

Council Meeting

Minutes

Meeting No. 637

10 September 2024

Commenced at 7.00pm

Council Chamber

301 Hampshire Road, Sunshine,
Victoria

Fiona Blair
Chief Executive Officer
13 September 2024

Council

Cr Ranka Rasic	Mayor
Cr Jae Papalia	Deputy Mayor
Cr Victoria Borg	(Apology)
Cr Sarah Branton	
Cr Thuy Dang	
Cr Sam David	
Cr Maria Kerr	(Apology)
Cr Bruce Lancashire	(Apology)
Cr Jasmine Nguyen	
Cr Thomas O'Reilly	
Cr Virginia Tachos	

Municipal Monitors

Ms Janet Dore	Municipal Monitor
Ms Penelope Holloway	Municipal Monitor

Executive Leadership Team

Ms Leanne Deans	Acting Director City Futures
Mr Ashley Fleming	Acting Director Community Wellbeing
Ms Georgie Hill	Director People, Partnerships and Performance
Mr Mark Stoermer	Director Corporate Services

Governance Team

Mr Danny Bilaver	Manager Governance and Risk
Mr Tony Vo	Coordinator Council Business
Ms Natalie Horvatic	Council Business Officer

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1 Opening (Including Acknowledgement Of Country)

The Mayor, Cr Ranka Rasic, opened the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed all in attendance.

The Mayor stated:

On behalf of Brimbank City Council, I respectfully acknowledge and recognise the Wurundjeri and Bunurong Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land and pay respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

2 Council Commitment

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, read the Council Commitment:

As the Council, we will act in the best interests of the Brimbank community and consider the immediate and long term impacts of our decisions. We will make these decisions fairly and without bias.

We will uphold all of our obligations under the laws of Victoria and Council's local laws, and will act in accordance with our Code of Conduct.

3 Apologies/Leave Of Absence

The Mayor noted that Cr Victoria Borg and Cr Maria Kerr submitted an apology for this meeting.

4 Disclosure Of Conflicts Of Interest

Nil.

5 Designation Of Items As Confidential

Motion

That Council declares confidential in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*:

- Confidential Report 16.1

as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (s 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*).

Resolution

Moved Cr Jae Papalia/Seconded Cr Jasmine Nguyen

Motion

That Council declares confidential in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*:

- **Confidential Report 16.1**

as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (s 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*).

CARRIED

6 Confirmation Of Minutes Of Previous Council Meetings

Motion

That Council confirms the Minutes of Council Meeting No. 636, held on 20 August 2024.

Resolution

Moved Cr Jasmine Nguyen/Seconded Cr Jae Papalia

Motion

That Council confirms the Minutes of Council Meeting No. 636, held on 20 August 2024.

CARRIED

7 Condolences

Nil.

8 Congratulations

Nil.

9 Public Question Time

Public Question Time commenced at 7.04pm.

Council received two questions from C Sherri and one question from M Heard which were deemed operational. These questions will be answered outside of Public Question Time.

Public Question Time concluded at 7.04pm.

10 Petitions

Nil.

11 Minutes/Reports Of Delegated Committees

Nil.

12 Officer Reports

12.1

Directorate
Acting Director
Manager
Attachment(s)

Planning Activity Update and Delegate Decisions and Planning Scheme Amendments Update - August 2024

City Futures
 Leanne Deans

Kristen Gilbert and Sophie Thompson

1. Delegated Planning Permit Decisions - August 2024 [12.1.1 - 26 pages]
2. Graphical Representation of Data from Last Three Years [12.1.2 - 3 pages]
3. Planning Scheme Amendment Status Summary - August 2024 [12.1.3 - 2 pages]

Purpose

To report to Council on:

- The status of planning permit applications and trends in planning approvals in Brimbank
- Decisions made under delegated authority in August 2024 regarding planning permit applications and other matters
- The status of current Planning Scheme Amendments at 31 August 2024.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a. Notes the Planning Activity Update and Delegate Decisions – August 2024 report, and Delegated Planning Permit Decisions, at **Attachment 1** to this report.
- b. Notes the Planning Scheme Amendment Summary – August 2024, at **Attachment 3**, and that this relates to amendments where Council has resolved to request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an amendment or has requested that the Minister prepare an amendment under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Background

Council is a Responsible Authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act)*. In this role, Council administers the Brimbank Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) and, among other things, determines planning permit applications made for the use and development of the land in the municipality. Certain planning permit applications, and other matters, are determined by Council officers under the delegated authority of Council.

The statistics presented do not represent all development activity in the municipality. Many types of use and development do not require a planning permit and may take place without being recorded as part of the planning approvals data. In addition, some planning permits are not acted on, or there may be a delay between when the approval is granted and when works take place.

Council is a Planning Authority for the Planning Scheme and undertakes amendments to the Planning Scheme when authorised by the Minister for Planning (Minister), or in accordance with section 8A(7) of *the Act*. Council undertakes amendments for a range of

reasons including to enhance or implement the strategic vision, to implement local policy, to correct mistakes, to enable or restrict development, and to set aside land for acquisition for a public purpose or remove such a reservation when it is no longer required.

The Minister may prepare an amendment or authorise the preparation of an amendment by another Minister, public authority or municipal council. For the purpose of this report, the status of Planning Scheme Amendments will only include amendments where Council is the Planning Authority, and where Council has resolved to request authorisation from the Minister to prepare and exhibit an amendment or has requested that the Minister prepare an amendment under section 20(4) of *the Act*.

Matters for Consideration

Seventy-six planning determinations and 16 subdivision determinations were made under delegated authority in August 2024. Fifty-six new planning permit applications were received in August 2024. The value of development for these 56 applications is \$17.4 million.

A list of the planning applications determined under delegation from Council during August 2024 is at **Attachment 1**. **Attachment 2** provides a graphical representation of the data over the last three years.

	August 2024	Previous month (July 2024)	Monthly average for past 12 months	August 2023
Applications Received	56	71	61	80
Planning Permit Approvals	68	68	62	75
Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit	8	6	5	11
Refusal to Grant a Planning Permit	0	2	1	3
Subdivision Approvals	16	15	21	13
Cost of development for new applications (millions)	\$17.4	\$77.6	\$46.83	\$71.3

One planning appeal was determined by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) in this period:

- An appeal against Council's failure to determine an application within the prescribed timeframe was unsuccessful, with VCAT ordering that no permit be granted (P110/2022 for 5A Mineral Terrace, Sunshine North).

At the end of August 2024 there were four appeals lodged at VCAT that had not yet been determined. This is two less than at the end of August 2023.

The Planning Scheme Amendment Summary is shown at **Attachment 3** and includes three Planning Scheme Amendments where Council is the Planning Authority or has requested the Minister to prepare an amendment under section 20(4) of *the Act*.

Progress highlights for the August 2024 period include:

Amendment	Intent	Progress Status
Amendment C227brim	Apply a Heritage Overlay to the Sunshine Silos	On 22 August 2024 Council was advised that Amendment C227brim had been approved by the Minister for Planning but it would not be effective until it was gazetted, which is yet to occur.
Amendment C239brim	Implement the Housing and Neighbourhood Character Strategy	On 22 August 2024 Council received a request for further information and officers are working to provide the information requested.

Community Engagement

Not applicable.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements can be met within the Annual Budget 2024/2025.

There are no Community, Environmental, Financial, Regulatory or Safety risks identified.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report complies with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Local Government Act 1989* and the Brimbank Planning Scheme.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Virginia Tachos/Seconded Cr Jae Papalia

That Council:

- Notes the Planning Activity Update and Delegate Decisions – August 2024 report, and Delegated Planning Permit Decisions, at Attachment 1 to this report.**
- Notes the Planning Scheme Amendment Summary – August 2024, at Attachment 3, and that this relates to amendments where Council has**

resolved to request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit an amendment or has requested that the Minister prepare an amendment under section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

CARRIED

12.2	Climate Emergency Plan Report Card
Directorate	City Futures
Acting Director	Leanne Deans
Manager	Michelle van Gerrevink
Attachment(s)	1. Report Card - Climate Emergency Plan 2023-2024 [12.2.1 - 14 pages]

Purpose

For Council to consider and endorse the Climate Emergency Plan Report Card 2023/2024 at **Attachment 1**.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a. Notes and endorses the Climate Emergency Plan Report Card 2023-2024 at **Attachment 1** and publishes on Council's website.
- b. Notes that this will be the last report card for the Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2025, with a full Climate Emergency Plan Review to be presented as part of the development of the next Climate Emergency Strategy.

Background

The Climate Emergency Plan (CEP) (2020-2025) is in its fourth year. Each year a public facing report card is released as a high-level report on plan progress. The purpose of this report is to highlight what Council is doing to address the climate emergency.

The document is intended to be an educational piece, which reports how Council is addressing the five CEP theme 'evaluation questions':

- 100% Renewable - What evidence is there that Brimbank is moving towards 100% renewable energy by 2030 and is decarbonising to zero net emissions by 2040?
- People Power - What evidence is there that the Brimbank community is more active in organising to respond to the climate emergency locally and more broadly, and that people are able to access quality education and other means to overcome barriers to sustainable living?
- Green and Cool - What evidence is there the municipality is getting greener and cooler, that habitat for threatened flora and fauna is protected and connected, and that people are adopting a climate and health friendly relationship with food?
- Resilient Rebuild - What evidence is there that the resilient rebuild is occurring in Brimbank via sustainability improvements to the built environment, and that people are getting around more easily and often on foot, by bike, or by public transport?
- Circular Economy - What evidence is there that the Brimbank economy is reducing the amount of waste to landfill, and maximising the reuse and recycling of other products?

The audience for the report card is intended to be the wider Brimbank community. The report will be available to view from Council's website at the link below. This link also has the past three report cards for reference:

www.brimbank.vic.gov.au/plans-policies-and-strategies/plans/brimbank-climate-emergency-plan

The Report Card 2023/2024 is consistent in imagery and tone with the first three report cards.

Matters for Consideration

Council officers have prepared the Climate Emergency Report Card to report on actions taken to tackle the climate emergency for the 2023/2024 financial year.

Key highlights include:

- The full degasification of Sunshine West Community Hub, Council's largest facility retrofit to date.
- The Renew Expert Webinar Series as a collaboration with the Western Alliance of Greenhouse Action (WAGA).
- Over 88,000 trees, shrubs, wildflowers and groundcover plants were planted by Council across the municipality.
- Resource Recovery Hubs were installed in four community facilities for recycling hard to recycle items.

Key challenges include:

- Getting off gas
- Fleet transition to electric vehicles
- Net zero community emissions by 2040
- Adaptation to the effects of climate change
- Reducing waste to landfill.

Report detail

The report card is not intended to show the progress on all the individual CEP actions in detail. This is instead conducted internally, as per the Climate Emergency Plan Terms of Reference. However, through the development of the next Climate Emergency Strategy, a Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2025 Review report will detail the outcomes of each individual action as outlined in the CEP. This is due to be presented to Council in mid-2025.

Green Tagging

The projected budget green tagging shown in the report is intended to show how much of the Council annual budget for 2023/2024 was allocated for climate emergency initiatives. This is done according to the 'Rio markers' method developed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as part of the Rio Convention of Climate Change in 1992. This procedure involves marking individual Council budget lines under the following criteria:

- 0= Is not targeted, 0% of budget
- 1= Is a significant objective, 40% of budget
- 2= Is a principal objective, 100% of budget.

While green tagging efforts have been made to be as consistent as possible, some changes to budget lines, a change from projected to actual, and tagging subjectivity and review has resulted in some fluctuations between the years of publishing this report. Efforts will continue to be made to ensure tagging is as consistent as possible to best represent Council spend.

Table 1. Green tagged budget over the past three years Report Cards

Figure	22/23 green tag budget projection	22/23 green tag budget actual	23/24 green tag actual
People Power	\$4.1M	\$2.9M	\$4.2M
Green and Cool	\$10.2M	\$5.6M	\$8.3M
Circular Economy	\$8.8M	\$2.9M	\$7.4M
100% Renewable	\$2.2M	\$1M	\$1.6M
Resilient Rebuild	\$3.2M	\$2.1M	\$4M
Total green tagged budget	\$28.5M	\$14.5M	\$25.7M
Percentage of total Council budget	10.5%	5.03%	16%

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been conducted for development of this report card, however once endorsed it will be uploaded onto Council's website for public access, along with the other report cards.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements can be met within the Annual Budget 2024/2025.

Report cards under the Climate Emergency Plan have been developed and published on Council's website to help inform the community of Council's ongoing progress to achieving the objectives of this Plan.

Community: potential impact on community, including public trust and customer service impact

- Yes – Continuing to publish yearly report cards allows the community to follow the progress of the Climate Emergency Plan which is likely to have a positive impact on community trust. Community will be able to access these resources to help inform future engagement on the next Climate Emergency Strategy.

Environmental: impacts on environmental sustainability, including water/waste management, climate change, and contaminated land

- Yes – Published report cards share progress on the Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2025 which is a key guiding document for environmental action at Council. Community will be able to access these resources to help inform future engagement on the next Climate Emergency Strategy.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

2. Places and Spaces - Liveable and connected neighbourhoods that support healthy and sustainable futures - A green place for all

- Liveable and Connected - Inviting and liveable spaces and facilities, connected so people can get around
- Sustainable and Green - Protect natural environments for current and future generations
- Wellbeing and belonging- Responsive services that support mental health and physical wellbeing

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Jae Papalia/Seconded Cr Sam David

That Council:

- a. Notes and endorses the Climate Emergency Plan Report Card 2023-2024 at Attachment 1 and publishes on Council's website.**
- b. Notes that this will be the last report card for the Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2025, with a full Climate Emergency Plan Review to be presented as part of the development of the next Climate Emergency Strategy.**

CARRIED

12.3	Financial Statements 2023-2024 and Performance Statement 2023-2024
Directorate	Corporate Services
Director	Mark Stoermer
Manager	Andrew Brae
Attachment(s)	1. Draft Financial Statements 2023-2024 [12.3.1 - 48 pages] 2. Draft Performance Statement 2023-2024 [12.3.2 - 15 pages] 3. Annual Report 2023-2024 - A Year in Review - Capital Works Program [12.3.3 - 5 pages]

Purpose

For Council to consider in principle approval of the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024, prior to forwarding the statements to the Victorian Auditor-General.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a. Approves, in principle, the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 at **Attachments 1 and 2** to this report.
- b. Subject to the review of the final version, authorises the:
 - i. Chief Executive Officer to send the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.
 - ii. Councillor _____, Councillor _____, and the Chief Executive Officer, to certify the final version of the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024.
 - iii. Principal Accounting Officer to implement any non-material changes to the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 as recommended by the Victorian Auditor General's Office and provide a summary of changes to the Audit and Risk Committee at its next meeting.

Background

Under the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, Council is required to prepare an Annual Report at the conclusion of each financial year. This includes a Report of Operations, audited Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

Council must submit for auditing, the Financial Statements 2023/2024 (Financial Statements) and Performance Statement 2023/2024 (Performance Statement) in their finalised form, to the Auditor appointed by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO), as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year.

VAGO cannot sign the audit reports unless the Financial Statements and Performance Statement are in their final form, include any changes recommended or agreed by the Auditor, and are certified in accordance with the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations)*, by two Councillors authorised by Council, the Chief Executive Officer and Principal Accounting Officer.

Additionally, the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) Charter provides that the ARC will review the draft Financial Statements and Performance Statement to consider whether they are complete, open and transparent, consistent with information known to the ARC, and reflect appropriate accounting principles.

At its meeting on 3 September 2024, the ARC considered recommending that Council approve, in principle, the Financial Statements and Performance Statement, subject to any further material changes by the Auditor.

Considering Council's unique demographic, policy reforms, and constrained finances, we face significant external and internal pressures. With rate caps, decreasing grants, and rising operational costs, we navigate a challenging fiscal landscape. Amid demands for infrastructure renewal and technological advancements, Brimbank City Council must prioritise efficiency, provide strategic justifications for initiatives, and maintain a capital works program aligned with our strategic objectives. Balancing these factors, we strive for financial sustainability while enhancing community access and services for our diverse and evolving population.

Matters for Consideration

Analysis

Financial Statements Disclosures

The Financial Statements are a general-purpose financial report that consist of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works, and accompanying notes.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Australian Accounting Standards*, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, *the Act* and *the Regulations*. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Model Financial Report.

2023/2024 Operating Results

The Annual Budget 2023/2024 had an operating surplus of \$8.034 million. Sustaining an adjusted underlying surplus is a critical financial strategy that provides capacity to build new assets and to renew the \$2.73 billion of community assets under Council's control. The operating result for the financial year ending 30 June 2024 is a surplus of \$3.04 million, against a budgeted surplus of \$8.034 million, which is an unfavourable variance of \$4.99 million.

The decrease in operating surplus is due to:

Operating Grants – Early receipt of the Victoria Grants Commission funding of \$15.55 million for 2023-2024 in 2022-2023.

Depreciation – Unfavourable to budget by \$6.80 million due to infrastructure revaluations in the prior year. Increased costs have driven increased valuation of assets.

Offsetting these decreases were:

User fees - \$4.02 million primarily from the Brimbank Aquatic and Wellness Centre and Keilor Golf Course with better than projected memberships and visitations.

Capital Grants - \$3.18 million relating to unbudgeted grants relating recreational, leisure and community facilities projects.

Monetary Contributions - \$6.55 million due to several large subdivisions with increased valuations.

Other income - \$2.45 million relating to a combination of higher than budgeted interest on investments, Workcover Recovery costs and rental leases.

Cash balance for the financial year ended 30 June 2024 was \$77.97 million, compared to budgeted cash balance of \$69.85 million. The financial statements also include the effect on the revaluation of Council's assets.

Risk Assessment of Financial Sustainability Indicators

Council's risk assessment for financial sustainability is:

Result	Risk	2023/2024 Result
Net Result	Low	1.19%
Adjusted Underlying Result	High	-1.57%
Liquidity	Low	2.16
Internal Financing	Medium	81.75%
Indebtedness	Medium	40.84%
Capital Replacement	Medium	1.00
Renewal Gap	Medium	0.67

These results will place Council's overall financial sustainability in the 'medium' risk category. The Financial Statements are at **Attachment 1**.

Performance Statement Disclosures

The Performance Statement (**Attachment 2**) has been prepared to meet the requirements of *the Act* and *the Regulations*. Where applicable, the results in the Performance Statement have been prepared on an accounting basis, consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements.

Results

The Performance Statement contains the previous year's results, actual results for 2023/2024 for the 28 prescribed indicators and measures, including 10 for service performance, 11 for financial performance, and 7 for sustainable capacity. Commentary has been provided for each of the indicators where the materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator have been exceeded. In addition to the audited Performance Statement, the results for a range of other indicators are reported in the Report of Operations as part of the Annual Report 2023/2024. The financial indicators also include forecast results for 2024-2027 based on the Strategic Resource Plan.

Implementation

Upon completion of the initial audit, Council is required to consider the audited Financial Statements and Performance Statement and provide 'in principle approval' for the statements, which are then submitted to VAGO. VAGO's auditors must then prepare a report on the submitted Financial Statements and Performance Statement and provide it to Council within four weeks, as well as provide a copy to the Minister for Local Government.

Capital Works Program 2023/24

Attached as **Attachment 3** is the Annual Report 2023/24 for the capital works program. The report gives an overview of the program and highlights some of the key projects completed during the year.

Community Engagement

There is no requirement for public consultation in relation to the draft Financial Statements and Performance Statement. The ARC has recommended that Council approve the statements prior to them being submitted to the Auditor, as required under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements can be met within the Annual Budget 2024/2025.

Regulatory: legal, legislative or regulatory implications including the rights/obligations of stakeholders

- Yes - Endorsing the recommendations in this report will ensure Council's continued compliance with the legislative requirements.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

4. Leadership and Governance - A high performing organisation that enacts the vision and decisions of Council through the delivery of quality and innovative services - A fairer place for all

- High Performing and Accountable - Our workforce strive to enhance services and liveability for the Brimbank community.

This report complies with *Local Government Act 2020*, *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, *Australian Accounting Standards*.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Sam David/Seconded Cr Virginia Tachos

That Council:

- a. **Approves, in principle, the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 at Attachments 1 and 2 to this report.**
- b. **Subject to the review of the final version, authorises the:**
 - i. **Chief Executive Officer to send the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 to the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.**
 - ii. **Councillor Sam David, Councillor Jae Papalia, and the Chief Executive Officer, to certify the final version of the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024.**
 - iii. **Principal Accounting Officer to implement any non-material changes to the Financial Statements 2023/2024 and Performance Statement 2023/2024 as recommended by the Victorian Auditor**

General's Office and provide a summary of changes to the Audit and Risk Committee at its next meeting.

CARRIED

12.4**Governance Report September 2024****Directorate**

People, Partnerships and Performance

Director

Georgie Hill

Manager

Danny Bilaver

Attachment(s)

1. Record of Informal Meeting of Councillors [**12.4.1** - 8 pages]
2. Delegates and Representatives Report [**12.4.2** - 4 pages]
3. Draft S6 Instrument of Delegation Council to Staff - September 2024 [**12.4.3** - 128 pages]
4. Audit and Risk Committee Annual Activity Report - September 2024 [**12.4.4** - 7 pages]

Purpose

For Council to consider:

- A summary of recent Governance activity.
- Councillor Declarations of Representations by Members of Parliament.
- Review of Council's S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff.
- Annual Audit and Risk Committee Activity Report 2023-2024.

Council Recommendation

That Council:

- a. Notes the:
 - i. Governance Report September 2024.
 - ii. Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors, at **Attachment 1** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
 - iii. Delegate's and Representative's Reports, at **Attachment 2** to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.
 - iv. Councillor Declarations of Representations by Members of Parliament.
- b. In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation, at **Attachment 3** to this report, resolves that:
 - i. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation, at **Attachment 3** to this report, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
 - ii. Comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.
 - iii. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.
- c. Notes the Annual Audit and Risk Committee Activity Report 2023-2024, at **Attachment 4** to this report.

Background

The monthly governance report is a standing report to Council, in accordance with best practice and good governance principles, and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, Councillor Code of Conduct 2021 (Code), and Councillor Support (Major) Policy 2020.

Matters for Consideration

Exercise of Delegated Authority

Council delegates powers, duties and functions to the Chief Executive Officer in order to support efficient operation and delivery of Council services. The Chief Executive Officer has sub-delegated some authority to Directors (and other Council officers). Significant decisions made, or actions undertaken exercising delegated authority, are reported to Council as a transparency and accountability measure.

The Chief Executive Officer has been delegated authority by Council to award contracts up to \$2,000,000 (exclusive of GST) through an Instrument of Delegation made on 23 April 2024 (S5 Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer). The Chief Executive Officer has sub-delegated authority to Directors to award contracts up to \$200,000 (inclusive of GST) through an Instrument of Delegation made on 12 December 2023 (S7 Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer).

Contracts entered into, and works orders approved, in accordance with S7 Instrument of Sub-Delegation

There were no contracts entered into, and works orders approved, under delegation since reporting to the last Council Meeting.

Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors

An Informal Meeting of Councillors includes meetings that are:

- Scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors,
- Attended by at least one member of Council staff, and
- Not Council meetings, Delegated Committee meetings or Community Asset Committee meetings.

Written records of Informal Meetings of Councillors are kept and include the names of all Councillors and Council officers attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the meeting.

These records, as soon as practicable, will be reported at a Council Meeting, and incorporated in the minutes of that Council Meeting.

Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors (**Attachment 1**) were received for the following meetings:

Date	Event
14 August 2024	Brimbank Youth Advisory Committee
27 August 2024	Disability Advisory Committee
28 August 2024	Brimbank Economic and Employment Advisory Group
3 September 2024	Council Meeting Briefing

Delegate's and Representative's Reports

The participation on a range of local, specific issues, committees established by Council, peak body/sector associations, and local and regional forums, is an essential part of the representative role Council plays. Council nominates Councillors as delegates and representatives to these committees annually.

The role, as the Council delegate or Council representative on these committees, is to represent the position of Council, and report back to Council at a Council Meeting on the issues or progress of the committees, and any recommendations made by the committees.

Delegate's and Representative's Reports (**Attachment 2**) were received for the following meetings:

Date	Event	Councillor/s
14 August 2024	Brimbank Youth Advisory Committee	Cr Nguyen Cr O'Reilly
28 August 2024	Brimbank Economic and Employment Advisory Group	Cr Tachos

Councillor Declarations of Representations by Members of Parliament

Councillors have a legitimate role in advocating on behalf of their communities. At times, this may include the receiving of representations by a Member of State or Federal Parliament, to Council or Councillors. Councillors will declare and record any representations made to a Councillor by a Member of Parliament or their staff representative.

Councillor Declarations of Representations by Members of Parliament were received for the following meetings.

Date	Councillor	Member of Parliament	Matter Discussed
23 August 2024	Cr Papalia	Ingrid Stitt MP	Vietnamese Museum Australia Welcome Plaza Mental Health Support for CALD Communities Improving Social Cohesion amongst CALD Communities
26 August 2024	Cr Rasic	Hon. Lizzie Blandthorn MP	Calder Freeway Melbourne Airport Rail Sunshine Precinct Sunshine Energy Park Climate Emergency Better Buses for Melbourne's West
30 August 2024	Cr Rasic	Natalie Suleyman MP	Sunshine Precinct / Albion Station Sunshine Energy Park Tree Planting Addressing Unemployment Youth Crime Prevention

			Calder Freeway Errington Reserve Outdoor Pool at BAWC
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Review of Council's S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff

Instruments of Delegation (Delegations) allow a Council to give its powers to members of staff, who then act and make decisions on behalf of the Council. Council's Delegations are generally updated twice a year. The current review incorporates legislative updates reported to Council by Maddocks Lawyers.

Additionally, the current review reflects changes to officer titles following recent operational realignments.

The S6 Instrument of Delegation from Council to Members of Council Staff (**Attachment 3**) has been updated in consultation with Council's Executive Leadership Team and is presented to Council for endorsement.

Reviewed Delegations are uploaded to Council's website, as per Council's resolution at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 21 April 2020.

Annual Audit and Risk Committee Activity Report 2023-2024

The Annual Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) Activity Report was presented during the 3 September 2024 ARC meeting. The final report is presented to Council for noting (**Attachment 4**).

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements can be met within the Annual Budget 2024/2025.

Regulatory: legal, legislative or regulatory implications including the rights/obligations of stakeholders

- This report fulfils legislative governance obligations, to provide transparent and accountable reporting of governance activity.

There are no Community, Safety, Environmental or Financial risks identified.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

4. Leadership and Governance - A high performing organisation that enacts the vision and decisions of Council through the delivery of quality and innovative services - A fairer place for all

- High Performing and Accountable - Our workforce strives to enhance services and liveability for the Brimbank community.

This report complies with the *Local Government Act 2020*, *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*, Council Plan 2021-2025, S5 Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, S7 Instrument of Sub-Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer, Councillor Code of Conduct 2024 and Procurement Policy.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution**Moved Cr Jasmine Nguyen/Seconded Cr Thomas O'Reilly****That Council:**

- a. Notes the:**
 - i. Governance Report September 2024.**
 - ii. Records of Informal Meetings of Councillors, at Attachment 1 to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.**
 - iii. Delegate's and Representative's Reports, at Attachment 2 to this report, for incorporation in the minutes of this meeting.**
 - iv. Councillor Declarations of Representations by Members of Parliament.**
- b. In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation, at Attachment 3 to this report, resolves that:**
 - i. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the S6 Instrument of Delegation, at Attachment 3 to this report, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.**
 - ii. Comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer.**
 - iii. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**
- c. Notes the Annual Audit and Risk Committee Activity Report 2023-2024, at Attachment 4 to this report.**

CARRIED

12.5	Quarterly Advocacy Report - September 2024
Directorate	People, Partnerships and Performance
Director	Georgie Hill
Manager	Elie Khalil
Attachment(s)	Nil

Purpose

For Council to note the major advocacy-related developments from June to September 2024, as outlined in this report.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes this quarterly advocacy report for June and September 2024.

Background

Brimbank's Advocacy Priorities

Council's advocacy priorities are aligned to the Council Plan Strategic Directions and are detailed in the Brimbank Advocacy Plan 2023-2025. These priorities are outlined below along with their level of importance.

- Transforming Brimbank – Gold
- Mental Health – Gold
- Road Infrastructure – Silver
- Climate Emergency – Silver
- Addressing Unemployment – Bronze
- Housing and Homelessness - Bronze
- Melbourne Airport Third Runway - Maintain Influence
- Gambling Harm - Maintain Influence
- Major Parks - Maintain Influence
- Libraries - Maintain Influence
- Government Burden on Council - Maintain Influence

Major advocacy developments and highlights are reported to Council each quarter.

Matters for Consideration

The whole-of-Council advocacy highlights from early June 2024 to early September 2024 are summarised below.

2024 ALGA National General Assembly

In early July 2024, Brimbank participated in the National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) in Canberra. At ALGA, Council moved two successful notices of motion calling on the Australian Government to increase its level of funding to upgrade major highways and to provide greater support to the unemployed by increasing JobSeeker and Youth Allowance payments and by establishing an 'Economic Inclusion' fund to create local job opportunities for local people.

The trip to Canberra was also a good opportunity for Council representatives to meet with various Federal MPs from both of the major parties. This included an important meeting with the Hon. Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. At this meeting, Mayor Rasic raised a number of Council's major advocacy priorities, including the Melbourne Airport Rail, the

development of the Sunshine Precinct, Melbourne Airport's proposed third runway and Council's Fix the Calder campaign.

A Delegates Report of the trip to Canberra was endorsed at the previous Council Meeting on 20 August 2024.

Federal Election Advocacy Brochure

Last month, Council approved a new advocacy brochure ahead of the 2025 Federal Election. The brochure outlines a number of election commitments that we will be seeking from the parties and candidates contesting the Federal Election. These asks are relevant at a Federal Government level and largely align with the top priorities identified in the Brimbank Advocacy Plan 2023-2025. The are:

- Transform Sunshine into a Superhub
- Build the Calder Park Drive interchange
- A more sustainable Brimbank
 - o Boost canopy cover
 - o Energy upgrades to low-income households to reduce Carbon emissions
 - o Sustainability and Circular Economy Hub at Sunshine Energy Park
- Reducing unemployment in Brimbank
 - o Transform the Brimbank Learning Futures facility into a suburban study hub
- Improving Brimbank's community facilities
 - o Upgrades to Sports facilities
 - o Redevelopment of St Albans Library

Melbourne Airport Rail

Last November, and following strong advocacy by Brimbank, the Australian Government committed to funding the construction of the Melbourne Airport Rail (MAR). Earlier this year, and in response to the previous dispute between the Victorian Government and the Melbourne Airport operator about the positioning of the proposed Melbourne Airport train station, the Australian Government appointed a mediator, Mr Neil Scales OBE, to help facilitate a way forward. The Victorian Government's preference is for an above-ground station while Melbourne Airport had been calling for the station to be built underground. In his report, released in late June, Mr Scales recommended against an underground station unless there is a comprehensive business case showing that it stacks up.

The report also recommended new modelling to determine how quickly the Tullamarine Freeway will become congested, indicating that MAR is increasingly becoming an urgent project. The Melbourne Airport operator subsequently agreed to proceed with an above-ground station. Despite this, the Victorian Government has insisted on a four-year delay. Council has been advocating for this delayed timeline to be reconsidered so that the project can resume as soon as possible.

Sunshine Precinct

As a result of the mediation undertaken by Mr Scales, it was recommended that "*work continues at Sunshine Station to transform this into the major transport hub it was planned to be.*" The mediation also found that this would be a "*no regrets*" strategy due to both the benefits and the work already completed. These findings pave the way for the development of the Sunshine Precinct to be undertaken as the first stage of Melbourne Airport Rail project.

The matter was raised by Mayor Rasic with Minister King during their meeting in Canberra in early July. Brimbank subsequently welcomed Minister King's media announcement in early August that the Australian Government "*will do the work at Sunshine Station, making that a hub*" and that it is "*working with the Victorian Government on that*".

Mental Health Social Inclusion Action Groups

In early August, Victorian Minister for Mental Health, Ms Ingrid Stitt, announced that Brimbank will be included amongst the next tranche of five LGAs where the State Government will establish Mental Health Social Inclusion Action Groups (SIAGs). Council has been advocating for a Social Inclusion Action Group in Brimbank since the release of our current Advocacy Plan, where Mental Health sits as a Gold Priority.

The establishment of a SIAG in Brimbank was raised by both the previous Mayor and current the Mayor with all State MPs that they met with, including Minister Stitt. The topic also featured in our Victorian Government 'Funding Priorities' brochure that was shared with the Minister and all local State MPs earlier this year. In addition, Brimbank moved a successful motion on SIAGs at the MAV State Council Meeting held in May of this year.

LeadWest Roundtable with Treasurer Pallas

On 5 September 2024, LeadWest hosted a roundtable discussion at the Holiday Inn in Werribee with Victorian Treasurer the Hon Tim Pallas. The roundtable was also attended by Dylan Wight MP and Steve McGhie MP. Brimbank was represented by Cr Virginia Tachos and Acting Director City Futures Leanne Deans. This event was a great opportunity for LeadWest to have an early conversation with the Treasurer ahead of the 2025-2026 State Budget. Topics discussed included funding for the Sunshine Precinct and the Melbourne Airport Rail.

Community Engagement

This report is consistent with the policy, evidence and current positions of Council, widely informed by community engagement and insight and the Brimbank Advocacy Plan 2023-2025.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements can be met within the Annual Budget 2024/2025.

There are no Community, Environmental, Financial, Regulatory or Safety risks identified.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

1. People and Community - A welcoming, safe and supported community - An inclusive place for all

- Wellbeing and Belonging - Responsive services that support mental and physical wellbeing

2. Places and Spaces - Liveable and connected neighbourhoods that support healthy and sustainable futures - A green place for all

- Liveable and Connected - Inviting and liveable spaces and facilities, connected so people can get around

3. Opportunity and Prosperity - A future focused, transforming city where all have opportunities to learn and earn - A prosperous place for all

- Growing and Transforming - Optimise community opportunities through infrastructure innovation and investment

4. Leadership and Governance - A high performing organisation that enacts the vision and decisions of Council through the delivery of quality and innovative services - A fairer place for all

- High Performing and Accountable - Our workforce strive to enhance services and liveability for the Brimbank community.

This report complies with the priorities identified in the Brimbank Advocacy Plan 2023-2025.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Virginia Tachos/Seconded Cr Thuy Dang

That Council notes this quarterly advocacy report for June and September 2024.

CARRIED

12.6

Directorate
Acting Director
Manager
Attachment(s)

**Annual Report Cards Sports Facility Development Plan
 and Community Services Infrastructure Plan**

Community Wellbeing

Ashley Fleming

Caitlin Lombard

1. Report Card - Sports Facility and Community Services Plan [**12.6.1** - 6 pages]

Purpose

For Council to note the Sports Facility Development Plan 2023 and Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018-2038 Report card.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the Sports Facility Development Plan 2023 and Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018-2038 Report card as at **Attachment 1**.

Background

Council oversees the monitoring, implementation and reporting of the following key strategic documents:

- Sports Facilities Development Plan 2023 (SFDP)
- Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018-2038 (CSIP)

These documents guide Council's approach to the development and management of community infrastructure, sport, and recreation opportunities for the Brimbank community. Community infrastructure refers to facilities that accommodate services which support and contribute to meeting the needs and promoting the wellbeing of individuals, families, groups and communities through life stages. These include facilities such as libraries, neighbourhood houses, halls and meeting spaces, early years, youth and planned activity group facilities.

Matters for Consideration

Analysis

Council has implemented many recommendations from the SFDP, and CSIP during the 2023/24 financial year, resulting in significant capital investment into community sports facilities, extensive planning for future facilities and improvements in the management and delivery of both facilities, services and programs to the Brimbank community.

Highlights of the SFDP implementation included:

- Significant capital investment in excess of \$8.5m into upgrading and providing new sports facilities including pavilions, sports ground lighting, female friendly change rooms and sports ground infrastructure.
- \$100,000 of external funding secured from Sport and Recreation Victoria for the upgrade of lighting at Lionheart Reserve

Highlights of the CSIP implementation included:

- Capital investment in excess of \$1.5m into upgrading community facilities including kitchen, flooring, toilet, storage, heating/cooling, fencing, acoustic, access and lighting upgrades.

A full overview of all outcomes delivered in 2023/24 is included at **Attachment 1**.

Community Engagement

Consultation on the actions, activities and progress of the SFDP, and CSIP were undertaken with key external and internal stakeholders including sports clubs, community groups and the wider community. Findings from the consultation assisted in the development of the Report Cards.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements were met within the Annual Budget 2023/2024.

There are no community, environmental, financial, regulatory or safety risk implications.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

1. People and Community - A welcoming, safe and supported community - An inclusive place for all

- Wellbeing and Belonging - Responsive services that support mental and physical wellbeing
- Pride and Participation - Community and cultural connections built through social and artistic expression.

This report complies with the Brimbank Community Vision 2040, Council Plan 2021-2025, Sports Facility Development Plan 2018-2028, Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018-2038 and Brimbank Physical Activity Strategy 2018.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Jae Papalia/Seconded Cr Virginia Tachos

That Council notes the Sports Facility Development Plan 2023 and Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018-2038 Report card as at Attachment 1.

CARRIED

12.7	Annual Community Report Cards for Community Learning and Participation
Directorate	Community Wellbeing
Acting Director	Ashley Fleming
Manager	Mohammed Isah
Attachment(s)	1. Report Card - Learning and Youth Jobs 2023-2024 [12.7.1 - 7 pages] 2. Report Card - Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres 2023-2024 [12.7.2 - 8 pages] 3. Report Card - Creative Brimbank 2023-2024 [12.7.3 - 8 pages] 4. Report Card - Library Services 2023-2024 [12.7.4 - 14 pages]

Purpose

For Council to note the Annual Community Report Cards for Library Services, Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres, Creative Brimbank and Learning and Youth Jobs (**Attachments 1 to 4**).

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the Annual Community Report Cards for Library Services, Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres, Creative Brimbank and Learning and Youth Jobs at **Attachments 1 to 4** to this report.

Background

Social inclusion, employment opportunities, lifelong learning and creativity underpin programs and services offered through Libraries, Arts facilities, Neighbourhood Houses and Brimbank Learning Futures (BLF) to support better health, wellbeing, social and economic outcomes for individuals and the community.

These annual report cards include community usage data and project highlights addressing actions and priorities from the following strategies:

Library Strategy 2020-2025:

Council's libraries are designed to foster lifelong learning and provide a range of learning, social and cultural activities, programs, resources and services.

Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres Strategy 2019-2024:

This Strategy provides a framework to transform Council's neighbourhood houses into sites of belonging and learning for all.

Cultural Strategy 2024-2028, Festival and Events Policy and Strategy 2022-2025:

These documents collectively outline how Council will support arts and cultural development and its role as host and producer, custodian, enabler, partner and patron.

Brimbank Lifelong Learning Strategy 2024-2029:

This Strategy is a long-term approach to improving social and economic outcomes and recognises learning as a driver for positive change.

Brimbank Youth Jobs Strategy 2018-2023:

The Brimbank Youth Jobs Strategy 2018-2023 was developed by local young people for local young people, providing a framework for considering and responding to high youth unemployment rates in Brimbank. Brimbank Learning Futures (BLF) is a lifelong learning hub with innovative outreach engagement and responsive programming that connects young people and adults to learning and pathways.

Matters for Consideration

A major focus of Council's work right across Brimbank is to support people of all ages and from all backgrounds to learn and develop skills that over time will lead to work, which in turn supports social and economic benefits for individuals and the community. Baseline measures set up to track Council progress showed positive improvements this year. They included an increase in people completing Year 12, an increase in Naplan literacy standards, a drop in youth unemployment, more people attending TAFE, more people with a variety of qualifications and an increase in the number of people aged over 55 working or learning.

Council's efforts to support community to learn and thrive continued to stretch from captivating young residents right through to older adults. Tens of thousands of people attended programs including playgroups and story time in libraries, study support for school students and those sitting important high-school exams and adult learning and employment programs.

Among Council's successes was Vic Kids Eat Well small bite 'Switch to healthier snacks' & Boost veggies and salad' accreditation at West Sunshine Community Centre and Sydenham Neighbourhood House. There has been a number of strategies to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetable options across all council Neighbourhood houses, Library and Community Centres including the delivery of 9 seminars with more than 180 attendees on health eating and wellbeing.

Visits to Council's five libraries increased 116 per cent and Brimbank's neighbourhood houses and community centres all achieved Carers Friendly Accreditation. Level 1 Auslan training was provided for 40 staff and level 2 training provide to 10 staff.

Council made a significant investment in psychosocial support programs and activities this year to address the enduring effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on community mental health and wellbeing. Extensive community consultation with over 450 participants informed program development to ensure alignment with community priorities.

Improvements to Council Centers included a Library review that highlighted a benchmark achievement for the Council. Brimbank libraries was ranked first in customer satisfaction among like metropolitan local government libraries in Victoria and achieved a state-wide ranking of twelfth.

More than 157,000 Brimbank residents were welcomed through the doors at STACC, a 20% increase on the previous year. Community events funded through the Festivals and Events category of the community grants program saw over 305,000 people engage with these activities, a 97% increase on last year.

The Bowery Theatre also saw significant increases with 66 performing arts events up from 48 the previous year and in turn an increase in attendance with over 8,500 audience members.

Community Engagement

- Services and programs delivered during 2023-2024 were informed by extensive community engagement, including:
 - Regular feedback from customers, residents, and community groups accessing libraries, neighbourhood houses, arts facilities, and BLF services.
 - Direct feedback from program participants, both in-person and online.
 - Collaborative program development with young people, such as career workshops.
 - Consultation with the Brimbank Arts Advisory Committee on public art and mural commissions.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements were met within the Annual Budget 2023/2024.

There are no community, environmental, financial, regulatory or safety risk implications identified.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

1. People and Community - A welcoming, safe and supported community - An inclusive place for all

- Wellbeing and Belonging - Responsive services that support mental and physical wellbeing

3. Opportunity and Prosperity - A future focused, transforming city where all have opportunities to learn and earn - A prosperous place for all

- Earning and Learning - Everyone has access to education, training and lifelong learning to support their aspirations

4. Leadership and Governance - A high performing organisation that enacts the vision and decisions of Council through the delivery of quality and innovative services - A fairer place for all

- Engaged and Responsive - Community insights are valued to enhance connection and engagement with Council.

This report complies with Library Strategy 2020-2025, Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres Strategy 2019-2024, Arts and Culture Strategy 2024-2028, Festivals and Events Policy and Strategy 2022-2025, Brimbank Lifelong Learning Strategy 2024-2029 and Brimbank Youth Jobs Strategy 2018 – 2023.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Virginia Tachos/Seconded Cr Thomas O'Reilly

That Council notes the Annual Community Report Cards for Library Services, Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres, Creative Brimbank and Learning and Youth Jobs at Attachments 1 to 4 to this report.

CARRIED

12.8	Annual Report Cards Community Strengthening and Social Planning Combined Community
Directorate	Community Wellbeing
Acting Director	Ashley Fleming
Manager	Wambui Thirimu
Attachment(s)	1. Report Card - Diversity and Inclusion - Settlement Action Plan 2024 [12.8.1 - 4 pages] 2. Report Card - Children Strategy 2023-2024 [12.8.2 - 6 pages] 3. Report Card - Disability Action Plan 2022-2026 [12.8.3 - 4 pages] 4. Report Card - Electronic Gambling Policy 2023-2024 [12.8.4 - 3 pages] 5. Report Card - Fairness, Equality and Respect Strategy 2023-2024 [12.8.5 - 5 pages] 6. Report Card - Homelessness Implementation Plan 2022-2024 [12.8.6 - 3 pages] 7. Report Card - Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021 (extended) [12.8.7 - 5 pages] 8. Report Card - LGBTQIA Action Plan 2023-2024 [12.8.8 - 4 pages] 9. Report Card - Mental Wellbeing Plan 2023-2024 [12.8.9 - 6 pages] 10. Report Card - Safe and Inclusive Brimbank Strategy 2023-2024 [12.8.10 - 5 pages] 11. Report Card - Volunteer Strategy 2023-2024 [12.8.11 - 4 pages]

Purpose

For Council to note the below Community Report Cards which are a tool for reporting progress on key annual health and social strategic achievements from July 2023 – June 2024:

- Brimbank Settlement Action Plan 2019 – 2023 (**Attachment 1**)
- Children's Strategy 2022- 2023 (**Attachment 2**)
- Disability Action Plan 2022 – 2026 (**Attachment 3**)
- Electronic Gambling Policy 2022- 2023 (**Attachment 4**)
- Fairness, Equality and Respect Strategy 2019 – 2023 (**Attachment 5**)
- Homelessness Implementation Plan 2022 – 2024 (**Attachment 6**)
- Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019 – 2021 (Extended to December 2023) (**Attachment 7**)
- LGBTQIA+ Action Plan 2024 – 2028 (**Attachment 8**)
- Mental Wellbeing Plan 2022 – 2024 (**Attachment 9**)
- Safe and Inclusive Brimbank Strategy 2022 – 2023 (**Attachment 10**)
- Volunteer Strategy 2022 – 2023 (**Attachment 11**)

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the 2023-2024 annual Community Report Cards for Brimbank Settlement Action Plan 2019–2023 (**Attachment 1**), Children's Strategy 2022-2023 (**Attachment 2**), Disability Action Plan 2022–2026 (**Attachment 3**), Electronic Gambling Policy 2022-2023 (**Attachment 4**), Fairness, Equality and Respect Strategy 2019–2023 (**Attachment 5**), Homelessness Implementation Plan 2022–2024 (**Attachment 6**), Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019–2021 (Extended to

December 2023) (**Attachment 7**), LGBTQIA+ Action Plan 2024–2028 (**Attachment 8**), Mental Wellbeing Plan 2022–2024 (**Attachment 9**), Safe and Inclusive Brimbank Strategy 2022–2023 (**Attachment 10**), and Volunteer Strategy 2022–2023 (**Attachment 11**).

Background

The Together We Are Brimbank Plan outlines Council's commitment to be a welcoming, safe and supported community – an inclusive place for all. The following strategies and plans have helped Council meet community priorities in the 2023-2024 period.

Brimbank Settlement Action plan 2019–2023

- Sets priorities to achieve positive outcomes for people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Children's Strategy 2020-2024

- Ensures that the built and natural environments in Brimbank enable children to learn, develop, play, connect, feel welcome and safe. Working with partners and services in Brimbank to promote equitable and timely access of children and families to good quality, integrated services.

Disability Action Plan 2022-2026

- Enables full participation by fostering positive attitudes, addressing participation barriers and working in collaboration with other key stakeholders.

Electronic Gambling Policy 2019

- Reduces the economic, social and health harms associated with electronic gambling through research, partnerships and advocacy.

Fairness Equality and Respect Strategy 2019-2023

- Promotes gender equality and respectful relationships and prevent family violence and violence against women.

Homelessness Implementation Plan 2022-2024

- Leads, represents, partners and advocates a series of actions to improve outcomes for individuals at risk of homelessness.

Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019–2021 (Extended to December 2023)

- Supports Council's vision for reconciliation and embraces unity and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

LGBTQIA+ Action Plan 2024–2028

- Promotes inclusion of the Brimbank LGBTQIA+ community to ensure they are empowered, safe and supported.

Mental Wellbeing Plan 2022-2024

- Supports improved mental wellbeing through a primary prevention approach, social inclusion, strengthened resilience, adaptability, working together and building community capacity.

Safe and Inclusive Brimbank Strategy 2020-2024

- Focuses on building a safe, inclusive, connected and welcoming community through partnerships, programs and advocacy.

Volunteer Strategy 2018-2022

- Responds to emerging trends in volunteering, identify future opportunities for volunteering across Council and ensuring relevant systems and processes are in place to respond to community needs.

Matters for Consideration

Each year Council produces publicly available community report cards that list key achievements of its plans, policies and strategies that contribute to a healthy, safe and inclusive community.

Community Engagement

The policies, strategies and implementation plan that are the subject of this report involved extensive community consultation during the development phase to identify priorities for action. Ongoing community and stakeholder input inform implementation and monitoring of any emerging issues that may arise.

Resource And Risk Implications

Resource requirements were met within the Annual Budget 2023/2024.

Community: potential impact on community, including public trust and customer service impact

- Yes – The report cards keep the community informed on the progress made towards implementing council's policies, strategies and actions plans. They list key achievements, milestones and collaborations.

Legislation/Council Plan/Policy Context

This report supports the Council Plan 2021-2025 strategic direction and objective of:

1. People and Community - A welcoming, safe and supported community - An inclusive place for all

- Wellbeing and Belonging - Responsive services that support mental and physical wellbeing
- Pride and Participation - Community and cultural connections built through social and artistic expression.

This report complies with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council officers contributing to the preparation and approval of this report, have no conflicts of interests to declare.

Resolution

Moved Cr Jasmine Nguyen/Seconded Cr Jae Papalia

That Council notes the 2023-2024 annual Community Report Cards for Brimbank Settlement Action Plan 2019–2023 (Attachment 1), Children's Strategy 2022-2023 (Attachment 2), Disability Action Plan 2022–2026 (Attachment 3), Electronic Gambling Policy 2022-2023 (Attachment 4), Fairness, Equality and Respect Strategy 2019–2023 (Attachment 5), Homelessness Implementation Plan 2022–2024 (Attachment 6), Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019–2021 (Extended to December 2023) (Attachment 7), LGBTQIA+ Action Plan 2024–2028 (Attachment 8), Mental Wellbeing Plan 2022–2024 (Attachment 9), Safe and Inclusive Brimbank Strategy 2022–2023 (Attachment 10), and Volunteer Strategy 2022–2023 (Attachment 11).

CARRIED

13 Notices Of Motion

Nil.

14 Notices Of Rescission

Nil.

15 Urgent Business

Nil.

16 Confidential Business**Resolution**

Moved Cr Jae Papalia/Seconded Cr Virginia Tachos

That, in accordance with sections 3(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*, the meeting be closed to members of the public for the remaining of the meeting for the consideration of Confidential Report 16.1 which is classified as confidential as it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs (s 3(1)(f) of the Local Government Act 2020), and is the last item for consideration at the meeting.

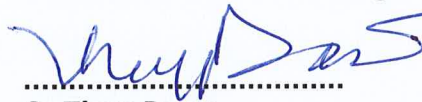
CARRIED

The meeting was closed to members of the public at 7.23pm.

17 Meeting Closure

The Mayor thanked all in attendance and closed the meeting at 7.30pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of Council held on 10/12/2024



.....
Cr Thuy Dang
Mayor