**Victorian City Council Budget Report – 2016/2017**

This Budget Report has been prepared with reference to Chartered Accountants ANZ “Victorian City Council Model Budget 2016/2017” a best practice guide for reporting local government budgets in Victoria.



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**Mayor’s Introduction1**

The Councillors and I are pleased to release the proposed Budget 2016/17 to the Community for comment and public submissions. This budget builds on our Council Plan 2013-2017 vision which focuses on the following six key areas:

* Advocacy and leadership
* Community and economic development
* Community participation
* Resource management
* Quality service
* Urban development and environment

The Council Plan 2013-2017 (Year 4), sets out our strategic plan to deliver our vision over the full term of the Council. As this is the final year of the current Council term, the focus over the next year will be on completion of our current commitments.

The proposed budget details the resources required over the next year to fund the large range of services we provide to the community. It also includes details of proposed capital expenditure allocations to improve and renew our City’s physical infrastructure, buildings and operational assets as well as funding proposals for a range of operating projects.

As Councillors, it is our job to listen to community sentiment and understand your priorities. Since we started our term in 2012, we have consistently heard that Council’s services are valued by the community, and that Council also needs to be financially responsible and keep its rates as low as possible. In response, Council has initiated an enterprise wide approach to identify savings that don’t impact on its services, to provide increased value for money to ratepayers. Council will, with the introduction of rate capping in 2016, continue to focus on identifying sustainable cost savings that will enable it to deliver high quality, responsive and accessible services to the community.

The proposed budget proposes a rate increase of 2.5 per cent. This is in line with the new Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) which has capped rates increases by Victorian councils to the forecast movement of 2.5 per cent in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). While Council has not elected to apply to the Essential Services Commission (ESC) for a variation, it has re-prioritised its capital works program, saving $500,000. This coupled with further ongoing operational savings and efficiencies of $280,000 has enabled it to reduce its rates increase from the planned 4.3 per cent to the proposed 2.5 per cent increase.

Council has also identified a number of significant and unexpected cost and revenue impacts during the budget process which it has had to fund. These include;

* the withdrawal of indexation from the Commonwealth Government’s financial assistance grants program to local government ($600,000)
* a further increase of 3.3 per cent in the State Government landfill levy ($200,000)
* increased costs relating to statutory requirements for power line clearances (250,000)
* higher than inflation labour cost increases of 3.7 per cent which are linked to the current Enterprise Agreement ($420,000).

These items alone are equivalent to a 3.3 per cent rate increase, over and above the mandatory 2.5 per cent increase in our base costs for delivering core services and projects allowed by the FGRS.

To ease the impact on ratepayers and ensure users help pay for Council services, we are proposing to increase most fees and charges by 2.5 per cent, in line with projected inflation.

In this proposed budget we have allocated funding of $21.5 million for asset renewals, upgrades and expansions. The proposed budget also funds $9.2 million for new assets. Highlights of the capital program include;

* roads ($7.13 million) – including reconstructions, roads to recovery projects, resheeting, footpaths and the Integrated Transport Plan
* drains ($1.65 million) – including road drainage replacement works, stage 1 of the Victoria Park Lake redevelopment and implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan
* open space ($3.29 million) – including playground equipment, irrigation systems, street trees and completion of Victoria Park
* buildings ($8.43 million) – including pavilion upgrades, construction of the Victorian Community Facility, construction of a Velodrome and State Bowls Centre and completion of the Block Arcade redevelopment
* plant and equipment ($4.84 million) – including information technology, library materials and scheduled replacement of Council’s fleet.

We have also allocated funding to deliver tangible progress on other key priorities and initiatives including;

* expansion of the Community Grants program ($0.44 million)
* implementation of the aged partnerships program ($0.90 million)
* expansion of arboriculture services ($0.15 million)
* introduction of Council provided street cleansing service ($1.4 million)
* introduction of multicultural library and leisure services
* expansion of youth services ($0.06 million)
* opening of the Homestead Centre for Decorative Arts ($0.25 million)
* resourcing of the employment strategy ($0.18 million)
* opening of a new customer service centre at Victorian Community Centre ($0.11 million).

Our focus for the next year is to continue to deliver on the projects and services that make our City a great place to live in and respond to the challenges we are currently facing. These challenges include;

* implementation of the Zero Carbon Evolution Strategy which aims to reduce our carbon emissions by 22 per cent across the municipality by 2020
* the need to provide for significant projected growth of 25 per cent in the number of children accessing Council managed and run child care centres over the next five years
* finalising the implementation of Councils’ Bicycle Strategy over the next six years
* increasing investment in the maintenance of our ageing community and infrastructure assets.

Community feedback was supportive about the use of borrowings to fund major long term community infrastructure rather than rates revenue. The community strongly supports the maintenance of existing service levels and for these to be funded through a mix of rates revenue and user charges. Council will continue to focus on the identification of sustainable cost reductions to protect existing service levels. We will also explore new approaches for providing services to our community in a tighter fiscal environment and ensure that we engage with you on any planned changes.

This is the first year of the Fair Go Rates System and while Council proposes a rate increase that is in line with the 2.5 per cent cap, the actual rate increases experienced by individual ratepayers will be different due to this being a municipal revaluation year. In a revaluation year, rate increases are impacted by the average rate increase (2.5 per cent) and the property valuation increases of individual properties relative to the average across the municipality. If your property increased by more in value than the average for Victoria (5.0 per cent), your rates will increase by more than 2.5 per cent while if your property value increased by less than the 5.0 per cent average, your rates will increase by less than 2.5 per cent and may in fact reduce from the previous year.

The proposed budget was developed through a rigorous process of consultation and review and Council endorses it as financially responsible. I encourage you to read the remainder of this document, in conjunction with our revised Council Plan 2013-2017.

**Cr Jo Johnson   
Mayor**

**Executive summary1**

Council has prepared a Budget for 2016/17 which is aligned to the vision in the Council Plan 2013/17. It seeks to maintain and improve services and infrastructure as well as deliver projects and services that are valued by our community, and do this within the rate increase mandated by the State Government.

This Budget projects a surplus of $1.0m for 2016/17, however, it should be noted that the adjusted underlying result is a deficit of $4.5m after adjusting for capital grants and contributions (refer Sections 5 and 10.1).

1. **Key things we are funding**
2. Ongoing delivery of services to the Victorian City community funded by a budget of $77.5m. These services are summarised in Section 2.1.
3. Continued investment in Infrastructure assets ($11.4m) primarily for renewal works. This includes roads ($5.3m); bridges ($0.1m); footpaths and bicycle paths ($0.7m); drainage ($1.9m); recreational, leisure and community facilities ($0.6m); parks, open space and streetscapes ($2.6m); and transport management ($0.3m). The Statement of Capital Works can be found in Section 3 and further details on the capital works budget can be found in Sections 6 and 12.

**Strategic Objective 1: Advocacy and leadership2-10**

1. Additional funding to the Community Grants program, which is the first additional funding for some years for this significant community program ($0.44 million net cost).

**Strategic Objective 2: Community and economic development2-10**

1. Council is the lead agency on aged partnerships project and although grants were received in 2015/16, the majority of programs will be implemented during the next financial year ($0.90 million net cost).
2. Resourcing of the Employment Strategy will see the engagement of a part time employment co-coordinator to ensure that Council gains its fair share of employment programs and is able to respond to employment and training issues in the municipality. Resources also include provision for Council’s participation in the State Government’s Community Jobs Program and implementing recommendations arising from the Employment Strategy ($0.18 million net cost).

**Strategic Objective 3: Community participation2-10**

1. A major step forward in the improvement of Council’s Multilingual Communication Service to meet the needs of a non-English speaking background community including a major redevelopment of Council’s multilingual website and other communication services ($0.05 million net cost).

**Strategic Objective 4: Resource management2-10**

1. Significant advances will be made in the further development of the Geographic Information System (GIS). Additionally, public access to the GIS will become operational during this calendar year, as will the commissioning of the Community (Internet) Portal and community email facilities. These initiatives will place Council firmly at the forefront of local governments in Victoria and Australia for electronic public access to service information and facilities ($Nil net cost).

**Strategic Objective 5: Quality service2-10**

1. Customer service facilities will be provided at the new Victorian Community Centre following its completion ($0.11 million net cost).

**Strategic Objective 6: Urban development and environment2-10**

1. The major three year review of Council’s Municipal Strategic Statement will commence in July 2016 with a completion date of December 2016. This will be the main focus of work being undertaken by the Strategic Planning Unit next year ($Nil net cost).
2. In November 2015, Council resolved to deliver an in-house provided Street Cleansing service. This year’s allocation includes the recent employment of an additional 14 staff, plant maintenance, materials and tipping fees, to deliver this new in house service ($1.40 million net cost).
3. **The Rate Rise**
   1. The average rate will rise by 2.5% in line with the order by the Minister for Local Government on 14 December 2015 under the Fair Go Rates System.
   2. Key drivers
      1. To fund ongoing service delivery – business as usual (balanced with greater service demands from residents)
      2. To fund renewal of infrastructure and community assets
      3. To cope with growth in the population of Victorian residents (2.2% in the last year)
      4. To cope with cost shifting from the State Government (refer **Paragraph 7**)
      5. To cope with a reduction in funding from the Commonwealth Government via the Victoria Grants Commission caused by their freezing of indexation of the grant
   3. This will be a revaluation year. Valuations will be as per the General Revaluation dated 1 January 2016 (as amended by supplementary valuations).
   4. The waste service charge incorporating kerbside collection and recycling will increase by 4.2% per property.
   5. Note that for every $100 in taxes paid by Victorian residents, rates make up approximately $3.50. The other $96.50 goes to the State and Federal Governments.4
   6. Refer Section 7 for further Rates and Charges details.
4. **Key Statistics**

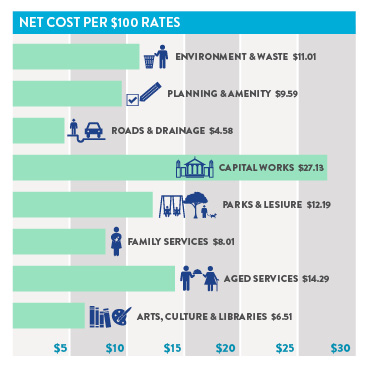
* Total Revenue: $77.5M (2015/16 = $72.5M)
* Total Expenditure: $76.5M (2015/16 = $74.5M)
* Accounting Result: $1.0M Surplus (2015/16 = $1.9M Deficit)

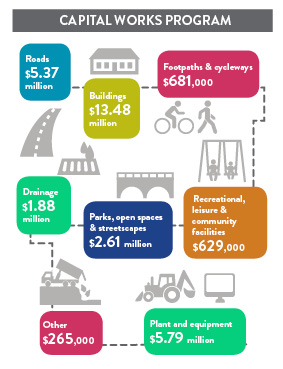
(Refer Income Statement in Section 3)  
(Note: Based on total income of $77.5M which includes capital grants and contributions)

* Underlying operating result: Deficit of $4.5M (2015/16 = Deficit of $4.7M)  
  (Refer Analysis of operating Budget in Section 10.1)  
  (Note: Underlying operating result is an important measure of financial sustainability as it excludes income which is to be used for capital, from being allocated to cover operating expenses)
* Cash result: $11.3M Deficit (2015/16 = $8.9M Deficit)

(Refer Statement of Cash Flows in Section 3)  
This is the net funding result after considering the funding requirements to meet loan principal repayments and the reserve transfers.

* Total Capital Works Program of $30.72M
  + $8.87M from Council operations (rates funded)
  + $0.0M from borrowings
  + $1.68M from asset sales
  + $6.28M from external grants
  + $13.89M from cash and reserves





1. **Budget Influences**

**External Influences**

The preparation of the budget is influenced by the following external factors:

* The Victorian State Government has introduced a cap on rate increases from 2016/17. The cap for 2016/17 has been set at 2.5%.
* State-wide CPI is forecast to be 2.5% for the 2016/17 year.
* The Victorian Wage Price Index is projected to be 3.25% in 2016/17.
* Council must renegotiate a new Collective Agreement during the 2016/17 year for commencement on 1 July 2017.
* Reduction of $0.40 million in Victoria Grants Commission funding compared to the prior year.
* Receipt of significant capital works funding of $6.28 million for the construction of a Velodrome and State Bowls Centre at Victoria Park and the completion of Roads to Recovery projects
* Increases of 3.3% (or $2.02 per tonne) in the levy payable to the State Government upon disposal of waste into landfill, resulting in additional waste tipping costs of $0.20 million. The levy has increased from $9 per tonne in 2008/09 to $60.52 per tonne in 2016/17 (572% increase in 8 years) and has added $1.84 million to Council's costs.
* Ongoing cost shifting. This occurs where Local Government provides a service to the community on behalf of the State and Federal Government. Over time the funds received by local governments do not increase in line with real cost increases. More information and examples are shown in the section below.
* Councils across Australia raise approximately 3.5% of the total taxation collected by all levels of Government in Australia. In addition Councils are entrusted with the maintenance of more than 30% of the all Australian public assets including roads, bridges, parks, footpaths and public buildings. This means that a large proportion of Council’s income must be allocated to the maintenance and replacement of these valuable public assets in order to ensure the quality of public infrastructure is maintained at satisfactory levels.
* The Fire Services Property Levy will continue to be collected by Council on behalf of the State Government with the introduction of the *Fire Services Property Levy Act 2012*.
* A write down of flood/fire affected assets which is estimated at $1.00 million in 2016/17 and estimated repairs of $1.20 million over two years. Compensation of $0.40 million has been confirmed by Council’s insurers, with the balance to be funded by the Natural Disaster Assistance Fund (NDAF). An advance payment of $1.00 million from the NDAF was received in 2015/16. Council is also eligible to claim the first $0.03 million from the Victoria Grants Commission.

**Internal Influences**

As well as external influences, there are also a number of internal influences which are expected to have a significant impact on the preparation of the 2016/17 Budget. These matters have arisen from events occurring in the 2015/16 year resulting in variances between the forecast actual and budgeted results for that year and matters expected to arise in the 2016/17 year. These matters and their financial impact are set out below:

* Overrun of $0.48 million in the maintenance of trees due to the removal of severely diseased street trees.
* Reduction in the budgeted draw down from discretionary reserves of $0.30 million as a result of government funding being awarded for the Victoria Civic Centre redevelopment.
* Higher than expected wage increases of 5% per annum resulting in additional ongoing employee costs of $0.46 million per annum.
* Ongoing savings of $0.23 million as a result of meals production being contracted out at a rate more favourable than budget.
* Council’s decision during the year to bring the street cleansing service in-house. This has resulted in start-up investment costs of $0.80 million for plant and equipment to be funded from investment reserves and ongoing operational costs of $1.40 million per annum.

1. **State Budget wish list**
   1. Bicycle safety improvement on Smith Street and the Railway bike path.
   2. Funding for the final section of the Railway bike path.
   3. Public Transport Improvements including:
      1. Reinstatement of the Blue Orbital bus route
      2. Reinstatement of the Hope Street bus
      3. All bus services to be a minimum MOTC standard
      4. Restore the frequency of the Route 542 bus
      5. Lobby for more frequent services on all routes
   4. State government investment to address the gaps in family violence prevention identified by the Victorian Community Safety Leadership Group.
   5. State government investment to address the identified priority community infrastructure gaps in Victorian City.
   6. Advocate acquisition of land owned by other levels of government that abuts Council-owned land or in areas that have been identified as deficient in open space as noted in the Victorian City Council Open Space Strategy, or where an expansion of open space increases the benefit to the community or environment (i.e. creek corridors).
   7. Funding for the redevelopment of City Oval (along with other key stakeholders).
   8. Increased investment in public housing and investment in affordable housing projects in Victorian City
2. **Summary of the Bicycle Program of Projects**

Council has for a number of year’s allocated significant budget towards cycling, and continues to allocate funding to achieve the Bicycle Strategy. Over the course of the Strategy, direct cycling funding allocations have grown from $166,000 in 2010-2011 to $275,000 in 2015-16.

Council in 2015-2016 will directly spend $1.275m on works including improving lighting along the Railway Shared path and replacing the Smith Reserve bridge on the Creek Shared path. These works will mainly support the transport, recreation and social cyclists in the community. Council is also undertaking works at the Victorian City Cycling Velodrome on the track and pavilion to the value of $0.55m, with these works principally supporting the fitness and sport cyclists.

In addition to this direct expenditure on cycling Council is also spending $0.22m on other projects which will provide an improved environment for cyclists. It doesn't add new path or provide new trails, however it is an important way of enabling more and more people to cycle. An example is the Victorian City Integrated Transport Strategy ($250,000) in which the majority of this funding will be spent on traffic management in Albert and Victoria Streets which will reduce traffic speed, improve road safety and support sustainable transport modes including cycling. These local roads provide access between the shopping precincts and the East Victorian Shimmy. The works will mainly support the transport and social cyclists.

This investment in cycling infrastructure across the city has improved the cycling experience within the city. Results from the annual cycling counts across the city show around a 10% increase in cyclists and the latest (2015) Victorian Community Indicators Survey shows a current 75% agreement that there is adequate provision for cyclists. These positive results confirm we are on the right track, but council cannot rest on its laurels as our population and urban densities grow and increases in cycling can reduce pressure on other transport modes.

The following is a list of projects that directly provide, or have elements that provide additional or improved cycling infrastructure or improved conditions for cyclists.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Project | Value |
| *Direct Cycling Expenditure* | |  |
|  | Velodrome Upgrade | $750K |
|  | Cycling Club Pavilion | $800k |
|  | Railway Shared Path Lighting | $100K |
|  | Creek Reserve Shared Path | $300k |
|  | Bike Parking | $30k |
|  | On-road facilities | $125k |
|  | Creek Bridge | $720k |
| *Other Council Projects which improve cycling* | |  |
|  | Footpath and bike path maintenance and grinding | $989K |
|  | Kerb & channel, bluestone repairs, crack sealing | $400K |
|  | Pedestrian threshold treatments | $80K |
|  | Traffic management devices – various locations | $350K |
|  | Traffic management solutions | $50K |
|  | Wetlands development | $750K |
|  | Brunswick Integrated Transport Strategy | $250k |
| *External Cycling Projects* | |  |
|  | North Rd (First Ave to Fifth Ave) upgrades to bike lanes | $1.6M  (VicRoads) |

1. **Cost Shifting**

Cost shifting occurs when Commonwealth and State programs transfer responsibilities to local government with insufficient funding or grants which don’t keep pace with delivery costs.

**Type 1: Cost Shifting for Specific Services**

***Examples:***

1. Home and Community Care (HACC) - $1.42m from 2011/12 to 2015/16
2. Library Services - $367k from 2011/12 to 2015/16
3. Maternal and Child Health - $193k from 2011/12 to 2015/16
4. School Crossing Supervision - $100k from 2011/12 to 2015/16
5. Administration of the state wide temporary Food registration system ‘ Streatrader’– additional annual cost of $85k since 2013/14 due to the responsibility having been shifted from the State Government to Council.

**Type 2: Loss of funding in General**

***Examples:***

1. A freeze on indexation of the federal financial assistance grants. The Commonwealth announced in its 2014-15 Budget that it will pause indexation of the total national pool of financial assistance grants to local government for three years (2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17). The cumulative impact on Victorian City Council for the three years totals $1.75m
2. Discontinuance of the Community Support Program (CSP) Fund for Family Day Care program from 1 July 2015 - $140k per annum

**Type 3: Statutory fee that prohibits full cost recovery**

***Examples:***

1. Planning fees (set by the State and have been frozen for most of the past 14 years)
2. Revenue foregone for the past 4 years is estimated to be $9.25m if Council were allowed to fully recover the cost of providing planning services.

**Type 4: Levies**

***Examples:***

1. State Government landfill levy   
   The levy has increased from $9 per tonne in 2008/09 to $60.52 per tonne in 2016/17. The increase from 2015/16 to 2016/17 is 3.3%.
2. Total landfill levy for Victorian City Council is $1.87m for the 7 years 2008/09 to 2015/16.
3. Animal registration levy - $190k from 2011/12 to 2015/16
4. Congestion levy (off street car parks) - $146k per annum from 2015/16

**Type 5: Statutory requirements lead to increased costs   
*Examples:***

1. Line clearance (cutting back tree branches around power lines) – approximately $1m from 11/12 to 14/15
2. New national policy of 15 hours kinder for four-year olds - $ 5.635m of capital works over the past 4 years.
3. **Population Growth**



***How are we travelling against population projections?***

The new Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data for Victorian City to June 2016 have just been released.

The new figure for Victorian’s ERP is 163,488.  This is a net increase of 3,579 people since June 2015 or an increase of 2.2% for the year.

Growth for SLAs (Statistical Local Areas) is as follows:

* South SLA – +2.6%, or +1290 people
* Central SLA – +1.7%, or +980 people
* North SLA – +2.5%, or +1309 people

Although the South SLA had the greatest proportional growth, the greatest numerical growth was in the North SLA.  The suburb with the greatest proportional increase was South East at 4.0% growth for the year.  The increase of 2.2% overall is the second biggest annual increase in the past decade (after 2009 when it increased by 2.5%).

The latest ERP data closely matches the figure predicted for 2016 in our population forecasts.  Recent population forecasts, prepared by ID Consulting, show Victorian City is set for the biggest and most rapid growth in its history from now until 2021.  Previous predictions forecast the Victorian City population to be 188,899 by 2031.  The most recent update shows this figure will be eclipsed in 2020, and by 2021 Victorian’s population is set to hit 191,663.  This translates to a net gain of 37,418 residents, or +24.3% in the decade 2011-2021.  The full set of projections to 2036 can be accessed here:  [http://forecast.id.com.au/Victorian](http://forecast.id.com.au/moreland)

**Budget Reports**

The following reports include all statutory disclosures of information and are supported by the analysis contained in sections 8 to 15 of this report.

This section includes the following reports and statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government Model Financial Report.

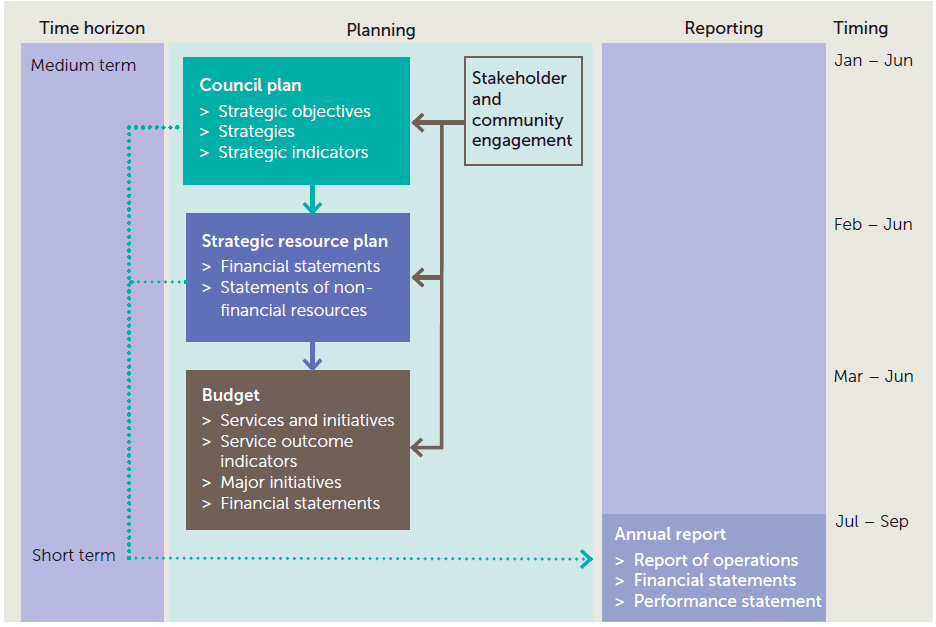
1. Links to Council Plan
2. Services and service indicators
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6. Detailed list of capital works
7. Rates and charges

**1. Link to the Council Plan1**

This section describes how the Annual Budget links to the achievement of the Council Plan within an overall planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Vision 2030), medium term (Council Plan) and short term (Annual Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

**1.1 Planning and accountability framework2**

The Strategic Resource Plan, part of and prepared in conjunction with the Council Plan, is a rolling four year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The Annual Budget is framed within the Strategic Resource Plan, taking into account the services and initiatives which contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the planning and accountability framework that applies to local government in Victoria.



Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (formerly Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure)

In addition to the above, Council has a long term plan (Vision 2030) which articulates a community vision, mission and values. The Council Plan is prepared with reference to Council's long term community plan.

The timing of each component of the planning framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes. The Council Plan, including the Strategic Resource Plan, is required to be completed by 30 June following a general election and is reviewed each year in advance of the commencement of the Annual Budget process.

**1.2 Our purpose3**

**Our vision 'one community – proudly diverse'**

Victorian City Council seeks to create an environmentally sustainable and liveable city, where people can shop, work and socialise locally; a city where a car and high income are not necessary for a rich and rewarding quality of life; and a city that will continue to provide a range of opportunities and choices for a diverse and prosperous community.

**Our mission**

Victorian City Council will engage in partnership with the Victorian community to lead and develop:

* a city with sustainable growth
* a city that cares for and respects all of its citizens
* a city that welcomes people from across the globe
* a city that celebrates its social, cultural and ethnic heritage
* a city that promotes wellbeing.

As an innovative and accountable organisation, Victorian City Council will promote vibrant democracy and provide high-quality services.

**Our values**

Victorian City Council has a clear strength in the bond and affinity between its Councillors, the community and staff. Staff support the community leadership and governance role of Councillors, and work together to achieve the commitments of the Council Plan. Having all Victorian City Council staff practise the following organisational values enhances the quality of this partnership:

* **Service** - Our citizens, community and service users are the focus of all our actions
* **Accountability** - We are responsible for our actions, which are open to review
* **Innovation** - We encourage and seek new ideas in finding solutions
* **Teamwork** - We share our skills, knowledge and experience as part of a team and work together towards achieving Council’s goals
* **Recognition** - We promote the achievements and efforts of others
* **Safety** - We look after our environment and the welfare of others
* **Integrity** - We are open and honest and work to the best of our ability
* **Respect** - We acknowledge the opinions of others and their rights and differences.

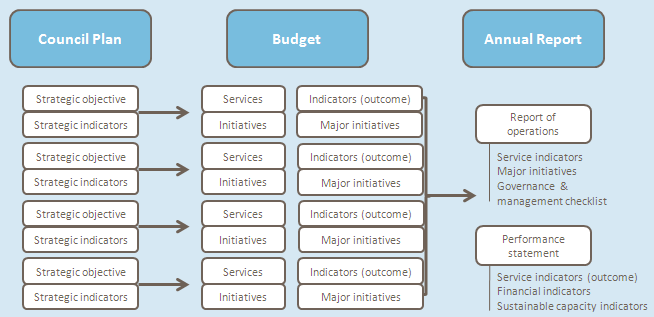
**1.3 Strategic objectives4**

Council delivers services and initiatives under 34 major service categories. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the six Strategic Objectives as set out in the Council Plan for the years 2013-17. The following table lists the six Strategic Objectives as described in the Council Plan.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strategic Objective** | **Description** |
| 1. Advocacy and leadership | Maintain an understanding of issues of local importance and provide leadership in tackling them. Where appropriate, advocate on behalf of our community and ensure that our community is represented in debates which affect us. |
| 1. Community and economic development | Work to improve the quality of life for the local community. Ensure that social and cultural services are tailored to meet specific local needs and work to stimulate the city’s economic activity. |
| 1. Community participation | Communicate clearly with the community and consult in a meaningful and appropriate way. Increasingly encourage residents and other stakeholders to participate in Council decision making. |
| 1. Resource management | Take seriously its responsibility as the custodian of community resources. Commit to achieving maximum benefit for the community from all our resources while taking care of our natural environment. |
| 1. Quality service | Deliver high quality value for money services in areas that are important to the community and involve the community in determining and evaluating their performance on an ongoing basis. |
| 1. Urban development and environment | Work to improve the quality of our natural and urban environment, and stimulate development activity within a framework that protects and enhances the natural environment, heritage assets and residential amenity. |

**2. Services and service performance indicators1**

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2016/17 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes a number of major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council’s operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.

****

Source: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (formerly Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure)

Services for which there are prescribed performance indicators to be reported on in accordance with the Regulations are shown in **bold** and underlined in the following sections.

**2.1 Strategic Objective 1: Advocacy and leadership2-10**

To achieve our objective of Advocacy and Leadership, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Service area** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure   (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| Councillors, Chief Executive and Executive Team | This area of **governance** includes the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Management Team and associated support which cannot be easily attributed to the direct service provision areas. | 2,006  (0)  **2,006** |
| Social policy1)-3) | This service has the responsibility to frame and respond to the challenges of social inclusion that present to Council. It is the responsibility of this service to ensure that issues that arise and situations and trends that develop of a social policy nature are responded to appropriately by Council. | 1,546  (250)  **1,296** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. Additional funding to the Community Grants program, which is the first additional funding for some years for this significant community program ($0.44 million net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. The recommendations from the Poverty Inquiry will be implemented with a responsible gambling charter to be developed with gambling agencies in Council to ensure the promotion of responsible gambling among Council residents. Also, further dialogue will occur with the State Government to address adverse impacts of gambling in the municipality ($Nil net cost).
2. Council’s Friendship City Relationship with East Timor will be realised through the commencement of several projects to assist the rebuilding of community and basic infrastructure in East Timor ($Nil net cost).

**Service Performance Outcome Indicators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service** | **Indicator** | **Performance Measure** | **Computation** |
| Governance | Satisfaction | Satisfaction with Council decisions  (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed in making decisions in the interests of the community) | Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed in making decisions in the interests of the community |

**2.2 Strategic Objective 2: Community and economic development2-10**

To achieve our objective of Community and Economic Development, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

| **Service area** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure  (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Aged and Disability Services4) | This service provides a range of **home and community care** services for the aged and disabled including home delivered meals, personal care, transport, dementia care, home maintenance, housing support and senior citizen clubs. | 10,041  (6,174)  **3,867** |
| Family Services6),7) | This service provides family oriented support services including pre-schools, a toy library, **maternal and child health**, pre-school dental, counselling and support, youth services, immunisation, family day care, holiday programs and health and safety. | 5,632  (2,476)  **3,156** |
| Library Services8) | This service provides public **library** services at three locations and provides a customer focused service that caters for the cultural, educational and recreational needs of residents and provides a focal point for the community where they can meet, relax and enjoy the facilities and services offered. | 3,083  (759)  **2,324** |
| Victorian Park | This service provides public open space, an 18 hole public golf course, pristine environmental areas, a visitor’s centre and café and an accredited Tourist Information Centre. Victorian Park is also home to a Settlement, a community tourist attraction providing a host of activities including an Urban Farm, Heritage Village and the Wildlife Reserve. | 1,758  (1,026)  **732** |
| Leisure Outsourcing | This service includes a 9 hole public golf course which offers a range of golfing programs and events including tournaments. It provides a range of recreational facilities including indoor and outdoor swimming **pool facilities**, a fully equipped Gymnasium, aqua aerobics, aerobics, pump, circuit, yoga and gymnastics classes, public tennis courts and childcare facilities. It also provides 4 indoor and 3 outdoor multipurpose courts and provides an extensive range of recreational programs and opportunities accessible to individuals of all ages, sexes and abilities. | 212  (394)  **(182)** |
| Arts and Entertainment Centre | This service provides theatre services including technical staging advice and performance operations, facilities for presentations including events for children, families and older people and exhibitions of works by local artists, function and catering services including seminars, meetings, conferences and expos and a kiosk. This service is also responsible for management of the public facilities at the Council Town Hall and the delivery of the annual Festival. | 791  (347)  **444** |
| Victorian Leisure Centre8) | This service combines a wide range of programs and services, which provide the opportunity for the community to participate in a variety of cultural, health, education, and leisure activities, which contribute to the general well being of the community. | 1,363  (979)  **384** |
| Arts and Cultural Planning | This service provides a varied ongoing program of arts and cultural events and activities, plans and develops arts and cultural facilities and infrastructure and develops policies and strategies to facilitate art practice. | 404  (55)  **349** |
| Leisure Services | This service is responsible for the management and use of sporting grounds and pavilions and community centres with meeting, function and activity space. The service provides advice to Council on local leisure needs and assists community groups with funding applications, event management and promotion and issues relating to license agreements with Council. | 712  (256)  **456** |
| Victorian Homestead9) | This service provides the community with a flexible recreational and cultural space at Victorian Homestead. The service includes exhibition spaces which host a year round exhibition program that includes both historic and contemporary art and craft. | 298  (50)  **248** |
| Economic Development5) | The **economic development** service assists the organisation to facilitate an environment that is conducive to a sustainable and growing local business sector and provides opportunities for local residents to improve their skill levels and access employment. | 785  (106)  **679** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. Council is the lead agency on aged partnerships project and although grants were received in 2015/16, the majority of programs will be implemented during the next financial year ($0.90 million net cost).
2. Resourcing of the Employment Strategy will see the engagement of a part time employment co-coordinator to ensure that Council gains its fair share of employment programs and is able to respond to employment and training issues in the municipality. Resources also include provision for Council’s participation in the State Government’s Community Jobs Program and implementing recommendations arising from the Employment Strategy ($0.18 million net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. Increase in service provision from Youth Resource Centre at Victorian Civic Centre. Support for youth consortium work, and for a young mother’s group run jointly with maternal and child health nurse and youth worker. Council’s music centre to offer employment opportunities to eight young people in music related disciplines ($0.06 million net cost).
2. Increase in hours of pre-school field officer who currently is funded for 28 hours per week, but provides service to over 100 families and 30 pre-schools in Council ($0.02 million net cost).
3. New programs will be developed to reflect the cultural diversity of Council including a community languages program through the Library Services, a volunteers’ support network for leisure organisation volunteers and opportunities for new residents to participate in culturally relevant activities ($Nil net cost).
4. The Victorian Homestead Centre for Decorative Arts on Mt Victorian Estate will open during the year to host major and decorative art exhibits ($0.25 million net cost).

**Service Performance Outcome Indicators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service** | **Indicator** | **Performance Measure** | **Computation** |
| Home and Community Care | Participation | Participation in HACC service  (Percentage of the municipal target population who receive a HACC service) | [Number of people that received a HACC service / Municipal target population for HACC services] x100 |
|  |  | Participation in HACC service by CALD people  (Percentage of the municipal target population in relation to CALD people who receive a HACC service) | [Number of CALD people who receive a HACC service / Municipal target population in relation to CALD people for HACC services] x100 |
| Maternal and Child Health | Participation | Participation in the MCH service  (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service) | [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 |
|  |  | Participation in MCH service by Aboriginal children  (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service) | [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 |
| Libraries | Participation | Active library members  (Percentage of the municipal population that are active library members) | [Number of active library members / municipal population] x100 |
| Aquatic Facilities | Utilisation | Utilisation of aquatic facilities  (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of municipal population) | Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population |
| Economic Development | Economic activity | Change in number of businesses  (Percentage change in the number of businesses with an ABN in the municipality) | [Number of businesses with an ABN in the municipality at the end of the financial year *less* the number of businesses at the start of the financial year / Number of businesses with an ABN in the municipality at the start of the financial year] x100 |

**2.3 Strategic Objective 3: Community participation2-10**

To achieve our objective of Community Participation, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Service area** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure  (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| Communications10)11) | This service is responsible for the management and provision of advice on external communication, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, on behalf of Council. | 537  (0)  **537** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. A major step forward in the improvement of Council’s Multilingual Communication Service to meet the needs of a non-English speaking background community including a major redevelopment of Council’s multilingual website and other communication services ($0.05 million net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. Improve the use of social media in Council’s communications with the community ($0.02 million net cost).

**2.4 Strategic Objective 4: Resource management 2-10**

To achieve our objective of Resource Management, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

| **Service areas** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure  (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Services13) | This service predominantly provides financial based services to both internal and external customers including the management of Council’s finances, payment of salaries and wages to Council employees, procurement and contracting of services, raising and collection of rates and charges and valuation of properties throughout the municipality. | 2,003  (345)  **1,658** |
| Information Services12) | This service provides, supports and maintains reliable and cost effective communications and computing systems, facilities and infrastructure to Council staff enabling them to deliver services in a smart, productive and efficient way. | 1,729  (0)  **1,729** |
| Organisation Development | This service provides Council with strategic and operational organisation development support. The service develops and implements strategies, policies and procedures through the provision of human resources and industrial relations services. The service also assists managers to determine and progress toward future structures, capability and cultures in their service units. | 806  (0)  **806** |
| Fleet Services | This service purchases and maintains Council vehicles, plant and equipment to meet functionality and safety needs and to maximise the performance and minimise operational cost of the fleet. In addition, the service provides baby capsule hire to residents. | 2,350  (3,621)  **(1,271)** |
| Infrastructure Planning | This service conducts capital works planning for Council’s main civil infrastructure assets in an integrated and prioritised manner in order to optimise their strategic value and service potential. These include roads, laneways, car parks, foot/bike paths, drains and bridges. | 268  (0)  **268** |
| Facilities Maintenance | This service prepares long term maintenance management programs for Council’s property assets in an integrated and prioritised manner in order to optimise their strategic value and service potential. These include municipal buildings, pavilions and other community buildings. | 2,233  (280)  **1,953** |
| Engineering Design and Management | This service undertakes design, tendering, contract management and supervision of various works within Council’s capital works program. The service also approves and supervises private development activities such as subdivisions and infrastructure associated with unit developments. | 513  (0)  **513** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. Significant advances will be made in the further development of the Geographic Information System (GIS). Additionally, public access to the GIS will become operational during this calendar year, as will the commissioning of the Community (Internet) Portal and community email facilities. These initiatives will place Council firmly at the forefront of local governments in Victoria and Australia for electronic public access to service information and facilities ($Nil net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. Alternative payment options will be phased in during the year which will allow the following accounts to be paid at Australia Post via internet, phone and over-the-counter using cash, cheque, credit card and debit card – rates, homecare, family day care, meals, home maintenance, holiday program, animal registrations, parking fines and sundry debtors ($Nil net cost).

**2.5 Strategic Objective 5: Quality service2-10**

To achieve our objective of Quality Service, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

| **Service areas** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure  (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Customer and Civic Services14) | This service provides a range of governance, statutory and corporate support services and acts as the main customer interface with the community. Services include the coordination of council and committee meetings, records and information management and office support services at the Civic Centre. Two municipal halls are available for hire and the customer support service is delivered from four located customer service centres. | 2,369  (0)  **2,369** |
| Performance Support15) | This service provides organisational policy, systems and support in the areas of continuous improvement, corporate planning, performance measurement and reporting. | 351  (0)  **351** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. Customer service facilities will be provided at the new Victorian Community Centre following its completion ($0.11 million net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. Fifteen of Council services will be going through a review under Council’s Continuous Improvement Program, which will include consultation with stakeholders and the development of service standards and commitments for these services ($Nil net cost).

**2.6 Strategic Objective 6: Urban development and environment2-10**

To achieve our objective of Urban Development and Environment, we will continue to plan, deliver and improve high quality, cost effective, accessible and responsive services. The services, initiatives, major initiatives and service performance indicators for each business area are described below.

