



**Southern Grampians**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

# Council Meeting Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

13 July 2016

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## 1. Membership

### **Councillors**

Cr Peter Dark - Mayor  
Cr Albert Calvano  
Cr Paul Battista  
Cr Dennis Dawson  
Cr Bruach Colliton  
Cr Cathy Armstrong  
Cr Katrina Rainsford

### **Officers**

Mr Michael Tudball – Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Nola McFarlane – Acting Director Community and Corporate Services  
Mr Michael McCarthy – Director Shire Futures  
Mr David Moloney – Director Shire Infrastructure  
Ms Megan Kruger – Governance Coordinator

## 2. Acknowledgement of Country

## 3. Prayer

## 4. Apologies

## 5. Confirmation of Minutes

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 8 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

## 6. Declaration of Interest

## 7. Questions on Notice

Questions from the public must be submitted prior to the commencement of Council Meetings.

All questions must be submitted through completion of the Public Question Time form, and be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton. All questions must be received by no later than 5pm on the Monday before the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Questions must:

1. Not pre-empt debate on any matter listed on the agenda of the Ordinary Meeting at which the question is asked
2. Not refer to matters designated as confidential under the Local Government Act 1989.
3. Be clear and unambiguous and not contain argument on the subject.
4. Not be derogatory, defamatory or embarrassing to any Councillor, member of staff, ratepayer or member of the public, nor relate to a matter beyond the power of Council.

The Mayor will read the question and provide a response. If a question cannot be answered at the meeting, a written response will be prepared and forwarded to the person raising the question.

Residents do not need to attend the meeting for a question to be answered.

There are no Questions on Notice listed on tonight's agenda.

## 8. Public Deputations

Requests to make a Public Deputation to Council must be submitted prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting.

Anyone wishing to make a deputation to Council must complete the Request to Make a Deputation form and forward it to the Chief Executive Officer at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton no later than **2 days before the Ordinary Council Meeting**.

Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes per person. Organisations may be represented at the deputation to Council by not more than 4 representatives. The names of the representatives to attend must be advised in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and 1 of the representatives to attend must be nominated as the principal spokesperson for the deputation.

Deputations wishing to make a written submission to the Council must provide 15 copies of the submission to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the Ordinary Council Meeting. One copy will be made available to the local media representative, if requested.

All members of the public addressing the Council must extend due courtesy and respect to the Council and the processes under which it operates. If a member of the public fails to do this the Chairperson can remove them from the Chambers. All members of the public must also comply with Council's Public Participation at Council Meetings policy in relation to meeting procedures and public participation at meetings.

There are no Public Deputations listed on tonight's agenda.

## 9. Records of Assemblies of Councillors

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* to include Advisory Committees of Council if at least one Councillor is present or, a planned or scheduled meeting attended by at least half of the Councillors and one Council Officer that considers matters intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

Written records of Assemblies of Councillors must be kept and include the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

Pursuant to section 80A (2) of the Act, these records must be, as soon as practicable, reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

An Assembly of Councillors record was kept for:

- Advocacy Priorities Working Party – 7 June 2016

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That the record of the Assembly of Councillors be noted and incorporated in the Minutes of this Meeting.

# ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS



Southern Grampians  
Shire Council

ASSEMBLY DETAILS	
<b>Title:</b>	Advocacy Priorities Working Party
<b>Date:</b>	7 June, 2016
<b>Location:</b>	Market Place Meeting Room
<b>Councillors in Attendance:</b>	Cr Peter Dark, Cr Dennis Dawson, Cr Katrina Rainsford, Cr Bruach Colliton
<b>Council Staff in Attendance:</b>	Hugh Koch, Alison Quade, Michael McCarthy, Nola McFarlane, David Moloney, Sharon Clutterbuck

The Assembly commenced at 4.00pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED
<b>1</b>	Media	
<b>2</b>	Air Passenger Survey	
<b>3</b>	Grampians Way Ring Road	
<b>4</b>	Education	
<b>5</b>	Intermodal Hub	
<b>6</b>	Passenger Rail	

The Assembly concluded at 5.00pm

## 10. Management Reports

### 10.1 2016 Community Satisfaction Survey

**Directorate:** Chief Executive Officer

**Author:** Megan Kruger, Governance Coordinator

**Attachment:** 1. Community Satisfaction Survey

#### Executive Summary

Results of the 2016 Community Satisfaction Survey carried out by an independent market research consultancy, JWS Research, have been provided to Council.

Each year the Department of Land, Environment, Water and Planning (DELWP) coordinates and auspices this Community Satisfaction Survey throughout Victorian Local Government areas. This coordinated approach allows for far more cost effective surveying than would be possible if Councils commissioned surveys individually.

Participation in the Community Satisfaction Survey is optional and participating Councils have a range of choices as to the content of the questionnaire. However, some of the data required for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework are only available through this survey.

The main objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of Southern Grampians Shire Council across a range of measures and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery.

This report outlines the relevant and significant survey results and recommends they be noted by Council.

#### Discussion

As a result of feedback from extensive consultations with Councils, in 2012 there were necessary and significant changes to the methodology and content of the survey from previous years, including:

- 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 Southern Grampians Shire 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 Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark.

Comparisons between 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 results have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Wherever appropriate, results for Southern Grampians Shire Council for this 2016 Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other Councils in the Large Rural Shires group and on a State-wide basis. Southern Grampians Shire Council is classified as a Large Rural Shires Council.

Council's Overall Performance has declined by one point in 2016. The Overall Performance score of 52 is two points below the Large Rural average and 7 points below the State-wide average. Residents in the 18-34 age group were much more critical in 2016 with a drop of 15 points from 2015.

Community Consultation went down 1 point to 49. Advocacy remained the same on 49.

Making Community Decisions was the biggest improvement of all Performance Measurers for Council in 2016 going up 6 points to 50. This is on par with the Large Rural average and only 4 points below the State-wide average.

Sealed local roads declined 5 points from 41 to 36. This puts us 8 points below the Large Rural average and 18 points below the state-wide average. All groups, with the exception of 35 to 49 years olds', rated this more critically than in 2015. Again residents in the 18-34 year old age group were more critical with their scores dropped 16 points from 2015.

Customer Service also went down one point to 63. Overall Council Direction went up 3 points to 46.

Other than Making Community Decisions all of Council's Core Measure Index Score Results in 2016 are below both the Large Rural and State-wide averages.

## 2016 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES INDEX SCORE RESULTS

Performance Measures	Southern Grampians 2012	Southern Grampians 2013	Southern Grampians 2014	Southern Grampians 2015	Southern Grampians 2016	Large Rural 2016	State-wide 2016
<b>OVERALL PERFORMANCE</b>	52	58	57	53	<b>52</b>	54	59
<b>COMMUNITY CONSULTATION</b> (Community consultation and engagement)	48	55	57	50	<b>49</b>	52	54
<b>ADVOCACY</b> (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	49	53	57	49	<b>49</b>	50	53
<b>MAKING COMMUNITY DECISIONS</b> (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	n/a	n/a	52	44	<b>50</b>	50	54
<b>SEALED LOCAL ROADS</b> (Condition of sealed local roads)	n/a	n/a	36	41	<b>36</b>	44	54
<b>CUSTOMER SERVICE</b>	70	73	67	64	<b>63</b>	67	69
<b>OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION</b>	38	48	48	43	<b>46</b>	48	51

The highest scoring Individual Performance Measures are:

- Art Centres and Libraries – 75
- Emergency and Disaster Management – 70
- Elderly Support Services – 69
- Recreational Facilities – 68
- Family Support Services, Appearance of Public Areas & Enforcement of Local Laws – 67

Although these Individual Performance Measures all scored in the top 10 in 2015, all scores have actually gone down in 2015.

The weakest scoring Individual Performance Measures are:

- Sealed Roads – 36
- Unsealed Roads – 39
- Population Growth – 47
- Consultation and Engagement and Lobbying - 49
- Town Planning Policy, Planning and Building Permits & Community Decisions – 50

