



# Alpine Shire

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**SPM6 – 19 June 2018  
Bright Council Chambers  
5:00pm**



The **Special Meeting** of the **Alpine Shire Council** was held in Council Chambers, Great Alpine Road, Bright on **19 June 2018** and commenced at **5:00pm**.

## **PRESENT**

### **COUNCILLORS**

Cr Ron Janas – Mayor  
Cr Sarah Nicholas – Deputy Mayor  
Cr John Forsyth  
Cr Kitty Knappstein  
Cr Tony Keeble  
Cr Daryl Pearce

### **OFFICERS**

Mr William Jeremy – Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Nathalie Cooke – Director Corporate  
Ms Emma Woolaston – Manager Corporate

### **APOLOGIES**

Cr Peter Roper  
Mr Charlie Bird – Chief Executive Officer



## **AGENDA**

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## **1 RECORDING AND LIVESTREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

*The Acting CEO read the following statement:*

All council meetings are filmed with both video and audio being recorded.

Video is focused on a specific area however audio from the entire room is captured.

By speaking at any time during the meeting, you consent to your voice and any comments you make being recorded.

The reasoning behind recording council meetings is of course to hold us more accountable and improve transparency of council's decision making to our community.

The full meeting is being streamed live on Council's YouTube channel which is "Alpine Shire Council" and will also be available on the YouTube channel shortly after this meeting.

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS, AND RECOGNITION OF ALL PEOPLE**

*The Acting CEO read the following statement:*

The Alpine Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land we are now on.

We also acknowledge those people who have contributed to the rich fabric of our community and strive to make wise decisions that will improve the quality of life for all.

## **3 APOLOGIES**

Cr Peter Roper

Charlie Bird – Chief Executive Officer

## **4 DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**



## **5 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY OFFICER**

### **5.1 DIRECTOR CORPORATE – NATHALIE COOKE**

#### **5.1.1 Declaration of the Dinner Plain Special Rate (2018/19)**

File Number: 951.02

#### **INTRODUCTION**

A Council may declare a special rate for the purpose of defraying the expenses of performing a function that is of special benefit to the persons required to pay the special rate. The declaration of a special rate is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Section 163.

The purpose of this report is to declare a Special Rate for the Dinner Plain village (the "Dinner Plain Special Rate") applicable to Commercial / Industrial land only for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

*Cr Nicholas*

*Cr Keeble*

*That:*

- 1. Council note that six submissions were received regarding the proposed declaration of the Dinner Plain Special Rate (2018/19).*
- 2. The Dinner Plain Special Rate (2018/19) be declared for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 as follows:*
  - a. A special rate (the Dinner Plain Special Rate) be declared for the purpose of defraying any expenses in relation to the provision of services of special benefit to the owners of Commercial / Industrial land within the Dinner Plain village;*
  - b. The total cost of the performance of this function is estimated to be \$550,000 over one year, based on inclusion of the following services:*
    - i. The Dinner Plain to Hotham winter bus service*
    - ii. Roadways snow clearing*
    - iii. Cross country snow grooming*
    - iv. Marketing and events support specific to Dinner Plain*
    - v. Cable Television Maintenance;*
  - c. The Dinner Plain Special Rate will apply to Commercial / Industrial land within the Dinner Plain village as defined in the attached map;*
  - d. The definition of Commercial / Industrial land is the definition provided in the Alpine Shire Council Budget 2018/19;*
  - e. The basis of the calculation of the Dinner Plain Special Rate for the 2018/19 Financial Year be 43% of the rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates for rateable residential properties, as specified in the*



*Alpine Shire Council Budget 2018/19, multiplied by the Capital Improved Value of each parcel of Commercial / Industrial land;*

- f. The amount of the Dinner Plain Special Rate to be levied is estimated to be \$194,000 over one year, or such other amount as is lawfully raised as a consequence of this Resolution;*
  - g. The amount of the Special Rate will be the amount shown as due and payable in any notice sent to a person required to pay the Dinner Plain Special Rate; and*
  - h. Each person liable to pay the Dinner Plain Special Rate is to pay by instalments in line with Council's general rate payment requirements each year.*
- 3. Submission authors will be notified of the outcome of their submissions.*
- Carried*

**BACKGROUND**

The Dinner Plain village has for some time been subject to a Special Rate to defray the expenses associated with services of special benefit to Dinner Plain ratepayers. Within the Alpine Shire Council's Budget 2018/19, these services include the Dinner Plain to Hotham winter bus service (\$129,000); roadways snow clearing (\$160,000); cross country snow grooming (\$66,000); marketing and events support specific to Dinner Plain (\$193,000); and Cable Television Maintenance (\$2,000).

The declared Special Rate for Dinner Plain has been reducing over time, from 80.7% of the General Rate in 2015/16, to 65% of the General Rate in 2016/17 and 43% of the General Rate in 2017/18.

At the April 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to give notice of its intention to declare a special rate for the provision of services of special benefit to the Dinner Plain village for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. It was proposed that the Special Rate be aligned to the differential rate for Commercial / Industrial land in the rest of the Shire, and that it is only paid by ratepayers who own Commercial / Industrial land within the Dinner Plain village (which under the Rating Policy includes holiday lets).

An initial assessment of properties to be included under the Commercial / Industrial definition was conducted, and letters sent to all Dinner Plain ratepayers to confirm whether their land was Commercial / Industrial or Residential in nature. Based on the responses it has been estimated that \$194,000 will be collected by the Special Rate in 2018/19. This is slightly lower than the \$197,000 estimated in the proposal to declare a Special Rate, due to a) a small additional number of ratepayers confirming that the status of their land is Residential rather than Commercial / Industrial, and b) a small change to the rating calculation following the revaluation of properties across the Shire.



## ISSUES

Six (6) submissions were received throughout the public exhibition period as summarised below:

Submission	Summary Description	Response
Submitter 1	Concern over specific services being included in the Dinner Plain Special Rate, as they benefit all ratepayers and not just Commercial / Industrial property owners; namely, snow clearing of public roadways, and cable TV maintenance.	It is acknowledged that residential ratepayers also gain benefit from these services, however it is estimated that Commercial / Industrial property owners gain further benefit due to their ability to generate income being enhanced by these services. It is noted that a Special Rate does not need to be applied to all ratepayers that benefit from the Special services.
Submitter 2	Submission made via the Council website with nil content.	Attempts were made to contact the submission author, unsuccessfully. No response required.
Submitter 3	Concern over the Special Rate being applicable to holiday houses that are not let 52 weeks of the year.	The application of the Special Rate to holiday houses is aligned to the definition of Commercial / Industrial under the Rating Policy, and is the approach across the whole of the Shire. This definition includes all holiday lets, regardless of the letting period, and enables practical and transparent application. Council identifies holiday lets through a scan of accommodation provider websites. Council has also sent letters to Dinner Plain residents to confirm whether their property status is commercial or residential under this definition.
Submitter 4	Concerns over holiday houses being classified the same as large commercial businesses; concern that residential ratepayers will not pay the Special rate going forward; concern over Council's ability to identify residences that are privately rented.	
Submitter 5	Questions the requirement for the Special Rate given that the Council holds excess funds for Dinner Plain.  Concerns that the Dinner Plain to Hotham bus service is not adequate.	<p>The special services funded by the Special Rate are estimated to cost \$356,000 more than the Special Rate will raise in FY18/19. The difference will be funded by the Dinner Plain Reserve where the noted excess funds are held.</p> <p>The frequency and price of the Dinner Plain to Hotham bus has been determined with due consideration to the benefit of the service to Dinner Plain ratepayers and the cost of providing the service.</p>



Submitter 6	Suggestion to make the Dinner Plain to Hotham bus free to encourage residents and visitors to Dinner Plain.	The Dinner Plain to Hotham bus is already subsidised by a combination of Special Rate and general Council funds for an amount of \$129,000. The price per trip aids in remaining cost recovery and the balance of subsidisation has been determined with due consideration of the benefit of the service to Dinner Plain ratepayers.
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### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The preparation of the Dinner Plain Special Rate 2018/19 strategy is in accordance with the:

- Special Rates and Charges, Ministerial Guidelines, September 2004
- *Local Government Act 1989*
- Alpine Shire Rating Strategy
- Strategic Resource Plan

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The Dinner Plain Special Rate for 2018/19 is proposing to raise an estimated \$194,000 over the 12 month period. This is significantly less revenue than the cost of the Special Rate services which are estimated to cost \$550,000 over the same period.

In line with the 2017/18 Dinner Plain Special Rate declaration, Council is committed to delivery of a \$1.5m pipeline of new and upgrade capital works within Dinner Plain by 2027. Since this commitment was made, Council is on track to deliver capital expenditure of \$232,500 in 2017/18 and has forecast capital expenditure of \$202,000 in 2018/19 on new and upgrade capital works in Dinner Plain.

### **CONSULTATION**

Under Section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council must give public notice of its intention to make a special rate declaration. This is conducted through a formal process in accordance with s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which includes a 28 day period where the public can provide submissions regarding the proposed declaration, and can request to be heard by a committee of Councillors in support of their submission.

The Dinner Plain Special Rate 2018/19 was released for public comment following the April Ordinary Council meeting. Public submissions formally closed on Thursday the 10 of May, with a total of six submissions received. No submission authors requested to be heard by a committee of Councillors in support of their submission. A summary of all submissions received is located in the 'issues' section of this report.





## **CONCLUSION**

Council is now in a position to declare Dinner Plain Special Rate 2018/19 in line with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

## **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Director Corporate
- Director Assets
- Manager Corporate
- Rates Coordinator

## **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 5.1.1 Dinner Plain Village Rate Map



## 5.1.2 Draft 2018/19 Budget Submissions

File Number: 910.26

### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to respond to the submissions received under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) relating to the Alpine Shire Council Draft 2018/19 Annual Budget.

*Cr Keeble*  
*Cr Forsyth*

*That:*

- 1. Written and verbal submissions received pursuant to Sections 129, 130 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, be considered in relation to the 2018/19 Budget.*
- 2. The following amendments be made to the Alpine Shire Council 2018/19 Budget:*

Reference	Budget Section	Submission / Amendment	Value in Draft Budget	Amount to be Adopted
Carry forward funds for the following 2017/18 capital projects:				
Submission 1	5.4.1	Myrtleford Landfill Loader	\$-	\$90,000
		Bright Office Renewal Stage 2 - General	\$200,000	\$240,000
		Bright Office Renewal Stage 2 – Air Conditioning	\$30,000	\$45,000
		Bright Office Renewal Stage 2 – Double Glazing	\$30,000	\$45,000
		Porepunkah Riverside Park Amenities Renewal	\$-	\$48,650
Amend allocation to the following 2018/19 capital projects:				
Submission 1	5.4.1	Kerb and Channel Renewal (2018/19)	\$75,000	\$40,000
Allocate budget to the following capital projects:				
Submission 1	5.4.1	Mount Beauty Library Shade	\$-	\$6,000
Submission 2	5.4.1	Toner Avenue Footpath	\$-	\$15,000



Allocate budget to the following operational expenses:				
Submission 1	4.1	Asbestos Registers	\$-	\$25,000
		Alpine Planning Scheme Technical Review	\$-	\$10,000
		October 2016 Flood Damage Restoration	\$-	\$120,000
Submission 3	4.1	Wandiligong Diggings	\$-	\$5,000
Submission 4	4.1	Alpine Radio	\$-	\$2,000
Amend budget for the following operational expenses:				
Submission 1	4.1	Small Plant and Equipment Maintenance	\$80,000	\$15,000
Amend grant income for the following capital projects:				
Submission 1	5.4.1	Roads to Recovery Income (2017/18)	\$529,737	\$450,000
		October 2016 Flood Damage Remediation	\$-	\$201,000
		December 2017 Flood Damage Remediation	\$-	\$130,000
		Alpine Events Park	\$935,000	\$1,309,000
Amend the following general grant income:				
Submission 1	5.2.1	Victorian Grants Commission Administration Income	\$3,635,312	\$1,817,656
Amend the following rates and charges:				
Submission 1	5	Landfill Levy Income	\$667,100	\$667,662
		Kerbside Collection Income	\$2,184,831	\$2,186,014
		Financial Transfer to Waste Reserve	-\$565,301	-\$567,046
		Dinner Plain Rates and Charges Income	\$895,933	\$867,746
		Rates and Charges Administration Income	\$13,984,629	\$14,053,69



3. *The following submissions are to be further assessed, or operationally managed by the Alpine Shire Council as per the comment detail, however do not result in changes to the Alpine Shire Council 2018/19 Budget for the stated reasons:*

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Submission Proposal</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Rationale and Approach</i>
<i>Submissions 5-10</i>	<i>West Kiewa Trail Extension</i>	<i>Stage 1 extension to the confluence with the Kiewa River East Branch - \$150,000 Stage 2 return path – not determined</i>	<i>There is a barrier to completion of the full trail extension as access to relevant land is restricted by landholder waterfront licenses due for renewal in 2019. Council has registered interest in participating in the renegotiation of these licenses and will continue to liaise with DELWP directly in this regard.</i>
<i>Submission 11</i>	<i>Review of several Council strategies including tourism, rental availability, waste and recycling</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>No immediate changes to Budget proposed.</i>
<i>Submission 12</i>	<i>Review of several Council strategies including tourism, waste and revenue generation</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>No immediate changes to Budget proposed.</i>
<i>Submission 13</i>	<i>Kiewa Valley Historical Society (KVHS) Storage</i>	<i>\$150,000 (submitter's estimate)</i>	<i>Alpine Shire Council will investigate digitisation of Council's archives to enable the KVHS storage to be relocated to the current Council archives location nearby. A new project, Alpine Shire Council Archive Digitisation, will be added to the project pipeline for prioritisation in a future year, to enable this transition.</i>
<i>Submission 14</i>	<i>Happy Valley Creek Clean-Up</i>	<i>Not determined</i>	<i>Maintenance work will be undertaken to improve the presentation of the creek in the short term. A new project, Happy Valley Creek Renewal, will be</i>



			<i>added to the project pipeline for prioritisation in a future year.</i>
<i>Submission 15</i>	<i>Sealing of a service road behind Foodworks in Myrtleford</i>	<i>Not determined</i>	<i>This land is a combination of private property and Crown Land. The current sealed surface will be maintained as required, but not extended.</i>

4. *The following submissions are not to be incorporated into the Alpine Shire Council 2018/19 Budget for the stated reasons:*

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Submission</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<i>Submission 16</i>	<i>Tawonga South pathway between Reid and Allamar Courts</i>	<i>Not determined</i>	<i>This project will be added to the pipeline for prioritisation in a future year.</i>
<i>Submission 17</i>	<i>Drinking fountain at Mt Bogong Lookout</i>	<i>Not determined</i>	<i>This project will be added to the pipeline for prioritisation in a future year.</i>
<i>Submission 18</i>	<i>East Ovens Footbridge - Harrietville</i>	<i>\$65,000 (submitter's estimate)</i>	<i>The proposed bridge location is within the Alpine National Park boundary. Therefore the responsible authority to deliver this bridge is Parks Victoria, not Council.</i>
<i>Submission 19</i>	<i>Kerbside guttering 58-80 Kiewa Valley Highway</i>	<i>\$44,000</i>	<i>Council will deliver this project in 2017-18 with funding provided by VicRoads.</i>

5. *Submission authors be notified of the outcome of their submissions.*
6. *The committee formed for the purposes of hearing submissions on the draft Budget 2018/19 be dissolved.*

*Carried*

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Budget overview**

Council has prepared an Annual Budget for 2018/19 which is aligned to the vision in the draft Council Plan 2017-21. It continues on our commitment to keep operational spend low, while directing funds to community services and capital works projects that support and build community safety and wellbeing; attract visitors and investment; and boost the local economy.

Key budget information is provided in the draft Annual Budget about the rate increase, operating result, services, cash and investments, capital works, financial position, financial sustainability and strategic objectives of the Council.



### **Budget process**

In advance of preparing the draft annual Budget, Officers firstly review and update Council's long term financial projections. Financial projections for at least four years are ultimately included in Council's Strategic Resource Plan (SRP), which is the key medium-term financial plan produced by Council on a rolling basis. In addition Council prepares and models a Long Term Financial Plan to ensure financial sustainability for at least 10 years into the future.

The preparation of the budget, within this broader context, begins with Officers preparing the operating and capital components of the annual budget during January and February. Consideration is also given to submissions received in the prior year which were not funded and community consultation which has occurred throughout the year. A draft consolidated budget is then prepared and various iterations are considered by Council at informal briefings. A draft budget is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and submitted to Council for approval 'in principle'. Council then seeks feedback from the Community through the formal submission process.

### **Submission process**

Budget submissions are an important and valuable process to ensure that Council are meeting the needs and expectations of our community. Submissions also need to be considered within the budget preparation framework to ensure that only adequately scoped and costed submissions are included to avoid funds being allocated that will not be spent.

Council Officers also have the opportunity to make an internal submission. The purpose of an internal submission is to ensure relevant information which arises after the budget has been placed on exhibition for public comment is considered by Council for inclusion in the final budget. Internal submissions must be endorsed by Council under the same process as external submissions.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Budget is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*. The following requirements are set out:

#### ***Local Government Act 1989***

Section 127 – Council must prepare a budget

Section 129 – Public notice

Section 130 - Adoption of budget

Section 223 – Right to make a submission

#### ***Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014***

Regulation 9 – The financial statements

Regulation 10 – Other information to be included

Regulation 11 – Public notice of proposed budget or revised budget



## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The net impact of the submissions which are recommended for incorporation into the 2018/19 Budget is as follows:

- Operating expenditure : increased by \$97,000
- New capital expenditure: decreased by \$14,000
- Carried forward capital expenditure : increased by \$208,650
- Change in income: decreased by \$1,149,826.

It is noted that the decrease in income is particularly impacted by the internal submission relating to the Victorian Grants Commission Administration Income. The amount in the draft budget was \$3,635,312; half of this amount is now to be received earlier, in the 2017/18 financial year. As such the impact is timing only and does not significantly impact on cash balances.

Overall the final Budget surplus is projected at \$3.7m compared to a draft budget projection of \$4.8m.

## **CONSULTATION**

A requirement of the preparation of the budget, is that Council must provide an opportunity for the public to make submissions regarding any proposal contained within the draft budget. This is conducted through a formal process in accordance with s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which includes a 28 day period where the public can provide budget submissions to Council, and can request to be heard by a committee of Councillors in support of their submission.

The draft 2018/19 Budget was released for public comment following the April Ordinary Council Meeting. Public submissions formally closed on Thursday 10 May, with a total of 19 submissions received.

Those that formally requested to be heard in support of their written submission, attended a committee of Council on Tuesday the 15 May which was formed according to Section 223(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

## **CONCLUSION**

All submissions received have been considered to ensure that Council is meeting the needs and expectations of our community. This report reflects the Officers' recommendations to Council following a review of the cost and scope of each submission, and overall deliverability of the full scope of 2018/19 work.



### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Director Corporate
- Director Assets
- Manager Corporate
- Governance Officer

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

Nil





### 5.1.3 Adoption of the 2018/19 Budget

File Number: 910.26

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to adopt the 2018/19 Budget, incorporating the:

- Strategic Resource Plan;
- Rates and charges for the 2018/19 financial year.

*Cr Keeble*

*Cr Nicholas*

*That:*

- 1. Total rates and charges of \$(18,049,320) be raised in the 2018/19 financial year based on setting 'the rate in the dollar' and 'charges' as follows:*
  - a. General (residential) rate (0.004424)*
  - b. General (residential) rate Dinner Plain (0.004424)*
  - c. Commercial/Industrial differential rate (0.006326)*
  - d. Farm differential rate (0.003230)*
  - e. Special rate for rateable Dinner Plain properties (0.001902)*
  - f. Waste – 80 litre bin (weekly) \$217.71*
  - g. Waste – 240 litre bin (weekly) \$482.70*
  - h. Waste – 240 litre bin (fortnightly) \$217.71*
  - i. Recycling – 140 litre bin (fortnightly) \$89.34*
  - j. Recycling – 240 litre bin (fortnightly) \$89.34*
  - k. Recycling – 360 litre bin (fortnightly) \$89.34*
  - l. Recycling – 240 litre bin (weekly) \$178.80*
  - m. Recycling – 360 litre bin (weekly) \$178.80*
  - n. Dinner Plain standard waste service \$668.86*
  - o. Dinner Plain commercial waste service \$1471.06*
  - p. General waste charge \$89.20*
- 2. The Alpine Shire Council Budget 2018/19, including the Strategic Resource Plan and incorporating the amendments adopted by Council in the submissions report (agenda item 5.1.2 of this Special Council Meeting) be adopted.*
- 3. Rates and charges must be paid by four instalments on or before 30 September 2018, 30 November 2018, 28 February 2019 and 31 May 2019 in accordance with Section 167 of the Local Government Act 1989.*



**4. *The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to give public notice of adoption of the 2018/19 Budget and forward a copy to the Minister in accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Act 1989.***

*Carried*

**BACKGROUND**

Based on ongoing community consultation, Council has prepared a Budget Report for 2018/19 which is aligned to the vision in the Council Plan 2017-21. It contributes to our commitment to keep operational spend low, while directing funds to community services and capital works projects that support and build community safety and wellbeing; attract visitors and investment; and boost the local economy.

The budget projects a surplus of \$3.7m which is influenced by:

- a) a Rate increase of 2.25%, in line with the Fair Go Rates System which caps Victorian Council rate increases in line with inflation, minus an adjustment to ensure that we are delivering annual savings to our rate payers;
- b) an alignment of the Dinner Plain Special Rate to the differential rating strategy across the rest of the shire, so that it is only paid by Dinner Plain commercial and industrial ratepayers going forward. This will mean a significant saving on rates for Dinner Plain residential ratepayers, who have previously also paid a declared Special Rate;
- c) A continued strong capital works program totalling \$11.4m in FY18/19;
- d) A proposed trial for free green waste disposal on two selected weekends in FY 18/19;
- e) A continuation of prudent cost management principles and smart sourcing strategies which secure the best supplier deals for our ratepayers;
- f) A prioritised approach to the delivery of services and initiatives which sees the Council able to maintain a 'flat' staffing profile with no increase in staffing numbers;
- g) An ongoing wage freeze under the current Enterprise Bargaining Agreement until 30 June 2019.

Further detail on the operating result, strategic objectives, initiatives, services, cash and investments, capital works, financial sustainability, and rates, charges and fees can be found within the annexed report.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Budget is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014. The following requirements are set out:

***Local Government Act 1989***

Section 126 - Strategic Resource Plan

Section 127 – Council must prepare a budget

Section 129 – Public notice



Section 130 - Adoption of budget

Section 158 – Declaring rates and charges

Section 161 – Differential rates

Section 162 – Service rate and service charge

Section 163 – Special rate and special charge

Section 223 – Right to make a submission

***Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014***

Regulation 9 – The financial statements

Regulation 10 – Other information to be included

Regulation 11 – Public notice of proposed budget or revised budget

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The 2018/19 Budget provides a strong financial position for Alpine Shire Council, forecasting an operating surplus of \$3.7m and a working capital ratio of 2.9. This has been achieved whilst delivering a capital works budget in the order of \$11.4m and no reduction in the volume or standard of services delivered to the Alpine Shire.

The materials and services budget remains flat and staff levels are stabilised at 104.7 FTE. Staffing costs have minimally increased due to incremental wage increases within bands due to acquired experience. Outside of these increases wages remain 'frozen' until 30 June 2019 in line with the current Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.

**CONSULTATION**

The draft budget was subject to a 28 day public submission period, in accordance with s223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. Overall 19 submissions were received. An in-depth report covering these submissions can be found in item 5.1.2 of this agenda.

**CONCLUSION**

The 2018/19 Budget has been prepared in accordance with Alpine Shire Council's Council Plan 2017 – 21, its strategic objectives and the *Local Government Act 1989*.

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Director Corporate
- Director Assets
- Manager Corporate
- Accountant

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 5.1.3 Alpine Shire Council Budget Report 2018/19



#### **5.1.4 Alpine Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 (review 2018)**

File Number: 600.03

##### **INTRODUCTION**

An annual review of the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2008* respectively. This report ensures that Council is meeting the requirements of both Acts.

*Cr Forsyth*

*Cr Pearce*

*That:*

- 1. Council note that a review of the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 (incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) has been undertaken in accordance with s125(7) of the Local Government Act 1989 and s26(4) and s27(2)(b) of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.*
- 2. The Strategic Resource Plan is updated to reflect the 2018/19 Budget (as per item 5.1.3 of this meeting).*
- 3. The Alpine Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 (review 2018), incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, and the Strategic Resource Plan 2018-2022 be adopted.*
- 4. The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to forward a copy of the adjustments made to the Council Plan to the Minister for Local Government within 30 days, in accordance with s125(10) of the Local Government Act 1989.*

*Carried*

##### **BACKGROUND**

The Council Plan is a key document required under Local Government legislation, and includes the strategic objectives of the Council; strategies for achieving the objectives; strategic indicators for monitoring achievement; a Strategic Resource Plan; and projects / services intended to span the lifetime of the Plan.

The 2017-2021 Alpine Shire Council Plan was developed following the 2016 Elections, and was adopted in June 2017. This was the first time that Council elected to incorporate the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) as part of the Council Plan. This change means that Council must be mindful of both s125(7) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (LG Act) and s26(4) and s27(2)(b) of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (PHW Act) when undertaking any reviews of the Council Plan.

Conducting an annual review of these plans is a requirement of each Act.



## **ISSUES**

### **Council Plan**

#### **Proposed Changes**

In April 2018, Council resolved the following:

*The review proposes the following changes to the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:*

- 1. Update the Strategic Resource Plan to be consistent with the Long Term Financial Plan identified in the 2018/19 Budget (as adopted in June 2018);*
- 2. No other changes are currently proposed to the document.*

Other than the front cover page of the Council Plan being updated to reflect the 2018 review, no other changes have been subsequently proposed or made to the Council Plan document.

#### **Requirement for Public Submissions**

Section 125(9) of the LG Act only requires a public submission process to occur where there are proposed changes to the strategic objectives, strategies or strategic indicators within the Council Plan.

As there were no proposed changes to these items within the Council Plan, no public submission process was required in 2018.

### **Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan**

No change to the strategic direction or content of the MPHWP was proposed as part of the 2018 review.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Council Plan is a key strategic document, required under section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The MPHWP (as part of the Council Plan) is required under sections 26 and 27 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

A small cost was required to update the SRP and the front page of the designed Council Plan document. This was accounted for in Council's annual budget.

## **CONSULTATION**

Consultation occurred with Council officers and Councillors. No consultation with the community was required, as there were no intended modifications to the strategic objectives, strategies or strategic indicators within the Council Plan.



## **CONCLUSION**

Councillors to note that public exhibition was not required for the proposed updates to the Council Plan. The 2018 review ensures that Council is compliant with both the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*.

## **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Corporate
- Manager Corporate
- Governance Officer

## **ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 5.1.4 Alpine Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018 review), incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

There being no further business the chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5.28p.m

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Chairperson