

OFFICERS' REPORT**TACKLING COMMUNITY SAFETY – TIME TO REOPEN LOCAL POLICE STATIONS CLOSED IN MONASH**

Submitting Councillor: Cr Zographos

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Expresses its dismay that the people of Monash do not have their local police stations opened in Mount Waverley, Clayton and Burwood appropriately;*
- 2. Notes that the Burwood police station has been closed for more than three consecutive years;*
- 3. Notes that the Mount Waverley police station has had its opening hours decreased from sixteen hours to only eight hours a day, five days a week;*
- 4. Notes that the Clayton police station has yet to become open for 24 hours, as Council has called for since June 2014;*
- 5. Directs the Mayor to write to the Minister for Police expressing its disappointment that a key election commitment to not close any police stations has been broken and that Council's views regarding the Mount Waverley and Clayton police stations have not been acted upon; and*
- 6. Directs the Mayor to write to all residents living in Mount Waverley, Clayton and Burwood to inform them of this decision and asking them to sign a petition calling on the Victorian Government to honour its promise of not closing any police stations and decreasing police resources in Monash.*

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

If the notice of motion is passed, there will be budget implications related to the cost of posting letters to all the residents of Mount Waverley, Clayton and Burwood.

IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES

There will also be an impact on staff resources in preparing the letters and identifying the nominated areas ready for dispatch.

COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

Community Safety Framework 2015-2020 states under Principle 2 and 3:

2. (13) Promote positive community interactions with Victoria Police and other emergency services through Community Safety Month, community events and community safety programs.

3. (20) In partnership with leading agencies including Victoria Police and emergency services, positively promote Community Safety Month and community safety events, programs, activities and Council communications.

RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

In response to previous NOM's seeking clarification on the status of the police stations situated in the City of Monash, letters have been written to the Minister for Police, Lisa Neville and the Chief Commissioner, Graham Ashton in May 2017 and to Mark Galliot, Superintendent from the Chief Commissioners' Office in September 2017.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The Burwood Police Station resides in the City of Whitehorse and the Community is advised to access police stations at Forest Hill, Box Hill and Camberwell. It should be noted that the Burwood Police Station operates within the Whitehorse Police Service Area and not the Monash Police Service Area. However, some Monash residents who live close to the station may access the station's services.

The Police Stations at Clayton and Mount Waverley continue to provide the same level of service to the community as they have for the past decade.