



**Macedon
Ranges**
Shire Council

ATTACHMENTS

**Submitters Committee Meeting
Under Separate Cover**

Wednesday 31 May 2023

Table of Contents

7.2	Hearing of Submitters in relation to the Draft Budget 2023/24	
	Attachment 1 Submissions Received - Draft Budget 2023/24.....	4

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 26 April 2023 9:40 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: FW: Woodend Community Cultural Centre - Budget Review

[Please register as a budget submission.](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 26 April 2023 6:51 AM
To: Cr Annette Death ; Cr Geoff Neil ; Cr Bill West ; Cr Dominic Bonanno ; Cr Rob Guthrie ; Cr Anne Moore ; Cr Jennifer Anderson ; Cr Janet Pearce ; Cr Mark Ridgeway ; Bernie O'Sullivan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] - Budget Review

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear MRSC Mayor, CEO, Councillors, Council Officers,

On behalf of the [REDACTED] wish to respond to the Draft Budget 23/24 published Friday 21st April and tabled for Council discussion tonight at Meeting Wed 26th April 23.

We thank Mayor Annette Death for her inclusion of this project in her introduction's statement of advocacy for seeking funding for this project to the Draft Budget. We are grateful for the Mayor and the community's support for this terrific project, but on review of the Budget we couldn't identify that funding has been made available for it. We are curious as to what is the approach council are considering in taking in applying for funding, and whether funding should be made available in this Budget.

We strongly believe that the project deserves a Council funding contribution towards Stage 2 of the design at this stage to encourage an additional contribution from State Government, and help maintain vital community enthusiasm for the project.

This project has been strongly supported by the community since its inception in 2006. Recently, in February 2022 The Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP then Minister for Regional Development approved a grant of up to \$260,000 exclusive of GST to Macedon Ranges Shire Council from the Investment Fast-Track Fund (IFF), for the \$325,000 Woodend Community Centre Redevelopment – Concept, Schematic & Detailed Design project.

A Grant Agreement for the project was executed on 27 April 2022.

The Project was to deliver Concept, Schematic and Detailed Designs and cost plans in preparation for construction. The Project will also deliver, or have substantially progressed, completion of all planning, environment, regulatory and other approvals and permits necessary to go to tender for construction.

Project work has been completed and grant is pending acquittal subject to approval of documentation by Regional Development Victoria.

Previously Macedon Ranges Shire Council had received a grant of up to \$50,000 exclusive of GST from Stronger Regional Communities Plan – Community Capacity Building to complete the \$100,000 Redevelopment of the Woodend Community Centre - Business Case and Master Plan. This project was completed in April 2021.

We are aware that Macedon Ranges Council staff have indicated Council will now prioritise sourcing funding for Stage 2 schematic designs, prior to seeking funding for the completion of Stage 1 and 2 construction works. We seriously seek Council to consider a contribution to this Stage 2 schematic design work in this Budget in order for the project not to lose momentum at this vital stage, and for us to move forward with the realisation of this wonderful proposal as advocated by the Mayor in her Budget Introduction.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

002

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Submission on Draft Budget 2023/24 from [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 May 2023 1:57:42 PM

Re: MRSC Draft Budget 2023/24

In relation to Strategic objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people, we note as a major initiative 'Continue to advocate to the Victorian Government for Barrm Birrm to become a State Park due to its significant flora and fauna.'

Council resolved 24 August 2022 to advocate for public purchase of private lots in Barrm Birrm, and prepare a report on action to ensure appropriate management of Barrm Birrm. We note with satisfaction that the Ecological Assessment is now in the process of being finalised.

However, two critical next steps will not be met by advocacy to the Victorian Government for Barrm Birrm to become a State Park. These are as follows:

a) Establish a Public Acquisition Overlay over Barrm Birrm that sets out the planning goals and a process for land settlement and transfer to Council or the Crown. Private lots continue to be sold, at escalating prices. The Public Acquisition Overlay will make it clear to prospective buyers that land values in Barrm Birrm may be affected by the process of acquisition. Without this, higher prices will make it more difficult to find the funds to buy back the private lots. Investment now reduces costs later.

b) Plan for and secure multi-year funding for a staged weed control program across all Council owned properties at Barrm Birrm. Riddells Creek Landcare has invested in controlling weed species in Barrm Birrm, by contractors and through regular working bees. We have cleared the dominant weeds from 75% of the area. But the presence of heavy infestations of exotic acacia species in the southernmost 25 % of Barrm Birrm is degrading the understorey and threatens those areas that are now weed-free. Weeds wait for no-one - investment now reduces costs later.

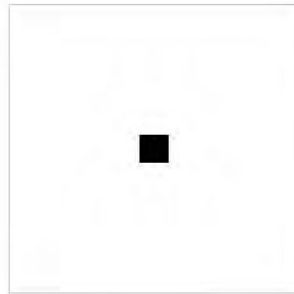
The Draft Budget does not indicate that work will begin in 2023/24 on these two matters.

Council can advocate to the Victorian Government, but having recognised the environmental and community values of Barrm Birrm, it has an obligation to ensure that private landholders are clear about the Shire's intention in relation to Barrm Birrm, and to deal with the weed threats in Barrm Birrm. Without this, the environmental and community values that Council has recognised in Barrm Birrm, in its 2018 Biodiversity Strategy and in Council's resolution of 2022, will degrade.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Friday, 5 May 2023 11:01:51 PM

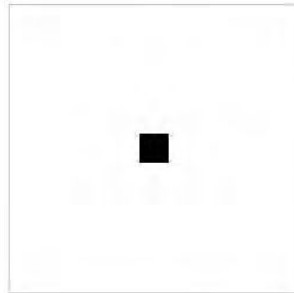


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	Why isn't there anything in the budget for Romsey? As a town that is supposed to be a large district town by 2036, it doesn't seem to be given the same level of budget for upgrades like regular district towns in the Macedon ranges (Riddells Creek and Woodend). It would be helpful for the council to clarify why this is the case.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████████
Last name	██████
Address	████████████████████
Town	██████████
Postcode	██████
Phone	██████████

Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Council's website

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Saturday, 6 May 2023 5:16:09 PM
Attachments: [2024 MRSC Draft Budget Submission.pdf](#)



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	Written submission provided by new [REDACTED] - uploaded document.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	2024 MRSC Draft Budget Submission.pdf
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Council's website



6 May 2023

Mr Trevor Harling
Manager Finance and Reporting
Macedon Ranges Shire Council
PO Box 151
Kyneton
VIC 3444

Re: DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET 2023 / 2024

Dear Trevor,

The [REDACTED] appreciates the opportunity to provide this supporting submission on the MRSC's 2023-24 Draft Budget.

Our [REDACTED] are pleased that the project to install new lighting towers for Court 1&2 was added to the draft budget. [REDACTED] has engaged extensively with MRSC officers and councillors over the past 12 months regarding the urgent requirement to provide lighting for Court 1&2 at [REDACTED] and to commence design work on replacing the two other courts that are beyond their useful life. This project is the essential first step in the club's master plan, developed in early 2022. The club has discussed our master plan, the very poor condition of the existing courts and the urgent need for new lighting with Cr Bonnano and Cr Guthrie at a meeting on 29 March 2022. It is appreciative of the support provided to date by our ward councillors. It is pleasing that the club's initial master planning work has been taken further into developing a formal Ross Watt Reserve master plan that includes the upgraded tennis courts. [REDACTED] has actively engaged with the council's planning consultant, and we look forward to seeing the draft Ross Watt Reserve master plan endorsed by the council shortly.

Located behind Ross Watt Reserve on Station Road, the [REDACTED] has steadily increased in numbers over the past few years, with a current membership of 75. This growth consists of senior and junior players representing [REDACTED] in various summer and winter competitions. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] During winter, the [REDACTED] competition matches and [REDACTED] sessions rely on lighting. The poor condition of Courts 3&4 (the currently lit courts) is a significant constraint at this time of the year. The lighting project for Court 1&2 is essential to permit the continuation of night competition tennis and winter coaching at the facility.

In the past year, the club has implemented an online court booking system that permits local community members to book and pay online for a court (including lights for night play) all year round. We now see 20-30 public bookings monthly during the summer months. This initiative has provided a valuable recreational option for the growing New Gisborne area. The new lighting towers for Court 1&2 will enable night public bookings during the winter.

The current lighting scenario is severely hampering the [REDACTED] ability to grow and offer the facilities to the New Gisborne community. We look forward to working with council officers to make the Court 1&2 lighting project a reality in the coming year.

I enclose a letter of support from the [REDACTED] supporting this project. Increasing the number of lit tennis courts to support the broader growth of tennis in the Macedon Ranges is also vitally important.

Thank you for your consideration. If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact the club using the email addresses below.



Attachments:

1. Letter of support – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ross Watt Reserve - New Gisborne VIC 3438

5th June 2021

RE: NEW GISBORNE TENNIS CLUB – COURT LIGHTING

[REDACTED] writing to offer our support to [REDACTED] Club [REDACTED] in their pursuit to improve and upgrade the court lighting facilities at their venue.

[REDACTED] is a very committed club in supporting the numerous tennis competitions on offer through the [REDACTED] and also plays a very active role on the [REDACTED] committee.

[REDACTED] has had a resurgence of member growth over the past 12-18 months and is now serving a number of junior players and teams in both coaching and in competition play.

The [REDACTED] currently runs 3 night competitions (Thursday Night Open, Wednesday Night Women's comp and Friday night juniors). Thursday night competition has had tremendous growth in participation numbers over the past few years and the new Wednesday night competition kicked off its first season in Autumn 2021, which is proving already to be very popular, and is also likely to grow quickly over the next few seasons. Given this growth in tennis participation, [REDACTED] needs to fully utilise all current courts in the shire to meet the demand. [REDACTED] currently only has 2 courts under lights which means that it is only possible for them to have a maximum of 2 teams in any of these competitions.

Coaching numbers have also grown significantly at [REDACTED] under [REDACTED] [REDACTED], however it will be difficult to grow [REDACTED] business any further at this point due to only 2 courts being under lights. Junior's coaching is delivered during week days after school hours, it is just as important to support this cohort of players, to enable them to participate in a sporting activity, get the best out of their tennis and reach their full potential. [REDACTED] would like to grow coaching numbers and provide employment opportunities for new coaches in the area. This will be difficult in the winter months as it is dark by 5:30pm and only limited coaching numbers can be accommodated on just 2 courts.

Without access to all of their courts during night time hours, I cannot see how [REDACTED] can either retain members or grow their club.

This also has serious knock on effects for other clubs in the [REDACTED], as we rely on access to all courts across all venues for our competitions to run successfully and to meet the current demand. Thursday night comp is already at fully utilised court capacity for most venues and some other venues do not have enough courts under lights to sustain their own teams, these clubs look to other clubs to host matches and share courts.

Given that there are no plans in the MRSC strategic plan to build any new tennis courts in the foreseeable future, we really need to upgrade and maintain the courts we currently have and that includes getting all available courts under lights for full utilisation. New Gisborne is a fast growing area and night tennis is proving to be a popular sport.

I really hope that [REDACTED] is successful in their quest to secure funding to upgrade the lighting on their 2 existing courts and to be able to add new lighting for the other 2 courts.

Please contact myself or the [REDACTED] committee for any further assistance in this matter.

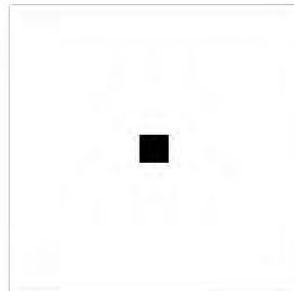
Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

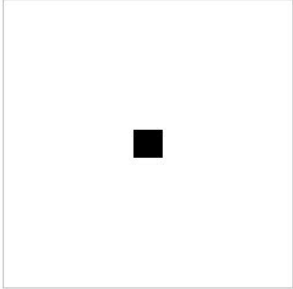
From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Saturday, 6 May 2023 5:41:14 PM



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████
Last name	██████
Address	████████████████████
Town	██████████
Postcode	██████
Phone	██████████
Email address	██
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Word of mouth

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Saturday, 6 May 2023 5:55:50 PM

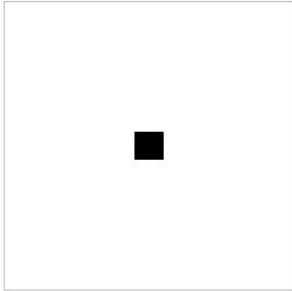


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>Hello</p> <p>We are members of the [REDACTED] and appreciate the opportunity to be part of the budget submissions.</p> <p>The pony club grounds are a huge asset to the town and any assistance with our current rebuild of our cross-country course would be a huge help to our small club.</p> <p>We are also situated alongside the very busy Edgecombe Road and the fencing between the grounds and the road is hugely inadequate. The fence is in a very poor state which offers little protection to both riders and traffic. As the Rollinson Reserve is council grounds it would be great if new fencing could be considered within the budget to make the area safe for all involved. Additional toilet facilities would also be a great improvement for the reserve given the large numbers of people that are present on competition days, not just for the pony club but also the adult riders club, car club and the odyssey club.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our input.</p>

	Kind regards [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Word of mouth

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 4 May 2023 11:33:39 AM



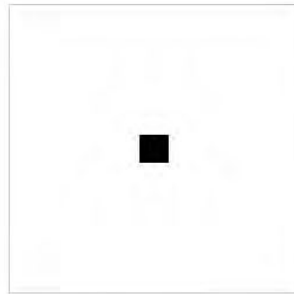
Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>On behalf of [REDACTED] we are very happy to be included in the Draft Budget. As a club our move to the Lower Oval at the Showgrounds would be dependant on perimeter fencing, a new storage shed, permanent jumping run ups and pits and also permanent throwing rings and cages. Our club believes that the move will work well for all clubs involved at the Kyneton Showgrounds. The urgency of the move will be dependant on when the works for the new Netball Courts is Scheduled, our season begins not long after the Football Netball Season finishes (early October) so hopefully this can all be organised so that it is seamless for both clubs. [REDACTED] growth over the last 5 years has been exceptional, to the point now that we have close to 200 members from 5 to 17 years old and can often have 350 people involved on Saturday mornings with Athletes, Parents/Carers, Siblings and Volunteers. Thanks again for the inclusion in the upcoming budget. kind Regards [REDACTED]</p>
If you would prefer, you	

can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████
Last name	██████
Address	████████████████████
Town	██████
Postcode	██████
Phone	██████████
Email address	████████████████████
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Other: Email from the Council

008

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 4 May 2023 1:30:51 PM



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>It would be great to see some funds go towards [REDACTED] Club & Adult Riders, to help upgrade their facilities and grounds to make it more accommodating for all members and for all the public riders that use the grounds.</p> <p>Canteen is in need of an upgrade</p> <p>The fencing on Edgecombe road, is in disrepair and non-existent in some sections</p> <p>Would be great to have a bigger or another sand arena, to make it safe to ride on during winter as grass is quite slippery when wet.</p>
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Community newsletter

009

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Submission comment for Draft Budget 2023-24
Date: Monday, 8 May 2023 9:24:50 AM
Attachments: [Have your say on our draft budget This draft budget will be considered by Council at its Scheduled Council Meeting on 26 April 2023.docx](#)

Please find attached submission to the draft Budget 2023/24

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Adele Drago-Stevens
Director Corporate Macedon Ranges Shire

May 8th 2023

Council Officer

It is come to my attention that the signage in Kyneton is outdated; some signs are faded, obsolete or in need of repair and in some cases facilities are no longer in the location that they point to.

