



Councillor Briefing Notes

Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 9.30 am

273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875

Attendance

Mayor

Cr Jodie Ashworth

Deputy Mayor

Cr Tom Crook

Councillors

Cr Sonia Buckley (Online)

Cr Barry Davis

Cr Joanne Eastman

Cr Bernie Farquhar

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Cr John White

Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Sarah Johnston

Chris Stephenson

Prue McTaggart

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

General Manager Business Excellence

General Manager Projects and Planning

Executive Manager Place and Community

Chairing of Meeting

Deputy Mayor Cr Tom Crook chaired the meeting.

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 Arthur Allen

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

Councillor Briefing Session

External Presentation

1.1 Review of the Local Law Round 1: Engagement Outcomes

Councillors received a presentation on the outcomes of the first round of community engagement for the Local Law Review. The feedback will help inform preparation of the draft Local Law, including consideration of temporary accommodation, camping, environmental protection, enforcement and clearer Local Law requirements. Further community engagement will occur as the review progresses.

1.2 Climate Risk Assessment

Councillors received a presentation on the development of Council's Climate Risk Assessment tool, which brings together information about potential climate and extreme weather risks to Council assets, services and communities. Further testing will be undertaken to help determine how best to use the tool to support future planning and decision making.

Officer Briefings and Workshops

2.1 Nicholson Street Mall: Proposed Interim Works and Funding Considerations

Councillors received an update on proposed interim works at the Nicholson Street Mall and the approach to longer-term planning for the precinct. Discussion focused on addressing immediate safety matters while retaining the mall as an accessible and usable public space, together with future transport, public amenity and precinct planning considerations.

2.2 Asset Rationalisation

Attendance

Cr Ashworth entered the meeting at 1.37 pm and requested Cr Crook remain Chair of the meeting.

Councillors received a presentation on the proposed framework for reviewing Council's asset portfolio. Discussion focused on community service needs, asset use and condition, financial sustainability and future demand.

2.3 Municipal Association of Victoria State Council Meeting Motions

Councillors reviewed the motions proposed for consideration at the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council meeting. Discussion focused on the matters raised through the motions and Council's proposed voting positions.

Reports to Future Council Meeting

3.1 Annual Report 2025/26

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, Annual Report 2025/26. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **20 October 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

3.2 Council Meeting Schedule 2027

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, Council Meeting Schedule 2026/2027. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **20 October 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

3.3 S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation Planning and Environment Act 1987

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation Planning and Environment Act 1987. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **20 October 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

3.4 Planning Delegations Policy - Revised

Councillors were briefed on the draft report, revised Planning Delegations Policy. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **20 October 2026** Council Meeting for consideration.

6 Meeting Close

Meeting closed at: 3.39 pm

Approved by: Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer