



# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL

## AGENDA

4 MAY 2022



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# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL 4 MAY 2022



## **Welcome**

*Welcome to this Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council.*

*Council Meetings are an important way to ensure that your democratically elected representatives are working for you in a fair and transparent way. They also allow the public to be involved in the decision-making process of Council.*

## **About this meeting**

*There are a few things to know about tonight's meeting. The first page of tonight's Agenda itemises all the different parts to the meeting. Some of the items are administrative and are required by law. In the agenda you will also find a list of all the items to be discussed this evening.*

*Each report is written by a Council officer outlining the purpose of the report, all relevant information and a recommendation. Council will consider the report and either accept the recommendation or make amendments to it. All decisions of Council are adopted if they receive a majority vote from the Councillors present at the meeting.*

## **Public Question Time and Submissions**

*Provision is made at the beginning of the meeting for general question time from members of the public. Members of the public have the option to join the WebEx meeting virtually and ask their questions live during the meeting, or have an officer read their statement on their behalf. Please note statements may be summarised when read by an officer, to assist with meeting process. All contributions from the public will be heard at the start of the meeting during the agenda item 'Public Questions and Submissions.'*

*If you would like to address the Council and / or ask a question on any of the items being discussed, please follow the process on Council's website:*

<https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/about-the-council/council-meetings/request-to-speak-at-a-council-meeting>





## MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL

### To Councillors

Notice is hereby given that a **Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council** will be held in **Port Melbourne Town Hall** on **Wednesday, 4 May 2022 at 6:30pm**. At their discretion, Councillors may suspend the meeting for short breaks as required.

### AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES**
- 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**  
*Minutes of the Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 6 April 2022.*  
*Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Port Phillip City Council held on 27 April 2022.*
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
- 4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUBMISSIONS**
- 5 COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME**
- 6 SEALING SCHEDULE**  
*Nil*
- 7 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS**  
*7.1 Petition Response - Loss of Car Parking on Park Street ..... 6*
- 8 PRESENTATION OF CEO REPORT**  
*Nil*
- 9 INCLUSIVE PORT PHILLIP**  
*9.1 Positive Ageing Policy - Draft Policy Objectives ..... 11*  
*9.2 Acceptance of the Older Persons Advisory Committee Annual Report ..... 19*  
*9.3 Adventure Playgrounds Extended Opening Hours Trial Findings.....*
- 10 LIVEABLE PORT PHILLIP**  
*Nil*
- 11 SUSTAINABLE PORT PHILLIP**  
*Nil*
- 12 VIBRANT PORT PHILLIP**  
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	<i>Nil</i>	
<b>15</b>	<b>REPORTS BY COUNCILLOR DELEGATES</b>	
<b>16</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS</b>	
<b>17</b>	<b>CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS</b>	
	<i>Nil</i>	



**3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUBMISSIONS**

**5. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME**

**6. SEALING SCHEDULE**

Nil

**7. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS**

7.1 *Petition Response - Loss of Car Parking on Park Street* ..... 6



## 7.1 Petition Response - Loss of Car Parking in Park Street

A Petition containing 12 signatures, was received from residents of Park Street, and presented to a Council Meeting on 2 March 2022

### The Petition states the following:-

*We are petitioning against the loss of 13 car parking spaces on Park Street (between Kings Way and Eastern Road) as part of the **Park Street Bike Link Proposal**. We also object to the proposed bike lane positioning between Kings Way and Eastern Road, which unlike the nearby residential areas of Moray Street, is being positioned on the inside of parked cars. This positioning presents a major hazard to residents accessing their parked cars.*

### OFFICER COMMENT

#### Background

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 18 September 2018, Council endorsed the Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan. The Masterplan identified key projects throughout the precinct including the Park Street Streetscape Improvement Project. The indicative concept design for Park Street showed an on-road bike lane for the section between Kings Way and Moray Street.

Through the masterplan community engagement process, Council received feedback relating to concerns that the on-road bike lane (not separated) did not align with best practice or safety objectives identified within Council's endorsed *Move Connect Live Strategy*. In response to community concerns, Council's endorsement of the Masterplan specifically required officers to investigate the installation of a protected bike lane on Park Street between Kings Way and Moray Street.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 1 September 2021, Council endorsed a number of routes for consideration into the Department of Transport's (DoT) Pop-up Bike Lane program, including the temporary protected bike lane between Moray Street and Kings Way. DoT have since confirmed this route for inclusion with an external funding grant estimated at \$170k and construction scheduled between May-June 2022.

As part of the development of the design, an independent Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Safe Systems Assessment (SSA) were commissioned. The purpose of conducting the RSA is to identify any risks associated with the designs, and it specially looks at safety outcomes for all road users (including pedestrians, bike riders, vehicles etc). The SSA compared the existing conditions with the proposed design and demonstrated a substantive overall safety improvement.

On 2 March 2022, Council considered community engagement results of the Park Street Streetscape Improvement Project and endorsed to proceed to detailed design and construction of the project. This petition was tabled at the 2 March 2022 Council meeting, allowing Councillors the opportunity to consider it as they considered the report recommendations. This report provides a formal response to the petition in line with Council's governance processes as outlined below;



### **Parking Impacts**

The design between Kings Way and Moray Street requires the removal of 12 parking spaces, this includes two (2) redundant childcare Permit Zone parking spaces on the south side near Kings Way (childcare is not currently active, and these permit types are no longer available through the Parking Management Policy 2021).

To address this impact on the community, Council have adjusted the design to:

- replace the four (4) Taxi Zone parking bays that are currently unavailable for public use, with short term public parking spaces that can be used for long term parking by residential permit holders. Proposed restriction 1P 8am-6pm (permit holders exempt)
- convert six of the existing long term paid parking spaces adjacent to Eastern Road Reserve to short term public parking spaces that can be used for long term parking by residential permit holders. Proposed restriction 1P 8am-6pm (permit holders exempt).

These changes maintain the same number parking spaces that can be used for long term parking by residential permit holders and are intended to support residents and visitor parking needs. Overall, this results in a reduction of six long term (P Ticket 8am-6pm) publicly available parking spaces.

### **Bike Lane Design**

Protected bike lanes are the industry standard and are considered best practice for bike lane design. Separation of a bike lane from moving traffic and the car dooring zone, provides a safe and comfortable environment for riders, and in particular more vulnerable members of the community. This approach is used widely across Melbourne and internationally.

The design has taken into consideration safe access to parked vehicles and allows an unobstructed 1m wide buffer between parked cars and the bike lane, (consistent with AustRoads Guidelines).

While the 1m buffered zone is considered safe, in response to this petition, Council have increased the buffered zone to 1.5m between the bike lane and parked cars in areas where there is adequate road width.

In addition to the above, Council will be line marking individual parking bays in accordance with Australian Standards. The formalising of parking spaces will ensure all bays are usable and are of an adequate size to properly access the vehicle.

### **Comparison to Moray Street**

The petition makes specific reference that the proposed design for Park Street is different to other recently installed bike lanes, for example Moray Street, South Melbourne between Albert Road and Coventry Street.

The road constraints on Moray Street differ along the length. In the section between Albert Road and Coventry Street, the width between the kerb and the median did not allow enough space for a protected bike lane to be installed without the removal of all parking and/or the removal of the central median (and trees within). If there was ability to provide for a protected facility in this location without these constraints a protected bike lane would have been Council's preference.

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## 4 MAY 2022



On Moray Street north of Coventry Street, additional space was available in the carriageway (no central median) and as such a protected bike was installed.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Notes the previous Council decision to proceed to detailed design and construction of the Park Street Streetscape Improvement Project, including this portion of Park Street on 2 March 2022.
2. Notes that Council officers will proceed with the delivery of the Temporary Bike Lane between Moray Street and Kings Way in line with the timing of the Department of Transport's Pop-up Bike Lane program.
3. Thanks the signatories of the petition lodged with Council which led to design changes that improved the outcome for the whole community.
4. Requests Council officers notify the head representative of the petition of Council's decision.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil





**8. PRESENTATION OF CEO REPORT**

Nil

**9. INCLUSIVE PORT PHILLIP**

9.1	<i>Positive Ageing Policy - Draft Policy Objectives .....</i>	11
9.2	<i>Acceptance of the Older Persons Advisory Committee Annual Report 2021 .....</i>	19
9.3	<i>Adventure Playgrounds Extended Opening Hours Trial Findings</i>	



**9.1 POSITIVE AGEING POLICY - DRAFT POLICY OBJECTIVES**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER: TONY KEENAN, GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND INCLUSION**

**PREPARED BY: CHRISTINE DENING, RESEARCH AND DATA ANALYTICS ADVISOR**

**1. PURPOSE**

1.1 To provide Council and the community with the outcomes of the Positive Ageing community consultation and draft key policy objectives for the Positive Ageing Policy.

**2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 On 2 February 2022, Council endorsed a policy development process and resolved for officers to commence community engagement to inform and deliver a Positive Ageing Policy by November 2022. Council endorsed the engagement approach that facilitated broad and diverse input from residents, service providers, Council's advisory committees and the wider community.
- 2.2 Older people (defined as people aged 60 years and older and first nations people aged 50 years and older) make up a significant, valued and growing proportion (16%) of the municipal community in Port Phillip.
- 2.3 Australia has an ageing population and reform in aged care services has been occurring since 2016. The Commonwealth is directing an agenda for national consistency and improved consumer choice for delivery of federally funded aged care services.
- 2.4 A Positive Ageing Policy will help Council navigate future decisions around how it can contribute to positive ageing outcomes, as well as inform future decisions about its role in Commonwealth funded aged care services.
- 2.5 Following community engagement on what matters for positive ageing and two workshops with stakeholders, Council officers have proposed policy goals for positive ageing for Council endorsement. These proposed goals set out aspirations for positive ageing in the City of Port Phillip.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 3.1 Note the activities undertaken to inform the development of Council's Positive Ageing Policy to date and planned next steps.
- 3.2 Endorse the proposed policy objectives for Council's Positive Ageing Policy as follows:
- 3.2.1 Goal 1: Accessible, affordable, and quality support services are available locally and at home as people age and needs change
- 3.2.2 Goal 2: Effective communication and education enables people to maintain health and wellbeing and know about available services and activities
- 3.2.3 Goal 3: Respect and value of the contribution of older people from all genders, backgrounds, identities and abilities and the importance of intergenerational connections



- 3.2.4 Goal 4: Well-designed public spaces, events, activities and campaigns promote independence, social interaction, health and wellbeing, and digital literacy
- 3.2.5 Goal 5: Safe, secure, and stable housing enable people to remain in their communities as they age
- 3.2.6 Goal 6: Affordable, safe and reliable transport options enable independent movement and connection to friends, family and services

#### 4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 On 2 February 2022, Council noted the intended policy scope, process and community engagement for developing Council's new Positive Ageing Policy.
- 4.2 This policy will use the WHO Age Friendly Communities and Cities Framework to articulate the roles the Council can play in:
  - Positioning Port Phillip as an age-friendly city for everyone
  - Ensuring the city is a safe, accessible and inclusive place for older people regardless of their life stage, age, ability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation
  - Fostering neighbourhoods that are supportive, caring and resilient in times of need
  - Facilitating adequate access to health, housing and social support services and programs for all people as they age
  - Ensuring that all people can remain socially connected, engaged and valued members of the city as they age.
- 4.3 The scope of this policy will consider:
  - The needs of people aged 60 years and older (and First Nations people aged 50 years and older), and their families and carers in the City of Port Phillip
  - How older person services and programs that are delivered in the City of Port Phillip can contribute to positive ageing including:
    - Services and programs delivered directly by the City of Port Phillip. These include the Older Persons Advisory Committee, Linking Neighbours program, Seniors Festival and providing Commonwealth funded entry level aged care services such as community transport, home maintenance, domestic assistance and social support.
    - Services and programs that receive financial or in-kind support from the City of Port Phillip. These include facilities providing programs for older people to socialise and grant funding for community groups.
    - Universal services, programs and events provided or funded by Council that contribute to an age-friendly city. This includes the provision of public spaces, lighting, footpaths and sport and recreation services.
    - Services provided by other levels of government, the private sector and the non-for-profit sector.
- 4.4 The Positive Ageing Policy will be delivered in six stages (refer to Attachment 1).
- 4.5 The presentation of this report represents the completion of the first three stages:
  - 4.5.1 Stage 1: Preliminary research to scope and understand what positive ageing means.



4.5.2 Stage 2: Council engaged with the community members and stakeholders to understand what age friendly means in the City of Port Phillip. During this time, officers convened a subgroup of the Older Persons' Advisory Committee (OPAC) to assist with stages three and four. This group is known as the **Positive Ageing Policy Sub-Committee** and consists of members of the OPAC and interested persons from Council's newly formed LBGTIQ+ advisory committee, Multicultural Advisory Committee and Multifaith Network.

4.5.3 Stage 3: Officers worked with members of the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-Committee across two workshops to unpack and articulate the goals this policy is seeking to achieve.

4.6 More detail on the activities and outcomes from the community consultation and stakeholder engagement is provided in Section 5 of this report.

4.7 Drawing on the analysis of what was learnt through the community engagement, the WHO Age-Friendly Domains and discussions with the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-Committee the following five focus areas were identified:

#### 4.7.1 **Community support and health services**

This was identified as the most important priority by survey respondents when asked what positive ageing would look like in the future and was a key priority identified by the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-committee. Survey respondents shared that access to adequate and affordable health care, while feeling supported at home and in their community is important. A number of respondents praised services available in the City of Port Phillip and expressed a desire to see these grow. While half felt they have access to the services they need when or if they need it, a high proportion were unsure (38 per cent) and some (13 per cent) stated that they do not have access.

#### 4.7.2 **Social participation, respect and inclusion**

This was identified as the second most important priority by survey respondents when asked what positive ageing would look like in the future and was a key priority identified by the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-committee. Survey respondents shared that access to a range of accessible and affordable activities and intergenerational integration is key for positive ageing and expressed that age can be a barrier for connecting with their community and a need for activities that build connections and combat loneliness.

#### 4.7.3 **Housing**

This was identified as the third most important priority by survey respondents when asked what positive ageing would look like in the future and was a key priority identified by the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-committee. Survey respondents shared that being able to remain in their own home is central to positive ageing with people raising concerns about not being able to afford to remain at home and a lack of affordable retirement living options and low-income housing.

#### 4.7.4 **Outdoor spaces and buildings**

This was identified as a key priority by survey respondents across several topics and related issues were identified by the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-committee. Survey respondents identified that having safe, clean and beautiful



streets and outdoor spaces are important with a desire for more trees, shady areas and seats to make walking more enjoyable. Safety was also emphasised, with people wanting to feel safer out and about, especially at night. There were also concerns about dogs off-leash in outdoor spaces and 'ugly' and unnecessary development as well concerns related to climate change, food insecurity and rising sea levels.

#### 4.7.5 Transportation and moving around

This was identified as a key priority by survey respondents across several topics and related issues were identified by the Positive Ageing Policy Subcommittee. Survey respondents identified that proximity and accessibility to outdoor spaces and facilities are important drivers of positive ageing with people wanting to feel safe outdoors without the dangers of e-bikes and scooters, off-leash dogs, and damaged footpaths.

- 4.8 Based on the key focus areas, six policy goals for positive ageing in our city have been developed that reflect our aspirations for positive ageing in our city:

**Goal 1:** Accessible, affordable, and quality support services are available locally and at home as people age and needs change

**Goal 2:** Effective communication and education enables people to maintain health and wellbeing and know about available services and activities

**Goal 3:** Respect and value of the contribution of older people from all genders, backgrounds, identities and abilities and the importance of intergenerational connections

**Goal 4:** Well-designed public spaces, events, activities and campaigns promote independence, social interaction, health and wellbeing, and digital literacy

**Goal 5:** Safe, secure, and stable housing enable people to remain in their communities as they age

**Goal 6:** Affordable, safe and reliable transport options enable independent movement and connection to friends, family and services

## 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 During February and March, Council consulted to understand what age friendly means in our community. This included:
- 5.1.1 Key stakeholder interviews with service providers (involving hour long interviews with representatives across 12 organisations including community health services, social clubs, sporting groups and community groups).
  - 5.1.2 A hard copy and online community survey measuring attitudes and opinions against the WHO Age Friendly domains and informed by an evidence-based background paper.
  - 5.1.3 Members of the community were invited to participate via promotion in CoPPTThis!, the Have Your Say online engagement platform, targeted social media advertising, postcards, social media, direct mail and the Council website.
  - 5.1.4 Responses to the survey were sought from diverse and intersectional groups by utilising Council's networks and stakeholder lists and offering translated versions of the hard copy survey (in Polish, Russian and Greek).



5.1.5 Of the 359 survey respondents, there was a good spread of respondents from across the municipality with 95 per cent residing in the City of Port Phillip. About 70 per cent identified themselves as women or female which is a higher proportion than the 52% of the 2016 Census population aged 60 years and older who are female. Compared with the demographics of people aged 60 years and older, the respondent profile was older with 76 per cent aged 70 years and older (this age range accounts for 46 per cent of 2016 Census population aged 60 years and older). A higher proportion of survey respondents identified that they live alone compared with the demographics of people aged 60 years and older.

5.2 Members of Council's Older Persons, Multicultural Advisory and newly formed LGBTIQA+ advisory committees were invited to participate on the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-Committee to help inform the development of the policy.

5.3 The Positive Ageing Policy Subcommittee consists of:

- 8 members of the Older Person Advisory Committee
- 3 members of the Multicultural Committee
- 1 person associated with the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

5.4 Two workshops were held with the Positive Ageing Policy Sub-Committee. These workshops were designed for participants to consider what is most important to people aged 60 years and over and their goals for the future.

5.5 At the first workshop, attendees considered the outcomes of the community engagement and identified the following areas of focus for the policy:

- 5.5.1 Housing
- 5.5.2 Community support and health services
- 5.5.3 Social Participation (including isolation and social participation)
- 5.5.4 Environment

5.6 At the second workshop, attendees identified key elements to be included in the goals for positive ageing under the five focus areas. Key elements identified included:

5.6.1 **Community support and health services:** Access, Affordability, Availability locally and/or at home, Quality, Communication and education around support and services available

5.6.2 **Social participation, respect and inclusion:** Respect, Education, Intergenerational, Diversity of older people

5.6.3 **Housing:** Stability, Security, Support to age in place

5.6.4 **Outdoor spaces and buildings:** Connections, Considered Design, Connectivity, Spaces for social interaction, knowledge and interest sharing

5.6.5 **Transport and Moving Around:** Transport as an enabler of connections and independence, Safety, Affordability, Accessibility, Reliability

5.7 These key elements have been reflected in the proposed goals provided in this report.

## 6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Commonwealth Government has announced significant reforms to improve the delivery of aged care services in Australia. This policy will provide a framework for



Council to make informed decisions about its future role in Commonwealth-funded aged care services.

**7. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

7.1 Operating project funding of \$60k has been allocated in the 2021/22 budget to support the delivery of this policy. This funding is being used to develop engagement materials, facilitate workshops and undertake supporting research.

**8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

8.1 The Positive Ageing Background Paper outlined the issues associated with climate change and positive ageing including the impacts of climate change on older people.

**9. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

9.1 The Positive Ageing Policy will outline Council's role in providing services to people as they age. It is being drafted alongside a broader project which will review the potential impact of the Commonwealth Aged Care Reforms on Council's delivery of these services.

**10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY**

10.1 Development of a Positive Ageing Policy aligns to the Strategic Direction 1 *Inclusive Port Phillip* in the Council Plan 2021 - 2031. A specific initiative under this direction is to prepare a Positive Ageing Policy.

**11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

**11.1 TIMELINE**

11.1.1 The next and fourth stage in the policy development process is to formalise Council's role in achieving the goals (what the community can expect from Council).

11.1.2 A third workshop with the Positive Ageing Policy Subcommittee (scheduled for 23 May 2022) will inform this prior to the draft policy being presented to Council on 20 July 2022.

11.1.3 Stage Five provides an opportunity for community members to provide feedback on the draft policy to ensure it is fit-for-purpose prior to its formal adoption.

11.1.4 The final phase is the formal adoption which is planned for November 2022.

**11.2 COMMUNICATION**

11.2.1 The community and all relevant stakeholders are kept informed throughout the process.

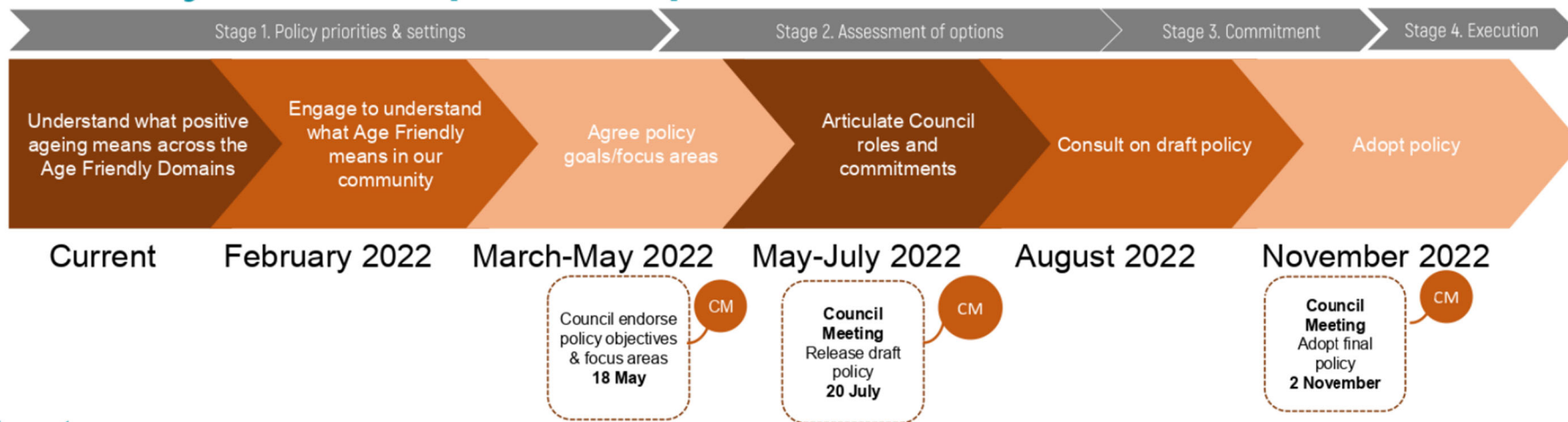
**12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**1. Policy Development Process**

# Policy development process



## Inputs

- Benchmarking other Councils
- OPAC and other advisory committees
- Positive Ageing Background Paper
- Stakeholder interviews with 12 organisations (community health services, social clubs, sporting groups and community groups)
- A survey (hard copy and online) of 356 community members (key findings included in this presentation)
- Two workshops with our Positive Ageing subcommittee
- Third Positive Ageing Policy subcommittee workshop
- Community consultation





**9.2** **ACCEPTANCE OF THE OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** TONY KEENAN, GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND INCLUSION

**PREPARED BY:** LAURA CATTAPAN, COORDINATOR GRANTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To present to Council the Older Persons Advisory Committee Annual Report 2021. Refer to Attachment 1 Older Persons Advisory Committee 2021 Annual Report.
- 1.2 To seek endorsement for the Older Persons Advisory Committee to co-opt a new member on to the Committee until the end of the term of the current membership.

**2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The City of Port Phillip's Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) is a formal reference committee to Council and acts as its peak advisory and advocacy body consulting on issues affecting the wellbeing of older people 55 years and over within the municipality.
- 2.2 The OPAC present to Council their Annual Report outlining the breadth of work they have completed and highlighting their key achievements in 2021 (calendar year).
- 2.3 The OPAC request to co-opt a new Committee member, as outlined in the OPAC Terms of Reference - Section 2, . Committee Structure. Refer to Attachment 2 Older Persons Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to ensure membership retains its diversity.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 3.1 Receives and acknowledges the Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) Annual Report 2021 and thanks the Committee for their work and achievements.
- 3.2 Endorses the OPAC to co-opt a new member on to the Committee until the end of the term of the current membership.

**4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES**

- 4.1 The OPAC, formerly known as the Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC), was established in 2000 as a component of Council's response to the International Year of the Older Person and is a formal advisory committee of the City of Phillip. Its community members are appointed by Council and undertake their role on a voluntary capacity. They advise and advocate to Council on wellbeing issues, policies, plans and services impacting older people.
- 4.2 OPAC members attend monthly committee meetings and volunteer additional time on subcommittees and working groups to support their advocacy work and assist Council to deliver events such as the Port Phillip Annual Seniors Festival. Members also represent older persons in relevant forums and are members of other advisory committees and networks within Council and the community.



- 4.3 In 2021 the OPAC developed an action plan in line with their Terms of Reference, the Council Plan 2017-27, and the World Health Organisation Age Friendly Cities Framework. The Action Plan was updated in September to reflect the new Council Plan 2021-31.
- 4.4 The OPAC Objectives and Plan outlines the OPAC's intent to:
- Provide advice on relevant Council policies and planning issues.
  - Undertake advocacy relating to older people.
  - Promote positive ageing in Port Phillip.
- Refer to Attachment 3. Older Persons Advisory Committee 2021 Objectives and Action Plan.
- 4.5 The OPAC Annual Report 2021 outlines the committee's outcomes and achievements, including:
- 4.5.1 Keeping Council informed of the impact of COVID-19 on older residents of Port Phillip, and the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination program.
- 4.5.2 Advising on the City of Port Phillip's Digital Literacy and Older Persons Project 2021. Funded through the Work for Victoria scheme.
- 4.5.3 Recommending Council's support and participation in the EveryAge Counts campaign leading the way to end ageism in Australia.
- 4.5.4 Providing input, advice, and feedback on a range of Council business activities and strategic documents as outlined in section 5.1.1
- 4.5.5 Raising to Council key issues affecting older people in Port Phillip as outlined in section 5.1.2.
- 4.5.6 Participating in OPAC working groups and subcommittees to further develop actions outlined in the OPAC 2021 Objectives and Action Plan, they include:
- 2021 Planning Working Group
  - Seniors Festival Subcommittee
  - 21st Anniversary Working Group
  - Governance Subcommittee – established August 2021
  - South Melbourne Market Working Group – established August 2021
- 4.6 Since the establishment of the current OPAC membership four members have resigned.
- 4.7 In March 2022 the OPAC was approached by a local resident interested in nominating to the Committee. This individual is representative of Port Phillip's diverse community.
- 4.8 At the 4 April 2022 OPAC meeting the Committee unanimously agreed to co-opt the nominee on to the Committee and seek Council's endorsement of their nomination, as outlined in OPAC Terms of Reference under section 2. Committee Structures:
- To ensure diverse representation of older persons the OPAC may co-opt members representative of diverse communities/backgrounds onto subcommittees and working groups.



- With Council endorsement the Committee may co-opt members to replenish the membership, if required.

## 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

5.1 The OPAC Annual Report 2021 outlines the contribution, advice and consultation provided to Council by the Committee, along with informing Council on issues impacting older people in the City of Port Phillip, including:

5.1.1 Feedback and consultation on Council activities:

- Draft Council Plan and Budget submission
- Draft Library Action Plan
- Community Facilities Hire
- Establishment of an LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee
- South Melbourne Structure Plan - Phase 1
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- New Customer Portal
- Older Persons Policy
- Fitzroy Street and Homelessness
- Climate Change - current and future actions

5.1.2 Information on matters affecting older persons:

- Action on Climate Change
- Seating and homelessness in Fitzroy Street
- Public lighting in Port Phillip
- Divercity hard copy - petition
- South Melbourne Market
- Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area

5.1.3 Engagement with external stakeholders:

- Shrine to Sea Project, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)
- Ageism and Elder Abuse Project - Elder Abuse Prevention Action Group, Southern Melbourne Primary Care Partnership
- EveryAge Counts campaign leading the way to end ageism in Australia

## 6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no known legal or risk implications.

## 7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

7.1 The OPAC Annual Report is drafted and produced internally. There is no expense other than officer time associated with the production.

7.2 Council provided a contribution of \$4,666 for OPAC running costs including volunteer reimbursements, events and meeting refreshments during 2021.



## 8 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 There is an online distribution of the OPAC Annual Report as well as being accessible on the Council website. The report is available in hardcopy by request only.
- 8.2 Environmental sustainability has been a key objective in the OPAC Objectives and Plan in 2021.
- 8.3 Issues relating to climate change have been included in the OPAC monthly meeting Agendas.

## 9 COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 9.1 The establishment of Council Advisory Committees is integral to Council's Good Governance principles and aligns well with Local Government community engagement processes. Through these Committees, Council recognises and encourages community leadership, and seeks to maximise community feedback in its decision-making process.
- 9.2 Advisory Committees provide advice to Council as well as facilitating community networks to build on local strengths, keeping people informed and connected. They improve public confidence through demonstrating active community participation in the decision-making processes.
- 9.3 The OPAC's contribution has ensured that older persons in Port Phillip have a more culturally enriched, participatory, and inclusive lived experience.
- 9.4 The OPAC provide advice to Council on policies, strategies, projects and services.
- 9.5 Committee members are representative of a range of local groups and services including U3APP, Port Phillip Lions Club, COTA Victoria, Port Phillip Bicycle Users Group, CaSPA Care, Linking Neighbours, Elwood Croquet Club, Port Phillip Multifaith Network and Port Phillip Multicultural Advisory Committee.
- 9.6 The OPAC are an important stakeholder for Council to continue to consult in relation to COVID-19 recovery. The United Nations (UN)' Policy Brief: *The impact of COVID-19 on older persons May 2020*, outlined 'the pandemic has seen older persons at a significantly higher risk of mortality and sickness with people over 80 years old dying at five times the average rate'. The wellbeing, mental health and the impact of ageism and stigma on older persons needs to be addressed. The UN highlight the extreme importance for older persons to contribute to the crisis response and recovery. The OPAC are well placed to assist Council to deliver on this.

## 10 ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

- 10.1 The work of the OPAC aligns with the following Strategic Direction in the Council Plan 2021-31:

### **Inclusive Port Phillip**

Our Strategic Direction –

A City that is a place for all members of our community, where people feel supported and comfortable being themselves and expressing their identities.

Initiatives

We will partner with:



# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL 4 MAY 2022

- our Older Persons Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, Multicultural Advisory Committee, Multifaith Network and establish other committees, where relevant, to ensure the diversity of our community's experience is represented in decision-making

10.2 The OPCC addresses the following City of Port Phillip Health Priorities:

- Tackling climate change and its impact on health
- Preventing all forms of violence
- Increasing active living

10.3 The OPAC addresses the Port Phillip Community Safety Plan 2019-23, Priority Area 2. Build Resilience:

- Strategy 2.11 Council supports consultative processes and advisory groups to ensure our understanding of community service needs is well-informed and relevant.

10.4 The OPAC Annual Report reflects the committee being active, informed and made up of community members who are from diverse backgrounds.

10.5 The OPAC advocate for the inclusion of older persons in all aspects of community life.

10.6 Council will continue to consult with the OPAC on Council's priorities and key strategies.

10.7 2021 key priorities for the OPCC include:

- Ageism
- Aged Care Reforms/Royal Commission
- Health and Wellbeing, Social and Physical Environment
- Housing
- Environmental Sustainability
- Communication/COVID-19
- Governance

## **11 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

### 11.1 TIMELINE

11.1.1 No implementation is required

### 11.2 COMMUNICATION

11.2.1 OPAC will be notified of Council's acceptance of the Annual Report and the outcome of the endorsement of the co-opted nominee at their June meeting.

## **12 OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Older Persons Advisory Committee 2021 Annual Report**
- 2. Older Persons Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**
- 3. Older Persons Advisory Committee 2021 Objectives and Action Plan**

# Older Persons Advisory Committee

The Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) has been appointed by the City of Port Phillip council to be its main advisory body on all issues affecting older residents living in the City of Port Phillip. Encompassing a wide range of backgrounds and views, the OPAC is accessible and engaged.

## ANNUAL REPORT January to December 2021

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## Introduction

This is the Annual Report of the City of Port Phillip Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC). The report covers the activities of the Committee for the period January to December 2021. The Committee was established in 2000 as an outcome of the International Year of the Older Person, celebrated in 1999.

In June 2021 Council endorsed the updated Terms of Reference including a name change to Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC). This report will refer to the committee as OPAC throughout.

## Message from the Chair



Welcome to the 2021 OPAC Annual Report. I am thrilled to be part of such a dynamic group of older citizens of the City of Port Phillip. What is our purpose? Betty Knight, one of the founders of the then Older Person’s reference group, summarises it well. ‘We would like the decision makers and the community to listen to and acknowledge the words of the Older Person’s Advisory Group.’ The work of OPAC follows from this (assisted by council officers) and we constantly strive to give advice, to focus Council’s attention on the needs, wants and special wisdom of Older people in the city.

You will find the details of our achievements in this report! Happy reading.

Freda Erlich  
OPAC Chair  
2022

## Snapshot of OPAC Key Achievements 2021

Feedback and Consultation on Council Activities	
Activity	Achievement
Draft Council Plan and Budget submission	Submitted to Council in June 2021
Digital Literacy and Older Persons Project – consulted and advised throughout the duration of the Project.	Final report with recommendations was presented to OPAC in July 2021. OPAC have advocated for Council to implement the recommendations.
Draft Library Action Plan consultation.	OPAC feedback was consider in the final Action Plan.
OPAC feedback on Council’s Community Facilities Hire included ensuring not for profit community groups supporting older residents receive free or greatly reduced community facilities rates.	Council supported OPAC feedback.

OPAC supported the establishment of an LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee	An LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee was established.
South Melbourne Structure Plan - Phase 1	OPAC feedback was considered.
New Customer Portal	OPAC's feedback on improvements and accessibility were considered.
OPAC are key subject matter experts and stakeholders in the development of the Positive Ageing Policy and provided advice and feedback on the questionnaire /survey.	OPAC's feedback was included in the final survey template.
<b>Information on matters affecting older persons</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
OPAC continued to advocate to Council on Climate Change and submitted a request to Council.	Councillors met with Council Officers to progress request.
Seating and homelessness in Fitzroy Street	OPAC continues to advocate to Council Officers for seating to be reinstalled in Fitzroy Street and for Council to continue to have a role in supporting people who are homeless or at risk.
Public lighting in Port Phillip	OPAC continues to advocate to Council Officers to upgrade and audit public lighting.
Diversity hard copy - petition	At the May 5 May Council Meeting the Diversity Petition was accepted by Council with recommendations.
Advocate for South Melbourne Market (SMM) to be more aged friendly	OPAC members met with SMM Coordinator Customer Experience and Business Support to discuss issues. The summary of the SMM 10-year plan included most of OPAC requests. With additional requests being considered.
Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area	Cr Peter Martin continues to keep OPAC updated.
<b>Engagement with external stakeholders</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
OPAC continue to advise on the Shrine to Sea Project, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).	Inclusion of public toilet upgrades and/or development as part of the project are being considered.
EveryAge Counts campaign leading the way to end ageism in Australia OPAC advocated for Council to pass a Notice of Motion to support the EveryAge Counts campaign which seeks to end ageism in Australia	The Notice of Motion was passed by Council on 15 September Council Meeting. On 1 October Mayor Cr Louise Crawford signed the EveryAGE Counts Campaign Pledge to end ageism.



### The stated purpose of the OPAC:

The Older Persons Advisory Committee will provide advice to Council and Council officers about policies, plans and services affecting older people.

### OPAC Terms of Reference Objectives (updated June 2021)

- To be the peak advisory and advocacy body on issues affecting the wellbeing of older people (55 years and over) within the Port Phillip municipality.
- To be representative and advocate on behalf of older persons from our diverse community including people with disabilities, people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex (LGBTI), people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background, people experiencing financial disadvantage (including people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness) and our multicultural and multifaith communities.
- To provide advice to Council and its officers on policies, plans and services that affect older people and their interests, and encourage Council to advocate to other levels of government.
- To advocate to the Community and Council, on behalf of older people, reflecting the United Nations Aged Friendly Cities Framework and the principles of independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment, and dignity.
- To connect with other relevant internal and external community advisory committees. To liaise with other organisations and networks that have a direct interest in older persons in the City of Port Phillip and the wider community.
- To continue to advocate for and support significant events, activities and services relating to older persons, including Port Phillip Seniors Festival, Linking Neighbours Program and Seniors Register, information forums, aged care services and the like.

### Membership

Current Members	Locations
Mr Neville Aphoy	St Kilda East
Ms Judith Armstrong	Elwood
Ms Freda Erlich	St Kilda
Mr Neil Imlach	Elwood
Ms Betty Knight	Albert Park
Dr Coralie Ling	St Kilda
Mr Ian MacDonald	St Kilda
Ms Sue McGowan	Port Melbourne
Ms Mary Noall	South Melbourne
Ms Wendy Priddle	Elwood
Ms Sheila Quairney	Port Melbourne
Ms Rosemary Rule	Port Melbourne
Ms Liz Robson	Port Melbourne
Professor Georgina Tsolidis	Elwood

Office Bearers	Position
Ms Freda Erlich	Chairperson (appointed April 2021)
Dr Coralie Ling	Deputy Chairperson (appointed April 2021)
Past Members	
Mr Nicholas Green	Middle Park (August 2020 to November 2021)
Mr Jack Kagan	Port Melbourne (April 2021 to November 2021)
Ms Brigid McCoppin	Albert Park (October 2007 to February 2021)
Ms Aileen Rzesniowiecki	Middle Park (April 2021 to November 2021)
Ms Jose Simsa	Middle Park (February 2017 to March 2021) Chair Jan – March 2021
Council Representative	
Cr Peter Martin	Gateway Ward
Council Officer/s	Position
Laura Cattapan	Coordinator Grants and Community Building
Sherridan Green	Community Development and Liaison Officer
Cathy Horsley	Team Lead Community Building



Pictured, OPAC members December 2021.

**Top (from left to right):** Freda Erlich, Neville Aphoy, Ian McDonald, Sue McGowan  
Sheila Quairney, Judith Armstrong, Georgina Tsolidis, Neil Imlach

**Bottom (from left to right):** Coralie Ling, Mary Noall, Cr Peter Martin, Betty Knight, Liz Robson

**Absent:** Wendy Priddle, Rosemary Rule

## Membership Nominations

In March 2021 Council sought membership nominations for the Older Persons Advisory Committee by advertising the opportunity in 'CoPP This' Port Phillip's community sector newsletter, local newsletters including This Week in St Kilda and U3A Port Phillip and targeted emails sent to relevant sector agencies and community groups including Multicultural Seniors Groups and Victorian Pride Centre.

As part of the recruitment process current members were invited to renominate. All nine members renominated.

The response to the recruitment of new members attracted strong interest with nine community members nominating. Nominees were affiliated with a range of local services and community groups, with some also representing diverse communities. At the 3 May 2021 meeting the committee endorsed eight out of nine nominees due to their suitability, relevant skills, and community connections.

Refer to Appendix 1. Older Persons Advisory Committee Membership appointments June 2021.

## Retiring Members

Albert Park resident **Brigid McCoppin** was a member of OPCC from October 2007 to February 2021 and made a valuable contribution to the development of a number of OPCC flagship initiatives including the Phillip Seniors Festival, Linking Neighbours Seniors Register as well as contributing to the delivery of OPAC forums and participating in OPCC responses to governmental reviews. Brigid also contributed to the Committee's Objectives and Planning Working Group in 2017 and 2018 helping shape the Committee's objectives which are still relevant today.

Middle Park resident **Jose Simsa** was a member of the OPCC from February 2017 to March 2021 and made a valuable contribution as Committee Chair in 2020. Jose's provided input into the Ageism Training in 2018 and participated on the OPCC Objectives and Planning Working Group in the 2018 to 2020, and the 20-year Celebration Subcommittee in 2020. As a representative of the University of the Third Age Port Phillip, Inner South Community Health Service and Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children in Melbourne Ports, Jose provided valuable knowledge and experience on the OPCC and significant links to the community.

Middle Park resident **Aileen Rzesniowiecki** was a member of the OPAC from April 2021 to November 2021. During Aileen's time on the OPAC she made a valuable contribution to ensure the Committee continued to be representative and delivering on their objectives.

Middle Park resident **Nicholas Green** was a member of OPAC from August 2020 to November 2021 and made a valuable contribution to the City of Port Phillip Seniors Festival Writing Awards as a member of the judging panel in 2020 and 2021. Nicholas also participated in the January 2021 OPAC Planning Meeting.

Port Melbourne resident **Jack Kagan** was a member of OPAC from April 2021 to November 2021. During Jack's time on the OPAC he made a valuable contribution ensuring the Committee continued to be representative and delivering their objectives.

In April 2021 the OPAC farewelled Council Officer Sherridan Green Community Development & Liaison Officer and thanked Sherridan for her contribution over the past eight years with her work with the OPAC, the Seniors Festival and Linking Neighbours Seniors Register.

### Updated Terms of Reference June 2021

In June 2021 the Terms of Reference (ToR) were updated to align with the new Council Plan. This also included changing the name of the committee to Older Persons Advisory Committee to better align with the role of the Committee and titles of other Council advisory committee. On 16 June 2021 Council formally adopted the updated Terms of Reference.

Attachment – City of Port Phillip - Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) Terms of Reference.



Older Persons  
Advisory Committee 1

### OPAC Objectives and Plan January to December 2021

The OPAC Planning Subcommittee was established to develop the OPAC objectives and action plan for 2021. The Objectives and Planning Meeting was held on 11 January 2021 and was made up of the OPAC Chair, Deputy Chair and four members of the OPAC who nominated to participate. Council officers, Coordinator Grants and Community Building and Community Development and Liaison Officer and Manager Community Building and Inclusion also attended/contributed to provide relevant information and administrative support.

The 2021 Objectives and Plan was developed within the context and aligned to the following documents:

- OPCC Terms of Reference
- City of Port Phillip Council Plan 2017-27
- City of Port Phillip Health and Wellbeing Implementation strategy
- OPCC 2020 Objectives and Action Plan
- World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly Cities (AFC) Framework

Seven Key Focus areas were identified and aligned to the Council Plan and AFC Framework; they were:

- Ageism
- Aged Care Reforms/Royal Commission
- Health and Wellbeing, Social and Physical Environment
- Housing
- Environmental Sustainability
- Communication/COVID-19
- Governance

The draft 2021 Objectives and Plan was endorsed by the OPCC at the 12 April 2021 meeting. Attachment 1 City of Port Phillip - Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) Action Plan January – December 2021.



Older Persons  
Consultative Committ

In September 2021 an extraordinary meeting was held to review and update the 2021 Objectives and Actions to align with the new Council Plan 2021-31.

### Meetings

The OPAC continued to meet monthly. Meetings were held from February to June and August to December. The Committee attempted to meet in person whenever possible however to ensure OPAC continued to operate safely and in line with the Chief Health Officer's advice the meeting format was adjusted to online accordingly. As a result, the OPAC met at St Kilda Town Hall or online via the Microsoft Teams platform. The quorum at each meeting was upheld.

A total of eleven OPAC meetings were held in 2021:

- 8 February, 1 March, 12 April, 3 May – St Kilda Town Hall, Council Chamber
- 31 May - MsTeams
- 5 July – St Kilda Town Hall, Council Chamber/MsTeams (hybrid)
- 2 August, 6 September, 4 October, 8 November - MsTeams
- 6 December- St Kilda Town Hall, Council Chamber and Wominjeka Room

The OPAC members continued to consult on matters relevant to older people residing in the City of Port Phillip and deliberated on specific Council matters concerning older people and the broader community. Community trends relevant to Council were identified through OPAC meetings where reports were provided from OPAC representatives. The OPAC continued to maintain connections with relevant associations and participate in relevant networks and forums both within and external to Council.

### Subcommittees and Working Groups

The following OPAC working groups and subcommittees were maintained/established to progress the actions highlighted in the 2021 Objectives and Plan:

- 2021 Planning Working Group
- Seniors Festival Subcommittee
- 21st Anniversary Working Group
- Governance Subcommittee – established August 2021
- South Melbourne Market Working Group – established August 2021

#### About the OPAC Governance Subcommittee

The OPAC Governance Subcommittee was established to support the OPAC to develop guidelines and processes to ensure OPAC meetings are running effectively and efficiently. Where appropriate it has a role in implementing decisions taken by OPAC.

In 2021 the Governance Subcommittee has developed the following tools to assist with its stated aim of efficient and effective operations:

- OPAC Governance Sub Committee Guidelines
- Guidelines for the establishment of OPAC Working Group and Sub-Committees
- Agenda setting and meeting procedures
- Consultation guidelines for Council officers
- Process for introducing New Items for action by OPAC.

## Membership and Representation

OPAC members represented the following associations/networks and reported relevant activities at the OPAC monthly meetings.

### Council Advisory Committees/Networks:

- Linking Neighbours Leadership Group - Neil Imlach
- Port Phillip Multicultural Advisory Committee - Georgina Tsolidis
- Port Phillip Multifaith Network - Coralie Ling

### External Community Groups/Networks:

- Bicycle Users Group – Freda Erlich
- CasPA Care – Emerald Hill Residence - Mary Noall
- Council of the Ageing (COTA) Victoria - Betty Knight
- Elwood Croquet Club – Judith Armstrong
- Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area (FBURA) - Cr Martin
- Port Melbourne Yacht Club - Jack Kagan
- Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation – Rosemary Rule
- Port Phillip Lions Club - Sue McGowan
- University of the Third Age Port Phillip (U3APP) – Sheila Quairney

## Consultation

As part of the consultative role of the OPAC, Council Officers regularly sought advice and feedback on Council activities and initiatives relating to the needs, engagement, and inclusion of older people. In turn the OPAC brought to the meetings feedback and issues on Council business that were raised by the community.

### 2021 Council Business – OPAC consultations, feedback and information

#### **Council Plan Community Engagement process - Carol Chu, Coordinator Strategic Engagement (February meeting)**

Carol outlined the Community Engagement process for the new Council Plan (CP) and how the Committee will be consulted. Carol also provided some context regarding the new Local Government Act (LGA) 2020 advising that it is primarily principles based, and a key change is around community engagement and community have a broader voice.

#### **Feedback on Digital Literacy and Older Persons Project Survey Questions - Jenni Mazaraki Digital Literacy & Older Person Outreach Officer (February meeting)**

Jenni outlined that the project would assist Council to gain a more in depth understanding of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on older Port Phillip residents, and their future needs, including digital literacy. Jenni explained that she will undertake direct engagement with residents on the Linking Neighbours Seniors Register and other Council age specific services. As part of this engagement she will contact Seniors Register members directly and ask a series of questions, however, will also provide a hard copy survey for people who prefer to fill it in independently. Jenni said she will engage the Committee throughout the project and asked the Committee to provide input on the draft survey questions.

**Feedback on Draft Library Action Plan - Gaye Stewart, Manager Community Services (March meeting)**

Gaye was keen to hear from the Committee regarding what they consider to be the good things the library service is currently doing now and should do into the future. The OPAC provided feedback on the draft plan noting that the plan is easy to read and provides a good overview of current and aspirational library services. Specific questions and themes from OPAC included increased digital literacy opportunities in libraries for older people, music sessions in the library, access to audio books in languages other than English, the importance of the home library volunteer service and potential for new partnerships to support greater inclusion.

**Council Plan Discussion - Teresa Parsons, Head of Community Service Planning and Review and (March meeting)**

Teresa provided the Committee some Council Plan context outlining the five strategic directions and asked the committee when providing feedback to consider how they would they like Council to look and operate in 10 years' time. The Committee articulated that loneliness, dementia, crime and safety, and inequalities are issues they would like to see addressed in the Council Plan. Other keys issues included young people not being able to own their home, lack of social connection for some older people, often activities/events run by Council don't cater or consider the interests of older residents and Council's messaging needs to be transparent, connected and inclusive.

**Council's hiring of Community Facilities - OPAC's response (April meeting)**

OPAC advocated for community based not for profit groups using facilities for community purposes to be charged at a significantly reduced rate or provided for free if groups were unable to afford a reduced rate. Eligibility criteria should be considered for the following groups to get access to free facilities:

- Older Multicultural community Groups
- Exercise, recreation, or arts groups that cater to older people
- U3A and other service groups

The OPAC felt that Council recently subsidised Live Nation for \$200K, this shows that Council values culture and art. Therefore, it needs to consider subsidising community groups for older persons. This investment would support older people to remain connected and stay healthy. This would be more viable option, as in the long run it would save community and Council economically.

**Establishment of an LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee - OPAC's response (April meeting)**

The Committee were supportive of the advisory group being established, however felt that as a community group they are a very effective lobby group and therefore Council should also consider other diverse groups who don't have a loud voice i.e. people with disabilities etc. They also advocated that Council however needs to consider the importance of intersectionality and that staff need to have a sensitivity to all minority groups and there needs to be opportunities for intersectionality to occur across the Organisation.

**OPAC Consultation on the South Melbourne Structure Plan (SMSP) - Help Create a Vision for South Melbourne - Jeremy Addison, Principal Strategic Planner and Sharon Prince Engagement Advisor (April meeting)**

The Officers provided some context and explained that Council is in the first phase of listening and gaining this feedback. As part of developing the Plan they are asking the community what is important to them about South Melbourne. OPAC provided responses to the 4 questions some of their themes included maintaining heritage value, South Melbourne Market to become more age friendly, celebration and acknowledgement of South Melbourne's multicultural community, more open spaces, and tree canopies.

**Consultation - OPAC Feedback on the draft Council Plan and Budget - Teresa Parsons Head of Community Service Planning and Review (3 May meeting)**

Teresa consulted with the Committee who provided feedback on the Draft Council Plan (CP) and Budget. Some of the themes that the Committee wanted the CP to focus on included:

- The impact of Ageism
- Aged Care Reforms/Royal Commission
- Communication and COVID-19
- Housing for older people
- Sustainability and Climate Change
- Community safety and accessible physical environment

The Committee documented this in a formal submission to Council.

**Digital Literacy Project update – Jenni Mazaraki Digital Literacy & Older Persons Outreach Officer (3 May meeting)**

Jenni updated the Committee on how the project was progressing, including amount of surveys conducted. Jenni will collate the information/data and draft a report with recommendations. The Committee will be asked to provide feedback on the report once it is drafted.

**Vaccination Discussion - Katrina Terjung, Manager of Community Building, and Inclusion (31 May meeting)**

Katrina provided an update on Council's support of the COVID 19 vaccination rollout. Council has been working with StarHealth to assist them to reach out to local services and community groups to get an understanding of any barriers people may be experiencing in gaining information or accessing vaccinations sites and asked the Committee for feedback.

StarHealth has asked Council for use of Council facilities for vaccination delivery. Katrina reported that Council has made sites available across the municipality.

**Digital Literacy Project Presentation - Jenni Mazaraki, Older Persons Digital Literacy & Outreach Officer (July meeting)**

Jenni presented the findings of the Digital Literacy Research Project that she conducted January – June in 2021.



**Q&A on the Access & Inclusion Plan 2019-21 and Status Report - Julia Wanhill Access & Inclusion Planner (August meeting)**

Julia provided an update on the current Access & Inclusion Plan and that it is legislative requirement for Council to have a Disability Action Plan (DAP). The aim of DAP's is to help to stop discrimination of people with disability in the community. Julia gave examples of how a DAP can achieve this, e.g., using the principles of universal design when designing public spaces, ensure there are sufficient accessible public toilets and installing accessible street furniture. Julia reported that in the current plan there are 46 actions, 44 of the actions have been delivered and/or are a work in progress. Julia shared the Access & Inclusion Plan Have Your Say page and advised that hard copy surveys are also available for people. The OPAC advocated for a Disability Advisory Committee to be established.

**Introduction of the new online Customer Portal - Fiona Symmons Customer Experience Design Specialist (August meeting)**

Fiona said that she has been working on Council's new customer portal - My Port Phillip. Fiona Provided background to the Project via a power point presentation which included information about frequency updates, the customer experience, customer feedback and the range of ways customers can interact with Council. OPAC provided feedback including their concern about the word customer being used to describe community.

**Older Persons Policy update – Teresa Parsons, Head of Integrated Community Service Planning and Review (October meeting)**

Teresa shared a powerpoint presentation which provided some background as to why the policy is going to be developed, the scope of the policy, the development process and establishment of a subcommittee. Teresa discussed the Gender Equality Act and Council's legislative obligation, which will be aligned with the older persons policy. Teresa said that the Policy will raise awareness and hopefully be a guide for when other policies/strategies are being developed. The Committees feedback included that the policy should be guided by the Age Friendly Cities (AFC) Framework, Council's aged care recipients and staff to be consulted, older multicultural communities and other diverse groups are consulted, there is benchmarking with other Council's, and residents of residential aged care are also consulted.

**Digital Literacy Project recommendations & discussion – Laura Cattapan Coordinator Grants and Community Building (October meeting)**

Laura presented the recommendations of the digital literacy report. Laura said the next steps are to map out the recommendations and put together an action plan.

**Update on Fitzroy Street and Homelessness - Katrina Terjung, Manager Community Building & Inclusion (November meeting)**

Katrina provided a powerpoint presentation on Homelessness highlighting the work Council is doing. This included that Port Phillip and City of Melbourne have more rough sleepers than other Local Government Areas. There are many services working in this homelessness space however there is a lack of affordable housing to be able to house people. Katrina highlighted Council's Housing and Homelessness service as having a specific focus on older people experiencing homelessness. In Our Backyard Affordable Housing Strategy, guides Council's work on housing and homelessness.

**Correspondence from Kylie Bennetts General Manager City Growth & Organisational Capability (December meeting)**

Kylie provided an email response to OPAC's request for a schedule of consultations/reviews. Kylie advised of upcoming topics for the remainder of the 2021/22 financial year that it will be important to get feedback from OPAC including the Rating Strategy Review; Asset Management Plan; Council Plan and Budget; Waste Strategy Review; Accessibility Action Plan; Events Strategy; Fishermans Bend Montague PIP; Positive Ageing Policy and South Melbourne Structure Plan.

**Peter Smith CEO City of Port Phillip (December meeting)**

Peter thanked the Committee for all the work they had done during the year. He highlighted that it is important as a modern organisation that Council has a broad diversity and inclusion framework that addresses intersectionality and that Council is seeking external advice on how to have an age friendly city and age friendly workforce. At the meeting the CEO provided responses to questions the OPAC provided prior to the meeting on Council's commitment to making Port Phillip an age friendly, addressing ageism with staff and the broader community, integrating of the older persons policy with the other Council policies and older people and digital literacy.

**Older Persons Policy Draft Survey Consultation - Teresa Parsons Head of Integrated Community Service Planning and Review (December meeting)**

Teresa explained that the data collated from the survey will be used to help shape Council's older persons policy. Teresa outlined next steps which will include getting the survey properly designed and invite OPAC to participate in a trial run of the survey in January 2022. The OPAC provided much feedback on the questions providing insights into how the questions could be more accessible and engaging.

**Update on Council's Climate Change current and future actions - Kathryn Pound Manager City Strategy, Design and Sustainability and Zoe O'Mahoney Coordinator Sustainable Policy (December Meeting)**

Zoe and Kathryn thanked the OPAC presented a powerpoint presentation on Climate Emergency in Port Phillip. Zoe sought advice from OPAC about the best way for Council to share information about climate emergency with older people. The OPAC raised the following issues including:

- Encouraging residents to create more greenery in their properties.
- Addressing the issues where developers pulled down house and build multi-residential buildings where gardens are being overtaken and destroyed.
- Concern about gardens on verges not being supported.
- Cost of insurance for older persons living in flood prone areas

## Matters affecting older residents highlighted to Council by the OPAC members

### **OPAC Action on Climate Change (March, September & October meetings)**

Both the Chair and Deputy Chair spoke at the 17 February Council meeting advocating on the impact climate change will have on older residents and the importance of Council maintaining its Climate Emergency Declaration and actions.

