

Quarterly Community Report July-September 2020



Administrator Message

I am pleased to present the City of Casey's Quarterly Community Report for July - September 2020.

Throughout the July - September quarter, Council continued to deliver services to the Casey community in a COVID safe way, by ensuring that social distancing and personal protective measures were in place for face-to-face services and continuing to deliver others online.

In September, we began recruiting for 199 new roles at the City of Casey as part of the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria fund. The roles, which are being offered on six month terms, are for unemployed people who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19, or who have been out of work for a period of time. We aim to have all roles filled by the end of December 2020.

This quarter saw the City of Casey enter into a Power Purchase Agreement to source renewable energy from the Bald Hills Wind Farm in Wonthaggi to power all of Casey's street lights from January 2021. The renewable energy will be sourced from Bald Hills until the end of 2027, then sourced from another Victorian renewable project until 30 June 2030. Casey has also committed to the regional 'Back to Earth' program which promotes the correct use of organics collection systems (Food Waste Recycling) and focuses on reusing organic material to create useful compost that is returned to the land for agricultural purposes rather than going to landfill.

The City of Casey's 2020-21 Capital Works Program features an investment of \$131.6 million delivering approximately 268 infrastructure projects. One such program successfully delivered this quarter was the Sydney Pargeter Reserve Men's Shed which will be used by the Endeavour Hills Men's Shed Association. The shed includes a large open working space, kitchen, office, social area and carpark. and will provide a space to develop valuable social and wellbeing programs for the community.

Council relies on community engagement to inform the delivery of services, infrastructure and facilities, with a number of engagement opportunities scheduled to take place through the year. Community engagement was a key element in the development of Council's new community engagement policy. The *Shape Your City* engagement program, has given the community an opportunity to contribute to Council's overarching 10-year vision and help shape future infrastructure and service delivery in Casey, from parks and playgrounds, to the arts, community services, local road project and more.

I would like to thank all members of the community who took the time to participate in recent community engagement activities, and encourage people across Casey to take every opportunity to get involved to help us shape a better future for our community.

Noelene Duff PSM
Chair of Administrators
City of Casey



Introduction

Each year, a Council Action Plan is developed that includes the key projects and activities which work towards delivering our Council Plan 2017-21.

The Quarterly Community Report provides a detailed statement of Council's performance against the Council Plan 2017-21.

It details the progress of delivering the Council Action Plan 2020/21, financial performance, capital works project delivery and community engagement updates.

Council Plan Performance

This section provides a detailed update on Council's progress in delivering the Council Action Plan 2020/21, for the July - September 2020 period.

There are 32 actions planned for delivery in 2020/21. This includes four carryover actions from

the Annual Action Plan 2019/20, which were not completed at 30 June 2020, as planned.

As at 30 September 2020, 30 actions are tracking to plan, with two carryover action now being reported as part of the 2020/21 actions.

Action Status Overview:

Strategic Objective 1: People Driven



Strategic Objective 2: Place to Prosper



Strategic Objective 3: High Performing Organisation



Legend:



Completed: Action was completed by the target date



At Risk: Action is tracking more than 10% behind target but will be met by the target date



Replaced: Carryover action that has been replaced with a new Council Plan Action



In Progress: Action is underway and tracking against target



Not Completed: Action was not completed, or will not be completed, by the target date



Deferred: Action has been deferred and work will not be undertaken this financial year

Strategic Objective 1: People Driven

The City of Casey strives to deliver services and infrastructure that meets the needs of its growing community. Creating a well-connected transport network is vital to support the rapid growth in the municipality so that our residents and visitors are able to get around with ease. We want to create a place where people feel safe, included within their community and socially connected.

Strategy 1.1 An inclusive, safe and connected community

Action: Launch a citizen leadership program to develop Community Leaders who can help build knowledge of Council's role and responsibilities and build connection with Council's Administrators.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Work on the project is progressing with a request for funding submitted, an internal Steering Committee has been formed and meetings scheduled.

Action: Implement the Gender Equality Action Plan to create leadership opportunities for diverse women, ensure an enabling workplace culture and embed a gender inclusive approach to community programs, services and infrastructure.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The Gender Equality Action Plan provides an integrated whole-of-Council approach to drive equality of outcomes and address structured gender inequality within the City of Casey as a community and organisation. The Plan has been refreshed to align with the forthcoming Gender Equality Act 2020.

This quarter, implementation included progress of actions within each of the three priorities of the plan. This has occurred alongside ongoing work to address the gendered impacts of COVID-19 and support community and staff in maintaining resilience and wellbeing throughout the initial stages of the pandemic. Council has delivered and implemented a Gender Pandemic Response and Recovery Analysis Tool and support

guides for frontline staff, which have supported community partners, council staff and partner Councils via the Municipal Association of Victoria. Council has also delivered the 'This Girl Can' and 'Gender Equality Communications' campaigns, featuring online physical activity and health and wellbeing support and delivering vital information and service referral information to the community.

Development of the Open Space Audit Tool progressed and Council engaged with sector partner Womens Health in the South East to roll out training within targeted areas and across the organisation to deliver gender equality outcomes for the entire Casey community. Ongoing initiatives across the organisation to prepare Council for the Gender Equality Act 2020 progressed in line with quarterly benchmarks and Council is developing integrated programming for 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence against Gender Based Violence.

Action Carried Over From 2019/20

Action: Review the Asset Management Plans based on the 2017/18 review to ensure assets are fit for purpose and sustainable.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council's Finance Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee adopted a revised work program for this action in the previous financial year. This was due to the changes to the Local Government Act regarding the requirement for 10-year Asset Management Plans, and recruitment for the Asset Management Teams being on hold due to the COVID-19 recruitment freeze. This quarter, recruitment for two positions in the team recommenced. While the Asset Management Planning role has been appointed the candidate is yet to commence.

Strategy 1.2 A council whose services and facilities are driven by community needs

Action: Design and implement stage two of the Aged and Disability Service Review to explore different service models and address barriers to accessing support

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Progress of the Aged and Disability Services review was disrupted this quarter by the COVID-19 pandemic. Resources were re-allocated to the Community Care teams to ensure aged and vulnerable community members continued to receive a service during this time, and new risk and infection control procedures were developed and implemented in response. The third stage of the review (planning and testing pre-implementation) re-commenced in late September 2020, with a view to revising the direction and scope of the review in light of the impacts of the pandemic.

The next quarter will consist of re-engaging internal stakeholders within Council, forming a governance committee and seeking endorsement of a proposed roadmap for the next steps of the review.

