



Welcome to our August
Webinar –
Preparing for the new budget
cycle



Today's panelists

Fiona Rae – Golden Plains Shire & FinPro Exec

Leah Mullins – City of Greater Bendigo

Kate Heissenbuttel – Monash Council

Facilitator: Nathan Morsillo – City of Greater Bendigo &
FinPro Exec

Council Budget Timelines

February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
<p>Formulation of Budget and Budget Engagement</p> <p>Online Survey Online Workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare BAU costs Consider additional costs required Update capital program Prepare budget financial statements 	<p>Update Long Term Financial Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update budget with feedback from public engagement Long Term Financial Plan updated with 2023-24 budget and review forecast years 	<p>Council Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 18 – Endorse 2023-24 Draft Budget <p>Endorse 2023-24 Draft Budget to place on public exhibition for one month consultation during May</p>	<p>Public Consultation</p> <p>Online Workshops</p> <p>One-month public consultation period to provide opportunity for feedback as a budget submission.</p>	<p>Council Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 6 - Budget Submissions June 27 - Adoption of Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive and hear budget submissions for consideration of inclusion in the budget Adoption of 2023-24 Budget

Engagement timeline



Key Messages

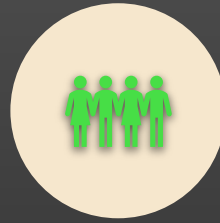
High level



- Council's annual budget outlines how **resources** are **prioritised** to deliver **important** and **relevant** programs to the **community**.
- The **draft budget** also incorporates the **major initiatives** identified by the Council as **priorities** in the Council Plan 2021 -2015, to be undertaken during the next financial year.
- Council **would like** to **hear from residents** about what their **priorities** are as we prepare our draft budget.
- There is a **small potential** that approximately up to 3% of the overall budget may be available for **discretionary** spending.
- As part of our **customer and community engagement**, Council will implement a multi-phased approach that **builds** on our ongoing **genuine engagement promise**.
- Further **consultation** will be delivered throughout April and May.
- Council **aims** to approve the 2023/24 Budget at it's June meeting.



SEP/OCT →
CAPEX (NEW &
RENEWAL)



OCT/NOV →
OPEX BASE
BUDGET BUILD
& ANNUAL
ACTIONS



NOVEMBER →
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT



DEC/JAN →
OFFICER
REVIEW AND
PRIORITISATION



FEB/MAR →
COUNCILLOR
WORKSHOPS



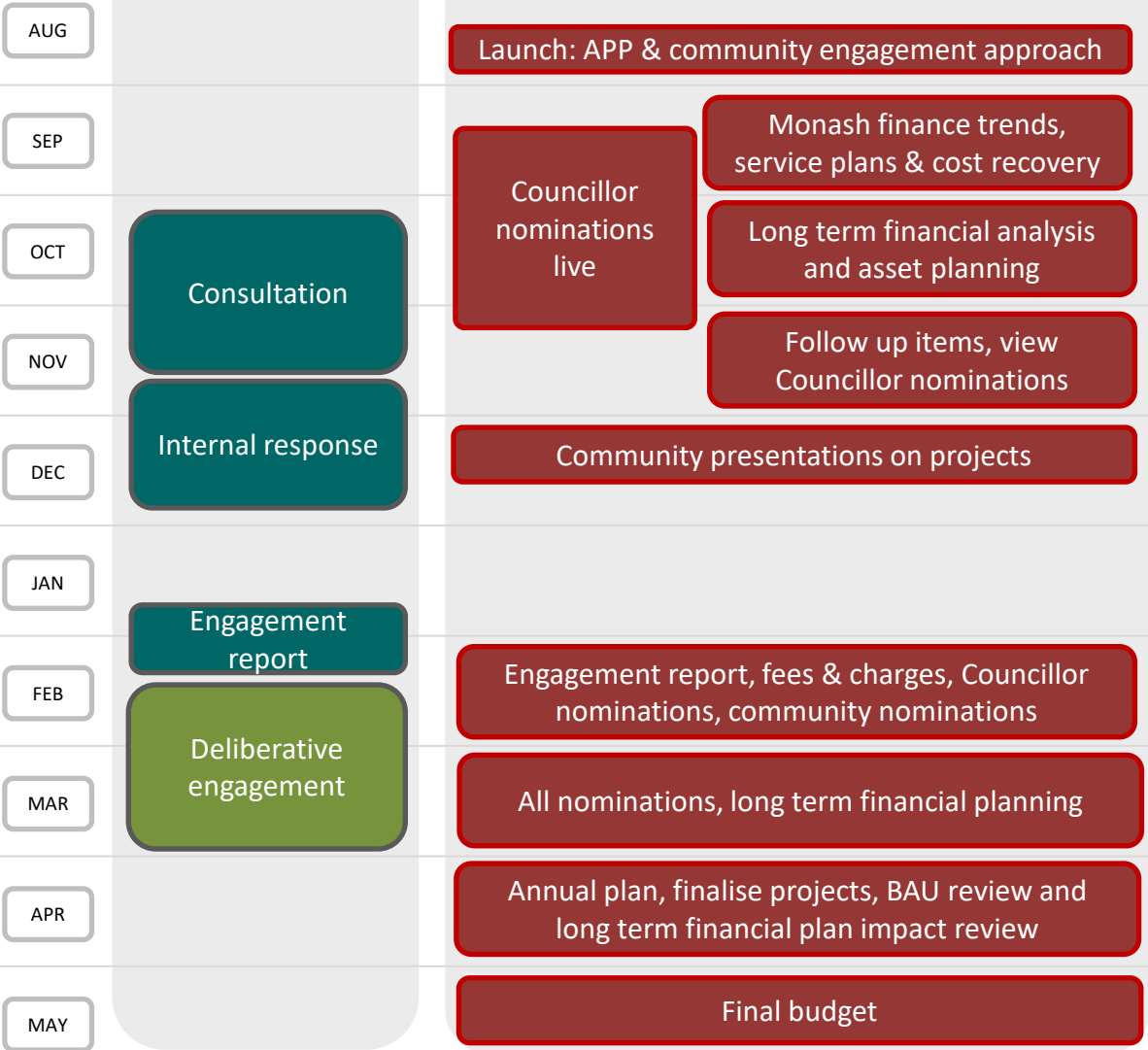
MAY →
BUDGET
ADOPTION

Annual planning process methodology



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COUNCIL



Main changes:

1. Budget adopted in May
2. Community engagement approach
3. More financial literacy building of our situation
4. Internal communications

Community engagement approach

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

Consultation

Internal response

Engagement report

Deliberative engagement

- Up front engagement approach; October and November 2023
- Areas of focus:
 - **2023/24**: Council Plan priorities, participatory focus on operational budget, community project submissions
 - **2024/25**: Advocacy priorities, participatory focus on financial levers, community project submissions
- Online engagement and in person
- Lots of promotion!
- **2023/24** deliberative panel (external facilitator)
- “Should Council continue to maintain services and assets at its current levels or do these need to change? ”