The OPAC adopted the Climate emergency request to Council drafted by the Chair and other members of the Committee. The request asked Council to complete a summary document of what council has done and is currently doing, and to develop a new document that sets up a 10-year climate emergency plan. The OPAC agreed for Cr Martin to raise this with Council. As a result, Councillors met with the Executive Leadership Team to discuss the OPAC's climate action request to progress OPAC's request and what the next steps will be.

### **Public Lighting (February to December meetings)**

Ongoing advocacy occurred in 2021 for Council to consider upgrading poor public lighting particularly in Barkly Street St Kilda. The OPAC through Georgina Tsolidis sent an email to the Mayor and Councillors recommending to Council that, as a matter of urgency, the following:

- Replace the lights along Barkly Street with new LED light, which can be monitored remotely.
- Council develop an appropriate, consistent, and transparent way of determining what are 'appropriate' light levels, for the safety of pedestrians.
- Urge Council to undertake an audit of lighting more broadly, particular in major streets where there is heavy foot traffic.

This issue is yet to be responded to and will continue to be progress by the OPAC in 2022.

### **Petition for Divercity to be provided in hard copy for people who are not online (3 and 31 May meetings)**

The OPAC Chair circulated the petition and invited OPAC members to sign. The Chair attended the Council meeting and spoke of the Committee's support of the petition.

At the May 5 May Council Meeting the Divercity Petition was accepted by Council with recommendations. Council agreed to provide a hard copy mailout of Divercity to anyone who requests it and hard copies will also be made available at the Town Halls and Libraries.

### **OPAC 2021-31 Council Plan and Budget Submission (31 May meeting)**

The Committee submitted a Council Plan and Budget Submission which was received by Council. The Chair spoke to the Committee's submission at the 8 June Council Meeting.

### **South Melbourne Market (July to November meetings)**

At the July meeting the OPAC established the South Melbourne Market (SMM) working group. Members of the working group subsequently attended the Market to investigate potential issues for older persons and found it to be relatively age friendly other than the markings for pedestrians. Feedback from OPAC members also highlighted concerns with the marking of the entry ramps to the car park and the issue with parking and pedestrians on the Coventry Street side.

Members of the working group met with SMM Coordinator Customer Experience and Business Support Erin Quin to discuss issues. Erin took back suggestions and was interested in the issues raised by the OPAC.

The working group members received a summary of the SMM 10-year plan and most OPAC actions were included. Additional requests will be considered.

Members of the SMM Working Group will be arranging a follow up meeting with SMM Council Officers in 2022.

#### **Seating in Fitzroy Street (August, September & December meetings)**

The OPAC have been pursuing this issue since February 2019. In 2021 the Team Leader Community Building followed up with different Council Departments in relation to the seating and was informed that the seats were removed and are being stored waiting for a date to be reinstated.

At the December meeting the CEO raised issues regarding Fitzroy Street and said that there is a direction for seating to be available for older people however public safety is also a responsibility given the anti-social behaviour of some people on Fitzroy Street. Fitzroy Street currently has people who are genuinely homeless, and then people who prey on them and other community members safety. There needs to be a deep engagement in relation to these issues and in the new year Council will engage with the police prior to any seating being replaced.

#### **Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area (FBURA) (October & November meetings)**

The OPAC are kept informed of any progress relating to FBURA through the OPAC Councillor representative Cr Peter Martin.

Cr Martin informed the Committee that in September Councillors had a confidential meeting on FBURA, and the Montague Precinct draft plan will soon be going out for community consultation. He encouraged OPAC to consider providing feedback on this as there may be some matters in the Plan that would be of interest to the OPAC.

As of December 2021, the Plan was yet to be published. The OPAC will progress with this in 2022 once the Plan is released.

### **OPAC activities and engagement with external groups and organisations**

#### **Correspondence - Shrine to Sea Project Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DWELP) (February meeting)**

Feedback from the Committee was to consider upgrading and developing new toilets as part of the Project. Amy Hidge Senior Engagement Officer, Shrine to Sea DELWP thanked the OPAC for raising this and it will be considered as part of their ongoing discussion.

#### **Update on the link between Ageism and Elder Abuse Project - Elder Abuse Prevention Action Group (EAPNAG), The Southern Melbourne Primary Care Partnership (31 May meeting)**

Team Leader Community Building kept the OPAC updated on the Project. The EAPNAG conducted research into effective values-based messaging. The research was focused on how to talk about ageism and related topics in ways that reduce ageist attitudes and behaviors. The outcome of the research was the Framing Age Message Guide. OPAC members received an invitation to the launch of the guide.

**EveryAge Counts campaign leading the way to end ageism in Australia (August – November meetings)**

The OPAC were forwarded an email sent to the Mayor by EveryAge Counts (EAC) inviting Council to participate in their campaign. Cr Martin consulted with the OPAC regarding the campaign and asked whether the Committee supported a Notice of Motion (NoM) proposed by EAC to be taken to Council. OPAC unanimously agreed for Councillor Martin to take the NoM to a Council meeting. OPAC agreed on actions to support the campaign. These actions were included as part of the NoM.

At the 15 September Council meeting the EAC NoM was adopted. As part of the NoM there were a range of actions identified and agreed to by the OPAC that needed to be completed. They included information/awareness raising sessions for Council staff, including the ELT and Councillors and letters drafted to relevant Members of Parliament highlighting Council's support of the campaign and the signing of the pledge. The letters were signed by the Mayor and cc'd to both Cr Martin and OPAC Chair.

On 1 October as part of the Seniors Festival Launch the Mayor presented the signing of the EveryAGE Counts Campaign Pledge to end ageism and join with others to create a society where every person is valued, connected, and respected, regardless of age. Other actions outlined in the NoM are scheduled to be completed in 2022.

**OPAC Events**

**The City of Port Phillip Seniors Festival 1-17 October 2021**

The OPAC continued to be involved with the planning and hosting of the Port Phillip Seniors Festival 2021 through the OPAC Seniors Festival Subcommittee. The subcommittee met bi-monthly with support from Port Phillip's Community Development and Liaison Officer and Team Leader Community Building.

In 2021 due to the COVID 19 pandemic the Seniors Festival was moved to an online event only. This decision was made in consultation with the Port Phillip Seniors Festival Subcommittee and was informed by the recommendation from the Office for Senior Victorians.

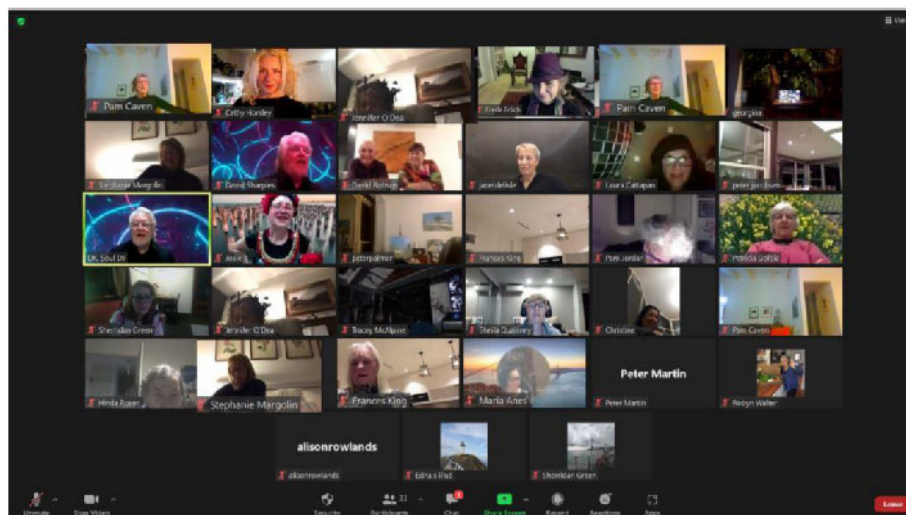
To generate a sense of community ownership of the Festival, each year Council conducts a Seniors Festival Grants program which supports local services and community groups to run events during the Festival. Given the changes to this year's event, grant recipients whose events were in person were offered the opportunity to either move their event online, or reschedule their event to be part of the City of Port Phillip Seniors Summer Series to take place in early 2022.

On 1 October the Mayor Launched the Festival which kicked off with a virtual disco hosted by local entertainer David Sharples. The event included karaoke style sing along with lockdown themed songs from the 60s-80s, music quizzes and music requests. Over 60 people joined online to dance, sing and celebrate, all without having to leave home. The launch coincided with International Day of Older Persons and the EveryAGE Count's Inaugural Ageism Awareness Day and included the Mayor's signing of the EveryAGE Counts Campaign Pledge to end ageism.

The Mayor closed the Festival on 17 October at the 17th Port Phillip Writes Seniors Festival Writing Awards. Over 50 people attended the afternoon of literature which included the announcement of the Judges Awards and readings of selected works by the Mayor and special guests, actor Robyn Arthur and actor, broadcaster and writer Susanna Lobez.

The 2021 Festival Program had 16 virtual events with over 2000 people attending. Events included:

- Nadezhda Russian Senior Citizens Club - Celebrating Russians Seniors in Community which included live streamed performance from young local Russian classical musicians.
- University of the Third Age Port Phillip held a seminar on Victoria's COVID-19 response with Health Minister Martin Foley as keynote speaker.
- Elwood St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre held a virtual stroll around Elwood as part of a singing walking trail, led by singers from the Elwood Community Choir.
- Switchboard Victoria held a community forum aimed at connecting Lesbian/Bi+, Trans and Non-Binary people over 50 with each other and services.



Picture above: screenshot of the 2021 Seniors Festival Launch and Virtual Disco.

### Acknowledgement

The OPAC would like to acknowledge the support throughout the year of the Councillor nominated by Council to support the OPAC, Cr Peter Martin. This report was prepared by Cathy Horsley Team Leader Community Building and supported by Laura Cattapan Coordinator Grants and Community Building. It was confirmed by the OPAC Committee at the 4 April 2022 OPAC meeting.

Freda Erlich  
OPAC Chair  
2022

## Older Persons Advisory Committee

The Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) has been appointed by the City of Port Phillip council to be its main advisory body on all issues affecting older residents living in the City of Port Phillip. Encompassing a wide range of backgrounds and views, the OPAC is accessible and engaged.

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### Appendix 1. New Older Persons Advisory Committee Membership appointments June 2021.

**Judith Armstrong** is an Elwood resident, a member of the Elwood Croquet Club and is also a tutor and member of The University of the Third Age Port Phillip (U3APP). Judith's focus on the committee is to advocate for suitable outdoor and sporting activities for older people. She believes that low impact and less competitive outdoor activities can help older people create and retain friendships as well as provide exercise and mental stimulation. Other issues she is interested in include the My Aged Care system, public toilets, public seating, and homelessness.

**Neville Aphony** is a St Kilda East resident who has lived in St Kilda for over 50 years when his family migrated from Burma. Neville is an active community member who volunteers for Christ Church Community Mission, Community Centre in the Grey Nomad Program, Port Phillip Community Group and St Colemans Catholic Church. Neville is also a member of Council's Linking Neighbours Seniors Register Leadership Group and attends Council's Social Inclusion programs. Neville is concerned about social isolation for older people.

**Neil Imlach** is an Elwood resident and was previously on the Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) from 2011 to 2017 and has once again joined the committee. Neil has been an active member of Linking Neighbours Seniors Register since its inception in 2008. He would like to ensure older people continue to have a voice in Council. He would like to raise awareness of the proposed changes to My Aged Care away from being run by local services and Council. He is also concerned about issues experienced by older people regarding digital technology.

**Jack Kagan** is a Port Melbourne resident and was a commercial builder working in planning, project management and running his own company prior to retirement. He is currently on the Race Management Committee and Redevelopment Committee with the Port Melbourne Yacht Club and is a volunteer with the beach patrol group. Jack advocated for older people to have community spaces and opportunities to connect and would like to see more places where people can drop in and meet up, like the Men's Shed.

**Mary Noall** has been a resident of Emerald Hill CaSPA Care for the past three years and prior to that has lived and worked in Port Phillip since 1969. Mary established a successful local business 'Mary Noall' in Middle Park in the 1990's. Mary has a long history of volunteering including at the Children's Hospital in the 1940's, with the Red Cross in the 1950's, teaching English as a second language and being a member of the Heritage Council in the 1970's. Mary is currently a member of Emerald Hill Library book club. As a representative of CaSPA Care, she highlights issues/interests of the Residents and also has a focus on Council maintaining nature strips and footpaths.

**Wendy Priddle** is an Elwood resident who has recently retired as a financial planner and now has time to give back to her local community. Wendy is currently a Hospice Volunteer with Very Special Kids. Wendy is interested in focusing on issues people may experience when transitioning to retirement. She also would like to focus on raising awareness of the difficulties older people may face managing finances where a partner who had previously handled the finances has passed away, and also the issues relating to older people who are financially help their adult children whilst juggling their own needs.

**Rosemary Rule** is a Port Melbourne resident and prior to retiring was a journalist for 50 years. Rosemary has been the Co-Chair of the Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation for the past decade and works closely with Port Phillip's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Rosemary is an advocate for older people, not proficient in English, to become included in mainstream community activities, and have opportunities to participate in activities that are tailored to them. Rosemary would also like to foster meaningful interactions between the older Indigenous and non-Indigenous community.

**Aileen Rzesniowiecki** is a Middle Park resident. Aileen was also one of the founding members of the Port Phillip's Life Activity Club in which for several years she served on its committee and convened activities. Over the past few years ill health has curtailed Aileen's capacity to fully participate in and has given her more insight and empathy with older persons with similar mobility issues. Aileen is interested in advocating for pedestrian crossings to have adequate time for people to cross and is concerned that some of the new gutters that have been upgraded are prone to flooding, creating a safety issue for older people's mobility. Aileen is also concerned about the assumption that everyone is digitally literate and would like to read Divercity in hard form.





<b>Older Persons Advisory Consultative Committee</b>	TRIM folder:	02/06/28
	Approval date:	June 2021
	Approved by:	Port Phillip Council June 2021
	Review Date	June 2023
	Expiry Date	November 2024
	Version No	3
<b>Manager Community Building &amp; Inclusion</b>		

**Council Plan (Draft to be resolved on 23 June)**

Council is committed to partnering to deliver its Council Plan by valuing and utilising the wealth of skills and knowledge in the community. It acknowledges that sound governance practice for local democracy is high quality, well informed, responsive and accountable decision making in the best interests of the community.

One of Council’s key strategic directions is ‘Inclusive Port Phillip’. To this end Council is committed to Port Phillip being:

- More accessible and welcoming of people of all ages, background and abilities.
- A place where people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities can access services and facilities that enhance health and wellbeing through universal and targeted programs that address inequities.
- Supporting people to find pathways out of homelessness.

Council will partner with the Older Persons Consultative Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, Multicultural Advisory Committee, Multi-Faith Network and establish other committees, where relevant, to ensure the diversity of our community’s experience is represented in decision-making.

As part of Councils key strategic direction ‘Well-Governed Port Phillip’ council will work towards the community having an opportunity to participate in civic life to inform Council policy, services, programs and decisions by facilitating engagement in line with Council’s [Community Engagement Policy](#).

## OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



### Adding Value

To maximise the value of the contribution of Advisory Committees, Council invites interest from residents who have:

- Passion and enthusiasm for the issues and challenges related to the purposes of the Advisory Committee.
- The ability to appreciate a range of interests and factors impacting on the matters under discussion.
- A demonstrated commitment to participative and consultative processes.

In selecting community members Council will seek to:

- Achieve a mix of skills relevant to the purposes of the Advisory Committee.
- Ensure a broad representation of the Port Phillip community.
- Create a forum for full discussion of relevant matters.

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Older Persons Advisory Committee (OPAC) is to assist Council by providing advice, advocacy and feedback on all issues that affect the health and wellbeing of older residents in the City of Port Phillip, including issues raised by older residents. The OPAC also assists Council by providing advice and feedback in relation to policies, plans and services affecting older people. OPAC will continue to support and advocate for the delivery of significant Council events, activities and services relevant to older persons

#### Objectives

- To be the peak advisory and advocacy body on issues affecting the wellbeing of older people (55 years and over) within the Port Phillip municipality.
- To be representative and advocate on behalf of older persons from our diverse community including people with disabilities, people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex (LGBTI), people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background, people experiencing financial disadvantage (including people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness) and our multicultural and multifaith communities.
- To provide advice to Council and its officers on policies, plans and services that affect older people and their interests, and encourage Council to advocate to other levels of government.
- To advocate to the Community and Council, on behalf of older people, reflecting the United Nations Aged Friendly Cities Framework and the principles of independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity.
- To connect with other relevant internal and external community advisory committees. To liaise with other organisations and networks that have a direct interest in older persons in the City of Port Phillip and the wider community.

## OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### TERMS OF REFERENCE



- To continue advocate for and support significant events, activities and services relating to older persons, including Port Phillip Seniors Festival, Linking Neighbours Program and Seniors Register, information forums, aged care services and the like.

#### 2. Committee Structure

Council will establish and maintain the Advisory Committee for a maximum term of the current council.

Council appreciates that a Committee may evolve and adapt to remain functional and relevant.

The Advisory Committee will comprise an appropriate membership to facilitate its functioning and the achievement of its purposes. The composition of the Committee will be as follows:

- A maximum of 17 members to be appointed by Council. Members are individuals reflective, as far as feasible, of the City's diverse communities.
- A Councillor appointed by the Council to act as a conduit to the current Council.
- To replace members who have resigned during tenure new members will be appointed by Council following public advertisement, recruitment process and recommendation by the Committee.
- Committee members will be recruited with a mix of relevant skills to the purposes of Committee with the aim that the membership will have a broad representation of the Port Phillip community.
- Members will be appointed for a term not to extend past the term of the current Council.
- The Committee will nominate a Chair and Deputy Chair from among its members. The Chair and Deputy Chair will serve a one-year term, with the appointment renewable for an additional consecutive term.
- To ensure diverse representation of older persons the OPAC may co-opt members representative of diverse communities/backgrounds onto subcommittees and working groups. The OPAC to establish sub committees as required that include non-committee members. Sub committees to be chaired by OPAC member representatives who will be required to report to the main committee.
- With Council endorsement the Committee may co-opt members to replenish the membership, if required.

#### Committee Office Bearer Roles

The Chair will chair committee meetings. In the Chairs absence, the Deputy Chair or Councillor Representative will chair the meetings. The Councillor Representative, Chair or Deputy Chair are the authorised spokespersons for the committee.

## OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



### 3. Opportunities for new members

If a member:

- Resigns from the Advisory Committee or is unable to participate due to health or other circumstances.
- Fails to attend three consecutive meetings within a calendar year without providing apologies to the Chair and accepted by the Committee.
- Is removed from the Committee by Council (after consultation with the Committee) for not acting in accordance with the principles stated herein.

A replacement Committee member may be appointed by Council.

During the life of the Advisory Committee, Council may choose to increase the membership of the Committee.

### OPERATIONAL MATTERS

### 4. Meetings

The Chair of the Advisory Committee will be appointed by the Committee and Councillor Representative. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee will be convened by the Chair at the earliest opportunity. Meetings should be scheduled in advance and desirably recorded in a forward meeting program to give each member the best possible opportunity to participate. It is anticipated that the Advisory Committee will meet monthly.

The quorum for a meeting will be seven members.

### 5. Conduct principles

Committee members are expected to:

- Actively participate in Committee discussions and offer their opinions and views.
- Treat all persons with respect and have due regard to the opinions, rights and responsibilities of others.
- Act with integrity;
- Attend each meeting where practical
- Avoid conflicts of interest and the releasing of confidential information.

## OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



### Committee member accountability:

- Have an active role in communicating community views to the Committee as appropriate.
- Participate in discussions at monthly meetings.
- When speaking publicly on issues on behalf of the Committee, will not present their own personal opinions.
- Have the endorsement of the Committee before making public statements or announcements.

### 6. Committee operation

New committee members will be briefed on the expected range of work to be undertaken, including discussion of how the committee relates to the work of Council, the roles of all parties, and any relevant policy or legislative framework impacting on the Committees work.

The Advisory Committee is always to operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference. The Committee has no delegated powers but may provide advice in line with the Terms of Reference. Neither the Committee, nor its members, may speak on behalf of Council.

#### Annual Action Plan Development:

The committee will hold an annual planning session to review achievements, prioritise and develop a work plan for the coming year.

The committee may set up sub committees/working groups as required, as ad hoc sub-committees.

The OPAC Terms of Reference to be reviewed every three years or earlier if required.

Each year an Annual Report will be drafted by the OPAC with support from the nominated Council Officer.

### 7. Remuneration

Normally no remuneration will be paid to Advisory Committee members however, Council may decide to reimburse Committee members for some out of pocket expenses.

### 8. Declaration of interests

If a member believes they have a conflict of interest in a matter before the Advisory Committee, then that member must declare their interest and not partake in any discussion or decision on the matter. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. A person nominated or appointed by Council to an Advisory Committee of Council and for which they receive no remuneration, would not normally have a conflict of interest. A person would have a conflict of interest if they have a personal or private interest that might compromise their ability to act in the public interest.

## OLDER PERSONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE



### 9. Resourcing

City of Port Phillip staff nominated by management will support the Advisory Committee. Other Port Phillip staff will attend the meetings to assist the Committee as required.

The nominated Council officer will prepare agenda papers for meetings (with the agreement of the Chair). Agendas and supporting material will be circulated three clear working days prior to meetings to ensure a reasonable opportunity to read the meeting papers. At all times, the nominated Council officer remains under the direction of their General Manager.

The nominated Council Officer will:

- In consultation with the Chair communicate to review, approve and prepare the minutes for the immediate past meeting, and the Agenda for the next monthly meeting.
- Distribute agendas, minutes and papers to committee members.
- Be the contact person at Council for the committee.
- Maintain electronically a Register of committee members, their date of appointment / reappointment, official positions held as a committee member.
- Advise committee members of term completion dates and their eligibility for reappointment as relevant.

### 10. Feedback to Council

The business conducted at each meeting will be recorded in the minutes and copies of the minutes will be promptly distributed to Advisory Committee members, Councillors and the Council's executive team. Council may request a formal report from the Committee.

Each year an Annual Report will be drafted by the OPAC with support from the nominated Council Officer and presented at a Council Meeting for acceptance.

### 11. Communication

Council officers are responsible for ensuring that Advisory Committee members are advised of:

- Progress or outcomes of any feedback provided by the Advisory Committee.
- Dates of Council meetings considering matters relevant to the work of the Advisory Committee.
- Any Council report or Council decision relevant to the Advisory Committee's work.

Version: February 2021

## **City of Port Phillip - Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) Action Plan January – December 2021**

This plan was developed in consultation with the OPCC Planning Meeting held on 11 January 2021. The plan is reflective of the World Health Organisation Age Friendly Cities Framework the City of Port Phillip (CoPP) Council Plan 2017-2027 and will be reviewed and updated to align with the new Council Plan scheduled to be published in June 2021.

### **Terms of Reference Objectives:**

- To be the peak advisory and advocacy body on issues affecting the wellbeing of older people (55 years and over) within the Port Phillip municipality.
- To provide advice to Council and its officers on policies, plans and services that affect older people and their interests.
- To advocate to the Community and Council, on behalf of older people, reflecting the United Nations principles of independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity.
- To connect with other community advisory structures of Council.
- To liaise with other organisations and networks that have a direct interest in older persons in the City of Port Phillip.
- To be representative and advocate on behalf of older persons from our diverse community including people with disabilities, people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex (LGBTI), people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background, people experiencing financial disadvantage (including people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness) and our multicultural and multifaith communities.

