

# **Council Meeting**

## **Minutes**

**25 October 2023 at 6:30pm**

**Council Chamber, Town Hall, Sturt Street,  
Ballarat**



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## 1. OPENING DECLARATION

**Councillors:** *"We, the Councillors of the City of Ballarat, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance."*

**Mayor:** *"I respectfully acknowledge the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung People, the traditional custodians of the land, and I would like to welcome members of the public in the gallery."*

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 2.1 Present

Cr Des Hudson (Mayor)  
Cr Ben Taylor  
Cr Samantha McIntosh  
Cr Belinda Coates  
Cr Mark Harris  
Cr Amy Johnson  
Cr Peter Eddy  
Cr Tracey Hargreaves

Mr Evan King - Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Bridget Wetherall - Director Infrastructure and Environment  
Mr Matthew Wilson - Director Community Wellbeing  
Mr John Hausler - Director Corporate Services  
Ms Natalie Robertson - Director Development and Growth  
Mr Jeff Johnson - Acting Director Economy and Experience  
Mr Cameron Montgomery - Executive Manager Governance and Risk  
Ms Sarah Anstis - Statutory Compliance Officer  
Mr Stephen Wright - Administration Assistant Compliance

### 2.2 Apologies

Cr Daniel Moloney

## RESOLUTION:

**That the apology be accepted.**

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris**  
**Seconded: Cr Tracey Hargreaves**

**CARRIED**  
**(R154/23)**

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Nil

**5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****RESOLUTION:**

That the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 27 September 2023 and 11 October 2023 as circulated be confirmed.

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris**

**Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates**

**CARRIED**

**(R155/23)**

## **6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

### **QT99/23 - Jacki Whitwell**

#### **Question**

Given the result of the Voice Referendum, what will Council be doing differently to ensure our First Nations communities are supported, heard, and genuinely included in decisions that impact them?

#### **Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, responded that Council has a strong relationship with our Koorie Engagement Action Group and continues to respectfully meet and support actions that build relationships with First Nations people and Traditional Owner groups. Some examples include the annual events in NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Week, and the Survival Day Dawn Ceremony. Further to that, initiatives around streets and place naming, public art commissions, inclusive criteria in Council's Procurement Policy, and currently a co-designed approach to the Biodiversity Strategy that is under community consultation at this time. Council is also working on a new Reconciliation Action Plan which is in its final stages of development and will soon be brought before Council for consideration.

### **QT100/23 - Michael Phillips**

#### **Question**

How can the municipality better support the city's football netball umpires group (BFUA) to be more inclusive?

#### **Answer**

Cr Des Hudson, Mayor, responded that the issue is a matter that should be taken up directly with the Ballarat Football Umpires Association and/or with the Ballarat Football League. Following that, if there is still no resolution, to potentially advocate to the AFL. The issue of who umpires with the BFUA is not a local government issue.

### **QT101/23 – Adam James**

#### **Question**

By 2036 it is estimated that approximately 34,000 Ballarat residents (one-in-four) will be aged over 60. Issues for people as they age may include increasing financial and physical vulnerability and insecurity around health and housing. Given that we are currently experiencing a housing crisis with no real end in sight I would be keen to understand councils plans around this, including community service provision, while keeping in mind this is not solely a council responsibility.

#### **Answer**

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, responded that Council has recently established a new Ageing Well department that aims to provide a range of community and social supports for residents aged 55 and over. Whilst this new service is in the early stages of establishing itself, we are encouraged by the level of initial engagement with community to date through initiatives such as Seniors Week. In addition, and more specifically to the part of the question that relates to housing, Council is advocating strongly to both State and Federal governments for increases in social and affordable housing supply in Ballarat. Council has sought community and housing sector input into the draft Housing Strategy, which aims to provide context for increases in housing supply and diversity of housing form across Ballarat.



**QT102/23 – Drewe Bantick****Question**

What gave Des Hudson the authority to assume the role of Mayor without returning to an election after Ben Taylor stepped down?

