



Councillor Briefing Notes

Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 1.30 pm

273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

Attendance

Mayor

Cr John White

Deputy Mayor

Cr Sonia Buckley (Online)

Councillors

Cr Arthur Allen

Cr Jodie Ashworth

Cr Tom Crook

Cr Barry Davis

Cr Joanne Eastman

Cr Bernie Farquhar

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Sarah Johnston

Kris Wain

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

General Manager Business Excellence

Acting General Manager Place and Community

Apologies

Chris Stephenson General Manager Place and Community

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

Councillor Briefing Session

Presentation

2.1 Councillor Professional Development: Preventing Fraud and Corruption

Councillors received a presentation and an overview of Victoria's fraud and corruption control framework which is part of Councillors ongoing compulsory training. The presentation had a focus on:

- recognising and reporting fraud and corruption, including high-risk activities such as lobbying; and
- key principles, policies, and practices that support a strong fraud prevention and integrity culture within Council operations.

Place and Community

3.1 Workshop - 'Housing for everyone'

Councillors workshopped the 'Housing for everyone' initiative, focusing on local challenges such as housing shortages, lack of diverse housing stock, and gaps in social and affordable housing. This is a theme from the Council Plan and will result in development of a Council position and range of policies and actions.

3.2 Severe Weather Season - "Council is Prepared" - Summer 2025/26

Councillors received a presentation on the upcoming high-risk weather season forecast, with an emphasis on community preparedness and updated local incident management plans. Ongoing coordination with emergency agencies was highlighted to ensure readiness for both fire and flood events, along with Council's own preparedness.

3.3 Bairnsdale Tennis Centre Site Visit

Councillors were briefed and discussed the Bairnsdale Tennis Centre, including Committee of Management options in preparation for an upcoming site visit.

Assets and Environment

4.1 Capital Works and Major Projects Status as at 30 September 2025

Councillors were briefed on the status of the Capital Works and Major Projects as of 30 September 2025. This includes a review of current capital projects and outlines proposed adjustments to ensure alignment with strategic priorities and delivery timelines.

Reports to Future Council Meeting

5.1 CONFIDENTIAL Appointment Matter

Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in this report is confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (f) Personal Information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item would unreasonably disclose personal information about the Independent Member of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Employment and Remuneration Committee.

5.2 CONFIDENTIAL Contractual Matter

Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in this report is confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (g) Private Commercial Information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that(ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage, by disclosing financial information to competitors.

5.3 CONFIDENTIAL Council Business Matter

Confidentiality Notice

The information contained in this report is confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* because it relates to: (a) Council Business Information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations, if prematurely released.

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if released, the information discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item would prejudice Council's ability to negotiate effectively with contractors and funding bodies by disclosing sensitive financial details.

6 Councillors General Business

Committee of Management and Insurance

Councillors discussed the Councils Committee of Management and Insurance.

Action Officer: *Stuart McConnell General Manager Assets and Environment*

Raymond Island Project Funding

Councillors discussed an externally funded Raymond Island Project and Officers provided an update on this project.

7 Meeting Close

Meeting closed at: 5.37 pm

Approved by: Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer