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██████████
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Housing, Building and Land Delivery
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Via email: ██████████ [ransport.vic.gov.au](mailto:transport.vic.gov.au)

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Dear ██████████

Public Consultation on the Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan, Amendment C109 to the Moorabool Planning Scheme

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the draft Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan (PSP), Amendment C109.

Melbourne Water supports the DTP as the lead in a 'whole of government' approach to planning new greenfield precincts, including for Merrimu PSP.

Melbourne Water's submission to the proposed amendment is comprised of detailed comments provided in the attachment, and this letter featuring a summary of key issues arising from the review.

1. Melbourne Water's drainage design

To implement a viable PSP, the plans must reflect Melbourne Water's drainage strategy design and associated shapefiles. Please note that the PSP does not reflect the shapefiles provided by Melbourne Water for public consultation. It is also not accurate in relation to changes in NDA around the Long Forest Estate land.

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Please also note that Melbourne Water's drainage strategy is likely to be subject to further refinements following public consultation. Melbourne Water will consider changes in response to drainage related submissions, and further technical work (in relation to outfalls and climate change sensitivity testing) may result in additional refinements.

2. Drainage delivery

Outfall catchments for the Merrimu PSP have the potential to be flexible to some extent given the natural characteristics of the land. Following the review of submissions, Melbourne Water will work collaboratively with DTP to establish indicative catchments for each PSP outfall and appropriate PSP plans, requirements and guidelines to support delivery. Fundamentally, however, Melbourne Water flags that it will require each outfall be constructed in its ultimate form prior to development occurring within the respective catchment.

3. Cultural heritage

At the time of writing, the Cultural Values Assessment and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment are outstanding, and thus Melbourne Water's current drainage strategy has not been informed by comprehensive cultural heritage inputs.

Once finalised, Melbourne Water intends to review the CVA and ACHIA and update Melbourne Water's drainage strategy and PSP positions as relevant to its remit.

4. Consistent plans and drafting

Consistency between plans, and which accurately reflect technical inputs, is paramount to ensure that land required for drainage and environmental protection is communicated clearly throughout the PSP.

With regards to drafting, it is pertinent to continue the 'learnings' of recently completed PSPs and to use those requirements and guidelines as a base/template where appropriate. For example, there has been a general consensus reached between Melbourne Water and DTP on drafting of standard drainage related application requirements in the Urban Growth Zone Schedule that have been 'tested' through previous standing advisory committee proceedings (such as for Croskell and Melton East PSPs) however the updated drafting positions have not been carried through for the Merrimu PSP.

5. Environmental factors

Distinctive environmental features and risks for the Merrimu precinct must be appropriately planned for. As detailed in Attachment 1, this includes:

- clear setbacks for development in relation to the escarpment (including defining the 'break of slope' setback point); and,
- development setbacks from areas of high erosion, with specific guidance on the management of sodic soils.

Should you have any questions regarding this project, please contact [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Acting Manager Strategic Planning on 8600 5592 or via
email [REDACTED]@melbournewater.com.au

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Senior Manager
DSS Catchment Planning and Engineering,
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Attachment 1: Merrimu PSP Public Consultation Submission.