



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

Special Council Meeting Agenda

The purpose of the meeting is

- **Receipt and consideration of submissions relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget**
- **Receipt and consideration of submissions relating to the 2017/21 Draft Council Plan**

In accordance with the written Notice from the Mayor and Section 84 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as attached.

Meeting to be held at

Port of Sale Business Centre

Foster Street, Sale

Tuesday 30 May 2017, commencing at 3pm

**or join Wellington on the Web:
www.wellington.vic.gov.au**

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – 30 MAY 2017

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ATTACHMENT

20 April 2017

To the Chief Executive Officer
WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

CALL OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 30 MAY 2017

By this notice, I call a Special Meeting of the Wellington Shire Council to be held on Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 3:00pm at the Port of Sale, Business Centre

The business to be transacted is for the following statutory purpose:

- Receipt and consideration of submissions relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget
- Receipt and consideration of submissions relating to the 2017/21 Draft Council Plan



CR CAROLYN CROSSLEY
Mayor
Wellington Shire Council



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.

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

ITEM C2.1**RECEIPT AND CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS RELATING TO THE 2017/18 DRAFT BUDGET**

DIVISION: CORPORATE SERVICES
ACTION OFFICER: GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
DATE: 30 MAY 2017

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

OBJECTIVE

To receive and consider any verbal and written submissions (as attached) relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget.

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

That Council receive and consider submissions relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget.

BACKGROUND

Council resolved at its meeting held on 18 April 2017:

- To advertise its proposed 2017/18 Draft Budget and proposed differential rates under Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- To hear verbal submissions on the 2017/18 Draft Budget on Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 3pm.

In accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council invited interested persons to make written submissions in relation to the 2017/18 Draft Budget by 5pm on 17 May 2017 and to also make verbal submissions at the Council meeting on 30 May 2017.

Council received 11 written submissions (as attached) in response to the 2017/18 Draft Budget and will consider these submissions in conjunction with any verbal submissions prior to the 6 June 2017 Council Meeting, where it will be recommended that the Budget, including any revisions, be adopted.

OPTIONS

In accordance with s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council is required to receive and consider all submissions.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and consider any verbal and written submissions (as attached) relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Consideration of submissions may result in changes to the proposed 2017/18 Draft Budget.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

Under S129(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989* “a person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on any proposal contained in the budget or revised budget.”

COUNCIL PLAN IMPACT

The current Council Plan 2013-17 includes a Strategic Resource Plan which may be impacted by any budget changes.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

The consideration of submissions relating to the 2017/18 Draft Budget may have an impact on the level of resources available in 2017/18 financial year and the staffing levels of Council.

CONSULTATION IMPACT

Under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council advertised its Draft Budget for 2017/18 and sought submissions from the public.

	CORRESPONDENT	SUBMISSION
1.	Dr. Carol Glover	Objection to proposed rate increase.
2.	Samir & Christine Farahat	Objection to proposed rate increase and concerns around services
3.	Alex Arbuthnot	Analysis of draft budget
4.	Grand Strzelecki Track Committee	Request for ongoing contribution towards maintenance of the Grand Strzelecki Track
5.	Port of Sale Boat Club Inc.	Seeking a reduction in fees charged at Port of Sale and removal of transfer fee
6.	Port Albert Progress Association	Request for the installation of a 1/4 basketball court at Rutter's Park, Port Albert and continue planning for streetscaping and township beautification
7.	David Woodhouse	Analysis of the formatting and content of the draft budget. Also, a request for the review of some fees and the upgrade and addition of Maffra residential street lights
8.	Jock Folan	Objection to application of landing charges at West Sale Airport
9.	Peter Symons	
10.	David Marty	
11.	Yarram and District Traders & Tourism Association	Request for the installation of a 1/4 basketball court at Yarram Skate Park

Submission 1 – Objection to proposed rate increase (Dr Carol Glover):

“Please accept my submission regarding the draft budget.

I object to yet another rates increase - they are simply becoming a bad habit.

Learn to live within your means like the rest of us.

Start by reducing excessive salaries and allowances.

Stop wasting ridiculous amounts of money, such as \$40,000 on a roundabout!

Goodness me, I could plant it out for you for nothing. Just rake it over and scatter a few seeds.

Dr Carol Glover”

Submission 2 – Objection to proposed rate increase and concerns around services (Samir & Christine Farahat):

“Dear Sir,

In regard to your public feedback about the Rate Increase. Which should be decrease.

No disrespect to you put yourself in our shoes.

The property we own at Shop 1, 201 Guthridge Parade I don't even know why we even pay services. Which is the rates.

1. Since we brought the building 16 years ago roughly we have been maintaining the side kerbing as you turn off Guthridge to come into the shops all that left kerb overlapping grass into gutter which collects bags, glass, plastic you name it is in there.

2. Front of shop been told there is cars always parked there so don't have to clean (excuse).

3. Lane way and back of shops which Council owns we have to clean unless complained all these years and Council cleaned 3 times only since we won property all these years.

4. All these years we asked for a light for security at the back of the shop when Lyndon Webb was in power. There was no money in the budget. No money to clean and get rid of that tree next to the phone box in front of shop which was supposed to be evergreen. It is ever rubbish.

Apples drop off, mess keeps coming into the shop. Not know even before the leaves are changing. Instead of cleaning our street like Raymond Street we are off the map.

I shouldn't have to follow up on street sweeper who is responsible to clean. When I say clean I hope it doesn't mean distributed across the front of the shop.

Whenever anybody was sent down on the 3 occasions out of 16 years I had to pick up the hay left behind because of the sloppy job that was done.

This is all supposed to mean that this area has been neglected. You co-workers send people to come to talk to us and they say they will look into this matter until they go

Plus we have at the front of the shop a council bent pole a bit which people swing back and forward on it. People come after school and swing on it.

I don't know why it is there because it is dangerous if it comes out. I don't know what purpose it serves there in the first place. We have already had the windows broken 3 times at the front of the shop.

I shouldn't have to tell people to shift their car so the sweeper can sweep in front of the shop.

As I was told from members working for council that they cannot clean because there is always a car there.

When you clean down Raymond Street at 3 or 4 in the morning why aren't they cleaning in front Guthridge shops at same time when there is no cars. Very poor excuse. It is up to the Council to work it out how they are going to clean regularly.

If you know how to send out the RATES REGULARLY PAYMENT but you don't know how to add on your list for services.

We have every right to say what have you done to improve this area for 16 to 17 years nothing but created a mess with that tree which we have to clean your mess.

YOU DON'T EVEN COME UP TO SEE WHAT NEEDS FIXING IN THIS AREA IN CONCRETE PATHING WHERE PEOPLE WALK.

NAME WHAT YOU HAVE DONE IN THIS AREA. NOTHING NO FIXING OR CLEANING.

SORRY TO HIGHLIGHT THIS MATTER BUT IT HAS GONE TOO FAR JUST FIXING SAME ROADS IN RAYMOND STREET AND CLEANING.

Your sincerely

This is just an additional note just added regarding the property at 4 Bergen Crescent. Where you are saying the money is spent. The gravel poured all down this street was unnecessary because there was nothing wrong.

But I have requested several times for the tree in front of 4 Bergen to be replaced with a new shrub because it is under High power voltage lines. All they do is send somebody out to cut a inch away from lines. Come and have a look for yourself. It even covers the light now that the light has been replaced with small globes.

I don't know what the big fuss is about. Anybody with sense would have put a shrub under High Power Voltage lines. It holds the whole street for lights etc."

Submission 3 – Analysis of draft budget (Alex Arbuthnot):

“Mayor, Councillors & David.