**Services**

| **Service areas** | **Description of services provided** | Expenditure  (Revenue)  **Net Cost $'000** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Open Space Planning | This service prepares policies and strategies relating to open space and urban design issues and prepares and implements an annual capital works program. The service also provides landscape and urban design advice and is actively involved in setting service standards for parks maintenance activities. | 554  (0)  **554** |
| Urban Development16),18) | This **statutory planning** service processes all planning applications, provides advice and makes decisions about development proposals which require a planning permit, as well as representing Council at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal where necessary. It monitors the Council’s Planning Scheme as well as preparing major policy documents shaping the future of the City. It also prepares and processes amendments to the Council Planning Scheme and carries out research on demographic, urban development, economic and social issues affecting Council. | 2,358  (697)  **1,661** |
| Parks and Gardens19) | This service is divided into four main operational units. Arboriculture provides tree pruning, planting, removal, planning and street tree strategies. Bushland provides the management of conservation and parkland areas, creeks and other areas of environmental significance. Parks Management provides management and implementation of open space strategies and maintenance programs. Infrastructure Maintenance provides management of all parks and gardens and infrastructure maintenance. | 3,964  (0)  **3,964** |
| Traffic and Transportation Services | This service provides strategic planning, policy development and day to day management of traffic and transport related issues in Council. The unit also implements a Green Travel Plan for Council staff, the TravelSMART “Better Ways to Work” program, Local Area Traffic Management schemes and assists with implementation of the Road Safety Strategy. | 511  (0)  **511** |
| Property Management | This service facilitates the smooth flow of traffic and parking throughout the municipality through the provision of safe, orderly and equitable parking enforcement and education. In addition the service is responsible for the maintenance, management and strategic planning for Council’s building, land and property leases and licenses. | 985  (0)  **985** |
| Environmental Services17) | This service provides **waste collection** including kerbside rubbish collections of garbage, hard waste and green waste from all households and some commercial properties in Council. It also provides street cleaning, leaf collection, weed removal, drainage pit cleaning and street litter bins throughout Council. | 6,596  (212)  **6,384** |
| Roads and Resource Recovery20) | This service provides public tipping to the Council and wider community and conducts ongoing maintenance of the Council’s 600km of **roads**, 2,000km of drains and 1.6 million square metres of footpath. | 3,406  (1,380)  **2,026** |
| Environmental Planning21) | This service develops environmental policy, coordinates and implements environmental projects and works with other services to improve Council’s environmental performance. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions within Council operations and the community are a key priority through Council’s ongoing involvement in the Cities for Climate Protection Plus program. | 396  (36)  **360** |
| Amenity22) | This service provides staff at school crossings throughout the municipality to ensure that all pedestrians, but mainly school aged children, are able to cross the road safely. It maintains and improves the health and safety of people, animals and the environment in Council by providing **animal management** services including a cat trapping program, a dog and cat collection service, a lost and found notification service, a pound service, a registration and administration service, an afterhours service and an emergency service. It also provides education, regulation and enforcement of the General Local Law and relevant State legislation. | 1,425  (652)  **773** |
| Building Services23) | This service provides statutory building services to the Council community including processing of building permits, emergency management responsibilities, fire safety inspections, audits of swimming pool barriers and investigations of complaints and illegal works. | 624  (340)  **284** |
| Environmental Health | This service protects the community’s health and well-being by coordinating **food safety** support programs, Tobacco Act activities and smoke free dining and gaming venue issues. The service also works to rectify any public health concerns relating to unreasonable noise emissions, housing standards and pest controls. | 746  (314)  **432** |

**Major Initiatives**

1. The major three year review of Council’s Municipal Strategic Statement will commence in July 2016 with a completion date of December 2016. This will be the main focus of work being undertaken by the Strategic Planning Unit next year ($Nil net cost).
2. In November 2015, Council resolved to deliver an in-house provided Street Cleansing service. This year’s allocation includes the recent employment of an additional 14 staff, plant maintenance, materials and tipping fees, to deliver this new in house service ($1.40 million net cost).

**Initiatives**

1. Two additional staff for Statutory Planning will enable Council to respond in a timelier manner to planning permit applications and also to an anticipated increased workload resulting from the newly introduced planning zones ($0.90 million net cost).
2. Arboriculture maintenance in Council equates to in excess of 80% of customer enquiries related to Council parks. As a result, an additional two employees will be recruited to continue with the delivery of this service. The contract allocation for Arboriculture Maintenance has also been increased to allow for additional line clearance within the municipality, in fill planting, stump removal and other tree maintenance costs ($0.15 million net cost).
3. As a result of delivering a Council provided street cleansing service, the increased labour allocation in the Roads and Recovery program includes an allowance for a new full time Drainage Inspector ($0.04 million net cost).
4. An extra position is included to implement the storm water management program and coordinate the implementation of the Victorian Park Lake water quality and weir works, including further funding work and community liaison. The position will be a two year role in line with the lake timescale. An additional $0.05 million is also included in this year’s budget for the environmental monitoring of the old landfill gas and leachate ($0.08 million net cost).
5. The number of Local Laws enquiries has increased, as has the number of abandoned vehicles, the number of permits and corresponding fines. The sharing of an Administration officer with the School Crossing Unit has slightly reduced the expenditure in this area, which combined with the extra predicted income, enables one extra Local Law officer to be employed with no net budget implications ($Nil net cost).
6. In recent years the Building Supervisor’s role has increased in scope and volume. This includes mandatory tasks related to site dispensation and consents, smoke detector and swimming pool fencing. Additionally complaints and enforcement requests for work carried out by private building supervisors and general complaints related to urban consolidation have increased. This budget sees the development of two new positions, an additional Building Supervisor and a Building Enforcement officer to address these issues ($0.03 million net cost).

**Service Performance Outcome Indicators 6-10**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service** | **Indicator** | **Performance Measure** | **Computation** |
| Statutory planning | Decision making | Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT  (Percentage of planning application decisions subject to review by VCAT and that were not set aside) | [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside Council’s decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100 |
| Waste collection | Waste diversion | Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill  (Percentage of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill) | [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100 |
| Roads | Satisfaction | Satisfaction with sealed local roads  (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads) | Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads. |
| Animal Management | Health and safety | Animal management prosecutions  (Number of successful animal management prosecutions) | Number of successful animal management prosecutions |
| Food safety | Health and safety | Critical and major non-compliance notifications  (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance notifications that are followed up by Council) | [Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises] x100 |

**2.7 Performance Statement6-10**

The service performance indicators detailed in the preceding pages will be reported on in the Performance Statement which is prepared at the end of the year as required by Section 132 of the Act and included in the 2016/17 Annual Report. The Performance Statement will also include reporting on prescribed indicators of financial performance (outlined in Section 8) and sustainable capacity, which are not included in this budget report. The prescribed performance indicators contained in the Performance Statement are audited each year by the Victorian Auditor General who issues an audit opinion on the Performance Statement. The major initiatives detailed in the preceding pages will be reported in the Annual Report in the form of a statement of progress in the Report of Operations.

**2.8 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result11**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Net Cost** |  |  |
|  | **(Revenue)** | **Expenditure** | **Revenue** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |
| Advocacy and leadership | 3,302 | 3,552 | 250 |
| Community and economic development | 12,455 | 25,079 | 12,624 |
| Community participation | 537 | 537 | 0 |
| Resource management | 5,656 | 9,902 | 4,246 |
| Quality service | 2,720 | 2,720 | 0 |
| Urban development and environment | 17,934 | 21,565 | 3,631 |
| **Total services and initiatives** | **42,604** | **63,355** | **20,751** |
| Other non-attributable | 6,085 |  |  |
| **Deficit before funding sources** | **48,689** |  |  |
| **Funding sources** |  |  |  |
| Rates and charges | 43,457 |  |  |
| Capital grants | 6,277 |  |  |
| **Total funding sources** | **49,734** |  |  |
| **Surplus for the year** | **1,045** |  |  |

**3. Financial statements1-4**

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the years 2017/18 to 2019/20 has been extracted from the Strategic Resource Plan.

This section includes the following financial statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government Model Financial Report:

3.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

3.2 Balance Sheet

3.3 Statement of Changes in Equity

3.4 Statement of Cash Flows

3.5 Statement of Capital Works

3.6 Statement of Human Resources

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Comprehensive Income Statement** | | |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Forecast Actual | **Budget** | Strategic Resource Plan | | |
| Projections | | |
|  | 2015/16 | **2016/17** | 2017/18 | 2017/18 | 2019/20 |
|  | $’000 | **$’000** | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rates and charges | 41,195 | **43,457** | 46,273 | 48,725 | 51,263 |
| Statutory fees and fines | 2,445 | **2,690** | 2,818 | 2,785 | 2,834 |
| User fees | 7,198 | **7,680** | 7,828 | 8,004 | 8,184 |
| Grants - Operating | 14,523 | **13,617** | 13,604 | 13,746 | 13,987 |
| Grants - Capital | 2,903 | **6,277** | 9,407 | 1,694 | 1,367 |
| Contributions - monetary | 661 | **51** | 471 | 370 | 350 |
| Contributions - non-monetary assets | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | 823 | **539** | 479 | 488 | 497 |
| Fair value adjustments for investment property | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other income | 2,823 | **3,263** | 2,734 | 2,782 | 2,830 |
| **Total income** | 72,571 | **77,574** | 83,614 | 78,594 | 81,312 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Expenses** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employee costs | 31,541 | **34,091** | 35,367 | 36,655 | 37,711 |
| Materials and services | 22,937 | **22,107** | 21,847 | 21,999 | 22,810 |
| Bad and doubtful debts | 314 | **340** | 348 | 356 | 364 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 14,034 | **14,500** | 15,187 | 15,744 | 16,274 |
| Borrowing costs | 380 | **312** | 247 | 410 | 340 |
| Other expenses | 5,287 | **5,179** | 5,220 | 5,184 | 5,383 |
| **Total expenses** | 74,493 | **76,529** | 78,216 | 80,348 | 82,882 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Surplus/(deficit) for the year** | (1,922) | **1,045** | 5,398 | (1,754) | (1,570) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other comprehensive income** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net asset revaluation increment /(decrement) | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Items that may be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods** (detail as appropriate) | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total comprehensive result** | (1,922) | **1,045** | 5,398 | (1,754) | (1,570) |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Balance Sheet** |  | |  |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | Forecast Actual | **Budget** | Strategic Resource Plan | | |
| Projections | | |
|  | | 2015 | **2016** | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|  | | $’000 | **$’000** | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
| **Assets** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Current assets** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | 23,476 | **12,207** | 12,428 | 12,776 | 13,028 |
| Trade and other receivables | | 5,272 | **5,367** | 5,467 | 5,567 | 5,667 |
| Other financial assets | | 6 | **6** | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Inventories | | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Non-current assets classified as held for sale | | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other assets | | 1,440 | **200** | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| **Total current assets** | | 30,194 | **17,780** | 18,101 | 18,549 | 18,901 |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Non-current assets** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trade and other receivables | | 206 | **12** | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Investments in associates and joint ventures | | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment | | 501,795 | **514,527** | 518,681 | 517,558 | 514,586 |
| Investment property | | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intangible assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total non-current assets** | | 502,001 | **514,539** | 518,693 | 517,570 | 514,598 |
| **Total assets** | | 532,195 | **532,319** | 536,794 | 536,119 | 533,499 |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Liabilities** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Current liabilities** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trade and other payables | | 5,880 | **5,880** | 5,880 | 5,880 | 5,880 |
| Trust funds and deposits | | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Provisions | | 5,510 | **5,714** | 5,917 | 6,121 | 6,326 |
| Interest-bearing loans and borrowings | | 1,161 | **1,161** | 1,161 | 1,290 | 1,322 |
| **Total current liabilities** | | 12,551 | **12,755** | 12,958 | 13,291 | 13,528 |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Non-current liabilities** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Provisions | | 972 | **1,008** | 1,043 | 1,079 | 1,114 |
| Interest-bearing loans and borrowings | | 4,887 | **3,726** | 2,565 | 3,275 | 1,953 |
| **Total non-current liabilities** | | 5,859 | **4,734** | 3,608 | 4,354 | 3,067 |
| **Total liabilities** | | 18,410 | **17,489** | 16,566 | 17,645 | 16,595 |
| **Net assets** | | 513,785 | **514,830** | 520,228 | 518,474 | 516,904 |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Equity** | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accumulated surplus | | 398,518 | **407,910** | 413,228 | 411,392 | 409,742 |
| Reserves | | 115,267 | **106,920** | 107,000 | 107,082 | 107,162 |
| **Total equity** | | 513,785 | **514,830** | 520,228 | 518,474 | 516,904 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement of Changes in Equity** |  |  |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Total | Accumulated Surplus | Revaluation Reserve | Other Reserves |
|  |  | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
| **2016** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year |  | 513,785 | 398,518 | 102,118 | 13,149 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year |  | 1,045 | 1,045 | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) |  | - | - | - | - |
| Transfer to other reserves |  | - | (2,001) | - | 2,001 |
| Transfer from other reserves |  | - | 10,348 | - | (10,348) |
| **Balance at end of the financial year** |  | **514,830** | **407,910** | **102,118** | **4,802** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2017** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year |  | 514,830 | 407,910 | 102,118 | 4,802 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year |  | 5,398 | 5,398 | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) |  | - | - | - | - |
| Transfer to other reserves |  | - | (1,510) | - | 1,510 |
| Transfer from other reserves |  | - | 1,430 | - | (1,430) |
| **Balance at end of the financial year** |  | **520,228** | **413,228** | **102,118** | **4,882** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2018** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year |  | 520,228 | 413,228 | 102,118 | 4,882 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year |  | (1,754) | (1,754) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) |  | - | - | - | - |
| Transfer to other reserves |  | - | (1,450) | - | 1,452 |
| Transfer from other reserves |  | - | 1,370 | - | (1,370) |
| **Balance at end of the financial year** |  | **518,474** | **411,392** | **102,118** | **4,964** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2019** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year |  | 518,474 | 411,392 | 102,118 | 4,964 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year |  | (1,570) | (1,570) | - | - |
| Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement) |  | - | - | - | - |
| Transfer to other reserves |  | - | (1,410) | - | 1,410 |
| Transfer from other reserves |  | - | 1,330 | - | (1,330) |
| **Balance at end of the financial year** |  | **516,904** | **409,742** | **102,118** | **5,044** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement of Cash Flows** | |  |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Forecast Actual | **Budget** | Strategic Resource Plan | | |
| Projections | | |
|  | 2015/16 | **2016/17** | 2017/18 | 2017/18 | 2019/20 |
|  | $’000 | **$’000** | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
|  | Inflows | **Inflows** | Inflows | Inflows | Inflows |
|  | (Outflows) | **(Outflows)** | (Outflows) | (Outflows) | (Outflows) |
| **Cash flows from operating activities** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rates and charges | 41,410 | **43,357** | 46,173 | 48,625 | 51,163 |
| Statutory fees and fines | 2,195 | **2,690** | 2,818 | 2,785 | 2,834 |
| User fees | 7,849 | **7,680** | 7,828 | 8,004 | 8,184 |
| Grants - operating | 13,313 | **13,617** | 13,604 | 13,746 | 13,987 |
| Grants - capital | 2,903 | **6,277** | 9,407 | 1,694 | 1,367 |
| Contributions - monetary | 661 | **51** | 471 | 370 | 350 |
| Interest received | 2,044 | **1,820** | 1,264 | 1,278 | 1,292 |
| Dividends received | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trust funds and deposits taken | 50 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other receipts | 2,511 | **1,443** | 1,469 | 1,503 | 1,538 |
| Net GST refund / payment | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Employee costs | (31,185) | **(33,841)** | (35,117) | (36,405) | (37,461) |
| Materials and services | (24,043) | **(22,106)** | (21,848) | (21,999) | (22,810) |
| Trust funds and deposits repaid | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other payments | (5,786) | **(5,529)** | (5,577) | (5,549) | (5,757) |
| **Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities** | 11,922 | **15,459** | 20,492 | 14,052 | 14,687 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cash flows from investing activities** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | (21,007) | **(29,195)** | (20,881) | (16,169) | (14,859) |
| Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | 1,664 | **3,741** | 2,018 | 2,036 | 2,054 |
| Payments for investments | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Proceeds from sale of investments | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Loan and advances made | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Payments of loans and advances | 10 | **199** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities | (19,333) | **(25,255)** | (18,863) | (14,133) | (12,805) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cash flows from financing activities** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finance costs | (380) | **(312)** | (247) | (410) | (340) |
| Proceeds from borrowings | 0 | **0** | 0 | 2,000 | 0 |
| Repayment of borrowings | (1,161) | **(1,161)** | (1,161) | (1,161) | (1,290) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities | (1,541) | **(1,473)** | (1,408) | 429 | (1,630) |
| **Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents** | (8,952) | (11,269) | 221 | 348 | 252 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year | 32,428 | **23,476** | 12,207 | 12,428 | 12,776 |
| **Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year** | 23,476 | **12,207** | 12,428 | 12,776 | 13,028 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement of Capital Works** | |  |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Forecast Actual | **Budget** | Strategic Resource Plan | | |
| Projections | | |
|  | 2015/16 | **2016/17** | 2017/18 | 2017/18 | 2019/20 |
|  | $’000 | **$’000** | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
| **Property** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Land improvements | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total land | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Buildings | 10,678 | **13,368** | 10,114 | 8,064 | 7,550 |
| Heritage buildings | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Building improvements | 75 | **117** | 89 | 71 | 66 |
| Leasehold improvements | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total buildings** | 10,753 | **13,485** | 10,203 | 8,135 | 7,616 |
| **Total property** | 10,753 | **13,485** | 10,203 | 8,135 | 7,616 |
| **Plant and equipment** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heritage plant and equipment | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Plant, machinery and equipment | 2,093 | **3,179** | 2,406 | 1,917 | 1,796 |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Computers and telecommunications | 1,687 | **2,112** | 1,598 | 1,274 | 1,193 |
| Library books | 318 | **500** | 378 | 302 | 282 |
| **Total plant and equipment** | 4,098 | **5,791** | 4,382 | 3,493 | 3,271 |
| **Infrastructure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roads | 3,598 | **5,367** | 4,061 | 3,239 | 3,031 |
| Bridges | 6 | **10** | 8 | 6 | 6 |
| Footpaths and cycleways | 577 | **681** | 515 | 411 | 385 |
| Drainage | 1,301 | **1,885** | 1,426 | 1,137 | 1,065 |
| Recreational, leisure and community facilities | 405 | **629** | 476 | 379 | 355 |
| Waste management | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes | 1,686 | **2,614** | 1,978 | 1,577 | 1,476 |
| Aerodromes | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Off street car parks | 88 | **115** | 87 | 69 | 65 |
| Other infrastructure | 105 | **140** | 106 | 84 | 79 |
| **Total infrastructure** | 7,766 | **11,441** | 8,657 | 6,902 | 6,462 |
| **Total capital works expenditure** | 22,617 | **30,717** | 23,242 | 18,530 | 17,349 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Represented by:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| New asset expenditure | 6,850 | **9,176** | 5,767 | 3,296 | 2,791 |
| Asset renewal expenditure | 12,225 | **17,454** | 15,928 | 13,145 | 13,560 |
| Asset expansion expenditure | 2,190 | **3,455** | 702 | 857 | 268 |
| Asset upgrade expenditure | 1,352 | **632** | 845 | 1,232 | 730 |
| **Total capital works expenditure** | 22,617 | **30,717** | 23,242 | 18,530 | 17,349 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement of Human Resources** | |  |  |  |  |
| For the four years ending 30 June 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Forecast Actual | **Budget** | Strategic Resource Plan | | |
| Projections | | |
|  | 2015/16 | **2016/17** | 2017/18 | 2017/18 | 2019/20 |
|  | $’000 | **$’000** | $’000 | $’000 | $’000 |
| **Staff expenditure** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employee costs - operating | 31,541 | **34,091** | 35,367 | 36,655 | 37,711 |
| Employee costs - capital | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total staff expenditure** | 31,541 | **34,091** | 35,367 | 36,655 | 37,711 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | EFT | **EFT** | EFT | EFT | EFT |
| **Staff numbers** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employees | 567.4 | **568.7** | 570.2 | 573.4 | 575 |
| Total staff numbers | 567.4 | **568.7** | 570.2 | 573.4 | 575 |

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Comprises** | |
| **Department** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Permanent**  **Full time $’000** | **Permanent Part Time**  **$’000** |
| Asset Management | 2,500 | 2,000 | 500 |
| City Services | 7,200 | 7,000 | 200 |
| Community Services | 8,500 | 7,000 | 1,500 |
| Corporate Services | 4,400 | 4,000 | 400 |
| Culture and Leisure | 5,300 | 5,000 | 300 |
| Environment and Amenity | 1,900 | 1,000 | 900 |
| Strategy and Governance | 3,100 | 3,000 | 100 |
| Total permanent staff expenditure | 32,900 | 29,000 | 3,900 |
| Casuals and other expenditure | 1,191 |  |  |
| Capitalised Labour costs | 0 |  |  |
| Total expenditure | 34,091 |  |  |

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Comprises** | |
| **Department** | **Budget**  **FTE** | **Permanent**  **Full time** | **Permanent Part Time** |
| Asset Management | 41.6 | 33.3 | 8.3 |
| City Services | 120.0 | 116.7 | 3.3 |
| Community Services | 141.7 | 116.7 | 25.0 |
| Corporate Services | 73.4 | 66.7 | 6.7 |
| Culture and Leisure | 88.3 | 83.3 | 5.0 |
| Environment and Amenity | 31.7 | 16.7 | 15.0 |
| Strategy and Governance | 52.1 | 50.4 | 1.7 |
| Total permanent staff | 548.8 | 483.8 | 65.0 |
| Casuals and other | 19.9 |  |  |
| Capitalised Labour costs | 0.0 |  |  |
| Total staff | 568.7 |  |  |

**4. Financial performance indicators 6-7**

The following table highlights Council’s current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council’s financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation’s objectives.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Indicator** | **Measure** | **Notes** | **Actual** | **Forecast** | **Budget** | **Strategic Resource Plan Projections** | | | **Trend** |
| **2014/15** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2017/18** | **2019/20** | **+/o/-** |
| ***Operating position*** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Adjusted underlying result | Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue | 1 | (1.3%) | (6.7%) | (6.2%) | (4.9%) | (3.8%) | (3.0%) | **+** |
| ***Liquidity*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Working Capital | Current assets / current liabilities | 2 | 220.3% | 240.6% | 139.4% | 139.7% | 139.6% | 139.7% | **o** |
| Unrestricted cash | Unrestricted cash / current liabilities |  | 101.0% | 127.2% | 88.7% | 95.9% | 96.1% | 96.3% | **o** |
| ***Obligations*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Loans and borrowings | Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue | 3 | 12.3% | 14.7% | 11.2% | 8.1% | 9.4% | 6.4% | **+** |
| Loans and borrowings | Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue |  | 3.2% | 3.7% | 3.4% | 3.0% | 3.2% | 3.2% | **+** |
| Indebtedness | Non-current liabilities / own source revenue |  | 9.0% | 10.8% | 8.2% | 6.0% | 6.9% | 4.7% | **+** |
| Asset renewal | Asset renewal expenses / Asset depreciation | 4 | 102.6% | 87.1% | 120.4% | 104.9% | 83.5% | 83.3% | **-** |
| ***Stability*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rates concentration | Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue | 5 | 56.3% | 59.0% | 60.3% | 62.0% | 63.0% | 63.7% | **-** |
| Rates effort | Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipality |  | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.5% | **o** |
| ***Efficiency*** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expenditure level | Total expenses/ no. of property assessments |  | $1,302 | $1,318 | $1,340 | $1,355 | $1,377 | $1,406 | **+** |
| Revenue level | Residential rate revenue / No. of residential property assessments |  | $611 | $625 | $650 | $678 | $706 | $735 | **+** |
| Workforce turnover | No. of permanent staff resignations & terminations / average no. of permanent staff for the financial year |  | 9.0% | 9.3% | 8.8% | 8.4% | 8.0% | 7.6% | **+** |

Key to Forecast Trend:

+ Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady

- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

**Notes to indicators**

***1 Adjusted underlying result***– An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance expected over the period, although continued losses means reliance on Council's cash reserves or increased debt to maintain services.

***2 Working Capital*** – The proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets. Working capital is forecast to decrease significantly in 2016/17 year due to a run down in cash reserves to fund the capital program. The trend in later years is to remain steady at an acceptable level.

***3 Debt compared to rates*** - Trend indicates Council's reducing reliance on debt against its annual rate revenue through redemption of long term debt.

***4 Asset renewal*** - This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewal of assets against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100 means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets.

***5 Rates concentration*** - Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's on-going services. Trend indicates Council will become more reliant on rate revenue compared to all other revenue sources.

**5. Other budget information (required by the Regulations)**

This section presents other budget related information required by the Regulations

This section includes the following statements and reports:

5.1.1 Grants operating

5.2.1 Grants capital

5.1.3 Statement of borrowings

**5.1.1 Grants - operating ($0.91 million decrease)**

Operating grants include all monies received from State and Federal sources for the purposes of funding the delivery of Council’s services to ratepayers. Overall, the level of operating grants is projected to decrease by 6.2% or $0.91 million compared to 2015/16. A list of operating grants by type and source, classified into recurrent and non-recurrent, is included below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Operating Grants** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| *Recurrent - Commonwealth Government* |  |  |  |
| Victoria Grants Commission | 7,191 | 6,779 | (412) |
| Family day care | 365 | 522 | 157 |
| General home care | 2,930 | 3,165 | 235 |
| Other (\*specify each type) | 600 | 400 | (200) |
| *Recurrent - State Government* |  |  |  |
| Primary care partnerships | 80 | 240 | 160 |
| Aged care | 125 | 265 | 140 |
| School crossing supervisors | 240 | 240 | - |
| Libraries | 200 | 200 | - |
| Maternal and child health | 230 | 230 | - |
| Recreation | 200 | 200 | - |
| Community safety | 150 | 150 | - |
| Other (\*specify each type) | 1,262 | 226 | (1,036) |
| Total recurrent grants | **13,573** | **12,617** | **(956)** |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government* |  |  |  |
| Drainage maintenance | 500 | - | (500) |
| Environmental planning | - | 500 | 500 |
| *Non-recurrent - State Government* |  |  |  |
| Community health | 450 | - | (450) |
| Family and children | - | 500 | 500 |
| Total non-recurrent operating grants | **950** | **1,000** | **50** |
| Total operating grants | **14,523** | **13,617** | **(906)** |

Increases in specific operating grant funding reflect expected increased demand for these services. The reduction in Victoria Grants Commission (VGC) funding results from changes to the funding formula following a review of the basis of funding by the VGC. This decrease is contrary to the state-wide minor increase of 0.2% or $1.0 million in the $540 million Commonwealth financial assistance grants paid to Victorian local governments – (Indicative allocation advice received from Victoria Grants Commission). The level of VGC grants to Victorian Councils has been effected by Commonwealth Government’s decision to pause indexation for three years commencing in 2015-16. The VGC analysis indicates that Victorian Councils will be impacted by $200 million during the pause as well as lowering the base from which indexation will be resumed by approximately 12.5%

**5.1.2 Grants - capital ($3.37 million increase)**

Capital grants include all monies received from State, Federal and community sources for the purposes of funding the capital works program. Overall the level of capital grants has increased by 116.2% or $3.37 million compared to 2015/16 due mainly to specific funding for some large capital works projects. Section 6. “Analysis of Capital Budget” includes a more detailed analysis of the grants and contributions expected to be received during the 2016/17 year. A list of capital grants by type and source, classified into recurrent and non-recurrent, is included below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capital Grants** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| *Recurrent - Commonwealth Government* |  |  |  |
| Roads to recovery | 810 | 830 | 20 |
| *Recurrent - State Government* | - | - | - |
| Total recurrent capital grants | **810** | **830** | **20** |
| *Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government* |  |  |  |
| Buildings | 1,500 | 2,000 | 500 |
| Plant and machinery | - | 435 | 435 |
| Drainage | 593 | 560 | (33) |
| Footpaths | - | 161 | 161 |
| *Non-recurrent - State Government* |  |  |  |
| Buildings | - | 2,291 | 2,291 |
| Total non-recurrent capital grants | **2,093** | **5,447** | **3,354** |
| Total capital grants | **2,903** | **6,277** | **3,374** |

**5.1.3 Statement of Borrowings**

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2015/16** | **2016/17** |
| **$** | **$** |
| Total amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year | 7,209,000 | 6,048,000 |
| Total amount to be borrowed | 0 | 0 |
| Total amount projected to be redeemed | (1,161,000) | (1,161,000) |
| Total amount proposed to be borrowed as at 30 June | 6,048,000 | 4,887,000 |

**6. Detailed list of Capital Works**

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2016/17 year.

The capital works projects are grouped by class and include the following:

* New works for 2016/17
* Works carried forward from the 2015/16 year.

**Capital works program**

For the year ending 30 June 2017

**6.1 New works**

|  |  | **Asset expenditure types** | | | | **Funding sources** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Capital Works Area** | **ProjectCost** | **New** | **Renewal** | **Upgrade** | **Expansion** | **Grants** | **Contributions** | **Council Cash** | **Borrowings** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$'000** | **$'000** |
| **PROPERTY** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Land** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Land Improvements** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Buildings** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Community facilities: Victorian Community Facility | **1,200** | 1,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 0 | 1,132 | 0 |
| Sports facilities: Velodrome / State Bowls Centre | **4,000** | 4,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Victorian library concept plan | **90** | 90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 80 | 0 |
| Community facilities | **1,127** | 0 | 1,127 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,127 | 0 |
| Municipal offices | **529** | 0 | 529 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 529 | 0 |
| Sports facilities | **166** | 0 | 166 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 136 | 0 |
| Pavilions | **320** | 0 | 320 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 320 | 0 |
| Other buildings | **882** | 0 | 882 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 882 | 0 |
| **Total Buildings** | **8,314** | 5,290 | 3,024 | 0 | 0 | 4,108 | 0 | 4,206 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Building Improvements** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Municipal offices: Depot lift | **117** | 117 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 117 | 0 |
| **Total Building Improvements** | **117** | 117 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 117 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Leasehold Improvements** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Heritage buildings** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL PROPERTY** | **8,431** | 5,407 | 3,024 | 0 | 0 | 4,108 | 0 | 4,323 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Plant, Machinery and Equipment** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Motor vehicles and plant | **3,021** | 0 | 3,021 | 0 | 0 | 435 | 0 | 2,586 | 0 |
| **Total Plant, Machinery and Equipment** | **3,021** | 0 | 3,021 | 0 | 0 | 435 | 0 | 2,586 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Computers and Telecommunications** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Information technology: Asset system | **414** | 414 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 414 | 0 |
| Information technology: PCs and servers | **550** | 550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 550 | 0 |
| Information technology: WAN infrastructure | **150** | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 0 |
| Information technology | **201** | 0 | 201 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 201 | 0 |
| **Total Computers and Telecommunications** | **1,315** | 1,114 | 201 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,315 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Heritage Plant and Equipment** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Library books** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Books: Product purchases | **500** | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 0 |
| **Total library books** | **500** | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | **4,836** | 1,614 | 3,222 | 0 | 0 | 435 | 0 | 4,401 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **INFRASTRUCTURE** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Roads** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local road: Northfield Plaza | **60** | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0 |
| Carpark: Northfield Leisure Centre | **55** | 55 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 55 | 0 |
| Traffic devices: Bestings to James | **80** | 80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 0 |
| Local roads | **1,116** | 0 | 1,116 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,116 | 0 |
| Program works | **797** | 0 | 797 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 797 | 0 |
| Declared main roads | **368** | 0 | 368 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 368 | 0 |
| Traffic devices | **506** | 0 | 506 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 506 | 0 |
| Street lighting | **20** | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Traffic signals | **75** | 0 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 0 |
| Integrated transport plan | **220** | 0 | 220 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 220 | 0 |
| Roads to recovery | **808** | 0 | 808 | 0 | 0 | 808 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pedestrian safety | **85** | 0 | 85 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 85 | 0 |
| Parking | **80** | 0 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 0 |
| Traffic investigations | **70** | 0 | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70 | 0 |
| Local road: Benjamin to High | **200** | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 0 |
| Local road: Pinders to Archfield | **300** | 0 | 0 | 150 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 300 | 0 |
| Local road: David to Portmouth | **110** | 0 | 0 | 55 | 55 | 0 | 0 | 110 | 0 |
| **Total Roads** | **4,950** | 195 | 4,145 | 305 | 305 | 808 | 0 | 4,142 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Bridges** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bridges and culverts | **10** | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| **Total Bridges** | **10** | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Footpaths and Cycleways** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Footpath: James to High | **25** | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Footpath: Lanham to Elm | **15** | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Footpath: Watt to Clapam | **20** | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Footpath: Wembley to Jet | **20** | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Footpaths | **173** | 0 | 173 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 173 | 0 |
| Bike paths | **94** | 0 | 94 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 94 | 0 |
| **Total Footpaths and Cycleways** | **347** | 80 | 267 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 347 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Drainage** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Storm water trap: Muddy Creek | **40** | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 0 |
| Drains - roads | **570** | 0 | 570 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 570 | 0 |
| Retarding basins | **500** | 0 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 430 | 0 | 70 | 0 |
| Waterways | **20** | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Water quality | **220** | 0 | 220 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 220 | 0 |
| Road drain: Burke stage 1 and 2 | **300** | 0 | 0 | 150 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 300 | 0 |
| **Total Drainage** | **1,650** | 40 | 1,310 | 150 | 150 | 430 | 0 | 1,220 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Playing surfaces: Training lights | **91** | 91 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 91 | 0 |
| Playground equipment: Victoria Park | **170** | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 170 | 0 |
| Irrigation systems: Victoria Park | **358** | 358 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 358 | 0 |
| **Total Recreation, Leisure and Comm Facilities** | **619** | 619 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 619 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Waste Management** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parks | **2,083** | 0 | 2,083 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,083 | 0 |
| Streetscapes | **25** | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| Trees | **380** | 0 | 380 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 380 | 0 |
| Other open space | **76** | 0 | 76 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 76 | 0 |
| **Total Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes** | **2,564** | 0 | 2,564 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,564 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Aerodromes** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Off Street Car Parks** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Car parks | **80** | 0 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 0 |
| **Total Off Street Car Parks** | **80** | 0 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other Infrastructure** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Public art: Municipal square | **105** | 105 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 70 | 0 |
| **Total Other Infrastructure** | **105** | 105 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 70 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE** | **10,325** | 1,039 | 8,376 | 455 | 455 | 1,273 | 0 | 9,052 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL NEW CAPITAL WORKS 2016/17** | **23,592** | 8,060 | 14,622 | 455 | 455 | 5,816 | 0 | 17,776 | 0 |

**6.2 Works carried forward from the 2015/16 year**

|  |  | **Asset expenditure types** | | | | **Funding sources** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Capital Works Area** | **ProjectCost** | **New** | **Renewal** | **Upgrade** | **Expansion** | **Grants** | **Contributions** | **Council Cash** | **Borrowings** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$'000** | **$'000** |
| **PROPERTY** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Land** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Land Improvements** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| **Total Land** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Buildings** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Municipal Offices: Civic Precinct | **752** | 752 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 752 | 0 |
| Community facilities | **300** | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 280 | 0 |
| Municipal offices | **490** | 0 | 490 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 0 | 340 | 0 |
| Sports facilities | **215** | 0 | 215 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 215 | 0 |
| Other buildings | **297** | 0 | 297 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 297 | 0 |
| Community facilities: Newlands Centre | **3,000** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,000 | 0 | 0 | 3,000 |  |
| **Total Buildings** | **5,054** | 752 | 1,302 | 0 | 3,000 | 170 | 0 | 4,884 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Building Improvements** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Leasehold Improvements** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Heritage buildings** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL PROPERTY** | **5,054** | 752 | 1,302 | 0 | 3,000 | 170 | 0 | 4,884 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Plant, Machinery and Equipment** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Motor vehicles and plant | **158** | 0 | 158 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 158 | 0 |
| **Total Plant, Machinery and Equipment** | **158** | 0 | 158 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 158 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Computers and Telecommunications** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Information technology: PCs and servers | **319** | 319 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 319 | 0 |
| Information technology | **478** | 0 | 478 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 478 | 0 |
| **Total Computers and Telecommunications** | **797** | 319 | 478 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 797 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Heritage Plant and Equipment** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Library books** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | **955** | 319 | 636 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 955 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **INFRASTRUCTURE** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Roads** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local roads | **151** | 0 | 151 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 151 | 0 |
| Traffic devices | **60** | 0 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0 |
| Integrated transport plan | **77** | 0 | 77 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 77 | 0 |
| Local road: Johnson to Bates | **129** | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0 |
| **Total Roads** | **417** | 0 | 288 | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 417 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Bridges** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Footpaths and Cycleways** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Footpaths | **63** | 0 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 63 | 0 |
| Bike paths | **271** | 0 | 271 | 0 | 0 | 161 | 0 | 110 | 0 |
| **Total Footpaths and Cycleways** | **334** | 0 | 334 | 0 | 0 | 161 | 0 | 173 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Drainage** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drains - roads | **37** | 0 | 37 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 0 |
| Waterways | **150** | 0 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 130 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Road drain: Grange final stage | **48** | 0 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| **Total Drainage** | **235** | 0 | 187 | 48 | 0 | 130 | 0 | 105 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Playing surfaces: Training lights | **10** | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| **Total Recreation, Leisure and Comm Facilities** | **10** | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Waste Management** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parks | **50** | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
| **Total Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes** | **50** | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Aerodromes** | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Off Street Car Parks** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Car parks | **35** | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
| **Total Off Street Car Parks** | **35** | 0 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other Infrastructure** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Public art: Northfield shopping centre | **35** | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
| **Total Other Infrastructure** | **35** | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE** | **1,116** | 45 | 894 | 177 | 0 | 291 | 0 | 825 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL C/FWD CAPITAL WORKS 2015/16** | **7,125** | 1,116 | 2,832 | 177 | 3,000 | 461 | 0 | 6,664 | 0 |

**6.3 Summary**

|  |  | **Asset expenditure types** | | | | **Funding sources** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Capital Works Area** | **ProjectCost** | **New** | **Renewal** | **Upgrade** | **Expansion** | **Grants** | **Contributions** | **Council Cash** | **Borrowings** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$'000** | **$'000** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PROPERTY** | 13,485 | 6,159 | 4,326 | 0 | 3,000 | 4,278 | 0 | 9,207 | 0 |
| **PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | 5,791 | 1,933 | 3,858 | 0 | 0 | 435 | 0 | 5,356 | 0 |
| **INFRASTRUCTURE** | 11,441 | 1,084 | 9,270 | 632 | 455 | 1,564 | 0 | 9,877 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | 30,717 | 9,176 | 17,454 | 632 | 3,455 | 6,277 | 0 | 24,440 | 0 |

1. **Rates and charges1-7**

This section presents information about rates and charges which the Act and the Regulations require to be disclosed in the Council’s annual budget.

1. **Rates and charges**

In developing the Strategic Resource Plan (referred to in Section 14.), rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue, accounting for 56.8% of the total revenue received by Council annually. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the Strategic Resource Planning process. The State Government have introduced the *Fair Go Rates System (FGRS)* which sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2016/17 the FGRS cap has been set at 2.5%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council’s average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the Victorian community.

It is predicted that the 2016/17 operating position will be significantly impacted by wages growth and reductions in government funding. It will therefore be necessary to achieve future revenue growth while containing costs in order to achieve an almost breakeven operating position by 2018/19 as set out in the Strategic Resource Plan. The $9.00 million contribution from operations toward capital investment for the 2016/17 year is also much less than the desired level of $14.50 million and therefore, unless it can be increased, it will be difficult to maintain robust capital works programs in the future.

In order to achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 2.5% in line with the rate cap, the kerbside collection charge by 3.9% and the recycling charge by 5.3%. This will raise total rates and charges for 2016/17 of $42.48 million, including $0.43 million generated from supplementary rates. Council’s municipal and recycling charges have increased by more than the general rate due to an increase in administrative costs (municipal charge) and renegotiation of council’s collection services contract (recycling).

7.1 The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under Section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type or class of land** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** |  |
| **cents/$CIV** | **cents/$CIV** | **Change** |
| General rate for rateable residential properties | 0.246871 | **0.253422** | **2.7%** |
| General rate for rateable commercial properties | 0.432172 | **0.442976** | **2.5%** |
| General rate for rateable industrial properties | 0.432172 | **0.442976** | **2.5%** |
| Rate concession for rateable recreational properties | 0.216086 | **0.221488** | **2.5%** |

7.2 The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type or class of land** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** |  | |
| **$** | **$** | **Change** |
| Residential | 22,026,450 | **22,875,485** | **3.9%** |
| Commercial | 4,107,917 | **4,159,602** | **1.3%** |
| Industrial | 3,560,258 | **3,605,053** | **1.3%** |
| Recreational | 14,401 | **14,669** | **1.9%** |
| **Total amount to be raised by general rates** | 29,709,026 | **30,654,809** | **3.2%** |

7.3 The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type or class of land** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** |  |
| **Number** | **Number** | **Change** |
| Residential | 51,909 | **52,584** | **1.3%** |
| Commercial | 2,496 | **2,428** | **-2.7%** |
| Industrial | 2,086 | **2,086** | **-** |
| Cultural and Recreational | 10 | **10** | **-** |
| **Total number of assessments** | 56,501 | **57,108** | **1.1%** |

7.4 The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV)

7.5 The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type or class of land** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Change** |
| **$** | **$** |  |
| Residential | 8,922,249,818 | **9,026,652,050** | **1.2%** |
| Commercial | 950,527,144 | **939,012,373** | **-1.2%** |
| Industrial | 823,805,800 | **813,825,227** | **-1.2%** |
| Cultural and Recreational | 6,664,238 | **6,623,000** | **-0.6%** |
| **Total value of land** | 10,703,247,000 | **10,786,112,650** | **0.8%** |

7.6 The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Per Rateable Property** | **Per Rateable Property** |  |
| **Type of Charge** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Change** |
|  | **$** | **$** |  |
| Municipal | 105 | **107** | **1.9%** |

7.7 The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charge** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Change** |
| **$** | **$** |  |
| Municipal | 5,931,135 | **6,110,556** | **3.0%** |

7.8 The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Per Rateable Property** | | **Per Rateable Property** | |  |
| **Type of Charge** | **2015/16** | | **2016/17** | | **Change** |
|  | | **$** | | **$** |  |
| Kerbside collection | | 77 | | **80** | **3.9%** |
| Recycling | | 19 | | **20** | **5.3%** |
| **Total** | | 96 | | **100** | **4.2%** |

7.9 The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Charge** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Change** |
| **$** | **$** |  |
| Kerbside collection | 4,349,499 | **4,568,640** | **5.0%** |
| Recycling | 1,006,911 | **1,142,160** | **13.4%** |
| **Total** | 5,356,410 | **5,710,800** | **6.6%** |

7.10 The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Change** |
| **$** | **$** |  |
| General rates | 29,709,026 | **30,654,809** | 3.2% |
| Municipal charge | 5,931,135 | **6,110,556** | 3.0% |
| Kerbside collection and Recycling | 5,356,410 | **5,710,800** | 6.6% |
| **Total Rates and charges** | 40,996,571 | **42,476,165** | **3.6%** |

7.11 Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

* The making of supplementary valuations (2016/17: estimated $425,723 and 2015/16: $164,753)
* The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
* Changes in use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa
* Changes in use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa.

**Differential rates 5-7**

**7.2.1 Rates to be levied**

The rate and amount of rates payable in relation to land in each category of differential are:

* A general rate of 0.253422% (0.253422 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable residential properties
* A general rate of 0.442976% (0.442976 cents in the dollar of CIV) for all rateable commercial and industrial properties.

Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of rateable land (categorised by the characteristics described below) by the relevant percentages indicated above.

Council believes each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of council functions. Details of the objectives of each differential rate, the types of classes of land which are subject to each differential rate and the uses of each differential rate are set out below.

**7.2.2 Commercial land**

Commercial land is any land which is:

* Occupied for the principal purpose of carrying out the manufacture or production of, or trade in, goods or services or
* Unoccupied but zoned commercial or industrial under the City of Victoria Planning Scheme.

The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including (but not limited to) the:

* Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets
* Development and provision of health and community services
* Provision of general support services.

The types and classes of rateable land within this differential rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above.

The money raised by the differential rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council’s budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land.

The geographic location of the land within this differential rate is wherever it is located within the municipal district, without reference to ward boundaries.

The use of the land within this differential rate, in the case of improved land, is any use of land.

The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to commercial land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned commercial and/or industrial under the City of Victoria Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land, and have reference to the planning scheme zoning.

The types of buildings on the land within this differential rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2016/17 financial year.

**7.2.3 Residential land**

Residential land is any land, which is:

* Occupied for the principal purpose of physically accommodating persons or
* Unoccupied but zoned residential under the City of Victoria Planning Scheme and which is not commercial land.

The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of Council, including (but not limited to) the:

* Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets
* Development and provision of health and community services
* Provision of general support services.

The types and classes of rateable land within this differential rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above.

The money raised by the differential rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council’s budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land.

The geographic location of the land within this differential rate is where it is located within the municipal district, without reference to ward boundaries.

The use of the land within this differential rate, in the case of improved land, is any use of land.

The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the Victorian Local Council Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land, and have reference to the planning scheme zoning.

The types of buildings on the land within this differential rate are all buildings already on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2016/17 financial year.

**Budget Analysis**

The following reports provide detailed analysis to support and explain the budget reports in the previous section.

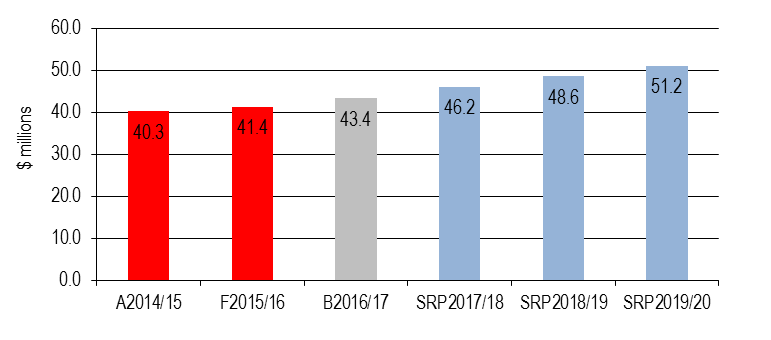
This section includes the following analysis and information:

1. Summary of financial position
2. Budget influences
3. Analysis of operating budget
4. Analysis of budgeted cash position
5. Analysis of capital budget
6. Analysis of budgeted financial position
7. Strategic resource plan
8. Summary of other strategies
9. Rating strategy

**8. Summary of financial position**

Council has prepared a Budget for the 2016/17 financial year which seeks to balance the demand for services and infrastructure with the community’s capacity to pay. Key budget information is provided below about the rate increase, operating result, services, cash and investments, capital works, financial position, financial sustainability and strategic objectives of the Council.

**8.1 Total rates and charges**



A = Actual F = Forecast B = Budget SRP = Strategic Resource Plan estimates

It is proposed that the average rate increase by 2.5% for the 2016/17 year, raising total rates of $43.46 million, including $0.43 million generated from supplementary rates. This will result in an increase in total revenue from rates and service charges of 3.6%. Of the 3.6% increase, 3.0% will go toward maintaining service levels and meeting the cost of a number of external influences affecting the operating budget including a $0.40 million reduction in the Victoria Grants Commission allocation. The remaining 0.6% increase will go toward capital works to address the asset renewal needs of the City. This rate increase is in line with rate cap set by the Minister for Local Government. (The rate increase for the 2015/16 year was 5.0%). Refer also Sections 7 and 10 for more information.

**8.2 Operating result**

The expected operating result for the 2016/17 year is a surplus of $1.05 million, which is an increase of $2.97 million over 2015/16. The improved operating result is due mainly to external funding for capital works which is forecast to increase by $3.37 million to $6.28 million. The adjusted underlying result, which excludes items such as non-recurrent capital grants and non-cash contributions is a deficit of $4.40 million, which is an increase of $0.39 million over 2015/16 – refer to Section 7 of this summary for further information. (The forecast operating result for the 2015/16 year is a deficit of $1.92 million).

**8.3 Services**

The net cost of services delivered to the community for the 2016/17 year is expected to be $42.60 million which is an increase of $3.20 million over 2015/16. A key influencing factor in the development of the 2016/17 budget has been the recently released results of the community satisfaction survey conducted by Council. The survey results show that while there is a relatively high level of satisfaction with most services provided by Council, there are some areas of concern where there is a clear message that ratepayers want improved service levels. For the 2016/17 year, service levels have been maintained and a number of initiatives proposed. (The forecast net cost for the 2015/16 year is $39.40 million).

Refer Section 2 for a list of services.

**8.4 Cash and investments**

Cash and investments are expected to decrease by $11.27 million during the year to $12.21 million as at 30 June 2017. This is due mainly to the carried forward component of the 2015/16 capital works program and a number of major building projects. The reduction in cash and investments is in line with Council's Strategic Resource Plan. (Cash and investments are forecast to be $23.48 million as at 30 June 2016).

Refer also Section 4 for the Statement of Cash Flows and Section 11 for an analysis of the cash position.

**8.5 Capital works**

The capital works program for the 2016/17 year is expected to be $30.72 million of which $7.13 million relates to projects which will be carried forward from the 2015/16 year. The carried forward component is fully funded from the 2015/16 budget. Of the $30.72 million of capital funding required, $6.28 million will come from external grants with the balance of $24.44 million from Council cash. The Council cash amount comprises asset sales ($1.68 million), cash held at the start of the year ($13.89 million) and cash generated through operations in the 2016/17 financial year ($8.87 million). The capital expenditure program has been set and prioritised based on a rigorous process of consultation that has enabled Council to assess needs and develop sound business cases for each project. This year's program includes a number of major building projects including the construction of a velodrome and lawn bowls centre. (Capital works is forecast to be $22.62 million for the 2015/16 year).

The graph below sets out the required and actual asset renewal over the life of the current Strategic Resource Plan and the renewal backlog.

The asset renewal program has been increased to $17.50 million in the 2016/17 year which will lead to a reduction in the backlog to $2.04 million. However over the rest of the four year period, it is expected to increase as funds are directed toward new asset projects with the backlog expected to climb to $6.61 million at the end of the 2019/20 year.

Refer also Section 4 for the Statement of Capital Works and Section12 for an analysis of the capital budget.

**8.6 Financial position**

The financial position is expected to improve with net assets (net worth) to increase by $1.05 million to $514.83 million although net current assets (working capital) will reduce by $12.61 million to $5.03 million as at 30 June 2017. This is mainly due to the use of cash reserves to fund the capital works program. (Net assets is forecast to be $513.79 million as at 30 June 2016).

Refer also Section 4 for the Balance Sheet and Section13 for an analysis of the budgeted financial position.

**8.7 Financial sustainability**

A high level Strategic Resource Plan for the years 2017/18 to 2019/20 has been developed to assist Council in adopting a budget within a longer term prudent financial framework. The key objective of the Plan is financial sustainability in the medium to long term, while still achieving the Council’s strategic objectives as specified in the Council Plan. The adjusted underlying result, which is a measure of financial sustainability, shows a decreasing deficit over the four year period.

Refer Section 14 for more information on the Strategic Resource Plan.

**8.8 Strategic objectives**

The Annual Budget includes a range of services and initiatives to be funded that will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan. The above graph shows the level of funding allocated in the budget to achieve the strategic objectives as set out in the Council Plan for the 2016/17 year.

The services that contribute to these objectives are set out in Section 2.

**8.9 Council expenditure allocations**



The above chart provides an indication of how Council allocates its expenditure across the main services that it delivers. It shows how much is allocated to each service area for every $100 that Council spends. Council overheads, governance costs and administrative costs are allocated to our external facing services using an internal overhead allocation model.

**9. Budget influences1**

This section sets out the key budget influences arising from the internal and external environment within which the Council operates.

**9.1 Snapshot of Victorian City Council2**

Victorian City Council is located on the northern edge of Melbourne. The city, covering an area of 51 square kilometres, comprises the former cities of East and West and the southern parts of the former North municipality.

The current City was created through two stages of amalgamation with the first stage between the former City of East and the former City of West in 1994. Victorian City was then adopted as the official name of the City. In the second stage, the southern part of the former City of North was subsequently added to this newly created municipality.

**Population**

In June 1994, the preliminary estimated resident population of the City was 108,861 people. In the 10 years from 1995 to 2005, the population dropped by about 4,000. It has however been growing since 2005 and reached 154,245 in 2015. (Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Estimated Resident Population).

**Ageing population**

The population is ageing and the City has a greater proportion of older people than the Melbourne average. The age profile is similar to metropolitan averages however there is a slightly lower proportion of 5 to 14 year olds and 45 to 64 year olds. In addition, the proportion of 25 to 44 year olds is higher and the proportion of people aged over 65 years is significantly higher. (Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing).

**Births**

Despite an ageing population, approximately 1,900 babies have been born each year since 2005. In the 2015/16 financial year 2,219 babies were born in the municipality. (Source: Maternal and Child Health database).

**Cultural diversity**

The City is a highly culturally and linguistically diverse municipality. Many different cultural groups live in Victorian City and more than 100 different languages are spoken at home by residents.

Just over one third of residents were born overseas. Of the total population, 61% were born in Australia. Of those residents born overseas, 88% were born in non-English-speaking countries and 12% were born in English-speaking countries. The main countries of birth of residents, apart from Australia, represent the traditional migrant groups from Europe, including Italy, Greece and the United Kingdom. (Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing).

**Housing**

The number of homes is increasing. In 2016, there were 52,584 dwellings, of which 52,505 were private homes and 79 were non-private dwellings such as nursing homes, hotels and hostels. While more housing stock is available, the population has remained fairly stable, due to decreasing household sizes. Trends show that the number of one-person households is increasing, as is the number of small households.

The proportion of separate houses has fallen over the past decade with the growth of flats, units or apartments, along with semidetached, row, terrace and townhouses. Residential property prices have increased significantly over the past 10 years. The median house price increased from $298,000 in 2004 to $600,000 in 2016.

**Education and occupation**

In the past decade, Melbourne’s northern region, which includes Victorian City, has experienced a steadily improving retention of students from Year 10 to Year 12, up from 86% in 2002 to 87.7% in 2015. (Source: Department of Education and Training, Summary Statistics Victorian Schools).

People in Victorian City are also becoming better educated. The proportion of residents who have non-school qualifications is increasing. Many more residents in 2015 had completed a non-school qualification than in 2000 (33% compared with 22%). (Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing).

The occupations of residents have also changed. The proportion of professionals, associate professionals and intermediate clerical, sales and service workers has increased, while a fall has occurred in the proportion of tradespeople and related workers, advanced clerical, sales and service workers and labourers and related workers.

**Budget implications**

As a result of the City’s demographic profile there are a number of budget implications in the short and long term as follows:

* Cultural and linguistic diversity means that Council needs to use a variety of media in languages other than English for mass communication with citizens, and use interpreting services for interpersonal communication with citizens. Council also draws on the abilities of its bilingual staff.
* The small area of Victorian City reduces transport costs when compared to rural Shires. Services can be centralised as most citizens are able to reach Council facilities without extensive travel.
* Over 25% of ratepayers are entitled to the pensioner rebate. As pensioners are often asset rich but income poor, the adoption of significant rate increases has a real impact on the disposable income of a significant proportion of our community. Council has hardship provisions in place but these can impact on cash balances when large volumes of ratepayers are involved. In addition, Council has long waiting lists for services to older people such as ‘Home Help’ and ‘Delivered Meals’ but not the income to service this demand.
* The City is substantially developed and while it is experiencing a small increase in property numbers, these mainly arise from higher density developments. The budget implications arise in Council having to cope with replacement of infrastructure such as drains which cannot cope with the higher density. While Council has implemented an open space contribution scheme and an infrastructure development contribution plan, the income from these schemes do not fully fund the significant infrastructure costs and rates funding is required to be allocated to these works.

**9.2 External influences3-6**

* Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases on goods and services of 1.7% through the year to December quarter 2015 (ABS release 28 January 2015). State-wide CPI is forecast to be 2.5% for the 2016/17 year (Victorian Budget Papers 2015/16).
* Australian Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) growth for Public Sector full-time adult ordinary time earnings in the 12 months to May 2015 was 1.7% (ABS release 13 August 2015). The wages price index in Victoria is projected to be 3.25% per annum in 2016/17 and the subsequent two years (Victorian Budget Papers 2015/16). Council must renegotiate a new Collective Agreement during the 2016/17 year for commencement on 1 July 2017.
* Reduction of $0.40 million in Victoria Grants Commission funding compared to the prior year.
* Receipt of significant capital works funding of $6.28 million for the construction of a Velodrome and State Bowls Centre at Victoria Park and the completion of Roads to Recovery projects
* Increases of 3.3% (or $2.02 per tonne) in the levy payable to the State Government upon disposal of waste into landfill, resulting in additional waste tipping costs of $0.20 million. The levy has increased from $9 per tonne in 2008/09 to $60.52 per tonne in 2016/17 (572% increase in 8 years) and has added $1.84 million to Council's costs.
* Cost Shifting occurs where Local Government provides a service to the community on behalf of the State and Federal Government. Over time the funds received by local governments do not increase in line with real cost increases. Examples of services that are subject to Cost Shifting include school crossing supervision, Library services and Home and Community Care for aged residents. In all these services the level of payment received by Council from the State Government does not reflect the real cost of providing the service to the community.
* Councils across Australia raise approximately 3.5% of the total taxation collected by all levels of Government in Australia. In addition Councils are entrusted with the maintenance of more than 30% of the all Australian public assets including roads, bridges, parks, footpaths and public buildings. This means that a large proportion of Council’s income must be allocated to the maintenance and replacement of these valuable public assets in order to ensure the quality of public infrastructure is maintained at satisfactory levels.
* The Fire Services Property Levy will continue to be collected by Council on behalf of the State Government with the introduction of the *Fire Services Property Levy Act 2012*.
* A write down of flood/fire affected assets estimated at $1.00 million in 2015/16 and estimated repairs of $1.20 million over two years. Compensation of $0.40 million has been confirmed by Council’s insurers, with the balance to be funded by the Natural Disaster Assistance Fund (NDAF). An advance payment of $1.00 million from the NDAF was received in 2015/16. Council is also eligible to claim the first $0.03 million from the Victoria Grants Commission.

**9.3 Internal influences7-8**

As well as external influences, there are also a number of internal influences which are expected to have a significant impact on the preparation of the 2016/17 Budget. These matters have arisen from events occurring in the 2015/16 year resulting in variances between the forecast actual and budgeted results for that year and matters expected to arise in the 2016/17 year. These matters and their financial impact are set out below:

* Overrun of $0.48 million in the maintenance of trees due to the removal of severely diseased street trees.
* Reduction in the budgeted draw down from discretionary reserves of $0.30 million as a result of government funding being awarded for the Victoria Civic Centre redevelopment.
* Higher than expected wage increases of 5% per annum resulting in additional ongoing employee costs of $0.46 million per annum.
* Ongoing savings of $0.23 million as a result of meals production being contracted out at a rate more favourable than budget.
* Council’s decision during the year to bring the street cleansing service in-house. This has resulted in start-up investment costs of $0.80 million for plant and equipment to be funded from investment reserves and ongoing operational costs of $1.40 million per annum.

**9.4 Budget principles9**

In response to these influences, guidelines were prepared and distributed to all Council officers with budget responsibilities. The guidelines set out the key budget principles upon which the officers were to prepare their budgets. The principles included:

* Existing fees and charges to be increased in line with CPI or market levels.
* Grants to be based on confirmed funding levels.
* New revenue sources to be identified where possible.
* Service levels to be maintained at 2015/16 levels with the aim to use less resources with an emphasis on innovation and efficiency.
* Salaries and wages to be increased in line with Average Weekly Earnings.
* Contract labour to be minimised.
* Construction and material costs to increase in line with the Engineering Construction Index (refer ‘Rawlinsons Australian Construction Handbook’)
* New initiatives or employee proposals to be justified through a business case.
* Real savings in expenditure and increases in revenue identified in 2015/16 to be preserved
* Operating revenues and expenses arising from completed 2015/16 capital projects to be included.

**9.5 Long term strategies**

The budget includes consideration of a number of long term strategies and contextual information to assist Council to prepare the Budget in a proper financial management context. These include a Strategic Resource Plan for 2016/17 to 2019/20 (Section 14.), Rating Information (Section 15.) and Other Long Term Strategies (Section 16.) including borrowings, infrastructure and service delivery.

**10. Analysis of operating budget**

This section analyses the operating budget including expected income and expenses of the Council for the 2016/17 year.

