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ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

1. This report aligns with Council's Vision, Council Plan, Strategies and Policies.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

2. The permanent amendment will have positive social and community impacts as the progression of a permanent heritage overlay to protect and retain identified heritage fabric which has significance importance to the course or pattern of Victoria's cultural history, demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects and special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

3. This amendment does not raise any direct climate emergency issues or environmental sustainability implications.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no economic sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The removal of the need for the Interim Heritage Overlay amendment process will not have any significant financial implications to Council.
6. As the proponent is the Planning Authority, the City of Ballarat will be responsible for all amendment related costs including notification of landowners, planning panel hearing fees and engagement of legal representation and expert witnesses at a panel hearing.

LEGAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

7. The withdrawal of this request to the Minister for planning does not raise any legal risks or concerns of note as the circumstances have abated.
8. Section 9(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must - in the performance of its role - give effect to the overarching governance principles of the Act. This includes Section 2 which states that:
 - c) the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted,
 - d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making,
 - f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought' and,
 - g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

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9. The Permanent Amendment gives effect to the overarching governance principles by identifying land suitable for heritage protection subject to a robust assessment.
10. The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) sets out the framework for the use, development, and protection of land in Victoria in the present and long-term interests of all Victorians.
11. The Permanent Amendment identifies land suitable for heritage protection and manages new development through the planning scheme controls to minimise impacts to the heritage fabric of the place.
12. Divisions 1 and 2 of Part 3 of the Act set out the procedure for planning scheme amendments and the relevant provisions in relation to the notification of planning scheme amendments including the process for public submissions and the consideration of those submissions by the planning authority or an appointed panel. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with the Act

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

13. It is considered that the report does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

14. The permanent amendment will be prepared and exhibited in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* which includes a requirement to give notice to all affected landowners, occupiers and prescribed Ministers, notices in the local newspapers and the Victorian Government Gazette. The exhibition of an Amendment will be undertaken subject to ministerial authorisation.
15. Interested parties will be able to make submissions which will be considered by Council and are likely to be referred to an independent planning panel where submitters may present their submissions at a panel hearing.
16. Council officers will engage with Traditional Custodians and resident groups during exhibition of the Amendment.

GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

17. There are no gender equality implications identified for the subject of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE ARISEN IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

18. Council officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

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9.9. ANNUAL COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Michael Riseley - Acting Executive Manager Business Services

PURPOSE

1. This report provides Councillors with the 2023 Community Satisfaction Survey results.

BACKGROUND

2. The Community Satisfaction Survey is commissioned each year to ask the opinion of local people about the operations of Council.
3. The Community Satisfaction Survey also makes comparison to other regional centres and statewide benchmarks.
4. The City of Ballarat changed survey providers in 2022 from NewFocus to JWS to better align with other regional Councils operating in Victoria. This is the second year of using JWS and enables improved bench marking of results and provides consistency in the analysis of indicators commonly used by the local government sector.
5. In 2023, the City of Ballarat expanded its sample size from 400 respondents to 800, providing a more robust representation of the population being surveyed.

KEY MATTERS

6. JWS has developed for local government the largest longitudinal community satisfaction survey undertaken in Victoria, providing valuable direct feedback on council performance, consultation and engagement, advocacy, customer service and direction.
7. Across the 8 JWS key Council Service indicators in 2023 the City of Ballarat's performance results have either remained the same or declined from 2022:
 - Overall performance [CB¹ ↓3, RC ↓3, SW ↓3]
 - Value for money [CB ↓2, RC ↓3, SW ↓4]
 - Overall council direction [CB ↓6, RC ↓5, SW ↓4]
 - Customer service [CB ↓2, RC ↓1, SW ↓1]
 - Waste management [CB -, RC ↓1, SW ↓1]
 - Consultation & engagement [CB ↓2, RC ↓4, SW ↓2]
 - Community decisions [CB ↓4, RC ↓4, SW ↓3]
 - Sealed local roads [CB ↓3, RC ↓4, SW ↓5²]
8. The downward trend in results for 2023 experienced by the City of Ballarat is broadly in line with the declining trend across both Regional Centres and local government in Victoria more generally as is outlined above in 7.

¹ CB = City of Ballarat, RC = Regional Centres, SW = State-wide

² ↓ denotes 2023 indicator score relative to 2022 indicator score

9. The Community Satisfaction Survey is one of many tools that aim to inform future planning and programs of work and supports continuous improvement in service delivery.
10. The information detailed in the survey is one of the tools utilised for Council to receive high level generic feedback on its performance. Officers also receive feedback through engagement and consultation with our community, and on a daily basis as we provide services.
11. All the information Council receives as feedback, along with targeted consultation on specific matters that come before Council helps guide both how services are delivered and highlights areas of focus for Council to seek improvement.
12. Officers continue to work with Councillors on approaches to improve our performance including the following work that is currently occurring:
 - Development of a customer charter with clear standards that has a focus on closing the loop on customer interactions;
 - Continued and increased financial investment in works on Councils sealed local roads; and
 - Investment in the draft 2023/24 Budget into key focus areas for the community including digital customer channel response officer, additional statutory and strategic planning resources and further resources in asset management.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

13. That Council:

13.1 Receive and note the 2023 Community Satisfaction Survey results; and

13.2 Place the 2023 Survey Report on Council's website for public viewing.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Review [9.9.1 - 1 page]
2. CSS 2023 Ballarat City Council Report [9.9.2 - 55 pages]

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ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

1. The Annual Community Satisfaction Survey 2023 aligns with the Council Plan Goal 6: A Council that is accountable, transparent and advocates for its community and the strategic indicator: Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of Council services.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

2. The results of the Community Satisfaction Survey 2023 are based on community feedback from a series of questions asked in the survey.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

3. It is considered there are no climate or environmental sustainability implications.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4. It is considered there are no economic sustainability implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. It is considered there are no financial implications.

LEGAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

6. It is considered there are no legal or risk implications.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

7. It is considered that the report does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

8. The community are consulted during the survey.
9. The survey is anonymous.

GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

10. There are no gender equality implications identified for the subject of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE ARISEN IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

11. Council officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

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2023 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey

Ballarat City Council

Coordinated by the Department of
Government Services on behalf of
Victorian councils





Contents

<u>Background and objectives</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Key findings and recommendations</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Detailed findings</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Overall performance</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Customer service</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>Council direction</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Individual service areas</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Community consultation and engagement</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Decisions made in the interest of the community</u>	<u>34</u>
<u>Condition of sealed local roads</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Waste management</u>	<u>38</u>
<u>Detailed demographics</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences</u>	<u>42</u>
<u>Appendix B: Further project information</u>	<u>47</u>



Background and objectives

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.

Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

Now in its twenty-fourth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 24 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 24 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional.

Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.



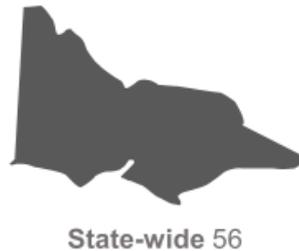
Key findings and recommendations



Ballarat City Council – at a glance

Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Council performance compared to group average

Top 3 performing areas		
	Waste management	▼ lower
	Consultation & engagement	= on par
	Community decisions	= on par
Lowest performing area		
	Sealed local roads	▼ lower
	Customer service	= on par



Summary of core measures

Index scores


Overall
Performance


Value for
money


Community
Consultation


Making
Community
Decisions


Sealed
Local
Roads


Waste
management


Customer
Service

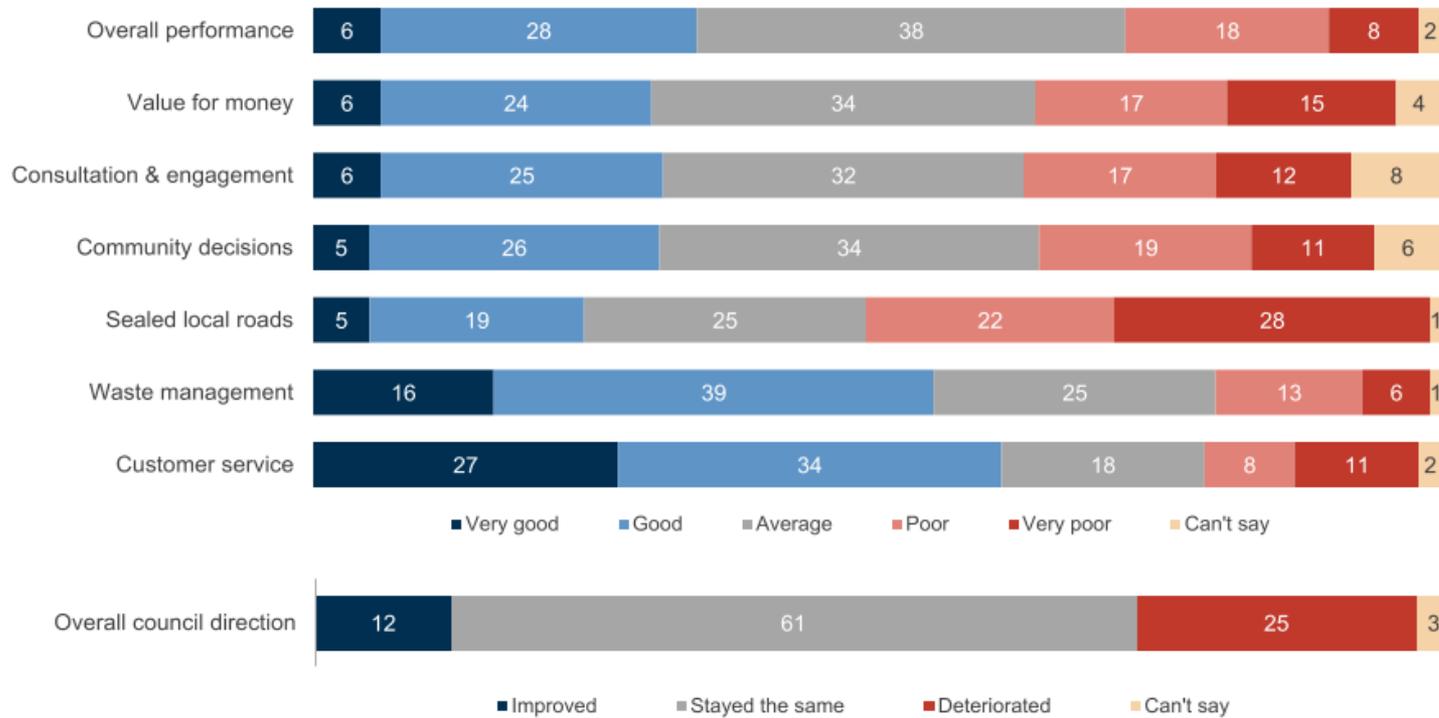

Overall
Council
Direction





Summary of core measures

Core measures summary results (%)





Summary of Ballarat City Council performance

Services	Ballarat 2023	Ballarat 2022	Regional Centres 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
Overall performance	51	54	56	56	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Value for money	47	49	50	49	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Overall council direction	43	49	47	46	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Customer service	65	67	68	67	Women	Men, North Ward residents
Waste management	62	62	67	66	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
Consultation & engagement	49	51	50	52	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Community decisions	49	53	50	51	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Sealed local roads	37	41	49	48	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years

Significantly higher / lower than Ballarat City Council 2023 result at the 95% confidence interval. Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Focus areas for the next 12 months

Overview	Perceptions of Council's performance largely stayed the same across most service areas and core measures evaluated in the past year. This is reflected in perceptions of Council's overall performance. Making decisions in the interest of the community is the exception, where a significant decline in perceptions is noted. Perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance have also declined significantly this year, which may provide an early indication that residents need to be assured of Council's planned actions.
Key focus	Council should focus on improving the condition of sealed local roads in the area and making decisions in the interest of the community as perceptions of these service areas continue to decline from an already low base.
Comparison to state and area grouping	Council's performance in the service areas of sealed local roads and waste management are rated significantly lower than both the State-wide and Regional Centres group averages. In the other two service areas evaluated (consultation and engagement and making decisions in the interest of the community), as well as in the area of customer service, Council performs in line with the Regional Centres group average.
Maintain and shore up stronger performing areas	Perceptions of Council's performance on waste management and customer service have been relatively stable over time and remains Council's strongest performing areas. Historically (back in 2014 and 2015), Council has performed more strongly in both of these areas – suggesting there is potential to further improve in these areas. Encouragingly, the tangible nature of waste management makes it possible for changes to be noticed, thus positively impacting perceptions of Council performance in this service area.

DETAILED FINDINGS





Overall performance



Overall performance

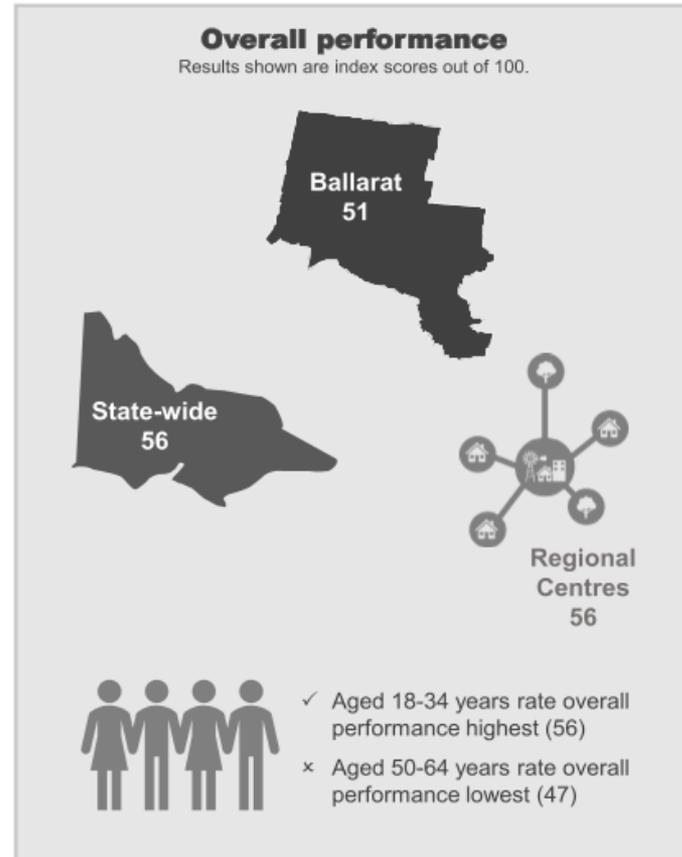
The overall performance index score of 51 for Ballarat City Council represents a (not significant) three point decline on the 2022 result.

Ballarat City Council’s overall performance is rated statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than both the Regional Centres group and State-wide averages (both with index scores of 56).

- No significant differences were found in the perceptions of overall performance across each of the demographic and geographic subgroups compared to the average. However, younger residents (18 to 34 years) are more positive about Council’s performance than those aged 50 to 64 years.
- Perceptions among men decreased significantly since last year (50, down six index points).

One in three residents (30%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as ‘very good’ or ‘good’. A similar proportion (32%) rate Council as ‘very poor’ or ‘poor’. A further 34% rate Council as ‘average’ in terms of providing value for money.

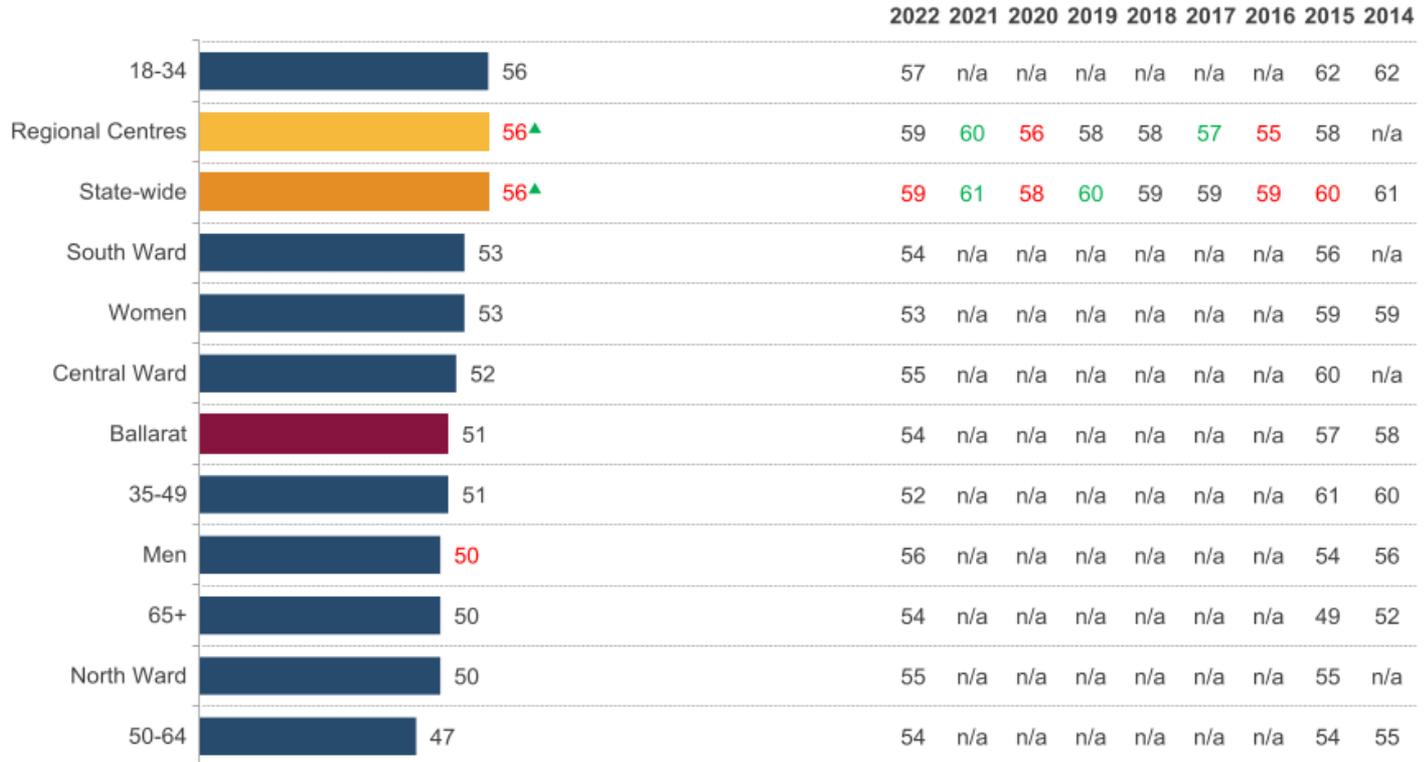
- With an index score of 47, Council is performing significantly lower than Regional Centres group average (50) in the area of value for money.





Overall performance

2023 overall performance (index scores)

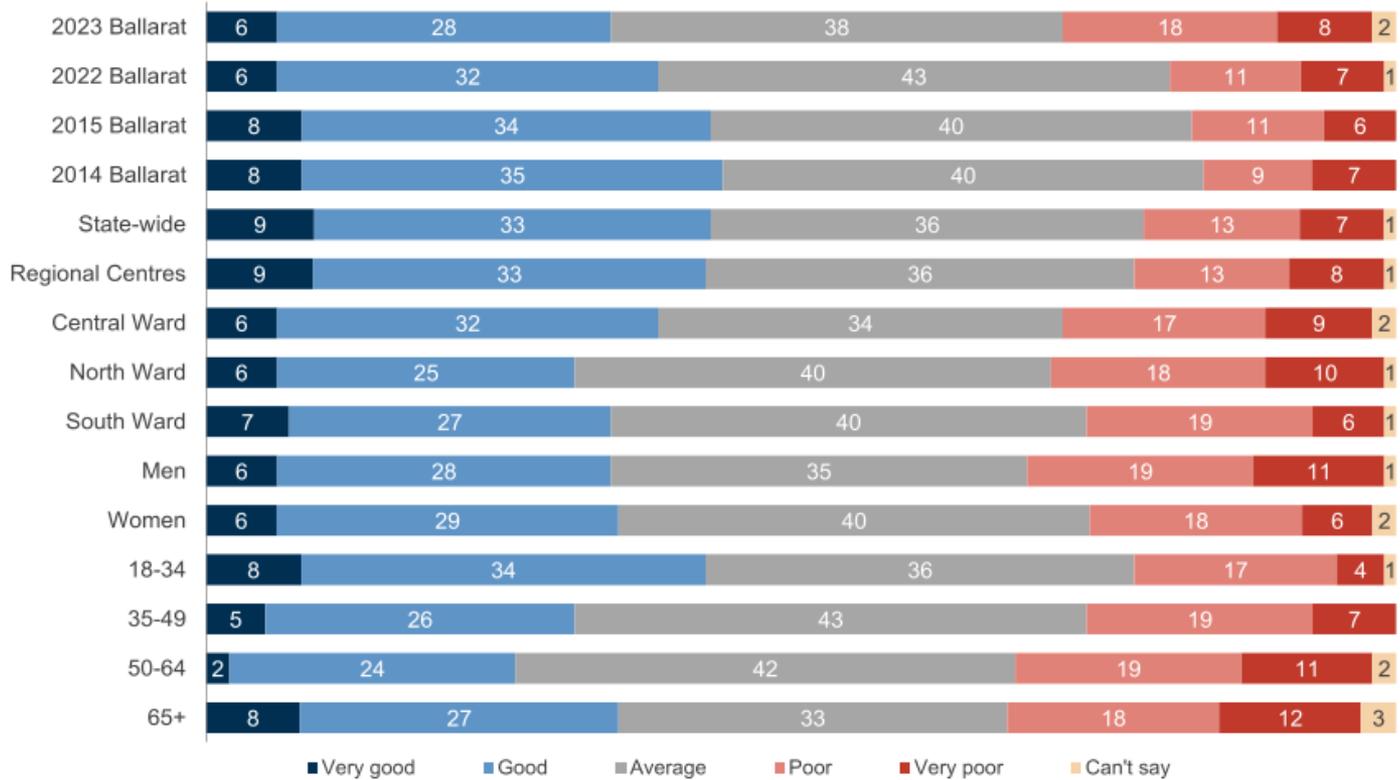


Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Ballarat City Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Overall performance

2023 overall performance (%)

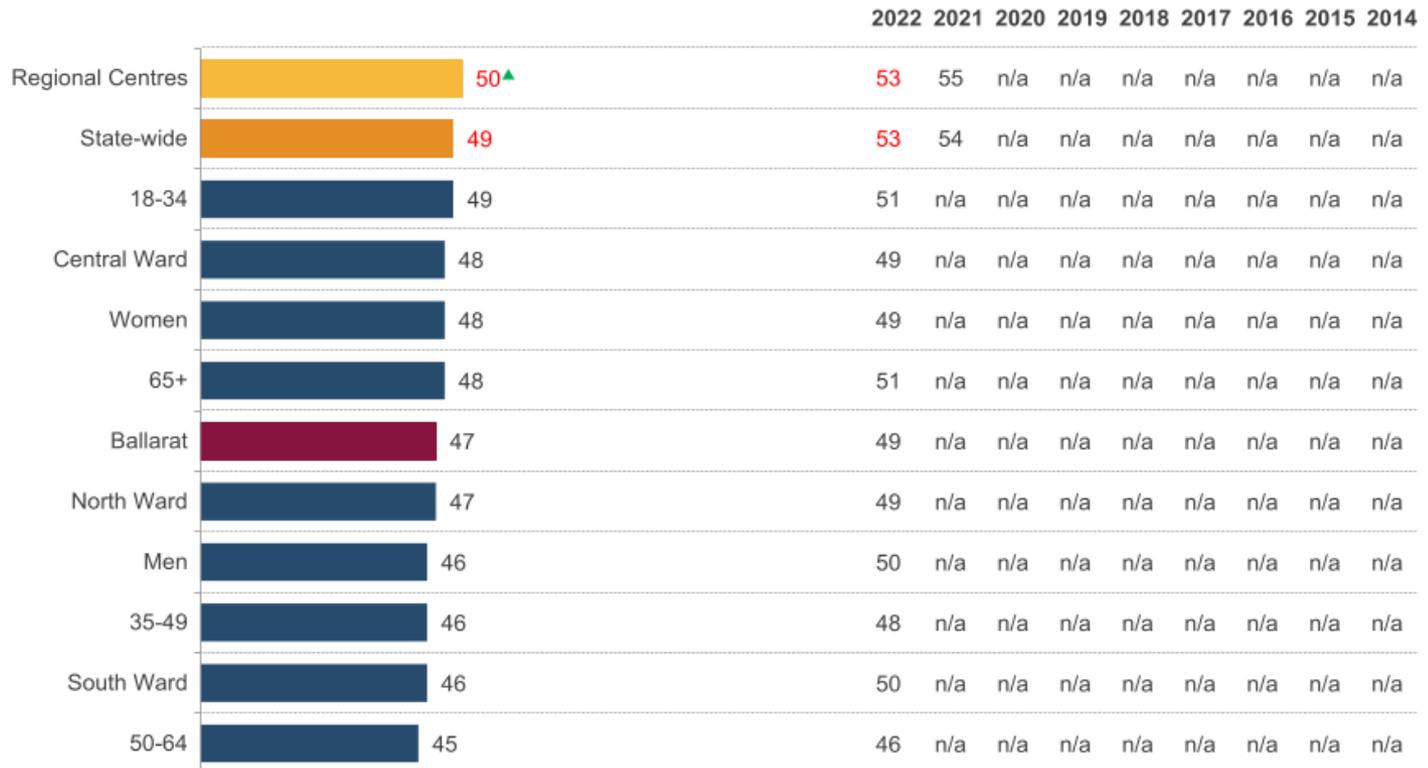


Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Ballarat City Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9



Value for money in services and infrastructure

2023 value for money (index scores)

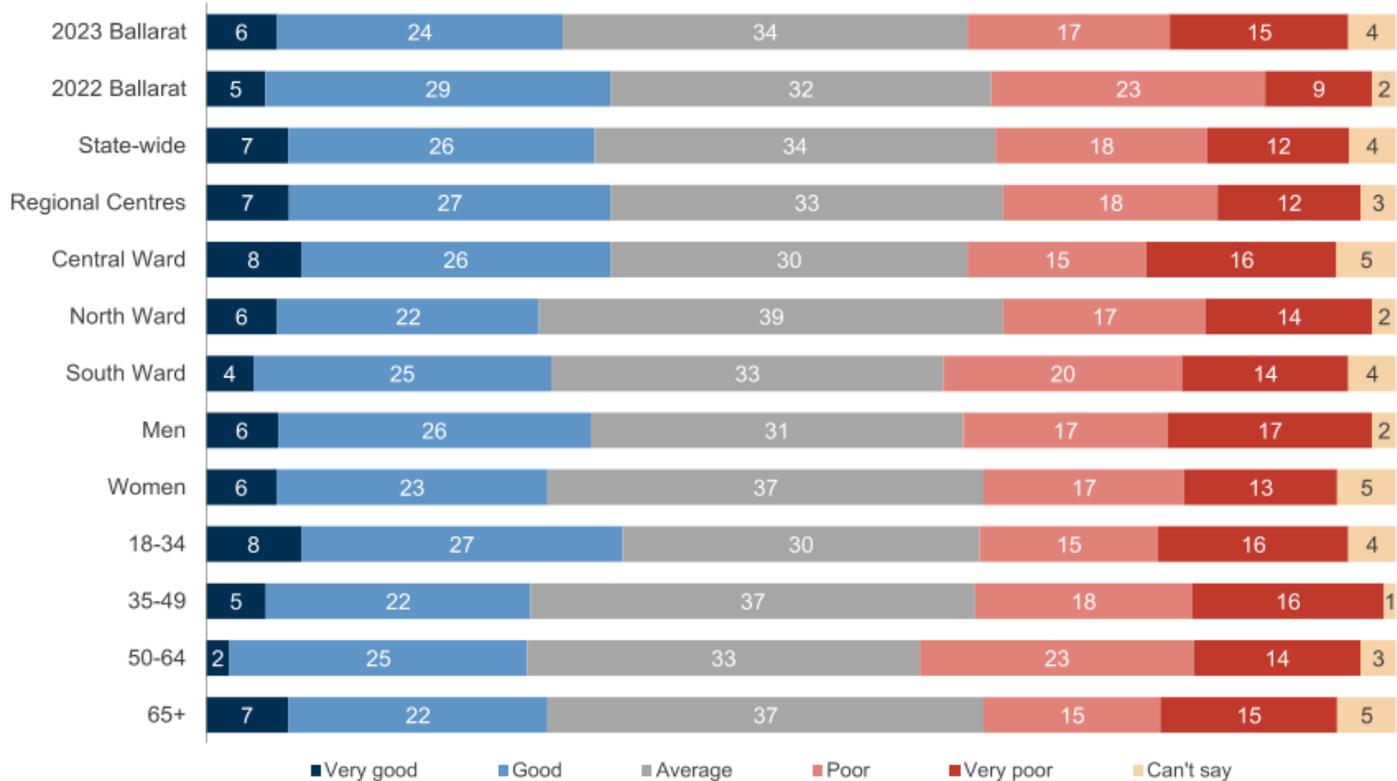


Q3b. How would you rate Ballarat City Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 65 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Value for money in services and infrastructure

2023 value for money (%)



Q3b. How would you rate Ballarat City Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 65 Councils asked group: 9



Top performing service areas

Waste management (index score of 62, unchanged from 2022) is the area (of those evaluated) where Council continues to perform best.