For a town and a shire that is a great Tourism destination it reflects badly that our signs do not live up to the reputation that visitors deserve or expect.

I attach a number of photographs that clearly depicts these very points that I raise in this submission that supports my observations and it is evident that funding is indeed urgently needed to bring signage up to an acceptable standard.



Fig. 1 & Fig. 2
Corner of Piper & Powlett Streets – ‘Windarring’ sign – this facility has not been at the corner of Powlett & Hutton



Streets for at least 20 years. The ‘Kyneton Arts Centre’ sign that is faded is another that is obsolete – today it is known as the ‘Bluestone Theatre’ in Hutton Street. As the sign points along Powlett Street and when you reach the corner of Hutton & Powlett Street there is no indication that the Bluestone Theatre is there.

Fig. 7 - Zoomed to Kyneton Arts Centre and Windarring.



highlight the fading sign of the also the obsolete sign of



Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 – Corner of Piper & Ebden Streets – ‘Fire Station’ – the sign is faded on each side. During a major fire incident when strike teams from the North are sent to Kyneton it is hard for them to see their turnoff for the Fire Station in Ebden Street.

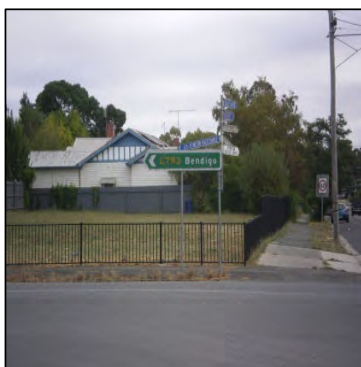


Fig. 5 – Corner of Piper & Mollison Streets (north side of Piper Street) – Kyneton Racecourse sign is crooked and is the Eppalock sign. Kyneton Refuse Depot sign (needs updating to its correct name).

Fig. 6 – far right – The T-junction of Piper & Mollison Streets. The Landing Group sign is being blocked by the Trentham-Melbourne sign. It is faded and needs updating to read Kyneton Airfield.

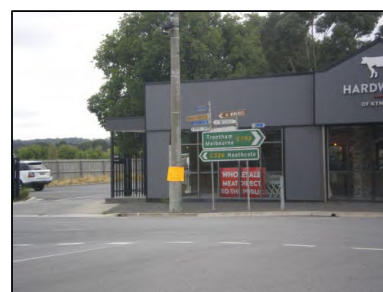


Fig. 8 – Corner Mollison & Hutton Streets. Catholic Church sign is slightly dropped onto sign Pre-School Centre, that is no longer in Hutton Street. Sign faded ‘Kyneton Arts Centre’, again name updating.

The corner of Mollison & Jennings Street, there is no sign indicating that the Police Station is in Jennings Street. The empty bracket is on the pole but the sign has disappeared. Surely this is an important sign to have for the public.

In your Draft Budget 2023/2024 on page 28 the following:

- **Seek external funding to improve signage/ way finding within our town business centres.**

This matter that I have raised in regards to signage around the Kyneton Township and in particular on the main thoroughfares and intersections demonstrates that this point needs serious consideration for funding.

While new Heritage dual signs would be an asset and also a tourist attraction to the town and shire the practicalities are that the cost for implementing such an endeavour at this point in time would be beyond realistic achievements. In the interim it would be advantageous to conduct an audit on current signs and those that are obsolete be addressed immediately and removed. Some signs only need a spanner to tighten brackets and re-align, while others could be removed at very little cost to council.

I would advocate that signs that are removed should be deposited with either the Kyneton Historical Society or the Kyneton Museum as they are a part of the history and fabric of Kyneton that has now passed and should be retained as a reminder of those times.

This submission is submitted in good faith and issues raised are to the benefits of the council and the shire at large.

Yours sincerely

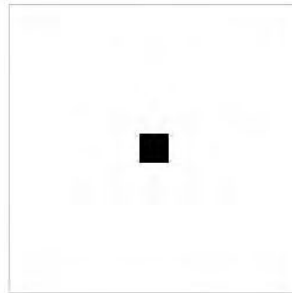
[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

Have your say on our draft budget this draft budget will be considered by Council at its Scheduled Council Meeting on 26 April 2023. It will then be placed on public display for a period of 21 days from 27 April 2023 until 19 May 2023. Council welcomes feedback and invites your written comments. If you have any comments, please submit them in writing before 5pm on 19 May 2023. Your comments should be emailed to mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au or addressed to: Adele Drago-Stevens Director Corporate Macedon Ranges Shire Council PO Box 151, KYNETON VIC 3444 People who have made a submission will have an opportunity to make a verbal presentation to Council, in support of their written submission, at the Submitters Delegated Committee scheduled for 7 June 2022. Further information about making a submission is on Council's website from 27 April 2023 at mrsc.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay or by contacting Council's Customer Service Team on 5422 0333.

01CP

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three) submission
Date: Thursday, 4 May 2023 2:08:57 PM
Attachments:  [space proposed renovation signed.pdf](#)



Draft Council Plan 2021-2031 (Year Three) submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p> would be delighted to see an additional action item under the Connecting Communities priority area to develop designs and a QS plan for a future refurb of the Gisborne Genealogical Group space which adjoins the Gisborne Library. See attached proposal.</p> <p>+Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure for the community to connect, engage and participate in a financially sustainable way.</p>
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>space proposed renovation signed.pdf</p>
Tell us about you	
First name	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 15px;"></div>

Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	Yes
How did you find out about this?	Other: Council staff



Gisborne Library/Gisborne Genealogical space proposed renovation

The Gisborne Genealogical space which adjoins the western end of the Gisborne Library is outdated and in need of repair (eg. swollen lino, toilet doors which won't close, inadequate storage, leaking window, unsuitable floor plan etc.). The space is currently [REDACTED] having limited access on a Wednesday and a Friday morning. [REDACTED] would like to move to a shared space agreement for this facility once proposed renovations are completed and it is fit for purpose. The proposed works would improve access, safety and functionality of the space, meeting the needs of the [REDACTED] membership, and also allow much-requested access for the broader community/library patrons; for a quiet space to study, work, book meetings, and in which the library can run training, workshops and programs. The proposed renovations and extended room usage would also allow the considerable resources of the [REDACTED] to be used more extensively, as patrons would have access to the room and resources outside of the current opening hours of the space.

History of the space

The [REDACTED] Group has occupied a space within the Gisborne library building since [REDACTED], when it began as [REDACTED]

In 1999 the Group moved into the adjoining room which had been the Old Council Chambers. Then, in 2016 the Group moved into the rooms at the western end of the building which had been occupied by Maternal Health, to allow for the refurbishment and expansion of the Gisborne Library. The [REDACTED] has leased this space since that time.

Current usage

The space is currently used by the [REDACTED] approximately 12-14 hours per week, being open to members of the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays (for 3 hours each day), and it is also used by [REDACTED] to run workshops on Saturdays once a month, the setting up of workshops on Friday afternoons, for Committee meetings once a month on Thursday mornings, and monthly general meetings on Thursdays (out of hours, 5-10pm), and is frequently used by a number of members in the administration of the [REDACTED] both during and outside of [REDACTED] opening hours. The GGG also open the rooms to the public each day during Family History Week, in August each year.

[REDACTED] has limited access to the space of approximately 9.5 hours per week. This financial year, [REDACTED] has used the [REDACTED] space under the current arrangement for the following:



2022/23	Book Club meetings	Attendees	School Holiday Activity	Attendees	Author talks	Attendees	Movies	Attendees	Workshops	Attendees
July	3	30								
August	3	30					1	18	1	5
September	3	30	3	62	1	12	1	20		
October	3	30			1	16	1	15	1	10
November	3	30					1	15		
December	3	30					1	27		
January			3	45					1	7
February	3	30					1	22		
March										
April										
May										
June										
Totals	21	210	6	107	2	28	6	117	3	22

Benefits of refurbishment

We would envisage overall use of the space to increase from 23.5 hours per week to 43 hours per week under a shared space agreement in a refurbished fit-for-purpose facility. GGG patrons would be able to use the resources at times outside of the current opening hours, and library activities as demonstrated above would increase significantly. [Redacted] would also be able to service the almost daily requests for a separate space for work, study and meetings – a snapshot from recent weeks include:

- "Does the [Redacted] have a private room where I could meet with my team for a meeting?"
- "It's quite loud in here, is there anywhere quiet I could sit and study?"
- "Have you got any headphones or a quiet space I could work?" It's very loud in here and hard to concentrate."
- "I am an ex-teacher and I'm running tutoring sessions for Year 12 exams, do you have a separate space that I could book for this?"
- "Is there anywhere quiet where I could sit and have meetings? Is the spot down the end the quietest space you've got? I don't want to disturb everyone else."
- Seeking a meeting room for a two-person meeting to discuss private information.
- Phone call requesting a quiet meeting space for six people. I said we are happy for them to use our library space but it's not private and sometimes not very quiet. Also recommended the use of the back deck if it's a nice day.
- Requesting a private space for video conference. "All libraries should have one!"
- Regular patron using WIFI to work from home asking for individual space for a private online meeting with disability patient.
- "I need to sit an exam, is there somewhere quiet I could go?"

The provision of such a space to support the community with a flexible space for remote/hybrid work, access to wifi and technology and a place to conduct meetings, and also to help local business start-ups and scale-ups to innovate and grow cannot be underestimated.



Proposed works would include:

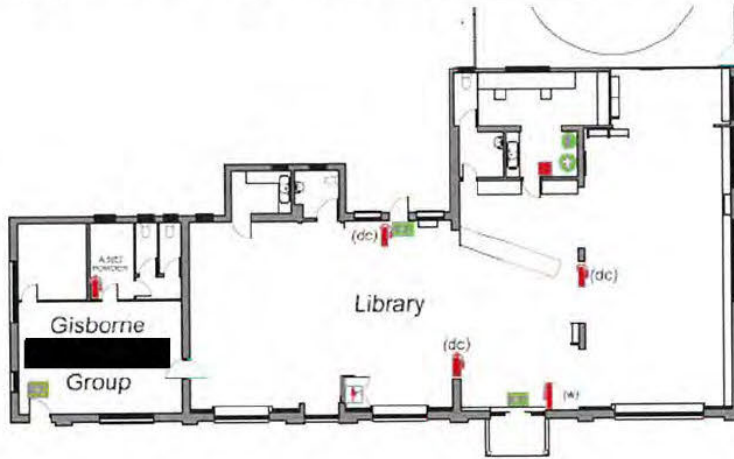
- Tie-in with library design scheme (renovations completed 2021)
- Removal of internal walls
- Upgrade of kitchen to simple kitchenette/wet area along wall adjoining toilets, including installation of boiling water tap, upgrade of sink/cabinetry/cupboards (one lockable) etc.
- Upgrade of the two toilets (all gender, with handwash facilities within each)
- Addition of half height or full height glazing to library connecting wall and internal door to library to improve lines of sight/surveillance.
- Addition of portico to external door for weather protection
- Addition of swipe-pass access to external door for after-hours access/security
- Addition of powerpoints to internal walls and central floor position for laptops/meetings/flexible use of space
- Replacement of large street-front window (currently leaking and mouldy) to match double glazed windows in library
- Addition of dual blinds to windows to reduce sun glare and allow for screening of films/presentations etc.
- Custom-built storage with moveable shelving to house GGG collection/maps/newspapers/pictures/CDs/10xchairs/trestle tables etc. Possible removal of window to carpark to allow for storage across full back wall
- Custom-built shelving including glass-fronted lockable section to house GGG collection/special collection
- Removal of old hot water service (no longer working)
- Squaring-off of wall concealing old fireplace
- Computer bank area (to accommodate 5 x PCs/1 x fiche reader)
- Wall space for memorabilia
- Mounting of big screen to shared wall with library or ceiling
- Installation of new carpet tiles/flooring
- Possible upgrade of split system – currently two small units in situ, may need to be replaced with 1 x large depending on works.

In addition to proposed building works,  would purchase the following to support flexible use of the space:

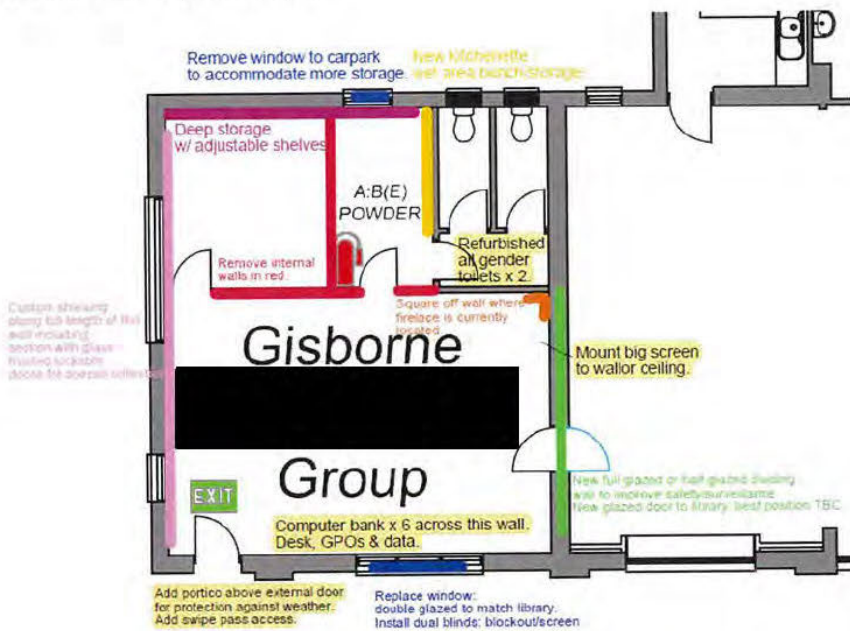
- Moveable shelving for magazines and other collection
- Foldable chairs for programs/events
- Trestle tables on wheels that flip up for storage
- Double sided display boards on wheels
- Other furniture/kitchen items as required.



Floor Plan: Gisborne Library and adjoining [redacted] Group space



Renovation concept mark-ups:





Cost Plan and Funding

█ and █ are seeking \$30,000 funding from Council in the 2023/24 budget to develop designs and a QS plan for this space. Based on this, we would then work towards grant funding for the 2024/25 financial year, via the Growing Suburbs Fund, the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and the Central Victoria Libraries Trust.

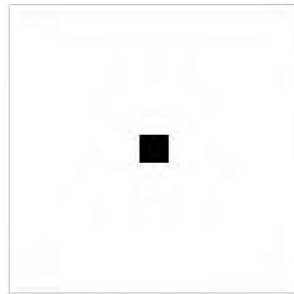
Shared Space Agreement

Should this facility upgrade take place, the █ has agreed to support the transfer of the rental lease to █. This would allow █ to manage additional use of the space and make it available throughout the week outside of the prioritised hours set aside for the █ on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Friday afternoons and Saturdays.

We hope that Macedon Ranges Shire Council will consider the refurbishment of this section of the Council building for the shared benefit of the █ and the █ community.



From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Tuesday, 9 May 2023 2:53:55 PM

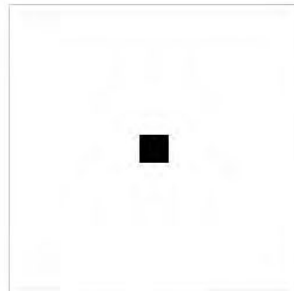


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	I have been an actively involved [REDACTED] r of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for well over [REDACTED] years. To allow our club to grow and prosper, it is essential that we increase the number of lit courts. This will ensure our Club remains a valuable recreational asset for the developing area. I am pleased that New Gisborne Tennis Club Light Project has been included in the Draft Budget and look forward to the light project becoming a reality in the near future.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Other: Club Meetings

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 11 May 2023 12:27:58 PM

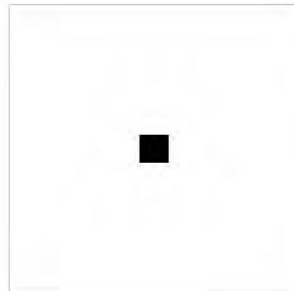


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>I am concerned at the amount of costs to waste - I do not agree that the broader community should be playing for training in how to use a cloth nappy - this should be a user pays service and not subsidised either through rates or waste levy.</p> <p>I also disagree with the amount of money being spent on prizes for waste (see the current prize for sorting waste - which is a large amount) - the broader ratepayer/waste levy payer should not be paying for this - just lower the amount you spend rather than have these slush funds.</p>
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████
Last name	██████

Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 11 May 2023 1:04:02 PM

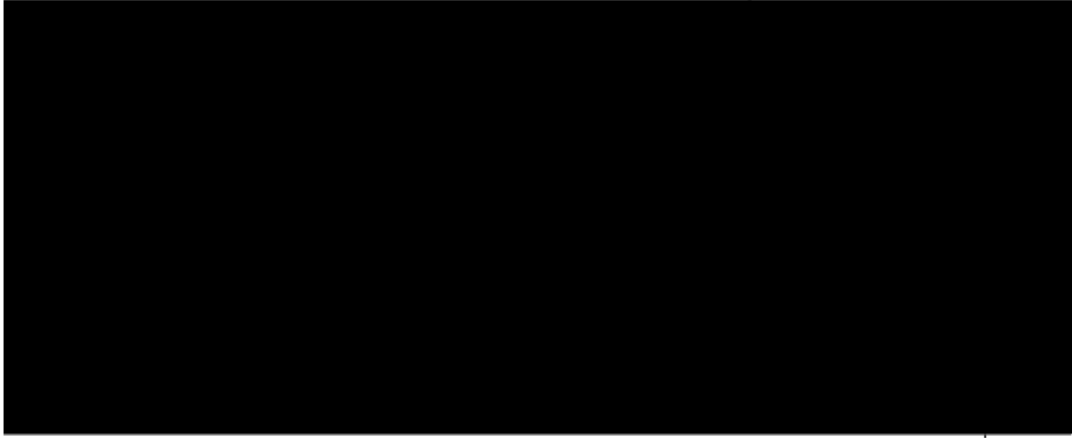


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	I believe the Council should consider purchasing the flood plain area on Hihg Street Woodend the north side of Five Mile Creek - currently under disputed development plan. This land should be developed as a valuable nature reserve for the public.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████
Last name	██████
Address	██████████████████
Town	████████
Postcode	██████
Phone	██████████████
Email address	██████████████████

Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	eNewsletter

BILL PEMBERTON
Co-ord RES. RECOV. MRSC
BILL,
DEFINATE No To ↑
Y.R.S.C. RATES YET AGI
IT IS TOO HARD.
MEMO. OF U[']STANDIN
SHIRE COUNCILS^{RE}
- CALL FOR TENDE
SHEAPER CONTRACT
PROPOSED RATE ↑
REPORTED TO L.G.A
GET A BETTER CONTRACT
WOODEND - KYNETON
RATE PAYERS ACTION
GROUP ON BEHALF
SHIRE RESIDENTS
WILL TAKE FURTHER
ACTION



MACEDON RANGES SC
RECEIVED
12 MAY 2023
CRM REG
BOX ACTION

Draft 2023/24 Budget
& updated Year Three
Council Plan

DRAFT AD
2023/24

Council's draft 2023/24 Budget and updated Year Three Council Plan are now available for public comment until 5pm on 19 May 2023.

Scan the QR code, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay or a Customer Service Centre in person for more information and to have your say on Council's proposed initiatives to be funded in the next financial year, and revisions to the 2021-2031 Council Plan.

Written submissions on the draft documents can be sent to PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444 or emailed to mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au



Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting

For those **submitters** who wish to present in support of their submission

Time/date: 7pm on Wednesday 31 May 2023

RSVP: To Kaitlin Evans via kevans@mrsc.vic.gov.au or 5422 0333.

The meeting will be livestreamed online via mrsc.vic.gov.au/livestream

DEFINATE 'NO!' TO RATE RISE 3.5%
DEFINATE 'YES' \$5 GR. WASTE TRAILER LOAD TO TRANSFER STATIONS

4-Tuesday, May 2, 2023

News

DEFINATE NO TO CLOSURE

Service centre to go?

Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Woodend Customer Service Centre faces closure due to low visitation.

Council's six-month data collection trial (May to November) last year identified "the centre is unable to continue operating at the level it currently is".

"Results from the trial confirmed that the centre is not frequented regularly for council services outside peak periods," a report to council said.

Foot-traffic at the Woodend centre was the lowest of all four centres across the shire. recorded an average daily attendance of 7.7 customers while Kyneton and Gisborne were the most active with 21.3 and 22.2 customers daily, respectively.

Council officers recommended community consultation be undertaken with one potential option being closure of the centre.

The report identified staffing and rostering as "increasingly difficult" due to requirements that two staff are rostered to provide a safe workplace and cover lunch breaks. Financial cost to operate the centre was also a factor considered. The total staffing cost for 2022-23 at Woodend was \$108,899 not including on-costs. Staff training opportunities were also limited at the site. Other considerations were the cessation of aged care service delivery effective from July 1 (reducing in-person interactions) and closure of local banks which increases risk to staff transporting cash to and from the site.

Discussing the centre's viability last week, councillors said the decision to begin consultation for its closure was "not taken lightly".

"It's always difficult for a community when they look at a service being there and a service potentially being withdrawn," Cr Jennifer Anderson said.

"People will see that Romsey has similar visitations (to Woodend) but Romsey is the only service centre in the east of the shire, whereas, those in Woodend within a short amount of time, by train or car, go to the Kyneton or even Gisborne centres to be served

Cr Anderson urged people to look at the reasoning behind the options and to provide feedback during the consultation process.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Support for [REDACTED] Club Submission to Draft Budget
Date: Friday, 12 May 2023 2:31:14 PM
Attachments: [Submission support.docx](#)

Dear Sir /Madam/ Other

Please find attached a letter of support for our submission to the draft budget.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To Whom it May concern

Since 2017 I have been a [REDACTED] of the Kyneton Obedience Dog Club (KODC). In that time I joined a great bunch of people, received help and support in training my dog and in giving back to the Club, became a volunteer instructor myself and a diligent Committee member.

In early 2021 our Committee was informed by Council that our club rooms at Barkly Square had reached "end of life" and would be replaced. While we had not initiated any request for replacement or refurbishment of the club rooms, in October 2021 we were presented with a concept plan which we accepted with some modifications. In the 2021/22 Budget, demolition of our club rooms and replacement with a modular building was approved with a budget of \$130,000 slated for completion by June 2022.

In January 2022 Council informed us that the project was cancelled due to cost and lack of oversight and Council instead offered to use the \$130,000 for refurbishment of the existing building. We expressed concerns about spending so much on an "end of life" building.

After some delay Committee members finally met with a Council Officer and builder to discuss refurbishment. It was quoted at \$225,000 to \$250,000.

At that stage we attempted to present our case in a formal submission but we were informed that it was too late even though we were within the correct timeframe. In June 2022 we were told by Council that our \$130,000 would be carried over to the 2022/23 budget, and that design and planning would commence on a new building.

Two months later at a meeting with Council Officers a 2013 Master Plan was presented for a multi-purpose building which would be shared with the Soccer Club. We do have concerns about times of overlap when dogs could potentially be mixing with general public.

All of which brings us to the present day where we find that a facility for Barkly Square gets no mention in this year's budget.

So after two years of untold, unpaid Committee work and Council's costly design and consultancy, we have come full circle with zero result. In all honesty the process has been dismal, with lack of communication, lack of staff hand over, resulting in an overall impression of lack of interest or care from Council.

48% of households in Australia own a dog and Macedon Ranges has its fair share. Due to high demand we have had to cap our beginners to 12 per month and there is always a waiting list. Visit our temporary home at the Velodrome on any Sunday morning and you will find 50 to 60 dogs with their humans working at five different levels in a cheerful and orderly manner.

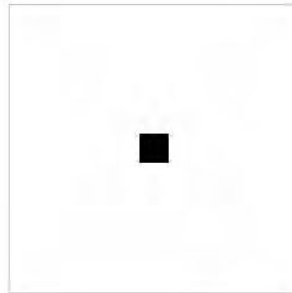
[REDACTED] Club, as well as being a social hub for dog owners provides a valuable service in helping owners to understand their responsibilities and obligation to train their dogs to be good canine citizens, something which benefits the whole community.

We feel that our all volunteer club makes a valuable contribution to our community with very little cost to Council.









Given this background you will understand our frustration. Where do we go from here?



From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
 To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
 Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
 Date: Monday, 15 May 2023 4:36:05 PM
 Attachments:  [Submission on the Draft Annual Budget 2023-24.docx](#)



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	see uploaded written submission
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	 Submission on the Draft Annual Budget 2023-24.docx
Tell us about you	
First name	
Last name	
Address	
Town	
Postcode	
Phone	
Email address	
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No

How did you find out about this?	Local newspaper Council's website Word of mouth
----------------------------------	---

Macedon Ranges Shire Council
PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444

15 May 2023

Dear Council,

The [REDACTED] reviewed relevant aspects of the Draft Budget 2023-24 and submit the following comments.

Review - Gisborne Botanic Gardens MP

Reference: Page 75, Appendix 1: Summary of new initiatives, Item 29

Comments

[REDACTED] note and welcome the inclusion of a review of the Master Plan for the Gisborne Botanic Gardens in the Draft Budget 2023-24.

After five years of implementation, a review of progress and expenditure against the Master Plan priorities and probable costs is warranted.

Further, [REDACTED] recommend the Master Plan be revised to better reflect (a) the purpose of this botanic gardens and (b) its place in Country. As currently written, the Masterplan lacks meaning and vision.

(a) Purpose

- A botanic garden is not a park. It is an "institution holding documented collections of living plants for the purpose of scientific research, conservation, display and education" ([Botanic Gardens Conservation International, What is a Botanic Garden?](#))
- Botanic gardens have a key role to play in the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*, under the Convention of Biological Diversity 2002 (7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Melbourne 2022)
- Regional botanic gardens, like Gisborne, have a particular role in conserving local species, (i.e., the rare and endangered species of the Macedon Ranges): a native plant nursery would be key to activating the community in this role
- A clearer articulation of the purpose of the gardens will better guide investment, development, design, management and usage/behaviour decisions (e.g., garden club tours vs 'parkruns', wedding photos vs 'paws in the park', yarning circles vs drug-taking in the bushes, wombats vs dogs-off-lead)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: BUDGETT SUBMISSION
Date: Monday, 15 May 2023 1:56:12 PM
Attachments: [MRSC Council .docx](#)

BUDGET SUBMISSION The Macedon Ranges Shire Council's CAPITAL RECURRING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS. The item - listed under Design Projects 2023-2024.

Dear Councillors D'eath, Neal and West

I write on behalf of the [REDACTED] to seek your urgent support for and serious consideration of an item under the Macedon Ranges Shire Council's CAPITAL RECURRING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS. The item - listed under Design Projects 2023-2024,- is for an Investigation into best option for the Lancefield Courthouse site.

As you know, our Society functions out of the Old Lancefield Courthouse and we are grateful that the possibilities of the site, and we assume the Courthouse itself, are now under consideration.

The old Lancefield Courthouse is an important marker into the Lancefield township and is of historical importance in the history of the area. Understanding that, we need to emphasise that while the Courthouse is much loved and well used by and for the community it is in a very poor state.

- (i) There are no toilet facilities in the building. The toilets are in a shed in the rear yard with no handwashing facilities. Access to the female toilet requires removing a child's necklace which links the door to the door frame!
- (ii) The electrical situation is parlous. Community volunteers have to go up a set of stairs and then down the other side into another room to reach the one switch with turns on the electricity. The electrical wiring could be made safe and usable but it requires funding beyond our resources.
- (iii) The truly excellent historical records of the entire area are currently bundled on shelves in the one lockable room. We would ideally like to install a Compactus to store this material but a compactus requires a concrete floor in the Courthouse. This is not impossible but, again, is beyond our resources.
- (iv) A neighbouring Historical Society purchased a ready made container to house their historical materials but we believe that the

Site our Courthouse sits on is too important to have a ready made container sitting on it at the entry point to Lancefield. The possibility of the addition of a small building on the land behind the Courthouse which could hold our historical materials, new toilets and a kitchen requires some thought and discussion.

- (v) The final issue with the Courthouse building is the timber addition on the rear of the building which holds the sink and tea making facilities is collapsing. Drawings have been prepared to replace it with an indoor toilet and kitchen facilities. A quotation is in hand to replace it at just under \$100,000 which, regrettably, we do not have.

So there are a number of issues and alternatives which require discussion and resolution. The [REDACTED] providing an important service to a wide community in Central Victoria but we do this in very unsafe and unsatisfactory circumstances.

We are delighted that the issues around our site are open to discussion and we want to emphasise that we have a level of architectural and planning expertise to assist and to be involved in either (i) the appointment of professional services or (ii) working with Council to investigate all possibilities around both the site and the Courthouse.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

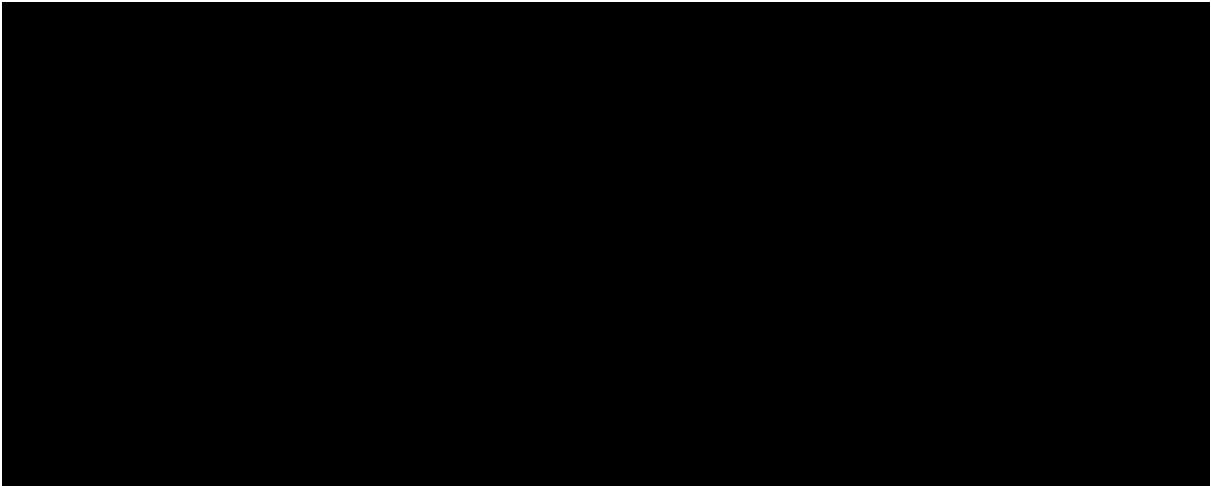
From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: MRSC 23/24 Draft Budget - Feedback and comments.
Date: Monday, 15 May 2023 2:17:12 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED].re 2023-24 budget feedback V2..doc

Good afternoon,

We would appreciate it if you could forward to the relevant committee our submission in relation to this year's budget that includes feedback and questions from the MHS re: the Malmsbury Mechanics' Institute.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]



15th May 2023.

Email: mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL

CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2023/2024 DRAFT BUDGET PROCESS.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

**SUBMISSION ON BEHALF OF [REDACTED] THE
MALMSBURY MECHANICS' INSTITUTE 71 MOLLISON STREET, MALMSBURY.**

Subsequent to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) draft budget and opportunity for community consultation we would like to make the following points.

We are excited that Malmsbury will be receiving funding for the cricket ground, Ross St bridge, Malmsbury Town Hall's subsidence issues, public toilets upgrade and the improvement to our beautiful botanic gardens. These measures benefit the entire community and will enhance our lovely town.

During 2021/22 there was a proposal, with scoping and costing for funding to conduct repairs for the Malmsbury Mechanics' Institute (MMI) as the Malmsbury Historical Society (MHS)
[REDACTED]

We fully acknowledge that the area covered by the Macedon Shire was severely impacted by major flooding and inundation and appreciate that with so many requirements for funding not everyone can be included this year. We also acknowledge that there are critical needs associated with Malmsbury that have naturally taken precedence.

- We would like to be formally advised as to why the MMI was not included in this year's budget and we would like to be assured that the MMI will be included in a future budget, hopefully next year.
- What needs to be undertaken or included for this proposal to be added to 2024/2025 budget considerations?

- We would like to be advised as to where we go from here.
- We would also wish to be advised that should there be no further considerations by MRSC that we be duly, formally advised that our proposal is no longer being considered.
- If the Council is not planning to proceed with the MMI repairs can they please advise what do they plan for the future of the MMI?

As a recap here is the MMI related work's program that has been undertaken to date:

Under [REDACTED] a proposal was put forward for works to be undertaken by the MRSC. The neglect has been going on for years with ongoing poor drainage and sub-floor ventilation.

- 20 months ago we vacated the MMI for a week or two to allow temporary flooring to be installed. This was all conducted under the auspices of the MRSC with the timing for budget proposal 2023/24.
- Stuart Gunnell prepared a background brief on the heritage aspects and we supplied information to Stuart on Caroline Chisholm (the MMI is on the original site of one of Chisholm's Shelters). We believe this was to be the basis of a Grant Application to seek external funding i.e. State Funding.
- A heritage architectural firm (Christo) was engaged (again by the MRSC) to review the building and make suggestions to the MRSC following an inspection on 25th May 2022 and any specific requests from us
- We had a meeting on 4th Feb 2022 with the proposed project manager (Aaron Manning) for the work to be undertaken and what we would need to do to provide clear access to the areas undergoing work.
- As a certified Place of Deposit for Public Records Victoria it is incumbent on the MHS to ensure items are kept in a safe manner.
- We are also mindful that our collection of historic documents and records is safe from water damage, damp and subsequent deterioration.
- We are also acutely aware that contents insurance is becoming more difficult to arrange and the costs are continuing to rise.
- An aspect of the insurance arrangements is that our current insurer is now asking questions as to the state and condition of the building and what the maintenance arrangements are. This is something that is difficult for us to answer as the MRSC is responsible for the building and yet this has an impact on our contents cover.

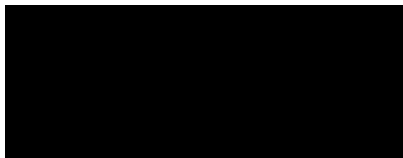
CURRENT SITUATION

Since the rainfall event in October 2022 we have experienced increased, ongoing issues with the building.

- Subsidence in the front hall is again occurring. Filing cabinets are tilting as the temporary floor gives way.
- Water continues to enter the front of the building where the parapet is situated. This is ongoing, being managed through the MRSC engineering dept. and only comes to light once we've had rain.
- Due to previously blocked guttering and downpipe water was entering the rear of the building from overflows. Water also seemed to enter the building from the skylight. The plumber has recently resealed the skylight to moderate any potential leaks. They have also cleared out the guttering and downpipe that were blocked with vegetable matter and debris.
- The building is old, maintenance seems spasmodic and we are seriously concerned that neglect on vital works and maintenance will see a further deterioration of this building to the point it may become uninhabitable.
- Malmesbury is an historic, bluestone town that attracts many visitors to the area. Recent population moves have also seen an increase in people moving into Malmesbury. These two factors, plus proximity to Melbourne have created an increase in tourists and residents all of which brings vital revenue to the Shire and demand for public and community space is growing.
- If we do not preserve these historic buildings or halt their decline it would have, in our opinion, a severe impact on our town, living standards and attraction to visitors, tourists and residents.
- On a positive note we are delighted to advise that with the increasing community activity the Federation Hall at the MMI is seeing a welcome uptake in hire arrangements.

In summary, would you please provide feedback on the future funding possibilities to enable the MHS to plan for its future, serve its membership, continue with hall hire and support the local community.

Yours sincerely



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Macedon Tennis Club Budget Submission 2023/24
Date: Thursday, 18 May 2023 2:13:35 AM
Attachments: [REDACTED] [budget submission letter 17May2023.docx](#)
[REDACTED] [Letters of support MRSC budget 17MAY23.zip](#)
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

The [REDACTED] attaches a submission for the 2023/24 budget for consideration.

This email includes;

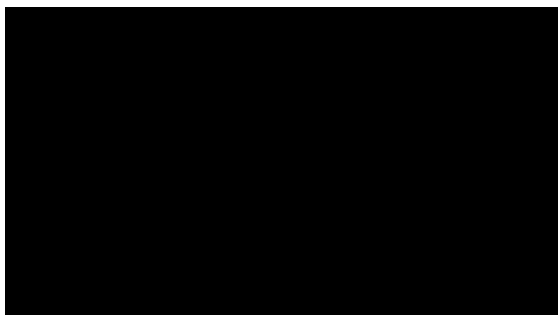
1. Letter for the attention of Mr. Bernie O'Sullivan, CEO, MRSC,
2. Zip file containing four letters of support,
3. Quote from a fencing contractor.

We would be pleased to attend the meeting on the 31 May 2023 in support of our submission. At this time myself and [REDACTED] will be available to attend and answer any questions. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you could please confirm receipt of this submission I would be most grateful.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Mr Bernie O'Sullivan
Chief Executive Officer
Macedon Ranges Shire Council
PO Box 151
Kyneton VIC 344

17th May 2023

RE: Macedon Tennis Club Fence Budget Submission (2023/2024)

Dear Mr O'Sullivan,

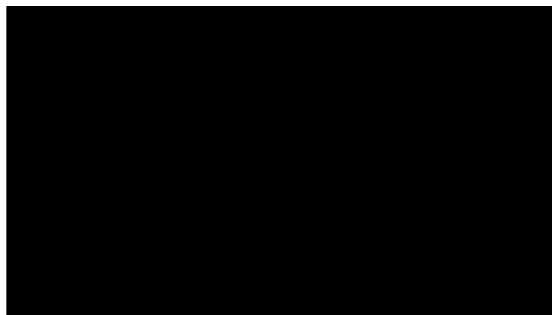
We write to request a budget allocation of \$110,000 in the 2023/24 Macedon Ranges Shire Council Budget to complete the fencing project at the Macedon Tennis Club (MTC).

The fences at MTC were erected in the 1970's, and most of the fences have reached the end of their life, as have the timber sleeper retaining walls which are now rotting and warping. They not only make the club look run-down (in contrast with the rest of the Tony Clarke precinct), but they are also dangerous. There are many wires sticking out and holes where balls escape. I regret to tell you that recently the club had an incident where a young child slipped, and a wire pierced her eye. She was rushed to hospital but luckily it missed her optic nerve so thankfully her sight is intact. She needs to have regular specialist checks, but her family and the club are hopeful that there will be no permanent damage. This occurred on a section of fence that fronts onto the walkway from the carpark to the public toilets, and is on the side facing the children's playground; so the broken fencing not only poses a risk to tennis players but to members of the public who visit the area as they walk from our carpark alongside our fencing to the Tony Clarke public toilets, the many dog walkers, kids flying past on their bikes, and families meeting at the playground in the Tony Clarke precinct.

Over the past 12 months [REDACTED] has worked hard to progress our fencing project to replace our dangerous, dilapidated fencing and retaining walls to provide a safe environment for our 160 club members, visiting teams from the district, 110 coached juniors, Tony Clarke recreational users and the many visitors to the Autumn Festival. The MTC is an active club with courts used every day of the week to host competitive tennis and coaching sessions. We add value to the health and well-being of the community by facilitating exercise and social connection.

We have sourced a \$20,000 Grant from the Bendigo Community Bank and have \$20,000 in the club bank account which we have allocated towards this project. We are cognisant that the Bendigo Community Bank Grant must be returned to the bank if it is not used by December 2023; it would therefore be prudent for works to commence soon. We are actively seeking any grants that the fencing project is eligible for. We have sought quotes from fencing contractors (see attached) and this leaves a shortfall of \$110,000 to complete the fencing project.

We respectfully request that this \$110,000 is included in the 2023/24 budget. We have created a four phased plan for the fencing project which can be seen on page 10. Phase 1 was a repair to fences on court 8 which has been completed with club funds. Phases 2 and 3 include retaining walls made from



concrete sleepers which would be integrated with the new fencing (see example on page 9). This phased approach is not our preferred plan, however if all the funds are not available in 2023/24 we could complete the project over three years as follows;

1. 2023/24 - Council Budget Allocation \$20,000 – Complete phase 2 (using [REDACTED] Grant \$20,000 and \$20,000 club funds. Phase 2 total \$60,000.)
2. 2024/25 Council Budget Allocation \$60,000 – Complete phase 3
3. 2025/26 Council Budget Allocation \$30,000 – Complete phase 4.

Due to the seriousness of the risk the fences pose to the community we strongly suggest that the fences should be replaced urgently which would require the full \$110,000 allocation in the 2023/24 budget. This investment will make the infrastructure safer and reduce the risk of liability for our club and the council. As a committee we have tried to reduce the hazard of the fences by highlighting dangerous sections with hazard tape, placing bright end caps on prominent star pickets and by threading in loose wires as they protrude; but these are temporary measures and due to the high usage of the courts cannot be inspected and maintained by the volunteer committee at all times of use.

This year our active committee produced a Child Safety Policy and in line with this policy we implore you to fund our fencing project so that we can also ensure that our infrastructure is child safe.

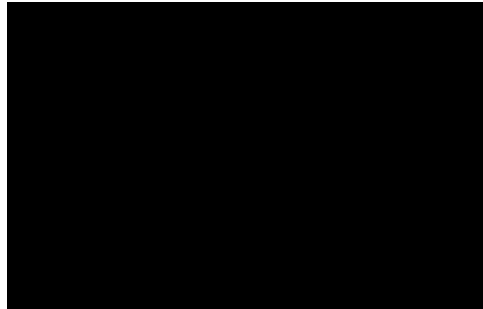
We have met [REDACTED] council at the club to discuss our fencing plans and have gratefully received a letter of support for our project from [REDACTED] for an upcoming Grant submission. We have also received letters of support from [REDACTED]. These letters are attached in a zip file.

The [REDACTED] Club has an LGBTQI+ inclusion strategy and is holding a Pride Cup later this year. Our inclusion strategy also includes an all-abilities program that new fencing will facilitate with suitable wide gateway openings for wheelchair users. We promote women and girls participating in tennis at all levels and host the [REDACTED] at our courts twice a month. We have a social tennis group of older women who meet weekly on our 'en tout cas' courts which are more forgiving on joints and enables these women to age well and enjoy the health benefits of playing sport and connecting socially with their peers.

We foresee a bright future at the [REDACTED] Club and we look forward to working with council to realise our ambitions of continuing our work in providing a safe and inclusive club for all and fulfilling our duty of care to our community to ensure that we have fencing that is safe for everyone.

Please reference the photos and phased plan on the following pages which highlight our plan and the state of the fencing at MTC. We would be pleased to attend the meeting on the 31st May to answer any questions that you may have.

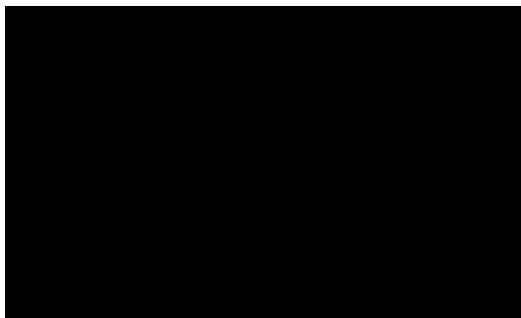
We look forward to seeing these additional funds confirmed in the 2023/24 budget and to working with council to deliver this important upgrade as soon as possible.



■ Court 1- Bulging fence, bent posts, no top rail. (2023).



■ Court 2 - Star picket hazard. These star pickets now have plastic end caps on them. This is a temporary measure to reduce the risk to users and passers-by. There are also exposed star pickets on the external side of this court which faces onto the public playground. (2023).



■■■■ Court 2 – School holiday coaching April 2023. Children queuing in front of dangerous star picket section pictured above. ■■■■ placed temporary yellow plastic caps on star pickets to reduce the risk of injury.



█ Courts 1&2. Protruding wire. Committee tries to thread these wires back in but as fences move these wires make their way back out. (2023).