A very comprehensive, professional and responsible Draft Budget.

The read is a challenge and an excellent reference document for Shire information.

My comments are in change of font & some are underlined.

A thanks David to the finance & policy team. And note I am happy for my comments to be circulated to the full Council.

Alex Arbuthnot AM”

Wellington Shire Council 2017/18 Budget Draft

Alex Arbuthnot, April 30, 2017.

Comment./ Summary;

Very comprehensive, 99 pages (incl. 16 pages Appendix on fees & charges.) and AA comments are in change of font and some points underlined.

Mayor’s Introduction.

1st budget for the new Council.

- Builds on Communities Strategic Vision & Council 4 year Plan with focus on 6 key theme areas.
- \$45 million capital budget; 12 projects and VG spread through Shire.
- Plus over \$11million on street schemes, paths ,parks etc
- Plus \$2 million in rural areas (*only 2?*),on roads etc & roadside vegetation management.
Please increase budget on weed & pest control on roadsides !!
- And \$2 million on parks & gardens.
- Includes anticipated utility cost increases (*wise*)& *note phasing out of gas vehicles !*
- Services – stats – 19K rubbish bins emptied, 500 planning permit applications.

Exec Summary

- Small surplus \$0- 7m. – noting inc. up and rates capped at 2% (*like to think even if not capped the increase would have been only 2%!*)
- Note total Inc (\$96m) up \$4m on 2016/17. – Rate inc. \$55.5m also up.

Themes.

- 1. Communities
 - Note adoption of Plans – Community Health, Leisure Services, etc
 - Implementing Domestic Wastewater Plan (DWMP) –*yes it cost me an extra \$15k on an excision – perhaps treating for re-use a better option !*
 - Engaging to re develop the Domestic Animals Management Plan.
- 2. Services & Infrastructure.
 - Incl. capital works: Port of Sale Cultural hub & Precinct, West Sale Airport.
 - Review Boating Facilities 3 year Plan
 - Release industrial land at Wurruk/ West Sale – *Consider Industrial Land that has a highway shop front !.*
 - Secure funding for Maffra Sporting Complex.
- Theme 3 & 4 – *missing?*

- 5. Economy.
 - Support relocation Federation Training Fulham Campus to Sale (VG & *consolidation of Sale campuses ?*)
 - Implement roadmap building on RAAF Base East Sale .
 - *Does Shire have a plan to attract new investment ? eg Motel.*
- 1. General Rates.
 - Note reduction in Aust. Govt funding via grants commission
 - Not a revaluation year.
- 2. Other charges.
 - Inc. in garbage rate – *and I support a user pay policy !*
 - Note – Shire collects EPA levy
- 3. Key Statistics
 - Note – budget \$96.3m (up \$4m) & includes increase in capital funding.
- 4. Budget Influences.
 - External include, Govt. cap, CPI 2%, Wage price index 2.5%, landfill & fire levies.
 - Internal incl. a focus on efficiencies; *applaud*
 - Commercial inc. streams (Sale yards, West Sale Airport) – *support cost centre structures!*
 - Note shared services with East Gippsland Shire *.support*
- 5. Cost Shifting.
 - Co- funding with Federal & State Govts.
 - Cost shifting from all Govts where responsibilities are transferred to local Govt.
 - Others incl, loss of general funding, statutory fees that limit cost recovery etc

Budget Reports

1. Link to Council Plan.
 - Has 141 service categories. Each linked to strategic objectives under the 6 Themes as set out in the Council 5 year Plan (2017 – 21)
 - Listed Objectives & Initiatives provide a framework for measuring ‘ change & performance ‘ .
Note does the budget process include a review of the 2016 budget? but did note some financial performance indicators on page 29/ 30, and reference to previous budget on P. 57.
2. The following 33 pages provide a very detailed list of budget financials for each activity item.
 - Note page 44 – Farm rate (80% of the general rate) & farm land defined.

Budget Analysis.

- 22 pages of itemised detail including capital works program, financial status/ cash flow and budget influences.
- Note current assets decreased by nearly \$3m. But non – current inc. by \$ 22.5m
 - Current liabilities decreased by \$62k & non- current by \$1.58 m. & working capital down by \$2.8m & equity up by \$18m.

Long Term Strategies.

- Covers the Strategic Resource Plan (SRP).
- Covers 4 years with 4 key objectives : incl .- maintain existing services, maintain a level of borrowings of no more than 40% of rate revenue (*good*)
- Projected financial results for 4 years. (*very stable plan*).
- Future rate increases (*note committed to 2% - why !!!- perhaps growth can provide income increases ?*)

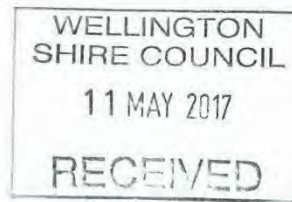
- Borrowing strategy. Stable projections.

A very informative document and excellent reference document on any budget detail.

Submission 4 – Request for ongoing contribution towards maintenance of the Grand Strzelecki Track (Grand Strzelecki Track Committee):

President: Steb Fisher
Secretary: Pam Pattison
Treasurer: Vicki Weston

ABN 63 750 408 516
Inc. no. A00547065
www.grandstrzeleckitrack.org.au



2119 Grand Ridge Road
Balook
VIC 3971
May 5th 2017

Mr David Morcom
Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council
PO BOX 506
Sale VIC 3850

Dear Mr Morcom

The Grand Strzelecki Track opened in May 2012 as a result of funding received by the Balook & District Residents Association after the Black Saturday bushfires in February 2009. The project was part of a community recovery effort after the fires and consists of 110 kilometres of track traversing both public and private land.

The original Committee of Management consisted of 25 people from both ends of the Track – Billys Creek at one end and Tarra Valley and Balook at the north end. The current COM is now down to 10 and the level of expertise has greatly diminished again with the retirement of the track founder Richard Appleton. Kevin Heggen who also had an intimate knowledge of the whole track has also left the committee although he is available to us for maintenance.

In terms of ongoing maintenance the 110 kilometres of the Track lies in very difficult terrain frequented by regular storm events including snowfalls, rain events and gales. Rainfall totals in the area hover around 1500mm per annum

As a result of these often extreme weather conditions constant intervention is needed to keep the track in a safe and usable condition for not only everyday activity but also for significant tourism events such as the Duncan 100 run. Based on expenditure history to date we need an annual maintenance budget of approximately \$40 000 to continue to effectively maintain the Track. To manage the Track effectively a contribution of \$20 000 per annum from both Wellington and Latrobe City would be extremely beneficial and ensure the track committee could carry out required track maintenance.

As such the Grand Strzelecki Committee formally request that Wellington Shire Council consider an ongoing contribution of \$20 000 per annum commencing in the 2017/2018 budget to assist in the continued maintenance of this iconic track

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam Pattison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Pam Pattison
Secretary GST

Submission 5 - Seeking a reduction in fees charged at Port of Sale and removal of transfer fee (Port of Sale Boat Club Inc.):



Port of Sale Boat Club Inc.

PO Box 166, SALE 3850

5th May, 2017

Chief Executive Officer,
Wellington Shire Council,
18 Desailly Street,
Sale, 3850.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission on behalf of the Port of Sale Boat Club on the Draft 2017/18 Budget proposed schedule of fees.