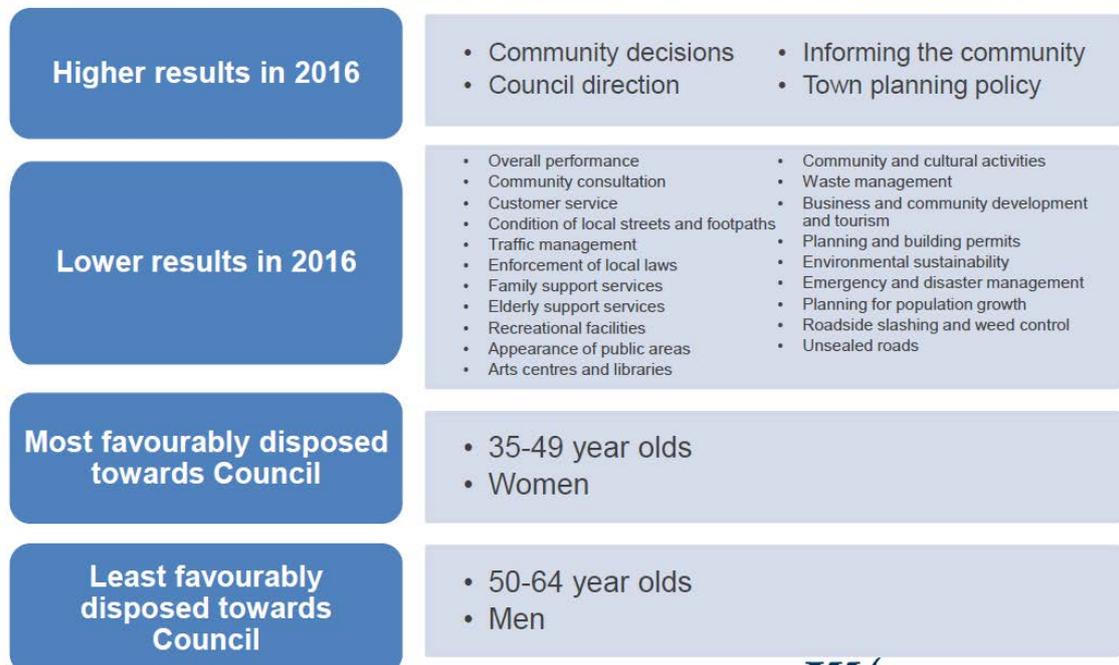
These Individual Performance Measures were in the bottom 10 in 2015. Although some of these scores have gone up slightly, and Community Decisions went up significantly, the performance of these areas is still a concern for the community in 2016.

Consistent with 2015, residents would prefer a service cut (49%) to rates rises (27%). 24% are undecided.

Council should also pay particular attention to the service areas where the gap between Importance and Performance is more than 20 points:

- Sealed Roads – 51 points
- Unsealed Roads – 42 points
- Consultation and Engagement – 27 points
- Condition of Local Streets and Footpaths – 24 points
- Business and Community Development and Tourism – 23 points
- Lobbying on Behalf of the Community – 22 points
- Informing the Community – 22 points
- Town Planning Policy – 20 points
- Planning for Population Growth – 20 points
- Slashing and Weed Control – 20 points

# KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



Men are still the Least Favourably Disposed Towards Council in 2016. As are those aged between 50-64 years of age.

In 2015 those aged 18 – 34 were Most Favourably Disposed Towards Council, in 2016 in is women and those aged between 35-49 years. In 2015 those aged between 35-49 years were Least Favourably Disposed Towards Council. This is a significant shift in the attitude of this age group towards Council.

There are many areas where the need for improvement has been identified. Particularly Sealed Roads, Unsealed Roads, Population Growth, Consultation and Engagement, Lobbying and Town Planning Policy which are in both the weakest scoring Individual Performance category and the gap of more than 20 points between Performance and Importance category.

More communication can be done in these areas to ensure that the community understands what Council is working on in these areas and what has been achieved.

Council’s Communication Strategies are currently being updated which will help to improve communication and engagement between the Council and the community.

The areas which have been identified for improvement, Community Consultation, Advocacy, Making Decisions in the Community and Customer service, will be reviewed by Council to ensure that these services are being delivered and communicated to the community is the best way. The results from this years’ survey indicate that Council needs to improve its communication to the community. A review will be undertaken of Council’s Communication Strategies together with some research into the best way to monitor Council’s performance in this area.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

There are no financial implications in the development of this Report.

There may be some resource implications based on the issues which have been identified in this report. Resources in relation to communication, engagement and service planning may be focused differently to ensure that the issues identified in this Report are a focus of the organisation for the next 12 months.

## **Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts**

Some of the results from this survey are used as part of the reporting under the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

The information is essential to future policy and strategy development and particularly service planning. It gives comparable data for several years over which Council can identify trends and areas which need attention.

The Community Satisfaction Survey relates to the first outcome in the 2013-2017 Council Plan - 1.1 - Soundly Based Decisions

## **Risk Management**

There is a risk to Council's reputation if attention is not paid to matters of community concern. Beyond the matters of specific services, the approach to the condition of local sealed roads is of clear concern. Whilst Council takes this feedback seriously regarding our local roads, we also have a strong advocacy role with the State & Federal road network which is arguably in a far worse condition than Council Local Roads and our residents cannot differentiate (nor should not) between local and other roads.

## **Environmental and Sustainability Considerations**

The adoption of the recommendations in this report do not have any environmental or sustainability impact.

Council received a score of 60 in the 2016 Community Satisfaction Survey on Environmental Sustainability, down three points from 2015. This performance is only marginally behind the Large-Rural and State-wide average. The community has placed an importance of 68 points on Environmental Sustainability. A gap score of 8 places the Performance Indicators in the lower risk category for Council.