- Perceptions of performance of Council's waste management does not differ significantly across the three wards compared to average.
- Council performs significantly lower than both the Regional Centres group and State-wide averages in this service area (67 and 66 respectively).

Community consultation and engagement, and making decisions in the interest of the community, are Council's next highest rated service areas (49 for each).

- On both of these service areas, Council's performance is in line with the Regional Centres group average (Index scores of 50 for each).

It is important to note that residents' perceptions of decisions being made in the interest of the community have declined significantly this year (down four index points from last year).

- Younger residents (18 to 34 years) (index score of 55) are significantly more positive about Council's performance here compared to the average.
- It is among residents aged 35 to 49 years where perceptions have declined this year (index score of 47, down a significant seven points).





Low performing service areas



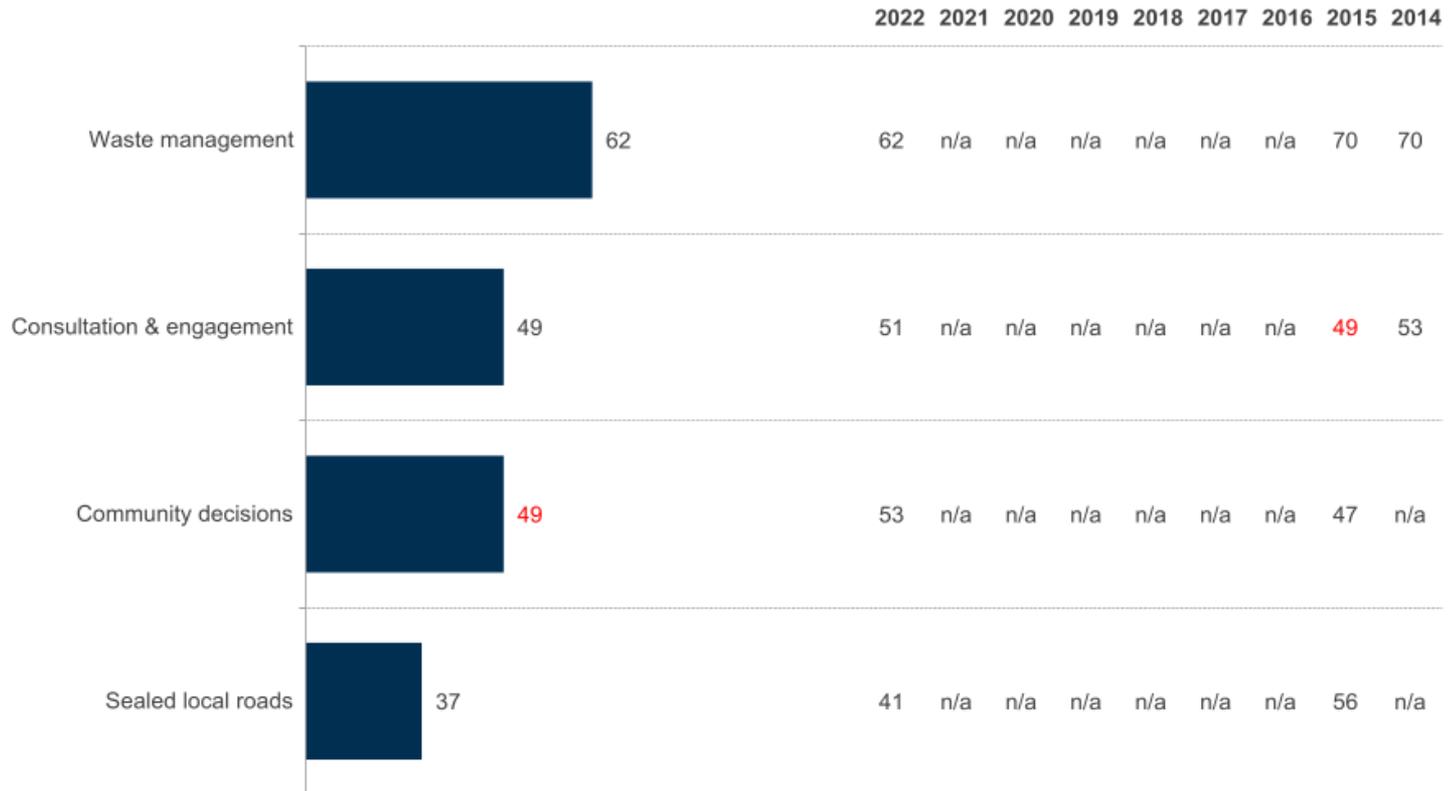
Council rates lowest in the area of sealed local roads (index score of 37). The current rating is lower than that recorded in other years (index score of 41 last year and 56 in 2015). The 2023 result is not a significant decline on last year, but Council has done better in previous years.

- Additionally, Council rates significantly lower than the Regional Centres group and State-wide averages on its performance in the area of sealed local roads (index scores of 49 and 48 respectively).
- No significant differences were found in the perceptions of Council's performance in this service area across the demographic and geographic subgroups compared to the average.



Individual service area performance

2023 individual service area performance (index scores)

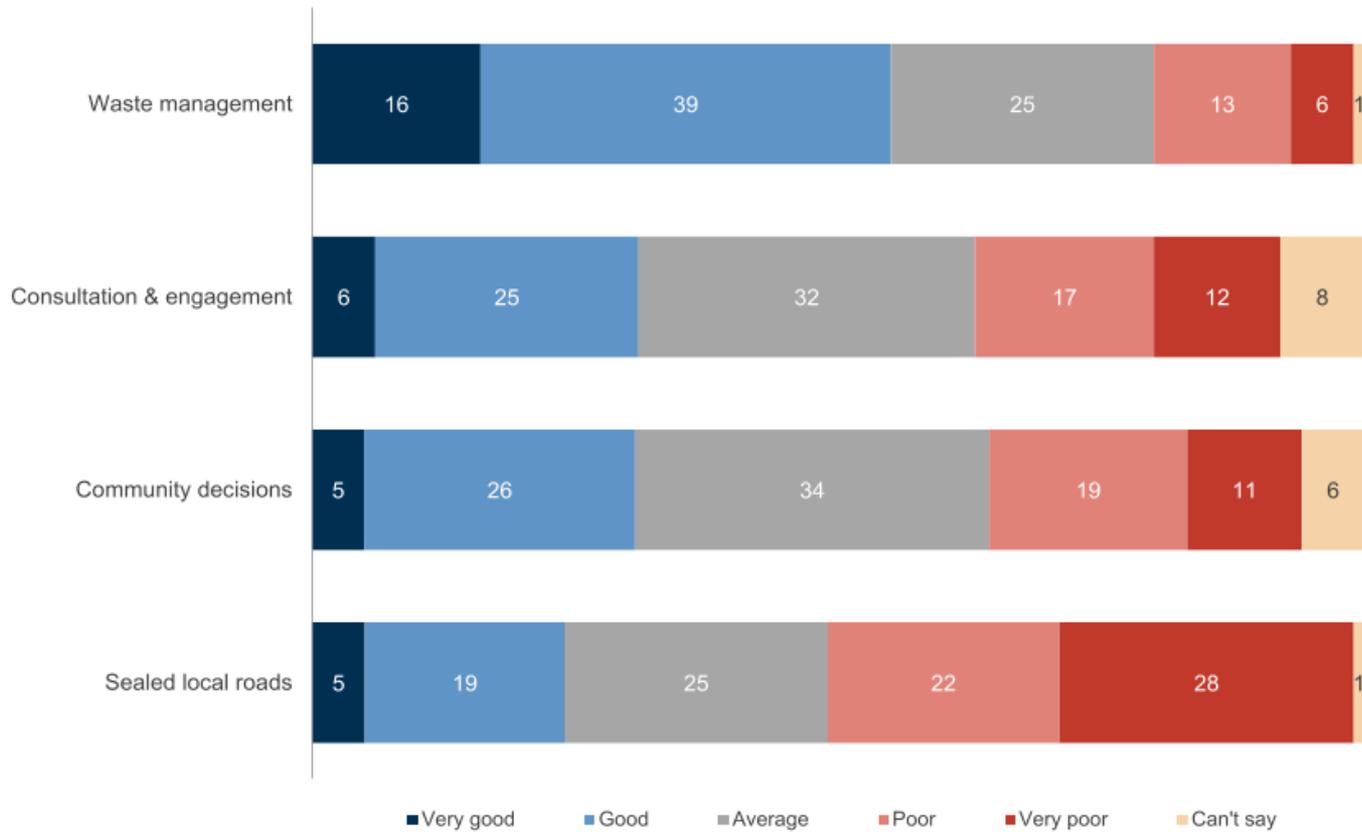


Q2. How has Council performed on [RESPONSIBILITY AREA] over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Individual service area performance

2023 individual service area performance (%)



Q2. How has Council performed on [RESPONSIBILITY AREA] over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9



Customer service



Contact with council and customer service

Contact with council

Fewer than three in five residents (56%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months (up from 51% last year – although this is not a significant increase).

- Council's rate of contact is significantly lower than State-wide average for councils (62%), but is in line with the Regional Centres average (58%).
- Rate of contact increased significantly this year among residents aged 18 to 34 years (53%, up from 40% in 2022).



Among those residents who have had contact with Council, 61% provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good', including 27% of residents who rate Council's customer service as 'very good'.

Customer service

Council's customer service index of 65 represents a two point (not significant) decrease from 2022. This is Council's lowest customer service rating across the four years it has been measured.

That said, customer service is rated in line with the Regional Centres group and State-wide averages (index scores of 68 and 67 respectively).

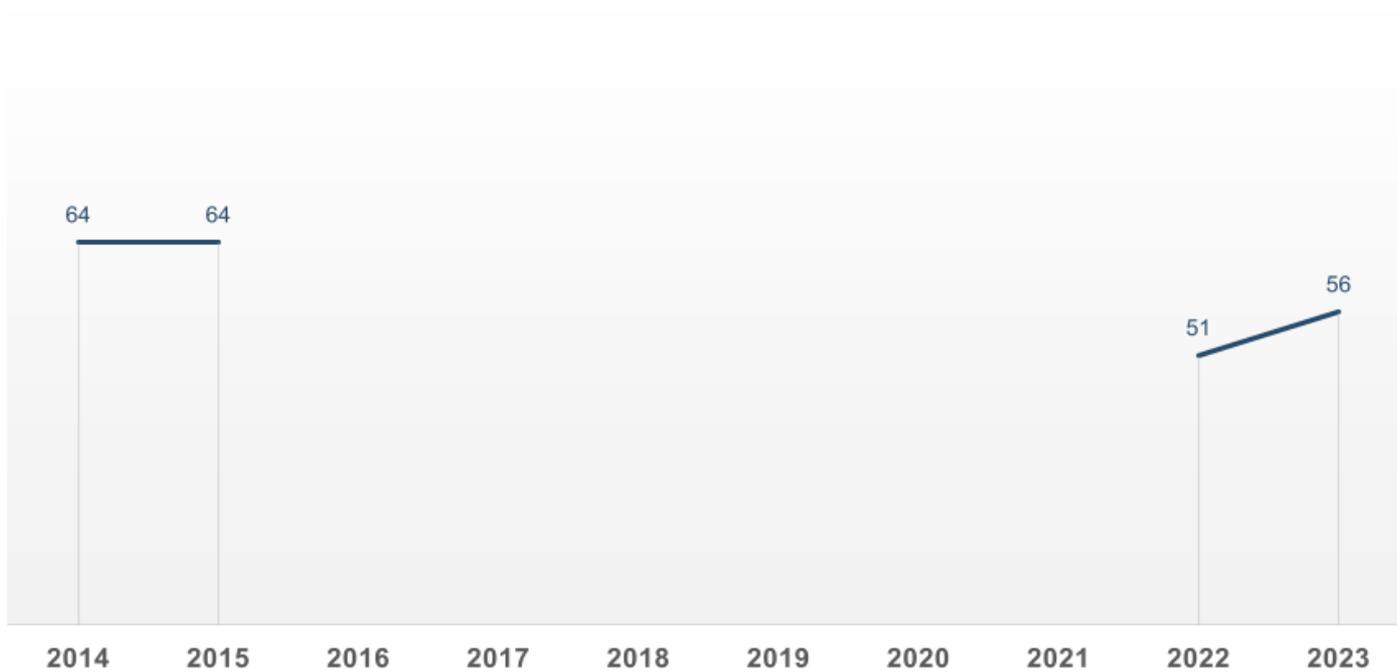
Seven in ten residents (61%) provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good'.

- Perceptions of customer service are equally positive among residents from different geographic and demographic groups.



Contact with council

2023 contact with council (%)
Have had contact

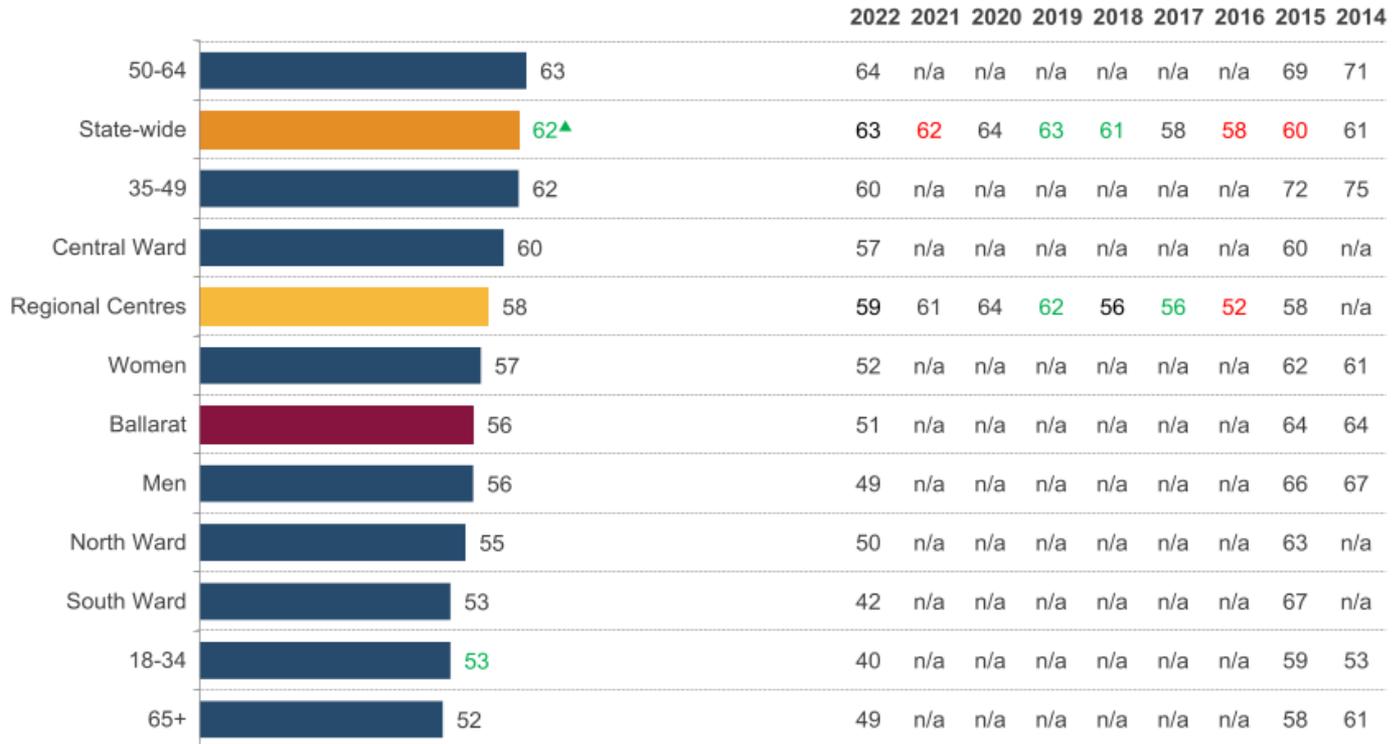


Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Ballarat City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 41 Councils asked group: 5



Contact with council

2023 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Ballarat City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

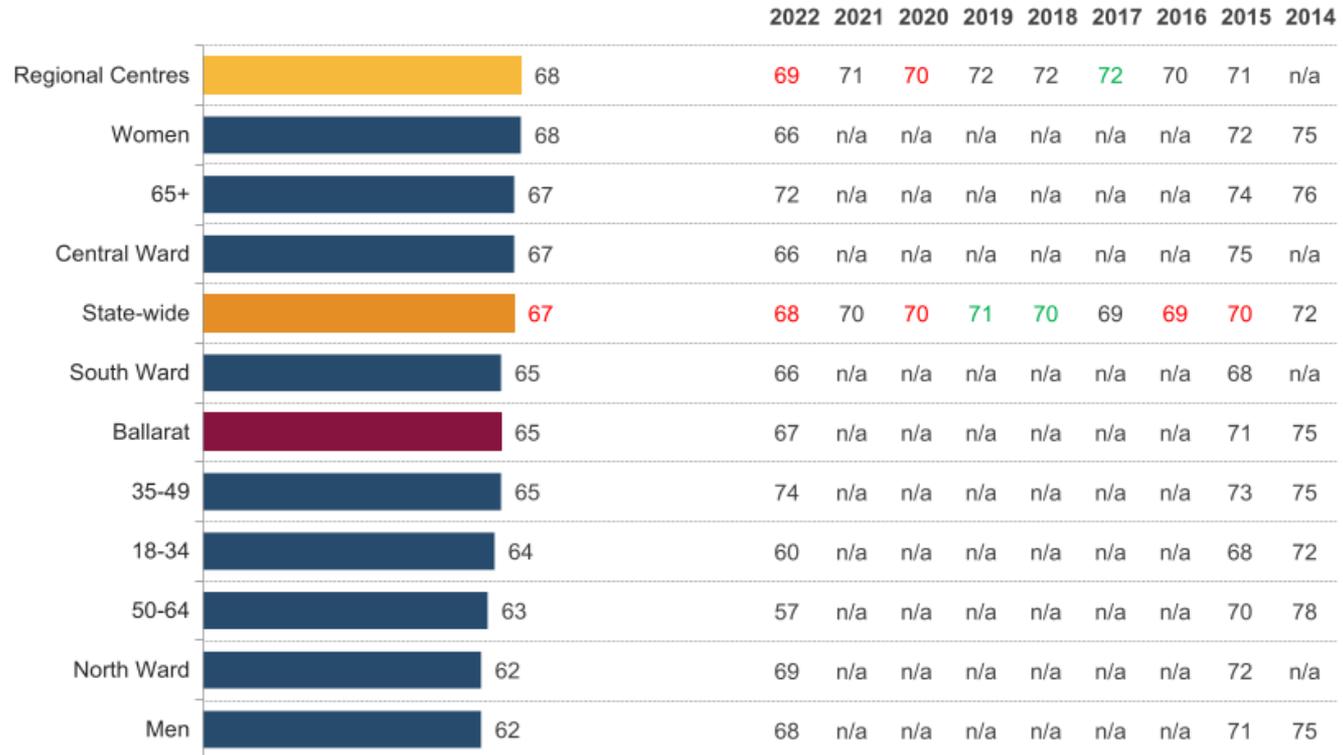
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 41 Councils asked group: 5

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Customer service rating

2023 customer service rating (index scores)

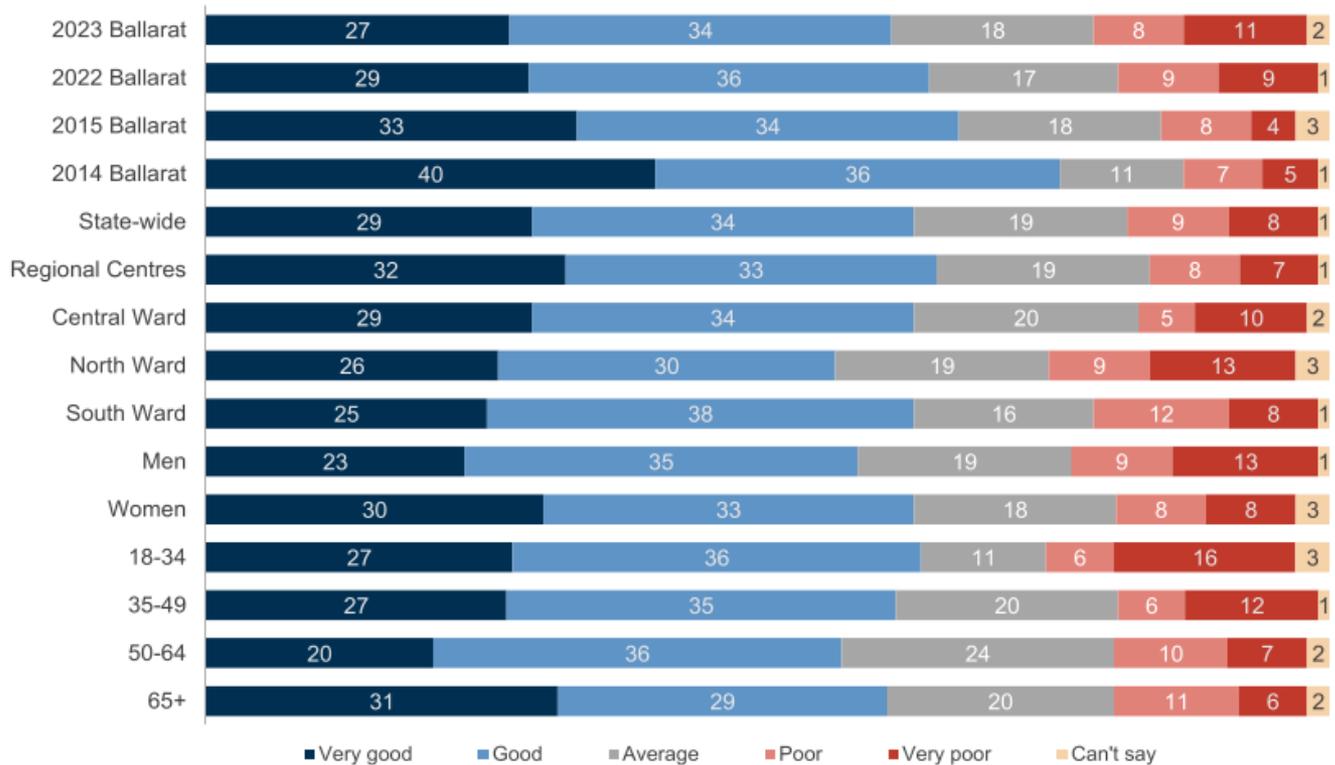


Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Ballarat City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.
 Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.
 Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Customer service rating

2023 customer service rating (%)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Ballarat City Council for customer service?
 Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.
 Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.
 Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9



Council direction



Council direction

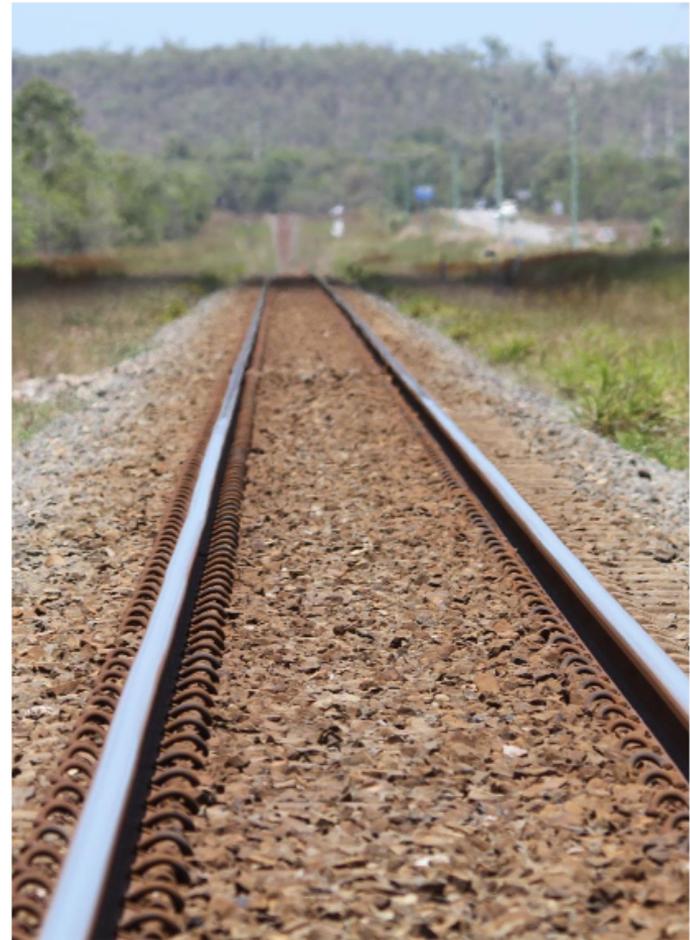
Over the last 12 months, 61% of residents believe the direction of Council's overall performance stayed the same, down one percentage point from 2022.

- 12% believe the direction has improved, down five percentage points from 2022.
- 25% believe it has deteriorated, up six percentage points from 2022.

Perceptions of Council's overall direction decreased significantly from last year (index score of 43, down six points). Council direction is rated significantly below both the Regional Centres group and State-wide averages (index scores of 47 and 46 respectively).

No significant differences were found among residents from different geographic and demographic groups compared to the average.

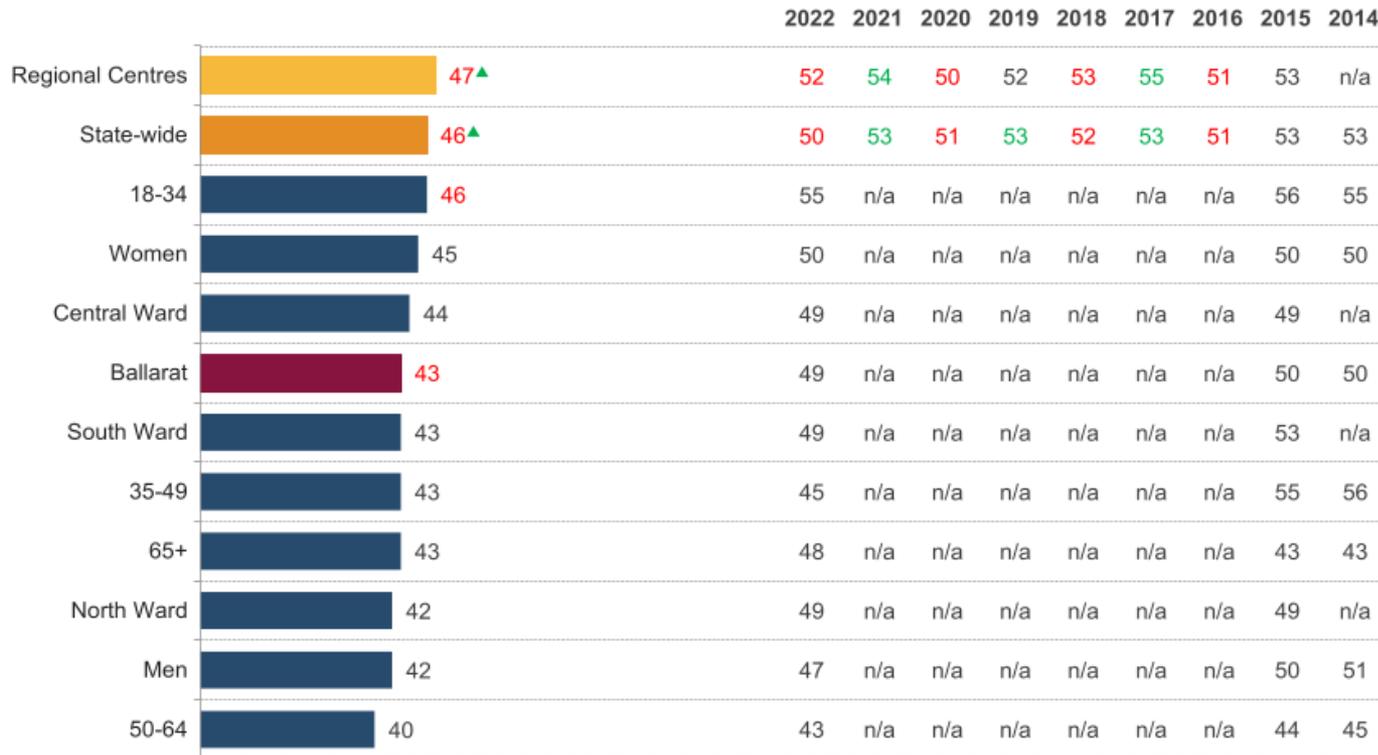
- The most satisfied with council direction are those aged 18 to 34 years or women (index scores of 46 and 45 respectively). This is in spite of perceptions declining significantly among 18 to 34 year olds this year (down nine index points).
- The least satisfied with council direction are those aged 50 to 64 years, men or those from the North Ward (index scores of 40, 42 and 42 respectively).





Overall council direction last 12 months

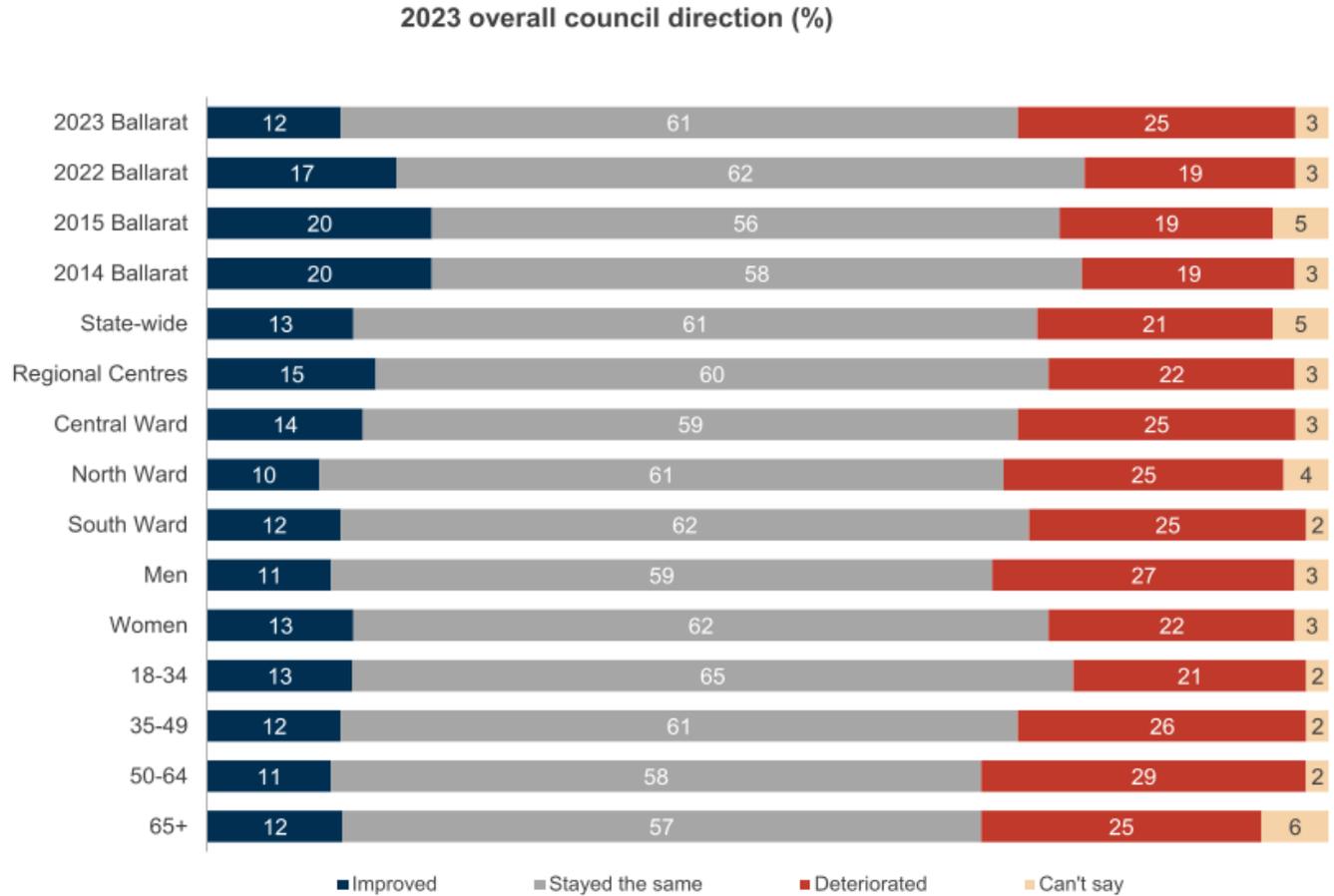
2023 overall council direction (index scores)



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Ballarat City Council's overall performance?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Overall council direction last 12 months



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Ballarat City Council's overall performance?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9



Individual service areas



Community consultation and engagement performance



2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
18-34	53	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	54	60
Central Ward	52	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	n/a
State-wide	52▲	56	55	56	55	55	54	56	57
Women	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	54
Regional Centres	50	54	51	54	55	54	52	53	n/a
South Ward	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
Ballarat	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	53
35-49	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	53
65+	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	50
Men	47	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	47	52
North Ward	46	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	n/a
50-64	45	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	44	45

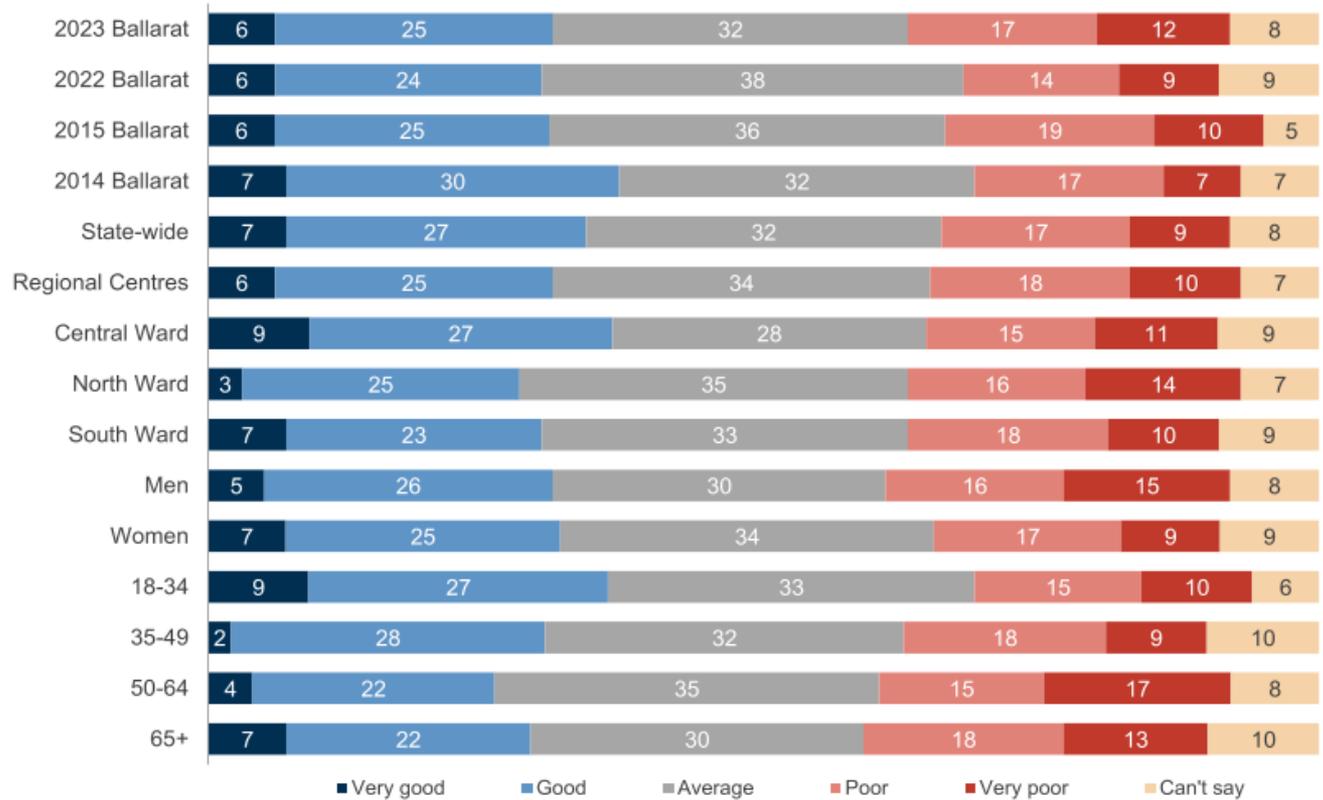
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Community consultation and engagement performance



2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)

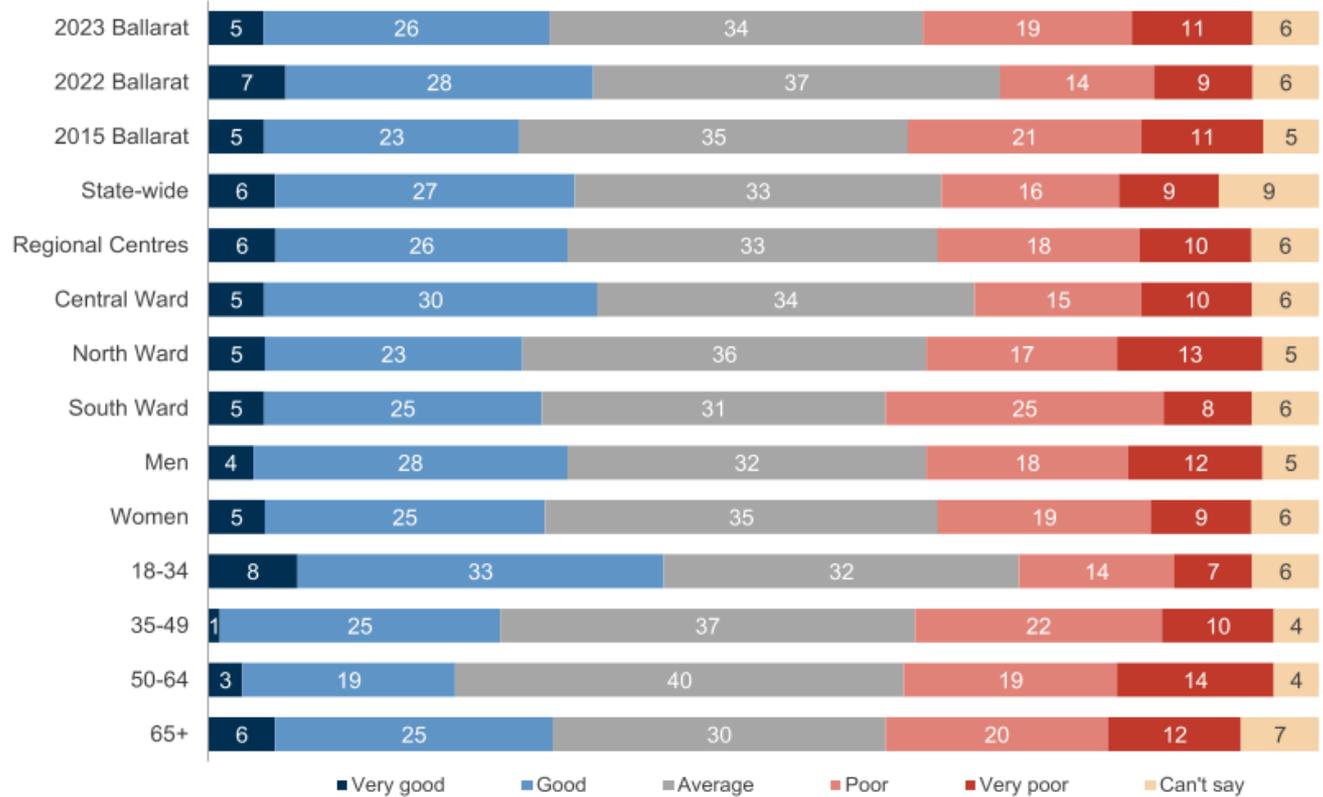
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
18-34	55▲	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	n/a
State-wide	51	56	53	55	54	54	54	55	57
Central Ward	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
Regional Centres	50	54	50	52	52	52	51	52	n/a
Women	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
Ballarat	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	47	n/a
Men	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	n/a
South Ward	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	n/a
65+	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	42	n/a
North Ward	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	n/a
35-49	47	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	n/a
50-64	44	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	43	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2023 community decisions made performance (%)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9