We feel that the proposed fees are totally inappropriate in comparison with the other Moorings on the Gippsland Lakes in light of existing condition of the Port, namely:

- Lack of infrastructure
- No safe access to Boats
- Any access to Boats is at Mooring Holder's expense and is extremely involved for this to be approved by the Shire Council and Department of Environment – this is why, out of 42 moorings only 26 have been let
- Since 2008 Mooring fees have risen by 120%. It appears that Mooring fees paid in the past has gone into Consolidated Revenue.
- Since 2003 in excess of \$300,000.00 has been raised from Mooring fees.
- Dredging of Port 2016/17 at a cost of \$115,000.00 was funded by Grant money not Mooring fees.

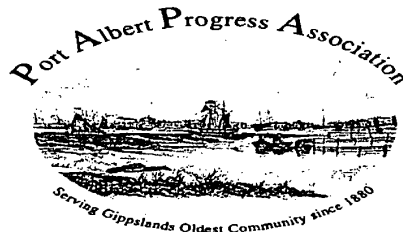
Taking into account the above points, we would like to see a reduction in fees charged to be more aligned to infrastructure in the Port, also a total removal of the proposed \$45.00 transfer fee.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Bishop, Secretary,
Port of Sale Boat Club,



Submission 6 - Request for the installation of a 1/4 basketball court at Rutter's Park, Port Albert and continue planning for streetscaping and township beautification (Port Albert Progress Association):



Port Albert Progress Association
PO Box 7
Port Albert Vic 3971

Mayor Caroline Crossley
Wellington Shire Council
18 Desailly Street
Sale Vic 3850

8th May 2017

Submission to the WSC 2017-18 Draft Budget

Dear Caroline,

Please find following a submission to the Wellington Shire draft budget for 2017-18 from the Port Albert Progress Association on behalf of the Port Albert community. This submission is made in support of the priorities nominated by the Port Albert community through our Port Albert Community Plan survey conducted in June 2016, a copy of the survey results is enclosed.

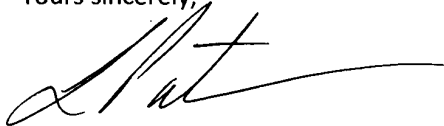
Rutter's Park – ¼ Basket Ball court initiative:

Our June 2016 community plan survey has established that our community supports the creation of Rutter's Park as an activity centre which would include varying types of exercise equipment and court facilities. The community also has an interest in restoring the playing surfaces of the Port Albert tennis courts, a project the community is continuing to fund raise for. As part of discussions around the tennis court project, shire officers made PAPA aware of the ¼ Basketball court project recently completed at McLaughlin's Beach and suggested this could be a possibility for Port Albert in Rutter Park. The PAPA membership unanimously agrees with this idea. We have discussed the likely location of the court with shire officers and believe it will be an ideal addition to the Rutter's Park playground and BBQ area and will provide more opportunities for family and youth use of the park. The PAPA membership has committed \$2,500 toward co-funding the project with WSC. The examples of costs we have seen, from the McLaughlin's Beach project, indicate the project's completion cost is approximately \$15,000. We ask council to consider allocating funding to the building of a ¼ Basketball court in Port Albert's Rutter's park in the 2017-18 budget?

Street Scaping and Beautification:

Beautification of our township's streets is one of the Port Albert community's top three priorities as indicated in the enclosed Community Plan brochure. We have been working with shire officers to complete the town entrance beautification project which has been funded by money carried forward from the 2015-16 budget. This project is expected to be complete in Autumn 2017 and has made a remarkable difference to the appearance and feel of our town entrance. During discussions for this project the need to continue the impetus and beautify the Tarraville Road to the Wharf Street junction has been discussed with shire officers, as has the idea of a whole of town tree planting program. We understand there are issues with the Tarraville Road tree scaping project but we have made headway and have greater understanding of the problems faced. We feel it is therefore critical to maintain the momentum we have and not relegate the work that has been done to the-never-never. We ask council to consider funding, in the 2017-18 draft budget, to support the continuation of planning for the streetscaping and township beautification of Port Albert.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Paterson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lynda Paterson
Secretary
Port Albert Progress Association

What next?

These survey results have been provided to Wellington Shire Council

The next step is for us to understand as a community what is necessary for our priorities to be actioned.

Progress will research each priority and create a plan for its realisation which will be presented to the Port Albert community and the relevant regulating authorities.

Any community expertise that can assist with this research and planning process is very welcome. The Port Albert Progress Association is a group of community volunteers. Our purpose is to advocate for the very best outcomes for Port Albert and the Port Albert Community.

You can obtain a copy of the survey results calculation spreadsheet by emailing

portalbertprogress@gmail.com

**Port Albert Progress
Association**

portalbertprogress@gmail.com



*enjoy the
experience*

www.portalbert.vic.au

Port Albert— Langsborough Community Plan Survey Results

What is a Community Plan?

A community plan is an opportunity for the Port Albert community to inform Wellington Shire council on our goals for our town.

This brochure lists the results of the 2016 community plan survey for Port Albert.

Participants were asked to prioritise unaddressed action points from the 2011-2015 community plan and also to nominate their current priorities.

Priorities

From the 2011-2015 Community Plan

Established on the basis of vote percentages and action points ranked between 1 and 14 where 1 has the highest value.

- 1** Extend and maintain the seawall.
- 2** Drainage.
- 3** Beautification of the township's streets.
- 4** Promotion of Port Albert's history and heritage.
- 5** Establish boardwalks along the Old Port walking trail.
- 6** Safe boating harbour with floating facilities.
- 7** RV/Caravan parking facilities.
- 8** Sandfly and Mosquito management.

9 Shared equally by Sealed Roads and Establishment of a Bus service between Port Albert and Yarram.

10 More Community events.

2016 NEW ACTION POINTS

Established based on vote numbers.

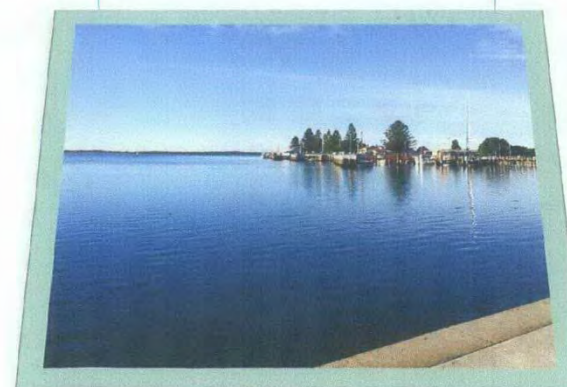
- 1** Establish a swimming area, sea baths or sandy beach
- 2** Solve the boat ramp parking and traffic flow problems
- 3** Shelter in Rutter Park and around BBQ area
- 4** Maritime sculptures/ Seafarers monument along the seawall
- 5** Establish Rutter Park as an activity centre. Tennis/ Basketball courts etc. Exercise equipment.

Multipurpose Tennis Courts

47% of survey participants indicated they would use the courts for tennis, basketball, croquet, bowls, bocce etc.

Community event ideas:

- 1** Music Festival
- 2** Fish/street food and wine festival/street party
- 3** Markets in the park
- 4** Happy with what we already have



Submission 7 – Analysis of the formatting and content of the Draft Budget (David Woodhouse):

The Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council
18 Desailly Street
PO Box 506, Sale, 3850

By email: enquiries@wellington.vic.gov.au

Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft

I make the following submission in respect of my views on the content of, and changes I'd like to see in, the document identified as the **Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft 18 April 2017** that has been available on the Council's website. My contact details are at the conclusion of my submission.

Please acknowledge receipt of my submission.

My most recent position has been as a superannuation fund compliance and risk manager where I have been exposed to the detailed review of documents. I have applied that rigour across the Budget Draft. I am not an accountant and I have not universally analysed the Budget Draft's values from an accounting perspective.

It is disappointing that the Councillors and community have been presented with a document that has mistakes in its content, be they spelling/grammar/format etc or the presentation of a few financial items. There are inconsistencies with the Council Plan 2017-21. The Budget Draft clearly has not been properly proof read. These instances could lead to a number of Risk Management Policy risks having to be managed. This disappointment is especially as Councillors are focussed on dealing with State and Federal Government Ministers, other politicians and addressing transport and local industry matters. It should not be for community feedback to identify mistakes and inconsistencies.

It would be reasonable for Council to expect that there be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of any document submitted to Council is complete and correct for the status (e.g. draft or final) of the document. In this instance, albeit as a Budget Draft, such an attestation would not permit mistakes (such as those I've identified) to be included: being for public review, it should be correct.

I have presented my submission in accordance with the requirements for submissions, via a table that follows.

Should you wish to discuss any of my submission, please contact me.

David Woodhouse, 15 May 2017

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
Presentation of a document with content omission, spelling and grammar mistakes, and punctuation, general formatting inconsistencies.	<p>The document has not been properly proof read.</p> <p>Some items have been omitted or are not consistent with the Council Plan 2017-21.</p> <p>Throughout the document there are spelling and grammatical mistakes, inconsistent capitalisations, inconsistent use of apostrophes by omission or mistaken inclusion, punctuation inconsistencies, format not being consistent, bracketed items not closed, inconsistent or no format when referencing years, not using plural when the context requires, mistakes in the presentation of financial values. I do not intend to list all of these too numerous inconsistencies, leaving it to Council Staff to identify them.</p> <p>Use of an automatic “spell and grammar check” tool would assist identify some of these.</p>	<p>I’d like to see the Budget document correctly presented in all aspects.</p> <p>The Budget document must be proof read.</p> <p>I’d like there to be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of the Budget document is complete and correct.</p>
Executive Summary.	<p>There’s inconsistency for the monetary nomenclature.</p> <p>Paragraph 2 of the Executive Summary refers to “\$0.7M”, and “\$17.5M million” (arguably a “billion” using British English), Item 1’s bullet point 1 cites “\$79.0 million” and bullet point 2 refers to “M”.</p> <p>I have not listed subsequent inconsistencies (if any) throughout the document, leaving it to Council Staff to check consistency for the agreed nomenclature.</p>	<p>I’d like to see correct and consistent use of monetary nomenclature, based on the International Standard ISO 80000-1:2009/Cor 1:2011 (as updated or replaced from time-to-time).</p>
Executive Summary - Key Areas of Funding. <small>NOTE: Some of the views expressed here are also relevant at the corresponding item at “Section 2. Services and service performance indicators” where the context requires: they are mentioned here as the first occurrence of the subject matter. Also see my submission for the Council Plan 2017-21.</small>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme 3 “Natural Environment” and Theme 4 “Lifelong Learning” are not mentioned in the Executive Summary (but are later at Section 2.4). In my view, it is good practice to align the content of documents, both intra-document and with others that are meant to be complementary. 2. Theme 5 “Economy” refers to “12) Strongly advocate for the relocation of the Federation Training’s Fulham campus to Sale CBD and in doing so improve accessibility to education and training outcomes for the Wellington community.”. As this was also included in the 2016/17 Budget document, it has obviously been carried over. 	<p>I’d like Themes 3 and 4 included in the Executive Summary because they feature later in the Budget document and in the Wellington Shire Council Plan 2017-21.</p> <p>I’d like to see that where an initiative is carried over from a previous year, include words in the succeeding year’s document that make it clear that that is the case.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
	<p>Where (such) an initiative is carried over from a previous year, it would be meaningful in the succeeding year's document to make it clear that that is the case. Otherwise to as good as repeat a 2016/17 initiative in 2017/18 can be misleading as a reader may believe it is new, when in fact it is "continuing" either due to always being intended to span more than one year, or it was a failed initiative in the prior year.</p> <p>I acknowledge that the aforementioned item 12) is contingent on the State Government being receptive to the advocacy: inability to achieve this in 2016/17 is not a failure of that year's Budget item. Nonetheless, citing its <u>continuation</u> in 2017/18 gives a more correct context for 2017/18.</p>	
	<p>3. Theme 6 is labelled as "Governance" yet this is inconsistent with the Wellington Shire Council Plan 2017-21: its forward reads "A sixth theme, Organisational, is included in this Plan". The Budget Draft at Section 2.6 refers to "Organisational".</p> <p>Theme 6's initiative "15) <i>Plan and implement an organisational wide electronic document and records management system.</i>" is (partially) inconsistent with Item 15) at Section 2.6, which reads "<i>Plan and implement an organisational wide electronic document, records and intranet management system</i>".</p>	I'd like to see that complementary documents are consistent and correct, and that there's consistency intra-document.
	<p>Theme 6 reads at its initiative 16) '<i>Implement Year 3 of the Information Communications Technology (ICT) Strategic Road Map 2015-17 to achieve organisational wide infrastructure and technology upgrades.</i>'.</p> <p>Although the ICT Strategic Road Map is not (seemingly) available on Council's website, I infer that the timeframe afforded to implement Year 3 of the Road Map is aligned with calendar years and not financial years. I notice that the exact same text as initiative 16) appeared in the 2016/17 Budget at its pages 5 and 15. This supports my inference that calendar years apply to the ICT Strategic Road Map, with year 3 (2017) spanning two financial years.</p> <p>On this inference, there's a 31 December 2017 expiration to meet the initiative: I believe this should be made clear, to strictly enforce accountability and not provide an arbitrary 6 month extension. Otherwise, the labelling is misleading.</p>	I'd like to see initiatives that are clear as to their dates/duration of applicability.

