## 6.4a OFFICER'S REPORT

### **VISION SUPER**

Submitting Councillor: Cr Robert Davies, Cr Lynnette Saloumi

#### **MOTION**

That Council

- Notes the comments in the 'Councillor News' in the May edition of the Monash Bulletin, detailed below,
- Notes that Vision Super is the default superfund for Council employees, Cr Lake is currently Chairman of Vision Super.
- Notes that as of 30 June 2018, the Vision Superfund, the trustee for our employees Superannuation investments, held 1.75% of its Australian Equity holdings in Woolworths Group Limited, and 1.53% of its Australian Equity holding in Aristocrat Leisure Ltd. Both of these holdings were within the Vision Superfunds Top 20 Australian Equity holdings and underweight their ASX300 index weight,
- That the Mayor writes to the CEO and Directors of Vision Super, requesting clarification of Vision Super's views on the following,
- o Does Vision superfund hold an investment or board policy consistent with the statement that Woolworths Group and Aristocrat Leisure are "receiving benefits funded from the human misery caused by their everyday operations"?
- o If such a policy is so held, why do they continue to invest in business's causing 'human misery'?
- o Does Vision Super have a policy regarding Directors making public statements about the investments held by Vision Super? How often do directors of Vision Super make public commentary on investments held by Vision Super, expressing personal or professional views on the quality or integrity of the investments held in trust for our Monash Council employee's retirement?
- Authorises the CEO to survey employees on their satisfaction with the service they receive from Vision Super as Monash Council's default superfund provider for employees.

# **OFFICER RESPONSE**

Council's current Enterprise Agreement (No 8 2016 Clause 4.5) lists Council as a participating Employer of the Vision Super Defined Benefits Plan and/or the Vision Super Saver Scheme and shall participate in accordance with the Trust Deed of Vision Super Pty Ltd and the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act, 1993. Vision Super as the default fund, if an employee does not nominate a fund they are automatically set up as a Vision Super member,

alternatively the employee can nominate any complying fund (choice of fund) or Self-Managed fund if they wish to do so.

Employees engaged as Registered Nurses have the option to elect superannuation membership to Health Super, HESTA or Vision Super Saver. Vision Super Saver will continue to be the default fund where no such election takes place.

The Vision Defined benefit (DB) plan is required by law to have an actuarial investigation at least once every three years. In addition, because DB provides lifetime pensions, a mini-review is held every year in-between. Vision Super monitors the vested benefit (VB) position of the sub-plan on a quarterly basis and provides regular updates.<sup>1</sup> As part of Council's Strategic Risk profile, officers monitor the VB index on a quarterly basis. Information regarding Vision Super investment performance and regulatory framework can be found on the Vision website.<sup>2</sup>

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES

Nil

#### COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

In May 2016, Council adopted a Gambling Policy Statement and has also resolved to be a member of the Alliance for Gambling Reform, a national collaboration of organisations with a shared concern about the harmful impacts of gambling in Australia.

### RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

The City of Monash Public Health Approach to Gambling Policy Statement 2016-2020, Monash City Council has previously taken a firm stance around minimising gambling-related harm in the local community. This includes a commitment to being actively engaged in reviewing how any current council policy or procedures could support the reduction of gambling harm.

#### **FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: <a href="https://www.visionsuper.com.au/employers/defined-benefit-information">https://www.visionsuper.com.au/employers/defined-benefit-information</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.visionsuper.com.au/