

OFFICERS' ADVICE**MOTION TO THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING OF MAV – PHARMACOTHERAPY**

Submitting Councillor: Mayor & Cr Josh Fergeus

MOTION

That Council supports the following motion to the Municipal Association of Victoria May 2018 State Council. The motion to be submitted is:

'That the MAV support an advocacy campaign calling for better access and affordability of pharmacotherapy across Victoria, including increasing prescribing physicians and participating pharmacies. The campaign will also seek to decrease stigma towards drug dependence treatment and support improved outcomes for community members seeking therapy to overcome pharmaceutical opioid/mixed drug use dependence.'

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

A commitment to Pharmacotherapy advocacy has already been addressed and work in this space has begun. Any further budget implications as a result of this motion would be through minimal council officer hours.

IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES

There will be no direct impact internal resources. Currently City of Monash has submitted an application to the Alcohol & Drug Foundation for funding support to become a Local Drug Action Team. If successful council would receive a minimum of \$10,000 to help support existing work in starting a local action working group, this resource will be allocated to support this motion.

COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

This motions supports the ongoing commitment from council in actions within 'A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan'. Specifically as covered in the year one action plan around building healthy lifestyles and the prevention of harm:

- *Facilitate opportunities for the community to better understand how to prevent and/or minimise harm from alcohol, smoking and other drugs.*

RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

A motion to the Municipal Association of Victoria is a part of the commitment made by City of Monash in its application to the Alcohol & Drug Foundation for funding support to become a Local Drug Action Team. As a part of its proposed community action plan, City of Monash has committed to a range of actions including:

- *Public health campaign messaging to raise community awareness about pharmaceutical opioid/mixed use drug dependence and pharmacotherapy treatment. Also seeking to address negative perceptions and stigmatisation associated with drug dependence and treatment.*
- *Advocating to the State Government for greater access, affordability and the reduction of stigma associated with Pharmacotherapy through the submission of a Motion to the MAV State Council Meeting May 2018.*

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Nil