## **Community Consultation and Communication**

A total of 400 completed interviews of residents aged 18+ were made in the Shire during the period 1 February to 30 March 2016.

The Community Satisfaction Survey results for 2016 will be released to the community.

## **Disclosure of Interests**

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council receive the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey Southern Grampians Shire Council Research Report 2016.
2. That Council communicate these results and identify ways of improving performance and communication in relation to the issues which have been identified.

## 10.2 Lake Hamilton Usage Policy

**Directorate:** Corporate and Community Services  
**Author:** Megan Kruger, Governance Coordinator

**Attachment:** 2. Lake Hamilton Usage Policy  
3. Submissions

### Executive Summary

Council's Community Local Law No. 1 of 2015 (the Local Law) was adopted on 9 December 2015.

Clause 85(3)(c) of the Local Law states that the usage times of Lake Hamilton can be set from time to time by Council resolution.

A draft Lake Hamilton Usage Policy (the Policy) has been developed and public consultation on the proposed Lake Hamilton usage times has been conducted.

This Report recommends the adoption of the Policy, subject to the approval of Maritime Safety Victoria.

### Discussion

Following the s223 advertisement of the Local Law a meeting was held with the Lake Hamilton User Groups on 20 October 2015 to discuss the proposed usage times contained in the Local Law. At this meeting users expressed concerns about the proposed usage times and proposed alternative usage times that would be more equitable. This alternative proposal became the subject of seven submissions in relation to the proposed Local Law. Two submitters spoke to Council objecting to the proposed usage times in the Local Law.

Following the high level of community interest in the proposed usage times in the draft Local Law, Council resolved, at its Meeting on 9 December 2015, to document the usage times in a Policy rather than the Local Law and to conduct further community consultation on the issue.

A draft Lake Hamilton Usage Policy (the advertised draft Policy) was developed based on the alternative usage proposal developed by the Lake Hamilton User Groups. This draft Policy was advertised, and submissions called for, on 17 December 2015.

The advertised draft Policy proposed the following usage times (in addition to the usage times in the Local Law):

In accordance with section 85(3)(c) the Lake Hamilton usage times are as follows:

1. Non-powered vessels may use the unrestricted area of Lake Hamilton:
  - a) Up until 10am every day; and
  - b) All day Tuesdays and Thursdays;
2. Powered vessels may use the unrestricted area of Lake Hamilton:
  - a) From 10am until sunset on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Up until 10am</b>	<b>From 10am</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels (until sunset)
<b>Tuesday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Non-powered vessels
<b>Wednesday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels (until sunset)
<b>Thursday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Non-powered vessels
<b>Friday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels (until sunset)
<b>Saturday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels (until sunset)
<b>Sunday and Public Holidays</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels (until sunset)

A community meeting was held on 3 February 2016 to discuss the advertised draft Policy. Both Lake Hamilton User Group members and community members attended to discuss the draft Policy.

Following this public consultation 15 submissions were received on the draft Policy:

- 3 in support of the draft Policy;
- 4 in support of the current odds and evens usage times;
- 5 suggesting alternative usage times;
- 3 commenting on the Lake and usage times, but making no recommendations (including 1 Petition).

The Petition that was received requested “that the Southern Grampians shire send the current draft back for review, and send out for residential approval. The uneven usage allowance should be reviewed and therefore should not be sent to the next stage.”

Following the Petition the draft Policy was readvertised, and submissions called for, on 26 March 2016.

A letter to residents whose properties face Lake Hamilton was also sent out, drawing their attention to the draft Policy and the proposed usage times.

Following this public consultation 6 submissions were received:

- 2 in support of the draft Policy (including 1 submission);
- 3 in support of the current odds and evens usage times;
- 1 commenting on the Lake and usage times, but making no recommendations.

In total 21 total submissions were received in relation to draft Policy:

- 5 in support of the draft Policy (including 1 petition);
- 7 in support of the current odds and evens usage times;
- 5 suggesting alternative usage times;
- 4 commenting on the Lake and usage times, but making no recommendations (including 1 Petition).

The submissions suggesting alternative times were focused on ensuring equal usage times between powered and non-powered vessels. All five submissions recommend that an additional weekday be dedicated to non-powered vessels to even the distribution of usage hours. Three submissions further asked for the usage time for non-powered vessels on weekends be increased from 10am until 12 noon.

Following the submissions received the advertised draft Policy was updated and the proposed times are as follows:

In accordance with section 85(3)(c) the Lake Hamilton usage times are as follows:

1. Non-powered vessels may use the unrestricted area of Lake Hamilton:
  - c) Up until 11am every day; and
  - d) All day Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays;
2. Powered vessels may use the unrestricted area of Lake Hamilton:
  - b) From 11am until sunset on Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Up until 11am</b>	<b>From 11am</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels
<b>Tuesday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Non-powered vessels
<b>Wednesday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Non-powered vessels
<b>Thursday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Non-powered vessels
<b>Friday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels
<b>Saturday</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels
<b>Sunday and Public Holidays</b>	Non-powered vessels	Powered vessels

3. If the lake is vacant users may access the lake outside of the usage times specified above, provided they immediately exit the lake when a designated vessel requires access.

The changes to the advertised draft Policy are as follows:

1. That non-powered vessels have exclusive use of Lake Hamilton until 11am each day, not 10am as was advertised;
2. That non-powered vessels have exclusive use of Lake Hamilton all day Wednesday. The advertised draft Policy had powered vessels using Lake Hamilton Wednesday afternoons;
3. The end time of until sunset has been removed as the time a vessels can be on a waterway is legislated and does not need to be repeated in Council's Policy.

An extra afternoon has been allocated for non-powered vessels in accordance with the feedback in the submissions. The morning time for non-powered vessels has been increased every day until 11am, rather than 10am during the week and 12 noon on weekends. This is to maintain consistency for users of the lake and to avoid confusion about what time powered vessels can access the lake.

The changes that have been made to the advertised draft Policy reflect the submissions received from the community, particularly a concern that the advertised draft Policy favoured powered vessels over non-powered vessels.

Therefore it is recommended Council adopt the attached Lake Hamilton Usage Policy which has been modified slightly compared to the draft Policy which was advertised.

Following adoption of the Policy by Council, the proposed changes to the usage times need to be approved by Maritime Safety Victoria. There is a requirement from Maritime Safety Victoria that any proposed changes must be subject to 4 weeks of public consultation. Given Council has already conducted extensive community consultation on the proposed usage changes, an exemption will be sought from Maritime Safety Victoria so that no further consultation is required.

Once the changes to the usage times are approved by Maritime Safety Victoria the changes will be advertised and the usage times signage at Lake Hamilton will be updated.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

There may be some minor financial and resource implications if Council and Maritime Safety Victoria approve the changes to the usage times due to the advertising of the changed times and the updating of the signage at Lake Hamilton.

### **Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts**

This Policy will be made in accordance with Clause 85(3)(c) of the Local Law. It will be a new Policy.

#### Council Plan:

##### Outcome 1.1 Soundly Based Decisions

Strategy 1.1.1 – Base decisions on the highest available level of professional advice and expertise.

Strategy 1.1.2 - Develop and enact policies, plans and strategies to ensure consistency in decision making.

##### Outcome 1.2 Sound Working Relationships and Strong Advocacy

Strategy 1.2.3 – Ensure that our actions contribute positively to sounds relationships and engagement with our local communities.

Strategy – 1.2.4 - Engage well with our communities on the issues important to their quality of life, health and wellbeing.

##### Outcome 4.1 Maintaining Community safety

Strategy 4.1.3 – Managing the regulatory environment to protect amenity and safety.

### **Risk Management**

Lake Hamilton is one of a small number of lakes in Victoria which has set usage times. This is due to the small size of the lake. The usage is split between non-powered and powered vessels to ensure equal access to the lake and to ensure safety for all users.

### **Environmental and Sustainability Considerations**

The Policy is seeking to achieve a balance between equitable use of Lake Hamilton for all users. The balance between non-powered and powered vessels was desired to ensure not only equitable use but to ensure noise and pollution concerns for residents and wildlife were taken into consideration.

### **Community Consultation and Communication**

Significant community consultation has been undertaken as detailed in Discussion above.

Following the adoption of the Policy by Council, and subsequent approval by Maritime Safety Victoria communication of the changes to the usage times will be communicated to the community through several avenues including notices in the Spectator and on Facebook. The Lake Hamilton User Groups, and all submitters will be notified of Council's decision. The signage at Lake Hamilton in relation to usage times will be updated.

**Disclosure of Interests**

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council adopt the Lake Hamilton Usage Policy, subject to approval by Maritime Safety Victoria.
2. That Council's Governance Coordinator be authorized to complete all documentation and do all things required by Maritime Safety Victoria to update the Waterway Rules for Lake Hamilton.

### 10.3 Proposed Street Name – Un-named road which runs east from Alexandra Parade to Foster Street Hamilton as Nolte Street Hamilton

**Directorate:** Shire Infrastructure

**Author:** Francis Pekin - Engineering Support Officer

**Attachments:** None

#### **Executive Summary**

The un-named road which runs east from Alexandra Parade to Foster Street Hamilton is causing confusion in regard to members of the public having difficulty in locating a local health business. In the interests of residents and community safety it is vital that addresses can be located, particularly in case of emergency.

It is recommended that Council advertise its intention to rename this street which runs from Alexandra Parade to Foster Street as Nolte Street, Hamilton and that submissions be invited on the proposal until Tuesday 16 August 2016.

#### **Discussion**

Gen Health, Hamilton has requested Council to rename the un-named street in which their property is located which runs from Alexandra Parade to Foster Street, Hamilton. The reason for this is they have clients and couriers who have difficulty finding their location because of the confusion with street names and that Google maps shows their address as Garton Street.

In the interest of residents and community safety it is vital that all authorities, particularly the Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigade are able to locate the correct addresses in case of an emergency. There is clearly potential for serious consequences if delays occur in attending to that emergency because the wrong address is attended or an address cannot be found.

The Hamilton History Centre has suggested three potential names:

**Nolte Street** – Joan Nolte commenced training at Hamilton Base Hospital in 1926 and became Acting Matron in 1938 and later Matron.

**Bullwinkle Street** – Vivian Bullwinkle who after training as a nurse and midwife in Broken Hill, she began her nursing career in Hamilton pre 1940 before moving to Melbourne in 1940.

**Govett Street** - Dr Edward Govett who qualified as a practitioner in England in 1847, he arrived in Hamilton approx. 1853, his wife and children arrived later. Dr Govett and Dr Stevenson were appointed the first medical officers in Hamilton in February 1863. He became Mayor of Hamilton in 1866/67 after Alexander Learmonth but relinquished the position a year later back to Learmonth.

This issue needs to be resolved and it is suggested that a suitable option would be to name this street as Nolte Street.

There is one property affected by this proposal which will require a property address change which is the property occupied by Gen Health.

There are two properties on either side of the affected property which front Alexandra Parade and Foster Street respectively who have offered no objection to the naming of the street.

#### MAP



#### Financial and Resource Implications

There are costs associated with the preparation of reports, community liaison, advertising, administrative actions and statutory procedures to be undertaken.

#### Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

Under the Local Government Act 1989 (Schedule 10, Clause 5) Council may approve, assign or change the name of any street or road within its Municipal District. In exercising this power it must act in accordance with the guidelines in force for the time being under the Geographical Place Names Act 1998.

There are two sections of the Council Plan which relate to this matter:

**Strategy 1.2.3**

Ensure that our actions contribute positively to sound relationships and engagement with our local communities.

**Strategy 4.1.2**

Managing infrastructure to maximise community safety.

The proposal conforms to the principles outlined in Section 1.8 Ensuring Public Safety of the Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010 (V2 Jan 2013). The proposed name will overcome any confusion that currently exists between relevant authorities and will ensure there are no delays as a result of the change

**Risk Management**

There is a potential risk of liability attaching to Council if it does not take positive action to address this safety issue as outlined in Discussion above.

**Environmental and Sustainability Considerations**

Not applicable.

**Community Consultation and Communication**

Council staff telephoned the adjoining property owners regarding the proposal who offered no objection.

Public notice will be advertised in the Spectator on Saturday 16 July 2016. Submissions will be received by 5pm Tuesday 16th August 2016.

The property owner with land affected by this proposal will be advised by letter.

**Disclosure of Interests**

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That public notice be given of Council's intention to name the un-named street which runs east from Alexandra Parade to Foster Street as Nolte Street, Hamilton.
2. That submissions be invited on the proposal until 5 pm Tuesday 16 August 2016.

## 10.4 Potential introduction of Kerbside Collection Service: Cavendish Township

**Directorate:** Shire Infrastructure

**Author:** Francis Pekin – Engineering Support Officer

**Attachments:** None.

### Executive Summary

Southern Grampians Shire Council does not currently operate a kerb side waste collection program in Cavendish. Until recently this was undertaken under a private agreement between the resident and a third party contractor in order to collect the waste. The private contractor has now advised residents that the weekly collection of waste is not financially viable and will only offer a monthly collection service.

On receiving this advice several residents of Cavendish approached Council to request if Cavendish be included in the Council's contracted kerb side collection contract. After discussions with the Council's contractor they advised if they were to undertake the work there would need to be a mandatory collection in the town to make it viable to collect the waste.

A survey was undertaken with 56% of respondents in favour of a mandatory kerb side collection service. The indicate cost of the service is \$230 p.a. which will also include the pickup of recyclable materials which will have an environmental benefit as recent data on the council waste streams shows that 58.5% of waste picked up is recyclable material reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

### Discussion

Cavendish and Branxholme are the only townships in the Shire that are not offered a collection service.

