

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E.4.2.1a – Continue to develop sound financial management policies and practices that help ensure Council's long-term financial sustainability.

Recommendation: That the Statement of Funds for December 2016 be received.

14/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Verdon and Driscoll that the Statement of Funds for December 2016 be received.
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11. ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS (GM/I13-010)

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to adopt the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and related Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents namely the Delivery Program, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans.

Report

Each local government area must have a CSP that has been developed and endorsed by the Council and which identifies the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the local government area covering a period of at least 10 years from when the Plan is endorsed.

Following an ordinary election of councillors, the Council must review the CSP before 30 June following the election. A draft CSP or amendment of a CSP must be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days and submissions received by the Council must be considered before the CSP or amendment is endorsed by the Council.

Following community consultation, including a series of public meetings held at various venues throughout the Shire late last year, a draft CSP was tabled at the Council meeting held on 21 November 2016. At that meeting it was resolved that: -

“Council endorses the draft Community Strategic Plan Review documentation as amended and places it on public exhibition until Friday, 20 January 2017 and that community feedback be considered prior to it being resubmitted for adoption at the February 2017 Council meeting”

During the public exhibition period the CSP was made available on Council's website, Community Facebook page, at Council's office, and at The Rock, Yerong Creek and Pleasant Hills Post Offices. Information regarding the availability of the CSP was also disseminated through Council's community contacts database.

No submissions were received by the closing date of 20 January 2017.

Council has also resolved to seek a Special Rate Variation (SRV) and this matter is the subject of a separate report to Council (refer agenda item 13). According to the *“Guidelines for the Preparation of an Application for a Special Variation to General Income for 2017/18”* released by the Office of Local Government (OLG), before applying to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a special variation Council must first adopt its CSP, Delivery Program, Long Term Financial Plan and where applicable, its Asset Management Plans. Accordingly these documents are also presented for adoption by Council.

According to the Guidelines Council does not have to adopt its Operational Plan for the coming year before applying to IPART for an SRV. The Operational Plan has to be in place by 1 July 2017 and a proposed timeline for preparing the Operational Plan is also the subject of a separate report to Council (refer agenda item 12).

Integrated Planning and Reporting Reference

E4.2.1 – Advocate and prepare for the long term sustainability of our Shire.

E4.2.1a – Continue to develop sound financial management policies and practices that help ensure Council's long term financial sustainability.

E6.1.1 – Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council's operations.

Legislative Policy & Planning Implications

Section 402 (5) provides that, following an ordinary election of councillors, the Council must review the community strategic plan before 30 June following the election. Adoption of the amended CSP will satisfy this requirement.

Budget & Financial Aspects

The CSP incorporates Council's proposal to make application for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) and other strategies for ensuring its long term financial sustainability.

Attachments

1. Community Strategic Plan
2. Delivery Program
3. Long Term Financial Plan
4. Transport and Community Facilities Asset Management Plans.

The documents listed above are separately enclosed.

Recommendation: That the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans as presented, be adopted.

15/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Rockliff and Walker that the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans as presented, be adopted subject to the SRV and base case scenario agreed to in the Workshop held prior to this meeting being incorporated into the documents.

12. 2017/18 OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET

(GM/I13-005)

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to adopt a timetable for the preparation of Council's 2017/18 Operational Plan and Budget.

Report

Council is required to have its Operational Plan adopted before the beginning of each financial year which details the activities to be engaged in by the Council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year.

The Operational Plan must include a statement of the Council's Revenue Policy for the year covered by the Operational Plan.

Prior to adopting the Operational Plan by 1 July, the Council must prepare a draft Operational Plan and give public notice of the draft indicating that submissions may be made to the Council at any time during the period (not less than 28 days) that the draft is to be on public exhibition.

During the period of public exhibition, the Council must have for inspection at its office (and at such other places as it may determine) a map that shows those parts of its area to which each category and sub-category of the ordinary rate and each special rate included in the draft Operational Plan applies.