-air burning, causing significant nuisance and health issues for their neighbors.</p> <p>Such activities can release toxic fumes that may pose a danger to health, particularly for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions. Moreover, such fires can cause noise pollution and disturb the peace of the neighborhood, leading to negative impacts on the mental and emotional well-being of residents.</p> <p>While it is important to uphold the rights of individuals to practice their religion or culture, this right should not come at the expense of the health and well-being of the community or the peace and order of the municipal district. In fact, the very objective of the Local Law update is to prevent and manage nuisances which may adversely</p>	3	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>affect the enjoyment of life or the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the municipal district.</p> <p>The risks associated with the misuse of this exemption clause are significant, and the potential harm that can be caused by individuals who wish to exploit this loophole should not be underestimated.</p> <p>I think this part, although well intended, should be removed.</p>		
#050	19	<p>It's seriously inappropriate to make it OK for people to burn in their backyards like this ("heating" and "culture" - basically personal entertainment) when houses are so close to each other with small backyards. Because of the health hazards weighed against the personal satisfaction some might get with a campfire scene in their yard, is completely unnecessary. The smoke from these fires is toxic to breathe and is very bad for peoples health, especially the vulnerable in the community and this smoke pollution bellowing out of these things will be unfairly imposed on all other neighboring properties and residents.</p> <p>This is completely and utterly against the principles of what this local law is supposed to be about - protecting the health and safety and well being of Hume residents. There should not be such vague exemptions to open air backyard burning in dense urban environments. These, being 4a(ii) on "heating" and 4d should be removed for the health of all residents in Hume.</p>	2	0
#066	19	<p>My opposition to this new sub clause is that open air burning has harmful environmental impacts due to the release of pollutants like carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, and particulate matter. It also contributes to the emission of greenhouse gases, which contributes to climate change. Allowing open burning contradicts efforts to address air pollution and its health effects, and poses a threat to public health. The council should prioritize the health and well-being of the community and explore alternative health and environmentally friendly options to accommodate these things.</p>	1	0
#079	19	<p>Obviously where there is fire there is smoke. Toxic smoke thats bad for everyones health. These suggested aditional reasons for people to be able to have open pit fires like this</p>	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>will obviously be used and manipulated improperly at the cost of everyone elses health, any fire like this smoking out neighbours can be excused as needed for heating or cultural enjoyment. Do we seal up our houses now after this?</p> <p>Our health (like not getting lung cancer) is far more important to us that some peoples desire to have party fires in their backyards.</p> <p>To better manage this it is better left as it was for cooking and other reason involving authorites and permits for burn offs</p>		
#084	19	<p>Open burning bad for health of people living close because smoke it make. This knowledge common, why need explanation? Why council think this healthy when make more exception for people burn in backyard, create much more smoke? I think reason of heating or culture or religion very bad idea.</p> <p>I not know any person who think this idea good and healthy.</p>	8	0
#072	19	<p>Open fires and Firepits... I'm against this. When people have fires in small backyards, theres always lots of smoke and it can easily spread to nearby houses, especially in densely populated areas. This smoke can cause breathing issues, asthma attacks, and heart problems. There are safer ways to keep warm. Let's prioritize air quality and health over supposed cozy fires.</p>	6	0
#022	19	<p>Regarding the parts that allows open air burning in chimineas, fire pits, and similar appliances for heating or cultural and religious purposes. Health risks and annoyance & danger to neighbors from the smoke and ash and embers; potential abuse of the allowances causing more burning and pollution; and the effect on people in populated areas are problems that far outweigh the benefits of this change. Please keep in mind that there are eco-friendly alternatives and prioritize the physical health of the community by reevaluating the open air burning sections.</p>	10	0
#063	19	<p>Regarding to new additions to subclause 4a(ii) and 4d With fire comes smoke and peoples tiny backyards are not concealed in a bubble and the smoke also doesn't funnel through stacked chimneys several metres high. The smoke generated from this spreads through all</p>	8	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>neighboring properties and into other neighboring houses.</p> <p>Many people have existing health and breathing issues and the smoke will make this much much worse. Healthy people are also affected by this over time via the toxicity of the smoke.</p> <p>Encouraging the use of fire pits for entertainment (whatever they want to claim to be culture/religion) and heat (really, in the 21st century we don't need urban fires to keep warm) is a really bad idea with regards to health. I'm saying this with a medical background and experience in what I've seen in how all kinds of smoke effects people including wood smoke containing fine particulate matter and gasses that are very harmful to the health of those in the surrounding area regardless of being outdoors or indoors.</p> <p>While my opposition to this is focused on the Health problems that this will cause, I'm also concerned about the overall increased fire hazard and risk to property from the inappropriate and irresponsible use of this, particularly when firepits and alcohol are brought together. We don't want more of this in Hume.</p> <p>My suggestion is that these additions are removed.</p>		
#041	19	<p>So this means people can now burn in thier backyards and now say it for warmth or culture and smoke out thier neighbors with no restriction? We have people like this in our area and if they do this like this we wont be able to breathe beacuse of all the smoke. This is a bad problem for our health. Will the Hume council accept liability when people suffer health problem from this?</p>	8	0
#034	19	<p>So, will the council pay my medical bills when I get lung cancer after letting drunk yobbos burn fires around my home every night by saying theyre cold or for their culture? seriously my family cant have all that smoke. my kids have athsma and my mum has bronchitis. I bet you lots of people have problems like this. It's not good or fair to allow lots of fires for fun that make people suffer and get sick from the smoke. I am against the changes in this section</p>	0	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#055	19	Some people are very much going to take advantage of this and it will very much affect lots more people in a bad way because of all the smoke. Will the hume council repaint the side of my house after it go black from the neighbors fires? Will Hume compensate me for the lung damage caused over time after allowing my neighbor to have these fires now that they can say its for heating or culture which I'm very much sure Hume officers will not stop with this new law?	3	0
#048	19	Sub clauses 1 2 3 include items that explain at least in a few ways how these fires should not be used to cause problems to others But sub clause 4 states that it is exempt from 1 2 3 and this is where the issue lays.. If the council is determined on allowing backyard burning in firepits and other contains things, then the law should explained how this is to be done responsibly and specifically to not cause hazard (health or fire risk) to others or impacting on neighboring properties, namely the smoke. The health impacts of smoke inhalation are indisputable and we all have to share the air and the properties are close together.	6	0
#090	19	Sure, I get that some people would like the campfire scene in their backyards... just like some people like cigarettes but this still mens they shouldn't blow cigarette smoke in other peoples faces or do it around young children. These new excemptions will not be good for the air quality that we all must share and breathe for our health, simply because of all the smoke these fires will make, which spreads everywhere and it'll be absolutely sufferable for the poor souls that must live near these fires not to mention the fire risk (embers flying around) that this poses. These (4a2 and 4d) must be struck out for the sake of our health. Just like we want clean water, we also want clean air, it's not rocket science.	3	1
#070	19	The addition for exemptions for fires lit for heating, culture, or religion, is very worrying and I think this goes against the whole point of the law. As someone who lives here in family with existing lung health problems, I'm worried about how the smoke from	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>these fires will affect our health. In our neighborhood, where houses are close together and yards are small, the impact will be even greater.</p> <p>There's also the issue of people taking advantage of this exemption, claiming they're doing it for culture or religion when they just want a big fire for fun. This doesn't seem fair to everyone else who has to deal with the smoke and its toxic effects.</p> <p>On top of that, these fires can be bad for the environment and increase the risk of other fires spreading. This puts our properties and the local plants and animals at risk.</p> <p>I get that some people like having fires in their backyards, but the health and safety of everyone else should come first. By allowing these exemptions, it feels like the council is ignoring the needs of the majority.</p> <p>I hope the council reconsiders this change to the law and limits the use of fire appropriately with a focus on keeping everyone healthy, safe, and happy in our community. Let's not let a small group's wants outweigh the well-being of all our neighbors.</p>		
#040	19	<p>The council has a duty and responsibility to provide for the peace, order, and good government of the municipal district, and to promote a physical and social environment free from hazards to health. Allowing open-air burning, even for heating, cultural or religious reasons, can release toxic fumes and particulate matter that can lead to respiratory problems and other health issues, particularly for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions.</p> <p>Furthermore, the potential for abuse of this exemption clause poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of residents. The council's objectives of preventing nuisances and managing activities detrimental to the quality of life of residents are being ignored, as this exemption clause can be exploited by individuals who wish to have bonfires and pit fires in their backyards, causing nuisance and health issues to their neighbors.</p> <p>It is shameful that the council would prioritize the interests of such few individuals over the health and well-</p>	2	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		being of the community. The council should take its responsibility seriously and ensure that the health and well-being of the residents are protected. These new additional subclausal parts should be retracted.		
#043	19	The problem here is that a resident may claim that they are burning wood as part of their cultural or religious ceremony, when in reality, they are having a bonfire party. This could lead to lot of smoke and ash severely affecting the air quality and causing disturbance to neighbors and health hazard. It could also pose safety risks such as the fire spreading to nearby properties. I don't think this a good idea and I don't want to live in the smoke from people that do this. Fire smoke is very bad for other people health and I dont think there should be exceptions like this.	4	0
#059	19	There are serious problems with this open set of allowances that encourage lots of backyard burning in parts a(ii) and d. I'm troubled by the very real negative effects this will have on our community's health, the environment, and safety, including the very real risk of fire spreading and causing significant property damage or even wildfires. Open air burning releases harmful pollutants, affecting our air quality and posing undue risks to the most vulnerable in our community: children, the elderly, and those with breathing difficulties. Additionally, these fires contribute to climate change by emitting greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane. The draft law's vague allowances for heating, cultural, and religious purposes will very easily lead to abuse, resulting in larger, smoky fires for entertainment which will make all of these negative effects dramatically worse. I urge the Hume Council to seriously reconsider this proposal and prioritize the health, safety, and environment of our community while still allowing for responsible cultural and religious practices without backyard open fires.	5	0
#052	19	There needs to be something in here with limits to size, duration and frequency. I hope that council is not naïve to	1	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		think that there wont be people that will do this without decency or consideration towards the impact on their close-by neighbors.		
#085	19	There needs to be something in here with limits to size, duration and frequency. I hope that council is not naïve to think that there wont be people that will do this without decency or consideration towards the impact on their neighbors.	2	0
#099	19	These changes will arm anyone to justify burning in their backyards needlessly causing unnecessary community health problems, environmental damage and fire risks. This will also be frequently exploited by pyromaniacs in Hume and I am completely against this. This needs to be changed.	5	0
#026	19	These extra allowances for people to burn in backyards means there will be a lot more fires and a lot more smoke which is bad for the health of everyone. This is not a healthy change to the local law. I disagree with the new ways people can excuse smokey fires which will be bad for everyone elses health, including the things like heating or culture or religion. This need to be changed for the overall health of the public and community. We want to breathe healthily in Hume and at home.	5	0
#081	19	These new allowances for heating and cultural/religious enjoyment for open-air burning law raises genuinely serious and realistic concerns about residents' health, fire risk, and manipulation. Open fires produce harmful pollutants that worsen respiratory conditions and heart disease. Emissions may disproportionately impact vulnerable populations. In dry weather or wildfire-prone areas, these appliances may raise fire risks. The drafts ambiguity on cultural and religious fires will allow manipulation and uneven enforcement. Enforcement methods are another issue. The draft open-air burning law raises environmental and quality-of-life issues. Air quality and climate change are major concerns. Open-air burning releases greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane, polluting the atmosphere and will worsen environmental issues by	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>encouraging open-air burning.</p> <p>The draft also does not properly address open-air burning odour and nuisance issues. Smoke and odours can bother neighbours and lower property values. Smoke and odour complaints are not addressed by the draft law.</p> <p>The Hume Council should rethink and address this open air burning draft law's health, fire risk, environmental, and quality-of-life effects on all residents before implementing it.</p>		
#093	19	<p>These new allowances for unrestricted open-air burning in chimineas, fire pits, and similar devices for heating and cultural or religious purposes is very worrisome and problematic. Smoke generated from such fires can cause respiratory problems and is a serious health risk for everyone else that has to tolerate it, not by choice but by simply having to live near to it, it's especially worse for those with pre-existing conditions. I have no doubt that there will be frequent manipulation and abuse of these provisions which will disturb neighbours through the production of toxic smoke. This will also cause communal tension and conflict, not harmony. In high-density areas, the effect of the smoke will impact on many neighbours in close proximity. It's unnecessary. Why entertain the personal preferences of the few over the real health needs of the many? Modern, electric and gas cooking and heating appliances are available. Any allowances for open air burning must be strictly regulated with prioritization of health and wellbeing in terms of the air we breathe, over personal preferences for open backyard fires.</p>	4	1
#083	19	<p>These sections 4a(ii) and 4d say that people can have fires for heating or for cultural or religious activities. But because these rules don't have clear specific guidelines and parameters they can be easily abused by people who just want to have big, smokey fires that last for a long time for fun. This could lead to more fires that are out of control and bad for the environment and could hurt the health and quality of life of people who live nearby.</p> <p>You can't say that these allowances can't be taken advantage of or misunderstood. The lack of clear rules and ways to police them in the draft law makes it hard to</p>	5	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		control the size, length, and frequency of these fires, which puts the health of our community at risk.		
#047	19	This allowing open air burning for cozy campfires in backyards or for anything people could say is cultural or religious is a bad idea. Anyone could make this claim even when false and it would be subjective. The smoke definitely harms peoples health, especially those with lung issues, and flying embers can cause fires to spread. Let's rethink this and keep our community safe and healthy!	3	0
#013	19	<p>This could potentially have a negative effect on our society, and I want to clarify why.</p> <p>The health dangers are the first significant concern. People with respiratory issues, allergies, or lung conditions may find it difficult to breathe in their neighbourhoods as a result of the smoke these fires create. Everyone should have access to clean air so that they can all live in a healthful atmosphere.</p> <p>The threat of a conflagration is the second. Flying embers are a real danger and they may easily find their way into adjacent foliage or homes, igniting fires that may not be anticipated and may spread quickly. This risk increases during arid seasons, endangering our society needlessly.</p> <p>I implore the Council to reconsider this revised Draft (46 subsections 4a2 and 4d) in light of these threats to public health and safety. It's crucial to prioritise everyone in Hume's health and safety while upholding a secure atmosphere for all which is more important than unnecessary open fires for entertainment or personal enjoyment.</p>	8	0
#086	19	This exemption clause is a problem and can easily be abused to circumvent the restrictions on open-air burning as outlined in Sub-clause (1) and Sub-clause (2), potentially causing harm to the environment and to the health and well-being of the community.	2	0
#039	19	This is a problem and should be removed as it can undermine the whole purpose of the section to control open burning, where people can freely have bonfires/pit fires in their backyards and claim that it's for their cultural enjoyment or religion when it's not.	12	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>Based on that kind of argument, I cannot see how a local laws officer would be able to challenge their claim. People would be able to freely have drunken bonfires or pit fires smoking out their neighbors under the false guise of "it's cultural" or a religious thing and just make up the details of the claim.</p> <p>I am all for multicultural inclusion and diversity, but this is not the way to go about it and it will only lead to being abused and manipulated by those who just want to burn stuff in their backyards and causing obvious nuisance and toxicity for their neighbors via all the smoke and fumes. From experience, I can see how this will be abused a lot more more often compared to when it could be used for its intended purpose.</p>		
#057	19	<p>This is for sub-clauses 4a(ii) and 4d: Allowing open backyard fires this way for these extra reasons (other than for cooking) will have serious health impacts on neighboring residents, especially those with medical conditions such as asthma, allergies, and heart or lung diseases.</p> <p>The smoke from these fires contains harmful pollutants, including particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds and carcinogens. These pollutants can cause various health problems, including respiratory issues, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer. Prolonged exposure to fire smoke can result in long-term medical issues, such as chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and reduced lung function.</p> <p>It's important to note that allowing open-air burning for such open or vague reasons of heating or "culture or religion" can be easily manipulated, and people may use it as an excuse to have a fire for fun or to incinerate things in their backyards for long periods of time and frequently. This could lead to an increase in the number of fires in the area, which could further exacerbate the health impacts of fire smoke.</p> <p>Also, The smoke generated from these fires can travel to neighboring properties, especially in built-up areas where houses are close together. Neighbors will not be able to keep the smoke out of their homes, and it can have a significant impact on their health and well-being. It is our right to breathe smoke-free air in our homes, and this</p>	4	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>proposed change to the local law is not in line with this fundamental right.</p> <p>So I strongly urge the Council to reconsider the proposed subsections on open-air burning and prioritize the health and well-being of its residents by keeping the existing laws in place or tighten them to ensure a relatively smoke-free environment for everyone.</p>		
#019	19	<p>This is not good. Lot more smoke will be there. Lot more peoples will burn in backyard and says it for heating, culture, or religion and make lots of bad smoke for the neighbors. Smoke from this fire is bad for health. My family can't have this because smoke bad for our health. Please change because peoples health more important than fires and smokes.</p>	6	0
#067	19	<p>This new rules not good for health the smoke form these fires is very bad for the neighbor health. Why think this is a better rules?</p> <p>Any person can say the fires for heating or for culture. The neighbors will get sick from the smoke. This will be bad for my family when neighbor do this. These new rules should be taken off.</p>	3	0
#073	19	<p>This plan to let people use chiminea, fire pit, and other device to heat by burning in backyard open air is a bad idea. The smoke from these kinds of fires can hurt the health of many people who live nearby. This idea doesn't work in places where there are lot of small backyard and lot of people living close next to each other. If these burns are allowed, the smoke can bother many neighbors and put their health at risk. People can abuse, take advantage of, and misuse these kinds of permissions, do it too much and do it badly, which can lead to much more smoke pollution that is bad for people's health. Health is more important than these fires that are not needed for heat in todays age.</p>	6	0
#015	19	<p>This plan to let people use chimineas, fire pits, and other similar devices to heat their homes by burning in the open air is a bad idea. The smoke from these kinds of fires can hurt the health of people who live nearby. This idea doesn't work in places where there are a lot of small backyards and lots of people living close to each other. If these burns are allowed, the smoke can bother many</p>	7	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		neighbours and put their health at risk. People can abuse, take advantage of, and misuse these kinds of permissions, which can lead to smoke pollution that is bad for people's health. These extra exceptions should be removed simply because Health is more important than these fires that aren't necessary for heating or religion.		
#078	19	This section to the local law with all the extra allowances (a and d) for people to have backyard fires for all kinds of extra reasons will have adverse effects on both the environment and on the health of residents and public. I very disillusioned and disappointed with Hume for encouraging this and by the current age with all the scientific facts surrounding the effects of fire smoke on the environment and health. This council should know better.	9	1
#089	19	This will be bad All the neighbour can burn and make the lot of smoke and bad for the health everywhere. People dont need burning and smoke for the heating	9	0
#023	19	To say people can have open fire in back yard for new things like heating and culture is not good because of the smoke is bad. The smoke get every where and inside all the neighbour house and washing clothes and ash bit of fire everywhere blowing in the wind. If this happen we can get sick from the smoke and we dont want it. It can also burn other people house or tree or grass. Why have fire in back yards for heating? Why have fire to enjoy the culture? The health and breathing air for everyone much more important than this. Please change and think better about the health of people and not back yard fire party for some people.	2	0
#039	19	Totally agree	0	0
#037	19	Well done Hume... NOT! Pyromaniacs have always wanted extra excuses to get away with their "hobbies". Lung cancer will be on the rise. Again, well done brainiacs!	1	0
#058	19	Well this will give new meaning to the Craigieburn nickname: "Crazy BURN"! How does enabling and encouraging more backyard	9	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>burning with things like fire pits for extra reasons (Heating,Culture,Religion - literally excuses people can now make up) help in terms of health? Think about the scale in which this will happen and the smoke produced in a built up urban environment. And what about the environment itself? The most unhealthy thing this council could have come up with is polluting the air like this. Ridiculous!</p>		
#087	19	<p>Whats with the extra open permissions to burn things outside in chimineas, fire pits, and other similar devices? Does the Council have any idea the danger that this situation presents to the health of the other residents because of the smoke that is produced by these fires? Not to mention the unnecessary danger of fire that is produced when embers flutter around and have the potential to start a grass fires or house fires. You are not doing what you should be doing, which is ensuring the safety of the community rather than placing them in jeopardy. Strongly suggest these exclusions are removed.</p>	5	1
#082	19	<p>Where there's fire there's always smoke and lots more of it when it's an open fire. While it might bring some enjoyment to a few that like campfires in their backyards, it will disturb and cause health issues to many many more that have to live next to it and can't escape the toxic smoke. Also, where do you think people with fire pits positioning these things?... They position them away from their own house and close to the boundary close to the neighbors house. It will be all the many neighbors that will suffer from the toxic polluting smoke from the "enjoyment" of a minority that want fires like this. This is definitely not a healthy improvement to the local laws and these sections should be stripped back and changed with the real health and well being of residents in mind. We want to be able to breathe properly in and around our homes without the such smoke from inconsiderate open fires from inconsiderate people. Please do not give them extra excuses to be able to do this to others, including such open things like "heating" or "culture" or "religion" which can easily be manipulated.</p>	3	1


Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
#062	19	<p>While I get that people enjoy using chimineas, fire pits, and other stuff for heating, it might not be the best idea for everyone's health.</p> <p>The smoke coming from these fires can cause major problems for some people, especially those with breathing issues. Plus, it's not just about health – there's also the risk of fire spreading. You know how embers can fly up and around, and that can be pretty dangerous.</p> <p>So, maybe we should think twice about this new rule and find a better solution for everyone.</p>	3	0
#032	19	<p>While I like a nice outdoor fire (and smoke doesn't bother me too much I guess as I'm already smoker), but even I have to admit that Instead of being limitless, this exclusion subclause (part 4a2 and 4d) should at least explain that these exceptions should not cause nuisance or health hazard to others/neighbors. It should also list requirements of things like distance from other properties (like 10 or more metres) and requirements for extinguishing the fires as well as limits on duration and frequency and acceptable types of material to be burnt (like not treated wood for example). if not listed in detail in the subclause then it should reference these conditions which are listed elsewhere.</p>	7	0
#031	19	<p>Why people need back yard fires for heating? Whats it mean to have these fires for culture or religion? This reason give permissions for fires to be have for fun but the smoke will be very bad for everyone. My family can not have this smoke at home. It will cause lot of health problems for us and hospital. We have health problems now. We dont want to be come home to breath this smoke and have health problems because some people want fun and this law lets that happen. Please change this and make healthy for everyone and not smoke.</p>	4	0
#042	19	<p>With regards to the extra open exemptions for open fires including for "heating" and "culture"</p> <p>I'm sure that most people don't want this because of the smoke air pollution it will bring.</p> <p>Even if the some people wanted it and the council were to entertain that, then one must realise the amount of smoke that will be generated from this.</p> <p>Fire smoke (even from wood fires) is toxic and harmful to</p>	6	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		<p>health.</p> <p>How did these exemptions get in here? Did council ask people what they'd like to change and those with firepits answered in bias for more exemptions whilst the majority of others remained silent because they were happy with the existing local law?</p> <p>This will only bring an increase in health problems throughout Hume for residents and public and my family and I urge the council to remove these exemptions to minimize the smoke and associated negative health impacts across Hume, some of which may be quite serious with pre-existing health conditions.</p> <p>This exception area (46 subsection 4) should only list exceptions for or those lit by authorities/council.</p>		
#107	20	<p>I disagree with the comment of Ernie T here. Imposing time restrictions on when bins should or shouldn't be put on the street is not the right thing to do. For example "put bins out no early than 12 hours prior to scheduled pick up time": what if I work a 14 hour shift and cannot do that? "Bins must be removed within 24 hours of being emptied": what if I have a medical emergency and am in hospital? There are too many variables with trying to impose that type of law. I don't see this as a problem throughout Hume, most people are already very good at putting bins out and taking them back in a timely manner, without the need for local laws telling them when they should or shouldn't do this.</p>	1	0
#108	20	<p>Not sure where sub-clauses 1(c) and 1(d) are, but I would like to see limits placed on how long waste bins can be put out. For example no earlier than 12 hours before scheduled collection, and no later than 1 day after scheduled collection. Empty bins detrimentally affect the amenity of the area, and pose a safety risk if blown onto roads.</p>	0	1
#109	20	<p>There should be something here to deal with the issue where some people overfill their bins to grossly overflow with lots of rubbishh all over the street and don't clean it up before and after the bins are collected.</p>	0	0
#106	20	<p>Too vague. What is "offensive"? Offensive smell? Can this be written in a way that is clearly understood by those that dramatically overfill their bins to the point that</p>	0	0

Number	Page	Comment	Agree	Disagree
		the contents spill out all over the place a blow down the street making it look like a tip. I'm thinking of those that have no conscience about it and don't clean it up afterwards.		

Table with feedback received via email

Seventeen submissions were received via email.

Date	Feedback
Email 28 Feb 2023	<p>Division 2 -Animals</p> <p>Paragraph 42 Feeding of wild animals including birds.</p> <p>This should be prohibited  and subject to penalties.</p> <p>It has already been outlawed in several other councils. Feeding wild animals and birds encourages domestication, over breeding and aggressive behaviour. The numbers of feral pigeons, Indian minor birds and crows in our suburb are at extreme levels. The crows are raiding native birds nests as well as digging rubbish out of bins. The feral pigeons and Indian minor birds desecrate buildings and spread disease. So please change this paragraph to prohibit Feeding of wild animals and birds.</p>
Email 24 Feb 2023	<p>Where is a law stopping residents from converting garages into kitchens in which cars are then parked along street causing issues getting through street I remember when I built my home back in 1999 the urban land authority stated all houses had to be built with a garage to accommodate cars!</p> <p>This is an issue if every house has average of 2 cars and now parking out on tight streets</p>
Email 27 Feb 2023	<p>The new proposed law that prohibits the parking of a trailer or caravan but allows a truck to park in a street is ridiculous and unfair. I do not support this new law.</p>
Email 30 Mar 2023	<p>I am writing to express my concerns about the new Draft for a local law that includes provisions for open air burning. Specifically, section 46, subsection 2a(ii) that allows devices like fire pits for open air burning for heating and section 2d that allows open air burning for enjoyment of culture or religion. As a resident of</p>

	<p>this community, I am deeply worried about the potential environmental and health impacts of permitting such activities. While I understand that the proposed law allows for fires in certain circumstances, such as in chimineas, fire pits, or for cultural and religious purposes, I believe that the overall consequences of open air burning far outweigh these specific allowances.</p> <p>Firstly, the environmental impact of open air burning cannot be ignored. Burning wood and other materials release particulate matter, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These emissions contribute to air pollution, which can exacerbate climate change and negatively impact local ecosystems. In a time when we should be prioritizing environmental sustainability, it is counterproductive to endorse activities that contribute to the degradation of our planet.</p> <p>Secondly, the health risks associated with open air burning are well-documented. The smoke produced by these fires contains harmful pollutants, such as fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and carbon monoxide, which can cause respiratory issues, aggravate existing lung conditions, and even lead to long-term health problems. The World Health Organization (WHO) has classified PM2.5 as a Group 1 carcinogen, meaning that it has the potential to cause cancer in humans. By permitting open air burning, the council is effectively endorsing an activity that puts the health of local residents at risk.</p> <p>Furthermore, the claim that this law promotes a healthy community is contradictory in light of the aforementioned environmental and health consequences. While I recognize the importance of cultural and religious practices, there must be a balance between these considerations and the overall well-being of our community. I urge the council to explore alternative, environmentally-friendly ways to accommodate these practices, such as using clean-burning fuels or electric heaters, which can still provide warmth and a sense of community without the harmful side effects.</p> <p>I request that the Hume Council take a serious stance on both environmental protection and public health by reconsidering the proposed Draft for a local law on open air burning exclusions. The negative impacts of open air burning are well-established, and it is our collective responsibility to safeguard the health of our community and the planet for future generations.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this important issue.</p>
<p>Email 3 Apr 2023</p>	<p>I am writing to express my concerns about the new Draft for a local law that includes provisions for open air burning. Specifically, the subsections that allow fires in chimineas, fire pits or other similar and properly constructed appliances for heating, and fires lit for cultural or religious purposes.</p> <p>While I understand the importance of cultural and religious practices, and the desire for warmth during colder months, it is crucial that we consider the health</p>

	<p>impacts of the smoke generated from such fires. Smoke from open air burning can cause a range of respiratory problems, particularly for people with pre-existing conditions such as asthma or bronchitis. This can be especially problematic for children, the elderly, and those with compromised immune systems.</p> <p>Furthermore, these exclusions can easily be manipulated by people who will have large smoky fires causing nuisance and disturbance to their neighbours, as well as toxic smoke. Without proper regulation and oversight, these allowances can be misused and abused, resulting in a nuisance and health risk to neighbouring residents. This can lead to increased tension and conflict between neighbours, as well as a decline in property values.</p> <p>In areas of high density with houses that are within close proximity to each other and with small backyards, the impact of the smoke will be felt by many neighbours in close proximity. This is inappropriate and goes against the principle of maintaining good neighbourly relations.</p> <p>It is also important to note that these fires for heating or culture are unnecessary. We have access to modern heating and cooking appliances that are far more efficient and environmentally friendly. Air quality and health should be our primary concern, and we should prioritize these over any cultural or personal preferences.</p> <p>Finally, it is essential that any allowances for open air burning are strictly regulated. This includes setting limits on the size, frequency, and duration of these fires, as well as requiring smokeless fires. This is not the stone age, where we have fires burning outside where we live. As a responsible council, it is our duty to ensure that the health and wellbeing of all residents are protected.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge the Hume Council to reconsider the inclusion of these subsections in the local law draft, and to prioritize the health and wellbeing of all residents over personal preferences. Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>
Email 23 Mar 2023	<p>I have with great interest read the proposed local laws. It appears that in one or two areas there is a conflict between powers between you and another government identity being Victoria Police. Acts of Parliament in Victoria would override local laws made by councils and there appears that your local laws are a duplication of laws within Acts of Parliament. Perhaps a better option for you is to be listed in the authorised persons list in each Act that you wish to be involved in.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PART 2 – ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PLACES</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Division 2 – Vehicles</p>

20.1. Behaviour Involving Motor Vehicles

- (1) A person must not participate in, encourage or attend a hoon event.
- (2) The driver of a vehicle must not stop or park, for the purposes of attending a hoon event, within 200 metres of a vehicle involved in a hoon event.

REPLY

This is a law that is already being policed by Victoria Police and EPA re noise and as such places a person in double jeopardy, which at this time is not acceptable in the state of Victoria and in fact there is case law that covers this.

Police already have this power and should just do their job.

The EPA also has a role because of the noise and toxic smoke.

Specialised Police and Taskforce operations are conducted by Victoria Police regarding these matters. This is not a council matter

PART 3 – AMENITY

Division 1 – Your Property

32.1. Noxious Weeds and Pest Animals

- (1) An owner or occupier of private property must take all reasonable steps to control, reduce and remove noxious weeds and pest animals on that private property.

REPLY

This is covered by Catchment and land protection Act, a state Act regarding Weeds and is a duplication.

As you know, weeds and pest animals are a subjective test and it would be good if everybody did the right thing, and that includes the City of Hume. Instead of the heavy handed approach, perhaps you could send all owners of rateable properties within the City of Hume info packs, re weeds and what to do with them.

Encourage property owners to look for weeds, both on their properties and also council areas. Grub them out or have council officers come and remove them. I have, on our road previously, removed weeds, until I received a letter informing me that I was to stop this practice. My street has Blackberries, Chilean needle grass, serrated tussock and other minor weeds. Council have been informed of the matter but all they have done is to slash the road side during the seeding period (Hazard reduction mowing) spreading the weeds. At the end of our road at

Riddell Road, is a white post with a sticker on it stating the washdown area. Council contractors don't wash down their machinery, thus weeds are spread.