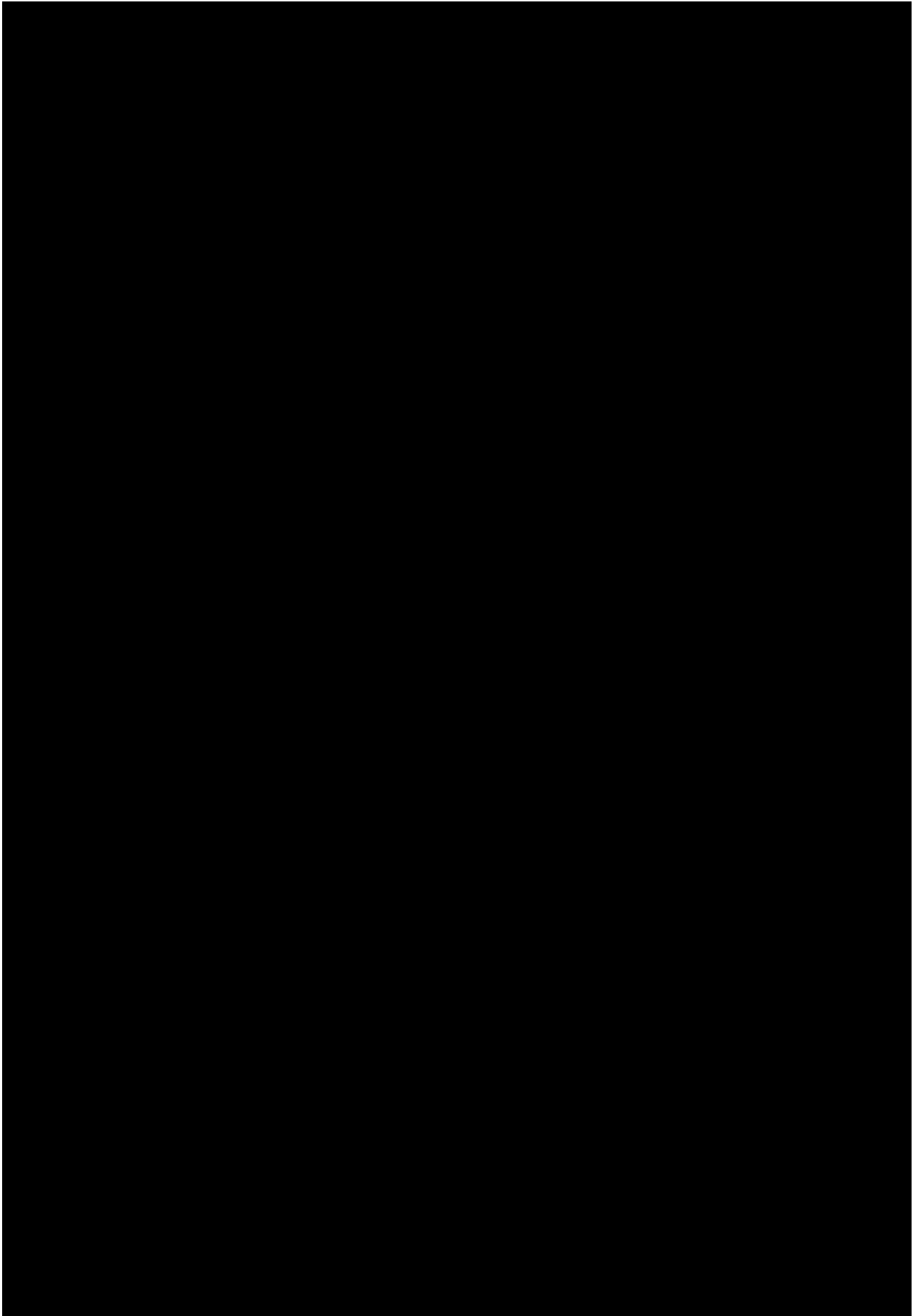
■ Courts 1-4. Frayed wire (2023).

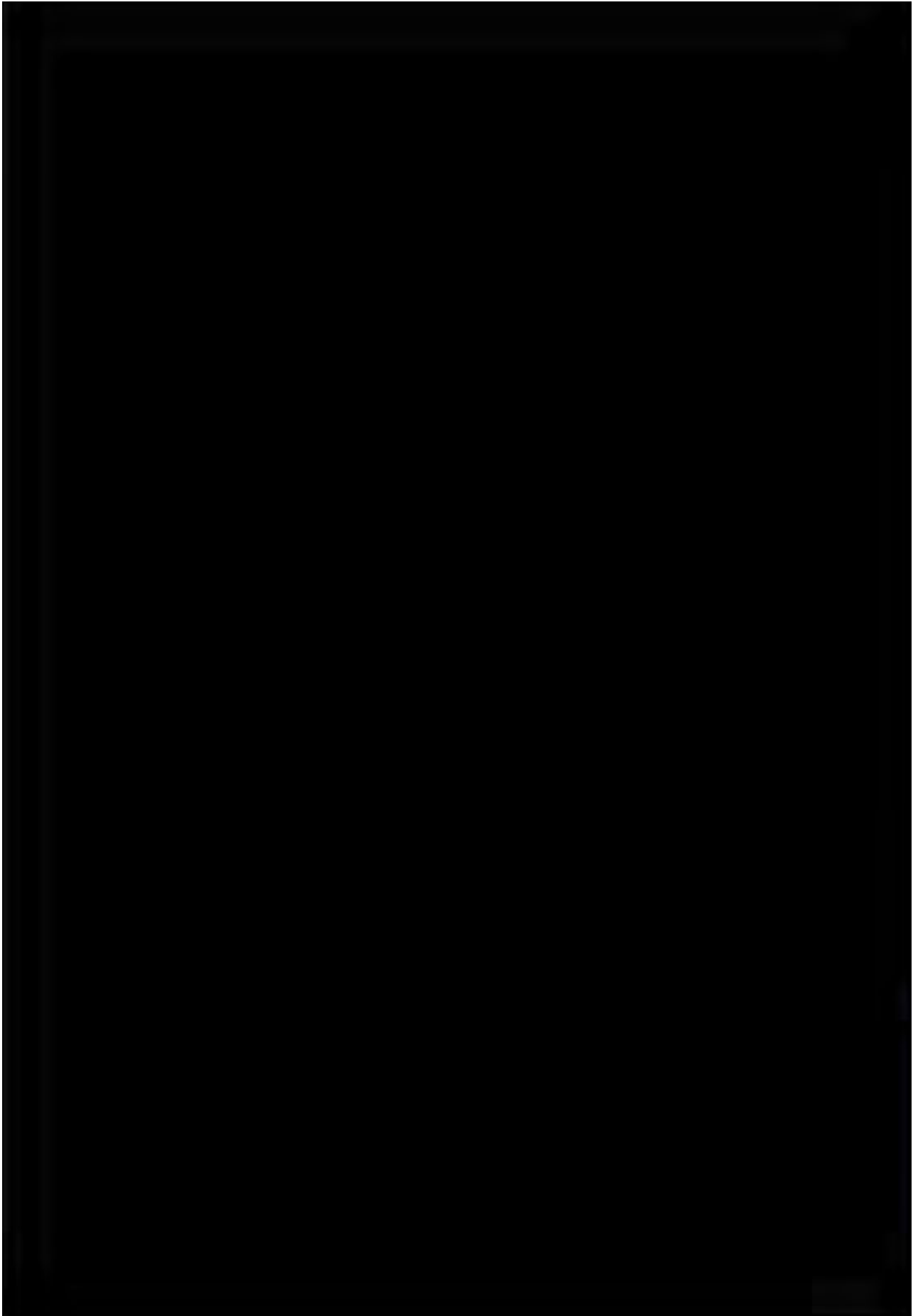


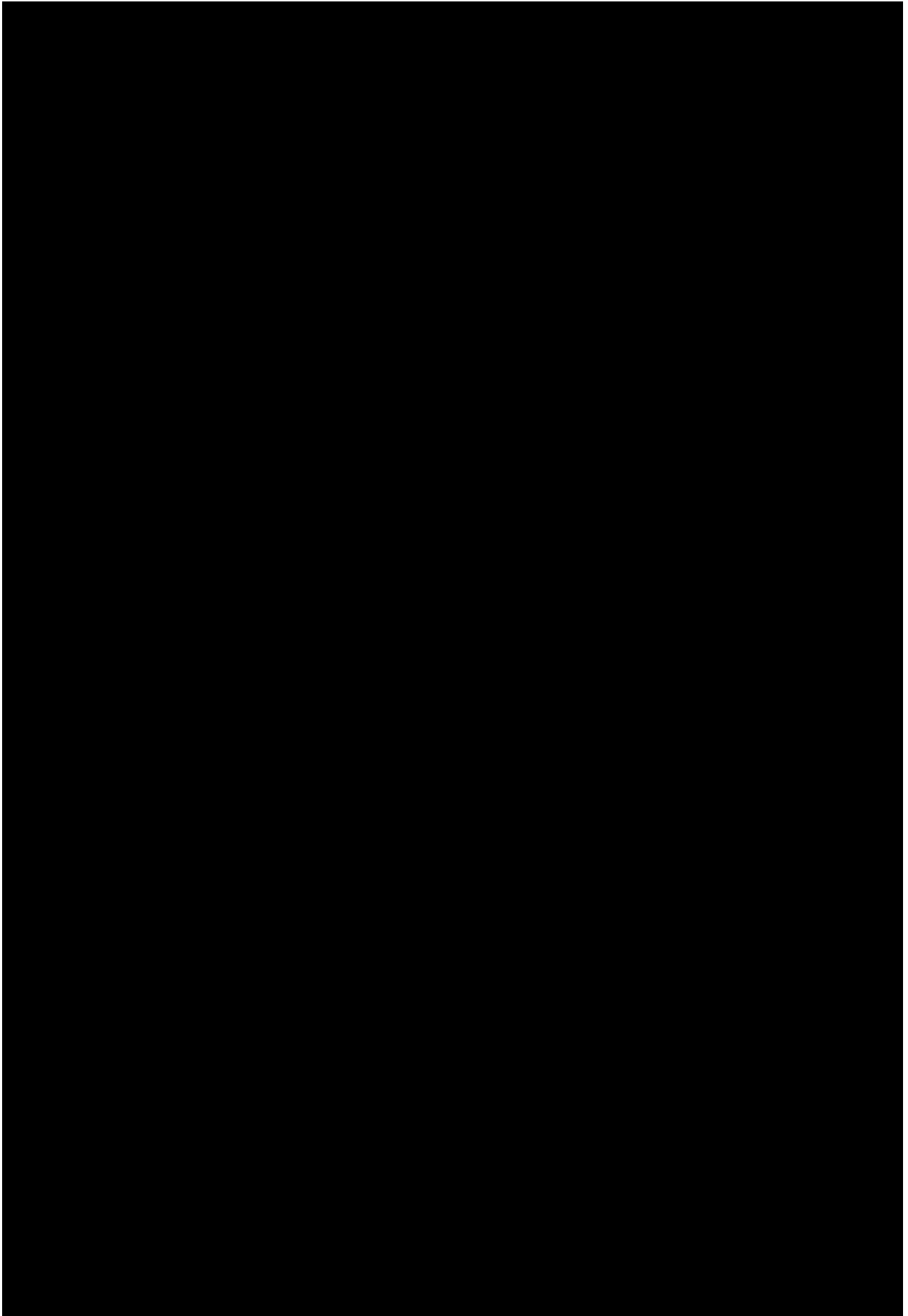
■ Court 2 – Ageing well at ■. (May 2023).