**Answer**

Evan King, Chief Executive Officer, remarked that it is a good question because it gives us some insights into the process around electing a mayor. The *Local Government Act 2020* and our Governance rules provide the guidance around how mayors are elected. Council first determines whether there will be a one-year or a two-year period. Generally, Council has determined a one-year period. After Cr Taylor finished his mayorship there was an election in 2020. After that election, and Councillors were sworn in, there was a statutory meeting for Council to determine who would be the mayor. Cr Moloney was then the mayor in 2020 and 2021 and then Cr Hudson became the mayor in 2022. A statutory meeting will be held on the 13 November to determine the mayor for the next term of Council.

**QT103/23 – Sean Mulcahy****Question 1**

The amount of infringement notices, fines, or notices to comply that have been issued in relation to the bathroom clause of the Community Local Law?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, responded that as at today there have been no infringements under that particular clause within our Community Local Law 2017.

**Question 2**

Is the Council's view that that clause of the local law is compliant with the local law requirements under the Act and, in particular, whether it's compliant with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities?

**Answer**

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, responded that The City of Ballarat Community Local Law precedes the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020*. At the time the Community Local Law was developed, it was developed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

When the City of Ballarat Community Local Law is next reviewed and developed, which is not until 2027, it will be reviewed in accordance with the current legislation and will therefore ensure consistency and meet legislative requirements. Director Robertson added, if we were to act on any clause at the moment in our local law, we do review it to ensure that it is compliant anyway.

**QT104/23 – Terri Pryse-Smith****Question 1**

Further to my last question in May's meeting where I asked about 20-minute cities or 15-minute neighbourhoods, Natalie Robertson replied via email and it talked about the Today Tomorrow Together plan, which is wonderful. I just want to express that while we commend the planning, I just want the assurance again that we will not have any restrictions imposed on our movements, we won't have any of our movements limited, in the push for Smart Cities

or 15-minute neighbourhoods and also just to confirm that are there now going to be 30 – minute neighbourhoods which is something that we have heard?

**Answer**

Cr Des Hudson, Mayor, responded that there is certainly no intention to restrict anyone's freedom of movement whether that is in and around Ballarat or even beyond for that matter. People are very free to be able to travel at their will to their points of destinations. There is no intention from any strategic document in our plans or anything else that would restrict and limit the movement of people against their will.

Natalie Robertson, Director Development and Growth, confirmed that yes, there is no intention of limiting movement.

In response to the second part of the question around the 10, 15 and 30 – minute neighbourhoods. The intent of the Ballarat Strategy reflects the concept of the '10 Minute City'. From a planning point of view, it reflects community aspirations to maintain existing levels of access to destinations and services even as the city grows.

It supports the ability for all residents of Ballarat to be able to do more of their day-to-day shopping, accessing services, and businesses in their local neighbourhoods. It also promotes the improvement of walking and cycling connections within local neighbourhoods, so residents find it easier to move around and reduce the need to use the car for short journeys, essentially, which is the concept. It also aspires to have non-peak times make it possible to reach most areas of the centre of town within a 10-minute drive, and that includes schools and things like that. The challenge over the next 25 years is to maintain accessibility as the population grows and congestion increases, which even results in a need for upgrades to existing infrastructure. The '10 Minute City' concept is really about seeking support for complete, liveable neighbourhoods with a compact city, based around great built form, local neighbourhoods, great land uses, precincts supporting jobs, productivity and efficiency, and high-quality local connections but doesn't endeavour to prohibit anybody from freedom of movement at all.



## **7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

### **7.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**Division:** Executive Unit  
**Director:** Evan King  
**Author/Position:** Evan King – Chief Executive Officer

#### **PURPOSE**

1. The CEO's Operational Report highlights issues and outcomes affecting the organisation's performance as it delivers services and implements the Council's strategies and policy decisions.

#### **RESOLUTION:**

**10. That Council:**

**10.1 Receive and note the CEO's Operational Report.**

**Moved: Cr Peter Eddy**  
**Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates**

**CARRIED**  
**(R156/23)**

## 8. OFFICER REPORTS

### 8.1. ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

**Division:** Executive Unit  
**Director:** Evan King  
**Author/Position:** Amanda Bavin – Head of Communications and Design

#### PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider and note the City of Ballarat Annual Report 2022/23 (Annual Report) in accordance with its obligations under Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (The Act).
2. The Annual Report is the final step in the statutory annual reporting process.

