WRITTEN STATEMENTS 20 July 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

<u>Item 10.2</u> Financial Plan 2021–22 to 2030–31

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- Mr George Reynolds
 Mr Paul Langley

Item 10.2 Financial Plan 2021–22 to 2030–31

1. Mr George Reynolds

Have Your Say.

Council Meeting 20th July 2021.

Agenda Item 10.2 Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030 – 31.

This report appears to be yet another attempt by Council to put in place a long term strategy without following the newly introduced requirements of the Local Government Act 2020. The Financial Plan is listed in s91(4) of The Act as one which must be prepared in accordance with "its deliberative engagement practices". The 2021 Plan must also be adopted by 31st October 2021.

Councillors why have you not published a Public Notice that you had made an Engagement Plan Overview and were making it available to all?

Where and when has an invitation to participate in engagement been offered to community groups known to be affected by the matter?

Where is the fairness and the avoidance of bias against those who regularly question the correctness of your financial practices?

Most importantly, where is the report of the deliberative engagement and what level of influence is the community to be given over the outcome?

Councillors, you appear to have conducted a community engagement process at the highest level of secrecy, rather than the highest level of involvement mandated by Principles 2 and 3 of your Community Engagement Policy. The absence of a summary of engagement as required by Principle 5 suggests that a valid Community Engagement did not take place at all.

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2. Mr Paul Langley

Council appears to have prepared a Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 in the manner required by the Local Government Act 2020 at s91(1) and s91(2).

However, Council has not published the Engagement Plan Overview for the mandated deliberative engagement process, related to this plan; and under Item 10.2 in the meeting agenda, the report of the compulsory deliberative engagement process has not been published nor referred to.

In the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31, there is no recognition of the major management involvement which is planned for the Beneficial Enterprise being the development agreement dated 22 September 2020, entered into by the Council with the Victorian School Building Authority, for a Council funded Netball Centre and cricket ground at Sandringham Secondary College, Holloway Road, Sandringham. The financial requirement for such an important joint venture, which must proceed to a beneficial enterprise, has not been identified in the plan.