The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

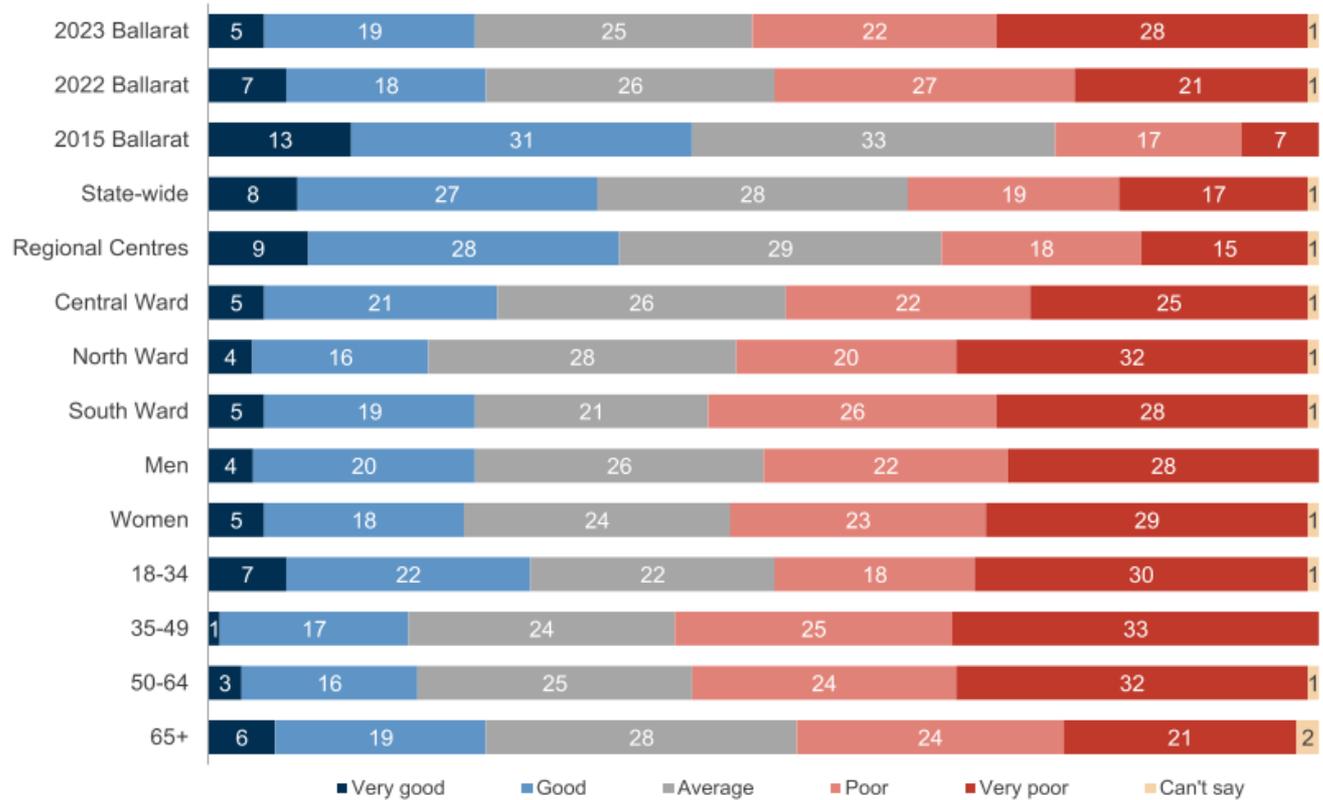
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Regional Centres	54	60	55	57	54	53	54	55	n/a
State-wide	53	57	54	56	53	53	54	55	55
65+	41	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	n/a
Central Ward	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	59	n/a
18-34	39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	n/a
Men	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	n/a
Ballarat	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	n/a
South Ward	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	n/a
Women	36	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	n/a
North Ward	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	n/a
50-64	34	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	55	n/a
35-49	32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	61	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



2023 sealed local roads performance (%)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9



Waste management performance



2023 waste management performance (index scores)

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
Regional Centres	67▲	68	69	66	68	70	69	69	71	n/a
State-wide	66▲	68	69	65	68	70	71	70	72	73
65+	65	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	70
North Ward	63	67	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a
South Ward	62	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	68	n/a
Women	62	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	69
Ballarat	62	62	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	70
Men	62	64	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	72
35-49	61	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	70
18-34	61	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	73	74
Central Ward	60	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	72	n/a
50-64	59	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	66

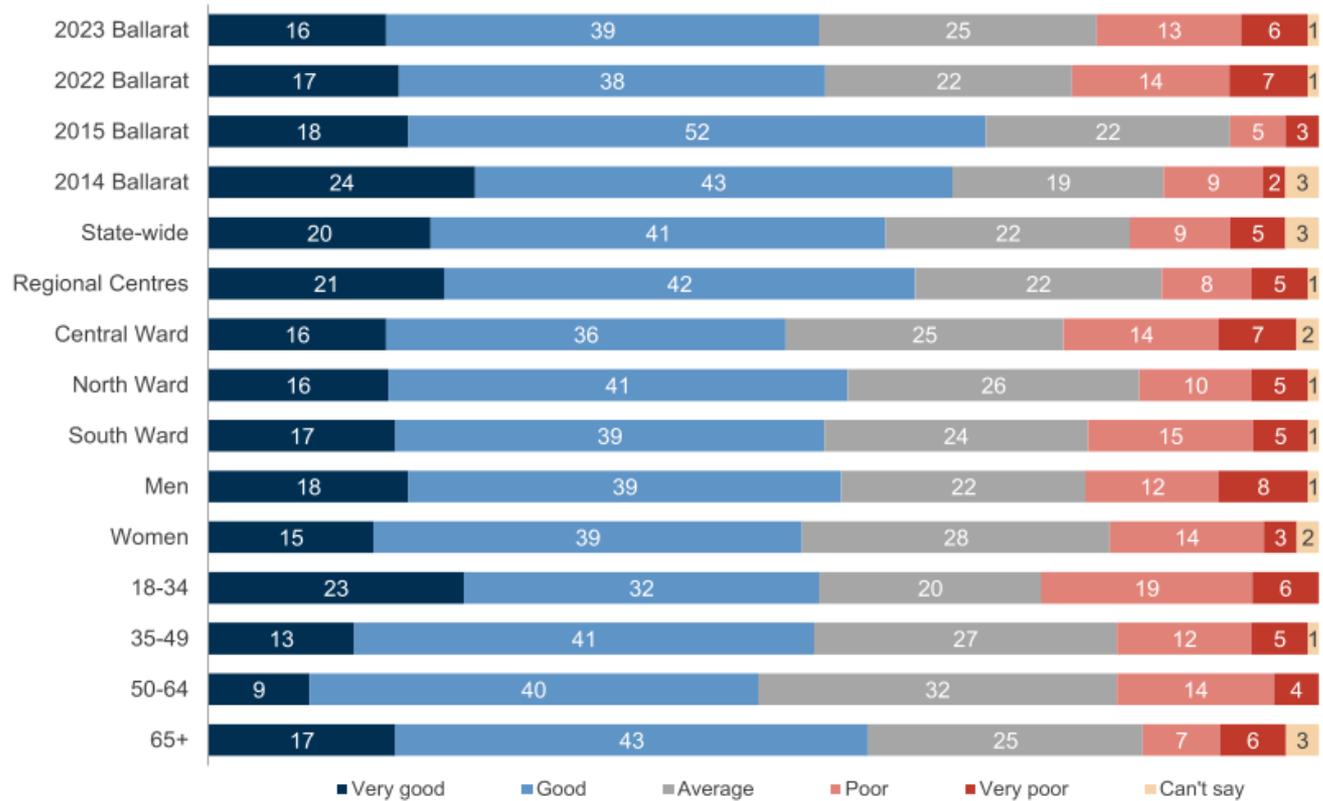
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Waste management' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Waste management performance



2023 waste management performance (%)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Waste management' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9

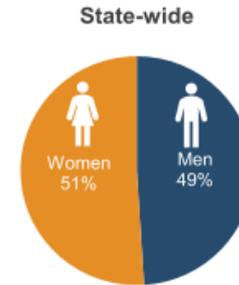
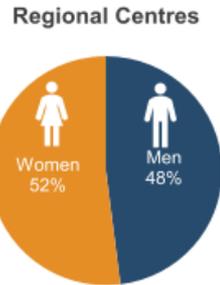
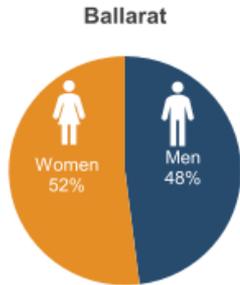


Detailed demographics

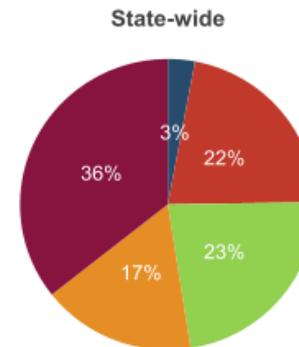
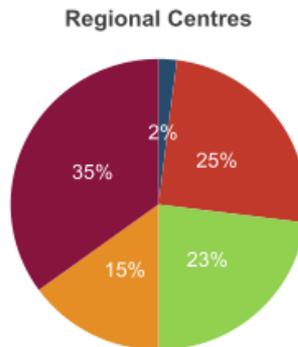
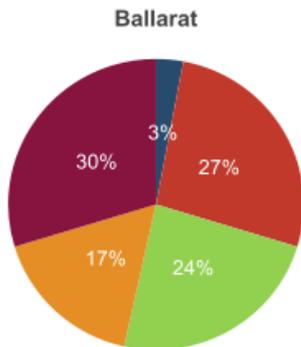


Gender and age profile

2023 gender



2023 age



■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

S3. [Record gender] / S4. To which of the following age groups do you belong?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9
 Please note that for the reason of simplifying reporting, interlocking age and gender reporting has not been included in this report. Interlocking age and gender analysis is still available in the dashboard and data tables provided alongside this report.



**Appendix A:
Index scores,
margins of error
and significant
differences**

Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the state-wide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%	--	INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%	--	INDEX SCORE 56



Appendix A: Margins of error

The sample size for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Ballarat City Council was n=800. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=800 interviews is +/-3.5% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 46.5% - 53.5%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 87,700 people aged 18 years or over for Ballarat City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Ballarat City Council	800	400	+/-3.5
Men	371	190	+/-5.1
Women	429	210	+/-4.7
Central Ward	284	147	+/-5.8
North Ward	284	138	+/-5.8
South Ward	232	115	+/-6.4
18-34 years	120	118	+/-9.0
35-49 years	204	96	+/-6.9
50-64 years	170	67	+/-7.5
65+ years	306	120	+/-5.6

Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green (▲) and downward directing red arrows (▼).

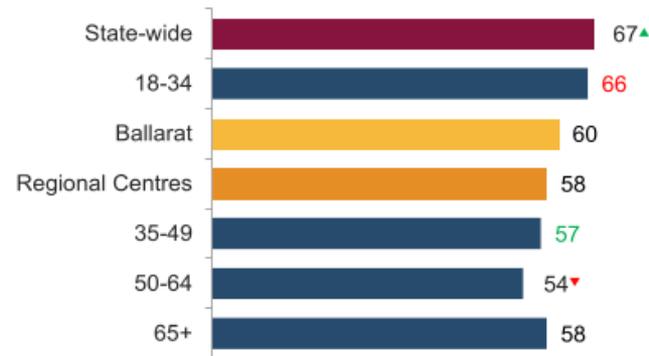
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- ▲ The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- ▼ The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2022. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is **significantly higher** than the result achieved among this group in 2022.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is **significantly lower** than the result achieved among this group in 2022.

2023 overall performance (index scores)
(example extract only)



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

$$Z \text{ Score} = (\$1 - \$2) / \text{Sqrt} ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$$

Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.



Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- Background and objectives
- Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email:

admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling



The 2023 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2022, n=402 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2015, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Ballarat City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Ballarat City Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Ballarat City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Ballarat City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=800 completed interviews were achieved in Ballarat City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 27th January – 19th March, 2023.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2023, 66 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2023 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Ballarat City Council is classified as a Regional Centres council according to the following classification list:

- Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural & Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Regional Centres group are:

- Ballarat, Greater Bendigo, Greater Geelong, Horsham, Latrobe, Mildura, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga.

Wherever appropriate, results for Ballarat City Council for this 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Regional Centres group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: 2012 survey revision



The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Ballarat City Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2023 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

<https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey>

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms



Core questions: Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

CSS: 2023 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

Council group average: The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

Highest / lowest: The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic sub-group e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

Index score: A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

Optional questions: Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

Percentages: Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

Sample: The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

Significantly higher / lower: The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

State-wide average: The average result for all participating councils in the State.

Tailored questions: Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

Weighting: Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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Katrina Cox
Director of Client Services
kcox@jwsresearch.com



9.10. NOVEMBER 2023 COUNCIL MEETING DATE

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

PURPOSE

1. This report asks Council to consider rescheduling the 6 November 2023 Unscheduled Council Meeting to 13 November 2023.

BACKGROUND

2. On 23 November 2022, Council adopted the schedule of Council meeting dates for 2023. It is proposed that the 6 November 2023 Unscheduled Council Meeting be rescheduled to 13 November 2023.

KEY MATTERS

3. In accordance with section 3.3.1 of Council's Governance Rules, Council must fix the date, time and place of all Council Meetings for the following calendar year by at least the last Council meeting of the calendar year. The schedule will then be available on Council's website.
4. In accordance with section 3.3.2 of Council's Governance Rules, Council may have an Unscheduled meeting of the Council as required.
5. It is recommended that the 6 November 2023 Unscheduled Council Meeting date be changed due to the public holiday on 7 November 2023.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

6. That Council:

- 6.1 Reschedule the 6 November 2023 Unscheduled Council Meeting to 13 November 2023 for the Mayoral election to commence at 6:30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street Ballarat.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Review [9.10.1 - 2 pages]

OFFICIAL

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

1. Council Meetings provide the forum for elected Councillors to determine matters relevant to Council's Vision, Plan, strategies and policies.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

2. The advertising of meeting dates encourages attendance at meetings, public participate in the democratic process and involvement in the administration of Council activities.
3. The community can attend the Council meetings and ask questions and make representations on agenda items that encourages the community entitlement to participate in public life.
4. Council meetings are broadcasted on Council's website to increase transparency and will be uploaded onto the website following the Council meeting.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

6. There are no economic sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no financial implications identified for the subject of this report.

LEGAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

8. Section 3.33(a) of Council's Governance Rules stipulates that notice of Council meetings and agendas must be provided with at least 2 days notice.
9. A period of less than 2 days must be justified for an unscheduled Council meeting if exceptional circumstances exist.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

10. It is considered that this report does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

11. Council will provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions via the Council agenda, advertisements and on the City of Ballarat website.

GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

12. There are no gender equality implications identified for the subject of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE ARISEN IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

13. Council officers affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

2
OFFICIAL

9.11. COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE REVISED MEMBERSHIPS

Division: Community Wellbeing
Director: Matthew Wilson
Author/Position: Pete Appleton Executive Manager Engaged Communities

PURPOSE

1. The elected membership of two Community Asset Committees has altered since being endorsed at the 26 October 2022 Council meeting. This report seeks Council endorsement of the revised membership for both Committees.