Action: Collaborate with the development sector to support the early delivery of infrastructure through Development & Infrastructure Contribution Levies.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Projects to the value of approximately \$130 million will be delivered by Developers supported by progress payments through the CP Reserves. Opportunities for more direct involvement by Developers in the delivery of Community & Recreation facilities is being explored.

Action: Undertake a review to determine if Council should become a service provider of funded three year old kindergarten.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Work is currently underway to determine Council's role in this service area.

Action: Implement a comprehensive program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support our community to rebuild and thrive in both the social and economic environments.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council has continued to support the community through the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This support extended to community messaging, emergency food relief, partnerships with Community Service Organisations and business support. A detailed summary of the support provided has been detailed further in the report.

Action: Undertake community engagement to inform a new Community Vision that describes the City's aspirations for the next ten years to inform Council's strategic priorities.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The first stage of the project is tracking to plan, with the Community Engagement Policy endorsed by Council on 18 August 2020 and a Community Panel established and implemented in July 2020.

The second stage of the project which requires broad and representative engagement of the Community is in progress and on track to be completed in November 2020 through the 'Shape Your City' campaign.

Actions Carried Over From 2019/20

Action: Work with local schools and service providers to implement a partnership approach to develop a master plan for the Doveton Pool in the Park site

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The project is progressing to plan with an Open Space Assessment and Heritage Assessment completed. Commencement of design options and a community engagement plan will occur in the second quarter.

Action: Develop an Urban Forest Strategy, in line with the Living Melbourne Strategy, to enable strong natural assets and enhance liveability

Status: Replaced ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Progress toward this action will now be reported under Strategic Objective 2, in the action: 'Protect, plant and manage trees in streets and parks to grow strong natural assets and foster a greener, more liveable Melbourne'.

Action: Develop a roadmap to articulate how the City of Casey will facilitate 'Smart City' concepts and broader innovation across our communities to improve liveability and community wellbeing.

Status: Replaced ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Progress toward this action will now be reported under Strategic Objective 3, in the action: 'Undertake community engagement to determine how Casey can use emerging smart city technology to improve liveability, wellbeing and sustainability'.

Strategy 1.3 A city with an accessible and well-connected transport network

Action: Work with State and Federal Government to ensure major rail and transport upgrades deliver an integrated and reliable network.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council continues to work with State and Federal Government on major

transport projects to ensure they are integrated, in addition to meeting current and future community needs. Additional resources have been allocated by Council and the State this quarter to ensure this work is completed to a quality standard.

Action: Deliver paths and trails in Casey that improve connection and promote sustainable modes of transport.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The implementation plan for the Walk and Ride Strategy is nearing completion in readiness for Capital Works Program nominations during October - November 2020. Advocacy continues for delivery of Shared Use Paths in current Major Road & Transport Projects and Growth Area Estate Development.

Strategic Objective 2: A Place to Prosper

The City of Casey aims to be a place in which our residents and visitors can thrive, with a local economy that fosters innovation and supports local jobs. Casey aspires to be a leading local authority, that leverages the strength of the region in advocacy, regional planning and investment. We want to enhance our natural environment and provide access to cultural experiences and events that celebrate the diversity of our community and foster connection and wellbeing.

Strategy 2.1 The destination for arts, culture, sport and leisure that attracts visitors and brings communities together

Action: Deliver four new recreation reserves (Cranbourne North, Cranbourne East and Clyde North) to provide residents access to sports fields and playgrounds and promote opportunities for physical activity.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Work on the project is tracking to plan, with all four recreation reserves scheduled to be completed by March 2021.

Action: Provide a range of digital programs to connect the community to arts and cultural experiences from Bunjil Place during its closure and beyond.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The Bunjil Place facility has been closed in during the quarter in line with State Government restrictions. Council has maintained engagement with the community through digital programs via the Bunjil Place website and social channels, including a mix of live, recorded and interactive content. This included four interactive activities, five video workshops, three PDF activities, two Spotify playlist web articles, one Exhibition Access Program and a video series.

Action: Partner with elite level sporting groups and state sporting associations to attract major events to the region and ensure representation in

the Casey community.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: While work has commenced on the project, due to COVID-19 closures, elite sport clubs and state sporting associations are operating in a limited capacity. Council will be unable to attract events until further State Government announcements regarding the roadmap are unveiled and details are known.

Strategy 2.2 A thriving economy with local jobs, investment and new industries

Action: Partner with industry, government and the community to improve regional collaboration, long-term planning, infrastructure funding and governance reforms.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council continued to progress their case for a South East Melbourne City Deal to state and federal governments as part of their wider partnership with Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) Councils.

As part of the regional collaboration brought about via GSEM, Council began recruiting for 199 new roles at the City of Casey as part of the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria fund, which provides roles for unemployed people who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19.

Council staff also played a major role in creating

GSEM's stakeholder engagement framework to further expand their collaboration with industry and the community. Actions were undertaken as part of Casey's COVID-19 Action Plan to release building and development bonds, deploy Developer Contribution Plans reserve for road infrastructure and ensure punctual application processing targets yielded great results for the quarter. Due to the actions of the COVID-19 Action Plan, Council was able to improve regional collaboration, get on with common-sense planning, and bring forward infrastructure delivery.

Action: Make best use of underutilised Council land by creating opportunities for new civic, community and commercial developments.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The Strategic Utilisation of Council Owned Land (SUCOL) Program seeks to take advantage of select assets in the Council property portfolio that are underutilised and/or capable of a more strategic use or redevelopment opportunity.

The initial Work Plan, endorsed by Council on 2 July 2019, identified six projects for investigation. During the quarter Council staff have been progressing with the 'Cranbourne Project' by reviewing Council facilities and landholdings in the Cranbourne Town Centre and Casey Complex and engaging a consultant to prepare a business case for this initiative. Council staff have also reviewed the 2019 SUCOL Work Plan and are preparing a new five-year program for Council's consideration.

Action: Improve the local economy and create jobs by attracting new investment, supporting business growth and enhancing the planning, design and management of activity centres.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council continued to collaborate with Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) Councils as part of the City Deal process, which has increased the desirability of GSEM to investors to secure greater investment. InvestVic inquiries

for prospective investors have also continued to be dealt with in a timely manner with hopes of securing investment and jobs in Casey. Despite Council being extremely proactive towards all things investment attraction and job creation, the impact of COVID-19 pandemic has largely curtailed positive gains in this space. Council launched its Backing Business in Casey support package, designed to boost business recovery post COVID-19 and increase business capabilities to create a stronger, more resilient local economy. Initiatives within the package include Business Grants Program, Mentor Matching Service, #Imstilopen business promotion and Innovation Crowd 2.0.

Council staff are developing Growth and Investment Plans for the Fountain Gate, Narre Warren and Cranbourne Activity Centres to encourage development and economic activity by identifying and prioritising game-changing infrastructure projects and strategic land development opportunities. Initial internal consultation has been undertaken and a Project Brief has been prepared.

Council is also preparing a planning scheme amendment to implement the Cranbourne Town Centre Structure Plan 2018 into the Casey Planning Scheme. The Amendment will seek to ensure planning controls for the Cranbourne Town Centre are clear, accurate and support a concentration and diversity of land uses as well as high amenity higher density housing.

Action: Facilitate the unlocking of future employment land to ensure Casey residents have access to and choice of employment opportunities.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The South East Economic Corridor (SEEC) Report outlines a suggested vision and a number of strategic imperatives proposed to support the unlocking of future employment land for greater local job opportunities. The SEEC seeks to define the strategic role and drafting instructions of the six remaining employment precinct structure plans (e-PSPs) yet to be prepared in the South East.

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) has advised the final SEEC Strategic Context Report to 2060 is currently being published and will be available via the VPA website.

Council continued liaising with the Department Environment Land Water and Planning regarding the Melbourne Industrial and Commercial Land Use Plan, which will also guide the facilitation of unlocking of future employment land.

Council staff also collaborated with Cardinia and Dandenong Council counterparts to explore opportunities to partner with the VPA as part of their Streamlining for Growth program. Such a partnership would focus on facilitating the development of employment land.

Strategy 2.3 A city that sustainably plans and manages growth while protecting its diverse landscape

Action: Mitigate the impact of climate change by reducing Council's carbon footprint and supporting the community to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The City of Casey has entered a Power Purchase Agreement to source renewable energy via the Bald Hills wind farm to the equivalent of 100% of the electricity required for street lighting in the municipality. The power supply commences in January 2021 for a period of 9.5 years. Council has also secured \$200,000 funding for the development of a Coastal Strategy to build the resilience of our coastal communities, assets and environment to the impacts of sea level rise and coastal hazards.

Action: Increase the diversion of waste from landfill through new kerbside services such as Food Organics Garden Organics and leading the procurement of advanced waste processing.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council introduced a voluntary food organics recycling service which allows residents to place food waste into the existing garden waste kerbside bin. The collected material is taken to an in-vessel composting facility where it is processed into high quality soil-improving products.

Casey has committed to the regional 'Back to Earth' program which promotes the correct use of organics collection systems and focuses on reuse of organic material by applying it to land particularly for agricultural purposes.

Action: Protect, plant and manage trees in streets and parks to grow strong natural assets and foster a greener, more liveable Melbourne.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: A consultant has been appointed for the development of the urban forest strategy. Work is currently on hold while recruitment of essential resources in the Urban Forests team occurs. However the project is still on track to be delivered in first half of 2021 calendar year.

Action: Develop a Domestic Waste Water Management Plan in order to minimise the environmental and public health risks associated with onsite domestic septic systems.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The Domestic Waste Water Management Plan aims to identify the risks to both public and environmental health associated with onsite domestic wastewater management systems, such as septic tanks, and then set out strategies to minimise those risks. A working draft version of the Plan has been completed. Council are currently consulting with other regulatory agencies such as South East Water in order to ensure that the risk management strategies that have been proposed are optimised. The working draft plan will integrate feedback provided by the regulatory agencies to produce a draft plan that will be made available for public consultation purposes.

Action: Introduce changes to the planning scheme that reflect contemporary policies and community priorities.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Council adopted the C230 Planning Scheme Amendment to correct municipal wide heritage overlay errors, and the C258 Activity Centre Strategy, to implement contemporary regime for activity centres in Casey.

Work in underway in the preparation of submissions to State Government policy reforms, regarding a proposed land-use Buffer Area Overlay and changes to the Green Wedge Zone.

A Planning Policy Framework Translation Working Group formed with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and draft project plan was prepared. Furthermore, an audit of adopted Land-use strategic documents (outside of the scheme) has been completed.



Strategic Objective 3: A High Performing Organisation

The City of Casey strives to be an efficient and effective organisation. Council is focussed on innovation and continuous improvement to transform the way we deliver services to the community. We aim to optimise the use of technology and digital solutions, and will focus on our customers to create a seamless customer experience.

Strategy 3.1 A leader in applying technology and innovation

Action: Undertake community engagement to determine how Casey can use emerging smart city technology to improve liveability, wellbeing and sustainability.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Following delays in this project due to COVID-19 and the challenges associated with community engagement at this time, this project is now nearing completion. A comprehensive community engagement process was completed that successfully identified, through a range of digital opportunities, the priorities and aspirations of our community with respect to Casey becoming a smart, innovative city. These findings have been brought together with international research and engagement with employees to develop a draft Smart City program for Casey, called Smart Casey Launchpad. It includes an exciting vision, goals and principles, and a series of impactful projects that will yield significant community outcomes. The program document is now being shared for feedback with key stakeholders before finalisation and the commencement of implementation at the end of 2020.

Action: Develop and begin implementing a Transformation Strategy that ensures Casey is an agile, capable and sustainable Council into the future.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The development of a Transformation Strategy for Casey that will support the Council

to be more agile, innovative and sustainable has commenced. Research is underway to confirm the core challenges to be addressed through the strategy, with the future state vision to be developed by the end of February 2021. A partner organisation will be engaged over coming months to support the detailed design of the transformation and the finalisation of the Transformation Strategy and business case.

Action: Deliver new online features to provide customers with additional choice and flexibility, including a chat bot, to use more services 24/7.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Work on the project is tracking to plan and Council have delivered a live chat feature and a virtual assistant on the Casey website.

Strategy 3.2 An efficient and effective, customer focussed Council with sufficient resources to meet priorities

Action: Implement a proactive governance program addressing the matters identified by the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission's (IBAC) Operation Sandon.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Work is progressing well, with the project team undertaking work as required under the Integrity and Ethics Action Plan.

Action: Ensure the planning of infrastructure essential for Council and the community is financially sustainable and fit for purpose.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: The development of an Infrastructure Strategy is being scoped. This strategy will set the direction for Council infrastructure including how we cater for current and future community needs, financial sustainability and partnerships across other levels of government and private stakeholders.

Action: Expand the Voice of the Customer Program across more services to ensure we are listening to our customers and their feedback is used to improve the way we deliver services.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: During the quarter, a 'Voice of the Customer' software was implemented which will enable Council to expand customer feedback surveys into more services and will provide immediate visualisation and segmentation of live data. Customers are surveyed across six metrics: Overall Satisfaction, Net Easy, First Contact Resolution, Clear Communication, Staff Skill and Knowledge and Service Met Expectations. This data will be used to identify opportunities for improvement to service delivery.

Surveying commenced via the new software in August 2020 and rather than surveying by service, this has now been configured to be categorised by department. Mapping of services and functions to department has been completed across half of services with a further 12 services on track to commence satisfaction surveys within the next quarter.

Action: Implement a Financial Sustainability Plan that guides resourcing and decision making to meet the needs of the growing community across a constrained budget.

Status: In progress ■

Due date: 30 June 2021

Comment: Workshop discussions were held regarding financial sustainability principles, which were shared with the Panel. Councils discussions have canvassed financial parameters that cover the mobilisation of reserves, appetite for borrowing and access to funds, and the importance of benefits realisation from service reviews, and corporate initiatives.

The Finance team are working with departments across Council to undertake reviews of forecasts, reserves and vacancies (in collaboration with the People and Culture team) to identify opportunities to unlock capacity within available resources, and to manage identified strategic risks.

Budget outcomes from 2019/20 and year to date performance for 2020/21 are currently being reviewed, with a view to guiding growth assumptions. The intention is to set clearer expectations in operating budget parameters for 2021/22 and long-term metrics around efficiency. This coincides with significant financial pressure and challenges with revenue and rate debt recovery.



COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Efforts

Council has continued to support the community through the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic during the quarter. A detailed summary of the support provided has been detailed below:

Community messaging

Council provided up to date information about key support services available to Casey residents on the Council website and by disseminating Community Service Organisations (CSO) flyers.

The positive impact of Job Seeker payment increases meant that CSOs were not overwhelmed by demand from regular service users; instead the challenge was to let people who may not have ever needed services in the past know what services were available to them. New strategies were required to reach this new demographic.

This included a targeted focus on culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, who are more vulnerable to the negative impacts of COVID, including job losses, COVID infection, isolation, and difficulty accessing support services. Council's priority in this domain has been to produce and disseminate information about support service in key community languages.

Based on feedback from CSOs, demand for financial, housing, homelessness and legal support is expected to increase over the next 6 – 12 months. The priority will be to develop a permanent home for CSO information on Council's website that is easier to find and more accessible to people with low English literacy. Shopping centres and community centres will also become the focal point for messaging around support that is available.

Emergency Food Relief

Council's main priority has been to support the health and wellbeing of volunteers, support emerging groups, understand and respond to issues of food security and facilitate partnerships with local businesses to ensure their longer-term sustainability. This includes making THRIVE programs available to volunteers; continuing

the Balcon initiative until 30 September 2020; adapting the Quick Response Grants to enable organisations who have received the maximum amount of funding available to access additional funds; strengthening referral pathways between food relief organisations and other service providers; and continuing to deliver accessible and up-to-date information across all channels to community around public health and available supports. New groups and those who return once COVID-19 restrictions lift will be introduced to key Emergency Relief providers, Cranbourne Information and Support Service, Cranbourne North Information and Support Service and the Andrews Centre.

Partnerships with Community Service Organisations

Council will continue to facilitate with the network to ensure the coordination of responses to the impacts of the pandemic. This provides Council with real-time insights from our service delivery partners. The immediate need is to respond to the health and wellbeing needs of organisations who are faced with an increasingly tired and anxious workforce; to facilitate more effective referral pathways so that residents find the help they need sooner; and to advocate to state and federal government for resources to support longer-term recovery.

Gender Equality and Family Violence Prevention

The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on women will be felt for many years into the future. Council will skill its workforce to be able to identify and measure the impact of previous and current interventions on women and other groups most affected by the pandemic. Embedding gender awareness into relief and recovery activities, building on the success of the shared leadership approach to Family Violence developed through the relief phase, and leveraging internal and external partnerships will be key.

Community Participation

In an environment of increased social isolation where residents fear being exposed to COVID-19

and there are fewer volunteers doing more work, Council's focus has been on assisting community organisations, groups and clubs to provide opportunities for social connection and participation. Community events will continue to play an important role, even if the usual ways of bringing people together may not be available for some time. Linking individuals experiencing social isolation to local community organisations and programs through the Community Activation and Social Inclusion (CASI) initiative will enable individuals most impacted by the pandemic to develop new support systems. Importantly, this work will be informed by a working group of Council in consultation with a wide range of community organisations.

Technology access and use

Indications are that Council and community services will continue to provide Telehealth services for residents who need or prefer this type of support (including people with a disability) after COVID-19 restrictions ease. Having seen the benefits of digital access for work, learning, shopping, entertainment and social connection, organisations are likely to expand their digital footprint. Council's longer-term strategies will focus on ensuring that all residents have equal access to digital tools and resources. To this end, Council will

- partner with social enterprise Lively to activate digital kiosks
- increase online program/service delivery and create a Virtual Community Centre
- invest in a geographic information system (GIS) platform, NearBy, which will enable people to access information about services, places and community organisations near their home.
- partner with CSOs to provide recovery support onsite from Community Centres - financial counselling, personal counselling, job seeking/training are all key focus programs.

Business Support

In August 2020, Council launched a \$510,000 Backing Business in Casey support package to build on the immediate relief support that was provided. The package is designed to support businesses beyond COVID-19 with a view to the longer term - boosting recovery efforts, increasing business capabilities and creating a stronger and

more resilient local economy.

The package was developed in direct response to feedback from businesses through the Casey Business Helpline and the COVID-19 business impacts survey which was distributed in April 2020.

The \$200,000 grant fund has been established to support projects and activities that will contribute towards the economic recovery of local businesses. It has been developed to complement stimulus offered by other levels of government but also addresses gaps in these programs that have left many Casey businesses ineligible. Businesses will have the opportunity to apply in one of five streams: Digital Infrastructure, Business Continuity Planning and Workforce Capability, Physical Infrastructure and Equipment, Promotion, and Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Vulnerable residents

Through the Relief and Recovery Network, Council will continue to support local service providers in addressing the needs of vulnerable residents in Casey – many of whom are newly vulnerable due to the pandemic and do not have established relationships with the relevant services. Council's digital capacity-building initiatives will continue, as well ongoing work with homelessness and family violence service providers and networks to respond to the acute risk for residents in these domains.

Family, Youth and Children's Services

Initiatives will continue to be developed and delivered in line with COVID-19 restrictions.

Monitoring, evaluation and evidence-based planning

Council's first priority was to respond to community needs as quickly as possible, and to develop baseline data about the impact of COVID-19 on people's lives and to use this evidence base as a way of informing future responses. Council's ongoing work to develop datasets around vulnerability has continued and is reflective of the economic and social impacts of COVID-19. Data has been shared across the organisation and with key sector partners and informs Council's partnership COVID-19 response.

Community Engagement

During the July - September 2020 quarter, the City of Casey ran five consultations with the community using a mix of online engagement on Casey Conversations, email and receiving feedback by mail.

The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25

As part of the process of reviewing and preparing the City of Casey's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025, the community was asked for feedback on any animal management issues that have been occurring in the municipality and how Council could address them. The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 seeks to balance the needs of pet owners and the broader community, where people and pets can safely co-exist within the community.

The consultation was open for 18 days in September 2020 with approximated 2,347 surveys completed. A summary of the survey results is as

follows:

- 85% of respondents own dogs and 35% own cats.
- 26% got information on animal management from their vet.
- 95% of dog owners said they carried something to pick up their dogs waste when walking.
- 95% of cat owners secure them on their property.
- 96% of respondents were aware that cats and dogs must be microchipped from three months old.

The aim of the work is to develop a domestic animal management plan that promotes responsible pet ownership and the welfare of dogs and cats in the community; and protects the community and the environment from nuisance dogs and cats.

Further information can be found here <https://conversations.casey.vic.gov.au/damp21-25>



Community Engagement Policy

The Local Government Act 2020 changes introduced in March 2020 created new legislative obligations for all Victorian councils which include the need for a Community Engagement Policy. The City of Casey's new Community Engagement Policy combines community and staff input and will guide all engagement for the City of Casey going forward.

More than 870 community members provided input into the Community Engagement Policy. The makeup of the group were:

- 35% of respondents were 60 years or older
- 50% were couples with children living at home
- 22% were from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background
- 31% of people had a chronic health condition or disability.

What the community told us:

- Engagement Matters – Our community wants opportunities to provide feedback
- Deliberative engagement is important – and should be used in line with community preferences
- Listen to community feedback – and share how it was used in Council outcomes and decisions.
- Make it easy – to find engagement opportunities
- Keep the community informed – by providing progress updates on engagement activities.
- Community has time to respond – on engagement opportunities, with 3-4 weeks the preferred timeframe.
- Preference for digital channels – to provide feedback on engagement opportunities.

Further information can be found here <https://conversations.casey.vic.gov.au/community-engagement-policy>

Shape Your City

The community have been invited from 14 September to 30 October 2020 to provide feedback to support the creation of Council's next four-year Council Plan, as well as various other documents that help determine the future of our city.

Shape Your City demonstrates Council's commitment to involving our community in future planning, allowing you to have your say on the City where you live, work and play.

Through engagement process, respondents have the opportunity to contribute to Council's overarching 10-year vision and help shape the future infrastructure and service delivery in Casey, from parks and playgrounds, to the arts, community services, local road project and more. Whatever it is, the communities voice is needed to help shape Casey's future.

A report on the full consultation will be available in the October to December quarterly report.

Further information can be found here <https://conversations.casey.vic.gov.au/shape-your-city>

Get Involved in Upcoming Projects

Be the first to hear of any new opportunities to have your say by registering your details on our dedicated community engagement website – www.conversations.casey.vic.gov.au.

We will continue to provide you with more opportunities to have your say and be involved in Council projects, strategies and decision-making. Your input is critical in helping us provide the services and infrastructure needed to support the growing community and make City of Casey Australia's most liveable city.

Note: the URL for Casey Conversations has recently changed to conversations.casey.vic.gov.au. If you have bookmarked any links, we recommend that you update them to take full advantage of the change.

Capital Works Highlights

Selandra Rise Active Open Space Development, Selandra Estate

Edrington Ward

The Selandra Rise Active Open Space Development project includes a multipurpose pavilion for school and community use, outdoor spaces for recreation, including a district level play space, shared walking and cycling paths and landscaping, sport playing surfaces for school and community use including three soccer pitches, two cricket ovals and cricket nets, and space for the delivery of programs promoting wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, such as the neighbouring school's partnership with the Melbourne Football Club.

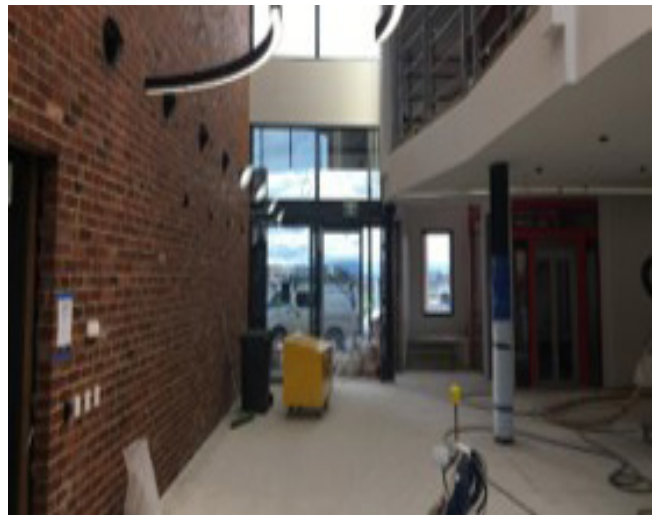
Recent works completed include tiling and painting inside the pavilion, placement of growing medium to playing surfaces, fencing works and light poles, pavement and asphalt to the car park, and fencing. The project is scheduled for completion in March 2021.



Selandra Rise Active Open Space Development, Selandra Estate

Cranbourne West Integrated Community Hub, Cranbourne West

Mayfield Ward



Cranbourne West Integrated Community Hub

The Cranbourne West Integrated Community Hub will include three halls, two training/multipurpose areas, reception area, kitchen and upstairs meeting and consulting rooms of varying sizes for internal and external provided services.

Recent completed works include public square hardscaping, public art installation, preparation for soft landscaping, fencing, installing wall linings and joinery fit-out throughout the building.

Upcoming works for the project will include completion of internal fit-out and soft landscaping. The project has had minor delays through COVID-19 restrictions and is due to complete mid-November 2020.

Frog Hollow Reserve Rugby Pavilion, Endeavour Hills

Four Oaks Ward

This \$3.5m project included the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a 6 changeroom regional level rugby union pavilion to support female participation. The project also included a much-needed community space with semi-commercial kitchen, office, storage, unisex referee rooms, public and player amenities, first-aid room, and undercover viewing canopy.

Completion of the Frog Hollow Reserve Rugby Pavillion occurred in September 2020 and is ready for use, once government restrictions regarding community sport ease.



Frog Hollow Reserve Rugby Pavilion, Endeavour Hills

shed includes a large open working space, kitchen, office, social area, amenities, carpark, solar, LED lighting, and rain harvest systems. This project was successfully completed in mid-September 2020.



Sydney Pargeter Men's Shed, Endeavour Hills

Sydney Pargeter Men's Shed, Endeavour Hills

Four Oaks Ward

The Sydney Pargeter Reserve Men's Shed included construction of a 400m² 'men's shed' for use by the Endeavour Hills Men's Shed Association. The

Capital Works Performance

Summary

The City of Casey's 2020-21 Capital Works Program features an investment of \$131.6 million delivering approximately 268 infrastructure projects.

There are also a further 275 projects (254 projects carried forward from previous financial years and 21 additional projects) planned for delivery this financial year. These projects include multi-year projects (i.e. being delivered over two or more years) and other projects which could not be fully completed by 2019/20.

All Projects

The combined capital works program is behind planned expenditure and has expended 15.30% of the planned budget. This result was affected by the programs and projects outlined below however a large amount of this under expenditure has been offset by projects running ahead of schedule.

- Bernly Gardens (Berwick Chase) Local-level AFL and Cricket Reserve Development
- Botanic Ridge East - New Integrated Family and Community Centre
- Bridge Renewal - Frawley Rd - Traffic bridge over Eumemmerring Creek; Lynes Rd Bridge - 400m East of South Gippsland Hwy at western contour drain; Clyde Public Hall; Hallam Recreation Reserve Hall; The RACE - Pool tile replacement; Timbarra Childrens Centre; Various Aquatic and Leisure Refurbishment - 2020-21
- Cairns Road Reserve - 6-8 Tennis Courts and Pavilion
- Casey Complex - The RACE - Airconditioning system upgrade
- Casey Complex - The RACE - Building Renewal
- Casey Fields - Masterplan Works Implementation - Fitness Trail
- Clyde North - Kilora District AFL - Cricket - Netball Development
- Clyde North - Ramleigh District Soccer / Cricket Facility Construction
- Clyde Recreation Reserve - District AFL/ Cricket, Netball, Tennis Redevelopment

- Cranbourne East - Livingston District AFL - Cricket - Netball - Development
- Cranbourne East - Selandra District Soccer - Cricket Development
- Cranbourne West - (Lochaven) District AFL/ Cricket/Netball Sporting Facility
- Cranbourne West - New Integrated Community Hub
- Drainage Works New & Improved Burwood Crt Narre Warren
- General - IT - Customer 360; Intelligent Workplace - Phase One; Tech Connect; Virtual Assistant
- General - Plant - Light Vehicles - Replacement - 2020-21
- Morning Mist Reserve - Pony Club Pavilion
- Olive Reserve - Indoor Netball Complex - Pavilion Extension
- Rec New & Improved - Brookland Greens AFL Cricket Tennis
- Road Construction New & Improved - Ballarto Road - From South Gippsland Highway to Clyde - Five Ways Road; Ballarto Road - South Gippsland Highway to Casey Fields Bvd; Construction and extension of Ferdinand Drive Rivercrest Christian college frontage; Craig Road Bypass; Grices Road/ Glasscocks Road/ Clyde Road - Intersection upgrade works with Berwick-Cranbourne Rd, and duplication Between Berwick-Cranbourne Rd and Viewgrand Dr, incl Bridge Renew; Missens Road; Railway Rd Valetta to Ballarto
- Road Construction Unsealed Roads - Ballarto Road - West of Botanical Gardens to existing seal at quarry entrance
- Various - Project Management Costs
- Various Land Purchases

All Projects		('000)
Total Annual Budget		\$200,047
Expenditure		
Estimate	15.91% or	\$31,828
Actual	15.30% or	\$30,616
YTD Variance		
Actual to estimate	3.80% or	\$1,212

Financial Statements

Summary

The report for the first three months for the period ended 30 September 2020 shows a surplus of \$208 million which is \$20.6 million (11 per cent) favourable to budget.

Explanations of line item variances greater than 10% and \$100,000 are included within the variance report.

Analysis of the result to 30 September 2020 shows a number of differences between budgets and actuals, with a number of these being due to timing issues. This means that revenues or expenses are occurring earlier or later than planned in the budget for the first quarter of the year.

Expenses are \$15.6 million lower than budget which primarily relates to timing issues and the extension of COVID-19 restrictions and closures at public venues and events beyond the budgeted three months.

Revenue is \$5 million higher than budget (2 per cent) which is predominantly in relation to the monetary contributions for new development areas. Offsetting this impact is the reduction in User Fees, the reduction has an impact from COVID-19 with the restrictions and closures at public venues and events.

As a result of COVID-19 both income and expenditure will see further unbudgeted changes during the remainder of the financial year. Council will continue to regularly monitor its actuals compared to budget as these impacts become apparent.



Standard Statement of Financial Performance

As as 30 September 2020

	Annual		Year to Date			
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Variance		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	Ref
Income						
Rates	254,035	250,220	251,346	1,126	0	1
Statutory fees & fines	10,671	1,898	2,408	510	27	2
User fees	17,397	3,930	2,109	-1,821	-46	3
Grants operating (recurrent)	60,845	16,009	15,067	-942	-6	4
Grants operating (non recurrent)	928	218	530	312	143	5
Grants capital (recurrent)	2,700	675	338	-337	-50	6
Grants capital (non recurrent)	10,880	2,720	440	-2,280	-84	7
Contributions - monetary	37,702	6,558	12,805	6,247	95	8
Contributions - non monetary	84,000	-	2,227	2,227	100	9
Interest	4,023	1,199	936	-263	-22	10
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of prop, infra & plant	50	12	263	251	2,092	11
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures			-			
Other Income	847	211	145	-66	-31	
Total Income	484,078	283,650	288,614	4,964	2	
Expenses						
Employee costs	133,126	29,978	29,314	664	2	12
Materials and consumables	124,353	30,634	17,145	13,489	44	13
External contracts	72,200	17,375	16,976	399	2	14
Utilities	8,860	2,086	1,969	117	6	15
Borrowing costs	1,838	485	443	42	9	
Finance costs - Leases	456	114	242	-128	-112	16
Depreciation	55,652	13,913	13,008	905	-7	17
Amortisation	1,694	423	312	111	-26	18
Bad Debts	47	2	-	2	-100	
Other expenditure	6,840	1,162	1,156	6	-1	
Total Expenses	405,066	96,172	80,565	15,607	16	
Surplus (deficit) for month end						
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will be classified to surplus or deficit in future periods						
Share of other Comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures accounted for by equity method	-	-	-	-	100	
Total comprehensive result	79,012	187,478	208,049	20,571	11	

