



# NOTICE

of

## STRATEGY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

*Pursuant to the provisions of Section 84(1) of the  
Local Government Act 1999*

TO BE HELD IN

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
PLAYFORD CIVIC CENTRE  
10 PLAYFORD BOULEVARD, ELIZABETH**

MEMBERS MAY PARTICIPATE BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

ON

**TUESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7:00PM**

THIS MEETING WILL ALSO BE VIEWABLE AT  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/CityOfPlayford>

**SAM GREEN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Issue Date: Thursday, 3 February 2022

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### MEMBERSHIP

**Presiding Member – Deputy Mayor Peter Rentoulis**

Cr Akram Arifi	Cr Marilyn Baker	Cr Stephen Coppins
Cr Andrew Craig	Mayor Glenn Docherty	Cr Veronica Gossink
Cr Shirley Halls	Cr David Kerrison	Cr Clint Marsh
Cr Misty Norris	Cr Jane Onuzans	Cr Dennis Ryan
Cr Gay Smallwood-Smith	Cr Katrina Stroet	Cr Cathy-Jo Tame



**City of Playford**  
**Strategy and Services Committee Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7:00PM**

**1 ATTENDANCE RECORD**

- 1.1 Present
- 1.2 Apologies
- 1.3 Not Present

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Minutes of the Strategy and Services Committee Meeting held 7 December 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4 DEPUTATION / REPRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**5 STAFF REPORTS**

**Matters to be considered by the Committee and referred to Council**

*Matters which cannot be delegated to a Committee or Staff.*

- 5.1 Tree Canopy Strategy (Attachment) .....6
- 5.2 Compostable Bags Provision.....34

**Matters to be considered by the Committee Only**

*Matters delegated to the Committee.*

- 5.3 Appointment of Presiding Member (Attachments).....39

*Matters for Information.*

- 5.4 Strategic Plan Alignment Report February 2022 (Attachment).....52
- 5.5 Reference Groups Update.....61

**6 INFORMAL DISCUSSION**

Nil

**7      INFORMAL ACTIONS**

**8      CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

**9      CLOSURE**

# STAFF REPORTS

## MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE AND REFERRED TO COUNCIL

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***Matters which cannot be  
delegated to a Committee or  
Staff.***

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## 5.1 TREE CANOPY STRATEGY

**Responsible Executive Manager :** Tina Hudson

**Report Author :** Kaarina Sarac

**Delegated Authority :** Matters which cannot be delegated to a Committee or Staff.

**Attachments :** 1 [↓](#). Draft Urban Tree Strategy: Greening Playford

### PURPOSE

In line with Motions of Council and following extensive internal consultation, this report provides a tree canopy strategy to Council for consideration and endorsement.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Council endorses the Urban Tree Strategy: Greening Playford (Attachment 1), acknowledging delivery of the strategies will be subject to funding through the Annual Business Plan process.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development of this inaugural Urban Tree Strategy: Greening Playford (“the Strategy” provided in Attachment 1) is driven by the need to increase tree canopy and lift the appearance of streetscapes across the City of Playford. In 2020/2021, Council increased funding for street tree replacements to ensure no net loss of trees moving forward. This Strategy builds on this vision, identifies targets and provides specific strategies for managing tree assets across the urban environment.

Increasing tree canopy can occur not only through new trees being planted, but also by improving existing tree maintenance and mitigating risk of tree loss. Therefore, three goals have been identified: tree species diversity, tree health and an increase in tree planting.

### 1. BACKGROUND

On 22 September 2020, Council passed the following motion:

*“A tree canopy strategy to increase tree canopy within the City, with suitable and achievable targets, be provided to Council within 18 months. The development of this strategy will include engagement with Elected Members.”*

On 9 March 2021 an Elected Member informal gathering was held to discuss:

- Current tree canopy cover and targets across Playford and other metropolitan Councils
- Purpose of developing a strategy
- Potential planting locations, benefits and constraints
- Preliminary cost estimates for planting trees, depending on location

On 21 September 2021 a further informal gathering was held to present an initial draft strategy and gain feedback on the direction of the strategy including:

- Goals addressing tree diversity, health and planting
- Proposing a target of a 20% increase on current tree canopy cover (from 15% to 18%)
- Considering planting programs across four locations – streets, local amenity reserves, linear corridors and private properties
- Providing a plan for tree planting numbers (annually) and associated contribution to canopy cover (in hectares) along with establishment costs, by location

Elected Members provided comment to staff at both informal gatherings, which guided the scope and content development.

## 2. RELEVANCE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Council's Strategic Plan 2020-2024 identifies the 'Lifting City Appearance' as one of the five community themes, and incorporates services that maintain parks, open spaces and verges, undertake rubbish removal and support the natural environment.

The Strategy provides a direction to increase tree canopy in a manner that adds to the amenity and to the Community experience of the City. It outlines the current state of play, and identifies new strategies for increasing tree canopy into the future. Planting new trees, and improving maintenance on existing trees will make important contributions to lifting City appearance.

## 3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

While there is no requirement for public consultation in order to develop a canopy strategy, the development of the Strategy aligns to community expectations as stated in Community consultation on broad Council directions. These have indicated strong support for increasing tree canopy cover in appropriate locations.

## 4. DISCUSSION

**4.1** The Strategy provides clear direction and guidance on lifting canopy cover across the urban areas of the City of Playford over a 25 year timeframe. It aligns to the current State Government target for a 20% increase on tree canopy cover by 2045 (based on 2016 figures) for all metro councils, and provides a clear path to achieving this.

### 4.2 Path to Canopy Increase

The Strategy recommends a tree canopy increase from 15% to 18% within the City's urban & townships areas. This equates to an estimated 39,000 additional trees to be planted across the City.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Over 25yrs</i>
Street trees	10,000
Local amenity trees	20,000
Linear corridor trees	4,000
Private property	5,000
Total	39,000

While the focus of the Strategy is the current urban footprint of the City, the principles will align to new developments.

### 4.3 Delivery of the Strategy

Council currently funds the delivery of 1000 new street trees each year, which provides no nett loss to street tree numbers. In order to achieve the intent of the Strategy, additional tree planting services within Council owned and maintained corridors and local amenity parks will be required. This strategy provides guidance to increase the tree canopy across the urban areas of the City but is silent on funding as these are managed on an annual basis according to budgetary opportunities and constraints.

## 5 OPTIONS

### Recommendation

Council endorses the Urban Tree Strategy: Greening Playford (Attachment 1), acknowledging delivery of the strategies will be subject to funding through the Annual Business Plan process.

### Option 2

Council does not endorse the Urban Tree Strategy, and further engagement with Elected Members is undertaken on the areas of:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## 6 ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

### 6.1 Recommendation Analysis

#### 6.1.1 Analysis & Implications of the Recommendation

If endorsed, the Strategy provides direction and guidance to the administration on the level of tree canopy increase that is desirable and the support for the identified strategies.

As a public document, the Strategy is also a commitment to the community on the Council's future direction in this area of work. If funded through future budget planning processes, the strategies will ensure Council meets the *30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide* targets for metropolitan Councils. These aspects make an important contribution to Council's environmental reputation both within the local community and broader local government sector.

### **Risk Appetite**

#### Service Delivery

*Council has a moderate appetite for supporting and enhancing existing services and programs to improve the social, recreation and health and wellbeing outcomes for residents; and driving social and economic transformation through a number of major projects and Council initiatives, which will create jobs and act as a catalyst for private investment into Northern Adelaide to support the growing population.*

This decision will improve community social health and wellbeing by making a significant contribution to lifting city streetscape and local park amenity.

The Strategy recommends doubling the number of trees being planted each year, compared to current planting. This addresses historic gaps in street trees within our existing urban footprint, and provides a cooler, greener canopied environment on dryland reserves that are not otherwise developed.

#### 6.1.2 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial or resource implications from endorsing the Strategy. Funding decisions on implementation will be considered by Council through the Annual Business Planning process.

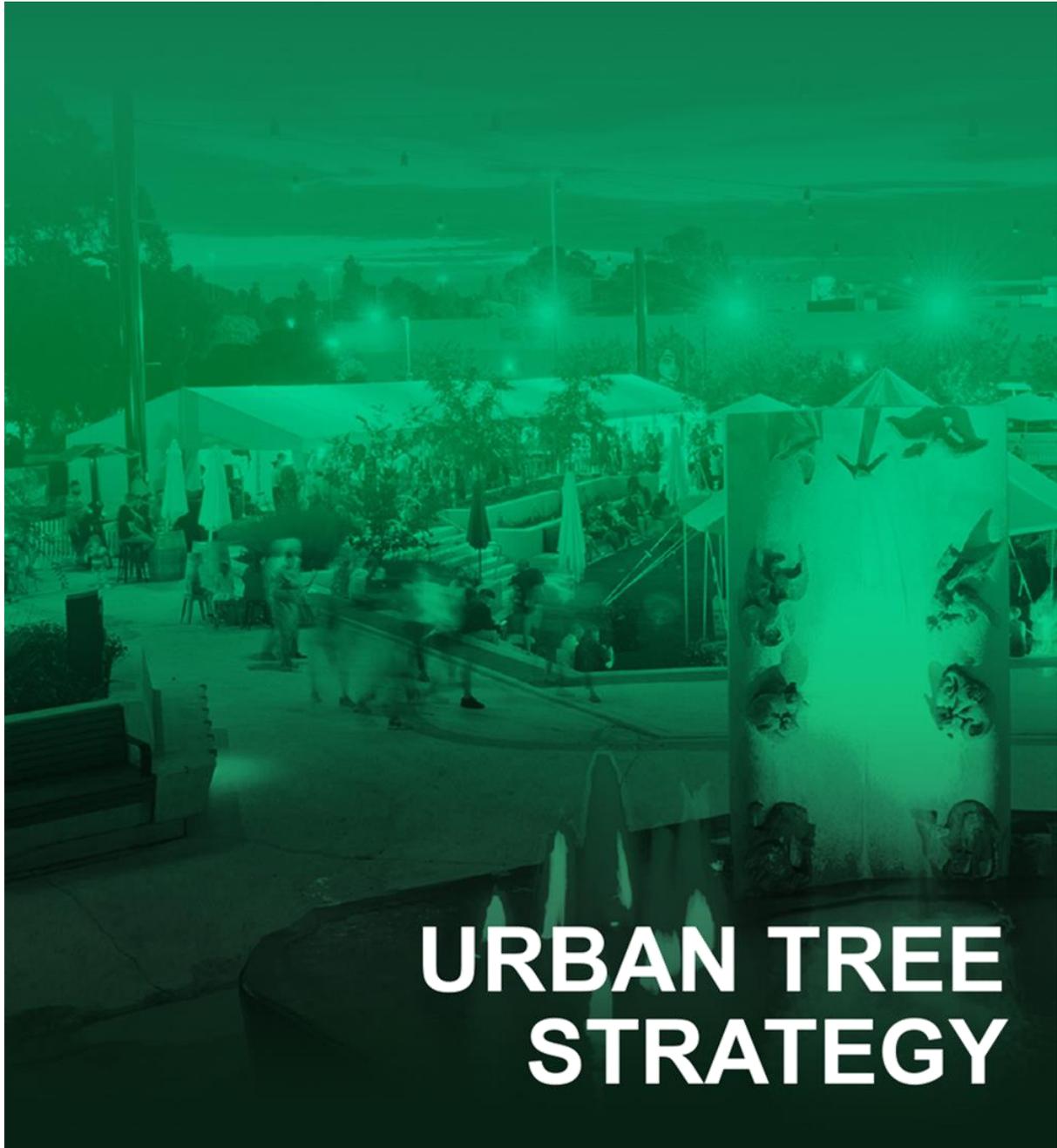
### **6.2 Option 2 Analysis**

#### 6.2.1 Analysis & Implications of Option 2

This option provides guidance on areas requiring further consultation with Elected Members to determine areas for review and amendment. This will delay finalisation of the Strategy.

