

Meeting Summary

Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct - Community Advisory Group

Meeting details

Meeting title:	Community Advisory Group	No:	9
Date:	Tuesday 12 March 2019	Time:	4.30pm to 5.15pm
Location:	Malmsbury Town Hall, 91 Mollison Street, Malmsbury		

Attendees

Community Advisory Group members: Joesph Tonu (Chair, General Manager, Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct), Christine Barker (community member), Robyn King (Macedon Ranges Shire Council), Anthony Stephens (community member), Justin Sawyers (Director).

Other attendees: Louise Baring (Communications Manager, New Builds, DJCS)

Apologies:

Christopher Bromley (community member), Len Norman (Director, Youth Justice Custodial Services), Chris Large (Victoria Police, Local Area Commander), Sandy Owen (Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-Operative),

Meeting overview

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked CAG members for attending.

Feedback on alleged staff conduct

A/General Manager received feedback of allegations of a small number of potential staff or construction workers relating to poor driving practices through town. Feedback was also received that potential staff were smoking or playing loud music in groups where they disrupted local residents.

The department confirmed;

- It takes reports of staff behaviour that negatively impacts the local community extremely seriously and are investigated all actions
- Any case in which a staff member does not meet our high standards is extremely disappointing and will not be tolerated. Where behaviours are of a criminal nature, they will be referred to Victoria Police.
- All staff have been reminded of the expectations the department has on their conduct and behaviours and their responsibility to display our organisational values within the local community.
- Since the feedback was received, no further incidents have been reported.

Sewage system at Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct

The department received feedback on the Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct sewage system as follows;

- concerns over the integrity of the system and the potential for adverse impacts on the Coliban Water system, including a spill
- reports of recent blockages in the system
- potential shut down of the precinct due to a failure in the sewage system.

A/General Manager confirmed that upon discussions with Coliban Water no events have occurred where the precinct has directly impacted Coliban Water between October 2017 and February 2019.

Further meetings with Coliban water will occur to understand the issues raised and further information will be shared with CAG members.

Community feedback and communications

Newsletter

The department confirmed the Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct Newsletter was distributed.

The feedback from the group on the newsletter was received as follows;

- positive feedback from Malmsbury community on the distribution and detail of the newsletter
- community members stated this was the most detail they had received on the precinct for quite some time
- interest in the ongoing editions.

Community enquiries

The department confirmed one enquiry was received from a community member on the access road and if any new access roads were being built as a part of the bed expansion. The department confirmed that no new access roads to the facility are being built, just a temporary road being utilise during construction.

Terms of Reference

The Community Advisory Group (CAG) Terms of Reference were reviewed and discussed. The functions of the group were discussed which include;

- attending CAG meetings
- identifying relevant issues of public interest or concern in relation to the precinct and report these to CAG meetings
- providing advice on matters of significance raised in relation to the Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct through wider community feedback and the group's own deliberations

- providing advice on effective communication arrangements to be established with interested residents, community and special interest groups, businesses, local council and relevant government agencies to ensure appropriate communication.

The group agreed that the functions of the CAG and Terms of Reference were appropriate for the group.

The group noted that the functions of sharing information between the department and community members was well established.

Discussions on learnings from the department's other Community Advisory Groups was discussed and if any key learnings can be shared with the group.

Project update

The sixteen bed accommodation units are nearing completion, with the external painting completed. The internal fit out, including the kitchens for young people and staff areas, work is continuing.

The services work in the Programs and Education buildings are substantially complete with the internal fit out underway.

The gatehouse expansion is largely complete including secure glazing window and louvres. Internal fit out is still yet to occur.

Secure perimeter fencing works, including the raceway and painting are continuing.

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (enterprise arm Djandak) has commissioned artwork and landscaping design concepts, which has been approved by Youth Justice. early May 2019 – Forecast date for completion.