Standard Statement of Financial Position

As as 30 September 2020

	Annual		Year to Date			
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Variance		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	Ref
Assets						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	24,690	41,498	42,391	893	2	19
Trade and other receivables	34,405	235,703	232,802	-2,901	-1	20
Other financial assets	200,076	230,076	248,119	18,043	8	
Assets classified held for sale	-	2,559		-2,559	-100	21
Other assets	2,911	-	4	4	100	
Total Current assets	262,082	509,836	523,316	13,480	3	
Non-current assets						
Investments in associates and joint ventures	4,246	4,216	4,366	150	4	
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	5,307,917	5,137,638	5,327,139	189,501	4	22
Right of use of assets	12,327	13,598	13,669	71	1	
Other financial assets	17,000	17,000	18,000	1,000	6	23
Non Current Assets	-	-	-	-	100	
Total non-current assets	5,341,491	5,172,452	5,363,174	190,722	4	
Total assets	5,603,573	5,682,288	5,886,490	204,202	4	
Liabilities						
Current liabilities						
Trade and other payables	17,087	25,482	34,921	9,439	37	24
Trust funds and deposits	36,478	40,011	37,571	-2,440	-6	25
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	7,479	5,702	5,702	-	-	
Provisions	21,776	24,711	25,523	812	3	26
Lease Liability	1,503	1,122	978	-144	-13	
Total current liabilities	84,323	97,028	104,695	7,667	8	
Non-current liabilities						
Interest bearing liabilities	38,509	45,989	45,989	-	-	
Provisions	20,743	20,444	15,129	-5,315	-26	26
Lease Liability	11,030	12,533	12,701	168	1	
Total non-current liabilities	70,283	78,966	73,819	-5,315	-7	
Total Liabilities	154,606	175,994	178,514	2,352	1	
Net Assets	5,448,967	5,506,294	5,707,976	201,850	4	
Equity						
Accumulated surplus	2,473,314	2,517,491	2,605,334	87,843	3	
Asset Revaulation Reserve	2,785,919	2,734,812	2,851,243	116,431	4	
Reserve	189,734	253,991	251,399	-2,592	-1	27
Total equity	5,448,967	5,506,294	5,707,976	201,682	4	

Standard Statement of Cash Flows
For the quarter ended 30 September 2020

	Annual		Year to Date			
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Variance		
	Inflows/	Inflows/	Inflows/			
	outflows	outflows	outflows			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	Ref
Cash flows from operating activities						
Rates and charges	250,504	48,551	48,727	176		
Statutory fees and fines	9,881	2,274	2,408	134	6	
User fees	16,910	2,284	3,367	1,083	47	28
Contributions - monetary	37,702	6,557	12,768	6,211	95	29
Grants - operating	44,073	14,927	15,438	511	3	30
Grants - capital	13,580	4,395	6,147	1,752	40	30
Interest received	4,029	1,358	810	-548	-40	
GST recoveries	11,373	4,001	4,235	234	-6	31
Employee costs	(131,326)	(30,329)	(31,726)	-1,397	5	32
Material and services	(207,095)	(46,070)	(48,551)	-2,481	5	33
Other Income	847	211	145	-66	-31	
Trust funds and deposits	2,656	6,189	6,478	289	5	
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	53,134	14,348	20,246	5,898	41	
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(115,610)	(31,828)	(30,617)	1,211	-4	34
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	7,052	345	281	-64	-19	
Payments for other non-financial assets	64,000	34,000	35,000	1,000	3	35
Not cash (used in) investing activities	(44,558)	2,517	4,664	2,147	85	
Cash flow from financing activities						
Finance costs	(1,838)	(485)	(443)	42	9	
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	
Repayment of borrowings	(7,571)	(1,868)	(1,869)	-1	-	
Interest Paid - Lease Liability	(456)	(114)	(242)			
Repaymen of Lease Liability	(1,496)	(374)	(316)			
Net cash provided by/(used in) by financing activities	(11,361)	(2,841)	(2,870)	41	-1	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(2,785)	14,024	22,040	8,086	-57	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	27,475	27,475	20,351	-7,124	-26	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the month	24,690	41,499	42,391	962	2	

Standard Statement of Capital Works
For the quarter ended 30 September 2020

	Annual		Year to Date			Ref
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Variance		
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	
Capital Works Program						
Property						
Land	17,918	93	1,549	-1,456	-1565.6%	36
Buildings	5,416	1,120	417	703	62.7%	37
Building Improvements	169	10	39	-29	-292.5%	
Total Property	23,503	1,223	2,006	-783	-64.0%	
Plant & Equipment						
Plant Machinery & Equipment	3,154	200	143	57	28.5%	
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	9	0	0	0	0.0%	
Computers and telecommunications	13,673	1,193	895	298	25.0%	38
Total Plant & Equipment	16,836	1,393	1,038	355	25.5%	
Infrastructure						
Roads	58,859	5,282	9,615	-4,333	-82.0%	39
Bridges	2,675	184	105	79	42.9%	
Footpaths and Cycle ways	5,465	593	853	-260	-43.8%	40
Drainage	5,278	357	276	81	22.7%	
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	79,253	22,205	15,594	6,611	29.8%	41
Waste Management	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Parks, open space and streetscapes	7,799	475	1,022	-547	-115.2%	42
Off street car parks	54	0	0	0	0.0%	
Other Infrastructure	326	116	110	6	5.2%	
Total Infratstructure	159,709	29,212	27,575	1,637	5.6%	
Total Capital Works						
	200,048	31,828	30,619	1,209	3.8%	

