



AGENDA
of the
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
To be held on
WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2015
in the
ALEXANDRA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
commencing at
6.00 pm

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1. PRAYER, OATH & RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**2. APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

REF: SF/306

A request for leave of absence has been received from Cr J Kennedy.

Recommendation:

That the request for leave of absence received from Cr J Kennedy be accepted.

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

REF: SF/783

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**4.1 QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL**

As this is a Special meeting to hear submissions to the Budget and Council Plan, there will be no questions of Council.

4.2 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS**5. OFFICER REPORTS****5.1 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR COUNCIL BUDGET 2015-2016**

REF: D15/6291

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with a summary of the submissions received in relation to the Council Budget 2015-2016.

Recommendation:

That Council considers the submission received in relation to the Council Budget 2015-2016.

Background:

At a Special Meeting of Council on 8 April 2015, the Draft 2015-2016 Budget was endorsed for public consultation in accordance with Section 127 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. Submissions were sought from the public and the budget documents were made available at Council Offices and on Council's website.

Advertisements were placed in the relevant weekly newspapers in the Shire, with submissions due by 5pm Thursday 14 May 2015.

At the time of preparing the agenda, one submission was received by Council.

Council Plan/Strategies:

This process is part of the required process for adoption of the 2015-2016 Council Budget.

Legal/Policy Issues:

The process complies with the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Financial/Resources/Risk

There are no financial considerations regarding the consideration of submissions.

Consultation:

The Council Budget 2015-2016 was advertised for public consultation and submissions in the following publications:

Newspaper / Other	Publishing Date (s)
Alexandra Standard	15-Apr-15
Yea Chronicle	15-Apr-15
Marysville Triangle	16-Apr-15
North Central Review	14-Apr-15
Website	14-Apr-15
Copies at Council offices: Alexandra, Kinglake, Yea and also Eildon Resource Centre & Marysville Visitor Information Centre	14-Apr-15

Discussion:

One submission was received in relation to the Draft 2015-2016 Budget.

Following consideration of the submission, the submitter will receive a reply in respect of the matters identified.

Summary of Submissions:

Submitter 1

The submission raises many questions, those specifically related to the budget include:

- What is the effective rate increase for fiscal year 2015-16 with the inclusion of the new differential rates (7.85%)?
- Where is it shown that 2% for funding existing and additional infrastructure maintenance and replacement is shown in the future funds accounting?
- What is the current equity held to enable the proposed budget deficit in the 2015-2016 year?
- What is the budgeted amount for additional review and savings from the proposed review of community and users of public facilities?

- What Calculation is being used for the proposed impact of rate capping and requirement that Council contains costs for non-essential services for 2015-16 fiscal year?
- How does Council propose to budget with only a stated 4% rate increase available for operating costs for 2015-16?
- Why has council refused to apply uniform rating instead of the 5 different levels of rate proposed?
- Why does Council apply the Municipal Charge for administrative costs, which is also part of, and factored into operating costs, whilst other Councils do not?
- How many rate assistance programs for disadvantaged or aged or unemployed ratepayers are currently in place?
- How many ratepayers are currently on concessions for payment of rates?
- Why is it that Council does not comply with Local Government Act S223 to require all submission available for public inspection and with names deleted?
- How does Council propose to contact all or every submission to the draft budget?

Conclusion:

It is appropriate that Council considers any submissions received for relevance and its influence on the Draft 2015-2016 Budget prior to adoption at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 May 2015.

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR COUNCIL PLAN 2013-2017 (INCLUDING STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN) SECOND YEAR REVIEW**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with a summary of the submissions received in relation to the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan.

Recommendation:

That this report be received.

Background:

On 8 April 2015, Council endorsed the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan for public consultation in accordance with Sections 125 and 126 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Submissions were sought from the public and the documents were made available at Council Offices and on Council's website. Advertisements were placed in the relevant weekly newspapers in the Shire.

Council Plan/Strategies:

This process is part of the required process for adoption of the 2013-2017 Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan.

Legal/Policy Issues:

The process complies with the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Financial/Resources/Risk

There are no financial considerations regarding the consideration of submissions.

Consultation:

The 2013-17 Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan were advertised for public consultation and submissions in the following publications:

Newspaper / Other	Publishing Date (s)
Alexandra Standard	15-Apr-15
Yea Chronicle	15-Apr-15
Marysville Triangle	16-Apr-15
North Central Review	14-Apr-15
Website	14-Apr-15
Copies at Council offices: Alexandra, Kinglake, Yea and also Eildon Resource Centre & Marysville Visitor Information Centre	14-Apr-15

Discussion:

At the time of preparing the agenda, no submissions were received in relation to the Draft 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and SRP.

Conclusion:

It is appropriate that Council gives consideration to formally adopting the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 May 2015.

6. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Should any confidential items be considered, the meeting is to be closed to members of the public as the discussion of the item is confidential pursuant to (Section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*) - any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.