



WELLINGTON

SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

Council Meeting Agenda

Meeting to be held at

Port of Sale Business Centre

Foster Street, Sale

Tuesday 4 July 2017, commencing at 3pm

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ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – 4 JULY 2017

AGENDA & TABLE OF CONTENTS

	ITEM	PAGE NUMBER
A	PROCEDURAL	
A1	STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PRAYER	
A2	APOLOGIES	
A3	DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST	
A4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING	7
A5	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/S	8
A6	ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS	9
A7	NOTICES OF MOTION	10
	ITEM A7(1) Notice of Motion Councillor Stephens – Closure ANZ Bank Yarram	11
A8	RECEIVING OF PETITIONS OR JOINT LETTERS	12
	ITEM A8(1) Outstanding Petitions	13
A9	INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	14
A10	QUESTIONS ON NOTICE	15
B	REPORT OF DELEGATES	16
C	OFFICERS' REPORT	
	C1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	17
	ITEM C1.1 PORT OF SALE BRANDING	18
	C2 GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES	23
	ITEM C2.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS	24
	ITEM C2.2 AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES	29
	C3 GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT	37

	C4 GENERAL MANAGER BUILT & NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	38
	C5 GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE	39
	ITEM C5.1 WELLINGTON COMMUNITY EARLY YEARS PLAN 2017 - 2021	40
D	URGENT BUSINESS	63
E	FURTHER GALLERY AND CHAT ROOM COMMENTS	63
F	CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS	64
	ITEM F1.1 AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE - MINUTES	65
G	IN CLOSED SESSION	66
	ITEM G1.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – PLANNING MATTER	67



Council Meeting Information

Members of the Public Gallery should note that the Council records and publishes Council meetings via Webcast to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Wellington community. These recordings are also archived and may be published on Council's Website for viewing by the public or used for publicity or information purposes. At the appropriate times during the meeting, members of the gallery may address the Council at which time their image, comments or submissions will be recorded.

Members of the public who are not in attendance at the Council meeting but who wish to communicate with the Council via the webcasting chat room should lodge their questions or comments early in the meeting to ensure that their submissions can be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

Please could gallery visitors and Councillors ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.



A - PROCEDURAL



STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

***“We acknowledge the traditional custodians
of this land the Gunaikurnai people,
and pay respects to their elders past and present”***



PRAYER

***“Almighty God, we ask your blessing upon the Wellington
Shire Council, its Councillors, officers, staff and their families.***

***We pray for your guidance in our decisions so that the
true good of the Wellington Shire Council may result to
the benefit of all residents and community groups.”***

Amen



A - PROCEDURAL

A4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING/S

ITEM A4**ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING/S**

ACTION OFFICER:

GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

DATE:

4 JULY 2017

OBJECTIVE

To adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 20 June 2017.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 20 June 2017.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a Conflict of Interest.



A - PROCEDURAL

A5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/S



A - PROCEDURAL

A6 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS



A - PROCEDURAL

A7 NOTICE/S OF MOTION

ITEM A7(1)**NOTICE OF MOTION – CLOSURE ANZ BANK YARRAM**

OFFICER:

COUNCILLOR GARRY STEPHENS

DATE:

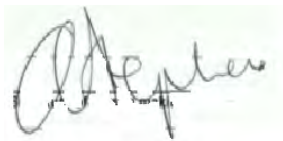
28 JUNE 2017

I, Councillor Garry Stephens, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 4 July 2017.

That the Mayor write to the (appropriate recipient in the) ANZ Bank expressing Council's disappointment with the closure announcement. Further, Council has not been consulted or advised of this decision and we now seek urgent advice from the ANZ Bank on what options might be available to retain a presence in the Yarram township.

Background

The Yarram community has been informed that the ANZ Bank branch in Yarram will permanently close its doors on Wednesday, 27th September 2017

**Councillor Garry Stephens****Dated: 28 June 2017**



A - PROCEDURAL

A8 RECEIVING OF PETITIONS OR JOINT LETTERS

ITEM A8(1)**OUTSTANDING PETITIONS**

ACTION OFFICER

GOVERNANCE

DATE:

4 JULY 2017

ITEM	FROM MEETING	COMMENTS	ACTION BY
NIL			



A - PROCEDURAL

A9 INVITED ADDRESSES, PRESENTATIONS OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



A - PROCEDURAL

A10 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE



B –REPORT

DELEGATES



C1 - REPORT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ITEM C1.1**PORT OF SALE BRANDING**

DIVISION: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 ACTION OFFICER: EXECUTIVE MANAGER MAJOR PROJECTS
 DATE: 4 JULY 2017

IMPACTS									
Financial	Communication	Legislative	Council Policy	Council Plan	Resources & Staff	Community	Environmental	Consultation	Risk Management
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this report is to recommend Council adoption of a new branding system for the Port of Sale precinct and main entities as included in Attachment A.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the branding system for the Port of Sale precinct and main entities as included in Attachment A of this Council report.

BACKGROUND

The historical name of the precinct is the Port of Sale. As part of a 2004 major redevelopment project, the Port of Sale was branded with an associated logo, font type and colour and signed on road approaches and at precinct entry points.

A Council workshop on 15 November 2016 informed Councillors of upcoming consultation and engagement of consultants to consider naming options and recommendations for new branding of the precinct and its buildings, facilities, features and services.

Branding and graphic design consultants, *The View From Here* and *Design By Pidgeon*, were engaged in November 2016 to undertake a review of naming and branding history and considerations, undertake stakeholder consultation and present naming recommendations to Council.

The following naming recommendations were adopted formally by Council:

Entity	Current Name	Recommended Name
Areas both sides of the Sale Swing Basin bordered by Park Street to the west, Foster Street to the north, Raymond St to the east and Punt Lane to the south-east	Port of Sale	Port of Sale '... at the Port'
Entertainment Centre	Esso BHP-Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre	The Wedge
New cultural hub	Port of Sale Cultural Hub	The Wellington Centre
- art gallery	Gippsland Art Gallery	Gippsland Art Gallery
- library	Sale Community Library	Sale Library

- Council Chamber	Wellington Room	Wellington Room
- visitor information centre	Wellington Visitor Information Centre	Sale Visitor Centre
- café	N/A – new service (known as Seed Cafe during project development)	Dock 70
Skate park area	Sale Skate Park Cullinan Park	Sale Skate Park Cullinan Park

Upon adoption of names for the precinct and main entities of the precinct, work commenced with project consultants to develop a brand with associated logo, colour, font, materials and text for use in various promotion and marketing materials including signage for the new cultural hub and redeveloped precinct.

A branding system has been developed and was presented to Councillors at a workshop on 16 May 2017.

BRANDING SYSTEM

The new brand is a system made up of a specific font and typeface family and a colour scheme which have been customised to allow for and identify the different entities in the Port precinct incorporating longstanding names and logos. A new logo for the Port made up of the naming words, 'Port of Sale' has been developed and logos for the other entities have been largely retained.

See Attachment A to this report for images showing the branding system including fonts, typeface family and logos suite.

The branding consultants have tested the use of the branding system across a variety of potential applications including external and internal signage, printed and electronic publications, uniforms and merchandise. Decisions as to potential applications are yet to be worked through and will involve consultation with the building architect, Council's heritage advisor, advisory groups and the buildings' service providers (staff and management).

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Adopt the branding system for the Port of Sale precinct and main entities as included in Attachment A of this Council report.
2. Request development and presentation of alternative branding recommendations for the Port of Sale precinct and main entities.

PROPOSAL

1. That Council adopt the branding system for the Port of Sale precinct and main entities as included in Attachment A of this Council report.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a Conflict of Interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for this consultancy project is included in the 2016/17 Council budget as adopted by Council and funding for new precinct and cultural hub signage is included in the capital works program as adopted by Council as part of the Port of Sale Cultural Hub and Port precinct redevelopment projects.

COMMUNICATION IMPACT

Community consultation outcomes from processes undertaken for the Port of Sale Cultural Hub and the Port precinct redevelopment projects were provided to the project consultants for review with respect to the community's vision for the precinct. Historical documentation regarding the precinct and current naming and branding documentation for all entities in the precinct were also provided to the project consultants. After completing their review of documentation regarding current redevelopment projects, history of current names and status quo naming and branding arrangements, consultation regarding naming and branding was undertaken with key stakeholder groups who have been working with Council on the redevelopment projects including the project's community-based steering group. All names identified in this report were tested with stakeholder groups during the consultation and were generally supported. The branding system has been presented to key stakeholder groups:

- the Port project community steering group
- art gallery advisory group
- entertainment centre advisory group
- all staffing groups to provide services in the buildings including the art gallery, library, visitor centre, café and Council chamber, and
- the broader Wellington staff.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

This report is in accordance with Section 91(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

Naming of places may be considered by Council's Place Naming Committee as delegated by Council. Branding guidelines to be developed as a result of the branding system being adopted will be incorporated in to Council's overarching branding and corporate style guidelines and documents to ensure consistent use of the branding system in to the future. There were no Council policy impacts identified in the writing of this report.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2017-21 Theme 2 Services & Infrastructure states the following strategic objective and related strategy:

Strategic Objectives 2.2

Council assets are responsibly, socially, economically and sustainably managed..

Strategy 2.2.1

Develop asset management plans in conjunction with service level plans for all council facilities and infrastructure.

Strategy 2.2.2

Ensure that community facilities within the municipality continue to meet the expectations and service needs of all current and future residents. .

Strategy 2.2.3

Continue to maintain and enhance Council's built environment for public amenity and long term sustainability.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

Ongoing use of the branding system will be absorbed within current resources and staff skill sets.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

There has been stakeholder engagement and general support for the branding system with some feedback mainly relating to the need for consultation around potential applications of the branding system which will be undertaken in the next phase of the project regarding development of a signage strategy and graphic design of signage. The entertainment centre advisory group felt that it would be preferable to use the words 'The Wedge' rather than the stylised curtain 'W' logo which can easily be accommodated within the branding system.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There were no environmental impacts identified in the writing of this report.

CONSULTATION IMPACT

Targeted stakeholder engagement undertaken for the naming and branding phases of the project will be continued in the following signage project.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

There were no risk management impacts identified in the writing of this report.

ATTACHMENT 1 – PORT PRECINCT BRANDING SYSTEM

Logo

PORT
OF
SALE

PORT
OF
SALE

Across the entire range of locations

PORT
OF
SALE

DOCK
70



SALE
VISITOR
CENTRE

SALE
LIBRARY

THE
WEDGE



GIPPSLAND
ART GALLERY

PORT
SKATE
PARK

CULLINAN
PARK

THE
WELLINGTON
CENTRE

BORUN &
TUK
WALK

Comparing the logo suite

PORT
OF
SALE



70

SALE
LIBRARY



THE
WEDGE



C2 - REPORT

GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

ITEM C2.1**ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS**

DIVISION: CORPORATE SERVICES

ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

DATE: 4 JULY 2017

IMPACTS									
Financial	Communication	Legislative	Council Policy	Council Plan	Resources & Staff	Community	Environmental	Consultation	Risk Management

OBJECTIVE

To report on all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 13 June 2017 to 27 June 2017.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note and receive the attached Assembly of Councillor records for the period 13 June 2017 to 27 June 2017.

BACKGROUND

Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires a written record be kept of all assemblies of Councillors, stating the names of all Councillors and Council staff attending, the matters considered and any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor. These records must be reported, as soon as practicable, at an ordinary meeting of the Council and recorded in the minutes.

Below is a summary of all assembly of Councillor records received for the period 13 June 2017 to 27 June 2017.

Assembly of Councillors summary of reports received for the period 13 June 2017 to 27 June 2017.

Date	Matters considered	Councillors and officers in attendance
20 June 2017	IT / Diary Meeting	Cr Crossley, Cr Maher, Cr Stephens, Cr Mills, Cr McCubbin, Cr Bye, Cr Hole Sharon Willison, Mayoral / Councillor Support Officer (Item 1) Damian Norkus, Information Technology Officer (Item 1)
20 June 2017	Towards Zero Road Safety Action Plan Sale Alternate Truck Route – VicRoads Planning Process Monthly Planning Update (Verbal Update) Offshore Energy Project Access & Inclusion Plan 2017 – 2021 Municipal Public Health Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021	Cr Crossley, Cr Maher, Cr Stephens, Cr Mills, Cr McCubbin, Cr Bye, Cr Hole Chris Hastie, Acting Chief Executive Officer Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services Glenys Butler, General Manager Community & Culture John Websdale, General Manager Development Joshua Clydesdale, Manager Land Use Planning (Item 3) John Traa, Coordinator Statutory Planning (Item 3) Vanessa Ebsworth, Manager Municipal Services (Item 3) Barry Nicholl, Coordinator Strategic Planning (Item 3) Karen McLennan, Manager Community Wellbeing (Item 5 & 6) Catherine Vassiliou, Coordinator Social Planning & Policy (Item 5 & 6)

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Note and receive the attached assembly of Councillors records; or
2. Not receive the attached assembly of Councillors records.

PROPOSAL

That Council note and receive the attached assembly of Councillors records received during the period 13 June 2017 to 27 June 2017.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a Conflict of Interest.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The reporting of written records of assemblies of Councillors to the Council in the prescribed format complies with Section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2017-21 Theme 6 Organisational states the following strategic objective and related strategy:

Strategic Objective 6.3

Maintain a well governed, transparent, high performing, ethical and accountable organisation.

Strategy 6.3.3

“Ensure sound governance processes that result in responsive, ethical, transparent and accountable decision making.”

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic objective and strategy.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

1. DATE OF MEETING:

20 June 2017

2. ATTENDEES:

Councillors:

Name	In attendance (tick)		Name	In attendance (tick)	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Cr Bye	✓		Cr Maher	✓	
Cr Crossley	✓		Cr Mills	✓	
Cr Hall <i>(Canberra)</i>		✓	Cr Rossetti <i>(Leave)</i>		✓
Cr Hole	✓		Cr Stephens	✓	
Cr McCubbin	✓				

Officers In Attendance:

Name	In attendance (tick)		Name	In attendance (tick)	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
D Morcom, CEO		✓	G Butler, GML	✓	
C Hastie, Acting CEO	✓		J Websdale, GMD	✓	
A Skipitaris, GMCS	✓				

Others in attendance: (list names and item in attendance for)

Name	Item No.
Sharon Willison	1
Damian Norkus	1

3. Matters/Items considered at the meeting (list):

1. IT/Diary Meeting - Councillors

4. Conflict of Interest disclosures made by Councillors:

Nil

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

1. DATE OF MEETING:

20 June 2017

2. ATTENDEES:

Councillor Names	In attendance (tick)		Name	In attendance (tick)	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Cr Bye	✓		Cr Maher	✓	
Cr Crossley	✓		Cr Mills	✓	
Cr Hall (<i>Canberra</i>)		✓	Cr Rossetti (<i>Leave</i>)		✓
Cr Hole	✓		Cr Stephens	✓	
Cr McCubbin	✓				

Officer Names	In attendance (tick)		Name	In attendance (tick)	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
D Morcom, CEO (<i>Canberra</i>)		✓	G Butler, GMCC	✓	
A Skipitaris, GMCS	✓		John Websdale, GMD	✓	
C Hastie, Acting CEO	✓				

Others in Attendance (list names and item in attendance for):	Item No.
Nathan Matthews (<i>Towards Zero</i>)	1
Chris Padovan (<i>VicRoads Team Leader – Integrated Transport & Land Use</i>)	2
Josh Clydesdale, John Traa, Vanessa Ebsworth, Barry Nicholl	3
Terry Kallis (<i>Chairman Offshore Energy Pty Ltd</i>)	4
Karen McKLennan, Catherine Vassiliou	5
Karen McKLennan, Catherine Vassiliou	6

3. Matters / Items considered at the meeting (list):

1. Towards Zero Road Safety Action Plan – Princes Highway; Sale to Bairnsdale
2. Sale Alternate Truck Route - VicRoads Planning Process
3. Monthly Planning Update (Verbal Update)
4. Offshore Energy Project
5. Access & Inclusion Plan 2017-2021
6. Municipal Public Health Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021

4. Conflict of Interest disclosures made by Councillors:

N/A

ITEM C2.2**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES**

DIVISION: CORPORATE SERVICES
ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
DATE: 4 JULY 2017

IMPACTS									
Financial	Communication	Legislative	Council Policy	Council Plan	Resources & Staff	Community	Environmental	Consultation	Risk Management
		✓		✓					✓

OBJECTIVE

To receive and note the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 2 June 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council receive and note the minutes in brief (Attachment 1) and the confidential attachment at Item F1.1 Audit & Risk Committee Minutes of 2 June 2017; and***
- 2. The information contained in the confidential attachment Item F1.1 Audit & Risk Committee Minutes of 2 June 2017 of this Council meeting agenda and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the General Manager Corporate Services on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989: f) legal advice; and h) any other matter which the Council considers would prejudice the Council or any person; be designated confidential information under Section 77 Clause (2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.***

BACKGROUND

Council maintains an Audit & Risk Committee in accordance with Section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Audit & Risk Committee is an independent advisory Committee to Council and its primary objective is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for financial reporting, management of risk, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and facilitating the organisation's ethical development. Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee are reported direct to Council.

A copy of the minutes in brief from the Audit & Risk Committee meeting of 2 June 2017 can be found at Attachment 1 of this report and is provided for the information of Council and the public in general.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. To receive and note the minutes from the Audit & Risk Committee Meeting of 2 June 2017; or
2. To seek further information and consider the minutes at a future meeting.

PROPOSAL

To receive and note the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 2 June 2017.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a Conflict of Interest.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The *Local Government Act 1989*, section 139(1) requires Council to establish an audit committee. Council's Audit & Risk Committee is an Advisory Committee to Council and operates within the Terms of Reference and Charter adopted by Council.

The Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference require the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee to be forwarded to an ordinary meeting of the Council, including a report explaining any specific recommendations and key outcomes. The Audit & Risk Committee is also required to report annually to the Council summarising the activities of the Committee during the previous financial year.

This report complies with the legislative requirements and the Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference requirements.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The Council Plan 2017–2021 Theme 6 Organisational states the following strategic objective and related strategy:

Strategic Objective

"Maintain a well governed, transparent, high performing, ethical and accountable organisation."

Strategy 6.3.3

"Ensure sound governance processes that result in responsive, ethical, transparent and accountable decision making."

This report supports the above Council Plan strategic objective and strategy.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

The Audit & Risk Committee Charter identifies the management of risk as one of the primary objectives of the Audit & Risk Committee. The Audit & Risk Committee monitors the risk exposure of Council by determining if management has appropriate risk management processes and adequate management information systems in place.

**MINUTES IN BRIEF OF WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE
MEETING ON FRIDAY 2 JUNE 2017**

Present: Mr Peter Craighead
Mr Chris Badger
Councillor Garry Stephens

In attendance: Mr Arthur Skipitaris (General Manager Corporate Services)
Mr Ian Carroll (Manager Corporate Finance)
Mr Deryck Tindall (Crowe Horwath)
Mr Simon Alleaume (Coordinator Risk Management)
Mrs Sheryl Saynor (Executive Support Officer)

1. **Welcome -**

2. **Apologies -** Councillor Alan Hall, Mr Joel Churchill

3. **Closure of Meeting to Public:-**

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the meeting be closed to the public under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 to discuss legal advice and any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

CARRIED

4. **Declaration of Conflict(s) of Interest:-**
Nil

5. **Adoption of Previous Minutes – 27 February 2017:-**

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 February 2016.

CARRIED

6. **Action Items from Previous Minutes**

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

7. Questions on Notice

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

8. External Audit Strategy

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

9. Step Asset Management Program Scorecard

The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to table this item again at the next meeting and invite a staff member to attend.

10. Internal Audit Plan

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

11. Internal Audit Report - Occupational Health and Safety

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

12. Status of Internal Audit Recommendations

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

13. Changes to Accounting Policies/Accounting Standards

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

14. 2017-2021 Draft Council Plan

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

15. 2017/18 Draft Budget

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

16. Information Services Update

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

17. Financials, Council Plan Highlights and Progress of Major Initiatives and Initiatives

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the Report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

18. Fraud Report

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information contained in this document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

19. Excessive Staff Leave

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the Report.

That the information, contained in the attached document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Act:

(h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person

be designated confidential information under Clause 77 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

20. Current Key Risk Matters

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information, contained in the attached document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

f) legal advice;

h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;

be designated confidential information under Clause 77 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

21. Risk Report

Chris Badger/Councillor Stephens

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information, contained in the attached document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Act:

h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;

be designated confidential information under Clause 77 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1989.

CARRIED

22. Register of Commissioned Reports

Councillor Stephens/Chris Badger

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend to Council that it receive the report.

That the information, contained in the attached document and designated under Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer on 26 May 2017 because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989:

*h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
be designated confidential information under Clause 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989.*

CARRIED

23. General Business

1. Next Meeting

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.32AM.



C3 - REPORT

GENERAL MANAGER DEVELOPMENT



C4 - REPORT

GENERAL MANAGER BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



C5 - REPORT

GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

ITEM C5.1**WELLINGTON COMMUNITY EARLY YEARS PLAN 2017 - 2021**

DIVISION: COMMUNITY AND CULTURE
ACTION OFFICER: MANAGER COMMUNITY WELLBEING
DATE: 4 JULY 2017

IMPACTS									
Financial	Communication	Legislative	Council Policy	Council Plan	Resources & Staff	Community	Environmental	Consultation	Risk Management
				✓	✓	✓		✓	

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 as attached.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 as attached.

BACKGROUND

The Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 has been developed through community engagement with over 300 responses received. The feedback came from a wide range of people from various locations across the Shire and all age groups were represented.

These responses were summarised into 18 concepts and then workshopped with partnering organisational representatives on 23 August 2016 to identify lead responsibilities.

A draft version of the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 was completed containing four key themes, listing the areas important to our community for the future. The final part of the consultation process was to check back with the community that the draft plan captured the diverse needs of our community. The draft plan was made available for community feedback over a four-week period and 8 items of feedback were received. There is a short summary in the consultation section of this report outlining how this feedback has been incorporated.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Approve the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 as attached; or
2. Request changes to the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 - 2021 and present to a future Council meeting.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council approve the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 as attached.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No staff and/or contractors involved in the compilation of this report have declared a Conflict of Interest.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The 2017-2021 Council Plan shares the same visions as the Wellington Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021 by advocating and responding to community needs, enhancing resilience in our towns and communities and providing opportunities for residents to lead healthy and active lifestyles.

The Wellington Community Early Years Plan reflects the strong partnerships that exist across Wellington to ensure that all young children and their families can reach their full potentials.

CONSULTATION IMPACT

A broad media campaign was completed (Newspaper, Website, Facebook, Emails) along with face to face discussions and feedback from our community members has been considered for inclusion into the final plan. Feedback was received around the lack of baby change facilities in the central business district in some towns across the Shire and lack of access to learn to swim programs for children in Yarram and surrounding districts.

This feedback has been reflected in the plan through;

1. A new strategy added to objective 2.1
2. Expanded on a strategy in objective 2.1.

RESOURCES AND STAFF

The Wellington Early Years Network hold quarterly meetings where they will regularly monitor progress of the plan and the Coordinator Social Planning and Policy will have a supporting role in the implementation of the plan.

Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan 2017 – 2021



Introduction

The Wellington Shire Council shares the community's vision for a healthy, vibrant and inclusive community that is well serviced and governed. These values are encapsulated in Wellington 2030 and the Wellington Shire Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan 2017-2021 (herein after referred to as 'The Plan') is a vision that those working in the early year's sector have for local children and families, now and into the future. The plan is tailored to suit local circumstances for development and coordination of early education, care, health services, activities and other local developments that impact on children 0 – 8 years in Wellington Shire.

The Plan provides a platform for service providers working together to provide direction and support in ensuring the health, learning and developmental needs of children are met and essential support is provided to ensure all children thrive in their growth and development.

The strategies in the plan have been developed to align with resource allocations and funding opportunities and including any new and emerging issues that are identified with partner organisations.

The Plan seeks to promote access to services, increase the responsiveness of services and better use of resources by enhancing service integration and collaboration.

The Plan requires services supporting children under eight years of age to work in partnership with the community to improve outcomes for young children and their families, particularly vulnerable families.

The Plan has been developed as a multi service approach to early years planning across the Wellington Shire and outlines the roles early years services are taking to achieve;

- A seamless early years system with services that are easy to access, friendly to use and strengthen the capacity of families to care for children.
- Child and family friendly community planning in partnership with agencies, groups and community members across the Wellington Shire.
- Local early years champions who strengthen local networks and provide additional resources to ensure families and children access relevant services suited to their individual needs.
- Ongoing review of processes to ensure continual improvement across the early years sector.

Influences at state and national levels

At the time of developing this plan there are several state-wide documents being finalised that provide context for the roles of all levels of government in early years:

1. Early Years Compact 2017-2027 – a formalised partnership between state and local government that together provide collective stewardship of the early years system.
2. Maternal and Child Health Service Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Education and Training and Municipal Association of Victoria in relation to the Maternal and Child Health Service 2017-2020.

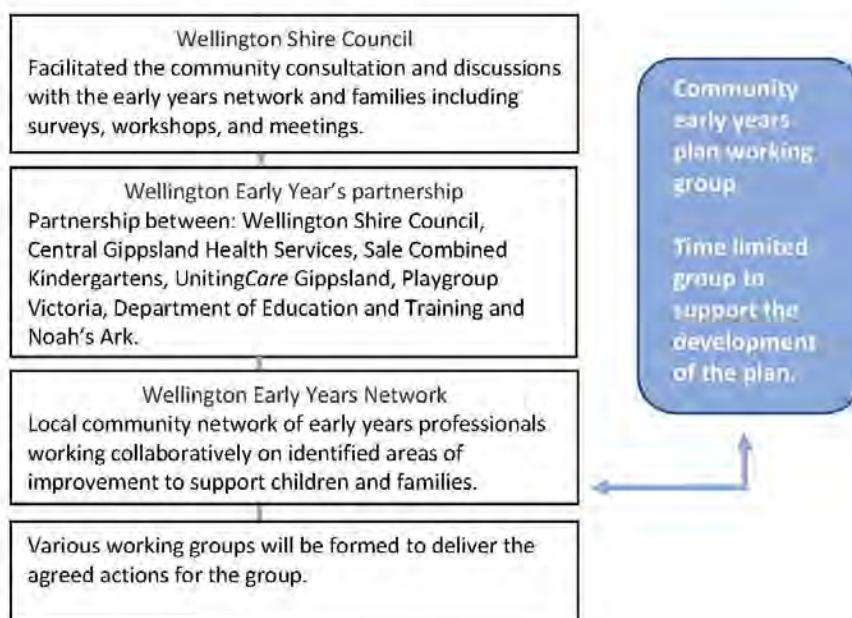
At a federal government level, the current National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education ends on 31 December 2017. This agreement enables the provision of universal access to 15 hours kindergarten for all four year old children. If this agreement does not continue or is modified, there will be flow on effects to early years services across Wellington Shire.

Goals

The four key goals in The Plan were identified during strategic workshops hosted by Wellington Shire Council in partnership with the Wellington Early Years Network. The four goals are:

1. Collaborative partnerships
2. Friendly environments
3. Strong connected communities
4. Ongoing monitor and reviewing

Figure 1: Structure for the development and implementation of the Wellington Municipal Community Early Years Plan



Highlights of the 2013 - 2015 Wellington Municipal Early Years Plan

The previous Plan made a significant contribution to ensuring children in Wellington Shire have equitable access to universal services and improved their learning and development. Wellbeing was an ongoing focus during the three years of implementation.

The Wellington Early Years Network is made up of strong partnership of professionals working with children under the age of eight years. Having a wide variety of backgrounds, they work together to improve service delivery for better outcomes for families and children (members of the network are listed at the end of this document).

Some of the initiatives from the previous Early Years Plan were:

- Established a central location where families could get information about upcoming local events and information relevant to early years with the development of the Wellington Maternal and Child Health Facebook page.
- Successfully attracted government funding for capital works at two kindergartens (Glassford St, Maffra and Stratford Kindergartens) to meet the introduction of fifteen hours funded kindergarten programs for four-year olds (Universal Access).
- Program delivery within school and kindergarten settings to teach children about waste reduction, energy and water saving techniques and compost recycling.
- Improved access to speech therapy with changes to the initial assessment process for children identified as being under developed in their language skills.
- Improved collaboration between the two local kindergarten cluster managers enabled the development of a streamlined approach to service delivery and enrolment process.
- Improved partnerships between early years service providers through regular Early Years Network meetings with a focus on improving outcomes for children and families.
- Partnerships developed between Wellington Shire Council and the Yarram and District community in the development and delivery of Yarram Early Learning Centre.
- Successful annual events such as Children's Week, The Big Draw and Parks Week which promote community connectedness for families and children.

Developing the current community early years plan

The Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan was developed with involvement from a range of stakeholders and members of the community. Extensive engagement, consultation and active feedback was undertaken.

Information that formed the focus of the plan includes:

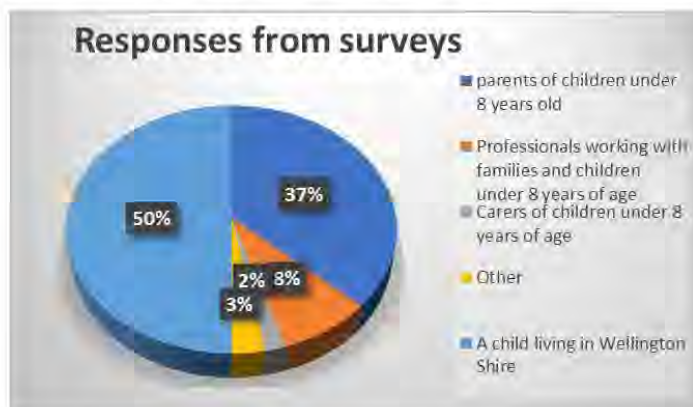
- Demographic data relating to Wellington Shire.
- Input from members of the Wellington Early Years Network on current trends across sectors.
- Consultation with internal and external stakeholders and approximately two hundred and seventy members of the wider community.

A working group made up of early years professionals with a focus on the health and wellbeing of children under the age of eight years was established. The group collated the responses and data to determine what is important for improving opportunities and environments for young children.

The main objectives of the group were to:

- Assist in the development and promotion of the Early Years Plan.
- Advocate in relation to areas of identified need on behalf of children and their families.
- Monitor the progress of agreed goals and strategies within the Plan.

Responses from families and professionals



Families living in Wellington Shire believe the most important part of early years education is to have environments which foster children's development and active lifestyles. Meeting these needs are the numerous parks available throughout the Shire and early years services where families build invaluable relationships with the highly qualified educators who provide a caring and welcoming environment for children to reach their potential.

Families in Wellington Shire reported long waiting periods for secondary services such as paediatricians and ear, nose and throat specialists. Early years professionals have also recognised lack of support for those children with complex needs. Support that is required is either not available locally or has long waiting periods.

Examples of responses from families and professionals

"Not enough professional providers in the area that work with children with varying challenges/disabilities that services can refer to i.e. OT, Speech. Families cannot get into services; they are booked out or not offered in the area and need to travel."
(Early Years Professional)

"There is a lack of parenting services/groups that can support parents with strategies around parenting and coping with challenges that arise. There is no or limited behaviour modification supports/groups on offer and many families can't get to see a paediatrician for months, there is a lack of soft entry points for families in the community."
(Early Years Professional)

"There's a need to improve early intervention programs and physio programs for 6yr olds."
(Parent)

"Playgrounds don't cater for children with disabilities, even though there is the Liberty Swing it makes it difficult to access on those 'ad hoc' visits to the park and then becomes less enjoyable when having to run around for a key." (Parent)

"It's very hard to find information about local services if you are not linked in with Maternal & Child Health or GP."
(Parent)

"Child friendly businesses would be an area to develop and publicise. Some businesses don't let you take prams in which makes it a challenge."
(Parent)

"Parks and playgrounds are fantastic, maternal health centres are fantastic here in Sale, child friendly businesses give families flexibility to frequent the town and what it has to offer."
(Parent)

Responses from children

Eighty percent of children who participated in the consultation process indicated that they were actively engaged in physical activity with frequent visits to parks, pools/beach and school environments.

When we asked children where was a place in their town that was not good for children to go, there were many responses which indicated that children in Wellington Shire have a good sense of water safety and the dangers of playing near the roads and train tracks. Children also were conscious of negative impacts on their health such as fast food and the impact of cigarette smoking.

"If I had a magic wand I would have an adventure park with a tree house and a small bridge and a slide sort of big, make out of wood also a place in the adventure park where you can look at lizards."
(Charlotte aged 8)

"I would like to put a playground near the clock tower so mum can have a coffee and I can play."
(Jac aged 6)

"I like it when we go to the pool with dad and when we go to the Flying Fox Park."

(Timothy aged 4)

"I like playing at the beach with my mum and dad".

(Bella aged 4)

"A place that is dangerous is where there is water, and the top bunk."

(Cameron aged 5)

"We play at the park, it is fun I like the round-about, I spin really fast I would scream aagh."

(Alyrah aged 6)

Delivery of this Plan

The Wellington Shire Community *Early Years Plan 2017-2021* includes strategies and actions that are delivered by Council or through partnerships with relevant organisations who make up the Wellington Early Years Network, community groups or layers of government.

Wellington Shire Council - programs targeted at the early years consist of:

- National Immunisation Program
- Children and Youth Library Services
- Art Gallery Children's Education Programs
- Service Planning and Development.

Central Gippsland Health Service

- Maternal and Child Health Services
- Enhanced Maternal and Child Health
- Speech Therapy
- Pediatric Occupational Therapist.
- Health Promotion Officer

UnitingCare Gippsland

- Supported Playgroups
- Kindergartens
 - Queen Street Maffra
 - Glassford Street Maffra
 - Heyfield
 - Stratford
 - Briagolong
 - Gormandale
 - St Columbas - Sale
 - East Sale
 - Longford
- Wellington Best Start Program
- Family Day Care
- Child First
- Integrated Family Services
- Supported Playgroup
- Early Childhood Development Coordinator
- Best Start

Sale Combined Kindergarten Incorporated

- Hyland Kindergarten
- Gwenfa Hampton Kindergarten
- Sale North Kindergarten

Department of Education and Training

- Specialist Children Services
- Wellington Network Early Childhood Performance and Planning Advisor
- Early Childhood Intervention Services
- Koorie Engagement Support Officer
- 24 State Government Primary Schools located throughout the Wellington Shire
- 7 Non-Government Primary Schools located throughout the Wellington Shire

Early Learning Child Care Centres

- Nurture one
 - McColé Street, Sale
 - Reeve Street, Sale
 - Duke Street, Maffra
- Yarram Early Learning Centre
- East Sale Childcare Centre.
- Kath Foley Children's Centre
- Gumnuts Early Learning Centre
- Gippsland Grammar Early Learning Centre.

Yarram District Health Services

- Health Promotion Officer

Specialist Children's Services

- Yooralla
- Noahs Ark

Australian early development result for Wellington Shire

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) is a national measure of child development. It provides a local overview of how children have developed by the time they start school.

The AEDC measures five key areas of child development.

- Physical health and wellbeing;
- Social competence;
- Emotional maturity;
- Language and cognitive skills;
- Communication skills and general knowledge.

The 2015 AEDC results for Wellington Shire indicate that many children are developmentally on track in all the five key areas, however areas of greater vulnerability are evident across the municipality and require a focus in this plan.

Is the change from 2012 to 2015 AEDC data significant?

Over the three-year period early years professionals were provided with several development opportunities that had a focus on language development. With a partnership between kindergartens and speech therapists the initial assessment process was changed improving access to early intervention with speech development. The result of these two strategies saw a significant increase in the number of children developmentally on track with communication skills and general knowledge.

The information from the AEDC was considered when setting the goals and objectives for the 2017/21 Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan to improve outcomes for children.

Figure 1 Domain results for developmentally on track children in Wellington Shire, including critical differences, 2012-15 comparison.

AEDC domain	2012 Developmentally on track		2015 Developmentally on track		2012-2015 change in percent on track	Critical difference	Significant change
	(Number of children)	(Percentage of children - %)	(Number of children)	(Percentage of children - %)			
Physical health and wellbeing	452	80.0	419	84.0	-4.0	3.1	Significant increase
Social competence	448	78.5	395	70.8	-1.3	2.4	No significant change
Emotional maturity	448	78.6	378	76.8	-1.8	2.5	No significant change
Language and cognitive skills (school-based)	459	80.1	396	80.0	-0.1	2.5	No significant change
Communication skills and general knowledge	416	73.2	428	86.5	13.2	2.7	Significant increase

Note: Percentage values have been rounded.

The Wellington Shire Community Early Years Action Plan

There are a range of universal, secondary and tertiary services that support and deliver services to children and their families across Wellington Shire. As part of the action plan, we will ensure that we collaborate with service providers across the three categories ensuring that the broad early years needs are met.

These categories are best described as:

Universal – *available for all children and families*

For example: Maternal and Child Health Services, kindergarten, child care, occasional care, playgroups, immunisation, libraries, toy library, schools, playgrounds, recreational activities.

Secondary – *supporting children and families that need a greater level of support in addition to universal services.*

For example: Family Support, Child FIRST, Counselling, Supported Playgroups, Inclusion Support Services.

Tertiary – *Those services where the issues, problems and concerns require intensive and ongoing intervention.*

For Example: Child Protection, Early Childhood Intervention Service, Mental Health Services, Family Violence Services.

BEST START

Best Start is a prevention and early intervention program with a strong emphasis on using local data and local early years services to support families, caregivers, and communities to provide the best possible environment, experiences, and care for young children in the important years from pregnancy through to school attendance.

