

7.3.1 REQUEST TO CONVENE A MEETING TO HEAR BUDGET SUBMISSIONS - 2027/28 BUDGET

Responsible Manager:	Kate Heissenbuttel, Manager Corporate Performance
Responsible Director:	Simone Wickes, Director Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves:

- 1. To convene a meeting for the purpose of hearing submissions from the public relating to the development of the 2027/28 Annual Budget, at 6:30pm on 1 December 2026 at the Monash Civic Centre, 293 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley.**
- 2. That the meeting be chaired by the Mayor and be constituted by all Councillors of the Council.**

INTRODUCTION

Council's Engagement Policy provides the community an opportunity to present their proposals directly and in more detail to Council to consider in the future as they undertake budget preparation. In alignment with this policy, Council will convene a meeting to hear submissions from the community relating to the development of the 2027/28 Annual Budget.

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

A council with good governance, strong leadership and community involvement in decision making

A Council that provides governance and leadership for the benefit of our community through community engagement, advocacy, decision making and action.

BACKGROUND

Each year Council must prepare an annual budget that considers funding services to the community, as well as investment in works like roads, footpaths, and other infrastructure. To ensure the annual budget responds to our community, Council is committed to seeking feedback early in the budgeting process.

To ensure community feedback, Council is undertaking targeted community engagement between 31 August and 18 October 2026. This engagement includes:

- A dedicated Shape Platform providing information, timeframes and touch points for engagement.
- Pop-up listening posts.
- Online project nomination process.
- Opportunity to present to Council.



As part of this engagement, Council offers the community members who make project nomination the opportunity to formally present their submissions to Council. It is proposed that this occurs at a delegated committee meeting on Tuesday, 1 December 2026 at 6:30pm.

Council will not be making any determinations about these project ideas at this meeting but rather listen to the submissions and ask any clarifying questions, in advance of its budget deliberations scheduled for early 2028.

DISCUSSION

Convening a meeting to provide all community members with an opportunity to participate in the budget process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report. Convening a meeting complies with Council's *Community Engagement Policy* and its *Annual Planning Process 2027/28 Annual Budget Community Engagement Plan*.

CONSULTATION

Community engagement to inform the 2027/28 Annual Budget is open between 31 August and 18 October. An engagement report summarizing the findings will be published thereafter.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This option forms part of a broader community consultation approach. Community members will have the opportunity to present their project nominations in a variety of ways, ensuring that all community members have an equitable opportunity.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The Annual Budget, and the community engagement process undertaken, contributes to the Monash community "taking part in public life", one of the 20 rights considered in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

There are no human rights that are being limited or interfered with.



GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A Gender Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of this work because this policy/program/service is considered to have a direct and significant impact on the Monash community.

CONCLUSION

Council should consider convening a meeting to receive submissions to allow the community to formally provide their project nominations to Council in accordance with the 2027/28 budget community engagement plan.

ATTACHMENT LIST

Nil