#### RESOLUTION:

10. That Council:
  - 10.1 Note the City of Ballarat Annual Report 2022/23 in accordance with Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
  - 10.2 Acknowledge the achievements of Council during this reporting period and its achievements against the 2021-25 Council Plan.

Moved: Cr Des Hudson  
Seconded: Cr Belinda Coates

**CARRIED**  
**(R157/23)**

## 8.2. KERBSIDE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Bridget Wetherall  
**Author/Position:** Michelle Huie – Circular Economy Project Officer  
Siobhan Dent – Coordinator Circular Economy

Els Woesthuis made a public representation.

### PURPOSE

1. To seek Council endorsement of the following changes to kerbside waste and recycling services:
  - Introduction of a weekly food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection.
  - Household waste collection frequency change from weekly to fortnightly.
  - Introduction of a monthly residential glass bin collection.
  - Comingled recycling collection unchanged (remain at fortnightly frequency).

### RESOLUTION:

#### 29. That Council:

##### 29.1 Endorse the service review recommendation to alter kerbside collection services as follows:

- a. Introduction of a weekly food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection.
- b. Household waste collection frequency changed from weekly to fortnightly.
- c. Introduction of a monthly residential kerbside glass bin collection.
- d. Comingled recycling collection unchanged (remain at fortnightly frequency).

##### 29.2 Endorse the planned implementation approach to:

- a. Assess the impact of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) before implementing the recommended kerbside glass collection service model.
- b. Implement the FOGO and household waste service changes at a date to be determined, subject to being able to engage a suitable FOGO processor in the region.
- c. Undertake a comprehensive community engagement and education campaign to inform the community of the adopted changes to kerbside waste and recycling services.

**Moved:** Cr Des Hudson  
**Seconded:** Cr Belinda Coates

**CARRIED**  
**(R158/23)**

### 8.3. CUSTOMER CHARTER DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTATION

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

#### PURPOSE

1. To inform Council of the results of the recent public consultation relating to the Draft Customer Charter (Charter) and subsequent updates made to the Charter.
2. To seek the adoption of the Customer Charter after community engagement.

#### RESOLUTION:

**24. That Council:**

**24.1 Note that the development of the Draft Customer Charter has complied with Council's Community Engagement Policy; and**

**24.2 Endorse the proposed Customer Charter as shown in Attachment 2.**

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**

**Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy**

**CARRIED**

**(R159/23)**

**8.4. TENDER 2022/23-616 MAJOR PATCHING AND ASPHALT RESURFACING - PANEL**

**Division:** Infrastructure and Environment  
**Director:** Bridget Wetherall  
**Author/Position:** Paul Humphrey – Operations Contracts Coordinator  
Adam Clarke – Acting Executive Manager Operations

**PURPOSE**

1. To award Contract Number 2022/23-616 for the provision of Major Patching and Asphalt Resurfacing under the recommended panel of suppliers.

**RESOLUTION:****8. That Council:****8.1 Resolve to enter into Contract Number 2022/23-616 for the provision of Major Patching and Asphalt Resurfacing services with the following companies in accordance with their submitted schedules of rates;**

- Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd;
- Bitu-Mill (Civil) Pty Ltd;
- Centre State Asphalt Pty Ltd; and
- Boral Resources (VIC) Pty Ltd.

The contract term is for 8 months with the provision of an additional 1-year extension.

**8.2 Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to:**

- a. Finalise the terms of Contract Number 2022/23-616 with the above listed companies, provided that those contract terms are consistent with this Resolution;
- b. Execute Contract Number 2022/23-616 on behalf of Council; and
- c. Execute the extension option for Contract Number 2022/23-616 where considered appropriate.

**Moved:** Cr Mark Harris  
**Seconded:** Cr Ben Taylor

**CARRIED**  
**(R160/23)**

**8.5. COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Nicky Davidge – Coordinator Community Development

**PURPOSE**

1. To present the Annual Community Asset Committee Review for FY 2022/23.

**RESOLUTION:**

9. That Council:
  - 9.1 Receive and note the Annual Community Asset Committee Review 2022/23 has been made in accordance with section 47 (6) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
  - 9.2 Acknowledge the contributions the Community Asset Committees made through the activities and performance as outlined in the review.