**10.1 Budgeted income statement1-3**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| Total income | 10.2 | 72,571 | 77,574 | 5,003 |
| Total expenses | 10.3 | (74,493) | (76,529) | (2,036) |
| **Surplus (deficit) for the year** |  | **(1,922)** | **1,045** | 2,967 |
| Grants – capital non-recurrent | 10.2.6 | (2,093) | (5,447) | (3,354) |
| Contributions - non-monetary assets |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital contributions - other sources | 10.2.4 | (661) | (51) | 610 |
| **Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)** | 10.1.1 | **(4,676)** | **(4,453)** | 223 |

**10.1.1 Adjusted underlying deficit ($0.22 million decrease)**

The adjusted underlying result is the net surplus or deficit for the year adjusted for non-recurrent capital grants, non-monetary asset contributions, and capital contributions from other sources. It is a measure of financial sustainability and Council’s ability to achieve its service delivery objectives as it is not impacted by capital income items which can often mask the operating result. The adjusted underlying result for the 2016/17 year is a deficit of $4.45 million which is a decrease of $0.22 million from the 2015/16 year. In calculating the adjusted underlying result, Council has excluded grants received for capital purposes which are non-recurrent and capital contributions from other sources. Contributions of non-monetary assets are excluded as the value of assets assumed by Council is dependent on the level of development activity each year.

**10.2 Income4-7,11**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Income Types** | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| Rates and charges | 10.2.1 | 41,195 | 43,457 | 2,262 |
| Statutory fees and fines | 10.2.2 | 2,445 | 2,690 | 245 |
| User fees | 10.2.3 | 7,198 | 7,680 | 482 |
| Contributions - monetary | 10.2.4 | 661 | 51 | (610) |
| Grants - operating | 5.1.1 | 14,523 | 13,617 | (906) |
| Grants – capital | 5.1.2 | 2,903 | 6,277 | 3,374 |
| Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment | 10.2.5 | 823 | 539 | (284) |
| Other income | 10.2.6 | 2,823 | 3,263 | 440 |
| **Total income** |  | **72,571** | **77,574** | 5,003 |

Source: Section 3

**10.2.1 Rates and charges ($2.26 million increase)**

It is proposed that income raised by all rates and charges be increased by 3.9% or $2.26 million over 2015/16 to $43.46 million. This includes increases in general rates of 3.2%; Municipal Charge of 3.0%; kerbside waste charge of 5.0%; recycling waste charge of 13.4%; and forecasts supplementary rates to increase by $0.23 million over 2015/16 to $0.43 million.

Section 7 – Rates and Charges - includes a more detailed analysis of the rates and charges to be levied for 2016/17 and the rates and charges information specifically required by the Regulations.

**10.2.2 Statutory fees and fines ($0.25 million increase)**

Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* registrations and parking fines. Increases in statutory fees are made in accordance with legislative requirements.

Statutory fees are forecast to increase by 10.0% or $0.25 million compared to 2015/16. Statutory Planning fees will increase by $0.17 million due to the planned release of two major property developments and increased activity in the building sector. Traffic Enforcement fees will also increase by $0.06 million due to the appointment of an additional enforcement officer.

A detailed listing of statutory fees is included in Appendix A.

**10.2.3 User fees ($0.48 million increase)**

User charges relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of Council’s services. These include separate rating schemes, use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities and the provision of human services such as family day care and home help services. In setting the budget, the key principle for determining the level of user charges has been to ensure that increases do not exceed CPI increases or market levels.

User charges are projected to increase by 6.7% or $0.48 million over 2015/16. The main area contributing to the increase is leisure services ($0.55 million) due to expected increased patronage of Council facilities. Council has also anticipated a reduction in fees from the Transfer Station ($0.15 million) resulting from its temporary closure in the budget year. In addition, Council plans to increase user charges for all areas by 2.5% in line with expected inflationary trends over the budget period to maintain parity between user charges and the costs of service delivery.

A detailed listing of fees and charges is included in Appendix A.

**10.2.4 Contributions - monetary ($0.60 million decrease)**

Contributions relate to monies paid by developers in regard to public resort and recreation, drainage and car parking in accordance with planning permits issued for property development.

Contributions are projected to decrease by $0.60 million or 92.3% compared to 2015/16 due mainly to the completion of a number of major property developments within the municipality during the 2015/16 year.

**10.2.5 Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment ($0.29 million decrease)**

Proceeds from the disposal of Council assets is forecast to be $2.50 million for 2016/17 and relate mainly to the planned cyclical replacement of part of the plant and vehicle fleet ($1.70 million) and sale of properties including surplus land and numerous rights-of-way throughout the municipality ($0.80 million). The written down value of assets sold is forecast to be $1.96 million.

**10.2.6 Other income ($0.44 million increase)**

Other income relates to a range of items such as private works, cost recoups and other miscellaneous income items. It also includes interest revenue on investments and rate arrears.

Other income is forecast to increase by 15.6% or $0.44 million compared to 2015/16. Interest on investments is forecast to decline by 10.0% or $0.10 million compared to 2015/16. This is mainly due to a forecast reduction in Council’s available cash reserves during 2015/16 to fund major infrastructure projects. Interest on unpaid rates is forecast to increase by $0.03 million compared to 2015/16 following an expected increase in the level of unpaid rates during 2015/16. The increase in other income items is due mainly to an increased share of the operating surpluses from Council's outsourced leisure centres ($0.20 million) and payments from the State Revenue Office for the purchase of valuation data ($0.25 million).

**10.3 Expenses8-11**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expense Types** | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| Employee costs | 10.3.1 | 31,541 | 34,091 | 2,550 |
| Materials and services | 10.3.2 | 22,937 | 22,107 | (830) |
| Bad and doubtful debts | 10.3.3 | 314 | 340 | 26 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 10.3.4 | 14,034 | 14,500 | 466 |
| Borrowing costs | 10.3.5 | 380 | 312 | (68) |
| Other items of expense | 10.3.6 | 5,287 | 5,179 | (108) |
| **Total expenses** |  | **74,493** | **76,529** | 2,036 |

Source: Section 3

**10.3.1 Employee costs ($2.55 million increase)9**

Employee costs include all labour related expenditure such as wages and salaries and on-costs such as allowances, leave entitlements, employer superannuation, rostered days off, etc.

Employee costs are forecast to increase by 8.1% or $2.55 million compared to 2015/16. This increase relates to three key factors:

* Renegotiation of Council’s Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) which is estimated to cost $1.30 million in 2016/17
* Increases in staff numbers resulting largely from Council’s decision to re-commence in-house street cleansing following the expiry of the externally provided street cleansing contract during the 2015/16 year. The cost of this change to service delivery in 2016/17 will be $0.77 million which will be offset by a saving in external contract costs
* Anticipated non EBA wages growth of 3.5% or $0.48 million due mainly to small increases in staff numbers in Family Day Care and General Home Care in response to increased community demand for these services. As indicated above, additional funding will be available to cover the extension of these services.

A summary of planned human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Comprises** | |
| **Department** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Permanent**  **Full time $’000** | **Permanent Part Time**  **$’000** |
| Asset Management | **2,500** | 2,000 | 500 |
| City Services | **7,200** | 7,000 | 200 |
| Community Services | **8,500** | 7,000 | 1,500 |
| Corporate Services | **4,400** | 4,000 | 400 |
| Culture and Leisure | **5,300** | 5,000 | 300 |
| Environment and Amenity | **1,900** | 1,000 | 900 |
| Strategy and Governance | **3,100** | 3,000 | 100 |
| Total permanent staff expenditure | **32,900** | 29,000 | 3,900 |
| Casuals and other expenditure | **1,191** |  |  |
| Capitalised Labour costs | **0** |  |  |
| Total expenditure | **34,091** |  |  |

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Comprises** | |
| **Department** | **Budget**  **FTE** | **Permanent**  **Full time** | **Permanent Part Time** |
| Asset Management | 41.6 | 33.3 | 8.3 |
| City Services | 120.0 | 116.7 | 3.3 |
| Community Services | 141.7 | 116.7 | 25.0 |
| Corporate Services | 73.4 | 66.7 | 6.7 |
| Culture and Leisure | 88.3 | 83.3 | 5.0 |
| Environment and Amenity | 31.7 | 16.7 | 15.0 |
| Strategy and Governance | 52.1 | 50.4 | 1.7 |
| Total permanent staff | 548.8 | 483.8 | 65.0 |
| Casuals and other | 19.9 |  |  |
| Capitalised Labour costs | 0.0 |  |  |
| Total staff | 568.7 |  |  |

The most significant increases in employee costs by service unit are summarised below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Service Unit** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| City Services | Street cleansing | 0 | 772 | 772 |
|  | Collection services | 1,089 | 1,503 | 414 |
|  | Parks and gardens | 2,168 | 2,280 | 112 |
| Strategy and Governance | Statutory planning | 690 | 866 | 176 |
| Community Services | Home support | 427 | 654 | 227 |
|  | Maternal and child health | 940 | 1,031 | 91 |
| Culture and Leisure | Urban design | 134 | 245 | 111 |

**10.3.2 Materials and services ($0.83 million decrease)**

Materials and services include the purchases of consumables, payments to contractors for the provision of services and utility costs. Materials and services are forecast to decrease by 3.6% or $0.83 million compared to 2015/16.

Consumables is forecast to increase by $0.47 million or 13.8% compared to 2015/16 and relates mainly to an increase in fuel costs to operate the Council’s plant and vehicle fleet as a result of significant increases in diesel and petrol prices.

External contracts are forecast to decrease by 9.0% or $1.40 million compared to 2015/16. The main areas contributing to this decrease are the cessation of the Street Cleansing contract ($1.60 million) and Environmental Health ($0.31 million) as a result of a change in the *Food Act 1984* requirements. These have been offset by expected increases in contracts relating to Primary Care Partnerships ($0.24 million) due to an expansion of the service, Council elections ($0.21 million), Facilities Maintenance ($0.13 million) due to Council requests to increase maintenance levels, Collection Services for Kerbside and Recycling ($0.41 million) and Family Day Care ($0.11 million) due to additional contract staff required to meet anticipated increases in demand for the service.

Utility costs relate to telecommunications, including usage of telephones and other utilities such as water, gas and electricity. Utility costs are forecast to increase by 2.1% or $0.08 million compared to 2015/16 resulting from expected additional street lighting costs following an unfavourable renegotiation of Council’s electricity contract with its supplier.

**10.3.3 Bad and doubtful debts ($0.03 million increase)**

Bad and doubtful debts is projected to increase by $0.03 million or 8.3% compared to 2015/16 due mainly to an increase in parking fines forwarded to the Infringements Court for collection and a consequent reduction in collection rates.

**10.3.4 Depreciation and amortisation ($0.47 million increase)**

Depreciation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for Council’s property, plant and equipment including infrastructure assets such as roads and drains. The increase of $0.47 million for 2016/17 is due mainly to the completion of the 2015/16 capital works program and the full year effect of depreciation on the 2015/16 capital works program. Refer to Section 6. ‘Analysis of Capital Budget’ for a more detailed analysis of Council’s capital works program for the 2016/17 year.

**10.3.5 Borrowing costs ($0.07 million decrease)**

Borrowing costs relate to interest charged by financial institutions on funds borrowed. The reduction in borrowing costs results from the planned reduction in borrowings due to repayment of principal in accordance with loan agreements.

**10.3.6 Other items of expense ($0.11 million decrease)**

Other items of expense relate to a range of unclassified items including contributions to community groups, advertising, insurances, motor vehicle registrations and other miscellaneous expenditure items. Other expenses are forecast to decrease by 2.0% or $0.11 million compared to 2015/16. This is mainly due to a reduction in Council’s contribution to the XYZ Children’s Services Association due to a change in government funding arrangements.

**11. Analysis of budgeted cash position1-2**

This section analyses the expected cash flows from the operating, investing and financing activities of Council for the 2016/17 year. Budgeting cash flows for Council is a key factor in setting the level of rates and providing a guide to the level of capital expenditure that can be sustained with or without using existing cash reserves.

The analysis is based on three main categories of cash flows:

* **Operating activities** - Refers to the cash generated or used in the normal service delivery functions of Council. Cash remaining after paying for the provision of services to the community may be available for investment in capital works, or repayment of debt
* **Investing activities** - Refers to cash generated or used in the enhancement or creation of infrastructure and other assets. These activities also include the acquisition and sale of other assets such as vehicles, property and equipment
* **Financing activities** - Refers to cash generated or used in the financing of Council functions and include borrowings from financial institutions and advancing of repayable loans to other organisations. These activities also include repayment of the principal component of loan repayments for the year.

**11.1 Budgeted cash flow statement3-9**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| **Cash flows from operating activities** | 11.1.1 |  |  |  |
| *Receipts* |  |  |  |  |
| Rates and charges |  | 41,410 | 43,357 | 1,947 |
| User fees and fines |  | 10,044 | 10,370 | 326 |
| Grants - operating |  | 13,313 | 13,617 | 304 |
| Grants - capital |  | 2,903 | 6,277 | 3,374 |
| Interest |  | 2,044 | 1,820 | (224) |
| Trust funds and deposits taken |  | 50 | 0 | (50) |
| Other receipts |  | 3,172 | 1,494 | (1,678) |
|  |  | **72,936** | **76,935** | 3,999 |
| *Payments* |  |  |  |  |
| Employee costs |  | (31,185) | (33,841) | (2,656) |
| Other payments |  | (29,829) | (27,635) | 2,194 |
|  |  | **(61,014)** | **(61,476)** | (462) |
| **Net cash provided by operating activities** | | **11,922** | **15,459** | 3,537 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cash flows from investing activities** | 11.1.2 |  |  |  |
| Proceeds from sales of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment |  | 1,664 | 3,741 | 2,077 |
| Repayment of loans and advances |  | 10 | 199 | 189 |
| Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment |  | (21,007) | (29,195) | (8,188) |
| **Net cash used in investing activities** | | **(19,333)** | **(25,255)** | (5,922) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cash flows from financing activities** | 11.1.3 |  |  |  |
| Finance costs |  | (380) | (312) | 68 |
| Proceeds from borrowings |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Repayment of borrowings |  | (1,161) | (1,161) | 0 |
| **Net cash used in financing activities** | | **(1,541)** | **(1,473)** | 68 |
| **Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents** | | **(8,952)** | **(11,269)** | (2,317) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 32,428 | 23,476 | (8,952) |
| **Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year** | 11.1.4 | **23,476** | **12,207** | (11,269) |

Source: Appendix A

**11.1.1 Operating activities ($3.59 million increase)**

The increase in cash inflows from operating activities is due mainly to a $3.37 million increase in capital grants to fund the capital works program and a $1.95 million increase in rates and charges, which is in line with the increase in rates and charges of 3.6%.

The net cash flows from operating activities does not equal the surplus (deficit) for the year as the expected revenues and expenses of the Council include non-cash items which have been excluded from the Cash Flow Statement. The budgeted operating result is reconciled to budgeted cash flows available from operating activities as set out in the following table.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| **Surplus (deficit) for the year** |  | **(1,922)** | **1,045** | 2,967 | |
| Depreciation |  | 14,034 | 14,500 | 466 | |
| Loss (gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment |  | 417 | (1,778) | (2,195) | |
| Net movement in current assets and liabilities |  | (607) | 1,692 | 2,349 | |
| **Cash flows available from operating activities** | | **11,922** | **15,459** | 3,537 | |

**11.1.2 Investing activities ($5.97 million increase)**

The large increase in payments for investing activities represents the planned large increase in capital works expenditure disclosed in Section 10 of this budget report. Proceeds from sale of assets are forecast to increase by $2.1 million due to settlement of land sales achieved during 2015/16.

**11.1.3 Financing activities ($0.07 million decrease)**

For 2016/17 the total of principal repayments is projected to be $1.16 million and finance charges is projected to be $0.31 million.

**11.1.4 Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year ($11.27 million decrease)**

Overall, total cash and investments is forecast to decrease by $11.27 million to $12.21 million as at 30 June 2016, reflecting Council’s strategy of using excess cash and investments to enhance existing and create new infrastructure. This is consistent with Council’s Strategic Resource Plan (see Section 8), which forecasts a significant reduction in the capital works program from 2016/17 onwards to balance future cash budgets.

**11.2 Restricted and unrestricted cash and investments10-14**

Cash and cash equivalents held by Council are restricted in part, and not fully available for Council’s operations. The budgeted cash flow statement above indicates that Council is estimating at 30 June 2016 it will have cash and investments of $12.21 million, which has been restricted as shown in the following table.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Forecast** |  |  |
|  |  | **Actual** | **Budget** | **Variance** |
|  | **Ref** | **2015** | **2016** |  |
|  |  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |
| **Total cash and investments** |  | **23,476** | **12,207** | (11,269) |
| Restricted cash and investments |  |  |  |  |
| - Statutory reserves | 11.2.1 | (936) | (894) | 42 |
| - Cash held to fund carry forward capital works | 11.2.2 | (6,569) | - | 6,569 |
| - Trust funds and deposits |  | - | - | - |
| **Unrestricted cash and investments** | 11.2.3 | **15,971** | **11,313** | **(4,658)** |
| - Discretionary reserves | 11.2.4 | (8,461) | (3,908) | 4,553 |
| **Unrestricted cash adjusted for discretionary reserves** | 11.2.5 | **7,510** | **7,405** | **(105)** |

**11.2.1 Statutory reserves ($0.89 million)**

These funds must be applied for specified statutory purposes in accordance with various legislative requirements. While these funds earn interest revenues for Council, the funds are not available for other purposes.

**11.2.2 Cash held to fund carry forward capital works**

There is no amount shown as cash held to fund carry forward works at 30 June 2016, as it is expected that the capital works budget in the 2016/17 financial year will be fully expended. An amount of $6.57 million is forecast to be held at 30 June 2016 to fund capital works budgeted but not completed in the financial year. Section 6.2 contains further details on capital works funding.

**11.2.3 Unrestricted cash and investments ($11.31 million)**

The amount shown is in accordance with the definition of unrestricted cash included in the Section 3 of the Regulations. These funds are free of statutory reserve funds and cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year.

**11.2.4 Discretionary reserves ($3.91 million)**

These funds are shown as discretionary reserves as, although not restricted by a statutory purpose, Council has made decisions regarding the future use of these funds and unless there is a Council resolution these funds should be used for those earmarked purposes. The decisions about future use of these funds has been reflected in Council’s Strategic Resource Plan and any changes in future use of the funds will be made in the context of the future funding requirements set out in the plan.

**11.2.5 Unrestricted cash adjusted for discretionary reserves ($7.41 million)**

These funds are free of all specific Council commitments and represent funds available to meet daily cash flow requirements, unexpected short term needs and any budget commitments which will be expended in the following year such as grants and contributions. Council regards these funds as the minimum necessary to ensure that it can meet its commitments as and when they fall due without borrowing further funds.

**12. Analysis of capital budget1-3**

This section analyses the planned capital works expenditurebudget for the 2016/17 year and the sources of funding for the capital budget. Further detail on the capital works program can be found in Section 6.

