

# Market Trading Hours

## - The outcome

### Consultation

A few months ago the MMA launched a consultation exercise with the Market community regarding trading hours. Thanks to the many people who participated in this consultation process – your views and input are greatly appreciated and informed this outcome.

To ensure objectivity in the process, an external consultancy firm, McKinna et al were appointed. They have substantial experience in the operations of fresh produce markets in Australia and internationally.

Each of the advisory committees within the Market and a range of representatives from businesses operating within, and utilising, the Market were consulted. Participation was also open to anyone via email, phone or a face-to-face meeting.

### Conflicting views

Not surprisingly, views were varied and often conflicting. In reaching a decision everyone's views were considered in the context of what's in the best interests of a healthy Market – attracting a critical mass of buyers and sellers resulting in an active and competitive trading environment.

### The outcome

The trading hours will not be significantly different to the current hours for the following reasons:

- A strong and sustainable Market is the ultimate goal – relying on buyers and sellers to be present and active,
- Travel times to Epping will increase for a large proportion of the Market community.
- The parking arrangements at the new Market are designed to increase efficiency of loading resulting in less time at the Market for buyers (resulting in a shorter trading window being workable), and

- To suit as many participants of the Market community as possible.

	Fruit & Vegetable Market		Flower Market	
	Start	Finish	Start	Finish
Mon	3.30am	7am	3.30am	7am
Tue*	4.30am	7.30am		
Wed	4.30am	7.30am		
Thu*	3.30am	7am		
Fri	3.30am	7am		
Sat*	Not open		4.30am	7am

*\*Key trading days for the Flower Market*

### Change is constant

There will be a settling in period at the new Market. The MMA will review Market hours during the first 12 months at the new Market (with the assistance of access card data) to determine if the trading hours are meeting the needs of the Market community.

