

## **1. CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AND COUNCIL PLAN SUBMISSIONS**

FILE REFERENCE INT1621652

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Derek Madden

AUTHOR Richard Williams

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Council receive and note the submissions received in response to the public advertisement of the Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan; and
2. The submissions be considered by the Council at its meeting to be held on Tuesday 26 April, following which all submitters be advised in writing of the outcome of their submission and the reasons the decision has been taken.

### **Attachments**

- |   |   |          |
|---|---|----------|
| 1 | Summary table of submissions            | 9 Pages  |
| 2 | Copies of written submissions           | 34 Pages |
| 3 | Copy of written Council Plan submission | 3 Pages  |

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the closing date for the lodgement of submissions on the Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan, 14 submissions from 6 different organisations or individuals had been received. In addition, 34 submissions have been received via the online survey.

Details of submissions received are included in the table attached.

### **BACKGROUND**

At the Special Council Meeting held on 7 March 2016, Council resolved to release the Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan for public comment in accordance with legislative requirements of the Act. Public notice was given advising of the required statutory details regarding the Budget and Council Plan submissions to be received by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 6 April 2016.

The Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan have been on public display at the Council offices, libraries, and on the Council website.

Council will consider the adoption of the Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan, with or without amendments, at a Special Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 26 April 2016, to be held at the Council Chambers, Siding Avenue, Officer.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Council is required under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 to hear those persons who have lodged submissions and have requested to be heard in support of their submission.

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**RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN**

Long-term financial sustainability (Section 5.3)

**CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION**

The Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan have been made available at the Pakenham, Emerald, and mobile libraries, Council offices, and on the Council website as part of the statutory consultation process.

Community consultation sessions ('Big Budget Brainstorm') were held at various locations across the Shire during November and December 2015.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Any changes to income or expenditure would require corrections to be made to the Proposed Budget 2016-17 document.

**CONCLUSION**

Council is required to hear those persons who have wished to speak in support of their submission lodged in regard to the Proposed Budget 2016-17 and Amended Council Plan.

Table 1 - Written Budget submissions received

	Name	Date	Details	Request to speak
1	Cockatoo Township Committee	28/11/15	Submission of a list of 7 projects categorised into Traffic & Transport and Open Space for consideration.	Not stated
2	Tilly Vervoort	21/03/16	Asks whether Councillors are willing to consider a discount in rates for resident ratepayers living in retirement villages	Yes
3	Fairer Rates for Residents in Retirement Villages Group	6/4/16	Submit that Residents in Retirement Villages within Cardinia Shire Council are given a 15% differential reduction in rates	Yes
4	Ray Brown	6/4/16	To provide an airlock in front of the entrance doors of the Koo Wee Rup Community Centre	Yes
5	Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association	6/4/16	Questions the pre-budget consultation process and provides suggestions for future consultation. Requests more transparency especially in relation to the carry over funding for non-completed projects. Query in relation to estimated financial return from the sale of assets as well as the total of funds allocated to sporting ovals and facilities. Seeks information in relation to the monitoring of the roads grading service and further explanation in relation to staffing changes as a result of the organisation dealing with rate capping. Suggestion in relation to information included on the rate notices for 2016	Not stated
6	Graham Jolly	9/3/16	Requests rates income figures and garbage and green waste figures be shown separately for the budget and for all financial reports and results into the future.	Yes
7	Graham Jolly	14/3/16	Questions why provisions are increasing each year, and why the provisions figures reported in the Annual Financial Statements are different to the Budget. Further question raised in relation to Developer Contribution Plans and why annual report is different to budget	Yes
8	Graham Jolly	27/3/16	Request changes to Strategic Resource Plan, including rates and charges being shown separately, further breakdown of Materials &	Yes

			Services, and reduction in borrowings.	
9	Graham Jolly	27/3/16	Requests further transparency in the Budget, including further breakdown of Materials & Services.	Yes
10	Graham Jolly	29/3/16	Recommends cost savings to Council in regards to the Connect publication.	Yes
11	Graham Jolly	30/3/16	Recommends cost cutting exercise for Council in regards to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).	Yes
12	Graham Jolly	30/3/16	Recommends cost cutting exercise for Council in regards to employee expenses	Yes
13	Graham Jolly	2/4/16	Requests further details in relation to four projects in the Capital Works Programs and requests that this detail is included as notes in this budget and future budgets	Yes

Table 2 - Budget submissions received via the online survey (\*)

	Date	Details	Request to speak
1	16/3/16	Kenilworth Avenue Beaconsfield MUST be sealed.	Not stated
2	16/3/16	Please contact the appropriate Government body to fix up the ridiculous situation at the McGregor Road rail crossing - rail crossing badly in need of being widened to meet the road widening. For attention please!	Not stated
3	16/3/16	I would like to make a written submission .Absolute disgust with major unmade and poorly maintained Patterson Rd and Officer South Road	Not stated
4	16/3/16	To encourage passers-by on the bypass to visit Pakenham and support local businesses council needs to create an appealing exterior, we're now 'blocked' off with sound barriers and this suggests they've been installed to keep the 'bogans' in as was reported on social media and in the Melbourne news for all to hear by high school students from an inner suburbs upper class school. Parks and gardens have become increasingly important to supplement the restrictions in the medium to high density homes being built, Blue Horizons Estate has not one single play area in its own right whereas other estates enjoy open spaces, play areas where parents don't have to worry about sending them to the other end of the estate to enjoy some physical activity. I watch, every day, as young people walk some distance to adjoining estates to play	Not stated

		where they run the risk of harm to themselves or to others when acting in groups not to mention taking part in acts of graffiti. Council should consider installing a running track that encircles the estate, outside the barriers is a safe distance from the Freeway and it could easily create a pleasant view from the road. Thank you.	
5	16/3/16	Cut rates. Cut councillors spending.	Not stated
6	16/3/16	The budget should include a sufficient allocation to greatly improve the maintenance program for McGregor Rd. The current categorisation does not reflect the roads usage and importance and the current maintenance is grossly inadequate resulting in the road often being in a very dangerous state of disrepair.	Not stated
7	16/3/16	Funding needs to be made available to seal Kenilworth av Officer due to high amounts of traffic using it as shortcut through to new estates on Rix Rd. which will only increase. Due to its poor condition and lack of maintenance it is a major safety concern	Not stated
8	16/3/16	I would like to see ewaste collected at least monthly via curb side pickup. If not possible I would like to see this happen in conjunction with the hard waste pick up, with a separate pick up for ewaste items. I also think a foot/bike path linking the railway towns would be a boost to each town, ie. Bunyip to Nar Nar Goon. Longwarry, although in a different shire would be good to include. Such a great tourist drawcard. I would be prepared to appear in person. Please notify me if this is possible with details.	Yes
9	16/3/16	My address is 61 Denhams Road, Koo Wee Rup. The land between my house and the drain is council land, have this slashed ASAP please. Thanks	Not stated
10	16/3/16	I would like to submit that all major roads in and around Pakenham have Bicycle Lanes added to them. Our roads are wide enough to have them added. They don't need to be separated just added so the motorists can see that Cyclists are allowed to share the roads with them	Not stated
11	16/3/16	There is a unofficial dog near Cockatoo Road, Pakenham. Many people moved in as the developer told us it was an official dog park, we are now told it is not a council supported one and therefore many of us feel ripped off because it needs council assistance.	Not stated
12	16/3/16	Please ensure that fountain at Lakeside is renovated or replaced, so that it always works and floodlight at night. This is the best feature of lakeside and such a shame that is out of action so often.	Not stated