### **OPCC Key Focus Areas - not listed in order of priority**

- Ageism
- Aged Care Reforms/Royal Commission
- Health/Safety & Physical Environment
- Housing
- Environmental Sustainability
- Communication/COVID-19
- Governance

OPCC Endorsed – April 2021

Version: February 2021

<b>AGEISM</b>		
<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance Process</b>
I. Raise awareness of ageism and advocate against the discrimination of older people. Including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.	<p>1.1 OPCC to develop consistent messaging of the issues of ageism and discrimination in Port Phillip as part of the Council Plan consultation process.</p> <p>1.2 Work with other local Council reference committees, COTA Victoria and MAV to raise the issue at a State level.</p> <p>1.3 Advise Council to include ageism training as part of its professional development for Council staff. OPCC reps to work with Council Officers to find relevant ageism training.</p> <p>1.4 Raise awareness of the 'Every Age Counts' campaign and other relevant campaigns for Council to consider.</p>	<p>1.1 OPCC Consultation and/or written response with feedback to Council Plan. In addition, individual members respond to Have your Say and other community consultation forums and report back to OPCC meetings.</p> <p>1.2 Re-establish the OPCC Victorian Reference Committee Working Group and communicate with other Reference Committees, MAV &amp; COTA.</p> <p>1.3 OPCC reps to meet with Learning and Development team to progress.</p> <p>1.4 Members to register with 'Every Age Counts' campaign to stay updated and raise issues or campaigns at OPCC meetings</p>

<b>AGED CARE REFORMS/ROYAL COMMISSION</b>		
<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance process</b>
I. Based on relevant data and information, OPCC to consider, address, and advise on the Commonwealth Aged Care Reforms (ACR) as they relate to Council and other aged care services in the City of Port Phillip.	<p>1.1 ACR working group to be re-established and to monitor the Reforms as they evolve and inform OPCC.</p> <p>1.2 OPCC be informed by Council's Regional Assessment Team/ Independent Living Team of the current status of Aged Care Services operating in Port Phillip.</p> <p>1.3 ACR working group to analyse the findings of the <u>Aged Care Royal Commission</u> to be released on 26 February and the impact on Aged Care service in Port Phillip. (Link to action 1.2)</p>	<p>1.1 ACR working group regular report on OPCC Agenda</p> <p>1.2 Invite relevant Council Officer/s to OPCC meetings</p> <p>1.3 ACR Working Group to draft a report advising Council on actions to be consider in response to the findings and recommendations.</p>

OPCC Endorsed – April 2021



Version: February 2021

<p>2. Through the findings of the <u>Aged Care Royal Commission</u> and the impact on COVID-19 pandemic advocate for Council to develop a Statement of Commitment or Older Persons Policy.</p>	<p>2.1. Through the Council Plan consultation process advocate to Council to develop a Statement of Commitment or Older Persons Policy to be Codesign with OPCC.</p> <p>2.2. Analyse findings and recommendations and advise Council on how it should respond.</p>	<p>2.1. OPCC Council Plan Consultation meeting. Attend community consultations. Written correspondence through Have Your Say</p> <p>2.2. Refer to I.2 (3) ACR Working Group Report to advise Council to consider developing a Statement of Commitment or Older Persons Policy</p>
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<p><b>HEALTH, SAFETY&amp; PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b></p>		
<p><b>Strategic Action</b></p>	<p><b>Deliverables</b></p>	<p><b>Governance Process</b></p>
<p>1. Actively consult/advise on new Council Plan to ensure issues affecting older people in relation to health, safety and physical environment in Port Phillip are actioned in the Plan.</p>	<p>1.1 Develop key priorities and actions and advocate for them to be included in the Council Plan</p> <p>1.2 Provide feedback prior to Council Plan being drafted</p> <p>1.3 Provide feedback on the draft Council Plan</p> <p>1.4 Participate in other forms of consultation</p>	<p>1.1 Establish an OPCC Working Group to collate OPCC's key messages and draft a written submission</p> <p>1.2 Consultation at OPCC Meeting &amp; written submission to be provided to Council prior to draft Council Plan</p> <p>1.3 OPCC Meeting Consultation &amp; Written submission on draft Council Plan</p> <p>1.4 OPOCC reps to attend community forums, Have Your say etc</p>
<p>2. Continue to support the promotion of the Linking Neighbours Program and its value during the COVID-19 of keeping older people engaged, informed and connected.</p>	<p>2.1 OPCC Continue to be advised and updated on the work and progress of the Linking Neighbours Leadership Group</p>	<p>2.1 OPCC to continue to be represented on the Linking Neighbours Leadership Group.</p>
<p>3 Advise and Advocate to Council on key issues affecting older residents' health and safety including, impact of COVID-19,</p>	<p>3.1 Advocate for Council to improve community safety for older residents, including footpaths, lighting, street cleaning</p>	<p>3.1 Provide input into the Community Safety and Emergency Management Plans, when applicable. On behalf of older residents, when applicable, raise community safety issues to the Emergency Management and Community Safety Team.</p>

OPCC Endorsed – April 2021

<p>social isolation and access to Council facilities.</p>	<p>3.2 Ensure older persons health and wellbeing considerations/issues are being acknowledged and addressed in Council's Municipal Health &amp; Wellbeing Plan (MHWP), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities to increase physical strength &amp; fitness</li> <li>- Social isolation v's social connection</li> <li>- Impact of COVID-19</li> </ul> <p>3.3 Be updated on Council Services/program reviews.</p> <p>3.4 Gain an understanding of why hire fees for Council facilities have been introduced and the impacts that this will community groups catering for older residents</p> <p>3.5 Stayed informed and advocate as required on issues impacting Multicultural seniors and their community groups.</p> <p>3.6 Continue to advise, guided and deliver on Port Phillip Seniors Festival program</p> <p>3.7 Raise awareness of importance of older people having access to social connection activities in the community, and Councils responsibility. Advocate for Council to continue to deliver services/initiatives that encourage social connection, including Councils Linking Neighbours Program (LNP), Social Inclusion Service and community transport.</p>	<p>3.2 Provide input and highlight key issues as part of the MHWP consultation process.</p> <p>3.3 Provide input into Council's Service Reviews as applicable.</p> <p>3.4 Inform Council of the impacts on older residents and future wellbeing and sustainability groups in relation to Council facilities and hire fees.</p> <p>3.5 Continue to be update on issues through having representation on Port Phillip's Multicultural Advisory Committee and provide regular updates at OPCC monthly meetings. Invite Councils Multicultural Positive Ageing Officer to attend a meeting to report on current status of multicultural seniors.</p> <p>3.6 Establish a 2021 OPCC Seniors Festival Steering Committee. Committee to provide regular updates at OPCC monthly meetings.</p> <p>3.7 Where applicable raise awareness to relevant Council Officer in the importance of social connection. Continue to receive regular updates on the LNP during OPCC meetings. OPCC member to be represented on the LNP Leadership Group. Receive an update on the status of Social Inclusion &amp; Community Transport Services</p>
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<p>4. Continue to advocate for Council to align with the Aged Friendly Cities Framework when upgrading and/or developing the built environment and open spaces. Provide advice and consultation on relevant Council activities relating to the physical environment including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public lighting</li> <li>- Street furniture (Seating, water fountains, shade)</li> <li>- Public toilets</li> <li>- Footpaths</li> </ul>	<p>4.1 Advocate for a safe well monitored and energy efficient public lighting scheme in Port Phillip.</p> <p>4.2 Advocate to Council the OPCC's support of the Shrine to Sea Project Objects and provide feedback to both the DELWP and Council on project outcomes that would benefit older residents.</p> <p>4.3 Continue to provide feedback on the outcomes and developments from Council's Public Spaces Strategy. E.g. Seniors Exercise parks.</p> <p>4.4 Provide input and consult on Council's Draft Access &amp; Inclusion Plan</p> <p>4.5 Remain updated on the developments of the St Kilda Marina including the new lease.</p> <p>4.6 Continue to advocate for the consideration older persons needs as part of the revitalisation Fitzroy Street and other major shopping precincts. Including comfortable and suitable seating and public toilets.</p> <p>4.7 Continue to advocate for the South Melbourne Market (SMM) to be Age Friendly.</p>	<p>4.1 OPCC to write to the Essential Services Commission advocating on issues relating to public lighting. All correspondence to be provided to Council and relevant Council Officers.</p> <p>4.2 OPCC to participate in community consultation activities including Focus walks, community consultations. Advocate to be have an OPCC member represented on the Project Community Panel.</p> <p>4.3 Where applicable OPCC provide input via OPCC meeting consultations, community consultation processes, 'Have Your Say and OPCC correspondence to Council.</p> <p>4.4 Access Planner to conduct consultation at OPCC meeting. OPCC members to provide input independently on 'Have Your Say' and other community feedback and engagement opportunities.</p> <p>4.5 If applicable invite relevant Council Officers to attend a meeting to update the Committee on the St Kilda Marina. Councillor Representative, Cr Martin to also keep OPCC updated.</p> <p>4.6 OPCC to continue to correspond to Councillors on this issue. Continue to be represented in community consultations and focus groups and where applicable invite key Council Officers to OPCC meetings to keep the Committee updated.</p>
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		4.7 Establish a Working Group to revisit the SMM and draft issues and improvements paper. OPCC to endorse paper and forward to SMM to respond.
5. Continue to advocate for the planning and development of Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area (FBURA) to be Age Friendly.	<p>5.1 OPCC to stay updated with the planning and development of FBURA</p> <p>5.2 Advocate for FBURA community engagement and consultation processes to be transparent and accountable.</p>	<p>5.1 Re-establish the OPCC FBURA working group who will keep the OPCC informed of progress and issues of concerns.</p> <p>5.2 Nominate an OPCC representative to participate on the FBURA Community Forum. OPCC members to participate in relevant workshops, community consultations when applicable</p>

<b>HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS</b>		
<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance Process</b>
1. Advocate for housing for older residents including social and public housing, with a focus on older women, affordability and ageing in place	<p>1.1 Advocate for Council to plan for and support older residents who are at risk of being homeless or are experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>1.2 Provide feedback and advice on key Council Strategies Affordable Housing Strategy &amp; Homelessness Action Strategy</p> <p>1.3 Raise Housing and Homelessness as a key issue at State-wide networks</p>	<p>1.1 OPCC to include in the Council Plan and MHWP consultation process advocacy for the support of older residents who are at risk of being homeless or are experiencing homelessness</p> <p>1.2 Invite relevant Council Officers to attend OPCC meeting to update OPCC on Councils response. Provide feedback on key Council documents.</p> <p>1.3 Establish a State-wide Older Persons Reference Committee network and highlight housing and homelessness as a key issue.</p>
2. Advocate to Council to explore opportunities for older residents to be able 'age in place'.	2.1 Advocate for social housing and residential aged care facilities to be considered in the planning of any new developments in Port Phillip	1.4 Engage with relevant Council Officers on housing opportunities for older residents, including residential aged care in FBURA

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<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</b>		
<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance Process</b>
1. Advocate and raise awareness and impact of climate change on older persons.	1.1 OPCC to endorse the Emergency Climate Declaration and advocate for Council to develop a Municipal Climate Emergency Plan.  1.2 Raise Council's awareness of the impact on climate change on older persons and provide advice on preventative strategies i.e. cool spaces, active transport, waste management.	1.1 Include in OPCC Council Plan and MHWP feedback on consultation for Council to develop a Municipal Climate Emergency Plan  1.2 OPCC Reps to attend relevant Council meetings to advocate for climate emergency and the impact on older residents if Council doesn't act. OPCC continue to have environmental sustainability report as part of the monthly Agenda.

<b>COMMUNICATION</b>		
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance Process</b>
1. Ensure Council is kept informed of any issues or new ideas from older residents and relevant community groups	1.1 Through the OPCC 'Round Table' Agenda item, identify and raise to Council issues from the community.	1.1 Issues identified through Round table are captured in the minutes and OPCC Actions Working Document to ensure issues are progressed.
2. Provide feedback and advise on the Older Persons Digital Literacy and Social connection Project (COVID-19 lens).	2.1 OPCC to advise and provide feedback on of the Project including the production of the survey.	2.1 OPCC will analysis outcomes of the survey and provide feedback and/or recommendations
3. Advocate for Council to outline a formal engagement strategy with the OPCC & other reference committees	3. Gain understanding of Council's community engagement policy and consultation process that was delivered prior to this policy being endorsed	3.1 Invite relevant Council Officer/s to an OPCC meeting to discuss the Policy and community feedback process that was delivered prior to the policy being taken to Council for endorsement

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<p>4. Identify community trends relating to Council and older residents through relevant agencies and peak advocacy bodies e.g. social inclusion – register and email newsletter</p>	<p>4. Agencies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- COTA Victoria - Seniors Rights Victoria</li> <li>- Bicycle Users Group?</li> <li>- Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Positive Ageing Officer</li> <li>- Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG)</li> <li>- National Seniors Australia</li> <li>- U3A Victoria peak body</li> <li>- Every Age Count</li> <li>- NARI</li> </ul>	<p>4.1 Council Officer/s engaged to support OPCC continue to forward Relevant correspondence and information.</p> <p>4.2 OPCC reps on peak bodies on peak and advocacy bodies continue to provide OPCC updates during monthly meetings.</p> <p>4.3 OPCC to participate in relevant forums and advocate for Council to support relevant campaigns</p> <p>4.4 OPCC members to represent Council at relevant Forums and conferences</p>
<p>5. Organise at least one OPCC Forum or workshop to celebrate or inform older residents of relevant issues</p>	<p>5. Explore the possibility of running a forum on relevant topic</p>	<p>5.1 OPCC to decide on relevant topic and establish a working group to steer and deliver a forum</p>
<p>6. Continue to have an OPCC representative on relevant Council reference committees and networks.</p>	<p>6. Remain informed on the work of other reference committee/network and where appropriate work collaboratively with relevant</p>	<p>6.1 Where possible OPCC to have a representative sit on the Port Phillip Multifaith Network, Multicultural Advisory Committee and other relevant Council advisory committees/networks.</p> <p>6.2 OPCC reps on other committees/networks to report back on the work of those committees at OPCC monthly meetings</p>
<p>7. Stay informed of issues impacting older LGBTI community and where appropriate advocate on their behalf</p>	<p>7. Foster a relationship with the Pride Centre to assist with promotion of their services and activities as they relate to older LGBTI residents.</p>	<p>7.1 Invite Council's Diversity Officer to present at an OPCC meeting to provide updates on older LGBTI community and connect the committee to the Pride Centre.</p> <p>7.2 OPCC actively recruit onto the OPCC older people who represent the LGBTI community</p>

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<p>8. Stay informed of issues impacting our older Multicultural and Aboriginal &amp; Torre Strait Islander (ATSI) communities</p>	<p>8. OPCC to foster a relationship with key services and community groups that engage older ATSI &amp; multicultural communities</p>	<p>8.1 Invite the Positive Ageing Multicultural Liaison Officer to an OPCC meeting to provide update older multicultural community and advise on how OPCC can support these communities.</p> <p>8.2 Invite ATSI Community Broker to attend a meeting to provide an update on older ATSI community and how OPCC can support the community.</p>
<p>9 Advocate at a state-wide level on issues affecting older residents in Port Phillip that are broader than Council's remit</p>	<p>9. Work with other key older person's advocacy organisations in other Council's on issues that are broader than Port Phillip, i.e. housing and homelessness</p>	<p>9.1 work with MAV &amp; COTA and reconnect with Council reference committee who expressed interest in establishing a statewide network.</p> <p>9.2 Establish a statewide network</p>

<b>GOVERNANCE</b>		
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Governance Process</b>
<p>1. Ensure the OPCC membership is representative of Port Phillip's diverse older community in this Council term 2020 - 2024</p>	<p>1.1 Recruit OPCC members for the 2020 – 2024 Council Term.</p> <p>1.2 Aim to recruit members who are representative of our diverse community</p>	<p>1.1 Conduct a membership drive targeting our diverse communities and services/community groups who engage with older residents.</p> <p>1.2 Invite current members to renominate to be on the committee</p>
<p>2. Ensure OPCC is practicing good Governance and delivering on being Council peak advisory body for older people of Port Phillip.</p>	<p>2. Establish a set of Governance guidelines and communication strategy. This is to ensure that the OPCC Agenda, meeting structure, working groups and work of the committee is operating within the Terms of Reference and progressing/achieving the OPCC Action Plan deliverables</p>	<p>2.1 Establish and OPCC Governance Working Group to develop guidelines.</p> <p>2.2 Guidelines will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agenda &amp; meeting structure</li> <li>- Role of working groups</li> <li>- Consultation Guidelines for Council Officers (including feedback loop)</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Role of OPCC reps when attending and speaking at Council meetings.</li> <li>- Role of OPCC reps on Committees, community forums, and key external events</li> </ul> <p>2.3 Provide draft guidelines to the OPCC for endorsement.</p>
3. Ensure OPCC Terms of reference are align with the Council Plan and Council's Governance Principles and Strategic directions	3. Update OPCC Terms of Reference so that they aligned to the new Council Plan and are within the current Council term	<p>3.1 At the OPCC meeting to provide feedback on the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>3.2 Updated terms of reference to be endorsed by Council</p>
4. Ensure OPCC continues to be engaged by Council on key Council issues	<p>4.1 OPCC continue to be represented on key Council Community Forums, committees and working groups.</p> <p>4.2 Council Officers continue to consult with OPCC on issues that are relevant to older people in Port Phillip</p>	<p>4.1 OPCC reps continue to be represented on the FBURA Community Forum, Fitzroy St Precinct community representative group</p> <p>4.2 Council Officers attend OPCC meetings to gain OPCC input into key Council business and strategies.</p>
5 OPCC remain informed of who they are representing in Port Phillip	5. OPCC to continue to be informed and updated on current demographics of older persons living in Port Phillip	5. Invite Council's Research & Data Analytics Advisor to an OPCC meeting to provide outline of current demographics of older persons in Port Phillip.
6 Create OPCC working groups to deliver on OPCC focus areas	<p>6.1. Seniors Festival Steering Committee</p> <p>6.2 21 Year Celebration Working Group</p> <p>6.3 Aged Care Reform Working Group</p> <p>6.4 State-wide reference Committees working Group</p> <p>6.5 Governance Working Group</p> <p>6.6 SMM working group</p>	<p>6.1 To be re-established in 2021</p> <p>6.2 Reconvene in 2021</p> <p>6.3 Re-establish with additional new members</p> <p>6.4 Re-establish with additional new members</p> <p>6.5. To be established</p> <p>6.6 To be established</p>





**9.3** **ADVENTURE PLAYGROUNDS EXTENDED OPENING HOURS TRIAL FINDINGS**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** **TONY KEENAN, GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND INCLUSION**

**PREPARED BY:** **FELICITY LEAHY, EXECUTIVE MANAGER FAMILY, YOUTH & CHILDREN AND DIVISIONAL PERFORMANCE**

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the consultation and engagement findings from the Adventure Playground Extended Opening Hours Trial, conducted between 26 September 2021 and 30 January 2022.
- 1.2 To outline the planned actions to be taken in light of the consultation and engagement findings.
- 1.3 To outline the planned actions to be taken in light of the current end of life condition of equipment at Skinners and the planned upgrades for both Skinners and St Kilda as budgeted for in the 10-year financial plan.

**2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 There are two Adventure Playgrounds in the City of Port Phillip, St Kilda and Skinners Reserve. When Covid-19 restrictions meant that staff could not be on site to run the usual programs, Council decided to trial extending their opening hours to cover daylight hours, in line with other play spaces across the City. Both playgrounds reverted to their regular operating model after 30 January 2022.
- 2.2 Two key strategies were used to collect data on the Extended Opening Hours Trial: general feedback was sought via submissions through Council's Have Your Say online engagement platform and onsite fieldwork research was undertaken.
- 2.3 Have Your Say submissions were invited from 17 January to 13 February 2022 on the following themes: accessibility, amenity, safety, benefits, issues and other. Forty submissions were received. The Adventure Playgrounds Trial of Extended Opening Hours Engagement Summary Report can be found at Attachment one.
- 2.4 Onsite fieldwork research was undertaken for two-weeks from 18 to 30 January 2022, comprising of intercept surveys and observations to record how many and when people used the sites. 160 intercept surveys were completed. Observations were focussed on recording the visitation at St Kilda due to low use at Skinners during the fieldwork period. The Field Work Findings: City of Port Phillip Adventure Playgrounds Research report can be found at Attachment two.
- 2.5 Key findings from the 40 Submissions received include:



- 2.5.1 The Adventure playgrounds are much loved and highly valued pieces of community infrastructure.
  - 2.5.2 There was some support for extended hours, but several comments referenced the need for corresponding supervised hours and supervised programs and to keep staffing during opening hours.
  - 2.5.3 Improved physical access (e.g., wheelchair access) identified by some respondents as a need and the deteriorating amenity was also noted by several respondents.
  - 2.5.4 Several respondents directly linked their reduced sense of / or perception of safety with lack of staff presence. In general, there was a theme throughout submissions that supported the staffed programs as they provide respite and free child supervision and a perception that staffing was needed to supervise risky play and mitigate risk from antisocial behaviours.
  - 2.5.5 Benefits noted included increased access, flexibility to accommodate use by different age groups and the provision of a different play experience to standard playgrounds.
  - 2.5.6 Further issues and additional feedback included: suggesting the inclusion of adult exercise equipment, the option of a hybrid model (having both supervised and non-supervised opening hours), concern regarding the data collection methodology and the impact of increased noise levels on surrounding residents.
- 2.6 Key findings from the 160 intercept surveys and 2 weeks of observation data collected during the onsite fieldwork include:
- 2.6.1 The most common reported reason for visiting was the play equipment (being different to other playgrounds) and the trampoline.
  - 2.6.2 Most visitors felt either “very safe” or “safe” when visiting (75% of adults and 92% of children) and there was no significant difference in perceptions of safety when comparing data collected when staff were or weren’t present.
  - 2.6.3 41% of visitors indicated they preferred to visit the playground when staff were there, 32% said that they preferred to come when it is quiet, while 26% indicated that they had no preference and would come to the playground at any time.
  - 2.6.4 The majority of adults surveyed (44%) indicated that this was their first time visiting.
  - 2.6.5 The busiest time for visitors was 12.00pm on both weekdays and weekends. However, visitors with young children prefer to visit in the morning.
  - 2.6.6 Support for the extended opening hours was “strongly supported” or “supported” by 45% and 42% respectively (a total of 87%) and “opposed” or “strongly opposed” by a total of 4% (or 2% for each category).
  - 2.6.7 In summary, the trial resulted in greater site use, including from many first-time users. It also highlighted the need for site improvements for safety and accessibility (particularly at Skinners).



- 2.7 The two research methodologies each tell a slightly different story. In particular there is a difference in the perceptions of safety with the Submissions attributing safety to being reliant / dependant in having staff on site. While the intercept surveys found no significant difference in perceptions of safety when comparing data collected when staff were or weren't present.
- 2.8 The similar findings from the two methodologies include that the playgrounds are highly valued for their unique play equipment that has a different and natural aesthetic, the trampolines and the opportunities provided for play that is risky and has a connection to the natural world.
- 2.9 Limitations of the two methodologies are included in the Consultation and Stakeholders section of this report.

### 3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Notes the findings of the Adventure Playground Extended Open Hours Trial.
- 3.2 Recognises that the Skinners Reserve and St Kilda Adventure Playgrounds are much loved, respected, and valued community resources.
- 3.3 Notes that immediate work has commenced on addressing safety issues at Skinners Playground and that the trampolines that had to be removed from both playgrounds for safety reasons will shortly be replaced.
- 3.4 Notes that the draft budget 2022-23 includes an allocation of \$300,000 for rectification work at Skinners in 2022-23.
- 3.5 Reaffirms Council's Commitment to the Adventure Playgrounds, as noted in the Council Plan and 10-year financial plan that allocates \$3,445 million to invest in upgrading the Adventure Playgrounds at St Kilda and Skinners Reserve.
- 3.6 Adopts the following vision and design principles to frame and guide the upgrades, program review and consultation for the Playground upgrades.
- 3.7 The CoPP vision for Adventure Playgrounds is that they provide safe and welcoming spaces that honour diversity, build resilience and creativity, provide social connections, and encourage all children and families to maximise their development outcomes.
- 3.8 Endorses the following CoPP design principles to guide the consultation and planning for the upgrades. Adventure Playgrounds will:
  - 3.8.1 Facilitate risky (but safe) play
  - 3.8.2 Be accessible, safe and welcoming for all: meeting DDA compliance and CEPTED best practice
  - 3.8.3 Provide a connection to nature and the natural environment
  - 3.8.4 Place children and young people at the heart of design



- 3.8.5 Provide a unique aesthetic that recognises the past and is delivered for the future
- 3.9 Directs officers to commence consultation and engagement over 2022/23 on the planned upgrades informed by the above vision and principles, with a particular focus on hearing from children and young people.
- 3.10 Directs officers to also review the operations and program models for the Adventure Playgrounds over 2022 /23 to:
  - 3.10.1 Ensure programs and operations best deliver on the above vision for Adventure Playgrounds.
  - 3.10.2 Identify strategies and opportunities to increase the use of and participation at the Adventure Programs which considers the feedback from stakeholders regarding the extended opening hours trial.
- 3.11 Notes that the planned upgrades will cause disruptions and commits to relocate services to alternative facilities wherever possible for the duration of upgrade works.

#### 4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 Two Adventure Playgrounds were established over 40 years ago. St Kilda Adventure Playground at Neptune Street, St Kilda and Skinners Adventure Playground at Dorcas Street South Melbourne.
- 4.2 These playgrounds were established to promote risky (but safe) and imaginative play and social connection for children.
- 4.3 There is evidence of the benefits of risky play and the development of children.
- 4.4 These much-loved community assets are at their end of life and require significant investment to upgrade the space and equipment.
- 4.5 Council has provided \$3.445 million for Adventure Playgrounds upgrades in the 10-year financial plan.
- 4.6 A recent safety audit of the facilities in December 2021 identified several risks which resulted in the in-ground trampolines at both sites being removed and made safe with wooden decking built over the spaces. Several of the larger infrastructure pieces at Skinners were also identified as unsafe and they have been sectioned off to prevent access. These trampolines will shortly be replaced.
- 4.7 Planned future upgrades at both sites will ensure the Adventure Playgrounds are available for use for generations to come, additionally short term works at Skinners are planned to make the site more usable prior to the upgrades occurring.



- 4.8 Both Adventure Playgrounds are open to the public when staffed programs or “drop-in” supervised play sessions occur. This means that normal opening hours for the playgrounds are:
  - 4.8.1 20 hours per week at St Kilda
  - 4.8.2 34 hours per week at Skinners
- 4.9 Some community members have requested longer opening hours and access to the playgrounds.
- 4.10 During COVID restrictions, Council was able to open the Playgrounds for community use but were unable to operate programs. Council used this as an opportunity to conduct a trial of longer, unstaffed opening hours.
- 4.11 This trial ran from September 2021 to 30 January 2022, with the facilities opened during daylight hours for general community use. This meant that staff were on site with programs running for some of the time and at other times the playgrounds were open for general play and were unstaffed.
- 4.12 The Playgrounds returned to the previous operating model of only being open when staff were present from 31 January 2022.
- 4.13 Two key strategies were used to collect data on the Extended Opening Hours Trial: general feedback was sought via submissions through Council’s *Have Your Say* online engagement platform and onsite fieldwork research was undertaken.
- 4.14 Have Your Say submissions were invited from 17 January to 13 February 2022 on the following themes: accessibility, amenity, safety, benefits, issues and other. Forty submissions were received. The Adventure Playgrounds Trial of Extended Opening Hours Engagement Summary Report can be found at Attachment one.
- 4.15 Onsite fieldwork research was undertaken for two-weeks from 18 to 30 January 2022, comprising of intercept surveys and observations to record how many and when people used the sites. 160 intercept surveys were completed. Observations were focussed on recording the visitation at St Kilda due to low use at Skinners during the fieldwork period. The Field Work Findings: City of Port Phillip Adventure Playgrounds Research report can be found at Attachment two.
- 4.16 Key findings from the 40 Submissions received include:
  - 4.16.1 The Adventure playgrounds are much loved and highly valued pieces of community infrastructure.
  - 4.16.2 There was some support for extended hours, but several comments referenced the need for corresponding supervised hours and supervised programs and to keep staffing during opening hours.
  - 4.16.3 Improved physical access (e.g., wheelchair access) identified by some respondents as a need and the deteriorating amenity was also noted by several respondents.
  - 4.16.4 Several respondents directly linked their reduced sense of / or perception of safety with lack of staff presence. In general, there was a theme throughout submissions that supported the staffed programs as they provide respite and



- free child supervision and a perception that staffing was needed to supervise risky play and mitigate risk from antisocial behaviours.
- 4.16.5 Benefits noted included increased access, flexibility to accommodate use by different age groups and the provision of a different play experience to standard playgrounds.
  - 4.16.6 Further issues and additional feedback included: suggesting the inclusion of adult exercise equipment, the option of a hybrid model (having both supervised and non-supervised opening hours), concern regarding the data collection methodology and the impact of increased noise levels on surrounding residents.
- 4.17 Key findings from the 160 intercept surveys and 2 weeks of observation data collected during the onsite fieldwork include:
- 4.17.1 The most common reported reason for visiting was the play equipment (being different to other playgrounds) and the trampoline.
  - 4.17.2 Most visitors felt either “very safe” or “safe” when visiting (75% of adults and 92% of children) and there was no significant difference in perceptions of safety when comparing data collected when staff were or weren’t present.
  - 4.17.3 41% of visitors indicated they preferred to visit the playground when staff were there, 32% said that they preferred to come when it is quiet, while 26% indicated that they had no preference and would come to the playground at any time.
  - 4.17.4 The majority of adults surveyed (44%) indicated that this was their first time visiting.
  - 4.17.5 The busiest time for visitors was 12.00pm on both weekdays and weekends. However, visitors with young children prefer to visit in the morning.
  - 4.17.6 Support for the extended opening hours was “strongly supported” or “supported” by 45% and 42% respectively (a total of 87%) and “opposed” or “strongly opposed” by a total of 4% (or 2% for each category).
- 4.18 In summary, the trial resulted in greater site use, including from many first-time users. It also highlighted the need for site improvements for safety and accessibility (particularly at Skinners).
- 4.19 The two research methodologies each tell a slightly different story. In particular there is a difference in the perceptions of safety with the *Have Your Say* Submissions attributing safety to being reliant / dependant in having staff on site. While the intercept surveys found no significant difference in perceptions of safety when comparing data collected when staff were or weren’t present.
- 4.20 The similar findings from the two methodologies include that the playgrounds are highly valued for their unique play equipment that has a different and natural aesthetic, the trampolines and the opportunities provided for play that is risky and has a connection to the natural world.



- 4.21 Limitations of the two methodologies are included in the Consultation and Stakeholders section of this report below.

## 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 The consultation was promoted via Council's *Have Your Say* website and newsletter. Emails were distributed to the *Have Your Say* database and information about the trial and opportunity to provide feedback was shared with surrounding residents via a mailout. Posters were also available at both sites.
- 5.2 Demographic data collected from submission participants found that:
- 5.2.1 Over 50% (24 of 40) of respondents were from St Kilda
  - 5.2.2 80% (32 of 40) of respondents were residents
  - 5.2.3 65% (26 of 40) of respondents were from households that had couples with children
  - 5.2.4 60% (24 of 40) of respondents were women or female identifying.
- 5.3 Demographic data collected from the intercept surveys found that:
- 5.3.1 Most users (57%) reside in CoPP
  - 5.3.2 57% of users were 5-11-year olds
  - 5.3.3 40% of users were 5-year olds and under
  - 5.3.4 Almost half of the St Kilda site users had access to a backyard.
- 5.4 Limitations and considerations of the consultation methodologies include:
- 5.4.1 There is a bias in the age of consultation participants being predominately adults rather than children and young people.
  - 5.4.2 The submission process does not necessarily constitute a representative snapshot of the community, as people self-selected to participate.
  - 5.4.3 The trial took place during school holidays after long periods of Covid-19 lockdowns, which is likely to have increased use of the sites. Alternatively, during the 2-week intercept surveys and observations, there were some days of extreme heat which is likely to have decreased site use.
  - 5.4.4 In December 2021 fencing was erected at Skinners to prevent access to unsafe equipment, making much of the play equipment inaccessible. Site visitation was also low and so data collection focussed mainly at the St Kilda site.
  - 5.4.5 This consultation was specifically on the extended opening hours trial and is separate to future engagement that will be undertaken on upgrades to the adventure playgrounds.

## 6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal or risk impacts arising directly from this report.



**7. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

7.1 There is no financial impact arising from this report.

**8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

8.1 There are no environmental impacts to arise from this report.

**9. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

9.1 The extended opening hours trial provided an opportunity for community members to access and utilise the Adventure Playgrounds from dawn to sunset from 26 September 2021 to 30 January 2022, providing a safe and free play environment at a time when Melbourne was emerging from extended Covid restrictions.

9.2 The trial did result in greater site use at St Kilda but not at Skinners due to a large proportion of the Skinners site being out of action due to equipment condition.

**10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY**

10.1 The Adventure Playgrounds and their planned upgrades aligns with:

10.1.1 The 2021-31 community Vision: *Proudly Port Phillip: a liveable and vibrant City that enhances the wellbeing our community.*

10.1.2 Council Plan Strategic Direction: Inclusive Port Phillip: A City that is a place for all members of our community, where people feel supported and comfortable being themselves and expressing their identities.

**11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

**11.1 TIMELINE**

11.1.1 Outreach programming, aiming to increase use and participation by children and young people of the available services in the City of Port Phillip (including but not limited to the Adventure Playgrounds) is already occurring and will continue to connect young people to each other and to appropriate services.

11.1.2 During 2022-2023 the following actions are planned:

- Conduct upgrade consultations with a focus on engaging with children and young people. Outcomes of consultation to be reported back to Council to confirm the upgrade scope and any service model considerations.
- Complete short-term improvements, including removal and replacement of end of life equipment at Skinners to allow use prior to upgrades occurring.

11.1.3 During 2023 – 2024 and 2024 - 2025 the upgrades will be completed (assumes one each year), service disruption management plans to be developed to support service delivery at alternative locations where possible.

**11.2 COMMUNICATION**

11.2.1 A communication plan to advise users and nearby residents of disruptions for future planned maintenance or upgrade works will be developed to ensure site





users are aware of the impacts and the alternative services and facilities they can access while works take place.

11.2.2 Extensive consultation and engagement will take place with the community, in particular children over 2022/23 on the planned upgrades.

**12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Adventure Playgrounds Trial of Extended Opening Hours Engagement Summary Report**
- 2. Field Work Findings: City of Port Phillip Adventure Playgrounds Research**

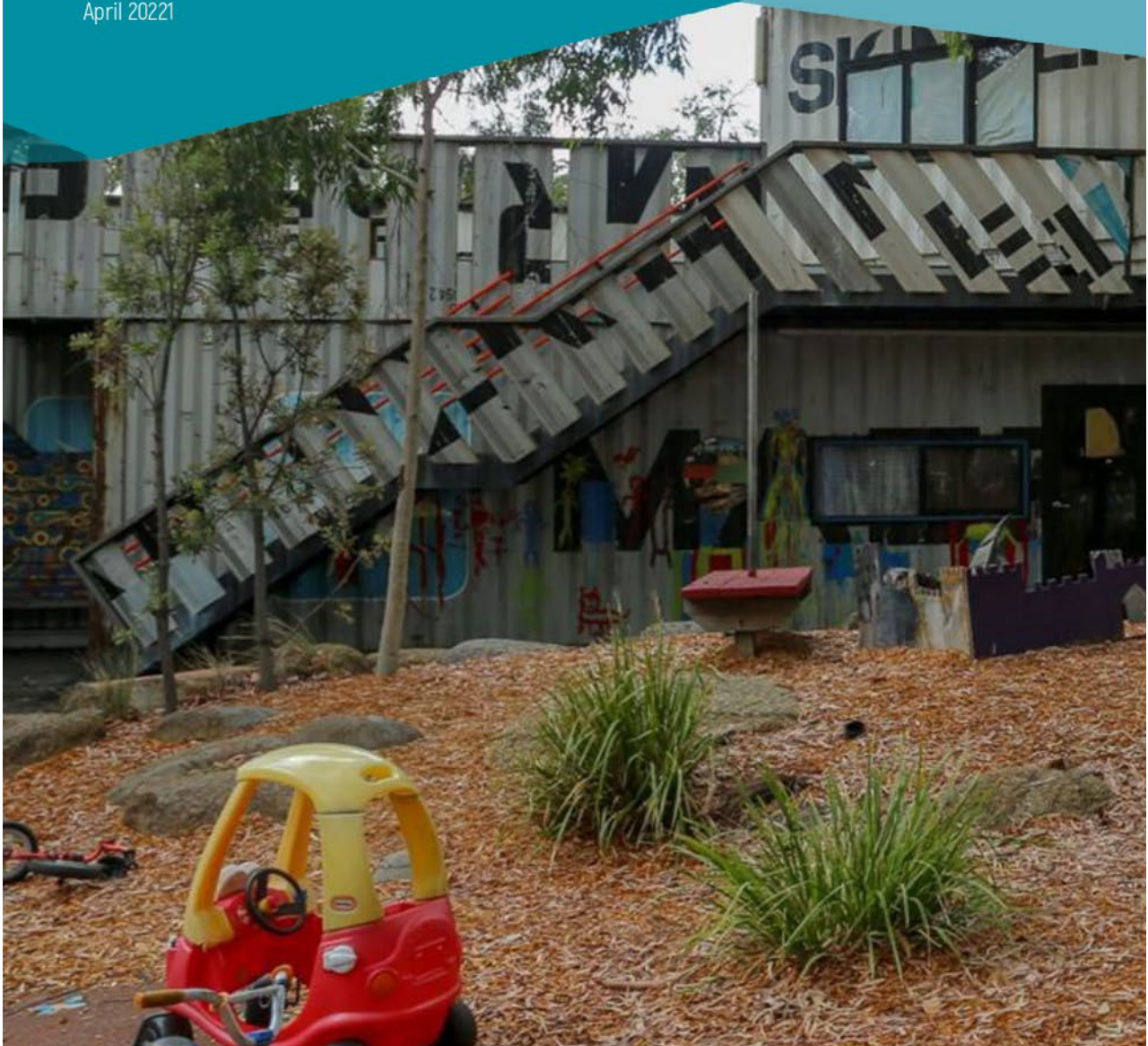


# Adventure Playgrounds

## Trial of extended opening hours

Engagement summary report

April 20221



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# Executive summary

## Introduction

Our two much-loved adventure playgrounds are over 40 years old and need some attention to meet contemporary standards and regulations. Council has allocated \$3.445 million towards their upgrade in its 10-year financial plan.

Until recently, the two playgrounds were only open when staff were on site running supervised programs - around 19 hours for St Kilda and around 18 hours for Skinners (South Melbourne) each week.

When recent COVID-19 restrictions meant staff couldn't be on site to run any of our usual programs at the playgrounds, Council decided to trial extending their opening hours to cover daylight hours, in line with our other play spaces across the City to enable families with young children in our community to have more flexible access to these play spaces. Both adventure playgrounds reverted to their regular operating model after 30 January 2022.

As part of its evaluation of this trial, Council sought feedback from local residents and playground users from 17 January to 13 February 2022.

## Engagement approach

The engagement approach included a combination of general feedback, and onsite fieldwork. This report presents the findings of the general feedback received; fieldwork findings are presented in a separate report.

General feedback was sought primarily via a survey hosted on Council's *Have Your Say* online engagement site. Respondents were asked to share their thoughts and experiences of the trial extended hours. Forty completed surveys were received.

The consultation was promoted via Council's *Have Your Say* website and newsletter. Emails were distributed to the *Have Your Say* database and information about the trial and opportunity to provide feedback was shared with surrounding residents via a mailout. Posters were also on display at both sites.

## Key findings

Forty survey responses were received during the consultation period. The following provides a summary of comments against each theme.

#### Accessibility (30 comments)

- Some support for extended hours, but several comments referencing need for corresponding supervised hours and programs
- Concern around allowing general access during non-peak times (with specific reference to evenings / after dark)
- Few comments referring to improving physical access to the playgrounds for those with additional mobility considerations (such as wheelchair access)

#### Amenity (24 comments)

- Several comments referencing deterioration of amenity due to lack of access to ancillary facilities (kitchen, art rooms)
- Some commentary referring to the park's character contributing to its sense of amenity
- Some references inferring deterioration of amenity related to unsupervised use of playgrounds

#### Safety (34 comments)

- Several respondents directly linked their reduced sense / perception of safety with lack of staff presence
- Some comments referred to antisocial behaviour resulting in vandalism and damage to equipment
- Number of specific references to increased rubbish (including syringes) and concern around perceived presence of lone adults and dogs on site

#### Benefits (32 comments)

- Increased access to playgrounds over summer
- More 'risky' / challenging play opportunities (if staff supervision also provided)
- Parent / carer respite opportunities due to programs / services offered at playgrounds
- Flexibility to accommodate use by different age groups
- Different play experience to standard playgrounds

#### Issues (32 comments)

- Antisocial behaviour perceived to be linked to increased site access
- Lack of supervising staff
- Removal / misuse of equipment (flying fox, trampoline)
- Safety concerns due to increased 'dangerous' litter (syringes)
- Decreasing opportunities for children to experience 'adventurous play'

#### Other (22 comments)

- Call for staffing during opening hours
- Lack of real data collection
- Reduction in playground services

- Safety concerns related to antisocial behaviour and unaccompanied adults on site
- Closing time too late (after dark)
- Inconsistent communications / information
- Loss of equipment / addition of adult exercise equipment
- Hybrid (supervised / non-supervised) hours

#### Additional feedback (31 comments)

- Loss of community connection
- Insufficient data collection and timing / extent of consultation
- Points of differentiation against standard playgrounds
- Lack of supervised (staffed) hours
- Impact of increased noise level on surrounding residents
- Maintaining the characters of the playgrounds

# Introduction

## Background

Adventure playgrounds differ from traditional playgrounds in some key ways. Adventure playgrounds, for example, are often built through processes that “encourage children to make decisions about structure, form and function” (Knight, 2016: 13)

The two adventure playgrounds in the City of Port Phillip were established to reflect these play principles. They were also established to act as ‘urban backyards’ for children and young people living in social housing. The St Kilda Adventure Playground was established in 1981 and Skinners Adventure Playground (South Melbourne) in 1978. The Skinners Adventure Playground is more locally focused and the majority of its attendees are children and families from the local area (from the near-by public housing estates in particular).

Both adventure playgrounds focus on delivering three key service delivery priorities to children and their families:

1. Recreation Opportunities (providing opportunities for young people to engage in play-based activities, controlled challenges and risks, and creative exploration through fun activities and play spaces)
2. Support System Linkages: creating soft entry pathways and making referrals for vulnerable and difficult to engage community members who struggle to connect with mainstream services
3. Leadership and Participation Activities: Providing strong adult role models and opportunities for young people to show leadership / be praised for showing leadership or taking initiative.

The adventure playgrounds have traditionally been used specifically for running programs aimed at 8 to 11 year olds. Families book into a program and are then allowed access to the adventure playground for the purpose of this program. Thus, the playgrounds opening hours have been restricted to when programs occur (approximately 19 hours per week). Both children booked into the programs and those not booked in are allowed access to the playgrounds while staff are there.

The Adventure Playgrounds recently temporarily changed their operating format – rather than being open at specific times when staff are onsite, they were open during daylight hours without staff supervision. This new format was prompted by Covid-19 restrictions, which prevented programs to run and also limited activities for children, and aimed to broaden the playgrounds’ inclusiveness to beyond those attending programs.

The extended opening hours were trialled until 30 January 2022, after which date both playgrounds reverted to their regular operating model.

## Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of feedback received through community engagement on a trial of extended opening hours at Council's two adventure playgrounds. It details the engagement tools and techniques used, and presents the findings from the engagement.

## Purpose of engagement

The purpose of this engagement was to inform the community of the trial extended hours and understand what benefits and issues they believed the trial presented. This engagement is separate to future engagement with our community on upgrades to the adventure playgrounds and programs offered at the playgrounds, which will take place at a later date.

## Communications

We communicated with our community about this consultation via Council's Have Your Say website and newsletter. Emails were distributed to the *Have Your Say* database and information about the trial and opportunity to provide feedback was shared with surrounding residents via a mailout. Posters were also on display at both sites.

## Limitations

- Consultative engagement provides only a high-level snapshot of community sentiment and does not reflect any deeper deliberation of issues and challenges.
- Contributions to this consultation do not necessarily constitute a representative snapshot of our community, as people self-selected to participate.
- Findings from this consultative engagement form part of the broader evaluation of the trial, and should be considered in conjunction with results of other related engagement activities.



## Engagement approach

This section details the community engagement approach in gathering feedback on the trial extended opening hours for Skinners (South Melbourne) and St Kilda adventure playgrounds.

From 17 January to 13 February 2022, Council sought feedback from playground users and surrounding residents of the (perceived and real) experiences of the trial. Feedback was collected via a survey hosted on Council's Have Your Say engagement site, with onsite signage and a mailout to surrounding residents promoting the opportunity to provide feedback.

### How we engaged

This engagement was hosted on Council's Have Your Say website, with feedback channeled through a survey seeking feedback from the community on their thoughts on, and/or experience of, the trial.

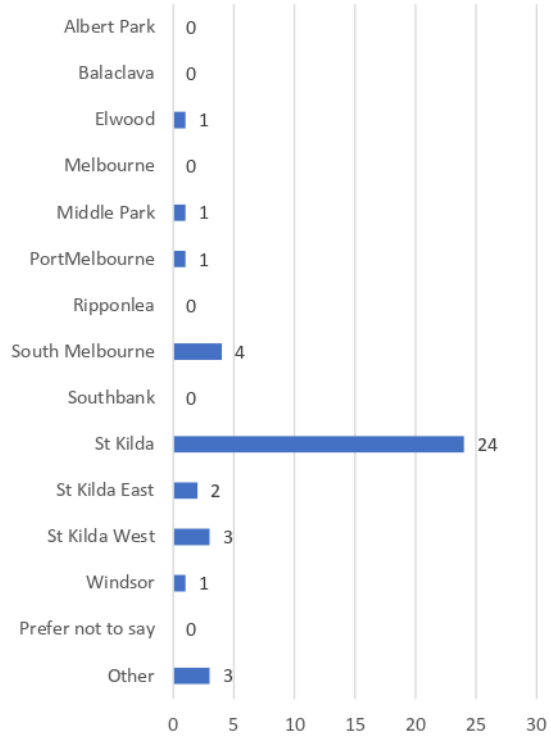
### Who we engaged

A series of demographic questions were asked as part of the survey. Forty responses were received, and the following provides a summary snapshot of respondents

- Over half the survey respondents (24; 60.00%) resided in St Kilda.
- Most survey respondents (32; 80.00%) identified themselves as residents, and almost half (17; 42.50%) identified as ratepayers.
- Almost two-thirds of the survey respondents were female (24; 60.00%).
- Approximately one third of respondents found out about the consultation via word of mouth.
- Approximately two thirds of respondents (26; 65.00%) were couples with children.
- Almost all respondents (36; 90.00%) identified as non-Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- The majority of respondents (35; 87.50%) did not identify as a person with disability

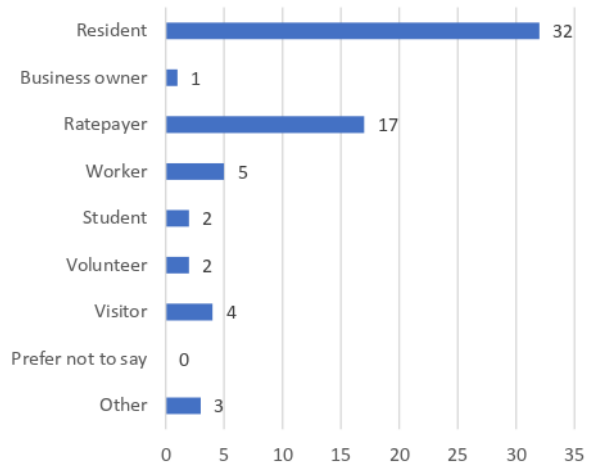
**What's your residential suburb?**

Albert Park	0	0.00%
Balaclava	0	0.00%
Elwood	1	2.50%
Melbourne	0	0.00%
Middle Park	1	2.50%
Port Melbourne	1	2.50%
Ripponlea	0	0.00%
South Melbourne	4	10.00%
Southbank	0	0.00%
St Kilda	24	60.00%
St Kilda East	2	5.00%
St Kilda West	3	7.50%
Windsor	1	2.50%
Prefer not to say	0	0.00%
Other	3	7.50%



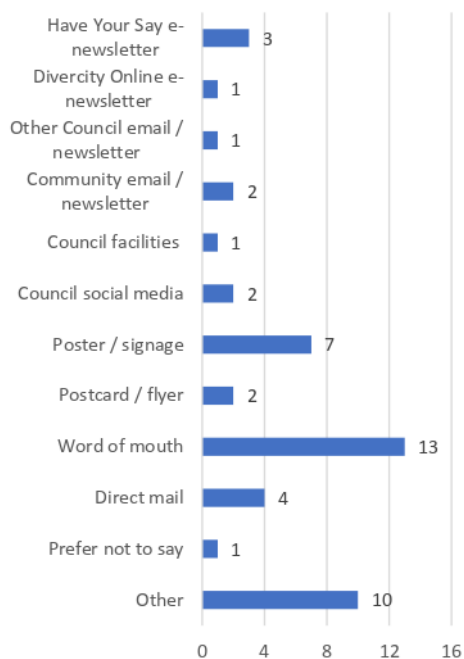
**Which of the following describes your connection(s) to City of Port Phillip? (Select all that apply)**

Resident	32	80.00%
Business owner	1	2.50%
Ratepayer	17	42.50%
Worker	5	12.50%
Student	2	5.00%
Volunteer	2	5.00%
Visitor	4	10.00%
Prefer not to say	0	0.00%
Other	3	7.50%



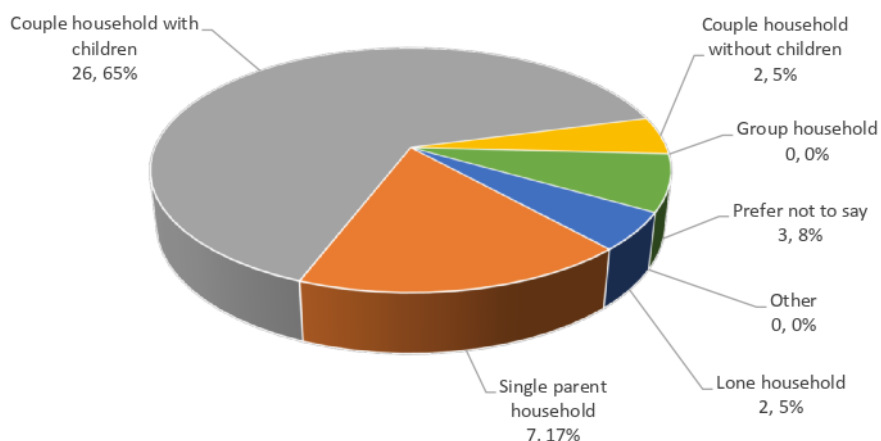
How did you hear about this consultation? (Select all that apply)

Have Your Say newsletter	3	7.50%
Diversity Online e-newsletter	1	2.50%
Other Council email / e-newsletter	1	2.50%
Community email / e-newsletter	2	5.00%
Council facilities such as libraries, community or children's centres	1	2.50%
Council social media	2	5.00%
Poster / signage	7	17.50%
Postcard / flyer	2	5.00%
Word of mouth	13	32.50%
Direct mail	4	10.00%
Prefer not to say	1	2.50%
Other	10	25.00%



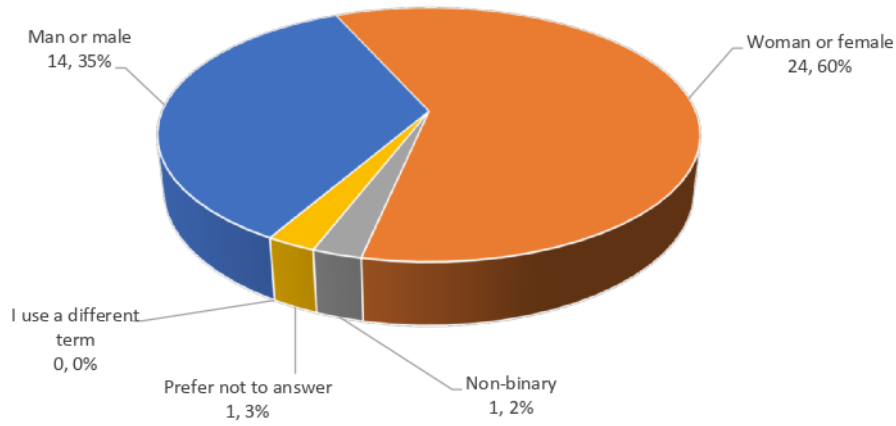
Which of the following best describes your household?

Lone household	Single-parent household	Couple household with children	Couple household without children	Group household	Prefer not to say	Other
2	7	26	2	0	3	0
5.00%	17.50%	65.00%	5.00%	0.00%	7.50%	0.00%



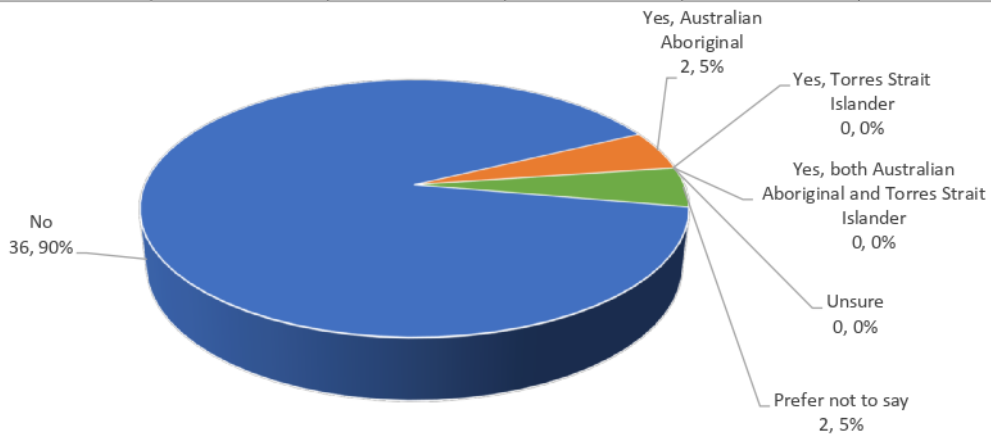
**How do you describe your gender?**

Man or male	Woman or female	Non-binary	Prefer not to answer	I use a different term
14	24	1	1	0
35.00%	60.00%	2.50%	2.50%	0.00%



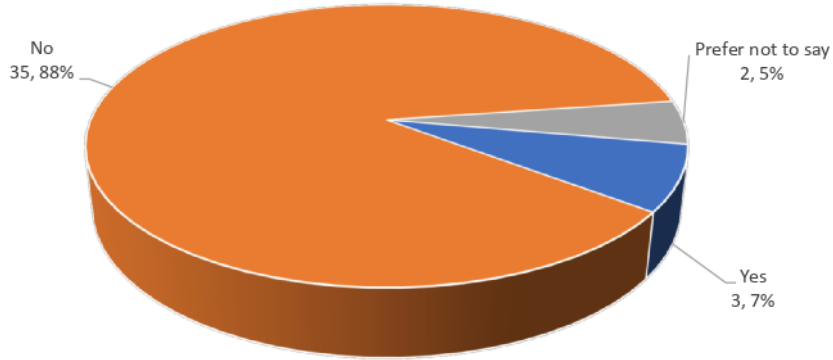
**Do you identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?**

No	Yes, Australian Aboriginal	Yes, Torres Strait Islander	Yes, both Australian Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander	Unsure	Prefer not to say
36	2	0	0	0	2
90.00%	5.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%



Do you identify as a person with disability?

Yes	No	Prefer not to say
3	35	2
7.50%	87.50%	5.00%



# Engagement findings

## Survey results

Survey respondents were asked to share their thoughts or experiences in relation to the following themes:

- accessibility
- amenity
- safety

Comments were also sought on perceived or real (experienced) benefits and issues, as well as any other feedback respondents wished to share with Council about the trial.

Forty completed surveys were received. This section provides a summary analysis of responses, with verbatim responses provided as an attachment at the end of this report.

## Accessibility

Thirty respondents (75.00%) provided comments.

Comments indicated some support for extended hours. However, this was qualified in many instances with a reference to need for corresponding supervision / staffing and programs. There was some general concern flagged around general access during non-peak times, particularly in evenings / after dark.

A few comments referred specifically to physical access, with one comment suggesting greater wheelchair access across the site.

## Amenity

Twenty-four respondents (60.00%) provided comments.

Several comments stated amenity had decreased, and attributed this directly to unsupervised use of playgrounds. Some respondents suggested the lack of access to ancillary facilities (kitchen, art room) also reduced amenity and one comment reference the noise impact to residents.

Other comments referred to the park's (unique / dated) character contributing to their perception of its amenity.

## Safety

Thirty-four respondents (85.00%) provided comments.

Again, staffing came through as a key theme linked to safety. Some comments suggested the lack of staff on site allowed for greater opportunities for antisocial behaviour to occur, resulting in vandalism and damage to the equipment.

There was also some concern around the increase in rubbish on site, in some cases specifically referencing syringes and underwear. Increased dog waste was also cited as a concern due to more dog owners allowing their dogs to enter the grounds.

## Benefits

Thirty-two respondents (80.00%) provided comments.

Several benefits were suggested by survey respondents. Comments referenced the benefits of increased access opportunities over summer and the flexibility to accommodate different age groups at different times of the day. Other comments referenced opportunities for children to experience different and more challenging play than at standard playgrounds.

Other benefits cited by respondents include, and the respite that programs and services offered at the playgrounds provided to parents and carers.

## Issues

Thirty-two respondents (80.00%) provided comments.

A number of survey respondents included increased antisocial behaviour and increased presence of lone adults on site, and the potential resulting risk to children's safety, as key issues. In many instances, this was directly attributed to lack of staff supervision during opening hours.

Equipment misuse and damage, increased 'dangerous' litter and loss of opportunities for children to experience adventurous play were also flagged as issues by some respondents.

## Other (themes)

Respondents were invited to identify and comment on other themes. Twenty-two respondents (55.00%) provided comments.

Several comments reiterated commentary provided under the previous themes. New / additional comments included suggestions that the closing times were too late

(after dark). Some concern was flagged around potential reduction in playground services and loss of equipment, with one suggestion for some play or exercise equipment for accompanying adults.

There were some comments referring to inconsistent communication about the trial / consultation and about the playground in general, with some concern around the timing and duration of the consultation process, and the quality / quantity of data collected through the trial.

## Additional feedback

Respondents were invited to share any additional feedback about the trial. Thirty-one respondents (77.50%) provided comments.

A number of comments / themes were repeated. These include:

- staffing / supervision during opening hours
- impact of noise on surrounding residents
- timing and extent of consultation on the trial
- character of the playgrounds and their points of difference compared to regular playgrounds.

## Next steps

Outcomes of the trial and all feedback received through this consultation will be presented to Councillors as part of broader consideration later in 2022 of adventure playground upgrades, which will include the consultation process with the community, how to engage children in the process, the programs offered at the playgrounds and the hours of opening.



# Attachments

## Attachment 1: Verbatim responses

The following tables provide verbatim responses received through the survey.

Note, in some instances text has been redacted where it includes personally identifiable information or may be deemed offensive to a person or persons.

### Accessibility

Short term accessibility has increased
Brilliant that it is open
I live close by the St Kilda adventure playground and so it is accessible to my grandchildren.
No access for persons who have physical disability/mobility issues.
the absence of staff attracts unwanted and potentially harmful people inside the venue. This park has been historically know to attract drug addicts which are not a nice match with kids
I live behind Skinners Playground but do not have an issue with accessibility.
No concerns with longer hours, If supervised programs and hours are maintained.
As a nearby resident I have noticed that very few families with children in the target 5-11 year range are actually using the playground in the early or late hours of the day. It would seem that need for greater access hours in out of step with provision
Prefer longer hours but not happy with it being unfacilitated - not safe
So close by and kids are loving being able to walk there
It is safer for children with accessibility needs to access the playground whilst it is staffed
We only go to the playground when staff are there so no change for us.
Allowed for unimpeded access for anyone to enter the playground. Low level of supervision with none in the early morning or afternoon to dark when vandalism occurred.
It's a nice change to not have to check the website or gate to see if open.
Excellent
Accessibility is good although unsupervised accessibility for extended hours has allowed for the wrong elements of society to enter the park (particularly of an evening) and misuse the equipment.
My children are school age. Extended hours mean nothing to Mr
This park is easily accessible to me and my sons
No change
I like the extended hours but not at the expense of maintaing the current spirit and structure of the playgrounds- I.e. their distinctive character as places where the atmosphere and equipment is not as sanitised as in ordinary playgrounds.
Easy
QR code
Shouldn't be open without supervisors
There is no need for access to any playground really early in the morning or late at night. This can only attract other public than the target (kids)
The park is perfect just as it is. I disliked the limited access to these wonderful community assets
too accessible

it is great to be able to access the playground when we choose- especially with restricted childcare hours. but i think the hours are to long- dawn till duak, and on occasion i have walked past at night and seen the gate still open.
It's been years since the community have complained to staff and council about lack of disability access and you've done nothing about it.
It would be great if a concrete path could be laid to make it accessible for wheelchairs and children or parents who may need assistance to walk
Would prefer longer hours on weekends, public holidays and during school holidays. I believe this should also be open for approx 2 hours during the day so Mum's groups may utilise it as a gather place with little people.

## Amenity

Amenity has been lost, with equipment cordoned of or covered with decking, kitchen areas closed
Without staff the amneity has decreased as there is not welcoming
Absolutely love the artistic vibe of this park and our daughter loves all the features. Sad and disappointed to see that the aircraft and the trampoline have been removed. These features are what make this park unique.
Kitchen and space for children to make, create and play needs toalaobenaintained as a key part of the adventure playground experience.
My observation is the amenity of the plaground has been significantly downgraded by damage during early and late hours, unruly adolescents intimidating families, and individuals frequenting the playground.
Love this playground! Great creative space
Amenities have been very clean
Since extended (unstaffed) hour started, the place seems to be more worn and torn.
The St Kilda Playground has good amenities for young children
Wonderful. The st k park magic is partly in it's dated feel. Interesting and exciting play equipment rather than modern plastic equipment which is generic and lacks imagination
Amenity is good. Although, there is a lack of spaces to attract groups with noise barriers to reduce the impact of noise to residents from extended hours
Kitchen and art rooms not open. No sense of welcoming in a locked up facility
When staffed, the amenities are appropriate, however not whilst unsupervised
Highly degraded since trial begin (both park)
Ok
The toilets and the sanitizers are really appreciated
So many equipment have been destroyed since it's open without supervisors.
Due to access without supervision there is a massive risk of deterioration of the amenities
As being too accessible is losing its amenities
we love the risky play and adventure of this space- our daughter is filled with wonder - we love it
My kids (6 & 9) love the elements of risk some of the equipment has, making it different to other 'safe' playgrounds
Amenities are great but not safe without staff
The toilets and common areas are quite disgusting since the extended opening hours. Syringes, cigarette butts, empty alcohol bottles, used condoms, human and dog feces found around the kids playground. Yuk!
I love the playground, we've used it for years. And so have all of our guests who visit St K and used to stay in our Airbnb. However it needs to stay 'rustic'.

Safety

Safety has been reduced due to lack of supervision
Perfectly safe
Staffing is essential for safety
No longer safe without staff there during all opening hours- theft, damage, dangerous items such as used condoms disposed of, lone males wandering in whenever they like.
Safety of the features are in line with any attraction that need adult supervision. In terms of safety of the park this is reached when staff is present.
Closing fence at end of the day is important to ensure ongoing future safety, and limit occupation by local homeless people.
My observation-neither the adolescents now frequenting the playground or the adult can be relied upon to exercise safe use - eg dogs off leash, multiple people on the tramp, parents removing safety barriers to allow young children on a damaged trampoline.
Strange old men wandering around alone, needles and condoms and dog Poo found, not clean or safe. Have stopped going due to this
Safe as long as people adhere to the signs or marked off areas
I actually did a thesis on the impact of closing adventure playgrounds in England and found that when it happened drug use and crime went up and there was lots of drug paraphernalia at the playground, which means reduced safety for young people
I don't feel safe the place without staff. We had late-teens jumping on off-limited trampoline the other day and it doesn't look good for little ones.
Extended hours significantly decreased children's safety due to unrestricted access for non-core guests. Unleashed dogs in park and adolescents damaging equipment.
Given how close park is to sacred heart, safety of children and adults has declined. Unfortunately there is also more litter and damage to property. On several occasions I've seen members of the public without kids on the grounds and behaving strangely.
Fine but needles have been a problem before workers (or parents) have cleared it out
Safety has been greatly reduced with the extended hours. Non core guests enter the park and throw furniture off the fort and misuse and damage the equipment and trampoline.
It's not reasonable to allow community access without having staff on site for the entirety of the opening hours. Concerns around needles and offenders.
Terrible. No staff to monitor actions of young people means they act deplorably and no one is there to help. I do not allow my children to attend unsupervised
I cannot leave my children here unsupervised as it is quite enclosed and hidden whilst not staffed
Degraded
Unsupervised means less safe
I would prefer extended hours but with staff on site at all times.
Ok
Adult's supervision
Supervised is best people having been bringing dogs and drinking and smoking. You feel safe when the supervisors are there and they check for people without kids to check no dodgy people come in
Terrible. So disturbing to see dirt like condoms and bottles in the playground. My child is scared of dogs. Some people walk their dogs.
The playground is located in an area where safety is really a concern. Restricting access to the target audience (kids) allows them to be safe. Unrestricted, extended access is not a good idea for safety
While supervision would be terrific it should not be mandatory. Adventure playgrounds should be excused/indemnified from liability
Very dangerous at the moment. Since the trial started we experienced many unsafe issues as finding needles, condoms, underwear, rubbish, things are stolen, police got involved a few times already with people entering the playground for other purposes.

Was little worse than before, with many things not in usable situation, sand pit, trampoline. Also Adults without kids made me go little worried. Few things thrown here and there made me little worried.
the only safety concerns we have are around the gate been open all the time- "dawn till dusk" although i personally believe that it isnt always locked from walking past at various times through the night or morning. i have seen condoms, syringes.
We've experienced no safety issues in our visits to St Kilda Adventure Playgrouind, either while it was manned or more recently, not manned.
Not safe without staff. The entire back area is a trap. How can you put children and families at risk knowing full well how dangerous it is
As above: The toilets and common areas are quite disgusting since the extended opening hours. Syringes, cigarette butts, empty alcohol bottles, used condoms, human and dog feces found around the kids playground. Yuk!
It is NOT safe when anyone can wonder in during the day (grown men, no children, dog feces, syringes, stolen bikes). St Kilda overall has become unsafe, this is the one sanctuary left that our children can play freely. CCTV is a MUST at the entrance.

### Benefits (potential or experienced)

Access to the area improved, safety and emenity reduced.
Playground is open
Staffing allows it to be a true adventure playground and allows for more risky play items like the flyig fox
No benefit if it means the playgrounds are no longer supervised Adventure playgrounds
Love the extended hours which give more use of the park during summer
It would be great to have kids attending the playground for longer hours. My own child would also benefit in being able to attend.
The adventure playground, in particular it's supervised services and dinner club is of huge benefit to our sole parent household. The respite for me and socialisation for my child, that this provides once or twice a week is hugely valuable.
I currently see very little benefit in the changes to access hour and unsupervised use of the playground. I do see great deal of misuse, unsafe activities, strangers wandering around and damage.
Ability to accommodate children's hours, in particular in the morning, early afternoon on the weekend
Younger children such as mine (always personally supervised by me!)can enjoy the playground without being bowled over by bigger kids, have time to enjoy so we don't have to go when it's busy (and then make it busier by being there ourselves!)
Benefit of being open during daylight hours is that I can take my little one there while the others are at school. He's absolutely fallen in love with the park and sometimes we're too busy after school with other activities to get there when he's really a
More accessibility for wider community but only if with staff.
Limited benefits as the hours in the early morning and after late afternoon have allowed for non core groups to enter and cause mischief and damage.
Uniqueness especially in a very built up area. Extended hours were brilliant especially given wfh means needing to entertain while working (in the park as I do)
Some additional access time for families within core hours (but observed that they were usually out of park by 5 to 6pm). The hours in the trial are too long.
None. You're cost cutting and fixing something that's not broken
When staffed the benefits are many, it gives me a respite from caring for my sons, one with special needs, that is very challenging. I know they are well looked after and fed.
None - Extended hours cover periods we wouldn't be at the park anyway

Extended hours are good but only one criteria and on balance I would say don't rate higher than previous arrangements
Extended hours allow for wider access and use of the playgrounds but the preservation of the character of the playgrounds should not be sacrificed for the sake of longer opening hours.
My kids love it here
Love the place great for kids imagination and challenging play
None.
Zero benefits (maybe cost for the council...)
Enormous for education, learning and development
none
Extended hours if were supervised would have been better
Access earlier in the day is better for children under 5, as can choose quieter periods when older children are at school to ensure younger children get access. 3:30pm and onwards not best time for younger children.
It's always a good thing to have interesting places for parents and children to play in a safe place.
No benefits if open more without staff. Extend opening hrs only with staff
Kids are able to come in during the day for a play.
Many families live in apartments in St Kilda, whether from low socio economic backgrounds or not, it allows kids to play in a diverse group where the focus is on them and their play time. Rough play is essential. You can get shiny play grounds anywhere.

#### Issues (potential or experienced)

It is no longer a 'safe' place monitored by staff, watching out for drug use, rough sleepers, animals and adults without children, as well as rubbish.
You will turn it into just another playground
Opening hours without staff lowers the enjoyment and ability to relax.
Safety- as mentioned above. also St kilda playground is in a secluded place- it is only a matter of time before someone is [REDACTED] there is unsupervised
Many unwanted people inside the venue in multiple occasion Found of harmful objects such as siringes and condoms inside the sand pit and close to other areas of play
We would have loved to use the South Melbourne facility more but the open hours were too few. We were happy to supervise our own child.
Cannot see any issues with this. We have lived here for 24 years and have NEVER experienced any problems.
There was damage to the trampoline due to adults using the space inappropriately. There was also other damage to items within the playground. There was dog feces in the sandpit and throughout the playground.
Potential use by homeless and drug users if gates are not closed or space is not monitored by staff.
The operating hours have gone from 17 hour of supervised use to over 100 hour/weeks of mostly unsupervised use. The noise intensity, duration and nature far exceed the level associated with previous use. Noise abatement needs to be seriously addressed.
Safety and cleanliness
If everyone does their part to look after the space and keep it tidy as if it were their own, it'll be great. Unfortunately this doesn't happen all too often
Safety issues, increase in risk taking behaviour in the area (drug use, [REDACTED] activity, vandalism)
No staffing means less security, especially with its location.

Many more hours of noise that is a nuisance for neighbours, vandalism of equipment and dogs in park due to park being open and not supervised for long periods. Easy access for homeless and drug takers.
Too many random adults without kids wandering around. More litter. Equipment looks unkept. No staff.
Extended periods of intrusive noise from screaming children, parents yelling and speaking too loudly and the constant noise from the trampoline. Lack of supervision was evident. Dogs in playground and homeless and drug users having access to the park.
Swearing. Smoking. Verbal abuse. No staff to monitor and set boundaries
Inconsistency in opening hours, no staff when it is advertised that it is supposed to be staffed. Needing more hours and days staffed
Very concern about the park: the play area has been degraded (dog poo in sandpit, damage to game area), I personally found drug vial and condoms wrapper in the park, I personally saw people with alcohol or dogs in the park, and some asocial behaviour.
Our kids miss the flying fox and other great equipment that has been taken away. Please reinstate this equipment.
Staff shortage
We have lost some grate play equipment the plane and the flying fox
Kids are not safe without supervisors. Some adults without kids are hanging around.
Safety, deterioration of the equipment, potential drug use at the site
the playground is getting ruined and is not safe anymore.
I felt the equipments or play areas are being misused if park is left unattended hence my kid could not play at all the places where she wanted to. Other day i saw 10 teenagers jumping on trampoline together. If there was someone to ask them not to do so,
port phillip has a big transient population- it is very easy to hide inside over night if the place is not checked properly- and if i was homeless this would be very appealing
The trampoline timer needs readjusting to 3 minutes. Currently it takes 5 mins 20 secs for the light to turn off which is a long time for a single user on the trampoline. I imagine this has gone unnoticed because the site hasn't been manned.
Syringes, condoms, homeless people and weirdos, rubbish and graffiti in the once safe Adventure Playground since open without staff
The culture of a safe space for kids to be adventurous is dying. It's not a place for parents with toddlers. There are so many playgrounds for that cohort. This place should be reserved for primaryschool aged kids. gates kept unwanted child predators out.
Strange men wondering in, dog feces, its being opened too early ie., could be opened at 12 noon until 7pm, opening it too early is not necessary and keeping it open all night is mad.

#### Other (please specify)

The trial seems to lack any real data collection.
You nearly have
Community ripped apart, no longer safe meeting place for both the adults and children of the community. when open without staff, it lost its llife and energy.
I think this is a great idea and would benefit all children who use this park. The fact that it is monitored makes it a safe place for kids to go.
I am concerned these changes may lead to reduced hours of supervised playground services. February hours have reduced since last year informing this concern.
The lack of security in the early hours of the morning and late a night has pushed the playground back to where it was before the security fences were upgraded. Unless addressed the playground with suffer the same level of vandalism it has in the past.

Need facilitators in morning too. Not to caretake young kids but to look after playground space. Should protect children first (especially from predators in the area - I've felt unsafe even as an adult more than once and have stopped going)
Staff is what adds the EXTRA value to the playground's safety and uniqueness. I don't think I'd take my kids outside of staffed hours.
There is a syringe dispenser within 50m of The St Kilda Adventure playground. ██████████ characters now have unimpeded access to the park. Syringe concerns now in park.
Prefer supervision but perhaps hybrid system works
Closure of the park was not at dusk as indicated but as late as 9:25pm (after dark). At this time there was generally adolescents in the park with 3 or more on the trampoline.
Communication is inconsistent
I lived in St Kilda for long and leaving this used to be safe space open like that is asking for it to become a ██████████ hanging place. It won't be soon before a child get wounded by a needle left behind.
My 5 years old daughter loves the playground.
It is good to have play equipment which is a little less safe but more challenging
Please stop destroying our playground and community
The special feature of the playground of being a safe haven for the kids with staff monitoring has gone. Families want it back. Port Philip is full of playgrounds open all day and accessible, we dont need anymore.
the ap is a st kilda institution, so important for lower sociobeconomic families living in small spaces like ourselves. a bright safe place where our commubity can thrive and kids can have healthy relationships with supportive trusted staff- this is vital
I sometimes wonder if some adult play equipment would encourage parents and friends to exercise together because I believe play is important for all of us.
Zero genitore care for what the community thinks. Shame.
St Kilda can be an unsafe place at time. This invaluable resource for families needs to be preserved. Not open to the anyone at anytime. Must be staffed at all times.
Please don't remove the equipment, parents know what is safe for their children not the Council. Parents are willing to be part of a working group to help maintain and improve the facilities by keeping it 'rustic'.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us about this trial?

As a resident of the area for 30 years, and father of 2 grown children who used the Adventure Playground in Sr.Kilda as their backyardit is clear that the community connection to the area and its inhabitants have been adversely affected
Devastating that the council is even contemplating this. insufficient data collection on use of playgrounds. trial has been in place for 4 months- feedback- 2 weeks of consultants on site and a month or so on website.
We'd like to see extended hours with staff on to mantain the security of the park. Also would love more features to be added from local artist to set this park apart from the normal playgrounds, this is why it's called the adventure playground
Extended hours were better.
As long term neighbours directly behind the park at ██████████, we would like to give our full support.
I think the playground should not continue to be open for extended hours for a number of reasons. The location allows for increased vandalism as it is in a cul de sac, and with greater access to the site damage will continue to occur.
It is disappointing that the hours of the supervised Adventure Playground appear to have been reduced to only Wed and Thu mid week, which is really limited in flexibility for single parents like myself who regularly use this service.

The trail should not have been conducted without first notifying all surrounding residents. I have suffered 4 months over very unpleasant and unreasonable noise from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. This is not an acceptable way to run a trial.
Not open when we came on the 30 Jan at 12:20pm. Some areas of the playground were under renovation during the trial
Please pay the facilitators well and keep this precious creative and cultural space, while also keeping children safe
My kids have loved playing in all the different parts/sections of the park and love discovering something new each time we've gone.
I am a little worried about how much the community was consulted on this and if this is just a move to steer away from funding initiatives like this. There is lots of research in England about the impacts are of this, so definitely read up
Council failed to act on noise issues raised and instead proceeded with further extensions to the trial period. Poor communication and failure to ensure closure at dusk and monitor or manage poor behaviour in the park.
Regular hours are great. But the park must be staffed. Equipment increasingly unsafe or not open.
Big supporter
There has been a failure for Council to address the noise issues raised in October before the additional extensions to the trial were decided. Later correspondence on noise, dogs, misuse of equipment and closing the park after dark were largely ignored.
It was rushed, done without consultation, and clumsy. You should be embarrassed by the lack of professionalism
More hours and programs would be welcomed
Please end it as soon as possible and revert to what use to a great safe and friendly community place, not just a playground.
I would very much like to see the playgrounds maintained as places with a distinct character and ones that allow for more risky, complex, and varied play than more commonplace playgrounds.
We really appreciate the extended opening hours
Don't like how it has become open to all and unsupervised cigarette butts beer bottles dog poo in sand pit. It was different and special and should stay that way
"Trial" should stop immediately. Otherwise, it's going to be totally destroyed.
Please retain extended opening times with a blend of supervised and non supervised periods
The lack of transparency really hit me. Trial is nearly finished and has been started without consulting the community. has been extended without consulting the community. Families just found it out by word of mouth and had to deal with it.
I would suggest to open the park , whatever time you want to open but under safe hands and supervision, mainly because of the design and location of park. My kid and I love to be here and want to be here like before without any thought in mind :) thank yo
there is a lot of community trust generated towards copp from this trial- i would reconmend that staffing the playground is vital. longer opening hours are vital and maybe it doesnt need to be staffed the entire time- but dawn till dusk is almost sinister
Personally, we found the previous hours a bit restrictive so we welcome the extended hours.
Stop the trial and be honest with people about what you really are planning to do: turn the Adventure Playground in just another playground.
Not safe to be unstaffed! Not ever! Youth need to be protected from the ██████████ that are drawn to the area. I've seen it too many times. This adventure playground is different to other open spaces and needs to remain that way. Please !
Clean up St Kilda's streets and leave the Playground alone. If its unsafe, parents will report any issues as they arise.





## Fieldwork findings

City of Port Phillip: Adventure Playgrounds Research

24 March

## Introduction

i.e. community was engaged by the City of Port Phillip to design and deliver research on the two Adventure Playgrounds in the municipality, St Kilda and Skinners (South Melbourne). The research was required as input into a review of a trial of extended operating hours, which began in October 2021 and finished at the end of January 2022.

Fieldwork was completed in the final two weeks of the trial of extended hours, from January 18 to January 30. The fieldwork included two research methods: observations and intercept surveys. Observations were designed to count the number of visitors to the playgrounds across the week. Intercept surveys were designed to capture who was using the playground and when, as well as opinions of the playground and the extended operating hours. Intercept surveys capture the views of the wide range of people who visit the playground, who may not engage with or be aware of Council's other engagement platforms. This aims to provide a cross-section of the views of playground users.

## Methodology

### Research design

The fieldwork schedule was designed to ensure coverage across the week (days and times) and was initially divided evenly between the two playgrounds (St Kilda and Skinners). Prior to fieldwork commencing, discussions with Council determined that use of Skinners was lower than expected and it was agreed to focus on St Kilda.

### Intercept survey

The survey was designed by the City of Port Phillip and refined by i.e. community in consultation with Council. The interviews were conducted using iPads and all users of the playgrounds who were in attendance during the fieldwork were interviewed.

Our researchers approached adults using the playground and sought verbal consent for the adults and children's participation. Due to the fact that parents were supervising children, we were unable to complete some surveys.

During the two-week fieldwork period, 160 people were surveyed across the Adventure Playgrounds. The majority of these ( $n=153$ ) were interviewed at St Kilda. Only seven surveys were conducted at Skinners in South Melbourne. In all, 121 adults and 39 children were surveyed.

### Observation

Observations were used to collect data on the number of playground users at different times of the day and week. Two observation methodologies were used in tandem for robustness and comparison.



*30 minute observation window method*

Observation windows were designed with Council to break the day up into blocks. These are represented in the infographic below. For the 30 minute observation window method, our researchers counted the number of people present at the playground at the beginning of each observation window, and then included any additional who arrived within the 30 minutes.

*Hourly headcount method*

To supplement data collected using the 30 minute observation window method, hourly headcounts were also conducted. During fieldwork, on the hour, the numbers of adults and children in the playground were recorded.

These two methods are visually represented in the figure below.



**Presence of Adventure Playground staff**

During January 2022 the Adventure Playgrounds were operating usual drop-in programs over the school holiday period including 12pm – 4pm on weekdays (school holidays) and usual weekend hours 12pm – 4:30pm.

During staffed (program) times, there was a minimum of two Adventure Playground workers present onsite during which staff would play games, colour in, prepare snacks, play a ball-game etc. with enrolled Playground Members (drop-in service).

If a visiting member of the public approached staff to join these activities they would be included thus allowing non-program children to 'join in with a program/activity'. However this was not a common occurrence as visiting children are generally supervised by their guardian, and staff typically work with the children who are enrolled in the program.

Data on whether staff were present or not during the time of intercept surveys were collected, in order to explore whether this influenced perceptions of safety at the Playground.

## Summary of findings

### Who uses the playground

- The majority of St Kilda Adventure Playground users reside in the City of Port Phillip, while just under half live outside the municipality.
  - The top three suburbs within Port Phillip were St Kilda, St Kilda East, and Elwood.
  - Outside of Port Phillip, the top three suburbs were Brunswick, Caulfield, and Elsternwick.
- Just over half of children (57%) who visited St Kilda were within the target age of 5-11 of the playground
  - Of the children who were not within the target age range, most were under 5 years of age (40% of children).
- For all St Kilda Adventure Playground users, almost half had access to a backyard, approximately a third had a balcony and a third had a courtyard. A small proportion (7%) had no outside space at all.
  - Visitors who live in the City of Port Phillip were significantly less likely to have access to a backyard (29%) when compared to visitors from outside of the City of Port Phillip (65%)
- The majority of adults who visited St Kilda live with their partner (81%), and children (90%)
  - Around two thirds of children surveyed at St Kilda live with both their parents, while a third live with one parent.

### Playground use

- Just over half of the visitors to St Kilda Adventure Playground indicated that mornings (9am-12pm) were the usual time they visited the playground (56%), particularly for families with young children, while 40% indicated they preferred to visit in the afternoon (2-5pm).
  - This supports the observation data which showed 12pm to be the busiest time of the day
- Visitors indicated that weekends were their preferred time of week for visiting the playgrounds (Saturday 43%, Sunday 39%), while many people indicated there was no particular day they usually visit (38%).
- The majority of adults visiting the St Kilda Adventure Playground indicated that this was their first time visiting (44%).
  - Those visiting for the first time indicated the playground was recommended to them, or had found about it online.
  - When comparing visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip and non-resident visitors, residents of City of Port Phillip were significantly less likely to be visiting for the first time (23% compared to 69% of visitors from outside City of Port Phillip)
  - Visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip were significantly more likely to visit daily (11%), or once a week (18%), compared to visitors from outside the City of Port Phillip (0% and 2% respectively)
- The most common reason for people visiting the Adventure Playground was that they love the playground, in particular because the play equipment is different to other playgrounds and has a



trampoline.

## Perceptions of safety

- The majority of visitors to the St Kilda Adventure Playground felt 'very safe' (50% of adults and 54% of children) or 'safe' (25% of adults and 38% of children).
- There was no significant difference in perceptions of safety when comparing data collected when staff were or weren't present
- 41% of visitors indicated they preferred to visit the playground when staff were there (compared to 4% when staff are not there), 32% said they preferred to come when its quiet (compared to 8% busy), while 26% indicated they had no preference and would come to the playground at any time

## Key insights

- The playground is used differently at different times of the day and year
  - During school holidays and/or periods of annual leave, people visit the playground more frequently, and at any time of day
  - Visitors with young children prefer to visit in the morning
- The playground is used regularly by residents of City of Port Phillip, but also cater to many visitors from outside of the City of Port Phillip, many of whom are coming for the first time
- The playground may serve a different function for those who reside in the City of Port Phillip compared to non-residents, with visitors from the City of Port Phillip having significantly less access to outside space compared to visitors from outside the City
- The extended hours could have been more widely communicated to the community and public, so the full extent of the benefits of the trial could have been experienced, with many people surveyed saying they were unaware of the trial
- Playground users generally feel safe at the playground, due to the enclosed nature of the playground, however some feel safer with the staff present
- Playground users are supportive of the extended operating hours for the greater accessibility and convenience they provide, but do not want them to impact or come at the cost of what they love about the playground, such as:
  - the different and adventurous play equipment
  - the staff and the programs they run
  - the feelings of safety and community at the playground.

## Observation findings

To collect data on the number of visitors at St Kilda and Skinners Adventure Playgrounds, observations were conducted across the field work period at different times of the day and week.

Two observation methodologies were used to collect data on the number of visitors. These two methodologies were used for robustness and comparison.

The data on visitor count across different times of day and week are then used to extrapolate the busiest times of the day and week.

## St Kilda Adventure Playground

We conducted observations 53 times over 10 days in the two week fieldwork period, counting a total of 452 people (180 adults and 266 children). Data was collected to capture a range of times of day and week. The data collected is used to estimate the busiest times of the day and week, as well as estimate the average weekly visitors to the playground.

To structure the fieldwork and ensure all times of day were captured, the day was divided into observation windows. These were:

Observation window	Time of day
Early morning	7:00am - 9:00am
Morning	9:00am - 12:00pm
Early afternoon	12:00pm - 2:00pm
Afternoon	2:00pm - 5:00pm
Evening	5:00pm - 7:00pm

### Observation data analysis

Observations were categorised by type of day (weekday, weekend, public holiday), and averaged for each observation time. Data collected on the public holiday did not align with data collected on either weekdays or weekends, so was analysed and reported separately.

The weather during the observation period was highly varied, including many days of extreme heat, and thunderstorms. This may limit the generalizability of the data.

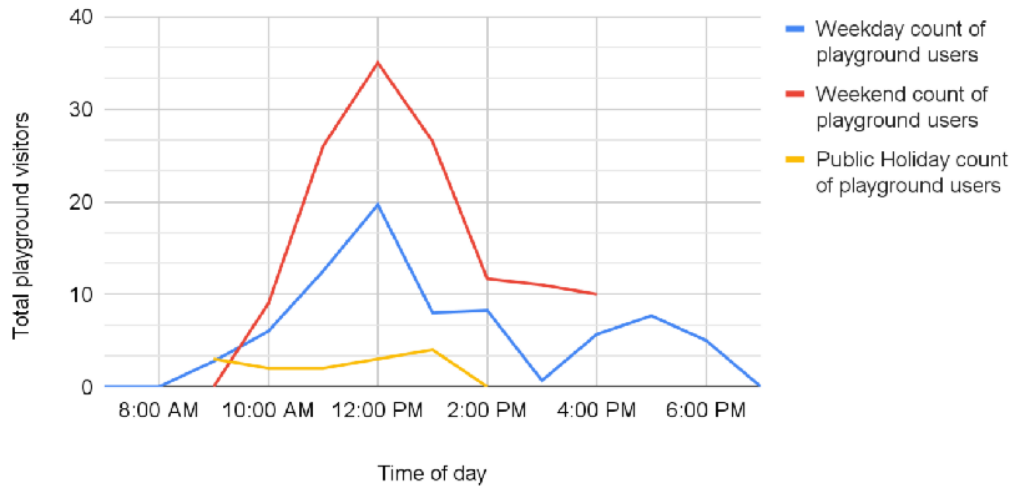


**Estimating the busiest time of the day**

This data presents the average number of people at each hour for each 'type' of day (weekday, weekend, public holiday), from 53 observations across the fieldwork period. '0' represents where data was collected but zero visitors were present at the playground. '-' represents no data collected at this time, due to fieldwork scheduling. This data is presented visually below.

Time of day	Average playground visitors by type of day								
	Weekday			Weekend			Public holiday		
	Adult	Child	Total	Adult	Child	Total	Adult	Child	Total
7:00 AM	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
8:00 AM	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
9:00 AM	2	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	3
10:00 AM	3	3	6	4	5	9	1	1	2
11:00 AM	5	8	13	12	14	26	1	1	2
12:00 PM	6	14	20	16	19	35	2	1	3
1:00 PM	3	5	8	12	15	27	2	2	4
2:00 PM	3	5	8	5	7	12	0	0	0
3:00 PM	0	1	1	5	6	11	-	-	-
4:00 PM	0	4	6	3	7	10	-	-	-
5:00 PM	3	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
6:00 PM	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
7:00 PM	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-

### Average total playground users by type of day



On both weekdays and weekends, 12:00pm was the busiest time for visitors at St Kilda Adventure Playground during the fieldwork period.

Distribution across morning and afternoon periods was relatively even, with more visitors in the late afternoon and evening than early morning.

#### Comparing observation methods

In addition to counting the number of adults and children in the playground every hour, we also conducted a 30 minute observation at the beginning of each observation window. This involved counting the number of visitors at the start of a 30 minute period, and adding any visitors who arrived in the observation period.

Observation period	Average total visitors observed by type of day	
	Weekday	Weekend
7:00am - 7:30am	0	-
9:00am - 9:30pm	4	3
12:00pm - 12:30pm	8	24
2:00pm - 2:30pm	6	8
5:00pm - 5:30pm	4	-





Comparing the data from the two observation methodologies confirms the middle of the day as the busiest time, with a skew towards the afternoon compared to the morning. The skew towards the afternoon may be due to the morning observation being conducted at 9am-9:30, when our headcount data shows visitor numbers grow most between 10am and 11am.

**The impact of extended hours on visitor count**

To assess the impact of the extended hours on visitor count, and estimate the additional visitors due to the trial, a comparison was conducted of counts within the usual playground hours and outside the usual hours.

The usual Adventure Playground operating hours on weekdays (except Monday) are 3:30pm - 6:00pm, and on weekends 12:00pm - 4:30pm (referred to as “usual operating hours”). The observations conducted within usual playground hours are indicated below with a #, and observations conducted outside usual hours are indicated with an ^. This data was collected between January 18 to January 30 2022, and may not be representative of visitor counts outside of this time.

Time of day	Average total playground visitors by type of day	
	Weekday	Weekend
7:00 AM	0	-
8:00 AM	0	-
9:00 AM	3^	0^
10:00 AM	6^	9^
11:00 AM	13^	26^
12:00 PM	20^	35#
1:00 PM	8^	27#
2:00 PM	8^	12#
3:00 PM	1^	11#
4:00 PM	6#	10#
5:00 PM	8#	-
6:00 PM	5#	-



7:00 PM	0^	-
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Time of day	Average playground visitors by type of day	
	Weekday	Weekend
Usual operating hours	19	95
Outside usual operating hours	59	35

On weekdays, 24% of visitors captured during the observation were visiting during the usual operating hours. These results suggest that on weekdays during the fieldwork period, there may have been many additional visitors to the playground during the extended operating hours, with the playground accessible to around 200% more people on weekdays. This could also be reflective of the fieldwork period occurring during school holidays, when visitors are more able to visit the playground outside the usual 'after school' playground operating hours of 3:30pm-6:00pm, and therefore may not be applicable to school term times.

On weekends, 73% of the visitors captured during the observation were visiting during the usual operating hours of 12:00pm-4:00pm. However, a third of these were at 12:00pm, right as the playground usually opens, so it is likely not a realistic estimation of the user count at 12:00pm during usual operating hours. These results suggest the extended operating hours may have made the playground accessible to around 35% more people on weekends.



**Estimating the busiest day of the week**

Data collected in the fieldwork period shows that on average, weekends are the busiest time of the week at St Kilda Adventure Playground.

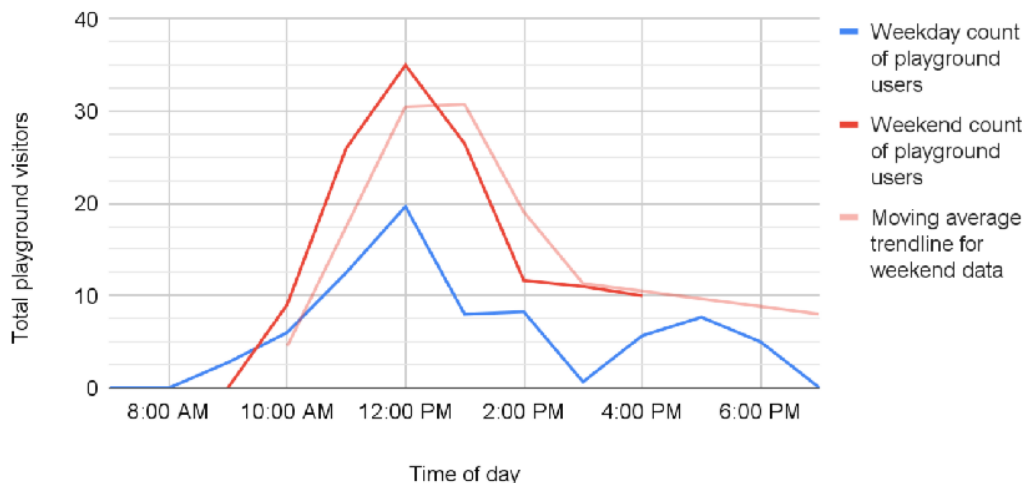
**Estimating the average weekly playground users**

The average total playground users by type of day can be used to estimate the average weekly visitor count.

For weekdays, as data was collected across the full time period of 7:00am to 7:00pm during the fieldwork period, the average total weekday visitors is used to calculate the weekly average.

For weekends, as the time period of 9:00am to 4:00pm was covered across the fieldwork period, a moving average trendline was used to extrapolate the data and estimate visitor count between 5:00pm and 7:00pm. Count between 7:00am and 9:00am is assumed to be 0.

**Estimating weekly playground users**



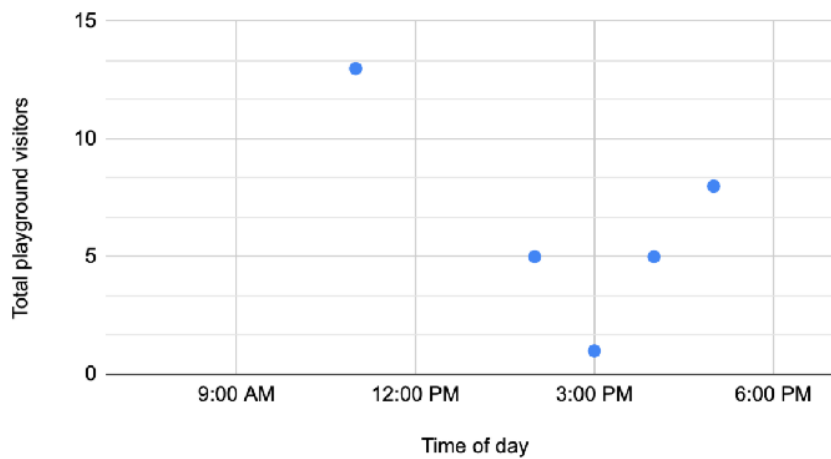
The calculation for estimating the weekly number of users visiting St Kilda Adventure Playground is presented in the table below.

	Estimated total playground visitors by type of day	
	Weekday	Weekend
Estimated daily visitors: 7am - 7pm	76	154
Multiplier (number of type of day in the week)	5	2
Total (estimated visitors x multiplier)	380	308
<b>Total estimated weekly playground users (weekday + weekend)</b>	<b>688</b>	

## Skidders Adventure Playground

Observations at Skidders Adventure Playground were limited in number due to the focus of the fieldwork on St Kilda. 11 observations were recorded across 5 days within the two-week fieldwork period. No observations were recorded on the weekend.

**Average weekday visitors by time of day**



The data is too inconsistent to be extrapolated to estimate the busiest time of day, or week.



## Survey results: St Kilda Adventure Playground

These are results from 153 intercept surveys conducted at St Kilda Adventure Playground.

### Who is using the playground

Parents and/or guardians were asked “Who are you at the playground with today?”.

Most respondents ( $n=114$ ) reported that they were at the playground with my children (89%), 6% were with a friend, 6% were with children that they were babysitting or caring for, 3% were with my parents and/or siblings, 2% were with my grandchildren. A proportion of respondents (10%) indicated ‘other’, with a variety of responses such as ‘family’, ‘wife’, ‘mother-in-law’, ‘husband’, ‘child’s friend’, and ‘my niece’. Respondents were able to choose more than one option.

Who are survey respondents at the playground with today?	Percentage (n=114)
My children	89%
My friend	6%
Children that they are babysitting/nannying	6%
My parents and/or siblings	3%
My Grandchildren	2%
Other	10%

Table 1. Who are survey respondents at the playground with today?

Percentage base: All parents/guardians surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who responded to this question ( $n=114$ ).

When comparing data collected from visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip with non-resident visitors, adults living in the City of Port Phillip were significantly more likely to be at the playground with ‘my friend’ (11%) compared to non-resident visitors (0%) ( $p= .05$ , 95% CI).

### How many children do you have with you?

Adults or guardians ( $n=113$ ) were asked “How many children do you have with you today?”. 41% of parents and/or guardians had one child with them, 49% had two children, and 11% had three or more children with them at the playground. There were no significant differences in data from respondents residing in the City of Port Phillip compared to non-residents.

Number of children accompanying adults	Percentage (n=113)
1	41%
2	49%
3+	11%

Table 2. Number of children with parents/guardians at the playground

Percentage base: All adults (parents/guardians) surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who responded to this question ( $n=113$ ).

### Age and gender of children at the playground

Parents and/or guardians ( $n=113$ ) and children surveyed ( $n=35$ ) were asked “How old is/are your child/ren and what best describes their gender?”.

Age group of child	Number of children	Percentage (n=190)
Under 5	76	40%
5	26	14%
6	23	12%
7	29	15%
8	8	4%
9	13	7%
10	5	3%
11	4	2%
12+	6	3%

Table 3. Frequency and percentage of age groups for children visitors

Percentage base: Total number of children whose age was shared by visitors surveyed (adults and child) at St Kilda Adventure Playground ( $n=190$ ).



Gender	Number of children	Percentage (n=184)
Boy	104	57%
Girl	80	43%
Other	0	0%

Table 4. Frequency and percentage of gender for children.

Percentage base: Total number of children whose gender was shared by visitors surveyed (adults and child) at St Kilda Adventure Playground (n=184)

### Age of adults visiting the playground

Adults surveyed (n=114) were asked "What is your age group?". They were predominantly (70%) aged between 35-49, 16% were aged 25-34, 9% were aged 50-59, 2% were aged 18-24, 0% were aged 60-69, and 4% preferred not to say.

Age group of adults	Number of adults (n=114)	Percentage
18-24	2	2%
25-34	18	16%
35-49	80	70%
50-59	10	9%
60-69	0	0%
Prefer not to say	4	4%

Table 5. Frequency and percentage of age groups for adults.

Percentage base: Adults (parents/guardians) surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground (n=114)

When comparing data collected from visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip with non-resident visitors, there was a significant difference for some age groups. For visitors from the City of Port Phillip, 10% were from the 25-34 age group, which was significantly lower than non-residents (24%) ( $p = .05$ , 95% CI). The proportion of City of Port Phillip residents from the 35-39 age group (82%) was significantly higher than non-residents (55%) ( $p = .05$ , 95% CI). This may suggest that parental age within the City of Port Phillip could be higher than other geographical areas.

## Home suburb of playground visitors

Adults and children surveyed at the playground were asked "What suburb do you live in". The suburb data was categorised into City of Port Phillip and non-City of Port Phillip for comparison. 57% of adults ( $n=107$ ) and 57% of children surveyed ( $n=35$ ) resided within the City of Port Phillip.

Municipality of respondents	Adult percentage (n=107)	Child percentage (n=35)	Combined percentage (n=142)
City of Port Phillip	57%	57%	57%
Outside City of Port Phillip	43%	43%	43%

Table 6. St Kilda Adventure Playground residents home municipality ( $n=142$ )

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults  $n=107$ , for children  $n=35$ , and combined total  $n=142$ .

### Top suburbs of visitors

The top eleven areas survey respondents come from (combined adult and children,  $n=142$ ) are presented below.

The top three suburbs within Port Phillip were St Kilda, St Kilda East, and Elwood, indicated with an \*.

The top three suburbs outside of Port Phillip were Brunswick, Caulfield, and Elsternwick indicated with an ^, not including visitors from interstate.





Top suburbs/areas of survey respondents	Percentage of combined survey respondents (n=142)
St Kilda*	35%
St Kilda East*	8%
Elwood*	5%
Balaclava	4%
Interstate	4%
Brunswick^	3%
St Kilda West	3%
Caulfield^	3%
Elsternwick^	3%
Armadale	2%
Ormond	2%

Table 7. Self-identified home suburbs of St Kilda Adventure Playground visitors.

Percentage base: Total number of visitors (adult and child) surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground n=142

### Household makeup of visitors

Adults and children surveyed were asked "Who lives in your household with you?". Respondents were able to choose more than one option.

#### Adults playground visitors

81% of St Kilda adult survey respondents ( $n=114$ ) indicated that they lived with their partner, 90% lived with their children, 4% lived with other adults, 2% lived with other children, and 6% indicated 'other', including 'nieces', 'alone', 'parents and siblings', and 'grandparents'.

Household members of survey respondents	Percentage (n=114)
Partner	81%
Children	90%
Other adults	4%
Other children	2%
Other	6%

Table 8. Household members of St Kilda Adventure Playground adult visitors. Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground (n=114).

#### Child playground visitors

The majority of St Kilda child respondents ( $n=36$ ) (69%) reported that they lived with both of my parents, 27% lived with one of my parents, 39% lived with other children, 6% lived with one or more other carers, and 6% indicating they lived with 'other', including 'aunt' and 'grandparents'.

Household members of child survey respondents	Percentage (n=36)
Both of my parents	69%
One of my parents	28%
One or more other carers	6%
Other children	39%
Other	6%

Table 9. Household members of St Kilda Adventure Playground child visitors. Percentage base: Children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground (n=36).

When comparing the household members of visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip and non-resident visitors, there was no significant difference between groups.

#### Outdoor space at the home of playground users

Both adult and child survey respondents were asked, "Do you have (tick all that apply)", and were able to select from either a backyard, balcony, courtyard, or no outside space. Respondents could select more than one response.



45% of adults ( $n=109$ ) and 46% of children ( $n=37$ ) indicated that they had a backyard, 34% of adults and 33% of children had a balcony and 27% of adults and 46% of children had a courtyard, while 9% of adults and 0% of children had no outside space.

Outdoor space type	Adult percentage (n=109)	Child percentage (n=37)	Combined percentage (n=146)
Backyard	45%	46%	45%
Balcony	34%	33%	34%
Courtyard	27%	46%	32%
No outside space	9%	0%	7%

Table 10. Characteristics of St Kilda Adventure Playground survey respondents' outdoor space at their home ( $n=140$ ).

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults  $n=109$ , for children  $n=37$ , and combined total  $n=146$ .

Respondents could select more than one answer, so this does not clearly reflect respondents with more than one of these characteristics, for example, some may only have a balcony while others have both a balcony and a courtyard.

#### Comparing access to outside space for City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents

When comparing access to outside space at the home of visitors from City of Port Phillip compared to non-residents of City of Port Phillip, there was a significant difference in access to a backyard in particular. Adult survey respondents from the City of Port Phillip were significantly less likely to have access to a backyard than adults who lived outside of the City of Port Phillip ( $p= .05$ , 95% CI).

Outdoor space type	Residents of City of Port Phillip (n=68)	Non-residents of City of Port Phillip (n=55)
Backyard	29%**	65%**
Balcony	42%	25%
Courtyard	32%	21%
No outside space	12%	4%

Table 11. Difference between adult City of Port Phillip residents and non-City of Port Phillip residents in access to outdoor space. \*\*Indicates significance at  $p= .05$ .

Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who reside in the City of Port Phillip ( $n=68$ ) and non-residents of the City of Port Phillip ( $n=55$ ).





## When the playground is being used

### Frequency of playground visits

Adults and children surveyed at the playground “How often have you used the Adventure Playground in the last three months? Would it be...”, and read the following options: Daily, 2-3 times a week, Once a week, 2-3 times a month, Once a month, This is the first time, Unsure.

The largest proportion of visitors surveyed for both children and adults were visiting for the first time.

Playground usage in the previous three months	Adults percentage (n=113)	Children percentage (n=38)	Combined percentage n=151
This is the first time	44%	32%	41%
Daily	6%	13%	8%
2-3 times a week	17%	21%	18%
Once a week	11%	11%	11%
2-3 times a month	8%	8%	8%
Once a month	13%	13%	13%
Unsure	1%	3%	1%

Table 12. Frequency of playground visits in the previous three months for adults and children visitors to St Kilda Adventure Playground.

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=38, and combined total n=151.

### Comparing visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip with non-resident visitors

Comparing adult survey data from City of Port Phillip residents with non-resident visitors showed that adult City of Port Phillip residents were significantly more likely to visit ‘daily’, ‘once a week’, and significantly less likely to indicate ‘this is the first time’. These results show that City of Port Phillip residents use the playground more regularly than non-residents. There were no significant differences for children.

Playground usage in the previous three months	Residents of City of Port Phillip (n=62)	Non-residents of City of Port Phillip (n=49)
This is the first time	23%**	69%**
Daily	11%**	0%**
Once a week	18%**	2%**
2-3 times a week	23%	10%
2-3 times a month	10%	6%
Once a month	15%	12%
Unsure	2%	0%

Table 13. Difference in frequency of playground visits in the past 3 months between adult City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents. \*\*Indicates significance at  $p = .05$ .

Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who reside in the City of Port Phillip (n=68) and non-residents of the City of Port Phillip (n=55).

**Additional comments shared in relation to this question included:** that they had been previous regular users of the playground (e.g. used to come a few years ago) (5 comments), that this was their second time visiting (5 comments) that they come more often during school holidays compared to during the school year (3 comments).

## Day of the week people usually visit the playground

Adults and children surveyed were asked "What day of the week do you most often come?", with the option to select just one or multiple days of the week or, no particular day.

Results show weekends were the most usual day to visit the Adventure Playground, as well as no particular day. No significant differences were found when comparing data from City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents, for either adults or children.



Day of the week respondents usually visit the playground	Adults percentage (n=109)	Child percentage (n=33)	Combined percentage (n=142)
Monday	23%	24%	23%
Tuesday	23%	24%	23%
Wednesday	30%	27%	30%
Thursday	28%	21%	27%
Friday	22%	15%	20%
Saturday	43%	36%	42%
Sunday	39%	36%	39%
No particular day	38%	39%	38%

Table 14. Usual day respondents visit the adventure playground, both adults (n=109) and children (n=33). Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=109, for children n=33, and combined total n=142.

**Additional comments shared by respondents included:** that people 'come more often during school holidays' (4 comments), 'depends on the weather' (2 comments), 'depends on when they are meeting friends here' (2 comments).

## Time of day people usually visit the playground

Adults and children surveyed were asked “What time of day do you usually come to the playground?”

The time periods for selection correlated to the fieldwork observation windows, and more than one time period could be selected.

Results show that respondents most frequently indicated that mornings and afternoons were the usual times they visit the playground. These results differ from the observational data collected, which recorded actual visitor count at different times of the day, as opposed to the self-reported usual visiting time. The observational data showed midday to be the most frequent time of day to visit the playground.

No significant differences were found between data collected from City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents, for either adults or children.

Time of day visiting the playground	Adult percentage (n=112)	Child percentage (n=35)	Combined percentage (n=147)
Early morning (7am-9am)	13%	11%	12%
Morning (9am-12pm)	56%	60%	57%
Early afternoon (12pm-2pm)	25%	23%	24%
Afternoon (2pm-5pm)	40%	43%	40%
Evening (5pm-7pm)	19%	23%	20%

Table 15. Percentage of usage for time of day for adults (n=112) and children (n=35).

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=112, for children n=35, and combined total n=147.

**Additional comments shared by respondents included:** Having the playground open in the mornings worked better for younger children (3 comments), who would often be napping in the afternoons, or before it got hot (3 comments).





## Why and how the playground is being used

### Reasons for visiting St Kilda Adventure Playground

To understand why people were coming to the Adventure Playgrounds, respondents were asked “Why did you come to this playground today?”. All responses were thematically coded to identify the top reasons for visiting the playground. This question was answered by 113 adults and 34 children (147 total).

<p>I love this playground</p>	<p>The most common reason both adult and child survey respondents visited the playground was because they love this playground, with 32% of adults and 56% of children surveyed indicating so.</p> <p><i>“It’s very cosy, feels safe, far from traffic, can leave the children unsupervised, .... It feels safe here with staff and a gate”</i></p> <p>Reasons respondents love this playground include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fact that the equipment was different to other playgrounds was noted by 20% respondents who were adults and as well as 9% of children as the reason for coming to the Adventure Playground over other playgrounds.</li> </ul> <p><i>“Love that it’s not overly sterile, tree canopy and plants feels very organic and a different type of playground/vibe”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The trampoline in particular was mentioned by 12% of respondents who were adults and 18% of children surveyed as the reason they came to the playground.</li> </ul> <p><i>“It’s a great playground, great shade and lots of little corners to explore. My daughter loves the balls and the trampoline”</i></p> <p><i>“Great for teaching sharing, especially the numbering system on the trampoline”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18% of adult survey respondents indicated they had chosen to visit the Adventure Playground because of the shady environment.</li> </ul> <p><i>“no where else in St Kilda has this much shade”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The imaginative and adventurous play that allows for risk-taking was also noted as a key reason they like the Adventure Playground.</li> </ul> <p><i>“love this playground, good for different age groups, good for imaginative play”</i></p>
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	<i>"It's better than other playgrounds, more adventurous"</i>
It's near my house	Some playground users indicated they came to the playground as it was close to their home, with 28% of adult survey respondents and 18% of children.  <i>"Live around the corner, the playground is amazing, love that it's all recycled things, very handy having it so close"</i>
I've been here before	Of the adults, 22% indicated that they had been to the playground in the past, with 18% of children also having visited before.  Additionally, it was noted by 8% of adults that they had a historical connection to the playground, having come here as a child themselves, and that was why they liked to come to the Adventure Playground with their children today.  <i>"Haven't come in ages, grew up coming here, very unique park"</i>
Meeting friends here	13% of adults and 3% of children surveyed said they came as they were meeting friends here.
Attending a program	4% of adults and 14% of children who were surveyed indicated they were at the playground today because of attending a program.
To meet different people	Meeting different people was the reason for visiting the Adventure Playground for 2% of adults and 3% of children.  <i>"It's been wonderful and there is a real community here. Helped my wife to make friends here."</i>

Other common responses:

First time visiting	A number of respondents surveyed were visiting the playground for the first time.  12% of adults indicated they have come to the Adventure Playground after finding it via Google, through searching for things to do in the area, or searching for the best playgrounds in Melbourne.  <i>"Heard about it online have been meaning to check it out, saw people posting about it recently in Residents in St Kilda , people talking about how good it was"</i>  15% of adults indicated they visited the playground as they were filling in time while in the area, so came by to check it out.
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	6% of adults surveyed indicated they were visiting the playground on the day of the survey after it was recommended by someone.
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Table 14. Common reasons for visiting the playground.

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=34.

**Comparing visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip with non-resident visitors**

Comparing survey data from City of Port Phillip adult residents with non-resident visitors showed that residents of City of Port Phillip were significantly more likely to be visiting the playground because it was close to their house (44% compared to 8% of non-residents).

Reasons for visiting the playground	Residents of City of Port Phillip (n=63)	Non-residents of City of Port Phillip (n=48)
It's near my house	44%**	8%**
Have been here before	24%	19%
I love this playground	40%	23%
Meeting friends here	17%	6%
Attending a program	5%	4%
To meet different people	2%	2%

Table 16. Comparison of reasons for visiting the playground for adult City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents. \*\*Indicates significance at p= .05.

Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who reside in the City of Port Phillip (n=63) and non-residents of the City of Port Phillip (n=48).

**Enrolled members of programs**

St Kilda Adventure Playground users were “Is your child/are your children enrolled member/s of this playground?” or “Are you an enrolled member of this playground?” if they were a child.

For adults (n=113), 85% stated that their children were not enrolled members, while 15% said that their children were enrolled members.

For children (n=36), 78% indicated that they were not enrolled members, while 22% said they were.

Enrolled member of adventure playground programs	Adults whose children are enrolled (n=113)	Children who indicated they are enrolled (n=36)

Yes	15%	22%
No	85%	78%
Unsure	0%	0%

Table 17. Percentage of playground visitors with children enrolled members of the playgrounds. Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=36.

**Comparing visitors who reside in the City of Port Phillip with non-resident visitors**

When comparing adults residing in the City of Port Phillip with non-residents, there was significant difference in the proportion of enrolled members. 24% of adults residing in City of Port Phillip had children who were enrolled, compared to 4% of non-residents. ( $p = .05$ , 95% CI).

Enrolled member of adventure playground programs	Residents of City of Port Phillip	Non-residents of City of Port Phillip
Yes	24%**	4%**
No	76%**	96%**
Unsure	0%	0%

Table 18. Difference between adult CoPP residents and non-CoPP residents when asked if their children were enrolled members of the playground. \*\*Indicates significance at  $p = .05$ . Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who reside in the City of Port Phillip (n=63) and non-residents of the City of Port Phillip (n=49).

Respondents who were, or whose children were enrolled, were asked what activities they normally participate in. The most common were:

- art and pottery activities (6 comments)
- community dinners (2 comments)
- drop-in sessions (2 comments)



## Perceptions of safety at the playground

### How safe do you feel at this playground today?

Playground users were asked “How safe do you feel at the playground today?”. Respondents could rate how safe they felt on a seven-point Likert scale.

Perceived feeling of safety	Adult percentage (n=113)	Child percentage (n=31)	Combined percentage (n=144)
Very safe	50%	54%	51%
Safe	35%	38%	36%
Somewhat safe	10%	0%	7%
Neither safe nor unsafe	1%	0%	1%
Somewhat unsafe	3%	3%	3%
Unsafe	1%	0%	1%
Very unsafe	0%	0%	0%
Don't know	1%	3%	1%

Table 19. Perceived level of safety of playground visitors

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=31, and combined total n=144.