Pest animals being rabbits are abundant in this area. Not all landowners are educated as to how to eradicate them. Perhaps a street by street education system would help.

Division 2 - Animals

39. Keeping of Animals

(1) Without a permit, an owner or occupier of private property must not keep or allow to be kept on the private property any more of each species or group of animals than is stated in the following table.

(2) For the purpose of calculating the numbers of any animal kept under sub-clause (1), the progeny of any dog or cat lawfully kept will be counted from twelve (12) weeks after its birth

<see table 39(2).

3. Without a permit, an owner or occupier of private property must not keep an animal of a species not listed in the table in sub-clause (3) on that private property.

REPLY

It would appear that the City of Hume doesn't want farmers anymore, as if you have a property over 10000 square metres, (1Ha or 2.5 acres), you are not permitted to have over the prescribed amount of livestock. You may say it is only for suburban areas, but that is not what the draft implies. There is very little primary production land left in the City of Hume and if the remaining farmers have to get permission to have more livestock than what is prescribed, we may as well sell our properties to the land bankers and you will not have any farmers left and there will be no Green Wedge left to protect. Perhaps you can give more clarity to this situation. We have all worked hard to look after our properties, I would hate to see all the good work done by the landowners and other council officers be lost because of overreach of a small section of council. What is your reason for these new local laws? If you are using the excuse of animal welfare, then there are other organisations such as, RSPCA, Racing Victoria, Victoria police who already have the power to resolve these issues. Or is it a matter of you wanting a piece of the action? This again is overreach by council. This is a very bad rule in its current form.

Division 3 – Open Air Burning

Reply

It would also be helpful to notify landowners of their obligations and responsibilities regarding firebreaks as very few landowners are doing fire breaks and council has failed to follow them up.

Division 4 – Waste and Recycling

Reply

The EPA needs to lift its game in this matter as it police's smells and odours from industrial bins. Your own health dept also already has input into this area. Why do you require further powers? Again this is a duplication of existing powers. If the industrial bins have drain plugs in the bottom I am sure the people who hire them or rent them will wash them out and they will drain onto the surrounding ground and the waste will wash into the drains causing more problems to our waterways

Perhaps the City of HUME would be better off worrying about the rubbish that is being dumped every day in the public areas of the municipality. This is a bigger issue.

These are just my thoughts.

Letter 22
Mar 2023

HEALTHY & SAFE; PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 1 2023

Would like to make the following submission on proposed local laws by the Hume City Council.

Referring to page 10 of the HCC Council Meeting Agenda dated Monday 13th of February 2023, under "7. Charter of Human Rights Application" (or The Charter"), I believe point 7.2 is very brief. Some of the proposed Local Laws clearly infringe upon several Human Rights. The UN Charter of Civil and Political Rights give unalienable rights to every Man or Woman. I highly recommend the definition of "unalienable" should be looked up by your solicitors, councillors and CEO. Sections 19, 20, 38, 39 maybe areas that need refining or exclusion.

Additionally, much of the proposed Local Laws do not seem to distinguish between activities of a commercial nature or a private matter with keeping of animals a prime case in point. As HCC is also a company listed under ASIC with an ACN & ABN, I'm sure many proposed Local Laws will rely on a contract existing with the living person and Council.

In terms of omissions, the proposed local laws do not mention illicit drugs; the manufacture of, the distribution, the sale nor consumption. In terms of managing the Public Order, it seems on the outside, quite bizarre. (Unless there's some other reason?).

A second matter that could be included with the increase of vehicles powered by rechargeable batteries. This seems to have been ignored and safeguards with batteries igniting when being recharged, protecting surrounding properties and having structures equipped to deal with a lithium fire would be a priority. This would be much more important from a safety aspect at shopping centres for instance than having a coin inserted into a shopping cart.

Existing Local Laws

Section 19; going to be interesting with all the new battery powered gadgets coming onto the markets & being ridden in the streets nowadays. Most suburban parks and footpaths will be used in contravention with the riding of these new vehicles in the near future; I don't think the proposed Local Laws will keep up.

I have reservations too on what definition is "unsightly". Section 38 (1) really needs a look at; I would have to think changing a light bulb or greasing a hinge would constitute "work" on a truck on a large property. And (2), to only allow 1 caravan on a property, regardless of the size of the area, is just not anything to do with Council. Persons are free to buy and use 2 caravans if they wish; maybe 1 caravan for 2 people and a 6 person caravan for trips with family is not unreasonable.

Section 39. I see this as continually as an intrusion into peoples' lives. Whilst understanding the intent for proposed Local Laws for units, flats and townhouses, much of this is regulated with Body Corporates and now, some Victorian State Government legislation.

Section 41 (1) & (2); I've seen in Melbourne CDB, people walking cats and the like; I really think it should be changed from "dog" to "dog or similar animal being walked" to keep up with trends.

In terms of new local laws, Section 18; I cannot determine how a person placing their own private property (sometimes outside their own property) such as an automobile, in a public space and then can become an offence if they are trying to sell their property, often by simply placing a "For Sale" sign, often with a mobile number on it. I'm not sure where Council get their jurisdiction from here & a human right for people to buy & sell their private property. It seems, reading the local law, I could drive an automobile in the street with a "For Sale" sign on the window but as soon as it was parked, I could be fined?

Section 20 is farcical; already covered by the Victorian Government under the Hooning Act & the Council are proposing to duplicate these laws. 20 (2) is a fine for even existing in a public place. Even though VicPol have requested this Local Law, the 2013 Victorian Police Act does not mention VicPol are lawmakers and there are reasons for that. Rather, Section 51 of the Act basically says Police Officers should "Serve & Protect Victorians" and "Uphold just laws without prejudice". This

	<p>has been their oath to the Queen of Australia since 2005. Additionally, if a concerned parent were to turn up to an event or take footage of participants, they would be guilty under the proposed law. Clearly not a Council jurisdiction to uphold traffic laws.</p> <p>Lastly, Section 20 with regards to alcohol. The 1900 Commonwealth of Australia Constitution states:</p> <p>113 Intoxicating liquids.</p> <p>All fermented, distilled, or other intoxicating liquids passing into any State or remaining therein for use, consumption, sale, or storage, shall be subject to the laws of the State as if such liquids had been produced in the State.</p> <p>As such, am unsure if any Local Laws would be enforceable in law regarding anything to do with alcohol. Also, the results of the 1946 Referendum resulting in the enactment of Section 51xxiii(a) in the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution should also be read by Council too.</p> <p>I believe many of these proposed laws could easily be deleted & if Council concentrated on for example, eradicating the dumping of rubbish in public areas and graffiti, not just removal but also prosecuting people caught in the act, the community would benefit greatly and the Council would have a lot more respect. Possibly use some of your drones for the prevent and prosecution of illegal rubbish dumping as opposed to spying in your residents' backyards?</p> <p>I feel what people do within their own properties should be much more respected by Council.</p>
Email 16 Mar 2023	<p>As landowners and residents of <address. Mickleham for now 50 years we have seen issues raised by residents and locals on countless occasions. Our issues are constantly ignored by Hume CC. as they are again in the draft local laws document.</p> <p>One very important, ignored example, is the issue of extensive correspondence with Hume CC relating to inappropriate use of recreational vehicles on private land.</p> <p>A meeting was held (10th May 2019) between ourselves (representing the Mickleham Action Group -26 local residents) and four Hume CC Officers, including the then Manager Statutory Planning and Building Control Services (Kirsty Miller) and two Enforcement Officers and an environmental officer. It was suggested by these Council representatives that Hume CC (General Local Laws Number 1, 2013) were inadequate to control the use of recreational vehicles on private land. The Hume CC representatives suggested we take up a Petition to have the Laws to more clearly define and amended.</p>

It was suggested they should be comparable with those of Macedon Ranges General Purpose and Amenity Local Law (2013) and Moorabool Shire Councils General Local Law (2010) Clause 14 (now updated in Moorabool Shire Council Community Local Law No 1 (2019), Topic Number 6.11). These restrict the number of riders or drivers and/or the times of operation, including a minimum distance to adjacent (neighbouring) residences; amongst other restrictions.

A petition of 137 signatures was collected, from residents between Kinnear Rd to the north and Mt Ridley Rd to the south (approximately 3km), 73 signatures were collected, either within the valley or directly adjacent. The remainder were concerned residents wanting to see the valley protected. This petition was presented to council and approved at a Council Meeting (8th July 2019)

From the minutes of that meeting

12. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS Report No. PJL285 – Report Page 4 in Agenda PJL285

Request to make changes to the Hume Council General Local Law 2013, and to provide penalties to those in breach of those laws.

Moved Cr Joseph Haweil, Seconded Cr Drew Jessop

That the petition be received, circulated to Councillors, and the first named signatory of the petition be advised that the matter has been referred to the Manager Governance. CARRIED

Thereafter the petition was untraceable. The disappearance, rejection, total lack of recognition of the petition is unexplainable. There is a complete absence of any mention of recreational vehicle use on private land in the proposed 2023 Local Laws. Even though this petition was suggested to be what was needed, and was accepted by Councillors at the July 2019 HCC meeting, it has apparently been ignored.

Many calls and emails have been made to council one stating: 20 July 2020: email from <name> as to why we had not heard about the petition Mickleham action Group lodged with council July 2019. He stated there was a delay because of Covid.

Subsequent calls have been made and ignored. We soon discovered that it was impossible to further track progress of the petition. The tedious task of collecting signatures was totally disrespected.

About the time our petition was lodged, the article entitled “Can the Council intervene to protect the Environment?” was published in Hume CC Re-Source

	<p>(Pages 2 & 3, Winter Edition Attachment 1) clearly indicating our petition was not needed. But no visible action was or has been evident by council.</p> <p>Recent publication of the new draft Local Laws refer only to prohibition of the use of recreational vehicles on municipal land; unless this land has been designated for that purpose, (Clause 19). There is an additional Clause regarding illegality of (bad) behaviour involving “Hoon Events”. This Clause is also apparently restricted (as are all other Clauses in this Division) to roads and municipal places. Drifting, 4 X4 driving and hoon driving on private land (in the Green Wedge Zone land with a ESO 1 Overlay) has been ignored by council. Even in the face of YouTube evidence showing environmental desecration forwarded to council and ignored.</p> <p>There is No mention of these activities on private land or mention of these activities in the Green Wedge Zone. In the Draft Laws</p> <p>The draft 2023 Hume CC Local Laws in fact make no mention of protection of the natural environment of Hume; except for the 2 lines of Clause 33. These refer to control of noxious weeds and pest animals – providing a surprising concession that Hume CC still concede that private landownership may be influenced by local government law.</p> <p>Will council enforce these draft laws? Council have been made aware of numerous misdemeanours, deliberate and intentional abuse of the 2013 bylaws by landowners particularly in the Green Wedge Zone. Never anything is done for reparation and restitution of the natural environment, let alone the protection of the land in the first place.</p> <p>The draft laws show NO provision to protect the Rural Environment, Deep Creek Valley, Green Wedge Zoning or the Environmental Overlays. Issues raised in community consultations to protect the waterways, wildlife, ecology, fauna and flora seem to have been ignored in these draft laws. Residents expect Local Government to take lead in these matters but the absence of any commitment by HCC does not reflect on their environmental responsibility or competence. We believe the above issues should be addressed and corrected.</p>
<p>Email 21 Mar 2023</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">SUBMISSION ON HUME LOCAL LAWS</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Removal of clause 3.8 - Filling of land</u></p> <p>The removal of clause 3.8 is claimed to be justified because this clause has not been used and its purpose is believed to be adequately covered by State and Federal legislation.</p> <p>It is true that large quantities of fill being imported onto rural (Green Wedge Zone) land in Hume requires a planning permit under State law. However, this only applies to quantities of more than 100 cubic metres, equivalent to the delivery of 5 fully loaded large trucks with a trailer. This threshold was set to allow</p>

rural landowners to import fill for agricultural purposes, such as for constructing dams, without the need to secure a planning permit.

Removing this clause would mean smaller quantities of fill dumped on rural (or urban) land would not be explicitly regulated. These amounts can still be quite large and should not be excluded from regulation since, if left idle, stockpiles of unused fill become a blight on the landscape.

The proposed new clause 31 gives the Council a broad power to regulate unsightly land which should encompass unsightly stockpiles of fill that have been left idle. To assist with using and enforcing this power, stockpiles of fill should be added to sub-clause 31(2) as a further example of unsightliness. The recently amended local laws of the Shire of Mornington includes some drafting in relation to unsightly land that could be adopted for Hume.

Clause 9 of those local laws is as follows:

9. Unsightly Land

(1) An occupier of land must not keep or allow another person to keep that land in a manner which is, in the opinion of Council or an Authorised Officer:

(a) unsightly; or

(b) detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood in which it is located.

(2) Without limiting the generality of Clause 9(1), land may be unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the neighbourhood in which it is located by the presence of:

(a) disused excavation;

(b) a building which is incomplete and not currently being constructed;

(c) unconstrained rubbish, litter, waste material or any stockpile that adversely affects the amenity of the land or neighbourhood;

(d) growth of vegetation and undergrowth exceeding a height of 200 millimetres;

(e) second-hand materials, scrap metal, building materials or building refuse;

(f) derelict vehicles and machinery, or vehicle- or machinery parts;

(g) graffiti on exterior walls of buildings or fences; or

(h) any material or substance that makes the land out of character with the appearance of other land in the neighbourhood, irrespective of whether it can be seen from a neighbouring property or a public place.

I suggest clause 2(c) of this local law should be adopted by Hume and slightly modified as follows

(c) unconstrained rubbish, litter, waste material, including fill, or any stockpile that adversely affects the amenity of the land or neighbourhood

Use of recreational vehicles on private land

Hume’s local laws should include regulation of the use of trail bikes on private land, as well as municipal land. The current draft Local Laws covers only the use of recreational vehicles on municipal land, while ‘recreational vehicles’ are not defined. Presumably, the Council has in mind vehicles, such as trail bikes, that cause a noise nuisance and a public safety risk when used on municipal land.

The following definition of a ‘recreational vehicle’ from the Mornington local laws could be adopted by Hume to address this definition oversight

Recreational vehicle

Any miniaturised motor cycle, trail bike, motor cycle, motor scooter, go-cart, four-wheel drive vehicle or other vehicle propelled by a motor, which can be used for recreational purposes, but does not include:

- a) a motorised wheelchair;
- b) a power-assisted pedal cycle that meets the legislative requirements;
- c) an electric scooter that meets the legislative requirements; or
- d) a vehicle whilst engaged in legitimate farming activities.

Many residents in Hume’s rural areas have complained to the Council about the over-use of noisy trail bikes on private land and were encouraged to participate in reforming Hume’s local laws to deal with this issue. I understand a petition of over 100 signatures was provided to the Council to justify action on this issue.

The proposed draft makes no attempt to address this issue. The following clause included in the new Mornington local laws could address this issue.

17. Use of Recreational Vehicles on Private Land

(1) A person must not on private land use a recreational vehicle, except where the use is authorised by signs placed on the land by Council, or permitted under any Act or regulation.

(2) An occupier of private land must not, without a permit, allow a person to use a recreational vehicle on that land.

This local law gives the Council the power to permit (or not) the use of trail bikes and other recreational vehicles to address a nuisance that these vehicles can inflict on residents. As well, the noisy use of these vehicles can adversely affect local noise-sensitive wildlife, such as swamp wallabies, the endangered growling grass frog and wombats, as well as other animals, particularly horses, in Hume’s rural areas.

The Council cannot claim it is sincerely concerned to protect the wildlife in its municipality while allowing unfettered use of noisy trail bikes on private land in environmentally sensitive areas of its municipality. A local law power over recreational vehicle use would allow it to protect wildlife, as well as residential amenity, including in particular areas where noise sensitive wildlife needs to be protected.

In relation to protecting the acoustic amenity of residents, many rural residents find the use of noisy trail bikes to be particularly offensive. It is acknowledged that the Council would face demands from some rural residents demanding the right to ride noisy trail bikes on their own land. However, this use cannot be unfettered and be to the cost of the amenity of other residents.

Just as the Council recognises that unsightly private properties need to be regulated, so as not to cause detriment to the amenity of neighbouring properties, so should the use of recreational vehicles be similarly regulated for the same reason.

Lights

The local laws do not address a detriment to amenity that can be caused by obtrusive or nuisance lighting.

Mornington’s local laws (see copy attached) include a clause intended to address nuisances caused by obtrusive lighting that is as follows

19. Lights

An occupier of land must not cause or allow to be caused, in the opinion of Council or an Authorised Officer, a light to be a nuisance to any other person.

If the Council is concerned not to permit detrimental impacts on amenity from unsightly land then it follows that it should also not permit the excessive use of artificial lighting to adversely affect residential amenity.

State planning law can serve to address this issue where a planning permit includes a condition that does not permit a land use to adversely affect the amenity of a local area by way of the use of artificial lighting. To its credit, the Council includes such a condition in some planning permits and has used this power to address the concerns of residents about the offensive use of artificial lighting.

However, there are many land uses that do not require a planning permit where the offensive use of artificial lighting can occur, such as the use of floodlighting. A new clause that adopts that used by Mornington would not, of course, prohibit artificial lighting but it would allow for action to be taken by the Council to stop the excessive use of artificial lighting causing a public nuisance.

A new clause relating to ‘Lights’ could be augmented to allow for action to be taken to moderate or eliminate lighting that is known to have adverse effects on wildlife or other animals. Excessive artificial lighting is known to adversely impact nocturnal wildlife, such as wallabies, owls and frogs. Farm animals are also impacted by excessive artificial lighting, affecting, for example, reproduction by cattle and horses and egg laying by chickens. Accordingly, the following suggested clause could be adopted

An occupier of land must not cause or allow to be caused, in the opinion of Council or an Authorised Officer, a light to be a nuisance to any other person or to adversely affect native wildlife or other animals.

Shipping containers - clause 35

The proposed new clause needs to be augmented to ensure that rural residents are afforded the same consultation as is available for urban residents.

At present, I understand that importing and using a shipping container in an urban residential area would not require a planning permit but that a local laws permit would be required. In the process of issuing (or not) a local laws permit, under current protocols, the applicant is obliged to consult with neighbours and secure their consent, if possible. I understand this would not change under the new clause 35.

On rural land where a land use or a development includes the importation of one or more shipping containers, this could require a planning permit. One such example has emerged in Hume where the use of rural land for a contractor’s depot (a section 2 use in a Green Wedge Zone) has included the importation and placement of 3 shipping containers on the land of 90 Bardwell Drive, Mickleham. In this case, a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit has been made by

	<p>the Council (P26350) but a planning permit is yet to issue as this decision is being appealed at the VCAT.</p> <p>Under the proposed terms of clause 35, if the VCAT allows for a planning permit that includes the use of shipping containers then a Local Laws Permit would not be required. However, if the VCAT was to refuse a planning permit then a (Local Laws) permit would need to be sought by the landowner if the shipping containers were to remain on the land for some other purpose than supporting a contractor’s depot. Presumably, in this scenario, the landowner would have to notify neighbours and seek to secure their consent before the Council assesses such an application.</p> <p>In other circumstances, a Hume rural resident living in the Green Wedge Zone may wish to import one or more shipping containers, perhaps to store tools or household goods. This would seem to constitute a ‘building’ associated with a section 2 use of land for a Dwelling, given that the VCAT has opined that a shipping container constitutes a ‘building’ (see <i>Watson v Monash CC</i> (In Summary) (Red Dot) [2011] VCAT 2176).</p> <p>A planning permit would therefore seem to be required under clause 35.04-5 in this instance, but there is no obligation on the permit applicant nor the Council to seek the views of neighbouring residents, especially if the application is to be processed as a VicSmart application. Accordingly, rural residents may not be given the opportunity to object to the use of one or more shipping containers by a neighbour, unlike in urban areas where neighbours are required to be notified under the usual Local Law protocols for the use of shipping containers.</p> <p>To address this concern, I suggest this clause be augmented to include a requirement for the Council to notify neighbours, whether a planning is required or not, as per the following suggested drafting that draws on the current clause 3.4.2 relating to Heavy Motor Vehicles.</p> <p>Where a person applies for a permit under clause 35, Council will notify and consider the views of the owners or occupiers of land adjoining that person’s land, and any other owners or occupiers of land whom Council or an authorised officer considers appropriate, prior to deciding whether to grant a permit</p>
<p>Email 13 Mar 2023</p>	<p>I must express my concerns regarding the proposed change to the local law by the Hume council that exempts open-air burning for cultural or religious purposes. While I respect the right of individuals to practice their religion or culture, I must voice my objections on the grounds that this change can be misused as a loophole by those who wish to have bonfires and pit fires in their backyards for entertainment or recreational reasons or just burning off, causing nuisance and health issues to their neighbours.</p>

	<p>The exemption clause (Sub-clause 4) contradicts the principles and objectives of the Local Law update. It is a well-established fact that burning materials in open-air can release toxic fumes and particulate matter that can lead to respiratory problems and other health issues, particularly for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions.</p> <p>Moreover, such fires can also cause nuisance and adversely affect the environment and the quality of life of the residents in the municipal district. The smoke from such fires can be disturbing to neighbours, particularly if the fire burns for extended periods or is too close to their homes. The exemption clause (Sub-clause 4) undermines the efforts of the council to prevent and manage nuisances and promote a quality of healthy life that meets the general expectations of the community.</p> <p>The exemption clause can also be misused as a loophole to Sub-clause (1) and Sub-clause (2). I must point out that some individuals may claim that they are burning materials for cultural or religious purposes to circumvent the restrictions on open-air burning. This loophole can be exploited to cause harm to the environment and the health of the residents in the municipal district.</p> <p>I implore the Hume council to re-evaluate the suggested modification to the local law that exempts open-air burning for cultural or religious reasons. Although I support people's right to exercise their faith or culture, I can see how these exceptions could be abused by those who want to burn things outside, disturbing their neighbours and endangering their health.</p>
Email 20 Feb 2023	<p>We have been made aware recently, that through the current review of the Hume City Council Local Laws it had been decided to remove the prior 'Property Numbering' Local Law 2.14 as set out under the 2013 document.</p> <p>The emphasis on 2.14.3 part of this 2013 local law is particularly very important to emergency services, in that... when there was compliance to this law, it helped ensure that people are able to quickly and correctly identify a property during an emergency response and other domestic situations. Through the visibility of a displayed street number on the main entry point to a property from the roadway.</p> <p>Without this law as a position to refer too, how does council intend to enforce the display of street numbering on properties within the LGA?</p> <p>I would ask you to please consider, that our paramedics and other frontline emergency workers have enough problems to deal with... without having to add the issue of navigating and responding to series of properties that do not display their street numbers in a way, that can be easily read and seen from the roadway... if displayed at all.</p> <p>And that without this type of Local Law, council would have no recourse to require the property owner or occupant to correctly display the council allocated street</p>

	<p>number. Even if the infringement penalty of this law is never used, the ability to reference this Local Law and direct property owners or occupants to correctly display their property number is invaluable.</p>
<p>Email 27 Feb 2023</p>	<p>I am writing regarding the Draft General Purposes Local Law</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Division 2 - Vehicles</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section 18 - Storage of Vehicles</p> <p>(1) - Without a permit, a person must not place or store, or allow to be placed or stored a caravan, boat or trailer in or on a road or municipal place.</p> <p>This would be particularly impactful to our residents as most of the newer homes built in Craigieburn do not have space to store caravans, boats or trailers. I don't believe an adequate impact statement has been done on this particular item (I can't see it in the statement - Hume - Local Law Review - Community Impact Statement - 8 Feb 2023 (93.1 KB) (docx)).</p> <p>Additionally, these vehicles are all registered, and already fall under state laws for parking on street - there is no need to amend this specifically for Hume.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Who proposed this, and what problem is it trying to solve?</p> <p>I have tried to add comments to the document itself, but I just get into a login loop, and it won't allow me.</p>
<p>Email 17 Feb 2023</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">To whom it may concern</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The process of comment is impossible to navigate via website. Considering those of us on farms! 2. See attached rural screen shot from Hume own Rural strategy, which shows numerous properties over 5 hectares (50,000 square meter) and even more over 50 and 100 hectares 3. 10,000 sq min 1 hectare or about 2.4 acres. Only town/city areas are within 1 hectare. Almost all farm even hobby farms are over 50,000 square meters. 4. Who ever did the animal calculations is not a farmer or know large animals. <p>Cows need more grazing area than horses 2 cows need 2.5 acres (over 10,000 sq m)</p>

	<p>therefore more horses should be allowed than Cows. But your new proposal has the .0988 of an acre have 5 cows. (Sunbury Pony Club has a bigger land mass)</p> <p>5. I suggest you change you last column to 10,000 to 20,000 then that would allow you to have a column for 5 acres.(still to small for a house, sheds and 5 Cows)</p> <p>6. As on current Local Law allow over 10acres (40,000 sq m) (4 hectares) do not have a limit or a requirement of a permit.</p> <p>7. Allow farmers be it hobby, primary to have as many Cows, Horse, Sheep, Goats and Pigs that will sure their property. Farmers, horseman know their land. Large animals change over time ie calving and lambing season. Real Horse people don't have 1 horse per family member!, That is only city people that pay real horse people to take care of them! Since you hard feed most horses you can have 10 horses in large pastures in 20 acres (+80,000 sq m). More with properties that against horses for those in town with house blocks.</p> <p>8. Why are you being prejudice against farmers? When the feed lot areas within Hume can have +500 head of cows on 100acres and because they keep the same cow/calf there less than 3 months at time and switch them out they don't have to pay anything or even get a permit.</p> <p>9. Domestic animal transfer is \$345 each time currently - what is the cost for these livestock permits you want everyone with more than 10 cows, 5 horses or 15 sheep or goats to have.</p> <p>10. Most of Hume is Rural and why should the smaller population with no running water, bottle gas, poor internet and usually no garbage pick up be paying for city/town people. Farming is hard enough. Also it is not the city people that are going to have to get a permit to have their horse on someone else's property. Our taxes are higher already do to size of properties with fewer amenities from the council.</p> <p>Please supply an answer in writing at your earliest convenience.</p>
Email 24 Feb 2023	<p>I am writing to you regarding the Draft General Purposes Local Law, in particular Division 2 – 18. Storage of Vehicles(1) - Without a permit, a person must not place or store, or allow to be placed or stored a caravan, boat or trailer in or on a road or municipal place.</p> <p>I believe that this proposed addition is, in its very nature, flawed, already covered under VIC Roads and biased/unfair and should be removed due to the below reasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no provision in this local law for residents that would be filling/preparing their Vans, Boats or trailers for travel. Where due to the black-

	<p>and-white nature of the law, as soon as a resident parked a Vans, Boat or trailer on the road to fill/prepare for their travels, they would be in breach of this law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Additionally, it conflicts with VIC roads where - Registered towable vehicles, including caravans, campers and boats/trailers, can be parked on the street if the vehicle is under 7.5m in length and less than 4.5 tonnes. · Additionally, this law would punish local ratepayers who own caravans, boats or trailers that are parked on their properties' street front while allowing 3-tonne trucks to remain parked on local streets, which are more of a burden on local roads. See below examples
<p>Public question Council meeting 14 Mar 2023</p>	<p>In the General Local Law No. 1 2013, Section 31 with regards to Amenity, which states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31.1 Dangerous & unsightly land. An owner or occupier of land must not allow the land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.1.1 to constitute a danger to health or property, - 3.1.2 to constitute unsightly land or be detrimental to general amenity of the neighbourhood, without a permit to do so. <p>Mt. Holden in Sunbury is in close vicinity to my house. Mt. Holden is an extinct volcano and has some scenic rock faces and is a beautiful, natural feature of the area of Sunbury. It's natural beauty is spoilt by obtrusive and unsightly mobile phone towers.</p> <p>If the Council are proposing to restrict properties to 1 caravan per private property on the basis of unsightliness with the power to enter, confiscate, sell & recoup costs, why can't HCC under 3.1.2 order the removal or at least look into the removal of these unsightly towers from the landscape of Sunbury?</p>
<p>Email 24 Feb 2023</p>	<p>Can something be done about how many cars many people own here per-house, due to the roads around our homes being very congested? It's getting an ambulance or fire truck won't manage to get to many which is a safety issue. I think new laws need to offer parking permits like others have and I don't feel one should buy a place that can't cater for their vehicles.</p>
<p>Email 17 Feb 2023</p>	<p>39. Keeping of animals.</p> <p>The largest land size is greater than 10,000 (1ha).</p> <p>These numbers are not appropriate for properties over 100,000 m2.</p>

Palmer Rd Sunbury is an example of a street where every property is over this amount. Many of these properties will have more than 5 horses. Several have free range chickens over 20 as well.

There needs to be additional columns to cater for the larger properties in Hume.

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1. Overview:

In September- October 2022, preliminary consultation was undertaken with community members and stakeholders to inform the development of the Hume City General Purpose Local 2023.

The draft Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2023 was subsequently placed on public exhibition by Council between 14 March 2023 – 31 February providing community members and stakeholders with an opportunity to review and provide additional comment on the proposed local law. This summary report provides a summary of submissions and comments received by Council during the public exhibition period, alongside officer analysis and response.

Table 1: Summary of comments/submissions received and officer response:

Relevant section of the Local Law	Unique comment count	Summary of responses received	Officer comment
Open-air burning general (refer Division 4)	1	It was proposed that it would be useful to notify landowners of their obligations and responsibilities regarding firebreaks.	Council delivers a range of fire prevention education and enforcement activities as part of its responsibilities under the <i>Country Fire Authority Act</i> and <i>Fire Rescue Victoria Act</i> .
Restrictions on burning in the Open-Air – Private Property (refer clause 47)	96	<p>During the public exhibition period, Council received a significant number of comments and community concerns regarding changes to ‘open-air burning on private property’ clauses and provisions.</p> <p>In summary, these comments conveyed the view that these changes may contribute to an increase in backyard burning, presenting a range of health, safety, environmental and nuisance impacts.</p>	<p>Provisions included in the local law pertaining to open-air burning on private property were designed with the intent of balancing enjoyment benefits of appropriately contained and managed fires – such as a source for cooking, warmth, and cultural practice - with health, safety, environmental and nuisance concerns.</p> <p>Clauses 46 and 47 included in the local law establish a range of controls/requirements to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires do not become a nuisance and/or pose a health or safety risk to neighbouring properties/ other persons; and, • Fires are supervised.

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			In addition to the above clauses included in the local law, Council has a range of powers under nuisance provisions of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008. Under these powers, Council can direct and require property owners/occupiers to take all reasonable steps to eliminate a nuisance – including smoke pollution.
Burning of Offensive Materials (refer clause 46)	3	There was view that a list of materials included in the local law specifying what can and cannot be burnt should include a specific reference to treated timber due to its known health impacts.	<p>Clause 46 within the local law includes a summarised list of materials that must not be burnt and/or incinerated. This list is not designed to be comprehensive. It is specified within this clause that it pertains to ANY materials that may cause offensive smoke and/or odours.</p> <p>Given the health impacts associated with the burning of treated timber, this would be considered an offensive material that must not be burnt.</p>
Collection and Storage of Domestic Waste Bins (refer clause 50)	4	<p>During the public exhibition period, Council received comments that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new clause should be added to require property owners to put waste bin out/bring them in within specified time periods around waste collection days; and, • Conversely, that such time limits are problematic for people who may at work/be on holiday. <p>It was further suggested that additional clauses could be added to restrict the overfilling of domestic waste bins to mitigate offensive smells.</p>	<p>Clause 50 (1a) within the local law prohibits occupiers from placing a domestic waste bin in a way that interferes with the free movement of pedestrian or vehicular traffic.</p> <p>Further – Clause 50 (2a) provides for domestic bins to be maintained in a clean and tidy manner so as to not cause a health risk or be offensive to any person. Whilst Clause 49(3) provides that domestic bins should be covered by their lids at all times.</p>
Storage of vehicles (refer clause 18)	3	Several concerns were raised in relation to clauses that prohibit the sale of vehicles on a municipal place, with clarity sought as to whether this would apply to a	Clause 18 (3) prohibits a person from displaying a vehicle for sale on a road or municipal place. This clause was designed with the intent of ensuring vehicles are not positioned/parked on

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		<p>vehicle with a ‘carsales’ sticker in the window, and/or vehicles for sale that are used daily by the owner.</p> <p>There was a view expressed that clauses prohibiting the storage of vehicles such as caravans, trailers and boats on public road/municipal places was unfair given that large trucks are frequently parked in these areas.</p> <p>The was also a view expressed that the storage of vehicles such as caravans, trucks and trailers is covered by existing road regulations, and that prohibiting the storage of this type of vehicle has impacts on people who don’t have a driveway.</p>	<p>roadways/municipal places for the purpose of advertising the vehicle for sale.</p> <p>Large trucks are permitted to park on a short-term basis (1 hour) on a public roadway. This is covered under Victorian Road Regulation and fines and infringements apply to large vehicles that are parked longer than 1 hour.</p> <p>This clause was designed with the intent of ensuring other large vehicles, including caravans, trailers and boats are not stored on road and/or a municipal place on a long-term basis (i.e. for periods exceeding 2 months).</p>
Repair of vehicles (refer clause 17)	2	<p>Several points of clarity were sought as to whether clauses pertaining to the ‘repair of vehicles’ on public roads would prohibit minor maintenance being conducted on a roadway or municipal place – such as filling of windscreen wiper fluid and/or engine coolant.</p>	<p>This clause was designed with the intent of prohibiting the major repair and/or restoration of vehicles on a road or municipal place. It would not be applied to owners/occupiers performing emergency or minor maintenance works to their vehicle.</p>
Recreational vehicles (refer clause 19)	2	<p>Several comments were received expressing the view that restrictions included in the local law relating to the use of ‘recreational vehicles’ (such as motorbikes, trail bikes etc) should be extended to also apply privately owned land/properties.</p> <p>It was claimed that there has been a previous community petition in support of this.</p>	<p>Officers have conducted a search of Council records and were able to locate the original petition referenced in these submissions and associated notes. Officers tasked with preparing the local law were not aware of this petition during the development of the local law.</p> <p>The proposed extension of this clause to include private property requires further, detailed legal and resourcing consideration and analysis.</p> <p>It is proposed that this analysis be conducted within 12 months of the new, local law being adopted and made by Council. If deemed feasible, this may be considered through a future amendment to the local law.</p>

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Heavy and long vehicles on private property (refer clause 38)	1	There was a view that the requirement within the local law to obtain a permit to store heavy/long vehicles on private property contravened human rights.	This clause, which requires a property owner to obtain a permit to allow for the storage of a long, heavy vehicle on private property is justified by the need to maintain the safety and amenity of the others/the broader community.
Behaviour involving motor vehicles (Hoon Driving) (refer clause 20)	3	<p>There was a view that new clauses included the local law that prohibit gathering for the purpose of attending a hoon event duplicate existing enforcement powers/responsibilities of Victoria Police.</p> <p>Further, it was proposed that there are existing powers available to Victoria Police and other agencies under the Environmental Protection Act that could be used to address hoon driving given the ability of these events to create noise and toxic smoke.</p> <p>It was proposed that clauses and provisions relating to hoon driving contravened human rights, as people who are walking by such an event may be inappropriately identified as attending or participating in the hoon event.</p>	<p>This clause was included at the request of Victoria Police. Similar clauses have been incorporated and passed by several other local governments.</p> <p>These clauses are justified by the need to maintain the safety of others/the broader community.</p>
Shopping trolleys (refer clause 30)	2	<p>It was highlighted that that some people rely on shopping trolleys to get goods home where they do not have transport available. Concern was raised that the clauses included in the local may unfairly impact these individuals.</p> <p>It was recommended that clauses focussed on addressing shopping trolley dumping should place the onus on the retailer.</p>	<p>New clauses included in the local law focussed on controlling/preventing the dumping/leaving of shopping trolleys across the municipality were designed with the intent of creating a greater onus on businesses/retailers.</p> <p>A person must not leave a shopping trolley on a <u>road</u> or a <u>municipal place</u>.</p>
Use of municipal place for outdoor	1	There was concern raised that the clause, as written, prohibits people from having picnics.	This clause applies to businesses/traders seeking to provide food/drink on a road or municipal place.

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eating facility (refer clause 26)			‘Outdoor eating facility’ is defined in the local law as ‘... tables and/or chairs that are used for <u>commercial purposes</u> and are located outdoors at which food or drinks are served and may be consumed.’
Obstructions from private property (refer clause 34)	1	There was a question as to which agency is responsible for the maintenance of trees on nature strips and ensuring these do not obstruct road visibility.	Council or VicRoads are responsible for the maintenance of trees on nature strips that have become a hazard by way of obstructing road visibility, depending upon who the asset is owned/managed by.
Keeping of animals (refer clause 40)	4	A number of concerns were raised in relation to the table included in the local law that prescribes the number of animals that can be kept by a property owner based on land size. This included concern that these are inappropriate and not applicable to agricultural land.	This clause was designed with the intent of providing clarity on the number of animals that may be kept by a property owner dependent upon land size. It is not intended to apply to land used for agricultural purposes which are subject to other State and Federal rules and legislation. Clause 7 (2) provides: ‘This Local Law does not apply where any act or thing is authorised by or under any Act, Rule, Regulation or the Planning Scheme.’ It is not Council’s intention to introduce new permitting requirements for rural landowners/farmers.
Feeding of wild animals (refer clause 43)	1	There was a comment that clauses relating feeding of wild animals should be further strengthened to deliver a complete ban on this activity.	This clause seeks to mitigate nuisance and/or other health impacts that may arise from the feeding of wild animals. It acknowledged that some community members may choose to feed wild animals for enjoyment and connection to nature, and that many do so responsibly – such as through the use of a small bird feeder or similar.
Noxious weeds and pest animals (refer clause 33)	1	These was concern that clauses included in the local law relating to noxious weeds and land owner responsibilities duplicate existing state legislation/Acts (Catchment and Land Protection Act).	While it is acknowledged that the Catchment and Land Protection Act includes a number of measures to control and regulate noxious weeds, Council has no authorised powers under this Act. The inclusion of this clause seeks to complement existing activities performed by Council’s Environment and Rural Engagement teams to minimise and mitigate noxious weeds.

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Attachment 4 - Summary of submissions and comments received during public exhibition

Displaying of goods for sale (refer clause 25)	1	Concern was raised that restrictions included in the local law pertaining the ‘display of goods for sale’ may prohibit school-based fund raising activities where chocolates etc are sold door to door.	This clause does not apply to fundraising activities performed by schools.
Other – number of cars per household	1	It was proposed that the local law should include clauses or provisions to regulate the number of cars that can be kept/owned per household in order to mitigate congestions on roads.	Council has a range of existing enforcement powers under the Road Safety Act and Road Management Act to introduce and enforce measures – such as restricted permit zones, timed zones and no standing zones to mitigate on-street congestion, where warranted.
Other –property numbering	1	<p>A submission was received from Ambulance Victoria raising concern regarding the proposed removal of a clause that appears within the Hume City General Purpose Local Law 2013 that requires property owners to display a street number on their property.</p> <p>It was highlighted that property numbers are essential for emergency responders to quickly and correctly identify a property, and that the removal of this clause would have provide no recourse to require the property owner or occupant to correctly display the council allocated street number.</p>	<p>While noting concerns address by Ambulance Victoria, it is important to highlight that this clause was not included within the proposed Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 given the absence of any enforcement history (i.e. penalty notices issued under this clause), expressed complaints and/or concerns received by Council during the 10 year period in which the 2013 Local Law was in effect.</p> <p>In reviewing and making local laws, Council is obliged to consider possible alternatives to the making of Local Laws to address to achieve compliance. In the view of officers, should Council receive a dispute over property numbers in the future, this could be resolved through negotiation with impacted parties.</p> <p>It is proposed that the impact of the removal of this clause will be carefully monitored during the first 12 months in which the Hume City General Purpose Local Law No.1 2023 is in effect. A future amendment could be made to include this clause if deemed necessary.</p>
Other – removal of ‘fill’ restrictions	1	Objection was raised regarding the removal of a clause that was included in the Hume General Purpose Local Law 2013 that required a person to obtain a permit	Permitting requirements for the placement of fill are governed by the Planning Scheme.

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included in previous local law		from Council for the placing of earth or fill material, unless such filling was permitted and approved under the Building Act, Planning and Environment Act and/or Environmental Protection Act.	
Other – inclusion of additional clauses pertaining to the use of EV batteries, e-bikes and e-scooters and illicit drugs	1	<p>It was proposed that the local law should include provisions to mitigate safety impacts (such as fire/accidents) associated with rising use of e-scooters, e-bikes and electric vehicle batteries.</p> <p>It was further proposed that the local law should include provisions regarding illicit drug use.</p>	<p>In creating local laws, Council is obliged to consider the source, nature and scale of a problem before imposing a regulatory solution through a local law. At present, there has been no wide-spread community concern expressed or conveyed to Council pertaining to the use/presence of e-scooters, e-bikes or electrical vehicles batteries.</p> <p>Police as well as health agencies are primarily responsible for the enforcement of drug laws, illicit drug prevention, harm minimisation and treatment.</p>
Other – view that local law should prohibit/regulate the conversion of garages into kitchens	1	It was suggested that the local law does not include adequate provisions or clauses to prevent property owner/occupiers from using their garage as a kitchen.	Depending on the location and/or circumstances, the conversion of a garage to a kitchen would be regulated under the Planning Scheme, Building Regulation and/or Body Corporate rules.

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REPORT NO:	8.2
REPORT TITLE:	Vibrant and Inclusive Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026
SOURCE:	Hazel Finnie, Coordinator Arts, Culture and Events
DIVISION:	City Services & Living
FILE NO:	HCC20/677
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	1.4: Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals and the arts
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Vibrant and Inclusive Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026</i>2. <i>Vibrant and Inclusive Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026 Consultation Summary Report</i>

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

- 1.1 As part of Council’s commitment to strengthen community connections through local events, festivals, and the arts, *Vibrant and Inclusive* (Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026) was developed. This Strategy reflects Council’s aspiration for a thriving community with a strong sense of belonging.
- 1.2 The draft Strategy was presented for Council consideration on 8 May 2023 and was endorsed for stakeholder and community feedback from Wednesday 10 May until Wednesday 7 June 2023.
- 1.3 Whilst the engagement opportunity was promoted extensively via social media, direct email and via a Participate page, there was limited community feedback.
- 1.4 Whilst limited feedback was received, related comments were overall supportive of the Strategy as written. A small number of changes were made based on this feedback, which has been incorporated into the final document.
- 1.5 This report recommends that Council adopt *Vibrant and Inclusive* Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts *Vibrant and Inclusive* Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026 as shown in Attachment 1.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

- 3.1 The Local Government Act (2020) stipulates that Councils must provide the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations, whilst providing services in an equitable, responsive manner.
- 3.2 The Strategy will assist Council in strengthening services and programs that enhance engagement and participation of people of diverse cultures to enhance social cohesion.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications for Council to adopt the Strategy as the listed major events are included in Council’s operating budgets.
- 4.2 In the event that the implementation of any Strategy commitment results in a financial implications, funding requests will be made to Council for its consideration during annual budget cycles.

REPORT NO: 8.2 (cont.)

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

- 5.1 The Events and Festivals Strategy considers the role of environmental sustainability in event planning and management and seeks to produce and support events that are environmentally and financially sustainable in accordance with Pathways to Sustainability.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

- 6.1 The Strategy considers climate change in relation to events and seeks to explore opportunities to enhance Council’s environmental leadership and consider mitigation and adaptation opportunities.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

- 7.1 Under the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act (2006) the human rights considered in relation to this Report are: freedom of expression (Section 15); peaceful assembly and freedom of association (Section 16); taking part in public life (Section 18); and cultural rights (section 19).
- 7.2 The above rights are not being limited by the Strategy or by the recommendations of this report.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

- 8.1 The draft of *Vibrant and Inclusive* was informed by feedback from a consultation process that was undertaken between September and November 2022. Nearly 600 people participated in this consultation.
- 8.2 Following Council’s endorsement of the draft Strategy, Council invited the community to consider its guiding principles and strategic directions to ensure they aligned with community needs and expectations prior to its adoption by Council.
- 8.3 Feedback on the draft strategy was sought via:
- 8.3.1 A Facebook campaign (17 May – 4 June) reaching 7,954 screens. There were 330 engagements, and 285 people clicking through to the Participate page.
- 8.3.2 An email campaign to over 350 subscribers including past event grant applicants and people who engaged in phase one consultation for the strategy.
- 8.3.3 a Participate page that attracted 418 visits. Of these, 25 informed themselves further by clicking on information within the page.
- 8.4 In response to this engagement there were:
- 8.4.1 31 Facebook comments, however of these, only five related to the Strategy.
- 8.4.2 Five emails, of which three related to the draft Strategy.
- 8.5 A consultation summary, including the changes made to the strategy in recognition of the feedback can be found in Attachment 2 – *Vibrant and Inclusive* Strategy – Consultation Summary Report.

9. DISCUSSION:

- 9.1 The development of *Vibrant and Inclusive* is an action of the 2021 – 2025 Council Plan (Strategic Objective 1.4.2), delivering an Events and Festivals Strategy that guides decision making and strengthens access to, and support of, local community events and festivals.
- 9.2 *Vibrant and Inclusive* includes principles to guide Council in its approach to events in Hume from 2023-2026. These principles are:
- 9.2.1 Hume City Council will deliver events:
- that are inclusive of all the community.

REPORT NO: 8.2 (cont.)

- with a primary purpose of community benefit.
 - which are financially and environmentally sustainable.
- 9.2.2 Hume City Council will provide an enabling environment that actively encourages commercial and community event organisers to deliver events and festivals in Hume City.
- 9.2.3 Furthermore, Hume City Council will support events that:
- Foster capacity building and contribute to social justice, community health and wellbeing.
 - Encourage the community to connect and participate locally.
 - Promote Hume City’s lifestyle and visitor economy, recognising it as a vibrant place to live and visit.
- 9.3 In response to the community feedback received, as well as an internal review the following amendments were made to the Strategy:
- 9.3.1 Regarding the suggestion to use the Hume Volunteer Gateway to build a bank of experienced event volunteer staff to assist local event organisers, an adjustment was made to commitment 17 to include volunteers:
- Engaging with event organisers to investigate opportunities to develop skills-based training, *volunteer programs*, professional development and/or mentoring programs to build the capacity and sustainability of local event organisers.
- 9.3.2 In response to feedback that local suppliers, artists, and event stakeholders are given first preference to participate and contribute, an addition commitment (19) was added:
- Continue to foster and create opportunities for local musicians, performers, food vendors and suppliers to be part of events in Hume.*
- 9.3.3 Minor typographical amendments were made to the Strategy.
- 9.4 Further actions that will be undertaken by Council Officers, however not formally included in the strategic commitments are:
- 9.4.1 Commitment to engaging with local event organisers in the preparation of the annual event calendar.
- 9.4.2 Officers to provide advice on insurance options to community event organisers.
- 9.5 In consideration of the adoption of Vibrant and Inclusive, and the strategic commitments identified, the following items have been identified as priorities for 2023 - 2024:
- 9.5.1 Review of the Event Grant Program, to ensure it is prioritising the support of events that celebrate communities, activate neighbourhoods, and build local capacity and resilience.
- 9.5.2 Review of the event permitting process, focusing on improving the efficiency and accessibility of the approvals process.
- 9.5.3 Review of Council’s Sponsorship Policy to align with the Strategy and allow Council to link with like-minded partners to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes for the community.
- 9.5.4 Development of an Event Policy to provide greater guidance and clarity to event organisers hosting events in the city.

REPORT NO: 8.2 (cont.)

- 9.5.5 Identification of strategic priorities for future event infrastructure investment and incorporate into Council’s capital works and asset upgrade programs.
- 9.5.6 Initiation of a Service Review on the internal planning and management of Council’s events.

10. CONCLUSION:

- 10.1 *Vibrant and Inclusive* Events and Festivals Strategy 2023-2026 supports Council to achieve its objective of strengthening community connections through local events, festivals, and the arts.
- 10.2 The community consultation outcomes support the Guiding Principles and Strategic Directions to deliver inclusive, financially, and environmentally sustainable events for the primary benefit of the community, and to provide an enabling environment that encourages commercial and community event organisers to deliver events and festivals in Hume City.



HUME CITY COUNCIL

Vibrant and Inclusive

Events and Festivals Strategy
2023 – 2026



hume.vic.gov.au



Message from the Mayor

As Mayor of Hume City Council, it gives me great pleasure to introduce *Vibrant and Inclusive, Council's Events and Festivals Strategy for 2023 – 2026*.

Events are part of the essence of community life in Hume City: our community has told us so.

Across our city, every year, we can enjoy and participate in more than 100 events. From community delivered events through to major festivals, these events bring richness and vibrancy to our lives. They create meaningful opportunities to connect, celebrate and showcase our diverse cultures and interests, and they provide social and economic benefits to our residents and businesses.

Every year we are humbled by the commitment of community event organisers, volunteers and enthusiasts who give countless hours of their time to organise and produce events for the Hume community to enjoy. Community inspired events are the cornerstone of developing a thriving, connected and vibrant city that can confidently celebrate what is important to them.

As a Council, we are proud to deliver events that showcase local creativity, such as the Hume Winter Lights Festival, as well as events that bring families and friends together to have fun and celebrate, such as the Craigieburn Festival. We also look for opportunities to produce events that share culture and build connections across

the diversity of our community, including annual celebrations for Harmony Day and NAIDOC Week. These are only a snapshot of the events that Council produces: there are dozens more, each providing vibrancy to our everyday lives.

The diversity of events across Hume, both Council and community delivered, has helped shape the priorities of this draft Strategy. We have developed guiding principles and supporting mechanisms to ensure that safe, inclusive, and welcoming events continue to be developed and delivered in Hume, providing an enriching experience for all the community to enjoy.

If you haven't been to any of our community events, what's stopping you? If you have, you will know why they are great. Vibrant and Inclusive will help provide the framework for these events to thrive and continue well into the future.

Cr Joseph Haweil
Mayor of Hume City



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Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Hume City Council recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage within the municipality and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

Council embraces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander living cultures as a vital part of Australia's identity and recognises, celebrates and pays respect to the existing family members of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and to Elders past, present and future.

Overview

About Hume

“Hume is unique and diverse and has much to offer with many colourful characters and beautiful places to showcase. We are very lucky to have such a special place to live.”

– Community Feedback, 2022

Hume City is a place of great contrasts – in geography, economy, background, and cultural diversity. Located just 15 kilometres north of the centre of Melbourne, Hume City is one of the fastest growing and most culturally diverse communities in Australia.

Spanning a total area of 504 square kilometres, Hume City is built around the established suburbs of Broadmeadows, Tullamarine and Gladstone Park in the south, the developing residential suburbs of Craigieburn, Greenvale, Mickleham, Kalkallo, and Roxburgh Park in the north-east and the Sunbury township in the north-west.

The municipality is made up of vibrant and diverse communities; including new and established residential areas, major industrial and commercial precincts and vast expanses of rural areas and parkland.

Current Community Profile

Current population

246,850[□]

Population growth by 2041

394,760^{*}



Residents come from
170 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES†

with **40%** of all residents **born overseas**



Residents speak over
155 LANGUAGES‡

with **49%** speaking a language
other than English at home



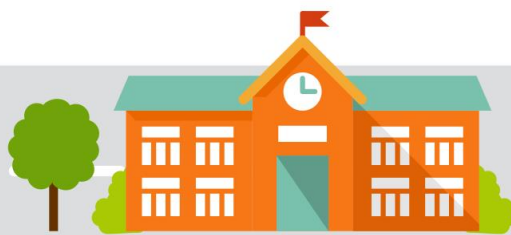
More than
4 OUT OF 5≈

people agree that it is a good thing for a society to be made up of people from **different cultures**



More than
ONE QUARTER†

(just over 1 in 4) of the population is **aged under 18 years**



ONE IN NINE†

persons are **65 years or older**

- Source: ABS Estimated Resident Population
- * Source: ForecastID
- † Source: ABS 2021 Census
- ≈ Source: 2020/21 CIS

Strategic Context

Vibrant and Inclusive has been designed to help facilitate the delivery of Hume City's Community Vision to create:

“A sustainable and thriving community with great health, education, employment, infrastructure, and a strong sense of belonging.”

The Community Vision is supported by three themes:

Theme 1: A community that is resilient, inclusive, and thriving,

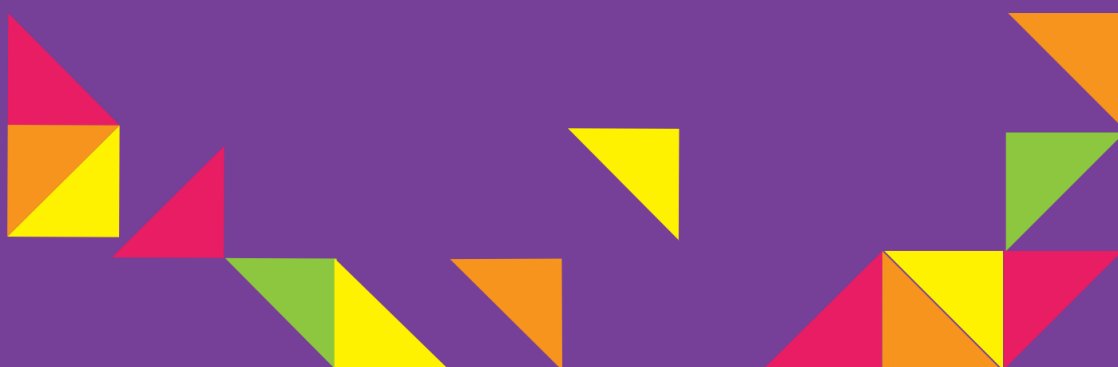
Theme 2: A city that cares about our planet, is appealing and connected,

Theme 3: A Council that inspires leadership, is accountable and puts the community first.

In responding to 'Theme 1: A community that is resilient, inclusive and thriving', The Council Plan 2021-2025 outlines Council's Strategic Objective to '*Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals, and the arts*' – the primary focus of *Vibrant and Inclusive*.

The development of this strategy has been underpinned by Council's integrated strategic planning principles of 'Sustainability' and 'Social Justice' and supports our commitments to Child Safe Standards and Gender Equality.

Vibrant and Inclusive responds to the Council Plan 2021-2025 action to "*develop an events and festivals strategy/service plan to strengthen access to and support of local community events and festivals*" and is aligned to Council's Creative Community Strategy ensuring a coordinated approach is taken.



Events in Hume

Why Hold Events?

“Events gets people involved; through direct participation a community spirit is forged and generates a sense of ownership & pride.”

– Community Feedback, 2022

Each year, more than 100 events take place in Hume City, delivered by a mix of community groups, professional events producers, and by Council. These events take place across our city, on Council land, and on private property, with more than 127,000 people attending.

Events, festivals, and community celebrations have a key role in helping Council achieve its Community Vision, with Council aiming to strengthen social connections, and create thriving communities with a strong sense of belonging.

Events raise community spirit, help celebrate our diverse cultures and interests and foster pride in local neighbourhoods, building the identity and lifestyle of what it means to live in Hume.

Events can provide significant benefits: they help build community capacity, strengthen community resilience and create reasons for people to engage in their local community.

Events and festivals provide significant opportunities to showcase our region, increase local connections, attract visitors, and provide economic benefits to our city. A strong events calendar ensures that Hume City is a vibrant place to live and visit.



Hume Harvest, Sunbury

Event Classifications

Event Type	Description	Producer/Organiser
Major Festivals/ Landmark Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal wide audience and participation. • Event may also attract visitors (including visiting friends and relatives) from outside of Hume. • May be free to attend or ticketed. • Can be supported by State funding, sponsorship. • May be one-off or recurring (annually / biennially). • Managed by the Events and Festivals team (experienced event organisers). • Ability to facilitate community / local supplier involvement in event components/ activities. • Ability for the event to add to Hume’s event calendar and showcase Hume’s lifestyle opportunities. • Expect large numbers of visitors (5,000 plus). • Examples include Hume Winter Lights, Hume Harvest, Craigieburn Festival and Carols by Candlelight. 	<p>Council led, produced, and delivered by the Events and Festivals team*</p> <p><i>* Community and commercial event organisers also deliver major and minor events. For the purposes of this Strategy, they are classified separately below.</i></p>
Minor Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience and participation may be from an interest group or local area (i.e., suburb / neighbourhood). • Aim to showcase local cultural, community or lifestyle opportunities. • Free or low cost to attend. • May be one-off or recurring (annually / biennially). • Ability to facilitate community / local supplier involvement in event components/ activities. • Expect smaller number of visitors (under 5,000). • Examples include NAIDOC Week, Harmony Day, Reconciliation Week. 	<p>Council led, produced, and delivered by the relevant Council department</p>
Civic Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event focus is on Council’s leadership role. • May include recognition of days and dates of significance. • Audience and participation may be targeted or by invitation. • May be one-off or recurring (annually / biennially). • Expect smaller numbers (under 500). • Events include functions such as International Women’s Day, launches and openings. 	<p>Council led, produced, and delivered by the relevant Council department</p>

Event Classifications

Event Type	Description	Producer/Organiser
Community Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aiming to showcase local interest, the audience and participation may be municipal wide, select or targeted. Event may be free to attend / low cost or ticketed. May be one-off or recurring. Event size may be large or small, depending on the specific nature of the event. Examples include Diwali, SunFest and the Sunbury Agricultural Show. 	Organised by community groups / private organisations, often led by volunteers
Local Community Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities that are planned and staged for a particular interest group or purpose only. They are typically short in duration, have low impact on community amenity / public spaces, and require low levels of planning, coordination, and support. Examples include tree planting days etc. 	May be organised by Council or community groups / organisations
Commercial Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event is held for a commercial purpose, may be free to attend, or ticketed. May be one-off or recurring. Event size may be large or small, depending on the specific nature of the event. 	May be organised by community organisations, or for-profit businesses.



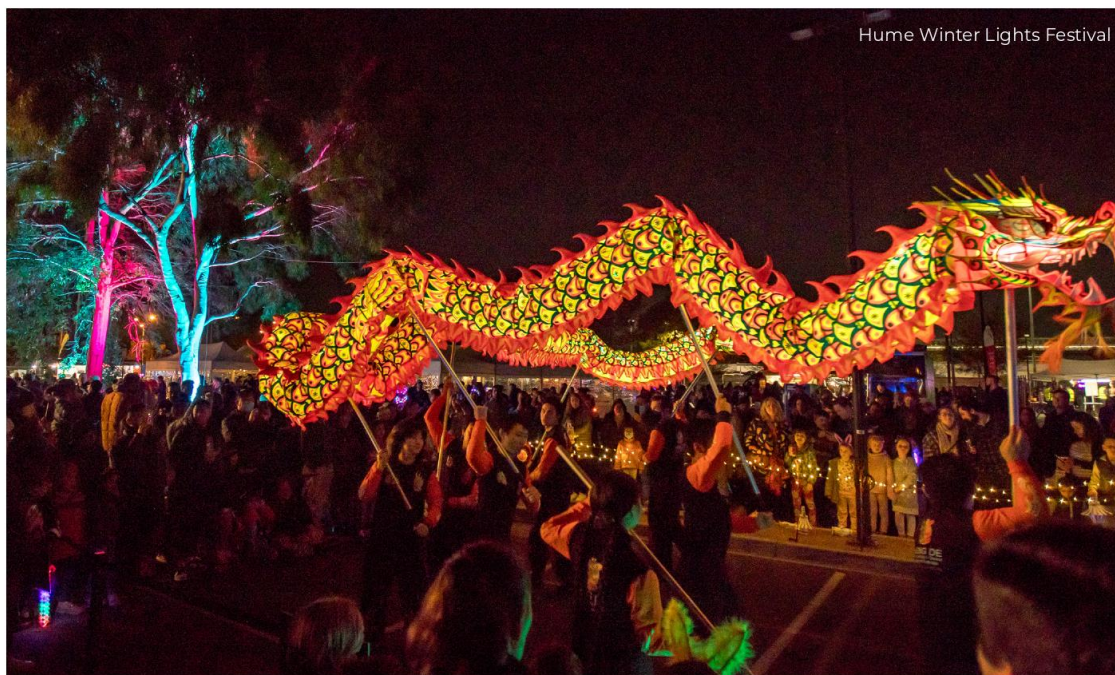
Council’s Role in Events

Council has a number of roles to play in relation to events, including as a producer, supporter, or event partner and as an enabler/facilitator of events activity.

Role	Description
Producer	<p>Council produces a range of events each year, these include major events such as Craigieburn Festival, Hume Winter Lights, and Carols by Candlelight, minor events such as Harmony Day, NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Week and Volunteer Week events, as well as civic events such as International Women’s Day.</p> <p>All events produced by Council are funded through annual operating budgets.</p>
Supporter and Partner	<p>Council supports the community to run their own events within Hume through the Event Grant Program.</p> <p>Within this, Council has a capacity building role to support the community and enhance their ability to plan successfully run events. Events previously supported through the Grant Program include Diwali, SunFest and the Sunbury Show.</p>
Enabler	<p>Council manages the use of public land and has a number of statutory responsibilities relating to event approvals. These include approval of traffic management, liquor licensing, environmental health and for the approval of risk and emergency management planning by major event organisers.</p> <p>Council supports event organisers holding events on Council land, providing guidance, support, and direction to navigate the compliance, and permitting systems.</p>



Craigieburn Festival



Hume Winter Lights Festival

Council Produced Events

“Event in Broadmeadows [Hume Winter Lights] was excellent and we love that it was accessible/no cost for the whole family and friends could attend and we could spend at vendors. The north is finally getting some top-quality arts, events. Keep at it!”

– Community Feedback, 2022

Council produces major festivals and landmark events each year. In the past 12 months, the program has included the Craigieburn Festival, Carols by Candlelight, Hume Harvest and the Winter Lights Festival. Attended by more than 42,000 people, these events provide opportunities for local performers, community groups, vendors, and suppliers’ participation.

Council’s program content also includes unique experiences and profile performers, allowing residents to experience high quality content locally and attracting visitors to our city.

Council will continue to deliver these major and landmark festivals during the period of this Strategy valuing the social, and economic benefit, and aligning with Council Plan objectives to strengthen community connections through local events, festivals and the arts, and creating a strong sense of place.

The delivery of Council’s events will continue to be reviewed to ensure they are being delivered responsibly, are financially and environmentally sustainable and positioned to take best advantage of sponsorship and partnership opportunities.

Event Support - Grants

“Supporting and assisting other organisations to run events allows Council to spread the load and be more inclusive...”

– Community Feedback, 2022

The Event Grant Program supports the delivery of Council's vision for a sustainable, and thriving community and aims to strengthen community connections by providing financial support and assistance to event organisers. Up to \$25,000 is available with Council's financial support linked to the event attendance.

Annually, around 18 events receive financial or in-kind support, resulting in a varied, rich, and vibrant community led, program across the city.

Ensuring the grants program continues to respond to community need and interest, including emerging communities, interest areas and community aspirations will facilitate a thriving events scene in Hume City.

Managing Risks, Compliance and Impacts

“Careful consideration should be given to where any community events are held.”

– Community Feedback, 2022

Many events take place in a complex risk environment where public safety is paramount. Delivering safe, successful, and compliant events can be challenging, where effective, considered risk, safety and emergency management planning and systems are requirements.

As public landholder and as a provider of financial and in-kind support to event organisers, Council needs to have confidence that these events comply with standards and with community expectations.

Council supports event organisers holding events on Council land, providing guidance, and direction to navigate the compliance and permitting systems.

Developing efficient, user-friendly and consistent processes for assessing, approving, facilitating and evaluating events will support safe, compliant events on Council land and lead to a more positive experience for the community.

Event places and spaces

“It brings liveliness to our locality when events bring people of different backgrounds to come together.”

– Community Feedback, 2022

Spanning 504 square kilometres, Hume City is fortunate to have more than 700 parks, reserves and open spaces across the breadth of the city. Whilst we have a breadth of open spaces across the city, only a small number of these are suitable to host public events.

Public events require appropriate supporting and ancillary infrastructure to cater for the needs of event attendees, whether that is a community gathering or a large crowd.

In the past 12 months, 40 sites across Hume were used as event spaces. Most events were held at either Jack Roper Reserve, Broadmeadows, or Anzac Park, Craigieburn. It is noted that the high frequency of use of a few spaces increases the likelihood of negative impacts. These impacts may include damage to the site, impacts on other users, parking or surrounding residents. These factors combined may affect community amenity.

Dispersing events across the city and ensuring access to a range of suitable spaces, including a space that can comfortably accommodate major events, will provide greater opportunities for truly local events, further strengthening communities.

Local and Neighbourhood Event Spaces

At the heart of thriving communities is the ability to meet, connect, celebrate, and share meaningful experiences, and to be able to access suitable spaces to do so. At a local and neighbourhood level, these spaces need to have the necessary services to support the event needs: water, power, shade, space.

As a priority of this Strategy, Council will enhance existing local/neighbourhood event spaces to ensure they remain suitable for community events. Council will also identify gaps in local/neighbourhood event space provision seeking to establish new spaces across the city.

District and Municipal Events Spaces

For our growing community, we need to consider opportunities for a major regional facility that can host major festivals and attract events to the city.

For our community, there is also a need to have district and municipal wide events. These spaces should be able to comfortably accommodate and attract large scale events and festivals, and which come with appropriate infrastructure, access, and services to meet current and anticipated needs.

Identifying and evaluating options and opportunities for future event spaces to establish a district and municipal wide level event site for the city is a priority of this Strategy.

Guiding principles

Considering Council’s role, event trends and consultation findings, the following principles have been developed to guide Council in its approach to local events from 2023-2026. These principles aim to create a vibrant, welcoming and sustainable events.

Hume City Council will deliver events:

That are inclusive of all the Hume community.

With a primary purpose of community benefit.

That are financially and environmentally sustainable.

Hume City Council will provide an enabling environment that actively encourages commercial and community event organisers to deliver events and festivals in Hume.

Furthermore, Hume City Council will support events that:

Foster capacity building and contribute to social justice, community health and wellbeing.

Encourage the Hume community to connect and participate locally.

Promote Hume City’s lifestyle and visitor economy, recognising it as a vibrant place to live and visit.



Strategic direction

Guiding Principles	Council's Role	We commit to
<p>Deliver events:</p> <p>That are inclusive of all the Hume community.</p>	<p>Producer</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continuing to deliver an annual program of events (incl. major festivals, landmark events, minor events, and civic events) that are safe, well-managed, accessible, and have a primary purpose of community benefit. 2. Continuing to review the management of Council run events to identify efficiencies and ensure financial sustainability. 3. Reviewing Council's Sponsorship Policy to align with the Strategy and allow Council to link with like-minded partners to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes for the Hume community. 4. Biennially reviewing the event calendar to identify and address gaps, and ensure events remain relevant, resonant, and responsive to community interests, needs and expectations. 5. Continuing to identify opportunities to incorporate First Nations, multicultural and diverse community voices, artists and suppliers in event planning and delivery. 6. Delivering safe and inclusive events, actively considering site design, programming and audience monitoring measures (as relevant) that support participation by a broad audience, recognises local talent, artistic and cultural strengths, and reflects the community. 7. Determining roles and responsibilities for civic events to ensure they are effectively delivered. 8. In line with the Pathways to Sustainability Framework, exploring opportunities to enhance Council's environmental leadership and reduce the impacts of events (including improved waste management practices and carbon neutral considerations).
<p>With a primary purpose of community benefit.</p>		
<p>That are financially and environmentally sustainable.</p>		



Strategic direction

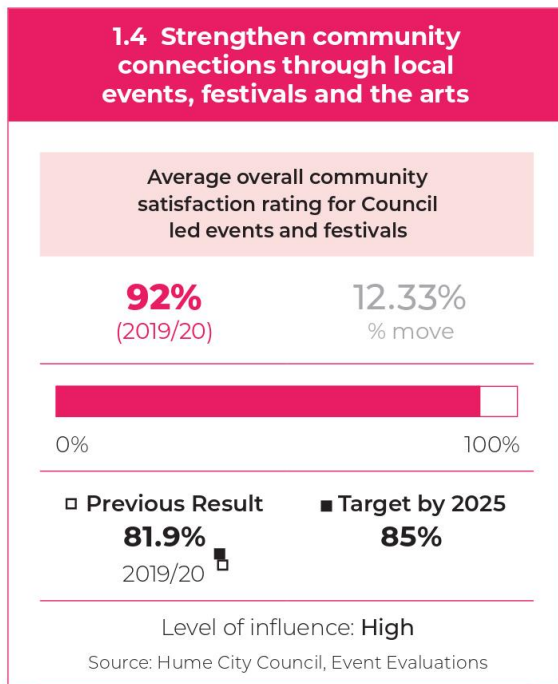
Guiding Principles	Council's Role	We commit to
<p>Hume City Council will provide an enabling environment that actively encourages commercial and community event organisers to deliver events and festivals in Hume City.</p>	<p>Enabler</p> <p>Public Safety</p>	<p>9. Continuing to deliver and annually review the Event Grant Program, prioritising the support of events that celebrate communities, activate neighbourhoods and build local capacity and resilience.</p> <p>10. Developing guidance materials, and a capacity building program to help build community capacity to deliver safe, successful, and sustainable events.</p> <p>11. Identifying strategic priorities for future event infrastructure investment and incorporate into Council's capital works and asset upgrade programs.</p> <p>12. Continuing to develop and enhance infrastructure to support the ability to host a range of events across the city.</p> <p>13. Developing an Event Policy to provide greater guidance and clarity to event organisers hosting events in Hume.</p> <p>14. Reviewing the event permit processes, focusing on improving the efficiency and accessibility of the approvals process.</p> <p>15. Actively managing event impacts including monitor event spaces for overuse to ensure impacts are mitigated.</p>
<p>Support events that:</p> <p>Foster capacity building and contribute to social justice, community health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Supporter / Partner</p>	<p>16. Supporting local community and event organisers to establish new events and continue to host existing events in Hume City, which build capacity, foster resilience, and recognise local talent, artistic and cultural strengths.</p> <p>17. Engaging with event organisers to investigate opportunities to develop skills-based training, volunteer programs, professional development and/or mentoring programs, to build the capacity and sustainability of local event organisers.</p> <p>18. Creating a suite of measurement tools to better evaluate events and enhance understanding of the impact of Council produced events and events delivered under the Event Grant Program.</p> <p>19. Continuing to foster and create opportunities for local musicians, performers, food vendors and suppliers to be part of events in Hume.</p>
<p>Encourage the Hume community to connect and participate locally.</p>		
<p>Promote Hume City's lifestyle and visitor economy, recognising it as a vibrant place to live and visit.</p>		



Evaluation and monitoring

Council will evaluate and monitor this strategy through quarterly reporting within the Council Plan, and via an annual report action plan, identifying progress against delivery of actions.

In response to delivering Council’s Strategic Objective of “strengthening community connections through local events, festivals and the arts”, the following Strategic Indicator has been established: “Average overall community satisfaction rating for Council led events and festivals”, with an overall satisfaction score of 85% by 2025.



LEVEL OF INFLUENCE

- High** Council can directly influence this result.
- Medium** Council can influence this result, however external factors outside of Council’s control may also influence the result.
- Low** Council’s level of influence on this result is limited but monitoring this indicator assists in planning and guiding Council’s priorities.

In addition to the Council Plan Strategic Indicator, specific measures to assess the success of ‘Vibrant and Inclusive’ include:

Our service delivery

- Estimated number of people attending Council-led events
- Average cost of Council-led events per attendee
- Number of event grant applications received
 - Percent of event grant applications funded
- Number of event permit applications received
 - Percent of event permits approved
- Number of reserves and open spaces which hosted an event in the last 12 months

Our service outcomes

- Percent of Council-led event participants agree that “events like today help strengthen community connections”
- Percent of Council-led event participants agree that “events like today help celebrate cultural diversity”
- Percent of Council-led event participants who agree that “events like today benefit Hume’s community”
- Percentage increase in the number of public sites which have event infrastructure installed





In addition to evaluating, monitoring and understanding the impact of Council produced events, Council requires events funded through the Event Grant Program to provide evaluation and monitoring data.

This collective data will help to ensure that the value of events in Hume City can be demonstrated.





Connect with us

-  **Hume City Council**
1079 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows
PO Box 119, Dallas, Victoria 3047
-  **Customer Service Centres**
Scan QR code to find locations and hours
or visit hume.vic.gov.au/contactus
-  **9205 2200**
-  **contactus@hume.vic.gov.au**
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HumeLink		Multilingual telephone information service	
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معلومات باللغة العربية	9679 9809	Para información en español	9679 9821
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VIBRANT AND INCLUSIVE DRAFT EVENTS AND FESTIVALS STRATEGY

BACKGROUND

The draft *Vibrant and Inclusive* (Events and Festivals Strategy 2023 -2026) was developed based on feedback from nearly 600 people who participated in consultation sessions from September until November 2022.

The draft Strategy was presented to Council on 8 May 2023 and was endorsed for stakeholder and community feedback from Wednesday 10 May until Wednesday 7 June 2023.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of consultation on *Vibrant and Inclusive* (Events and Festivals Strategy 2023 -2026) were to:

- Get feedback on the draft Strategy.
- Test the guiding principles.
- Test the strategic directions.

METHODOLOGY

Community feedback on the strategy was encouraged via the development of a Participate page. A copy of the draft Strategy was provided, with feedback encouraged via a direct email to the Events team (events@hume.vic.gov.au).

In addition to this:

- A paid Facebook campaign was launched on Hume Council’s page on 17 May 2023.
- An email campaign was initiated targeting:
 - 203 people who indicated in the first phase of consultation that they would like to be informed when the next consultation phase commenced.
 - The Hume events contact list (106 community and commercial event organisers who had held events on Council land during the previous 18 months).

- Past Event Grant applicants (30 community and commercial event organisers).
- Members of the RAP Working Group, Hume Interfaith Network and Multicultural Advisory Group.

ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Facebook Campaign

The Facebook campaign ran from 17 May 2023 until 4 June 2023 and reached a total of 7,954 screens. There were 330 engagements, and 285 people clicking through to the Participate page.

In total there were 31 Facebook comments, of these, five related to the draft Strategy.

Four comments stated that money spent on events should be allocated elsewhere (e.g. parking issues, roads, illegally dumped rubbish). The one person commenced in support of events stated: “You need to love where you live – it’s not all roads and sporting grounds. A love of the arts, festivals and events is good for the soul of the community.”

Participate Page

The Vibrant and Inclusive Strategy page attracted 418 visits. Of these, 25 informed themselves further by clicking on information within the page.

Email Feedback

In total, from the engagement activities (participate page, Facebook campaign and email campaign) five emails were received from community members in response to the Strategy draft.

Two emails provided feedback unrelated to the strategy (e.g., cost of previous CEO farewell / request for Council to establish an annual arts prize).

Of the three responses that related to the draft Strategy, the feedback themes, and recommended changes to the strategy are listed below:

Feedback Theme	Action Taken	Reference page
Questioning the cost of events to rate payers	None for the strategy. Feedback referred to Council's 2023/24 budget process.	N/A
Local event organisers are encouraged and supported – through discounts on venue hire, permits and other council costs.	Feedback noted. The Community Facilities Access and Use Policy provides opportunities for venue hire discounts, event grants program provides funds to offset	N/A

	costs and event permits provide a discount for Hume based events.	
Local event organisers are included in the calendar development so that the council is delivering on its promises while sharing the load.	Feedback noted. Officers will engage with local event organisers in the development of the annual event calendar.	N/A
Local suppliers, artists and event stakeholders are given first preference to participate or contribute	Feedback noted and supported; Additional commitment included (19): <i>Continue to foster and create opportunities for local musicians, performers, food vendors and suppliers to be part of events in Hume.</i>	Page 16
Council sharing resources or linking resources with local event organisers. This means council has better leverage with contacts and local organisers have access to suppliers that they may not have been aware of/considered/had access to.	Feedback noted.	N/A
Offer access to or the ability to piggy-back onto public liability insurance for local event organisers.	Council is unable to provide public liability insurance for local event organisers. Instead, officers can provide advice on community insurance options.	N/A
Using the Hume Volunteer Gateway build a bank of experienced event volunteer staff that can assist local event organisers	Feedback noted and supported. Adjustment made to commitment 17: <i>Engaging with event organisers to investigate opportunities to develop skills-based training, volunteer programs, professional development and/or mentoring programs, to build the capacity and sustainability of local event organisers.</i>	Page 16
Supportive of strategic approach / principles / definition of Council's role and commitment.	Feedback noted	N/A

All information in relation to this consultation was managed in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*.

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REPORT NO:	8.3
REPORT TITLE:	Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023 - 2030
SOURCE:	Liz Turner, Sustainability Engagement Officer
DIVISION:	City Services & Living
FILE NO:	HCC15/430
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	2.1: Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places
ATTACHMENTS:	1. <i>Draft Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030</i> 2. <i>Draft Land and Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-24</i>

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The *Draft Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030* (the Draft Plan) sets Council’s direction for the sustainable management of natural and cultural heritage assets in Hume City. The development of the Draft Plan follows a review of the *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2015-2019*. Following community consultation and development of the Draft Plan, it is intended that the Draft Plan will be available on Participate Hume for public exhibition, with adoption of the final Plan and 2023-24 Action Plan in November 2023.

The *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030* will provide Council with a strategic framework to progress key biodiversity and conservation objectives as well as health and wellbeing measures outlined in aspects of *The Council Plan Pathways to Sustainability Framework, Open Space Strategy, Health and Wellbeing Plan, Live Green Plan, Climate Action Plan and Rural Strategy*. It will also continue to affect positive change for the natural and cultural landscape and continue to support community action for conservation.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse the *Draft Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023–2030* (Attachment 1) and *Draft Land and Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-24* (Attachment 2), for community consultation.

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

- 3.1 The Draft Plan provides Council’s strategic direction for the management of weeds and pest animals on Council-managed land, which is a statutory requirement of all landowners under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act* 1994. The Draft Plan also provides direction for the application and enforcement of penalties under the Local Law for weed control on private land.
- 3.2 Council is also required to protect sites and relics of indigenous cultural heritage significance from harm in accordance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 2006. The Plan seeks to ensure that Council effectively protects sites and relics on Council-managed land.
- 3.3 The Draft Plan builds on existing work under Council’s *Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*, required under the *Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (Vic) to create health promoting environments.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 The *Draft Land & Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-24* is funded via existing budget. No additional resourcing is requested to implement these actions.

REPORT NO: 8.3 (cont.)

4.2 Annual *Land & Biodiversity Action Plans* will be developed for Council endorsement for future financial years throughout the life of the Plan until 2030.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

Once the final *Land & Biodiversity Plan 2023 – 2030* is approved by Council, it will provide a strategic basis for sustainable land management and enhancement of biodiversity in Hume’s conservation areas and on privately owned land in rural areas.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

The Draft Plan recognises climate change as a fundamental threat to the long-term protection of land and biodiversity. As such, it identifies actions to address climate change through enhancing vegetation connectivity in rural areas and in public open space. The Draft Plan has been developed with reference to Hume’s Climate Action Plan. The Draft Plan includes actions to assist in curbing urban heat, which will intensify under climate change and place additional heat stress on residents, gardens and public green spaces. Similarly to the Open Space Strategy, the Draft Plan takes into account Hume’s Urban Forest Principles.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

The Plan protects and celebrates the cultural rights of Aboriginal people by seeking to protect cultural heritage sites, which is encapsulated in the section titled ‘A Landscape Rich in Cultural Heritage.’ The Plan does not negatively impact on the rights of Hume residents.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

Community consultation is happening in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Framework. Consultation has involved the Agriculture Land Use Rebate (ALUR) Review with 13 community members over a 12 month period, review of Council’s Urban Biodiversity program, initial scoping workshops and ongoing consultation with internal staff with responsibility for actions, two online community workshops open to the whole community, three sessions with Hume’s Sustainability Taskforce, and consultations with Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung traditional owners. Once endorsed, the Draft *Land & Biodiversity Plan 2023 – 2030* will be made available for public exhibition on the Participate Hume website. Feedback will then be considered and incorporated where appropriate before the final Plan will be presented to Council for endorsement in November 2023.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 The Draft Plan identifies:

- 9.1.1 The particular land and biodiversity values/assets in Hume City that necessitate protection and enhancement,
- 9.1.2 The planning and policy context for the management of land and biodiversity values in Hume, including Council’s roles and responsibilities,
- 9.1.3 Impacts of climate change on the health of Hume’s conservation estates, on landscape connectivity, urban biodiversity, cultural heritage assets and Hume’s rural landscape, and
- 9.1.4 Overarching goals and clear objectives over an eight-year timeframe.

9.2 The Draft Plan provides a framework for the continuation of work carried out under the *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2015-2019*. Under the previous plan, Council:

REPORT NO: 8.3 (cont.)

- 9.2.1 created Urban Forest Principles that influence Council’s *Open Space Strategy* and *Climate Action Plan*,
 - 9.2.2 provided a framework for assessing the impact of development on cultural heritage,
 - 9.2.3 provided direction for re-naming certain locations with Woi-wurrung names,
 - 9.2.4 conducted a fauna monitoring program on private land,
 - 9.2.5 carried out the Northwest Ecological Connectivity Investigation,
 - 9.2.6 carried out significant remediation works to address soil erosion within conservation reserves,
 - 9.2.7 rolled out natural heritage interpretation media, including approximately 40 interpretive signs within parklands, conservation reserves and wetlands, website information and the development of nature trail guides,
 - 9.2.8 provided grants, rebates and incentives for landowners in rural areas to manage their land sustainably and
 - 9.2.9 delivered an annual community engagement program of workshops and events to support rural landholders to manage their land sustainably.
- 9.3 The 2023-2024 Action Plan identifies actions and targets to direct implementation of this plan over the twelve-month period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024. The 2023-24 Action Plan includes actions that are currently implemented within existing budget. Subsequent action plans will include actions that are costed and presented to Council for approval, as per Council’s budget process.

9.4 Synopsis of themes

The themes of the Draft Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-24 include:

9.4.1 A healthy and thriving network of conservation reserves.

This theme outlines the need to protect and enhance endangered, native vegetation such as grassy woodlands and grasslands, threatened and endangered flora species and unique species that are currently underrepresented in Hume. This theme includes the following objectives:

- (a) Improving our understanding of Hume’s biodiversity,
- (b) Strategic management of Hume’s conservation reserves and
- (c) Collaborating with other organisations.

9.4.2 A well-connected landscape for wildlife

This theme draws on the priorities set out in Hume’s Landscape Connectivity Plan and includes the following objectives:

- (a) Protecting vegetation that supports landscape connectivity,
- (b) Enhancing connectivity in the landscape,
- (c) Collaborating with other stakeholders to enhance connectivity, and
- (d) Undertaking monitoring and improvement.

9.4.3 Urban biodiversity and health and wellbeing

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This theme outlines the benefits of enhancing native vegetation in the built environment, including benefits to health and wellbeing. This theme includes the following objectives:

- (a) Enhancing biodiversity and connectivity within the urban environment,
- (b) Providing opportunities for the community to connect with nature through citizen science, engagement programs, and restoration programs and
- (c) Fostering a message and culture of living safely and harmoniously with wildlife

9.4.4 A landscape rich in cultural heritage

This theme describes some aspects of the rich Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage in Hume. It outlines legislative responsibilities contained in Hume’s Cultural Heritage Guidelines that prescribe when project managers are required to attain Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMP) for a project, or if a Cultural Heritage Permit is needed to undertake an activity near an existing Aboriginal Heritage Place. This theme includes the following objectives:

- (a) Increase Council’s capacity to protect cultural heritage values through land development projects,
- (b) Increase active management of cultural heritage values on Council land,
- (c) Establish a long-term land management partnership agreement with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation,
- (d) Build the capacity of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to care for Country in Hume, and
- (e) Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to engage the Hume community in understanding the Aboriginal cultural heritage significance of sites across Hume City.

9.4.5 A healthy and productive rural landscape.

This theme outlines Council’s priorities for assisting proper management of Hume’s rural areas, which account for half of the geographic area of Hume. This theme includes the following objectives:

- (a) Reduce the spread and extent of priority weeds within the rural area of Hume,
- (b) Support primary producers to maintain sustainable agricultural production in Hume,
- (c) Increase the capability of rural landowners to manage their land sustainably,
- (d) Support collaboration between rural residents engaged in sustainable land management and
- (e) Increase native vegetation and wildlife habitat in the rural areas.

10. CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that Council endorse the attached *Draft Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030* and *Draft Action Plan 2023-24* for public exhibition to enable the community to provide feedback on the draft. Once the final Plan is adopted, it will provide Council with a strategic

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framework to progress key biodiversity and conservation goals. Council can then continue to act for positive change for the natural and cultural landscape and continue to support community initiatives for conservation.

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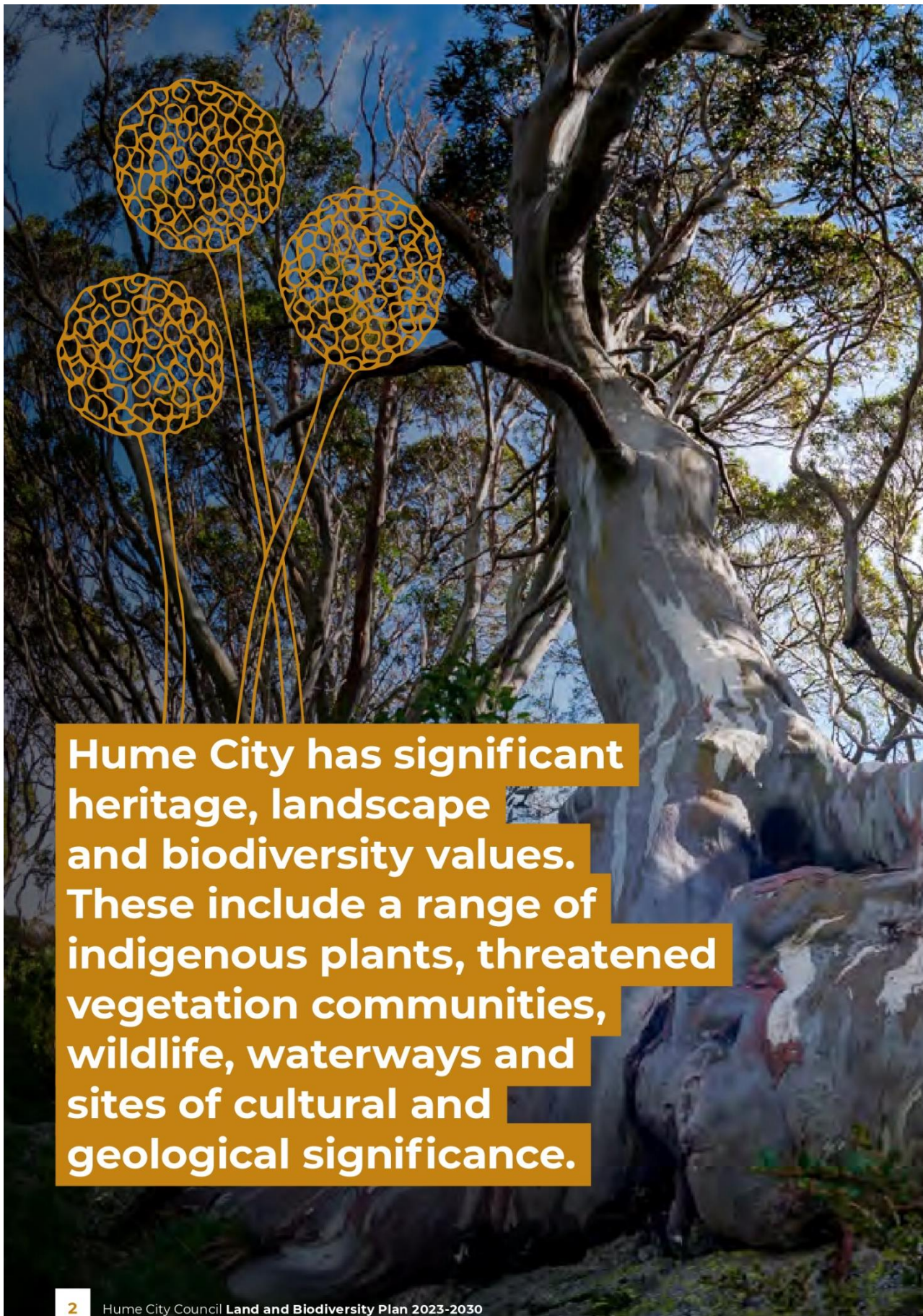


HUME CITY COUNCIL

Land and Biodiversity Plan
2023-2030

hume.vic.gov.au





Hume City has significant heritage, landscape and biodiversity values. These include a range of indigenous plants, threatened vegetation communities, wildlife, waterways and sites of cultural and geological significance.



Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people

Hume City is located on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, who have lived in the area for approximately 40,000 years. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung are composed of several clans that are the Traditional Owners of separate pieces of land or estates. The Gunung-Willam Balluk are the Traditional Owners of much of the Hume City municipality.

Hume City remains rich in Aboriginal cultural heritage. The municipality has more than 700 registered Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Places including burial sites, artefact scatters, earth features, low density artefact distributions, object collections, quarries, scarred trees and stone features.

Hume has a large and growing population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who come from varied backgrounds, locations and life experiences, and have their own connection to country, culture and community. In 2021, approximately 1,870 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were living in Hume, which was an increase of approximately 40% from 2011. Hume City has the 5th largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in metropolitan Melbourne.



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Introduction



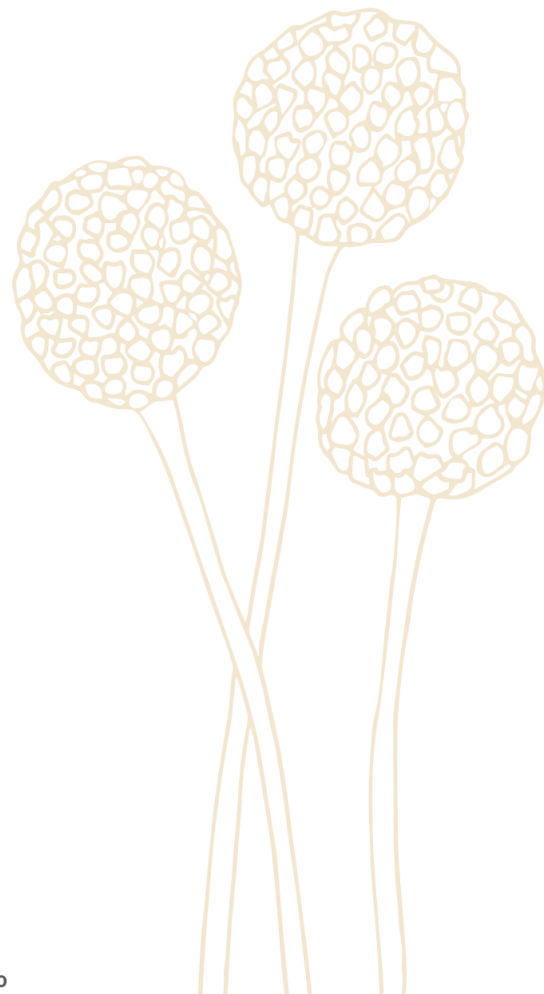
Hume City is a culturally diverse municipality. According to the 2021 census, Hume residents come from 170 countries of birth. Common overseas countries of birth of Hume City residents include India, Iraq, Turkey and Lebanon. Almost half of Hume’s residents (49%) speak a language other than English.

Hume City has significant heritage, landscape and biodiversity values. These include a range of indigenous plants, threatened vegetation communities, wildlife, waterways and sites of cultural and geological significance. Many of these values, such as the ancient River Red Gums, deep creek valleys and Aboriginal artefact scatters, define the character of our landscape and contribute strongly to Hume City’s identity and sense of place.

The *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030* outlines Hume Council’s strategic direction for the protection and management of these important values. The Land and Biodiversity Plan identifies:

- The particular land and biodiversity values/assets that necessitate protection and/or enhancement in Hume City,
- The planning and policy context for the management of land and biodiversity values in Hume, including Council’s roles and responsibilities,
- Impacts of climate change on the health of Hume’s conservation reserves, on landscape connectivity, urban biodiversity, cultural heritage assets and Hume’s rural landscape and
- An overarching goal, clear objectives, actions, and targets to direct the implementation of this plan over a seven-year timeframe.

The *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030* follows the *Land and Biodiversity Plan 2015-2019*. Under the previous plan, Council committed to 21 actions across three goals. Thirteen actions were completed entirely with seven actions ongoing and carried over to the new Plan. Three actions are considered redundant, superseded by related actions.



Actions achieved, Land and Biodiversity Plan 2015-2019

 <p>GOAL: The city’s natural heritage, environment and rural spaces are protected, enhanced, maintained and valued</p>	<p>ACTIONS: 15</p> <p>COMPLETE, REDUNDANT OR INCOMPLETE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 complete • 1 redundant, superseded by related actions • 4 carried forward and implemented to specific projects
 <p>GOAL: Cultural heritage sites and identified, protected and effectively managed</p>	<p>ACTIONS: 4</p> <p>COMPLETE, REDUNDANT OR INCOMPLETE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 complete • 2 ongoing and carried forward to new Plan
 <p>GOAL: Suburbs are leafier, with increased canopy cover</p>	<p>ACTIONS: 2</p> <p>COMPLETE, REDUNDANT OR INCOMPLETE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 considered redundant, superseded by related actions

Council’s roles in relation to land and biodiversity

The Council Plan establishes several strategic objectives to guide progress for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. One key strategic objective is to:

“Facilitate appropriate urban development and enhance natural environment, heritage, landscapes and rural places.”

This strategic objective defines the scope of the Land and Biodiversity Plan. As such, it has been adopted as the overarching goal of the Land and Biodiversity Plan from which several themes, objectives and actions have originated.






Council’s four overarching functions as a local government are to provide community services, act as a Statutory Authority, facilitate service delivery with other organisations, and advocate on behalf of the Hume community. The table below explains how Council performs these functions in relation to land and biodiversity.

Council’s Role	Relevance to land and biodiversity
Statutory Authority	Council has a legal obligation to manage land, including protecting threatened plants and plant communities, protecting cultural heritage, and controlling declared weeds and pests. Council also has an important role to play in reviewing and implementing the Hume Planning Scheme and ensuring that development complies with planning requirements around protection of the environment and cultural heritage.
Service Provider	Council provides a range of services to the community that aim to protect and manage land and biodiversity whilst supporting community wellbeing. This includes offering financial incentives for sustainable land management, delivering workshops, field days and other events as engagement and capacity-building programs for residents and local community organisations, developing information resources and providing advice and guidance. Council also manages some privately owned or state-owned land for conservation purposes by agreement with the landowner.
Facilitator	Council has a role to play in supporting and partnering with other land managers in Hume, in neighbouring municipalities, and sometimes across the State to better manage land and biodiversity. Council also facilitates collaboration between a range of community and government stakeholders to mobilise and direct resources to where they are most needed.
Advocate	Council advocates to all levels of government for the best outcomes for the Hume community and the local environment. This includes important advocacy around issues such as weeds and pests, native vegetation protection and government investment into land and biodiversity initiatives.



Themes

The objectives and actions of the Land and Biodiversity Plan relate to five key themes, described in the table below.

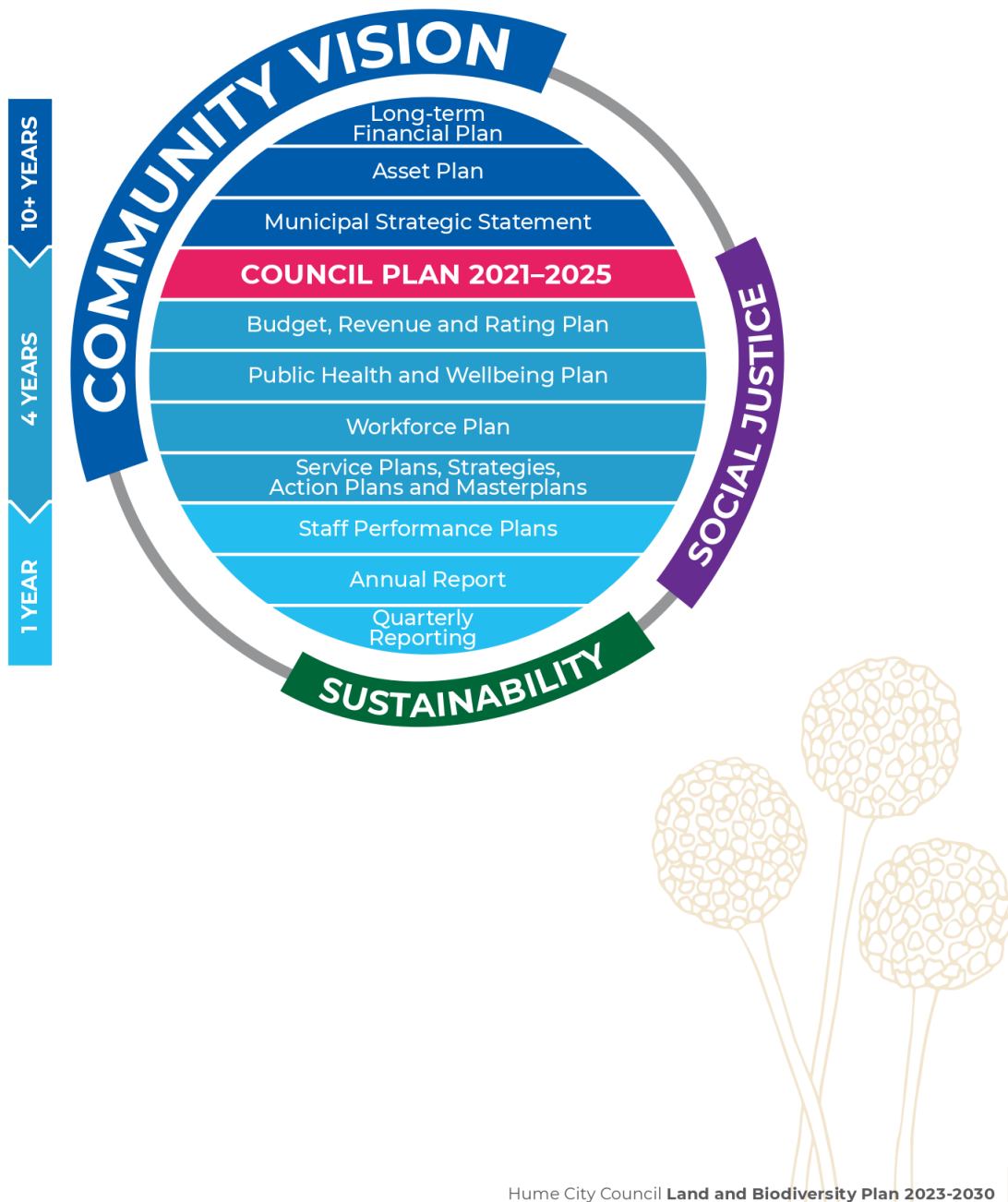
 <p>THEME 1: A healthy and thriving network of conservation reserves</p>	<p>This theme relates to Council's role as a land manager, specifically the management of conservation areas and flora and fauna. It focusses on how Council can enhance the current system of management to achieve a healthy and thriving network of conservation reserves.</p>
 <p>THEME 2: A well-connected landscape for wildlife</p>	<p>This theme explores the important function that adjoining vegetation plays within the landscape to facilitate movement of flora and fauna across and between urban, rural, and natural environments in Hume and beyond Hume's borders.</p>
 <p>THEME 3: Urban biodiversity and health and wellbeing</p>	<p>This theme explores the important role that urban areas play in supporting biodiversity, including parks, streetscapes and residential gardens. This theme recognises the important link between nature connection and community health and wellbeing.</p>
 <p>THEME 4: A landscape rich in cultural heritage</p>	<p>This theme recognises the rich cultural heritage of the Traditional Owners of Hume City, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, and explores how this heritage should be protected, managed, and celebrated. It also addresses non-Aboriginal heritage requiring protection.</p>
 <p>THEME 5: A healthy and productive rural landscape</p>	<p>This theme explores the vast rural landscape of Hume City, and Council's role in supporting rural landowners to manage their land sustainably as custodians of one of Melbourne's green wedges.</p>

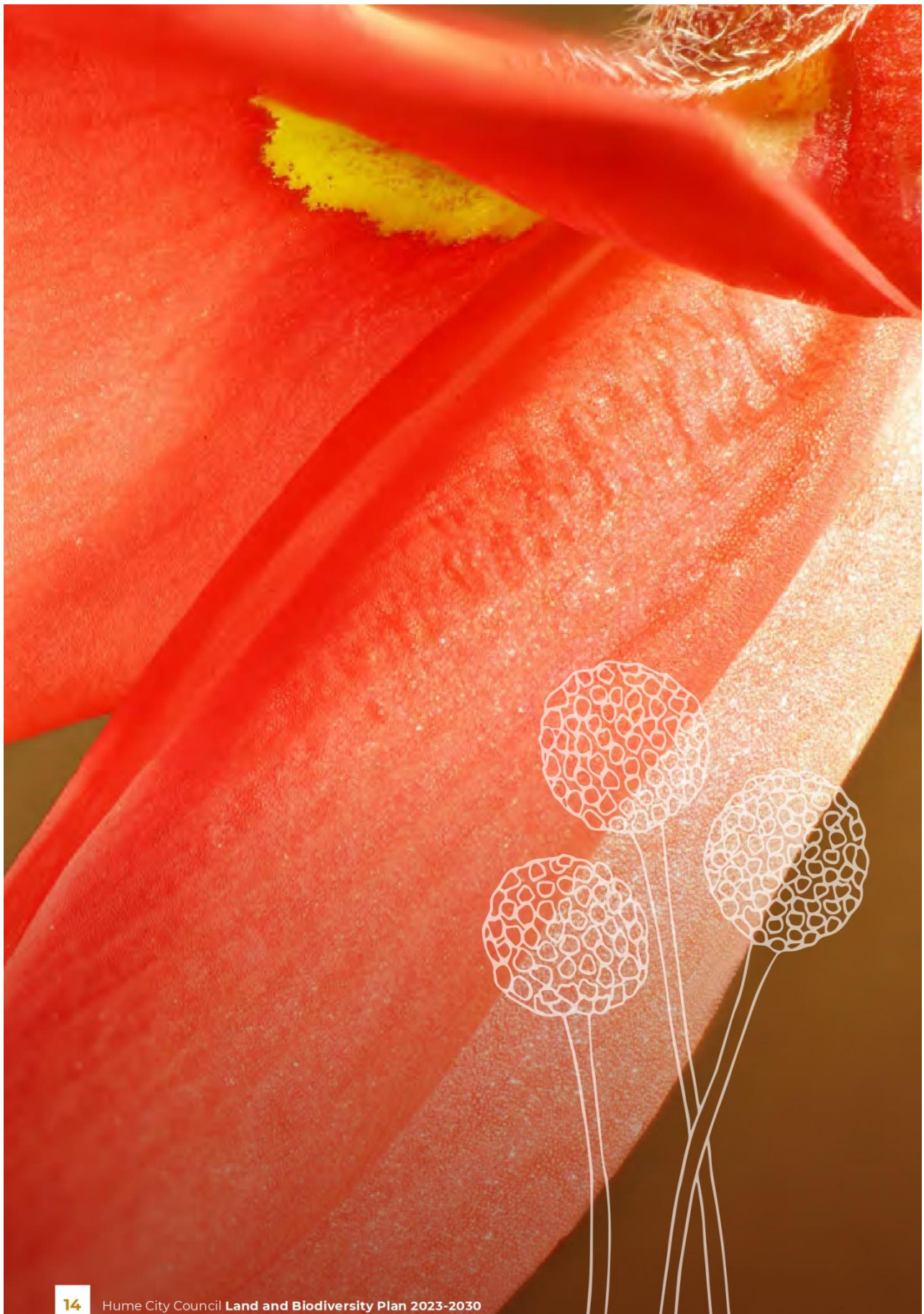
Planning and policy context

The Land and Biodiversity Plan sits within a broader framework of Council strategies and plans (Figure 1). The Land and Biodiversity Plan is identified as a strategy or action plan within Figure 1. It seeks to meet the land and biodiversity-related priorities of the *Council Plan*, and the overarching *Community Vision*, alongside a range of other Council strategies and action plans.

Key actions identified within the Land and Biodiversity Plan will be incorporated into the Council Plan and linked to team and individual staff performance objectives to drive their implementation.

Figure 1: Council's planning framework.





Council Plan and Pathways to Sustainability Framework

The Land and Biodiversity Plan is underpinned by important principles of social justice and sustainability. It seeks to progress Council’s *Pathways to Sustainability Framework*, which is contained within the *Council Plan 2021-2025*. Three Pathways from the Pathways to Sustainability Framework are particularly relevant to the Land and Biodiversity Plan; ‘provide strong environmental stewardship’ (Pathway 3), ‘support self-determination and partnerships with Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ (Pathway 7) and ‘recognise the rights of nature’ (Pathway 8).

Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025

Hume’s *Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025* provides directions for promoting equity of health outcomes. One of these key directions is ‘green, interconnected and social environments.’ Priority 4 of Hume’s *Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025* is ‘a green environment, climate action and community resilience.’ The link between natural spaces and health and wellbeing is an important principal underpinning the Land and Biodiversity Plan.

Open Space Strategy

The *Hume Open Space Strategy 2023* guides Council’s work in planning for and managing a high-quality open space network that supports the health and wellbeing of the community and the natural environment in a changing climate. The Land and Biodiversity Plan complements this strategy and progresses the natural environment priorities for open space in Hume.

Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2028

Hume’s *Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2028* recognises the need to build climate resilience across Hume’s conservation reserves, as well as increase tree canopy cover throughout Hume City’s open space network to reduce heat in urban areas.

Reconciliation Action Plan

Hume’s Reconciliation Action Plan acknowledges the journey towards reconciliation, demonstrates recognition and respect for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and provides practical actions to assist with health, education and employment opportunities.

Rural Strategy

Hume’s *Rural Strategy 2022* outlines Council’s role in protecting the curfew free operation of Melbourne Airport, protecting the rural qualities and opportunities in Hume by maintaining the diverse lot sizes and urban growth boundary, and maintaining important natural and cultural values. The *Rural Strategy* provides details of the steps Council is taking to support rural landowners and land managers as the caretakers of the rural areas in Hume. The *Rural Strategy* recognises environmental and landscape values in the planning scheme.

External drivers and state and regional strategies influencing this Plan

Protecting Victoria’s Environment – Biodiversity 2037

This state government strategy aims to improve the health of Victoria’s biodiversity. It also seeks to increase people’s connection to nature by supporting environmental volunteering. The sections of the Land and Biodiversity Plan that contribute to the priorities in *Biodiversity 2037* include Theme 1: *A Healthy and Thriving Network of Conservation Reserves*, Theme 2: *A Well Connected Landscape for Wildlife* and Theme 3: *Urban biodiversity and health and wellbeing*.

Climate change, Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy and Building Victoria’s Climate Resilience

Climate modelling shows that the climate of Victoria, and therefore of Hume, is becoming hotter and dryer, with an increase in extreme weather events, bushfires, floods and heatwaves are becoming more frequent and intense (*Hume Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*). This presents an immediate and ongoing threat to the health of people, animals and ecosystems.

The Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA, 2021) reports that under the current high emissions scenario, predicted climate change impacts for Melbourne include:

- 2.4 degrees Celsius temperature increase by 2050,
- Double the number of very hot days,
- Longer fire seasons with up to 60% more very high fire danger days
- Melbourne’s climate will be more like Wangaratta’s

During heat waves, green spaces in our urban areas are particularly important to help provide heat havens for local wildlife and for people. Green spaces in urban areas help to reduce heat from roads and buildings on hot days. Native trees and ground cover near waterways also help provide a buffer to reduce the impacts of flooding.

One of the aims of Victoria’s Climate Change Strategy is to recognise and safeguard the role of our natural environment in reducing emissions. Climate change is a major threat to biodiversity and land values. Ongoing drought conditions, storm damage and floods present challenges to retaining the values of conservation reserves. Additional resources will be required to protect biodiversity in the future.

Hume is a participant in the Victorian Climate Councils Alliance.

Healthy Waterways Strategy (HWWS) for Port Phillip & Westernport region

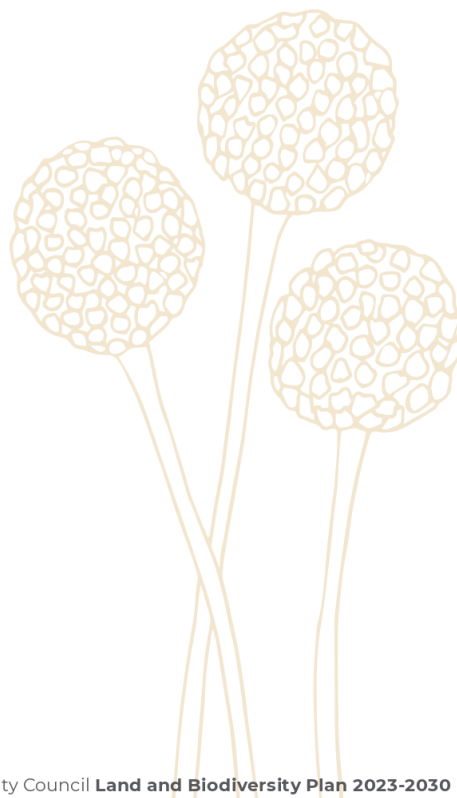
The Healthy Waterways Strategy sets priorities and targets for waterways across the Yarra and Maribyrnong catchments, including in Hume City. This includes targets for revegetation and control of weeds to achieve an improvement in the health and biodiversity of creeks and rivers. The targets both complement and contribute to the priorities for conservation in Hume’s Land and Biodiversity Plan, particularly in theme 2, *A Well Connected Landscape for Wildlife*.

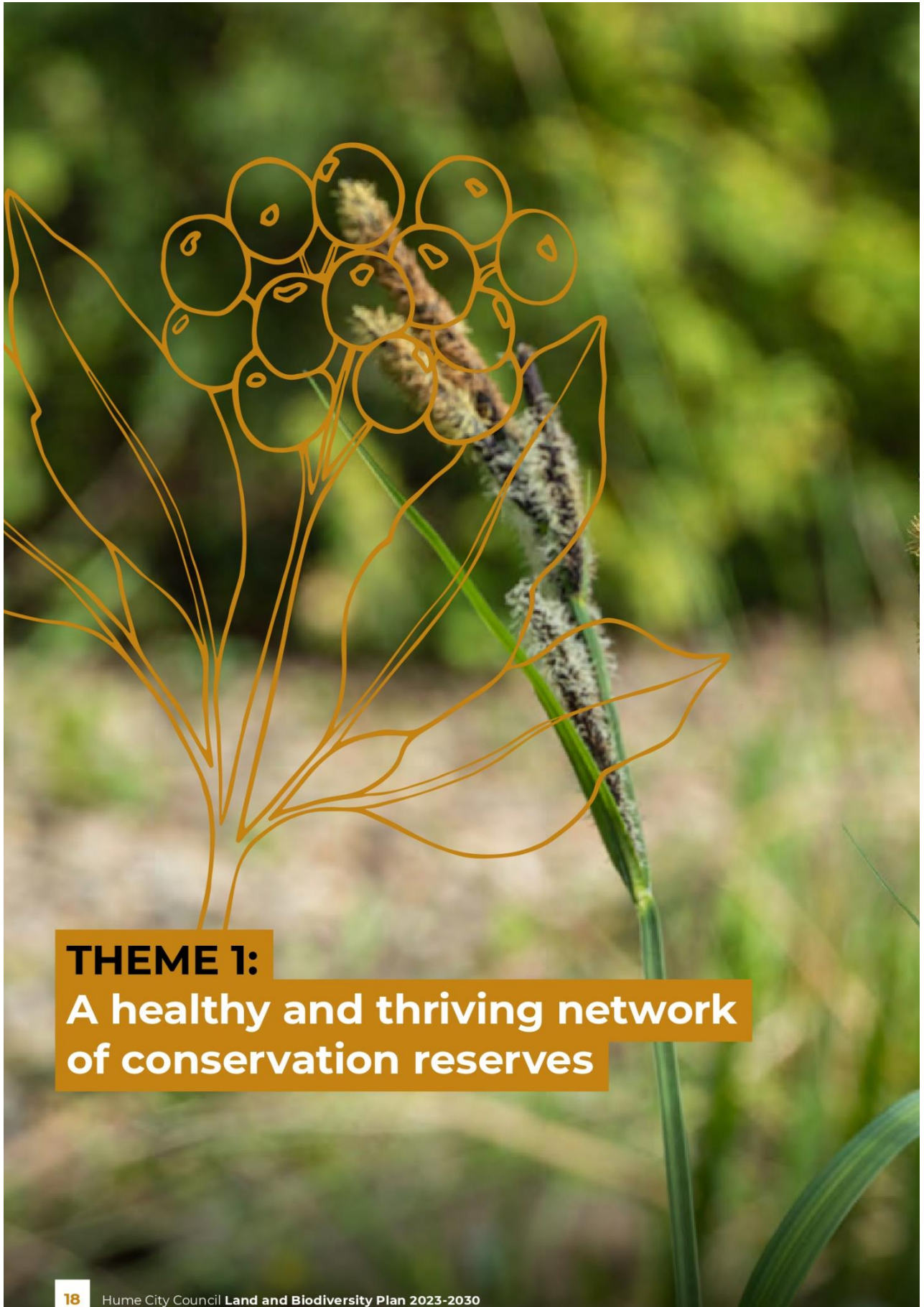
Victorian Traditional Owner Cultural Landscapes Strategy, Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Heritage Act 2017

This strategy represents a shared vision of Traditional Owner communities across Victoria to heal Country and culture. It sets a number of priorities that enable organisations like Council to support this vision with local Traditional Owner communities. These priorities are explored in theme 4 of the Land and Biodiversity Plan, *A Landscape Rich in Cultural Heritage*. The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act outlines Council’s obligations to protect cultural heritage in capital works developments, and to ensure that developers have effective Cultural Heritage Management Plans when required.

Living Melbourne, Greening the West and Greening the North initiatives

Living Melbourne, Greening the West and Greening the North initiatives are collaborative projects to extend and link urban forestry and nature conservation initiatives to foster improved community health and wellbeing and reduce climate change impacts. The Land and Biodiversity Plan will address several priorities identified through these initiatives in Theme 1 of the Plan, *A Healthy and Thriving Network of Conservation Reserves*.





THEME 1:
**A healthy and thriving network
of conservation reserves**



Hume City Council manages conservation areas totalling approximately 841 hectares across the municipality. Some of these areas are owned by Council and some are managed via formal agreements. The actions in this Plan will guide Council to build on our knowledge of ecological features across our conservation reserves.

The actions in this plan will also guide the strategic assessment of Hume City’s conservation management practices. This approach is particularly important as changing climatic conditions will alter ecosystems already under threat and increase the spread of invasive species. Evidence-based, informed decisions can then be made to effectively inform land management approaches that are adaptable to changes in local ecosystems.

Climate change places pressure on plants, animals, and landscapes, making it one of the leading threats to biodiversity in Hume and more broadly across the world. Hotter, drier conditions and more extreme weather events place direct and ongoing pressures on conservation reserves and can exacerbate other threats such as weeds and landscape fragmentation.

Further investigation needs to occur into how Council can manage conservation reserves to build climate resilience. By understanding which species will respond better than others under changing climatic conditions, Council can increase diversity across Hume’s conservation areas to create resilient strongholds for plant and animal species.

Monitoring and evaluation of our land management practices will assist us to continually improve our methods for protecting local vegetation and wildlife, whilst providing opportunities for the community to connect with nature.



Environmental values across the conservation reserves

Native vegetation

Hume supports some of the most endangered vegetation types or ecosystems in Australia, including grassy woodlands and grasslands. Compared to their original distribution, these remaining areas are small and fragmented. Of the 457 native flora species that have been recorded throughout Hume’s conservation reserves, 31 are listed as threatened or endangered under State and/or Federal legislation. In addition, 218 flora species have been identified as ‘unique’, as they have been recorded in five or less conservation reserves and are underrepresented in Hume.

Hume’s rural roadsides span 300 kilometres and feature some dedicated roadside conservation reserves. Rural roadside reserves contain significant remnant native vegetation, provide habitat for native wildlife and create linkages between vegetation patches. Rural roadside reserves are actively managed by Council to control noxious weeds.

Council manages conservation reserves using a variety of land management techniques, including revegetation, weed control and ecological burning. Hume’s ecological burns are influenced by the traditional land management practices of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. Ecological burns stimulate natural regeneration of indigenous plants and reduce biomass, thereby reducing the risk of wildfire.

Adaptive management in Hume’s conservation reserves involves a ‘learning by doing’ approach, incorporating the latest scientific information. This approach is important as changing climatic conditions are altering ecosystems already under threat.

Wildlife

Eastern Grey Kangaroos, echidnas and native birds are commonly sighted across Hume. The elusive Platypus is less commonly sighted along Jacksons, Deep and Merri creeks. The threatened Growling Grass Frog inhabit the Merri and Yuroke creeks. The vulnerable day-flying Golden Sun Moth has been recorded across the municipality, with the largest known population in greater Melbourne occurring at Broadmeadows Valley Park.

As climate change progresses, it’s also important to understand and monitor how animals are being impacted by changes to their habitat and food chain, so that Council can make informed decisions about strengthening the resilience of vulnerable ecosystems.

The extent of land protected in conservation reserves and linkages between reserves will become increasingly important for wildlife. As the pressures of climate change increase – small isolated conservation areas will be at greater risk of losing their biodiversity values.

Natural Landscape

Hume City’s natural landscape is characterised by expansive plains, volcanic hills and deeply cut river valleys. The prominent landscape summit at Mt Holden provides scenic views over Sunbury and greater Melbourne, to Port Phillip Bay and the You Yangs. Hume’s landscape includes impressive remnant trees that are hundreds of years old. Old, gnarled River Red Gums are common along creeks and reserves throughout Mickleham and Greenvale, providing vital habitat for many wildlife species.

The volcanic cones across the municipality hint at the basalt geology of much of Hume that has nurtured the municipality’s significant grasslands and distinctive biodiversity. These volcanic cones, including Reds Rock Hill, Deverall Hill, Fitzgerald Hill, O’Brien Hill, Burke’s Hill, Crowe Hill, Fairbanks Hill and Gellibrand Hill are part of the world’s third largest basalt plain that stretches west to the South Australian border. These cones continue to provide important viewlines that punctuate the landscape.

Hume’s waterways include the Jacksons, Deep and Emu creeks in the west and Merri and Moonee Ponds creeks in the east. Each are connected to a network of smaller streams. Waterways support abundant native vegetation that plays an essential role in supporting wildlife habitat and movement across corridors. Hume’s waterways vary in their degree of health, which has implications for healthy wildlife. Natural waterways are essential for the spiritual, cultural, mental and physical wellbeing of people, and have been central to the wellbeing of local Aboriginal people for thousands of years.

Collaborating for better outcomes

Biodiversity values transcend political borders. Hume is involved with important cross-organisational partnerships with other Councils and state government agencies, including the Merri Creek Management Committee and the Chain of Ponds Collaboration for the Moonee Ponds Creek. Opportunities exist to build on existing relationships with these agencies to enhance biodiversity and encourage community connection to nature.

Council recognises the importance of adopting traditional land management practices across Hume’s conservation reserves and is committed to working alongside the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to learn culture and traditional management techniques.

By striving to improve our knowledge of Hume’s native vegetation, wildlife and natural landscapes and through effective evaluation of land management practices, we will create an even more healthy and thriving network of conservation reserves.



Objectives

 <p>OBJECTIVE 1.1:</p>	<p>Improving our understanding of Hume’s biodiversity</p>
 <p>OBJECTIVE 1.2:</p>	<p>Strategic management of Hume’s conservation reserves</p>
 <p>OBJECTIVE 1.3:</p>	<p>Collaborating with other organisations to foster well informed land management practices</p>







THEME 2:
**A well connected
landscape for wildlife**



Landscape connectivity is the degree to which native wildlife can move across the landscape between patches of native vegetation on both public and private land. Wildlife need to move between available areas of habitat to continue to support strong populations into the future. Without a suitable degree of connectivity, populations will go into decline and some local extinctions may occur.

Climate impacts such as hotter, drier conditions and more extreme weather events will make landscape connectivity even more important for survival of native wildlife species. Extreme weather events impact wildlife as they need to move away from impacted areas in search of food, water and suitable habitat. Increased movement of species is already experienced in times of drought, or in response to fire and floods.

Climate change will also impact landscape connectivity across Hume, particularly how species interact with each other and their environment. It is likely that valleys and escarpments (such as cliffs and slopes) will be less vulnerable to climate change, as they are naturally buffered from extreme variation in climatic condition. Therefore, these areas may become important habitat sanctuaries as climate change progresses.

Protecting existing connectivity

To ensure landscape connectivity does not decline any further, it is critical to protect existing habitat patches and corridors. This involves sustainable land management approaches that address threats to structural connectivity such as overgrazing, competition from weeds, soil erosion and the removal of native vegetation.

Council is pursuing avenues to provide legal protections for habitat including an Environmental Significance Overlay in the Hume Planning Scheme, correct zoning of open space areas for public recreation and conservation and Trust for Nature Covenants. This involves an expansion of environmental and landscape overlay provisions and improvements to local policy in the Hume Planning Scheme.

Planning for future urban development provides opportunities for innovative approaches when addressing impacts from physical barriers, such as roads. For instance, installing functional wildlife crossings across major roads, can provide aerial cables for arboreal animals (possums) and enable ground-dwelling species to successfully move across the landscape.

Enhancing existing connectivity

Enhancing existing connectivity involves creating new vegetation patches / corridors, extending existing patches / corridors, encouraging natural regeneration of native vegetation and planting scattered or clusters of trees and shrubs across the landscape. Non-living habitat components such as tree hollows, fallen logs and rocks will also enhance connectivity. The installation of fabricated hollows using tree limbs pruned during tree maintenance, can increase the number of nesting sites for a range of species in open space areas and rural properties.



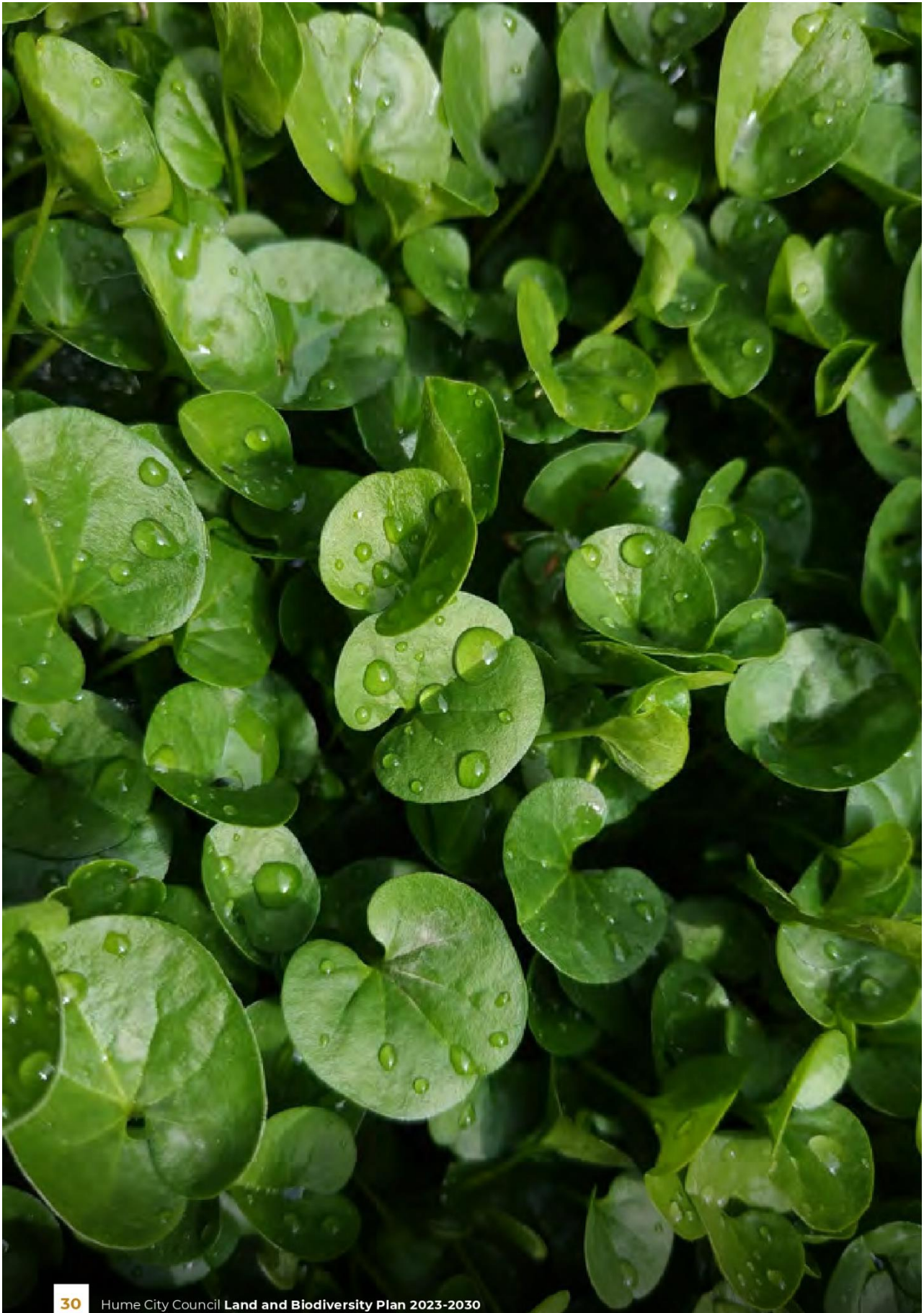
Collaboration

Places managed by Parks Victoria and Melbourne Water, such as Woodlands Historic Park in Greenvale and the Tarnuk Reserve in Westmeadows, are fundamental to the network of habitat patches and corridors found on public land within Hume. Opportunities exist to collaborate with road and rail authorities to enhance connectivity along linear corridors. Stakeholder networks such as the Moonee Ponds Creek Chain of Ponds collaboration and Merri Creek Management Committee offer opportunities to work at the waterway catchment scale to enhance connectivity. Other significant stakeholders in Hume include the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation, which owns and manages sites of natural and cultural significance in Hume such as the Sunbury Rings, and volunteer groups that have worked tirelessly over decades to restore the natural environment through revegetation and weed control projects.

Monitoring and improvement

Council uses computer modelling to monitor changes in landscape connectivity over time. This helps us understand when species may be impacted and what action can be taken to reduce this impact.





Values that landscape connectivity aims to protect in Hume

Ecosystems and wildlife

Patches of native grasslands and woodlands are concentrated in Hume’s rural areas, within parklands and conservation reserves and along creek valleys. They are vital to ensuring landscape connectivity, as they provide habitat for a diversity of wildlife species.

Wildlife Species

Approximately 270 mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, and fish vertebrate species have been recorded in Hume. Some of these species are in low numbers or are in decline, highlighting the critical importance of improving connectivity in the landscape.

Cultural values





The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have occupied the Hume area for tens of thousands of years, managing the landscape to preserve and regenerate the resources they needed for their survival and connection to country. Many of the natural areas that remain in Hume today are as culturally significant as they are ecologically significant. Protecting structural connectivity in the landscape assists in preserving cultural heritage.

Other structural connectivity elements

Many forms of vegetation exist across the landscape that contribute to connectivity in Hume. This includes non-native vegetation such as pine trees; trees and other vegetation in urban streetscapes and green spaces; native and non-native gardens on residential, industrial, or commercial properties; and any vegetation within rural areas. These structural connectivity elements enable some wildlife species to persist and even thrive in urban areas and provide resources for other species that may need to use urban sites to move between habitat patches.



Objectives

 OBJECTIVE 2.1:	Protecting vegetation that supports landscape connectivity
 OBJECTIVE 2.2:	Enhance connectivity in the landscape
 OBJECTIVE 2.3:	Collaborating with other stakeholders to enhance connectivity
 OBJECTIVE 2.4:	Undertake monitoring and improvement





THEME 3:
**Urban biodiversity and
health and wellbeing**



The value of biodiversity in the urban environment

Neighbourhoods that are abundant in nature support an abundance of wildlife. People can readily connect and interact with biodiversity in a positive way. Nature connection plays an important role in maintaining and improving the mental health and wellbeing of people.

Hume’s location on the urban fringe means it is not uncommon to see native animals in our everyday life. In Hume, urban gardens, streetscapes, parks and waterways are homes for more than 170 species of bird, 21 types of reptiles (snakes, lizards, turtles), 13 frog species and nearly 30 different native mammals (including 12 microbats). Within Hume’s urban areas, several threatened species exist including Golden Sun Moth, Growling Grass Frog, Swift Parrot, Matted Flax-lily and a protected population of critically endangered Eastern Barred Bandicoots at Woodlands Historic Park. Over 200 flora species found in less than a handful of Hume’s nature conservation reserves and are at risk of regional extinction.

Habitat plants in urban areas include groundcovers, wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, bushes and large trees. Mature hollow-bearing trees are vitally important to over 40 species of hollow-dependent fauna as nesting sites to rear their young.

Pollinators including birds, bees, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, bats are under threat from habitat loss as well as the overuse of chemicals, disease, and climate change.

Residential, industrial and commercial environments serve as important habitat for many species of wildlife that have adapted to the built environment. Human-made structures provide nesting sites. Urban backyards, streetscapes and parks contribute to habitat connectivity.

Urban biodiversity programs

Council’s urban biodiversity programs include Gardens for Wildlife, Community Greening and Citizen Science. Gardens for Wildlife supports community volunteers to provide advice to residents about wildlife friendly gardens. Citizen Science activities include bird count events and iNaturalist workshops such as the City Nature Challenge.

Community health and wellbeing

Healthy communities rely on healthy ecosystems. Without clean air, fresh water, clean food and food security, human health is put at risk. Large industrial estates produce a significant amount of air and stormwater pollution, which affects waterways, animals, and plant life. Pollution of air and water from industrial fires affects children, older residents, people with heart disease and lung conditions and people with disabilities in a disproportionate way. It is crucially important to prevent industrial pollution from occurring.

Being in the presence of nature can relieve stress and improve physical and mental health. For children, playing within nature supports creativity, problem-solving, and emotional and intellectual development. People thrive in physical environments that support social interactions in nature.




Food growing

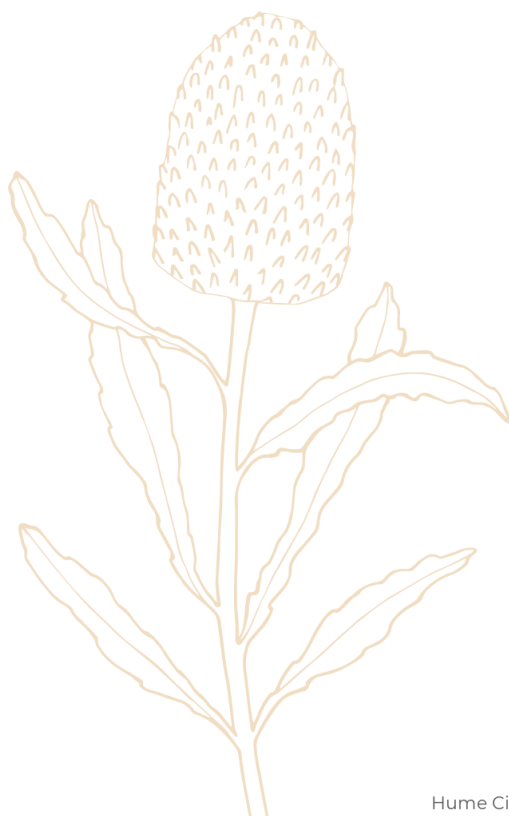
Growing our own food has benefits including food sovereignty (access to and control over healthy food produced sustainably and in a culturally appropriate way). In recent years food growing in urban areas, including Hume City, has increased in popularity, with more gardening happening in schools, community spaces and private gardens. This helps forge stronger social connections between people from different age groups and cultures. Food growing is extremely important for urban biodiversity, as birds and insects perform the vital function of pollinating plants. This is crucial to the health of the whole ecosystem.

Living with Wildlife

Council will redevelop the Living with Wildlife policy and will introduce elements of ‘the rights of nature’ addressed in the Council Plan’s Pathways to Sustainability. Council will also update behaviour change messaging around commonly reported issues such as bird feeding, responsible recreational fishing, litter impacts on wildlife, and swooping magpies.

Objectives

 OBJECTIVE 3.1:	Enhance biodiversity connectivity within the urban environment
 OBJECTIVE 3.2:	Provide opportunities for the community to connect with nature through citizen science, engagement programs, and restoration projects
 OBJECTIVE 3.3:	Support residents and the community to live safely and harmoniously with wildlife





THEME 4:
**A landscape rich in
cultural heritage**



Humans have had a long association with the Hume landscape. The territory of the Traditional Owners, custodians and land managers, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, extends from the north of Melbourne to Lerderderg State Park in the west, to Baw Baw National Park in the east.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung nurture the environment to sustain their community as living culture. Traditional methods of managing Country sustain the land. Their living legacy of tens of thousands of years of occupation and land management is evident in archaeological sites scattered across the landscape and in oral histories passed down through generations. As inheritors of this vast cultural history, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people today continue the tradition of caring for Country and protecting cultural heritage.

Hume has the fifth largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population within all the local government areas of metropolitan Melbourne

and twelfth in Victoria. At the 2021 census, Hume's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population was around 1807, or 0.8% of the population, however Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is known to be under reported.

Hume's landscape has changed significantly compared to the time when it was exclusively managed by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. Early colonial people pioneered a way of life that profoundly changed the land. Vegetation was removed for farming, roads and urban settlements. This caused environmental degradation at a rapid rate. This legacy continues to affect biodiversity, human and ecological health today.

Cultural Heritage Values

Aboriginal cultural heritage:

From volcanic hilltops to waterway valleys, Aboriginal heritage is abundant across the Hume landscape. Archaeological remnants include stone tool artefact scatters, middens, camp sites and scar trees. These sites hold living stories. Their significance is supported by historical records and oral histories in telling a narrative of how Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people utilised and managed the land and its resources in a sophisticated way. These sites hold historical, spiritual, educational, and scientific value for the community and a deeper significance for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Sunbury is of particular significance, being one of the few places in Victoria with preserved earth rings. While the exact story of the site is unclear, the Sunbury Rings are believed to be an important gateway for other tribes interacting with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. Sections of freehold title of the Sunbury Rings Cultural Landscape are owned outright by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. Each year through cultural heritage investigations, more Aboriginal heritage places and artefacts are rediscovered. Sharing of this cultural heritage needs to be done according to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung protocols.

As the effects of climate change include more severe storms, floods and fires, there is a risk that elements of significant sites may be destroyed and/or displaced.

Non-Aboriginal heritage:

The former Bulla Shire Office and the site of the Sunbury Music Festival 1972-75 are sites of non-Aboriginal heritage significance. Remnants of homesteads and dry-stone walls and are a reminder of Hume’s colonial history. They are part of the story of change in Hume City. Council takes various roles in managing non-Aboriginal heritage features including protection through policy including in the Hume Planning Scheme, and encouraging adaptive reuse where possible. A priority remains protecting heritage features as former agricultural land is developed around Sunbury and in the northern growth corridors.





Protecting and valuing cultural heritage

Council has both a legal and moral obligation to protect cultural heritage on the land it owns and manages, and to ensure as a statutory authority that cultural heritage is considered in development. Council has a responsibility to support self-determination for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung. Three key pieces of legislation that guide Council’s role are the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006, Heritage Act 2017 (dealing with non-Aboriginal heritage matters), and the Planning and Environment Act 1987 that informs the Hume Planning Scheme. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (WWCHAC) is the Registered Aboriginal Party for all land within Hume City and is responsible for enforcing the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

Council also has a broader goal to support Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents and communities in Hume and work towards reconciliation, which is addressed through the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). An important component of reconciliation is truth-telling. Truth-telling enables Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents and communities to educate non-Aboriginal community members about the impacts of ongoing colonisation, the stolen generations and genocide. The Hume Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Recognition Policy recognises the impacts of dispossession and intergenerational trauma and highlights the need for self-determination for Aboriginal people. The Stolen Generations Marker at Malcolm Creek Wetlands, Craigieburn pays tribute to the Stolen Generations – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities - denied their identity, family, traditional culture and country through the race-based policies of State and Federal Governments between 1910-1970s.

The Victorian Traditional Owner Cultural Landscapes Strategy identifies five strategic directions over the next 10 years to progress the healing of Country and people. The priorities most relevant to the Land and Biodiversity Plan are:

- To enable Traditional Owner cultural landscape planning
- To embed Traditional Owner knowledge and practice into policy, planning and management of Country
- To enable the application of Traditional Owner cultural objectives, knowledge and practice in the management of public land.

To respond to the priorities of Hume’s Reconciliation Action Plan, Traditional Owner Cultural Landscapes Strategy and legislation, Council will focus on three priority areas under this theme:

- Governance - Ensuring Council’s internal processes are adequate to meet statutory and moral obligations.
- Partnership - Partnering with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to conserve and manage land.
- Community engagement - Raising awareness about the importance of cultural heritage and involving the community in managing and celebrating it.

Governance

As a statutory authority Council must ensure that any development proposal, whether on Council or private land, considers the protection of heritage values. For development proposals that require a planning permit, Council must ensure that the requirements of the Heritage Act 2017 and Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 have been adequately addressed. Proponents of development must understand how their development may impact on heritage values and demonstrate that they have put measures in place to minimise or negate those impacts to have their permit approved. Council must follow a similar process for development projects it undertakes on public land, ensuring that project plans mandate the need for heritage due diligence.

Council has Cultural Heritage Guidelines for project managers to assist in effectively considering the requirements of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Heritage Act 2017 in their projects on Council land. These guidelines prescribe when an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) is required for a project, or if a Cultural Heritage Permit is needed to undertake an activity near an existing Aboriginal Heritage Place. Both approvals are granted by the WWCHAC and place strict requirements on the developer to ensure harm to cultural heritage is minimised or negated. Ensuring Council staff are aware of and can effectively apply the guidelines will be fundamental to achieving compliance with regulations at all times.

Heritage advisors

In instances where a Due Diligence Assessment, Cultural Heritage Management Plan or Cultural Heritage Permit are required, the advice and assistance of an internal Heritage Advisor would provide readily accessible information on cultural heritage matters across multiple sections in Council. While the Cultural Heritage Guidelines are a valuable tool for project managers, they will not remove the need for expert cultural heritage advice from a registered Heritage Advisor in many instances.





Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Partnership:

A key aspiration of the WWCHAC is to provide a holistic approach to working on Country. To this end the WWCHAC has established the Narrap Team, a team of rangers working on Country to manage ecosystems. The Narrap Team operate under the philosophy of relearning and applying traditional land management practices in conjunction with contemporary techniques.

Council's Reconciliation Action Plan and Pathways to Sustainability Framework recognise the importance of self-determination, self-advocacy and the aspirations of Aboriginal people. This includes being empowered to make decisions about cultural heritage values on Country. To meet these important needs, Council is initiating a land management partnership with the WWCHAC. This partnership agreement will evolve over time to ensure the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have a voice in how Council-owned and managed sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance are managed.

Council also works with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to incorporate the principles of cultural flows in the management of waterways in Hume. Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung representatives were involved in the development of Hume's Integrated Water Management Plan as well as the regional Upper Merri Creek Integrated Water Management project.






It is a priority for Council that the voices of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners are heard, to have relationships based on respect and shared understanding. Council recognises that Cultural strength is an enabling factor for the Aboriginal community.

Community engagement:

The sharing of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung cultural knowledge must occur with permission of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners. One of five themes in Council's Live Green Plan for sustainability engagement with the community includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ecological practices. Council organises and supports community education workshops with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners and educators.

Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Recognition Policy (September 2020) states that in regards to the naming of places with Woi-wurrung place names, Council will actively engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities including Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, the RAPWG and broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members in the naming of places.

Objectives

 OBJECTIVE 4.1:	Ensure legislative compliance and increase Council’s capacity to protect cultural heritage values through land development projects
 OBJECTIVE 4.2:	Increase active management of cultural heritage values on Council land under guidance by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung
 OBJECTIVE 4.3:	Establish and implement a long-term, living land management partnership agreement with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
 OBJECTIVE 4.4:	Support Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people to build their capacity to care for Country in Hume
 OBJECTIVE 4.5:	Partner with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to engage the Hume community in understanding the Aboriginal cultural heritage significance of sites across Hume City



THEME 5:
**A healthy and productive
rural landscape**



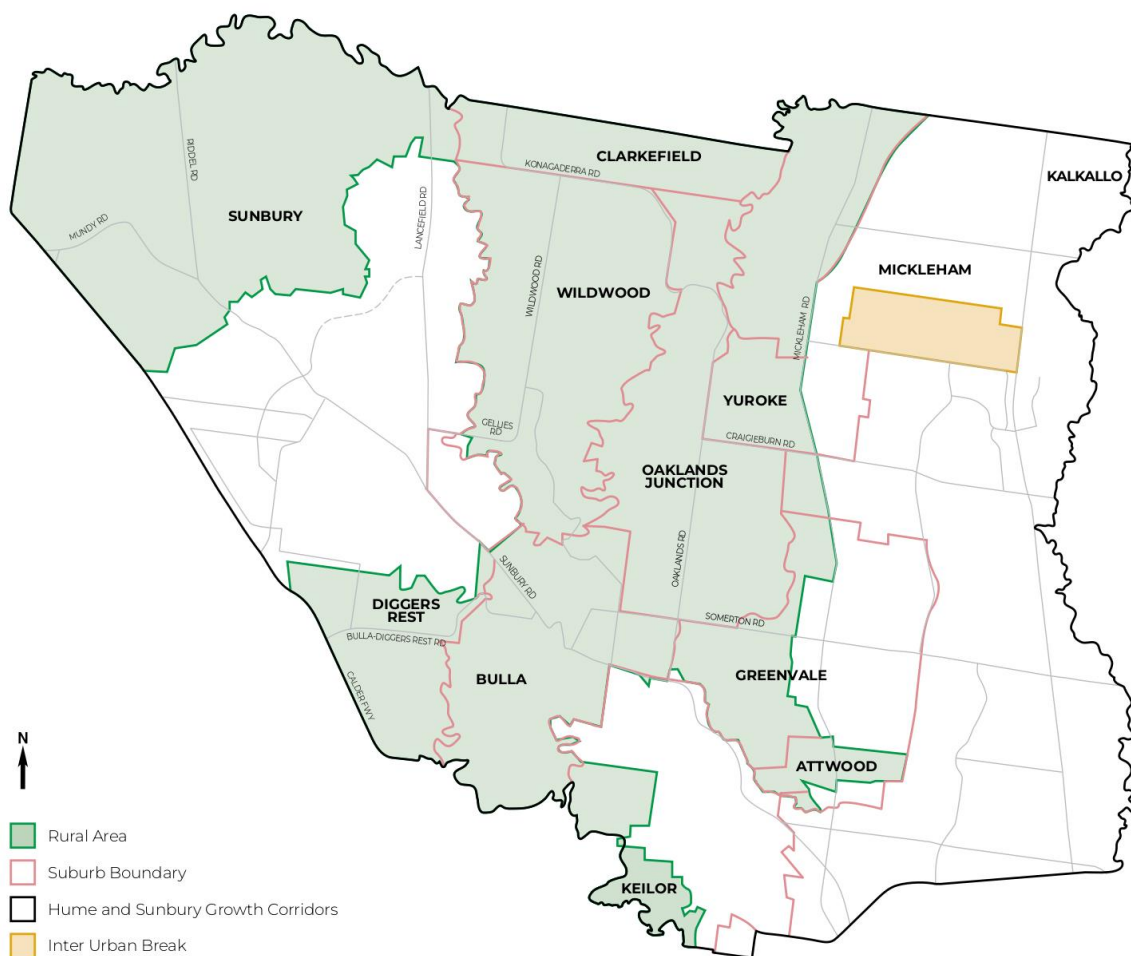
About half of Hume City’s total land area – more than 250 of 504 square kilometres - is designated as green wedge zone, outside Melbourne’s urban growth boundary and protected from development by State government policy. This land is characterised by grasslands and grassy woodlands of the Victorian volcanic plains and intersected by several steep creek valleys and narrow floodplains.

Landholders in the rural areas face challenges including pressures from surrounding development, climate change, weed infestation, land banking, illegal rubbish dumping, absentee landholders and an aging farming community. Hume’s Rural Engagement Program supports landholders with incentives and education to manage natural, agricultural and landscape values.

Hume’s green wedge includes the significant state infrastructure of Melbourne Airport. Development regulations protect the ongoing curfew-free operations of the airport. The rural community play an important role as stewards of the land, protecting, conserving and restoring Hume’s green wedge.



Figure 3: Map of the rural area of Hume City, showing suburb boundaries and the adjoining urban growth corridors.



Agriculture/horticulture production

Agricultural and horticulture pursuits in Hume include grazing for beef and sheep, horse agistment/ownership, grape and olive production, cropping, orchards, regenerative farming and lifestyle farming. Farming in Hume supports livelihoods, retains natural processes such as water and oxygen circulation and is a cultural way of life.

Biodiversity

Hume’s rural areas are rich in biodiversity. In fact the rural areas support most of the native vegetation and wildlife habitat that occurs in the municipality. Despite land clearing and other farming practices, biodiversity provides economic benefits to the community through natural pest management and revitalisation of soils. Hume’s biodiversity is integral to the municipality’s character, and there are opportunities to support landscape-based tourism and hospitality activities that support a regenerative approach to landscape renewal as part of a sustainable local economy.

Rural Strategy and Rural Engagement Program

The priorities set by the Land and Biodiversity Plan for a healthy and productive rural landscape align with Council’s Rural Strategy. The Rural Strategy explores the broader challenges facing the rural community and identifies opportunities for protection and enhancement of the rural landscape.

Vision for Hume’s Rural Areas

Council’s primary role in supporting a healthy and productive rural landscape is to support people living and working on the land by providing services that invest in social and economic wellbeing. People who are well-supported are more likely to succeed in their endeavours to manage the land sustainably.

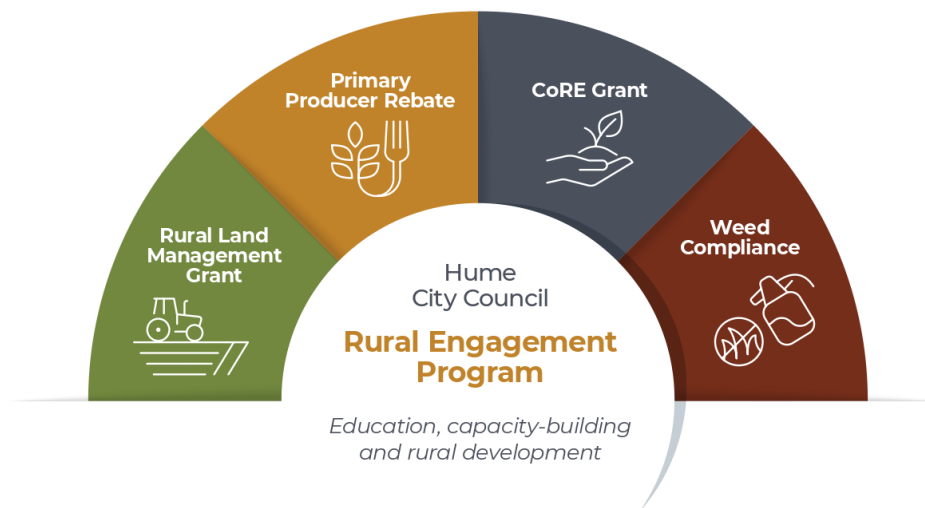
Control of weeds is particularly important in Hume. Weed infestations are already a significant land management issue and are expected to increase as a result of climate change. Many weeds respond well to flood and fire, both of which are expected to intensify as climate change progresses (Steffen et al., 2009, p. 133) and some weeds are well adapted to hotter and drier conditions. The Weed Compliance and Education Program aims to work with rural landholders on making a reasonable effort to control noxious weeds on their land.





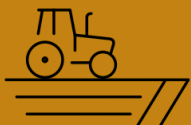


Council’s Rural Engagement Program (Figure 4), includes the following initiatives that support the rural community to manage the land sustainably for production and biodiversity:

- Primary Producer Rate Rebate (PPRR) – a 30% rate rebate for agricultural businesses in the green wedge who typically have higher cost and time inputs associated with managing their land. Council staff visit properties annually where the landholder is a recipient of a Primary Producer Rate Rebate.
- Rural Land Management Grant (RLMG) – a \$300 grant, plus an additional \$20 per hectare of land owned, targeted at the non-farming community or those undertaking hobby farming to support land managers to manage land in an environmentally sustainable way.
- Conserving our Rural Environment (CoRE) Grant – a grant of up to \$10,000 per eligible property to undertake environmental works to protect and enhance biodiversity. This program was established in 2012 and supports landowners to protect and manage the vast conservation reserves on rural land in Hume City.
- Weed Compliance and Education Program – Under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act) all landholders are responsible for controlling and reducing noxious weeds throughout their property. Council’s local law gives authorised officers the ability to provide directions to landholders to control significant weed infestations. Landholders may receive infringements if they do not comply.
- Education, capacity-building and rural development – Council offers workshops, field days and information resources to assist landowners to build their capacity to manage weeds, pest animals, revegetation, conservation, soil health and agriculture. This program will continue, with new topics including agribusiness and climate change adaptation. Landowners can also apply for an Agriculture Scholarship up to \$1500 for on-farm advice to build their skills for specific productive and sustainable land uses.

Figure 4: Diagrammatic overview of Council’s Rural Engagement Program, including the Rural Land Management Grant, Primary Producer Rate Rebate, Conserving our Rural Environment (CoRE) Grant and Weed Compliance Program. Underpinning these programs is a focus on supporting education, capacity-building and development of landowners.



Objectives

 OBJECTIVE 5.1:	Reduce the spread and extent of noxious priority weeds within the rural area of Hume
 OBJECTIVE 5.2:	Support primary producers to practice sustainable agricultural production in Hume
 OBJECTIVE 5.3:	Increase the capability of rural landowners to manage their land sustainably and enhance resilience to climate change
 OBJECTIVE 5.4:	Support collaboration between rural residents engaged in sustainable land management
 OBJECTIVE 5.5:	Increase native vegetation and wildlife habitat in the Hume’s rural areas





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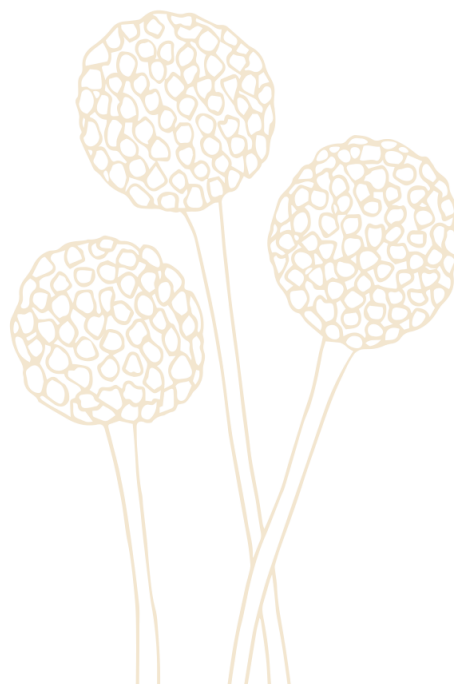
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**DRAFT ACTION PLAN 2023-24
DRAFT LAND AND BIODIVERSITY PLAN 2023-30**

This 2023-24 action plan guides Council in the first year of implementation of the Land and Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030. For each theme it identifies objectives, actions, the role that Council departments will play in implementing the actions, external partners/stakeholders, and timeframes for completion. While actions in this 2023-24 Action Plan are all costed according to existing allocated resources, future Action Plans will contain actions that will be costed as part of Council’s budget process.

THEME 1: A HEALTHY AND THRIVING CONSERVATION ESTATE

Action ID	Action	Responsibility	Complete Action By
OBJECTIVE 1.1: IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HUME’S BIODIVERSITY			
1.1.1	Collate floristics data across the conservation estate through the Conservation Reserves Monitoring Program and incorporate the data into Council’s GIS database.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: IT Partners: DEECA	Ongoing
1.1.2	Map all known threatened flora species and incorporate the data onto Hume’s GIS or other software system, to highlight their location and significance to Council departments.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: IT Partners: DEECA	30 June 2024
1.1.3	Develop a native fauna monitoring framework to outline the species that should be actively conserved.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, MW, PV, Tertiary Institutions	30 June 2024

Action ID	Action	Responsibility	Complete Action By
1.1.4	Develop processes to assist with directing maintenance and enhancement projects for Matters of State and National Environmental Significance across Hume’s open space network.	Lead: Statutory Planning Support: City Design, City Parks & Open Space Partners: DEECA, Tertiary Institutions	30 June 2024
1.1.5	Investigate resourcing for internal environmental planning referral process to be streamlined and rolled out across the organisation.	Lead: Statutory Planning Support: City Parks & Open Space Partners: DEECA, MW, YVW	30 June 2024
OBJECTIVE 1.2: STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF HUME’S CONSERVATION RESERVES			
1.2.1	Develop an environmental management strategy for Hume’s conservation estate.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: City Design, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	30 June 2024
1.2.2	Investigate and seek resourcing for the development of a strategic plan for building climate resilience in Hume’s conservation areas.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Climate Action Integration, City Strategy Partners: DEECA	ongoing
1.2.3	Develop nine Conservation Management Plans as part of the Council Plan.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	30 June 2024
1.2.4	Review and redevelop three expired Conservation Management Plans.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	30 June 2024

Action ID	Action	Responsibility	Complete Action By
1.2.5	Develop Annual Plans for all reserves not under the CMP framework and incorporate service level guidelines into the plans.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	30 June 2024
1.2.6	Identify threatened and unique flora species and incorporate them into restoration programs in Conservation Management Plans/Annual Plans where reasonably practicable, to increase their representation across Hume’s conservation estate.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: MCMC, WWCHAC	Ongoing
1.2.7	Identify strategic ecological restoration projects in Conservation Management Plans to increase habitat extent and connectivity.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: City Design, City Safety Partners: CoPCG, DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	Ongoing
1.2.8	Implement restoration projects outlined in Conservation Management Plans.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: MCMC, WWCHAC	Ongoing
1.2.9	Deliver four ‘Cues to care’ capital projects to meet the community’s expectations on conservation reserve appearance.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space, Strategic Communications, City Design	30 June 2024
1.2.10	Review and redevelop Council’s pest animal management plan, incorporating the impacts of pest animals on habitat connectivity.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA, Pest Animal Action Groups, WWCHAC	30 June 2024
OBJECTIVE 1.3: COLLABORATE WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS TO FOSTER WELL INFORMED LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES			
1.3.1	Participate in, and provide \$15,000 + CPI annually towards the Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space Partners: CoPCG, CVA, CoM, FoMPC, FoUMPC, GtW, KA, LCS, MW, MV,	Ongoing

Action ID	Action	Responsibility	Complete Action By
		MBUG, MB, PV, RMIT, SU, UniMelb, VPA, YVW	
1.3.2	Support Chain of Ponds Litter Lead to organise community clean ups at strategically identified litter hotspots along waterways.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Waste & Sustainability	

THEME 2: A WELL CONNECTED LANDSCAPE FOR WILDLIFE

Action ID	Action	Responsibility	Complete Action By:
OBJECTIVE 2.1: PROTECT VEGETATION THAT SUPPORTS LANDSCAPE CONNECTIVITY			
2.1.1	Promote conservation covenants to rural landowners on Council's incentive programs, prioritising properties with significant landscape connectivity.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: TFN	Ongoing
2.1.2	Continue to manage all conservation areas on Council-managed land that contribute to ecological connectivity within the open space network.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: City Design, City Safety, P&D, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: CoPCG, DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	Ongoing
2.1.3	Begin managing new reserves designated as part of sub-divisions or vested from developers	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: City Design, City Safety, P&D, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: CoPCG, DEECA, FRV, MW, MCMC, PV, TFN, WWCHAC, YVW	Ongoing

2.1.4	Through the Rural Engagement Program, encourage improved grazing management practices on rural properties.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA	Ongoing
2.1.5	Facilitate wildlife crossing design training for Council engineers to explore opportunities and incorporate learnings into their infrastructure projects.	Lead: Infrastructure Delivery Support: City Parks & Open Space, Community Health & Wellbeing	30 June 2024
OBJECTIVE 2.2: ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY IN THE LANDSCAPE			
2.2.1	Incorporate landscape connectivity into the Open Space Strategy to ensure important conservation and biodiversity areas are protected and enhanced where possible.	Lead: City Design Support: City Parks & Open Space.	Ongoing
2.2.2	Review Environmental Significance Overlays in the Hume Planning Scheme with consideration for holistic and effective protection of native vegetation, significant landscapes, biodiversity connectivity, cultural heritage and significant waterways.	Lead: City Strategy Support: Statutory Planning, City Parks & Open Spaces, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: WWCHAC, DEECA, CoP	Ongoing
2.2.3	Incorporate landscape connectivity principles into the design phase when new areas of open space are being vested to Council through urban growth and subdivisions.	Lead: Landscape Planning Support: City Parks & Open Spaces Partners: DEECA, Developers	Ongoing
2.2.4	Identify reserves that are deficient in hollow-bearing trees and develop a fabricating nest box program for a range of species.	Lead: City Parks & Open Spaces Support: City Design, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: DEECA	30 June 2024
2.2.5	Seek opportunities to utilise the Corridors of Green grant program to support connectivity enhancement projects on Council-managed land.	Lead: City Parks & Open Spaces Support: Grants & Projects, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: CoPCG, MW, MCMC, WWCHAC	Ongoing

OBJECTIVE 2.3: COLLABORATE WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS TO ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY		
2.3.1	Establish an annual forum for public land managers such as Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria in Hume to discuss the recommendations of the L&C Plan and identify opportunities for connectivity enhancement and other biodiversity conservation works.	<p>Lead: City Parks & Open Spaces Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: CoPCG, local and state government agencies, MCMC, other stakeholders, WWCHAC</p> <p>Lead: City Parks & Open Spaces Support: City Design, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: local government agencies, MW, MCMC, PV, WWCHAC</p>
2.3.2	Support the implementation of the Growling Grass Frog Masterplan.	Ongoing
OBJECTIVE 2.4: UNDERTAKE MONITORING AND IMPROVEMENT		
2.4	Establish a methodology for mapping weed infestations on private land	<p>Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Spaces Partners: Banksia Gardens Community Services,</p> <p>31 June 2024</p>

THEME: 3 URBAN BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Action ID	Actions	Responsibility	Complete Action By:
OBJECTIVE 3.1: ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY CONNECTIVITY WITHIN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT			
3.1.1	Implement the Gardens for Wildlife program. Minimum 10 Garden Guides recruited and trained. Minimum 20 garden visits conducted per year	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	Ongoing
3.1.2	Implement the Community Greening Program, ensuring that site selection	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	Ongoing

	is made to enhance biodiversity outcomes and to meet the needs of the community. Minimum five plantings per year. Minimum 50 participants per planting Minimum 500 plants per planting.	Support: City Parks & Open Spaces Partners: Community groups including Friends groups, faith groups and businesses.	
3.1.3	Implement the Seedlings for Schools program. Seedlings provided to at least 10 schools for on-ground projects. Minimum 3,000 seedlings donated to schools per year Minimum 65% plant survival rate.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: Hume schools	Ongoing
OBJECTIVE 3.2: PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY TO CONNECT WITH NATURE THROUGH CITIZEN SCIENCE, ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND RESTORATION PROJECTS			
3.2.1	Implement a Schools for Nature program of incursions to improve student’s environmental literacy. Minimum seven biodiversity incursions / excursions delivered each year. Investigate one excursion per year involving students planting in Hume’s open space network.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Spaces Partners: Hume schools	Ongoing
3.2.2	Implement Citizen Science projects and campaigns to raise awareness of Hume’s natural assets. Minimum three community events per year.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space Partners: Melbourne metro Councils participating in the City Nature Challenge	Ongoing
3.2.3	Identify opportunities to expand environmental education activations at current and future Hume community centres.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Design, Community Services, Executive Officer	Ongoing
OBJECTIVE 3.3: SUPPORT RESIDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY TO LIVE SAFELY AND HARMONIOUSLY WITH WILDLIFE			
3.3.1	Update the Living with Wildlife Policy and have it endorsed by Council.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space	30 June 2024
3.3.2	Initiate a Nature is Your Neighbour campaign with developers.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space	30 June 2024
3.3.3	Initiate a Responsible Fishing in Urban Waterways campaign.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	30 June

		Support: City Parks & Open Space Partners: Victorian Fishing Association	2024
3.3.4	Review existing signage and communications to reduce bird feeding in the community. Design and begin implementation of a new campaign including information in different languages.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space	30 June 2024

THEME 4: A LANDSCAPE RICH IN CULTURAL HERITAGE

Action ID	Actions	Responsibility	Complete Action By:
OBJECTIVE 4.1: ENSURE LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE AND INCREASE COUNCIL'S CAPACITY TO PROTECT CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES THROUGH LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS			
4.1.1	Training, capacity building and integration of Cultural Heritage Management Plan guidelines into Project Management Office framework.	Lead: Project Management Office Support: People and Culture, Community Health & Wellbeing	Ongoing
4.1.2	On-country tours of significant locations for Hume capital works staff. Minimum one event per year.	Lead: People & Culture Support: Capital Works, Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: WWCHAC	Ongoing
4.1.3	Work with local Traditional Owners and the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council to actively protect significant Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung cultural heritage in the municipality, including the Sunbury Earth Rings.	Lead: City Design Support: Capital Works, Community Strengthening Partners: WWCHAC	Ongoing
OBJECTIVE 4.2: INCREASE ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES ON COUNCIL LAND UNDER GUIDANCE BY WURUNDJERI WOI-WURRONG			
4.2.1	Work with local Traditional Owners to manage sites of significance in accordance with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung requirements	Lead: City Parks & Open Space	Ongoing

OBJECTIVE 4.3: ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A LONG TERM, LIVING LAND MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH WURUNDJERI WOI-WURRUNG CULTURAL HERITAGE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION		
4.3.1	Enter into a Wurundjeri-Hume Land Management Agreement, to develop a mutually agreed framework for protecting and managing Aboriginal cultural heritage during ongoing, routine maintenance activities.	Lead: City Parks & Open Space Support: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: WWCHAC
OBJECTIVE 4.4 SUPPORT WURUNDJERI WOI-WURRUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD THEIR CAPACITY TO CARE FOR COUNTRY IN HUME		
4.4.1	Provide opportunities for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung to practice cultural traditions as a living culture.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Space Partners: WWCHAC
4.4.2	Benchmarking exercise with other Councils to investigate options for Hume to support the further granting of freehold title to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners, for example with developers through the process of housing development applications.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Environmental Planning, City Design, Property and Leasing, Statutory Planning, Subdivisional Development Partners: Developers, WWCHAC
OBJECTIVE 4.5 PARTNER WITH WURUNDJERI WOI-WURRUNG TO ENGAGE THE HUME COMMUNITY IN UNDERSTANDING THE ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF SITES ACROSS HUME CITY		
4.5.1	Work with Traditional Owners to build greater community awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: WWCHAC
4.5.2	Engage educators from Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to educate children and young people in Hume's schools and preschools.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Children, Youth and Family Services Partners: Koori Engagement Support Officers (Victorian State Government), WWCHAC

THEME 5: A HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE RURAL LANDSCAPE

Action ID	Actions	Responsibility	Complete Action By:
OBJECTIVE 5.1: REDUCE THE SPREAD AND EXTENT OF NOXIOUS WEEDS WITHIN THE RURAL AREAS OF HUME			
5.1.1	Develop and pilot a weed compliance and education program to enforce the local law requiring control of weeds.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Laws	30 June 2024
5.1.2	Scope a noxious weed monitoring program incorporating private land and roadsides.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Laws, City Parks & Open Space Partners: Banksia Gardens Community Services	30 June 2024
5.1.3	Develop a Rural Landholder Kit, outlining landholder responsibilities for weed control and promoting the values of Hume's rural areas.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Rates Partners: Real estate agents	30 June 2024
5.1.4	Continue to offer and increase participation in Rural Land Management Grant to eligible rural landholders.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	Ongoing
OBJECTIVE 5.2: SUPPORT PRIMARY PRODUCERS TO PRACTICE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN HUME.			
5.2.1	Maintain Primary Producer Rate Rebates to minimum 75 rebates per round.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	Ongoing
5.2.2	Promotion of Primary Producer Rate Rebate to agriculture enterprises in Hume who are currently not engaged in the program.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Economic Development Partners: Local businesses	Ongoing
5.2.3	Bi-annual review of operations of the incentives (grants and rebates) programs.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	30 June 2024

5.2.4	Deliver agriculture-themed community workshops and advice to Hume’s primary producers and other rural landholders, with a focus on regenerative and sustainable agriculture. Minimum three events per year.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: City of Whittlesea, Macedon Ranges Council, Mitchell Shire Council	Ongoing
5.2.5	Investigate grants from external sources to support primary producers in Hume.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Grants and Projects	Ongoing
5.2.6	Create a service directory for primary producers and distribute to rural residents.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Economic Development	30 June 2024
OBJECTIVE 5.3: INCREASE THE CAPABILITY OF RURAL LANDOWNERS TO MANAGE THEIR LAND SUSTAINABLY AND ENHANCE RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE			
5.3.1	Raise awareness amongst rural landowners about the values, benefits and management of habitat connectivity for wildlife and farm productivity through avenues such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RE-Source Newsletter (four hard copy and four eNews per year) • Connectivity fact sheet in the Land & Biodiversity Guidelines • Connectivity field day • Information at events 	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Strategic Communications & Events	Ongoing
5.3.2	Investigate a rural area plant donation program to support increased revegetation on rural land and help increase habitat connectivity for wildlife.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing	30 June 2024
5.3.3	Promote the development of community led sustainable land management initiatives such as a rabbit action group and Landcare.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: Landcare	Ongoing
5.3.4	Promote Melbourne Water’s Stream Frontage Management Program to rural landowners in Hume.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Partners: Melbourne Water	Ongoing
5.3.5	Seek opportunities to link corporate and community volunteers with rural landowners to support large scale rural land revegetation projects.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Economic Development	Ongoing

		Partners: Local businesses Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Economic Development Partners: TFN		Ongoing
5.3.6	Investigate and raise awareness of Native Vegetation Net Gain Offsets			Ongoing
5.3.7	Investigate and promote alternate uses for land that doesn't have the capacity to carry agriculture (eg, carbon farming)	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Climate Action Integration		Ongoing
	OBJECTIVE 5.4: SUPPORT COLLABORATION BETWEEN RURAL RESIDENTS ENGAGED IN SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT			
5.4.1	Develop and implement an annual Community Engagement Plan for workshops, education and events. Minimum 10 events per year, with at least one cross-Council collaboration.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Strategic Communications & Events Partners: City of Whittlesea, Mitchell Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Council		Ongoing
5.4.2	Inform landowners via RE-source newsletter, property visits and education workshops about Melbourne Airport's lack of curfew and the implications for landowners in the Green Wedge regarding a lack of subdivision opportunities and the benefits of diverse and sustainable land uses.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Environmental Planners, Strategic Planning Partners: Melbourne Airport		Ongoing
	OBJECTIVE 5.5: INCREASE NATIVE VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE HABITAT IN HUME'S RURAL AREAS			
5.5.1	Support rural landowners through the CoRE Grant or other means to invest in large revegetation projects on their land.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing		Ongoing
5.5.2	Explore opportunities to support the provision of fabricated nest boxes to rural landowners.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: City Parks & Open Spaces		Ongoing
5.5.3	Develop a program to subsidise the cost of one Trust for Nature conservation covenant per year for rural landowners in areas important to connectivity and biodiversity conservation for permanent protection of assets.	Lead: Community Health & Wellbeing Support: Environmental Planning		30 June 2024

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CoPCG	Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group
CVA	Conservation Volunteers Australia
DEDJTR	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
FoMPC	Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek
FoUMPC	Friends of Upper Moonee Ponds Creek
FRV	Fire Rescue Victoria
GR&P	Governance, Risk and Property
GtW	Greening the West/City West Water
I&A	Infrastructure and Assets
IT	Information Technology
KA	Kensington Association
L&C Plan	Landscape and Connectivity Plan
LCS	Living Colour Studio
MBUG	Moonee Bicycle Users Group
MCMC	Merri Creek Management Committee

MV	City of Moonee Valley
MB	Moonee Bicycle Users Group
MW	Melbourne Water
P&D	Planning and Development
PPRR	Primary Producer Rate Rebate
PPWCMA	Port Phillip and Westport Catchment Management Authority
PV	Parks Victoria
RMIT	Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
SU	Swinburne University
TFN	Trust for Nature
UniMelb	University of Melbourne PhD candidate
Urban Forest	Urban Forest Team, City Parks and Open Spaces Department
VPA	Victorian Planning Authority
WW	Western Water
WWCHAC	Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
YVW	Yarra Valley Water

REPORT NO:	8.4
REPORT TITLE:	Hume Community Awards and Mayoral Recognition Program
SOURCE:	Joel Kimber, Acting Manager Governance
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC21/1019
POLICY:	-
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	1.4: Strengthen community connections through local events, festivals and the arts
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Hume Community Recognition Awards - Community Consultation Results</i>2. <i>Hume Community Awards Selection Criteria</i>3. <i>Hume Community Awards Terms and Conditions</i>

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At its meeting of 12 September 2022, Council approved that the existing Australia Day Awards be rebranded to a community awards, and that officers proceed to community consultation to consider nominee categories that align with the community’s values. This report identifies the feedback received from the community and provides information on how an event may proceed.

Additionally, at its meeting on 15 November 2021, through motion HAW084, Council resolved that a report be provided to Council on opportunities to create a Mayoral Certificate of Recognition Program to help residents celebrate special milestones such as significant birthdays and anniversaries. This report also recommends implementation of this initiative.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

2.1 That Council

- 2.1.1 approves the implementation of the Hume Community Awards to be held annually by Hume City Council.**
- 2.1.2 approves the implementation of 8 award categories and notes the supporting selection criteria for each, including:**
 - (a) Academic Excellence**
 - (b) Advocacy and Social Justice**
 - (c) Arts and Creative Expression**
 - (d) Community Service Excellence**
 - (e) Environmental Stewardship**
 - (f) Multicultural Community Leadership**
 - (g) Outstanding Community Leadership**
 - (h) Sports and Recreation Achievement**
- 2.1.3 Note that the Selection Panel will comprise the Mayor (or their delegate), the Deputy Mayor (or their delegate), two independent community representatives as recommended by officers to the Mayor, and an officer as representative of Council.**
- 2.1.4 note that this event has been accounted for in the 2023/24 Annual budget.**

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

2.1.5 allocates a \$500 monetary award to be presented to each successful award recipient, as well as a commemorative award.

2.1.6 acknowledges that a review will be undertaken of these awards within two years to evaluate the awards categories, and evaluate community interest.

2.2 That Council

2.2.1 approves the implementation of a Mayoral Recognition Program, including the development of a webpage for resident nominations to be recognised for significant milestone anniversaries and milestone birthdays.

2.2.2 approves the development of branded certificates to support the Mayoral Recognition Program, and to be signed and sent by the sitting Mayor.

3. **LEGISLATIVE POWERS:**

There are no relevant legislative powers or implications in respect to this report.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

4.1 The initial costs associated with the consideration of this event include the cost of community consultation which would include a social media campaign targeted at residents and groups within the Hume community.

4.2 As an indicator for any future event, the budget initially proposed for the Australia Day Awards in 2021/22 was \$23,400.

4.3 The Hume Resident Recognition Awards, which was held on Thursday 14 July 2022, was run at a cost of approximately \$9,500.

4.4 Future costs, should the feedback from consultation be ultimately endorsed, includes the cost of rebranding the event, advertising of the event, awards, and the holding of the event at a location to be determined.

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Whilst there are no environmental sustainability considerations that impact this report, these awards provide an opportunity to recognise residents or groups who make a significant contribution to the betterment of Hume’s environmental sustainability.

6. **CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:**

Whilst there are no climate change adaptations considerations that impact this report, these awards provide an opportunity to recognise residents or groups who make a significant contribution to the betterment of Hume’s climate change adaptation.

7. **CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:**

The learning through listening to Council’s Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (RAPWG) on the meaning of 26 January to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples has informed this Council report regarding changing the timing of Hume City’s community awards.

8. **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:**

8.1 The consultation period seeking community feedback on category nominations for these awards, as well as the shape any such event may take, commenced from Monday 15 May 2023, and concluded on Thursday 15 June 2023.

8.2 The activities undertaken during this consultation period were as follows:

8.2.1 The Hume Community Awards were promoted on Participate Hume webpage, inviting residents from the extended community, to provide their suggestions on award categories, and feedback on what style the event could take.

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

8.2.2 The Hume Community Awards consultation was promoted on Council’s social media channels.

8.3 At the conclusion of the community consultation period, Council received a total of 52 responses, which have been outlined and discussed further in this report.

9. DISCUSSION:

9.1 At the Council Meeting held on 12 September 2022, Council resolved:

That Council:

Approve that the Hume Community Awards be rebranded to a community awards event which will be held on an alternative date to 26 January, commencing in 2023;

Approve community consultation to consider nominee categories that align with the community’s values, and which encourage diversity and inclusion;

Note that a Citizenship Ceremony will continue to be held on 26 January.

9.2 In reviewing the previous award categories of Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, and Community Event of the Year, officers determined that based on the low number of nominations that there was a disconnect with the community. By seeking community feedback on new categories, it was intended to provide the opportunity for the community to have a sense of ownership of the categories and an opportunity to connect more closely with the community’s desires.

9.3 It was proposed that there be six to eight new categories selected, and that the categories be based on the suggestions that members of the community provide.

9.4 The categories endorsed should also give Council the opportunity to recognise residents, groups, or events that have made a significant contribution to the Hume community.

9.5 It is intended that these rebranded awards be re-established as Hume Community Awards with an increased number of award categories that emphasize the contribution of local community members and groups as well as providing an opportunity to tie-in the event with other events of recognition such as Volunteers week.

9.6 Community Consultation Results

9.6.1 All consultation responses have been included with this report as Attachment 1 – Consultation Responses. No identifying information has been included in any part of these responses.

9.6.2 Based on the Participate Hume consultation results, the following is a summary of the feedback received.

(a) There were 52 ‘click throughs’ to open the survey.

(b) Of those 52, 30 surveys were fully completed and responded to every question.

(c) Of those 52, 22 surveys were partially completed and responded to at least one question.

9.6.3 The following is a summary of the question categories which were asked, and a breakdown of the responses that were received. A consultation report has been included in this report as Attachment 1.

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

Question Category	Response summary
<p>How important is it that Council has awards that celebrate the ways community members/groups contribute to life in Hume? Why did you give this rating?</p>	<p>Of the 34 responses received for this question, a large percentile provided resounding feedback that it is important to recognise the hard work of individuals and groups who contribute to their local community.</p> <p>Sentiments echoed that acknowledging the contributions of others gave a sense of belonging, and that their contributions are acknowledged, often motivating further contributions.</p>
<p>Please list what categories would be meaningful for individuals:</p>	<p>The following category suggestions for individuals included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee settlement • Arts • Community sports • Education • Local leaders • Innovators • Environment and Sustainability • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander • Volunteering • Animal/Wildlife • Young Achiever • Sport • Religious leader • Community contribution (broad) • Libraries • Education • Community participation • Charity contributions • Social work
<p>Please list what categories would be meaningful for community groups.</p>	<p>The following category suggestions for groups included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-profit • Charities • Diversity, inclusion, gender equality • Youth • Animal welfare • Volunteer groups • Innovation • Sustainability contribution • Libraries

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Refugee settlement • Sport • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander • Religious associations • Environmental groups • Sporting clubs • Homelessness • Family Violence Prevention • Disaster recovery • Support for the Arts • SES Volunteers • Innovative event • ‘Crowd puller’ events • Education achievement
<p>What sort of event do you think is suitable for celebrating the nominees and winners?</p>	<p>50% indicated for a presentation ceremony with an audience. 25% indicated for a community BBQ. 25% indicated for a formal sit-down meal and presentation.</p>

9.7 Community Award Proposed Categories

The following proposed categories were developed based on the feedback received, particularly the frequency of the suggestion and grouping “like” themes. The categories also provide recognition for a diverse range of categories. The categories to be recommended for inclusion in the Hume Community Awards are as follows:

- 9.7.1 **Academic Excellence:** Recognising students or educators who have demonstrated exceptional academic dedication to their academic pursuits and have achieved outstanding results. Nominees who showcase a commitment to learning and innovative thinking will be given special consideration.
- 9.7.2 **Advocacy and Social Justice:** Honoring individuals who have actively advocated for social justice, equality, and inclusivity within the municipality.
- 9.7.3 **Arts and Creative Expression:** Highlighting individuals who have made notable achievements in the arts, including visual arts, performing arts, literature, or creative writing.
- 9.7.4 **Community Service Excellence:** Recognizing individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the community through volunteer work, activism, or social initiatives, and extending to the promotion of health and wellness, such as healthcare professionals, wellness educators, or community health advocates.
- 9.7.5 **Environmental Stewardship:** Recognizing individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to environmental conservation, sustainability, or ecological initiatives within the municipality.

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

- 9.7.6 **Multicultural Community Leadership:** Acknowledging individuals or groups who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to promoting mutual understanding, appreciation, and collaboration among diverse faith and cultural backgrounds.
- 9.7.7 **Outstanding Community Leadership:** Celebrating individuals who have displayed exemplary leadership qualities and made a positive impact on the municipality through their vision, dedication, and community-building efforts.
- 9.7.8 **Sports and Recreation Achievement:** Commending individuals who have excelled in sports or recreational activities, representing the municipality at a regional, national, or international level as well as promoting a healthy and active lifestyle within the community.

9.8 Proceeding to Nomination period and Awards ceremony

- 9.8.1 Pending Council’s approval, the award categories are proposed to ‘go live’ on Council’s website immediately to allow community nominations prior to the Awards event being scheduled for late October late 2023.
- 9.8.2 The panel is proposed to include the Mayor (or their delegate), the Deputy Mayor (or their delegate), two independent community representatives as recommended by officers to the Mayor, and an officer as representative of Council.
- 9.8.3 The Panel will review nominations and select suitable award recipients, considering the number and quality of nominations received.
- 9.8.4 The Awards ceremony, proposed for October at the Town Hall Broadmeadows, will be an alcohol-free, canape, and presentation of awards evening event. Award recipients will receive certificates and monetary awards.
- 9.8.5 The Panel will have discretion to determine whether a category will be considered in that year’s Awards dependent on the number and quality of nominations received.

9.9 Mayoral Recognition Program

- 9.9.1 It is proposed that Council will also implement a program to recognise members of the community for obtaining significant achievements. Council shall develop an online form that members of the community can nominate fellow residents for significant milestone birthdays and anniversaries such as 100-year birthdays and 50-year wedding anniversaries.
- 9.9.2 Pending Council approval, officers will implement an online form which will allow members of the community to nominate any other person who fits the Mayoral Recognition Program criteria.
- 9.9.3 The online form will remain open year-round, allowing for nominations to be received at any time, either in advance of an event, or following any event for recognition.
- 9.9.4 Officers will review any nomination received, and pending approval, will prepare an acknowledgement letter and Certificate for the Mayor’s signature which will then be sent to the appropriate person/group.

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

10. CONCLUSION:

Council has reviewed community feedback and proposed eight categories for inclusion in the Hume Community Awards. The establishment of the Mayoral Recognition Program will allow formal acknowledgment of members of the community celebrating significant milestone achievements.

REPORT NO: 8.4 (cont.)

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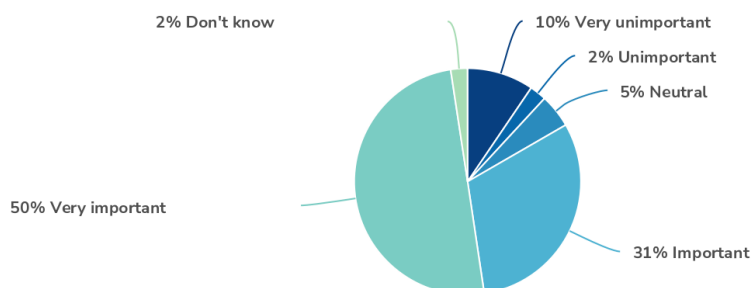
Report for Hume Community Recognition Awards - categories

Response Counts



Totals: 52

1. How important is it that Council has awards that celebrate the ways community members/groups contribute to life in Hume? (required)



Value	Percent	Responses
Very unimportant	9.5%	4
Unimportant	2.4%	1
Neutral	4.8%	2
Important	31.0%	13
Very important	50.0%	21
Don't know	2.4%	1

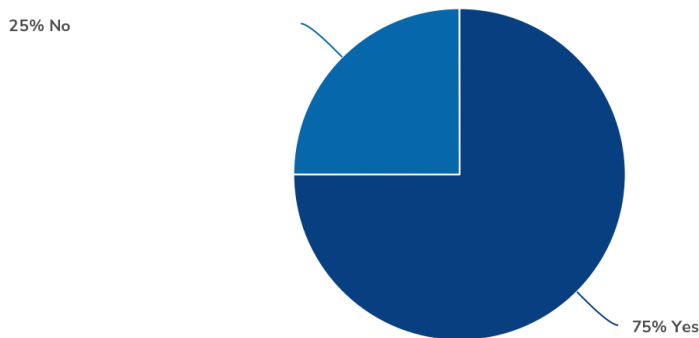
Totals: 42

2. Why did you give this rating?

ResponseID	Response
3	Because these community events are what brings people together and gives individuals a sense of belonging
4	It's will promote further community engagement, inspire others to contribute and celebrate the efforts of the award receivers.
6	It is important to recognise people for their hard work and contributions
8	To ba able to acknowledge those who have contribute to our community
9	For encouragement and support to the people of Hume
11	It's good to boost the work happening around region, provided it's inclusive and does not target specific groups I.e. aboriginal only
13	Because all communities need this.
14	It is very important to recognise and acknowledge volunteers work.
16	Because Council needs to recognise that success in our community is the work of volunteers and community champions not just council and council workers
18	Recognition through awards helps to encourage people to get involved and support local community initiatives, groups and events. They help foster a sense of connection.
19	Awards help encourage community connection, participation and support of local events, groups and initiatives. It helps to pay tribute to those who give up time to make things better for their community.
20	I think people do what they do for the community and not to be recognised. It is nice though if they are celebrated.
22	It's important to recognize those that help amongst the community
23	Because it's important
24	There is broad disengagement from the community in Hume.
25	To provide a sense of belonging, of contribution, of achievement.
26	Because it is helpful
28	Building positive culture in the local community can have a flow on effect to so many people of all age, race, sex etc.

ResponseID	Response
29	Volunteers give so much of their time, effort and knowledge to helping build a thriving community
30	It's very important to recognise people's special efforts to keep them motivated to continue and give more
31	Citizens of Hume should be embraced celebrated and given recognition for all their achievements
32	Recognising the contribution and achievements of community members is important.
33	Because it encourages others as well and recognises the efforts done by people
34	Recognition for a job well done, no matter where - workplace or community - is a way to encourage others to participate in the knowledge that their efforts will not go unnoticed or worse, ignored.
35	People need recognition
39	I feel sometimes genuine people are left out if the process is not thorough.
41	I think it is good to recognize the contributions being made by various people and organizations
42	Because it encourages others to follow suit. It is always nice to be recognised for your hard work
43	As a leader in a Profit for Purpose, Volunteer driven organisation, recognition is incredibly important. Volunteers rate it as one of the highest reasons for volunteering.
44	It's definitely important to commend a person who has done great work in the community. Most people are volunteering their time & efforts to do good work within the community to do better.
47	It is a great way to recognise the contribution of others and promote the great work and benefits to the community
49	to show appreciation of the works people do in the community.
50	The recognition event or participation is not something that has widely publicised unless they are a very active community member or work in local government.
52	Celebrate diversity and inclusion

3. You indicated that you felt it was unimportant or very unimportant that Council has awards that celebrate the ways community members/groups contribute to life in Hume. Would you still like to suggest categories?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	75.0%	3
No	25.0%	1

Totals: 4

4. Please list what categories would be meaningful for individuals: (if you want to you can provide an explanation about why you feel the categories you suggest are important/meaningful)

ResponseID	Response
2	Awards recognising the work done by community members to help recently arrived refugees to integrate into the local community. Award categories recognising individual contributions to the arts, community sport, education secotrs in Hume are also important. Awards recognising local leaders and innovators, including businesses, in the areas of technology, sustainability and recycling, the environment etc.
4	Sustainability Awards would be great, as I've witnessed fantastic efforts in this space from community members. Acknowledging Aboriginal or TS Islander people committed to elevating First Nations culture would also draw great attention to those efforts.
6	Volunteering award Above and beyond
11	Community support Animal and wildlife - countless people volunteer their time saving our animals for very little reward Conservation efforts
13	young person- achiever(0-5, 6-12, 13-18) influenuat male/female/ community group
14	Sports
16	Religious Leader of the Year
19	Contribution to community- broad category, can have lots of different every types, allows lots of different people to apply Sustainable category- encourage sustainable practice, general, lots of people could apply Innovation award- for interesting new ideas or initiatives, general, lots of people can apply
20	Animal welfare. Every other category is covered people helping people. But people helping animals is just as important. From pet ownership to our wildlife that is being pushed aside for development by councils. There are many volunteers, charities and organisations that are doing wonderful on going work to help people with pets and wildlife. It would be great to recognise them as they do the same or even more for the animals.
23	Hume libraries - because they care about the community
24	-maddest burnout achieved on Barry road. -sikkest rims sighted in Roxy shops carpark. - Most harrassing phone calls made about neighbour conflicts within the year.
25	Volunteers - unsung heroes of the community Settlement of migrants - willingness to help Sports clubs staff - sense of group sports and teamwork
26	Environment

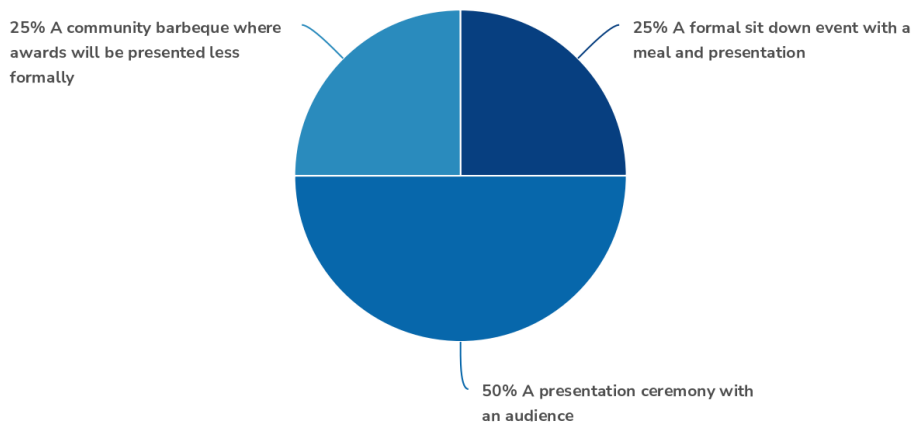
ResponseID	Response
28	Education (pre school/primary/secondary Volunteer Work Health Care Sport Community Initiatives
29	Contribution to community safety Contribution to emergency services Leading others
30	Sport volunteers at sporting clubs
31	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific category
32	Volunteer of the Year, Gender Equity leadership, LGBTIQA inclusion leader, Aboriginal community leader, young citizen of the year. Disability leader
33	Community participation
34	Personal contribution to community programmes or groups. eg: Scouts / Guides; environmental; well being activities; coaching junior sporting teams; volunteering with the disabled, Lions, Rotary or similar to name but a few.
35	Individual that goes beyond the norm
39	Community Worker - someone on a mission to eradicate one particular stigma/deficiency in society. Like homelessness, hunger, poverty, mental health etc. Volunteer - genuine time given in proper tasks that make a difference, not just namesake NFPs. Citizen - of note, above and beyond in a major role. Young person - could be more than one award in this category. Seniors - ones doing the best in their age to make it easy for their senior peers or otherwise too.
43	Volunteer focussed awards Community achievement Environmental focussed awards
47	Contribute to community participation, awareness or advocacy
49	Volunteer leader of the year - acknowledge the works people (paid or unpaid) do to support the infrastructure/systems/resources for volunteering that supports the works of volunteers. Volunteer Impact - (annual or monthly, acknowledges people who have made a remarkable difference for people in the community/organization or a cause.)
50	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community leader of the year Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander emerging young community leader of the year Community Leader in Equity & Inclusion Community Leader in Equity & Inclusion Youth Community Leader in Arts and Cultural Development
52	I think the ideas you have are great. But what about youth initiatives?

5. Please list what categories would be meaningful for community groups:
 (if you want you can provide an explanation about why you feel the
 categories you suggest are important/meaningful)

ResponseID	Response
2	Award categories which recognise non-profits and charities, local environmental groups etc. and the great work they do assist the most vulnerable and needy in Hume.
4	Contribution to diversity and inclusion, gender equality, young leaders. These categories would continue to inspire this direction for community groups.
11	Animal welfare - i.e. like SCARs pet food pantry Community support - aged care volunteers Conservation efforts - protecting our lakes, bush land and natural habitats
14	Team volunteers
19	Innovation Sustainability Contribution to community Same as before but have a group category
20	Animal welfare. Animal shelters, wildlife rescue, foster animal carers, programs that have been established to help pet owners with animal hardship. The animals and pets that reside in Hume are very important and rely on humans to assist them in times of turmoil.
23	Hume libraries
25	Charity groups - unsung heroes of the community Settlement of migrants - willingness to help Sports clubs - sense of group sports and teamwork
26	Education
28	All categories listed in previous question.
29	Community Safety education
30	Sport unites communities and kids love playing sport , volunteering at a club is a lot of work and time but the results are great
31	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people category at first peoples of this country
33	Focus on religious associations
34	Environmental Groups Sporting Clubs Helping the homeless Family violence prevention Assisting those suffering from disasters eg: Floods, Fires, Lost CFA Support for the Arts State Emergency Service Volunteers
39	Innovative event of the year Sustainable event of the year Crowd puller of the year (all these are hard to judge, but that should not stop us)

ResponseID	Response
43	School related awards, showing that Council advocates for education. Organisations who support Community Resilience
47	Contribute to community spirit
49	Volunteering Involving organization/group impact - acknowledge and celebrate the impact that an organization/group that engaging volunteer has had on the community.
50	Engaging the community in areas now that have long been forgotten and educating and promoting important issues and assisting community in engaging with one another and educating our community with important issues and needs
52	youth?