1 3	16/3/16	School crossings around St Clare's and St Francis. Kids cross the Rd to get to school every day. There is no other way to get to the schools unless you cross a Rd. There is not one crossing within the Grandvue estate to assist them. Someone will get killed or injured soon. It is disgusting that we cannot pay for some white paint on the Rd.	Not stated
1 4	16/3/16	<p>Please finish the safety fencing on the north side of Harold Street in Officer as promised. This was supposed to be included in the 2016 budget. Please note the following missive.....</p> <p>From: Mark Howard Sent: Friday, 26 September 2014 4:06 PM To: Cr. Brett Owen Subject: Merit 803782 - Harold Street Officer</p> <p>Hi Cr Owen, Council officers have inspected Harold Street, Officer to investigate the concern raised by the resident relating to the absence of a fence between Harold Street and the railway line. A quotation has been sourced to construct a post and barbed wire fence along this alignment. The funds to undertake these works are unbudgeted and will require a budget submission to be made. I have requested the Open Space team apply for funding in the 2015-16 Financial Year. Kind regards Mark Howard   Operations Team Leader   Cardinia Shire Council</p> <p>There is a real and present danger to the residents as any child in this estate can walk onto the rail line unimpeded. The road widening and pedestrian works at Cardinia Road, which is about to be commenced, will increase pedestrian traffic along this strip and further expose people to danger from the rail line. The street light at the end of Harold Street, where it meets Cardinia Road, has still not been replaced since it was knocked over by your garbage contractor 12 months ago!</p>	Not stated
1 5	16/3/16	More funds need to be allocated to roads	Not stated
1 6	16/3/16	When will Bessie Creek Road be a fully sealed road all the way? Our cars are getting damaged from driving over the ruts in the road each day. We pay AUD2,600 each year in rates but get nothing done for us in return. Make our road a safe, decent road please!	Not stated
1 7	17/3/16	As an Emerald resident I don't know what to say about how our rates are spent. Our roads have potholes 99% of the time. Council has approved developments which have robbed Emerald of its charm and character. If the councillors would just spend a few minutes in Olinda they would see a town which still has much of its personality preserved, and tourists are flocking there. Emerald is becoming a mini-Pakenham, and Pakenham is a soulless zombie town.	Not stated

18	17/3/16	I would like to see the road infrastructure done between brunt road and Bayview Road. Its great that the council got all the roads fixed up where the council officers are, but the rest of the road is in appalling condition and not safe. The Round about that is proposed at Bayview Road, needs to be built ASAP. It is so unsafe for the children leaving St Brigits school before and after school. There has been so many accidents and cars get into the median strip and then can't see the oncoming cars. We will see the death of a child soon if this is not made a priority. And the footpaths need to be built so ALL the new houses in Timbertop and Potters Grove can walk safely to the train station. Stop procrastinating and just get it done.	Not stated
19	17/3/16	Please consider the sealing of more roads within the township of Gembrook , . Station Road services the school, is used by traffic for the market and puffing billy and the mobile library and other buses use it to access the town ship. Surely that's enough traffic to get the road sealed ?	Not stated
20	17/3/16	Fix train lines asap. Its bullshit and should of been done years ago. Needs to go under or over asap cos that's how bad it is. I'm about to leave as I can't take it much longer	Not stated
21	17/3/16	I would really love to see Council coming to the party to help upgrade facilities at Toomuc recreation reserve particularly to help cope with the increasing number of participants in baseball, the club has grown from strength to strength and in competing and travelling to other locations our poor grounds and facilities are well behind in the level of quality. All the teams are proud to represent Pakenham but in order to maintain competitive and grow the game even more within Pakenham we need the facilities to aid in that growth. I unfortunately will be unable to attend due to conflicting work schedule.	No
22	18/3/16	More money should be made available for residential road upgrades, especially in the hills area, it appears that the residents up here in the more or less established areas are only a source of rate revenue and not much more. we have been promised many times that our situation will be addressed but that is all. no lasting work performed at all. the newer areas in the shire have all roads and drains, etc. in our area we have constant dust, blocked drains rough roads, no speed signs, drivers using one way roads the wrong way all the time and no improvements being made. maybe it is time to start looking after the residents that have supported the shire over the years instead of hollow promises.	Not stated
23	18/3/16	Yes, I am very concerned about Council's level of debt which has been rising considerably over the 12 years I have lived in Cardinia. I would like Council to seriously attend to reducing debt levels significantly over the next 5 years. This is a very important issue to me.	Not stated

2 4	21/3/16	<p>Again, the racecourse Rd /Koo-wee-rup Rd needs upgrading desperately. Especially the roundsabouts.</p> <p>Let's get it done now before the old racecourse gets houses built and it's so much busier.</p> <p>For me some evenings, it's quicker for me to go past the exit to Nar Nar Goon and drive back to my house in silver gum estate, than to sit in the traffic on the off ramp and Bald Hill Rd round about.</p>	Not stated
2 5	21/3/16	Please allocate more money on making residents feel safe and offering harsh attacks on crimes and drugs.	Not stated
2 6	22/3/16	<p>Councillors should stop wasting money .I.E Pepys land Emerald. Sell cheap by back expensive.and many other wasted schemes. It is fine to lower the speed limit so the roads do not have to be upgraded.</p> <p>By the time I travel a long distance on poor Victorian roads it takes longer to get home and tiring due to going so slow. Put money into a decent swimming pool in Emerald then we will not have to go to Casey or Monbulk. When approving new estates improve all main roads to 4 lanes minimum. Any council or councillors who waste rate our money should be sacked as per private Business would.</p> <p>Work together to improve the community and you will be respected more.</p>	Not stated
2 7	23/3/16	Maintain drains in areas prone to flooding twice a year	Not stated
2 8	24/3/16	Pool for Emerald!!!!	Not stated
2 9	27/3/16	Why spend more money on parks & amenities when it's so hard to get around town due to poorly designed roads & transport? And if you increase rates again, I'm moving.	Not stated
3 0	28/3/16	Bus services need to be up and running inn new estate areas. Also make it easy to find out what is proposed i.e. shops etc and time lines of work starting and aprox completion	Not stated
3 1	29/3/16	<p>Yes I would appear and would be more than willing to discuss with council. However, I'm a doctor and will be working that evening I am more than happy to be contacted as I feel very passionate about these issues especially as I have lived here for more than 20 years</p> <p>Email is the most appropriate</p> <p>Maintenance on Nar Nar Goon roads is poor particularly slashing of drains which.is a major fire and snake risk</p> <p>Particularly concerned about the amount of regional land being bought up for housing developments -seriously concerned that the likes of Frank Facey has the funds and power to buy through restrictions on green belts and agricultural areas whilst smaller farmers cannot subdivide under 40 acres when clearly this region is particular has the potential to thrive with small local farmlets</p>	No



		Also mental health services need desperately to be set up in Pakenham. Currently Casey and Cranbourne are swamped and community mental health centre is essentially for the wellbeing of Cardinia Shire residents to the point it is now critical  More than this there doesn't appear to be a lot of support of drug and alcohol services which is seriously concerning given Pakenham is currently the largest distributor of ice in Victoria	
3 2	29/3/16	Spend OUR money in the right area population is growing and there is little to do here	Not stated
3 3	4/4/16	We need more libraries and children's services, like playgroups and story times. Please put a footpath along Brunt Rd and all the way along Rix Rd to Officer Secondary College.	Not stated
3 4	04/04/16	An increase in funding for sealing of unsealed roads in the hills area and fire fuel prevention in council reserves in cockatoo - garden city estate as example	Not stated

\* All submissions received via the portal will be responded to via the emails provided when the submission was received. Unfortunately if an email was not provided Council has not listed the item as a submission.

Table 3 - Council Plan submissions received

	Name	Date	Details	Request to speak
1	Graham Jolly	26/3/16	Questions why the Council Plan is reviewed and what changes have been made to the previous Plan. Also requests more transparency in the Plan, and that the Plan and Plan actions be placed on the internet.	Not stated



PO Box 654 Cockatoo 3781  
President Brett Barker 0421 219 899  
Secretary Susan Wales 0407 365 711  
Email cockatootownship@gmail.com

28 November 2015

Mr Garry McQuillan  
CEO  
Cardinia Shire Council  
PO Box 7 Pakenham 3810

Dear Mr McQuillan

On behalf of the Cockatoo Township Committee, I wish to submit the following information for consideration in the upcoming 2016–17 budget deliberations by the members of the Cardinia Shire Council.

The Township Committee has prioritised issues related to the actions listed in the Cockatoo Township Strategy so that they clearly align with Council's priorities as outlined there and the views of local community representatives.

Once again, some items have been retained on this list from previous years as they were not successfully completed in recent budget allocations:

**Traffic and Transport: Section 8.9 Actions (p. 40)**

1. **Footpath from Hillside Road (Josie Bysouth Reserve) to Brisbanes Road.** The footpath from Alexander Rd to Hillside Rd completed this year has improved this road for pedestrians however it is still very hazardous on this further section. It is used by many on foot: children walking to school, students catching the secondary school bus, elderly people and recreational walkers. There is very little shoulder on the road and vehicles large and small are a constant danger.
2. **Completion of Bailey Road footpath from Neville Street to Bailey Rd Kindergarten (just prior to Station Rd).** Recent footpath works have improved this area which is appreciated but safe access is still needed for those walking to the Neighbourhood House and Kindergarten, many with young children. Many local residents also use this road to access bus stops and the central area of town, with nearby busy traffic posing a danger throughout the day.

**Open Space: Section 7.8 Actions (p. 35)**

3. **Sealing and drainage of the carpark adjacent to Alma Treloar Reserve and Scout Hall.** The current gravel carpark is posing a risk to the health of Cockatoo Creek due to constant runoff during wet weather. Recent initiatives

by local residents to improve the safety and amenity of the creek as a recreational area and important wetland habitat have highlighted this issue.

4. **BMX track approval and construction.** A local group has investigated the use of land adjacent to the dog park area of Alma Treloar Reserve for a BMX track to increase the variety of facilities available for local youth in the town. The first cut of Cardinia's Draft Skate and BMX Strategy has not yet been released to the community but we hope this will expedite the necessary approvals and planning to undertake this project with the volunteer input of local tradespeople to minimise the cost.
5. **Continuation of boardwalk along Cockatoo Creek.** The original plans for the boardwalk along the edge of the creek were to continue this to the carpark mentioned above. This extension would give much safer access to those wishing to walk, run, push prams or generally enjoy the surrounds that this section of the creek and reserve have to offer.

**Traffic and Transport: Section 8.9 Actions (p. 40)**

6. **Safety audit of pedestrian traffic in central Township.** There are a number of places where safety for pedestrians are a concern, for example the junction of Caroline Avenue and Boronia Crescent, where school children are regular users. The identification of particularly dangerous sites would assist with future planning and provide authentic information on which to act.
7. **Seaview Avenue upgrade.** This road is very steep and residents have ongoing concerns about access, especially for emergency vehicles in wet and very dry weathers which cause deterioration of the road surface. If the cost of sealing prohibitive, continuing measures to protect the road surface from crumbling are sought.

Should you require any further details about any of the items listed above, we shall be happy to provide them upon request.

Yours sincerely

Brett Barker

President, Cockatoo Township Committee

Cardinia Shire Council Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at Gembrook

#### Questions on Notice

1. Now the Council has adopted the 2.5% capped rate increase imposed by the State Government, are the Councillors and Administrators still willing to consider a discount in rates for resident ratepayers living in Retirement Villages?
2. Do Councillors fully understand what the meaning of “unique financial situation” residents in Retirement Villages have to budget for and do they fully realise the services offered by Retirement Villages.

Shanagolden Village provides the following services for all the residents to enjoy:

Weekly community morning teas and happy hours; weekly games/sporting events; weekly craft, sewing and discussion groups; monthly movie night; subsidised monthly lunches to various hospitality facilities within the Shire; Bi-monthly catered dinners; themed events for special occasions such as Australia Day; St Patricks Day; Anzac Day; Christmas in July; AFL Grand Final Day and the Racing Carnival Festival with Oaks Day Fashions in the Fields being a special feature. The lending book library, movie and musical DVD libraries are also well used by residents.

Family and friends are most welcome to most of these functions.

Then there is the usual on site services such as hairdresser; podiatrist; respite care; allied health support and pastoral care. Electricity charges, telephone, internet and Foxtel services are provided at a discounted rate due to the savvy negotiations by the owner/operators.

In fact, everything bar a swimming pool is catered for by the owner/operators including full maintenance of infrastructure, garden upkeep and general tidiness and beautification of the Village surrounds'

The only time the Council becomes involved with the Village is to provide garbage services.

For all that, residents who choose to live in a Village pay a monthly maintenance fee (Shanagolden being \$356 per month) and forgo outright ownership of their property, instead entering into a contract to lease their properties for their lifetime. When the lease/contract finishes residents pay a bond of up to 30% of their property value at time of contract closing date. There are slight differences between Villages and that information will be made available to Cardinia ratepayers and Council in a submission.

That is the 'unique financial arrangements' residents choose and then on top of this choice the Cardinia Shire Council taxes residents further with the same base category of rates for residential properties owned outright and on much larger footprints than Village Units.

3. Have the Council fully considered the imposition placed on approx. 750 residents in Cardinia Shire Retirement Villages by making them pay double taxes for little return from the Shire?
4. Will the Council consider a long term cost saving project by outsourcing the operation of recycling materials in its entirety over the long term? I have seen, first hand, how this works and played a small role in achieving that with the Melville City Council when I lived in Perth.

I understand Council has a project underway but my proposal would mean zero cost and staffing needs for a first class, recycling operation that would be the envy of every other Council in Australia. It would mean a 10m year project from start to operation date and would involve creating a co-operative project team across 6 or 7 Eastern Councils to provide a mass of at least 3.5 million people.

The benefits would be that the company contracted would ensure all manufactures of packaged goods use more recyclable materials, residents/ratepayers receive the very best recyclable service with excellent communications to guide them and there would be zero outgoings for Councils signed up to the project. It would create a win/win situation for all stakeholders.

There is a company in Melbourne that operates the Manhattan, NY, USA recycling plant. It is called Visy Industries and I dealt with Richard Pratt and Tony Grey (still with the firm) for several projects and charity events. Further information can be supplied if the Council is interested.

Tilly Vervoort  
8 O'Regan Street  
Shanagolden Village  
153-177 Webster Way  
Pakenham Vic 3810

E: [tilly.45@bigpond.com](mailto:tilly.45@bigpond.com)

P: 0421 639 833

21<sup>st</sup> March 2016

## Cardinia Shire Council

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Civic Centre  
20 Sidings Ave  
Officer Vic

### **Submission for Draft Budget 2016-2017**

#### **Fairer Rates for Residents in Retirement Villages**

##### **Introduction**

We respectfully submit that Residents in Retirement Villages, within your Shire, *are given a 15% differential reduction in rates*, based on the current Urban rate levy.

Our group has been working towards this end since 2014 and, given the natural growth in Retirement Villages, and normal housing, it could be justified in requesting a 17.5% discount. Here we wish to be fair and will stay consistent with our primary aim – **a total discount of 25%pa**, as per the Property Council Guidelines, with a 15% differential being applied in Year One (2016/17) and a further 10% differential in Year Two (2017/18).

Retirement Village properties have unique financial arrangements which differ from all other rateable properties in the Shire and we will provide complete details within the submission.

Rates are just another way of describing taxes on property ownership and Retirement Village properties are **taxed twice** – once by the owner/operators and once by the Council, yet no resident living in a Retirement Village owns their property outright. Residents forego their full capital gains for the peace, comfort and security a suburban council could only hope to provide. Councils provide very little for the taxes they charge within these villages, as the developer/owner/operator is responsible for the set-up costs and maintenance of all infrastructure and facilities provided within these villages.

The Council only enters the gated Villages when providing a garbage collection – if at all!

Therefore, it has to be concluded that rates income gained from Retirement Villages is 100% profit for the Council, with a further windfall coming from their natural growth.

The Property Council quoted in August 2013 that they believed the Differential Rate of 25%pa is fair for Retirement Villages stating that this is the largest example of Double Taxation ever seen!! *Another financial burden senior citizens cannot carry in their autumn years!*

Cardinia Shire Council has been named “World Health Organisation Age Friendly City” – Mayor Cr Jodie Owen quotes “.more than 15% of our population were aged over 60 (ABS 2011), creating an environment that allows older persons to live safely, be healthy and connect with the extended community. (Ref .. Cardinia Shire News dated 4/4/2016)

We, the undersigned, respectfully request that every Councillor should pay greater heed to the development and popularity of Retirement Villages, whilst coming to the conclusion that the senior citizens, living in Retirement Villages, deserve this initial discount of 15%, being the differential to the Urban Rate applied to properties situated in the growth corridor of Cardinia Shire. *Currently you use the Base Rate Levy of 0.003607.*

The decision for this submission must read:

“ YES – RESIDENTS IN RETIRMENT VILLAGES DESERVE AN INITIAL 15% REDUCTION IN RATES within this 2016/17 Budget Year.”

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### **Let us look at the detail:**

#### **Natural Growth -**

- Shanagolden Village – stage 4 completed, increased from 20 units to 66 units in 3 short years
- Main St Village – 129 units, many have been sold and occupancy taken up
- Lifestyle Village, Officer – 150 units planned
- Goldcare Lifestyle Village – 198 units planned with 40 completed to date together with a new Community Centre on the way.

#### **Unique Financial Arrangement**

- Retirement Village properties are leased, NOT OWNED, maintained and serviced by Owner Operators, monthly maintenance fees are charged and therefore residents are double taxed!!

#### **Valuation and Size of Rateable Properties**

- Urban & Basic Rate properties average size
- Comparison of return using Shanagolden example, before development, 26 housing lots were built and now we see 66 units PLUS a 90 bed Aged Care facility within the gated village itself.
- No separate valuation

#### **Practical Implementation of a Discount Process**

- **Offer to design, or at least assist with, new discount request form – similar to the pension discount form used now**
- **Offer to provide volunteer workers to input data**
- **Council to only provide staff to check input before differential discount is applied**

### Opportunity Value to the Cardinia Shire Council

- PR/Marketing opportunity to make Cardinia Council the flagship Local Government with the Property Council for other Local Governments to follow
- Cardinia Shire council have a unique opportunity to announce the special consideration given local Retirement Villages.
- The above should lift their standards amongst other Local Government Councils in Victoria, possibly in Australia??

### Supporting Data Information

- Statistics of number of ratepayers .. could not find!
- No of rateable properties in the different categories, (as per the Draft Budget data)
- Approximation of cost (overstated) to Council in providing a 15% differential rate – we believe it to be approx \$200,000 to \$300,000?

### Summation/ Summary :

#### Retirees choose to live in a Village for several reasons:

- Down-sizing, to allow more time for enjoyment of family and surrounds,
- Creating a no fuss lifestyle and having the comfort and security of living in a gated Village that is well maintained beyond the capabilities of any Local Government Council and it's specialised staff.
- The infrastructure, facilities , maintenance, services and social activity provided in Retirement Villages has been outlined in another paper for discussion and comes from Questions raised at the last Council meeting in Gembrook (for Shanagolden Village).

#### Retirement Village comes at a cost:

- The units are leased, not owned outright, under contract
- When the contract expires there is a Bond to be paid, crested by a mathematical equation of purchase cost to sale price multiplied by number of years occupied – to a MAXIMUM of 10 years. Average Bond paid to Owner /Operators is approx. \$30,000 OR 32% of Sale Price
- There is a 2.5% charge for a minimum term for the reselling of the unit by the Owner/Operators
- A Monthly Maintenance Fee is charged – attracting an annual CPI price rise – this is a TAX, same as Council rates
- Double taxation is what residents in Retirement Villages face for the rest of their days!

#### Co-signed as Joint Co-ordinators:

**Tilly Vervoort**  
 Co-ordinator  
 Shanagolden Village  
 153-177 Webster Way  
 PAKENHAM VIC 3810

**Peter Angwin**  
 Co-ordinator  
 Goldcare Eco Lifestyle Village  
 65/100 Toomuc Valley Road  
 PAKENHAM VIC 3810





Mr Gary McQuillan

6/4/2016

CEO

Cardinia Shire

Dear Gary,

Would you please accept this submission for a variation in the 2016-17 budgets?

To provide an airlock in front of the entrance doors of the Kooweerup Community Centre.

The extended veranda type roof area it is suggested would be enclosed with aluminium and glass, together with single entrance doors each side in front of the existing double entrance doors.

The reasons are threefold 1. Compliments the building air conditioning which is compromised during extreme weather with existing doors opening straight into the building. 2. The build-up of leaves and other materials during windy weather at the entrance doors is unsightly and when doors are opened sweeps right inside. 3. The entrance doors opening outwards allows small children to directly leave the building run down a slope onto the roadway directly in front of the building.

The proposal would not impact on the look of the building but instead enhance it and provide an added level of safety for young children.

We look forward to supporting this application in person at the meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> April when submissions are heard.

Sincerely yours

Ray Brown



**Cardinia Shire Council Draft Budget 2016/17 Draft amended Council Plan****Submission from Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association**

Since examining the 2016/17 Council draft budget and amended Council plan, the following comment is considered relevant.

Firstly, this coming financial year for local Councils in Victoria will be regarded as a milestone in the view of most ratepayers as the rate capping policy is activated and a fairer and more reasonable approach to financial management of council administration becomes a reality. While costs to Councils in earlier times of lower population growth were based on more simple and individual requirements, now that government policy has designated certain municipalities as areas to accommodate rapid and exponential growth of population, the pressure on affected councils to pay for increased infrastructure and services has reached an unmanageable level and a more equitable and practical financial administration strategy is now required. In this regard it is therefore satisfactory to note in Council budgetary principles - "Number 6 Any further cost shifting by either state or federal government is to be rejected - Performance indicator: all cost shifting to be reported quarterly via council meetings."

The following points are raised for consideration and response, please.

The Big Budget Brainstorm has been emphasised as a reliable means of assessing community response to the implementation of rate capping. Compared to the total number of Cardinia Shire ratepayers, the low number of respondents at the local meetings plus an on-line forum could hardly be judged representative of the entire community. If this pre-budget consultation process is to continue in 2017/18, will it be conducted more seriously? Could you please advise why the title "Big Budget" Brainstorm was considered appropriate? Future consultation process should include community input about possible means of reducing Council costs and lowering expenditure.

More transparency is expected, particularly concerning the continuing process of carry over of funding for non-completed projects.

Sale of Council assets has been proposed to assist budget funding, where in the draft budget is the estimated financial return from sale of assets?

Sporting ovals and facilities are continuing to be requested at a rapid rate. What is the total of funds allocated in 2015/16 and 2015/17 budget?

Regarding rural unsealed road maintenance, what monitoring of the roads grading service is carried out? Frequent complaints about ineffective grading methods indicate that Council money is being wasted on road grading that is not satisfactory.

There is common ratepayer opinion that Council employee costs are too high and should be reduced or at least stabilised, when compared with the number of consultants being paid.

Regarding reference to "Staffing changes as a result of the organisation dealing with Rate Capping" requires explanation, please.

A general attitude of Council negativity concerning the capping of rates increase has been evident during the presentation of the draft budget and amended Council Plan. However, there should be a more positive attitude towards the changes required including acknowledgement of the need to bring the pace of spending to a more realistic and affordable level while keeping commitment to equitable allocation of funding for both urban and rural community needs.

As 2016 is a property revaluation year, Rate Notices should include that information and also separate details regarding the Garbage charges and Fire Services Levy.

Gloria O'Connor  
President, Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association.  
[crra05@gmail.com](mailto:crra05@gmail.com)  
PO Box 161 Officer.3809  
0414 270564

6<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Richard Williams <r.williams@cardinia.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 March 2016 11:24 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Draft Budget Response 2016-17 Cardinia Shire -1

On 9 Mar 2016, at 9:53 PM, Graham Jolly <agil.agj2@me.com> wrote:

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, Section 127 which reads as follows -:

Section 127.

Council must prepare a budget.

(1) A Council must prepare a budget for each financial year.

(2) The Council must ensure that the budget contains—

(a) financial statements in the form and containing the information required by the regulations;

(b) a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the budget;

(c) a statement as to how the services and initiatives described under paragraph (b) will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan;

(d) Major Initiatives, being initiatives identified by the Council as priorities, to be undertaken during the financial year;

(da) for services to be funded in the budget, the prescribed indicators of service performance that are required to be reported against in the performance statement under section 131;

(db) the prescribed measures relating to those indicators;

(e) any other information required by the regulations.

(3) The Council must ensure that the budget also contains—

(a) the information the Council is required to declare under section 158(1);

(b) if the Council intends to declare a differential rate under section 161, the information listed in section 161(2);

(c) if the Council intends to declare a differential rate under section 161A, the information listed in section 161(2).

Under Section 223 I make a response/request council make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

I request Council show further transparency in this Budget.

Page 57 of the Draft Budget reads as below. There are ten listings totalling \$66,618,600 a revenue figure estimated by Council's own finance department for Rates Only Income. The Budget must show this figure.

Page 62 of the Draft Budget shows two listings totalling \$10,849,300 a revenue figure estimated by Council for Garbage and Green Waste. The Budget must show this figure.

I request The Mayor and Councillors change all Rates and Charges listings in the Budget and other reports to be listed and reported as -:

1. Rates Income Only with a revenue figure.
2. Garbage and Green Waste Income Only with a revenue figure.

Refer to -:

5.1 Budget cash flow statement page 32.

Comprehensive Income Statement page 49. Strategic Resource Plan page 115.

Statement of Cash Flows page 52. Strategic Resource Plan page 118.

All show Rates and Charges combined. I request they change in the Budget and other reports.

I also request Financial reports such as the Quarterly, Half Yearly, Third Quarter and the Annual Report continually report Rates Income Only and separately Garbage and Green Waste Income Only revenue figures as a result against the Approved Budget 2016-17.

Madam Mayor and Councillors. The Council Plan reviewed for 2016-17 Page 99 under the Heading "Message from your Council" sub heading

" Leading the way through our governance " reads as follows -:

Council will govern in a transparent and accountable way with a high value on community engagement that will ensure our residents help determine the direction of Council's activities. Being financially sustainable is a high priority for Council. This will influence how effectively we support our communities now and into the future.

Council values and recognises our role as leaders in the community. As your representatives, we will be strong advocates to Australian and Victorian governments and will continue to lobby for action on important local issues.

As a ratepayer I request for all Councillors to support this change to your Budget and all future Budgets including all financial results reports into the future.

Yours Faithfully

Graham Jolly

22 McArthur Road

Upper Beaconsfield.

<Image-1.jpg>

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Richard Williams <r.williams@cardinia.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 March 2016 11:29 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -2

**From:** Graham Jolly [mailto:agj1.agj2@me.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 March 2016 4:59 PM  
**To:** Cr. Jodie Owen; Cr. Brett Owen; Cr. Tania Baxter; Cr. Leticia Wilmot; Cr. Graeme Moore; Cr. George Blenkhorn; Cr. Kate Lempriere; Cr. Collin Ross; Cr. David Young; MailAtCardinia  
**Subject:** Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -2

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -2

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, Section 127 Council must prepare a budget.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request for council to make changes and explain the Draft Budget 2016-17. " Provisions. "

7. Analysis of budgeted financial position. Shown in the draft Budget 2016-17.

Page 38, 7.1 Budgeted balance sheet below shows -:

1. Current Liabilities- Provisions changing from \$4,888 in the 2015-16 Budget to an increase \$6,408 in the 2016-17 Budget. Increasing by \$1,520.

Provisions from \$4,888 to \$6,408.

2. Non-Current Liabilities- Provisions changing from \$1,048 in the 2015-16 Budget to an increase \$1,781 in the 2016-17 Budget. Increasing by \$733.

Provisions from \$1,048 to \$1,781.

Totals \$6,408 plus \$1,781 = \$8,189.

3. Provisions are estimated to increase by \$1,520 plus \$733 = \$2,253. Why ?



Page 39. 7.1.2 Current Liabilities ( Council must pay within the next year) being 2016-17 and 7.1.4 Non-Current Liabilities ( that is, Obligations Council must pay beyond the next year) being after the 2016-17 budget year.

Refer to below.

Plus page 50. Draft Budget 2016-17. Balance Sheet showing budget years 2015-16 through to 2019-20.

Provisions increasing every budget year. Why ?

Refer to below.

Previous years budgets showed Provisions Liabilities for Current and Non-Current as -:

Current.	Non-Current
2015-16 \$4,888. Note 7.1.2	\$1,048. Note 7.1 4 page 39 = \$5,936
2014-15 \$4,888.	\$1,048
2013-14 \$4,888.	\$1,048
2012-13 \$3,674.	\$818

Previous years Annual Reports Provisions Liabilities page 95 ( 30 June Ended ) showed Provisions Liabilities for Current and Non-Current as -:

Current.	Non-Current
2014-15 \$5,624.	\$1,593. Note 28 page 125 = \$7,217
2013-14 \$4,704.	\$2,531. Note 25
2012-13 \$5,248.	\$738. Note 25
2011-12 \$4,579.	\$982. Note 25

Page 64 & 65 of the 2014-15 Annual Report. Table 6 Developer Contribution Plans ( DCP ).

Under the heading Council the revenue amounts are as follows -:  
\$4,100,000 plus \$540,000 plus \$110,000 totalling \$4,750,000. Plus \$115,730.

A final total of \$4,865,730

Under the heading Developer the total revenue amount is \$17,430,750.

Making the overall total \$4,865,730 plus \$17,430,750 = \$22,296,480.

Question. Why is the Annual report so different to Budgets ?

This leads to the most important question to do with Provisions Liabilities.

The Quarterly Financial Reports.

Current and Non-Current Liabilities Provisions.

\* means Quarterly Financial Reports.

Current Liabilities Provisions.	Non-Current Liabilities Provisions.	
Current Month.	Current Month.	Totals
31/12/2015 \$43,606.	\$51,273.	\$94,879 *
30/09/2015 \$60,992.	\$44,848.	\$105,840 *
30/06/2015 \$5,624. Annual report.	\$1,593.	\$7,217
31/03/2015 \$23,434.	\$45,699.	\$69,133 *
31/12/2014 \$39,558.	\$49,933.	\$89,491 *
30/06/2014 \$4,704. Annual report.	\$2,531.	\$7,235
30/06/2013 \$5,248. Annual report.	\$738.	\$5,986
30/06/2012 \$4,579. Annual report.	\$982.	\$5,561
30/06/2011 \$3,659. Annual report.	\$947.	\$4,606

Why are the Current and Non-Current Liabilities Provisions vastly increased in Quarterly Reports a very short time after the Annual Report Results at 30 June Ended ?

Why are Budget Current and Non-Current Liabilities Provisions so different to Quarterly Financial Reports and the Annual Reports.

Liabilities are Council's Obligations Financially.

Madam Mayor and Councillors can you provide quantifying details explaining these variations.  
Madam Mayor I recognise Employee entitlements Provision as one factor.

Yours Faithfully  
Graham Jolly  
22 McArthur Road  
Upper Beaconsfield.

## 7. Analysis of budgeted financial position

This section analyses the movements in assets, liabilities and equity between 2015-16 and 2016-17.

### 7.1 Budgeted balance sheet

	Ref	Budget 2015-16 \$'000	Budget 2016-17 \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>	7.1.1		
Cash and cash equivalents		37,171	32,171
Trade and other receivables		11,757	13,757
Inventories		33	33
Non-current assets classified as held for sale		11,698	8,698
Other assets		816	816
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>61,475</b>	<b>55,475</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>	7.1.3		
Trade and other receivables		0	0
Investments in associates		883	1,883
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		709,299	933,299
Intangible assets		0	0
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>710,182</b>	<b>936,182</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>771,657</b>	<b>991,657</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>	7.1.2		
Trade and other payables		12,340	16,340
Trust funds and deposits		3,916	5,916
Provisions		4,888	6,888
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings		5,579	5,579
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>26,723</b>	<b>33,723</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>	7.1.4		
Provisions		1,010	1,010

## Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2020

	Budget	Budget	Strat
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-1
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'00
<b>Current assets</b>	0		
Cash and cash equivalents	37,171	32,267	28,11
Trade and other receivables	11,757	13,901	12,62
Inventories	33	16	1
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	11,698	8,726	8,72
Other assets	816	560	56
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>61,475</b>	<b>55,470</b>	<b>50,04</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	0	761	76
Investments in associates and joint ventures	883	1,432	1,43
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	709,299	933,538	947,83
Intangible assets	0	382	38
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>710,182</b>	<b>936,113</b>	<b>950,41</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>771,657</b>	<b>991,583</b>	<b>1,000,45</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	12,340	16,078	16,59
Trust funds and deposits	3,916	5,405	5,40
Provisions	4,888	6,408	6,84
Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	5,579	5,579	5,85
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>26,723</b>	<b>33,469</b>	<b>34,69</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	1,048	1,781	1,85
Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	58,531	10,620	16,82

#### 7.1.1 Current Assets (\$6.005 million decrease)

Cash and cash equivalents are forecast to decrease by \$4.904m, as detailed budgeted cash position, and land held for resale is forecast to decrease by partly offset by trade and other receivables, which includes rates, infringement forecast to increase by \$2.144m.

#### 7.1.2 Current Liabilities (\$6.746 million increase)

Current liabilities are those obligations Council must pay within the next year, to increase by \$6.746m, due to increases in trade and other payables (creditors) and deposits.

Interest-bearing loans and borrowings are borrowings of Council. The decrease is due to the payment characteristics of Council's loan portfolio.

#### 7.1.3 Non-Current Assets (\$225.931 million increase)

Non-current assets are expected to increase by \$225.931m during the 2016-17 financial year in property, infrastructure, plant and equipment, and is primarily due to the following revaluation of existing assets and the inclusion of new and contributed assets.

#### 7.1.4 Non-Current Liabilities (\$8.117 million decrease)

Non-current liabilities (that is, obligations Council must pay beyond the next year) are forecast to decrease by \$8.117m, mainly as a result of a decrease in interest-bearing loans and borrowings and current loan agreements.

#### 7.1.5 Equity (\$221.298 million increase)

Total equity always equals net assets and is made up of the following components:

- Asset revaluation reserve which represents the difference between the previous and their current valuations.

- Other reserves that are funds that Council wishes to separately identify for a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. These are the Accumulated Surplus of the Council to be separately disclosed.

- Accumulated surplus which is the value of all net assets less Reserves that have been set aside.

## 7.2 Key assumptions

In preparing the Budgeted Balance Sheet for the year ending 30 June 2016

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 27 March 2016 5:41 PM  
**Subject:** Draft Revised Strategic Resource Plan 2016 -1

Cardinia Shire Draft 2016 Reviewed Strategic Resource Plan Response -1.

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO I make a response to the draft Revised 2016 Strategic Resource Plan.

A. I request council to file this draft report and approved Strategic Resource Plan in councils data base under the heading Strategic Resource Plan 2016 so that the report can be google searched as a separate report ( see Note within Section 126 ).

B. I request the report in the Comprehensive income statement under Income the listing "Rates and charges" be changed with :-

1. Rates Only
2. Charges Garbage.

These changes to be used in all other Council documents.

C. I request the report in the Comprehensive Income Statement under Expenses the listing "Materials and services" be changed with :-

1. All Contracts.
2. Consultant costs.
3. Legal costs.
4. Insurance costs.
5. Electricity, Water and Gas.
6. Staff Training costs.
7. Other Materials and Services.

These changes to be used in all other Council documents.

D. I request the Borrowings shown on page 118 under the heading "Cash flows from financing activities" be changed to by years :-

2016-17 from \$3,250M down to \$3.000M. This borrowing figure is being set by the current Councillor group.

Future years will be set by the new incoming Councillor group therefore it is beyond this councillor group to set such high revenue figures.

I request changes to the remaining three years to :-

- 2017-18 \$2,500M.
- 2018-19 \$2,500M.
- 2019-20 \$2,500M.

These three years figures most likely will change when the newly elected Councillor group takes office.

I note that the draft budget only formalises the year 2016-17 and no further.

E. I request all Section 86 Committees be emailed a copy of the draft Reviewed Strategic Resource Plan immediately and the Adopted Strategic Resource Plan 2016-17 to 2019-20 when approved.

I request a response from council to this submission.

Regards  
Graham Jolly

### **Section 126 Strategic Resource Plan**

1. (1) The Strategic Resource Plan is a resource plan of the resources required to achieve the strategic objectives.
2. (2) The Strategic Resource Plan must include in respect of at least the next 4 financial years—

(a) financial statements describing the required financial resources in the form and containing the information required by the regulations;

(b) statements describing the required non-financial resources, including human resources, in the form and containing the information required by the regulations.

1. (2A) Without limiting subsection (1), the Strategic Resource Plan must take into account services and initiatives contained in any plan adopted by the Council (so far as the plan relates to the period covered by the Strategic Resource Plan).
2. (2B) A Council that proposes to adopt a plan to provide services or take initiatives must ensure that the resources required for the plan are consistent with the Strategic Resource Plan (so far as the plan relates to the period covered by the Strategic Resource Plan).
3. (3) A Council must—
  1. (a) review the Strategic Resource Plan during the preparation of the Council Plan; and
  2. (b) adopt the Strategic Resource Plan not later than 30 June each year, or such other date fixed by the Minister by notice published in the Government Gazette.
4. (4) A copy of the current Strategic Resource Plan must be available for inspection by the public at—
  1. (a) the Council office and any district offices; and
  2. (b) any other place required by the regulations.

#### **Note**

In addition, a Council must ensure that the current Strategic Resource Plan is published on the Council's Internet website (see section 82A(2)(ab)(ii)).



**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 27 March 2016 8:36 PM  
**Subject:** Draft Budget 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -3

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response-3.

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request council make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

I request Council show further transparency in this Budget.

Madam Mayor and Councillors. The Council Plan reviewed for 2016-17 Page 99 under the Heading "Message from your Council" sub heading

" Leading the way through our governance " reads as follows -:

Council will govern in a transparent and accountable way with a high value on community engagement that will ensure our residents help determine the direction of Council's activities. Being financially sustainable is a high priority for Council. This will influence how effectively we support our communities now and into the future.

Council values and recognises our role as leaders in the community. As your representatives, we will be strong advocates to Australian and Victorian governments and will continue to lobby for action on important local issues.

A. I request in all areas of the draft budget related to Expenses "Materials and services" be changed with :-

1. All Contracts.
2. Consultant costs.
3. Legal costs.
4. Insurance costs.
5. Electricity, Water and Gas.
6. Staff Training costs.
7. Other Materials and Services.

These changes to be used in all other Council documents.

Madam Mayor their has in the past many Councillors who have expressed very real concerns about expenditures for alcohol expenses, Legal costs, some Consultant costs, the occasional Contract costs, efficiencies to be gained at Council own Civic building and the overwhelming need to run a very tight ship.

Madam Mayor Income is important as it is the means to achieve councils short term vision ( one year vision ).

However the requests I have recommended through a reporting change will give a better understanding where expenditures occur on a more finite bases. The above changes to the reporting of expenditures will provide me with a clearer picture and hopefully allow all councillors to make decisions to reduce unnecessary expenditures of council into the future.

Councillors please vote to make these reporting changes.

Regards

Graham Jolly.

(10)

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 March 2016 7:50 PM  
**Subject:** Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget -4

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -4

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request for council to make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

Madam Mayor I recommend a cost saving exercise for Council.

The Connect council newspaper.

The change council has made to the size of the Connect newspaper was a long overdue result. Thank you for the size change.

To reduce cost I request council conduct a Shire wide survey asking three questions.

1. Would you prefer to receive information in the form of the Connect newspaper **via email or social media.**
2. Would you prefer to receive information **in hard copy form** as per the current Connect newspaper which is distributed to ratepayers.
3. Would you prefer for council to create in the council website **a file to store all copies** of the Connect newspaper so that an electronic search can be undertaken for reading or copying purposes.

Madam Mayor electronic storage of the Connect newspaper is a means of councils history for any edition to be available many years into the future.

The cost reduction would eventuate through a **reduction in print numbers and postal costs** as more and more ratepayers are persuaded to look at the Connect newspaper electronically. This might be a small cost saving however electronic access could lead to a greater number of people to read councils news.

Please consider my suggestion and make a small reduction to the draft 2016-17 Budget.

Regards

Graham Jolly

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 March 2016 2:31 PM.  
**Subject:** Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -5

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -5

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request for council to make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

Madam Mayor I recommend a cost cutting exercise for the Councillors.

Cost cutting the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).

A. I request council to provide a finite descriptive response as to the total benefits to ratepayers of the Cardinia Shire that is associated with any expenses to the Municipal Association of Victoria. The response to be in writing.

Madam Mayor referring to previous communications with council my records show :-

1. MAV membership fees for council was approximately \$40K in a year.
2. Liability Insurance taken out with the MAV was approximately \$325K in a year.
3. Commercial Crime Insurance taken out with the MAV was approximately \$7,7K

Madam Mayor it is unknown by me as to the total council expenses to the MAV, the councillor group should request and determine.

I believe staff training expenses and publications are part of the councils expenses to the MAV, I might be wrong. Please enquire on my behalf.

B. I request the councillor group to vote to stop membership of council to the MAV.

C. I request the Councillor group to vote to stop any insurance expenditures of council to the MAV. Who are not an insurance company.

D. I request the Councillor group to vote to require council to tender out any insurances needed for the Cardinia Shire. Including council buildings and equipment insurance.

Madam Mayor I am in the belief their is very little benefit to ratepayers of the Cardinia Shire for council to use revenue expenses with the MAV. Therefore some current expenses to the MAV in a year at present can be used to provide a direct benefit to ratepayers.

I request a written response to this email.

Regards

Graham Jolly.

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 March 2016 8:17 PM  
**Subject:** Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -6

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -6

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request for council to make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

Madam Mayor I recommend a cost cutting exercise for the Councillors.

**Employee Expenses.**

Madam Mayor the Total amount to be raised by General rates in the Draft Budget :-

2015-16 \$61,919,530.

2016-17 \$66,618,600 Budgeted.

Note :- actual end of year 30 June collected revenue rates only figures are higher each year.

Page 57 of the Draft Budget. Their are ten listings totalling \$66,618,600 a revenue figure estimated by Councils own finance department for Rates Only Income.

**5. Schedule of Borrowings.**

Page 88 of the Draft Budget. 5. Schedule of Borrowings. Shows council aims to borrow \$3,250M 2016-17.

\$3.0M 2017-18.

\$3.2M. 2018-19.

\$3.0M. 2019-20.

**Rates only. Borrowings.**

Totalling the \$66,618,600 plus \$3,250,000 = \$69,868,600. This total could be unrestricted revenue.

Page 115 of the Draft Strategic Resource Plan. Shows council is aiming to increase Employee Expenses from 2015-16 \$29,942,000 to 2016-17 to \$31,855,000. 2017-18 to \$32,770,000. 2018-19 to \$34,316,000. 2019-20 to \$35,517,000.

Employee Expenses page 29 second last paragraph states a draft budget increase of 6.4%.

Increasing every year above the CPI.

**Employee Expenses.**

**Rates only + Borrowings.**

The \$31,855,000 is 45.59% of the Rates Only figure plus Borrowings figure = \$69,868,600.

45.59%.

Page 30 of the Draft Budget shows :-

" Division Expenses and Division numbers " are shown.

Madam Mayor employee expenses and future rises as reported in the Draft Budget **MUST** be lowered.

There are a number of ways this can occur immediately of which Councillors as a group can determine and set aims from now and into the future via this draft budget.

It is my understanding employee EBA's are in place now that will require reviewing soon.

A. I request Employee Expenses for 2016-17 be set at a zero rise.

B. I request Employee Expenses for 2017-18 to 2020 be set to decrease by 0.5% each year.

The new incoming Councillor group must not be locked into ongoing year by year high percentage Employee Expenses as reported in the Draft Strategic Resource Plan page 115.

I request a response to this in writing.

Regards

Graham Jolly.

Strategic resource plan

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2020

Budgets \$'000

Expenses.	2015-16.	2016-17.	2017-18.	2018-19.	2019-20.
Employee costs.	\$29,942.	\$31,855.	\$32,770.	\$34,316.	\$35,517.
Percentage increases		6.38%.	2.87%.	4.71%.	3.49%

Page 115.

**Jo Harris**

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**From:** Graham Jolly <agj1.agj2@me.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 2 April 2016 6:27 PM  
**Subject:** Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -7

Cardinia Shire 2016-17 Draft Budget Response -7

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO.

Under Section 223 I make a response/request for council to make changes to the Draft Budget 2016-17.

Madam Mayor it is interesting reading details to the Capital Works Program, Appendix C.

I am sure the Councillor group have come to a fair and conclusive listing in their roll as ratepayers representatives. Each year I have accepted the Councillors decision for Capital Works.

In the Draft Budget 2016-17 the Capital Works Program shows a number of questionable listings.

Expenses for :-

1. Purton Road Depot Master Plan.
2. Plant Replacement.
3. IT Strategy.
4. Car parking Resurfacing.

I now refer to previous years Adopted Budgets and this Draft Budget 2016-17 Expenses.

1.1 Purton Road Depot Master Plan. Expenses.

2016-17 \$500,000  
2015-16 \$300,000  
2014-15 \$250,000  
2013-14 \$150,000

Total = \$1,200,000. Over 4 years.

2.1 Plant Replacement. Expenses.

2016-17 \$2,250,000  
2015-16 \$2,021,000  
2014-15 \$1,858,000  
2013-14 \$2,034,000

Total = \$8,163,000. Over 4 years.

3.1 IT Strategy. Expenses.

2016-17 \$350,000  
2015-16 \$350,000  
2014-15 \$400,000  
2013-14 \$455,000

Totals = \$1,555,000. Over 4 years.

4.1 Car parking Resurfacing. Expenses.



2016-17 \$152,000  
2015-16 \$200,000  
2014-15 \$190,000  
2013-14 \$180,000

Totals = \$722,000. Over 4 years.

Madam Mayor the Draft Budget 2016-17 lacks details explaining each of the four points I have listed.

A. I request Council to provide a detailed explanation for past and future expenses for the Purton Road Depot Master Plan. A \$1,200,000 expenditure over 4 years indicates major works. When will these works end and why were they necessary ?

B. I request Council to provide a detailed explanation for past and future expenses for Plant Replacement. A \$8,163,000 expenditure over 4 years indicates major Plant Replacement. What was replaced and what Income trade-in was received by Council in the process of replacement ?

C. I request Council to provide a detailed explanation for past and future expenses for IT Strategy. A \$1,555,000 expenditure over 4 years indicates major expenses in IT used by Council. What was replaced and what happened to any old IT equipment ?

D. I request Council to provide a detailed explanation for past and future expenses for Car Parking Resurfacing. A \$722,000 expenditure over 4 years is probably a normal expenditure for Resurfacing works. Where were these works undertaken and where will the 2016-17 works be undertaken ?

E. Madam Mayor I request additional details to be included into the Budget 2016-17 as notes.

F. I request detailed Notes to be included in all future Budgets.

Regards  
Graham Jolly

**Doug Evans****Subject:** RE: Draft Revised Council Plan 2016 Response

On 26 Mar 2016, at 8:39 pm, "Graham Jolly" <[agj1.agj2@me.com](mailto:agj1.agj2@me.com)> wrote:

Cardinia Shire Draft 2016 Reviewed Council Plan Response.

Madam Mayor Cr Jodie Owen, Councillors and Mr Garry McQuillan CEO I make a response to the draft Revised 2016 Council Plan and Councils Plan Actions. In doing so I would like to ask a series of logical questions numbered 1 to 5 :-

Madam Mayor someone should ask these questions it might as well be me.

1. Why was the previous Council Plan reviewed ? Why was it required to change an approved Council Plan when the plan spanned multiple years. It was my belief the previous plan was a good plan for the future as pointed out by councillors when approved in 2015.

2. Why is the Council Plan reviewed every year ?

Section 125 (7) At least once in each financial year, a Council must consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan.

3. Why was it necessary to review the previous Council Plan when there is a scheduled Councillor election in October 2016 ?

Section 125 (10) If a Council makes an adjustment to the Council Plan, the Council must within 30 days of making the adjustment advise the Minister of the details of the adjustment to the Council Plan.

4. What was removed from the previous Council Plan ?

5. What was added to this draft Revised Council Plan ?

## **Our vision**

Cardinia Shire will be developed in a planned manner to enable present and future generations to live and work in our Shire, enjoying its diverse and distinctive characteristics.

Under Section 223, I make a response and request council make changes to the Draft Revised Council Plan 2016.

I request Council show additional transparency.

My response.

It is very pleasing to be able to read 5 key sections of the plan being :-

- Our people. 1.
- Our community. 2.
- Our environment. 3.
- Our economy. 4.
- Our governance. 5.

The reference numbering system makes reading and referencing much easier to follow. Cross referencing using the same numbering system is pleasing to see.

a. I request the key sections and their numbering systems to be referred to in all other council public released documents. When any document indicates within the agenda item " Reference to Council Plan ".

b. I request in the Our People section a new  
1.8 Policy Reviews.  
1.8.1 Council will review policies as needed to meet the changes in growth over time within the shire.  
1.8.2 Council will engage the community at all times when reviewing a policy.

c. I request in the Our community section a new  
2.2.4 Strengthen community engagement through the use of Internet and social media communications and in doing so notify all Section 86 Committees requesting input into the review decision making process.

2.5 Strategic Plans review and Precinct Plan reviews.  
2.5.1 Council will undertake to review Township Strategy Plans and Precinct Structure Plans every 4 years to meet growth changes to townships in the shire.

d. I request in the Our economy section a new  
4.4.3 Encourage and support the Arts and Culture by engaging the communities in the shire.

e. I request in the Our governance section a new  
5.2.3 Council will Audio (MP3) record council meetings and make the recording available to the residents of the shire.

5.3.6 Council will abide by the decisions of the State Government for Rates Capping.

I would like to request the Council Plan and the Council Plan Actions should be placed on the Internet as a joint stand alone document ensuring the ease to search ( a Google search ).

I request a written response to each of my questions and requests.

Thank you.

Regards  
Graham Jolly

Local Government Act 1989. Version 140.  
Council plan 2016

Section 125 Council Plan.

\* (1) A Council must prepare and approve a Council Plan within the period of 6 months

after each general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later.

\* (2) A Council Plan must include—

(a) the strategic objectives of the Council;

\* (b) strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next 4 years;

\* (c) strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives;

\* (d) a Strategic Resource Plan containing the matters specified in section 126;

\* (e) any other matters which are prescribed by the regulations.

(3) A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on the proposed Council Plan.

(3A) For the purposes of subsection (3), the Council must ensure that, for at least 28 days after the public notice is published under section 223(1)(a)—

\* (a) a copy of the proposed Council Plan is available for inspection by the public at—

(i) the Council office and any district offices; and

(ii) any other place required by the regulations; and

\* (b) the proposed Council Plan is published on the Council's Internet website.

\* (4) The Minister may extend the period within which a Council must comply with subsection (1).

\* (5) A Council must submit a copy of the Council Plan to the Minister by the date specified in subsection (1) or applying under subsection (4).

\* (6) If a Council fails to submit a Council Plan to the Minister within the time allowed, the Secretary must ensure that details of the failure are published in the annual report of the Department.

\* (7) At least once in each financial year, a Council must consider whether the current Council Plan requires any adjustment in respect of the remaining period of the Council Plan.

\* (8) Subject to subsections (9) and (10), a Council may make any adjustment it considers necessary to the Council Plan.

\* (9) A person has a right to make a submission under section 223 on a proposed adjustment to a Council Plan which relates to a matter specified under subsection (2)(a), (2)(b) or (2)(c).

\* (10) If a Council makes an adjustment to the Council Plan, the Council must within 30 days of making the adjustment advise the Minister of the details of the adjustment to the Council Plan.

\* (11) A copy of the current Council Plan must be available for inspection by the public at—

\* (a) the Council office and any district offices; and

\* (b) any other place required by the regulations.

\* Note

In addition, a Council must ensure that the current Council Plan is published on the Council's Internet website (see section 82A(2)(ab)(i)).