

Special Council Meeting

Minutes

Monday 21 October 2024

Commenced at 7:00 PM

**Council Chambers
20 Siding Avenue, Officer
Victoria**

Members: Cr Jack Kowarzik Mayor
Cr Graeme Moore Deputy Mayor
Cr Kaye Cameron
Cr Stephanie Davies
Cr Jeff Springfield
Cr Tammy Radford
Cr Collin Ross
Cr Brett Owen
Cr Carol Ryan

Officers: Carol Jeffs Chief Executive Officer
Peter Benazic General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Michael Casey Acting General Manager Liveable Communities
Wayne Mack General Manager Customer, People and Performance
Peter Harris Manager Governance, Safety & Property
Sharyn Tilley Coordinator Governance and Councillor Services

Meeting opened at 7.01pm.

Order of Business

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1 Opening And Reflection

I would ask those gathered to join us now for a few moments of silence as we reflect on our roles in this chamber. Please use this opportunity for reflection, Prayer or thought, to focus on our shared intention to work respectfully together for the well-being of our whole community.

2 Acknowledgements

Cardinia Shire Council acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Bunurong and Wurundjeri people and pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

3 Apologies

Debbie Tyson, General Manager Governance, Facilities and Economy

4 Declaration Of Interests

Nil.

5 Ordinary Business

5.1 Financial Reports

5.1.1 2023-24 Annual Report

Responsible GM: Wayne Mack
Author: Allison Southwell

Recommendation(s)

That Council endorses the Cardinia Shire Council 2023-24 Annual Report and notes its completion to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Executive Summary

The 2023-24 Annual Report has been prepared to provide the community transparent reporting on our financial and non-financial achievements for the last financial year in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

This includes the Report of Operations, the audited Performance Statement and the audited Financial Statements. The Annual Report has been developed to share with the community, our key stakeholders, the story of the successes and progress Cardinia Shire Council has made in delivering on the 2021-25 Council Plan.

The Annual Report will be available for the community online via Council's website, with limited printed copies to be made available for inspection at Council's offices.

Background

The purpose of this report is to present to Council for consideration the 2023-24 Annual Report including the Financial Statements and Performance Statement.

Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires councils to prepare an annual report in respect of each financial year. Section 100 also requires Council to hold an open meeting to consider the annual report which must be held, in the year of a general election, on a day not later than the day before election day.

The Annual Report contains the report of operations, detailed account of the key activities and the achievements by Council towards the delivery of the Council Vision and the five strategic objectives and strategies contained in the 2021-25 Council Plan.

The Annual Financial Statements represent a general-purpose financial report consisting of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works, and accompanying notes. These statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant professional and statutory requirements, including the Australian Accounting Standards.

The Performance Statement reports against a range of performance indicators introduced under the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework, which are statutorily required under the *Local Government Performance Reporting and Accountability Act 2014*.

Council approved in principle the Financial and Performance Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 at its meeting held on 16 September 2024. These statements were also considered by Council's Audit and Risk Committee at a meeting held on 23 August 2024.

Policy Implications

The Council Plan outlines the activities Council will undertake during the 2021-25 period. The Financial Statements and the Performance Statement provide an auditable account of the performance of these strategic activities and priorities outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25 for the last financial year.

Relevance to Council Plan

5.1 We practise responsible leadership

5.1.2 Manage our finances responsibly and leave a positive legacy for future generations.

Climate Emergency Consideration

Nil.

Consultation/Communication

Senior management has contributed to the details contained in the report of operations and highlighting Council's major achievements for the financial year.

The Annual Report will be available for inspection at Shire offices and online on Council's website.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Annual report provides the opportunity for Cardinia Shire Council to communicate to the community its achievements and challenges of the past financial year. The structure of the Annual Report is aligned to the 2021-25 Council Plan.

All legislative requirements have been met, with the financial statements prepared in accordance with statutory and legislative obligations, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Conclusion

The 2023-24 Annual Report is being presented to Council for its consideration.

Council's financial position remains sounds, with the Victorian Auditor General's Office providing an unqualified audit opinion on the financial and performance statements. The Annual Report fairly represents Council's operations, financial position, and Council's performance for the 2023-24 financial year.

Preparation of Council's 2023-24 Annual Report meets all requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Attachments

1. CSC Annual Report 2023-24 [5.1.1.1 - 164 pages]

Resolution

Moved Cr Jeff Springfield, seconded Cr Stephanie Davies.

That Council endorses the Cardinia Shire Council 2023-24 Annual Report and notes its completion to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

For: Cr Brett Owen, Cr Carol Ryan, Cr Collin Ross, Cr Graeme Moore, Cr Jack Kowarzik, Cr Jeff Springfield, Cr Kaye Cameron, Cr Stephanie Davies and Cr Tammy Radford

Against: Nil

Carried

Cr Davies requested an extension of time

Moved Cr Ross, Seconded Cr Owen

7 Meeting Closure