



**MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1999 notice is hereby given that the following meeting will held in the Council Chambers, Mount Barker Homemaker Centre, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker on Monday 5 December 2022.

7.00 pm

Council Meeting

A. Stuart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

30 November 2022

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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1. COUNCIL OPENING
EXPRESSION OF FAITH
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

1.1 Leave of Absence

1.2 Apologies

2. QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY (15 MINUTES)

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Recommendation

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2022 as circulated to members be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Council Members are reminded of the requirements for disclosure by Members of material, actual or perceived conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the agenda.

5. DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Juleen Villis – Housing for people at risk of homelessness

5.2 Shaya Nettle – Crisis Accommodation Options

6. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE – COUNCILLORS

NIL

7. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – COUNCILLORS

8. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

NIL

9. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

For

- *requesting a report*
- *a simple matter with minor impact*
- *an urgent matter that without consideration by Council would result in a detriment to Council*

10. PETITIONS

NIL

11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

11.1 Audit and Risk Committee – 16 November 2022

The recommendations of the Audit and Risk Committee are provided below for consideration by Council:

11.1.1	REPORT TITLE:	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE 2023
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/133460
	ATTACHMENTS:	1- DOC/22/137580 – WORK PLAN AND MEETING DATES

Recommendation

That the Audit and Risk Committee recommends to Council that:

1. that the Audit and Risk Committee meet at 8am on the following dates in 2023 noting the meeting dates are subject to change, including if any additional meetings are required:

23 February 2023
20 April 2023
22 June 2023
17 August 2023
*23 October 2023
23 November 2023

2. the draft Work Plan for the Audit and Risk Committee for 2023 (attached) be adopted, noting the meeting dates and schedule are subject to change, including if any additional meetings are required.

***Officer Note:**

The work plan correctly references 19 October 2023, which was the intended date not the 23 October 2023 as shown above.

Amended recommendation as above with 19 October 2023 in lieu of 23 October 2023.

Audit & Risk Committee Draft Work Plan - January - December 2023						
Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Dates						
Recommendations to Council Meeting Dates						
	February	April	June	August	October	November
	23/02/2023	20/04/2023	22/06/2023	17/08/2023	19/10/2023	23/11/2023
	6/03/2023	1/05/2023	3/07/2023	4/09/2023	6/11/2023	4/12/2023
1.1 Financial Reporting						
1.1.1 Review Statutory Financial Statements						
1.1.1 Comparison of Actual to Budget for Year Ending 30 June 2022						
1.1.1 Developer Contributions and Separate Rates						
1.1.1 Review performance of Investments and Borrowings						
1.1.2 Outstanding Debtors (including rates)						
1.1.2 Review Consistency of Financial Policies & Procedures						
1.2 Internal Controls						
1.2.1 Internal Controls framework, processes, systems review						
1.2.1 Review of Risk Cover & Insurances						
1.3 Risk Management						
1.3.1 Review effectiveness of framework, processes and systems						
1.3.1 Work Health Safety Update						
1.3.2 High Risk Register						
1.3.2 Review Regional Risk Action Plan						
1.3.3 Climate Change Mitigation/Adaptation						
1.4 Public Interest Disclosure						
1.4.1 Review policies for public officers to confidentially raise concerns						
1.5 Internal Audit						
1.5.1 Review the Internal Audit Program						
1.5.2 Monitor and review internal audit processes in context of 1.5.1						
1.5.3 Receive and review Internal Audits with significant findings						
1.5.4 Review and comments on Internal Audit annual report						
1.6 External Audit						
1.6.1 Consider and make recommendations re appointment of external auditors						
1.6.3 Meeting with External Auditors and review findings						
1.6.4 Make recommendations on the annual external audit plan						
1.6.8 Reviewing External Audit Management report and management's response						
1.7 Review of Strategic Management and Business Plans						
1.7.1 Review Long Term Financial Plan						
1.7.1 Review Draft Annual Business Plan						
1.7.1 Review Asset Management Plans						
1.8 Value and Efficiency						
1.8 Management processes, program reviews, service delivery reviews						
1.8 Project Management Review						
1.9 Major/Strategic Infrastructure Projects (RALC, CCC)						
1.9 Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre						
1.9 City Centre Catalyst						
1.10 Prudential Reports						
1.10 Prudential Reports						
1.11 Wastewater and Recycled Water Strategy						
1.11.1 Recycled Water Strategy						
1.11.2 Review long term financial modelling and assumptions						
1.11.1 Revised/New Wastewater and Recycled Water Policies						
1.11.1 Sewer Main and Inlet Pump Station Update						
1.11.1 Update on the Implementation of the Wastewater Service Delivery Study Recommendations						
1.11.1 Wastewater Asset Management Plan						
1.11.1 Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Stage 1						
1.12 Regional Subsidiaries						
1.12.1 Regional Subsidiaries Risk Assessment (if conducted)						
2. Reporting Responsibilities						
2.1 Review annual work plan						
2.3 Audit Committee Self Assessment and annual report						

Note: Timing for some matters is not yet known and will be dependent upon other circumstances e.g. timing of receipt of prudential reports

12. REPORTS

12.1	REPORT TITLE:	APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING FREQUENCY, TIME AND LOCATION, FOR COUNCIL'S 2022-2026 TERM OF OFFICE
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/130117
	ATTACHMENTS:	NIL
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Maree Barns, Administration Officer - Governance
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer/General Manager - Governance,

Community Plan 2020-2035:**Leadership and Governance**

LGG Strategy 1.3 Provide opportunities for the community to access and participate in decision-making processes and fully integrate community engagement practices into Council activities.

Annual Business Plan:

Nil

Purpose:

To appoint the time, frequency and place to hold ordinary meetings of the Council for the 2022-2026 Term of Office.

Summary – Key Issues:

- Council must appoint a time and place to hold ordinary Council meetings
- A notice will be placed in the local newspapers, and information provided on Council's website advising of the dates, times and place for Council meetings.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- Hold ordinary meetings in the Council Chambers, Level 1, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker (unless otherwise determined), on the first Monday of month commencing at 7pm with the exception of:
 - a) January when the meeting shall be on the third Monday of the month;
 - b) A public holiday Monday when the meeting shall be held on the Tuesday immediately following; and

- c) Council resolving to hold the meeting in a different location.
-

Background:

1. The Council is required to determine when the council will meet, the time and location of ordinary Council Meetings.
2. District Councils are able to meet before 5pm.

Discussion:

3. The Local Government Act 1999 ("the Act") requires Councils to meet at least once per month.
4. Council is able to hold Special Council Meetings if required.
5. Council meetings have been held on the first Monday of the month, other than January when the meeting has been held on the third Monday of the month.
6. Monday meetings provide the opportunity for the agenda to be read over the weekend while the 7pm timeslot allows sufficient time for both council members and community members to attend the Council meeting following their daytime commitments.
7. Meetings cannot be held on Sundays or public holidays. Any meeting scheduled to be held on a public holiday will instead be held on the Tuesday immediately following.
8. During other terms of Council, decisions have been made by Council to hold a Council meeting in other community venues. An option being to hold a council meeting in each of the South and North wards for example. Such decisions can be determined as required during the Council term. That would also require investigation as to the strength of the signal available at a proposed location to enable the live streaming of the meeting. Notice of any change of meeting venue will be advertised in local papers, on Council's website, Facebook page and on the Notice of Meeting.
9. Council meetings have been held at the Council Chambers, Level 1, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker. During the COVID-19 health emergency some Council meetings were held at the Pavilion, at the Environmental Services Centre site on Springs Road, which was a larger venue and could accommodate the required extra distancing of Council Members and people in the gallery.
10. Participation by Council Members by electronic means in a Council meeting was only able to be accommodated as part of the COVID-19 health emergency which has now ceased. Current legislation does not allow Council meeting participation by electronic means.
11. The live streaming of Council meetings will continue.
12. As per the Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures, Council Meetings are to conclude by no later than 10.30pm or be adjourned to another date and time unless there is a resolution to extend past that time for a maximum of 1 hour.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	The community will be informed via the public notice in newspapers in the district and information on Council's
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	website. Notice of Meetings and Council Agendas are available 3 clear days prior to the meeting. The list of Council meetings dates is advertised on Council's website. The next Council meeting dates are also advertised in the front of the window of the Local Government Centre and on council's Facebook page.
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Policy:

NIL

Long Term Financial Plan:

NIL

Budget:

Meeting costs are included in the annual budget.

Statutory/Legal:

Section 81 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Staff Resource Requirements:

There is no additional impact on staff resources.

Environmental:

N/A

Social:

Council meetings are open to the public except for confidential items.

Council meetings are livestreamed.

Risk Assessment:

There is a risk that if a significantly earlier time for meetings is resolved by Council that the ability for community members to attend in person could be compromised.

Asset Management:

N/A

Conclusion:

Council is required to appoint a time, frequency and place to hold ordinary Council meetings.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	3 December 2018	CM Reference	DOC/18/116152
Title	APPOINTMENT COUNCIL MEETING FREQUENCY, TIME AND LOCATION, FOR COUNCIL'S 2018-2022 TERM OF OFFICE		
Purpose	To appoint the time, frequency and place to hold ordinary meetings of Council for the 2018-2022 Term of Office.		

12.2	REPORT TITLE:	APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY MAYOR
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/130121
	ATTACHMENTS:	1 - DOC/22/130122- APPOINTMENT PROCESS
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Maree Barns, Administration Officer - Governance
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer/General Manager - Governance,

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Leadership and Good Governance

LGG Strategy 1.1 Attract a diverse elected body that represents, promotes and reflects the composition of the community.

Annual Business Plan:

NIL

Purpose:

To consider appointing a Deputy Mayor for the period 5 December 2022 – 3 December 2023.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. There is an opportunity for Council to appoint a Deputy Mayor
2. The practice of Council has been to appoint a Deputy Mayor.
3. Appointment of a Deputy Mayor for the above term is proposed.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Appoint a Deputy Mayor for the period 5 December 2022 until 3 December 2023;
 2. Follow the process for appointment to the position of Deputy Mayor as outlined in Attachment 1.
 3. Appoints Councillor.....to the position of Deputy Mayor for the period for the period 5 December 2022 until 3 December 2023.
-

Background:

1. Section 51(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 (“the Act”) allows Council to appoint a Deputy Mayor.
2. There is no requirement to appoint a Deputy Mayor. In the absence of the Mayor, a member chosen by Council as Deputy Mayor may act in the office of the Mayor for the relevant period.
3. It has been Council’s practice to appoint a Deputy Mayor.

Discussion:

4. Council has regularly appointed a Deputy Mayor for a 12 month period. This provides an opportunity for a greater number of Council Members to nominate for and fulfil this position.
5. The term cannot exceed 4 years or beyond the next periodic election.
6. A councillor who has filled the role of Deputy Mayor within the current council term of office is eligible to re-nominate for subsequent appointment.
7. Appointing a Deputy Mayor can resolve practical difficulties that may arise should the Mayor be unable to attend to duties such as being unwell, or when there is a clash of requirements or when the Mayor is on leave.
8. A recent supplementary determination of the Remuneration Tribunal is that a Deputy Mayor who undertakes the duties of Mayor for a period of one month or longer, is entitled to receive the Mayor allowance for the entirety of the time they undertake those duties. The Mayor allowance is to be paid instead of the council member’s usual allowance, and in proportion to the time that the council member performs the relevant duties.
9. If a Deputy Mayor is not appointed the Council can resolve who will be the Acting Mayor for the required period as the need arises via resolution of Council at the time.
10. However should there be an unanticipated need (such as due to illness) there will be a lag time until Council meets to appoint a Deputy Mayor. This could put at risk documents requiring signatures and attendance at official events or ceremonies.
11. If Council wishes to continue to appoint a Deputy Mayor for a period of time:
 - All Councillors are eligible to nominate

- Councillors may self nominate or nominate others (subject to that being acceptable to the other council member)
- Council will need to determine the period of time for the appointment with 5 December 2022 until 3 December 2023 being recommended.

12. The recommended process of nominating for appointment is as detailed in Attachment 1.

Community Engagement

Informing only	The community is informed via this report and information on Council's website
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Policy:

There is no existing Policy.

Budget:

The allowance for the Deputy Mayor is 1.25 times that of a Councillor.
Budget provision exists for a Deputy Mayor.

Statutory/Legal:

Local Government Act S51 (3) – (8)

Staff Resource Requirements:

N/A

Environmental:

N/A

Social:

Both an Acting Mayor and Deputy Mayor can fulfil official duties if the Mayor is absent or unavailable.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks other than if there is not a Deputy Mayor this can cause difficulties as outlined above.

Asset Management:

N/A

Conclusion:

Council should consider which Council Member to appoint as Deputy Mayor for the period 5 December 2022 to 3 December 2023.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	1 November 2021	HPRM Reference	DOC/21/172860
Title	Appointment of Deputy Mayor Effective From 1 December 2021 to Next Periodic Election 2022		
Purpose	To consider the opportunity to appoint a Deputy Mayor for the period 1 December 2021 until close of business the day before nominations open for the next local government periodic elections which will take place in November 2022; and if that is supported, to appoint a Deputy Mayor for this period.		

Meeting Date	2 November 2020	HPRM Reference	DOC/20/145918
Title	Appointment of Deputy Mayor effective 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021		
Purpose	To appoint a Deputy Mayor for the period 1 December 2020 – 30 November 2021		

Meeting Date	4 November 2019	HPRM Reference	DOC/19/130645
Title	Appointment of Deputy Mayor		
Purpose	To consider appointing a Deputy Mayor.		

Attachment 1**Appointment of a Deputy Mayor**

Process for one (1) Council Member to be appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor from 5 December 2022 until 3 December 2023.

Background

1. Council Members should consider whether they have a conflict of interest when nominating and whether they should participate in the vote via a secret ballot if there is more than one nomination.
2. If Council Members wish to nominate but will be absent from the council meeting they may, in advance of the council meeting, notify the Chief Executive Officer or the Risk and Governance Officer via email or letter of their desire to nominate.

Step 1 – Call for Nominations

3. The Mayor will call for nominations. A Council Member may self-nominate. A seconder is not required as this is not a motion.
4. The Mayor will seek confirmation from any Council Member nominated as to whether they are prepared to stand.

Step 2 – Nominees Opportunity to Speak

5. If there is more than one nomination:
 - a. the Mayor will allow up to 2 minutes for each of those Council Members nominated to outline why they are the most appropriate nominee.
 - b. the vote will then be via secret ballot.

Step 3 – Vote via Secret Ballot

6. All Council Members in the Chamber, including the Mayor and those nominated, shall be eligible to vote via the secret ballot as this is not a motion, it is to gauge the preferred Council Member.
7. Each Council Member in the Chamber including the Mayor will complete their voting slip to make known the name of their preferred Council Member i.e. to write just the one name on the voting slip. The voting slips will be collected and counted by a Council Officer present with an additional Council Officer acting as scrutineer.
8. The counting will be first past the post, majority vote.

Step 4 – Result of the Secret Ballot

9. The Mayor will announce the result of the secret ballot process being only to make known which Council Member has received the most votes.

Step 5 - Motion – the Mayor will call for the following Motion to formalise the secret ballot process

10. Appoint Councillor..... to the position of Deputy Mayor for the period 5 December 2022 until 3 December 2023.
11. Council Members will not be able to see the ballot papers after the vote is completed and the ballot papers will be destroyed by the scrutineers.

If there is a tied vote the following processes will occur:12. Tied Vote

13. As per section 51 (8) of the Local Government Act (Principal Member of Council):

- If the result is a tied vote between two or more Council Members, the result will be decided by a Council Officer placing the names of the Council Members involved in the tie in a box.
- The first name drawn out of the box by the Mayor in full view of the meeting will be the Council Member who **is eliminated** (as per the Local Government Act and Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures) until there is only one name remaining and the Mayor will announce the remaining name of the Council Member.

14. This will be followed by a motion and resolution as above (point 10).

12.3	REPORT TITLE:	APPOINTING BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPUTY BOARD MEMBERS TO THE SOUTHERN & HILLS LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/143994
	ATTACHMENTS:	1 DOC/22/133116 – Election Process
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Maree Barns, Administration Officer - Governance
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy CEO / General Manager Governance,

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Implementation Partnerships

IP Strategy 3.3

Participate in regional governance planning and service sharing arrangements.

Annual Business Plan:

NIL

Purpose:

To appoint Board Members and Deputy Board Members to the Southern & Hills Local Government Association for the period 2022 until the conclusion of the election in 2026.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. Council is a constituent council of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association
2. Council is required to appoint Board Members and Deputy Board Members to the Southern & Hills Local Government Association

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Appoints the Mayor (David Leach) and Chief Executive Officer (Andrew Stuart) to be Board members of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association until the conclusion of the term of office of Council in late 2026.

2. In the event that there is more than one nomination for the position of Deputy Board Member (to the Mayor) of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association, determine by show of hands and subsequently a motion and resolution as to whether it wishes to vote to appoint a Council Member to the position of Deputy Board Member of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association via:
 - (a) Show of hands; or
 - (b) Secret Ballot; or
 - (c) By a specific motion, without a show of hands or a secret ballot.
 3. Appoints Cr..... to be a Deputy Board Member of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association until the conclusion of the term of office of Council in late 2026.
 4. Appoints Alison Hancock, Executive Manager to the CEO, to be a Deputy Board Member of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association until the conclusion of the term of office of Council in late 2026.
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Background:

1. Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999 allows two or more Councils to form a regional subsidiary to provide a specified service, carry out an activity or performance of a function of the member Councils.
2. Council is a member of two regional subsidiaries:
 - Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority (AHRWMA);
 - Southern and Hills Local Government Association (SHLGA).
3. Each of these subsidiaries has completed a review of their Charters which included changes to Board membership requirements.
4. This report requires appointments by council to the Board of the Southern & Hills Local Government Association.
5. At the council meeting held on 3 December 2018 it was resolved that the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be appointed as SHLGA Board Members and that and Cr Sam Jones be appointed as a proxy, with all of the appointments being until the conclusion of the council members term of office in late 2022. {Note: The SHLGA charter and Board composition has subsequently changed, hence the need to now appoint two Deputy Board Members.}

Discussion:**General Information**

6. The SHLGA comprises the following Councils – Adelaide Hills, Alexandrina, Kangaroo Island, Mount Barker, Victor Harbor and Yankalilla.
7. The purpose is to work collaboratively to coordinate management of resources, promote cooperation between all levels of government and develop financial and economic well-being in the region.

8. The SHLGA also plays a role in relation to the determination of regional priorities for the annual funding that is available via the Special Local Roads Program.
9. Reporting from the subsidiary is via quarterly reports, annual business plans and annual reports to the constituent Councils.
10. Each constituent Council pays a subscription to the subsidiary.
11. More information can be found on the SHLGA website: www.lga.sa.gov.au

Membership

12. The new SHLGA Charter requires Council to appoint:
 - Two Board members one of whom must be a Council Member and the other maybe a Council Member or employee of the Council. Historically Council has appointed the Mayor and CEO.
 - Two Deputy Board members can also be appointed (to act in the place of the Board Member). It is recommended that one Deputy Board member is a Council Member (to act in the place of the Mayor if required) and Alison Hancock, Executive Manager to the CEO (to act in the place of the CEO if required).
13. Board meetings are held bi-monthly on a Friday morning at the various venues of the member Councils. The next SHLGA Board meeting is on Friday 9 December 2022 at Goolwa. Council Members who are not Board Members are welcome to attend a Board meeting as an observer.
14. There is no remuneration for these roles.

Process

15. As pre recommendation 2 above, the meeting is to determine the process by which the Deputy Board Member (to act if the Mayor is unavailable) is to be chosen. Please refer to the steps in Attachment 1 in relation to the nominations process.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	Information is provided via this report and via the SHLGA website
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Policy:

There is no existing Policy.

Long Term Financial Plan:

N/A

Budget:

Council's contribution (annual subscription) to the SHLGA for 2022/23 is \$23,078 ex GST.

Statutory/Legal:

S43 Local Government Act 1999.

Staff Resource Requirements:

There is no additional impact on staff resourcing.

Environmental:

N/A

Social:

N/A

Risk Assessment:

There are no risks associated with these appointments.

Asset Management:

N/A

Conclusion:

Appointments to the Board of this regional subsidiary need to be made.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	3 December 2018	CM Reference	DOC/18/120155
Title	Appointment of Council Members to Regional Subsidiaries		
Purpose	To appoint: - Council Members to the position of a member and proxy member to Adelaide Hills Regional Waste Management Authority; and note the appointment staff member; - The Mayor and CEO as members of the Southern & Hills Local Government association and to appoint a Council Member as a proxy member.		

Attachment 1 to Item 12.3

Attachment 1Election Process for Council Appointments

The process for determining a Council appointment to a particular position is as follows:

Nominations

1. Council Members should consider whether they have a conflict of interest when nominating and whether they should participate in the vote.
2. If Council Members wish to nominate but will be absent from the meeting they may notify (in advance of the council meeting) the Chief Executive Officer or the Executive Assistant to the CEO and Mayor via email or letter of their desire to nominate;
3. The Presiding Member will call for nominations, this does not require a seconder as it is not a motion. A council member may self nominate.
4. If there are more nomination(s) than positions the Presiding Member will allow up to 2 minutes for each of those council members nominated to outline why they are the most appropriate nominee.

Voting Options

5. Council will need to determine whether it wishes to vote via:
 - Show of hands; or
 - Secret Ballot; or
 - A motion for a specific Council Member (without a show of hands or secret ballot).
6. To determine the preferred method it is recommended that the Presiding Member seek a show of hands on the above three voting options.
7. All members in the Chamber including the Presiding Member shall be eligible to vote via a show of hands or secret ballot as this is not a motion, it is to gauge the preferred voting option.
8. Once the preferred voting option is clear, the Presiding Member will then seek a motion in the normal manner to formalise that.
9. Show Of Hands
If via Show Of Hands is the preferred voting option, the Presiding Member will read out the name of the Councillors who have been nominated and ask Council Members to vote once for their preferred nominee. The Presiding Member is eligible to vote as this is not a motion it is to gauge the level of support for each of the nominees. The counting will be first past the post,

majority vote. This will be followed by a request from the Presiding Member for a formal motion to confirm who is to be appointed.

OR

10. Secret Ballot

Each Council Member in the Chamber including the Presiding Member will complete their voting slip with the name of the preferred Council Member. These will be collected and counted by a Council Officer present and an additional Council Officer acting as scrutineer.

11. The counting will be first past the post, majority vote.
12. The Presiding Member will announce the result of the ballot process and will call for a motion to formalise that.
13. Council Members will not be able to see the ballot papers after the vote is completed and the ballot papers will be destroyed by the scrutineers.

OR

14. A Motion

If via a motion is the preferred voting option (without following an informal process first), the Presiding Member will ask the Council for a motion (i.e. that Council appoint Councillor X and if seconded, members will vote on that motion in the normal manner. If that motion is lost, a further motion will be called for, being for a different nominee(s).

15. Tied Vote

If there is a tie for the most votes using either (a) Show of Hands or (b) Secret Ballot, **but** there are also votes for other nominees, Council will undertake a further process (using the same voting option) with this then being restricted only to the tied nominees who received the most votes.

16. If the subsequent result is a tied vote between candidates using either (a) Show of Hands or (b) Secret Ballot **and** no other candidates received any votes, the result will be decided by the scrutineer placing the Council Member names in a box and with the first name drawn out by the Presiding Member being the Council Member who is eliminated until there is only one name remaining. This will be followed by a motion and resolution.

12.4	REPORT TITLE:	COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL (CAP) – COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/140544
	ATTACHMENTS:	1: DOC/22/140553 - Process to Appoint Council Member(s) 2: DOC/22/143834 - Terms of Reference
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Andy Humphries, Manager City Development, Planning & Development
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Marc Voortman, General Manager, Planning &

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Leadership and Good Governance

LGG Strategy 1.1 Attract a diverse elected body that represents, promotes and reflects the composition of the community.

LGG Strategy 1.5 Demonstrate accountability through clear, relevant and easily accessible policies, corporate reporting and legislative compliance.

Annual Business Plan:

Nil

Purpose:

To appoint a Council Member to the Council Assessment Panel (CAP), appoint a Council Member to the position of Deputy CAP Member, endorse the updated Terms of Reference (TOR) for CAP and endorse the sitting fees for CAP.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. One (1) Council Member is required to be appointed to the CAP and one (1) Council Member to the position of Deputy CAP Member.
2. The Terms of Reference for the CAP have been reviewed and include some minor updates.
3. The sitting fees have been reviewed and an annual CPI increase is recommended to continue.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the updated Terms of Reference for CAP (as contained in attachment 2).

2. Follow the process to firstly nominate a Council Member to the position of Council Assessment Panel Member and secondly a Council Member to the position of Deputy CAP Member as outlined in Attachment 1.
 3. Appoints to be a Member of the Council Assessment Panel (CAP) from 6 December 2022 until 6 December 2024.
 4. Appoints to be a Deputy Member of the Council Assessment Panel (CAP) from 6 December 2022 until 6 December 2024.
 5. Endorse the following sitting fees and that these increase by Adelaide CPI (all groups – year to September) each year until the end of the Council term of office:
 - a. Chairperson - \$544 per meeting
 - b. Other members – \$466 per meeting
-

Background:

1. Section 83 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (“the Act”) requires that Council establish an Assessment Panel.
2. The legislation requires that membership must be between 3 and 5 with only 1 Council Member.
3. Independent members who have been appointed until October 2024 are Mark Adcock (Presiding Member), Geoff Parsons, Sally Roberts and Tom Gregory.
4. The previous Council Member on the Assessment Panel was Councillor Harry Seager and the Deputy Member was Councillor Carol Bailey. Both were appointed until 11 November 2022.

Discussion:

5. The Role of CAP:
 - a. Is the relevant authority under Section 82 and 83 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (**Act**).
 - b. During the transition to the Act the CAP will act as the delegate of the Council for the purpose of assessing development applications under the *Development Act 1993*.
6. The types of matters considered by CAP can be found on Council’s website: <https://www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/build/plan-and-develop/council-assessment-panel>
7. CAP meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 9.30am in the Council Chambers.

8. Council members are not required to be accredited professionals but it is recommended Council choose members who are suitably qualified and experienced.
9. As per clause 2.7 of the Terms of Reference, the Deputy Council Member appointed by Council may only stand in for the CAP's Council Member who is unable to attend a CAP meeting or part of a CAP meeting.
10. Members appointed to CAP have to abide by the CAP Code of Conduct:
https://www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0021/118371/Assessment-Panel-Members-Code-of-Conduct.pdf
11. Members can be appointed for up to 3 years. However, it is proposed that members would be appointed for just under 2 years, half way through their term as a Councillor. Council can then consider the balance of current term of Council which expires in November 2026.
12. The Act also requires the Chief Executive Officer to appoint an Assessment Manager. Andy Humphries, Manager City Development has been appointed to 3 March 2025.

Training

13. In order to operate effectively as a CAP member both the appointed Council Member and Deputy Member will be required to undertake the training conducted by the Local Government Association to be arranged shortly after their appointment.