BACKGROUND

2. Community Asset Committees operate under Section 46 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act). The Act requires Council to formally ratify any revision to Committee membership.

KEY MATTERS

3. Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall.
 - a. The membership of the Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee has changed with the resignation of Alison Briody.
 - b. The revised membership of the committee is now as follows:
 - Paul Beechey
 - Bernard Hyland
 - Brendan Cahill
 - Ian Smith
 - Gwen Smith
 - Angela Smith
 - Ian Marshall
 - Shirley Marshall
 - Lauren Briody
 - Jasmine Walton
4. Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Hall.
 - a. The membership of the Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Community Hall Asset Committee has changed with the resignation of Simone Judge and Jack Miller joining the Committee.
 - b. The revised membership of the committee is now as follows:
 - Peter Loader
 - Karen Grose
 - Dianne Jennings
 - Lynette Rock
 - Bill Loader

- Margaret Adams
- Jack Miller

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

5. That Council:

- 5.1 Acknowledge the resignation of Alison Briody from the Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee and thank Alison for her contribution to the Committee.**
- 5.2 Endorse the revised membership of the Burrumbeet Soldiers Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee:**
- Paul Beechey
 - Bernard Hyland
 - Brendan Cahill
 - Ian Smith
 - Gwen Smith
 - Angela Smith
 - Ian Marshall
 - Shirley Marshall
 - Lauren Briody
 - Jasmine Walton
- 5.3 Acknowledge the resignation of Simone Judge from the Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Community Hall Asset Committee and thank Simone for her contribution to the Committee.**
- 5.4 Endorse the revised membership of the Miners Rest Mechanics Institute Community Hall Asset Committee:**
- Peter Loader
 - Karen Grose
 - Dianne Jennings
 - Lynette Rock
 - Bill Loader
 - Margaret Adams
 - Jack Miller

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Review [9.11.1 - 2 pages]

OFFICIAL

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

1. This report is a statutory requirement of *Local Government Act 2020*.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

2. It is considered that the report does not have any community impact implications.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

3. It is considered that the report does not have any climate emergency or environmental implications.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4. It is considered that the report does not have any economic sustainability implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. It is considered that the report does not have any financial implications.

LEGAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

6. This report is a statutory requirement of *Local Government Act 2020*. The report complies with the Act.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

7. It is considered that the report does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

8. No community consultation and engagement has taken place as part of this report.

GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

9. There are no gender equality implications identified for the subject of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE ARISEN IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

10. Council officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

PROCUREMENT COLLABORATION

(For Contracts Only)

OFFICIAL

9.12. CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Lorraine Sendall – Executive Assistant Director Corporate Services

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with copies of minutes of Council's Contracts Approval Delegated Committee in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference. This report provides a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2023 and provides a summary of information in relation to these minutes.

BACKGROUND

2. To ensure good governance and transparent decision making, minutes of meetings of the Delegated Committees are presented to Council and kept in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference and the Governance Rules. This report advises that minutes of the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee (the Committee) are attached to this report for the meeting held on 29 March, 2023.
3. The Committee has been established to more effectively facilitate Council's Capital Works Program. To that end, the Committee meets fortnightly, as required, in order to provide Council Officers with necessary decisions of Council to enable procurement processes to be completed.

KEY MATTERS

Contract	Award to	Value	Outcome	Local Content
2022/23-480/81 (MAV VP341389/90)	Velocity Truck Centre	\$936,340.16 (excluding GST)	Supply and delivery of 2 Mercedes Benz Econic Compactors fitted with Bucher compaction units	No

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

4. That Council:
 - 4.1 Note, in accordance with Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* that the material contained in the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee agenda has been designated confidential.
 - 4.2 Receive the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee minutes of the meeting held on 29 March, 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confirmed Contracts Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 29 March 2023 [9.12.1 - 5 pages]



***CONTRACTS APPROVAL
DELEGATED COMMITTEE***

MINUTES

29 March 2023

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED
COMMITTEE OF THE BALLARAT CITY COUNCIL, HELD BY A VIRTUAL MEETING
ON WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2023 AT 1:00PM**

**Evan King
(Chief Executive Officer)**

MINUTES

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

PRESENT

Cr Ben Taylor (Chair)
Cr Peter Eddy

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Evan King (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr John Hausler (Director Corporate Services)
Mr Michael Riseley (Acting Executive Manager Business Services)
Mr Rod Leith (Co-ordinator Revenue and Procurement)
Ms Judi Bird (Procurement Co-ordinator)
Mr Les Stokes (Executive Manager Waste and Environment)
Ms Lorraine Sendall (Minutes)

APOLOGIES

Cr Mark Harris

RESOLUTION:

That the apology from Cr Harris be received.

Moved Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

Acknowledgement to Country was read by the Chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were recorded.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION:

That the minutes of the Contracts Committee meeting held on 1 March 2023 as circulated, be confirmed.

Moved Cr Peter Eddy
Seconded Cr Ben Taylor

CARRIED

SECTION 66 MATTERS

RESOLUTION:

That the Committee resolves, pursuant to Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020, that the meeting be closed to members of the public, whilst the Committee is dealing with the following matters, that may include matters that are Commercial in Confidence that may prejudice Council: -

Moved Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED

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Contracts Special Committee Minutes

29 March, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE(S)
6.1 CONTRACT 2022/23-480 (MAV VP341389) AND CONTRACT 2022/23-481 (MAV 341390) - FLEET COMPACTORS (RO JOHN HAUSLER / ADRIAN SMITH)	4
6.2 UPDATE ON TENDER STATUS (RO JOHN HAUSLER / ROD LEITH)	5

6.1 CONTRACT 2022/23 – 480 (MAV VP341389) AND CONTRACT 2022/23-481 (MAV 341390) FLEET COMPACTORS
(RO – John Hausler / Adrian Smith)

SUMMARY

1. This report seeks to approve the awarding of two contracts for the purchase of 2 x Mercedes Benz Econic fitted with Bucher 24m3 Compaction Units.

BACKGROUND

2. The current compactors were purchased in 2015 and both trucks have travelled approximately 200,000 kilometres each. Hours of work on the units are approximately 1 million kilometres of normal driving each and are one of Council's highest use items that operate in a harsh stop/start environment.

KEY MATTERS

3. The tender was advertised on the Municipal Association of Victoria's website on 23rd December 2022 with 2 tenderers submitting 5 responses.
4. The invitation period closed on the 3rd February, 2023 and the evaluation panel met to assess the tenders on 7th March 2023.

RESOLUTION

5. **That the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee:-**
 - 5.1 **Resolve to enter into Contract 2022/23-480 (MAV VP341389) and 2022/23-481 (MAV VP341390) with Velocity Truck Centre for the supply and delivery of 2 x Mercedes Benz Econic Compactors fitted with Bucher 24m3 Compaction units for the total price of \$936,340.16 (ex GST).**
 - 5.2 **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to:**
 - a. **finalise the terms of Contract 2022/23-480 (MAV VP341389) and 2022/23-481 (MAV VP341390) with Velocity Truck Centre, provided that those contract terms are consistent with this resolution; and**
 - b. **execute Contract Numbers 2022/23-480 (MAV VP341389) and 2022/23-481 (MAV VP341390) on behalf of Council.**

Moved Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded Cr Eddy

CARRIED

6.2 UPDATE ON TENDER STATUS
(RO – John Hausler / Rod Leith)**SUMMARY**

1. This report is provided for the information of the Contracts Committee.

BACKGROUND

2. The report outlines the status of tenders – planning, advertising, evaluating or reports being prepared for final approval.
3. The report is provided once a month, to increase transparency regarding the status and progress of tenders.

KEY MATTERS

4. The updated report gives a snapshot of the tender status at a set date.
5. The report lists the estimated budget at the time of the Request for Tender. This value will not necessarily be the final amount submitted for approval.
6. The level of approval indicated on the report is based on the budget estimate and may change dependant on the final prices submitted.

RESOLUTION

7. **That the report be received.**

Moved Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED**SECTION 66 MATTERS****RESOLUTION:**

That the Committee resolves to come out of Section 66 and adopt the resolutions made therein.

Moved Cr Ben Taylor
Seconded Cr Peter Eddy

CARRIED**General Business**

No general business was discussed.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 1:07pm

Confirmed this 10th day of May, 2023

Cr Ben Taylor

**Cr Ben Taylor
Chairperson**

9.13. S11A AND S11B INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Sarah Anstis - Statutory Compliance Officer

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the report is to:
 - Revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the *Environment Protection Act 2017* for Gert Bothma and Simon Ogilvie.
 - Revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for Rhianna Cook, Gert Bothma, Chenenka Liyanapathirana and Paul Judge.
 - Endorse the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for Fiona Koutsivos.

BACKGROUND

2. The Chief Executive Officer appoints the majority of authorised officers under Section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, through Council's delegation to the Chief Executive Officer. However, the appointment of authorised officers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and *Environment Protection Act 2017* cannot be delegated by the Chief Executive Officer and must be made through a resolution of Council.

KEY MATTERS

3. At the Council Meeting held on 25 May 2022, Council resolved R77/22 to endorse the authorisation of Gert Bothma under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and *Environment Protection Act 2017*. Gert Bothma is no longer in the position of Team Leader Compliance and Parking and the authorisation requires revocation by Council resolution.
4. At the Council Meeting held on 23 June 2021, Council resolved R129/21 to endorse the authorisation of Rhianna Cook under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Rhianna Cook is no longer in the position of Compliance Officer and the authorisation requires revocation by Council resolution.
5. At the Council Meeting held on 28 September 2022, Council resolved R145/22 to endorse the authorisation of Chenenka Liyanapathirana under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Chenenka Liyanapathirana is no longer in the position of Statutory Planner and the authorisation requires revocation by Council resolution.
6. At the Council Meeting held on 22 July 2020, Council resolved R181/20 to endorse the authorisation of Paul Judge under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Paul Judge is no longer in the position of Statutory Planner and the authorisation requires revocation by Council resolution.

7. At the Council Meeting held on 22 September 2021, Council resolved R197/21 to endorse the authorisation of Simon Ogilvie under the *Environment Protection Act 2017*. Simon Ogilvie is no longer in the position of Compliance and Events Officer and the authorisation requires revocation by Council resolution.
8. Fiona Koutsivos holds the position of Principal Planner, and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires Council to endorse the authorisation for the officer to undertake duties authorised by Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

9. That Council:
 - 9.1 Exercise the powers conferred by s224 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of appointment and authorisations (the instrument), and that;
 - a. Fiona Koutsivos be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument.
 - b. The instrument come into force immediately upon resolution and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke them.
 - 9.2 Revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*) for Gert Bothma (R77/22) effective immediately.
 - 9.3 Revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Environment Protection Act 2017*) for Gert Bothma (R77/22) effective immediately.
 - 9.4 Revoke the S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Environment Protection Act 2017*) for Simon Ogilvie (R197/21) effective immediately.
 - 9.5 Revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 2017*) for Rhianna Cook (R129/21) effective immediately.
 - 9.6 Revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 2017*) for Chenenka Liyanapathirana (R145/22) effective immediately.
 - 9.7 Revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (*Planning and Environment Act 2017*) for Paul Judge (R181/20), effective of 5 July 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Review [9.13.1 - 2 pages]
2. S11A Authorisation Fiona Koutsivos [9.13.2 - 2 pages]

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ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL VISION, COUNCIL PLAN, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

1. The Instrument of Appointments and Authorisations are a statutory requirement of Council.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

2. Council will make the register of authorised officers available on Council's website in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no climate emergency and environmental sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no economic sustainability implications identified for the subject of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no financial implications identified for the subject of this report.

LEGAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

6. It is essential that Council's authorisations are constantly maintained and periodically monitored so that appropriate officers have the power to carry out their duties lawfully. This is a key component in Council meetings, as legislation requires Council to approve authorised officers under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and *Environment Protection Act 2017*.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

7. It is considered that the report does not impact on any human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

8. There has been consultation with relevant managers and officers to ensure the correct officers have been authorised to complete tasks.
9. The revocation and conferring of authorisations does not require any public consultation, however, Council is required to keep a register of all authorised officers available for public inspection.

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GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

10. There are no gender equality implications identified for the subject of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE ARISEN IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

11. Council Officers affirm that no general or material conflicts need to be declared in relation to the matter of this report.

PROCUREMENT COLLABORATION

(For Contracts Only)

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S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

Ballarat City Council

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

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**Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(*Planning and Environment Act 1987*)**

In this instrument "**officer**" means -

Fiona Koutsivos

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Ballarat City Council -

1. under s 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* - appoints the officer to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the regulations made under that Act; and
2. under s 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* authorises the officer either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument -

- (a) comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- (b) remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Ballarat City Council on [insert date and resolution]

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9.14. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Lyndsay Leingang - Administration Officer Statutory Compliance

PURPOSE

1. This report provides Council with an update of responses to questions taken on notice and outstanding unanswered questions from public question time.