#### 6.2.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from this decision, as funding is to be determined through Annual Business Planning processes.



# URBAN TREE STRATEGY

**Greening Playford**  
February 2022



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## ABOUT THE CITY

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The City of Playford is home to 100,000 residents and has an urban footprint extending approximately 6650 hectares (June, 2021).

The City was established as a garden city for the northern suburbs with wide linear reserves and creeklines, which remain as open spaces for residents to enjoy and recreate.

Our City's urban area extends from the hills face zone west to the Northern Expressway, and includes the townships of Virginia, Angle Vale and One Tree Hill.

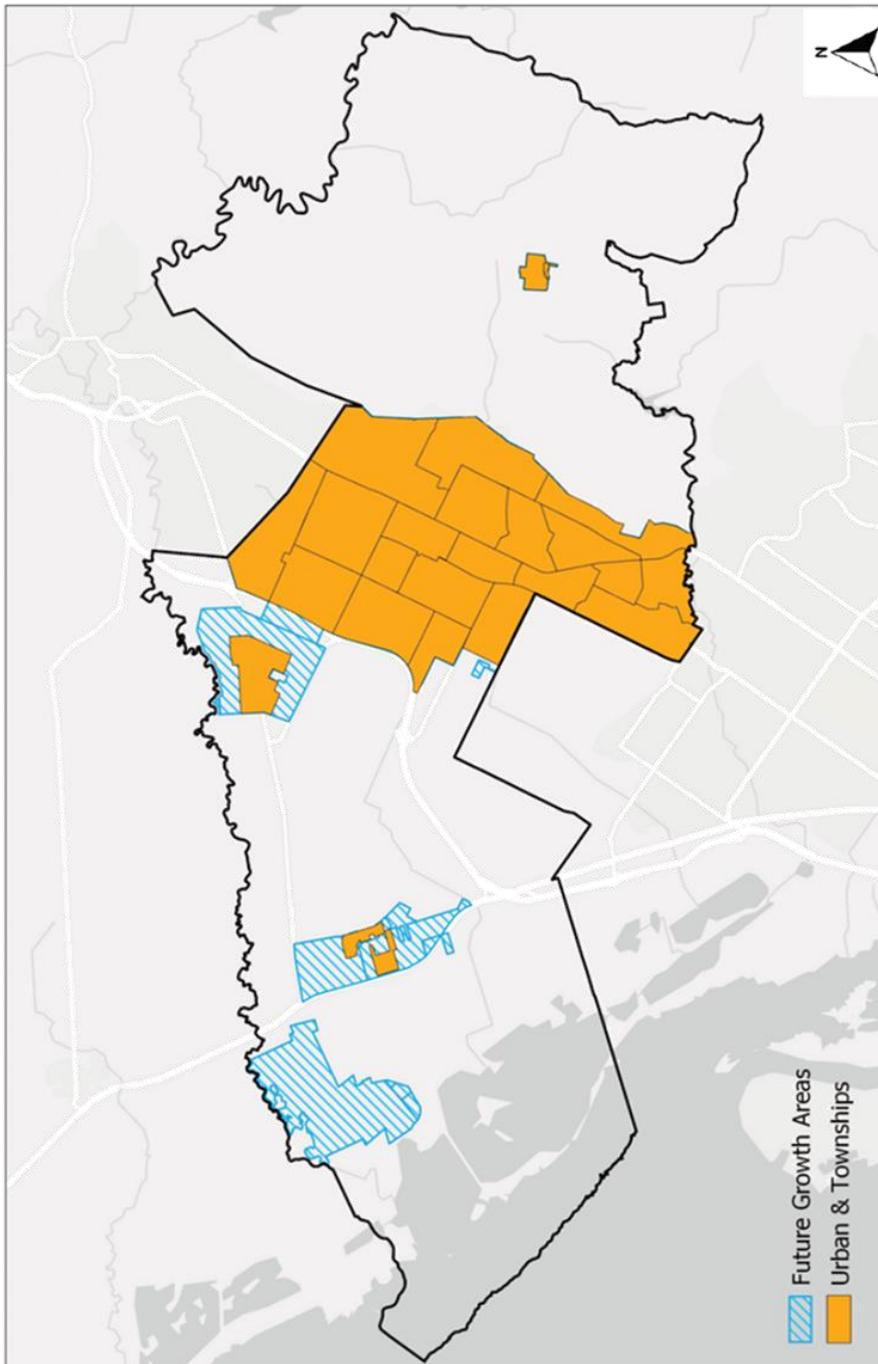
In the older established areas, large suburban blocks remain but recently developed areas have a smaller block size and higher density. The City is forecast to grow 30% over the next 15 years.

In planning the future state of our City, we build on the original foundations and aspire to a greener, cooler environment that supports healthy outdoor activity and liveability for residents.

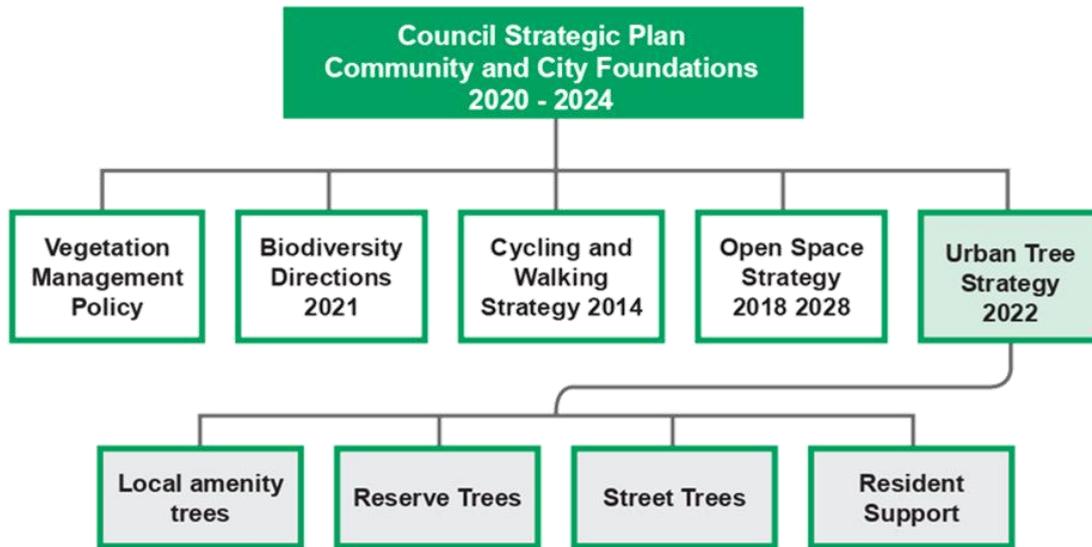


# URBAN FOOTPRINT

This strategy is primarily focused on increasing tree canopy within the City's current urban footprint. Tree planting in growth areas is undertaken through development planning processes.



# OUR PLAN



This Strategy is underpinned by the *Council Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024*, and supports Theme 2: Lifting City Appearance. The Strategy works alongside related strategic planning documents addressing asset renewal, cycling and walking, biodiversity and open space.

This is the City of Playford's first Urban Tree Strategy, and is driven by the need to increase our tree canopy and lift the appearance of streetscapes.

In 2020/2021, Council increased funding for street tree replacements, to ensure no net loss of trees moving forward. This Strategy builds on this vision, to identify targets and specific, local strategies for managing tree assets across the urban environment.

Work in recent years across the Adelaide metropolitan area has enabled Council to better understand the data, challenges and benefits of urban greening for our local environment. Our urban tree canopy cover is 15%, which includes both public and private lands. The average for Adelaide metropolitan councils is 25% canopy cover<sup>1</sup>.



<sup>1</sup>.Aerometrex (2019) *Tree canopy coverage across Metropolitan Adelaide derived from discrete, multi-return LIDAR data.*

## OUR GOALS

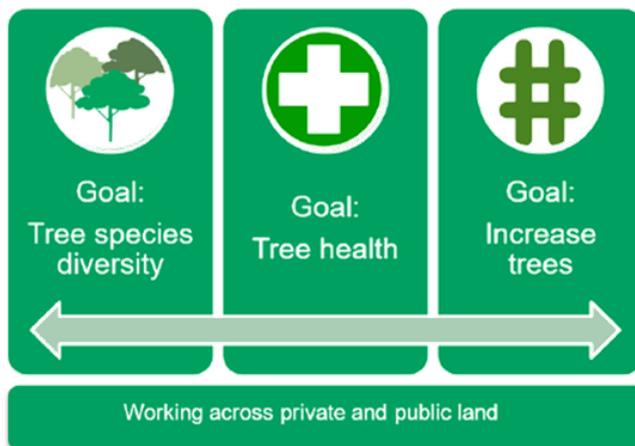
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Council recognises that our trees are important natural assets that have intrinsic and financial value to our community.

It is critical to both current and future generations that these assets are well managed across their lifetime. Therefore, this strategy considers not only new tree planting, but also our urban tree species diversity and tree health.

Our goals are to:

1. Plan for tree species diversity
2. Support tree health
3. Increase tree planting



## BENEFITS

### Cooling and Shading

Trees provide cooling through both transpiration and shade. As trees exhale water vapour, they have a cooling effect on the surrounding air temperature. In addition, shade provides direct relief from the sunlight on sunny days.

A 2014 Melbourne study comparing the air temperature of two residential streets on very hot days, found the tree lined street was 0.2 - 0.9C cooler compared with the non-tree lined street.