Until recently this was undertaken under a private agreement between the resident and a third party contractor in order to collect the waste. The private contractor has now advised residents that the weekly collection of waste is not financially viable and will only offer a monthly collection service as of the 30 June 2016.

Council has previously surveyed residents however there was insufficient support for the introduction of a service at that time.

On receiving this advice several residents of Cavendish approached Council to request if Cavendish be included in the Council's contracted kerb side collection contract. After discussions with the Council's contractor they advised if they were to undertake the work there would need to be a mandatory collection in the town to make it viable to collect the waste.

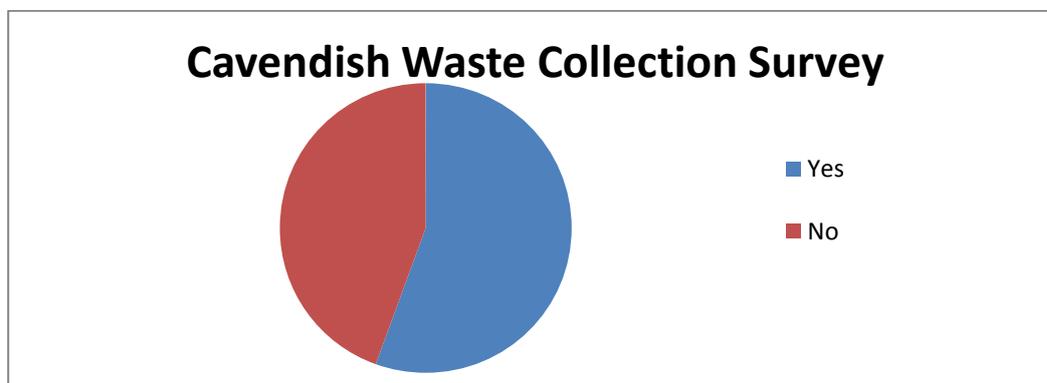
A survey was developed and sent to the residents in Cavendish to gain community feedback regarding the potential to introduce a mandatory kerbside collection service for Cavendish. There were 84 properties which received letters including those with vacant lots or with sheds.

The results of the latest resident survey responses are as follows:

Thirty six responses:

20 Yes

16 No



Cavendish Primary School has also requested that they be included in the proposed kerbside service should it be introduced.

The residents in the proposed service areas either use a private contractor which does not separate waste and recycling or dispose of waste at the transfer station.

Increasing recycling is a key objective of council as it will reduce the impact on waste going to landfill. Council data has indicated that providing recycling bins in the kerb side waste collection service reduces the volume of waste going to landfill by 58.5%. This reduction will assist in reducing Council EPA payments, operating and capital costs and extend the life of the landfill.

The introduction of a service would need to be mandatory (in the township zones) to ensure the service is viable for the contractor.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

There are costs associated with the preparation of reports, community liaison, advertising, administrative actions and statutory procedures to be undertaken.

The service if introduced will be delivered on a full cost recovery basis. The waste service (120 litre bin) would be weekly and the recycle service (240 litre bin) fortnightly.

The cost to residents will be two bins (1 waste & 1 recycle) at \$85 each totally \$170.00 plus a Service Charge for the collection and disposal of waste and recyclable materials of \$230.00 for 2016/17. As the introduction of the service would be mandatory, the cost of the bins and the service would be all charged on their rates. The introduction of the kerbside collection is expected to reduce the waste taken at the transfer station and therefore the income generated at the transfer station.

There will be a minor increase in the income from recyclable materials which Council currently sells to Visy.

## Legislation, Council Plan and Policy Impacts

The Council Plan 2013-17 under managing environmental security includes the strategy: "Increase the volume of recycled materials through continued community education programs".

## Risk Management

There is no financial risk to Council. The proposal would increase the amount of recyclable materials collected in the Council area and divert it from going to landfill.

## Environmental and Sustainability Considerations

The current private contractor does not provide recycling services. Anecdotal evidence at the transfer station indicates some residents are taking recyclables to the transfer stations.

There are social, economic and environmental benefits from introducing the service.

### Social

Implementation of a service would improve the service available to residents and provide the opportunity for all households in Cavendish to recycle.

### Economic

The service will be undertaken by the Shire contractor which ensures that Council and ratepayers are provided with an efficient and cost effective service via volume of waste collection.

### Environmental

The proposal will:

- Recover resources (plastic, metals, glass and paper) that would otherwise be buried
- Leading to wastage and methane emissions.
- Ensure that waste is disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- Increase recycling reducing waste going to landfill.

## Community Consultation and Communication

A letter and survey form was sent to property owners at Cavendish.

The kerbside collection service has previously been raised in community liaison meetings.

Letters will be distributed to affected ratepayers and a media release prepared on the outcome of the survey and kerb side collection program.

## Disclosure of Interests

All Council Officers involved in the development and advice provided in this Report affirm that no direct or indirect interests need to be declared in relation to any matters in this Report.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council introduce a mandatory kerbside collection service for residents in the Cavendish Township.

## 11. Notices of Motion

### 11.1 Notice of Motion # 8/16

Cr Rainsford

I hereby give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 13 July 2016

#### MOTION

That Southern Grampians Shire Council make representation to the Municipal Association of Victoria and work with Rural and Regional Councils to seek clarification on the future management of the Country Fire Authority and transparency on the management of the Fire Services Levy collected on behalf of the State Government through Local Government Rate Notices.

#### **Background**

Southern Grampians Shire Ratepayers contributed 2.5 million in Fire Services Levies in 2015.

The Fire services Levy was increased by 7.5 percent from the first year of introduction. Councils and FSL rate years are not aware yet what the increase if any in the Fire Services Levy for 2016.

Neither are rural communities aware of how their CFA is going to be managed after the State Government sacked their own Emergency Services Minister Jane Garrett and removed the whole CFA. Board and the Chief Executive Officer when, based on legal advice and volunteer CFA member concerns, they would not agree to implementing the most recent Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.

Whatever is really happening the community has lost confidence in the management of THEIR CFA, and I feel we through the MAV should make representation on our community's behalf.

I have flagged that Local Government should investigate withholding the Fire Services Levy across the State until there is both volunteer and paid employee combined support for a management and response model that gives confidence to rural and regional communities across Victoria. How much is collected annually in Fire Services Levies? Where is the transparency in expenditure? How do FSL ratepayers make representation on how their funds are spent? Withholding funds is dramatic and not likely to gain support for legal reasons, but we can make the public more aware of how much is being collected across the State and seek for better representation on the management of the communities' funds.

As elected Victorian Shire Councillors, our budgets are closely scrutinised. We provide draft budgets and seek community feedback. We are required to be transparent, accountable, and responsive to our communities. And we are now required to do this within a 2.5 % overall rate cap.

We are also required to oversee the Southern Grampians Municipal Emergency Management Plans. Front and centre to our community safety is our emergency response

capacity particularly with respect to fires. The successful operation of the CFA and continued support of the tens of thousands of local CFA volunteers is essential to the continued wellbeing of rural Victoria.

### **Officers Comments**

From 1 July 2013, the Victorian Government replaced the insurance-based fire services levy, as recommended by the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. Rather than contributing through insurance premiums, a property-based levy is now collected with council rates.

According to the Victorian State Government the Fire Services Property Levy (FSPL) funds vital lifesaving equipment, firefighters, staff and volunteers, training, infrastructure and community education. All revenue collected through the Fire Services Property Levy goes to supporting the State's fire services.

### Fire Services Property Levy Act 2012 (Extract relevant clauses to Local Government)

Purpose The purpose of this Act is to— (a) impose a fire services property levy on all land in Victoria, unless specifically exempted, to fund the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board and the Country Fire Authority; and (b) provide for the appointment of each Council as a collection agency in respect of its municipal district; and (c) enable the Minister to direct a Council to be a collection agency in respect of land not located in its municipal district; and (d) enable a collection agency to collect the fire services property levy; and (e) to provide for the Commissioner of State Revenue— (i) to receive the fire services property levy collected by collection agencies and pay it into the Consolidated Fund;

Collection agency means a Council— (a) appointed to collect levy in respect of leviable land in its municipal district including leviable land owned by the Council; (b) directed by the Minister to be the collection agency in respect of non-rateable leviable land outside the municipal district of the Council;

Division 3—Collection agency returns and payment of levy to Commissioner

40 Returns to be submitted to the Commissioner A collection agency must submit a return to the Commissioner—

(a) in a form approved by the Commissioner; and (b) in accordance with any directions issued by the Minister.

41 Payment of collected levy to Commissioner (1) A collection agency must pay all levy amounts and levy interest received under this Part to the Commissioner in 4 instalments.

### Management of CFA (Country Fire Authority)

The CFA is established under legislation as a Statutory Authority, CFA Act 1958 (as amended) governed by Government-appointed Board and responsible to the Minister for Emergency Services.

An appointed Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation and a Chief (Fire) Officer with legislative fire prevention and preparedness responsibilities.

## 12. Delegated Reports

## 13. Confidential Matters

There are no Confidential Matters.

## 14. Close of Meeting

This concludes the business of the meeting.