**12.1 Capital works expenditure4-6**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capital Works Areas** | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| **Works carried forward** | 12.1.1 |  |  | |  | |
| **Property** |  |  |  | |  | |
| Land |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Land improvements |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total land** |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Buildings |  | 5,384 | 5,054 | | (330) | |
| Heritage buildings |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Building improvements |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Leasehold improvements |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total buildings** |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total property** |  | 5,384 | 5,054 | | (330) | |
| **Plant and equipment** |  |  |  | |  | |
| Plant, machinery and equipment |  | 168 | 158 | | (10) | |
| Computers and telecommunications |  | 849 | 797 | | (52) | |
| Library books |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Fixtures, fittings and furniture |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total plant and equipment** |  | 1,017 | 955 | | (62) | |
| **Infrastructure** |  |  |  | |  | |
| Roads |  | 444 | 417 | | (27) | |
| Bridges |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Footpaths and cycleways |  | 356 | 334 | | (22) | |
| Drainage |  | 250 | 235 | | (15) | |
| Rec, leisure and community facilities |  | 11 | 10 | | (1) | |
| Waste management |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes |  | 53 | 50 | | (3) | |
| Off street car parks |  | 37 | 35 | | (2) | |
| Other infrastructure |  | 38 | 35 | | (3) | |
| **Total infrastructure** |  | 1,189 | 1,116 | | (73) | |
| **Total works carried forward** |  | 7,590 | **7,125** | | (465) | |
|  |  |  |  | |  | |
| **New works** |  |  |  | |  | |
| **Property** | 12.1.2 |  |  | |  | |
| Land |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Land improvements |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total land** |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Buildings |  | 5,295 | 8,314 | | 3,019 | |
| Heritage buildings |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| Building improvements |  | 75 | 117 | | 42 | |
| Leasehold improvements |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total buildings** |  | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| **Total property** |  | 5,370 | 8,431 | | 3,061 | |
| **Plant and equipment** | 12.1.3 |  |  | |  | |
| Plant, machinery and equipment |  | 1,924 | 3,021 | | 1,097 | |
| Computers and telecommunications |  | 838 | 1,315 | | 477 | |
| Library books |  | 318 | 500 | | 182 | |
| **Total plant and equipment** |  | 3,080 | 4,836 | | 1,756 | |
| **Infrastructure** | 12.1.4 |  |  | |  | |
| Roads |  | 3,154 | 4,950 | | 1,796 | |
| Bridges |  | 6 | 10 | | 4 | |
| Footpaths and cycleways |  | 221 | 347 | | 126 | |
| Drainage |  | 1,051 | 1,650 | | 599 | |
| Rec, leisure and community facilities |  | 394 | 619 | | 225 | |
| Parks, open space and streetscapes |  | 1,633 | 2,564 | | 931 | |
| Off street car parks |  | 51 | 80 | | 29 | |
| Other infrastructure |  | 67 | 105 | | 38 | |
| **Total infrastructure** |  | 6,577 | 10,325 | | 3,748 | |
| **Total new works** |  | 15,027 | **23,592** | | 8,565 | |
|  |  |  |  | |  | |
| **Total capital works expenditure** |  | 22,617 | **30,717** | | 8,100 | |
|  |  |  |  | |  | |
| **Represented by:** |  |  |  | |  | |
| New asset expenditure | 12.1.5 | 6,850 | 9,176 | | 2,326 | |
| Asset renewal expenditure | 12.1.5 | 12,225 | 17,454 | | 5,229 | |
| Asset upgrade expenditure | 12.1.5 | 1,352 | 632 | | (720) | |
| Asset expansion expenditure | 12.1.5 | 2,190 | 3,455 | | 1,265 | |
| **Total capital works expenditure** |  | 22,617 | **30,717** | | 8,100 | |

Source: Section 3. A more detailed listing of the capital works program is included in Section 6.

**12.1.1 Carried forward works ($7.13 million)**

At the end of each financial year there are projects which are either incomplete or not commenced due to factors including planning issues, weather delays and extended consultation. For the 2015/16 year it is forecast that $7.13 million of capital works will be incomplete and be carried forward into the 2016/17 year. The more significant projects include the Civic Precinct redevelopment ($0.75 million) and the Newlands Community Facility ($3.00 million).

**12.1.2 Property ($8.43 million)**

The property class comprises buildings and building improvements including community facilities, municipal offices, sports facilities and pavilions.

For the 2016/17 year, $8.43 million will be expended on building and building improvement projects. The more significant projects include pavilion upgrades ($0.32 million), Victorian Community Facility ($1.20 million), redevelopment of the City Children’s Centre ($0.25 million), construction of a Velodrome and State Bowls Centre at Victoria Park ($4.00 million) and completion of the Block Arcade redevelopment ($0.97 million).

**12.1.3 Plant and equipment ($4.84 million)**

Plant and equipment includes plant, machinery and equipment, computers and telecommunications, and library books.

For the 2016/17 year, $4.84 million will be expended on plant, equipment and other projects. The more significant projects include ongoing cyclical replacement of the plant and vehicle fleet ($3.02 million), upgrade and replacement of information technology ($1.32 million) and library material purchases ($0.50 million).

**12.1.4 Infrastructure ($10.33 million)**

Infrastructure includes roads, bridges, footpaths and cycleways, drainage, recreation, leisure and community facilities, parks, open space and streetscapes, off street car parks and other structures.

For the 2016/17 year, $4.95 million will be expended on road projects. The more significant projects include local road reconstructions ($1.80 million), federally funded Roads to Recovery projects ($0.81 million), road resheeting ($0.80 million), road safety ($0.51 million), and Integrated Transport Plan ($0.22 million).

$1.65 million will be expended on drainage projects. The more significant of these include road drainage replacement works ($0.87 million), Stage 1 of the Victoria Park Lake redevelopment ($0.50 million) and implementation of the Stormwater Management Plan ($0.22 million).

$2.56 million will be expended on parks, open space and streetscapes, including $1.90 million for the completion of Victoria Park.

Other new infrastructure expenditure includes $0.01 million on bridges, $0.35 million on footpaths and cycleways, $0.62 million on recreational, leisure and community facilities, $0.08 million on car parks and $0.11 million on other infrastructure.

**12.1.5 Asset renewal ($17.45 million), new assets ($9.18 million), upgrade ($0.63 million) and expansion ($3.46 million)**

A distinction is made between expenditure on new assets, asset renewal, upgrade and expansion. Expenditure on asset renewal is expenditure on an existing asset, or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service of the asset to its original capability. Expenditure on new assets does not have any element of expansion or upgrade of existing assets but will result in an additional burden for future operation, maintenance and capital renewal.

The major projects included in the above categories, which constitute expenditure on new assets, are the Victorian Community Facility ($1.20 million), construction of a Velodrome and State Bowls Centre at Victoria Park ($4.00 million) and information technology purchases ($1.11 million). The remaining capital expenditure represents renewals and expansion/upgrades of existing assets.

**12.2 Funding sources7-8**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sources of Funding** | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2015/16**  **$’000** | | | **Budget**  **2016/17**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** | |
| **Works carried forward** |  | |  |  | | |  |
| ***Current year funding*** |  | |  |  | | |  |
| Grants |  | | 527 | 461 | | | (66) |
| Contributions |  | | - | - | | | - |
| Borrowings |  | | - | - | | | - |
| Council cash |  | |  |  | | |  |
| - operations |  | | - | - | | | - |
| - proceeds on sale of assets |  | | 105 | 95 | | | (10) |
| - reserve cash and investments |  | | 5,851 | 3,752 | | | (2,099) |
| - unrestricted cash and investments |  | | 1,107 | 2,817 | | | 1,710 |
| **Total works carried forward** | 12.2.1 | | **7,590** | **7,125** | | | (465) |
|  |  | |  |  | | |  |
| **New works** |  | |  |  | | |  |
| ***Current year funding*** |  | |  |  | | |  |
| Grants | 12.2.2 | | 2,376 | 5,816 | | | 3,440 |
| Contributions |  | | - | - | | | - |
| Borrowings |  | | - | - | | | - |
| Council cash |  | |  |  | | |  |
| - operations | 12.2.3 | | 8,589 | 8,870 | | | 281 |
| - proceeds from sale of assets | 12.2.4 | | 1,024 | 1,586 | | | 562 |
| - reserve cash and investments | 12.2.5 | | 1,826 | 6,596 | | | 4,770 |
| - unrestricted cash and investments | 12.2.6 | | 1,212 | 724 | | | (488) |
| **Total new works** |  | | **15,027** | **23,592** | | | 8,565 |
| **Total funding sources** |  | | **22,617** | **30,717** | | | 8,100 |

Source: Section 6

**12.2.1 Carried forward works ($7.13 million)**

At the end of each financial year there are projects which are either incomplete or not commenced due to factors including planning issues, weather delays and extended consultation. For the 2015/16 year it is forecast that $7.13 million of capital works will be incomplete and be carried forward into the 2016/17 year. Significant funding includes grants for the Municipal Offices ($0.15 million) and reserve cash and investments for the Municipal Offices ($0.75 million) and Newland Centre ($3.00 million).

**12.2.2 Grants ($5.82 million)**

Capital grants include all monies received from State and Federal sources for the purposes of funding the capital works program. Significant grants and contributions are budgeted to be received for the State Bowls Centre and Training Velodrome ($4.00 million), Roads to Recovery projects ($0.81 million), Victoria Park Lake ($0.43 million) and Compressed Natural Gas Conversion ($0.34 million).

**12.2.3 Council cash - operations ($8.87 million)**

Council generates cash from its operating activities, which is used as a funding source for the capital works program. It is forecast that $8.87 million will be generated from operations to fund the 2016/17 capital works program. This amount equates to the cash generated from operating activities of $15.46 million as set out in Section 5. ’Analysis of Budgeted Cash Position’ adjusted for capital grants of $6.28 million and borrowing costs of $0.31 million.

**12.2.4 Council cash - proceeds from sale of assets ($1.59 million)**

Proceeds from sale of assets include motor vehicle sales in accordance with Council’s fleet renewal policy of $1.59 million.

**12.2.5 Council cash - reserve cash and investments ($6.60 million)**

Council has significant cash reserves, which it is currently using to fund its annual capital works program. The reserves include monies set aside for specific purposes such as Golf Course Renewal and non-specific reserves such as the Building Replacement Reserve. For 2016/17 $6.60 million will be used to fund part of the new capital works program including the landfill ($1.90 million), Victoria Civic Centre ($3.60 million), Plant Replacement ($1.00 million), Victoria Arcade ($0.87 million) and the Victoria Civic Precinct ($0.10 million).

**10.2.6 Council cash - unrestricted cash and investments ($0.72 million)**

In addition to reserve investments, Council has uncommitted cash and investments which represent unrestricted cash and investments and funds preserved from the previous year mainly as a result of grants and contributions being received in advance. It is forecast that $0.72 million will be available from the 2015/16 year to fund new capital works in the 2016/17 year.

**13. Analysis of budgeted financial position1-2**

This section analyses the movements in assets, liabilities and equity between 2015/16 and 2016/17. It also considers a number of key financial performance indicators.

**13.1 Budgeted balance sheet3-8**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Ref** | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2016**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2017**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| **Current assets** | 13.1.1 |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents |  | 23,476 | 12,207 | (11,269) |
| Trade and other receivables |  | 5,272 | 5,367 | 95 |
| Financial assets |  | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Other assets |  | 1,440 | 200 | (1,240) |
| **Total current assets** |  | **30,194** | **17,780** | (12,414) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Non-current assets** | 13.1.1 |  |  |  |
| Trade and other receivables |  | 206 | 12 | (194) |
| Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment |  | 501,795 | 514,527 | 12,732 |
| **Total non-current assets** |  | **502,001** | **514,539** | 12,538 |
| **Total assets** |  | **532,195** | **532,319** | 124 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Current liabilities** | 13.1.2 |  |  |  |
| Trade and other payables |  | 5,880 | 5,880 | 0 |
| Interest-bearing loans and borrowings |  | 1,161 | 1,161 | 0 |
| Provisions |  | 5,510 | 5,714 | 204 |
| **Total current liabilities** |  | **12,551** | **12,755** | 204 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Non-current liabilities** | 13.1.2 |  |  |  |
| Interest-bearing loans and borrowings |  | 4,887 | 3,726 | (1,161) |
| Provisions |  | 972 | 1,008 | 36 |
| **Total non-current liabilities** |  | **5,859** | **4,734** | (1,125) |
| **Total liabilities** |  | **18,410** | **17,489** | (921) |
| **Net assets** |  | **513,785** | **514,830** | 1,045 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Equity** | 13.1.4 |  |  |  |
| Accumulated surplus |  | 398,518 | 407,910 | 9,392 |
| Asset revaluation reserve |  | 102,118 | 102,118 | 0 |
| Other reserves |  | 13,149 | 4,802 | (8,347) |
| **Total equity** |  | **513,785** | **514,830** | 1,045 |

Source: Section 3

**13.1.1 Current Assets ($12.41 million decrease) and Non-Current Assets ($12.54 million increase)**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments such as cash held in the bank and in petty cash and the value of investments in deposits or other highly liquid investments with short term maturities of three months or less. These balances are projected to decrease by $11.27 million during the year mainly to fund the capital works program during the year.

Trade and other receivables are monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others. Short term debtors are not expected to change significantly in the budget. Long term debtors (non-current) relating to loans to community organisations will increase by $0.09 million in accordance with agreed repayment terms.

Other assets includes items such as prepayments for expenses that Council has paid in advance of service delivery, inventories or stocks held for sale or consumption in Council’s services and other revenues due to be received in the next 12 months. Accrued income is expected to reduce by $1.24 million as land sales which became unconditional at the end of the 2015/16 year are paid.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is the largest component of Council’s worth and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, etc which has been built up by Council over many years. The $12.73 million increase in this balance is attributable to the net result of the capital works program ($29.08 million of new assets), depreciation of assets ($14.50 million) and the sale through sale of property, plant and equipment ($1.85 million).

**13.1.2 Current Liabilities ($0.20 million increase) and Non-Current Liabilities ($1.13 million decrease)**

Trade and other payables are those to whom Council owes money as at 30 June. These liabilities are budgeted to remain consistent with 2015/16 levels.

Provisions include accrued long service leave, annual leave and rostered days off owing to employees. These employee entitlements are only expected to increase marginally due to more active management of entitlements despite factoring in an increase for Collective Agreement outcomes.

Interest-bearing loans and borrowings are borrowings of Council. Council is budgeting to repay loan principal of $1.16 million over the year.

**13.1.3 Working Capital ($12.62 million decrease)**

Working capital is the excess of current assets above current liabilities. This calculation recognises that although Council has current assets, some of those assets are already committed to the future settlement of liabilities in the following 12 months, and are therefore not available for discretionary spending.

Some of Council’s cash assets are restricted in that they are required by legislation to be held in reserve for specific purposes or are held to fund carry forward capital works from the previous financial year.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Forecast**  **Actual**  **2016**  **$’000** | **Budget**  **2017**  **$’000** | **Variance**  **$’000** |
| **Current assets** | 30,194 | 17,780 | (12,414) |
| **Current liabilities** | 12,551 | 12,755 | (204) |
| **Working capital** | 17,643 | 5,025 | (12,618) |
| Restricted cash and investment current assets |  |  |  |
| - Statutory reserves | (936) | (894) | 42 |
| - Cash held to fund carry forward capital works | (6,569) | - | 6,569 |
| - Trust funds and deposits | - | - | - |
| **Unrestricted working capital** | **10,138** | **4,131** | (6,007) |

In addition to the restricted cash shown above, Council is also projected to hold $3.91 million in discretionary reserves at 30 June 2016. Although not restricted by a statutory purpose, Council has made decisions regarding the future use of these funds and unless there is a Council resolution these funds should be used for those earmarked purposes.

**13.1.4 Equity ($1.05 million increase)**

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

* Asset revaluation reserve which represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations
* Other reserves that are funds that Council wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. These amounts are transferred from the Accumulated Surplus of the Council to be separately disclosed.
* Accumulated surplus which is the value of all net assets less Reserves that have accumulated over time. $1.05 million of the $9.39 million increase in accumulated surplus results directly from the surplus for the year. An amount of $8.35 million (net) is budgeted to be transferred from other reserves to accumulated surplus. This reflects the usage of investment cash reserves to partly fund the capital works program. This is a transfer between equity balances only and does not impact on the total balance of equity.

**13.2 Key assumptions9**

In preparing the Balance Sheet for the year ending 30 June 2016 it was necessary to make a number of assumptions about assets, liabilities and equity balances. The key assumptions are as follows:

* A total of 98.5% of total rates and charges raised will be collected in the 2016/17 year (2015/16: 97.8% forecast actual)
* Trade creditors to be based on total capital and operating expenditure less written down value of assets sold, depreciation and employee costs. Payment cycle is 30 days
* Other debtors and creditors to remain consistent with 2015/16 levels
* An advance of $0.19 million to Victorian Bowls Club will be repaid in full
* Proceeds from the sale of property in 2015/16 of $1.24 million will be received in full in the 2016/17 year
* Employee entitlements to be increased by the Collective Agreement outcome offset by the impact of more active management of leave entitlements of staff
* Repayment of loan principal to be $1.16 million
* Total capital expenditure to be $21.95 million
* A total of $8.35 million to be transferred from reserves to accumulated surplus, representing the internal funding of the capital works program for the 2016/17 year.

**LONG TERM STRATEGIES**

This section includes the following analysis and information

14 Strategic resource plan

15 Rating information

16 Other long term strategies

**14. Strategic resource plan 1-2**

This section includes an extract of the adopted Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) to provide information on the long term financial projections of the Council.

**14.1 Plan development3,8-10**

The Act requires a SRP to be prepared describing both financial and non-financial resources (including human resources) for at least the next four financial years to achieve the strategic objectives in the Council Plan. In preparing the SRP, Council must take into account all other plans and strategies in regard to services and initiatives which commit financial and non-financial resources for the period of the SRP.

Council has prepared a SRP for the four years 2016/17 to 2019/20 as part of its ongoing financial planning to assist in adopting a budget within a longer term framework. The SRP takes the strategic objectives and strategies as specified in the Council Plan and expresses them in financial terms for the next four years.

The key objective, which underlines the development of the SRP, is financial sustainability in the medium to long term, while still achieving Council’s strategic objectives as specified in the Council Plan. The key financial objectives, which underpin the SRP, are:

* Maintain existing service levels
* Achieve a breakeven operating result within five to six years
* Maintain a capital expenditure program of at least $16 million per annum
* Achieve a balanced budget on a cash basis.

In preparing the SRP, Council has also been mindful of the need to comply with the following Principles of Sound Financial Management as contained in the Act:

* Prudently manage financial risks relating to debt, assets and liabilities
* Provide reasonable stability in the level of rate burden
* Consider the financial effects of Council decisions on future generations
* Provide full, accurate and timely disclosure of financial information.

The SRP is updated annually through a rigorous process of consultation with Council service providers followed by a detailed sensitivity analysis to achieve the key financial objectives.

**14.2 Financial resources4-5**

The following table summarises the key financial results for the next four years as set out in the SRP for years 2016/17 to 2019/20. Section 3 includes a more detailed analysis of the financial resources to be used over the four year period.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Forecast Actual** | **Budget** | **Strategic Resource Plan  Projections** | | | **Trend** |
| **Indicator** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **+/o/-** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |  |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | (1,922) | 1,045 | 5,398 | (1,754) | (1,570) | **-** |
| Adjusted underlying result | (4,676) | (4,453) | (3,630) | (2,948) | (2,397) | **+** |
| Cash and investments balance | 23,476 | 12,207 | 12,428 | 12,776 | 13,028 | **o** |
| Cash flow from operations | 11,922 | 15,459 | 20,492 | 14,052 | 14,687 | **-** |
| Capital works expenditure | 22,617 | 30,717 | 23,242 | 18,530 | 17,349 | **-** |

Key to Forecast Trend:

+ Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady

- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

The following graph shows the general financial indicators over the four year period.

The key outcomes of the SRP are as follows:

* **Financial sustainability (Section 11)** - Cash and investments is forecast to increase marginally over the four year period from $12.20 million to $13.03 million, which indicates a balanced budget on a cash basis in each year
* **Rating levels (Section 15)** – Modest rate increases are forecast over the four years at an average of 3.6%.
* **Service delivery strategy (Section 16)** – Service levels have been maintained throughout the four year period. Despite this, operating surpluses are forecast in years 2016/17 and 2017/18 as a result of significant capital grant revenue being received to fund the annual capital works program. Years 2019/20 to 2019/20 forecast reducing operating deficits with a view to breaking even. However, excluding the effects of capital items such as capital grants and contributions, the adjusted underlying result is a deficit reducing over the four year period. The adjusted underlying result is a measure of financial sustainability and is an important measure as once-off capital items can often mask the operating result
* **Borrowing strategy (Section 16)** – Borrowings are forecast to reduce from $4.90 million to $3.28 million over the four year period. This includes new borrowings of $2.00 million in 2018/19
* **Infrastructure strategy (Section 16)** - Capital expenditure over the four year period will total $89.84 million at an average of $22.46 million. Excluding the Lawn Bowls and Velodrome works, the average is $18.40 million.

**15. Rating information1**

This section contains information on Council’s past and foreshadowed rating levels along with Council's rating structure and the impact of changes in property valuations. This section should be read in conjunction with Council’s Rating Strategy which is available on Council’s website.

**15.1 Rating context2**

In developing the Strategic Resource Plan (referred to in Section 14.), rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue, accounting for 56.8% of the total revenue received by Council annually. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the Strategic Resource Planning process. The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the Victorian community.

However, it has been necessary to balance the importance of rate revenue as a funding source with community sensitivity to increases, particularly recent changes in property valuations and subsequently rates for some properties in the municipality. To ensure that deliberations about future rate increases have been made on an informed basis, comparisons of historical rate increases were made between Council and other similar sized councils. The following table shows a comparison of the last five years and the average rates per capita for the 2016/17 year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Victorian** | **Average** |
| **Year** | **City** | **Large** |
|  | **Council** | **Council** |
| 2011/12 | 4.5% | 5.0% |
| 2012/13 | 4.0% | 4.8% |
| 2013/14 | 4.5% | 4.8% |
| 2014/15 | 4.5% | 5.2% |
| 2015/16 | 5.0% | 5.7% |
| **Average increase** | **4.5%** | **5.1%** |
| **Average per capita 2015/16** | **$516** | **$576** |

Source: Council’s Strategic Resource Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20

The table indicates that over the past five years Council’s general rate increases have been 0.6% lower than the average of other comparative councils and the average rate per capita was $60 lower than the average of comparative councils in 2015/16.

**15.2 Current year rates and charges3**

The following table sets out future proposed increases in revenue from rates and charges and the total rates to be raised, based on the forecast financial position of Council as at 30 June 2016.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **General**  **Rate** | **Municipal**  **Charge** | **Garbage**  **Charge** | **Recycling**  **Charge** | **Total Rates** |
| **Year** | **Increase** | **Increase** | **Increase** | **Increase** | **Raised** |
|  | **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** | **$’000** |
| 2015/16 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.80 | 5.00 | 41,195 |
| 2016/17 | 2.50 | 1.90 | 3.90 | 5.30 | 42,476 |
| 2017/18 | 2.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 46,273 |
| 2018/19 | 2.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 48,725 |
| 2019/20 | 2.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 51,263 |

**15.3 Rating structure4-7**

Council has established a rating structure which is comprised of three key elements. These are:

* Property values, which form the central basis of rating under the Local Government Act 1989
* A 'user pays' component to reflect usage of certain services provided by Council
* A fixed municipal charge per property to cover some of the administrative costs of the Council.

Striking a proper balance between these elements provides equity in the distribution of the rate burden across residents.

Council makes a further distinction within the property value component of rates based on the purpose for which the property is used, that is, whether the property is used for residential or commercial purposes. This distinction is based on the concept that business should pay a fair and equitable contribution to rates, taking into account the benefits those commercial properties derive from the local community.

Having reviewed the various valuation bases for determining the property value component of rates, Council has determined to apply a Capital Improved Value (CIV) basis on the grounds that it provides the most equitable distribution of rates across the municipality. There are currently no plans to change that basis, but Council does review its rating structure every four years.

The existing rating structure comprises two differential rates (residential and commercial), and a rate concession for recreational land. These rates are structured in accordance with the requirements of Section 161 ‘Differential Rates’ of the Act. Under the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963, provision is made for a Council to levy the rate for recreational lands at “such amount as the municipal council thinks reasonable having regard to the services provided by the municipal council in relation to such lands and having regard to the benefit to the community derived from such recreational lands”. The commercial rate is set at 175% of the residential rate and the rate concession for recreational land is set at 50% of the commercial rate. Council also levies a municipal charge, a kerbside collection charge and a recycling charge as allowed under the Act.

The following table summarises the rates to be determined for the 2016/17 year. A more detailed analysis of the rates to be raised is contained in Section 7 ‘Statutory Disclosures’.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rate type** | **How applied** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **Total**  **Raised**  **$000’s** | **Change** |
| Residential rates | Cents in $ of CIV | 0.246871 | 0.253422 | 22,875 | 3.9% |
| Commercial rates | Cents in $ of CIV | 0.432172 | 0.442976 | 4,160 | 1.3% |
| Industrial rates | Cents in $ of CIV | 0.432172 | 0.442976 | 3,605 | 1.3% |
| Recreational rates | Cents in $ of CIV | 0.216086 | 0.221488 | 15 | 1.9% |
| Municipal charge | $ per property | $105 | $107 | 6,111 | 3.0% |
| Kerbside collection charge | $ per property | $77 | $80 | 4,569 | 3.9% |
| Recycling charge | $ per property | $19 | $20 | 1,142 | 5.3% |

Council has adopted a formal *Rating Strategy* that contains expanded information on Council's rating structure and the reasons behind its choices in applying the rating mechanisms it has used.

**15.4 General revaluation of properties8-9**

[Note: This Section 15.4 contains additional information that can be disclosed in the budget year following a general revaluation of properties taking place.]

During the 2015/16 year, a revaluation of all properties within the municipality was carried out and will apply from 1 July 2016 for the 2016/17 year. The outcome of the general revaluation has been a significant change in property valuations throughout the municipality. Overall, property valuations across the municipal district have increased by 37%. Of this increase, residential properties have increased by 43%, commercial properties by 6% and industrial properties by 5%.

The following table summarises the valuation changes between the 2014 and 2016 general revaluations for residential properties by suburb, together with the rating changes between the 2015/16 and 2016/17 years based on a 2.5% average rate increase and the valuation movements listed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Suburb** | **Valuation Increase (Decrease)** | **Rates Increase (Decrease)** |
| Alphonse | 30% | 3% |
| Bundorn | 39% | 16% |
| Fairley | 36% | 6% |
| Kingsville | 58% | 15% |
| Northville | 42% | 8% |
| Victory | 45% | 8% |
| Restville | 39% | 7% |
| Thornley | 57% | 14% |
| **Average residential** | **43%** | **13%** |
| **Average business** | **5%** | **(7)%** |

In deliberating over the setting of the differential rate structure for the 2016/17 year, Council has been mindful of the greater increase in residential property valuations compared to those in the business sector. If no changes were made to the rate differential, the change in property values would result in an overall increase of 13% in residential rates and a 7% reduction in business rates for the 2016/17 year.

In view of the outcomes of the general revaluation of all properties within the Council’s municipal district during the 2015/16 year, Council has chosen not to make any changes to the existing rate differential. In aggregate, total rates and charges will increase by 3.6% compared to 2015/16. This will be achieved by reducing the rate in the dollar to offset the 37% increase in property valuations across the municipal district following the general revaluation.

**16. Summary of other strategies1**

This section sets out summaries of the strategies that have been developed and incorporated into the Strategic Resource Plan including borrowings, infrastructure and service delivery.

**16.1 Borrowings2-5**

In developing the Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) (see Section 14), borrowings was identified as an important funding source for capital works programs. In the past, Council has borrowed strongly to finance large infrastructure projects and since then has been in a phase of debt reduction. This has resulted in a reduction in debt servicing costs, but has meant that cash and investment reserves have been used as an alternate funding source to maintain robust capital works programs. With Council reserves now forecast to be $23.48 million at 30 June 2016, followed by a significant reduction in 2016/17 to complete current infrastructure works in progress, it has been necessary to reconsider the issue of borrowings.

The SRP includes the results of an analysis of Council’s debt position against both State averages and large council averages over a number of different indicators. It also shows the results of the ‘obligations’ indicators that are part of the prescribed financial reporting indicators. The outcome of the analysis highlighted that a debt of $8.00 million could be comfortably accommodated. Council has set a target goal of reaching $4.00 million by 2017/18 to allow spare debt capacity for future major projects.

For the 2016/17 year, Council has decided not to take out any new borrowings to fund the capital works program and therefore, after making loan repayments of $1.47 million, will reduce its total borrowings to $4.89 million as at 30 June 2017. However, it is likely that in future years, borrowings will be required to fund future infrastructure initiatives. The following table sets out future proposed borrowings, based on the forecast financial position of Council as at 30 June 2016.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **New Borrowings** | **Principal  Paid** | **Interest  Paid** | **Balance 30 June** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |
| 2015/16 | 0 | 1,161 | 380 | 6,048 |
| 2016/17 | 0 | 1,161 | 312 | 4,887 |
| 2017/18 | 0 | 1,161 | 247 | 3,726 |
| 2018/19 | 2,000 | 1,161 | 410 | 4,565 |
| 2019/20 | 0 | 1,290 | 340 | 3,275 |

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2015/16** | **2016/17** |
| **$** | **$** |
| Total amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year | 7,209,000 | 6,048,000 |
| Total amount to be borrowed | 0 | 0 |
| Total amount projected to be redeemed | (1,161,000) | (1,161,000) |
| Total amount proposed to be borrowed as at 30 June | 6,048,000 | 4,887,000 |

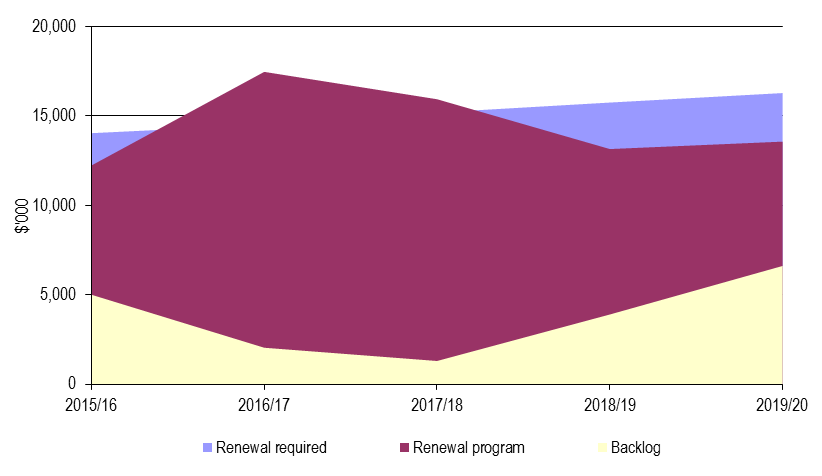
**16.2 Infrastructure6-13**

The Council has developed an Infrastructure Strategy based on the knowledge provided by various Asset Management Plans, which sets out the capital expenditure requirements of Council for the next 10 years by class of asset, and is a key input to the SRP. It predicts infrastructure consumption, renewal needs and considers infrastructure needs to meet future community service expectations. The Strategy has been developed through a rigorous process of consultation and evaluation. The key aspects of the process are as follows:

* Long term capital planning process which integrates with the Council Plan, Strategic Resource Plan and Annual Budget processes
* Identification of capital projects through the preparation of asset management plans
* Prioritisation of capital projects within classes on the basis of evaluation criteria
* Methodology for allocating annual funding to classes of capital projects
* Business Case template for officers to document capital project submissions.

A key objective of the Infrastructure Strategy is to maintain or renew Council’s existing assets at desired condition levels. If sufficient funds are not allocated to asset renewal then Council’s investment in those assets will reduce, along with the capacity to deliver services to the community.

The graph below sets out the required and actual asset renewal over the life of the current SRP and the renewal backlog.



At present, Council is similar to most municipalities in that it is presently unable to fully fund asset renewal requirements identified in the Infrastructure Strategy. While the Infrastructure Strategy is endeavouring to provide a sufficient level of annual funding to meet ongoing asset renewal needs, the above graph indicates that in later years the required asset renewal is not being addressed creating an asset renewal gap and increasing the level of backlog. Backlog is the renewal works that Council has not been able to fund over the past years and is equivalent to the accumulated asset renewal gap. In the above graph the backlog at the beginning of the five year period was $5.00 million and $6.61 million at the end of the period.

In updating the Infrastructure Strategy for the 2016/17 year, the following influences have had a significant impact:

* Reduction in the amount of cash and investment reserves to fund future capital expenditure programs
* Environmental issues at the Victoria Park Lake resulting in the bringing forward of future planned expenditure
* Availability of significant Federal funding for upgrade of roads
* Decision by the Victorian State Government to award Council with construction of a Velodrome and Lawn Bowls Centre within its municipality
* The enactment of the *Road Management Act 2004* removing the defence of non-feasance on major assets such as roads
* New building regulations requiring all Child Care Centres to immediately upgrade to ensure compliance.

The following table summarises Council's forward outlook on capital expenditure including funding sources for the next four years.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Summary of funding sources** | | | |
| **Year** | **Total Capital Program** | **Grants** | **Contributions** | **Council Cash** | **Borrowings** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |
| 2015/16 | 22,617 | 2,903 | 0 | 19,714 | 0 |
| 2016/17 | 30,717 | 6,277 | 0 | 24,440 | 0 |
| 2017/18 | 23,242 | 9,407 | 0 | 13,835 | 0 |
| 2018/19 | 18,530 | 1,694 | 0 | 14,836 | 2,000 |
| 2019/20 | 17,349 | 1,367 | 0 | 15,982 | 0 |

In addition to using cash generated from its annual operations, borrowings and external contributions such as government grants, Council has significant cash or investment reserves that are also used to fund a variety of capital projects. These reserves are either ‘statutory’ or ’discretionary’ cash reserves. Statutory reserves relate to cash and investments held by Council that must be expended on a specific purpose as directed by legislation or a funding body, and include contributions to car parking, drainage and public resort and recreation. Discretionary cash reserves relate to those cash and investment balances that have been set aside by Council and can be used at Council’s discretion, even though they may be earmarked for a specific purpose.

**16.3 Service delivery14-17**

The key objectives in Council’s Strategic Resource Plan (referred to in Section 14.) which directly impact the future service delivery strategy are to maintain existing service levels and to achieve a breakeven operating result within five to six years. The Rating Information (see Section 15.) also refers to modest rate increases into the future. With these key objectives as a basis, a number of internal and external influences have been identified through discussions with management which will have a significant impact on the scope and level of services to be provided over the next four years.

The general influences affecting all operating revenue and expenditure include the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** |
| **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** |
| Consumer Price Index | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Average Weekly Earnings | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| Engineering Construction Index | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Non-Residential Building Index | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Rate increases | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Property growth | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Wages growth | 4.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Government funding | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Statutory fees | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Investment return | 5.5 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 |

As well as the general influences, there are also a number of specific influences which relate directly to service areas or activities. The most significant changes in these areas are summarised below.

**Transfer Station**

Waste tipping fees for inert waste are expected to rise further as the State Government has increased the levy payable upon disposal of waste at landfill. Following increases of $44 per tonne since 2008/09, the fee will rise a further $2.02 per tonne (3.3%) in 2016/17. The financial impact will be to increase tipping fee costs at the Transfer Station from $0.36 million in 2015/16 to $0.46 million in 2016/17. The pricing structure currently in place for Transfer Station users will be adjusted to absorb all future cost increases.

**Residential Garbage Collection**

Waste tipping charges associated with the disposal of residential garbage and also growth in the number of tenements (1,000 pa over the five year period) are expected to result in an increase of $0.03 million per annum excluding CPI. The increased landfill levy will also increase the cost of residential garbage disposal by $0.18 million in the 2016/17 financial year.

**Kerbside Collection**

The contract for collection of recyclable waste expires on 1 July 2017. It is expected that the cost of this service will increase from $1.20 million to $1.40 million following re-tender in 2016/17. Future increases have been set at CPI.

**Aged and Disability Services**

Government funding for aged and disability services is expected to increase by approximately $0.14 million from 2015/16. This includes General Home Care, Personal Care, Respite Care and Meals.

**Valuation Services**

The Council is required to revalue all properties within the municipality every two years. The last general revaluation was carried out as at 1 January 2016 effective for the 2016/17 year and the next revaluation will be undertaken as at 1 January 2018. An allowance of $0.08 million has been made every two years commencing in 2016/17 to meet the additional cost of resources to complete the revaluation process.

**Animal Control**

The contract for the provision of animal control services has ended and is currently being renegotiated. It is expected that the cost of this service will rise from $0.36 million to $0.40 million per annum. This will be offset by predicted increases in registration fees of 5% above CPI or $0.02 million per annum in 2016/17 and 2017/18.

**Statutory Planning**

The statutory planning unit has been growing significantly over the past three years as the level of property development activity has increased. It is expected that the 2016/17 budget will be insufficient to meet all the needs of the Unit and accordingly an additional $0.05 million has been allowed from 2016/17 onwards for external support on appeals.

The service delivery outcomes measured in financial terms are shown in the following table.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Surplus (Deficit) for the year** | **Adjusted Underlying  Surplus  (Deficit)** | **Net  Service (Cost)** |
|  | **$’000** | **$’000** | **$’000** |
| 2015/16 | (1,922) | (4,676) | (39,369) |
| 2016/17 | 1,045 | (4,453) | (41,967) |
| 2017/18 | 5,398 | (3,630) | (43,233) |
| 2018/19 | (1,754) | (2,948) | (44,451) |
| 2019/20 | (1,570) | (2,397) | (46,151) |

Service levels have been maintained throughout the four year period with operating surpluses forecast in years 2016/17 and 2017/18 as a result of significant capital grant revenue being received to fund the annual capital works program. Years 2018/19 to 2019/20 forecast reducing operating deficits with a view to almost breaking even by 2019/20. Excluding the effects of items such as capital contributions, the adjusted underlying result is a reducing deficit over the four year period. The net cost of the services provided to the community increases from $41.97 million to $46.15 million over the four year period.

**Appendix A**

**Fees and charges schedule1**

This appendix presents the fees and charges of a statutory and non-statutory nature which will be charged in respect to various goods and services provided during the 2016/17 year.

**Appendix B**

**Budget processes 1-6**

This section lists the budget processes to be undertaken in order to adopt the Budget in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* (the Regulations).

Under the Act, Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget for each financial year. The budget is required to include certain information about the rates and charges that Council intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the Regulations which support the Act.

The 2016/17 budget, which is included in this report, is for the year 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 and is prepared in accordance with the Act and Regulations. The budget includes financial statements being a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Capital Works. These statements have been prepared for the year ending 30 June 2017 in accordance with the Act and Regulations, and consistent with the annual financial statements which are prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Model Accounts. The budget also includes information about the rates and charges to be levied, the capital works program to be undertaken, the human resources required, and other financial information Council requires in order to make an informed decision about the adoption of the budget.

A ‘proposed’ budget is prepared in accordance with the Act and submitted to Council in May for approval ’in principle’. Council is then required to give ’public notice’ that it intends to ’adopt’ the budget. It must give 28 days notice of its intention to adopt the proposed budget and make the budget available for inspection at its offices and on its web site. A person has a right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the budget and any submission must be considered before adoption of the budget by Council.

With the introduction of the State Governments Rate Capping legislation in 2015 Councils are now unable to determine the level of rate increase and instead must use a maximum rate increase determined by the Minister for Local Government which is announced in December for application in the following financial year.

If a Council wishes to seek a rate increase above the maximum allowable it must submit a rate variation submission to the Essential Services Commission (ESC). The ESC will determine whether the rate increase variation submission has been successful by 31 May. In many cases this will require Councils to undertake ‘public notice’ on two separate proposed budgets simultaneously, i.e. the Ministers maximum rate increase and the Council’s required rate increase.

The final step is for Council to adopt the budget after receiving and considering any submissions from interested parties. The budget is required to be adopted by 30 June and a copy submitted to the Minister within 28 days after adoption. The key dates for the budget process are summarised below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget process** | **Timing** | |
| 1. Minister of Local Government announces maximum rate increase  2. Officers update Council's long term financial projections | | Dec | |
| 3.Council to advise ESC if it intends to make a rate variation submission | | Jan/Feb | |
| 4. Council submits formal rate variation submission to ESC | | Mar | |
| 5. Proposed budget(s) submitted to Council for approval | | Apr/May | |
| 6. ESC advises whether rate variation submission I successful | | May | |
| 7. Public notice advising intention to adopt budget | | May | |
| 8. Budget available for public inspection and comment | | May | |
| 9. Public submission process undertaken | | May/Jun | |
| 10. Submissions period closes (28 days) | | Jun | |
| 11. Submissions considered by Council/Committee | | Jun | |
| 12. Budget and submissions presented to Council for adoption | | Jun | |
| 13. Copy of adopted budget submitted to the Minister | | Jul | |
| 14. Revised budget where a material change has arisen | |  | |

**End of Victorian City Council Budget Report**