

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
29 JANUARY 2008**

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

<b>ORDER 5</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT 2007 - OLDER PERSONS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (OPCC)</b>
<b>LOCATION/ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>RESPONSIBLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>STEPHEN COOPER, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>ANNA MOO, COORDINATOR AGEING DIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS AND POLICY</b>
<b>FILE NO.:</b>	<b>02/06/01</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	<b>1 OPCC ANNUAL REPORT 2007</b>

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**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. Attached is the 2007 Annual Report prepared by the Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC)
- 1.2. The Annual Report outlines some of the key activities and initiatives undertaken by the OPCC during 2007 and recommends the continuation of the Committee to 31 December 2008

**2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

- 2.1. The OPCC was established in 2000. The Terms of Reference of the OPCC are to:
  - 2.1.1. Be a peak advisory and advocacy body on wellbeing issues affecting older people within the Municipality
  - 2.1.2. Provide advice to council officers on policies, plans and services impacting on older people
  - 2.1.3. Advocate to the community and council, on behalf of older people, reflecting the United Nations principles of independence, participation, care, self fulfillment and dignity
  - 2.1.4. Connect with other advisory structures of council
  - 2.1.5. Liaise with other organizations and networks that have a direct interest in older persons in the City of Port Phillip
- 2.2. The OPCC has developed a work plan for 2007. The key functions outlined in the work plan include provision of advice to council officers and council, on policies and planning issues impacting on older people; advocacy for and on behalf of older people, promotion of positive ageing in Port Phillip

- 2.3. In its consultative and advisory role, the OPCC has provided feedback and input into the development of the Ageing Well Strategy; Falls Prevention Strategies; access for all Library Services; Sustainable Transport – issues impacting on older people. The OPCC has also communicated with and has invited representatives from Yarra Trams to attend an OPCC meeting to discuss safety issues for older commuters.
- 2.4. To promote positive ageing, the OPCC held and co-hosted a number of forums including the Intergeneration Bush Dance where the Ageing Well in Port Phillip Strategy was launched on the 16 August 2007. A member of the OPCC represented the CoPP at the ALSO Foundation Expo on Health and Well Being of older Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transsexual and Intrasexual Persons. Together with the Council on the Ageing (COTA) the OPCC co-hosted the Ageing Well in Port Phillip Forum – on the 16 November 2007 to which approx. 100 people attended. The event was convened to provide information on issues related to financial, legal and ageing well in Port Phillip.
- 2.5. The OPCC was successful in obtaining project funds from the Auditor General Department for the development of Linking Neighbours. The project which is to be concluded in June 2008, aims to enhance the wellbeing and safety of older residents and increase community capacity to plan for and respond to emergency situations.
- 2.6. In its advocacy, the OPCC is represented on a number of key peak working groups and advisory committees and working parties including: Council on the Ageing – COTA Victoria, Community Advisory Committee (ISEPICH), University of the Third Aged (Port Phillip), South Port Community Residential Home – Funds Raising Committee.
- 2.7. The terms of reference of the OPCC have been reviewed in 2007 and require no amendments
- 2.8. The OPCC operates at full membership with a gender mix that reflects the profile of the ageing population in Port Phillip. Three new members were recruited in 2007. They bring to the OPCC a wealth of experience and community connections which will further advance the work and influence of the OPCC.

### **3. RECOMMENDED OPTION**

It is recommended that Council:

- 3.1. Note and endorse the OPCC Annual Report 2007
- 3.2. Thanks members of the OPCC for their work and achievements
- 3.3. Extend the terms of the OPCC to December 2008

Criterion for recommendation

- The OPCC has achieved well in key functions area. Members of the committee have demonstrated a strong commitment to positive ageing and have enthusiastically embraced the promotion and advocacy of an age friendly and connected community
- The role of the Committee is well understood and the profile of the OPCC has continued to increase. The OPCC model of community governance is being held as a good practice model and continues to exercise considerable influence in the establishment of similar committees in other municipalities.
- The role of the OPCC contributes significantly to each of the 4 pillars and is congruent with Council’s community engagement framework.

**Sustainability assessment**

Social Pillar	The OPCC activities and functions aim to provide advice which may lead to increased effectiveness and efficiency of services
Environmental Pillar	The OPCC continues to be extremely active in the promotion of sustainable community and public transport system. In line with the Ageing Well Strategy, the OPCC is working towards support an age friendly city where traffic hazards and noise are minimized and physical activities such as walking are encouraged
Cultural Pillar	Social inclusion relies on appropriate community involvement and participation in decision making. The OPCC plays a key role in ensuring the diversity of needs and expectations of older residents are taken into consideration and planned for by Council.
Social Pillar	The functions and activities undertaken by the OPCC have the potential to build a more healthy and inclusive city. The Linking Neighbours – Seniors Register Project has been developed to facilitate social connection and mutual support and to assist residents in crises or emergency situations.

**3.4. Policy and legislative implications**

The activities and initiatives undertaken by the OPCC outlined in the attached Annual Report are consistent with council’s community engagement and policy development framework which aims to involve citizens in council’s decision making.

**3.5. Risk implications**

The OPCC has worked well as a peak consultative and advisory body to Council and its officers on issues impacting on older people. Council’s support for and maintenance of the OPCC is critical in facilitating greater participation and active citizens’ governance and ownership on issues related to older people.

**3.6. Resource implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1. The only alternative option is for the term of the OPCC to cease from the 31 December 2007
- 4.2. Such a decision would adversely impact on the good will of residents. They have embraced the challenge and worked hard and with enthusiasm to be an effective communication conduit between the community of older people and council.

**5. PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

**5.1. Internal**

- 5.1.1. Cr Janet Cribbes, Councillor Representative on the OPCC
- 5.1.2. Carl Mayell, Manager Community Development
- 5.1.3. Various staff members who were invited to attended meetings of the OPCC to provide information and briefings on a range of policy and service issues.

**5.2. External**

- 5.2.1. Members of the OPCC
- 5.2.2. Council on the Ageing – Victoria
- 5.2.3. Caulfield Community Health Service
- 5.2.4. Yarra Trams
- 5.2.5. U3A- National Office

**6. RECOMMENDATION**

6.1. That the Council resolve to:

6.1.1. Note and endorse the Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) Annual Report 2007

6.1.2. Thank the committee members for their work and achievements

6.1.3. Extend the term of reference of the Older Persons Consultative Committee to December 2008