### Streetscape Appearance

Leafy green streets and suburbs are preferred by residents when choosing where to live and work. Council's community engagement report, *'Foundations for our Future. What We Heard'* was the result of consultation undertaken to develop our strategic plan. This report identified that maintenance and beautification of the City is a high priority for residents<sup>2</sup>. This feedback included comments on tree maintenance and greening of suburbs.

A study on the effect of street trees on property value in Perth found that a broad-leafed tree on the street verge increased the median property price by about \$16,889, or 4.2% of the median value of the property (\$395,000) in the study area. Other studies show property values can be increased between 5% and 20% by the presence of trees<sup>3</sup>.



### Wildlife Habitat

For urban wildlife to survive and thrive in our cities, they need habitat in which to nest and feed. All trees provide a potential home for fauna, including microbats, bird species, reptiles and insects, whether those trees are in our streets, our backyards or in our parks and reserves.

### Health and Wellbeing

Trees have a positive impact on our physical and mental health, with time in nature proven to reduce a person's chances of developing a range of diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, stroke and depression<sup>4</sup>.

For children, nature contact is particularly relevant, with studies showing benefits include better cognitive function, greater happiness as adults and a lower risk of developing a mental disorder.

2. City of Playford (2020). *Foundations for our Future. What We Heard Report*. pg 23

3. Pandit, et al., (2013) *Valuing public and private urban tree canopy cover*. *The Australian Journal of Resource Economics*

4. Planet Ark (2019). *Living Cities: Trees in the Urban Environment*

## ISSUES & CHALLENGES

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### Climate Change

Our climate is changing, resulting in a number of impacts relevant to tree canopy planning and management:

- Higher temperatures
- Warmer spring temperatures
- Increased frequency of very hot days
- Decline in average annual rainfall
- Greater decline in spring rainfall than any other season
- Increase in the length of droughts
- Increase in the number and intensity of heavy rainfall events
- Increase in projected evapotranspiration<sup>5</sup> across all seasons.

The current CSIRO climate scenarios for Adelaide project that by 2050 there will be:

- an increase in annual daily maximum temperature of 1.8C
- an increase in the number of days per year above 35C from 17 to 27 days
- an overall decline in annual rainfall by 8.4%

### Water and Soil Moisture

Urban trees are faced with a challenging environment to thrive in, needing to deal with compacted soils, competing infrastructure, and narrow soil profiles.

These can be managed by ensuring an adequate water supply to support tree growth and longevity.

Water supply in the early years of establishing street trees is, however, the most expensive component of urban trees, contributing to 40% of the overall establishment cost.

### Urban heat island

A comfortable local temperature is an important factor in the liveability and enjoyment of our streets, parks, walking, cycling paths and neighbourhoods.

Urban heat islands result when hard surfaces such as pavement absorb the sun's rays, trapping heat and resulting in areas which are significantly warmer than others.

We can improve liveability and reduce the heat island impacts by increasing tree canopy and shade. City of Playford has undertaken heat mapping and uses this information for planning projects that support urban greening.

### Urban growth

The City of Playford is a peri-urban local council experiencing significant residential development growth. The shift towards smaller residential blocks presents challenges for establishing trees and canopy cover.

Along with challenges, urban development creates opportunity for trees. Many new development areas occur on previously cleared agricultural lands, resulting in an increase of canopy when street trees are planted and new parks are created.

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*5. The process by which water is transferred from the land to the atmosphere by evaporation from the soil and other surfaces and by transpiration from plants.*

## COUNCIL LANDS

Council manages significant areas of open space which can provide suitable land for tree planting depending on its current use, future plans and existing vegetation. The maps below categorise Council lands according to suitability for tree planting.



- Potential lands for local amenity trees (see page 20)
- Potential lands for linear corridor trees (see page 21)
- Lands unlikely to be suitable

*Top: One Tree Hill  
Bottom: Virginia*

## WORKING TOGETHER

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This strategy considers the land tenure, locations and actions that are available to increase tree canopy.

Improving urban tree canopy requires works on Council land, along with initiatives that support trees on private lands and in new developments.

### Council Land

Council already aims to achieve no net loss of trees or native vegetation on Council land. Council recognises the importance of trees and native vegetation as community assets that enhance the city and contribute to resident well-being.

As per the *Vegetation Management Policy 2021*, where the removal of trees and native vegetation is required on Council lands, Council is committed to applying the mitigation hierarchy principles in the following order:

- avoid impact
- minimise impact where avoidance is not practicable
- rehabilitate onsite where degradation occurs
- off-set where a significant impact remains: within the Council area if possible, or through financial contributions if required

### Other Government Land

In Playford, the State Government has responsibility for a number of main roads and the associated streetscapes, including Angle Vale Road, Main North Road, John Rice Avenue, Womma Road and others.

Other government lands also include defence land, public housing, railways, national parks and conservation areas.

### Private Land

For the purposes of this strategy, private land is focused on residential uses within the City's central urban area and the townships of Angle Vale, One Tree Hill and Virginia.

Council's role in tree removal on private property is guided by the the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and State Planning Code. Council administers the Code in the development application process, which includes requests to remove significant or regulated trees on private property.

### New Development

Playford is one of the fastest growing areas in South Australia, undergoing significant urban growth.

For land divisions within Playford, developers work with Council to determine open space requirements, and appropriate street tree plantings.



## GOAL: TREE DIVERSITY

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Species diversity is an important consideration for Council in planning and managing the City's trees. A diverse age and mix of species reduces the risk of significant tree loss from pests or diseases that may target a particular species, genus or family type.

Tree diversity should be set as high as realistically possible with the understanding that there are limitations on the species that perform well in the urban environment and meet a site's requirements.

For example, the City of Sydney has a commitment to work towards:

- No more than 30-40% of any one family
- No more than 20-30% of any one genus
- No more than 5-10% of any one species

Council is currently surveying and collecting data on our City's trees. This information will enable annual planning to consider the age profile and species mix across Council's trees, to ensure the risk of large scale tree loss is reduced.

### Tree Diversity Strategies:

- 1.1 Street tree planning to consider the tree species profile within a suburb and achieve:
  - Both evergreen and deciduous species
  - Biological diversity across Family, Genus and Species classifications
- 1.2 Planning to consider species suitability under predicted climate change scenarios, using research tools such as the *Interactive Plant Features* tool<sup>6</sup>.
- 1.3 Undertake analysis of tree survey data to understand the City's tree diversity and age profile
- 1.4 Trial and evaluate the performance of newly developed species from nurseries

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<sup>6</sup>. Tool developed as part of *Which Plant Where*, a five-year research program investigating how well current landscaping species will cope under the more extreme climates that Australia's cities will face and investigate opportunities for new species and varieties for the urban context.

## GOAL: TREE HEALTH

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Council is collecting information on tree age, size, health, risks and maintenance requirements, in order to better plan and manage these assets.

Trees are assessed on a variety of different health attributes, including condition, limb structure and useful life expectancy (ULE). A tree may be in good overall condition and have variable structure or life expectancy, as each attribute is measuring a different aspect of health.

A key purpose of tree inspections is to identify trees with poor physiological or structural condition. Where this is identified, Council undertakes tree management works to reduce the risk to an acceptable level, in accordance with Australian standards. This is critical to supporting long-term health outcomes and amenity of our trees.

When a tree needs to be removed due to poor health, this represents both a financial cost and an aesthetic and environmental loss for our community. All management options to improve the health and prolong life will be explored before tree removals.

Older trees have veteran tree management practices applied. This is to manage and extend the trees' life for as long as possible, while maintaining community safety.

Senescent trees (undergoing the process of aging and dying) may be retained where they have particular importance as wildlife habitat, for example where tree hollows are present.

### Tree Health Strategies:

- 2.1 Monitor and maintain a dataset recording the health and maintenance requirements of each street tree in accordance with the Australian standard (*AS4373-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees*).
- 2.2 Implement formative establishment tree program for younger trees
- 2.3 Trial and test new water sensitive urban design (WSUD) infrastructure, including tree pits and rain gardens, to improve water availability, canopy size and tree health
- 2.4 Undertake biodiversity pod planting<sup>7</sup> of groundcovers and shrubs to support the health of older established trees in large reserve systems
- 2.5 Undertake veteran tree management practices to assist with tree longevity and contribution to wildlife habitat

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*7. Planting diverse species as a buffer around older established trees in reserves*

## GOAL: INCREASE TREE PLANTING

Urban trees are important to our sense of place and how we feel about the community we live in. Well maintained and planned urban streetscapes lift the appearance of our neighborhoods, and in doing so, our wellbeing and local pride.

Each year, Council replaces street trees that exhibit poor health and structure, have died or been vandalised. While replacement trees may not be planted in the exact location, overall, there is no long-term net loss of street trees.

In addition to ensuring no net loss of trees, Council can increase our urban tree canopy to align with the *30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide*. The Plan aims to make Adelaide a more liveable, competitive and sustainable City, and includes a target for a 20% increase on tree canopy cover by 2045 (based on 2016 figures) for all metro councils.

For the City of Playford, a 20% increase in tree canopy equates to an additional 200 hectares of canopy across the urban area. This is an increase from 15% (currently) to a total of 18% canopy cover.

**Target:** The City of Playford to achieve 18% urban canopy cover by 2045

### How many trees?

Location	Over 25yrs
Street trees	10,000
Local amenity trees	20,000
Linear corridor trees	4,000
Private property	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,000</b>

<sup>8</sup> *Aerometrex (2019) Tree canopy coverage across Metropolitan Adelaide derived from discrete, multi-return LIDAR data.*

### Where to plant trees?

Council has 1,033 hectares of open space and the public recreation purpose and use varies depending on the classification (*Open Space Strategy, 2018*).

	Classification
More Useable	Local Park
	Neighbourhood Park
	District Park
	Regional Park
	Sportsground
	Linear Open Space Corridor
	Wetlands
Less Useable	Civic Plaza
	Minor Park
	Restricted Sportsground
	Windbreak
	Other / Not Classified

In addition, open space within close proximity (up to 50m) from residential housing provides a direct tree canopy benefit and streetscape appearance lift. These open space areas may be classified as local parks, minor parks, or windbreaks.

For the purposes of this strategy, trees planted in proximity to housing are described as local amenity trees.

Linear corridor trees are planted in biodiversity and creekline reserves. They form part of the recreation and pedestrian experience of the City. 38% of land across the City is privately owned<sup>8</sup>, so it is important that trees on private property are also part of increasing tree canopy. This strategy will provide support and incentives for residents to make a contribution.

## STREET TREES

Street trees provide economic, social and environment benefits. Trees have an important role in improving liveability, providing shade and lifting the appearance of our streetscapes.

Determining appropriate locations for street trees to thrive requires considerations such as the location of underground services, ongoing maintenance needs and potential future conflicts with infrastructure. With good planning, these conflicts can be minimised.

The street tree program includes planting new trees, maintaining and pruning all trees and removing those that are dead, damaged or unsafe.

### Life Cycle of Street Trees

Street trees require different attention and maintenance throughout their life cycle.

#### *Planting*

There is the initial investment in planting, mulching, fertilising, staking and protecting a new tree.

#### *Establishment*

Street trees need three years of watering, according to seasonal conditions. New trees also require formative pruning to be able to establish the trees' structural integrity and aesthetics.

#### *Maturity maintenance*

Street tree maintenance and pruning is undertaken according to a precinct schedule and the requirements of specific species.

#### *Decline*

Where a street tree is in decline, an assessment is made on whether to remove the tree or undertake veteran tree management practices. This decision considers the age of the tree, habitat value and the streetscape aesthetic value.

### Tree Species

Factors taken into consideration when selecting street tree species include:

- Historic understanding of the local advantages and disadvantages of a particular species
- Current species diversity in the suburb or wider area
- Nursery availability
- Orientation to the sun (north/south) where relevant to property setbacks
- Tree species canopy spread, seeking to maximise canopy while providing an appropriate tree for the location
- Underground services and overhead powerlines
- Proximity to infrastructure and property
- Tree form, aesthetics and context (uniformity or planned pattern for streetscape)
- Future infill and possible location of additional driveway
- Biodiversity value and habitat

There is no 'perfect' tree species that will address all of the constraints and requirements of a location. Rather there are advantages and disadvantages, and Council takes the approach of balancing these to determine the right tree for the right location.

### Tree size and spacing

Tree planting can be challenging due to proximity to driveways, houses, underground services or encroachment into driver sight lines.

Council therefore seeks to maximise the number of street trees that are planted, and will undertake planting in all suitable locations.

### Tree removal

Street trees are removed where they are dead/dying, or identified as a risk to public safety or infrastructure. Council trees will not be removed for other reasons, including leaf/fruit litter, solar panel shading or species preferences.

Residents may request tree removal for development purposes, such as a driveway. If a development application is approved, the resident is required to reimburse Council for the value of the removed tree. The fee is determined within Council's Fees and Charges and aims to cover the loss of amenity along with replacement and maintenance costs.



### Tree planting

Council has an annual street tree planting program, which this strategy recommends to increase from 1000 trees (which maintains no net loss) to 1400 (to increase canopy) per year.

Street trees are planted in a manner to maximise water truck route efficiency and the planting numbers for a suburb.

In addition to this, the street tree program is aligned with the road renewal program. This means that if a road seal, kerbing or new footpaths are being installed, missing street trees are planted where it is practical to do so.

Council aims to support residents who request a street tree, which are planted in the next season (May – August annually).

**STREET TREE LAYOUTS**

Council has a number of typical street types with associated constraints and opportunities.

**A) Defined verges**

Increased funding for street tree planting provides the opportunity to accelerate the annual street tree program and allow tree gaps in established suburbs to be planted.

Where there are underground services or overhead power lines on one side of the road, smaller species may be required.



Concept Image (above): Example of where street tree layouts may have alternate species on either side of the road to allow tree canopy to be maximised.

**B) Undefined verges**

In some suburbs, the streetscape is designed with the footpath at the back of kerb or have no footpath, which means the verge area is undefined. Where this occurs, residents may be maintaining the full property frontage or may not realise the verge section is Council land.

Street verge planting opportunities may therefore be challenging. Council will aim for verge planting in consultation with adjoining residents, along with encouraging and supporting tree planting on private property in these areas.



Concept Images (above) : Example of street where verges are not defined, and there may be less opportunity for street tree planting.

### C) Parks opposite housing

A common residential street design is to have housing opposite a minor park or reserve.

In these locations on the park side of the streetscape:

- larger tree species can be planted, providing more canopy
- local native tree species are preferred
- tree layout is natural rather than in straight lines



Concept Image (above): Example of larger tree species and denser planting on the park side of the streetscape.



## PRIVATE PROPERTY

Residential property comprises 38% of lands within the City of Playford, and therefore is an important aspect of increasing tree canopy.

Residents with access to private open space will usually have sufficient space to plant a tree.

Council can play a role in communicating the importance of our urban trees and deliver programs that support resident actions.

The rules about trees on private property are primarily governed by the State Government under the *Planning and Design Code*. For existing residential properties, the Design Code provides guidance on the pruning of neighbouring trees or removal of significant and regulated trees. In developing new residential areas, the Code determines block sizes, tree planting and deep soil root zones.

### Private Property Support Strategies:

3.1 Develop an annual program to provide subsidised trees to residents for private property

3.2 Establish an 'Adopt a Tree' program, encouraging residents to look after, and water their street tree

3.3 Increase resident communications, to notify about upcoming street tree planting and provide information about the benefits



## LOCAL AMENITY TREES

The term local amenity tree refers to trees planted in windbreaks, local or minor parks that are directly opposite housing.

In these locations the trees are considered part of the collective streetscape experienced by a resident.

Planting new trees on non- irrigated parks provides a number of benefits:

- increasing canopy
- lifting amenity
- providing wildlife habitat
- larger tree species possible compared to street trees
- cost effective rate (when compared to traditional street tree planting)

Large locally native species are preferred, for example:

- Eucalyptus camaldulensis (River Red Gum)
- Eucalyptus porosa (Mallee Box)
- Eucalyptus leucoxyton (Blue Gum)



*9. These are 1.5L trees that are grown for 8-12 months in a nursery before planting.*

### Growing Tree Canopy Strategies:

4.1 Tree layout that is natural rather than in straight lines, allowing for open sunny areas and heavier canopied areas.

4.2 Use a mix of tube-stock and rocket pots<sup>9</sup> for planting in local parks. Mature size trees may be included where appropriate.



Left: Tree planting layout and estimated future canopy

Top: Local park in Elizabeth Grove

Bottom: Anticipated future canopy coverage, after planting trial undertaken in 2021

## LINEAR CORRIDOR TREES

The City has large biodiversity corridors that support a cooler climate, habitat for wildlife and outdoor recreation experiences for residents.

These areas are identified in the Biodiversity Directions 2021 report, and include Adams Creek, Smith Creek, Little Para River, Jo Gapper Reserve and Whitford Reserve.

Many large older trees exist in these areas. Their health can be supported by planting a mix of shrubs and groundcovers near them to encourage beneficial insects and other positive symbiotic relationships.

### Growing Tree Canopy Strategies:

5.1 Plant locally native tree species that have the capacity to develop hollows for wildlife habitat.

5.2 Include trees and landscaping in capital works, such as new footpaths in reserves and open space projects

5.3 Support health of existing trees by landscaping and supporting biodiverse plant communities.



## APPENDIX: DATA APPROACH

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This plan is informed by analysis of the following spatial datasets:

- Council tree survey
- LIDAR derived tree canopy cover
- Open Space Strategy
- Cycling and Walking Strategy

The Council tree survey is currently underway and is a field assessment of all trees on Council land. This is a live dataset, which is updated as onground work occurs (maintenance pruning, planting or removal). The survey includes information on the tree size, health, location and maintenance needs of each tree.

This data is used to understand:

- average tree canopy size across different species
- number of empty street tree locations in each suburb
- species diversity mix

In 2020, the City of Playford was part of a collaborative project with other metropolitan Adelaide councils to map the extent of tree canopy using LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging). This data is publicly available via an online Heat and Tree Mapping Viewer. See <https://data.environment.sa.gov.au/Climate/Data-Systems/Urban-Heat-Mapping>

This data is being used to:

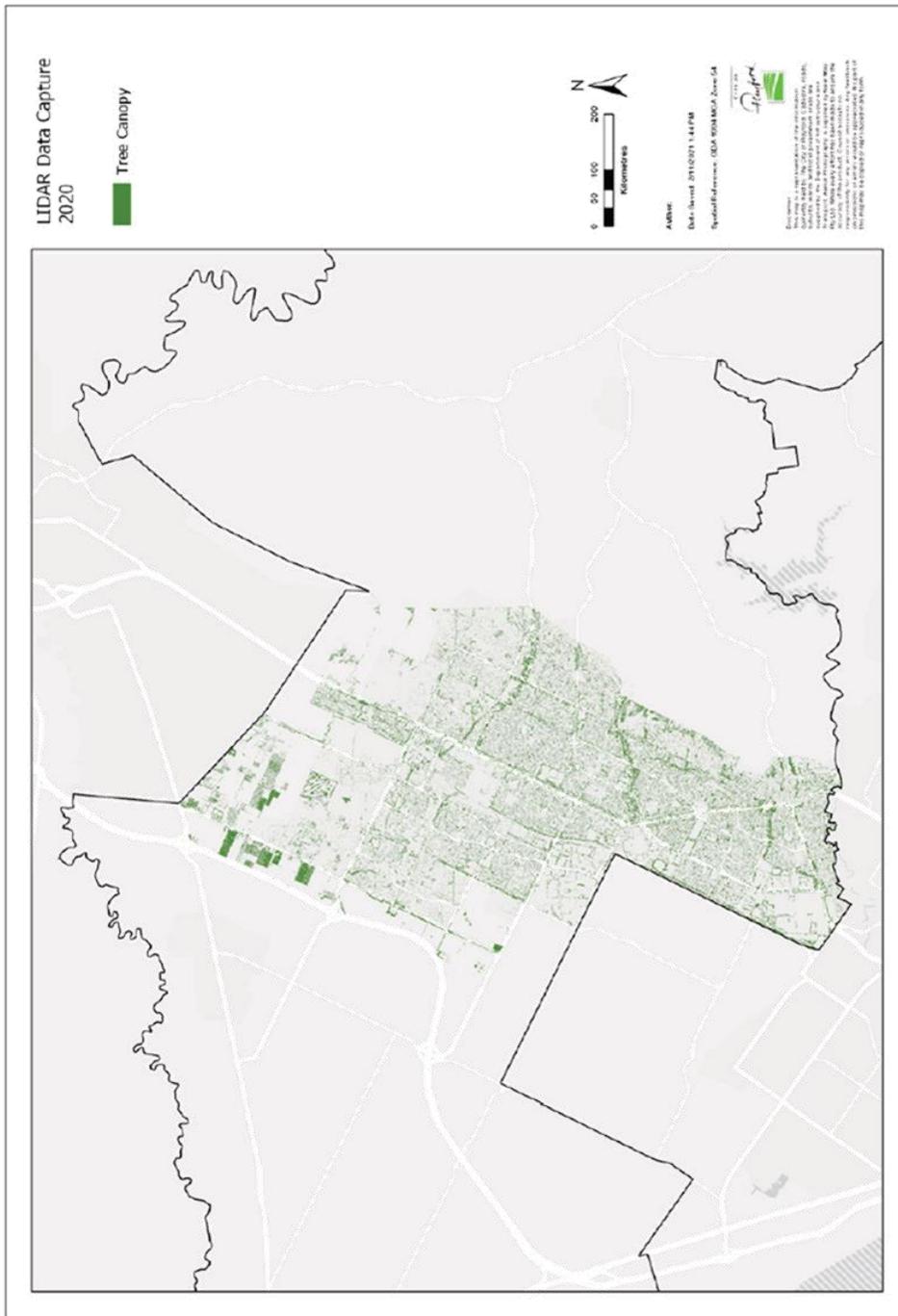
- Understand the current tree canopy cover
- Determine the available Council land (hectares and locations) that have a canopy deficit
- Provide visual display of canopy extent in each suburb

<b>Urban area</b>	<b>6652 hectares</b>
Current tree canopy %	15%
Current tree canopy HA	998 hectares
Increase to 18% canopy	200 hectares

This information is used in conjunction with Council's two key planning documents relating to the use of open space and pedestrian movement across the City. The Open Space Strategy 2018-2028 and the Cycling and Walking Strategy 2014. LIDAR data capture across metropolitan Adelaide is likely to be undertaken at regular intervals (3-5 years), and this will provide a consistent measure for tree canopy trends.

# LIDAR DATA

LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data capture of the extent of tree canopy. A tree is defined as being over 3m in height



## APPLYING DATA

Annual planning for street tree and local park amenity trees will be informed by LIDAR data, tree survey data and open space planning.



## 5.2 COMPOSTABLE BAGS PROVISION

**Responsible Executive Manager** : Tina Hudson

**Report Author** : Kaarina Sarac

**Delegated Authority** : Matters which cannot be delegated to a Committee or Staff.

### PURPOSE

To determine provision of at-cost kitchen caddies and compostable bags through Council, and to include these into the Schedule of Fees and Charges.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Council add the following items to the schedule of Fees and Charges:

1. Ventilated kitchen caddy and roll of compostable bags \$8.00 incl GST
2. Roll of compostable bags \$5.00 incl GST

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The placement of food scraps into green bins is a highly desirable environmental and financial outcome for our community, as waste is diverted from landfill to cheaper and more environmentally friendly alternatives. Provision of ventilated kitchen caddies and compostable bags assists our community in this waste diversion.

It is proposed to add these items to the fees and charges register, allowing Council to provide these items to the community at a low 'at-cost' price, and in doing so, continue to encourage food scrap diversion into the green bin.

Council is able to provide items at a charge under section 188 (1)(d) of *the Local Government Act 1999* provided that:

1. The fees do not exceed a reasonable estimate of the direct cost to the council in providing the materials; and
2. Under S44(3)(j) council must determine the fees charged under S188(1)(d).

### 1. BACKGROUND

All residents who purchase a green bin have been provided with a kitchen caddy since 2014/15. In addition, Council has been providing free caddies for all residents who request these.

In September 2021, NAWMA changed its provision of caddies from 'closed' to 'ventilated' with one roll of compostable bags also provided, meaning that all people who purchase a green bin from NAWMA receive these items.

Council may provide caddies and compostable bags to those residents who are not purchasing a green bin at a charge subject to inclusion in the Schedule of Fees & Charges.

## 2. RELEVANCE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Theme 3: Connecting with our community and each other: Specifically to assessing what we do to ensure the design of services and development of infrastructure meets the needs of our community, and to placing a community and customer experience lens on everything we do. Social media commentary and various feedback received over the years indicate that the community would like access to compostable bags.

Theme 5: Using money wisely: Specifically to making the most of existing resources and continually reviewing the best way to do things.

## 3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There is no requirement to consult with the community on this matter. Community members identify a desire for access to caddies and bags on social media, and in previous conversations about ways to support food waste diversion from landfill.

## 4. DISCUSSION

- 4.1 Council has been providing closed (unventilated and unlined) kitchen caddies free-of-charge to residents who request these since 2014 in order to assist them with reducing food waste going to landfill, and recognising that residents who obtained green bins in earlier years may not have received a caddy with their bin.
- 4.2 As of September 2021, NAWMA has made the decision to offer ventilated caddies along with one roll of compostable bags to residents who purchase a green bin. These are now the only caddies available to residents and require a compostable bag to function.
- 4.3 The ventilated caddies and bags are considered best-practice and are provided throughout many metropolitan Adelaide Councils. The bags are required for a ventilated caddy to work properly, with the bags being the major cost component as these are required in an on-going manner.
- 4.4 Compostable bags are available through grocery stores at a cost of approximately 12 cents/bag (in various sized rolls, usually around 25 bags). NAWMA is able to source bags at approximately 6 cents/ bag for a roll of 75 bags.
- 4.5 With Council having provided caddies at no-cost since 2014, all new green bins being provided with a caddy, and with the change in provision toward ventilated caddies with bags, it is proposed that:
  - (1) Council provide caddies 'at cost' as there has been an extensive 'grace' period for people to obtain a caddy if they had lost one or purchased their green bin prior to 2014.
  - (2) Council commence providing compostable bags at cost to support their use without a cost imposition to the broader community.
- 4.6 Under section 188 (1)(d) of *Local Government Act 1999*, Council may impose fees and charges for providing materials. Under s188(2a) fees or charges under s188(1)(d) must not exceed a reasonable estimate of the direct cost to the Council in providing the materials; and under s44(3)(j) Council are not allowed to delegate the fees charged under s188(1)(d).

- 4.7** By providing access to these items at a low at-cost price, Council provides support to those residents who are engaged and enthusiastic about disposing food scraps appropriately. This provides an ability to support residents prior to future decisions on directions relating to overall waste diversion options.
- 4.8** Both the State Government and NAWMA have identified strategic priorities to divert food scraps from landfill. Conversations on options are occurring, with staff intending to bring these to Council at an appropriate time. Provision of caddies and compostable bags at-cost aligns to anticipated future directions to support the community efforts to divert food scraps from landfill without precluding any options.
- 4.9** To determine an at-cost price, the current charges through NAWMA are used. NAWMA charges \$7.89 incl GST per caddy with a roll of compostable bags. NAWMA anticipates being able to purchase compostable bags at \$4.50/roll of 75. These are rounded to a full dollar value, to help cover the administration of providing these items, resulting in the following proposed Fees and Charges:
- (1) Ventilated caddy with one roll of 75 bags - \$8.00 incl GST
  - (2) Roll of 75 bags - \$5.00 incl GST
- 4.10** Collaborative discussions are occurring between Council staff and NAWMA regarding potential expansion of the green bin service to the community, forming part of a strategy to address rising costs of waste disposal for our community.
- 4.11** Further recommendations on ventilated caddy provision and compostable bags may be made as part of this broader strategy.
- 4.12** The addition to the fees and charges register now allows for the provision of these items to our community at a low 'at-cost' price, prior to any further recommendations about green bin provision more broadly.

## **5. OPTIONS**

### Recommendation

Council add the following items to the schedule of Fees and Charges:

1. Ventilated kitchen caddy and roll of compostable bags \$8.00 incl GST
2. Roll of compostable bags \$5.00 incl GST

### Option 2

No kitchen caddies or compostable bags be provided through Council service centres.

## **6. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

### **6.1 Recommendation Analysis**

#### 6.1.1 Analysis & Implications of the Recommendation

This option provides for on-going support to those residents who wish to dispose of food waste through the green bin at no cost impact for the broader community. It does not preclude broader conversations around food waste diversion from landfill, however ensures support is provided immediately to those residents who are early adopters and already motivated.

As all residents who purchase a green bin receive a caddy and a roll of bags, these costs only apply to those residents who have lost their caddy or who have used up their provided roll of compostable bags

The proposed prices are competitive for the products proposed. Minor administration charges to cover costs are included in the proposed price of bags. This will help cover storage, distribution, and associated administration of supply while retaining a competitive price.

## **Risk Appetite**

### Financial Sustainability

*Council has a low appetite for short-term financial risk that adversely impacts on the delivery of the long term financial plan and the Council's overall stability and sustainability.*

This decision will provide access to a kitchen caddy and on-going compostable bags without imposing costs on all residents.

### Service Delivery

*Council has a moderate appetite for supporting and enhancing existing services and programs to improve the social, recreation and health and wellbeing outcomes for residents; and driving social and economic transformation through a number of major projects and Council initiatives, which will create jobs and act as a catalyst for private investment into Northern Adelaide to support the growing population.*

This decision will provide access to kitchen caddies and compostable bags at a low cost, which creates a small barrier to use of a service.

#### 6.1.2 Financial Implications

As the option provides for at-cost pricing for items, there are no financial or resource implications.

## **6.2 Option 2 Analysis**

### 6.2.1 Analysis & Implications of Option 2

This option protects Council from the risk of continuing to provide caddies at no cost as a demand for the compostable bags develops. It removes the ability to provide these items at a low (at-cost) fee but ensures Council is not at risk of a financial pressure from a high unbudgeted demand for these items.

There is some negative publicity risk of not providing any access to caddies, however as residents have had more than 6 years to take advantage of free caddy provision, the risk is considered low.

### 6.2.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with removing the caddy provision.

Note that providing continued access to free caddies and introducing free bag provision will result in an unbudgeted cost pressure on Council.

# STAFF REPORTS

## MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE ONLY

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*Matters delegated to the  
Committee.*

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### 5.3 APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER

**Responsible Executive Manager :** Dale Welsh

**Report Author :** Owen Perry

**Delegated Authority :** Matters delegated to the Committee.

**Attachments :**

- 1. Strategy and Services Committee Charter
- 2. Remuneration Tribunal Determination

#### PURPOSE

To appoint a Presiding Member for the Strategy and Services Committee.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Council appoint Mayor/Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ as the Presiding Member for the Strategy and Services Committee for a term commencing on 1 March 2022 until the conclusion of the Local Government General Elections in November 2022.

If required, the private ballot process outlined in the Code of Practice for Council and Committee Meetings – Section 6.16 be utilised to elect the Presiding Member, with the result of the ballot becoming the outcome.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strategy and Services Committee was established following a review of Council's Committee structure resulting from the ICAC Evaluation of the Practices, Policies and procedures of the City of Playford Council. The Strategy and Services Committee was formed through the amalgamation of the former Strategic Planning Committee and Services Committee into a single Committee.

When the Strategy and Services Committee was formed, the Presiding Member was determined to be the Deputy Mayor in order to provide the Deputy Mayor with experience presiding over meetings. Council has since determined that this opportunity be extended to all Members.

#### 1. BACKGROUND

The Strategy and Services Committee was formed following a Committee Structure Review conducted after the ICAC Evaluation. Although the Evaluation did not make any specific recommendations in relation to Council Committees; Council resolved at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 28 April 2020 to include a review of Committee's in the ICAC Response Program.

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 August 2021, the former Strategic Planning Committee and Services Committee were amalgamated into one Committee. It was resolved at the time that the Deputy Mayor become the Presiding Member of the Committee consisting of all Council Members in order to provide development opportunities, particularly in relation to meeting management.

At Ordinary Council on 14 December 2021, Council considered a written Notice of Motion from Cr Rentoulis to alter the Committee Charter to allow any Council Member to be appointed as the Presiding Member of the Strategy and Services Committee.

## **2. RELEVANCE TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

There is no link between the Community Engagement Policy and the appointment of Presiding Member.

## **3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

There is no requirement to consult the community on this matter.

## **4. DISCUSSION**

**4.1** As per the recently amended Committee Charter, the Presiding Member will be appointed by the Committee. Appointment is for a one year term and cannot exceed the General Election. As such this appointment will be for a period of nine months.

**4.2** The Committee Charter outlines the role of the Presiding Member as follows:

- Oversee the conduct of meetings in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) and Code of Practice for Council and Committee Meetings.
- Ensure all Committee Members have the opportunity to participate in debate and discussions in an open and encouraging manner.
- Where a matter has been debated significantly and no new information is being discussed the Presiding Member may call the meeting to order and ask for the debate to be finalised and proceed to voting.

**4.3** The Remuneration Tribunal of South Australia has jurisdiction under Section 76, of the Act, to determine the allowance payable to elected members of Local Government Councils constituted under that Act (Determination no. 6 of the Remuneration Tribunal, Attachment 2). The values in the Determination have been varied due to periodic adjustments each November.

**4.4** The Remuneration Tribunal's definition of a Prescribed Committee is a Committee that assists the Council or provides advice to the Council in any of the following areas or combination thereof:

- Audit
- Chief Executive Officer Performance Review
- Corporate Services
- Finance
- Governance
- Infrastructure and Works
- Risk Management
- Strategic Planning and Development

**4.5** The Strategy and Services Committee, pursuant to the Terms of Reference, aligns with the definition of a Prescribed Committee and as such the Presiding Member of the Committee (other than the Mayor or Deputy Mayor) is entitled to receive one and a quarter (1.25) times the annual allowance for Council Members whilst appointed to the position.

## **5. OPTIONS**

### Recommendation

Council appoint Mayor/Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ as the Presiding Member for the Strategy and Services Committee for a term commencing on 1 March 2022 until the conclusion of the Local Government General Elections in November 2022.

If required, the private ballot process outlined in the Code of Practice for Council and Committee Meetings – Section 6.16 be utilised to elect the Presiding Member, with the result of the ballot becoming the outcome.

## **6. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

### **6.1 Recommendation Analysis**

#### 6.1.1 Analysis & Implications of the Recommendation

The recommendation ensures the Strategy and Services Committee appoints a Presiding Member in accordance with the Committee Charter amended at Ordinary Council in December 2021.

If only one nomination is received for the position at the meeting, the Committee will not need to conduct a private ballot process.

### **Risk Appetite**

#### Service Delivery

*Council has a moderate appetite for supporting and enhancing existing services and programs to improve the social, recreation and health and wellbeing outcomes for residents; and driving social and economic transformation through a number of major projects and Council initiatives, which will create jobs and act as a catalyst for private investment into Northern Adelaide to support the growing population.*

This decision will allow the Committee to endorse its own Presiding Member and continue with effective meeting management and the provision of support to Council. The Committee achieves effective Council support by providing advice to Council on high level Council operations and monitoring the operational performance of Council via service standards.

#### 6.1.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial or resource implications should the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or Presiding Member of another Committee be appointed.

The appointment of any other Councillor will result in the payment of an annual allowance to the Presiding Member of an additional 25% of the Councillor allowance as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal of South Australia (the Remuneration Tribunal). The Remuneration Tribunal adjusts Council Member allowances annually on the anniversary of the periodic election, in accordance with a formula prescribed in the *Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010*.

The current additional value and cost to Council will be \$5541.

## **6.2 Option 2 Analysis**

No further option is recommended as this would conflict with sections 6.2 to 6.4 of the Committee Charter which state:

- 6.2 The Presiding Member will be appointed by the Committee from within the Committee.*
- 6.3 The term of the Presiding Member will be one (1) year, after which they may stand for re-election.*
- 6.4 The term of the Presiding Members appointment will be for a period not exceeding the next General Election.*



## STRATEGY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE CHARTER

### 1 Role

The role of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Act in an advisory capacity to the Council regarding all high level operations.
- 1.2 Monitor the operational performance of the Council as it relates to the delivery of services to standards.
- 1.3 Hear community deputations and representations on matters important to the community.

### 2 Terms of Reference

The Committee will provide advice on matters relating to:

- 2.1 Development of the Annual Business Plan and Budget, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans for Council consideration.
- 2.2 Review and develop operational aspects of Council business.
- 2.3 Review and develop Council service standards assessed against community need.
- 2.4 Quarterly performance reporting of the Council.

### 3 Definitions

As specified in the City of Playford Global Glossary.

### 4 Functions

The Committee may undertake the following:

- 4.1 Approve Committee Minutes as a true and accurate record of proceedings.
- 4.2 Consider and provide a response to LGA Circulars or other business of a strategic nature, in line with the Committee's role.
- 4.3 Determine the Playford Position on Notices of Motion for ALGA and LGA Meetings, in the case that timing of the release of the ALGA or LGA Agenda falls outside a Council Meeting.
- 4.4 Allow community deputations and representations on matters that are important to the community.
- 4.5 Any other business referred to the Committee in accordance with its Role and Terms of Reference that is not listed as a function of the Committee; may be debated with a recommendation referred to the next Ordinary Council Meeting for consideration.

## 5 Meetings

- 5.1 The Committee will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, excluding January, starting at 7:00pm, with the months of the year to be determined and reviewed by the Committee. Meetings will not be called if there are no items of business available.
- 5.2 The Committee will meet in the Council Chambers at the Playford Civic Centre, 10 Playford Boulevard, Elizabeth.
- 5.3 Meetings may be conducted via electronic means utilising Zoom Video Communications, Inc and YouTube Studio.
  - a. A member of the Council participating in a Council meeting by electronic means is taken to be present at the meeting provided that the member:
    - i. can hear all other members present at the meeting;
    - ii. can be heard by all other members present at the meeting; and
    - iii. can be heard by the person recording the minutes of the meeting.
- 5.4 Special Meetings of the Committee may be necessary from time to time and may be called in accordance with Section 87 of the *Local Government Act 1999*. Notice of a Special Committee Meeting may be at a minimum of four hours notice, due to the urgency of the matters on the agenda.

## 6 Membership

- 6.1 The Committee shall comprise of the Mayor and Councillors.
- 6.2 The Presiding Member will be appointed by the Committee from within the Committee.
- 6.3 The term of the Presiding Member will be one (1) year, after which they may stand for re-election.
- 6.4 The term of the Presiding Members appointment will be for a period not exceeding the next General Election.
- 6.5 Membership of the Strategy and Services Committee is for the current term of the Council.

## 7 Role of the Presiding Member

- 7.1 Oversee the conduct of meetings in accordance with *the Local Government Act 1999* and Code of Practice for Council and Committee Meetings.
- 7.2 Ensure all Committee Members have the opportunity to participate in debate and discussions in an open and encouraging manner.
- 7.3 Where a matter has been debated significantly and no new information is being discussed the Presiding Member may call the meeting to order and ask for the debate to be finalised and proceed to voting.

**8 Role of Committee Members**

- 8.1 Actively participate in the debate in debate and discussion in a professional manner at all times.
- 8.2 Be prepared and informed of Committee Meeting matters prior to the meeting.
- 8.3 Utilise the skills and experience of the Committee Members to effectively carry out the Committee's role.

**9 Role of Administration**

- 9.1 An Executive Officer is appointed by the CEO to support the administration and operation of the Committee.
- 9.2 The Executive Officer and relevant staff may provide advice as required during meetings to assist with informed decision making.
- 9.3 A minute taker will be provided to the Committee.

**10 Reporting and Review**

- 10.1 Council will assess the on-going role and effectiveness of the Committee as part of the Committee Review following a General Election or as required by Council.

**11 Supporting Documents**

- 11.1 *Local Government Act 1999*
- 11.2 *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*
- 11.3 Code of Practice for Council and Committee Meetings
- 11.4 Code of Practice for Public Access to Meetings and Meeting Documents
- 11.5 City of Playford Global Glossary

**12 Document Control**

- 12.1 Approved by Ordinary Council Resolution 4860 on 14 December 2021.
- 12.2 Before using a printed copy, please verify it is the current document.



No. 6 of 2018

**DETERMINATION OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL  
ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS**

**SCOPE OF DETERMINATION**

1. The Remuneration Tribunal has jurisdiction under section 76 of the *Local Government Act 1999* ("the Act"), to determine the allowance payable to elected members of Local Government Councils constituted under that Act.
2. This Determination applies to the members of Councils constituted under the Act, but does not apply to members of the Adelaide City Council.

**INTERPRETATION**

3. In this Determination, unless the contrary appears:

"**Committee**" means a committee established by a council in terms of section 41 of the Act.

"**Councillor**" means a person appointed or elected as a member of a local government council under the Act.

"**Principal Member**" means a principal member under the Act.

"**Prescribed Committee**" means for the purposes of this determination, a committee that endures, irrespective of whether the council has assigned any particular work for the committee to perform and assists the council or provides advice to the council in any of the following areas or any combination thereof:

- Audit
- Chief Executive Officer performance review
- Corporate services
- Finance
- Governance
- Infrastructure and works
- Risk management
- Strategic planning and development

**ALLOWANCES**

**4. Councillors**

The annual allowance for a councillor who is not a principal member, deputy mayor, deputy chairperson or presiding member of a prescribed committee shall be as follows:

<b>Council Group</b>	<b>\$ per annum</b>
Group 1A	\$23,350
Group 1B	\$20,630
Group 2	\$17,270
Group 3	\$13,900
Group 4	\$9,900
Group 5	\$6,500

Council Groups are provided in Appendix 1.

**5. Principal Members**

The annual allowance for principal members of a local government councils constituted under the Act will be equal to four (4) times the annual allowance for councillors of that council.

**6. Deputy Mayor, Deputy Chairperson or Presiding Member of a Committee**

The annual allowance for a councillor who is a deputy mayor or deputy chairperson, or the presiding member of a prescribed committee or more than one prescribed committees established by a council, will be equal to one and a quarter (1.25) times the annual allowance for councillors of that council.

**7. An additional allowance in the form of a sitting fee is payable to a councillor (other than the principal member or deputy principal member, chairperson or deputy chairperson or a presiding member of a prescribed committee) who is the presiding member of a committee, that is not a prescribed committee, at the following rates:**

- a. Where the councillor is a member of a council in Group 1A or Group 1B; an allowance of \$230 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of allowance of \$1,380 per annum;
- b. Where the councillor is a member of a council in Group 2 or Group 3; an allowance of \$170 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of allowance of \$1,020 per annum;
- c. Where the councillor is a member of a council in Group 4 or Group 5; an allowance of \$110 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of allowance of \$660 per annum.

**TRAVEL TIME ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF NON-METROPOLITAN COUNCILS**

8. An allowance of \$410 per annum will be payable to council members, excluding principal members, whose usual place of residence is within the relevant council area and is located **at least 30 kms but less than 50 kms** from that council's principal office, via the most direct road route.
9. An allowance of \$700 per annum will be payable to council members, excluding principal members, whose usual place of residence is within the relevant council area and is located **at least 50 kms but less than 75 kms** from that council's principal office, via the most direct road route.
10. An allowance of \$1,050 per annum will be payable to council members, excluding principal members, whose usual place of residence is within the relevant council area and is located **at least 75 kms but less than 100 kms** from that council's principal office, via the most direct road route.
11. An allowance of \$1,490 per annum will be payable to council members, excluding principal members, whose usual place of residence is within the relevant council area and is located **100 kms or more** from that council's principal office, via the most direct road route.
12. The non-metropolitan council members travel time allowance will be payable in addition to any entitlement to reimbursement of expenses actually incurred.

13. A list of the non-metropolitan councils to which this payment applies is provided in Appendix 2.

**DATE OF OPERATION**

14. As provided for by section 76(8) of the Act, this Determination will come into operation on the conclusion of the 2018 Local Government Elections.



John Lewin  
**PRESIDENT**



Peter Alexander  
**MEMBER**



Pamela Martin  
**MEMBER**

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018

**Appendix 1 – Council Groups**

<b>GROUP 1A</b>
City of Charles Sturt
City of Onkaparinga
City of Port Adelaide Enfield
City of Salisbury

<b>GROUP 1B</b>
City of Holdfast Bay
City of Marion
City of Mitcham
City of Playford
City of Tea Tree Gully
City of West Torrens

<b>GROUP 2</b>
Adelaide Hills Council
Alexandrina Council
Barossa Council
Campbelltown City Council
City of Burnside
City of Mount Gambier
City of Prospect
City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters
City of Unley
City of Whyalla
District Council of Mount Barker
Port Augusta City Council
Rural City of Murray Bridge
Town of Gawler

<b>GROUP 3</b>
Berri Barmera Council
City of Port Lincoln
City of Victor Harbor
Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council
District Council of Loxton Waikerie
District Council of The Copper Coast
District Council of Yorke Peninsula
Light Regional Council
Mid Murray Council
Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Port Pirie Regional Council
Tatiara District Council
Wattle Range Council

<b>GROUP 4</b>
Adelaide Plains Council (formerly Mallala)
Corporation of the Town of Walkerville
District Council of Coorong
District Council of Grant
District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula
District Council of Yankalilla
District Council of Renmark Paringa
Kangaroo Island Council
Northern Areas Council
Regional Council of Goyder
Wakefield Regional Council

<b>GROUP 5</b>
District Council of Barunga West
District Council of Ceduna
District Council of Cleve
District Council of Coober Pedy
District Council of Elliston
District Council of Franklin Harbour
District Council of Karoonda East Murray
District Council of Kimba
District Council of Mount Remarkable
District Council of Ororoo Carrieton
District Council of Peterborough
District Council of Robe
District Council of Streaky Bay
District Council of Tumby Bay
Flinders Ranges Council
Kingston District Council
Southern Mallee District Council
Wudinna District Council

**Appendix 2 – Non – Metropolitan Councils**

Adelaide Hills Council	District Council of Renmark Paringa
Adelaide Plains Council (formerly Mallala)	District Council of Robe
Alexandrina Council	District Council of Streaky Bay
Berri Barmera Council	District Council of The Copper Coast
Barossa Council	District Council of Tumby Bay
City of Whyalla	District Council of Yankalilla
Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council	District Council of Yorke Peninsula
District Council of Barunga West	Flinders Ranges Council
District Council of Ceduna	Kangaroo Island Council
District Council of Cleve	Kingston District Council
District Council of Coober Pedy	Light Regional Council
District Council of Coorong	Mid Murray Council
District Council of Elliston	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
District Council of Franklin Harbour	Northern Areas Council
District Council of Grant	Port Augusta City Council
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	Port Pirie Regional Council
District Council of Kimba	Regional Council of Goyder
District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula	Rural City of Murray Bridge
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Southern Mallee District Council
District Council of Mount Barker	Tatiara District Council
District Council of Mount Remarkable	Wakefield Regional Council
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton	Wattle Range Council
District Council of Peterborough	Wudinna District Council

# STAFF REPORTS

## MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE ONLY

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***Matters for Information.***

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## 5.4 STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT REPORT FEBRUARY 2022

**Responsible Executive Manager** : Dale Welsh

**Report Author** : Sarah Young

**Delegated Authority** : Matters for Information.

**Attachments** : 1 [↓](#). Strategic Plan Alignment Report February 2022

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to highlight how the monthly forward agenda is contributing to the delivery of Council's Strategic Plan (2020-24).

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Committee receive the Strategic Plan Alignment Report for February 2022.

### Relevance to Strategic Plan

This report outlines how each of the forward agenda items for February are contributing to the delivery of Council's Strategic Plan 2020-24. The Strategic Plan has an overarching theme of **Community and City Foundations**.

Council already has in place a set of decision-making filters to ensure we plan strategically for the future. These filters are front of mind when making decisions about our services and/or any new projects:

- We will work with other levels of government and stakeholders to ensure we maximise any opportunity to leverage external funding.
- We will finish what we have started in terms of our longer term projects that the community is expecting us to deliver.
- We will ensure that we meet our legislative requirements and legal obligations.
- We will stick to our Finance Strategy to achieve long term financial sustainability while still delivering planned services, responsibly managing debt and promoting the growth of the city.

For the next four years an additional Community and City foundations filter is to:

- Adjust existing services where necessary to ensure foundational needs of our community are being met and only initiate new projects if they are considered foundational or time critical.

These foundational needs were identified by our community and are summarised under the following themes:

- Community Theme 1 - Improving safety and accessibility
- Community Theme 2 - Lifting city appearance
- Community Theme 3 - Connecting with our community and each other
- Community Theme 4 - Supporting business and local employment opportunities

- Community Theme 5 - Using money wisely

## Relevance to Public Consultation Policy

There is no requirement to undertake public consultation as part of this report.

## Background

In 2019 discussions commenced with Council about its new Strategic Plan and agreement was reached that instead of thinking for just four years ahead, Council would take a longer 12-year approach to strategic planning. This will involve considering what Council can deliver in the next three strategic plans.

### ***Community and City Foundations 2020-24***

The desire to focus more on 'foundations' in the coming four years (2020-24) emerged. This Plan will ensure we prioritise the foundational needs of our community, through the services we provide and in any new projects we deliver.

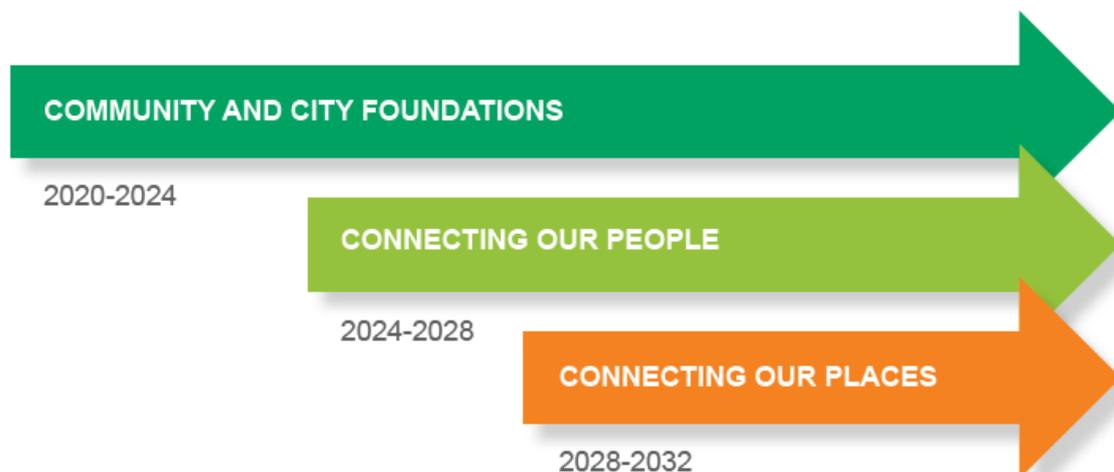
### ***Connecting Our People 2024-28***

This plan will focus on areas that help to connect our people to each other and their local community. Our existing services will be adjusted to enhance physical and social connections at the local community level.

### ***Connecting Our Places 2028-32***

This plan will focus on projects and services that connect our places. This means adjusting existing services where necessary to enhance connections across the city and initiating projects to help connect key places across the city.

The image below outlines how the three plans and focus areas will interact with each other over the coming twelve years.



**Current Situation**

The Strategic Plan 2020-24 was developed based on extensive community engagement and was adopted by Council at the 25 January 2021 Ordinary Council meeting. Attachment 1 includes details of how the items that will be considered by Council in February 2022 relate to the delivery of the Strategic Plan 2020-24.

**Future Action**

The Committee will receive future monthly reports.

## Strategic Plan Alignment Report – February 2022

Council has in place a set of decision making filters to ensure we plan strategically for the future. These filters are front of mind when making decisions about our services and/or any new projects:

- We will work with other levels of government and stakeholders to ensure we maximise any opportunity to leverage external funding.
- We will finish what we have started in terms of our longer term projects that the community is expecting us to deliver.
- We will ensure that we meet our legislative requirements and legal obligations.
- We will stick to our Finance Strategy to achieve long term financial sustainability while still delivering planned services, responsibly managing debt and promoting the growth of the city.

For the next four years an additional Community and City Foundations filter is to:

- Adjust existing services where necessary to ensure foundational needs of our community are being prioritised and only initiate new projects if they are considered foundational or time critical.

These foundational needs were identified by our community and are summarised under the following themes in our **Strategic Plan 2020-24**:

**Community Theme 1**  
Improving safety and accessibility

**Community Theme 2**  
Lifting city appearance

**Community Theme 3**  
Connecting with our community and each other

**Community Theme 4**  
Supporting business and local employment opportunities

**Community Theme 5**  
Using money wisely

Each of the Council agenda items for February 2022 are listed below, helping to explain how they relate to the delivery of Council's Strategic Plan (2020-24).

Item	Relevance to Strategic Plan	Last time item considered	Previous Council resolutions
<b>STRATEGY &amp; SERVICES COMMITTEE 8 February</b>			
<b>Tree Canopy Strategy</b>	<p><i>Community Theme 2 Lifting city appearance</i></p> <p>The Strategy provides a direction to increase tree canopy in a manner that adds to the amenity and to the Community experience of the City. It outlines the current state of play, and identifies new strategies for increasing tree canopy into the future. Planting new trees, and improving maintenance on existing trees will make important contributions to lifting City appearance.</p>	21 September 2021 – Information Session	Resolution 4227 (22 September 2020) <i>A tree canopy strategy to increase tree canopy within the City, with suitable and achievable targets, be provided to Council within 18 months. The development of this strategy will include engagement with Elected Members.</i>
<b>Compostable Bags Provision</b>	<p><i>Community Theme 3 Connecting with our community and each other</i></p> <p>Assessing what we do to ensure the design of services and development of infrastructure meets the needs of our community, and to placing a community and customer experience lens on everything we do. Social media commentary and various feedback received over the years indicate that the community would like access to compostable bags.</p> <p><i>Community Theme 5 Using money wisely</i></p> <p>Making the most of existing resources and continually reviewing the best way to do things.</p>	This is a new item	N/A
<b>Appointment of Presiding Member</b>	<p><i>Ensuring we meet our legislative requirements and legal obligations</i></p> <p>The appointment of a Presiding Member is in accordance with the Committee Charter</p>	14 December 2021 – Ordinary Council	Resolution 4860 <i>The Strategy and Services Committee Charter Clause 6 Membership be amended to read as follows:</i>

	amended at Ordinary Council in December 2021.		<p>6.1 The Committee shall comprise of the Mayor and Councillors.</p> <p>6.2 The Presiding Member will be appointed by the Committee from within the Committee.</p> <p>6.3 The term of the Presiding Members will be one (1) year, after which they may stand for re-election.</p> <p>6.4 The term of the Presiding Member's appointment will be for a period not exceeding the next General Election.</p> <p>6.5 Membership of the Strategy and Services Committee is for the current term of the Council.</p>
<b>Reference Groups Update</b>	<p><i>Community Theme 3 Connecting with our community and each other</i></p> <p>The new reference groups' structure aims to provide more effective mechanisms for community engagement with quarterly reporting to Council regarding activities and outcomes.</p>	24 August 2021 – Ordinary Council	<p>Resolution 4740 (part of)</p> <p>The terms of reference for the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), Access and Social Inclusion Advisory Group (ASIAG) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Reference Group (ATSICRG) (the Reference Groups) will be revised by group members to reflect the outcomes of the review.</p> <p>An annual consultation activity will be led by Council staff in partnership with each of the Reference Groups.</p> <p>Updates on the activities and outcomes of the Reference Groups to be provided to Council on a quarterly basis.</p>
<b>INFORMATION SESSION 8 February</b>			
<b>NAWMA Community Engagement Projects</b>	<p><i>Community Theme 3 Connecting with our community and each other</i></p>	This is a new item	N/A
<b>Hard Waste Cost Pressure</b>	<p><i>Sticking to our Finance Strategy to achieve long term financial sustainability while still delivering planned services, responsibly</i></p>	18 May 2021 – Services Committee	<p>Resolution 4607</p> <p>Council note the Hard Waste Collection Service report, acknowledging that increasing cost pressures and increased</p>

	<i>managing debt and promoting the growth of our city.</i>  <i>Community Theme 5 Using money wisely</i>		<i>community participation will have an impact on future budget decisions.</i>  <i>That the hard waste service maintains a strong alignment with community need.</i>
<b>INFORMATION SESSION 15 February</b>			
<b>2022/23 Business Plans</b>	<i>This item relates to all Community Themes and decision making filters in the strategic Plan.</i>	7 December 2021 – Information Session	N/A
<b>Repurposing of Assets Update</b>	<i>Community Theme 5 Using money wisely</i>	14 September 2021 – Information Session	N/A
<b>GRFMA Cost Sharing Model</b>	<i>Community Theme 5 Using money wisely</i>	This is new item	N/A
<b>ORDINARY COUNCIL 22 February</b>			
<b>Representatives for 2022 LGA and ALGA Meetings</b>	N/A	23 February 2021 – Ordinary Council	Resolution 4445 <u>Decision 1 – ALGA</u> a) Council appoint Cr Rentoulis and Cr Marsh as Council's attendees at the ALGA National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 20-23 June 2021.  <u>Decision 2 – LGA OGM</u> a) Council appoint Cr Stroet and Cr Norris as Council's attendees at the LGA Ordinary General Meeting to be held at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on 30 April 2021.  <u>Decision 3 – LGA AGM</u> a) Council appoint Cr Gossink and Cr Halls as Council's attendees at the LGA Annual General Meeting to be held on 29 October 2021 at a venue to be confirmed.



<p><b>Response to Motion: Additional Hard Waste Service</b></p>	<p><i>Community Theme 2 Lifting city appearance</i></p> <p>This item considers opportunities for providing access to waste disposal service at-cost to the community.</p>	<p>28 September 2021 – Ordinary Council</p>	<p>Resolution 4759 <i>Council to consider a hard waste collection - user pay service in addition to the free hard waste collection service available to residents.</i></p> <p><i>City of Playford Administration to liaise with NAWMA's Administration to ensure such a service option can be implemented, without impacting NAWMA's current contractual agreements and confirm NAWMA has the operational capacity to process materials.</i></p> <p><i>CEO to write to the NAWMA board to discuss such a service option for all three Councils to consider.</i></p> <p><i>NAWMA and City of Playford Administration to provide Council with a proposed service fee.</i></p>
<p><b>President of Legislative Council</b></p>	<p><i>N/A</i></p>	<p>This is a new item</p>	<p>N/A</p>

## 5.5 REFERENCE GROUPS UPDATE

**Responsible Executive Manager** : Tina Hudson

**Report Author** : Erin Findlay

**Delegated Authority** : Matters for Information.

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of Council's three informal community reference groups, the Youth Advisory Committee, the Access and Social Inclusion Advisory Group and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Reference Group, as they transition to more 'action focussed' groups with an increased focus on community engagement and consultation.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The reference groups February 2022 quarterly update be received by the Committee.

### Relevance to Strategic Plan

Community Theme 3 – Connecting with our community and each other.

The new reference groups' structure aims to provide more effective mechanisms for community engagement, with quarterly reporting to Council regarding activities and outcomes.

### Relevance to Community Engagement Policy

Our community has clearly told us they want more opportunities to connect with the Council and each other and have their ideas and experiences understood and heard.

The new structure and engagement activities for the reference groups will ensure representation and participation is relevant, diverse and focussed with clear objectives and outcomes.

The three reference groups and relevant council staff will participate in regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration to identify annual actions. Through co-design, the reference groups will shape and test ideas and may offer recommendations for consideration to support decision making and progression of identified actions.

### Background

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 24 August 2021, Council resolution 4740 included:

7. *The terms of reference for the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), Access and Social Inclusion Advisory Group (ASIAG) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Reference Group (ATSICRG) (the Reference Groups) will be revised by group members to reflect the outcomes of the review.*
8. *An annual consultation activity will be led by Council staff in partnership with each of the Reference Groups.*

9. *Updates on the activities and outcomes of the Reference Groups to be provided to Council on a quarterly basis.*

The first quarterly update was presented to the 7 November 2021 Strategy and Services Committee.

The purpose of this report is to provide a quarterly update as of February 2022. As per the November update, this report will address the progress against the actions for each of the three groups in a single report.

### **Current Situation**

Council's three informal reference groups were in the process of transitioning to 'action focussed' groups. While this work is under way, there has been limited progress over the last three months due to recent environmental pressures.

The Christmas shutdown period slowed progress of each of the groups, with a view to gaining momentum in the New Year. However, the realities of the current COVID-19 situation has meant that the teams have been required to place a strong focus on service delivery. This has included both necessary changes to services/functions, and putting further measures in place to ensure service delivery can continue in the safest possible way.

The COVID-19 environment has also made it difficult to progress actions that require interaction and engagement with the community. Staff are currently reviewing modes of interaction to ensure the actions of each of the groups can progress in a safe and meaningful way.

### **The following actions have taken place:**

Despite the delays as detailed above, progress has been made in the following areas.

1. Staff have continued to move forward on the actions of the Youth Advisory Committee. These actions included ensuring the existing Committee was appropriately acknowledged for their contribution via a Christmas celebration.

Staff are also considering the impact of COVID-19 on the engagement approach planned for the reference group. They are planning to facilitate a digital framework which will allow consultation with young people without requiring a face to face event.

2. In relation to the new Access and Social Inclusion Advisory Group, the draft Terms of Reference were sent to current members for feedback. Again COVID-19 has proven to be a barrier. Without the ability to meet current members face to face, no feedback has been received. Staff will endeavour to connect with these current members to gain feedback, with a view to draft EOI documentation for release in late February/March.

Also, the internal Disability Access and Inclusion Working group (DAIWG) was established with representation across departments. This group has continued to meet regularly to discuss a number of cross-organisational issues and high priorities from Council's Disability Access and inclusion Plan. Staff from the (DAIWG) also recently undertook Disability Awareness Training.

3. Staff have commenced preliminary actions toward the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This commitment is a vital step that is required prior to re-engaging with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

This has included:

- a. Manager Community Development met with Shona Reid, Executive Director of Reconciliation SA in November 2021 to discuss our journey so far and to scope the future path to re-engagement with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- b. Reconciliation SA have now appointed a dedicated role to assist Local Government in the development of Reconciliation Action Plans.
- c. There are 4 types of Reconciliation Action Plans (RAP's) The four RAP types are **Reflect, Innovate, Stretch** and **Elevate**.
- d. It was recommended that Council consider starting with a Reflect RAP 'Committing to a Reflect RAP means scoping and developing relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, deciding on your vision for reconciliation and exploring your sphere of influence'.
- e. Developing a Reflect RAP will assist Council in defining our internal commitment to reconciliation as well as scope the path to re-engaging with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

### **Future Action**

With leadership from relevant staff, the action groups will co-design and lead an annual consultation/engagement process that will inform the annual actions of the groups in a 'best fit approach' for each reference group. These consultation/engagement activities will occur throughout the 2022 year.

The above summarises the actions of these groups to date and further updates will be provided quarterly in May 2022.