

**OFFICERS REPORT****ADVOCACY ON INCLUSIONARY ZONING**

Submitting Councillor: Cr Rebecca Paterson

**MOTION**

*That Council writes to the major political parties, requesting that they commit to the introduction of inclusionary zoning for affordable housing as part of a major reform to planning in Victoria in the lead up to the next State election.*

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

If passed the motion would not require any additional expenditure.

**IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES**

If passed the motion would not have an impact on internal resources.

**COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

The motion relates to the Council Plan Objective of Monash being “A Liveable and Sustainable City” and “An Inclusive Community”. In addition, the Monash Housing Strategy 2014 supports advocacy for new initiatives in support of housing affordability, diversity and accessibility.

In addition, the Council’s Draft budget 2018-19 includes a new initiative to prepare an Affordable Housing Strategy for Monash. The advocacy proposed in the NOM if adopted would provide for additional direction for the development of the Affordable Housing Strategy.

**RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES**

Council is a member of Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) together with the municipalities of Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges. A key priority for the EAHA this year is to undertake an advocacy campaign to gain commitment from the major political parties in acknowledging the shortfall of social housing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region, and committing to redressing that shortfall.

The other major ask in the EAHA advocacy campaign is to request the commitment of parties to introducing inclusionary zoning as a mechanism to assist in addressing the shortfall in affordable housing, of all varieties. This motion supports that action.

***FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS***

This advocacy request builds on pilot work that the State Government is currently undertaking on several government-owned land holdings across Melbourne.

The introduction of inclusionary zoning as a State wide approach, where there is a standard requirement similar in principle to an open space contribution, would provide consistency and certainty to all parties. It would also avoid unnecessary and costly duplication of effort on a council by council basis.