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
	<p>4. Theme 6's initiative 17) <i>"Manage the Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Audio Visual (AV) design, plan and installation for the Port of Sale Cultural Hub (PoSCH) Precinct Project"</i> also appeared in the 2016/17 Budget at its pages 5 and 15, albeit with less words.</p> <p>I commented above that Item 16) has been cited in successive years.</p> <p>On a comparative reading of 2016/17 with 2017/18, re-inclusion of 17) is arguably an admission that the 2016/17 item was not achieved. This could then lead to questioning as to accountability and the consequences to those responsible for not meeting the Budget initiatives.</p> <p>If initiatives are to be included in successive Budgets, the succeeding year should indicate the "continuation" of the initiative (from the previous year). This could avoid any mistaken belief that an initiative is new to its year. It would also provide a degree of accountability rather than simply roll-over to the future.</p> <p>This observation may be applicable to other initiatives/items in the Budget draft: not being mentioned by me is not intended to indicate that there are no other instances.</p>	<p>I'd like to see fresh, realistic initiatives from year to year and not simply repeat those unachieved in previous years.</p> <p>If it is necessary to re-include them, the narrative should mention (in whatever words) that they are "continuing".</p> <p>At the appropriate time, there also needs to be reporting of the previous year's initiative having not been met.</p>
Budget Reports		
Section 1.2.	Strategic Objectives 1.1 and 2.2 do not verbatim match those in the Council Plan 2017-21. Council needs to determine which is correct.	I'd like to see that complementary documents are consistent and correct.
Section 2.	<p>The inconsistencies of Section 1.2 above flow through to Section 2.1 and Section 2.2.</p> <p>My view is that to ensure there's 100% consistency, all occurrences of Strategic Objectives throughout the document must be checked by Council Staff for consistency with the correct source document.</p>	I'd like to see that complementary documents are consistent and correct, and that there's consistency intra-document.
Section 2.3.	<p>For Natural Environment there's a Service Performance Outcome Indicator <i>"Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill (Percentage of garbage, recyclable and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)"</i>.</p> <p>As I understand it, there is no specific "green organics" kerbside collection. If my understanding of the Indicator is correct, that Performance Measure is spurious with its reference to "green organics".</p>	<p>I'd like to see Performance Measures that are realistic and not spurious.</p> <p>This comment is applicable across all Measures, which will need to be judged by Council Staff.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
Section 2.4.	<p>The Theme 4 initiatives are in my view too narrow and bland. It all reads as being “Arts and Culture” based. Where’s the mention of the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) learning areas?</p> <p>The Council Plan at Strategy 4.1.1 reads “<i>Advocate for improved access to high quality learning environments within Wellington Shire.</i>”. At Strategy 4.2.1 it reads “<i>Actively promote and encourage industry, employers and further education providers to work in partnership to train and recruit people locally and provide opportunity for career progression within Wellington</i>”.</p> <p>Why are there no Theme 4 initiatives supporting intra-Wellington learning and training?</p> <p>My view is that (as a minimum) the Council Plan Theme 5 “Economy” initiative re Federation Training has as much relevance to, and should be shared with, Theme 4. TAFE and Neighbourhood Houses’ Certificate courses also have a place.</p>	<p>I would like to see a wider range of initiatives that include STEM.</p> <p>I’d like to see the “Lifelong Training” training Strategy supported by including the Federation Training initiative, to be shared between Themes 4 and 5. TAFE and Neighbourhood Houses deserve suitable mention.</p>
Section 6.1.	<p>Where is more information available about the following two (new) Capital Work Areas? This is so that their inclusion in the Budget can be given proper consideration by the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under <i>Property</i>, the entry “LAND Maffra – Local Open Space”. Where is this and for what purpose? • Under <i>Parks Open Space and Streetscapes</i>, the entry “Maffra – CBD Streetscape Renewal”. <p>I would hope that this is not all to be expended on simply updating pedestrian lights!</p> <p>I presume that there will be full public consultation for these projects. This is to permit scrutiny of both the scope and the costs. It is not possible to make submissions for these and other projects presented Budget Draft when the details are not known. In a similar vein, achieving the initiatives is unable to be judged by the community when they do not know the details.</p> <p>This comment is not necessarily only relevant to the two Maffra examples cited.</p>	<p>I would like to see commentary that sets out the scope of all initiatives/projects to give the community better insight as to the suitability of the budget item and hence be able to make proper/considered submissions.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
Table 7.7, page 43.	<p>The use of “000’s” values is omitted in the Table’s heading and hence the values are not correctly expressed. This is due to its omission in the “Victorian City Council Model Budget 2017/18” template’s Section 7.8* which “changes” (probably mistakenly and not deliberately) how values are presented from “000’s” in previous tables to the full value. Why has the Council Staff not noticed this (let alone the provider of the draft)?</p> <p>* The numbering difference to the Wellington Budget document is because the document omits the template’s Section 7.6 municipal charge.</p> <p>For the Boisdale Common Effluent System Charge, on the numbers presented, I presume rounding and the order of magnitude (and no want to show decimals) is why the 2016/17’s value of 10 and 2017/18’s value of 10 result in a “-3%” change. If not, how does the change come about?</p>	<p>I’d like to see correctly presented values.</p> <p>I’d like there to be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of the document in totality is complete and correct.</p>
Table 7.8, page 44.	<p>The “000’s” is omitted as cited above (for the same reason), with reference to the “Victorian City Council Model Budget 2017/18” template’s Section 7.9*.</p> <p>* The numbering difference to the Wellington Budget document is because the document omits the template’s Section 7.6 municipal charge.</p>	<p>I’d like to see correctly presented values.</p> <p>I’d like there to be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of the document in totality is complete and correct.</p>
Budget Analysis		
Section 10.3.1.	<p>The term EFT is undefined in the document, as opposed to FTE, which is defined later at Section 10.3.1 in its second occurrence, preceding the second table “... <i>full time equivalent full time (FTE) Council Staff</i> ...” (sic). That definition is a mix of FTE and (what would be) EFT. Which is the preferred acronym?</p> <p>Shouldn’t the (above) narrative preceding the second table read “... full time equivalent (FTE) Council Staff ...” to be consistent with the Budget Reports Section 3.6’s third table? If not, the Section 10.3.1 narrative would require reference to “Permanent Part time” that are included in the table. Replacing FTE by EFT (if adopted) and the correct grammar would be required.</p>	<p>I’d like to see acronyms (and jargon) avoided unless they are defined at their first occurrence.</p> <p>Please use correct and consistent acronyms in any case.</p> <p>Narratives must be complete for the subject matter.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft

Item	View	Changes
Section 10.3.2.	<p>How does the Budget factor in using “Local suppliers” for Materials and Services?</p> <p>What’s the variation of budgeting (cost to budget) for “Local vs non-Local” suppliers? I advocate use of local suppliers, particularly “local to Wellington”.</p> <p>My view is that the community should be able to see tangible evidence of the matters prescribed in the Council’s Procurement Policy being followed. Allied with Theme 5 “Economy”, supporting true locals has a multiplier effect: the Council should be seen as a leader in that.</p> <p>To pick up on a recent Government or regulator initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the country of origin of print/copy paper and paper for other printed material used by Council? • What are Council’s terms (as a debtor) for payment to counterparty creditors/suppliers? <p>Is there a material “operating capital” advantage to Council through prolonging its debtor terms despite a supplier’s shorter credit terms? (i.e. “pay creditors late but collect Council debts early”.)</p> <p>Individual contracts may have specific terms. I would hope that the Council as a debtor would meet each counterparty’s credit terms and not impose its own extended terms. Analogously, I would expect that in general terms, Council treats in debtors and creditors consistently and not unilaterally favour the Council.</p> <p>This is to demonstrate that Council is fair in its business dealings from both sides: as such, it links with the “Economy” Theme 5 of the Council Plan 2017-21, and in part can assist suppliers’ cash flow.</p>	<p>I’d like to see inclusion of the budgetary impact (be it + or -) for use of local suppliers, and a statement of initiatives that result in using local suppliers for Materials and Services, to give credence to the matters prescribed in the Procurement Policy.</p> <p>I’d like to see public disclosure (in general terms) of the Council’s debtor/credit terms to demonstrate its fairness to suppliers.</p>
Section 12.1.	<p>The reading of the Capital Works table would generally be better understood if the heading row is repeated across all pages of the table.</p> <p>This comment may also be applicable at other Sections of the Budget document.</p>	<p>Please repeat tables’ headings on each page that the tables extend across.</p>
Section 12.1.5.	<p>This is labelled “Intangibles: \$25,000”. It continues “<i>For the 2017/18 year, \$597,000 will be expended on corporate systems and applications.</i>”.</p>	<p>I’d like to see values that are sensible within an item, and entries checked as to their veracity before publishing.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
	These two items are seemingly inconsistent. How does the \$25,000 reconcile with the \$597,000? In what way are “corporate systems and applications” intangibles? What’s missing? It suggests that this not been proof read.	The document must be proof read.
Section 17.1.	<p>This references “<i>The revised Council Plan 2018-22.</i>” This is obviously incorrect for the years cited. Again, no apparent proof reading.</p> <p>As the Council Plan 2017-21 is yet to be adopted – it is open for submissions – labelling it (for whatever years) as “revised” seems redundant.</p> <p>My submission for the Council Plan 2017-21 references the “statement” cited in Section 17.1. Any outcome from there should flow through to the Budget Draft.</p>	I’d like to see correct references and correct grammar.
Appendix A.	<p>Why does A3 copying/printing Black & White at 50 cents cost <i>more than</i> double that of A4’s 20 cents? A3 is double A4 size. Colour A3 at \$2 is double that of A4’s \$1.</p> <p>Why have facsimile “first page” fees increased so dramatically?</p>	<p>I’d like to see consistency in copying/printing fees: A3 being universally double that of A4.</p> <p>All fees should reflect the cost of providing the service, with no disproportionate fee increases.</p>
	<p>“Dishonoured” fees cannot exceed the reasonable cost incurred without a premium/penalty (c.f. financial institutions).</p> <p>Are the Council fees set to only be the cost to council?</p>	Dishonoured” fees to reflect the reasonable cost incurred without a premium/penalty.
	<p>It is my understanding that tipping fees are payable by charitable organisations for use of landfill facilities for material unsuited for the charities’ purposes that cannot otherwise be disposed. I believe that having to pay tipping fees is inappropriate and that vouchers should be freely available to these charities.</p> <p>Increasingly these charities’ collection sites are becoming dumping zones for material such as dirty clothes, unhygienic mattresses, broken or dirty household items, toys and furniture, non-working or dirty appliances/equipment, dirty books/magazines, new appliances’ boxes/foam packaging waste and generally, junk items.</p>	I’d like to see charitable organisations receive free voucher access to use Council landfill/transfer station facilities.

