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1. PREAMBLE

1.1 Background

Community centres perform a vital role in empowering our community to pursue interests, hobbies and cultural activities and enhance their health, social connectedness and resilience.

Council currently has four community centres within the City boundaries which provide a range of activities to residents and visitors.

1.2 Purpose

The Policy intends to provide a strategic direction to guide the provision and development of the community centres within the City of Holdfast Bay. Furthermore the Policy aims to ensure the centres meet the need of the community, are robust, coordinated, sustainable and well managed.

1.3 Scope

In Scope

The Policy includes the following community centres:

- Brighton Community Centre
- Glenelg Community Centre
- Glenelg North Community Centre
- Holdfast Bay Community Centre

Out of Scope

Recreation centres, sporting hubs and other council owned facilities are excluded from this policy.

1.4 Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, Community Centres are defined as:-
Publicly accessible facilities that provide space for individuals, local organisations and community groups to meet, and for a range of social programs, services and activities which address the social needs of a community. (Landcom Community Centre Guidelines 2008)

1.5 Strategic Reference

Our Place Holdfast Bay Community Plan 2012-2015

- a. A Place with a Quality Lifestyle
“Support a network of community centres, which engage people to participate in community events, activities and programs”

“Support and develop programs, which promote a healthy and active lifestyle”
- b. A Place for Every Generation
“Foster and support community programs, which minimise isolation and disadvantage within the community”

“Provide assets, services and programs which accommodate the needs of an ageing community”

“Provide and promote services and activities which engage younger members of the community”

2. PRINCIPLES

The City of Holdfast Bay supports community centres that are managed in a way which:

- 2.1 Align programs, activities and services with Council’s strategic priorities
- 2.2 Are a welcoming, safe environment that create a sense of belonging
- 2.3 Provide an affordable space for a range of formal and informal activities
- 2.4 Are accessible to the community
- 2.6 Are responsive to community needs and trends
- 2.7 Ensures the centre management undertakes monitoring, evaluation and continuous improvement activities
- 2.8 Are sustainable and transparent in management and maintenance
- 2.9 Are adequately funded and resourced to provide the prescribed range of programs and services
- 2.10 Are the most efficient use of Council resources to ensure maximum community benefit
- 2.11 Ensures all activities involving children and vulnerable people are safely managed and there are appropriate safe guards and reporting mechanisms
- 2.12 Work collaboratively with Council and other stakeholders
- 2.13 Comply with legislative requirements including WHS
- 2.14 Supports open two way communication between the centre and Council

3. ASSOCIATED POLICIES

3.1 Lease agreements

The principles contained in this Policy will form part of the conditions in any new lease or lease renewal agreement.

4. REFERENCES

4.1 Legislation

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999:-

- **S6(c)** to encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life in the community
- **S7(b)** to provide services and facilities that benefit its area, its ratepayers and residents and visitors to the area including.... Health, welfare and community services or facilities, and cultural or recreational services or facilities
- **S7(c)** to provide for the welfare, well-being and interests of individuals and groups within the community
- **S8(b)** be responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its community
- **S8(h)** seek to ensure that council resources are used fairly, effectively and efficiently
- **S8(i)** seek to provide services, facilities and programs that are adequate and appropriate and seek to ensure equitable access to its service and activities and programs

4.2 Other References

Social Needs and Community Infrastructure Study (2012)
Community Centre Review (2014)
Community Leasing Policy (In progress)
Community Centres Framework (To be developed)