6. What sort of event do you think is suitable for celebrating the nominees and winners?

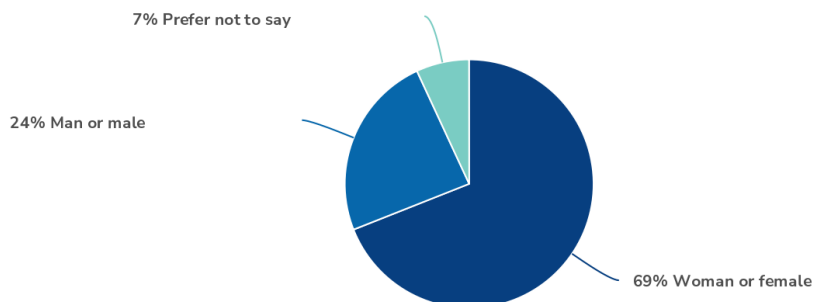


Value	Percent	Responses
A formal sit down event with a meal and presentation	25.0%	7
A presentation ceremony with an audience	50.0%	14
A community barbeque where awards will be presented less formally	25.0%	7

Totals: 28

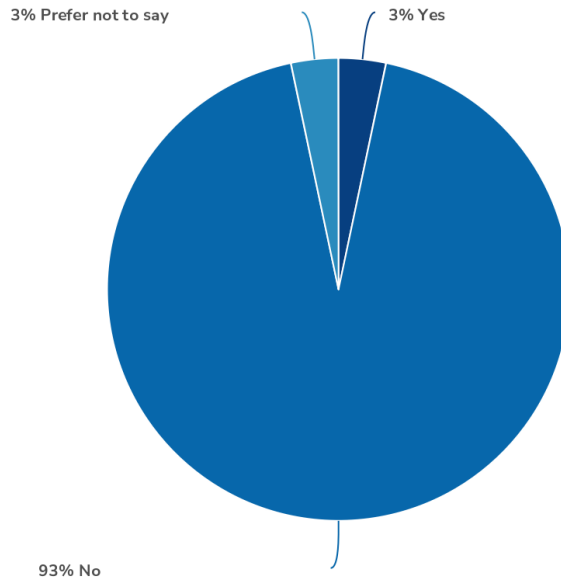
Other - Write In (Required)	Count
Totals	0

7. How do you describe your gender?



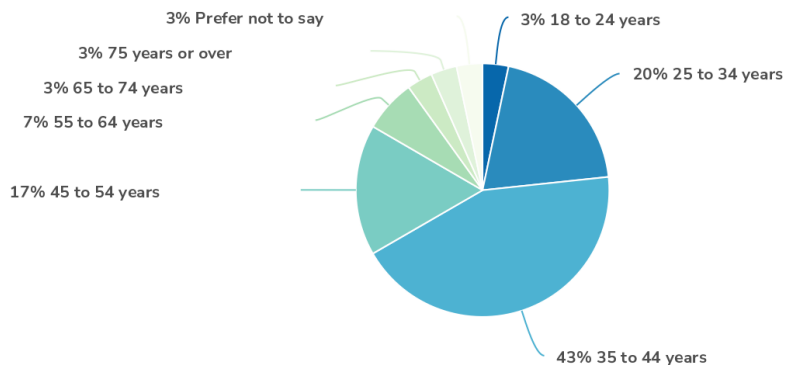
Value	Percent	Responses
Woman or female	69.0%	20
Man or male	24.1%	7
Prefer not to say	6.9%	2
		Totals: 29

8. Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	3.3%	1
No	93.3%	28
Prefer not to say	3.3%	1
		Totals: 30

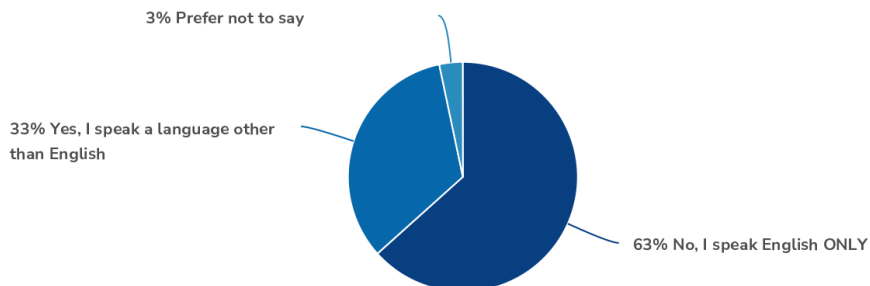
9. Which of the following age groups do you fall into?



Value	Percent	Responses
18 to 24 years	3.3%	1
25 to 34 years	20.0%	6
35 to 44 years	43.3%	13
45 to 54 years	16.7%	5
55 to 64 years	6.7%	2
65 to 74 years	3.3%	1
75 years or over	3.3%	1
Prefer not to say	3.3%	1

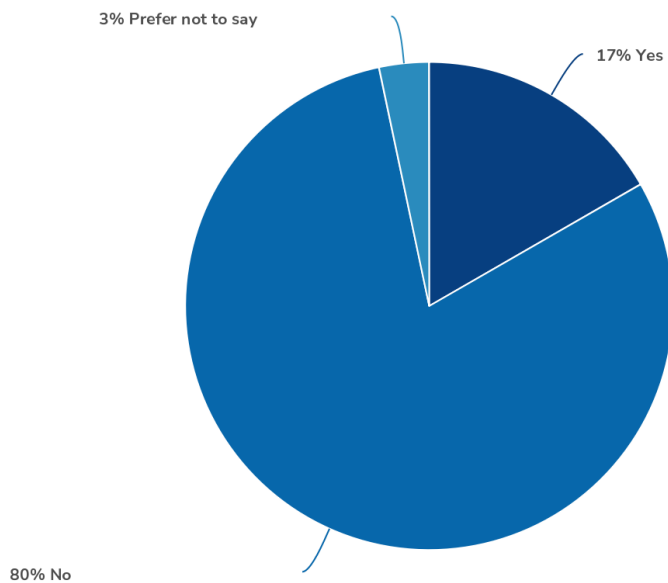
Totals: 30

10. Do you speak a language other than English at home?



Value	Percent	Responses
No, I speak English ONLY	63.3%	19
Yes, I speak a language other than English	33.3%	10
Prefer not to say	3.3%	1
		Totals: 30

11. Are you a person with a disability?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	16.7%	5
No	80.0%	24
Prefer not to say	3.3%	1

Totals: 30

12. What suburb do you live in?

ResponseID	Response
2	Roxburgh Park
3	Sunbury
4	Craigieburn
6	Mickleham
9	Greenvale
11	Craigieburn
13	Tullamarine
14	CRAIGIEBURN
16	Greenvale
19	Gladstone Park
20	Jacana
23	Keilor Downs
24	Broadmeadows
25	Craigieburn
26	Craigieburn
28	Craigieburn
29	Kalkallo
30	Craigieburn
31	Roxburgh Park
33	Roxburgh Park
34	Westmeadows
35	Westmeadows
37	Broadmeadows

ResponseID	Response
39	Craigieburn
43	Gladstone Park
47	Greenvale
49	3048
50	Craigieburn
52	Greenvale

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ATTACHMENT 2: Hume Community Awards Selection Criteria

The criteria listed below have been developed to ensure a fair and comprehensive evaluation of nominees for the Hume Community Awards. These criteria will guide the selection panel in identifying individuals who have made remarkable contributions to our multicultural municipality and deserve acknowledgment for their outstanding achievements. By adhering to these criteria, the selection committee aims to recognize the diverse range of accomplishments across various categories, celebrating the exceptional efforts and positive impacts of our residents.

Academic Excellence:

- Outstanding academic performance, including high grades and academic awards.
- Demonstrated dedication to learning, research, and intellectual curiosity.
- Contributions to the academic community, such as tutoring or mentoring peers.
- Participation and achievements in academic competitions or conferences.
- Innovative projects or research that have practical applications or positive impacts.

Advocacy and Social Justice:

- Active involvement in advocacy efforts related to human rights, equality, or social justice issues.
- Demonstrated impact on addressing social inequalities and improving living conditions for marginalized groups.
- Effective use of communication and outreach to raise awareness about important social issues.
- Collaborative efforts in building alliances and partnerships for social change.
- Overcoming challenges and demonstrating perseverance in the face of opposition.

Arts and Creative Expression:

- Demonstrated talent and creativity in their chosen artistic field.
- Recognition and accolades received for their artistic contributions.
- Positive influence on the local arts community, inspiring others to pursue creative expression.
- Commitment to cultural representation and promoting diverse artistic voices.
- Use of art as a means of advocating for social or environmental causes.

Community Service Excellence:

- Long-term dedication and consistent involvement in community service activities.

- Measurable positive impact on the community and its residents.
- Collaborative approaches to address community needs and challenges.
- Demonstrated leadership and organizational skills in community service projects.
- Initiatives that encourage broader community engagement and volunteering.

Environmental Stewardship:

- Proactive efforts in promoting environmental sustainability and conservation.
- Demonstrated success in implementing eco-friendly practices and initiatives.
- Leadership in organizing environmental awareness campaigns or events.
- Involvement in projects that protect local biodiversity and natural resources.
- Collaboration with local organizations and authorities to advance environmental causes.

Multicultural Community Leadership:

- Initiatives that actively foster connections and understanding between diverse cultural groups.
- Successful events that celebrate various cultures, encouraging engagement and dialogue.
- Demonstrated collaborative partnerships with cultural organizations
- Efforts to raise awareness and appreciation for cultural diversity within the community.
- Measures taken that enhance community bonds across different cultural backgrounds.

Outstanding Community Leadership:

- Evidence of successful community projects or programs led by the individual.
- Demonstrated ability to mobilize and inspire others to work towards common goals.
- Effective communication and problem-solving skills in a community context.
- Recognized positive impact on community development and well-being.
- Collaborative and inclusive leadership style that values diverse perspectives.

Sports and Recreation Achievement:

- Exceptional performance and accomplishments in their chosen sports or recreational activities.
- Demonstrated dedication to sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork.
- Representing the municipality at regional, national, or international competitions.
- Initiatives that encourage youth participation in sports and recreation.
- Contributions to sports-related community events and initiatives.

These criteria will serve as a guiding framework for the selection committee, ensuring that nominees from all backgrounds and achievements are evaluated fairly. By using these criteria, we strive to create an inclusive recognition program that truly reflects the diversity and accomplishments of our remarkable residents.

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Terms and Conditions

Nominations and Award Recipients for the Hume Community Awards

1. Eligibility Criteria:

1.1 Nominations are open to individuals who reside within the Hume municipality, and/or have made positive contributions to the community.

1.2 For nominees under 18 years old, a parent or responsible guardian must provide support and consent for the nomination.

1.3 Nominees for the inaugural awards are eligible for recognition for any contributions made within the past 24 months.

1.4 For subsequent award cycles, nominees are eligible for recognition for any contributions made within the past 12 months.

2. Nomination Process:

2.1 Nominations must be submitted through the official nomination form provided by Hume City Council.

2.2 Nominations should include relevant details about the nominee's achievements, contributions, and supporting evidence, adhering to the specified category.

3. Submission Deadline:

3.1 All nominations must be received by the designated deadline as specified by Hume City Council.

3.2 Late submissions will not be considered for the current award cycle.

4. Confidentiality:

4.1 All information provided in the nomination forms will be treated with strict confidentiality.

4.2 The selection panel will use the provided information solely for the purpose of evaluating nominations.

5. Selection Process:

5.1 A selection panel as appointed by Hume City Council will review all eligible nominations.

5.2 The panel will evaluate nominees based on the specified criteria for each category.

5.3 The decision of the selection panel will be final and not subject to appeal.

6. Award Recipients:

6.1 Award recipients will be notified by Hume City Council and invited to the awards ceremony.

6.2 Recipients or their parent/guardian, or a representative on their behalf, must consent to attend the awards ceremony to receive the award.

6.3 Successful award recipients may be awarded a monetary gift as part of their recognition.

6.4 The value of the monetary gift will be determined by Hume City Council.

7. Publicity:

7.1 By accepting the award, recipients agree to allow Hume City Council to use their names and images for publicity and promotional purposes related to the recognition program.

8. Disqualification:

8.1 Any nomination found to contain false or misleading information will be disqualified.

8.2 Hume City Council reserves the right to disqualify any nominee who does not meet the eligibility criteria or violates the terms and conditions.

9. Non-Business or Paid Achievements:

9.1 Nominations must focus on non-business or non-paid achievements.

9.2 Commercially-driven activities, such as promotions for businesses or paid services, will not be considered.

10. Award Categories:

10.1 Hume City Council reserves the right to modify or remove award categories based on the number and quality of nominations received.

11. Conflict of Interest:

11.1 Members of the selection panel must declare any potential conflicts of interest with any nominees and will not participate in the evaluation of those nominations.

12. Award Reconsideration:

12.1 Award recipients from previous years are not eligible to receive recognition in the same category again.

12.2 However, award recipients from previous years are eligible for nominations in different categories, if they meet the criteria.

13. Award Discretion:

13.1 Hume City Council reserves the right to withhold any award in a category if, in their judgment, no nominee meets the required criteria.

By participating in the nomination process and accepting the award, nominees and recipients agree to abide by these terms and conditions. Hume City Council’s decision regarding all aspects of the award program is final and binding.

REPORT NO:	8.5
REPORT TITLE:	Naming Proposal: Returning Westmeadows Reserve to the Name of Goddings Hollow (Response to NOM23/011)
SOURCE:	Joel Kimber, Acting Manager Governance Peter Faull, Coordinator Governance Joanne Grindrod, Senior Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC22/688
POLICY:	Place Names Policy
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	3.1: Empower and engage our community through advocacy and community engagement
ATTACHMENT:	1. <i>Westmeadows Reserve Aerial View and Cultural Sensitivity Overlay Map</i>

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT:

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 14 March 2023, Council made the following resolution (NOM23/011):
- 1.1.1 *That Hume City Council officers investigate starting a process to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve to its historical name of Goddings Hollow.*
 - 1.1.2 *Back in the 1850's when the City of Broadmeadows (Now the City of Hume) was formerly established, what we now know as Westmeadows Reserve was called Goddings Hollow. This is detailed in the book 'Broadmeadows - A Forgotten History'. The renaming of this reserve was previously the subject of a community submission to Hume's Draft Annual Budget in 2021. Councillors were informed that this would be followed up. The purpose of this motion is to get this issue on the agenda again and helping our community regain some of its lost history.*
- 1.2 This report provides Council with information in response to NOM23/011 and recommends that no further action is taken on this naming proposal for the reasons outlined in this report.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 **THAT Council notes the information provided in this report and takes no further action on the proposal to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve, located at 25-31 Ardlie Street Westmeadows, to its historical name of Goddings Hollow.**
- 2.2 **THAT the Acting Manager Governance writes to the submitter of the community submission to Hume's Draft Annual Budget in 2021, which requested that the name of Westmeadows Reserve be changed to its historical name of Goddings Hollow, to advise them of Council's decision on this matter.**

3. LEGISLATIVE POWERS:

- 3.1 *Geographic Place Names Act 1998 (the Act).*
- 3.2 *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria – Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2022 (the Naming Rules).*

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications in respect to this report.

REPORT NO: 8.5 (cont.)

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental sustainability implications in respect to this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no climate change adaptation implications in respect to this report.

7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATION:

The rights protected in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* were considered and it was determined that no rights are engaged in this naming proposal.

8. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:

8.1 Internal Consultation

8.1.1 Internal consultation on the proposal to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve to its historical name of Goddings Hollow was undertaken to seek advice from relevant Council officers. Further information is provided on the advice received in the Discussion section of this report.

8.2 External Consultation

8.2.1 It is not recommended that Council undertakes any external community consultation on the proposal to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve to its historical name of Goddings Hollow prior to Council considering the recommendation made in this report that no further action is taken on this naming proposal.

9. DISCUSSION

9.1 A search of VICNAMES, which is a register of all official place names in Victoria, did not find a record for Westmeadows Reserve as an officially registered feature name. Westmeadows Reserve is therefore considered to be an unofficial name, but a name that is widely used with a high level of awareness within the local and wider communities.

9.2 The Westmeadows Football Club and the Westmeadows Cricket Club currently have seasonal allocations for use of the Westmeadows Reserve. The reserve is also well utilised by the local community.

9.3 NOM23/011, which was resolved by Council at its meeting held on 14 March 2023, referred to the book ‘Broadmeadows - A Forgotten History’ as including references to the name Goddings Hollow. The author of this book is Andrew Lemon, and it was published by the City of Broadmeadows in conjunction with Hargreen in 1982 (ISBN 0949905100, 9780949905109). The two references to Goddings Hollow in this book are as follows:

9.3.1 *In 1885 a large number of ratepayers signed a petition asking the Shire Council to secure as a permanent reserve for the Broadmeadows Cricket Club a piece of land known as ‘Goddings Hollow’. This time the Council forwarded the request to the Lands Department. The hollow in question was already used as a playing ground on the Moonee Ponds Creek at the rear of the police station and old Shire Office, it does that duty still. The Lands Department approved it in early 1886 as a temporary cricket and recreation ground, and the Council and the sporting clubs appointed representatives as trustees.*

9.3.2 *Next to the Office, and behind a small cream-brick police station, stands the bluestone lock-up built for the difficult days of 1859. This watches over the cricket reserve: ‘Goddings Hollow’ is now a playground and oval stretching out towards the creek.*

9.4 Council officers have not found any additional references to Goddings Hollow other than in the book ‘Broadmeadows - A Forgotten History’, so the origins of this name are unknown.

REPORT NO: 8.5 (cont.)

- 9.5 An analysis of the proposed name of Goddings Hollow against the Naming Principles contained within the Naming Rules, using the information available, is provided in the following table:

Table 1	
Analysis of proposed renaming of Westmeadows Reserve to Goddings Hollow against the Naming Principles contained within the Naming Rules.	
Principle (A) Ensuring public safety	Comment Public safety may be impacted by the proposed change of name to Goddings Hollow because there is a strong association in the local and wider community with the unofficially registered but widely used name of Westmeadows Reserve.
Principle (B) Recognising the public interest	Comment There is a long-term benefit to preserving cultural heritage names, however because Westmeadows Reserve sits within an area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity (with the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the reserve), and the origins of the name Goddings Hollow are unknown, this name may not be the most appropriate to register as the official name for this location. It is recommended that Council first consults with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation should it wish to further consider the Goddings Hollow naming proposal.
Principle (C) Linking the name to the place	Comment The proposed name of Goddings Hollow has a historical link to place, as referenced in the publication ‘Broadmeadows - A Forgotten History’, however the origins of this name are unknown. The name Westmeadows Reserve is viewed as having a stronger link to place. The Naming Rules state that place names should be relevant to the local area with preference given to unofficial names used by the local community.
Principle (D) Ensuring names are not duplicated	Comment A search in VICNAMES revealed no duplication of the name Goddings Hollow within a 15 km radius of Westmeadows Reserve.
Principle (E) Recognition and use of Traditional Owner languages	Comment Westmeadows Reserve is located within an area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity (with the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the reserve). It is recommended that Council consults with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation if it wishes to further consider this naming proposal.
Principle (F) Names must not discriminate or be offensive	Comment The proposed name of Goddings Hollow cannot be assessed under this principle because of the limited information available to verify the origins of this name.
Principle (G) Gender equality	Comment The proposed name of Goddings Hollow cannot be assessed under this principle because of the limited information available to verify the origins of this name.
Principle (H) Dual names	Comment Not applicable – a dual name is not being proposed.
Principle (I)	Comment The proposed name of Goddings Hollow cannot be assessed under

REPORT NO: 8.5 (cont.)

Using commemorative names	this principle because of the limited information available to verify the origins of this name.
Principle (J) Using commercial and business names	Comment Whilst this principle is unlikely to apply, the proposed name of Goddings Hollow cannot be assessed under this principle because of the limited information available to verify the origins of this name.
Principle (K) Language	Comment The name Goddings Hollow complies with this principle.
Principle (L) Directional names to be avoided	Comment Not applicable
Principle (M) Assigning extent to a road, feature or locality	Comment Not applicable

- 9.6 Following internal consultation with Council officers on the name Goddings Hollow, the Westmeadows Reserve was identified as being covered by a Cultural Heritage Sensitivity Overlay, with the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the reserve. This overlay can be viewed in Attachment 1 of this report.
- 9.7 The Hume City Council Westmeadows Public Space Plan has recently had a Preliminary Cultural Heritage Review report prepared for the Westmeadows area which includes the Westmeadows Reserve. The report includes the following information in regards to areas of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity:
- (a) *With the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the Westmeadows Reserve, all the proposed works areas are within areas of cultural heritage sensitivity under the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 as they either contain an Aboriginal Place (r.25(1)), are within 50m of an Aboriginal Place (r.25(2) or are within 200 m of a waterway (r. 26)*
 - (b) *A search of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register found nine registered Aboriginal places within 200m of the reserve, 5 of them directly adjacent the reserve boundary, including, a River Red Gum scar tree and siltcrete artifact scatters.*
- 9.8 Due to the cultural sensitivity of this location, with the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the reserve, it would be recommended that any further consideration of the name Goddings Hollow for the Westmeadows Reserve is first referred to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation for consultation. However, because it is recommended that Council takes no further action on this naming proposal, this course of action is not recommended.
- 9.9 Preliminary attempts were made to contact the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to determine whether they had any information regarding the proposed name, Goddings Hollow, or its origin. This was unsuccessful.
- 9.10 Council officers also met with the Broadmeadows Historical Society to determine whether they had any further information regarding the proposed name, Goddings Hollow. The Society advised they have no record or information regarding the name Godding, or its origin, other than the references previously noted in the book “Broadmeadows, A Forgotten History”.

REPORT NO: 8.5 (cont.)

9.11 In summary, it is recommended that Council takes no further action on the proposal to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve to its historical name of Goddings Hollow because Westmeadows Reserve is located within an area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity, with the exception of a small part of the northeast corner of the reserve. This recommendation is also made because of the limited information known about the origins of the name Goddings Hollow, which is reflected in the analysis of the name against the Naming Principles contained within the Naming Rules.

10. CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that Council takes no further action on the proposal to return the name of Westmeadows Reserve to its historical name of Goddings Hollow, for the reasons outlined in this report.

REPORT NO: 8.5 (cont.)

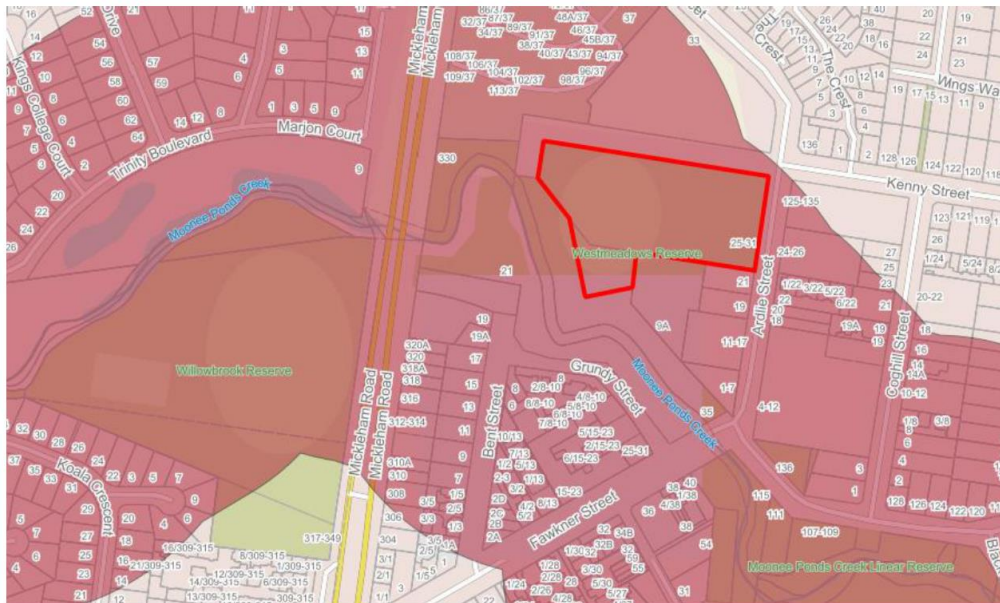
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Attachment 1 – Westmeadows Reserve Map View

Westmeadows Reserve - Aerial View



Westmeadows Reserve - Cultural Sensitivity overlay - waterways



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REPORT NO:	9.1
REPORT TITLE:	NOM23/020 - Cr Trevor Dance
SOURCE:	Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC23/688

I hereby request that pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Code of Conduct for Councillors that the following motion be included in the Agenda of the next Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council;

a) Ceases its corporate membership to LGPRO INCORPORATED - LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONALS INC immediately . That council obtains reimbursement on pro rata basis of membership paid for the subscription period.

b) That a report be provided to Council detailing Council expenditure from the commencement of the 2016 Council term to current on training through LGPro, including programs/training sessions accessed, number of staff engaged and alternate sector options for future training needs.

2. OFFICER COMMENTS

- a) LG pro is the professional association for officers in local government. The annual subscription for Council costs \$5060, and provides the following:
- Eligibility to all staff to participate in the Special Interest Group Network
 - Eligibility to participate in the Emerging Leaders Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Executive Leadership Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Ignite Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Ignite for Outdoor Workers Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Mastering Management Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Mentoring Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the LGPro Sector Secondment Program
 - Eligibility to participate in the Australasian Management Challenge
 - Eligibility to nominate for the Awards for Excellence
 - Introduction to Local Government Course
 - LGPro quarterly Profile magazine (exclusive to Members and Council Subscribers only)
 - Complimentary Professional Memberships for the EA/PA to the CEO and unlimited complimentary Professional Memberships for people who want to be an LGPro SIG Convenor
 - Advocacy and representation to State and Federal Government key stakeholders to ensure the Local Government officers' perspective is heard.
 - Opportunity for Council Subscribers to have tailored programs delivered at their Council for their staff.

REPORT NO: 9.1 (cont.)

Council not renewing its subscription mean staff will not be eligible to participate in the Awards for Excellence or participate in the specific local government programs mentioned above.

The 23/24 subscription has not yet been paid, noting this notice of motion was to be considered by Council.

- b) To provide seven years of data as per the request will require a significant number of resources and time to retrieve the invoice from the archives, match this to the training record, deidentify the applicant information and then tabulate for the final report. Officers suggest a report outlining the total spend for each financial year over that period and highlight any broad categories of training that are easy to identify.

The LGPro offerings are tailored specifically to the Victorian local government sector and its unique complexities. There is not a direct equivalent provider.

Whilst Council uses LGPro as a training provider we also use a range of other training providers to address the many specialty skills required at Council across its diverse services.

Some recent organisations we have used include industry bodies such as Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and FinPro; professional development organisations such as Australian Human Resource Institute (AHRI); Professionals Australia (engineers); Planning Institute of Australia (PIA); Union Organisations (ASU & ANMF); or private commercial

REPORT NO: 9.2
REPORT TITLE: NOM23/021 - Cr Trevor Dance
SOURCE: Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION: Finance & Governance
FILE NO: HCC23/688

I hereby request that pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Code of Conduct for Councillors that the following motion be included in the Agenda of the next Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council;

- **Provide any over budget costs for all capital works, and that these details are then presented at the next council open public meeting immediately after the cost increases have been identified.**

2. OFFICER COMMENTS

- Council currently receives quarterly capital works reports at an individual project level which details how each project is progressing against a range of measures, including budget. Council is also informed of budgetary implications at the contract awarding stage and on a quarterly basis information on all contracts awarded is made available.
- With respect to presenting this information at the next council meeting after cost increases have been identified, this information can only be reported once it has been confirmed. Additionally, providing this information at the next public meeting immediately after cost increases have been confirmed will not always be possible due to agenda preparation lead times.

REPORT NO: 9.2 (cont.)

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REPORT NO:	9.3
REPORT TITLE:	NOM23/022 - Cr Jack Medcraft
SOURCE:	Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HCC23/688

I hereby request that pursuant to Council's Governance Rules and Code of Conduct for Councillors that the following motion be included in the Agenda of the next Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a report be presented to a future Council meeting outlining:

- **The feasibility and merit of a council-led, safe driver reward and recognition program; and,**
- **Program costs and possible funding pathways if Council were to establish such a program.**

2. OFFICER COMMENTS

Council already delivers several initiatives focused on improving driver and road safety in the municipality. These include:

- Funding and administrative support to the TAC Learner Driver Mentor Program
- Funding support to local secondary schools to deliver the Fit2Drive road safety education program.
- Provision of a community grants to Amber Community for the delivery of Road Trauma Awareness training to local groups and clubs
- Participation in the Victorian Government Hooning Community Reference Group and local road safety forums

It has been proposed that a safe driver reward and recognition program could complement these existing efforts and further improve road safety in the local area.

If progressed, this motion would encompass a review of best-practice programs, explore the need for such a program in Hume City, identify potential partnerships and funding pathways.

REPORT NO: 9.3 (cont.)

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REPORT NO:	9.4
REPORT TITLE:	NOM23/023 - Cr Joseph Haweil
SOURCE:	Jane Mikaele, Governance Officer
DIVISION:	Finance & Governance
FILE NO:	HC23/688

I hereby request that pursuant to Council’s Governance Rules and Code of Conduct for Councillors that the following motion be included in the Agenda of the next Council Meeting.

1. RECOMMENDATION:

That Council

- Submit the following to the MAV State Council on 13 October 2023:
That the MAV calls on the State Government to review the redistribution mechanism of the Community Benefits Statements to ensure that the losses from gaming are directly invested back into community and community-led initiatives.

2. OFFICER COMMENTS

In response to NOM23/015, dated 22 May 2023, Officers undertook a review and analysed five financial years of Community Benefit Statements (CBS) submitted by Clubs in Hume City, obtained through the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC), demonstrated in the table below:

Financial Year	Class A	Class B	Class C	Total (\$)
2017-18	\$1,124,534	\$5,908,033	\$4,000	7,036,560
2018-19	\$1,060,741	\$4,940,216	\$5,925	6,006,882
2019-20	\$923,173	\$4,394,662	\$5,925	5,332,760
2020-21	\$554,136	\$3,501,834	\$4,000	4,059,970
2021-22	\$800,271	\$4,266,499	\$5,973	5,072,693
Total (\$)	\$4,462,855	\$23,011,244	\$25,823	

As the table above highlights, community benefits claimed by Clubs in Hume City were predominantly made against the Class B category, most of which were claimed against sub-Class B (e), namely operating costs.

No Club in Hume City claimed under the Class C (a) category for “the provision of responsible gambling measures and activities but excluding those required by law” over the analysed period. Examples of the “benefits” claimed by Clubs over the last five financial years, as indicated in Classes A and B in CBS’s submitted to the VGCCC, include waste and removal costs, Foxtel subscriptions, staff wages and expenses, leasing costs and free entertainment for members. Following this review, Council wrote to the Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, expressing significant concerns regarding the misrepresentation of the claimed community benefits and the urgent need to evaluate the redistribution provisions that apply to the Community Benefit Statements.

REPORT NO: 9.4 (cont.)

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