

5.3 ADVISORY COMMITTEES (NA.)

Responsible Officer: Jarrod Doake, Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to continue to appoint advisory committees, as required, and retains its current advisory committees.

INTRODUCTION

This report proposes that the Council confirms its retention of the advisory committees structure that it currently has in place.

BACKGROUND

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, councils could expressly appoint advisory committees and this Council has had a long-standing practice of appointing advisory committees to provide it with advice across a wide range of activities.

The new *Local Government Act 2020* provides for the appointment of delegated and community asset committees, but makes no reference to advisory committees.

DISCUSSION

Advice received from Council's lawyers and information subsequently provided to the sector by Local Government Victoria is that there is no impediment to a council continuing to appoint advisory committees.

Given the important part that advisory committees have played over many years, in providing advice and assistance to Council, across a wide variety of activities, it is considered appropriate that Council continues to appoint advisory committees and retains the advisory committees that were appointed prior to the commencement of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications with this recommendation.

CONCLUSION

Despite the absence of advisory committees as a category of committee in the new *Local Government Act 2020*, it is recommended that Council continues to appoint advisory committees, as required, given the important part that such bodies have played over many years, in providing advice and assistance to Council, across a wide variety of activities.