

## 5.5 WORKING TOGETHER: PROMOTING EFFECTIVE INTERACTION BETWEEN COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

Responsible Senior Officer: Jarrod Doake, Chief Operating Officer

### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council notes the Report.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The CEO has developed *Working Together: Promoting Effective Interaction between Councillors and staff* (“*Working Together*”) in consultation with Councillors.

### **BACKGROUND**

The *Local Government Act 2020* (“*Act*”) includes a requirement that the CEO manage interactions between Councillors and staff, including the development of documentation to guide such interactions (section 46(3)(c)).

### **DISCUSSION**

It is known that effective interaction between Councillors and staff is vital to good governance.

This is recognised in section 46(3)(c) of the *Act*, which makes the CEO responsible for managing interactions between Councillors and staff, as well developing documentation to guide such interactions (effective 1 July 2021).

The CEO has developed *Working Together* in consultation with Councillors and it is thought the protocol encapsulates a number of the positive cultural elements occurring at Monash already.

### **CONSULTATION**

Councillors have been consulted during the development of *Working Together*.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

### **CONCLUSION**

*Working Together* will play a valuable role in promoting effective interactions between Councillors and staff, thereby enhancing good governance.