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft

Item	View	Changes
	<p>It is an indictment on our society that instead of persons taking responsibility to dispose of their own rubbish and pay fees to use Council's facilities, they shift the burden to the charities to provide facilities – their own, volunteer or commercial contractors - to dispose of others' waste. Fees or costs payable by the charities reduces the resources for their welfare and other charitable work.</p> <p>Perhaps it's a message that the Council facilities are not meeting community expectations/needs, either the fact of fees being payable in addition to the Waste Infrastructure and Garbage Charges, lack of more frequent hard rubbish collections, or an inability to take items to landfill (e.g. if no suitable vehicle is available, yet admittedly the larger items still get to the charity's site!).</p> <p>It is possible that some of the dumped items otherwise may have been dumped on public land for the Council to have to remove: in that respect, dumping at a charity shifts the cost burden from the Council to the charity organisations.</p>	
<p>Pensioners' Rates and Fees generally.</p>	<p>I note that there is no Council provided Eligible Pensioner rate rebate (on top of what is provided by the State Government). There is no obvious Council "Financial hardship" deferred payment program for rates.</p> <p>Generally pensioners are living off low, fixed incomes: an Eligible Pensioner rates' rebate (permitted by the waiver provisions of Section 171(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1989) and other concessions would show that Council recognises that rates, fees and charges may be increasingly harder for people to pay and a rebate should assist easing some of the household budget pressures.</p> <p>Some Councils provide a "Financial hardship" deferred payment program at two levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest-free on deferred rates for eligible pensioners over the age of 65 who have lived in their home for more than 10 years; and • The interest rate charged for other people qualifying under the policy is reduced to be much lower than the rate prescribed by the State Government. <p>Other than for Pet registration and some sport activities, there are no apparent concessions provided to pensioners in respect of Landfill charges and generally otherwise.</p>	<p>I'd like to see Council introduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an Eligible Pensioner rate rebate (on top of what is provided by the State Government); • a "Financial hardship" deferred payment program for rates and; • Pensioner concessions in respect of Landfill charges and generally otherwise. <p>Otherwise, Council should include a statement in the Budget as to why there are not across the board concessions for Pensioners.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft

Item	View	Changes
	I am not in a position to cost the budget implications for the above.	
Landfill tipping fees for waste generated by Council owned assets.	<p>It is timely that Budget submissions are being sought in autumn.</p> <p>Residents of streets with deciduous trees on nature strips have for the past few months/many weeks been dealing with autumn leaves. Often it is necessary to collect these and take them to landfill at the cost of the residents, either because of their volume or being of a type that are not conducive to home composting (e.g. leaves of Plane and Liquid Ambers [and their conkers], and other species are more voluminous than other species, and do not decompose as well as others unless mulched). Similarly, residents throughout the year deal with disposal from other maintenance of nature strips – generally, mowing.</p> <p>The Council Policy Manual at Nature Strip Maintenance Policy Number: 4.1.2 refers: <i>“In urban areas, abutting property owners are responsible for the amenity maintenance of the nature strips outside their property. Generally this refers to the regular mowing of the nature strips but may extend to the management of other vegetation types (excluding trees) as needed.”</i>.</p> <p>By the exclusion in that Policy, residents are not responsible for the management of trees’ leaves and accordingly, there is no prescription for abutting property owners to remove Council’s leaves, although residents often choose - or believe they are obliged - to do so. I have never seen evidence of the Council cleaning up leaves on residential nature strips, which therefore impedes the prescriptive regular mowing which by the Policy relates to grass.</p> <p>As the trees and nature strips are owned by the Council, many resident are therefore paying landfill fees for maintenance of Council owned assets generating waste. It would be appropriate to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a specific green organics collection service [to then validate the reference at Section 2.3 cited above] (at no cost to residents for Council assets’ waste), or • provide vouchers to residents for use at their local landfill, to compensate for dealing with Council assets’ waste. 	<p>In the absence of a no-cost green waste collection service for Council owned grass clippings and leaves, I’d like to see compensation to the community/residents for their maintenance of Council owned assets generating waste.</p> <p>12 vouchers per property for use at any time of year would be an appropriate start.</p>

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
	<p>I acknowledge there is at least one weekend a year affording “free green waste” disposal at relevant landfills: end-of-year timing does not suit autumn leaves, which can need several trips to the landfill over autumn. Similarly, grass clippings cannot always be stockpiled.</p> <p>An alternative is that the “<i>abutting property owners</i>” invoice the Council for personal services for maintaining Council owned assets generating waste.</p> <p>Section 10.2.3 reads “<i>Waste management tipping fees revenue is anticipated to grow by \$53,000 over the coming year due to projection of extra landfill waste.</i>”. As there’s no breakdown, I am unable to quantify the cost to revenue of providing vouchers and pensioner concessions otherwise.</p>	
	<p>Section 15.2 reads “EPA Levy Charge. “<i>While we can do little regarding the price, we can certainly, as a community, make greater efforts to recycle more, and reduce the volume of waste to landfill. Council is committed to progressing this within the community through the delivery of education programs in schools focusing on recycling and resource conservation</i>”.</p> <p>Application to nature strips’ leaves and grass needs to be mentioned, including the cost saving to <u>residents</u> to recycle compared to paying fees to dispose of Council owned assets generating waste.</p>	
Financial Values.	Other than where indicated, I have not cross checked the values presented in the Budget Draft to those in the Council Plan 2017-21. That’s up to Council Staff.	
Aligning with the Council Plan.	Any adjustments to the Council Plan 2017-21 must be adjusted in the Budget Draft as applicable. Similarly, any financial related changes in the Budget document may flow through to the Council Plan’s Strategic Resource Plan . Council Staff will need to ensure there is mutual consistency.	

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft		
Item	View	Changes
Other		
Future Budget – Maffra streetlights.	<p>There is a lack of lighting in Maffra's residential streets.</p> <p>There are too few streetlights, which is not conducive to safe use of the streets by pedestrians - whether there is a footpath or not – and by vehicles including bicycles. Some streets virtually have no lighting because of street trees: this poses a conundrum of not diminishing the tree canopy versus adequate lighting. A night inspection – on foot or bicycle – would reveal the extent of the inadequacies.</p> <p>I do not know if there has been an initiative to replace all streetlights' globes with LEDs: this would improve the efficiency but on its own would not improve the adequacy.</p>	I would like that the 2018/19 Budget include a project to upgrade the Maffra residential street lights, both in number and efficiency.