BACKGROUND

2. The City of Ballarat Governance Rules, section 3.7.1 calls for a standard agenda item at each Council Meeting that reflects unanswered questions from question time

KEY MATTERS

3. Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

4. **That Council:**

- 4.1 **Endorse the Outstanding Question Time Report.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Outstanding Question Time Items 24 May 2023 [9.14.1 - 1 page]
2. QT46/23 - Linda Zibell - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.2 - 1 page]
3. QT47/23 - Dr Dora Pearce - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.3 - 2 pages]
4. QT51/23 - Joan Brick - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.4 - 1 page]
5. QT52/23 - Andrea Heinrichs - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.5 - 1 page]
6. QT53/23 - Hedley Thomson - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.6 - 1 page]
7. QT54/23 - Margaret Beacham - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.7 - 1 page]
8. QT56/23 - Ashley Williams - Outstanding Question Time Response [9.14.8 - 1 page]

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Outstanding Question Time Items					
Meeting	Status	Requested	Question	Officer Responsible	Response
24/05/2023 QT46/23	Closed	Linda Zibell	TDCSAG prioritises Mount Clear's community safety in decision making for Ballarat Gold Mine's TSF4, particularly in relation to rising dust contaminants. We understand the decision is to be 'expedited' by Council, yet Council says ERR is in charge since they permitted the original workplan variation. The EPA also says ERR is in charge. But ERR says when it comes to dust, EPA is in charge. Will council insist on an EES to resolve this conflict?	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT47/23	Closed	Dr Dora Pearce	The residential suburb of Mount Clear borders on Tinworth Avenue, as does Ballarat Gold Mine's mining licence MIN484712. Can the City of Ballarat Council explain why Clause 52.09-7 of the Ballarat Planning Scheme3 necessitated that "...1500 individual notices to residents and surrounds..." within 500 metres of the proposed tailings dam in Whitehorse Gully be provided, since EPA4 recommends a minimum separation distance of 250 metres, or 500 metres since gold-mining dust contains respirable crystalline silica. References: 1.Ballarat Gold Mine's website: < https://ballaratgoldmine.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Ballarat-Goldmine-Workings.jpg >. 2.Earth Resources: Geovic website < https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/geology-exploration/maps-reports-data/geovic >. 3.Department Transport and Planning: Ballarat Planning scheme 24/01/2020: EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY INTEREST AREAS < https://planning-schemes.app.planning.vic.gov.au/Ballarat/ordinance/52.09 >. 4.EPA Victoria 2022 Publication 1949 Separation distance guideline < https://engage.vic.gov.au/separation-distances-and-landfill-buffers >.	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT51/23	Closed	Joan Brick	Is the Council prepared to agree to allowing Balmain Gold to build an additional surface tailings dam, which in the present day is an antiquated and dangerous method of dealing with tailings, in the middle of a community already showing the presence of arsenic dust around homes located near the area of the present surface dams?	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT52/23	Closed	Andrea Heinrichs	Were an Environment Effects Statement or an EPA Works Approval and Licence required for TSF1, TSF2 or their merger into TSF3? If not, why not?	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT53/23	Closed	Hedley Thompson	What is the nature of the informal arrangement with Council that enables Peter Martin, employee of Council's Parks section and resident of 410 Richards St, Canadian - a property adjoining Sparrow Ground Reserve - to regularly mow that section of the Reserve bounded by the Reserve's northern boundary, Richards St and the gully that runs from Richards St to Grasstree Creek in contradiction to Council's 2007 Sparrow Ground Vegetation Management Plan?	Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment	Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT54/23	Closed	Margaret Beachman	I and many others I speak to would like to know why the Council continues to run a program of spraying with 'frog friendly glyphosate'!! I have rung the Council and been told this is what is being sprayed everywhere. Even in our bluestone gutters which drain to our drinking water. This product has been banned in many countries and is a known carcinogenic.	Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment	Bridget Wetherall, Director Infrastructure and Environment provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT56/23	Closed	Ashley Williams	Is this Council currently or considering using ratpayers money to fund either the 'Yes' or 'No' vote campaigns regarding the upcoming "The Voice" federal referendum	Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing	Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing provided a written response.
24/05/2023 QT59/23	Open	Wally Iwanowski	I would like to bring to the attention of the Councillors the issues we had trying to save a 160-year-old staircase in the old Union Hotel building down on Sturt Street and how we nearly lost a how we nearly lost a very important piece of Ballarat history forever. I will explain the situation and ask a question at the end. It's a long story, which time won't permit, but basically the stair balustrades were about 15mm too low for the current building regulations. It was well within the regulations when it was built, and only recently, about 1992, when the regulations changed, they were not the standard height which is 1 metre. Previous to that it was the imperial feet and inches. When it changed to metric, they settled on a 1 metre balustrade height. That was the regulated height. It finished up being about 15mm too low. We engaged 3 stair building companies to offer a solution, but because of construction of the stairs with its three-dimensional curves in the corners, the only solution was to demolish the existing stair balustrades and build new ones with straight 90-degree corners. They all said there was no way they can rebuild them as they are, but they could 160 years ago with basic hand tools. We wanted to save this 160-year-old staircase for the future generations of Ballarat. We approached the heritage committees, but they had no idea how to help. There were two Councillors that tried hard to help us but were limited as to what they could do. We engaged, Wendy Jacobs, a heritage architect, to offer a solution, but other than a major reconstruction of the staircase, there was no solution. We decided to go the Victorian building Authority appeals board to see if we could get an exemption for the staircase. It was very expensive and getting a positive outcome was not very likely. We engaged Michael Morrow, a solicitor, and he did an excellent job on getting all the documents together, but the cost was escalating, because we had to hire a Melbourne barrister at \$4,000 / hour to represent us. There was really no end in sight. Each time they put up barriers we jumped hurdles, then they put more barriers and we jumped them. It seemed no end to the story. Ballarat prides itself on its	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth	Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth to provide a written response after further investigation into the matter.

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PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 7 June 2023

Our Ref: NR:kr

Your Ref: QT46/23

Enquiries: (61) 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Linda Zibell

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Linda,

RE: OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEM – QT46/23

I refer to your question asked at the 24 May 2023 Council Meeting.

Question

TDCSAG prioritises Mount Clear's community safety in decision making for Ballarat Gold Mine's TSF4, particularly in relation to rising dust contaminants. We understand the decision is to be 'expedited' by Council, yet Council says ERR is in charge since they permitted the original workplan variation. The EPA also says ERR is in charge. But ERR says when it comes to dust, EPA is in charge. Will council insist on an EES to resolve this conflict?

Answer

The EPA were a referral for the Work Plan Variation and required conditions to be included as part of that process, including mitigation measures in relation to dust for the Statutory Endorsed Work Plan Variation. At this point, City of Ballarat has not completed a detailed assessment of the application before us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Robertson".

Natalie Robertson
Director Development and Growth

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PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 7 June 2023

Our Ref: NR:kr

Your Ref: QT47/23

Enquiries: (61) 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Dr Dora Pearce

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr Pearce,

RE: OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEM – QT47/23

I refer to your question asked at the 24 May 2023 Council Meeting.

Question

The residential suburb of Mount Clear borders on Tinworth Avenue, as does Ballarat Gold Mine's mining licence MIN4847¹². Can the City of Ballarat Council explain why Clause 52.09-7 of the Ballarat Planning Scheme³ necessitated that "...1500 individual notices to residents and surrounds..." within 500 metres of the proposed tailings dam in Whitehorse Gully be provided, since EPA⁴ recommends a minimum separation distance of 250 metres, or 500 metres since gold-mining dust contains respirable crystalline silica.

References:

1. Ballarat Gold Mine's website:
<https://ballaratgoldmine.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Ballarat-Goldmine-Workings.jpg>
2. Earth Resources: GeoVic website
<https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/geology-exploration/maps-reports-data/geovic>
3. Department Transport and Planning: Ballarat Planning scheme 24/01/2020: EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY INTEREST AREAS
<https://planning-schemes.app.planning.vic.gov.au/Ballarat/ordinance/52.09>
4. EPA Victoria 2022 Publication 1949 Separation distance guideline
<https://engage.vic.gov.au/separation-distances-and-landfill-buffers>

Answer

The clause you refer to does not set the parameters for public notice. This clause relates to extractive industries, but it sets out the requirements for notice for the sensitive uses in close proximity to those extractive industries.

For example, if we had an application to subdivide land or construct a building for accommodation, childcare centre, education centre or hospital that was within an Extractive Industry Interest Area, they would be required to give notice to the extractive industry. Any land which is within 500 metres of the land that is the extractive industry, we have to apply this parameter. Director Robertson noted she believes Dr Pearce is seeking to understand the extent of public notice and how it is determined. In this case, with the existing use, the prescribed distance becomes discretionary. In this case notice went to approximately 1500 residents in the adjoining and surrounding area, signs were placed on site and in the newspaper. The application remains undecided, and any member of the community may make a submission right up until the matter is decided.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Robertson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Natalie Robertson
Director Development and Growth

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 7 June 2023

Our Ref: NR:kr

Your Ref: QT51/23

Enquiries: (61) 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Joan Brick

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Joan,

RE: OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEM – QT51/23

I refer to your question asked at the 24 May 2023 Council Meeting.

Question

Is the Council prepared to agree to allowing Balmain Gold to build an additional surface tailings dam, which in the present day is an antiquated and dangerous method of dealing with tailings, in the middle of a community already showing the presence of arsenic dust around homes located near the area of the present surface dams?

Answer

The application is still under assessment and no decision has been made on the proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Robertson".

Natalie Robertson
Director Development and Growth

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OFFICIAL

PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 7 June 2023

Our Ref: NR:kr

Your Ref: QT52/23

Enquiries: (61) 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Andrea Heinrichs

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Andrea,

RE: OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEM – QT52/23

I refer to your question asked at the 24 May 2023 Council Meeting.

Question

Were an Environment Effects Statement or an EPA Works Approval and Licence required for TSF1, TSF2 or their merger into TSF3?
If not, why not?

Answer

The advice regarding the proposal in place for Tailings Storage Facility 1 and 2 will need to be sort from Earth Resource Regulation as the approvals you have mentioned are overseen through them.

The site operates under a Mining License and prior to applying for the planning permit for the new Tailings Storage Facility (TSF 3) statutory endorsement of a Work Plan Variation was provided by Earth Resource Regulation (ERR). ERR are responsible for the issuing of licenses and work plans.

As part of the Work Plan Variation process external agencies such as the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (now known as Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)) were engaged.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Robertson".

Natalie Robertson
Director Development and Growth

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OFFICIAL

PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 29 May 2023

Our Ref: BW:bk

Your Ref: QT53/23

Enquiries: 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Hedley Thomson

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Hedley

RE: PUBLIC QUESTION ASKED AT COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24 MAY 2023

I refer to your questions asked at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2023 as follows:

“What is the nature of the informal arrangement with Council that enables Peter Martin, employee of Council’s Parks section and resident of 410 Richards St, Canadian - a property adjoining Sparrow Ground Reserve - to regularly mow that section of the Reserve bounded by the Reserve’s northern boundary, Richards St and the gully that runs from Richards St to Grasstree Creek in contradiction to Council’s 2007 Sparrow Ground Vegetation Management Plan?”

Council is the appointed Committee of Management for all of Sparrow Reserve (which is Crown Land). The City of Ballarat has been in contact with the Department Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) regarding the status of the Crown Land Parcel and the history and understanding of the licences that existed across the reserve. The City of Ballarat is continuing to work through all ongoing maintenance practices across the reserve to ensure any works are being completed in line with accepted practices and procedures.

To assist with the clear guidance and management of this reserve, I can advise that we have had Practical Ecology, who developed the 2007 Vegetation Management Plan, complete two site assessments of Sparrow Ground Reserve during 2022, the first visit in May and again during September 2022. They have been working on the updated Draft Vegetation Management Plan which will be finalised shortly. This updated plan has the purpose of reviewing and documenting the ongoing bushland management works being undertaken throughout the reserve, and to present all the vegetation data in a document that can be used to guide ongoing management.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to call David Keighrey, Coordinator Gardens and Natural Resources, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bridget W".

Bridget Wetherall
Director Infrastructure and Environment

CC: Mayor and Councillors
Governance
Luke Ives, Executive Manager Operations
David Keighrey, Coordinator Gardens and Natural Resources

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PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 29 May 2023

Our Ref: BW:bk

Your Ref: QT54/23

Enquiries: 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Margaret Beacham

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Margaret

RE: PUBLIC QUESTION ASKED AT COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24 MAY 2023

I refer to your questions asked at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2023 as follows:

"I and many others I speak to would like to know why the Council continues to run a program of spraying with 'frog friendly glyphosate'! I have rung the Council and been told this is what is being sprayed everywhere. Even in our bluestone gutters which drain to our drinking water. This product has been banned in many countries and is a known carcinogenic."

The Glyphosate products used by City of Ballarat are selected for use (like Glymac 360) due to the minimal risk they pose to the environment and waterways. These products are practically nontoxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates and are not harmful to birds. Regular worksite audits are completed focussing on supervision of staff and contractors to ensure they are utilising the chemicals as per the Safe Operation Procedures and Material Safety Data Sheets, and consideration of where the chemical application is applied, whilst being careful of the environment to ensure all chemicals are properly selected and correctly used.

"Has anyone on Council looked at the data readily available about this product. If not, why not?"

The City of Ballarat is continuing to consider and trial alternative chemicals, treatments and application methods to control weeds across the municipality where practical and continue to seek advice of relevant authorities regarding the use of glyphosate products.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to call Luke Ives, Executive Manager Operations, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bridget W".

Bridget Wetherall
Director Infrastructure and Environment

CC: Mayor and Councillors
Governance
Luke Ives, Executive Manager Operations

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PO Box 655
Ballarat Vic 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061



Date: 29 May 2023

Our Ref: QT 56/23

Your Ref:

Enquiries: (61) 03 5320 5500

Direct Email: info@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Mr Ashley Williams
[REDACTED]

Dear Ashley

RE: OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEM QT 56/23

Thank you for your question submitted to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Wednesday, 24 May 2023, in relation to the upcoming "The Voice" Federal referendum.

I can confirm the Mayor's response, as follows:

Question

Is this council currently or considering using ratepayers' money to fund either the 'Yes' or 'o' vote campaign's regarding the upcoming "The Voice" Federal referendum?

Answer

The Mayor advised that the Council had not yet had a discussion on the upcoming "The Voice" referendum and therefore could not provide a response at this time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Wilson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew Wilson
Director Community Wellbeing

OFFICIAL

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS

12. URGENT BUSINESS

13. SECTION 66 (IN CAMERA)

9.3 BUNINYONG BOTANIC GARDENS MASTER PLAN

Division: Development and Growth
Director: Natalie Robertson
Author/Position: Adam Parrot – Senior Landscape Architect

(confidential information)

9.12 CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE

Division: Corporate Services
Director: John Hausler
Author/Position: Lorraine Sendall - Executive Assistant, Director Corporate Services

(confidential information)

13.1 CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL PROCUREMENT NETWORK CONTRACT NUMBER CH003 BITUMINOUS RESEALING PROGRAM

Division: Infrastructure and Environment
Director: Bridget Wetherall
Author/Position: Luke Ives Executive Manager Operations

(confidential information)

14. CLOSE