The emphasis of Best Start is on prevention and early intervention. It has a focus on ensuring that vulnerable young children and their families who are not currently engaged with universal services, or prematurely disengaged, can participate in and benefit from the universal service platform.

Fundamental to the development of the Early Years Plan has been the incorporation of the Best Start program and action planning. The strategic directions for Best Start have been combined into the Early Years Plan by linking goals and strategies.

How to read the action plan

Goal and Objectives

The goals and objectives highlight the areas of identified improvement which will be the focus over the next five years.

Strategy

The strategy identifies what actions the network will take to meet the relevant strategy.

Outcomes

The outcomes are the desired results that the plan aims to achieve.

Lead and Partners

This identifies who will be involved in the delivery of strategies either in a lead or partnership role.

Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan 2017 - 2021

10

Goal 1 - Strong partnerships between early years services.

Building a strong network of early year's services enhanced through a community-wide, integrated approach to raising children, enables the best possible outcomes for health, wellbeing, learning and development. Early years' service providers must be clear about what outcomes they are trying to achieve and how an integrated approach will support these outcomes.

There are already many strong relationships between local services and the community contributing to improving outcomes for children. This plan will strengthen and promote these qualities and work on developing new community identified initiatives which will define Wellington as a child and family focused community.

Objective 1.1 Maintaining ongoing participation and support for the Wellington Early Years Network.

Early years professionals have identified that working together as a network produces better results than working on their own.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Provide opportunities through the network for services to explore current issues relevant to families and children of Wellington Shire that require attention/support.	Deliver one successful jointly developed strategy and activity that are locally relevant and lead to improved outcomes for families & children.	10% improvement in the Australian Early Development Census	Wellington Early Years Network: Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. UnitingCare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department of Health and Human Services.
Advocate for the availability of support services for families to be delivered in Wellington Shire.	Families are supported through the changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and an increase in parenting support sessions being offered.	Professionals actively advocating/supporting families with meeting their needs.	Wellington Early Years Network: Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. UnitingCare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department of Health and Human Services

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Collaborative approach to providing professional development opportunities to staff within the Wellington Early Years Network.	All services inviting network members to participate in local training sessions.	20% increase in professional development opportunities for members.	Wellington Early Years Network: Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. UnitingCare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department Health & Human Services.
Creating a system that supports the administrative needs of the Network, including developing agenda, recording and distribution of meeting minutes, scheduling of future meetings / venues and maintaining the member's mailing list.	Ongoing success of the Wellington Early Years Network with regular quarterly meetings. 4 meetings to continue to be held annually with appropriate administration support.	An ongoing facilitator role with the responsibility of setting the agenda and distributing the minutes four times per year. Evidence of 4 meetings being held and network continue to function as a strong partnership.	Wellington Early Years Network: Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. UnitingCare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department of Health and Human Services.

Objective 1.2 Strengthen partnerships in the planning and delivery of services and programs for children.

Early years professional identified that there is a need to improve connections between some services.

Strategy	Outcome	Measure	Lead and Partners
Improved collaborative approach to delivering events which builds community connectedness; such as Baby's Day Out, Children's Week, Children's Expo and other events that focus on children.	Successful events planned and delivered by a variety of services which have enhanced community connectedness for families and children.	20% increase in attendance at events that focus on children	Wellington Shire Council (various units); Maternal & Child Health. UnitingCare Gippsland. Best Start. Sale Combined Kindergartens. Incorporated (SCKI).
Strategy	Outcome	Measure	Lead and Partners
Promote referral pathways between early years' services and community welfare services for vulnerable children.	Working in partnership to meet the Best Start strategies. Children engage and participate in early childhood education. Children and families actively engage with Maternal and Child Health services.	Achieve Wellington Best Start Outcomes 10 promotions completed.	Wellington Best Start. Maternal & Child Health. Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing Unit).
Build new relationships to better understand and adapt to ongoing policy and sector reforms.	Early years services will experience minimal impact to Policy change due to early planning e.g. NDIS.	Confidence of early year staff to work in a changing policy environment.	Wellington Early Years Network: Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing).

Wellington Shire Community Early Years Plan 2017 - 2021

13

Early years services will adapt to policy changing and continue to provide high quality services.

Department of Education and Training.
UnitingCare Gippsland.
Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc.
Department Health & Human Services.

Goal 2 Providing safe and welcoming places.

A healthy and safe environment is important for a child's development to enable them to be free from harm and be confident learners. A strong and connected community provides a sense of belonging and promotes active participation. A providing opportunity for people to come together and build relationships, this requires safe and easy access environments to ensure families can connect with others and participate fully in all areas of community.

How are we going to provide friendly environments?

Objective 2.1 Create and advocate for family friendly environments that provide opportunities to socialise, play and learn.

Families reported that Wellington Shire lacked inclusive play spaces and environments where they could comfortably socialise with others.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Enhance opportunities for families to access to inclusive play spaces.	An increase in stimulating play spaces which are designed to meet the diversity of children's needs.	1 new play space and 2 modified play spaces catering for the diverse needs of children.	Wellington Shire Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Environment and Parks Community Wellbeing Wellington Early Years Network.
Engage local businesses in providing inclusive and accessible environments where children and families feel welcome.	Families having an increased choice of family friendly businesses.	A 20% increase in businesses who promote themselves as being family friendly. A 10% increase in the availability of baby change areas within main shopping areas.	Wellington Shire Council, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Development Business Unit.

For Wellington Shire Council to be recognised as a child safe organisation.	Wellington Shire Council to embed child safety within organisational practice.	Evidence of Wellington Shire Council implementing Child Safe Policies.	Wellington Shire Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People & Excellence.
Improve access for all children to participate in recreation and leisure programs throughout the year.	A reduction in travel distance to enable families to support their child/children's ongoing participation in programs	<p>Planning has commenced for a new indoor swimming facility for Yarram residents.</p> <p>Evidence of new programs or facilitates that reduce distances travelled.</p>	Wellington Shire Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built Environment, • Community Wellbeing • Community & Culture

Goal 3 - Increase awareness of services available for families and children.

Communities and professionals play an enormous role in planning to ensure that individuals and community needs are being supported to prevent a much greater social problem in the future. Families and children who live in a supportive community have greater tendency to achieve positive outcomes.

Early years services in Wellington Shire have built invaluable relationships with families, staffed with highly qualified educators who provide children with a caring and welcoming environment where children grow in their development and social skills.

How are we going to build strong connected communities?

OBJECTIVE 3.1 Provide widespread promotion of accessible information about local services available to families and children through a range of communication methods.

Families reported that they didn't know where to find community information and relied on family, friends, and Maternal & Child Health Nurse for direction.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Develop strategies to better promote early years' information to those families and children not currently connected to the early year's system.	Increase of families aware of the Wellington Parent Directory and how to access it.	Minimum of 3 promotions of the Wellington Parent Directory throughout the community.	Wellington Best Start.
Reviewing Council's website to promote current information about services and activities available in Wellington Shire that families need.	Residents and visitors provided with information about local services in once central location.	Redeveloped website has an average of 50 visits per month.	Wellington Shire Council; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Wellbeing.• Media and Public Relations

Improve opportunities for families to engage with universal early years services such as Wellington Toy Library, playgroups, Library services kindergarten etc.	Improved connections and increased partnerships to enhance services.	A 10% increase in services and families regularly accessing Toy Library and Library services.	Wellington Early Years Network. WSC – Arts and Culture Business Unit. UnitingCare Gippsland Playgroup Victoria
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OBJECTIVE 3.2 To strengthen the provision of a comprehensive, integrated, and continuous structure of service delivery.

Early years staff identified that there are no formal processes for supporting vulnerable families to access relevant services.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Improved promotion and engagement between secondary early years services such as early start kinder, supported playgroup, Maternal and Child Health, Enhanced Home Visiting etc. to improve vulnerable families accessing services.	A collaborative approach by services to support vulnerable families and children.	Evidence of meetings and new practices that have been implemented.	Wellington Best Start. UnitingCare Gippsland. Maternal & Child Health. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc.
Embedding referral pathways between early year's services and tertiary early year's services for vulnerable children and families.	Change in communication processes between services to support individual needs of families.	Evidence of improved communication and links between early years' services to support vulnerable families and children.	Best Start. UnitingCare Gippsland. Maternal & Child Health. Department Health & Human Services.

Goal 4 - Ongoing monitor and review of the Wellington Community Early Years Plan.

Strategies and actions included in the Wellington Community Early Years Plan will be implemented through partnerships with relevant organisations, services, and local government who represent the Wellington Early Years Network.

It is expected that a collaborative approach across the network will identify the best possible methods to achieve the identified goals for the improved outcomes for children's development and support for families. Ongoing reviews of the plan and other influencing factors will identify successful outcomes in the early years and how they have improved the health and wellbeing of families and children zero to eight years.

OBJECTIVE 4.1 Continually reviewing and improving services for children and families

It has been acknowledged that the Early Years Plan must be a working document that achieves desired outcomes.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Undertake an annual review of which actions contained in the plan have been implemented and identify new or modified actions to progress.	Wellington Early Years Network meeting agenda items reference objectives in the Wellington Community Early Years Plan. Responsive and flexible plan.	Early Years Network meeting minutes documenting progress on strategies that have been implemented and any new / modified strategies.	Wellington Early Years Network. Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. Unitingcare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department Health & Human Services.
Undertake an annual review of which outcomes have led to improving practices and outcomes for families and children.	Progress towards the plan will be shared with the Early Years Network, Councillors and broader community.	Early Years Network Meeting minutes documenting change in practice / improved outcomes.	Wellington Early Years Network. Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Department of Education and Training. Unitingcare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc. Department of Health and Human Services.

Strategy	Outcome	Measures	Lead and Partners
Mid-term review of the Wellington Community Early Years Strategic Plan to ensure the plan is a continual work in progress.	Representation from partnering agencies review progress at the two and half year mark for improved practice.	Update of progress is reported and documented in the Early Years Network Minutes and reported at a Council workshop.	Wellington Shire Council (Community Wellbeing). Central Gippsland Health Services. UnitingCare Gippsland. Sale Combined Kindergartens. Department of Education and Training.

REFERENCES

Mapping and research from a variety of sources identified several key findings which contributed to the development of strategies to improve outcomes for children living in Wellington Shire, including:

- Wellington Shire Council
Municipal Early Years Plan 2012-2015.
- Best Start
www.education.vic.gov.au/ecsmanagement/beststart/default
- [Wellington Primary Care Partnership](http://www.wellingtonpcp.com.au)
www.wellingtonpcp.com.au
- The state of Victoria's Children 2012: early childhood
http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/research/FINAL%20The%20State%20of%20Victoria's%20Children_2012%20v2.pdf
- [Municipal Association of Victoria \(2011\)](http://www.mav.asn.au/search/Results.aspx?k=early%20years%20planning%20framework%20and%20practical%20resource%20guide)
[Municipal Early Years Planning Framework and Practical Resource Guide.](http://www.mav.asn.au/search/Results.aspx?k=early%20years%20planning%20framework%20and%20practical%20resource%20guide)
<http://www.mav.asn.au/search/Results.aspx?k=early%20years%20planning%20framework%20and%20practical%20resource%20guide>
- [Victorian State Government, Education, and Training.](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/Pages/vcamstableau.aspx)
The Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System (VCAMS)
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/Pages/vcamstableau.aspx>
- The Australian Early Development Census 2012
Community results table AECD Wellington community, Victoria
www.aedc.gov.au
- Department of Health Victoria,
www.health.vic.gov.au
- Maternal and Child Health Annual Report
2014-2014 South Eastern Victoria Region
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/providers/support/Pages/mchannualreportarchive.aspx>



D. URGENT BUSINESS



E. FURTHER GALLERY AND CHAT ROOM COMMENTS



F. CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT/S

F. CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT/S



WELLINGTON

SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
2 JUNE 2017**

On this 26th of May 2017, in accordance with Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989*; I, Arthur Skipitaris (Delegate) declare that the information contained in the attached document **WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE - MINUTES** is confidential because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

f) legal advice

h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person.

.....
General Manager Corporate Services (Delegate)



G. IN CLOSED SESSION

G. IN CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR

That the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 to consider:

- a) personnel matters*
- b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer*
- c) industrial matters*
- d) contractual matters*
- e) proposed developments*
- f) legal advice*
- g) matters affecting the security of Council property*
- h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person*

IN CLOSED SESSION

COUNCILLOR


That Council move into open session and ratify the decision made in closed session.



**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
4 JULY 2017**

On this 27th day of June 2017, in accordance with Section 77 Clause (2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989*; I, Arthur Skipitaris (Delegate) declare that the information contained in the attached document **ITEM G1.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – PLANNING MATTER** is confidential because it relates to the following grounds under Section 89(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer..



.....
General Manager Corporate Services (Delegate)