Sitting Fees

14. Independent members and Council Members on CAP are paid a sitting fee. This is general practice across local government and based upon the complexities associated with the task of assessment and the requirement to administer a separate piece of legislation.
15. The Independent Chairperson will be paid a sitting fee of \$544 and other members (including the Council Member) will be paid \$466 per meeting.
16. Consistent with current practices and Council's Audit and Risk Committee it is recommended that sitting fees continue to increase by Adelaide CPI annually.

Terms of Reference

17. Consistent with a resolution of Council from the Council Meeting held 1 June 2020, the Terms of Reference (attachment 2) are proposed to be updated to reflect the resolution to move the CAP from a four member CAP to a five member CAP.
18. All other changes are either minor formatting updates to resolves errors or minor wording changes to bring the Terms of Reference more in line with the LGA template.

19. The CAP resolved to approve the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference and present them to Council for endorsement at its meeting held 9 November 2022.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	CAP meeting minutes and agendas are available on Council's website.
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Policy:

N/A

Long Term Financial Plan:

N/A

Budget:

Sitting fees for members are included in the budget.

Statutory/Legal:

Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.

Staff Resource Requirements:

Andy Humphries is the Assessment Manager to assist the CAP.

Environmental:

CAP seeks to ensure that development occurs in an environmentally responsible manner in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Code.

Social:

CAP seeks to ensure that development occurs in a socially responsible manner in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Code.

Risk Assessment:

There are no risks identified with this appointment.

Asset Management:

N/A

Conclusion:

Council should adopt the revised Terms of Reference, sitting fees and consider and determine which Council Members should be appointed to CAP as a sitting member and deputy member.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council:

Meeting Date	4 April 2022	HPRM Reference	DOC/22/29780
Title	COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL (CAP) – INDEPENDENT MEMBER RE-APPOINTMENT		
Purpose	To re-appoint the current Independent Members of the Council's Assessment Panel (CAP) for a further two (2) years.		

Meeting Date	7 December 2020	HPRM Reference	DOC/20/161249
Title	COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL (CAP) – COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT		
Purpose	To appoint a Council Member to the Council Assessment Panel (CAP) and appoint an additional Council Member to the position of Deputy CAP Member.		

Meeting Date	6 October 2020	HPRM Reference	DOC/20/128847
Title	CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL RECRUITMENT		
Purpose	To appoint four suitable independent candidates to the Council's Assessment Panel (CAP) for the term.		

Meeting Date	1 June 2020	HPRM Reference	DOC/20/62100
Title	COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL RECRUITMENT		
Purpose	To inform the Elected Members of the need to amend the membership of Council's Assessment Panel (CAP).		

Meeting Date	3 December 2018	HPRM Reference	DOC/18/126854
Title	COUNCIL'S ASSESSMENT PANEL (CAP) – COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT DECEMBER 2018 – DECEMBER 2020 AND TERMS OF REFERENCE		
Purpose	To appoint a Council Member to CAP, endorse the sitting fees for CAP members and CAP Terms of Reference (attached).		

Attachment 1 to Item 12.4**Attachment One****Nomination Process for firstly One (1) Council Member to the position of CAP Member and then secondly for (1) Council Member to the position of Deputy CAP Member until 6 December 2024.****Background**

1. Council Members should consider whether they have a conflict of interest when nominating and whether they should participate in the vote.
2. If Council Members wish to nominate but will be absent from the council meeting they may notify the Chief Executive Officer or the Risk and Governance Officer via email or letter of their desire to nominate.

Step 1

3. The Mayor will call for nominations for the position of CAP Member. A seconder is not required as this is not a motion.

Step 2

4. If there is more than one nomination:
 - a. the Mayor will allow up to 2 minutes each for those members nominated to explain why they are the most appropriate nominee
 - b. the vote will then be via secret ballot.
5. All members in the Chamber including the Mayor shall be eligible to vote via the secret ballot as this is not a motion, it is to gauge the preferred Councillor.

Step 3

6. Secret Ballot
Each Council Member in the Chamber including the Mayor will complete their voting slip to include the name of their preferred Council Member. These will be collected and counted by a Council Officer present and an additional Council Officer acting as scrutineer.
7. The counting will be first past the post, majority vote, with the Council Member receiving the most votes nominated as the Council Member to CAP.

Step 4

8. The Mayor will announce the result of the secret ballot process.

Step 5 - Motion – the Mayor will call for the following Motion to formalise the ballot process

9. Appoint Councillor..... to the position of Council Member to CAP until 6 December 2024.

10. Council Members will not be able to see the ballot papers after the vote is completed and the ballot papers will be destroyed by the scrutineers.

If there is a tied vote the following processes will occur:

11. Tied Vote
12. As per section 51 (8) of the Local Government Act (Principal Member of Council) If the result is a tied vote between two or more councillors the result will be decided by the Risk & Governance Officer placing the tied councillor names in a box.
13. The first name drawn out by the Presiding Member will be the Council Member who **is eliminated** (as per Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures) until there is only one name remaining.
14. This will be followed by a motion and resolution as above.

Deputy CAP Member

The same process as above will then be followed for the position of Deputy CAP Member.

15. At the conclusion of that process the Mayor will call for a motion as follows:
16. Appoint Councillor..... to the position of Deputy Council Member to CAP until 6 December 2024.



Mount Barker District Council Assessment Panel

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Endorsed by Council at its meeting on 3 December 2018.

1. ROLE OF THE COUNCIL'S ASSESSMENT PANEL (CAP)

- 1.1 The Mount Barker District Council Assessment Panel (**CAP**) was appointed as a relevant authority under Section 82 and 83 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (**Act**) by resolution of the Mount Barker District Council (**the Council**) on 03 July 2017.
- 1.2 The CAP is a relevant authority under the Act and, during transition to the Act, will act as a delegate of the Council for the purpose of the Development Act 1993.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Expression of Interest

- 2.1 The Council will call for expressions of interest for appointment of CAP Members.

Appointment of Members

- 2.2 The CAP will be constituted of five (5) Members (**CAP Members**), to be appointed by the Council, comprising:
 - One (1) Member of the Council (**Council Member**); and
 - Four (4) Independent Members (**Independent Members**), not being Members of the Council or State Parliament.
- 2.3 The Council may determine that the CAP will be constituted by a different number of members for different classes of development, in which case the relevant details will be specified by the Council.
- 2.4 When appointing CAP Members, the Council may have regard to the following:

- 2.4.1 the candidate's knowledge of the operation and requirements of the Act and, during transition to the Act, the Development Act;
- 2.4.2 in relation to Independent Members, the candidate's qualifications or experience in a field that is relevant to the activities of the CAP;
- 2.4.3 in relation to the Council Member, the candidate's experience in local government;
- 2.4.4 that a balance of qualifications and experience among CAP Members is desirable;
- 2.4.5 that gender diversity among CAP Members is desirable; and
- 2.4.6 such other matters as the Council considers relevant.

Appointment of Deputy Members

- 2.5 The Council may appoint one Deputy Member to the CAP for the purpose of filling in for a CAP Member who is unable to attend a CAP meeting or part of a CAP meeting.
- 2.6 Subject to clause 2.7, a Deputy Member must not be a Member of the Council or State Parliament.
- 2.7 Where a Deputy Member appointed for the Council Member is also a member of the Council, that person may not act as a deputy for any other CAP Member (whereas a Deputy Member who is not a member of the Council may act as a deputy for any CAP Member).
- 2.8 Where more than one Deputy Member is appointed, the Council must specify the circumstances in which each Deputy Members (or any one or more of them) will be invited to attend a CAP meeting.
- 2.9 In appointing a Deputy Member, the Council may have regard to the matters in clause 2.4, as well as to the qualifications and experience of the CAP Member or CAP Members to whom the candidate will be a deputy.
- 2.10 Unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to a CAP Member in this document includes a Deputy Member.

Presiding Member and Acting Presiding Member

- 2.11 The Council will appoint an Independent Member to be the Presiding Member of the CAP for such term and on such conditions as determined by the Council.

- 2.12 The Presiding Member will preside at any CAP meeting at which he or she is present.
- 2.13 In the event that the Presiding Member is not present at a meeting (or part thereof) an Acting Presiding Member will be appointed by those CAP Members who are present at the meeting.
- 2.14 A Presiding Members is eligible to be reappointed as the Presiding Member at the expiry of his or her term of office as Presiding Member.
- 2.15 In the event that the Presiding Member resigns or is removed from office, the Council will appoint an Independent Member to be the Presiding Members for such term and on such conditions as determined by the Council.

Term of Appointment

- 2.16 Subject to clause 2.19, Independent Members will be appointed for a term of up to three (3) years and on such other conditions as determined by the Council.
- 2.17 Subject to clause 2.20, the Council Member will be appointed for a term of up to three (3) years, or the next general Council election (whichever is the sooner) and on such other conditions as determined by the Council.
- 2.18 Deputy Members will be appointed for a term of up to three (3) years and on such other conditions as determined by the Council.
- 2.19 CAP Member is eligible for reappointment for a further term, or further terms, upon the expiry of his or her current term.
- 2.20 A CAP Member whose term of office has expired may nevertheless continue to act as a Member until the vacancy is filled or for a period of six months from the expiry of the Member's term of office, whichever occurs first.

3. VACANCY IN MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 In the event of a vacancy arising in the office of a CAP Member, the Council may appoint a person to be a CAP Member for the balance of the original CAP Member's term of office as soon as is reasonably practicable in the same manner as the original CAP Member was appointed.
- 3.2 The CAP Member appointed to fill a vacancy may be a Deputy Member in which case that person will automatically cease to be a Deputy Member.
- 3.3 In appointing a CAP Member pursuant to clause 3.1, the Council may have regard to the matters in clause 2.3 or 2.9 as the case requires.

- 3.4 A vacancy in the membership of the CAP will not invalidate any decisions of the CAP, provided a quorum is maintained during meetings.

4. CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

- 4.1 At all times, CAP Members must act honestly, lawfully, in good faith, and in accordance with any code of conduct applicable to CAP Members.
- 4.2 CAP Members may be remunerated as determined by the Council for the reasonable time and costs incurred by CAP Members in attending CAP meetings.
- 4.3 Different levels of remuneration may be fixed by the Council for Independent Members, the Council Member, the Presiding Member and Deputy Members.
- 4.4 Upon the commencement of Section 83(1)(c) of the Act:
- 4.4.1 CAP Members, excluding a Member who is a Member or former Member of the Council, must be accredited professionals – Planning Level 2 under the Act; and
 - 4.4.2 CAP Members who are Members or former Members of the Council must have sufficient experience in local government to satisfy the Council that they are appropriately qualified to act as a Member of the CAP.

5. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- 5.1 A CAP Member will automatically lose office where:
- 5.1.1 the CAP Member has become bankrupt or has applied to take the benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors;
 - 5.1.2 the CAP Member has been convicted of an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment;
 - 5.1.3 in the case of a Council Member, the Member ceases to be a member of the Council.
- 5.2 Subject to Clause 5.3 the Council may by resolution remove a CAP Member from office where, in the opinion of the Council, the behaviour of the CAP Member amounts to:
- 5.2.1 a breach of a condition of his or her appointment as a CAP Member;
 - 5.2.2 misconduct;
 - 5.2.3 a breach of any legislative obligation or duty of a CAP Member;

- 5.2.4 neglect of duty in attending to role and responsibilities as a CAP Member;
 - 5.2.5 a failure to carry out satisfactorily the duties of his or her office;
 - 5.2.6 a breach of fiduciary duty that arises by virtue of his or her office;
 - 5.2.7 inability to carry out satisfactorily the duties of his or her office.
 - 5.2.8 except in relation to Deputy Members, a failure without reasonable excuse to attend three consecutive CAP meetings without the CAP previously having resolved to grant a leave of absence to the CAP Member; or
 - 5.2.9 in relation to a Deputy Member, a failure without reasonable excuse on three consecutive occasions to attend a meeting of the CAP when requested to do so; or
 - 5.2.10 for any other reason the Council considers appropriate.
- 5.3 Prior to resolving to remove a CAP Member from office pursuant to clause 5.2, the Council must:
- 5.3.1 give written notice to the CAP Member of:
 - 5.3.1.1 its intention to remove the CAP Member from office pursuant to clause 5.2; and
 - 5.3.1.2 the alleged behaviour of the CAP Member falling within clause 5.2.1 or reason the Council considers it appropriate to remove the CAP Member,not less than 7 days before the meeting of the Council at which the matter is to be considered;
 - 5.3.2 give the CAP Member an opportunity to make submissions to the Council on its intention to remove the CAP Member from office either orally at the Council meeting at which the matter is to be considered, or in writing by such date as the Council reasonably determines; and
 - 5.3.3 have due regard to the CAP Member's submission in determining whether to remove the CAP Member from office.
- 5.4 The removal of the CAP Member pursuant to clause 5.2 will take effect upon the Council passing a resolution to remove the CAP Member from office (unless the Council resolves otherwise), and such resolution will be confirmed in writing to the CAP Member within 7 days of being passed.

6. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- 6.1 The CAP will determine the time and place for its meetings at its first meeting.
- 6.2 The time and place of the first meeting of CAP following its establishment will be determined by the Assessment Manager.

7. ACCESS TO MEETINGS AND DOCUMENTS

- 7.1 In accordance with the principles of open, transparent and informed decision making, CAP meetings must be conducted in a place open to the public. Members of the public are able to attend all meetings unless prohibited by resolution of the CAP.
- 7.2 Members of the public shall have access to all documents related to the CAP unless prohibited by resolution under the confidentiality.

8. MEETING PROCEDURE

- 8.1 The CAP shall conduct meetings in accordance with its meeting procedures.

9. OTHER MATTERS

- 9.1 The Committee shall:
 - 9.1.1 have access to reasonable resources in order to carry out its duties.
 - 9.1.2 be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction program for new members and on an ongoing basis for all members.
 - 9.1.3 report annually to Council on the decisions it has made under delegation.

10. REVIEW

A review of this Terms of Reference shall be undertaken by CAP at least every four years with any amendments to be presented to Council for endorsement.

11. ACCESS TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The CAP Terms of Reference is available on the Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au and hard copies can be purchased on payment of a fee.

12. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Terms of Reference or the operations of the Council Assessment Panel, please contact:

Name: Andy Humphries
Title: Manager City Development & Assessment Manager
Address: Mount Barker District Council
PO Box 54, Mount Barker
South Australia, SA, 5251
Telephone: 8393 7200

12.5	REPORT TITLE:	SUMMIT SPORT AND RECREATION PARK BOARD COUNCIL APPOINTMENT 2022-2026
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/138588
	ATTACHMENTS:	1 - DOC/21/130725 TERMS OF REFERENCE 2 - DOC/22/133116 ELECTION PROCESS
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Ros McDougall, Risk and Governance Officer
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy CEO/General Manager Governance, Strategic Projects and Wastewater/Recycled Water

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Community Wellbeing

CW Goal 1 Activity and movement Physical and mental health and wellbeing is supported by opportunities to access parks and natural areas, quality open space and recreation and sporting facilities.

Annual Business Plan:

Nil

Purpose:

To appoint a Council Member to the Summit Sport Park Board.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. The Summit Sport and Recreation Park's Board was established in January 2020 in accordance with Terms of Reference, adopted in September 2019 and subsequently amended in July 2021.
2. In accordance with the Terms of Reference, One (1) Council Member is required to be appointed to the Board of the Summit Sport and Recreation Park.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. determine by show of hands and subsequently a motion whether it wishes to vote to appoint a Council Member to the Committee via:
 - (a) Show of hands; or
 - (b) Secret Ballot; or
 - (c) By a specific motion.

2. Appoints Councillor to be a member of the Summit Sport and Recreation Park Board until the conclusion of the term of office of Council.
 3. Notes that the Terms of Reference for the Summit Sport and Recreation Board will be reviewed at the Committee's December 2022 meeting and will be tabled with Council for endorsement in January 2023.
-

Background:

1. In 2 September 2019 Council put in place Terms of Reference for a Board to provide strategic direction for the newly established recreation facilities on Springs Road, Mount Barker, under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1999.
2. The Terms of Reference were amended on 5 July 2021.
3. In January 2020 Council appointed a Council Member and four independent members to the Summit Sport and Recreation Park (SSRP) Board ("the Board").
4. The Board also has a subcommittee of representatives from associations and sporting groups that use the facility.
5. Cr Jones was Council's previous representative on the Board.

Discussion:

Terms of Reference

6. The role and objectives of the Board are to maximise participation and minimise cost; promote the facilities, set the strategic direction; review leases and licences of the facility and consider commercial arrangements.
7. The Board has some delegated powers (refer the Terms of Reference at Attachment 1).
8. In August and September 2022, the Board and Sub-Committee participated in a council commissioned review of the Board as per its Terms of Reference. The Board are considering the recommendations within that Report and will report back to Council in January 2023.
9. The Board is in the process of formalising its response to the recent Council review process and will discuss this at its meeting scheduled for 14 December. This will include the Board's recommendations for proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference. Council will receive the minutes of

the Board meeting and a report proposing amendments for Council consideration at its January 2023 meeting. .

Independent Members

10. Independent members appointment dates are staggered. The Chairperson and 1 independent member's appointments are due to expire in February 2023.

Council Member to be Appointed.

11. The Board currently has one (1) Council Member position on this Board. The recent review report did not recommend a change to having one Council Member on the Board.
12. The steps to follow in the nomination process for appointing a Council Member are included in attachment 2.

Sitting Fees

13. The CEO has been delegated to set independent member payments.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	Information regarding the Summit Sport and Recreation Park Board is available on Council's website.
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Policy:

Nil

Long Term Financial Plan:

Nil

Budget:

There is sufficient budget to pay independent member fees.

Statutory/Legal:

The Board operates in accordance with Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1999

Staff Resource Requirements:

There is no impact on staff resources.

Environmental:

Nil

Social:

Nil

Risk Assessment:

Nil

Asset Management:

Nil

Conclusion:

The Council Member appointment to the Summit Sport and Recreation Board need to be made in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	20 January 2020	CM Reference	DOC/19/162563
Title	APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS, PAYMENT OF AN ANNUAL FEE AND APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL MEMBER TO THE REGIONAL SPORTS HUB BOARD		
Purpose	To appoint independent members to the Regional Sports Hub Board and To determine an annual payment for independent members. To appoint a Council Member to the Regional Sports Hub Board.		

Summit Sport and Recreation Park Board

Terms of Reference

Established as a Committee of the Mount Barker District Council pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1999

Endorsed by Council at its meeting on 5 July 2021



1. NAME

- 1.1 The Committee will be known as the Summit Sport and Recreation Park (SSRP) Board (the Board)

2 ROLE AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The Board will:
- 2.1.1 maximise participation of the facility and seek to minimize the cost
 - 2.1.2 promote the services and facilities of the SSRP ;
 - 2.1.3 have responsibility for the strategic, financial and governance aspects of the SSRP facilities;
 - 2.1.4 by setting the strategic direction and governing the operational management of the SSRP facilities in order to meet the key objectives of the SSRP as set out by Council in the adopted Business Strategy and the Operating and Governance model;
 - 2.1.5 be responsible for the establishment and subsequent review of management and lease/licence agreements with SSRP users;
 - 2.1.6 consider commercial arrangements to optimise returns to the SSRP;
 - 2.1.7 provide advice to Council on any matter referred to the Board by Council; and
 - 2.1.8 be responsible for directing that all activity undertaken within the SSRP facilities is in accordance with legislative requirements.

3. SUB-COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Board will establish a User Sub-Committee to be known as the Summit Sport and Recreation Park User Sub-Committee (Sub-Committee).
- 3.2 The Sub-Committee will report to the Board.
- 3.3 The Sub-Committee will be advisory, it will not have any delegated powers.

- 3.4 The Council will provide to the Board a draft Terms of Reference including the composition for the Sub-Committee and provide an opportunity for the Board to provide feedback to the Council before finalising the Terms of Reference. The same opportunity will be afforded to Council should the Board subsequently propose to alter the Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee.
- 3.5 The Board will take into account the advice from the Sub-Committee on user requirements and arrangements including their input to scheduling and feedback on the effectiveness of the facilities' operations.
- 3.6 The Chairperson of the Sub-Committee will be same person as the Executive Officer to the Board.

4. ACCOUNTABILITY

- 4.1 The Board is accountable to Council.

5. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The Board will:

- 5.1 Direct the preparation of policies necessary to govern the SSRP facilities for Council approval.
- 5.2 Direct the preparation of procedures and associated governance mechanisms to enable the effective implementation of the approved policies and the approved annual business plan.
- 5.3 Present a draft annual business plan and budget, including proposed commercial undertakings and key performance indicators, by 31 March each year for Council approval.
- 5.4 Prepare and present a draft 3 year rolling business plan for Council approval by 31 March each year.
- 5.5 If requested, provide high level advice to Council on matters concerning the facilities and adjacent developments.
- 5.6 Present a 3 year marketing plan for Council approval.
- 5.7 Govern the implementation of the marketing plan.
- 5.8 Encourage commercial sponsorship and investigate other sources of revenue and make recommendations to Council.

6 REPORTING

- 6.1 The Board shall provide quarterly reports to Council summarising the financial and operation position against the annual business plan key performance indicators.

- 6.2 The Board shall provide an annual report to Council by no later than 30 September each year which will also include whether the Board believes changes are required to the Terms of Reference.

7. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Board will have delegated authority to:

7.1 Meetings:

- Determine the time and place for Board meetings.

7.2 Sub-Committee

- Establish the sub-committee following endorsement from Council of the proposed Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee and will be known as the SSRP Sub-Committee (Sub-Committee).
- Members of the Sub-Committee may be removed from office by Board resolution at any time.

7.3 Procedures and associated administration.

- Approve SSRP procedures and associated administration necessary to implement the approved annual business plan and that are consistent with approved Council policies relevant to the SSRP.

7.4 Management and Other Agreements

- Negotiate and execute the management agreements (i.e. lease/licence) that are in accordance with the approved SSRP Business Plan and Operations and Governance Model and approved Council Policies, with the user groups.

7.5 Financial:

- Consult with the Sub-Committee to formulate a draft annual budget to be submitted to Council by 31 March each year.
- Having regard to strategic objectives assess and regularly review to what extent a subsidy should apply to each regular user group and ensure that any subsidy is disclosed and reported on.
- Expend Council's approved budgeted funds.
- Set SSRP licence fees and fees/charges by 31 March as appropriate.
- Raise funds through approved fees/ charges or other approved income streams and deposited with Council for receipting to the SSRP account.
- Consider, endorse and recommend to Council grant funding applications to external bodies from Council, user groups, associations and State Sporting Organisations.

- Develop other revenue streams consistent with Council policies.

7.6 Contracts

- Enter into contracts within the approved annual budget in accordance with Council's procurement processes and policies.

7.7 Lease/Licence

- The power to grant a lease or licence consistent with objectives.

8. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- 8.1 Meetings will initially be scheduled bimonthly and eventually will be held quarterly and on an as needs basis.

9. MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT

- 9.1 The Board shall comprise 4 independent members and 1 Council Member (ensuring a different Council Member to that on the Sub-Committee).

- 9.2 Council will determine the process to appoint the Board members;

- 9.3 Two (2) Independent Members will be appointed for two (2) years and the Independent Chairperson and other member will be appointed for three (3) years. A person is eligible for reappointment at the expiry of their term.

- 9.4 One of the Board Members is to be appointed by Council as the Independent Chairperson.

- 9.5 Each independent Board member will receive an annual allowance or payment per meeting and informal gathering as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

- 9.6 The Independent Chairperson will be remunerated an additional amount in recognition of this further responsibility.

- 9.7 Each independent member of the Board shall have Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) qualifications (or equivalent) or demonstrated experience, comprising:

- An independent Chairperson with:
 - o broad commercial, local or state government experience; and
 - o connections (as well as broad governance background),
 - o high level commercial acumen and financial management skills, and
 - o preferably with an interest or background in community development and/or sports management and administration.

- At least one independent board member with:
 - o high level commercial acumen,
 - o contract management
 - o financial management skills,
 - o significant experience or past involvement in the management and growth of sports facilities;
 - o in master planning; or
 - o in leisure and/or recreation.
- At least one independent board member with:
 - o significant experience or past involvement in the management of community events;
 - o experience in marketing and/or
 - o the provision of community / disability / public health services; and
 - o with a sound understanding of the importance of a whole of community focus for the facility.
- An Executive Officer appointed by Council will be present at all meetings. The Executive Officer will not be a member of the Board and will be a Council Management representative with broad experience and/or portfolio of responsibilities ranging across strategy, communications, operations, facilities, leases and licences, asset management or facility management.

9.8 Members of the Board may be removed from office by Council resolution at any time.

9.9 Members of the Board may resign their position at any time by giving notice of their intention in writing to the Chairperson of the Board or if the Chairperson of the Board is resigning, then to the Executive Officer.

9.10 If a vacancy occurs on the Board Council will appoint a replacement Member to the Board.

10. QUORUM

10.1 The quorum will be 3 members.

When the Chairperson is absent, the members present shall choose who is to fulfil that role for the meeting.

11. ACCESS TO MEETINGS

11.1 In accordance with the principles of open, transparent and informed decision making, Board meetings must be conducted in a place open to the public. Members of the public are able to attend all meetings unless prohibited by resolution of the Board under the confidentiality provisions of Section 90 of the Act.

11.2 Members of the public shall have access to all documents related to the Board unless prohibited by resolution of the Board under the confidentiality provisions of Section 90 & 91 of the Local Government Act (1999).

12. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 12.1 The Board shall conduct its meetings in the Council Chamber, Local Government Centre, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker, until such time as construction of Stage 1 of the SSRP has been completed and suitable technology has been installed and thereafter at the SSRP.
- 12.2 In accordance with Section 87 of the Act a notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date, together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each member of the Board and observers, no later than three (3) clear days before the date of the meetings. Supporting papers shall be sent to Board Members (and to other attendees as appropriate) at the same time.
- 12.3 Notice of meeting, agenda and supporting information will be placed on public display at the SSRP, Council's Customer Service Centre and the Council's website.

13. MINUTES

- 13.1 The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that the proceedings and resolutions of all meetings of the Board, including recording the names of those present and in attendance, are minuted and that the minutes otherwise comply with the requirements of the *Local Government (Procedure at Meetings) Regulations 2013*.
- 13.2 Minutes of Board meetings shall be circulated within five (5) clear days after a meeting to all members of the Board and to all members of the Council.
- 13.3 Minutes of the Board meeting will be placed on Council's website, on public display at the Council's Customer Service Centre within five (5) clear days of the meeting and kept on display from the beginning of the previous year.

14. MEETING PROCEDURE

- 14.1 The Board shall conduct meetings in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and observing the provisions Part 1 – Preliminary, Part 2 – Meetings of Councils and Key Committees and Part 4 – Miscellaneous of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*; and Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures; and Code of Practice (Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Documents).
- 14.2 Conflict of Interest declarations are required pursuant to S 73 - 75B of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

15. OTHER

- 15.1 The Board shall have access to reasonable resources in order to carry out its duties.

16. REVIEW

- 16.1 A review will be undertaken by an independent consultant appointed by Council, after 2 years of the Board being operational and again at 5 years. This review will consider governance arrangements, management agreements, financial and operational aspects including the co-ordination and management of facilities.

A review of the Board Terms of Reference can occur at any time that the Council deems is required but in any event, will occur within 12 months of the Local Government general elections.

17. ACCESS TO TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 17.1 The Board's Terms of Reference is available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, at the Local Government Centre, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker, South Australia and on the Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Terms of Reference or the operations of the SSRP Board, please contact:

Title: Executive Officer to the SSRP Board
Address: Mount Barker District Council
PO Box 54,
Mount Barker South Australia, SA, 5251
Telephone: 8391 7231
Email: council@mountbarker.sa.gov.au

Election Process for Council Appointments

The process for determining a Council appointment to a particular position is as follows:

Nominations

1. Council Members should consider whether they have a conflict of interest when nominating and whether they should participate in the vote.
2. If Council Members wish to nominate but will be absent from the meeting they may notify (in advance of the council meeting) the Chief Executive Officer or the Executive Assistant to the CEO and Mayor via email or letter of their desire to nominate;
3. The Presiding Member will call for nominations, this does not require a seconder as it is not a motion. A council member may self nominate.
4. If there are more nomination(s) than positions the Presiding Member will allow up to 2 minutes for each of those council members nominated to outline why they are the most appropriate nominee.

Voting Options

5. Council will need to determine whether it wishes to vote via:
 - Show of hands; or
 - Secret Ballot; or
 - A motion for a specific Council Member (without a show of hands or secret ballot).
6. To determine the preferred method it is recommended that the Presiding Member seek a show of hands on the above three voting options.
7. All members in the Chamber including the Presiding Member shall be eligible to vote via a show of hands or secret ballot as this is not a motion, it is to gauge the preferred voting option.
8. Once the preferred voting option is clear, the Presiding Member will then seek a motion in the normal manner to formalise that.
9. Show Of Hands
If via Show Of Hands is the preferred voting option, the Presiding Member will read out the name of the Councillors who have been nominated and ask Council Members to vote once for their preferred nominee. The Presiding Member is eligible to vote as this is not a motion it is to gauge the level of support for each of the nominees. The counting will be first past the post,

majority vote. This will be followed by a request from the Presiding Member for a formal motion to confirm who is to be appointed.

OR

10. Secret Ballot

Each Council Member in the Chamber including the Presiding Member will complete their voting slip with the name of the preferred Council Member. These will be collected and counted by a Council Officer present and an additional Council Officer acting as scrutineer.

11. The counting will be first past the post, majority vote.
12. The Presiding Member will announce the result of the ballot process and will call for a motion to formalise that.
13. Council Members will not be able to see the ballot papers after the vote is completed and the ballot papers will be destroyed by the scrutineers.

OR

14. A Motion

If via a motion is the preferred voting option (without following an informal process first), the Presiding Member will ask the Council for a motion (i.e. that Council appoint Councillor X and if seconded, members will vote on that motion in the normal manner. If that motion is lost, a further motion will be called for, being for a different nominee(s).

15. Tied Vote

If there is a tie for the most votes using either (a) Show of Hands or (b) Secret Ballot, **but** there are also votes for other nominees, Council will undertake a further process (using the same voting option) with this then being restricted only to the tied nominees who received the most votes.

16. If the subsequent result is a tied vote between candidates using either (a) Show of Hands or (b) Secret Ballot **and** no other candidates received any votes, the result will be decided by the scrutineer placing the Council Member names in a box and with the first name drawn out by the Presiding Member being the Council Member who is eliminated until there is only one name remaining. This will be followed by a motion and resolution.

12.6	REPORT TITLE:	GRANT FUNDING SUBMISSION – COMMUNITY RECREATION AND SPORT FACILITIES PROGRAM
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/148666
	ATTACHMENTS:	1 BRIEF SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL PROJECTS DOC/22/150420
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy CEO/General Manager, Governance
	<u>Sponsor</u>	Andrew Stuart, Chief Executive Officer

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Community Wellbeing

Activity and Movement

CW Objective 1.1 Plan for, develop, improve and maintain community facilities and infrastructure such as halls, sports grounds, play spaces and natural areas.

Annual Business Plan:

Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Purpose:

To seek endorsement to submit the recommended council projects for grant funding from the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program.

Summary – Key Issues:

- The deadline for council to submit projects for the State Government Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program is 9 December 2022;
- Following a structured internal process, three council projects are recommended (as below) to be submitted for grant funding.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the three council projects listed below to be submitted for grant funding (for the grant amounts shown) from the State Government Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program.
 - a) Land Acquisition - Meadows Oval Expansion \$125,000;

- b) Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre – Sustainability Initiatives \$500,000; and
- c) Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre – Upgrade of toilets & change rooms \$81,000.

Explanatory note: The above projects are not listed in any particular order.

Background:

The Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program

1. The State Government, via the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR), is inviting nominations for the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program.
2. In summary the Program entails:
 - a) Council is eligible to submit projects for grant funding.
 - b) The deadline for submissions is 12 noon on Friday 9 December 2022.
 - c) Projects that are successful in gaining a grant must be completed by April 2025.
 - d) The maximum amount of a grant for any one project is \$500,000.
 - e) For all projects the council contribution must be at least 50% of the project cost with the exception of trails for which the council contribution must be at least 25%.
 - f) More than one project can be submitted.
 - g) Project management fees are listed as being ineligible.
 - h) A total budget of \$5.524 million.

Council's Internal Process

3. Staff were invited to nominate possible council projects for consideration, using a template nomination form.
4. A total of 8 council projects were nominated. Of these one was deemed to be ineligible as it related to the purchase of equipment and one was subsequently deemed to be withdrawn as it did not provide any cost estimates.
5. The following assessment criteria were agreed and used internally for determining council project priorities. The criteria are not in any particular order and no weighting has been assigned.
 - a) Consistent with a council meeting resolution

- b) Legislative/statutory compliance objective
- c) Alignment with the Community Plan
- d) Alignment with the LTFP/Annual Budget
- e) Alignment with the Asset Renewal Program
- f) Bang for buck i.e. relative benefit of a grant for say \$x versus a grant for 5 x \$x.
- g) Community expectations/engagement
- h) Whole of life - revenue/cost

Discussion:

- 6. As is council's practice, contact was made with the ORSR to gain a better understanding of what projects were likely to be well received.
- 7. The feedback on priorities from an ORSR perspective was that favourable consideration will be given to projects that will increase participation e.g. lighting, playing surface upgrades, anything that supports getting people active.
- 8. The three projects recommended above:
 - a) are all eligible for this program;
 - b) would be able to meet the required timeline for completion of April 2025;
 - c) are consistent with council recreation and sport priorities;
 - d) would deliver community benefit;
 - e) would have minimal or no impact on the council budget for 2022/23;
 - f) with the exception of the Land Acquisition - Meadows Oval Expansion project (which is the subject of a recent council meeting resolution) have capacity provisioned in the Long Term Financial Plan; and
 - g) provide a good mix of projects that are diverse in their nature.
- 9. The three recommended council projects would be seeking grant funding in total of \$706,000 out of a total program budget of \$5.524 million which would equate to 12.8% of the total budget.
- 10. A brief summary of each of the three recommended council projects is included as attachment 1.

Community Nominated Projects

11. Separate but related is that not for profit sporting groups are also eligible to apply for a grant. Any projects submitted by such groups seeking a grant of \$50,000 or more are under the Program Guidelines "... strongly encouraged..." to provide evidence of council support.
12. Nick Day Manager, Community Property and Facilities is the nominated council point of contact for any such proposals from the community.
13. At the time of preparing this agenda item no community proposals have been received.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	Information to be available via the council website
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Policy:

Not applicable.

Long Term Financial Plan:

Alignment with the LTFP was a criteria used for the assessment of the nominations received.

Of the three projects recommended, capacity is provisioned in the LTFP for all with the exception of the Land Acquisition - Meadows Oval Expansion project.

Budget:

Implications for the 2022/23 council budget arising from the recommended three council projects are as follows:

- **Land Acquisition - Meadows Oval Expansion** \$150,000 not currently in the 2022/23 budget would be required via a budget review if settlement was to occur late in 2022/23 (not yet known).
- **Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre – Sustainability Initiatives** \$50,000 required in 2022/23 and is currently available in the 2022/23 budget, the balance would be in 2023/24 and is included within the current estimated project capital cost.
- **Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre – Upgrade of toilets & change rooms** No funds required in 2022/23, to be funded in 2023/24 from the asset renewal program.

Statutory/Legal:

A grant agreement with the State Government would need to be executed for any project that is successful in gaining a grant.

A contract for the sale and purchase of the land adjacent to the Meadows Oval would need to be executed.

Staff Resource Requirements:

The required information for the purposes of council project submissions can be achieved within existing council resources.

If any of the council projects submitted are successful, the required project management resource is included in the amount that would need to be funded by council.

Environmental:

The sustainability initiatives for the Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre would have direct environmental benefit.

Social:

The recommended council projects would all deliver social benefit to the community.

Risk Assessment:

Risks associated with this process if a council nominated project is successful include:

- Cost escalation occurs which exceeds the estimated project cost plus the provision for cost escalation; and
- There is a delay and council is unable to deliver the project within the required time frame.

Asset Management:

Each of the recommended council projects has asset management implications. This varies from the maintenance and/or upgrading of existing assets to the acquisition of new assets.

Conclusion:

The State Government Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program is an opportunity that council should pursue to seek grant funding for projects that will provide community benefit.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	6 September 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/140776
Title	GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES		
Purpose	To seek endorsement for a range of projects submitted/to be submitted to various grant funding programs.		

Meeting Date	1 April 2019	CM Reference	DOC/19/35206
Title	GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS		
Purpose	To advise that the council applications to the Federal Government under the Building Better Regions Round 3 and Safer Communities Fund were unsuccessful and to seek endorsement for the lodgement with the State Government of further grant funding applications under other programs.		

Attachment 1

Summary of Recommended Council Projects for State Government Grant Funding

These are listed in no particular order.

Project Title**Strategic Land Acquisition - Meadows Oval Expansion**Amount of Grant Being Sought

\$125,000 ex GST

Project Description

The project involves the land division, land purchase and amalgamation into the Meadows Recreation Ground site to enable the future expansion of the oval playing surface and surrounding infrastructure.

Project Background

The Meadows Recreation Ground Committee identified an opportunity to expand the recreation ground land through a boundary realignment to enable a future oval expansion to occur. Action 36 of the Township Plan states 'Work with Meadows Recreation Ground Committee to investigate options and secure land for recreation ground and oval expansion into adjacent land to the north'.

Project Title**Regional Aquatic & Leisure Centre – Sustainability Initiatives**Amount of Grant Being Sought

\$500,000 ex GST

Project Description

To install a Photovoltaic system and other ESD elements to the Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre to have a more sustainable development. The benefits of installing a photovoltaic system include reducing carbon footprint, reduce electricity expenditure and it is a renewable energy source.

Project Background

Implementation of a Photovoltaic System and other ESD Elements on the Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre will reduce council's carbon footprint. By sourcing external funding it will help reduce the cost for this community facility for ratepayers.

Project Title**Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre – Toilets and Change Rooms Upgrade**Amount of Grant Being Sought

\$81,000 ex GST

Project Description

Upgrade of ground floor toilets and change rooms (adjacent gymnastics hall) at the Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre (including separate disabled toilet).

Project Background

The toilets and change rooms are in need of upgrade. This includes a disabled toilet that is difficult for users to navigate. These toilets and change rooms are regularly used by gymnastics' children/teenagers and other patrons using the health club and courts. There have been a number of complaints about the state of the toilets and change rooms.

12.7	REPORT TITLE:	COUNCIL MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS POLICY
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/130123
	ATTACHMENTS:	1 - DOC/22/130124 – DRAFT NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS POLICY 2 - DOC/22/130126 – COUNCIL MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE 3 - DOC/17/24279 – SERVICE AWARD FOR FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS POLICY (TO BE REVOKED)
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Maree Barns, Administration Officer - Governance
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey Deputy CEO/General Manager - Governance,

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Leadership and Good Governance

LGG Strategy 1.5 Demonstrate accountability through clear, relevant and easily accessible policies, corporate reporting and legislative compliance.

Annual Business Plan:

Nil

Purpose:

To provide a Policy and Procedure for Council to adopt regarding Council Member Allowances and Benefits.

Summary – Key Issues:

- The Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy that was most recently revised in May 2019 automatically lapsed at the completion of the 2022 Council election.
- Council is required to approve a new Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy that stipulates allowances and the type of reimbursement as prescribed under the regulations and those provided by Council.
- The new Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy includes content from the Service Award for Former Council Members Policy, so it is recommended that the latter now be revoked.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Adopts the new Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy (attachment 1) until the end of the Council term of office in late 2026;
 2. Notes the Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Reimbursement Procedure (attachment 2); and
 3. Revokes the Service Award for Former Council Members Policy (attachment 3) as those details are now included in the new Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy.
-

Background:

1. Pursuant to Section 76 of the Local Government Act 1999 ("the Act") a Council Member is entitled to an allowance determined by the Remuneration Tribunal in relation to a Member's office and indexed in accordance with the Act and the Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010 ("the Regulations").
2. Pursuant to Section 77 of the Act, a member of Council is entitled to receive from Council the reimbursement of expenses incurred in the Regulations for those expenses determined by resolution or Policy of the Council.
3. The LGA provides a template to assist Council's in developing the Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy. The Policy developed is provided at Attachment 1. A Reimbursement Procedure is also provided at Attachment 2.

Discussion:

4. Details of the Service Award for Former Council Members Policy are now instead included in the new Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy. Hence it is recommended that the Service Award for Former Council Members Policy now be revoked.
5. The Remuneration Tribunal determination for 2022 established that Mount Barker District Council remained in Group 2. The Remuneration Tribunal has 6 groups of councils in total. Group 2 also includes the Cities of Whyalla, Mount Gambier and Port Augusta, along with some metropolitan councils such as Campbelltown and neighbouring councils including Alexandrina, Murray Bridge and Adelaide Hills.

6. The allowances that will be paid from the conclusion of the 2022 election are:
 - A Councillor who is not a Principal Member (Mayor), Deputy Mayor or Presiding Member of a prescribed Committee shall be \$19,110 pa;
 - A Councillor who is a Deputy Mayor or Presiding Member of a Prescribed Committee (i.e. Audit, Chief Executive Officer Performance Review, Corporate Services, Finance, Governance, Infrastructure and Works, Risk Management, Strategic Planning and Development) will be equal to (1.25) times the annual allowance for Councillors - \$23,887.50 pa.
 - A Principal Member (Mayor) allowance is equal to 4 times the annual Councillors allowance - \$76,440 pa.
 - An additional allowance in the form of a sitting fee (\$188 per meeting up to an aggregate of \$1129 per annum) is payable to a Councillor (other than the Principal Member (Mayor), or Presiding Member of a Prescribed Committee) who is the Presiding Member of a Committee that is **not** a Prescribed Committee (e.g. Community Grants Assessment Committee).
7. The Tribunal also determined that in addition to any travel reimbursement of expenses actually incurred, a travel time allowance can be paid to non-metropolitan Council Members (excluding the Principal Member) whose usual place of residence within the Council area is as detailed below. Mount Barker District Council is considered by the Tribunal to be a non-metropolitan council. The distance is measured from the Council's Principal Office via the most direct road route:
 - At least 30kms but less than 50kms - \$454 per annum
 - At least 50kms but less than 75kms - \$775 per annum
 - At least 75kms but less than 100kms - \$1162 per annum
 - At least 100kms or more - \$1649 per annumIt is understood that no Council Member is eligible for this allowance as all live within 30kms from the Council Office.
8. The allowances will be adjusted annually by the Remuneration Tribunal on the first, second and third anniversaries of the 2022 elections to reflect changes to the CPI.
9. Allowances may be paid in instalments of up to 3 months in advance or arrears. Currently allowances are paid 1 month in advance – the Policy reflects this.
10. The most significant additions in Attachment 1, the revised draft Council Members Allowances and Benefits Policy, are in relation to the:
 - a) updated annual allowance amounts;
 - b) inclusion of information from the Service Awards for Former Council Members' Policy which then allows for the revocation of the Service Awards for former Council Members' Policy; and

- c) amounts that can be claimed for meal expenses have all (breakfast, lunch and dinner) been increased by \$5.

The proposed changes are marked in red in Attachment 1.

11. Attachment 2 describes the processes to be followed to claim reimbursement.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	Information is available via the Council Agenda and the Policy will be placed on Council's website. The Register of Allowances and Benefits is updated quarterly on Council's website.
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Policy:

The attached updated Policy replaces the existing Policy which lapsed at the 2022 election.

Long Term Financial Plan:

Nil

Budget:

A total of \$22,000 is budgeted for replacing the laptops that are provided to all council members for use in council meetings and for other purposes.

Allowances are budgeted for.

Claims for travel time allowance have not been budgeted as no claims have been made previously and it is understood that no council members are eligible.

Staff Resource Requirements:

There are no impacts on staff resources.

Environmental:

N/A

Social:

N/A

Risk Assessment:

There is a risk that Council may wish to amend the reimbursements included.

Asset Management:

N/A

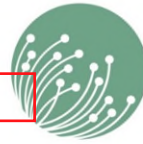
Conclusion:

The Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy has been updated to reflect changes from the Remuneration Tribunal, the LGA template and Council's own policy requirements.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	6 May 2019	CM Reference	DOC/19/40803
Title	Revised Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy		
Purpose	To provide a revised Policy for Council to adopt regarding Council Members' Allowances and Benefits.		

Meeting Date	3 December 2018	CM Reference	DOC/18/118421
Title	Council Member Allowances and Benefits		
Purpose	To provide a Policy and Procedure for Council to adopt regarding Council Member Allowances and Benefits.		



TITLE: COUNCIL MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Mount Barker District Council (“Council”) will ensure that the payment of Council Members’ allowances, the reimbursement of expenses and the provision of benefits by the Council is accountable and transparent and in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* (“the Local Government Act”) and the *Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010* (“the Allowances Regulations”).
- 1.2 This Policy sets out the provisions of the Local Government Act and Regulations in respect of Council Member allowances, expenses, and support. This Policy is also provided in accordance with Section 77(1)(b) of the Local Government Act by specifying the types of expenses that will be reimbursed without the need for specific approval of Council every time a claim is made.
- 1.3 Council Members are paid an allowance for performing and discharging their functions and duties on Council. Section 59 of the Local Government Act provides that the role of a Council Member, as a member of the governing body of the Council, is:
 - (i) to act with integrity;
 - (ii) to ensure positive and constructive working relationships within the council;
 - (iii) to recognise and support the role of the principal member under the Local Government Act;
 - (iv) to develop skills relevant to the role of a member of the council and the functions of the council as a body;
 - (v) to participate in the deliberations and activities of the council;
 - (vi) to keep the council’s objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective; and
 - (vii) to keep the council’s resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery, under review;
 - (viii) to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the principles set out in section 8 of the Local Government Act are observed;

- (ix) to participate in the oversight of the chief executive officer's performance under the council's contract with the chief executive officer; and
- (x) to serve the overall public interest.

1.4 Section 58 of the Local Government Act specifies the role of the Principal Member as leader of the Council is to:

- (a) to provide leadership and guidance to the council; and
- (b) to lead the promotion of positive and constructive working relationships among members of the council; and
- (c) to provide guidance to council members on the performance of their role, including on the exercise and performance of their official functions and duties; and
- (d) to support council members' understanding of the separation of responsibilities between elected representatives and employees of the council; and
- (e) to preside at meetings of the council; and
- (f) to liaise with the chief executive officer between council meetings on the implementation of a decision of the council; and
- (g) to act as the principal spokesperson of the council; and
- (h) to exercise other functions of the council as the council determines; and
- (i) to carry out the civic and ceremonial duties of the office of principal member.

1.5 This Policy also explains the information that must be recorded within the Council's Register of Allowances and Benefits to ensure compliance with section 79 of the Local Government Act.

2. PURPOSE

To ensure Council Member allowances, the reimbursement of expenses, and the provision of benefits, facilities, and support by the Council are in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act and the Allowances Regulations.

3. SCOPE

3.1 This Policy applies to all Council Members, who each have an obligation to abide by this Policy.

4. POLICY PRINCIPLES – OUR COMMITMENT

This Policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- Facilities and support provided to Council Members will be provided on a uniform basis (other than facilities or services specifically provided for the benefit of the Mayor).
- Any reimbursements claimed by Council Members must be for expenses actually and necessarily incurred in performing and discharging official Council functions and duties, which will be assessed according to the role of a Council Member under the Local Government Act.

5. DEFINITIONS

Allowances shall mean the entitlements determined by the Remuneration Tribunal paid to Council Members in recognition of the Members service to the community.

Committee (from the Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal) means a Committee established by a Council in terms of Section 41 of the Act

Eligible journey (Regulation 3) means a journey (in either direction) between the principal place of residence, or a place of work, of a member of the Council and the place of a prescribed meeting.

Function or activity on the business of the Council – travel both within and outside the Council area must be incurred by the Council Member as a consequence of attendance at a function or activity on the business of Council. This includes official Council functions including Mayoral/Chairperson receptions, opening ceremonies, dinners, citizenship ceremonies and official visits etc; inspection of sites within the Council area which relate to Council or Committee agenda items; meetings of community groups and organisations as a Council representative – but not to attend meetings of community groups or organisations when fulfilling the role as a member of the Board or any such community group or organisation

Prescribed Meeting (Regulation 3) in relation to a member of a council, means a meeting of the council or council committee, or an informal gathering, discussion, workshop, briefing, training course or similar activity which is directly or closely related to the performance or discharge of the roles or duties of the member.

Prescribed Committee (from the Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal) means for the purposes of this determination, a committee that endures, irrespective of whether the council has assigned any particular work for the committee to perform and assists the council or provides advice to the council in any of the following areas or any combination thereof:

- Audit

- Chief Executive Officer performance review
- Corporate services
- Finance
- Governance
- Infrastructure and works
- Risk management
- Strategic planning and development

6. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Chief Executive Officer

- ensure a copy of this Policy is published on a website and able to be provided in printed form on request and on payment of a fee (if any) fixed by the Council.
- ensuring a copy of this Policy is provided to all Council Members.

General Manager Corporate

- Implement and monitor expense reimbursement procedures in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, Regulations and this Policy;
- Maintain the Register of Allowances and Benefits;
- Adjust allowances paid to Council Members (on the first, second and third anniversaries of the relevant periodic elections to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index ("CPI"))

Risk and Governance Officer

- Implement and monitor expense reimbursement procedures in accordance with the Local Government Act, the Allowances Regulations, this Policy and any associated procedure.

7. ALLOWANCES

- 7.1 Council Member allowances are determined by the Remuneration Tribunal on a four-yearly basis with each determination required to be made 14 days before the close of nominations for each set of periodic elections held under the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*.
- 7.2 The relevant determination for the Council term commencing in November 2022 is [*Determination No. 2 of 2022 – Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils*](#).
- 7.3 The allowance determined by the Remuneration Tribunal will be payable for the period:
- commencing on the conclusion of the 2022 periodic election; and
 - concluding at the time the last result of the 2026 periodic election is certified by the Electoral Commissioner under the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*.

- 7.4 The annual allowance for a Council Member is determined according to the relevant Council Group. There are six Council Groups which are each explained within the Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.
- 7.5 The Mount Barker District Council has been identified as falling with Group 2 in the current Remuneration Tribunal Determination, with an initial council member allowance as follows:

Councillors		\$19,110
Mayor	Four (4) times the annual allowance for Councillors	\$76,440
Deputy Mayor or a Councillor who is the Presiding Member of a prescribed committee	One and a quarter (1.25) the times the annual allowance for a Councillor of that Council	\$23,887.50

- 7.6 An additional allowance in the form of a sitting fee is also payable for council members who are presiding members of other committees (who are not deputy mayors, deputy chairpersons or presiding members of prescribed committees).
- 7.7 Council Member allowances are to be adjusted on the first, second, and third anniversaries of the relevant periodic elections to reflect changes in the CPI (All groups index for Adelaide). Adjustments will occur on 10 November 2023, 10 November 2024, and 10 November 2025. The change in the Consumer Price Index to be applied will be the most recently available annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index as at the date of adjustment (which will likely be the most recent relevant September quarter figure).
- 7.8 In accordance with regulation 4 of the Allowances Regulations (and for the purposes of section 76 of the Local Government Act), an allowance may be paid in instalments up to 3 months in advance or 3 months in arrears of each month in respect of which an instalment is payable.
- 7.9 Mount Barker District Council allowances will be paid 1 month in advance by electronic funds transfer to a nominated bank account.
- 7.10 A statement of earnings can be provided to Council Members at the conclusion of each financial year.

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE – COUNCIL MEMBER CONTESTING ELECTION

- 8.1 If a Council Member stands as a candidate for election as a member of State Parliament, section 55A of the Local Government Act automatically grants a leave of absence from the date on which nominations for the relevant election close until the result of the election is publicly declared.
- 8.2 During the leave of absence period the Council Member:

- is not entitled to receive any Council Member allowance or reimbursement of expenses; and
- must not use any facility, service or other form of support provided by the Council; and
- must not carry out any function or duty as a Council Member.

8.3 A maximum penalty of \$15,000 applies for a breach of this section of the Local Government Act.

9. MANDATORY REIMBURSEMENTS – TRAVEL (Section 77(1)(a))

- 9.1 Council Members are entitled to receive reimbursement for travelling expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the Council Member for travel within the Council area and associated with attendance at a “prescribed meeting” (section 77(1)(a) of the Local Government Act).
- 9.2 A “prescribed meeting” is defined under the Allowances Regulations to mean a meeting of the Council or Council committee, or an information or briefing session, discussion, workshop, training course or similar activity which is directly or closely related to the performance or discharge of the roles or duties of the Member:
- 9.3 Reimbursement for travel expenses is restricted to “eligible journeys” (as defined in Regulation 3) provided the journey is by the shortest or most practicable route and to the part of the journey within the Council area ie any travelling outside the Council area in order to attend Council or Council committee meetings is not reimbursable under section 77(1)(a) of the Local Government Act. For reimbursement for travel outside the Council area refer to Prescribed and Approved Reimbursements below.
- 9.4 An “eligible journey” means a journey (in either direction) between the principal place of residence, or a place of work, of a Council Member, and the place of a prescribed meeting.
- 9.5 Where a Council Member travels by private motor vehicle, the rate of reimbursement is at a rate equal to the appropriate rate per kilometre (determined according to the engine capacity of the vehicle) prescribed for the purposes of calculating deductions for car expenses under section 28.25 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* of the Commonwealth¹.
- 9.6 Travelling by taxi, bus or other means of public transport is reimbursed on the basis of expenses “actually and necessarily incurred” but is still limited to “eligible journeys” by the shortest or most practicable route and to the part of the journey that is within the Council area.
- 9.7 The Council may aggregate claims for reimbursement of expenses that relate to journeys that do not exceed 20 kilometres and then pay them on either a quarterly or monthly basis.

¹ Section 28.25 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cwth) relates to the ‘cents per kilometre’ method. The Commissioner for Taxation may, by legislative instrument, determine rates of cents per kilometre for cars for an income year. Refer to ato.gov.au for cents per kilometre rates.

10. MANDATORY REIMBURSEMENTS – Child/Dependant Care (Section 77(1)(a))

- 10.1 Council Members are entitled to reimbursement for child/dependant care expenses actually or necessarily incurred by the Council Member as a consequence of the Council Member's attendance at a prescribed meeting.
- 10.2 Child/dependant care is not reimbursed if the care is provided by a person who ordinarily resides with the Council Member.

11. ADDITIONAL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS (Section 77(1)(b))

- 11.1 There may be additional expenses incurred by Council Members (not included in the mandatory reimbursements outlined above) that can be reimbursed by the Council. Section 77(1)(b) of the Local Government Act provides that the Council may approve the reimbursement of additional expenses incurred by Council Members, as provided for in the Allowances Regulations, either on a case-by-case basis or under a policy adopted by Council.
- 11.2 Regulation 6 sets out the additional expenses that may be reimbursed under section 77(1)(b) with the approval of the Council.
- 11.3 For the purposes of this Policy, and pursuant to section 77(1)(b) of the Local Government Act, the Council approves the reimbursement of additional expenses of Council Members as described below.

11.3.1 Travel

Travel related to attendance at a Council or Council committee meeting being an "eligible journey" (as defined in Regulation 3), as it is attributable to travel outside the Council area, up to a maximum of 50km each way. Reimbursement is restricted to the shortest or most practicable route.

Where a Council Member travels by private motor vehicle, the rate of reimbursement is at a rate equal to the appropriate rate per kilometre (determined according to the engine capacity of the vehicle) prescribed for the purposes of calculating deductions for car expenses under section 28.25 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* of the Commonwealth

11.3.2 Travel time Allowance for Members of Non-Metropolitan Councils

In addition to any entitlement to reimbursement of expenses actually incurred, an allowance as detailed below, will be payable to Council Members (excluding the Mayor), whose usual place of residence is within the relevant Council area and is located:

- At least 30kms but less than 50kms
- At least 50kms but less than 75kms
- At least 75kms but less than 100kms
- More than 100kms

from the Council's principal office, via the most direct route.

11.3.3 Other Expenses

Expenses incurred by the Council Member as a consequence of the Council Member's attendance at a conference, seminar, training course or other similar activity that is directly or closely related to the performance or discharge of the roles or duties of the Council Member (other than expenses for which the Member is reimbursed under section 77(1)(a) of the Local Government Act).

Expenses will only be reimbursed for attendance at conferences, seminars, etc which have been approved by Council or under delegation/policy, eg under Council's 'Council Member Training and Development Policy'. Where attendance at the conference, seminar etc is approved, the following types of expenses can be reimbursed: economy air travel (within Australia), bus travel, registration fees, private room accommodation, meals (maximum for breakfast = \$35pp, lunch \$40pp, dinner \$65pp, all excluding alcohol), taxi fares, carparking.

No other expenses will be reimbursed.

An accompanying person will not be reimbursed.

The attendance must be accommodated within the budget.

Car parking

Car parking fees will be reimbursed where they are a consequence of a Council member attending a function or activity on the business of the Council. Receipts must be provided and the activity attended noted on the receipt.

Catering:

For goods purchased to assist in meal preparation for Council / Committee meetings or entertaining.

Health

An influenza vaccination will be offered to Council Members.

Service Awards for Council Members Who Have Served at Least One (1) Full Term

For Council Members who have served at least one (1) full term with Council:

- and who have resigned from Council or who have determined not to renominate, will be provided with a plaque (or similar) and certificate of service identifying their years of service, at their last Council meeting; or
- who were unsuccessful at the periodic election will be provided with a plaque (or similar) and certificate of service identifying their years of service, in person by the Mayor, or if it is the Mayor, by the CEO;

They will also be invited to attend a post-election dinner with their fellow former Council Members.

Service Awards for Council Members Who Have Served Three (3) or More Terms

For Council Members who have determined not to renominate, and who have served three (3) or more terms, (not necessarily consecutive), a plaque, a certificate of service, and a service award valued at \$500 chosen by the Mayor (and in their absence the Deputy Mayor) will be presented at their last Council meeting.

Members who have served three (3) or more terms (not necessarily consecutive) and were unsuccessful at the periodic election will be provided with a plaque, a certificate of service and a service award to the value of \$500 chosen by the Mayor (and in their absence the Deputy Mayor) and provided in person by the Mayor or if it is the Mayor, by the CEO.

They will also be invited to attend a post-election dinner with their fellow former Council Members.

12 FACILITIES AND SUPPORT

Pursuant to section 78 of the Local Government Act, Council has considered and is satisfied that the following facilities and support are necessary or expedient for all Council Members to assist them in performing or discharging their official functions and duties:

All Council Members will be provided with:

- Business cards;
- Name Badge and A-frame nameplate for meetings;
- A Council email address;
- Annual Training and Development Budget;
- Access to Employee Assistance Program during their term of office and for 12 months following;
- Insurance for every Member of the Council and a spouse, domestic partner or another person who may be accompanying a Member of Council, against risks associated with the performance or discharge of official functions or duties by Members;
- A meal prior to a Council meeting or post a strategic planning session;
- Welcome function for the new Council;
- A Christmas function for both Council Members and partners ;
- **Invitation to attend the all Council staff Christmas breakfast function;**
- Limited use of the alcoholic/non-alcoholic bar following a Council meeting;
- A laptop (or similar device) with standard software, applications and internet via an internet connection or similar} with stylus, mouse, **headphones** (on request) and protective cover;
- Training for the use of the laptop (or similar device) and software; and
- Help Desk support.

The provision of these facilities and support are made available to all Council Members (including the Principal Member) under the Local Government Act on the following basis:

- they are necessary or expedient for the Council member to perform or discharge his/her official functions or duties;
- the facilities remain the Council's property regardless of whether they are used off site or not; and
- they are not to be used for a private purpose or any other purpose unrelated to official Council functions, and duties, unless such usage has been specifically pre-approved by the Council and the Council Member has agreed to reimburse the Council for any additional cost or expenses associated with that usage.

In addition to the above, Council has resolved to make available to the Principal Member (and to any acting Principal Member appointed during the Principal Member's absence) the following additional facilities and support to assist them in performing and discharging their official functions and duties:

- A fully maintained vehicle;
- Smart Phone;
- Office computer, printer and office accommodation within the Local Government Centre;
- Administrative support, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer.

In addition, although not required by the Local Government Act, the Council has determined that the provision of the above facilities and support are made available to Council Members on the following terms:

- each Council Member is solely responsible for those facilities released into their care and/or control for the duration of their term in office;
- all facilities must be returned to the Council at the end of each term in office, upon the office of a Member of a Council becoming vacant, or earlier at the request of the Chief Executive Officer;
- if the facilities provided to the Council Member are damaged or lost, the Council Member must lodge a written report with the Council officer responsible for this Policy;
- The use of Council facilities, support and/or services by Council Members for campaign or election purposes is not permitted under any circumstances on the basis it is not necessary or expedient to the performance or discharge of a Council Member's official functions or duties under the Local Government Act. The use of such facilities for electoral purposes during the election period would be a breach of section 78(3) of the Local Government Act.

13 CLAIMING REIMBURSEMENTS

Claims

The detailed process for seeking claims for reimbursement is provided for in the “Council Members’ Expenses Reimbursement Procedure”.

To receive reimbursement for travel expenses or child/dependent care complete the Reimbursement of Expenses Form. Members are requested to submit these claims on a quarterly basis no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred and prior to the end of the financial year or prior to the end of the Council term.

14 REGISTER OF ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS

Pursuant to section 79(1) and (2) of the Local Government Act, the Chief Executive Officer must maintain a Register in which he or she shall ensure that a record is kept of—

- a) the annual allowance payable to a Council Member (in the case of section 79(1)(a)); and
- b) any expenses reimbursed under section 77(1)(b) of the Local Government Act (in the case of section 79(1)(b)); and
- c) other benefits paid or provided for the benefit of the Member by the Council (in the case of section 79(1)(c)); or
- d) to make a record of the provision of a reimbursement or benefit not previously recorded in the Register (in the case of section 79(2)(b)),

on a quarterly basis (see regulation 7 of the Allowances Regulations).

Reimbursements paid under section 77(1)(a) of the Local Government Act are not required to be recorded in the Register.

15. TRAINING / EDUCATION

The provision of this Policy will be included in induction training of the new Council.

16. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed:

- following the next general election; or
- earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or;
- if deemed necessary by the Risk and Governance Officer.

The Policy will automatically lapse at the next general election of the Council.

17. ACCESS TO THE POLICY

The Policy is available on the Council’s website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au

and if requested a copy provided on payment of a fee.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Policy, please contact:

Title: Risk and Governance Officer

Address: PO Box 54, Mount Barker
South Australia, SA, 5251

Telephone: 8391 7231

Email: council@mountbarker.sa.gov.au

REFERENCE NUMBER	Doc/22/130124		
PREVIOUS DOCUMENT NUMBER:	Doc/19/40803		
INTERNAL GOVERNANCE:			
Author	Ros McDougall	Risk and Governance Officer	7 October 2022
Responsible General Manager:	Brian Clancey	Deputy Chief Executive Officer/ General Manager – Governance, Strategic Projects and Wastewater/Recycled Water	Date
Reviewed by CEO	Andrew Stuart		Date
REVIEWED BY CGG			Date of Meeting
APPROVED BY (DOCUMENT OWNER):	Council		
	<i>[meeting minute #]</i>		5 December 2022
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS:	Local Government Act 1999 Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) 2010 Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal Allowances of Local Government Councils No. 2 of 2022 Related document: Council Members Allowances and Benefits Procedure Council Members Reimbursement Procedure		
COMMUNITY PLAN 2020-2035 REFERENCE:	Leadership and Good Governance LGG Strategy 1.5 Demonstrate accountability through clear, relevant and easily accessible policies, corporate reporting and legislative compliance.		
REVIEW CYCLE	Review within 12 months of the new Council term It is recognised that from time to time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a Council department, a change to the name of a State or Federal Department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be by resolution of Council (if statutory) or the Chief Executive Officer (if administrative).		
NEXT REVIEW DATE	7 December 2026		
DOCUMENT HISTORY:			

DOCUMENT VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR (PERSON TO WHOM CHANGES ARE TO BE RECOMMENDED)	NATURE OF CHANGE
VERSION 1.0	8 November 2022	Ros McDougall	
DOCUMENT LOCATION:	Council website [publication date] A copy can be provided on request, on payment of a fixed fee. Available for inspection, downloading or printing from our website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au		

Attachment 2 to Item 12.7



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

TITLE: COUNCIL MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

1. PURPOSE

To provide direction and transparency in relation to the procedure to be followed when seeking reimbursement of expenses associated with the discharge of Council Member's official roles and responsibilities.

2. PROCEDURE

2.1 Vehicle Travel Expenses

Pursuant to the Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy, Council Members can claim reimbursement of travel related to "eligible journeys".

Claims for reimbursement of additional travel expenses of the Policy are to be provided to the Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor. Reimbursement for travel expenses will be included with the subsequent allowance payment.

The Council may aggregate claims for reimbursement of expenses that relate to journeys that do not exceed 20kms and then pay on a quarterly basis. A "Claim for Travel Allowance" form is attached for this process and must be submitted no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred and prior to the end of the financial year or prior to the end of the Council term.

2.2 Care of a Child or Dependent Expenses

Pursuant to the Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy, Council Members can claim reimbursement of expenses relating to the care of a child or dependent.

A receipt for the care of the Child / Dependent must be submitted no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred and prior to the end of the financial year or prior to the end of the Council term.

A "Claim for Care of a Child or Dependent" form is attached for this process.

All documentation is to be provided to the Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor.

Reimbursements will be made at the end of each month via EFT payment to the Members nominated bank account.

2.3 Training & Development

Pursuant to the Council Members' Allowances and Benefits Policy, Council Members can claim reimbursement of expenses relating to attendance at Training and Development activities.

It is preferred that the Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer make all necessary arrangements relating to attendance at Training & Development activities, including the payment for registration, and necessary flights and accommodation.

Others expenses provided for in the Policy may be reimbursed via a tax invoice prior to attendance at the Conference or Seminar, or submitted as a receipt no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred and prior to the end of the financial year or prior to the end of the Council term.

All documentation is to be provided to the Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor.

Reimbursements will be made at the end of each month via EFT payment to the Members nominated bank account.

3. REVIEW

This Procedure will be reviewed following the next general election or earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or if deemed necessary by the Risk & Governance Officer.

4. ACCESS TO THE PROCEDURE

The Procedure is available to staff via the Policies section of the Intranet and Council Members on the Extranet.

This Procedure will be reviewed following the next general election or earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or if deemed necessary by the Risk & Governance Officer.

5. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Procedure, please contact:

Title: Risk and Governance Officer

Telephone: 8391 7231

Email: rmcdougall@mountbarker.sa.gov.au

ATTACHMENT 1

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR NAME

SIGNATURE **Date.....**

I confirm that the claims below for reimbursement are true and accurate and are made in accordance with Section 77(1)(a) or (b) of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 5 or 6 of the Local Government (Members' Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010

☐ 4 cyl or ☐ 6 cyl

MODEL & MAKE OF VEHICLE:.....

FOR THE MONTH(S) OF **TO**

DATE	KMS	COUNCIL FUNCTION OR BUSINESS ATTENDED	DESTINATION

Travel claims must relate to expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the Member in travelling to or from a prescribed meeting provided the journey is an eligible journey (means a journey between the principal place of residence, or a place of work, of a member of the Council, and the place of a prescribed meeting), and is by the shortest or most practical route.

'Prescribed meeting' means a meeting of the Council, Council Committee or an informal gathering, discussion, workshop, briefing, training course or similar activity which is directly or closely related to the performance or discharge of roles or duties of the member.

ATTACHMENT 2



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

CARE EXPENSES

COUNCILLOR NAME

SIGNATURE **Date.....**

I confirm that the claims below for reimbursement are true and accurate and are made in accordance with Section 77(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Members' Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010

FOR THE MONTH(S) OF **TO**
.....

Name of Child or Dependent	Date of Care	Prescribed Meeting Attended	Hours of Care	Cost

'Prescribed meeting' means a meeting of the Council, Council Committee or an informal gathering, discussion, workshop, briefing, training course or similar activity which is directly or closely related to the performance or discharge of roles or duties of the member.

Please attach copies of all receipts.

REFERENCE NUMBER:	DOC/22/130126
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ DEPARTMENT	Risk and Governance Officer
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:	Local Government Act 1999 Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010
COMMUNITY PLAN 2020-2035	Leadership and Good Governance LGG Strategy 1.5 Demonstrate accountability through clear, relevant and easily accessible policies, corporate reporting and legislative compliance.
RELATED POLICIES / CORPORATE POLICY / PROCEDURE	• Council Member's Allowances and Benefits Policy • Council Member's Training & Development Policy and Procedure • Behaviour Management Policy
PREVIOUS PROCEDURE DATE:	3 December 2018
APPROVED:	
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	December 2026

DOCUMENT HISTORY:			
DOCUMENT VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR (PERSON TO WHOM CHANGES ARE TO BE RECOMMENDED)	NATURE OF CHANGE
VERSION 1.0	1	Ros McDougall, Risk & Governance Officer	
DOCUMENT LOCATION:	Insite <Insert date> and (if applicable) Available for downloading or printing from our website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au		



TITLE: SERVICE AWARD FOR FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS

MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

REFERENCE NUMBER:	Doc/17/24279
RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:	Infrastructure and Projects
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:	Local Government Act 1999
MOUNT BARKER 2035 – DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN:	Governance and Leadership
RELATED POLICIES:	• Nil
SUPPORTING PROCEDURES:	• Nil
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL:	3 April 2017
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	April 2021

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy has been developed to formally recognise the contribution made by Council Members during their term of office.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The primary policy objectives of this Policy are to outline the period of time a Council Member must serve to receive a service award:

3. DEFINITIONS

Council Members shall mean the duly elected representatives of the community, including the Mayor and all Councillors.

4. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

General Manager Infrastructure and Projects:

- Ensure there is sufficient budget provision for the purchase of service awards.

Executive Assistant to the CEO & Mayor

- Confirm the number of terms of Council Members

5 RECOGNITION PROVIDED

5.1 COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED AT LEAST ONE (1) FULL TERM

For Council Members who have served at least one (1) full term with Council:

- and who have resigned from Council or who have determined not to renominate, will be provided with a plaque (or similar) identifying their years of service, at their last Council meeting; or
- who were unsuccessful at the periodic election will be provided with a plaque (or similar) identifying their years of service, in person by the Mayor;

They will also be invited to attend a post-election dinner with their fellow former Council Members.

5.2 COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED THREE (3) OR MORE TERMS

For Council Members who have determined not to renominate and who have served three (3) or more terms, (not necessarily consecutive), a plaque and a service award will be presented at their last Council meeting.

Members who have served three (3) or more terms (not necessarily consecutive) and were unsuccessful at the periodic election will be provided with a plaque and a service award in person by the Mayor.

The service award will be chosen by the Mayor, and in their absence the Deputy Mayor, up to an amount of \$500.

6. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every 4 years or earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or if deemed necessary by the Risk and Governance Officer.

7. ACCESS TO THE POLICY

The Policy is available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, at the Local Government Centre, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker, South Australia and on the Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Policy, please contact:

Title: Ros McDougall, Risk and Governance Officer
Address: PO Box 54, Mount Barker
South Australia, SA, 5251
Telephone: 8391 7231
Email: rmcdougall@mountbarker.sa.gov.au

12.8	REPORT TITLE:	ARTS PLAN FOR ENDORSEMENT
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/119270
	ATTACHMENTS:	1: ARTS PLAN (FINAL) FOR ENDORSMENT (DOC/22/120899) 2: COMMUNITY FEEDBACK (DOC/22/119679)
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Yelaina Eaton, Team Leader Community Development, Planning and Community
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Madeleine Walker, Manager Strategic and Community Planning, Planning and Community

Community Plan 2020-2035:**Theme 1: Community Wellbeing**

CW Goal 3: Heritage, cultural expression and celebration – The diverse and evolving cultural life of the district is promoted, celebrated and supported. Truth-telling and reconciliation helps to unite Australian Aboriginal people and generations of new arrivals from diverse cultural backgrounds in creating a shared future together. Cultural, performing and visual arts help educate, connect and celebrate community and environment.

Annual Business Plan:

Community Wellbeing:

CW1: Community Spirit and Participation

CW2: Community safety, public health and wellbeing

CW4: Cultural development

Purpose:

To present to Council the analysis and amendments following consultation on the draft Arts Plan.

To seek endorsement for the final Arts Plan.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. On 1 August 2022 Council endorsed the draft Arts Plan as suitable for a period of community consultation.
2. Feedback on the draft Plan was generally positive, with support for the Plan Themes: Arts and Cultural Tourism, Community Arts and Cultural Development and Creative Industry.
3. The following amendments have been made to the Plan following consultation:
 - Addition of timeframes against each action;
 - Further references made to the diversity of arts (other than visual arts);
 - Removal of naming specific organisations in actions;

- Greater focus on priority populations such as youth, disability and inclusion.
4. The Plan is now presented for Council endorsement and implementation in line with the resolution of Council at its 1 August 2022 meeting.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Note the community feedback received contained in **Attachment 2**.
 2. Endorse the Arts Plan in **Attachment 1**.
-

Background:

1. The Arts Plan (the Plan) is a 5-year strategy (2023-2028) identifying key actions to assist the development of the Arts in the district.
2. The purpose of this Plan is to provide a framework for Council and the community to develop and support arts and creative activities and nurture artistic talent over the next five years. Specifically the Plan will:
 - a. Create an aspirational vision for the arts for Council and the community that aligns with the needs and culture of the Mount Barker district community.
 - b. Provide Council with a roadmap in relation to investment in the arts, creative engagement and facilities.
 - c. Encourage buy-in and ownership from the community that fosters development and growth of the district.
 - d. Position Council to advocate for the arts, attract investment and build partnerships across a range of complementary sectors including education, health, tourism and regional development.
 - e. Increase participation in arts activities that enhances local lifestyle and wellbeing.
3. Three themes were developed that address the key opportunities the Plan sought to respond to. These are:
 - a. Arts & Cultural Tourism
 - b. Community Arts & Cultural Development
 - c. Creative Industries
4. Each of the three themes include actions to be implemented to achieve the Plan's Vision, that the *"Mount Barker District has a strong and sustainable arts sector that contributes to the economic, cultural, environmental and social fabric of the region... A place where art is visible, creative activities are accessible and artists thrive."*

Discussion:

5. A four week period of consultation was conducted between 3 – 31 August 2022 to seek community feedback and ensure the Plan adequately reflects the interests of the community.
6. Attachment 2 contains a summary of the consultation received through the YourSay Platform, along with submissions received from organisations.
7. The consultation period saw Council staff engage with the community via a number of methods:
 - 4 Facebook posts with a total of 9,115 people reached and 305 people who engaged with the posts.
 - Council's YourSay project page: 181 people became aware of the project, 78 were informed and 18 people engaged with the project by completing a survey.
 - Written submissions: 3 written submissions were provided by community groups.
8. While there is always a diverse range of opinions on the priorities amongst any community, the feedback gathered showed the following as most important:
 - The Plan is resourced, implemented and reported on.
 - The addition of timeframes for delivery of each action.
 - The Plan consider the specific needs and interests of priority populations such as youth and people with a disability.
 - The Plan make a stronger link to a diversity of art mediums such as performing arts or writing.
 - The naming specific organisations within actions was viewed as providing exclusivity, therefore, potentially excluding other groups.
9. The Plan has been reviewed to incorporate this feedback where appropriate.
10. Implementation of the Plan will occur over a 5 year period (2023-2028), being reviewed and reported to Council annually.
11. Recruitment for an Arts Officer is underway and the successful candidate is likely to commence in January 2023.
12. With population growth, there are significant pressures on Council's budget to ensure infrastructure and services continue to be delivered and maintained. Delivery and funding partnerships with Federal and State Governments, non-government organisations, the private sector, community groups and individuals are essential to deliver community outcomes.

Council staff will continue to prioritise actions based on their endorsed timeframes, opportunity, community need / demand and funding / resource availability.

Community Engagement:

Decision to be made	To endorse the Arts Plan
Key factors to be considered in decision (dot points)	• Suitability of consultation • Community support • Social benefits • Sustainability • Competing priorities
Area of community influence	Aspects that were fixed: Issues regarding community safety, equity and social justice and legal requirements have been considered by Council are not subject to community influence. Citizens can add value regarding: • Information on the impacts and acceptability of details in the Arts Plan. • Local knowledge, experience and ideas that will improve the Arts Plan.
Method of consultation, informing community & cost	The community was informed about the draft Plan via 1. Council website 2. Social Media 3. Email communication with key stakeholders, including community groups Feedback on the draft Plan was sought via 1. Feedback form 2. Written submissions 3. Meetings with key stakeholders (where requested).
Feedback to stakeholders/Council	Council report summarising feedback and changes made as a result.
Timeframe for consultation	There was a four week consultation period between 3-31 August 2022.
Community input	A summary of the consultation is provided in Attachment 2.
Recommendations	The Plan has been revised in response to community feedback and is recommended to Council for endorsement.

Policy:

Council's Public Consultation Policy applies.

Long Term Financial Plan:

In the LTFP adopted in December 2020 there is a provision for Arts operational expenditure within the Community Development programs. If it is determined that additional expenditure is required in future years, this would need to be considered for addition in future reviews of the LTFP.

The next iteration of the LTFP (2023-2033) that will be presented to Council for purpose of seeking the commencement of a public consultation period on 12 December 2022 includes financial capacity for an Arts Officer and operations budget.

Budget:

This Plan is funded within the budget for 2022/23. Where it is identified that additional budget is required in future years, this will be assessed as part of the annual budget development process and Council officers will seek grant funding opportunities to further leverage Council budgets.

Statutory/Legal:

Council has prepared this Plan in line with the Local Government Act 1999.

Staff Resource Requirements:

This Plan has been prepared to be delivered in line with the employment of an Arts Officer as provisioned in the 2022/23 budget.

Environmental:

N/A

Social:

The Plan proposes initiatives which will have a positive impact on health, wellbeing and social inclusion for all people who live, work, study and socialise in our community.

The Plan takes into account the special needs of identified populations such as people from different cultures, people experiencing social, economic and environmental disadvantage, people of diverse lifestyles, our elders, and people with disabilities, their families and carers.

Risk Assessment:

The Plan is not expected to have significant risks associated with its content, albeit there will be an expectation to deliver the actions.

Asset Management:

N/A

Conclusion:

Council officers have conducted public consultation on the draft Arts Plan exploring ways to improve arts outcomes over the next 5 years. The Plan has been reviewed in light of community feedback and is recommended to Council for its endorsement.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	1 August 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/51856
Title	Draft Arts Plan 2020-2025, proposed community consultation		
Purpose	To provide Council Members with the draft Arts Plan and seek authorisation to commence a 4 week period of public and stakeholder consultation on the draft.		

Meeting Date	6 April 2021	CM Reference	DOC/20/104964
Title	Building Better Region Fund Submissions		
Purpose	To seek endorsement for a range of projects submitted to the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund (Round 5) funding program.		

Arts Plan

2022-2027



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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First Nations people heritage and culture is important to the Mount Barker District Council. We acknowledge that the district is part of the traditional ancestral land of the Peramangk people. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the Peramangk people to this land and their ongoing custodianship.



Executive Summary

Mount Barker District Council has transformed significantly in the last decade. It is currently South Australia's fastest growing regional Council with an expected population growth of up to 40% by 2036. This growth has provided benefits and challenges for Council. Maintaining service levels across the many areas of Local Government activity and grappling with the changing character of the region – from sleepy hills communities to a rapidly developing region featuring a large urban centre and many evolving rural villages. Within this context, it is an ideal time for Council to take stock of its cultural aspirations and think about the role of arts in building a strong, connected and prosperous community.

To date Council has supported the arts in a variety of ways – mostly through the provision of financial and in-kind support to others to deliver important arts activities across the region. This includes community grants offered to a variety of community groups and funding (cash/in-kind) for the Hahndorf Academy and Inkpot Arts. As the needs of the community change and people become familiar with the role of the arts in building well-rounded communities Council is thinking more strategically about arts and cultural activities.

After engaging with the community broadly, this plan has been formulated to progress Council's existing strengths in the arts space. It will help Council and the community build on assets and ensure the region can fully realise its potential as a vibrant community with a diverse and sustainable economy.

Three key priorities have been identified in the Arts Plan, these include:

- Community arts and cultural development (CACD)
- Arts and Cultural Tourism
- Creative industries.

The Planning Context

Art is the tangible and intangible products or expressions of creativity. It is a way of articulating imagined ideas, both real and unreal using a variety of media to create something that can be experienced temporarily or in an ongoing or permanent way.

Art is something that we can enjoy in a multitude of ways – creating original works ourselves (e.g., painting, composing, writing), recreating the works of others (e.g., performing, following a pattern) or enjoying the works of others as part of the audience (e.g., reading, watching film, going to an exhibition).

As the list below demonstrates, the word “art” encompasses a broad range of activities and our reasons for engaging can also be diverse. Art can be valued simply because of what it offers on face value, where its inherent characteristics offer enjoyment, satisfaction or pleasure. It can also be valued on an instrumental level, where it brings value in other ways, improving our sense of wellbeing or ability to form relationships, increasing our capacity to communicate, preserve, learn or promote ideas and knowledge or providing benefit on an economic level. No matter the reason, art is an important part of a well-rounded community and engagement with art and culture is decreed a basic human right by the United Nations. It offers endless possibilities, and the same artwork can offer a completely different experience from one person to the next.

Art includes but is not limited to:

Television production	Textiles
Architecture/Landscaping	Fashion
Jewellery Making	Projection Art
Dance	Digital media
Photography	Sculpture
Ceramics	Composing
Theatre	Comedy
Circus	Puppetry
Storytelling	Design
Film	Drawing
Painting	Music
Poetry	Writing
Books	Murals
Video	Games
Street Art	Printmaking
Crafts	

VALUE OF ARTS

Communities the world over invest in the arts to develop and strengthen communities from cultural, social, environmental and economic perspectives and there is strong evidence suggesting these activities have a significantly positive impact. Arts activities help communities to showcase their unique qualities, improve lifestyle, increase a sense of wellbeing and add to the vitality and sustainability of places. The following research demonstrates the value of art and why it is a worthwhile investment.



The Australian creative industries sector contributes more than \$90billion to the national economy and exports \$3.2billion annually. It adds \$46billion to Australia's GDP. (Valuing Australia's Creative Industries 0213. <https://www.sgsep.com.au/projects/australias-creative-industries-valuation>).



From a health perspective people who participate in 2 or more hours of arts-based activities per week experience significantly better mental wellbeing. (From Research undertaken by Dr Christina Davies 2016 <https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-015-2672-7>)



Pre-pandemic, an estimated 65000 full and part-time jobs were created by monies spent on live music nationally with taxation revenue generated for all tiers of government (2014) (<https://livemusicoffice.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/LiveMusic-report-FINAL.pdf>). According to research and analysis undertaken by PWC by 2025 the live music sector will have bounced back from the catastrophic impact of the pandemic and have a national value of \$800million (<https://www.pwc.com.au/industry/entertainment-and-media-trends-analysis/outlook/music.html>)



A study of 12 regional performing arts venues, public art galleries and museums indicate that collectively these facilities created an additional 8.5 jobs outside the cultural sector for every 10 full time positions within the cultural sector and added over \$14 million to the local economy in 07/08 FY. (Museum & Galleries NSW report Value Added <https://mgns.w.org.au/sector/resources/online-resources/research/adding-value/>)



A UK study demonstrates that the social return on investment for arts engagement is 1:118. This means that for every £1 invested, a social value of £118 is generated – mainly in forgone treatment bills, reducing GP visits by 28% and attendance at emergency wards by 24%. (Ways to Wellbeing. Social Prescribing Program. Wellbeing Enterprises UK (2017) <http://www.wellbeingenterprises.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/206921-low-res.pdf>)

Plan Overview

WHY DO WE NEED AN ARTS PLAN?

The Mount Barker District Council Arts Plan provides a framework for Council and the community to develop and support arts and creative activities and nurture artistic talent over the next five years. It presents a vision for the region in relation to the visibility, purpose and value of art and sets out themes, goals and strategies to realise this vision. The purpose of this document is to:

- Create an aspirational vision for the arts for Council and the community that aligns with the needs and culture of the Mount Barker District community.
- Provide Council with a roadmap in relation to investment in the arts, creative engagement and facilities.
- Encourage buy-in and ownership from the community that fosters development and growth of the district.
- Position Council to advocate for the arts, attract investment and build partnerships across a range of complementary sectors including education, health, tourism and regional development.
- Increase participation in arts activities that enhances local lifestyle and wellbeing.

VISION

“Mount Barker District has a strong and sustainable arts sector that contributes to the economic, cultural, environmental and social fabric of the region.

It is a place where art is visible, creative activities are accessible and artists thrive”.

Our Arts + Cultural Tourism Goal:

Mount Barker District offers captivating arts experiences that celebrate the character of the region and contribute to the visitor economy.

THEMES + GOALS**1. Arts + Cultural Tourism**

Arts and cultural tourism focuses on the development of arts activities and assets which attract visitors in their own right or enhance the nature of visitor experiences. Whilst the focus of investment in this space is visitation and tourism, it should also provide benefit for residents in several ways – financially and culturally. High quality arts and cultural tourism relies on local buy-in and a capacity to interpret and promote local character and identity in authentic and captivating ways.

What are we talking about: Festivals + Events, Live Music / Theatre, Premiere Arts + Cultural Venues, Interpretation, Tours + Trails, First Nations Culture, Public Art etc.

THEMES + GOALS

2. Community Arts + Cultural Development

Community arts and cultural development (CACD) focuses on accessible creative activities that fosters participation regardless of age, ethnicity or skill level. It provides an instrumental value where people are not only creating art but also learning, having fun, improving health and wellbeing, connecting with others or helping to address a pertinent issue such as climate change. CACD positions the community at the centre of the activity, is designed to be accessible and it relies on professional artists to lead and facilitate.

As a socially inclusive practice CACD includes engagement with diverse communities and groups who may otherwise not have opportunities to engage with art and creative activities. It is considerate of difference and creating environments that foster participation.

What we are talking about: Arts and crafts workshops, music education, community choirs / bands, hobby and special interest groups, arts and health initiatives e.g., healthy ageing, storytelling projects, community theatre etc.

Our Arts + Cultural Development Goal:

Mount Barker District residents have access to arts activities that celebrate local identity, enhance the landscape and help residents connect with people and places.

Our Creative Industries Goal:

Mount Barker District is a place where artists can grow their practice, experiment and build sustainable creative businesses and where arts actively contribute to the local economy.

THEMES + GOALS

3. Creative Industries

Creative industries focuses on the professionalisation of arts practice where individuals and organisations enjoy commercial benefit from their artmaking. It incorporates all artforms and involves supporting artists and organisations to utilise their creative skills to establish a business.

What we are talking about: Creative co-working spaces and incubators, masterclasses, seed funding and incentive schemes, live music industry, arts business support and development programs, First Nations artist development, urban renewal projects, networking and collaboration events.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

These principles provide a foundation for how Mount Barker District Council will implement the Arts Plan. They are designed to support decision making and help to guide the way Council operates.

1. Capacity Building

Council is focused on building the capacity of others to lead, self-organise and develop sustainable events, organisations and businesses. It is committed to ongoing engagement with community to achieve its goals.

2. Storytelling

Council will position stories at the centre of arts projects – celebrating and acknowledging local character and built, natural and ephemeral heritage within its arts initiatives. It will ensure that creative outcomes are authentic and relevant to the community.

3. Access and Diversity

Council will ensure arts activities are inclusive of and engage with diverse communities and integrated into everyday places and activities throughout the District.

4. Partnerships

Council values and appreciates the expertise of others and will form partnerships with organisations and actively seek funding to support the realisation of the actions detailed in this plan.

5. Experiment + Evaluate

Council will foster innovation, be bold and pilot new things. It will support a culture of experimentation and provide opportunities for projects to grow over time with a foundation of evaluation and impact assessment.

6. Value Artists

Council values the role of creatives in the community and commits to engaging with professional artists as part of the work it undertakes. Engagement with artists will be undertaken according to best practice industry standards.

Strategies + Actions

1. ARTS AND CULTURAL TOURISM

Goal:

Mount Barker District offers captivating arts experiences that celebrate the character of the region and contribute to the visitor economy

Short = 1 to 2 years
Medium = 2 to 4 years
Long = 5+ years

STRATEGIES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME
A Support and develop places and spaces that offer high-quality arts experiences for visitors.	A1 Continue to work with the Arts organisations, support their growth and develop further opportunities to develop programs that are unique to the region, engage local artists and celebrate local character and identity.	Ongoing
	A2 Work with the Crystal Lake Working Group and support the development of a feasibility study and business plan which realises their vision to create a unique regional arts destination.	Long
	A3 Continue to work with Hahndorf Academy on growing programs and scoping needs and priorities in relation to a redevelopment – ensuring it provides a unique offering in comparison with The Cedars new gallery.	Ongoing
	A4 Scope the development of the barn site on Bald Hills Road for repurposing as an multi arts venue. Other opportunities and venues may emerge as part of this process and the role of an arts venue within a recreation precinct will be considered.	Long
	A5 Undertake an audit of existing public art and public art policy and processes. Ensuring that public art will be documented from an asset perspective and utilised productively an appropriate policy, management process and strategy will be put in place to best care for, promote and develop public art moving forward.	Short
B Further expand the community events calendar to include captivating arts programs and events – in line with other key visitor opportunities including wellness, culinary and eco-tourism.	B6 Work with local community event organisers to include unique creative content within festivals and events that increases the likelihood of visitor participation e.g., Farmers Market, Show, special interest days in smaller communities utilising a variety of artforms.	Short
	B7 Scope the development of new arts-based events/festivals – considering local strengths around nature and heritage and gaps in existing events market. Undertaken in collaboration with the business network, AHT, arts organisations and any new partners.	Short
	B8 Work with artists, businesses and community organisations to develop an annual SALA arts trail. Incorporating this with neighbouring Councils to create an Adelaide Hills SALA trail.	Long
	B9 Continue to foster relationships with major Adelaide Festivals including Adelaide Festival, Fringe and Adelaide Film Festival – ensuring that the offering is high quality but relates to Mount Barker in a unique way.	Ongoing
C Enhance existing and develop new visitor experiences that celebrate the character of the region.	C10 Develop First Nations trail focusing on Peramangk culture in collaboration with First Nations elders and artists. It will encourage exploration of the region and should incorporate sculpture and storytelling – utilising both physical and digital platforms.	Long
	C11 Develop a mural and sculpture program in collaboration with the local business network to enhance the urban landscape and ensure it is more memorable. (Relates to Action 2.2.5)	Medium
	C12 Offer incentives / funding to encourage tourism operators to collaborate with artists, working across a range of artforms..	Medium
	C13 Collaborate with neighbouring Councils on the development of shared arts-based assets, trails or collateral that promotes cross-council activities.	Medium

2. COMMUNITY

ARTS + CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (CACD)

Goal:

Mount Barker District residents have access to arts activities that celebrate local identity, enhance the landscape and help residents connect with people and places.

Short = 1 to 2 years
Medium = 2 to 4 years
Long = 5+ years

STRATEGIES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME
D Integrate the arts across all Council activities and services.	D14 Consider the role of arts and seek to include within all existing and new Council strategies and plans.	Medium
	D15 Increase the capacity of staff to utilise the arts in a range of contexts including economic development, marketing and branding, health and environmental promotion, and infrastructure development.	Short
	D16 Develop a percentage for art policy across all Council infrastructure projects valued at \$500k and above where appropriate. This includes redevelopment and new projects.	Long
	D17 Improve the capacity of planning and development team to work with developers in relation to inclusion of arts-friendly community spaces. This may include public art, installation of infrastructure and affordable studio / exhibition spaces.	Medium
E Increase opportunities for community members to engage with arts activities as part of everyday life.	E18 Develop an annual themes-based residency program that is embedded within community.	Medium
	E19 Works with a range of arts organisations to develop and outreach program that delivers art programs in small communities.	Short
	E20 Continue to support and build the capacity of community arts organisations to develop and deliver arts activities that includes both learning and public / community outcomes.	Ongoing
	E21 Develop collaborative marketing strategies with arts program providers throughout the Council area to increase awareness of what is available.	Medium
	E22 Involve community within the development of public art and ensure that other stakeholders involved in public art development do the same. (Relates to Action C11)	Medium
	E23 Work closely with Ukaria to better leverage the presence of highly skilled musicians to engage in community projects / workshops.	Medium
F Improve the capacity of individuals and organisations to lead and deliver arts projects that provide artistic and other outcomes relating to health, the environment or education.	F24 Improve knowledge about CACD through training and promotion and mentor organisations to deliver projects across a range of artforms.	Short
	F25 Develop and provide ongoing support for an independent arts network that encourages artists to share knowledge and skills and collaborate.	Short
	F26 Increase the capacity of artists and arts organisations to access and source funding for arts projects.	Medium
G Ensure there are suitable places and spaces where community can engage with arts activities.	G27 Conduct an audit of available venues (commercial, community + Council owned) and identify and invest in resources to increase suitability for a range of arts activities. Create a database and promote broadly.	Long
	G28 Help artists and organisations to broker relationships with commercial / private landlords to utilise facilities both in the short and long term.	Long
	G29 Identify long term need and options in relation to a permanent multi-arts hub suitable for the creation and presentation of a range of art forms.	Long

3. CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Goal:

Mount Barker District is a place where artists can grow their practice, experiment and build sustainable creative businesses and where arts actively contribute to the local economy.

Short = 1 to 2 years
Medium = 2 to 4 years
Long = 5+ years

STRATEGIES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME
H Improve the career pathways for artists through business development, education and employment opportunities.	H30 Work with Regional Development Australia to scope and develop a creative industries incubator and co-working space.	Short
	H31 Establish an arts entrepreneur program – delivered annually to support emerging artists to develop their practice into a commercial business.	Medium
	H32 Develop a business mentor and professional development program for artists wanting to establish an arts-based business.	Medium
	H33 Develop networking opportunities for artists to encourage collaboration (Related to Action F25).	Short
	H34 Provide seed funding for businesses to work with artists to develop projects and build their profile.	Long
	H35 Develop policy that includes local artist engagement within Council or Council-funded projects –as lead artist, in a support role or as part of a mentoring program.	Long
	H36 Increase the visibility of artists and creative industries by promoting through Council communications channels.	Short
1 Improve the region's night-time economy through arts development.	I37 Work with the Music Development Office to re-develop and implement a Live Music Strategy for Mount Barker District.	Long
	I38 Work with live music venues and encourage the engagement of local musicians.	Medium
	I39 When developing festivals and events ensure night-time activities are included in the program development (Related to Action B7).	Long
	I40 Utilise the development of and improve murals and sculptures to support the night-time economy. This may include the development of lighting and resources that supports engagement with work after hours, in collaboration with local businesses.	Long
	I41 Support the development of a local presenter group in collaboration with Country Arts to increase the number of live theatre performances in the region.	Long
	I42 Consider night-time engagement when developing public art – possibly adding lighting or utilising projection art (Related to Action C11) .	Long

Resourcing Strategy

The resourcing of the Mount Barker District Council Arts Plan requires diverse and innovative approaches by Council. Council needs to better understand the value of arts to achieve beneficial outcomes across social, cultural and environmental spheres and make a commitment to the arts as an integral part of community life and the local economy. The following provides a series of possible resourcing strategies that council may consider. These can support the implementation of the strategies and actions in this plan and should be implemented in consultation with community. It is important to note that the actions will be staged over several years and resourcing can grow and change as required.

1. APPOINTMENT OF AN ARTS COORDINATOR

The Arts Coordinator will have oversight over the plan and coordinate its implementation and evaluation over the long term. In the first instance they will focus on bringing the arts sector together around the three strategic themes, forming strong networks and relationships and celebrating strengths. In time, the focus would shift, with the Coordinator investing more deeply into developing the Creative Industries and Cultural Tourism themes with partnerships established with others such as Inkpot Arts, Adelaide Hills Tourism and the Mount Barker Community Centre to further

develop CACD in partnership with Council.

The Coordinator will have strong administrative, communication and development skills and have considerable arts and cultural expertise. Their leadership capacity, ability to bring in funds and community development skills will also be critical.

2. PARTNERSHIPS

As indicated above partnerships with other agencies will be integral to achieving the goals outlined in this plan. Working with others acknowledges the expertise that exists within the Mount Barker region and can provide strategic advantage in terms of marketing, venue development and access to funding. Existing partnerships should continue with a view to further developing others – particularly around the development of places and spaces where public private partnerships will be advantageous.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF FOUNDATION

General community or specifically arts focused foundations that foster a culture of philanthropy on a local level are becoming more popular and, in some ways, necessary. Mount Gambier Council has recently established the Riddoch Arts Foundation and the Sunshine Coast Arts Foundation was established three years ago. These foundations can be established at

arm's reach of Council, offer tax incentives for giving and provide a pathway for philanthropic investment that is visible on a local level and will have direct impact on the Mount Barker District community.

4. STRATEGIC APPROACH TO DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

With development in the Mount Barker district set to continue at a rapid pace, implementing a strategic approach to working with Developers on contributions will provide benefit – for the arts and in other areas. Mount Barker District Council has the benefit of experience in this space, working with Developers over the last two decades. Identifying what Council want and need from Developers and prioritising investment in the arts alongside other standard infrastructure will support the realisation of the Arts Plan vision. Equipping staff to better negotiate, communicate the mutual benefit that arts investment brings and encourage Developers to think outside the box is an important part of this resourcing strategy. This is particularly relevant in relation to public art and entry statements, which should be created according to best practice principles but can also look at plug and play infrastructure within public spaces and developing affordable community spaces within developments suitable for arts interaction.

5. RESEARCH THE POTENTIAL FOR AN ARTS LEVY

Whilst Councils are loathe to add additional financial burden on its rate payers the introduction of an arts levy has proven valuable for arts development in other parts of the world. Other levy models focused on tourism and main street / business development have also long been a part of the local government financial landscape. Levies enable 100% transparency and residents can see first-hand the value of the investment either for themselves, their business / organisation or their family members.

With approximately 19,000 rated properties in the Mount Barker District Council a levy of just \$10 per rate payer per year would raise \$190,000 for investment in the arts. Even half of that would represent a significant dedicated annual injection. It is recommended that these funds bolster arts funding to key groups, develop festivals and events, establish an annual public art and residency program based around key strategic themes and have strategic funds to scope further development opportunities and prepare feasibility. Money raised through the levy should be further leveraged to attract external funding – resulting in even further investment in the arts. This sends a very clear message to other stakeholders about Mount Barker District as a place for the arts and Council as a legitimate supporter of arts, providing opportunities to form stronger and more lucrative partnerships.

Sunshine Coast Council has just introduced an Arts Levy – it has been added onto its existing heritage levy with an addition of \$3 per rate payer. Due to the size of the Council this translates into over \$400,000 in revenue to be directly expended on the arts with an expected return of more than \$1.5million dollars of value for the local arts community and broader economy. The City of Portland in the USA also has an Arts and Education Tax of \$35 per resident over the age of 18 and at a particular income level. Since 2012 \$99million has been collected for arts organisations and schools engaging in arts activities.

6. ACT REGIONALLY

Regional partnerships help to spread costs for regional initiatives across neighbouring councils and often provide better bang for your buck. This is particularly relevant for the development of residency programs that can provide broader regional benefits, the development and promotion of trails, networking and professional development and the presentation of festivals / events and touring content that can leapfrog across Council borders. There are regional bodies that can support this type of cross-collaboration including RDA and AHT, but it is also worth arts and cultural focused staff developing networks with their colleagues at neighbouring Councils.



How We Will Measure Progress

Monitoring progress and measuring the progress of Mount Barker District Council's Arts Plan is an important part of the plan. To ensure we are adequately checking on progress our evaluation approach will:

- Put our goals and strategies at the forefront of our planning conversations when developing initiatives. In other words, we will plan with the end in mind and make sure funding and effort is being invested strategically and proactively rather than reactively.
- Be planned from the outset – establishing what and how we are going to measure the impact of our work against our strategies and goals. In other words, we won't get to the end of the project and then decide what and how we will measure our success.
- Engage participants, audiences, recipients and stakeholders in evaluation of our work in an ongoing way – our activities will incorporate feedback loops and data collection that indicates if we are seeing the growth and development that we anticipated.
- Utilise quantitative evaluation tools to measure their success whenever appropriate.
- Wherever possible Council will endeavour to assess the impact of arts on the broader pillars of the community. For example it may measure the value of arts and creativity to the local economy, social connectedness, the environment, health and education.
- Council will look to use existing impact assessment and evaluation frameworks where possible and if funding is available it will seek to work with experts in this space. For example Culture Counts or the Cultural Impact Framework (created in SA) may be utilised by Council staff.

Goal:

Mount Barker District offers captivating arts experiences that celebrate the character of the region and contribute to the visitor economy.

- The capacity of our tourism offerings to attract visitors and the level of their spending.
- Level of satisfaction of our visitors to the region and the likelihood of repeat visitation.
- The number and quality of new arts and cultural tourism experiences developed.
- The income generated for artists in the development and delivery of arts and cultural tourism offerings.
- The level of external funding / in-kind support gathered for arts and cultural tourism initiatives.

Goal:

Mount Barker District residents have access to arts activities that celebrate local identity, enhance the landscape and help residents connect with people and places.

- Local participation levels in arts programs.
- The number of opportunities to experience and enjoy arts as an audience member.
- Satisfaction levels of participants / audience members.
- The number of community arts projects – both initiated by Council and initiated by others but supported by Council.

Goal:

Mount Barker District residents have access to arts activities that celebrate local identity, enhance the landscape and help residents connect with people and places

- The number of artists supported and the number of hours of support provided – relating to creative industries.
- The number of artists engaged in a regional arts network and satisfaction levels.
- The number of new creative industries directly supported by Council and their contribution to the local economy.
- Number of business / artist collaborations

Our Methodology

RESEARCH

Our research involved reading a range of documents and gathering information from key staff and stakeholders in the region. A range of internal and external documents (15+) have been reviewed with key areas that may be relevant to arts planning in Mount Barker noted. This information informed our thinking when developing the arts plan, ensuring strategic alignment on a local, regional and broader level.

ENGAGEMENT

Engagement was undertaken through a variety of activities designed to captivate people and encourage feedback, ideas and information about what has happened in the past – both good and bad. We targeted specific groups and individuals and provided opportunities for members of the public or interested groups to attend group sessions and interact online. The table below provides an overview of the consultation and engagement activities that have been undertaken over 6 – 8 weeks.

ACTIVITY	DETAILS	
1:1 and Group meetings and interviews.	A range of interviews / meetings with a variety of stakeholders and Council staff. These covered a range of areas including tourism, education, arts, economic development, business, infrastructure, place-making and the environment. Organisations engaged in these sessions included: • Hahndorf Academy • Macclesfield Residents Association • Crystal Lakes Group • Inkpot Arts • Mount Barker Library • Mount Barker Community Centre • Mount Barker Business Group • Mount Barker District Council • The Cedars • Adelaide Hills Tourism • Ukaria	13 Meetings 11 Groups 30 People
Creative Engagement	High School Workshop In collaboration with Cornerstone College, we presented a Creative Arts and Placemaking Workshop with Year 11 Students. We invited students to talk about Mount Barker District as a Creative Place.	12 Students + 2 Teachers
	Postcard Distribution In collaboration with local artist Wendy Dixon-Whiley we created a postcard which was distributed throughout the consultation and engagement period. This raised awareness about the development of the plan and encouraged them to engage online. The postcards were distributed throughout the Council area in shops, cafes, library, community centre and at public workshops.	3000 postcards distributed
	Mural Consultation In conjunction with Wendy Dixon-Whiley we created a permanent Mural in situ during the Conquer the Summit Event. The mural raised awareness about the project and gave us an opportunity to engage with people who wouldn't normally engage with consultations of this nature. We also left a permanent artwork as a legacy for the project. It is difficult to estimate how many people on the day engaged with the project but we were able to talk to a number of adults and children and talk about their aspirations for arts in Mount Barker	1 Artist 20 People
	Artist Vision Exercise This initiative involved a deeper visioning exercise with artists on three creative visions for Mount Barker. The resulting artworks are designed to communicate a vision for arts in a creative and non-linear way. Three artworks have been created in response to the provocation – these will be used to inform the plan and convey aspirations in a more captivating way. The artists involved were performing arts facilitator Jo-anne Sarre, who worked with David Booth, emerging musicians Ella and Sienna and visual artist Cat Dean.	4 Artists

ACTIVITY	DETAILS	
Public Forums	Providing an opportunity for the general public to engage with the arts plan and provide feedback in a group environment, one online and four face-to-face workshops were presented in various locations throughout the District. The workshops involved a structured planning exercise (3-Act Narrative) where participants were asked to talk about what is happening now, what they would like the future to look like and what activities would realise their desired future. In person workshops were presented in Macclesfield, Hahndorf and Mount Barker.	62 Participants
Online Engagement	A project page was set up on Mount Barker District Council's "Your Say" platform. A survey, ideas section and a discussion forum were put in place. A range of information was gathered via the platform and the public workshops were promoted also. • 23 Contributors and 124 Contributions for the forum • 45 Survey Respondents • 10 Contributors and 26 contributions for the ideas bank	606 site visits 78 Contributors
Written Submissions	Ten written submissions were received. Nine sent directly to the consultants via email and one sent directly to Council. These have been forwarded to Council to be recorded.	10 Contributors

Artists' Visioning

As part of the development of the Mount Barker District Council (MBDC) Arts Plan we invited three artists to develop a vision for the arts for Mount Barker. Creating a piece of art that conveyed a vision for Mount Barker using their creative skills within their own arts practice.

The purpose of this activity was to draw in creative perspectives of what the arts can do for and look like within the Mount Barker District Council both now and into the future. These "visions" provide another lens for us to look through beyond the traditional process of identifying goals and strategies these art pieces are illustrative of what's possible and desirable for arts in the Mount Barker District community.

The text from each of the visions created by the artists have been included below. Participating artists included theatre maker Jo-anne Sarre, musicians Ella and Sienna and mural artist, Cat Dean."

A MAGICAL REALISM STORY FOR MOUNT BARKER



Written by Jo-anne Sarre (with special thanks to Charles Dickens & Rudyard Kipling) Dedicated to Gus Saunders for her love of sharing creative activities with children

Heartbeat of the teller, it grows in intensity.

Can you hear my heartbeat? Heartbeat continues.

It's telling me that **today is going to be a day like no other!**

Heart beat blends into the chortling.

Magpies are chortling outside my bedroom window calling me to the new morning. I eagerly dress and chomp my toast, when a little poem I've been working on bubbles up inside:

In the Land of Terah anything's possible

I can climb crugged mountains

(that's rugged & craggy, in case you're wondering)

And eat all my vegetables (my mum likes that bit)

There's time to envision

A future delectable

In the mysterious Land of Terah.

And I know that I must go for a walk to one of my favourite places. Womma Mu Kurta.

It doesn't take long to get to the dusty stretch of road that winds up to the top, sometimes striding out the rhythm as I continue to recite the poem to myself, breathing in the treats that greet me of this fresh warm, autumn day.

In the Land of Terah anything's possible

I can fly without wings

and count bounties immeasurable

There's time to envision

A future connectable

In the mysterious Land of Terah.

A bank of clouds is gathering with the promise of rain, but I don't care. What are a few drops of rain?! And besides, our garden is looking a bit thirsty at the moment. And there are orange & black butterflies dancing across my path and through the bush - joining in the celebration of this soon-to-be-unforgettable day!

Around the bend, up the stretch of road past the **Yongulya** welcome sign, zig-zagging along the

bushland track I stride... and for some reason I decide to slow down, to take it all in. To my delight, there's a yellow-crested cockatoo which flies overhead, and my gaze follows its path. It alights near a youth, about my age, sitting on a large rock.

'Hi!' he simply says.

'Er... Hi!' I respond rather nervously, wriggling on the spot.

'I've been waiting for you, perfect timing.'

'Me?!'

'Of course' he replies, with a wry smile and a disarmingly direct gaze.

'Are you sure about that?' I offer, wondering about a thousand things all at once.

'Absolutely' comes the reply 'You're here, aren't you? And with a sweep of his hand he indicates the cockatoo who had by now quietly grown to the size of a small hang glider and was crouched down ready for its passengers.

'Are you ready? Hold tight.'

I nod, wide-eyed, and the next moment I am sitting behind my new-found companion on a flight to who-knows-where.

'Y'know, sometimes you have to go backwards in order to go forwards' he instructs confidently.

My tour guide clicks his fingers, and the world I know disappears. Tiwu the yellow-crested black cockatoo

spirals into the air, with me seated behind the youth, hanging on tight!

It is exhilarating!!

Fences, houses, roads, vegetable fields, vineyards and bridges that are familiar, vanish. The countryside takes on an other-worldly hue, and I quickly realise that we have been thrust back in time.

We soar through the air, viewing expanses of tall luxuriant grass with the rolling hills dotted with yaccas and majestic gums. Looking closer, I see fields scattered with bright yellow yam daisies. Creeks flow into gushing rivers and kangaroos graze peacefully in mobs.

'Oh, this landscape is breath-takingly beautiful!!'

I shout to the clouds.

In the Land of Terah anything's possible

I can fly without wings

and count bounties immeasurable...

My poem is coming to life - this is awesome!! Curiosity (well, that's insatiable curiosity in case you're wondering) overcomes my fears which are blown into the airy currents that swirl around us.

We veer east for a short time, and see an immense sheet of water, and then head north. Green grasses gradually merge into more arid rocky landscapes. We start our descent. 'This is all my mob's land,' offers the youth. 'You live on it in present time. The Ancestors want you to experience *part of everyone's story.*'

With a bump and a thump and a roll, I arrive inelegantly sprawled out on the grass, face up, near a campsite. This flying business requires a bit of practice.

'Yongulya!' cry the giggling children as they run up and pull me to my feet. 'Yongulya!' quickly comes my response – at least I know what that means!

I observe, listen and note many details that day as unfamiliar words sound around me with a multitude of tones. *Everything is intriguing...*

The group all welcome me without question – I'm guessing that you know what that's like. A gesture or two here & there, a knowing look, a smile of encouragement. My travelling companion shows me the ochre rock paintings in the nearby caves, which depict the dances I will witness later that night, then he leaves with the men to go hunting. I sit with the women, some of whom tend to the children's needs in between grinding kangaroo grass seed into flour, on stones. This flour is mixed with water to create damper. Others skilfully weave strips of flax into twine to repair fishing nets and make baskets. Occasionally the older children check the nearby stream, which offers fish via an intricate netting system. It feels like a celebration is being prepared, and, as the light fades, a feast indeed is offered and greatly enjoyed. When the communal fire becomes coals, an elder shares a story occasionally glancing to the clear starlit sky. Then, voices join in song, painted dancers stamp their rhythms on the Earth, while others beat possum-skin drums. Somehow, I know that this is all a gesture of thanks for the immeasurable bounties.

Fire Song by David Booth

My travelling companion takes me beyond the campfire gathering to a clearing and invites me to sit down. He sits next to me. I can feel the warmth of the Earth. I gaze up at the stars like the elder had done. 'They have sparkled since the Dreaming right up to our time and will continue into eternity' I muse, and look across to my companion. He nods. Hmm. He can read my thoughts. This is certainly no ordinary journey. *Silence. Earth Heartbeat.*

After a while I can feel it. *Earth Heartbeat.* The heartbeat of our Earth. *Heartbeat (a bit longer in duration)* Why hadn't I ever noticed this before? *Heartbeat for a longer period of time, which merges with the traveller's heartbeat. Silence.*

What the Ancestors want me to experience must've been shared, because with another click of his fingers we're flying again. Back towards the summit on the magnificent Tiwu. My poem sounded softly inside me.

*In the Land of Terah anything's possible
I can fly without wings
and count bounties immeasurable,
There's time to envision
A future connectable
In the mysterious Land of Terah.*

Mid-flight the memories weave around me... *Earth Heartbeat pulses* - the colours, sounds, rhythms, forms and words that have filled that special day. It is a mingling, merging pool of creativity expressed from Ancient Times.

Earth Heartbeat, joined by human heartbeat. Silence.

Pure connectedness.

Where to next?' I ask tentatively, still trying to digest all that has happened. 'Three months from the now' answers the youth, and clicks his fingers.

Night changes to day, and the clouds whizz past us as we soar into the sunlight. It bathes my face and I bravely stretch out my arms, balancing on Tiwu, receiving the warmth into my limbs. 'Why?! I wonder 'Why is this happening to me? Why must it happen now? And why do I know, deep down, that this is all meant to be?' Soon after we begin our descent.

With a bump and a thump and a roll, I arrive inelegantly sprawled out on a cement pavement, face up, near a building. Ouch!! This flying business *still* requires more practice!

A small group of people, brief cases and papers in hands, head intently for an imposing two-storey building which is nearby. They don't appear to notice me or my huge embarrassment. I scramble to my feet as soon as possible, rubbing my bruised hip, and look around. I can't see my tour guide anywhere... Um... What now?

I decide to follow the group. It is chilly, and I shudder to try to get warm, pulling my clothes around me in vain. I feel very alone.

We jostle into a meeting room, and in my haste, I accidentally bump against someone and turn around without thinking to say 'Sorry'. But they don't feel my blunder, can't see me, can't hear me. I am the invisible observer.

Layered overlay of meeting voices.

I'm not sure how long the discussions ran, progressing

from polite to intense to downright hostile – enough time for numerous glasses of water to be drunk, much furrowing of brows and shaking of heads, and plenty of stern statements and finger pointing. One person paces about the room to gain composure, another shuffles papers, yet another becomes intensely interested in the doodling in their notebook. You know what that's like. There's the discomfort and strain, each person desperate for their views to be heard.

During that time the meeting room fills with shadowy visitors, also not noticed by the debaters. The visitors are listening intently to the proceedings. I see my travelling companion and the elders from the campsite, standing opposite me. 'Oh, that's good,' I note to myself, much relieved, 'I'm no longer alone in my ponderings!' I see many women in laced bodices, woollen shawls, bonnets and full skirts from by-gone ages, and bearded gentlemen in top hats and black jackets. The more visitors arrive, the more the air bristles with expectation.

Layered overlay of meeting voices, which builds under the narration.

Voices continue to rise in intensity.

A member stands and thumps the table, another calls 'Calm down! Order please, ladies and gentlemen!' and yet another claims 'A decision's been reached, has it not?' when...

'The question is' shouts one voice above all the others 'what are the consequences for the future if we don't?'

Silence.

The Earth begins to rumble and a cyclone hits!

Walls dissolve into powder in a deafening roar as tables, chairs, people, silent witnesses, and papers are flung in all directions. I get sucked into the whirlpool of chaos and don't know which way is up or down. Dust billows in monstrous surges as screams and shouts are heard trailing off into the distance. I gasp for breath, choking on the dust. Suddenly, my hand is grasped, and I am drawn up above the chaos to find myself again on Tiwu, flying over the turmoil.

Heartbeat of the teller, it grows in intensity & arrhythmia with the anxiety and fear.

My head is spinning, and I want to cry, but the pressure builds and there's no relief.

Heartbeat of the teller, slows down and comes back into a rhythm.

Slowly I get my bearings and realise that I'm clutching my companion's arms so hard that I've dug my fingernails into one of them.

'Oops – sorry!' I exclaim, with a nervous laugh.

Heartbeat of the teller, back in a rhythm.

'There's more to come,' my companion shouts over his shoulder, 'you up for it?'. I shrug my shoulders feebly because I don't actually know.

Silence.

'You've got to choose now,' continues the youth without any further prompting. 'There's an unwelcome future

calling us. Reckon it'll take lots of courage to face. We can turn back now if you want, or go on.'

Heartbeat of the teller, in a regular rhythm.

'It feels like there's a lot at stake, but I don't know exactly what it is.' I call out mid-flight, and he merely nods.

'Can we do this together?'

'Of course'.

'Then I can say "Yes"!

"Into the-not-so-distant future" announces the youth, and clicks his fingers.

This time, I close my eyes and hold on tighter than ever before. I can feel the wind rushing past, and Tiwu spiralling in a very large orbit. We could be circumnavigating Australia, for all I know. It's getting colder and colder, so maybe we're heading south? I'm not sure if I'm ready to face what is about to unfold. I anticipate that you know that feeling.

'It's time to open your eyes' advises the youth.

Tiwu is hovering, gliding. We dip and rise, avoiding the buildings and landscape features shrouded in a strange mist. Everything looks grey. Grey buildings, grey trees, grey people occasionally moving between grey buildings. I realise that I can't hear any bird song, only the whirring of machines.

Robots chug along the fields in endless motion, tilling the soil. Driverless delivery vans and cars navigate the

streets. In another field, crops are growing – but from this distance they look grey too. How can that be? We fly over a school yard, and as a bell rings children shuffle through the mist to the outdoor seats in their grey uniforms, to eat their grey snacks, listless & burdened. There's no play equipment or grass, only gravel and cement. It seems like play was considered superfluous long ago. 'Do I assume correctly?' I ask the youth silently in my thoughts, and he nods. As we hover, I look closer into the classrooms and see there are only screens, no teachers in sight. No real-life kindness, no connection here. Just sleek, slick desks in windowless rooms. It's suffocating.

We hover to another part of the school. There is a tower room with one lone adult sitting in front of numerous screens and gadgets for regulating, controlling and monitoring who-knows-what. Arrivals, departures, room temperatures/humidity, pollution control, lesson content and viewing the children perhaps? I manage to catch a look at their face and note that their expression is as despondent and listless as those of the children. I'm guessing that if we visited a multitude of places in this dismal land-of-the-not-so-distant-future, it would be the same – grey, lonely.

'Why is this happening?' I shout to my tour guide above the din of the machines. 'People have forgotten their stories' comes the reply.

I feel the sorrowful burden of this terrain. I want to jump off Tiwu and sing and dance and shout poetry and put on my clown nose to delight the children and make them all laugh, asking them all to join in the merriment. I

desperately want to ask the adults **'Can't we stop this?'**

And with a sweep of his hand, my companion reveals something I haven't seen before. Throughout the school yard, small glimmers of light start to shine. Looking closer, I can see that each light glows within the breast of a child.

My companion answers my silent question: 'It's their unique gifts, their dreams and hopes shining like jewels. They still live in the children but can't be born.'

'If we gather these jewels, and let them shine in the present, will it change all this?' I urgently ask. Next minute I find myself in front of my companion, holding the reins guiding Tiwu. I take that as a 'Yes' to my question. We begin the descent.

With a bump and a thump and a... jump I land on the ground, as agile as can be. At the same moment, the strange mist that has shrouded the landscape changes colour and form – we are confronting a massive dragon, sharp claws poised to attack, and jaws open with flames lashing towards us.

We lunge back onto Tiwu to escape, the dragon in rapid pursuit. As our speed increases, so does the dragon's flight, its great wings propelling it forward. We dart side to side through the air, looking over our shoulders. Then, we swirl around to face its vengeful presence, to calculate our next move. There's a moment of agitated stillness, when suddenly Tiwu spirals towards the stars.

I call on the Elders to help us, I call on all the women and men on whose shoulders we stand, I take a full,

deep breath to banish my fears and anxieties, and immediately know what to do.

Bracing myself, I steer Tiwu, as we double-back and then... **plunge headlong into the jaws of the dragon!!**

Music & soundscape

It's dark, really dark. Gradually I can begin to discern shapes in the greyness. "That was some ride!" quips my companion.

We've landed near the school yard and the mist has cleared. Without knowing why, the children come up to us and begin to tell their stories, their dreams, their hopes. Like jewels, I gather them in my memory, storing them in a magic sack of possibilities. We're envisioning a future connectable.

Silence, then magpies chortle.

You may already be anticipating the end of this story.

I can tell you, that we fly back to the meeting with the great debate still raging.

I can tell you, that I unpack the magic sack of possibilities, and as I do so the stories of the children touch the listeners, *without them knowing*. The thousands of artists of the future appear in their midst (it's getting really crowded in there) – musicians play, poets recite, actors perform, weavers weave, dancers leap, potters mould, singers sing, and storytellers recall the story of where we have been and where we wish to go.

And, as this takes place, I know that colour begins to come back into the land-of-the-not-so-distant-future. A

rainbow shines. And here, the ancestors smile to each other, nod to me and depart.

What I can't tell you is what unfolds in any detail, because we are now back in the present.

What happens relies on you, and me, and all the people who shape our future...

Heart beat of the teller, in a rhythm.

There's a soft rain falling on Womma Mu Kurta when I say farewell to my amazingly wise and compassionate travelling companion. **This has certainly been a day like no other!** *Earth heartbeat, joined by other heart beats.*

Striding towards home, on the afternoon of that very same autumn day, the butterflies still dance across my path. *I feel just like a butterfly that is slowly emerging from its cocoon, and I see the world anew. I am so happy and so grateful.*

Can you hear the beating of OUR hearts?

Softly spoken, with heart beats underneath.

*In the Land of Terah **anything is possible...***

Image: Zinia King (Ink Pot Arts logo image)

Narration: Jo-anne Sarre & David Booth © Jo-anne Sarre & Mount Barker District Council
Fire Song: David Booth
Soundscape & Music: Max Tulysewski

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE'

Written by Ella & Sienna

[VERSE]

Sitting in the corner
Tears stream down your face
Too scared to go out
You won't make it anyway
Your dream is a nightmare
Too hard to escape
Don't get your hopes up
Just walk away

[PRE-CHORUS]

But you pick yourself back up
When you don't wanna try
'Cos you know exactly where you're meant to be
And that's the reason why

[CHORUS]

You don't know where you're going
Run to the station, jump on the train
And just keep hoping
You try so hard but you never succeed
Keep pushing, you know it
Seems so pointless but you'll never see
You'll get there exactly when you need to be

[VERSE]

Searching forever now
Not getting any younger
Don't know what you're meant to find
It's taking you under
You're far from your small town
Heading to the city now
Bright lights
You're just another face in a big crowd

[PRE-CHORUS]

But you pick yourself back up
When you don't wanna try
'Cos you know exactly where you're meant to be
And that's the reason why

[CHORUS]

You don't know where you're going
Run to the station, jump on the train
And just keep hoping
You try so hard but you never succeed
Keep pushing, you know it
Seems so pointless but you'll never see
You'll get there exactly when you need to be

[BRIDGE]

If the city noise gets too loud
Take the first ride to your hometown
Meet me at our spot past Ridley Avenue
If they play you like a Jukebox
Just so they can sing along
This town will hold you in its arms again
Don't think just 'cos you left you'll be forgotten
You can't let it tie you down
So just for now

[CHORUS]

You don't know where you're going
Run to the station, jump on the train
And just keep hoping
You try so hard but you never succeed
Keep pushing, you know it
Seems so pointless but you'll never see
You'll get there exactly when you need to be

You'll get there exactly when you need to be
You'll get there exactly when you need to be



2030

"That's great you can come – when you get to Mount Barker, turn left at our evolving community sculptural park until you get to the Open Street Theatre Lane – (you'll see the stunning Indigenous artwork on each corner that respects that our community resides on the traditional ancestral land of the Peramangk People – you will not miss it!). I'll meet you at the breathtaking wildflower mural and then we can walk under the bridge that was mosaiced by the year 12 art students in a collaborative project to stroll through the Laratinga Wetlands. I have lunch booked at one of the street cafés near the tall ceramic brolgas and we can look out for the hidden native animal rock art ... I have heard that the frog has not been found yet! – it's a beaut spot – It is such a dynamic, green, vibrant, bustling and popular place to meet and connect. We will also be able to see the current town square public artist in residence working with other aspiring young artists and keen local volunteers – it is very calming to watch "

PUBLIC ART CONNECTS ... IT CONNECTS PEOPLE, SPACES, PLACES, CULTURES AND TIME.

After moving to Mount Barker from the outer's suburbs, I noticed a significant change in the amount of community connection around us and how very quickly we were welcomed into its bustle of networks. We speak with our neighbours regularly, we put each other's bins out, the small coffee shops know their regulars on a first name basis, there was an instant 'village of mums' when I moved here.

Mount Barker holds a 'country town' vibe, with a magnificent rural landscape on our doorsteps brimming with wildlife and native flora. I believe connecting with this nature and the people living around you is paramount to the core of this vibe. I feel this 'vibe' continues to grow, even though our population and housing development has increased rapidly.

Public art can emphasise, reflect and contribute to the nature of this vibe – it can be core to maintaining connection, towards having a community with something in common with each other, regardless of how large the population grows.

Public art is proven to have a strong impact on improving a community's wellbeing – mentally, economically and culturally, so it naturally follows that my vision for a connected, vibrant, happy and bustling community revolves around displays of accessible and meaningful public art integrated into all development, community and town planning. My vision for public art is that people will describe, explain and emot Mount Barker with the art that is within and around them – where art is directly connected to the soul, the vibe, of the community who reside in and around the area.

Written by Cat Dean

Front Cover Artwork

“My Country” by David Booth.

Other Images taken from:

Inkpot Arts event 2018

The BreakUp event 2019



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL



This plan has been developed Maz McGann of Play Your Part and Leonie Boothby of Leonie Boothby and Associates in collaboration with Mount Barker District Council. It has been informed by a range of key stakeholders including local business, community groups, arts organisations and the general public.

Draft Arts Plan

Attachment 2 to Item 12.8

Project Archived

PUBLISHED ON **03**
AUG 2022

ARCHIVED ON **01** SEP
2022

OPEN FOR **30** Days

ARCHIVAL MESSAGE

Consultation has concluded

Visitors Statistics

AWARE **181**

INFORMED **78**

ENGAGED **18**

[View Project](#)

Engagement Tools Summary

SURVEYS Tell us what
you think Open for 30 days

22 responses

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Information Widget Summary

1 Documents
77 Downloads

1 Key Dates
3 Views

[View Detailed Report](#)

Survey Responses

04 May 2020 - 31 August 2022

Tell us what you think

Your Say Mount Barker

Project: Draft Arts Plan



VISITORS

42

CONTRIBUTORS

19

RESPONSES

22

5

Registered

14

Unverified

0

Anonymous

8

Registered

14

Unverified

0

Anonymous

**Respondent No:** 1**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 04, 2022 19:47:41 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 04, 2022 19:47:41 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I think the draft plan is a good road map to start delivering tangibles to the wider community

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

No

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

Na

**Respondent No:** 2**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 04, 2022 20:11:49 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 04, 2022 20:11:49 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I feel like you have put too much emphasis on visual arts and film making which is great but what about literature? Authors and writers are forced into the city to attend events and workshops with only book launches at the library which sole purpose is selling books.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Please add something for other creatives. Poetry and literature, performance arts. Writers SA has developed a program for Deaf writers to come together to perform their poetry in Auslan. What is Mt Barker doing? No workshops that aren't inkpot or through the Hahndorf academy. They sell art there but I bet they won't sell my books and I'm a creative living in the hills. It would be wonderful to see a funded writing group run out of the library or some writing workshops that encourage stories to be told by everyone including First Nations and the disabled. Don't pigeon hole all the spending and please, for the love of God, we don't need any more sculptures! Especially if they're not from prominent hills artists!

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

We bang on about inclusivity constantly and arts and culture plans should include and welcome everyone. When is the last time you had an Auslan interpreter at a library event? Adelaide Hills Council has Fabrik which is such an amazing and open space but Mt Barker has a crappy community centre that costs money to hire or the library. That's it. Cater for all creatives in this plan please.

**Respondent No:** 3**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 04, 2022 22:10:45 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 04, 2022 22:10:45 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The draft plan looks well thought-out and inspiring but, at a time when many families are struggling to put food on the table, a levy is not something that will be welcomed by many. Art is something very desirable for many residents but not by all, especially at a time when the bare necessities of living are hard to afford. Not everything we want needs to be supported by ratepayers to make it an easier journey for those who have chosen to make a living (or a hobby) from their chosen artistic passion. I do understand how difficult life can be for an artist - I have a son who has chosen performing arts as his career. However, ratepayers do not owe him a living or support for his journey any more than they owe tradespeople or anyone else the support of a ratepayers' levy.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

The plan is comprehensive and ambitious.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

N/A

**Respondent No:** 4**Login:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Responded At: Aug 06, 2022 14:18:39 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 06, 2022 14:18:39 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

It does not reflect it very well at all. This plan has a big focus on "visual arts"....how about literature and music/sound arts?

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Ya...more writing/Literature and more recording arts as well (sound)

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

Because the current plan is very short sighted. It needs to cover other artistic areas as well.

**Respondent No:** 5**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 12, 2022 17:43:58 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 12, 2022 08:13:59 am**IP Address:** 14.2.101.65

Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?

strongly support the ideals and proposals as promulgated

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

not really

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

N/A

**Respondent No:** 6**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 15, 2022 22:28:09 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 15, 2022 12:58:09 pm**IP Address:** 124.148.35.236**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The methodology and feedback seems to have been successful. The breadth of views is broad and this is reflected in the Plan.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Overall, well done for pulling together a strategic document that recognises the rich arts and culture ecology of Mount Barker Council and offers options for moving forwards. The ideas and strategies for the future are good. I would like to identify some gaps and suggest some amendment and changes: Gaps: As Mount Barker goes through a massive transition, I do not see any strategic reference or funding which celebrates its past through heritage initiatives nor shows social, community or economic development projects to celebrate its existing and growing multicultural community, nor economic initiatives to attract more diverse businesses and traders. Equally it does not show an attempt to address how the arts can be used as a tool to address/ target other cultural diversity needs such as people with disability, LGBTQI+, youth sectors. There are no references to financial commitments or sources of Council funding on how this will be implemented over the 5 year life of the Plan. Would the appointment of an arts coordinator be a temporary or permanent contract position? Amendments: Skills for an arts coordinator (p15) and references to other councils (p16) do not need to be included in a public document. They can either be addendums, or references or in the Council report as supporting evidence and justification. Make sure the document only celebrates the strengths of Mount Barker and suggest initiatives it solely wants to achieve. Changes: There should be a link to original music by Ella and Sienna (p25) rather than just the lyrics presuming that there was music too. The document needs to be proof read as there some syntax and spelling mistakes.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

Please see above.

**Respondent No:** 7**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 18, 2022 08:16:48 am**Last Seen:** Aug 18, 2022 08:16:48 am**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

Yes.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

I encourage Council to develop a Wonderwalls festival like Port Adelaide, Wollongong and Port Kembla have done. I'd be interested in assisting this to occur.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

There is a groundswell of positivity behind the murals that are popping up in our area. I believe that having more murals from diverse artists, during and after the festival, would be a real benefit to adding character to boring walls and provide a free opportunity for the public to interact with art. There are many street artists in SA, this festival would not have to look for international artists but would require careful curation not to have pieces that are misaligned with our community.

**Respondent No:** 8**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 24, 2022 16:58:46 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 24, 2022 16:58:46 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The draft arts plan covers a wide range of arts which gives everyone in the community an opportunity to engage with the arts at any level. In particular being inclusive. The diversity of the plan which includes local community groups right through to larger events for example the Adelaide Festival is a great way to connect with people, including new residents to the area and with tourism attracting visitors to the region.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

My only suggestion is for the arts plan to consider injecting more funding into smaller community events right at the beginning to satisfy the community

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

I think this will balance out the funding with the Adelaide Festival event and keep everyone happy

**Respondent No:** 9**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 28, 2022 17:58:40 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 28, 2022 17:58:40 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I think the draft Arts Plan has taken into consideration the unique and variety characteristics of the region and its people.
Well done! Looking forward to living in a district with a vibrant, friendly soul

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

No

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 10**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 28, 2022 20:20:42 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 28, 2022 20:20:42 pm**IP Address:** n/a

Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?

not answered

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

I had a read of the plan and am really impressed with the thought that has gone into it.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 11**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 29, 2022 07:54:12 am**Last Seen:** Aug 29, 2022 07:54:12 am**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

Sounds amazing, we definitely need it as we have so many artists in the region

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

not answered

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 12**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 29, 2022 15:05:38 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 29, 2022 15:05:38 pm**IP Address:** n/a

Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?

not answered

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

not answered

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 13**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 29, 2022 15:52:18 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 29, 2022 15:52:18 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I don't have a strong confidence that Mt Barker council region has the capacity of achieving many of the things outlined in the draft arts plan. I would love nothing more for the plan to be successful however 15 years ago I moved to this council area from a council area which had a strong arts and cultural development team even then (I was employed casually as part of that team) Since living here it has been a struggle as an artist to make connections and build a network as I couldn't then and can't now find a contact listed on the council website for arts and culture. Appointing an arts coordinator is a good start but who will implement, help run any of the things listed in the plan. It is unreasonable and unsustainable to expect enough volunteer hours from artists and those within the community that are interested in arts development.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Will there be funding to employ an arts team? I couldn't believe there hasn't been a team within the council. Eventually I heard from someone that there is a community officer ? community arts officer? I don't know? In regard to 2.4 Places and spaces, I think a centre for the arts is needed. I know we have the Mt B Community Centre and Hahndorf Academy as a gallery space but the hire fees and commissions are still very high. A space like Gallery M in Marion Council or The Arts Centre -Pt Noarlunga in City of Onkaparinga which support artists in the community and is a venue for exhibiting art as well as shop/sales opportunities would be just what this large expanding community needs.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

An arts and cultural development team - too many events that occur rely on volunteers, I can't see how your plan can be fully implemented by only appointing an arts coordinator. (2.4) It acts as an umbrella for artists to promote their skills and services with council support and an easy way for the community to find creative activities for themselves and their families. As an arts instructor I am in contact with many people who just didn't know where to look for advice on programs, classes, workshops etc... will create employment in the area as well as community spirit, connections and friendships.

**Respondent No:** 14**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 29, 2022 16:50:42 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 29, 2022 16:50:42 pm**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I think has great potential, subject to there being a person to won and drive the strategy such as an arts officer, or it will likely fall into unrealised obscurity

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Na

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

Na

**Respondent No:** 15**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 30, 2022 00:09:38 am**Last Seen:** Aug 30, 2022 00:09:38 am**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I like the sound of it. I would love to find a art group in Mount Barker.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

No.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 16**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 30, 2022 10:16:23 am**Last Seen:** Aug 30, 2022 00:46:23 am**IP Address:** 218.215.45.198**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I think it does reflect the aspirations but further conversation with the whole council area and more so the places that can augment the Arts Plan should occur.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

I think with all parties mentioned in the Arts Plan you need to consult with them to see if there can be: agreement, and maybe areas in which they can play major parts

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

For example, I love that you have mentioned places like Hahndorf Academy and I think with real investment in them (and other places) they can be heavy lifters of your Arts Plan. Replication/ overlap/ should be avoided.

**Respondent No:** 17**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 30, 2022 15:28:04 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 30, 2022 05:58:04 am**IP Address:** 203.193.195.181**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

I think it is a great plan, comprehensive and aspirational, and provides a good blueprint for the region moving forward and committing to a serious investment in the arts. It is also hugely ambitious and I can see that it will take significant time and resources to work towards the visionary goals.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

I'm sure this has been considered, but I think a draft timeline would be helpful to include, to guide the development and implementation of goals and strategies (staff recruitment, funding structure, etc).

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

I think without a draft timeline for the development and implementation of goals and strategies the process could be lengthy and prolonged. I presume once the plan is accepted a draft timeline would be further detailed and refined.

**Respondent No:** 18**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 31, 2022 09:58:18 am**Last Seen:** Aug 31, 2022 00:28:18 am**IP Address:** 193.115.89.142**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The Arts Plan is an excellent initiative by Council. It describes a broad base of arts from music, and performance to crafts and art. These are essential components of Community: just as sport and recreation bind people together, so do the arts. 'Community' benefits health and cohesion which can reduce crime rates, vandalism and generally make Mount Barker a home of choice . in addition it benefits tourism and business by promoting events and special occasions.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Resources: these need to be defined. A budget line needs to be set in place and responsibility for results allocated. Leadership: while a plan is a great start. its implementation is dependent on a clear guiding hand to bring it to fruition. Realistic, achievable goals need to be set for the person/group/people who will undertake this Leadership. Overambitious or randomly directed actions will bring the good intentions into disrepute and could lead to a waste of resources.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

A plan without resources is only a dream Overambitious or randomly directed actions will bring the good intentions into disrepute.

**Respondent No:** 19**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 31, 2022 09:58:48 am**Last Seen:** Aug 31, 2022 00:28:18 am**IP Address:** 193.115.89.142

Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?

not answered

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

not answered

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 20**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 31, 2022 09:59:55 am**Last Seen:** Aug 31, 2022 00:28:18 am**IP Address:** 193.115.89.142

Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?

not answered

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

not answered

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

not answered

**Respondent No:** 21**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 31, 2022 10:11:16 am**Last Seen:** Aug 31, 2022 00:28:18 am**IP Address:** 193.115.89.142**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The plan is an excellent beginning. Along with sport and recreation, arts creates cohesion in the community. The value of Community is reflected in health (physical and mental), lower crime and vandalism, a sense of belonging and so Mount Barker being a home of choice.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

Not with the plan as such but looking to its implementation: Resources need to be allocated for it to be more than an dream Leadership needs to defined to make sure the resources bring results with a coherent strategy - not firing off randomly or pandering to special interest groups

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

Without resources and leadership, the opportunity could be squandered and arts (and Council) could have a damaged reputation

**Respondent No:** 22**Login:** [REDACTED]**Email:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Responded At:** Aug 31, 2022 11:14:21 am**Last Seen:** Aug 31, 2022 11:14:21 am**IP Address:** n/a**Q1. How do you feel the draft Arts Plan reflects the aspirations and capacity of the region?**

The plan reflects existing work being done well and the opportunities and investment needed to extend and coordinate that capability across the region. Encouraging more visible presence of art in the public space or community events is a great way to demonstrate the how the arts enriches our lives. There will be a significant reliance on the goodwill and support of the community and existing organisations for the plan to succeed. Keeping in mind that the plan should continue to respond to changing community needs and remain flexible is a key point.

Q2. Do you have any suggestions for changes within the draft Plan?

The Arts Plan is very ambitious and likely to require further investment by council, or extend the duration of the plan by 2 years.

Q3. Why do you feel these changes are necessary?

The arts brings amazing enrichment and wellbeing benefits to communities. In a time of expansion and demographic change now is the perfect time to establish Mount Barker District as a vibrant cultural location and destination of choice.



MACCLESFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

P.O. BOX 357
Macclesfield
SA 5153

Email: Macclesfieldca@gmail.com

30 August 2022

Mount Barker District Council

Dear Mayor and Councillors

RE: Submission on Mount Barker District Council's draft Arts Plan

The Macclesfield Community Association ('MCA') has the following comments to make regarding the Mount Barker District Council's ('Council') draft Arts Plan.

Firstly, we would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to the Council for the development of the draft Arts Plan ('the Plan').

MCA supports the Plan, especially:

- The themes, goals and principles seem suitable for this first Arts Plan for Council.
- Resourcing the Arts Plan: employment of an Arts Officer / Coordinator. We note that \$50,000 was allocated in 2022/23 budget. This is a good start but is not an ongoing commitment. The specialist staff resource for the Arts Plan will be required for at least the life of the Plan. It should be a 5-year contract, or a permanent role. It is important that this role is appointed at a senior level – to attract someone with experience, rather than a junior staffer/ new graduate.
- Resourcing the Arts Plan: establishing a Foundation. This is a great idea. There are families in the District who have benefited from zoning charges and the urban growth around the District but particularly in Mount Barker. Some of them may be interested in leaving a legacy for future generations through Arts Philanthropy. This could be a valuable way of raising funds for the multi-arts venue mentioned in Action 2.4.3
- Recognition of Crystal Lake Park in Macclesfield as a unique regional arts destination. MCA is keen to collaborate with Council, SA Stone Sculpture Association, Adelaide Hills Ceramics Association, other organisations and artists to bring this to fruition.

Some areas that would enhance/strengthen the Plan and increase its impact include:

- Time frames: The Plan is not clear on the timeframes for implementing its 40+ Actions. We don't want this Plan to sit on the shelf. Actions could be classified as 0-2 years and 3+ years.
- Resourcing the Arts Plan: We are looking for a clearer funding commitment to delivery so the Plan results in new initiatives and expansion of Council's role in the arts. Mount Barker DC has fallen a long way behind the average spend of its neighbouring Councils and the

state-wide average for the local government sector. Over the life of this Plan there should be measurable progress on the Council's expenditure compared to its neighbours and the average for the sector.

- Putting the artist at the heart of delivering the Arts Plan requires a budget for paying artists. It should be clear in Council's Arts Plan that the arts projects supported by Council will provide opportunities of artists to be paid properly for their skills, experience and talent.
- Stakeholder engagement. A mechanism should be established for ongoing engagement with the arts sector in the District and broader Hills region, and not just with the larger, more established organisations. Council could benefit from having a committee, reference group or advisory group to draw on the skills and knowledge that exists in the community, to provide guidance and feedback on the implementation of the Plan. Many other Councils have these kinds of committees/ advisory structures for Arts and Culture and the existing models could be reviewed by MBDC. This requires a new Action.
- Experimentation involves resourcing pilots to show their success. A new Arts Grants program could support creative experimentation. But a viable creative sector also requires ongoing programs and initiatives with stable funding or at least annual allocations through Council's budget. It won't be enough to provide only one-off small grants.
- Commit to resourcing the analysis of impact that can support momentum. We note that the Adelaide Festival has received considerable funding from MBDC as an economic development project, and this is justified by economic impact analysis conducted for AF. Council needs to support other arts activities with that kind of impact analysis, as their social and economic impact may also be substantial. This may be more effectively organised as a consultancy that addresses economic impact at the program level, rather than on a project-by-project basis.

There are a few points that we don't support in the draft Arts Plan, including:

- Diversity seems to be missing: the arts are an important vehicle for social expression in our changing communities, especially for youth, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse residents, and LGBTIQ+ community members.
- Implementation of the Arts Plan via developer contributions. There is a real risk of the property developers using any requirements to merely dress up the development for commercial benefit, with very little engagement with artists or communities, and delivering outputs with low artistic value such as entrance statements. It would seem quite a difficult thing to require of developers anyhow, and Council might be better trying to pool a 'percentage for art' contribution into a shared scheme that can fund initiatives with genuine artistic merit but not necessarily within the development.
- Implementation of the Arts Plan via an Arts Levy. This seems like extra rates that would be highly controversial in the community. We don't believe this is necessary or equitable. Council does not currently raise an additional levy on all ratepayers for the sports and recreation expenditure, both capital and operational, that it has each year. These are *many times* more costly than the annual arts budget but are assumed to be of general public benefit. Not everyone plays sport, but all ratepayers contribute to it via general rates. Arts and culture should be the same – recognised as a public benefit. Arts is relatively inexpensive. An increase in expenditure is a matter of determining priorities, and it should be accommodated within the Annual Budget.

Some questions and comments we have about the Actions include:

Actions 1.1.4 - Bald Hills Rd - the repurposing of the stone barns as an arts venue. The stone barns are lovely buildings and should be retained for community enjoyment. However, these buildings will be situated within a recreation and sport precinct that Council has already made a substantial commitment to. If this is to be successful as an arts venue it will have quite a different operational model and design requirements to the adjacent aquatic facility. There may be some value in looking at new and unique small spaces for arts practice such as the stone barns and Crystal Lake Park together – making effective use of experienced consultants for Actions 1.1.2, 1.1.4 and 2.4.1.

1.1.5 Public Art. Council has already adopted a Public Art Policy. This should be reviewed with stakeholder and public input. There is a need to support public art projects more equitably across the District, not just in the township of Mount Barker. It is critical that public art involves commissioning processes which ensure artistic outcomes and provide opportunities for artists to further develop their practice. \$20,000 - \$30,000 p.a. would deliver a valuable public art project each year, and Council could leverage this by applying for grants for larger public art projects.

2.1.3 – Percentage for art. This should be for the *total estimated project cost*, not the cost of individual stages of a project. If this approach had been applied to the Venables Street upgrade (a multi-stage project delivered over 5-6 years) there could have been some public art included in the scope of works. Our Association requested consideration of public art during the course of this project and would welcome the integration of art into our Main Street in the future.

2.4.1 – Venue audit. The existing network of halls and Institutes across the District could accommodate more arts activities with some investment in the facilities e.g. acoustics, lighting, sound technology, thermal comfort etc. These have been vibrant cultural facilities for previous generations. In some cases, they need an uplift to meet contemporary expectations. These could be affordable spaces for emerging artists to show their work and are well distributed around the District. Every town and locality has a hall of some sort.

2.4.3 – Multi-arts venue. It is important to undertake this Action early in the 5-year period of the Plan as the development of Mount Barker is happening quickly. Potential locations for a future multi-arts venue include the vacant land behind (and incorporating) the Mount Barker Town Hall, the Mountain Pool site being vacated in the coming two years, the TAFE site plus vacant land to south of the Library (on top of the hill behind the skate park). Long term planning is required for other cultural facilities as well (Hahndorf Academy, Library, community halls/venues etc) just as Council has undertaken for sporting facilities.

(*Number missing*) – local presenter group. There could be interest in Macclesfield for this. Other similar ideas include the Festival of Small Halls and supporting the Adelaide Fringe to be present in the MBDC.

3.2.4 - Sculpture and murals. This is a repeat of 1.3.2 and is a better fit for section 1.3 than section 3.2.

Measuring progress: The annual expenditure by MBDC on Cultural Services is already reported to the State Government and can be tracked easily on a per resident or per rateable property basis using the Councils in Focus website.

Macclesfield Community Association is keen to support the successful implementation of this Plan, through arts initiatives in our community. We have ideas, local creative talent, a proven track record and want to be involved.

I trust that these comments on the draft Arts Plan help you to understand the concerns and priorities of residents and ratepayers. I am available for further discussion on these points if required.

Yours Sincerely,

Penny Worland

Chairperson, Macclesfield Community Association



Mount Barker District Council
P.O Box 54
Mount Barker SA 5251

6.09.2022

RE: Arts Plan submission

The Mount Barker Community Library is the most active place where arts are prevalent in terms of a service directly provided to the community by the Mount Barker District Council. Friends of the Library, Mount Barker Incorporated were therefore surprised to find there were no significant references to the library in the Arts Plan, despite the Mount Barker Community Library being an active place for the arts, with one of the public consultation sessions re the Arts Plan held at the library. The Mount Barker Community Library engages in an array of elements to do with culture and the arts throughout an entire year and this includes activity such as:

- Art exhibitions, including one recently held during the SALA festival.
- Artists engaged for school holiday activity and other programs.
- Interactive and engaging activities held during the SA History Festival.
- Events held as part of National Reconciliation Week.
- Authors evenings, talks and book launches.

This is only a small sampling of what has been provided over many years with the Mount Barker Community Library. Friends of the Library, Mount Barker Incorporated are also actively developing a mobile makerspace at present, alongside a media lab project with multiple partners – the library being one of them. To enable more things to go forward in terms of the Mount Barker Community Library, Friends of the Library at Mount Barker, culture, and the arts, the following should be taken on board:

- The library is recognised for their extensive work with culture and the arts in the Arts Plan.
- Increased library funding is provided to expand in areas regarding culture and the arts.
- Support for Friends of the Library projects of which they are undertaking.
- The need for the public to have a real say and input over any new library built.
- Having library order, pick up and return places in towns like Macclesfield and Callington, similar to operations in Alexandrina Council at Mount Compass. shorturl.at/bertZ
- The need to have access to TAFE SA classrooms under the library roof space available at no cost for makerspace, media lab project and other library activities.

If you have any questions please contact our organisation via the postal address above, phone on 0458 768 643 or via email, nathan.rogers79@bigpond.com.

Thank you very much.

Nathan Rogers

Chairperson, Friends of the Library, Mount Barker Incorporated
@yourcommunitylibrary on Facebook

ARTS for LIFE

Mount Barker District Council

Homemaker Centre

6 Dutton Road

MOUNT BARKER SA 5251

1 September 2022

Dear Yelaina Eaton & colleagues,

Re: Submission on draft Arts Plan 2022-2027

Thank you for releasing the draft Arts Plan for public consultation. The Council is to be congratulated on developing an Arts Plan for our district, supporting a connected, fulfilled, creative and healthy community. We appreciate the comprehensive vision that has been created which focuses on the 3 fundamental elements of a healthy Arts sector - arts practice, community participation and infrastructure.

The vision of this Arts Plan aligns with the goals of our organisation. We have been actively supporting Mount Barker and neighbouring communities for the last 17 years and have delivered programs in Arts and Cultural Tourism, Community Arts and Cultural Development and provide opportunities for local artists to utilise their creative skills. Storytelling to build a sense of identity and community also lies at the heart of what we do.

Ink Pot Arts offers the following feedback on various elements of the Arts Plan:

Timelines

We believe that it is essential that timelines for delivery of actions be included so that residents get a sense of both when progress against actions will be reported and when each action in the Arts Plan will be delivered.

Inclusion and Accessibility

The Arts Plan's commentary refers to inclusive, accessible activities and spaces but in section 2.2 there are no actions that specifically target marginalised groups such as the LGBTQTI community, seniors, CALD members and those people who identify with having a disability. We would like to see these groups have more visibility in the plan.

Location 34-38 Gawler Street, Mount Barker SA 5251**Post** PO Box 1177, Nairne SA 5252**Phone** 8388 0353 Mobile: 0429 673 327**Email** quill@inkpot.com.au**www.inkpot.com.au**

www.facebook.com/inkpotarts

ARTS for LIFE

Strategies and Actions

Action 1.1

This action refers to working with Arts Organisations like the Cedars and Hahndorf Academy to support their growth. Ink Pot Arts is a not-for-profit organisation that has played a vital role in contributing to Arts and Culture throughout the Mount Barker district, yet we are nearly fully self-funded with only some rent relief provided by the Council. There are many more opportunities we could offer if we had the operational resources to do so. As the only not-for-profit Performing Arts organisation in the council district, we are well placed to deliver programs that support the Arts Plan but will require additional funding from the Council to do so.

Action 1.1.4 and 2.4.3

We support the scoping of the use of the barns on Bald Hills Road for an Arts Precinct (or any other appropriate site) and the plan to activate a Multi-Arts Hub in the CBD. Potential sites for the Multi-Arts Hub include next to the bowling club on Mann Street or behind the Mount Barker Town Hall. Linking the two via the Laratinga Walking Trail would be an advantage for visitors to the region. Catering to both local Community Arts performances as well as professional companies is recommended particularly because of Mount Barker's regional importance. These precincts will provide a heart for the Mount Barker community to connect, share stories and celebrate our region.

Action 1.3.4

Building regional partnerships is to be applauded and reflects the fundamental way in which Ink Pot Arts operates. Over time we have enabled opportunities for our theatre projects, community events and Arts-based wellbeing programs with Adelaide Hills Council and Alexandrina Council as well as the District Council of Mount Barker.

Action 2.2.2

Ink Pot Arts has been active and successful in Outreach Programs to bushfire affected communities 2020-2022 as well as with our touring shows (2015 onwards) and would appreciate being noted for this service in the plan and look forward to what we can offer in the future. We also have a strong link to the Education sector via our Board members and Artistic Director.

Action 3.1.4

We support the Arts Officer's role in developing a database of artists and organisations for networking and collaboration opportunities. This need not be done from scratch as many local organisations have extensive databases that the Arts Officer can tap into. Ink Pot Arts alone has approximately 150 artists on its database.

Location 34-38 Gawler Street, Mount Barker SA 5251

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ARTS for LIFE

Resourcing Strategy

Employing an experienced Arts Officer with an understanding of diverse practice in both Performing and Visual Arts is vital for success in activating and delivering the Arts Plan. Equally as important is providing a sufficient budget and resources to the Arts Officer so they can meet key performance indicators. Without sufficient resourcing the Arts Plan will fail. We, therefore, recommend that resources be allocated for an Arts Officer for the life of the plan (i.e. 5 years) to enable sufficient impact and review and then for it to be ongoing. Our hope is that the Arts Officer places equal importance on the Performing Arts, as Visual Arts have been well supported via the Hahndorf Academy, The Cedars, Public Art, the International Sculpture Symposium etc over the years.

Arts Levy

The Arts Plan proposes an Arts Levy to raise funds for the Arts. We believe an Arts Levy will be a divisive agent in our community and do not support it. Local councils have a legislative responsibility to provide for the well-being and interests of individuals and groups within the community and the Arts are a significant contributor through the positive impact on individual and collective well-being. Well-funded Sport and Recreation has a similar positive impact yet does not require a levy. The Arts along with Sport and Recreation should be considered as core business in annual budget processes.

Foundation

The idea of establishing a Foundation for Arts projects and development is to be applauded. Further work will be needed to establish the terms of reference, how Foundation directors are appointed, and how projects are prioritised and selected.

Measuring Progress

The comprehensive quantitative benchmarks detailed in the Arts Plan are valuable, however, qualitative social impact is equally as important. The "South Australian Cultural Impact Guide" and "Cultural Impact Framework and toolkit"¹ developed by the Creative Communities Network, for example, provides a framework to measure the value of cultural development activities and impact on the culture of the community. Including qualitative social impacts will demonstrate that Council is aware of the holistic long-term benefits of Arts engagement for the community and recognises that the Arts has both tangible and intangible benefits for communities.

Qualitative measures such as: use of imagination; new ways of thinking; self-expression; feelings of attachment to other people and places; desire to contribute to the community; feelings of belonging; respect for people regardless of difference; sense of trust and safety; and development of new knowledge and skills will provide insight into how people feel and experience cultural activities, buildings or places.

ARTS for LIFE

Concluding Remarks

During our 17 years of operating in Mount Barker we have noticed a gradual positive shift in the appreciation of the Performing Arts which is our core activity. Ink Pot Arts has been actively involved in Community Arts and Cultural Development projects hosting highly successful and innovative new theatre experiences for the community, telling our history particularly via such projects as *From Footprint to Footplate* (2014-2015) and *Whispering Walls – if the Walls had Ears* (2019).

Ink Pot Arts has enabled pathways of development of the Arts for young people engaging in creative projects, to then pursuing a career in the Arts. We have hosted Flinders University students seeking work experience, employed emerging artists via the Carclew Creative Consultants program, offered Masterclasses and invited Alumni back to share their gifts with others. This takes commitment, time and resources and adds to our operational costs. We have also worked with a pro-amateur model with theatre projects for 17 years. Through these activities Ink Pot Arts is a significant contributor to the Arts across the council district and we look forward to being considered as an integral part of the Arts landscape in all future council planning.

It may not be known by the council staff and Elected Members the level of experience and expertise our Board, Artistic Director, and artist team have across diverse practice in the Arts. In addition to what has already been mentioned, these include international, national & local touring in professional theatres & music venues, creating Arts programs for marginalised groups, Events Management, development of Arts-Based Wellbeing programs, professional development for teachers, cross-generational Arts programs, University research and lecturing, and development of cross-cultural understanding (particularly with First Nations artists) and more.

We look forward to connecting with the new Arts Officer when they are appointed to discuss what we can do in partnership with Council and sharing our expertise for the growth of our region. We welcome further conversation in developing our district's unique identity whilst engaging local artists.

Yours Sincerely,



Jo-anne Sarre, Artistic Director

On behalf of the Ink Pot Arts Inc Board

Location 34-38 Gawler Street, Mount Barker SA 5251

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www.facebook.com/inkpotarts

12.9	REPORT TITLE:	WARD DONATIONS
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/77186
	ATTACHMENTS:	NIL
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Sue Miller, Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Andrew Stuart, Chief Executive Officer

Community Plan 2020-2035:

Leadership and Good Governance

LGG Strategy 1.4 - Enable community leadership.

Annual Business Plan:

Nil

Purpose

To allocate ward donation funds to individuals or organisations.

Summary – Key Issues

- Council has budgeted an amount for 2022/23 of \$16,417 with the pro-rata amount being \$995 for each Council Member to allocate to individuals and/or groups at the Council Members' discretion. This is known as a Ward Allowance.
- Council Members may nominate groups or individuals to receive a Ward donation from their allowance at each Council meeting.

Recommendation

That Council will make the following donations, given that each Member nominating the donation has given careful consideration to whether there is a conflict of interest:

Council Member	Amount	Group/Individual/Purpose

Background

1. Council receives many requests for assistance from individuals, community members and community groups. Requests may be received by Council Members via telephone, letter or via email, or direct to Council.
2. Council has budgeted an amount for 2022/23 of \$16,417 which equates to a pro-rata amount of \$995 remaining for each Council Member to allocate to individuals and groups at the Council Members' discretion. This is known as a Ward Allowance.
3. The Representation Review process (completed in October 2021) ensures equal representation (Council Member per elector) in each Ward. In October 2021 changes were made to the composition of wards and council member representation which took effect at the November 2022 election. This review process ensures the amount of Ward Allowance available to the community is equal between each of the Wards.
4. At the end of each financial year, a report of the expenditure of Ward Allowances will be reported to Council.

Ward Donation Procedures

5. Members receive a print-out indicating how much is still to be spent.
6. Individual members of the community or community groups may require small financial assistance for projects/initiatives of community interest and benefit from Council.
7. These requests should be made directly to the Mayor and/ or Council Members for their consideration / assessment.
8. Any requests received directly by Council will be acknowledged by the Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor, and advised that any such requests received will be provided to all Council Members who may choose to contribute some funds from their annual Ward Allowance.
9. When determining donations, Council Members should consider the community interest / benefit to be received and enjoyed by the community at large as a result of that donation.
10. As per section S73-75A of the Local Government Act 1999 Council Members should also consider and assess any material, actual or perceived conflict of interest as a result of making a particular donation or voting on the donations.

11. At each Council Meeting, Council Members may nominate members of the community or community groups to receive a donation from their Ward Allowance. These donations are reflected in the Council meeting minutes, available on Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au
12. Council Members are encouraged to advise the Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor as soon as possible of any requests for ward donations received in advance of Council meetings in order for such requests to be included in the Council meeting agenda. The form can be found on the extranet under Forms.
13. When making a donation in the Council Meeting, the Council Member should:
 - a. Declare who the donation is to be made to, the amount and the purpose of the donation; and
 - b. Complete and submit a Ward Donation Form to the Minute Secretary.

Community Engagement

Informing only	Notification by way of Council minutes. Recipients will be notified of any donation.
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Policy

There are currently no Council Policies in relation to Ward Donations.

Long Term Financial Plan:

Nil

Budget

The budget allocation for Ward Donations is \$16,417 which equates to a pro-rata amount of \$995 remaining for expenditure by each Council Member. Any unallocated ward allowance balance is not carried over to the next financial year.

Statutory/Legal

There are no statutory/legal implications or requirements in relation to Ward Donations.

Section 73-75A of the Local Government Act 1999:

However, Council Members should be mindful of material, actual or perceived conflict of interest that may arise as a result of making a ward donation.

Staff Resource Requirements

This is incorporated into the existing responsibilities of the finance staff.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications arising from this report or its recommendations.

Social

Ward donations enable individual members of the community and community groups to request small donations to assist with their endeavours.

Risk Assessment:

It is the responsibility of each Council Member to assess the risks association with the ward donations.

Asset Management:

There are no asset management implications arising from this report or its recommendations.

Conclusion

Council Members have the opportunity to make ward donations.

13. INFORMATION REPORTS**Recommendation**

That the following information reports be noted en bloc.

13.1 REPORT TITLE: QUESTION LYING ON THE TABLE**DATE OF MEETING: 5 DECEMBER 2022****FILE NUMBER: DOC/22/134189**

Key Contact Brian Clancey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer/
General Manager, Governance

Sponsor Andrew Stuart, Chief Executive Officer

Purpose:

The Local Government Act (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013, requires a report from the Chief Executive Officer to the new Council, on any question that remained lying on the table at the time of the 2022 Council election.

Summary – Key Issues:

- There was one matter remained lying on the table at the time of the November 2022 Council election.

Background:

1. As per the Local Government Act (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013, Regulation 12 (14) (c) provides for a formal motion '*that the question lie on the table*' which if successful, is that the meeting immediately moves to the next item of business and the question can then only be retrieved at a later time by resolution (and, if so retrieved, debate is then resumed at the point of interruption).
2. The Regulations also stipulate that any question that lies on the table lapses at the next general election and that the Chief Executive Officer must report to the first ordinary meeting of the Council after the general election, on each question that lies on the table as the result of a successful formal motion that lapsed at the general election.
3. During the previous Council term, there was only one question lay on the table.

Discussion:

3. At the 7 March 2022 Council meeting there was a successful formal motion that the question lie on the table, in relation to a the following motion:

Moved Councillor Leach that Council will implement live streaming, of audio and vision, on the internet, of full Council meetings commencing from the next full Council meeting. The recording of these meetings to be available on the Mount Baker District Council website after the minutes of the meetings have been published on the Council's website and be available for a period of three years before being archived. The archived recordings are to be made available on request by members of the public.

Seconded Councillor Minett

3. At the 4 April 2022 Council meeting, the following was resolved:

That Council will implement live streaming of Mount Barker District Council meetings from the next Council meeting to allow for streaming as the meeting is occurring in accordance with the Council's published document "Code of Practice (for Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Documents)" inclusive of references to Electronic Participation in Council Meetings Notice (No 1) 2020 noting that the live streaming will not extend to coverage of committee meetings, information or briefing sessions and will exclude any matters considered in confidence and if the administration deems that the Code of Practice requires amendment for this to occur, then the Chief Executive Officer (or their delegate) will prepare a report for the next Council meeting with any amendments.

4. The question from 7 March 2022 Council Meeting was not retrieved from table.
5. Since May 2022 Council has been livestreaming all Council meetings.

Conclusion:

As required by Regulation, a report from the Chief Executive Officer about the single question that remained lying on the table at the time of the 2022 Council election has now been advised to the new Council and no further action is required.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	NIL	CM Reference	DOC/
Title			
Purpose			

13.2	REPORT TITLE:	LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION RESULTS 2022
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/148978
	ATTACHMENTS:	NIL
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Maree Barns, Administration Officer - Governance
	<u>Sponsor</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy CEO / General Manager, Governance

Purpose:

To inform Council and the community of the final results of the 2022 council elections that were concluded in November 2022.

Summary – Key Issues:

- Council elections have concluded with 4 elections required to be conducted.
- A new Mayor and four new Council Members were elected
- The participation rate increased to 35.64% from the previous election in 2018 of 31.2%.

Background:

1. The Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 and the Local Government (Elections) Regulations 2010 require Councils to hold periodic elections every 4 years.
2. The Council Elections were completed entirely by post, to electors' mailing addresses.
3. An election was held for Mayor and for each of the three wards.
4. The ward boundaries were amended following the representation review that was completed in 2021.
5. The Electoral Commissioner of South Australia (ECSA) was the returning officer for all Council elections.
6. Council's role was to provide data (Council voters roll) and support to the ECSA and promotion of the election process which included an information session for candidates.

Discussion:

7. The scrutiny and count took place on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 November 2022 at the Local Government Centre.
8. This was conducted by the ECSA with Council's Governance and Risk Officer in attendance.
9. Council actively promoted voter participation through various mechanisms.

10. Whilst the total number of candidates was less in 2022 than in 2018, Council achieved an overall participation rate of 36.64% which is a significant improvement on the 2018 voter turnout of 31.2%. This compares to the state-wide average participation rate in 2022 of 33.91%
11. Of some relevance is that in 2018 the position of Mayor did not require an election as Ann Ferguson was re-elected unopposed.
12. Participation rates for wards were North ward 36.76%, Central ward 33.42% and South ward 37.88%
13. The final declaration of the election results was provided to Council from the Returning Officer (Electoral Commission of South Australia) on 18 November 2022. The results as advised by the Returning Officer were:

Mayor – 1 vacancy

LEACH, David	Elected
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Councillor for North Ward – 3 vacancies

SZILASSY, Jessica	Elected 1
WESTWOOD, Simon	Elected 2
SEAGER, Harry	Elected 3

Councillor for Central Ward – 4 vacancies

HARDING, Sally	Elected 1
ORR, Bradley	Elected 2
JONES, Samantha	Elected 3
GROSSER, Ian	Elected 4

Councillor for South Ward – 3 vacancies

HARDINGHAM, Narelle	Elected 1
COOMBE, Richard	Elected 2
HEWETT, Rebecca	Elected 3

14. Four of these councillors are new to council being Jessica Szilassy, Sally Harding, Richard Coombe and Rebecca Hewett.
15. Council is yet to receive final accounts for the cost of the election but Council has budgeted \$225,000 based on the quote provided by ECSA.

Conclusion:

The 2022 Council election has concluded with a new Mayor and four new Council Members elected.

Previous Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	3 DECEMBER 2018	CM Reference	DOC/18/127054
Title	LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2018		
Purpose	To inform Council and the community of the final results of the 2018 Local Government Elections held in November 2018.		

Meeting Date	1 December 2014	HPRM Reference	DOC/14/108647
Title	Local Government Election 2014 Results		
Purpose	To inform Council and the community of the final results of the 2018 Local Government Elections held in November 2014.		

13.3	REPORT TITLE:	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FIRE SEASON PREPAREDNESS 2022/23
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/136185
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Frank Regan , Fire Prevention Officer
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Peter Patterson, Manager, Maintenance and Operations

Purpose:

To inform Council Members of preparations for the 2022/23 fire season.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. The 2022/23 National Council for Fire and Emergency Services (AFAC) Bushfire Outlook for South Australia is for a normal fire potential season.
2. The start to the declared fire season in the Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Region is 1 December and the 15 November for the Murraylands Region.
3. Council's public land preparation and fire prevention programs are behind normal targets due to the seasonal conditions.

Background:

1. The Fire Season for the Mount Lofty Ranges has been declared to run between 1 December 2022 and 30 April 2023, and between the 15 November 2022 and the 15 April 2023 for the Murraylands.
2. Recent changes have occurred to introduce a new State Bushfire Management Plan. On the back of recent reviews post the 2019-2020 fire season, the State Bushfire Coordination Committee (SBCC) has been elevated to a parliamentary committee with direct reporting to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services with added reporting responsibilities over past years, that flow down to the council level.
3. Council holds an active position on the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Bushfire Management Committee, that meets 4 times per year. This committee manages fire risk planning in the region through treatments within the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges [Bushfire Management Area Plan](#) located on the CFS website.
4. Under the requirements of the Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Act 2005, Council has a role in fire prevention across the Mount Barker District Council area. This includes, preparation of public lands, community education for private property preparation, fire prevention inspections and Schedule 9 and 10 permit issuing that allow for the lighting of fires (eg coal fired cooking pits) and using prescribed equipment (eg welders / angle grinders) during the fire

season outside of the permitted activities as prescribed in the FES Act and Regulations.

Discussion:

5. Last year the Mount Barker District Council completed all of the required fire mitigation and inspection treatments assigned to it under the Bushfire Management Area Plan. This year the Mount Barker District Council CEO has signed off on the 2022/23 Regional Risk Reduction Plan which forms part of the Bushfire Management Area Plan. This includes the annual program of works (treatments) for fire mitigation on public lands and compliance on private lands. Post the 2022/23 fire danger season council will report back on the level of achievement in delivery of this works program.
6. The Mount Barker district is again experiencing a wetter spring, which has led to higher fuel loads in many areas and also late curing of roadside fuel. Council staff commenced its Fire Mitigation on Public Lands Program two weeks earlier this season to cope with extra fuel loads, but seasonal conditions have led to rapid vegetation growth and difficulty getting in to some areas, which has meant delays are being experienced in progressing the works program. This program includes roadside slashing, public reserve mowing and maintenance, and fire mitigation works on verges and road reserves. In response to these delays the Maintenance and Operations Team have engaged additional local contractors to undertake works, and council staff are doing extended week day shifts and weekend shifts to make up the lost ground to ensure public open space areas are ready for the coming fire season. Open areas will be continuously monitored leading into the season and additional or extra works will be prioritised where required.
7. In addition to this the new Fire Mitigation Team Members through the Fire to Flourish Program (*a separate item in this agenda*), are delivering works in addition to the annual program. These works aim reduce fire risks around the many safer place and places of last resort areas within our district, in addition to our normal annual works program. This program is in place until March 2025.
8. Fire prevention community engagement continues to be a focus, with council staff attending and presenting at three community meetings in conjunction with CFS. These engagements have included presenting at the inaugural Small Acreage Field Days, the Brukunga community event and a CFS Firey Womens course at Brukunga. Part of this year's community engagement program is the development and delivery of a social media campaign using council website and facebook page, as well as the use of movable electronic roadside signage and supporting of local media articles to remind local landholders of their responsibilities to clean up the properties ahead of fire danger season.

9. Council's Fire Prevention Officer has now completed the private property fire prevention inspections and 753 notices (105F) have been issued to the noncomplying properties. This number is comparable to the 2021/22 season in which 745 notices were issued. Again this season there is a large representation of vacant blocks in the new development areas that have been issued notices. The majority of landholders issued with notices have already undertaken works to comply with the notices. Given the wet spring Council's Fire Prevention Officer is working closely with some landholders who have indicated they may have delays in getting works completed in time.
10. Council has scheduled eight free clean green waste days so far this year, which includes two additional days compared to last year. This is an initiative to encourage property owners clean up properties ahead of the fire season. An additional free clean green waste day was also added on 19 November in response to the recent storm event that hit the district. This initiative was warmly welcomed by the community and acknowledged by many attending the Windmill Hill Transfer Station during the day.
11. Council has completed preparation of the Large Animal Emergency Refuge at the Mount Barker Show Grounds site. The pens and shelter at the site are now ready for use in the event of an emergency. An operational management plan for this site has also been prepared for internal use to outline council's role in activation of this site in the event of an emergency.

Conclusion:

Council is slightly behind on seasonal preparedness activities leading into this year's fire season, in response additional contractors and weekend shifts are being deployed to regain lost ground due to weather impacts. The community has also responded well with most landholders now having undertaken works in preparation for the season. Reporting on the works program and treatments will be compiled and submitted for reporting to the regional Bushfire Management Committee post the fire season 2022/23.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	1 November 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/170474
Title	Emergency management Fire Season Preparedness 2021-22		
Purpose	To inform Elected Members of Council's preparations for the 2021-2022 fire season.		

13.4	REPORT TITLE:	FIRE TO FLOURISH - PROJECT UPDATE
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/145925
	ATTACHMENTS:	NIL
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Larissa Jennings, Community Resilience Project Officer, Planning and Community
	<u>Manager/Sponsor</u>	Madeleine Walker, Manager Community Planning and Wellbeing

Purpose:

To provide an update on the progress of the Fire to Flourish project.

Summary – Key Issues:

1. The Fire to Flourish project has commenced support for our communities to be better prepared for natural disasters and to lessen the impacts of natural disasters should they occur.
2. Various actions have commenced including employment of two Fire Mitigation Officers, development and implementation of a Communications and Engagement Plan and Community Disaster Resilience workshops.
3. The next steps are to continue increasing awareness of Fire to Flourish and to further engage with our communities to identify and respond to need.

Background:

1. At its 7 February 2022 meeting Council endorsed a grant submission to the Federal Government Preparing Australian Communities – local stream grant round for Fire to Flourish .
2. On 12 April 2022 previous Council Members were advised via a memo that the funding submission had been successful.
3. Further memo updates were provided to the previous Council Members on 7 June 2022 and 11 August 2022 respectively advising that a funding deed had been executed and recruitment had been completed for three Community Resilience Officers and one Community Resilience Project Officer.

Discussion:

4. In support the project objective ‘to ensure that there are appropriate arrangements for roadside vegetation management in place on Council roads in our district’ Fire to Flourish has funded the employment of two Fire

Mitigation Team Members(FMTMs) (2 x 0.6 FTE) that have commenced within the Environmental and Natural Assets Team.

5. The two FMTMs have increased Council's capability to manage fuel load risks in our road verge and natural areas, above and beyond our annual fire mitigation works program that delivers on council's allocated treatments under the regional Bushfire Management Area Plan. An example of these works is the cleaning up of new reserve areas such as Martin's Road Mount Barker, that have been created through township growth and bringing these areas to be incorporated into our annual works program for future maintenance.
6. Fire to Flourish is a community-led project where our Community Resilience Officers are working closely with communities and community groups located within each township to identify, assess and respond to need. A Communications and Engagement Plan has been developed to guide communications and engagement.
7. On the week commencing Monday 14 November 2022 council undertook broad Council wide promotion to primarily increase awareness of the project and also identify further interest in the project.
8. The project staff for Fire to Flourish are collaborating closely with both internal and external stakeholders to maximise outcomes and efficiencies in achieving project objectives. Teams engaged within the organisation include Community Development, Environmental and Natural Assets, Communications and Technical Services. Key external stakeholders (such as the Australian Red Cross, Community Legal Program, South Australian Country Fire Service and neighbouring councils) have also been engaged to learn, share and identify opportunities and efficiencies to support our communities
9. To assist with communication and engagement extensive supporting promotional material has been developed including a dedicated web page (www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/fire-to-flourish), frequently asked questions, dedicated email address firetoflourish@mountbarker.sa.gov.au , QR Code, posters and more. The website also lists current community events and provides an opportunity for people to sign up to obtain more information.
10. The Australian Red Cross are a leading agency in preparing communities for natural disaster resilience. Council has engaged the Australian Red Cross to facilitate a series of Community Disaster Resilience workshops (including development of a disaster resilience action plan) in Macclesfield with a further six townships being tentatively booked for the same in early 2023.
11. Our Community Resilience Officers are providing support to develop disaster resilience action plans for each township. Note that the Community

Resilience Officers will also support implementation of the disaster resilience action plans for the duration of the Fire to Flourish project (as the staff employed for the program are funded through the grant application and are therefore currently funded until March 2025). Additional funding will likely be required to continue supporting implementation beyond March 2025.

12. The first funding progress report has been submitted to the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources for the 13 June to 13 October reporting period.
13. The next steps are to continue increasing awareness of Fire to Flourish, to further engage with our communities located in each township to identify and respond to need, engage with Traditional Owners to explore traditional land and fire management opportunities and to scope training for council staff to understand and respond to trauma in communities.

Conclusion:

The Fire to Flourish project has successfully been launched and over its duration (to March 2025) will increase our communities resilience in the event of a natural disaster. The project team will continue to increase awareness of Fire to Flourish and to further engage with our communities to identify and respond to need.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	7 February 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/10201
Title	Preparing Australian Communities – Local Stream		
Purpose	To seek endorsement for a Community Led Emergency Resilience Project submitted to the Preparing Australian Communities – local stream grant round, administered by the Federal Government.		

13.5	REPORT TITLE:	COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE CONNECTOR ROAD (HEYSEN BOULEVARD)
	DATE OF MEETING:	5 DECEMBER 2022
	FILE NUMBER:	DOC/22/149312
	<u>Key Contact</u>	Brian Clancey, Deputy CEO/General Manager Governance and Strategic Projects
	<u>Sponsor</u>	Andrew Stuart, CEO

Purpose:

To provide a further update on the advocacy of council to the State Government to expedite the completion of the construction of the remainder of the connector road (Heysen Boulevard).

Summary – Key Issues:

- As of mid-October 2022, only 53% of the connector road in the Mount Barker growth area had been constructed, with a further 6% currently under construction;
- Council is continuing to advocate to the State Government to step in and cash flow and procure the design and construction of the remaining 41% of the connector road; and
- Constructive discussions have been held with the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Tom Koutsantonis, with Council's proposed role being to use the separate rate mechanism over specified land parcels, so as to progressively collect contributions from developers as they undertake development on land adjacent to the connector road and forward such revenue on to the State Government.

Background:

1. The connector road (Heysen Boulevard) is to run through the entire Mount Barker growth area as stipulated by the State Government when the 2010 rezoning of 1300 hectares of land occurred. Upon completion, the connector road will have a total length of approximately 9.6 kilometres and is classified as being a local road so it becomes a council responsibility to maintain.
2. The State Government model for the delivery of the connector road is in a piece meal fashion by multiple developers as and when they develop land that is within the designated route of the connector road.

3. This delivery model has seen a number of sections of the connector road built by developers that are 'no through roads'. This places unplanned additional demand on the local road network and sees risks to community safety and other social and economic impacts, including inadequate access to public transport and dis-jointed cyclist and pedestrian routes.
4. The State Government delivery model (from 2010) means there is no specified timeline for the delivery of the remaining sections of the connector road by developers.
5. Of the 41% still to be constructed, there are 11 separate parcels of land involved with 9 of these being in private ownership plus the Steam Ranger rail corridor and a section of unmade road reserve. In some cases the land remains in the same ownership as was the case at the time of the State Government rezoning in 2010.
6. In 2012 the State Government executed transport infrastructure deeds with a number of developers (for the Mount Barker growth area), obliging developers to make payment to the State Government when they undertook development. Council was not a party to these deeds.
7. Ultimately, the State Government only secured deeds over just 41% of the total Mount Barker growth area.
8. The State Government then asked council to secure obligations for payments from developers of the remaining 59% of the total Mount Barker growth area. This was years after the land had been rezoned by the State Government.
9. The State Government deeds included a list of required (due to growth) transport infrastructure upgrades and includes whether these were to be funded by the State/Federal Government (e.g. new freeway interchange at Bald Hills Road and upgrading of the existing Adelaide Road freeway interchange) or from revenue to be received from developers.
10. In relation to the connector road, the State Government list in the deeds included roundabouts at the following intersections/junctions:
 - Flaxley Road (constructed)
 - Wellington Road (under construction)
 - Paech Road (not constructed)
 - Springs Road (constructed)

11. 'Left right out' was responsibility for funding the connector road level crossing with the Steam Ranger rail corridor and a roundabout at Barker Road (constructed).
12. The State Government deeds specify that the roundabouts at Flaxley, Wellington and Springs Roads are to be funded by revenue received from developers whereas the Paech Road roundabout isn't listed to be funded by developers or the State Government for which the State Government has not been able to provide an explanation.
13. In December 2018 council prepared and presented to key stakeholders including the State Government the proposal titled "*Delivery of New Connector Road to Service Growth*".
14. Over a period of some years, council has held meetings with the following regarding the important need to complete the construction of the remainder of the connector road:
 - a) The then Premier Steven Marshall
 - b) The then Transport Minister Stephan Knoll
 - c) The then Transport Minister Corey Wingard
 - d) The then Treasurer Rob Lucas
 - e) The then Shadow Transport Minister Stephen Mullighan
 - f) Member for Kavel Dan Cregan
 - g) Member for Heysen Josh Teague
 - h) Mount Barker Developers and the Urban Development Institute of Australia (SA)
 - i) Chief Executive of Infrastructure SA
 - j) Chief Executives (x 2) of the Dept of Infrastructure and Transport
 - k) Chairperson of the Mount Barker Road Infrastructure Ministerial Advisory Committee
 - l) Impacted Land Owners

Discussion:

15. More recently council has held two constructive meetings with the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Tom Koutsantonis and senior executives of the Dept for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT).
16. This was in follow up to letters from the Mayor in early May 2022 to both the Minister and the Treasurer. In those letters, the Steam Ranger rail corridor section of the connector road was highlighted as being an immediate priority.
17. DIT has recently procured some preliminary design work for the remaining sections to provide a better basis for the preliminary estimate of cost to construct the remaining 41% of the connector road.

18. Once the preliminary estimate of cost exercise has been completed it is envisaged that further discussions would occur with the Minister.
19. Council's objective would be to have the required cash flow being included in the State budget for 2023-24 (and subsequent years as required).
20. It is not yet known how long it would then be before the construction of the connector road is fully completed.
21. Council has received legal advice in relation to the proposed use of the separate rate mechanism pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999 to progressively recover contributions from developers as they undertake development on land parcels adjacent to the connector road.
22. This mechanism requires that community consultation be undertaken.

Conclusion:

The community rightly expects the delivery of the remainder of the connector road to be expedited for the reasons outlined above. Council is continuing to advocate for that to the State Government with the objective of the required cash flow being included in the State budget for 2023-24 (and subsequent years as required).

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	4 April 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/38939
Title	COMPLETION OF CONNECTOR ROAD/HEYSEN BOULEVARD, MOUNT BARKER		
Purpose	To provide an update on the efforts of council (over a number of years) to bring forward the delivery of the remainder of the connector road.		

Meeting Date	4 NOVEMBER 2019	CM Reference	DOC/19/135020
Title	PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT AT SPRINGS ROAD/HEYSEN BOULEVARD, MOUNT BARKER		
Purpose	To: - Seek authority to advise Lanser Communities that council is prepared to fund 50% of the cost of a roundabout at the junction of Springs Road and Heyesen Boulevard, Mount Barker subject to a number of requirements being satisfied; and - Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer or nominee to formalise arrangements with Lanser Communities in an agreement, subject to the council requirements being met.		

Meeting Date	21 JANUARY 2019	CM Reference	DOC/18/126697
Title	TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE: ROUNDABOUT AT HEYSEN BOULEVARD/BARKER ROAD - APPLICATION FOR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION		
Purpose	To seek approval for an application from Metro Property for an in kind transport infrastructure contribution.		

14. QUARTERLY REPORTS**Recommendation**

That the following report be noted.

14.1 REPORT TITLE: WASTEWATER SERVICE QUARTERLY REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: 5 DECEMBER 2022

FILE NUMBER: DOC/22/145933

Key Contact Helen Edmonds, Head of Wastewater

Manager/Sponsor Andrew Stuart, Chief Executive Officer

Purpose:

To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.

Summary – Key Points:

- The Mount Barker wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) continues to operate at its maximum capacity, resulting in operational pressures including a condition whereby some inflows are bypassing the microfiltration process during times of high inflow events but with the level of treatment still achieving regulatory compliance.
- An Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) procurement delivery strategy for the design and construction of the Mount Barker WWTP (proposed to be named Laratinga Water Recovery Plant) (stage 1) upgrade is now underway with an expression of interest (EOI) issued to market that closed on 16 September 2022 and evaluation in progress
- Construction activities for the Hampden Rd to WWTP sewer trunk main and inlet pump station are well advanced with a forecast completion of February 2023, with the section of the Laratinga Trail which was closed reopened to the public in October 2022.
- In the last three months, no new customers have signed a contract to purchase recycled water but conversations have commenced with several potential customers.
- Work has continued on concept design of the Nairne wastewater trunk main and Nairne recycled water scheme stage 1 including landowner consultation.

Background:

1. Mount Barker District Council operates the largest South Australian Council owned Community Wastewater Management Scheme. It is a licensed water industry entity and is well positioned to provide wastewater solutions to the existing and future growth areas.

2. The existing Wastewater treatment facilities service close to 14,000 customers within the Mount Barker, Littlehampton, Brukunga, Nairne, Meadows, Echunga and Macclesfield townships.

DISCUSSION

Operations:

3. Four (4) incidents were reported to regulatory bodies over the previous quarter, which included three (3) wastewater overflow incidents, and one (1) WWTP related incident. The incidents were all rectified quickly and to the satisfaction of the regulator.
4. Over the first quarter of 2022/23, 466 mega-litres (ML) of inflow was received at the Mount Barker WWTP. Of this amount:
 - a. A total volume of 11ML was treated and sent to Little Dublin Road Recycled Water Treatment Facility.
 - b. A total of 2ML was used for productive re-use with customers (including irrigation at the Summit Sports and Recreation Park).
 - c. A total volume of 483ML was treated and discharged into the Mount Barker Creek via Laratinga Wetlands including 34ML of stormwater.
5. As reported last quarter, a portion of the treated water entering the Laratinga Wetlands was partially treated, bypassing the micro-filtration process. This is a standard operating practice whereby the existing plant does not always have capacity to fully treat the inflow, particularly during high rainfall events.
6. The next update on compliance actions under the endorsed Environmental Improvement Plan was provided to the EPA on 26 October 2022.
7. An updated Risk Management Plan (RMP) has been submitted to SA Health to reflect current operations. Council staff continue to monitor water quality in the Laratinga Wetlands and Mount Barker Creek to ensure any public health risks are identified and appropriately managed.
8. Chemical use at Mount Barker WWTP continues to be higher than forecast due to the changes in influent water quality (more sewer and trade waste) and less detention time in the lagoon (due to sludge buildup).
9. A tender for the supply of water quality monitoring and testing services has been undertaken and a new contract is now in place with ALS.
10. There have been no safety incidents in this quarter.
11. Preventative maintenance is being routinely undertaken on critical processing equipment at the Mount Barker WWTP to mitigate risk of failure and plant shutdown.

12. A stand-alone draft Wastewater Service Long Term Financial Plan (10 years) has been prepared to reflect the recently revised and updated Long Term Financial Model for Wastewater (40 years). This is intended to be the subject of a stand-alone agenda item for the Special Council meeting planned for 12 December 2022. This will include advice from the Informal Advisory Wastewater Board.
13. The target timing for formal adoption of a new (updated) Council Long Term Financial Plan and the inaugural Wastewater Service Long Term Financial Plan is February/March 2023 following community consultation.
14. An updated wastewater asset management plan is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.
15. Once the updated wastewater asset management is completed it is intended to brief elected members on the document, and then issue the document for public consultation prior to adoption in early 2023.
16. On Saturday 12 November the wastewater network was impacted by an intense storm system that affected much of the state. Approximately 80 mm of rain fell over the weekend, half of that was received over a 2 hour period on Saturday afternoon. This intense rain resulted in 7 pump stations overflowing to the environment because the storm water ingress mixed with sewer inflow was greater than the design capacity of the pump stations. Macclesfield lost power for an extended period of time during the storm, the Vernon Street pump station was without power as a result. The emergency generator that the Wastewater Service owns for such occasions was deployed to site and the pump station was back online within 4 hours.

Projects:

17. The remaining large sewer trunk main program (incorporating Nairne, CBD, Central and Eastern Sector – Stage 2) will be progressively delivered over 2023-2025 using an Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) procurement approach to maximise value for the community, forecast to be released to market in late 2022 with construction forecast to commence early to mid 2023 with Nairne sewer trunk main and pump station as the priority project
18. The Mount Barker WWTP (proposed to be named Laratinga Water Recovery Plant Upgrade (Stage 1) is currently forecast for completion in mid-2025. A procurement strategy based on a competitive ECI contract has commenced with expression of interest to market released on 5 August 2022 and evaluation of tenders received underway. This is intended to be the subject of a stand-alone, confidential agenda item for the Special Council meeting planned for 12 December 2022.

19. The Mount Barker WWTP equalisation storage construction within the old eastern lagoon is forecast to commence early 2023 (subject to weather) with a construction completion target of mid 2023
20. Tenders previously received for the construction of the equalisation storage lagoons were reissued to the market. This project is required to mitigate the risk associated with the temporary lack of emergency storage at the Mount Barker WWTP at present and needs to be completed before next winter.
21. Council has received a significant volume of fill from surrounding development areas to construct the earth banks for the equalisation storages and it is estimated that Council has saved circa \$450k to date in lieu of procuring the material from quarries. Additional fill is being sourced at present from developers which will add to the savings to Council.
22. Automated flow monitoring devices installed in strategic locations across the wastewater network have been relocated to inform risk and design of the balance of the trunk sewer program design and timing.
23. Monitoring for the Hampden Road project confirmed the existing network will reach capacity shortly after completion of the Hampden Road trunk sewer confirming the trunk sewer is being built and commissioned just in time to service growth in the catchment area.
24. The wastewater asset renewal programs for FY23 are progressing on time and on budget.
25. The construction of the new sewer main from Hampden Road to the Mount Barker wastewater treatment plant and inlet pump station continues with work forecast to be complete in February 2023
26. An incident occurred on the 12 November relating to the above mentioned storm event resulting in flooding of the Hampden Rd Pump Station construction site. This event resulted in delays to the construction works and required a site contamination clean up but had no impact on the Mount Barker Creek.
27. During construction a number of old farm wells and sink holes have been encountered which resulted in the need to close extended portions of the Laratinga Trail. The trail was fully reopened in October.

Recycled Water:

28. A number of smaller volume recycled water customers have approached Council and negotiations are progressing with each of these in line with recently adopted recycled water pricing policy.

29. In the last three months, no new customers have signed contracts to purchase recycled water.
30. KBR have been engaged to develop a recycled water strategy for the district, with this work to be completed by mid-December 2022 and presented to Council in early 2023.
31. The Nairne Stage 1 recycled water main from Little Dublin facility to Princes Highway is currently in the concept design phase and is expected to be delivered with the Nairne sewer trunk main project. This is intended to be the subject of a stand-alone agenda item for the Special Council meeting planned for 12 December 2022.

Conclusion:

This report provides a summary of activities occurring in wastewater operations and projects over the previous quarter.

Previous Decisions By/Information Reports to Council

Meeting Date	5 September 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/100322
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	6 June 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/46558
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	2 March 2022	CM Reference	DOC/22/22652
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	6 December 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/190453
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	6 September 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/138390
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	7 June 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/76597
Title	Quarterly Wastewater Report		
Purpose	To provide an overview of activities regarding wastewater and recycled water.		

Meeting Date	1 March 2021	CM Reference	DOC/21/27615
Title	Quarterly Report on Wastewater Operations		
Purpose	To provide a high level overview of the operational aspects of Council's wastewater and recycled water service, in particular detailing performance trends, regulatory compliance, key challenges and proposed actions, from October 2020 to January 2021.		

15. MAYOR’S REPORT

16. MEMBERS’ REPORTS

17. QUESTIONS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING

18. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

NIL