Submission prepared by:

David Woodhouse, 15 May 2017

E&OE

Supplementary Submission – Analysis of Draft Budget content (David Woodhouse):

The Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council
18 Desailly Street

PO Box 506, Sale, 3850

By email: enquiries@wellington.vic.gov.au

Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft: Corrigenda submission

I made a submission on 15 May 2017 in respect of the **Wellington Shire Council - 2017/18 Budget Draft**. I'd like to supplement this by two corrections:

1. Appendix A - Waste facilities and charities

I had written "It is my understanding that tipping fees are payable by charitable organisations for use of landfill facilities for material unsuited for the charities' purposes that cannot otherwise be disposed. I believe that having to pay tipping fees is inappropriate and that vouchers should be freely available to these charities."

Supplementary submission: I have overnight seen on the Council website, and now acknowledge, that "Tip Concessions" are available to a limited number of charitable and service organisations.

Having reconsidered my position, I'd like Council to extend this to more than the 10 cubic metres should an individual organisation's circumstances warrant. This would assist charity organisations respond to the increased incidence of "dumping".

Also availability should not be restrictive if a central organisation has separate sub-organisations in Shire towns (e.g. St Vincent de Paul Maffra Conference is separate to Sale Conference; Rotary and Lions clubs are separate in each town).

2. Section 2.4 – Theme 4 "Lifelong Training"

In my submission I had erroneously disconnected Federation Training from being a TAFE institution: a mistake by me that I acknowledge.

If you could bring these clarifications to the Council's attention, that would be appreciated.

Thanks

David Woodhouse, 22 May 2017

Submission 8 - Objection to application of landing charges at West Sale Airport (Jock Folan):

"As a pilot and aircraft operator I have been bringing my aircraft to West Sale airport for maintenance for the past 12 years spending between 30-60K annually. I now note that the council has taken the ill advised step of applying landing charges to use the airport. It is generally accepted that landing charges decrease the utilisation of airports as pilots and operators prefer to use airports where there are no landing charges, it is not cost effective for the area or council as greater income may be derived by higher utilisation. Additionally the landing charges are only applied to General Aviation not Recreational Aviation aircraft, where is the fairness in that. Your landing charges should be dropped. Should the landing charges remain I will be seeking an alternate maintenance venue where there are no landing charges.

Jock Folan"

Submission 9 - Objection to application of landing charges at West Sale Airport (Peter Symons):

“Wellington Council,

I write to voice my concern over newly introduced landing charges my category of recreational aircraft at YWSL airport.

As the owner of a Private General Aviation aircraft (VH-BFB), I have been using Southern Aircraft Services at YWSL for my maintenance requirements. I fly from Lilydale airport in Melbourne's east to West Sale often to assist others getting there or being picked up also for aircraft maintenance work.

We use our aircraft privately and have a MTOW of less than 2000kg.

Landing charges are now a deterrent to supporting the local businesses at the airport. We would like to support the local business and travel out of our way to do so. These landing charges to our category of recreational aircraft will only make the decision easier to have the work done at closer, more convenient maintenance organizations at Tyabb, Lilydale or even Moorabbin.

I would rather support the locals out in Gippsland as I have for some time but need to convince you that landing charges for private aircraft under 2000kg will affect our ability to do so.

I trust you will reconsider and advise.

Regards,
Peter Symons

Owner: Beech A36 VH-BFB”

Submission 10 - Objection to application of landing charges at West Sale Airport (David Marty):

“Dear Sir/Madam

I am a recreational General Aviation pilot based in Melbourne, who has been using West Sale for Maintenance for the last 8 years

My average yearly expenditure at the airport is around \$ 20,000 dollars, last year was \$140,000

It is insulting to say the least to have this landing fee imposed every time I fly in for work to be done

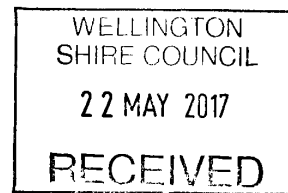
I request you reconsider the charges, or at least have them waived for aircraft having maintenance as they do at Moorabbin airport.

Yours sincerely

David Marty
Owner / Bonanza A36”

**Submission 11 - Request for the installation of a 1/4 basketball court at Yarram Skate Park
(Yarram and District Traders & Tourism Association):**

**YARRAM AND DISTRICT
TRADERS AND TOURISM
ASSOCIATION INC
P.O. BOX 133
YARRAM 3971**



22nd May 2017

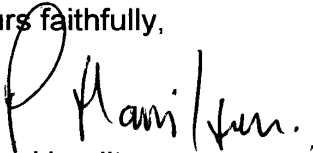
Mr. David Morcom
Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council
P.O. Box 506
SALE 3850

Dear Sir,

Ref: Development of Yarram Station Grounds

On behalf of my Association I would like to make a submission to Council for consideration as part of its 2017-2018 budget. The Association believes that the construction of a quarter size basketball court adjacent to the skateboard park should be given favourable consideration by Council. This would be an excellent addition to the area and would add value to the youth space in the parklands. The Association believes that the cost of this court would be in the order of \$15,000 and would be prepared to facilitate a local contribution to the project. I look forward to your response in due course.

Yours faithfully,


Peter Hamilton
Secretary

ITEM C2.2

RECEIPT AND CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS RELATING TO THE 2017-21 DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN

DIVISION: CORPORATE SERVICES
ACTION OFFICER: ACTING MANAGER PEOPLE AND EXCELLENCE
DATE: 30 MAY 2017

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

OBJECTIVE

To receive and consider any verbal and written submissions (as attached) relating to the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and consider submissions relating to the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.

BACKGROUND

Council resolved at its meeting on 18 April 2017 to:

- Publicly advertise for submissions on the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.
- Consider any submissions received at a Special Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 30 May 2017 at 3pm.

In accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council invited interested persons to make written submissions in relation to the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan by 5pm on Wednesday 17 May 2017, with verbal submissions being heard by Council on 30 May 2017.

Council received 1 written submission in response to the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan and will consider the submission in conjunction with any verbal submissions prior to the 6 June 2017 Council Meeting, where it will be recommended that the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan, including any revisions, be adopted.

OPTIONS

In accordance with s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council is required to receive and consider all submissions.

PROPOSAL

That Council receive and consider any verbal and written submissions (as attached) relating to the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The strategies incorporated in the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan will have varying degrees of financial impact over the short and longer term.

Fullest understanding of the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan, will be gained by reading it in conjunction with Council's 2017/18 Budget.

The draft 2017-21 Council Plan incorporates in its Strategic Resource Plan segment a summary of budget provisions.

LEGISLATIVE IMPACT

The 2017-21 Draft Council Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* a person has a right to make a submission on the proposed 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.

COUNCIL POLICY IMPACT

The 2017-21 Draft Council Plan has been prepared generally in the context of existing Council policies, but may lead to their revision or the development of new policies as a result of implementation of the initiatives contained in it.

RESOURCES AND STAFF IMPACT

The strategies contained within the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan will generally be implemented within the existing staff resources of the Council.

The Strategic Resource component of this 2017-21 Draft Council Plan outlines the financial and staff resources provided for its implementation.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Consideration of submissions for the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan may impact on the objectives, initiatives and strategies that the Council uses to implement its vision on behalf of the community over the next four years.

CONSULTATION IMPACT

Under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Council advertised the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan and sought submissions from the public.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPACT

The 2017-21 Draft Council Plan is a strategic document and specific risk management consideration will be given to each initiative during implementation stage in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Policy.

