



Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Inquiry: Inquiry into Local Government funding and services

Hearing Date: 21 August 2024

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Strathbogie Shire Council

Received Date: 18 September 2024

1. **Moira DEEMING, Page 49**

Question asked:

Moira DEEMING: I would love a list from all of you about what you think are core business priorities and responsibilities of council as opposed to everything else. You can take that one on notice.

Tim TAMLIN: Yes. I would be able to provide you one of those lists. I have started doing that – getting ready for the induction of the new councillors – and when you start looking at all the Acts and the regulations, you are strung by those. The things that are elective are very, very minimal. There is hardly anything. It is tricky. I will take it on notice.

Response:

The following list of services has been developed using information provided by the Municipal Association of Victoria which is available at the following address:

<https://www.viccouncils.asn.au/what-councils-do/council-services>

Due to the legislative framework in which Council operates, it would be difficult to highlight what the core services of a modern local government agency should be restricted to. The Act provides for a very broad range of services and programs and in my experience, councils support their communities differently depending on demographics, community needs and wishes expressed during deliberative consultative processes.

The challenge is to find a sustainable funding model to ensure the services provided can continue and thereby contribute to the wellbeing of the community, regardless of who delivers the service.”

Functional Area	Service Description
Aged care & disability	In home care: delivered meals, respite care, personal care, home maintenance
Aged care & disability	Social support and activity groups
Aged care & disability	Disabled parking zones and disabled parking permits
Aged care & disability	Senior citizens centres and groups
Aged care & disability	Accessible transport
Aged care & disability	Community buses
Aged care & disability	Volunteer programs
Aged care & disability	Street-trader compliance with disability access standards.
Arts & culture	Art galleries and art trails (Artbox)
Arts & culture	Theatres and performing arts venues
Arts & culture	Public libraries and mobile library services
Arts & culture	Historical buildings and museums
Arts & culture	Council and community halls
Arts & culture	Community centres
Arts & culture	Public art and public festivals/events
Arts & culture	Citizenship ceremonies and community awards.
Business services	Licences: food premises, health (beauty) and body art premises, and accommodation premises (rooming houses, hotels, motels, hostels, dormitories, bed and breakfast)
Business services	Permits: business parking, skip bins, busking, footpath trading, personal fitness, mobile food trucks, signage, home-based businesses, fundraising and door-to-door collection, market stalls.
Cleaning & waste	Street litter bins and street cleaning
Cleaning & waste	Waste transfer stations and landfills
Cleaning & waste	Kerbside waste and recycling bin collection
Cleaning & waste	Removal of dumped rubbish and hard rubbish pickups
Cleaning & waste	Litter traps and blocked drains
Cleaning & waste	Green waste collection service
Cleaning & waste	Worm farms and compost bins
Cleaning & waste	Collection of State Government landfill levy
Cleaning & waste	Graffiti removal.
Community development	Community grants programs
Community development	Community engagement through working groups, meetings and committees

Community development	Neighbourhood planning
Community development	Support for community groups – networking, advice and skills workshops
Community development	Prevention of violence against women – planning and support programs
Community development	Aboriginal development and reconciliation support.
Emergency management	Emergency management plans for the municipality, in partnership with other emergency services agencies
Emergency management	Undertaking fire prevention activities including issuing fire prevention notices and working with fire agencies to reduce fire risks
Emergency management	Planning overlay controls to address risks to properties such as fire and flood
Emergency management	Operating relief and recovery centres during/after an emergency
Emergency management	Coordinating emergency shelter for displaced people and animals
Emergency management	Assessing occupancy of damaged buildings, safety of sites after an emergency, and overseeing rebuilding (permits/inspections).
Environment	Tree planting and street tree maintenance
Environment	Water catchment protection
Environment	Permits for tree clearing, open air burning off, collection of firewood
Environment	Compliance with state and federal native vegetation laws
Environment	Reticulated sewerage and permits for septic tanks
Environment	Stormwater drains and stormwater reuse
Environment	Forest regulation enforcement
Environment	Roadside weeds and pest control
Equality & diversity	Victoria's Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, and must comply with Federal laws
Family & children	Child care: long day care, occasional care, family day care, after school care
Family & children	Neighbourhood and community houses
Family & children	Playgroups and toy libraries
Family & children	Kindergarten programs, buildings and central enrolment services
Family & children	Maternal and Child Health centres provide regular check-ups for all babies from birth – six years, parenting advice and support, new parent groups
Family & children	Immunisations: delivered through schools, workplaces and free community sessions.

Health & safety	Public health: registration and inspection of health (beauty) premises and prescribed accommodation
Health & safety	Food regulation in Victoria: inspections, permits and registrations
Health & safety	Community safety: CCTV security cameras, safe taxi ranks, school crossing safety
Health & safety	Emergency management planning
Health & safety	Public toilets
Health & safety	Street lighting
Health & safety	Litter bins
Health & safety	Cemeteries
Health & safety	Infection disease control
Health & safety	Swimming pools, spas and their safety barriers
Health & safety	Tobacco: enforcement of smoking laws and bans on sale of cigarettes and vapes to minors
Health & safety	Monitoring for noise, smells, smoke and pest control.
Local laws & permits	Parking permits (resident and disabled),
Local laws & permits	Business permits (street trading, entertainment permits, prescribed accommodation, health & beauty and food safety premises permits, mobile food truck permits, busking permits)
Local laws & permits	Event permits (community and major events)
Local laws & permits	Filming permits
Local laws & permits	Planning and building permits.
Local laws & permits	Animal welfare and registration
Local laws & permits	Tree and plant maintenance.
Parks & gardens	Public parks and gardens
Parks & gardens	Playgrounds
Parks & gardens	Barbeque, picnic, rubbish and public toilet facilities
Parks & gardens	Tree preservation and urban greening
Parks & gardens	Conservation of bushland reserves and wetlands
Parks & gardens	Walking trails and shared bike paths
Parks & gardens	Hire and permits for public open space functions and activities.
Pets & animals	Pet ownership: pet registration, off-lead areas and disposal bags, permits for keeping animals, micro chipping days
Pets & animals	Animal shelters: pet adoption and reuniting lost pets with owners
Pets & animals	Livestock permits
Pets & animals	Control of pests and nuisance animals

Pets & animals	Registering and monitoring of pet breeding businesses
Pets & animals	Investigation of barking dogs, dog attacks and other animal complaints.
Planning & building	Land use regulation, zone and overlay controls
Planning & building	Planning application assessments and permits
Planning & building	Neighbourhood character plans
Planning & building	Heritage overlays, protection and advice
Planning & building	Energy efficient housing design support
Planning & building	Building permits
Planning & building	Construction noise compliance
Planning & building	Building regulation safety and compliance
Planning & building	Provision of property information.
Roads & transport	Local roads and bridges
Roads & transport	Footpaths and cycle paths
Roads & transport	Bus shelters
Roads & transport	Community transport
Roads & transport	Parking spaces and signage
Roads & transport	Parking permits and ticket machines
Roads & transport	Parking infringements
Roads & transport	Traffic signs and road treatments to improve safety and reduce speeding
Roads & transport	Road closures for events and roadworks
Roads & transport	School crossing safety
Roads & transport	Street cleaning.
Sport & recreation	Sports ovals, courts and fields, and changing room facilities
Sport & recreation	Leisure/recreation/sports centres
Sport & recreation	Public swimming pools and aquatic recreation facilities
Sport & recreation	Community and youth centres
Sport & recreation	Golf courses
Sport & recreation	Play spaces and playgrounds
Sport & recreation	Recreational trails (walking and bikes tracks)
Sport & recreation	Hire of community halls
Sport & recreation	Skate parks.
Sport & recreation	Tenancy lease agreements
Youth services	Youth centres and drop-in spaces
Youth services	Skate parks, recreation and sporting facilities
Youth services	Personal support including advice, counselling and referral services

Youth services	Homework clubs
Youth services	Neighbourhood and community houses
Youth services	L to P driver program
Youth services	Youth festivals
Youth services	Youth advisory groups and committees
Youth services	Youth programs such as arts and music, education and skills training, mentoring and leadership, social groups.