



Councillor Briefing Notes

Tuesday 7 July 2026 at 9.30 am

273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

Attendance

Mayor

Cr Jodie Ashworth

Deputy Mayor

Cr Tom Crook

Councillors

Cr Arthur Allen

Cr Sonia Buckley (Online)

Cr Joanne Eastman

Cr Bernie Farquhar

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Cr John White

Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Phill Phillipou

Chris Stephenson

Wayne Richards

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

Acting General Manager Business Excellence

General Manager Projects and Planning

Executive Manager Place and Community

Recognition of Traditional Custodians

We would like to acknowledge the First Nation people from the land on which we are gathered and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

Apologies

Cr Barry Davis (Leave of Absence)

Sarah Johnston General Manager Business Excellence

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

Councillor Briefing Session

Officer Briefings and Workshops

1.1 East Gippsland Aquatic Strategy

Councillors met with the East Gippsland Aquatic Strategy (Strategy) consultants and provided their views on some of the considerations and important aspects the strategy should address. The discussions and Councillor feedback will help inform the development of the Strategy.

External Presentation

2.1 East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority Presentation - Gippsland Lakes Monitoring, Research and Future Opportunities

Councillors received a presentation on the Gippsland Lakes monitoring, research and future opportunities. The discussions focused on the health of the Gippsland Lakes, including current environmental monitoring, research activities and the partnerships that support management of the lakes. The discussion also explored opportunities to support the long term health and sustainability of this important environmental asset. East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority were invited to brief Council as Council had expressed interest in both the health of the Gippsland Lakes and future opportunities for a research and discovery centre.

Officer Briefings and Workshops (continued)

2.2 Revised East Bairnsdale/Lucknow Precinct Structure Plan

Attendance

Cr Joanne Eastman and Cr Sonia Buckley (online) joined the meeting at 1.45 pm.

Councillors were briefed on the revised East Bairnsdale/Lucknow Precinct Structure Plan. Discussion focused on future planning considerations and the next steps.

Reports to Future Council Meeting

3.1 Planning and Development - Council Policies for Review

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, Planning and Development – Council Policies for Review. This report will go to a future Council Meeting for consideration and suggests changes to three of the Council Policies that guide how planning processes are administered. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **21 July 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

3.2 East Gippsland Livestock Exchange Commercial Review - Final Report

Attendance

Cr Crook left the Council Chambers at 2.51 pm, followed by Cr John White at 3.02 pm, both did not return.

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, East Gippsland Livestock Exchange Commercial Review - Final Report. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **21 July 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

3.3 CON2026 1797 Public Space Closed Circuit TV - Maintenance and Support- Panel of Providers

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, CON2026 1797 Public Space Closed Circuit TV - Maintenance and Support- Panel of Providers. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **21 July 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

Meeting Close

Meeting closed at: 3.16 pm

Approved by: Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer