2 ADOPTION OF 2008/2009 BUDGET, DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES

REPORT PURPOSE

Section 127(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) provides that a Council must prepare a budget for each financial year. Section 158 of the Act provides that a Council must at least once in respect of each financial year declare by 31 August the amount which the Council intends to raise by General Rates and Charges.

The purpose of this report is to propose to Council that, having considered submissions received in respect to the Proposed Budget and General Rates and Charges, adopt the Budget 2008/2009 including the amendments detailed in the attached report.

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve:

1. Having given public notice in accordance with Section 129(1) of the Local Government Act 1989, and having received and considered submissions at the Services Special Committee meeting held on Monday 16 June 2008, adopt the Budget, including the Budgeted Standard Statements as defined by the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004, (as annexed to the Minutes) for 2008/2009.

2. The Fees and Charges for 2008/2009, as annexed to the Minutes be effective from 1 July 2008.

3. The Chief Executive Officer or delegate gives public notice of this decision to adopt the Budget in accordance with Section 130(2) of the Local Government Act 1989.

4. The persons who have made a written submission regarding the Budget 2008/2009 be notified in writing of Council’s decision and the reasons for the decision in accordance with Section 223(1) (e) of the Local Government Act 1989.
5. Declaration of Rates and Charges

5.1 An amount of $104,458,000 (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this Resolution) be declared as the amount which Council intends to raise by General Rates and the Annual Service Charges (described later in this Resolution), which amount is calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Rates</td>
<td>$ 90,919,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Including supplementary valuations and early payment of rates discount)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and Recreational Land Charges</td>
<td>$ 51,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Service Charges (Waste)</td>
<td>$ 12,621,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Rate Schemes</td>
<td>$ 867,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 104,458,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>$ 315,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Rates and Charges</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 104,773,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 General Rates

(a) A general rate be declared in respect of and for the entire duration of the 2008/2009 financial year.

(b) It be further declared that the general rate be raised by the application of a uniform rate.

(c) A percentage of 0.1431% be specified as the percentage of the uniform rate which may be alternatively expressed as 0.1431 cents in the dollar.

(d) It be confirmed that the general rate for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land by that percentage (so that the amount payable be 0.1431 cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value).

(e) It be confirmed that no amount is fixed as the minimum amount payable by way of general rate in respect of each rateable land within the municipal district.
5.3 Cultural and Recreational Lands

All properties declared Cultural and Recreational Lands, under the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*, are to be granted a 100% concession on Rates with the exemption of the following properties which are granted a 50% concession:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Details</th>
<th>CIV Value</th>
<th>Rates Charged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120A - B Belford Road, Kew</td>
<td>$20,774,000</td>
<td>$14,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 Elm Grove, Kew</td>
<td>$19,845,000</td>
<td>$14,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>397 Barkers Road, Kew</td>
<td>$5,751,000</td>
<td>$4,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 - 41 Glen Street, Hawthorn</td>
<td>$10,838,000</td>
<td>$7,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Hilda Crescent, Hawthorn</td>
<td>$9,085,000</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B Munro Street, Hawthorn East</td>
<td>$4,607,000</td>
<td>$3,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$70,900,000</td>
<td>$50,729</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.4 Municipal Charge

No municipal charge be declared in respect of the 2008/2009 financial year.

5.5 Annual Service Charges

Annual service charges be declared in respect of the 2008/2009 financial year comprising:

5.5.1 Waste Collection

(a) An annual service charge be declared for the collection and disposal of refuse. The annual service charge be in the sum of, and be based on the criteria specified below:

Annual service charge for the collection and disposal of refuse for Residential Land:

- 240 litre bin $500.00
- 240 litre bin Concession $376.00
  (This 240 litre bin concession rate will apply to residential properties only for households of five or more people and those with a specific medical condition requiring a larger bin size)
- 120 litre bin $188.00
- 80 litre bin $105.00
- Waste Environment Levy $ 45.00
Minimum Charge for each Residential Property $105.00 (Except for vacant land and those Residential Properties required to service own refuse disposal as a condition of a Town Planning permit where a Waste Environment Levy of $45.00 will be imposed as a contribution to waste and rubbish collection from public spaces).

(b) Annual service charge for the collection and disposal of refuse for Non Residential Land or Non Rateable Land where utilised:

- 240 litre bin $500.00
- 120 litre bin $188.00
- 80 litre bin $105.00
- Waste Environment Levy $45.00

5.5.2 Waste Bin Review

Further review of waste bin requirements will occur during the year. Council will only retain the availability of the 240 litre bin option to households of more than three (except for medical or exceptional circumstances). This initiative aims to achieve an improved environmental outcome through assisting the diversion of waste from landfill. Smaller households using the 240 litre bin option will be contacted by Council and migrated to alternative waste bin options suitable for their household requirements.

5.6 Early Payment Incentive

A 2.5% reduction incentive be declared for early payment in full by 31 August 2008, of the general rates and annual service charges previously declared, in accordance with Section 168 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
5.7 Payment Options

In accordance with Section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, payment of rates and charges can be made in one (1) annual payment (due 15/02/09), or four (4) instalment payments (due 30/09/08, 30/11/08, 28/02/09 and 31/05/09), or by the Direct Debit (Interest Free) payment plan. Where the payment due date falls on a weekend or public holiday, the payment date will be the next business day.

No additional instalment options be declared.

5.8 Consequential

(a) The Chief Executive Officer or delegate be authorised to levy and recover the general rates and annual service charges in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

(b) Council in accordance with Section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires any person to pay interest on any amounts of rates and charges which:

- That person is liable to pay; and
- Have not been paid by the date specified for their payment.

(c) Council resolve, that if a ratepayer incurring late payment penalty interest is eligible for the State Government Pensioner Rate Rebate and has submitted a hardship application, the penalty interest rate to apply shall be equal to Council’s 2008/2009 budgeted investment earning rate of 7.50% per annum.

6. Borrowings

6.1 Council may exercise its power to borrow monies, in accordance with Section 144 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. A total of $3.620M in additional borrowings for 2008/2009 is proposed to commence the construction of the Freeway Golf Course Driving Range, works at the Hawthorn Library Precinct and Rowing Review facility.
6.2 In accordance with the requirements of Section 146(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, sufficient financial capability has been included in the 2008/2009 Budget and the associated Strategic Resource Plan to meet repayment options.

6.3 Approval through the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance will be required prior to proceeding with the borrowings under Australian Loan Council arrangements.

7. **Minor Administrative Changes**

   The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to effect any minor administrative changes which may be required.
1. **Title**
Adoption of 2008/2009 Budget including, the Budgeted Standard Statements and Declaration of Rates and Charges.

2. **Purpose**
Section 127(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) provides that Council must prepare a budget for each financial year. Section 158 of the Act provides that a Council must at least once in respect of each financial year declare by 31 August the amount which the Council intends to raise by General Rates and Charges.

The purpose of this report is for Council, having considered submissions received in respect to the Proposed Budget, Strategic Resource Plan and General Rates and Charges adopt the Budget 2008/2009, as amended in Attachment A (circulated under separate cover) to this report.

3. **Policy Implications**
In accordance with Section 129(1) of the Act, the Proposed Budget 2008/2009 was made available to the public for a two-week period commencing Wednesday 28 May 2008 and concluding Wednesday 11 June 2008.

Advertisements were placed in The Age and Progress Leader newspapers at the commencement of the public notice period.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 223 of the Act, submitters were provided with the opportunity to address Council in support of their submissions. Council considered submissions to the Proposed Budget 2008/2009 at a meeting of the Services Special Committee held on Monday 16 June 2008.

4. **Relevance to Council Plan**
The City of Boroondara Council Plan 2008–2013 has set the Key Directions and priorities of Council over the next five years. The Draft Council Plan 2008-2013 was endorsed for consultation by Council on Monday 5 May 2008, and has been subject to consultation commencing on Tuesday 6 May 2008 through Monday 19 May 2008. The Council Plan is scheduled to be adopted by Council on 23 June 2008.

The strategies set in the Council Plan and the activities and initiatives, as set in the Budget, have determined the allocation of Council's financial resources in the Budget and Strategic Resource Plan, the latter proposed to be adopted on 23 June 2008 as part of the Council Plan.

5. **Background**
Council endorsed the Proposed Budget 2008/2009 for the purpose of community consultation at the Council meeting held on 26 May 2008. The public notice of the Proposed Budget advised that any person affected by the Proposed Budget may make a submission to Council. Submissions received by Council in accordance with Section 223 of the Act were considered at Council’s Services Special Committee meeting on Monday 16 June 2008.

6. **Issues/Options**
There are no issues arising from the adoption of the Budget.
7. Consultation/Communication
Council gave public notice of its Proposed Budget in accordance with Sections 129(1) and invited submissions to the Proposed Budget in accordance with Section 223 of the Act. Council considered submissions received at a meeting of the Services Special Committee held on Monday 16 June 2008.

8. Financial and Resource Implications
As a consequence of internal processes, Attachment B (circulated under separate cover) outlines the variations between the Proposed Budget endorsed by Council at the Council meeting held on 26 May 2008 and the Budget document presented in Attachment A (circulated under separate cover).

The financial and resource implications of the budget can be found in the Budget document in Attachment A (circulated under separate cover).

9. Community Well-Being
This report supports the Governance framework of the City by providing accountability and transparency of Council's financial performance to residents and community stakeholders.

10. Environmental/Social Impacts
The Council Budget funds a number of environmental and social initiatives that build upon existing services and facilities to enhance the wellbeing of the community. Recognised accounting statements do not include imputed costs results from carbon emissions at this time.

11. Evaluation and Review
The Proposed Budget 2008/2009, including the Budgeted Standard Statements, as presented to Council on the 26 May 2008, is a prudent budget, which has been prepared with a focus on responsible financial management and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004 and Australian Accounting Standards.

The further enhancement of the Integrated Planning Framework has ensured that the Proposed Budget is closely aligned to the Council Plan, and is an accurate reflection of the activities and initiatives which will be resourced in the next financial year in order to contribute to the strategic objectives as identified in the Council Plan.

12. Conclusion
The matters raised by way of submissions are recognised in the current Budget and in many ways reinforce Council's commitment to sustainable budgeting.

The 2008/2009 Budget, including the Budgeted Standard Statements, as presented is fully aligned with the Council Plan 2008–2013 and should be adopted by Council.

MANAGER: GREG HALL – MANAGER BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
REPORT OFFICER: MICHELLE HANSEN – SENIOR MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT
3 CONTRACT NO. 08/100 ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO BUILDINGS

REPORT PURPOSE

To seek Council approval for the awarding of the Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings.

Confidential information is contained in Attachment 1 in the confidential section of the Agenda in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 as the information relates to contractual matters, and premature disclosure of the information could be prejudicial to the interests of Council or other persons. This item has been included in the public agenda to facilitate transparency and accountability in Council’s decision making.

If discussion of the confidential information in the confidential attachment to this report is required in order for Council to make a decision, this item will be deferred to the confidential section of the Agenda.

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve:

1. To award Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings, to AGL Sales Pty Ltd (ABN 88 090 538 337) at their tendered Schedule of Rates for an initial Contract Term of three (3) years with possible extensions to a maximum Contract Term of five (5) years. The estimated annual contract cost is $723,250 (including GST). This estimate (excluding YMCA leisure centres) includes energy costs and Government regulated electricity network and market charges but excludes any price adjustment due to changes in these network and market charges. The estimated annual cost to Council after the return of the GST Tax Input Credits is $657,500.

2. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to execute the contract agreement with the above contractor.
3. To authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to negotiate extensions to Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings, with the above contractor to the maximum five (5) year contract term.

4. To note that expenditure under this contract in 2008/2009 and future years will be in accordance with approved budget allocations. The draft 2008/2009 budget is being prepared and is expected to be put to Council for formal adoption on 23 June 2008.

5. To note that the new contract has options that will allow Council to choose its energy mix at any time and in any combination of traditionally generated energy (eg. coal based), pure “green” energy (i.e. generated from renewable resources which do not generate greenhouse gases), or “green” offset energy (i.e. generated in the traditional way but the emissions created by its generation are offset by greenhouse gas reduction programs).
1. **Title**  
Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings.

2. **Purpose**  
The purpose of this report is for Council to give consideration to the awarding of Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings.

3. **Policy Implications**  
There are no policy implications.

4. **Relevance to Council Plan**  
This contract is aligned with Council Strategic Objective 3.2. "Manage, maintain and enhance the public assets under the control of Council to maximise their value to the community".

5. **Background**  
Confidential information is contained in Attachment 1 in the confidential section of the Agenda in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 as the information relates to contractual matters, and premature disclosure of the information could be prejudicial to the interests of Council or other persons. If discussion of the confidential information is required in order for Council to make a decision, this item will be deferred to the confidential section of the Agenda.

The Council requires a suitably qualified organisation to provide electricity supply to Buildings within the City of Boroondara.

**Invitation to Tender**  
In accordance with Council’s tendering procedures and Section 186 of the Local Government Act, Strategic Purchasing was appointed as an agent for Council and it invited public tenders from suitably qualified organisations to supply electricity to Buildings. An Invitation to Tender was advertised in the "Herald Sun" newspaper on Wednesday, 19 March 2008, Saturday 22 March 2008, Saturday 29 March 2008 and Wednesday 2 April 2008 on behalf of approximately seventy (70) Victorian councils and various statutory bodies and private companies who participated in the tender. The closing date for submissions was Wednesday 16 April 2008.

In response to the advertisement, Strategic Purchasing received three (3) submissions:

- AGL Sales Pty Ltd;
- Origin Energy; and
- Simply Energy.

6. **Issues/Options**  
As part of the terms of the AGL Sales Pty Ltd tender submission it was necessary for Council to issue a Letter of Intent noting that approval to enter into a Contract required ratification by Council at its meeting to be held on 23 June 2008. This Letter of Intent was issued on 21 May 2008.
The Contract structure developed advanced the following outcomes:

- attractive pricing brought about through aggregation of energy demands across approximately seventy (70) Victorian councils and various other organisations;
- capacity for individual councils to exercise choice in the selection of their energy sources consistent with their individual policy preferences; and
- capacity for individual councils to amend their energy mix through time based upon known future costs.

Electricity costs under this contract are determined by whether a site is “high-use” (i.e. energy consumption over 160 MWh per annum) or “low-use” sites (i.e. energy consumption below 160 MWh per annum).

7. Consultation/Communication
A commitment by Council to purchase a proportion of “green electricity” is consistent with objectives outlined in the draft 2008/2009 Council Plan.

8. Financial and Resource Implications
Council’s preliminary 2008/2009 budget for electricity for buildings (transaction code 55724) contains a total allocation of $1,162,000. This figure excludes Council’s leisure centres which are managed externally on Council’s behalf. There has been a significant increase in the cost of the electricity energy component which is approximately 58% higher than the current contract rates which have been fixed for the past three (3) years. The additional allocation of funds is included in the draft 2008/2009 budget process which is expected to be finalised and put to Council for formal adoption on 23 June 2008. In addition, the draft 2008/2009 Budget provides funding for conversion of part of our electricity requirements for buildings to “green electricity”. A further report will be prepared for Council to determine the most effective use of “green electricity”.

9. Community Well-Being
The recommendation contained in this report is consistent with Council’s desire to enhance community wellbeing through improvements to urban amenity and efficient service delivery.

10. Environmental/Social Impacts
Council’s commitment to purchase a proportion of “green electricity” is consistent with objectives outlined in the draft 2008/2009 Council Plan. Accordingly, the Contract from AGL Sales Pty Ltd has the option to allow Council to purchase a percentage of “green electricity” (i.e. electricity generated from renewable resources or that is part of a carbon-offset scheme) as desired. “Green electricity” can be purchased in any amount from 0% to greater than 100% of Council’s energy consumption but at increased “green electricity” costs. The draft Council Plan currently in the community consultation phase proposes Council’s partial funding of “green electricity” as part of its ongoing commitment to environmental initiatives. A further report is being prepared for Council on the best approach to purchasing "green electricity".
11. **Evaluation and Review**

Tenders were evaluated by Strategic Purchasing in accordance with the process outlined in the Strategic Purchasing Tender Recommendation (refer Attachment 1).

As a result of the tender evaluation the tender evaluation panel recommends that Council award Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings, to AGL Sales Pty Ltd (ABN 88 090 538 337) for an estimated total annual cost of $723,250 (including GST). The cost to Council after the return of the GST Tax Input Credits is $657,500. The tendered schedule of rates costs are fixed for the initial 3 year term, with then-current market rates to apply for the 2 year option (should Council elect to exercise this optional contract extension).

The above estimated contract cost does not include for the purchase of any component of “green electricity”. However, the new contract has options that will allow Council to access “green electricity” as desired but at increased “green electricity” costs.

**MANAGER:**
CHRIS HURLEY - MANAGER, FINANCIAL SERVICES

**REPORT OFFICER:**
PETER RODGERS - CONTRACTS OFFICER, FINANCIAL SERVICES
TENDER EVALUATION REPORT
Contract No. 08/100, Electricity Supply to Buildings

Attachment 1 is included in the Confidential Attachment section of the Agenda in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, as it contains information relating to contractual matters, and premature disclosure of the information could be prejudicial to the interests of Council or other persons.
4 LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

REPORT PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement for the City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy 2008.

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

1. Endorse the City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy 2008, as annexed to the Minutes.

2. Endorse the Australian Library & Information (ALIA) policy statements on libraries, the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Declaration on Libraries, Information Services & Intellectual Freedom.
1. **Title**  
Library Collection Development Policy.

2. **Purpose**  
To seek Council endorsement for the City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy 2008.

3. **Policy Implications**  
The City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy 2008 (refer Attachment 1) replaces the previous City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy endorsed by Council in February 1997. A summary of the comparative changes between the policies is provided in Attachment 2.

4. **Relevance to Council Plan**  
The City of Boroondara Council Plan 2008-2013 and the Library Future Directions Strategy 2004-2014 provide the policy framework for the City of Boroondara’s Library Service and for its Collection Development Policy. Key Direction 2.1 provides the Outcome and Strategy for Library Services specifically:
   
   - **Community Outcome**  
     Innovative library services for all members of the community
   
   - **Our Strategy**  
     Anticipate and respond innovatively to diverse and changing needs for knowledge and information.

5. **Background**  
A collection development policy establishes guidelines for the way in which a library plans the growth and change of its collection, including adding material and removing it. It is a written statement which sets out guidelines to inform the community and the staff about selection, acquisition and withdrawal of materials and relates them to the purposes of the organisation and the needs of users. The aim of collection development is to select and maintain resources in order to meet the library's overall objectives.

Specifically, the objectives of this policy are to:
- Provide access to library collections to support the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of all members of the community on an equitable basis.
- Develop a coordinated approach to the shaping of the library service’s collections
- Provide a framework for the selection, acquisition and withdrawal of library materials
- Inform the community about the parameters of the library service’s collections
- Develop collections which are linked to the needs of the community and to Council’s overall corporate vision.

6. **Issues/Options**  
The City of Boroondara Library Collection Development Policy was adopted by Council on 24 February 1997. Since this time there have been many changes in both the way information is provided, i.e. in physical form or virtually, and changes to the format in which library materials are created (e.g. cassettes and videotapes are no longer produced). The revised policy reflects both the new formats and the provision of material both in physical and online forms.
Over the past decade there have also been changes in publishing trends with some categories of material no longer being produced and other material in higher demand. Overall U.K., U.S. and Australian book publishing outputs continue to increase. Within the context of increased publishing outputs, detailed analysis of publishing trends show that whilst there are some sectors or subject areas which will migrate more quickly to digital format, other subjects will continue to have print as the preferred mode of delivery. These publishing trends are coherent with turnover and usage figures for Boroondara’s library collections which both continue to increase overall but also to show the same areas of popularity which are shown for the book publishing and book selling industries.

The Australian Library and Information (ALIA) policy statements, the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Declaration on Libraries, Information Services & Intellectual Freedom also reflect these changes in publishing and information provision. It is timely for Council to endorse these statements, in the context not only of the Library Collection Development Policy but also of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities with which they are coherent.

7. Consultation/Communication
The community is actively encouraged to suggest resources for inclusion in the library service’s collection and regularly participate in this process. Community input is generated regularly according to the Library Services customer feedback process adopted as part of Best Value.

8. Financial and Resource Implications
This policy has no financial impact. The Library Resources budget currently provides for the proposed shift in approach to the purchase of new library stock. The long term financial strategy reflects a gradual shift towards a reduction in capital resources and an associated increase in the operational budget to allow for an enlargement in annual online subscriptions and a reduction in the purchase of capital items.

9. Community Well-Being
The outcomes of the Library Collection Development Policy assist the community and individuals within it to meet their personal potential as well as promoting a sense of local identity in many cases.

10. Environmental/Social Impacts
Libraries play a critical role in community capacity building and community engagement. This occurs on a day to day basis with all services and programs, but this policy relating to the provision of collections provides the underlying framework for the City of Boroondara Library Service in its role in community building.

11. Conclusion
Given the changes to publishing trends and formats outlined above, it is, therefore, timely that Council adopt the revised Library Collection Development Policy and endorse the ALIA, UNESCO and IFLA statements.

MANAGER: ANNE HOLMES – MANAGER LIBRARY SERVICES
REPORT OFFICER: SUE GRAY - ADULT SERVICES AND BALWYN LIBRARIAN
Library Collection Development Policy

produced by

Library Services

Passed by Council on
Revised by Council on / /

For further information, contact the Manager Library Services
Telephone: 9278 4666 Facsimile: 9819 0829

Library Services
City of Boroondara
Private Bag 1
Camberwell 3124
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Library Collection Development Policy

1. Corporate Framework


1.1 City of Boroondara Council Plan 2008-2013

The City of Boroondara’s Vision as articulated in the Council plan is:

Our City will:
- Communities that respect differences, engage and communicate effectively, and value supportive relationships
- Communities that are both safe and attractive, sharing a lifestyle rich in choice
- A safe and attractive City that works after its built and natural assets, now and for future generations
- An evolving City, proud of its diverse culture and committed to environmental, social and economic sustainability – a City in which we live and work
- A local government that engages with its community to provide leadership and responsive representation.

Library Services’ primary Strategic Objective is:

Supporting Families and Communities
We will support children, young people, families and our elders. The emphasis is on ensuring that the services provided to the community continue to be appropriate to the community’s changing needs and expectations. This direction will also strengthen community ties and improve the ways Council engages with the community.

Key Direction 2.1 provides the Outcome and Strategy for Library Services specifically:

Community Outcome
Innovative library services for all members of the community

Our Strategy
Anticipate and respond innovatively to diverse and changing needs for knowledge and information.
1.2 Library Future Directions Strategy 2004-2014

The purpose of the Library Future Directions Strategy was to provide answers to the following questions:

- What should the library service look like and do in ten years time?
- How can libraries play a leadership role in community building and community engagement?
- How can technology be used creatively to help achieve these ends?
- What should we be doing now to prepare for the future?

The Library Future Directions Strategy 2004-2014 was developed with staff and community input and adopted by Council on 12 July 2004. From this identification of emerging strategic issues and opportunities relevant to the future development of the City of Boroondara Library Service, a ten-year strategic framework for the City of Boroondara Library Service was developed. This framework underpins the Collections Management Strategy.

2. Community Served

The 2006 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census recorded that there were 154,450 usual residents in Boroondara who completed a census form, a small increase on the 2001 census population of 151,386 residents.

2.1 Age groupings

The age structure of the City is notable in that there is a spread of population across most age groups. The largest age groups include the 10-29 year olds reflecting the number of educational facilities within the city and the 40-59 year olds. Since 2001 the largest growth has been in the 55-64 year old age group - the baby boomers, with smaller increases in 0-4 year olds and 15-24 year olds. This age structure is often described as an 'urban mix'.

2.2 Family type

An indication of a possible future increase in pre-school children is indicated by the significant percentage of the population aged 15-44 years which constitute households without offspring. This could affect future library services for children.

2.3 Language spoken at home

Demographics relating to languages spoken reveal 75% of Boroondara's population speak only English at home. The most popular languages spoken at home other than English were Chinese, Greek, Italian and Indonesian. There has been notable growth in the amount of people speaking Vietnamese and Hindi. This information is useful in planning for languages other than English collections within the libraries.
2.4 Education standards and occupation
The census data relating to educational qualifications in Boroondara is indicative of an extremely educated and skilled workforce. This greater skill base is indicated by the greater share of households in the high income quartile, the higher percentage of professionals and a bigger proportion working in well-paid industries. The 2006 census recorded that over 55,000 households had at least one internet connection.

3. Objectives of the Policy

A collection development policy establishes guidelines for the way in which a library plans the growth and change of its collection, including adding material and removing it. It is a written statement which sets out these guidelines to inform the community and the staff about selection, acquisition and withdrawal of materials and relates them to the purposes of the organization and the needs of users. The aim of collection development is to select and maintain resources in order to meet the library's overall objectives.

Specifically, the objectives of this policy are to:

- Provide access to library collections to support the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of all members of the community on an equitable basis.
- Develop a coordinated approach to the shaping of the library service's collections.
- Provide a framework for the selection, acquisition and withdrawal of library materials.
- Inform the community about the parameters of the library service's collections.
- Develop collections which are linked to the needs of the community and to Council's overall corporate vision.

In attempting to achieve these objectives, a number of factors must be taken into consideration:

- The existing collection.
- Interests existing in the community, either organised or individual.
- Needs of different groups, such as multicultural, young people, people with disabilities, etc.
- Flexibility to meet and satisfy new and changing community interests and needs.
- Coverage needed in light of limitations in the budget and the availability of space.
- Availability of materials in other libraries in this and nearby communities.
- The need to preserve publications of local authors and material on local history.
• The challenge of balancing the collection between traditional print based resources and online resources, and ensuring provision of appropriate delivery modes.

• The Australian Library and Information Association's (ALIA) Statements on Free access to information, Information Literacy for All Australians, Libraries and Literacy, Library and Information Services for People with a Disability, Online content regulation (Appendix A), the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (Appendix B), and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Glasgow Declaration on Librarians, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom.

4. General Selection Policy

4.1 Criteria for selection

Resources considered for selection must satisfy one or more of the following general criteria of qualifications:

• Current or potential interest, relevance or significance to the community
• High standards of quality in content, expression and accuracy
• An Australian work, written by a person born or residing in Australia, or set in Australia
• Fills a gap in, complements, or supplements the existing collection
• High physical and technical standard, taking into account format, durability over multiple borrowings, size, binding, audio and visual quality
• Reasonable price, appropriate to the resource and balanced against probable usage.
• Materials not readily available elsewhere
• Special local, social or historical significance
• Attracting and interest of critics, reviewers or public

4.2 Responsibility for selection

The Manager of Library Services has overall responsibility for the content and development of the Libraries' collections. Designated staff (Adult Services & Balwyn Librarian, Youth Services & Ashburton/Camberwell Librarian and Information Management & Kew Librarian) coordinate and supervise the selection process, with contributions from all library staff and members of the public.

The Manager, Library Services is responsible for the selection of Local and Family History resources.

The Adult Services & Balwyn Librarian is responsible for the selection of Adult lending resources.
The Information Management & Kew Librarian is responsible for the selection of Reference materials, Online Resources

The Youth Services & Ashburton Librarian is responsible for the selection of Junior and teenage lending resources

4.3 Methods of selection & acquisition

Selection and acquisition of library materials is undertaken in accordance with Council’s purchasing policies and guidelines and the provision of some categories of material is subject to a tender process. A variety of methods are used for selection and acquisition:

- Blanket orders within specified criteria;
- Standing orders for particular authors or titles;
- Online ordering via vendor websites;
- Specific title orders;
- Book drops by library suppliers;
- Warehouse visits;
- Bookshop visits;
- Supplier stock updates.

All of these methods are informed by the following sources:

- Reviews in professional journals;
- Reviews in trade journals;
- Reviews in specialty journals;
- Reviews in general media;
- Publishers websites;
- Online newsletters & journals;
- Blogs - author reviews, bookshops;
- Customer requests & suggestions;
- Professional publishing and collection development knowledge.

Standing orders are established for a number of areas and reviewed on a regular basis. Standing orders exist for the following:

- Adult fiction authors
- Junior/teenage authors
- Junior/teenage series
- Reference
- Travel series.

4.4 Collections

FICTION

Fiction is provided for all age groups in English and other languages. Fiction includes a wide range of genres, popular best sellers, classics, and award winners, in print, in talking book format and online. An emphasis is on Australian authors. Some popular titles will
be duplicated to cater for demand. Some graphic novels will be collected to cater for those who prefer this format.

NON-FICTION

The non-fiction collection aims to support and stimulate the cultural, informational and recreational wants and needs of the community in English and other languages. Non-fiction will be considered in print, talking books and online. Materials relevant to children, teenagers and adults will cover a wide range of subjects, literacy levels and intellectual content, but with lesser emphasis on tertiary level resources. Technical, legal and medical works will be evaluated in terms of appropriate cost, suitability and content for intended users. Where appropriate emphasis will be given to Australian material.

Textbooks and curriculum related materials will only be provided where the materials also serve the general public or where they provide information not otherwise available. The responsibility for the provision of textbooks and research materials for students lies with the educational institution at which they are enrolled, but the public library will provide materials which supplement and enrich the reference and recreational needs of students of all ages.

STACK

The Stack is a retrospective non-fiction adult collection which supports the broader collections. It consists chiefly of Australian and/or seminal works no longer in print.

LARGE PRINT

Large print books and magazines are provided for patrons who have a sight disability or who have a preference for materials with a larger typeface. The collection consists of both fiction and general interest non-fiction, such as biographies, travel and health. Market availability of large print limits the collection to the English language.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

The City of Boroondara Library Service currently collects materials in seven languages other than English. These are Chinese, French, German, Greek, Indonesian, Italian and Korean. These collections provide materials to meet the educational, cultural, informational and recreational needs of patrons from a non-English speaking background, and those patrons learning a language.

The number of language collections maintained and the quantity of materials held is subject to three factors:

a) The availability of material, both locally and overseas,
b) Population movements in the City Of Boroondara

MAGAZINES

Magazines are provided for children, teenagers and adults in English and other languages. The subscription list is reviewed periodically, when consideration is given to the aforementioned criteria for selection, but also specific considerations such as:

a) Frequency of publication
b) Consistency of publication
c) Reliability of delivery
d) Projected use assessed against price of subscription
The period for which copies of a title will be kept is dependant on physical condition, frequency of publication, subject content and space considerations.

The library subscribes to a great many magazines on line via the database subscriptions – some of these are magazines we also subscribe to in hard copy, such as Choice, Australian Gourmet Traveller and National Geographic; others we provide only online access. Most of our databases can be accessed from home as well as within the library.

**NEWSPAPERS**
A variety of newspapers are kept for consultation within the library, in English and other languages. As well as Melbourne daily papers, a representation of national and international newspapers will be provided. With the exception of The Progress Leader papers will be kept for a period of up to two months and then discarded. The Progress Leader will be bound and become a permanent part of the local history collection.

The library’s online subscriptions also cover many newspapers, including the local Progress Leader and the national dailies as well as a vast array of newspapers from other countries. Newspapers can also be accessed directly on their own websites.

**REFERENCE**
Material in the reference collection is high quality in content, format and expression and can be in various formats - books, serials, microfiche, CD form or online. The collection will be updated constantly to provide the most current and /or best of encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks, annuals, directories, biographies and other quality non-fiction works within budgetary restrictions. The reference collection may also include materials inappropriate for loan because of format, price or nature of the material.

Online resources are a significant part of the reference collection. These resources consist of both databases that the library subscribes to and official websites such as ABS and Better Health Channel. It is the intention of the library service that most of these sites can be accessed throughout the library service and from home.

The library online subscribes to databases through the Gulliver and Bruce consortia or independently. It selects databases according to a number of criteria including authority, accessibility, vendor support and cost. In the case of those the library subscribes to independently, they are also selected on the basis of the subject matter to fill gaps or enhance the coverage provided from the consortia databases.

**FAMILY & LOCAL HISTORY**
The City of Boroondara Library Service has three major local and family history collections at Ashburton, Hawthorn and Kew Libraries. Each was established prior to local government amalgamation primarily to cover the history of their municipalities, though both Kew and Hawthorn have significant state-wide roles which have developed over the years.

There is a fourth local history collection which has been developed since amalgamation at Balwyn Library and has as its focus City of Boroondara publications. Most items within these collections are available for referral within the libraries, however some records and documents are not available for public use because of the archival nature of the collection.
DIGITAL CONTENT
Within local history collections, an ongoing strategy has been to provide copies of
crystal for the community whilst preserving and maintaining originals. This strategy
originally focused on microform but now focuses on providing digital content which can
be readily shared world-wide via the internet. Digital content currently covers
photographs, images and ephemera but is being expanded to cover newspapers,
directories, oral histories.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE/ADULT LITERACY
This collection aims to support those in the community with literacy and/or English as a
Second Language needs. It will provide support for both individual informal self-directed
learning, as well as formal programs, teachers and tutors. The collection will contain a
broad range of materials ranging from basic first readers' resources to advanced grammar
texts and teacher resources. Resources will include multi-media kits and monographs.

LIBRARY SCIENCE
This collection supports the needs of library staff and students to ensure knowledge of
current library trends and access to the most up to date cataloguing and bibliographic
tools. There is a collection of periodicals with back issues held indefinitely, particularly of
Australian titles. Monographs emphasise public library

PICTURE BOOKS
This collection is aimed at children from 0-12 years old, although some of the collection
is intended to appeal to a wider audience. The collection includes board books, stories
without words, stories to be read to children, concept books and simple stories through
to sophisticated picture books for older children. The emphasis is on quality illustration
and text with an appropriate mixture of text and illustration to tell the story.

JUNIOR EASY READERS
This collection is aimed at beginner readers and provides a transition for the newly
independent reader from picture books to junior fiction. All types of stories are included
with the emphasis on short books with large, clear type and illustrations which enhance
the story. Books with simple language, and lively stories are preferred. Other books
which provide the beginner reader with a sense of achievement and encourage them to
proceed to longer and more substantial stories are also included.

COMPACT DISCS
This collection aims to cover a broad spectrum of music in English and other languages
for people of all ages. It may also include non-musical discs, such as relaxation, bird-calls,
comedy and some informational titles. We aim to develop a diverse collection catering to
varying tastes.

TALKING BOOKS
This collection aims to provide access to a wide range of books on cassette, compact
disc and online for adults, teenagers and children. Both fiction and non-fiction titles are
purchased. Priority is given to unabridged materials. Talking books on cassette will be
phased out in favour of the more durable and popular compact discs.
4.4 De-Accessioning

Materials may be discarded due to damage, poor physical condition, obsolescence, inaccurate factual information or lack of usage. Resources in high demand or of enduring interest will be nominated for replacement. If these items are no longer in print or available for re-purchase, library staff, if possible, will repair the item, or it may be sent to a professional binder to ensure its longevity.

Materials removed from the open shelves are disposed of in several ways. They may be allocated to a stack collection, donated to other libraries, interested parties and charities, or recycled. This policy statement on de-accessioning is supported by internal procedures.

4.5 General Considerations

CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

The library has a tight duty to provide a collection which reflects the full spectrum of community view points. Selections will not be made on the basis of any anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the selection criteria listed, and to serving the interests of the entire community.

It is the responsibility of parents, rather than of library staff, to guide children and teenagers in their selection, and to ensure that the materials chosen meet their requirements. This view is reflected in procedures for children and teenagers joining the library service where parents or guardians take responsibility for items borrowed or library services used by the child or teenager.

CENSORSHIP

Powers of censorship are vested in the Federal and State Governments. Items prohibited by law will not be considered for inclusion in the collection. If there are restrictions imposed on the access to any item in the collection, these restrictions will be observed by the libraries.

This Policy endorses the ALIA Statement on Free Access to Information (Appendix A – 1) and the IFLA Declaration on Librarians, Information Services & Intellectual Freedom (Appendix C).

COMPLAINTS

Complaints regarding library materials should be detailed in writing to the Manager, Library Services.
SUGGESTIONS AND REQUESTS
The community is encouraged to suggest resources not already in the collection. Requests for particular items will be subject to the selection criteria outlined previously and to budgetary constraints, and purchased where appropriate. Alternatively, requested items may be sought on inter-library loan.

DONATIONS
Donations of all types of materials are accepted subject to the following conditions:

- Donations are subject to the key selection criteria as outlined in the general selection policy.
- Donations are accepted when given freely and without conditions. Exceptions may, however, be made in respect of private papers, etc, appropriate to the Local History collection.
- The treatment and allocation of donated materials will be decided by library staff.
- The Library reserves the right to dispose of such materials if they are not needed, at any time and by any means, including the right to offer them to any other body deemed appropriate, or to recycle them.

The library welcomes donations which meet the selection criteria, and which are offered without conditions. Rejected donations may be discarded at any time and by any means the library deems appropriate.

MULTIPLE COPIES
Duplicate titles may be purchased to meet actual or anticipated demand in some areas in line with budgetary constraints. Production duplication to meet student assignment or book club demand is not feasible and is not considered to be the responsibility of the library service.

5. Revision of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the business planning process and formally updated when appropriate.
APPENDICES

Appendix A: Australian Library & Information Association Statements

The following Professional Statements by the Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA) and the principles within them are endorsed.

A) Statement on Free Access to Information

Object
To promote the free flow of information and ideas in the interests of all Australians and a thriving culture and democracy.

Principle
Freedom can be protected in a democratic society only if its citizens have unrestricted access to information and ideas.

Statement
There are several different levels at which the free flow of ideas can be impeded. At the societal level, legislative bodies of all levels are expected to consider the legal and regulatory frameworks that put in place to support the free flow of information and ideas about the interests and concerns of citizens. At the institutional level, library and information services are expected to encourage the free flow of information and ideas within the scope of their roles and responsibilities. At the individual level, citizens are expected to make informed decisions in exercising their rights and responsibilities.

The Australian Library and Information Association, believes that library and information services have particular responsibilities in supporting and sustaining the free flow of information and ideas including:

1. asserting the equal and equitable rights of citizens to information regardless of age, race, gender, religion, disability, cultural identity, language, socio-economic status, lifestyle choice, political allegiance or social viewpoint;
2. adopting an inclusive approach in developing and implementing policies regarding access to information and ideas that are relevant to the library and information service concerned, irrespective of the controversial nature of the information or ideas;
3. ensuring that their clients have access to information from a variety of sources and agencies to meet their needs and that a citizen’s information needs are met independently of location and an ability to pay;
4. catering for interest in contemporary issues without promoting or suppressing particular beliefs and ideas;
5. protecting the confidential relationships that exist between the library and information service and its clients;
6. resisting attempts by individuals or groups within their communities to restrict access to information and ideas while at the same time recognising that powers of censorship are legally vested in state and federal governments;
7. observing laws and regulations governing access to information and ideas but working towards the amendment of those laws and regulations which inhibit library and information services in meeting the obligations and responsibilities outlined in this statement.

Related Documents
Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Statement on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom
(Adopted October 2001 - Replaces Statement on Free Library Services to All & The Statement on Freedom to Read).
B) Statement on Information Literacy for All Australians

Object
To promote the free flow of information and ideas in the interest of all Australians and a thriving culture, economy and democracy.

Principle
A thriving national and global culture, economy and democracy will be advanced by people who are empowered in all walks of life to seek, evaluate, use and create information effectively to achieve their personal, social, occupational and educational goals. It is a basic human right in a digital world and promotes social inclusion within a range of cultural contexts. (Alexandria Proclamation 2005).

Statement
Information literacy can contribute to:

- learning for life;
- the creation of new knowledge;
- acquisition of skills;
- personal, vocational, corporate and organisational empowerment;
- social inclusion;
- participative citizenship; and,
- innovation and enterprise.

Therefore, as a matter of priority, and at all levels, library and information services professionals embrace a responsibility to promote and facilitate the development of the information literacy of their clients. They will support government, and the corporate community, professional, educational and trade union sectors, and all Australians.

Related Documents
Alexandria Proclamation on Information Literacy and Life Long Learning, Egypt, 2005.
C) Statement on Libraries and Literacy

Object
To promote and improve the services provided by all kinds of library and information agencies.

Principle
Rapid social change, the emphasis on lifelong learning, the increasing rate of technological development and the movement towards an information-based society are factors which suggest, as never before, that literacies are an essential instrument for effective participation in society.

The scope for access to information resources is growing and will be increased enormously as communications technology becomes more sophisticated. Nevertheless, the communications media of the foreseeable future will continue to assume the user’s capacity to read and understand the written word.

The illiterate person can be substantially disadvantaged. It is essential to democratic processes of government that citizens have the skills and opportunities to inform themselves on matters of community and national interest and participate in the decision-making process. It must be acknowledged that information literacy is part of a continuum of literacies that includes oralacy that is to have the power to promote social inclusion for all people. (Alexandria Proclamation, 2005).

The Australian Library and Information Association believes that:

- Libraries are lifelong learning centres with education as an essential part of their mission and should acknowledge their responsibility for supporting and supplementing education within their communities, in a variety of formal and informal as well as cultural contexts (Schamber, 2006).
- Libraries must actively commit time and resources to coordinating literacy activities at all levels and to promote literacy among all members of their community, users and non-users alike.
- Libraries are part of the solution to many community problems. Libraries help children and adults become literate, productive citizens and help people of all ages lead more satisfying lives.

Related Documents
Alexandria Proclamation on Information Literacy and Life Long Learning, Egypt, 2005
Schamber, Linda The role of libraries in literacy education accessed 13/04/2006
D) Library and Information Services for People with a Disability

Object
To promote and improve the services provided by all kinds of library and information agencies.

Principle
The Australian Library and Information Association adopts in principle the right of people with a disability to equitable access to information through all library and information services, and promotes the observation of current Commonwealth, state and territory disability discrimination legislation.

Statement

1. The Association recommends that all library and information providers, as part of their core services, put in place services, collections, equipment and facilities, which will assist individual users with a disability to access and use resources that meet their particular needs for information.

2. The Association encourages library and information service providers to consult with individuals with a disability, and groups representing them, in the planning, development and ongoing delivery of services.

3. The Association acknowledges that the best services are provided by professionals who are aware of the needs of, and service options for, people with a disability. Therefore the Association:

   - encourages all library and information services to ensure that staff are adequately trained and available to work with users with a disability, and
   - supports career-long professional development and formal library and information studies programs, which will facilitate the strengthening of equitable library and information services to people with a disability.

4. The Association supports efforts to ensure the best level of access and utility to existing and emerging resources by people with a disability through service agreements, referrals and sharing of resources between library and information services, and between these and other organisations specialising in services targeted to people with a disability, whether government, corporate or voluntary.

5. In addition to meeting legislative requirements, the Association encourages the observation of universal design principles, guidelines and standards to ensure that library and information services, collections, equipment and facilities meet the identified needs of users with a disability. These apply to:

   - The production of collection material and equipment for people with a disability - whether produced by commercial, government or voluntary agencies;
   - The design of catalogues, databases and guides to resources;

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• The development and application of hardware and software, and
• The construction of buildings and signage
• The building safety and emergency procedure.

6. The Association supports efforts to ensure that copyright legislation does not hinder the equal access by people with a disability to information from all libraries and information providers, including to copies of materials in alternative formats.

7. To promote the efforts outlined in this statement, the Association encourages:

8. library and information services to develop organization-wide disability action plans for the continued development of their services to people with a disability; and

9. all funding bodies to adequately resource library and information services for people with a disability.

Related Documents
Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Commonwealth) as amended and relevant current disability services acts for the states and territories
Australian Standard 1428 [sic], as amended, other relevant Australian Standards, and the Building Code of Australia provisions for people with a disability
Commonwealth-State Government Disability Agreement
Copyright Act 1968 (Commonwealth) as amended
US Section 508 Standards for Electronic and Information Technology, as amended
WC3 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, as amended.
E) Statement on Online Content Regulation

Object
To promote the free flow of information and ideas in the interest of all Australians and a thriving culture, economy and democracy.

Principle
Freedom can be protected in a democratic society only if its citizens have unrestricted access to information and ideas.

Statement
Libraries and information services facilitate and promote access to the widest variety of information, reflecting the plurality and diversity of society. The selection and availability of library materials and services, including online content and services, is governed by professional considerations and not by political, moral and religious views.

Libraries and information services support the right of all users to unhindered access to information of their choice regardless of format. Access to electronic information resources should not be restricted except as required by law and this basic right should not be eroded in the development of regulatory measures for online information.

Users are assisted with the necessary skills and a suitable environment in which to use their chosen information sources and services freely and confidently. Each user's right to privacy and confidentiality is protected with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted.

In addition to the many valuable resources available on the internet, some are incorrect, misleading and may be offensive. Libraries and information services proactively promote and facilitate responsible access to quality networked information for all their users, including children and young people. They enable library users to learn to use the internet and electronic information efficiently and effectively.

Related Documents
ALIA Statement on Freedom to Information
IPLA Statement on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom
IFLA Internet Manifesto
Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights
Appendix B  UNESCO Public Library Manifesto

UNESCO Public Library Manifesto

Freedom, prosperity and the development of society and of individuals are fundamental human values. They will only be attained through the ability of well informed citizens to exercise their democratic rights and to play an active role in society. Constructive participation and the development of democracy depend upon satisfactory education as well as on free and unlimited access to knowledge, thought, culture and information.

The public library, the local gateway to knowledge, provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision making and cultural development of the individual and social groups.

This manifesto proclaims UNESCO's belief in the public library as a living force for education, culture and information, and as an essential agent for the fostering of peace and spiritual development of public libraries.

UNESCO therefore encourages national and local governments to support and actively engage in the development of public libraries.

The Public Library
The public library is the local centre of information, making all kinds of knowledge and information readily available to its users.

The services of the public library are provided on the basis of equality of access for all, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, nationality, language or social status. Specific services and materials must be provided for those users who cannot, for whatever reason, use the regular services and materials, for example, linguistic minorities, people in hospital or prison.

All age groups must find material relevant to their needs. Collections and services have to include all types of appropriate media and modern technologies as well as traditional materials. High quality and relevance to local needs and conditions are fundamental. Materials must reflect current trends and the evolution of society, as well as the memory of human endeavour and imagination.

Collections and services should not be subject to any form of ideological, political or religious censorship, nor commercial pressures.

The Public Library
The following key missions which relate to information, literacy, education and culture should be at the core of public library services:

- creating and strengthening reading habits in children from an early age;
- supporting both individual and self-conducted education as well as formal education at all levels;
- providing opportunities for personal, creative development
- stimulating the imagination and creativity of children and young people;
- promoting awareness of cultural heritage, appreciation the arts, scientific achievements and innovation;
- providing access to cultural expressions of all performing arts;
- fostering inter-cultural dialogue and favouring cultural diversity;
- supporting the oral tradition;
- ensuring access for citizens to all sorts of community information;
- providing adequate information services to local enterprises, associations and interest groups;
- facilitating the development of information and computer literacy skills;
- supporting and participating in literacy activities and programmes for all age groups, and initiating such activities if necessary.

Funding, legislation and networks

- The public library shall in principle be free of charge. The public library is the responsibility of local and national responsibilities. It must be supported by specific legislation and financed by national and local governments. It has to be an essential component of any long-term strategy for culture, information provision, literacy and education.
- To ensure nation-wide library co-operation and co-ordination, legislation and strategic plans must also define and promote a national library network based upon agreed standards of service.
- The public library network must be designed in relation to national, regional, research and special libraries as well as libraries in schools, colleges and universities.

Operation and management

- A clear policy must be formulated, defining objectives, priorities and services in relation to local community needs. The public library has to be organised effectively and professional standards of operation must be maintained.
- Co-operation with relevant partners - for example, user groups and other professionals at local, regional, national as well as international levels - has to be ensured.
- Services have to be physically accessible to all members of the community. This requires well-situated library buildings, good reading and study facilities, as relevant technologies and sufficient opening hours convenient to the users. It equally implies outreach activities for those unable to visit the library.
- The library services must be adapted to the different needs of communities in rural and urban areas.
- The librarian is an active intermediary between users and resources. Professional and continuing education of the librarian is indispensable to ensure adequate services.
- Outreach and user education programmes have to be provided to help users benefit from all the resources.

This manifest is set out on the Unesco website:
Appendix C. Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services & Intellectual Freedom

The Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

Meeting in Glasgow on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its formation, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) declares that:

IFLA proclaims the fundamental right of human beings both to access and to express information without restriction.

IFLA and its worldwide membership support, defend and promote intellectual freedom as expressed in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. This intellectual freedom encompasses the wealth of human knowledge, opinion, creative thought and intellectual activity.

IFLA asserts that a commitment to intellectual freedom is a core responsibility of the library and information profession worldwide, expressed through codes of ethics and demonstrated through practice.

IFLA affirms that:

- Libraries and information services provide access to information, ideas and works of imagination in all media and regardless of frontiers. They serve as gateways to knowledge, thought and culture, offering essential support for independent decision making, cultural development, research and lifelong learning by both individuals and groups.
- Libraries and information services contribute to the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom and help to safeguard democratic values and universal civil rights. Consequently, they are committed to offering their clients access to relevant resources and services without restriction and to opposing any form of censorship.
- Libraries and information services shall acquire, preserve and make available the widest variety of materials, reflecting the pluralism and diversity of society. The selection and availability of library materials and services shall be governed by professional considerations and not by political, moral and religious views.
- Libraries and information services shall make materials, facilities and services equally accessible to all users. There shall be no discrimination for any reason including race, national or ethnic origin, gender or sexual preference, age, disability, religion or political beliefs.
- Libraries and information services shall protect each user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted.

IFLA therefore call upon libraries and information services and their staff to uphold and promote the principles of intellectual freedom and to provide uninhibited access to information.

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<td>• Methods of selection and acquisition explicited</td>
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| • Collections | • Collections - no longer collect maps, pamphlet file ephemera, books in Vietnamese, music on audio-cassette, talking books on cassette, videos, CD-roms.  
• New collections - DVDs, talking books on CD, items in Indonesian, Korean and digital content in relevant collections |
| • Policy review – no longer than three year intervals | • Policy review – Annually as part of business planning process and formally updated where appropriate |
| • Appendix 1 – Australian Library and Information Association Statement on Freedom to Read – 1985 | • Appendix 1 - Australian Library and Information Association statements on Free Access to Information, Information Literacy for all Australians, Libraries and Literacy, Library and Information Services for People with a Disability, Online Content Regulation |
| • Appendix 2 – UNESCO Public Library Manifesto1994 | • Appendix 2 - UNESCO Public Library manifesto (no date, but from current webpage) |
| • | • Appendix 3 - Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom |
5 DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION POLICY

REPORT PURPOSE


OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan 2008-2012, as annexed to the Minutes.
1. **Title**  
Disability Access and Inclusion Policy.

2. **Purpose**  

3. **Policy Implications**  

4. **Relevance to Council Plan**  
Strategic Objective 2.4 in the Draft Council Plan 2008-2013 – *Monitor and plan for the changing needs and aspirations of community members, particularly those who are disadvantaged.*

5. **Background**  
Council received written submissions and verbal feedback from a broad cross-section of community organisations and residents during the consultation period from 25 March 2008 to 19 April 2008. Each item of feedback was reviewed by a panel of five Officers who subsequently recommended changing the name of the Policy from the ‘Boroondara Disability Policy and Action Plan 2008 – 2012’ to the ‘Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan 2008 – 2012’. The Policy is structured around four-year goals (Strategic Actions), four-year actions (Key Focus Areas) and one-year actions (Current Year Priorities). There are 6 Strategic Actions: Information and Advocacy; Policy Development; Funding; Access to the Built Environment; Community Engagement and Partnerships; and Organisational Capacity.

6. **Issues/Options**  
Community feedback indicated that the strategic objectives and key focus areas in the Policy and Action Plan reflected the community’s priorities for access and inclusion. In relation to the current year priorities, feedback suggested clarifying and strengthening the wording of some actions under ‘Information and Advocacy’ and ‘Access to the Built Environment’ and adding others relating to transport, affordable housing, social isolation and improved access to Council facilities. Where possible, these additional actions have been included in the current year actions. Actions requiring further analysis and significant financial resources have been prioritised for consideration in the second year of the Policy’s implementation. Council will work with the Community Disability Advisory Committee (CDAC) in 2008 to scope these second year actions. Specific access requests from people with a disability were forwarded to responsible Council departments for immediate action. The key themes and policy outcomes are summarised below.
Strengthening the wording of current year priorities
The following actions have been reworded to clarify their intent and to reflect Council’s previous and current commitment to information provision and access to the built environment:

– ‘Encourage Council sponsored / funded events to be accessible to people with disabilities’ has been replaced by ‘Improve access to Council sponsored / funded events and promote improvement initiatives.’
– ‘Consider requirements of people with vision impairment in the publication of Council material’ has been replaced with ‘Provide and promote key Council documents in alternative formats as required.’
– ‘Consider the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act when building new facilities’ has been amended to ‘Continue to adhere to the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act when building new facilities.’
– ‘Where appropriate, introduce universal symbols on signage in public places’ has been amended to ‘Continue to introduce universal symbols on signage in public places, such as shopping precincts, roads and reserves.’
– ‘Consult with developers to promote and encourage the adoption of building regulations and standards relating to disability access’ has been replaced with ‘Identify opportunities to educate developers and builders about universally accessible design.’

Additional current year priorities
The following additional actions have been included to strengthen Council’s strategic approach to community transport, housing, access to Council facilities and community engagement and partnerships:

– ‘Continue to upgrade Council facilities for access through the capital works program.’
– ‘Review existing transport options with a view to strengthening an integrated and co-ordinated approach to community transport.’
– ‘Support Council and community initiatives that respond to the issue of social isolation for carers and people with disabilities.’
– ‘Advocate for more flexible respite options for carers of people with a disability’ has been expanded to ‘Advocate specifically for more flexible respite options, improved transport and affordable housing.’

Second year priorities
The following issues have been prioritised for consideration in the second year of the Policy’s implementation.

– Placement and number of disabled parking bays in shopping precincts and maternal child and health care car parks.
– Availability, accessibility and safety of accessible public toilets in the municipality.
– Community awareness of the location of accessible amenities and parking bays.
– Pedestrian access and safety for people with a disability in major shopping centres.

7. Consultation/Communication
The preparation of this policy involved extensive consultation with CDAC, Council staff and the community. Attachment 2 contains a list of external respondents and Attachment 3 itemises their feedback and policy outcomes.

8. Financial and Resource Implications
The one-year actions listed in the Policy can be funded through existing operational budgets. In the following years, some new actions will require additional capital works and priority works funding.
9. **Community Well-Being**
The Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan 2008-2012 will have a direct impact on the wellbeing of our community through a strategic approach to the planning, coordination and development of services, facilities and programs.

10. **Environmental/Social Impacts**
The Policy responds to identified needs of people with a disability for greater access to and stronger engagement in the social, economic and political life of the city.

**MANAGER:** HELEN MOLNAR – MANAGER COMMUNITY PLANNING
**REPORT OFFICER:** ROSANNE CREGAN-COORDINATOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT
Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and
Action Plan 2008 - 2012

June 2008
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DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION POLICY

2008 - 2012

1. Introduction

The City of Boroondara has developed a Council Plan which outlines the activities which Council will focus upon in the coming five years. The Council Plan 2007-2012 articulates a commitment to:

‘Identify the changing needs and aspirations of the community and promote the development of a healthy, cohesive, safe and inclusive community, whilst supporting and advocating for, those that are disadvantaged’.

To this end, a Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan has been developed which describe the strategic directions Council will pursue in response to the key issues impacting on the lives of people with disabilities within the city.

Council has previously developed two disability policies and action plans, specifically the Community Disability Access Policy in 1998 and the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan in 2003.


2. Legislative Requirements

Underpinning the development of this Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan are the requirements of the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (1992). This Act is about creating a fairer society with a set of objectives being to:

- Eliminate, as far as possible, discrimination against persons on the ground of disability.
- Ensure, as far as practicable, that persons with disabilities have the same rights to equality before the law as the rest of the community.
- Promote recognition and acceptance within the community of the principle that persons with disabilities have the same fundamental rights as the rest of the community.

Under the Act, Council has a considerable moral and legal responsibility to provide equity of access to all services, facilities and programs it delivers to the community, including those community members who have disabilities.
Furthermore, Council has a responsibility to further the objects of the Victorian Disability Services Act (2006) which seeks to:

- Advance the inclusion and participation in the community of persons with a disability.
- Promote a strategic whole of government approach in supporting the needs and aspirations of persons with a disability.
- Facilitate the planning, funding and provision of services, programs and initiatives for persons with a disability.

3. Achievements to Date

Since Council adopted the Community Disability Access Policy in 1998 followed by the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan in 2003, a number of achievements have been made in a range of areas including:

3.1 Service Planning and Development

- Establishment of the Metro Access Project with funding from the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Development and introduction of a Recreation Facilities Access Policy to support the participation of people on low incomes in Council’s Leisure Centres.
- An increase in the numbers of Disabled Person’s Parking Bays and the introduction of Category 2 ‘green’ parking bays in specific areas.
- Funding for and development of the ‘Good Access = Good Business’ initiative.
- An extensive and ongoing capital works program to upgrade access to Council’s facilities.

3.2 Information and Advocacy

- Provision of information about Council’s services, facilities and programs in accessible formats.
- Council’s website being World Wide Web compliant (W3C).
- The Community Disability Advisory Committee contributing to the development of streetscape designs and Structure Plans.

3.3 Organisational Responsiveness

- Disability awareness programs being delivered to staff and incorporated into the staff Induction Program.
- ‘Working at Boroondara’ (W@B) statements revised to incorporate “We Welcome Diversity”.

Boroondara Access and Inclusion Policy 2008 - 2012
3.4 Recruitment

- Council's Disability Employment Program recognised and rewarded the 2005 Prime Minister's Employer of the Year Award.
- The introduction of innovative employment recruitment strategies to increase the number of people with a disability employed by the City of Boroondara.
- Presentations to the Senior Management Group on the benefits of employing people of all abilities.

4. Process for Developing this Policy and Action Plan

The Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan 2008 – 2012 have been informed by:

- Reviewing literature from commonwealth, state and local government agencies, including the ALGA, VLGA and the MAV and the cities of Cardinia, Dandenong, Darebin, Monash and Port Phillip.
- Consultation with Council’s Community Disability Advisory Committee (CDAC) and Council staff.

5. Issues Arising

Consultation in 2006 and 2007 with a range of community and service provider representatives identified a number of opportunities for enhancing access to services, facilities and programs, including:

- Increased advocacy on issues impacting on the lives of people with disabilities.
- Enhanced communication with the provision of information in a range of formats.
- Increasing participation by people with disabilities in decision making and governance processes.
- Increasing access to the built environment by addressing road, parking and pedestrian safety issues.
- Actively promoting a culture of access and inclusion within all of Council's services, facilities and programs.
- Welcoming and maintaining a diverse workforce; providing additional employment opportunities and increasing the capacity of Council staff to respond to the diverse needs of the community.
The *Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Policy 2008–2012* builds on Council’s achievements to date and signals a commitment to continue to identify and respond to the key opportunities and challenges associated with strengthening our community, particularly, for people with disabilities.

6. Key Policy Statement

The City of Boroondara is committed to strengthening the wellbeing of our community with a strategic approach to the planning, coordination and development of services, facilities and programs in response to identified needs of people with a disability to ensure active engagement in the social, economic and political life of the city.

To this end, Council is committed to:

- All residents with a disability having the same fundamental rights as other members of the community.
- People with a disability having a right to access all services, facilities and programs provided by or administered by Council.
- Changes to the physical and social environment being central to enhancing access to and inclusion of people with a disability.
- Access and inclusion considerations being a whole of Council responsibility.

Council will enact this policy position through a focus on the following key strategic directions:

1. Information and Advocacy
2. Policy development
3. Funding
4. Access to the Built Environment
5. Community Engagement and Partnerships
6. Organisational Capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Issue / Strategic Objectives (4 Year Goals)</th>
<th>Key Focus Areas (4 Year Actions)</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Current Year Priorities (1 Year Actions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Information and Advocacy Acquire, develop and provide information to inform service planning, development, evaluation and funding</td>
<td>Identify and strategically respond to the breadth of key issues impacting on people with disabilities identified through networks, advisory committees and other forms of community consultation and research.</td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Advocate on behalf of the community to commonwealth, state or regional bodies in relation to key issues impacting on people with disabilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Advocate specifically for more flexible respite options, improved transport and affordable housing.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning Health &amp; Aged Leisure &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Consult at a municipal and/or neighbourhood level to identify key issues for people with disabilities and their carers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Acquire and make available current and accessible disability related information to the community and Council.</td>
<td>Community Planning Family Services Health &amp; Aged Communications</td>
<td>Review and strengthen information in relation to disability services, facilities and programs on the Boroondara Website and in Council publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leisure &amp; Culture Community Planning Communications</td>
<td>Improve access to Council sponsored / funded events and promote improvement initiatives.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Provide and promote key Council documents in alternative formats as required.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Review accessibility of Council’s website as part of the On-Line Strategy Project.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Communications Community Planning</td>
<td>Promote and celebrate International Day of Disability through Council resources, including the Boroondara Bulletin and Council website.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Promote access initiatives and positive images of people with disabilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Policy Development</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community Planning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Disabilities with profiles of individuals and events in the Boroondara Bulletin.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Review existing and develop new policies in response to key Commonwealth and state initiatives and community priorities.</td>
<td>Maintain awareness of and respond as appropriate to relevant Commonwealth and state legislation, policies and strategies.</td>
<td>Participate in relevant state wide and regional conferences, seminars, forums and working parties.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure currency of existing policies, plans, strategies and audits, and where appropriate, develop new policies to inform future service planning and provision.</td>
<td>Identify and respond to Commonwealth, state and local program and policy initiatives that are relevant to the City of Boroondara.</td>
<td>Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Disability Access and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Funding</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community Planning, Health &amp; Aged</strong></td>
<td>Identify and monitor funding opportunities to support disability service provision and promote such opportunities to the disability services networks.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increase funding for disability services, facilities and programs</td>
<td>Maintain awareness of funding policies, strategies and opportunities that support disability services, facilities, and programs.</td>
<td>Apply as appropriate and/or support Boroondara service providers in securing funding for disability services, facilities, and programs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identify and respond to external funding opportunities directly or by supporting other agencies.</td>
<td><strong>Community Planning, Health &amp; Aged</strong></td>
<td>Support the development of responsive and targeted disability support programs through Council’s annual grants program.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Access to the Built Environment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Strategic Planning</strong></td>
<td>Consult with disability service providers, advocacy groups and individuals with disabilities to inform the development of Structure Plans.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improve the safety and amenity of the environment and its accessibility.</td>
<td>Consider the accessibility requirements of people with disabilities and promote the necessity for universal accessibility.</td>
<td>Identify opportunities to educate developers and builders about universally accessible design.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Projects &amp; Strategy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Building Services</strong></td>
<td>Continue to adhere to the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act when building new facilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Projects &amp; Strategy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Building Works</strong></td>
<td>Continue to upgrade Council facilities for access through the capital works program.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Community Planning, Health &amp; Aged</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community Planning, Health &amp; Aged</strong></td>
<td>Review existing transport options with a view to strengthening an integrated and co-ordinated approach to community transport.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boroondara Access and Inclusion Policy 2008 - 2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Identify and respond to street, parking and pedestrian issues impacting on the accessibility and safety of people with disabilities.</th>
<th>Projects &amp; Strategy Engineering &amp; Traffic Parks &amp; Gardens</th>
<th>Continue to introduce universal symbols on signage in public places, such as shopping precincts, roads and reserves.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engineering &amp; Traffic</td>
<td>Achieve parking ratios recommended in Council’s Disability Parking Policy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engineering &amp; Traffic</td>
<td>Consider the introduction of more Category 2 Green Pz2 parking bays in shopping precincts and car parks.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engineering &amp; Traffic</td>
<td>Remove bull noses (raised rounded edges) from pram crossings to facilitate smooth transition from road to pavement.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning Economic Development</td>
<td>Increase traders’ awareness of the difficulties experienced by people with disabilities who are challenged by street furniture, sandwich boards, large crowds and school bags in Glenferrie, Barkers and Burke Roads.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Engagement and Partnerships</td>
<td>Strengthen our community through a strategic approach to the development and support of state wide, regional and local networks, community advisory committees and community groups.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Actively engage with disability services networks in Boroondara and National Disability Services Victoria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Review the Terms of Reference of the Community Disability Advisory Committee.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Strengthen the capacity of networks and advisory committees to ensure effective consumer, service user and community participation.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Strengthen partnerships across Council to maximise outcomes for the community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Support Council and community initiatives that respond to the issue of social isolation for carers and people with disabilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Demonstrate leadership in partnership development.</td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Promote and facilitate increased representation of people with a disability in Council’s community consultation processes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organisational Capacity</td>
<td>Learning &amp; Development</td>
<td>Incorporate disability awareness training in Council’s Induction programs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strengthen the capacity of the organisation to embrace and respond to the issues impacting on people with disabilities.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Create and support an organisational culture that actively supports people with disabilities.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning Learning &amp; Development</td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td>Identify opportunities across Council for staff to engage in disability awareness training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Planning</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Promote findings of the “Community Consultation and Hard To Reach Groups” project with Learning and Development to inform training programs on community consultation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attachment 2  Community Consultation Respondents/Participants

Feedback was received from the following organisations and individuals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent / Participant</th>
<th>Form of Feedback</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boroondara Community Disability Advisory Committee (CDAC).</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Representatives: Anne Gleeson, Cathy Catlow, Jenny Cheng, Jo Rodger, Joan Anson, Niquita Myers, Rosalie Turnbull</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boroondara Stroke Support Group</td>
<td>Group discussion with 30 members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camberwell Community Centre</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner East Community Health Services</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Community Education Centre Learning for the Less Mobile Activity Group</td>
<td>Group discussion with 15 members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Leisure &amp; Aquatic Leisure Centre (YMCA)</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Hurle, Boroondara resident</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. McCallister, Boroondara resident</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Community Education Centre</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Wines, Boroondara resident</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Gleeson, Boroondara resident</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Australia</td>
<td>Written submission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Attachment 3  Community Consultation Feedback and Outcomes

### 1. INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Include Leisure and Culture as a partner in implementation of Action 1.3</td>
<td>Leisure and Culture added as partner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording in Action 1.5.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Improve access to Council sponsored / funded events and promote improvement initiatives.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use alternative wording in Action 1.6 to broaden and strengthen action.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Provide and promote key Council documents in alternative formats as required.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording in Action 1.8 to include additional Council promotional resources.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Promote and celebrate International Day of Disability through Council resources, including the Boroondara Bulletin and Council website.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording in Action 1.9 to include additional Council promotional resources.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Promote access initiatives and positive images of people with disabilities with profiles of individuals and events in the Boroondara Bulletin.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More communication from Council needed promoting initiatives and strategies being undertaken to assist people with disabilities.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More face to face contact with Council officers required.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of easily accessible information needed from Council; not all residents with disabilities are aware of the services and events available.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion for Council to form partnership with National Stroke Foundation and provide community with advice on services available for stroke sufferers.</td>
<td>Further discussion with Boroondara Stroke Support Group required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council to disseminate information to residents through existing activity / community groups and use these groups to consult on relevant issues.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not all carers aware of respite options available in Boroondara.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council to ensure that all residents receive Boroondara Bulletin and are aware of alternative formats available.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perhaps when residents sign up for Council services (e.g. HACC), they can receive information about other Council services and activities, including who to contact within each department, alternative forms of transport and other general information.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan. Clients already receive this information from Health and Aged Services.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1
Many isolated and disabled residents have limited transport options when traveling to medical appointments and activities. Public transport difficult to access and residents often refused taxi service for short distances.  

Wording amended in Action 1.2 to include advocacy for improved transport.  
New action added in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan: ‘Review existing transport options with a view to strengthening an integrated and co-ordinated approach to community transport.’

The Council publication ‘How to make your programs and events accessible to Boroondara’s diverse community’ has been useful. Service providers would welcome updates of this publication, opportunities to network with other disability organisations, and information about Council’s access improvement initiatives. 

Referred to appropriate department.  
Addressed in Strategic Objectives 1 and 5 of Action Plan.

Other Council produced publications could include ‘Contacting your local Council’ or ‘How your Council can help you.’


Boroondara website is difficult to navigate for Council staff and the community. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.

More information required from Council on location of accessible toilets. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.  
Availability, accessibility and safety of accessible public toilets considered as 2nd year priority.

Invitations to Council funded celebrations should be sent to all frail and elderly residents, not just advertised in Boroondara Bulletin. 

Referred to appropriate department.

No respite facility or accommodation for people with disabilities in Boroondara. Siblings of children with disabilities are often left out when respite is organised. Can Council advocate for a supported accommodation facility that is family inclusive? 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.

Difficult for carers to trust disability services system due to lack of resources, budgetary limitations, training of staff. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.

People with higher support needs often don’t get the support they require due to limited respite hours available, and not enough options of long/short term accommodation. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.

More flexibility and funding required for disability service provision at local, state and federal levels. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.

Council needs to provide more vocal advocacy for more affordable housing and interlinking transport. 

Wording amended in Action 1.2 to include advocacy for improved transport and affordable housing.

People with disabilities are often housebound and isolated. Perhaps Council can advocate for these people by raising awareness and encouraging them to be more visible and active in the community. 

Addressed in Strategic Objective 1 of Action Plan.
## 2. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logical decision to isolate disability and Multicultural policies as 2 separate documents.</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure Action Plan is monitored and evaluated regularly during its implementation.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 2 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Access Audit Project in 2001 – 2002 completed by Access Audits Australia. The audit assessed playgrounds, streetscapes, public toilets and general building. Suggestion to include this in the Action Plan so that information is drawn on and built upon across Council.</td>
<td>Noted. Key Focus Area 2 in Strategic Objective 2 amended to include strategies and audits in the development of new policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well written with sound ideas, but concern that it may not translate into practical action.</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative similar to Federal Government’s 20/20 suggested to determine what individuals’ ideas are for Boroondara in the future.</td>
<td>Addressed through ‘Our Boroondara – Our City Our Future.’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 3. FUNDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Include Leisure and Culture as partner in Action 3.2.</td>
<td>Noted. Although other departments will be involved in its implementation, it is appropriate for this action to be driven by the departments listed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need to improve physical access to Council facilities to enhance the safety of disability programs (e.g. YMCA).</td>
<td>New action added in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan: ‘Continue to upgrade Council facilities for access through the capital works program.’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 4. ACCESS TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amend wording in Action 4.2, with particular focus on strengthening the words ‘encourage’ and ‘promote.’</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Identify opportunities to educate developers and builders about universally accessible design.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording of Action 4.3 to acknowledge Council’s previous and current commitment to adhering to requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Continue to adhere to the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act when building new facilities.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording of Action 4.4 to acknowledge Council’s previous and current commitment to providing more accessible signage.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Continue to introduce universal symbols on signage in public places, such as shopping precincts, roads and reserves.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarify Action 4.9.</td>
<td>Reworked to ‘Remove bull noses from pram crossings.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need more disabled parking bays across municipality, particularly around childcare centres, kindergartens and shopping centres. Particular troublesome locations are Rivoli Cinema, Camberwell Community Centre and Kew Safeway.</td>
<td>Referred specific issues to appropriate department. Placememt and number of accessible parking bays considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current permit system is being abused – needs greater enforcement.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking getting increasingly worse in Boroondara, particularly due to increasing number of students. Perhaps all-day parking can be decreased as this only exacerbates the problem.</td>
<td>Placememt and number of accessible parking bays considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More disabled toilets needed in Boroondara</td>
<td>Availability, accessibility and safety of accessible public toilets considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Often designated disabled amenities are locked or inaccessible due to their design.</td>
<td>Availability, accessibility and safety of accessible public toilets considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees at local shopping centres need educating about the location of accessible amenities.</td>
<td>Community awareness of the location of accessible amenities considered as 2nd year action, and included in Good Access=Good Business project (April – June 2008).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harsher penalties suggested for misuse of disabled toilets.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough Council transport available to people with disabilities.</td>
<td>New Action added in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan: ‘Review existing transport options with a view to strengthening an integrated and co-ordinated approach to community transport.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community members are unsure as to how Council’s community transport buses are being prioritised.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not all community transport buses have hoists.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion to use Council’s fleet cars in the Volunteer Community Transport program on a rotating basis.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walkways and footpath repairs required in major shopping centres.</td>
<td>Pedestrian access and safety considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tactile surface indicators are a tripping hazard for less mobile residents with walking frames and shopping jeeps.</td>
<td>Pedestrian access and safety considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uneven road surfaces, particularly near bus-stops. Buses must park in less convenient or dangerous places for passengers with disabilities.</td>
<td>Pedestrian access and safety considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing and concerted effort needed by Council to repair footpaths and roads.</td>
<td>Pedestrian access and safety considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloping curbs needed near disability parking bays. Examples are Hawthorn YMCA and Hawthorn Library. The disabled parking bay at Hawthorn Library is inaccessible and dangerous for wheelchair users due to the bordering garden bed and design of curb.</td>
<td>Specific examples forwarded to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs to be a more fruitful partnership between Council and local traders to advocate for access issues for people with disabilities.</td>
<td>Pedestrian access and safety considered as 2nd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educate traders and raise awareness of pavement dining/seating areas, street furniture.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tram stops are difficult to access on Barkers and Glenferrie Roads due to school bags, street furniture and student traffic.</td>
<td>Addressed in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harsher penalties required for street furniture misuse.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council needs to move more quickly on improving access to their own built environment (e.g. lift in Hawthorn Town Hall).</td>
<td>New Action added in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan: 'Continue to upgrade Council facilities for access through the capital works program.' Lift in Hawthorn Town Hall to be upgraded in 2008.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries to have free access to services for vision impaired residents, and computers set with large fonts and icons, text-read back software and large key keyboards. Library computers to be equipped with track-ball mice for residents with limited hand mobility.</td>
<td>Forward feedback to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that venues for all Council organised outings are accessible to all. Limitations to outings are placed on numbers of participants with walking frames; not all community buses allow for wheelchairs.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that Community Centres and Neighbourhood houses offer fully accessible programs.</td>
<td>For consideration as 3rd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical access issues in Council’s community centres and neighbourhood houses.</td>
<td>New Action added in Strategic Objective 4 of Action Plan: 'Continue to upgrade Council facilities for access through the capital works program.'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add action to address social inclusion.</td>
<td>New action added in Strategic Objective 5 of Action Plan: ‘Support Council and community initiatives that respond to the issue of social isolation for carers and people with disabilities.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate the process of allocation of sporting grounds and facilities according to evidence of commitment to access and equity.</td>
<td>For consideration as 2nd or 3rd year priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion to review the Recreation Facilities Access Policy and include an action addressing access for families to sporting facilities (e.g. ‘free entrance for children of health card holders to recreation facilities.’)</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs to be a greater link between Boroondara and Inner East Community Health Services. This relationship should be recognised as a separate action plan: ‘Liaison with local community health services to promote programs and services suitable for people with disabilities’ or ‘Consultation with local community health services to identify and develop health programs suitable for people with disabilities.’</td>
<td>Noted. Although no action added, issue is addressed in Strategic Objective 5 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding and partnership areas will have greatest impact on YMCA Hawthorn.</td>
<td>Noted and referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boroondara Access All Abilities (AAA) Officer needed. Position currently being shared between Manningham and Boroondara and this is not working.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough cross-over between recreational services and disability services. E.g. Leisure and Disability Network has representation from different municipalities, YMCA, EARLS, AAA Officers, but no representative from Boroondara currently.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department and addressed in Strategic Objective 5.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording in Action 6.5.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Work with relevant manager to tailor work environments in accordance with specific requirements / needs of employees with disabilities.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen wording in Action 6.6 to reflect Council’s previous and current commitment to employing people with disabilities.</td>
<td>Wording amended to ‘Continue to work with external organisations to support people with disabilities gaining employment at Council.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More training required for Council customer service staff; they need to be aware of all media publications and correspondence, and also the roles and responsibilities of other staff and departments.</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Feedback</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure to what degree each department is responsible for implementation of their</td>
<td>All actions have been signed off by responsible departments’ directors and embedded in business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>actions in Action Plan.</td>
<td>plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council needs to address the need for cross-departmental communication across the</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate departments and addressed in Strategic Objective 5 of Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>organisation. Particular gap or lack of communication between Health and Aged</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services and Community Planning.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation needed by Council of development of family services and preschools</td>
<td>Referred to appropriate department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with regards to people with disabilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENERAL FEEDBACK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glossary of Terms and Definitions suggested explaining terms such as bull nose,</td>
<td>Additional explanatory material provided in body of document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSC, W@B and other acronyms mentioned throughout policy and action plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action plan difficult to read - department names need to be written in full.</td>
<td>Noted and amended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Strategic Objectives listed in Action Plan appear open ended/vague and</td>
<td>Wording amended where appropriate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>difficult to measure. “Consider, review, promote” are used for a number of the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>actions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy document needs to be separate from Action Plan. Action Plan needs to have</td>
<td>The Policy and Action Plan are separate documents that are structured around 4-year Strategic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appropriate timeframes in which the objectives are to be achieved.</td>
<td>Objectives, 4-year Key Focus Areas and Current Year Priorities. The timeline for current year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>priorities in Action Plan is 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perhaps appendices could be included at the end of the Action Plan to separate</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>each Strategic Objective and include a list of prioritised tasks, departments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>responsible and timeframe for achieving the objectives. Each department could work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from a separate action plan that prioritises all objectives chronologically.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The suggestions and issues raised during community consultation could be made</td>
<td>Noted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>available to the community, with the actions Council is undertaking to improve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>access alongside them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 A SOCIAL PROFILE OF BOROONDARA

REPORT PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the *A Social Profile of Boroondara* publication and the findings of the final three chapters of the publication.

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to note the completed *A Social Profile of Boroondara* publication.
1. Title
A Social Profile of Boroondara.

2. Purpose
The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the *A Social Profile of Boroondara* publication and the findings of the final three chapters of the publication. The entire publication is contained in Attachment 1 (circulated under separate cover).

3. Policy Implications
The *Social Profile of Boroondara* publication is one of the research projects of Council’s Community Research Program. The Community Research Program informs the development and implementation of a range of Council policies and strategic plans.

4. Relevance to Council Plan
Strategy 4.1 of the Council Plan 2007-2012 states that Council will: “Identify the changing needs and aspirations of the community and promote the development of a healthy, cohesive, safe and inclusive community whilst supporting and advocating for those that are disadvantaged.”

5. Background
The *Social Profile of Boroondara* is intended to be a companion document to Council’s 2006 Census Community Profiles, providing a more in-depth analysis of the available socio-economic and health data relating to the Boroondara community. The publication presents relevant demographic, health and welfare data organised into chapters reflecting the eight areas of social concern, as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) when measuring the wellbeing of a community. The first five chapters were presented to Council during 2006 and 2007. The final three chapters have been prepared and all chapters have been updated with relevant 2006 Census and other data, following the staged release of 2006 Census data after July 2007.

6. Issues/Options
The issues noted here focus upon the content of the final three chapters, which are Family and Community, Education and Training and Work and Economic Resources. Family and household structures are changing due to ageing of the ‘baby boomer’ generation (those born in the years 1945–1960), delayed marriage, increasing numbers of single persons and those separated or divorced. The number of people with a severe or profound disability is expected to increase with the ageing population and declining mortality rates. The percentage of overseas-born persons in Boroondara has also slightly increased in the last ten years, with the most growth coming from persons born in China, India and Vietnam.

The Education and Training chapter reports on the concentration of educational facilities in Boroondara that are utilised by residents and the wider community. Many of the students attending secondary schools in Boroondara received exceptional VCE results. Information on student destinations after completing Year 12 showed that the majority of Boroondara students chose to go to university. Boroondara had a low percentage of persons undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships. The most popular apprenticeship undertaken by residents was construction, and the most popular traineeship undertaken by residents was retail operations. Boroondara residents were more likely to have a bachelor degree than any other non-school qualification. The most common field of study by Boroondara residents was management and commerce.
In the Work and Economic Resources chapter it is noted that hours spent at work and the casualisation of the workforce are issues impacting upon the community. An associated issue is the difficulty balancing work-life commitments. Furthermore, careers and work commitments were noted as a contributing factor for residents not volunteering. With the close proximity to the City, Boroondara residents are more likely to work close to home. For those experiencing poverty (i.e. social exclusion) in an affluent municipality such as Boroondara, it can be problematic and become hidden. Attachment 1 (circulated under separate cover) presents the entire publication.

7. Consultation/Communication
Initial consultations regarding potential content of the Social Profile publication were held with Team Leaders and Council officers across the Community Development Directorate. For some topics, significant liaison and consultation has occurred with Council officers when analysing Council data. The Communications Department has provided advice on the production and launch of the publication.

8. Financial and Resource Implications
The costs of professional editing, layout and printing of the publication will be met within the Community Planning budget for 2007-08 and 2008-09. Ongoing costs for data purchases will also to be met within the Community Planning operational budget.

9. Community Well-Being
The A Social Profile of Boroondara publication reflects the eight areas of social concern, as defined by the ABS when measuring the well-being of a community. The publication provides a comprehensive overview of community wellbeing in Boroondara and provides an evidence-based approach for Council to consider in responding to issues of community wellbeing. The community indicators show that Boroondara residents are well connected in their community and rate their personal wellbeing as high.

10. Environmental/Social Impacts
The publication contains data on a range of socio-economic trends which impact upon the Boroondara community such as population changes, family and household structures, personal health and wellbeing, lifelong learning, paid and unpaid work and participation in leisure activities.

11. Evaluation and Review
A number of relevant Council plans and strategies currently being completed by the Community Development Directorate will provide valuable information for the ongoing review of the information in the publication.

12. Conclusion
The A Social Profile of Boroondara publication will be printed and launched soon and is expected to become a key resource for Council Managers, staff and the Boroondara community.

MANAGER: HELEN MOLNAR – MANAGER COMMUNITY PLANNING

REPORT OFFICER: JENNY GROGAN - SOCIAL & HEALTH RESEARCH ANALYST
7 LOGGING IN MELBOURNE'S WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENTS

REPORT PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to brief Council on the implications of logging in Melbourne’s water supply catchments.

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Gavin Jennings MLC, advising of Council’s opposition to continued logging in native forests within Melbourne’s water supply catchments.
1. **Title**
   Logging in Melbourne’s water supply catchments.

2. **Purpose**
   The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the issues surrounding logging in Melbourne’s water catchments and to seek Council’s endorsement to prepare a public statement, and a letter to the Hon. Gavin Jennings, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, urging the State Government to halt further logging.

3. **Policy Implications**
   This report supports Council’s Biodiversity Strategy, Biodiversity Corridors Plan and its Water Strategy.

4. **Relevance to Council Plan**
   The proposal supports the supporting principles in the Council Plan 2007-2012 entitled ‘Protecting the Environment’ and ‘Responsibly Managing Resources’.

5. **Background**
   Melbourne’s water supply comes from uninhabited Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) forests in the Yarra Ranges. Approximately 157,000 hectares of forest has been protected for harvesting water and these reserves are managed by Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment. Around 12% of the total catchment is available for logging and 340 hectares can be harvested each year. Currently clear felling occurs in five of the water catchments: Thomson Dam, Starvation Creek, McMahons Creek, Armstrong Catchment and Cement Creek. These catchments supply approximately 40% of Melbourne’s water supply.

   Council has been requested to support a public statement opposing logging of Melbourne’s water supply catchments.

   Other local governments who have publicly stated their opposition to logging in water catchments include: Knox, Shire of Yarra Ranges, Whitehorse, Bayside, Port Phillip, Yarra, and Moreland Councils. Council has also received a request from a local resident suggesting a resolution opposing logging. (Attachment 1)

6. **Issues/Options**
   (References are shown in brackets and are listed in Attachment 2)
   There is extensive research showing that logging impacts on water yield. Untouched mature forests produce more stream flow than forests which have been logged and are rapidly regenerating (1). There is usually an initial increase in water yield directly after logging, then water yield declines as young saplings become established (2). According to the Australian Institute of Urban Studies, water yield from logged catchment areas drops 50 percent by the time regrowth trees are 20 – 30 years old. After that, water yield gradually increases to pre-disturbance levels in about 150 years (3). Forests within Melbourne’s water supply catchment are currently logged on an 80 year rotation which means the forests do not mature sufficiently to return to pre-logged water yields (4).

   Logging adversely impacts on water quality, by increasing sediment run-off and turbidity as a result of soil erosion. Roading in catchment areas can add 90 tonnes of sediment per hectare per annum into catchment rivers (5).
Our native forests are important carbon sinks. Research studies by Australian National University found that one year’s logging of 10,000 Ha of Victorian forest resulted in the release of 10 million tonnes of greenhouse gases. This is equivalent to placing 2.3 million extra cars on Victorian roads for one year.

Mature old growth forests provide habitat and refuge for specialised fauna, many of which are listed at the state and federal levels as rare, threatened and endangered species. Logging in catchments creates bare patches and threatens the survival of forest dependent fauna requiring large home ranges. Regrowth forests are not as biologically diverse.

7. Consultation/Communication
This report was prepared using information available on the internet and supplied by the Shire of Yarra Ranges and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). The DSE is currently undertaking a study on the impact of harvesting timber in state forests that supply water to Melbourne (6).

8. Financial and Resource Implications
Making a public statement against logging will not have direct financial or resource implications for the City of Boroondara. A study of the economics of logging in the Thomson catchment (7), found that ceasing logging from the catchment would leave the Victorian taxpayers $147 million better off, as the value of water produced by the catchment far outweighed that of logging.

9. Community Well-Being
Ceasing logging in Melbourne’s water supply catchments will improve water yields to catchments, bringing benefits to Melbourne, including Boroondara residents. Logging in catchments currently supports around 200 rural jobs, and these will be adversely affected if logging ceases.

10. Environmental/Social Impacts
The cessation of logging will protect habitat for rare and threatened fauna and improve the capacity of forests to maintain ecosystem services such as production of oxygen and acting as a carbon sink.

11. Evaluation and Review
Council’s position should be reviewed when the DSE report is released.

12. Conclusion
The onset of climate change and impact of long term drought means we must carefully manage our water resources, especially as Melbourne’s growing population creates greater demands on water supplies. The adverse impacts of logging in water catchments on biodiversity, water yield and quality and carbon sequestration are of concern. It is recommended that Council advise to the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change of Council’s opposition to further logging in the water supply catchment.

MANAGER: ANNE TOURNEY, TEAM LEADER ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

REPORT OFFICER: ANDREA LOMDAHL, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
Attachment A

Email received from Mr Peter Campbell on the 14th May, 2008

For consideration by Council - several Melbourne Councils have now endorsed proposals to stop logging in Melbourne's water catchments.

I propose that Council supports a public statement opposing logging of Melbourne's water catchments, and further that Council also makes representation to the Premier, the Minister of Environment and Minister of Water. I propose that the statement (in italics below) is:

The City of Boroondara does not support logging in Melbourne's water catchments.

Council recognises that:

1. Logging has a dramatic and detrimental effect on water quality and yield in catchments.
2. Young re-growth trees need more water to grow thus releasing less water into catchments.
3. Logging reduces stream flow and yields to water catchments.
4. It takes 150 years for water yields to return to their pre logged status.
5. It is poor water policy to continue to log our water catchments.
6. Logging of water catchments adversely affects water quality through increasing sediment as does road construction through logging coupes.

We urge the government to consider a policy of no logging in water catchments.
Attachment B

Reports, websites and papers referred to in report.

3. Australian Institute of Studies
4. Shire of Yarra Ranges
02257C4338C9F6211421BBB2CA256F00136E12#3