**Moved:** Cr Ben Taylor  
**Seconded:** Cr Mark Harris

**CARRIED**  
**(R161/23)**



## 8.6. CREATIVE CITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

**Division:** Economy and Experience  
**Director:** Martin Darcy  
**Author/Position:** Tara Poole – Coordinator Creative City

### PURPOSE

1. This Report presents the 2023 Creative City Report Card, measuring the outputs of the ongoing application of the award-winning Creative City Strategy.
2. This Report Card also evaluates the impacts and challenges to the creative sector from changes in economic and societal circumstances and pressures.

### RESOLUTION:

#### 12. That Council:

- 12.1 Receive the results of the 2023 Creative City Strategy Report Card, noting the progress completed towards execution of the Ballarat Creative City Strategy.

**Moved:** Cr Samantha McIntosh  
**Seconded:** Cr Belinda Coates

**CARRIED**  
**(R162/23)**

## 8.7. ANNUAL COMMUNITY GRANTS REPORT

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Nicky Davidge – Coordinator Community Development

### PURPOSE

1. Provide an overview of the Annual Partnerships and Grants Report for FY 2022/23.

### RESOLUTION:

#### 17. That Council:

- 17.1 Receive and note the Report outlining the delivery and outcomes of Council's Partnerships and Grants programs in 2022/23.

**Moved:** Cr Tracey Hargreaves

**Seconded:** Cr Des Hudson

**CARRIED**

**(R163/23)**

## **8.8. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE BIENNIAL REPORT**

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

### **PURPOSE**

1. To present Council with the Audit and Risk Committee's Biannual Report for the period 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023.

### **RESOLUTION:**

#### **5. That Council:**

- 5.1 Receive and note the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual report for the period 1 January 2023 – 30 June 2023.**

**Moved: Cr Ben Taylor**  
**Seconded: Cr Peter Eddy**

**CARRIED**  
**(R164/23)**

## **8.9. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBERSHIP**

**Division:** Corporate Services

**Director:** John Hausler

**Author/Position:** Cameron Montgomery – Executive Manager Governance and Risk

### **PURPOSE**

1. This report recommends the appointment of one independent member to Council's Audit and Risk Committee for a period of three years commencing 26 October 2023.

### **RESOLUTION:**

**8. That Council:**

- 8.1 Appoint Tara Heard to the position of independent member on the Audit and Risk Committee for a period of three years commencing 26 October 2023 and concluding on 25 October 2026.**

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris**

**Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh**

**CARRIED**

**(R165/23)**

**8.10. S11A 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 endorse the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisations under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for Natalie Calleja, Dylan Clark, Stephanie Preece and Luxman Francis.
2. The purpose of the report is to also revoke the S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisations under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for Kahlia Reid.

**RESOLUTION:****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 instruments), and that;**
  - a. **Natalie Calleja, Dylan Clark, Stephanie Preece and Luxman Francis be appointed and authorised as set out in the instruments.**
  - b. **The instruments come into force immediately upon resolution and remain 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 Kahlia Reid effective 27 October 2023.**

**Moved: Cr Mark Harris****Seconded: Cr Samantha McIntosh****CARRIED****(R166/23)**

## 8.11. 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 meetings held on 30 August 2023 and 13 September 2023 and provides a summary of information in relation to these minutes.

### RESOLUTION:

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 agendas has been designated confidential.
  - 4.2 Receive the Contracts Approval Delegated Committee minutes of the meetings held on 30 August 2023 and 13 September 2023.

**Moved:** Cr Ben Taylor  
**Seconded:** Cr Mark Harris

**CARRIED**  
**(R167/23)**



## 8.12. OUTSTANDING QUESTION TIME ITEMS

**Division:** Corporate Services  
**Director:** John Hausler  
**Author/Position:** Stephen Wright – Administration Assistant 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.

### RESOLUTION:

#### 4. That Council:

##### 4.1 Endorse the Outstanding Question Time Report.

**Moved: Cr Belinda Coates**  
**Seconded: Cr Mark Harris**

**CARRIED**  
**(R168/23)**

## **9. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

## **10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/COUNCILLORS**

### **GB85/23 - Cr Ben Taylor**

Cr Ben Taylor noted that Council has been looking for a site for a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and that there has been a commitment of funds. He asked for an update on this matter to be provided as a Briefing report to Council. He specified that he would like the report to also address the progress of investigations into collecting and processing Commercial and Industrial waste (or arranging a third party to do so) in addition to the Kerbside waste.

### **GB86/23 - Cr Ben Taylor**

Cr Ben Taylor broached the topic of fire safety in the bushland opposite the residences of Tinworth Avenue and he noted that this land is managed externally (outside of Council). Cr Taylor raised the question of notifications for fire hazard reductions and subsequent enforcement so that the community can feel confident that it will be cleaned-up prior to the forecasted hot summer.

Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, responded that notices to reduce fuel loads are scheduled to be issued on 14 November 2023. He offered to address specific properties if they are posing a concern to residents.

### **GB87/23 - Cr Ben Taylor**

Cr Ben Taylor noted the high traffic around Wiltshire Lane and Whitelaw Avenue. He said that the PTV use a bus stop on Whitelaw Avenue at the corner of James Drive for their buses to hold for scheduling purposes. The buses obscure the views of drivers exiting James Drive and is a safety concern. Cr Taylor noted that there have been a few calls from people regarding the dangers imposed by this obstructed view. He requested that Council asks PTV to look at alternate sites for stopping and waiting for scheduling purposes so that this bus stop is used only for passenger pick-up/drop-off.

### **GB88/23 - Cr Belinda Coates**

Cr Belinda Coates reported back from the Intercultural Advisory Committee, which met yesterday. The Committee received an update on the intercultural garden project, which they are excited about as it progresses this year and into next year. There was an update on a small partnerships project between Council and the local Filipino Association: community members are excited and grateful about the minor but important works proposed for Rizal Park in Invermay.

Cr Des Hudson, Mayor, later remarked that the Filipino Ambassador had written a letter of thanks for the support of the Rizal Park project.

Cr Coates mentioned the Diwali Festival that is happening at Federation University this Saturday night, which is an important intercultural Indian community event.

**GB89/23 - Cr Belinda Coates**

Cr Belinda Coates reported back from the Koorie Engagement Action Group (KEAG) meeting. They received a briefing on the Procurement Policy implementation and were pleased with its progress. The committee provided positive feedback on the first nations community engagement involved with the Biodiversity Strategy, and they are looking forward to how the Strategy progresses.

**GB90/23 - Cr Belinda Coates**

Cr Belinda Coates congratulated the partners involved on the Bunny Trail, which the Mayor launched yesterday. She commented that it is a great example of collaboration between community groups, different levels of government, and individuals that came together to open that section of tracks and trails. Cr Coates described how positive it was to have in-kind funding/support from two levels of government; to have Parks Victoria present at the launch, as well as a community member who gifted a part of her land, the Community Bank, Mt Clear Secondary College that have done plantings there, and cyclists from the U3A group and Ballarat Scenic Cyclists.

**GB91/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson said she enjoyed participating in the Intergenerational Ageless Playgroup at the Robert Clark Centre at the Botanical Gardens, which coincided with both Children's Week and the Seniors Festival. She was pleasantly surprised by the enormous number of people that attended. Cr Johnson said that she would love to see Council running a playgroup like that regularly, or at least increasing our support for playgroups within our community. She noted that while Council has a staff member who provides co-ordination of those supported playgroups, we don't currently have a staff member whose primary role is to support playgroups in our community, and there are lots of benefits associated with those playgroups.

She commended the organisation of the event and congratulated the Children and Family Services team and Julie from Ballarat Libraries, who was engaging and fun and put on activities and songs for the young people.

**GB92/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson gave a report from the Disability Advisory Committee. The committee was updated on the new Open Space Strategy, which is currently being developed, and highlighted the importance of considering and designing spaces for all community members, recognising the spread of open space options across the municipality, and how universal access needed to be considered in the selection of surfaces and materials throughout these areas. She said that the committee was pleased that so many of the staff from different from areas of the City of Ballarat are coming to the committee, such as to provide feedback once a report is completed or, in a very best-case scenario, prior to the pieces of work being developed. This was the case with the Open Space Strategy where community feedback was sought at the start, for which the committee was very grateful.

**GB93/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson reported that the Disability Advisory Committee urged Council to continue to advocate for improvements to the Ballarat bus network, particularly with regard to timetables and routes. She reasoned that public transport has the potential to improve connections for people with disabilities to their family and friends, with the community to service their needs including health services, to events and activities, and to education and employment. She emphasised that the importance of these connections cannot be overstated.

**GB94/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson noted that the Spilt Milk Festival was discussed at the recent Disability Advisory Committee meeting. People that rely on taxis/Ubbers to get around were inconvenienced that day due to the substantial number of visitors that were using them to get to-and-from the festival. She encouraged Council to work collaboratively with other organisations to ensure that festival attendees are getting to the festival in a way that minimises the impact on other services. Such measures may include providing buses that take people between the festival and different drop-off points across the city.

**GB95/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson provided a report from the MAV State Council. She wished to highlight one important matter in relation to Maternal and Child Health funding for Key Ages and Stages framework. Cr Johnson read the following motion that was moved at the MAV State Council:

*That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to review the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Key Ages and Stages (KAS) framework and associated historical funding model in which local and state governments equally fund the service, and seeks immediate action to rectify the funding shortfall through:*

- 1. Reviewing the KAS framework to ascertain the level of complexity, need and resources required to effectively assess the health and wellbeing of children and their families within the current environment where incidents of family violence, child abuse and mental illness are continuing to rise;*
- 2. Undertaking a sector wide analysis of the historical shared funding model in which local and state governments are required to equally fund the delivery of the service; and*
- 3. Consulting with local government to determine the level of additional funding required to be invested in local government by the Victorian Government as a result of the state's ongoing funding shortfall.*

Cr Johnson stated that there was a very similar motion moved at the previous meeting of MAV, which had additional points that were worth noting: an increasing the scope of the Key Ages and Stages; working with State Government on workforce retention and attraction to address workforce shortages; and requesting overall improvements to database functionality.

She read the rationale for the motion that was recited above:

*"It has been many years since there was a review of the Maternal and Child Health Key Ages and Stages. There has been an increase in complexity and needs for families receiving MCH, including but not limited to increase in mental health concerns and family*

*Violence. In addition to this, MCH services are being asked to provide more and more health promotion activities, without the increase in funding/time allotment.*

*MCH over the recent years has not been a 50:50 funding model (for which the MOU defines should be), with council continuing to provide more resources and support for the increase in needs and complexities of families. For this to be rectified, there is a requirement for consultation between local government and state government as to what the actual costs are that are incurred in the delivery of the MCH service."*

**GB96/23 - Cr Des Hudson**

Cr Des Hudson, Mayor, suggested that Matthew Wilson, Director Community Wellbeing, address the MAV State Council motion in relation to the City of Ballarat's maternal and child health services.

**GB97/23 - Cr Des Hudson**

Cr Des Hudson, Mayor, congratulated Cr Samantha McIntosh on receiving her 15-year continuous service award at the MAV Gala Dinner.

**GB98/23 - Cr Amy Johnson**

Cr Amy Johnson also noted that Cr Ben Taylor and Cr Mark Harris also received their 10-year continuous service awards at the same MAV Gala Dinner.

## 11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

## 12. SECTION 66 (IN CAMERA)

Nil

#### 8.4 TENDER 2022/23-616 MAJOR PATCHING AND ASPHALT RESURFACING - PANEL

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

(confidential information)

## 8.5 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Division:** Community Wellbeing  
**Director:** Matthew Wilson  
**Author/Position:** Nicky Davidge - Coordinator Community Development

(confidential information)

## 8.11 CONTRACTS APPROVAL DELEGATED COMMITTEE

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

(confidential information)

## 13. CLOSE

**The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8:45 pm.**

**Confirmed this**                      **day of**                      **2023.**

**Mayor**