	CORRESPONDENT	SUBMISSION
1.	David Woodhouse	Analysis of formatting and content of the 2017-21 Draft Council Plan.

Submission 1 – Analysis of 2017-21 Draft Council Plan content (David Woodhouse):

The Chief Executive Officer
Wellington Shire Council
18 Desailly Street

PO Box 506, Sale, 3850

By email: enquiries@wellington.vic.gov.au

Wellington Shire Council Plan 2017-21

I make the following submission in respect of my views on the content of, and changes I'd like to see in, the document identified as the **Wellington Shire Council Plan 2017-21** (undated) that has been available on the Council's website. My contact details are at the conclusion of my submission.

Please acknowledge receipt of my submission.

My most recent position has been as a superannuation fund compliance and risk manager where I have been exposed to the detailed review of documents. I have applied that rigour across the Council Plan.

It is disappointing that the presented document has mistakes (minor spelling/grammar, glaring financial discrepancies between the Council Plan and Council's Budget Draft). This signifies that the document clearly has not been properly proof read by Council Staff. It should not be for community feedback to identify these instances. There's a reputation risk and other risks for the Council to manage.

It would be reasonable for Council to expect that there be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of any document submitted to Council is complete and correct for the status (e.g. draft or final) of the document: in this instance, being a draft does not excuse mistakes and inconsistencies in a document that is for public review.

I have presented my submission in accordance with the requirements for submissions, via a table.

Should you wish to discuss any of the comments, please contact me.

David Woodhouse, 15 May 2017

E&OE

Submission - Wellington Shire Council - Council Plan 2017-21		
Item	View	Changes
Presentation of a document with spelling mistakes.	<p>There is a very limited number of spelling mistakes, with instances of inconsistent capitalisation and a grammatical redundancy.</p> <p>Use of an automatic “spell and grammar check” tool would assist Council Staff identify some of these (and perhaps any that I have missed).</p>	I’d like to see document that is correctly presented.
Strategic Objectives consistency with Budget Draft.	<p>My submission for the 2017/18 Budget Draft identified some inconsistencies between Strategic Objectives in that document and the Council Plan.</p> <p>Assuming the Council Plan prevails, no changes to the Plan should be necessary on the basis of the Budget Draft’s inconsistencies.</p>	If the Council Plan prevails, changes should not be necessary.
Theme 2 “Services and Infrastructure”.	<p>The Vision includes “... Communities are connected to places and services through access to a public transport system.”.</p> <p>On a literal reading, this statement is clearly aspirational. In my view it is generally unachievable if it is intended to be read as being universally applicable to the Shire.</p> <p>Public transport intra-Wellington is limited and is not co-ordinated. Has any Councillor or Executive Manager travelled or realistically expect to travel from Mt Wellington to the Ninety Mile Beach, or the entire Shire, by traditional public transport (excluding taxis)?</p> <p>Council is on the record as lobbying government for better public transport. A Councillor is on the record as stating “work was needed to ensure proper links between train and bus services” and gave examples (Times/Spectator 5 May 2017). In my estimation, none of these will deliver unilaterally across the Shire the specifics of the aspirational commentary cited.</p>	I’d like to see that if any statements are to be made, they must be able to be supported by publically available empirical evidence, otherwise notwithstanding being aspirational, unless they can ever actually be delivered, they should be omitted.
Theme 4 “Lifelong Learning”.	<p>There’s no mention of any Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) areas of learning. There’s more to Learning than the traditional “Arts and Culture” which seems to be focus of attention. Encouragement for interest in and learning STEM should come from all levels of government.</p> <p>Libraries have STEM publications, although that’s unlikely to be sufficient to counterbalance the seeming dominance of Arts and Culture.</p> <p>Perhaps there can be STEM activities and exhibitions at Cultural centres.</p>	I would like to it recognised that Lifelong Learning can include STEM, with less emphasis on “Arts and Culture”.

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Theme 6 “Organisation”.	<p>I believe that more emphasis should be given to Governance of the Shire’s operations, to demonstrate that the Council takes governance seriously. I’d suggest that there be a formal Governance Statement and a supporting Framework.</p> <p>The Council Plan’s Section 6.3.3 and the Council Policy Manual would be a start to a Framework, but arguably not enough. A Framework would overarch the inclusion of a section in the Annual Report with its Governance and Management Checklist, and various other published documents. That reporting is a by-product of prescribed governance under the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> but in itself is not a Framework: it is not generally a statement of commitment to Governance, but a response.</p>			<p>I’d like to see the Council Plan refer to a (yet to be drafted) Governance Statement, with a Governance Framework prepared.</p>																									
Human Resources.	<p>Does Council employ any Staff with a 457 Visa?</p> <p>If so, for what positions?</p> <p>If so, why are locals not employed in those positions?</p>			<p>I’d like to see a statement by Council affirming its position to recruit local staff and hence endorse its Theme 5 “Economy”.</p> <p>Failing that, there should be a statement as to why not.</p>																									
Statement of Capital Works.	<p>There are text and values’ discrepancies between the Council Plan and Budget Draft documents.</p> <p>Under the Council Plan’s Infrastructure heading, the <i>Waste and Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes</i> items read:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>2018 (\$’000)</th><th>2019 (\$’000)</th><th>2020 (\$’000)</th><th>2021 (\$’000)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Waste</td><td>270</td><td>5,395</td><td>4,320</td><td>5,580</td></tr> <tr> <td>Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes</td><td>6,294</td><td>100</td><td>310</td><td>230</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Budget Draft at Budget Reports Section 3.5 reads:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>2018 (\$’000)</th><th>2019 (\$’000)</th><th>2020 (\$’000)</th><th>2021 (\$’000)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Waste Management</td><td>270</td><td>100</td><td>310</td><td>230</td></tr> </tbody> </table>				2018 (\$’000)	2019 (\$’000)	2020 (\$’000)	2021 (\$’000)	Waste	270	5,395	4,320	5,580	Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes	6,294	100	310	230		2018 (\$’000)	2019 (\$’000)	2020 (\$’000)	2021 (\$’000)	Waste Management	270	100	310	230	<p>I’d like to see document that is correctly presented.</p> <p>I’d like there to be an attestation by Council Executives that the presentation of the Council Plan document is complete and correct.</p>
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	Parks, open space and streetscapes	6,294	5,415	4,320	5,580	
	<p>The discrepancies - transpositions - are glaring!</p> <p>I came across these transposed and mismatched entries by chance: they simply did not look right in the Council Plan! Why has Council Staff not identified these? What proof reading was there?</p> <p>I admit that the transposition across adjacent rows is at least explainable. Nonetheless, the principles of “correctness and consistency” are at risk. As the Council’s Risk Management Strategy does not appear to be publically available, I am unable to judge how these principles are managed in the risk areas identified in the Risk Management Policy.</p> <p>These instances (and other experiences I have had) instil little confidence in the preparation of Council documents. There’s a reputation risk.</p> <p>It begs the question: “What other Council Plan items have been incorrectly transposed from the Budget Draft?”.</p>					
Financial and Other Values.	Other than where indicated, I have not cross referenced the values presented to those in the 2017/18 Budget Draft. That’s up to Council Staff.					
Aligning with the Budget Draft.	Any adjustments to the Council Plan 2017-21 must be adjusted in the Budget Draft as applicable. If the Council Plan 2017-21’s Themes prevail, the Plan should be immune from relevant corrections in the Budget document. However, the Strategic Resource Plan is contingent on any amendments to the Budget Draft. Council Staff will need to ensure there is mutual consistency.					

Submission prepared by:

David Woodhouse, 15 May 2017

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