### Analysis of the additional comments provided identified the following key reasons:

- Respondents like that the playground is enclosed, for safety (5 comments)  
*“Sensed that it was gated and rather enclosed so felt safe”*
- Some respondents feel unsafe when it is not staffed (4 comments)  
*“Because staff are here I feel safe, if not staffed I feel unsafe. Some older children come when it's unstaffed which means it's not as safe for younger children”*
- Some reported concerns about people attending the playground who shouldn't be (4 comments)
- Respondents feel they should, or need to, supervise their children in the playground, particularly young children (5 comments)  
*“Aware it's built for older children so need to supervise for safety”*
- Some concerns regarding damaged equipment and safety. (3 comments)  
*“Most things are safe, some of the recycled things need a bit more love”*
- Respondents always feel safe at this playground (3 comments)

- Respondents indicated they feel safer when staff are around (2 comments)

*"We only come when it's staffed for safety reasons"*

The variance in the additional comments provided suggest that respondents interpret safety in different ways, with some reflecting on the physical environment of the playground including the equipment, and some thinking about who else is at the playground including staff. This also suggests there are a multitude of factors that influence perceptions of safety.

#### **Staff presence and perceptions of safety**

To understand whether staff being present at the playground at the time of survey influenced perceptions of safety, data collected when staff were present was compared to data collected when staff were not present. There was no significant difference between the two groups in adult survey respondents. Significance testing could not be completed between the two groups for children survey respondents due to small sample size for these groups. Comparison results are presented below.

	<b>Staff present</b>	<b>Staff not present</b>	<b>Staff present</b>	<b>Staff not present</b>
<b>Perceived feeling of safety</b>	<b>Adult percentage (n=57)</b>	<b>Adult percentage (n=52)</b>	<b>Child percentage (n=18)</b>	<b>Child percentage (n=10)</b>
<b>Very safe</b>	42%	54%	45%	60%
<b>Safe</b>	40%	33%	45%	40%
<b>Somewhat safe</b>	9%	12%	0%	0%
<b>Neither safe nor unsafe</b>	2%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Somewhat unsafe</b>	4%	2%	6%	0%
<b>Unsafe</b>	2%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Very unsafe</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Don't know</b>	2%	0%	6%	0%

Table 20. Perceptions of safety when staff are present or not



## Preferences for visiting the playground

To understand if there were factors that influenced when they visited the playground, survey respondents were asked “Do you prefer to visit this playground” and read the options: When staff are here, When staff aren’t here, When other children/families I know are here, When it’s quiet, When it’s busy, No preference or come anytime, or Other (please specify).

Do you prefer to visit this playground	Adult percentage (n=113)	Child percentage (n=30)	Combined percentage (n= 143)
When staff are here	40%	43%	41%
Other (please specify)	40%	10%	34%
When it’s quiet	31%	37%	32%
No preference or come anytime	30%	13%	26%
When it’s busy	5%	17%	8%
When other children/families I know are here	5%	13%	7%
When staff aren’t here	4%	3%	3%

Table 21. Percentage of playground environment preferences for adults (n=113), children (n=30) and combined (n=143).

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=30, and combined total n=143.

### Responses for ‘other’ include:

- Respondents feel staff are an important part of the Adventure Playgrounds for safety reasons, and for the programs and activities they run (10 comments)
  - “Staffed increases interest massively, can leave them here if necessary”
  - “We only come when it’s staffed for safety reasons”
- People who don’t mind whether it is staffed or not for their visit, but like the idea of having staff (8 comments)
  - “Don’t care if it’s staffed or not, but great that staff are on site”
  - “Like having staff but not essential”
- Like to visit when it’s quiet as it’s a better experience for the parent, and easier to supervise young kids (5 comments)
  - “Child still young and learning to play with others, better for that when it’s quiet”

*“With little kids, if it was really busy, that would put me off, if big kids were running around”*

- Respondents indicated they were happy to visit the playground whenever (7 comments)
- Like coming when its busy to meet other families and friends here so the kids can play (4 comments)

Significance testing between City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents indicated non-residents were significantly more likely to say they had 'No preference or come anytime' (41%), compared to City of Port Phillip residents (21%) ( $p = .05$ , 95% CI).

## Benefits of extended hours

### Visiting the playground prior to the extended hours trial

Adults were asked “Did you ever visit this playground with your child/children prior to the extended hours trial commencing (October 2021)” and children were asked “Did you ever visit this playground prior to the extended hours trial commencing (October 2021)?”

Playground visits prior to trial	Adult percentage (n=113)	Child percentage (n=34)	Combined percentage (n=147)
Yes	52%	50%	52%
No	48%	50%	48%

Table 22. Percentage of playground visits prior to the extended operating hours trial for adults (n=113), children (n=34) and combined (n=147).

Percentage base: Total number of adults and children surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground. For adults n=113, for children n=34, and combined total n=147.

Significance testing indicated that there was a significant difference between adult City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents in whether they had visited the playground prior to the extended hours trial. 63% of City of Port Phillip residents had been to the playground prior to the trial, compared with 38% of non-residents. Significance testing could not be conducted for children due to small sample size.

Playground visits prior to trial	Residents of City of Port Phillip	Non-residents of City of Port Phillip
Yes	63%**	38%**
No	37%**	62%**

Table 23. Difference between adult City of Port Phillip residents and non-residents in use of the playground prior to trialled extended hours. \*\*Indicates significance at  $p = .05$ .

Percentage base: Adults surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground who reside in the City of Port Phillip (n=63) and non-residents of the City of Port Phillip (n=48).





Participants who indicated they had visited the playground before the trialled extended hours were asked if the extended hours had provided benefits to them.

**Some common answers include:**

- The increased accessibility provided by the extended hours was noted by many (28 comments), including the increased flexibility and convenience they provided
  - “Can come anytime, don't have to wait til it's open, more convenient”*
  - “Much better, could come after school, spend more time here, not have to leave at 6”*
- Visitors noted in particular, being able to come in the morning had been a big benefit, particularly as it is quieter at this time, and particularly for those with young children (9 comments)
  - “Allows flexibility, might be different for older kids, but for younger kids afternoons are about winding down and getting read for bed, so good that it's open whenever, being unstaffed is not different to any other playground”*
- Some respondents thought there was no benefit to the extended hours if it meant it was unstaffed (7 comments)
  - “No because the staff aren't here, if it was staffed during hours then I can see a benefit, but without staff there are unsavoury people around. The extended hours has lost its life and community aspects ... The staff are what connect everyone here, they are the heart of it”*
- Some respondents noted they felt the extended hours needed to be communicated better, as they were unsure or unaware of the hours (5 comments)
  - “Can come anytime, don't have to wait til it's open, more convenient”*

## Support for extended hours

Adult and child survey respondents were asked “How supportive are you of the extended operating hours continuing?” Results show that playground visitors surveyed were supportive of the extended hours continuing.

*“Overwhelmingly so, live in an apartment without a balcony, nice shady spots, great to get outside”*

Support for extended hours continuing	Percentage (n=96)
Strongly support	45%
Support	42%
Somewhat support	0%
Neutral	2%
Somewhat oppose	2%
Oppose	2%
Strongly oppose	2%

Table 23. Level of support for extended operating hours continuing (n=96), Percentage base: Total number of respondents (adults and children) surveyed at St Kilda Adventure Playground n=196.

Despite respondents indicating a strong level of support for the extended hours continuing, many commented that they wouldn't want the extended hours to change the things they like about the playground at present, including:

- Playground users like that it is staffed, for safety and for activities, and would not want the extended hours to mean less or no staffed hours.

*“It's boring when the staff aren't here, I would support if it's staffed during these hours”*

*“we only enjoy it when the staff are here, we love the programs, it's more a community spirit and I get my own time, and I can feel comfortable knowing the staff care for her and I can relax a bit. It's like our own backyard”*

- Playground users like that the playground is special, equipment is different, and wouldn't want the extended hours to change that.



*“Changes would be fine if [a] sense of character was retained. Many other playgrounds [are] starting to look so manicured and sterile... not as fun or unique.”*

## Survey results: Skinners Adventure Playground

Due to the focus of fieldwork on St Kilda Adventure Playground, limited time was spent at Skinners Adventure Playground, and only 9 intercept surveys were able to be conducted (7 adults, 2 children). This limits the generalizability of the data collected to the broader user-base of Skinners.

### Who is using the playground?

- All of the adults who visited Skinners Adventure Playground were there with their children, and one was also with a friend.
- Three of the adults had one child with them, two of the adults had two children with them, and one adult had 3+ children with them.
  - Eight of these children were under 5 years old
  - one child was 5, one child was 7, one child was 8 and one child was 9
  - Eight of these children were boys, and three were girls
- The majority of the adults (4) visiting were aged 25-34, while two adults were aged 35-49 and one 60-69
- Around half of Skinners users (9) were residents of the City of Port Phillip
  - The top suburbs were South Melbourne and Skinners Park
- Most of the adults surveyed lived with their partner (5) and children (6)
- One of the children surveyed lived with one parents, and one lived with both parents
- Three visitors to the playground had a backyard at home, three visitors had a balcony, three had no outside space, and one had a courtyard.

### When the playground is being used

- Four of the adults surveyed were visiting the playground for the first time
  - Two adults visited 2-3 times a month, and one visited weekly.
- There was no particular day of the week respondents visited the playground
- Four of the adults surveyed indicated they usually come to the playground in the morning
  - Two adults indicated they usually come in the early morning, early afternoon, and afternoon.

### Why and how the playground is being used

- Reason for visiting Skinners Adventure Playground
  - Three adults indicated they visited because they love this playground
  - Three adults said they were visiting as they had been here before
  - One adult was meeting a friend at the playground



- One adult shared they were visiting as it was near their house
- None of the people surveyed were enrolled members

## Perceptions of safety at the playground

- Survey respondents generally indicated they felt safe, with six adults and one child saying they felt safe, and one adult sharing they felt somewhat unsafe.
  - Respondents shared some of the equipment was unsafe as it was risky, or damaged, or their kids were too young
  - One respondent commented that they felt safe because of the gate, and the staff

## Preferences for visiting the playground

- When asked for factors that influenced preferences to visit the playground, respondents shared:
  - three adults prefer to visit when its quiet
  - two adults and one child prefer to visit when staff are there
  - one adult indicated they had no preference

## Benefits of and support for extended hours

- Four adults and one child had visited prior to the extended hours. The benefits of the extended hours shared by respondents were:
  - Playground access in the mornings has been a benefit as its better for young kids
  - Visit the playground from far away so more hours is beneficial
- All respondents were supportive of the extended hours continuing



**10. LIVEABLE PORT PHILLIP**

Nil

**11. SUSTAINABLE PORT PHILLIP**

Nil

**12. VIBRANT PORT PHILLIP**

12.1 *St Kilda Festival 2022/23* ..... 61



# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL

## 4 MAY 2022

### 12.1 ST KILDA FESTIVAL 2022/23

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** KYLIE BENNETTS, GENERAL MANAGER, CITY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

**PREPARED BY:** ADELE DENISON, HEAD OF FESTIVALS AND EVENTS  
LAUREN BIALKOWER, MANAGER CITY GROWTH AND CULTURE

#### 1. PURPOSE

1.1 To present Councillors with a recommendation regarding the 2023 St Kilda Festival.

#### 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The St Kilda Festival is Council's flagship event, held annually in central St Kilda and showcasing more than 50 artists/bands in a celebration of live music, community spirit, and St Kilda itself.
- 2.2 The event ran in its traditional one-day format in February 2020, then was cancelled in 2021 due to the pandemic and associated restrictions on public gatherings.
- 2.3 In 2022 the event was held in a modified format in order to maximise COVID safety and to comply with public health settings, which were constantly changing throughout the planning period.
- 2.4 The 2022 Festival was staged over a nine-day period and featured an opening event in O'Donnell Gardens and Acland Street, a closing event in Catani Gardens and Fitzroy Street, and four concerts on South Beach Reserve in the interim, including the First Peoples cultural event.
- 2.5 The event deliberately reduced attendance figures through format change and the marketing campaign, in response to COVID safety and in order to achieve the nine-day format.
- 2.6 Benefits and impacts of the modified format are outlined in this report, considering feedback and debriefs from the local business and residential community, artists, stakeholders and participants, Festival attendees and data from research undertaken at the events themselves.
- 2.7 The recommended format for 2022/23 aims to take the best of previous event formats to produce a St Kilda Festival that strongly delivers on Council's objectives for the event:
  - 2.7.1 Iconic branding that showcases the City of Port Phillip in order to promote St Kilda and increase tourism and visitation – a brand known to the local community, wider Melbourne and internationally.
  - 2.7.2 A commitment to live music, including dedicated support for local, young, diverse and emerging musicians.
  - 2.7.3 Long term sustainable economic benefit and development for local traders.
  - 2.7.4 Community engagement for local and wider communities, contributing to City of Port Phillip as a cultural hub.



### 3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Subject to budget being allocated through the 2022/23 Council Plan and Budget for the St Kilda Festival, endorses a two-day weekend format for the 2023 St Kilda Festival, comprising:
  - a) A First Peoples music and cultural event on South Beach Reserve on Saturday 11 February 2023.
  - b) A return to “St Kilda Festival Sunday” on Sunday 12 February 2023, including music and cultural activation of Acland Street, Fitzroy Street, The Esplanade and key parts of the foreshore and open space within central St Kilda.
  - c) A weekend-long family friendly activation in O’Donnell Gardens.
- 3.2 Requests that officers explore complementary programs including live music programs through venue partnerships in the lead up to the Festival weekend, and third-party use of the main stage or other Festival venues in advance of the Festival.
- 3.3 Resolves to continue advocacy for increased State Government support for the St Kilda Festival, including direct funding, promotional support, and in-kind support through delivery partners including Public Transport Victoria and Victoria Police.
- 3.4 Requests officers to ensure public safety remains the highest priority for Festival delivery, including any relevant changes to public health settings as a result of the ongoing response to COVID-19.

### 4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 The 2022 St Kilda Festival returned in 2022 after being cancelled in 2021 amidst COVID-19 restrictions.
- 4.2 The Festival was one of the first major events and music festivals to return in Victoria, and planning was undertaken when events were still being heavily restricted.
- 4.3 To increase COVID safety at the event and for the host community, the Festival was planned as six events over a nine-day period, to spread audiences throughout multiple events and reduce overall attendance.
- 4.4 The Festival focused on live music, but also incorporated community groups and children’s entertainment.
- 4.5 Traders in Acland and Fitzroy Streets were offered extended trading opportunities with fees waived; however, many were unable to take up the opportunity through resourcing challenges.
- 4.6 Attendance was consciously reduced in order to meet ever-changing COVID restrictions, spread the event over the nine-day program, and ensure the safety of all attendees and the local community.
- 4.7 Revising the event’s format presented an opportunity to test new ways of staging the St Kilda Festival, and present the best model for future events.
- 4.8 The 2022 St Kilda Festival presented more than 50 bands across its six performance days, with an estimated total attendance of 35,000.



- 4.9 The Festival is estimated to have brought an economic benefit of \$3.4m, with a calculated return on investment of 1.02.
- 4.10 Key benefits of the extended format included:
  - 4.10.1 Locals felt welcomed and like it was “their” event again, with a notable uptick in attendance from CoPP residents reported through market research.
  - 4.10.2 A more accessible program with audiences able to see a broad selection of live music.
  - 4.10.3 The First Peoples cultural event benefited from the new venue, with significant infrastructure improvement for artists, larger capacity, and an increased and diverse audience.
  - 4.10.4 Less community impact from road closures.
  - 4.10.5 Event was less vulnerable to external circumstances; if one day clashed with an external event or extreme weather was encountered, the remainder of the program could still proceed.
  - 4.10.6 Event was COVID safe and compliant, with no known outbreaks or major spreading events and positive site inspections from the DJPR.
- 4.11 Key challenges of the extended format included:
  - 4.11.1 Reduced economic benefit from deliberately reduced attendance figures.
  - 4.11.2 Reduced economic benefit from decrease in proportion of visitors amongst attendees.
  - 4.11.3 Increased noise complaints due to prolonged activity and weeknight programming.
  - 4.11.4 Reduced benefits to musicians through smaller audiences.
  - 4.11.5 Increased inaccessibility of public space through longer occupation period.
  - 4.11.6 Increased pressure on staff through longer event period.
- 4.12 In considering options for the 2023 event, officers have considered all stakeholder and audience feedback and evaluated against the stated objectives of the Festival.
- 4.13 The recommended two-day program will combine the best of each format within existing budget parameters.

## 5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 Festival debriefs were held with key Festival stakeholders, including traders and local business, sponsors, key emergency and transport partners and internal contributors.
- 5.2 Overall, the Festival did not meet trader expectations, failing to deliver the patronage of previous years – however, this was always the likely outcome based on the restrictions placed on the event by COVID.
- 5.3 Extensive feedback has been received from traders with some key themes captured as:
  - 5.3.1 New format lost the ‘wow’ factor.
  - 5.3.2 A minor increase in trade for some businesses, whereas the Festival for others is usually the biggest day of the year.





- 5.3.3 Concerns about promotions and communications and a lack of awareness of what was on. This was a complex issue as the new format required a deliberate drop in attendance for safety and resourcing requirements.
- 5.3.4 Marketing didn't include messages about supporting local business. Some messages were included but opportunities were not as readily available as with the traditional format.
- 5.3.5 Some traders reported losses throughout the period.
- 5.4 Both trader associations showed support for a return to the one-day format overall, with key focuses on:
  - 5.4.1 Activations in the streets themselves.
  - 5.4.2 Increased communication with traders in the early stages.
  - 5.4.3 Improved awareness through marketing.
  - 5.4.4 Incorporation of trader events and activations into the program.
  - 5.4.5 Increased road closures to include the full business precinct (Fitzroy Street).
- 5.5 Some traders have also requested consideration of itinerant traders within the event, including prioritisation of local business across the municipality. Further work will be done in this area to seek solutions.
- 5.6 Stakeholders from emergency services and public transport providers were happy with the event and noted no major incidents, though all reported lower crowds and patronage.
- 5.7 Participating artists were also surveyed, with satisfaction rates generally high. The lowest score received related to opportunity – when asked whether participating opened up new work opportunities – this is likely to relate to reduced audience and profile. The highest score related to artists feeling safe and welcomed.
- 5.8 Festival attendees and the local community were surveyed as to whether they preferred the traditional one-day event or the extended format. Of those attendees on site, 32% noted they would like a return to the one-day format. Of those surveyed via Council's social media and what's on channels, 62% noted they would like to see a return to the traditional format.
- 5.9 Market research showed 40% of attendees came from the CoPP and 41% from other areas in metro Melbourne. This compares to a pre-Covid average of 23% and 53% respectively.
- 5.10 When asked what they would like to see more of in future festivals, more than 80% said more live music (pre-Covid average of 53%) and 55% said more food and beverage options (compared to 25%).

## **6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Festival has an extensive risk management system in place relating to public safety. Operations and delivery are further governed by a Safety, Emergency, Traffic and Transport Committee including representatives from State Government, emergency service agencies and public transport providers.



- 6.2 Officers will continue to work with best practice in safety and risk management, including in consultation with State Government and any relevant public health settings.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 7.1 The 2023 St Kilda Festival is included within the draft 22/23 City of Port Phillip budget which Council considered at the end of April and is currently out for public consultation. The budget for the 2023 St Kilda Festival is proposed as \$1.7M which represents the same net cost as the 2020 and 2022 events.
- 7.2 Additional revenue will be sought from sources including corporate sponsorship and state government support, in order to further support changes and additions to programming and or reduce the contribution required from Council.

## **8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 8.1 The St Kilda Festival aims to minimise the environmental impact of the event and its attendees.

## **9. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 9.1 The Festival is delivered as part of a suite of programs as part of Council's arts, festivals and events offering, tailored to meet the needs of a diverse community and provide a variety of participation and engagement opportunities.
- 9.2 A range of community benefits can be attributed to the event, including:
- 9.2.1 Economic benefit.
  - 9.2.2 Performance and development opportunities for artists and live music.
  - 9.2.3 Participation and attendance opportunities for the community, with no admission fee.
  - 9.2.4 Opportunities for business to attract long term and repeat visitation.
  - 9.2.5 Tourism and branding opportunities for St Kilda.
- 9.3 It is recognised that the Festival can also have some negative impact on the community, including:
- 9.3.1 Amenity impact.
  - 9.3.2 Access issues due to road closures or infrastructure.
  - 9.3.3 Preference for a different style of event or programming.

## **10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY**

- 10.1 The St Kilda Festival delivers primarily on objectives within the Vibrant Port Phillip direction of the Council Plan, though is aligned with all directions in the Council Plan 2021-31.
- 10.2 The St Kilda Festival is also a key component of additional Council strategies, including the Creative & Prosperous City Strategy, Events Strategy and St Kilda Festival Operational Plan.



# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL

## 4 MAY 2022

### 11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

#### 11.1 TIMELINE

11.1.1 Planning for the 2023 St Kilda Festival would begin immediately (noting that confirmation of budget allocation would not be finalised until Council adopts its 2022/23 Council Plan and Budget, with immediate priorities being stakeholder notification, artist engagement, sponsorship drive and contract and supplier management.

11.1.2 The Festival would be scheduled for February 11 and 12, 2023.

#### 11.2 COMMUNICATION

11.2.1 The St Kilda Festival has a dedicated marketing and communications campaign, with early priorities including publicising of dates for long-lead media opportunities, promotion of participation opportunities and notification for key stakeholders and partners.

11.2.2 Engagement of key stakeholders including local businesses will begin early and continue with ongoing consultation, and dedicated resident notification will be undertaken via letterbox drop closer to the event for those who live in the Festival precinct.

11.2.3 Wider resident notification will be undertaken as the event approaches by Council's key communications channels including Divercity and social media channels.

11.2.4 A promotional campaign will also include posters, targeted advertising, a publicity campaign and the Festival's website, with the tailored approach to be finalised following planning and program finalisation.

### 12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

#### ATTACHMENTS

Nil



# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL 4 MAY 2022

## **13. WELL GOVERNED PORT PHILLIP**

13.1	<i>Records of Informal Meetings of Council</i> .....	69
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# MEETING OF THE PORT PHILLIP CITY COUNCIL 4 MAY 2022

## 13.1 RECORDS OF INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** CLAIRE STEVENS, GENERAL MANAGER, GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY

**PREPARED BY:** MERRYN SHAW, GOVERNANCE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS OFFICER

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this item is to report to Council written records of Informal Meetings of Councillors at the City of Port Phillip as required by the Governance rules

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- 2.1 Receives and notes the written records of Informal Meetings of Council (attached) as required by the Governance Rules.

### 3. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 3.1 An Informal meeting of Council record is required by the City of Port Phillip Governance rules if there is a meeting of Council that, is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors; is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting.

### 4. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 4.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any material or general interest in the matter.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Informal Meetings of Council Summary 4 May 2022

**Informal Meetings of Councillors**

<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Safety of all road users at the intersection of Bay Street and Liardet Street, Port Melbourne					
<b>Date and time of meeting:</b>	Date: 16/03/2022			Time: 5-5:30pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b> <i>(Teams or in person)</i>	In person and Teams					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff: Che Sutherland, Stefan Mitrik					
<b>Conflicts of interest declared:</b>	<b>If conflict declared, did the person remove themselves from the meeting? : N/A</b>					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of the signalisation on the Bay Street/Liardet Street intersection.</li> <li>• What other options there could be to improve the function of the intersection and limit vehicle conflict points.</li> </ul>					

Name of Officer submitting form: Stefan Mitrik

Informal Meetings of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor & ELT Time					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 23/03/2021			Time: 1PM		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff:					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JL Murphy Reserve</li> <li>• Traditional Owners</li> <li>• Update on Childcare centres</li> <li>• VBA changes</li> <li>• GM CWI position to be advertised mid April</li> <li>• Council invitation to Staff BBQ St Kilda town Hall and Operations Depot</li> <li>• Elwood foreshore</li> <li>• Council Briefings for 23 and 24 March</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Claire Stevens

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor Briefing – Revised Economic Recovery Program					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 23/03/2022			Time: 8:00pm – 8:30pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff: Lauren Bialkower					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further discussion regarding the 22/23 Economic recovery budget</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter				Left the Meeting?	
Nil					Choose an item.	

Name of Officer submitting form: Lauren Bialkower



Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor Briefing – SMM Next Project Report					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 23/03/2022			Time: 6:30pm- 7:00pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith <input type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts <input type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll Other Staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lachlan Johnson</li> <li>• Sophie McCarthy</li> </ul> External attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jo Plummer – Chair SMM Committee (Independent)</li> <li>• Andrew Danson – SMM Committee Member (Independent)</li> <li>• Simon Talbot – Deputy Chair SMM Committee (Independent)</li> </ul>					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Melbourne Market NEXT Project ('the Project')</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Sophie McCarthy

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor Briefing St Kilda Festival Review and Feedback					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 23/03/2022			Time: 7:30pm – 8:00pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff: Lauren Bialkower, Adele Denison					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback regarding the 2022 St Kilda Festival</li> <li>Officers' recommendation for the 2023 St Kilda Festival</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Lauren Bialkower

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor & ELT Time					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 6/04/2022			Time: 1PM		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens (virtual)				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll (virtual)	Other Staff: N/A				
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand Prix signage and parking enforcement</li> <li>• BMX Track consultation</li> <li>• BMX Track petition</li> <li>• Maternal child health resourcing and service needs given COVID impact</li> <li>• Assist counters and any service difference between South Melbourne and Port Melbourne locations</li> <li>• Cement furnace matter</li> <li>• Potential amendment to Council report re Hoon driving/mobile CCTV</li> <li>• South Melbourne Market Cecil Street closure</li> <li>• Councillor contact guidelines review</li> <li>• Appointment of SMM Executive Director</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter				Left the Meeting?	
Nil					Choose an item.	

Name of Officer submitting form: Claire Stevens

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Councillor & ELT Time					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 13/04/2022			Time: 1PM		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b> <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b> <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens (virtual)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll		Other Staff: N/A			
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grand Prix – Post Event Review</li> <li>• Service Delivery – Port Melbourne Town Hall</li> <li>• The 50th anniversary of Library</li> <li>• Moubray Street Park update</li> <li>• Disability beach access options</li> <li>• SMM courtyard project</li> <li>• Submission to EPA - Cement Furnace Proposal - 353-467 Lorimer St, Port Melbourne</li> <li>• ELT leave arrangements</li> <li>• Operations centre staff BBQ</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Claire Stevens

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Adventure Playground Strategy					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 13/04/2022			Time: 8.00 pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kylie Bennetts			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Claire Stevens			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff: Felicity Leahy					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adventure Playground – outcomes of community consultation on the extended opening hours trial and upcoming upgrades</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Felicity Leahy

Informal Meeting of Councillors						
<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Positive Ageing Policy – Policy Objectives					
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Date: 13/04/2022			Time: 9.00pm		
<b>Meeting conducted via:</b>	Hybrid (MS Teams/In Person)					
<b>Councillors present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Councillors present</i>		In person	Virtual		In person	Virtual
	Cr Baxter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Cunsolo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cr Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Pearl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Copsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr Sirakoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cr Crawford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Staff present:</b>  <i>Please mark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the Staff present</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Kylie Bennetts				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Keenan	<input type="checkbox"/> Claire Stevens				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Carroll					
	Other Staff: Teresa Parsons					
<b>Matters considered:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Positive Ageing Policy Objectives</li> </ul>					
Conflict of Interest Declarations						
Name	Subject / Matter			Left the Meeting?		
Nil				Choose an item.		

Name of Officer submitting form: Teresa Parsons



**14. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**15. REPORTS BY COUNCILLOR DELEGATES**

**16. URGENT BUSINESS**

**17. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil