

2023-24 Draft Budget and Proposed Fees and Charges - Have Your Say

Notice is hereby given that Colac Otway Shire Council has prepared the 2023-24 Draft Budget and proposed fees and charges, with the community invited to make written submissions.

The Draft Budget and proposed fees and charges have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

A copy of the Draft Budget is available on Council's website.

Submissions

Any person wishing to make a submission on the Draft Budget and proposed fees must lodge the submission in writing by 5pm Monday 5 June 2023.

Online: Visit Council's website and complete the online form.

Post: Written submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Colac Otway Shire, PO Box 283, Colac VIC 3250.

Email: Submissions may also be submitted by email to inq@colacotway.vic.gov.au with the subject line being Budget Submission.

Any person making a written submission is entitled to state in the submission that they wish to be heard at a Submissions Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14 June 2023.

Submitters should note that unless a submitter requests to the contrary, copies of submissions (including the submitter's name) may also be included in the Council meeting agenda, which are a permanent public record, and published on Council's website for an indefinite period.

Council will meet to formally consider the Budget at the Council meeting on Wednesday 28 June 2023 at 4pm at COPACC.

Any person requiring further information concerning any of the documents or the making of a written submission should contact Council on (03) 5232 9400.

Community Care - Service Review

At its meeting on Wednesday 3 May 2023, Council resolved to undertake a Best Value Review of Council's aged and disability services.

The Commonwealth Government has announced a new national system for aged care that will be implemented from 1 July 2024. The new system will introduce significant changes that have the potential to impact Council's capacity to deliver high quality aged and disability services to the community.

The Best Value Review will report on Council's delivery of home and community care services to assist older people, those recovering from acute care and people with disabilities to continue to live independently in the community, including the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Home and Community Care for Younger People Program.

Consultation with the community will be a critical part of the process of the Best Value Review. It is important for Council to get the views and thoughts of staff, clients and family members, to ensure a fully informed review. A range of opportunities will be provided for people to have their say during the process. Further information will be provided on how the community can access those opportunities.

A report on the Best Value Review, including all feedback collected during the consultation period, will be presented at a future Council meeting.

Family Day Care Educators - Colac Otway Shire

Subcontractor/Flexible Hours

Colac Otway Shire Council is seeking Family Day Care Educators to provide Family Day Care throughout the Colac Otway Shire.

Family Day Care is a great way to provide childcare to families as well as being able to work flexible hours from your own home.

We are looking for people who are passionate about working with children, building on their development and are prepared to be a part of a motivated and dedicated team.

"We're fortunate enough to only have four children in care at the one time, so we're able to spend that time to get to know that family and child" - Maree, Family Day Care Educator.

For a position description and information about becoming a FDC Educator or more information about working from your own home, please check out Council's Family & Children's Service Webpage www.colacotway.vic.gov.au or email familydaycare@colacotway.vic.gov.au



Colac Otway welcomes new citizens

At a Citizenship Ceremony on Thursday 4 May, we welcomed twenty new Australian Citizens.

Congratulations to all! It was a lovely ceremony with many family and friends of the conferees celebrating this important and special occasion.



We're recruiting

Colac Otway Shire Council is an exciting place to work. If you are passionate about delivering great customer service, working for a progressive and innovative council, and making a difference to your local community, we would love to hear from you!

- **Enhanced Family Support Worker (closes 8/5/23)**
- **Multipurpose Officer Parks & Gardens (closes 15/5/23)**
- **Multipurpose Officer/Plant Operator (closes 16/5/23)**
- **Manager Port of Apollo Bay (closes 17/5/23)**
- **Senior Project Manager (closes 18/5/23)**

For a position description and to apply online, visit www.colacotway.vic.gov.au or contact Human Resources on (03) 5232 9529.



Colac Botanic Gardens - notice of times for temporary closure

Please note, the Colac Botanic Gardens will be closed to vehicle traffic from Tuesday 2 May for Council to recommence a 'nudging' program of Grey-headed Flying Foxes to encourage the native animals to roost in more robust trees in the Gardens.

Pedestrian access to the Colac Botanic Gardens will also be closed from 6.30am to 9am each morning for the duration of the program.

The closure is to ensure community safety and welfare of the Flying Foxes. Council apologises for any inconvenience caused by closures.

More information on the program can be found on Council's website.



Planning Committee meeting

The next meeting of the Colac Otway Shire Council Planning Committee is scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday 10 May 2023

Time: 4pm

Venue: COPACC (95 - 97 Gellibrand Street, Colac)

Planning Committee meetings are open to the public and interested people are welcome to attend.

Only those who lodged a submission and requested to speak to their submission can address the meeting.

The Planning Committee meeting will be livestreamed to the public via Council's YouTube channel (search Colac Otway Shire Council at www.youtube.com).

Copies of the meeting agenda will be available on Council's website from today Friday 5 May 2023.



Local Law Review - Community engagement survey and submissions close today

Local Laws are designed to keep our community safe, protect public assets and enhance amenity within the shire.

The Local Laws Review project seeks to review Council's existing Local Laws 1, 2 and 3 with a view to integrate the three local laws into a single contemporary Local Law designed to improve and protect the amenity of the shire.

Objectives of the Local Laws Review aim to remove unnecessary or unused provisions and introduce new provisions to address any issues and identified deficiencies in the current Local Laws.

Today is your last opportunity to have your say, visit Council's website to complete an online survey - click Have Your Say from the homepage (click to Local Law Review).

Hard copies of the survey are also available at Council's Customer Service Centres in Colac (2-6 Rae Street) and Apollo Bay (GORVIC - 100 Great Ocean Road).