*Note: includes approved carry-forward projects from 2019/20

Year to Date Variance Reports

For the period ending 30 September 2020

Reference	
1	Revenue from Operating Activities – Rates The slightly positive variance reflects higher than expected supplementary rates from properties coming on-line after the budget was finalised, this is offset by the impact of not charging penalty interest on rates in arrears.
2	Revenue from Operating Activities – Statutory Fees & Fines Statutory fees are higher than budgeted as it was expected there would be a slowing in subdivision and planning applications. Animal Management Fees expected in 2019/20 were deferred until 2020/21
3	Revenue from Operating Activities – User Fees User fees are lower than budget as a result of Covid-19, fees have not been received as a result of closures and restrictions at public venues and facilities.
4	Revenue from Operating Activities – Grants Operating (recurrent) There are timing differences which that have caused the negative variance. Specifically, half of the financial assistance grants from the Commonwealth distributed by the Victoria Grants Commission (VGC) were brought forward. This will be a permanent variance this year. There is a similar timing impact with grants Children's Services, Kindergartens
5	Revenue from Operating Activities – Grants Operating (non-recurrent) Additional grant revenue has been recognised from the State Government for specific programs with corresponding expenditure expected throughout the year.
6	Revenue from Operating Activities – Grants Capital (recurrent) The negative variance reflects the Commonwealth's decision to bring forward half of the local roads grant for the 2020/21 financial year to 2019/20. This timing difference will remain a variance this year
7	Revenue from Operating Activities – Grants Capital (non-recurrent) Timing issues with the delivery of grant funded projects has affected the year to date outcome and the current variance is expected to be resolved throughout the remainder of 2020/21.
8	Revenue from Operating Activities – Contributions Monetary The main cause of the positive variance is higher than budget receipts of Developer Contributions and Public Open Space contributions, due to continued demand for developments.
9	Revenue from Operating Activities – Contributions Non Monetary The current positive variance is due to the timing and release of contributed assets from accumulated development activity, which has resulted in more sub-divisions assets being completed and transferred to Council control, and ongoing operating and maintenance.
10	Revenue from Operating Activities – Interest Interest on investments is lower than budget, as a result of lower interest rates.

Year to Date Variance Reports

For the period ending 30 September 2020

Reference	
11	Revenue from Operating Activities – Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure & plant The variance is due to the of disposal of assets that was not anticipated when the budget was set.
12	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Employee Costs Higher than expected vacancies underpin the variance in employee costs and is primarily attributable to the slowing of recruitment activity, as a result of Covid-19. This item is being actively managed by council. Some of this underspend is offset by higher agency employee costs in materials and services.
13	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Materials & Consumables The variance is mainly due to the timing of family day care reimbursements, these are actively reviewed throughout the year.
14	Expenditure from Operating Activities – External Contract The variance is affected by a combination of timing, seasonal factors and Covid-19, these relate mainly to contracts for facilities.
15	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Utilities The current variance is partly related to the reduction in usage at various facilities, where consumption is slightly lower than anticipated.
16	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Finance Costs, Leases The current variance is affected by updated assumptions for the interest rates for assessing these leases and is being regularly reviewed.
17	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Depreciation The depreciation variance is driven by the timing of the finalisation of capital projects, which is actively being reviewed by management.
18	Expenditure from Operating Activities – Amortisation The variance is affected by the timing of the equipment acquisition.
19	Current Assets – Cash and Cash equivalents & Other Financial Assets PaThe higher than budgeted cash assets are due to decrease in materials and consumables spend.
20	Current Assets – Trade and Other Receivables The lower than expected level of Trade and other Receivables is due to the timing of receipt of payments for rates outstanding at year end.
21	Current Assets – Assets Classified as held for Sale Assets classified as held for Sale are lower than budgeted reflecting the deferral property sales due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
22	Non-Current Assets – Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment This item has a positive variance, due to the higher than expected receipt of contributed assets in the previous year.

Year to Date Variance Reports

For the period ending 30 September 2020

Reference	
23	Non-Current Assets – Other Financial Assets The slightly higher than budgeted financial assets are reflects the nature of the long term investments and available returns to council from this maturity profile.
24	Current Liabilities – Trade and Other Payables The higher than expected level of payables is due to the timing of supplier invoices for operating and capital payments, as well as increased capital activity due to the higher than expected level of capital works projects.
25	Current Liabilities – Trust Funds and Deposits Higher trust balances mainly reflect decreased cash bonds held for subdivisions.
26	Current and Non-Current Liabilities – Provisions There has been a decrease in Landfill Rehabilitation Provisions based on the revised future costs of the requirements Stevensons Road Closed Landfill site rehabilitation costs, as calculated during the finalisation of the 2019/20 financial statements.
27	Equity –Reserve Developer Contributions held for future works is lower than budget and this is a result of the higher delivery of Developer Contributed Capital Works Project.
28	Cash Flow from Operating Activities – User fees Receipts from user fee are higher than budget due to timing of payment of prior year fees.
29	Cash Flow from Operating Activities – Contributions Receipts from Contributions are higher than budget due to timing of Developer Contributions based on activity currently taking place
30	Cash Flow from Operating Activities – Grants Operating and Capital Receipts from Grants are higher than expected due the timing of grants that were budgeted at the end of the 2019/20 financial year.
31	Cash Flow from Operating Activities – GST Recoveries GST Recoveries are higher than expected due to higher than expected delivery of capital works.
32	Cash Flow From Operating Activities – Employee Costs Cashflow for Employee costs is higher than budgeted due to timing matters from 2019/20.
33	Cash Flow From Operating Activities – Materials and Services Cashflow for Material and Services is higher than budgeted due to the timing of prior year expenses
34	Cash Flow from Investing Activities – Payments for Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment Payments made for land settlements relating to Developer Contribution projects and Capital Works projects are experiencing timing issues.

Year to Date Variance Reports

For the period ending 30 September 2020

Reference	
35	Cash Flow from Investing Activities – Payments for acquisition of other financial assets The variance is mainly due to increased financial assets reflecting a slight increase in long term investments to take advantage of higher interest rates.
36	Capital Works – Land The current year to date budget variance is due to the earlier than expected completion of land purchases in the first quarter. Land purchases can be impacted by earlier than expected settlements, delays in settlements and negotiations.
37	Capital Works – Buildings The current year to date favourable budget variance is due to delays in commencement of various projects
38	Capital Works – Computers and Telecommunications The favourable year to date budget variance is due to timing of various IT projects which are projects for the start of the year.
39	Capital Works – Roads There are road projects which are ahead of their year to date budget. This is expected to correct itself over the course of the year
40	Capital Works – Footpaths and Cycleways There are some larger projects which are ahead of their expected year to date budget due to better than expected progress, offset by some other projects which have delays.
41	Capital Works – Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities The current variance is mainly due to various building projects which are behind schedule as a result of Covid-19 restrictions which are delaying building works
42	Capital Works – Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes There are new projects which are ahead of their expected year to date budget due to better than expected progress

Contact

For more information, contact the City of Casey.

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