Planning Panels Victoria
Department of Transport and Planning

1 Spring Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
GPO Box 2392
Melbourne, Victoria 3001
Telephone (03) 5381 9457

20 October 2026

Dear Submitter

Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee:
Draft Amendment C318yara – Cremorne Precinct

We are writing to you because you made a submission to draft Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C318yara (the Amendment) which proposes to implement new planning provisions to the Cremorne Precinct.

The Minister for Planning referred the Amendment to the Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee (the Committee) on 19 October 2026. The attached referral letter outlines the matters that the Minister for Planning is seeking advice from the Committee.

The Committee members who will consider this matter are Con Tsotsoros (Lead Chair) and Annabel Paul (Deputy Chair). For more information about the Committee including its Terms of Reference, visit the Planning Panels Victoria website.

For more information about the Amendment, visit Yarra City Council's website. Council is the Planning Authority for the Amendment.

This letter:

- tells you about the Committee process
- tells you what you need to do if you want to participate in the Committee process
- explains how the Committee will use information provided throughout the process
- sets out some key dates for the exchange of information before the Hearing.

The Committee process

The Committee process includes a Directions Hearing and a main Hearing.

The Committee will:

- consider submitters in an independent forum
- be informal and not like a court
- give fair, unbiased advice to Council and the Minister for Planning about the Amendment.

Submissions and other information presented throughout the process, including the Hearing, **will be treated as public documents**. Please carefully read the attached *Privacy Collection Notice*.

Privacy Statement
Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorised by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to the Privacy Coordinator, Department of Transport and Planning, GPO Box 2392, East Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

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Directions Hearing

The purpose of the Directions Hearing is for parties to introduce themselves, discuss the process and make arrangements for the main Hearing.

You should attend the Directions Hearing if you:

- are new to the Committee process and/or wish to participate in the Hearing
- have questions about the Committee process or wish to raise procedural issues.

At the Directions Hearing, the Committee will:

- give directions about exchanging information before the Hearing and the conduct of the Hearing
- consider Hearing times and venue and site inspections
- answer questions people have about the Committee process including the Hearing.

The Committee will issue written directions after considering all requests to be heard and any additional matters raised at the Directions Hearing.

The Directions Hearing will be held in person:
10:00am, Wednesday, 11 November 2026
Planning Panels Victoria
Hearing Room 1, Ground Floor, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne

Alternatively, you can join online by video using Microsoft Teams:
Link: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/482207828110141?p=rVqJ8VlLLJYJ8cV6Wv
Meeting ID: 482 207 828 110 141
Passcode: zz289X7m
Or dial in by phone (audio only): Call (03) 9070 4463 and enter phone conference ID 224 964 479#

Hearing

The purpose of the main Hearing is for people to speak to their written submission and to hear from Council. The Hearing is expected to start on Wednesday 2 December 2026 and may run for up to two weeks depending on how many submitters wish to be heard. The Hearing is open for anyone to observe.

The Committee will consider all referred written submissions when preparing its report, including those from submitters who do not attend the Hearing.

The Committee acknowledges that the timing of this referral does not allow for the hearing dates originally anticipated when the Amendment was exhibited. The Committee is working towards a condensed timeframe and will set aside time at the Directions Hearing to discuss this.

Key dates

The Key Information attached to this letter includes a list of key dates for circulating information in the leadup to the proposed Hearing commencement. If you wish to comment on the timing of the Hearing, key dates or any other matters but are unable to attend the Directions Hearing, you can provide comments in writing to office@planningpanels.vic.gov.au by 12 noon on Friday, 6 November 2026.

If you wish to be involved in the Hearing

Please complete the online request to be heard form by **12 noon on Friday 6 November 2026** if:

- you wish to be involved in the Hearing
- you do not wish to speak but would like a copy of the timetable and directions.

Notes on completing the online request to be heard form are attached.

Further Information

Please find attached to this letter:

- Guidance on completing the online request to be heard form
- Key information including proposed dates and directions, more about how like submissions will be treated, and the Foley's List Legal Assistance Service
- The *Privacy Collection Notice* which explains how your submission will be used by the Committee.

Further information including the *What is a Panel?* guide, *Guide to the Public Hearing* and *Frequently Asked Questions* are available at:

www.planningpanels.vic.gov.au/guides-and-resources

If you need a paper copy of these documents or if you have any other questions, please contact Chris Brennan, Planning Panels Victoria on (03) 9935 4142 or office@planningpanels.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Con Tsotsoros
Lead Chair

Completing the Request to be Heard Form

Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee:
Draft Amendment C318yara – Cremorne Precinct

When completing the online request to be heard form, please note the following details.

When will the Hearing be held?

The expected hearing dates are between 2/12/2026 and 18/12/2026.

What if I have availability issues during the expected hearing dates?

You can tell us when you are not available.

The Committee will accommodate your availability where possible.

Time required to present your submission

You will be allocated 10 minutes for your submission if this field is left blank.

Experts

An expert gives evidence in a field of expertise and must prepare an expert statement.

If you propose to call experts, you must:

- provide details of all experts on the request to be heard form – this includes their name, organisation, and field of expertise
- circulate expert reports at the time directed by the Committee before the Hearing.

Please note that it is critical the Committee receives this information about experts on time as it assists in planning the draft timetable for the Hearing before the Directions Hearing.

Experts may be directed to participate in a conference of experts and contribute to preparing a joint experts report.

Participants in the Hearing can generally cross-examine experts.

What happens after I complete the form?

If you complete this form, a letter with directions and a timetable for the Hearing will be emailed to you after the Directions Hearing. Your name and email address will be added to the Distribution List for circulating information, including reports and submissions for the Hearing unless you tell us otherwise.

What if I do not have an email address?

Please contact Planning Panels Victoria on (03) 5381 9457 as soon as possible if you need a form mailed to you. A paper copy of documents such as the timetable will be mailed to submitters who provide a postal address.

How will my contact information be used?

We will use your contact address to contact you. We will provide your email or postal address to participants in the Hearing so that they can share reports and submissions unless you tell us otherwise.

Access requirements

Please contact PPV with any access requirements. Some Hearings are at PPV, some are at other locations (for example, local Council offices) and some are held online. PPV Hearing Rooms are equipped with a hearing loop, and a laptop and projector if required. If the Hearing is held at another location, we may need to ensure access requirements can be met.

Summary of proposed key dates and directions

The following dates are proposed:

Time	Date	Documents to be circulated and other matters
12 noon	Friday, 13 November 2026	Parties calling evidence to confirm expert details
12 noon	Monday, 23 November 2026	Council background and context submission
12 noon	Wednesday, 25 November 2026	Expert statement(s)
12 noon	Monday, 30 November 2026	Any supplementary submission from a party not appearing at the Hearing
12 noon	Tuesday, 1 December 2026	Council 'Version 1' of the Amendment documentation
12 noon	Tuesday, 1 December 2026	Documents or material to be presented on Day 1 of the Hearing
10:00am	Wednesday, 2 December 2026	**Hearing commences**
12 noon	TBC, only if required	Comments on final drafting

How 'like submissions' will be treated

In determining whether submissions are like submissions, the Committee may have regard to any of the following (section 158C(2) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*):

- whether the issues raised in the submissions are the same or substantially the same
- whether the wording of the submissions is the same or substantially the same
- any other relevant matter.

Submitters who prepared like submissions should note:

- if a lead submitter is designated, the Committee will only be required to hear from the lead submitter
- if no lead submitter is designated because no person consents to being designated, the Committee is not required to hear from any submitters who prepared submissions that are the same or substantially the same.

Refer to sections 158C, 158D and 158E of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Foley's List Legal Assistance Service

The Legal Assistance Service, offered by Foley's List barristers, offers low-cost or no-cost legal support to eligible submitters in Planning Panel Victoria hearings. Available to individuals and community groups, the service offers legal advice and representation to help participants navigate PPV processes (subject to barrister availability). Assistance ranges from preliminary advice to full representation, with fees reduced or waived. To participate, submitters must meet eligibility criteria. More information about the service is available on the PPV website, including information on who to contact at Foley's List to apply for the service.

Planning Panels Victoria Privacy Notice

Your personal information will be collected during this Committee process for the purpose of documenting your views about the Amendment, advising Council and the Minister for Planning about the Amendment, and communicating with you throughout the Committee process.

While the Committee process is underway

Natural justice for all participants and transparency are important parts of the Committee process. The Committee may conduct any Hearing it holds in public and will keep a public record of the material provided to the Committee. Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) may:

- provide a copy of your material with all contact details to Council, government agencies and other parties to the Hearing
- provide a copy of your material to any other person who requests it (your personal information will be removed first)
- provide a copy of your material to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) if needed for preparing Ministerial briefings
- publicly display a copy of your material in the PPV Office or Hearing room
- direct that a copy of your material be publicly displayed in the relevant local council office or DTP regional office.

Hearings

The Committee may conduct a Hearing, either in person or using video conferencing. Hearings by video conference have special privacy requirements. If you choose to participate in the Hearing, you should be aware:

- a link to the Hearing will be published on the internet, and third parties will be able to join the Hearing and observe
- the Committee may broadcast the Hearing live on the internet.

The Committee may make a recording of the Hearing and may provide a copy of any recording to any person who requests it. Where Hearings are recorded, generally audio only is recorded (not video).

The Committee can hear submissions or accept material on a confidential basis, provided this would be fair to the other parties to the Hearing. If you want to make your submissions or provide material to the Committee confidentially, you will need to ask permission from the Committee Chair and provide reasons why the Committee should treat your submissions or material confidentially.

The Committee report

The Committee's report may be made public. The Committee's report will include a list of the names of submitters and a list of the names of the parties to the Hearing. It may include direct quotes from submitters.

After the Committee has reported

When the Committee has reported to the Minister for Planning, your material will be removed from public display.

Requesting copies

If you would like a copy of any submissions or material collected by the Committee, or a copy of any recording the Committee makes of the Hearing, make a request to PPV by email at office@planningpanels.vic.gov.au before the Committee submits its report. If the Committee has reported, you should submit your request to the DTP Freedom of Information and Privacy Unit at foi.unit@transport.vic.gov.au

If you have any concerns about how your submission will be used, please contact PPV on (03) 8572 7999.

Planning Panels Victoria