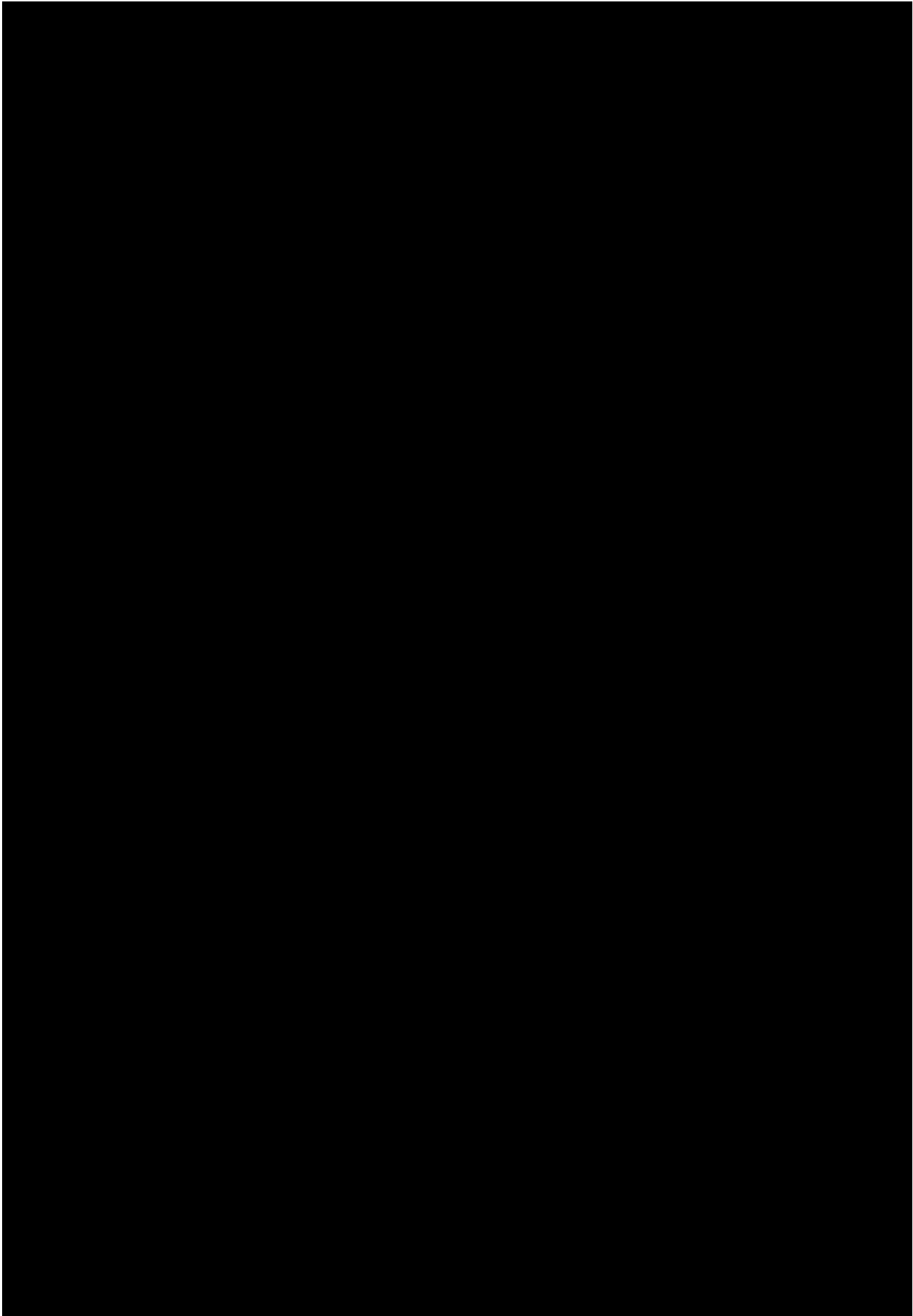


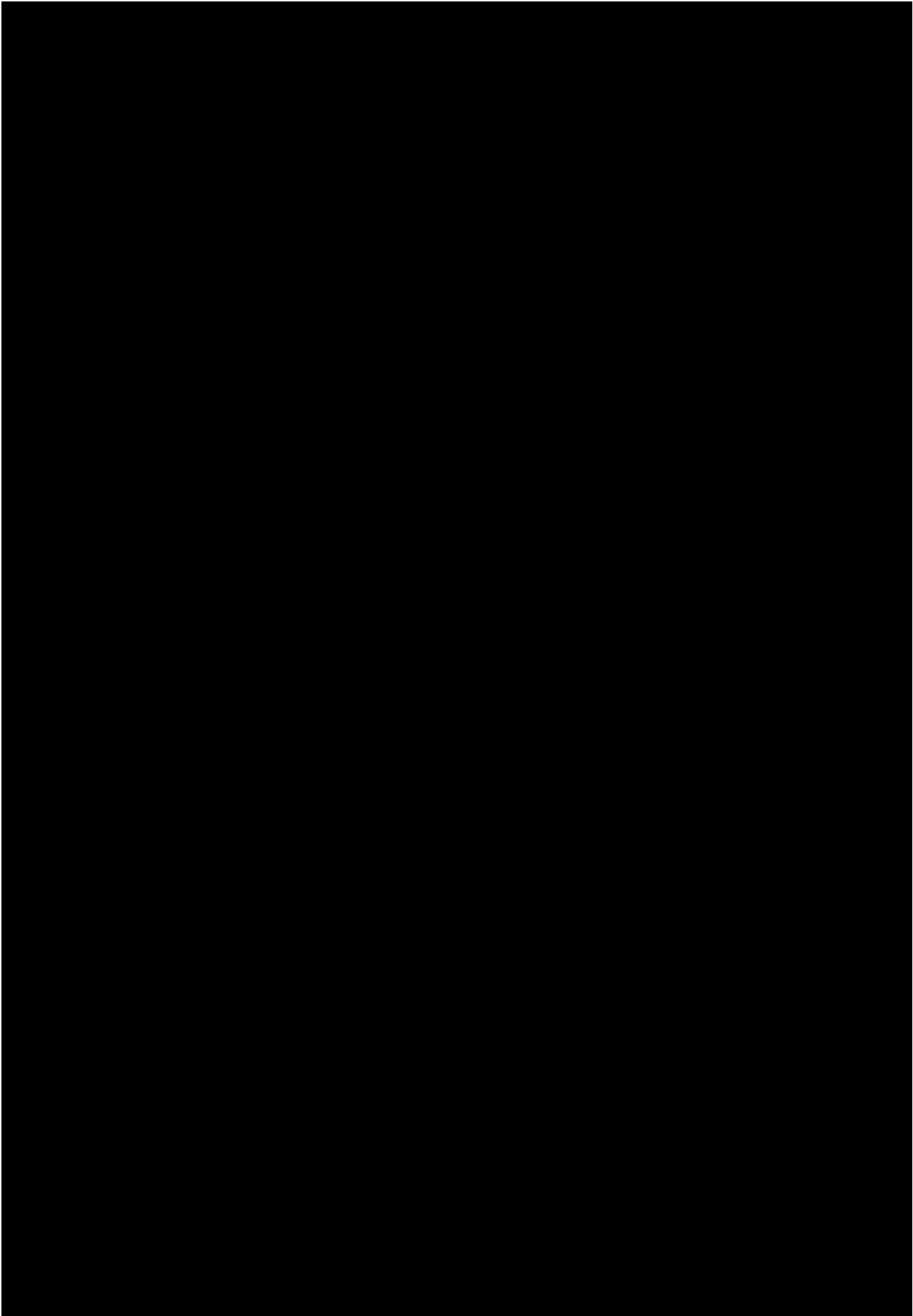
Example of concrete sleeper retaining wall with tennis fence integrated as required for courts 1-4. Retaining wall height will vary from 1 to 3 sleepers high at [REDACTED]. Image [REDACTED] (May 2023).

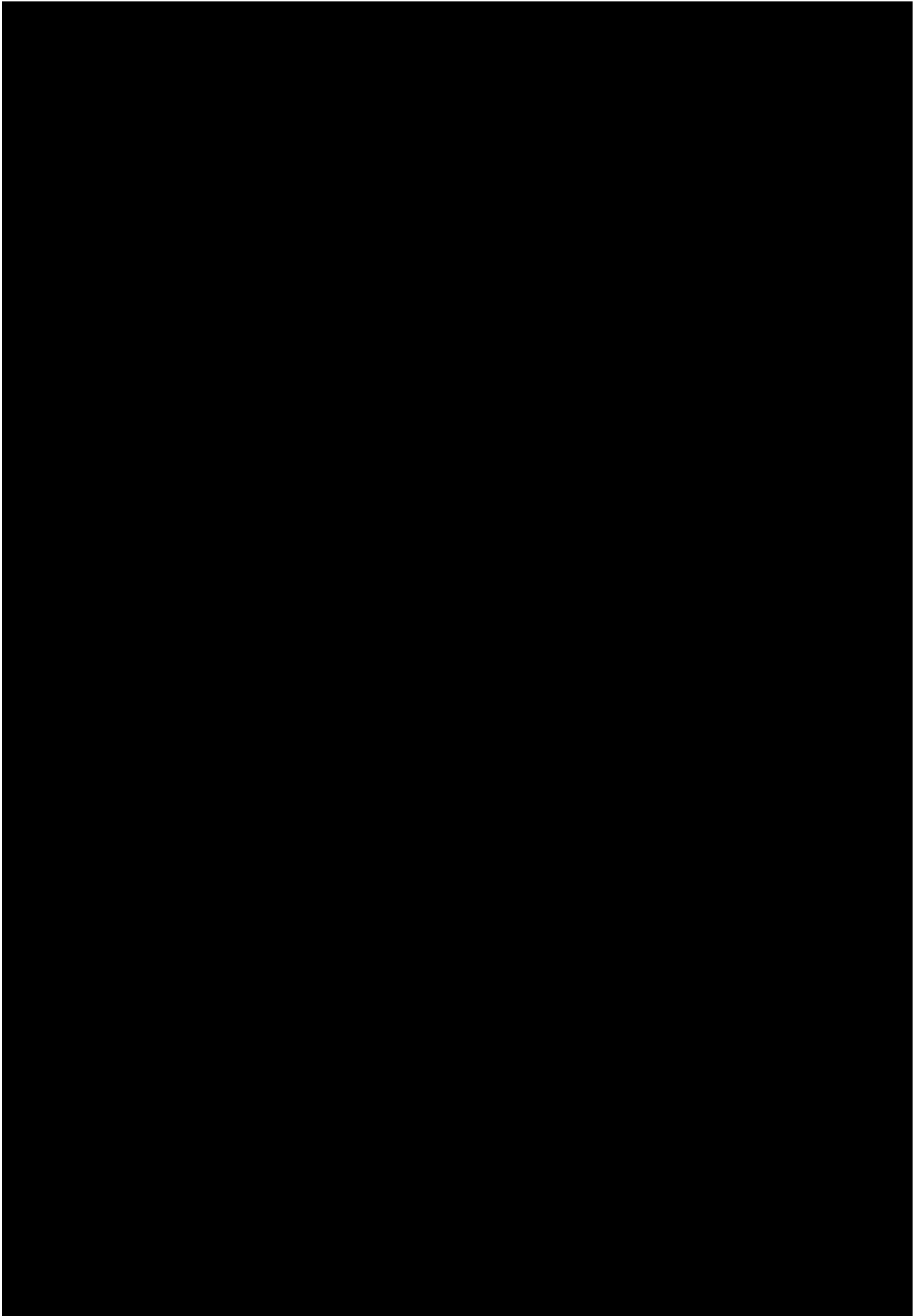


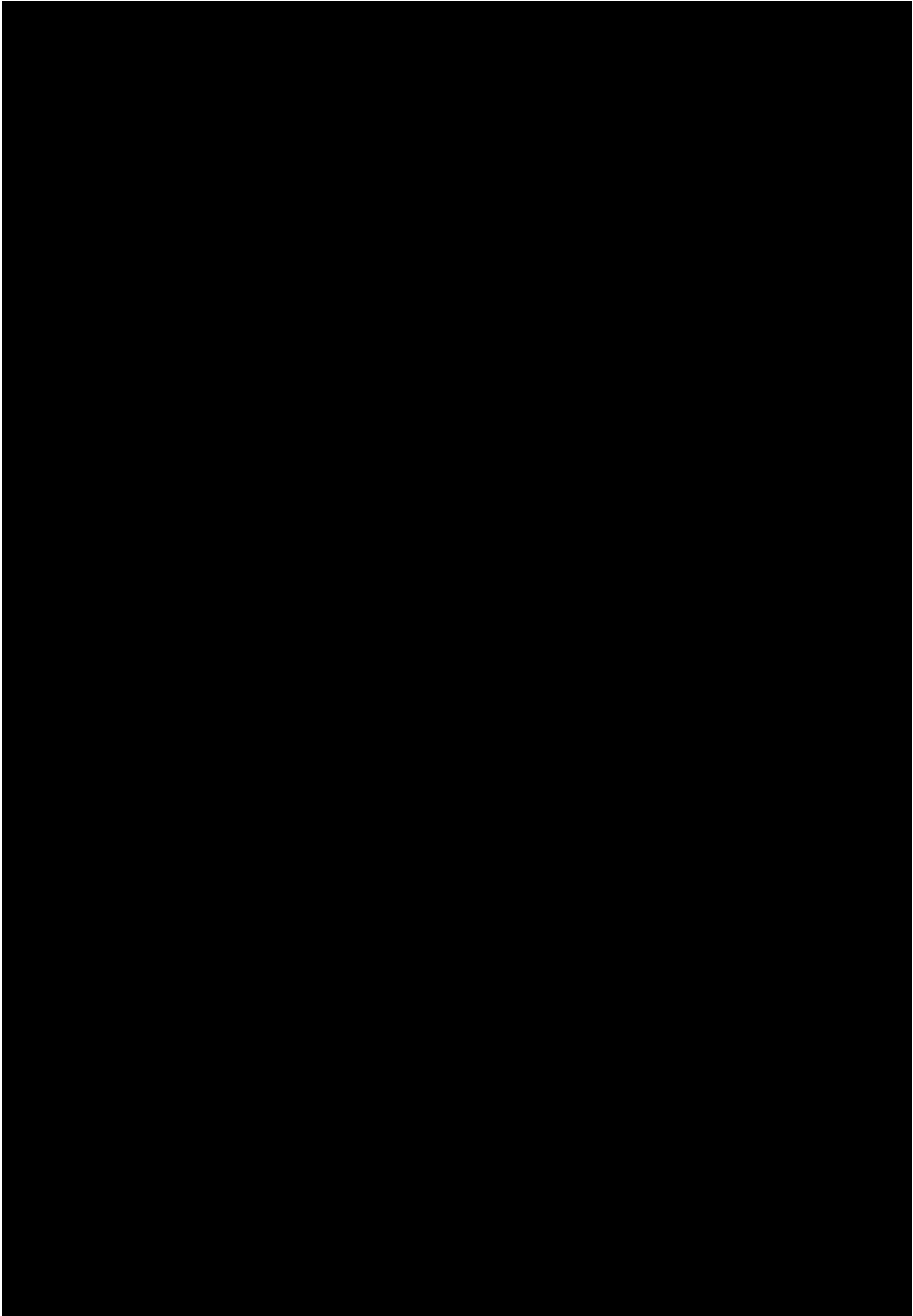












From: [Redacted]
 To: [Travis Harling](#)
 Cc: [Redacted]; [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
 Subject: RE: Agenda Item AO.6 - Capital Works Monitoring
 Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2023 4:49:27 PM
 Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[2023-24 MRSC Budget Submission.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

[Redacted]
Further to my last, I have just posted the attached via the Shire's web portal – thank you (and Cr Neil) for your advice on this matter.

Kind regards

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted signature block]

Dear Peter

A quick email to let you know that our draft Budget 2023/24 is currently out for public consultation and submissions are due to close this Friday 19 May 2023 at 5.00pm.

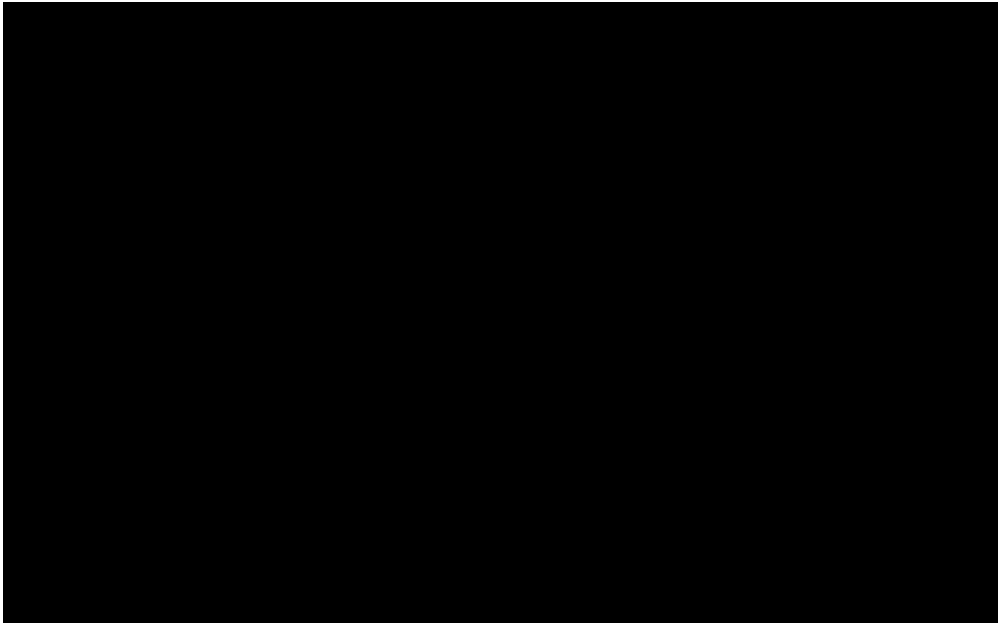
If you would like to provide a submission and have your request included, it would be greatly appreciated if you could please complete and submit.

I have provided you the link to our website where submissions can be made.
<https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/News/Have-Your-Say/Draft-Budget-202324>

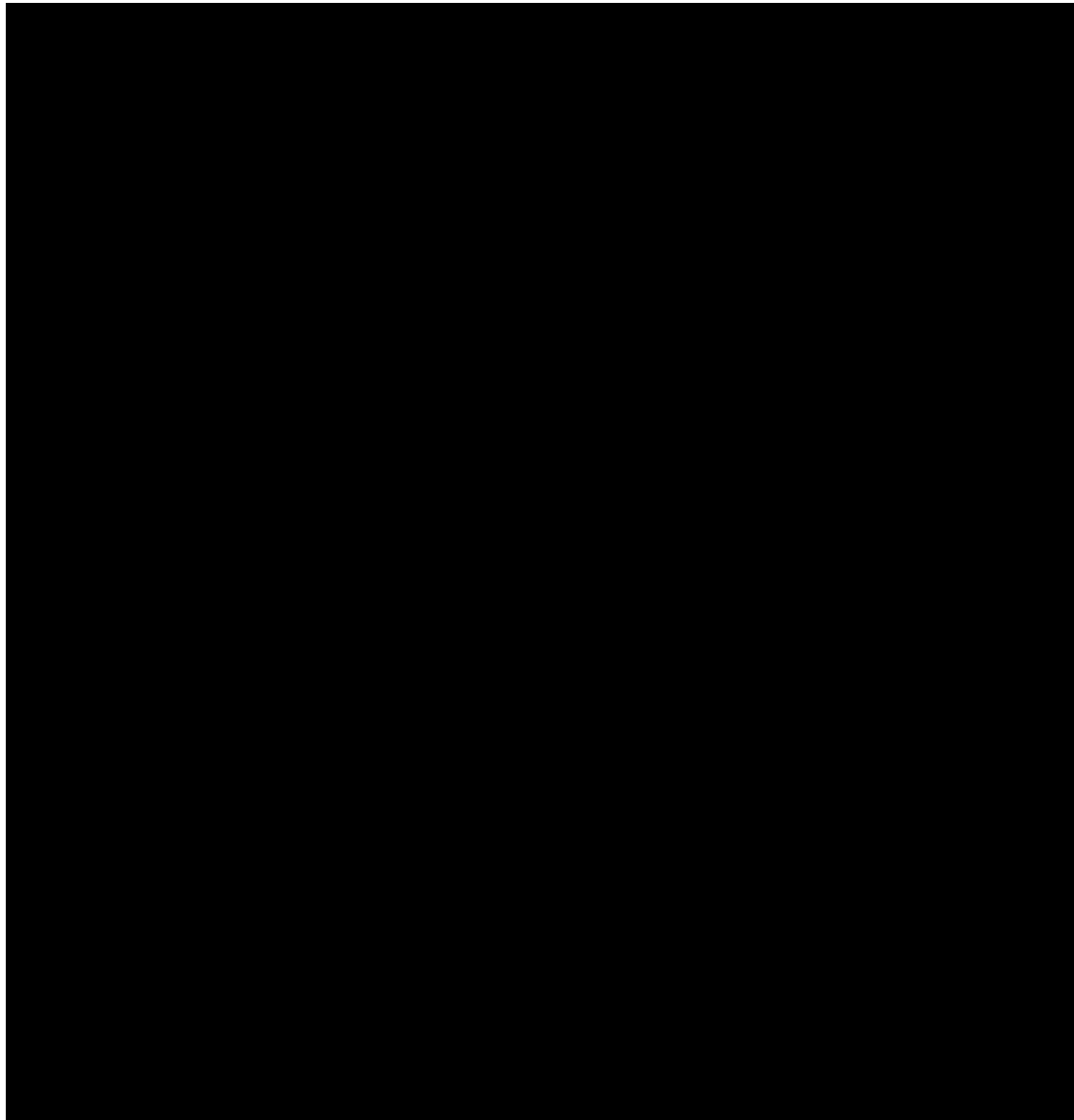
Happy to discuss further if you require and can be contacted on 5422 0333.

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wednesday, 17 May 2023

[REDACTED]
Manager – Finance and Reporting
Macedon Ranges Shire Council
c/- Gisborne Administration Centre
40 Robertson Street (via email)
Gisborne 3437

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Re Submission to 2023/24 Budget

In response to your email of earlier today inviting a submission to Council concerning Capital Works funding, we respectfully request that funds be made available for the following works;

- a) Reimbursement of our costs to remove gravel from the easement which runs through 47 Smith Street and 46 Margaret Street, Macedon – this sedimentation emanates from Council's roads. Council has directed stormwater, without landowner approval, into this easement from their street drainage system across adjoining private property again without Owner approval. The claim amounts to \$2,770.00 + GST and we contend that this work should be undertaken at least every 2-3 years with an appropriate biennial budget allocation. It is noted that Council has previously undertaken clearing works and the construction of a berm to separate the stormwater flow from a private dam used as a fire-fighting water resource.
- b) The creation of some type of retardation system within Ash Wednesday Park that would control surge stormwater during abnormal weather events whilst allowing normal flows to be un-impeded. We understand from recent discussions with Council's engineering staff that this would be a relatively simple process of reducing the inlet diameter of the pipe that runs under Smith Street and into a Council pit that has been partially constructed on private property at the rear of 44 Margaret Street, Macedon – we defer to Council's Engineering department on probable costs
- c) provision of a box culvert which has a capacity greater than the present 3x300Ø pipes laid under the Margaret Street footpath at our property boundary to ensure water flow is unrestricted into the street drain and minimise (if not eliminate) backflow problems – again we defer to Council's expertise on this matter.
- d) Increase the capacity of the pipework under the Council approved cross-over at the rear of 51 Smith Street, Macedon to minimise backflow across the footpath and street thereby reducing the hazards to pedestrians, particularly the Primary school children that regularly use this pathway. This work would also improve the longevity of the asphalt footpath which is in a poor state of repair as a consequence of poor initial construction and continual inundation from stormwater.
- e) Grading of road verges to ensure that the flow of rainwater is unrestricted into open street drains – the current situation has rainwater collecting between the edge of the bitumen and grass verges and as a consequence creates scouring, erosion and a deterioration of the road surface.

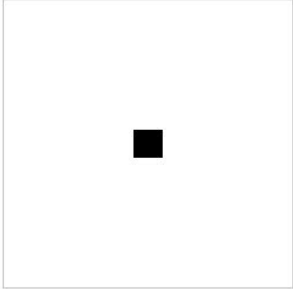
We thank you for this opportunity and trust that Council will give favourable consideration to funding all of the above matters in the 2023-24 financial year.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Tuesday, 16 May 2023 9:18:48 AM



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>The MRSC budget will never please everyone and I can understand the lack of funding around most of the Shire due to the two big expenditures, one being the MRSC Sports Precinct and the other the 24 km trail. These two projects will suck any remaining funds from the rest of the Shire for years to come.</p> <p>What I am concerned with is the continued lack of funding to the east of the shire. I can see only three extra funding projects in Romsey outside of the regular maintenance of roads and the 4 bin collections. The roads in Romsey are in desperate need of repair. There needs to be an additional footpaths constructed in Romsey as there are so many missing links within the township. The only two roads in and around Romsey in this budget that will be receiving funding are Murphy Street and Kettlewells Road. My question is why these two roads? Kettlewells Road services four properties and a private quarry. Murphy Street is ripped up by large trucks from Newham Earthworks, perhaps they need an extra charge to facilitate the improvement. Barry Street heading to Wallan is in a poor state of repair which is one of the four main entrances into the town. There has</p>

	<p>been a 24 unit development approved on Barry Street and Park Lane that will increase traffic congestion on Barry Street. Why isn't Barry Street one of the priorities for an upgrade? Pohlman Street behind the IGA is also in desperate need of attention.</p> <p>If the MRSC wants Romsey to be a large district town then MRSC needs to start investing in the infrastructure and facilities required to achieve this.</p>
<p>If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here</p>	
<p>Tell us about you</p>	
<p>First name</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Last name</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Address</p>	<p>██████████████████</p>
<p>Town</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Postcode</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Phone</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Email address</p>	<p>██████████████████</p>
<p>Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?</p>	<p>No</p>

How did you find out about this?	Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn)
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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission to Draft Budget 2023 - 2024
Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2023 1:10:46 PM
Attachments: [SUBMISSION TO MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 2023 \(003\).docx](#)

Attached is a Submission to Macedon Ranges Shire Council draft Budget 2023-24.
Please pass on accordingly

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION TO MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 2023-04

The [REDACTED] is a volunteer run organization which has been operating since 1984 at its current site. It has a well-established forty-year history in the Macedon Ranges and is a much loved and well patronized community club. It has enjoyed a solid continuous membership throughout its long history in the area. The clubs mission statement is to educate dog owners in all aspects of training and handling their animals, and more importantly training dogs to be good, well-behaved citizens. This incorporates among other aspects of obedience commands, training the dogs to be socialized. We have various levels of documented training standards. The majority of our membership are Beginners, Class 1 and Class 2. We have a monthly intake and have an extensive waiting list for people to begin training their dogs.

It should be noted that current dog ownership is 48%¹ of Australian households having at least one dog. The therapeutic and social benefits are well documented regarding pet ownership. The benefits include improved mental health, improved physical health, as well as a sense of social benefit. KODC is providing a vital volunteer service to the Macedon Ranges Community and is a wonderful community asset.

[REDACTED] Club has occupied the current premises for nearly 40 years. The building is well separated from [REDACTED] Club buildings which has kept negative interaction to a minimum. Prior to being informed that the building was a Council Asset, works such as painting and installation of a small kitchenette had been done at the club's expense to maintain the building.

On June 2, 2021 an email was received from Council advising the view that the building had reached the end of its useful life and was identified for replacement. Consequently, in October 2021 concept plans for rebuilding were

¹ Animal Medicines Australia Report Pets in Australia: A national survey of pets and people 2022

accepted by [REDACTED]. These plans showed various options for location for a 12 m x 8.1 m building. The preferred option for both Club and Council Officers was the current site with a container to be supplied for our needs whilst a modular was built. At that time Council Officers agreed with us that placing our building in close proximity to the Soccer Club buildings could cause public safety issues.

Since this agreement two years ago, sadly it would appear that Council has changed its position and is contemplating incorporating the [REDACTED] in the same rooms as the Soccer Club and it seems that a Cricket Club may now also be included. The rooms are to be multipurpose and shared.

This solution unfortunately is untenable for the club to perform its duties and function. Dogs can be unpredictable; we are trying to train them from a very young age. The close proximity to players, spectators, balls, cars, noise and crowds would be incredibly difficult and virtually impossible. The time constraints between the two clubs are not compatible; our usage is from 9.30 to 11.45 or later every Sunday, soccer games start at 11.00 with the players often being in the vicinity from 10.15 onwards warming up there would be a great overlap of people trying to use shared spaces. The cricket club is an unknown entity, we are not sure of their needs or, in fact if they are compatible. If we are to do our job properly our needs are a calm orderly area with minimal interaction with other people. Dogs need to be introduced to the multitude of sensory experiences slowly and calmly. Thus, it would be impossible to share a room.

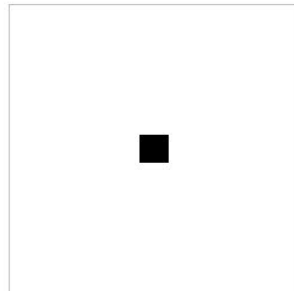
We note that there are currently a number of new works put forward in the Draft Budget. As our project has been in the pipeline for the past three years and considerable amount of council money has been spent with no suitable results, we respectfully ask that council review our underfunded project, expand their scope of works in relation to this project, and give greater consideration to our needs by adjusting the budget to provide the extra funds required to provide a much loved well patronized club a suitable functional home.

We would be most grateful to be represented at a Submitters meeting in order to state our case and respond to any questions from Councilors

Wendy Ashton



From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2023 8:08:51 PM



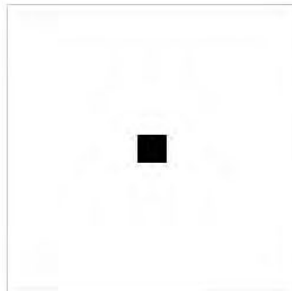
Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
	<p>Good evening and thank you for considering Kyneton Little Athletics in the draft budget. as some of you may be aware our club is one of the biggest sporting clubs in the Macedon Ranges and has seen a steady rise in numbers over the last 5 years. Our club caters to children and teenagers from 5-17 years of age, at the completion of our last season we had 189 registered athletes. 100 male competitors, 89 female and 21 children identified as having special needs. As well as our usual summer season our club has also been responsible for hosting the sports days for [REDACTED]</p>
Please share your feedback.	<p>The Proposed redevelopment will allow Kyneton Little Athletics to continue to grow and support young local athletes. Our club has had strong representation at regional, state and national levels of competition in all disciplines of track and field events. As a club we are grateful that the Macedon Ranges Shire Council has included us in this draft budget and we feel that this will not only benefit our current members, but young athletes</p>

	<p>for years to come. These planned facilities will play a significant role in promoting sports and recreation within the Macedon Ranges.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>████████████████████</p>
<p>If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here</p>	
<p>Tell us about you</p>	
<p>First name</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Last name</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Address</p>	<p>████████████████████</p>
<p>Town</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Postcode</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Phone</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Email address</p>	<p>████████████████████</p>
<p>Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?</p>	<p>No</p>

How did you find out about this?	Other: notified by email
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From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 18 May 2023 10:06:28 AM

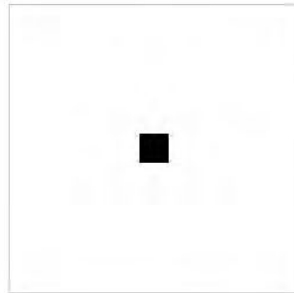


Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	Residents and ratepayers impacted by the extended closure of the bridge in Ross Street Malmsbury are relieved to note that finally funding has been allocated in the Draft Budget 2023/24 for repairs to the bridge. Residents and ratepayers are looking forward to the tender process & repairs being undertaken early in the new financial year.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	██████
Last name	██████
Address	██████████
Town	████████
Postcode	██████
Phone	██████████
Email address	██████████████████

Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Other: MRSC website

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: HPE CM: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 18 May 2023 11:53:40 AM
Attachments: [budget letter \[REDACTED\].docx](#)



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	budget letter [REDACTED].docx
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Community newsletter

To whom it may concern

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a [REDACTED]. I am the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] which takes place in the [REDACTED] every Saturday morning at 8am. Many people come to parkrun from other parts of the Shire and other parts of Victoria. Many stay on for breakfast and the Farmers' Market when it is on.

[REDACTED] a very light footprint but we do need a safe track to run and walk on. Parkrun has been cancelled several times in the past year due to storm damage to trees and also to the track itself. The track is still unusable in several places and this requires extra time to set-up and take down the barricades. As yet we have no timeline for when the track will be fixed.

On behalf of [REDACTED] I would urge the Council to become involved in maintaining and enhancing the park for the residents of Lancefield and beyond. I am aware that the park is run by a committee of management on behalf of Deeca but I think that the Council has a responsibility to provide recreational infrastructure in Lancefield as it does in every other town in the Macedon Ranges. The Council has put some money into the park in the past but must be involved in the master plan being developed by the committee.

The Council's draft budget mentions *'a caring, resilient approach to community through our robust local economy, protection of the natural environment and a collaborative commitment to inclusivity for all.'* Here is a chance to collaborate with Deeca and the local management committee to include Lancefield in getting funding for an essential local recreation resource.

Also stated is *'Healthy environment, healthy people We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, community safety, and arts and culture.'* The two walking tracks (the park track and the Federation trail that is also closed but now about to be repaired) are an important cog in low impact accessible recreation for all residents. (*Strategic objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people*).

In terms of the Council budget, I think there is a basic flaw in the allocation of funding. Capital works (eg the construction of the Macedon Ranges Shared Trails Project) are being done, while at the same time there is no money for repairs for the Federation trail. There is a grant to extend the walking track in Lancefield Park, while there is no money to fix the damage to the existing track.

Better provision must be made to maintain what we have, before we look at creating new projects. And when new projects are created, funding must be set aside for future maintenance.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Budget submission - [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 18 May 2023 9:45:44 PM
Attachments: [Budget Submission 2023-24.pdf](#)

To MRSC

Please accept the attached budget submission on behalf of the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Thankyou

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

18 May 2023

To Macedon Ranges Shire Council,



Please note the above photographs depicting the ecological damage caused by operations to repair drainage to the Scout Hall. While the drainage issues needed to be addressed, the job needs to be finished including drainage and downpipes at the verandah and ecological restoration works.

Please allocate the Environment team sufficient funds to repair the damage caused by these operations.

The area at the rear of the Scout Hall has been required for revegetation/restoration since the successful Junior Landcare funding facilitated the area to the west of the Scout Hall as an appropriate space for the Scouts activities.

A frog habitat area is appropriate and would also stabilise the banks which are already showing signs of erosion. This can be achieved with indigenous plants which are already on the flora list for Daly Nature Reserve, and some well-placed local rocks, which would still facilitate the drainage away from the Scout Hall, and will connect the two wet areas of habitat. It is currently a slipping hazard when wet, these works are required for both conservation purposes and potential liability mitigation.



The eucalypt in the photo to the right was a healthy tree prior to the drainage operations, and is now damaged, more revegetation needs to be allowed for.

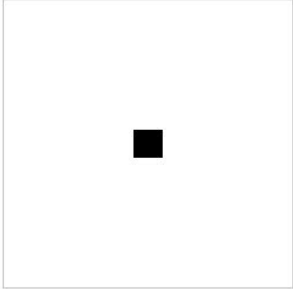
The second budgetary request is for a review of the Daly Nature Reserve Environmental Management Plan. We believe this is possible using internal resources from the Environment team, along with volunteers from the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve who are well-qualified for this task. This would be a considerable financial saving for the council compared with getting an outside consultant to do this work.

There is an urgent need for a reviewed EMP, the current one is ten years old this financial year, and most of the actions have been completed. This is needed to guide the collaborated management of this treasured nature reserve into the future.

This quote from the MRSC Biodiversity Strategy supports this request:
2.11 Regularly review and prepare new Environment Management Plans and Small Conservation Reserve Action Plans, working closely with relevant community groups and Traditional Owners. ...

[Redacted]

From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Thursday, 18 May 2023 9:00:41 PM



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your	<p>Re Service area: Open Space</p> <p>Whilst the budget states it will provide management and maintenance services for open spaces this is totally short sighted, lacking and inadequate for the Botanic Gardens. Macedon Ranges is the only shire in Australia to have not just one, but three Botanic Gardens. With such potential wealth and diversity of plant life, the Shire could be a progressive leader in conservation, whilst fostering the plant sciences and social and cultural heritage programs. Sadly, this budget, as it is, will continue with neglecting Botanic Gardens by merely maintaining them just as parks. What the Shire needs in regards to making the three Gardens properly functioning 'Botanic' Gardens is a Curator to oversee the development of the gardens. All three gardens have master plans to do this, (which council happily promotes to visitors on the website), but there is no one qualified person to advocate for, manage and push forward these plans into action. The Friends of the Botanic Gardens groups have freely given their time and efforts to raise money for the gardens, but without a Curator to lead the charge, nothing is done. Saved monies</p>

<p>feedback.</p>	<p>by these groups are just sitting in inactive bank accounts waiting for the chance to help. For instance, unfortunately the Kyneton friends group have lost any faith they had in getting their masterplan come into fruition.</p> <p>If the budget allowed for a Curator to be appointed, the shire could, in the future, really boast about its beautifully cared for gardens. It could take pride in increasing efforts in conservation of plants, and playing a role in meeting human needs by providing well being and education via visitor programs about the importance of plants to life. Botanic Gardens are ever more important in community life, the environment and the changing climate. Without a Curator, none of this can happen.</p> <p>Please note: This comment in no way should reflect on the work of the present gardeners and maintenance teams. On the contrary, they do a great job considering the tiny amount of time and money allocated to the botanic gardens.</p> <p>██████████</p>
<p>If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here</p>	
<p>Tell us about you</p>	
<p>First name</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Last name</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Address</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Town</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Postcode</p>	<p>██████</p>
<p>Phone</p>	<p>██████████</p>
<p>Email address</p>	<p>██</p>

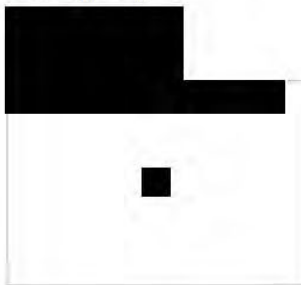
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Shire Life magazine Council's website

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget Submission
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 11:11:41 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[REDACTED].[Submission to Draft 2023-2024 MRSC Budget.pdf](#)
Importance: High

To Whom It May Concern.

Please see attached submission from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] relating to the draft MRSC 2023-2024 Budget.

Kind regards,



18th May 2023

To: Chief Executive Officer, Mayor and Councillors
Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC)

Re: Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft 2023-2024 Budget

I write on behalf [REDACTED]

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on MRSC's Draft 2023-2024 Budget. This is a corollary to the pre-budget submission made by RRBATA in October 2022 and follows perusal of the Draft 2023-2024 Budget document.

- ❖ [REDACTED] *welcomes* the commitment to progression of the *Romsey Town Structure Plan* process and looks forward to a reviewed timeline for this being soon determined.
- ❖ [REDACTED] *welcomes* the commitment to *road improvements* in the eastern corridor and notes Murphy Street Romsey being part of this. Is there an opportunity to incorporate the small unsealed section of William Street between Murphy Street and the Ecotherapy Park in these works?
- ❖ [REDACTED] *welcomes* the upgrade of the Five Mile Creek footbridge but, with the cost at \$27,000, is interested to understand whether this is both footbridges, or only that on the western side of Main Street?

However, [REDACTED] **wishes to draw attention** to the omission from the Draft Budget of any funding for further **implementation of the 2019 Five Mile Creek Master Plan (Stage 2)** - an item [REDACTED] lobbied for in its pre-Budget submission. Eastern corridor visitation is well below that of the other zones of the Macedon Ranges (Visitor Economy Strategy 2018) and businesses in Romsey are closing. In addition to its visitor economy importance, Romsey's anticipated population growth over the next decade will increase the need for well developed open space resources such as that dictated by the Five Mile Creek Master Plan (which dovetails nicely with the Romsey Ecotherapy Park precinct). Even allocating a portion of the (at last estimate) \$365,000 could provide leverage funding for support from other sources [REDACTED] appreciates the financial challenges confronting Council at this time and the need for prioritisation of expenditure. However, [REDACTED] is concerned that a potentially short-sighted approach in this case will jeopardise Romsey's tourism and community amenity which will further contribute to compromised local economic development. In addition, it would be reasonable to anticipate that the cost of the Master Plan's implementation will only increase the longer it is delayed, thereby further compromising its likelihood of ever being realised.

[REDACTED] Submission to Draft MRSC 2023-2024 Budget

[REDACTED] implores Council to reconsider the budget in relation to this issue.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

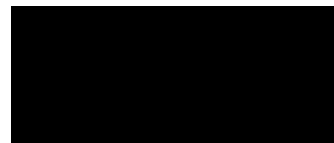
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Submission to Draft MRSC 2023-2024 Budget

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: [REDACTED] Budget submission
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 12:33:06 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED] [Submission to Draft 2023-2024 MRSC Budget 0523.pdf](#)

To Cheif executive officer, Mayor and Councillors, Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Letter attached for your consideration.



18^h May 2023

To: Chief Executive Officer, Mayor and Councillors
Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC)

Re: Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft 2023-2024 Budget

I write on behalf of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is grateful to have this opportunity to comment on MRSC's Draft 2023-2024 Budget.

[REDACTED] pre budget submission in October 2022 drew attention to two items, both of which do not appear to have been considered with the draft budget.

- 1. Specialist Maintenance Services for Botanic and High Profile Gardens** – The Macedon Ranges visitor economy is incredibly important. The demand for experiences in nature include those in the region's Botanic Gardens and similar open space destinations such as Romsey Ecotherapy Park. Visitor product lives and dies by its reputation and reported visitor experience. These high profile and, in the case of Romsey Ecotherapy Park, complex gardens require specialist maintenance compared to the Shire's more regular parks and open spaces. Failure to adequately maintain these spaces will most definitely result in their deterioration with a subsequent loss of reputational integrity for them as both visitor-worthy assets and outstanding community resources. In the case of the multi-million dollar Romsey Ecotherapy Park, Council's financial investment was significant which should be all the more reason for prioritising its specialist maintenance. Complex plantings, art installations, water features and other infrastructure elements dictate a higher level of maintenance is required. Failure to do so will seriously risk the ongoing reputation of these high profile resources and the Macedon Ranges visitor economy.
- 2. Romsey Five Mile Creek Master Plan Implementation (Stage 2)**
The development of the Five Mile Creek Master Plan and its anticipated implementation was welcomed by REP as a wonderful synergy project to the Romsey Ecotherapy Park. In an era where the link between wellness and experiences in nature is in people's consciousness more than ever, the prospect of a "precinct" of well planned open space was exciting from both a visitor and local community asset perspective as well as its potential knock-on economic importance and utilisation cannot be underestimated. However, with not even a portion of required funding being allocated, REP is concerned that the likelihood of the project being completed is seriously diminished.

█ requests that Council seriously consider including both of the above initiatives in the 2023-2024 Budget.

Kind regards,

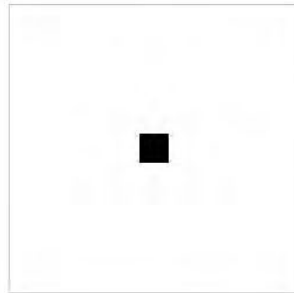
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From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 1:27:02 PM
Attachments: [Redacted] [Budget Submission to MRSC 19 May 2023.docx](#)



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
	[Redacted] [Redacted]
	Formal Submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24
	[Redacted]
	[Redacted] formal
Please share your feedback.	submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24, with the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to Council, in support of our written submission.
	The [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] request for the funding of an updated Masterplan for consideration and inclusion in the MRSC 2023/24 draft Budget.
If you would prefer, you can also upload	[Redacted] Budget Submission to

a written submission here	MRSC 19 May 2023.docx
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	Yes
How did you find out about this?	Council's website Word of mouth



May 2023

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Formal Submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24

[Redacted] make a formal submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24, with the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to Council, in support of our written submission.

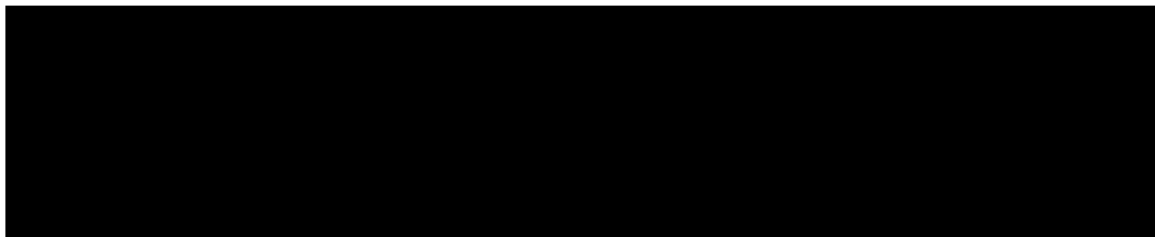
The current [Redacted] was elected at the [Redacted] in late [Redacted] and thus was unable to contribute when the budget was inviting community proposals to be submitted late 2022.

The 2023 [Redacted] at which the new committee was elected was well attended. There were over [Redacted] residents attending to represent their particular sporting club or community organisation. Each of the groups in attendance gave a report of their activities at the Park over the last 12 months. It was impressive to hear the amazing work being done by the groups and to have so many new people from the groups being interested in being part of the [Redacted]

This resulted in 6 [Redacted] and they were joined by [Redacted] There is an influx of new energy to the committee, hence our budget submission.

There was plenty of enthusiasm about the task ahead with the new members bringing fresh vigor, support and ideas to the committee and the previous committee members keen to guide them and share their collective wisdom and past experiences on the committee. All are keen to work together effectively for the betterment of our Park, user groups and community - the Park is the heart of Lancefield.

The [Redacted] reasons why we strongly urge our submission to be considered for adoption in the attached document. The Committee's submission is supported by several [Redacted] community groups and organisations, who have provided letters of support. The [Redacted] has also identified the importance of The Lancefield Park in its Community Plan.



If Council see fit to endorse our submission, the [REDACTED] will commit our resources and energy to working under the guidance of the Council to develop and Masterplan and aid its implementation once complete to the very best of our ability. We will encourage our user and community groups and all casual users to support the work of the Council in the development of the Masterplan.

We understand clearly that this budget submission is not a request for direct funding to [REDACTED], rather it is funding for a Masterplan that will in turn help us attain funding from various grants.

We commend our submission to Council and hope to receive your favour.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Formal Submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24

Lancefield Park Recreation Reserves [redacted] wishes to make a formal submission to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023/24, with the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to Council, in support of our written submission.

The Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve [redacted] formally submits a request for the funding of an updated Masterplan for consideration and inclusion in the MRSC 2023/24 draft Budget.

Table of Contents

- About Lancefield and the Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve (Lancefield Park) 2
- Why do we need a Masterplan? 2
- Our 2012 Masterplan 3
- Reviewing the 2012 Masterplan 4
- A Demographic Review 4
- New Trends 4
- Our budget submission aligns directly to Council strategic objectives..... 5
- Strategic Objective: Connecting Communities, 5
- Strategic Objective: Healthy Environment, Healthy People..... 6
- Strategic Objective: Business And Tourism. 6
- Greater Development as Emergency Relief Centre needs to be considered..... 7
- Why should MRSC fund our Masterplan..... 7

The following persons, clubs and associations have provided letters of support for this submission:

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

About Lancefield and the Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve (Lancefield Park)

The Lancefield Park Recreation Reserves (Lancefield Park) are located on Crown land on Chauncy Street and High Street Lancefield, and is managed by a [REDACTED]
Lancefield Park is the primary open space and recreation area in the township of Lancefield and is home to our many sporting clubs, major community events and community groups, some of which are listed below.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |

Lancefield Park is zoned for public use and recreation and has a Planning Overlay on the site which recognizes the historic significance of the area and its trees. The Lancefield Swamp is located at the rear of the reserve and is environmentally significant.

[REDACTED] works to maximize the public benefit of the Crown land reserves for the community. DEECA relies on the skills, experience, knowledge and the time of the voluntary committee, without providing any funding whatsoever.

[REDACTED] has very limited capacity to raise funds and relies on the license and lease fees from the user groups, a small maintenance allowance from the MRSC and grants when we are able to apply successfully. Generally, the cost of maintaining Lancefield Park is greater than the funds we can raise and therefore we rely heavily on our volunteers to help maintain Lancefield Park. Every dollar raised by the Committee is spent on maintaining and, when possible, making improvements to Lancefield Park.

[REDACTED] does its best to provide support for our many volunteers, sporting clubs, community groups and others participating in passive recreation activities in Lancefield Park. We recognise our role in contributing to social connections within our growing community. The Committee and our user groups undertake countless hours of volunteer work contributing to and enhancing the social, fabric and wellbeing of our community.

Why do we need a Masterplan?

A masterplan is key to the Committee and our user groups being able to provide coordinated, considered, and well- planned improvements to Lancefield Park. The development the masterplan would also allow for collaboration with Council, to ensure that appropriate facilities and spaces are provided to meet the future sporting and recreational needs within Lancefield Park

An up to date, fit for purpose masterplan would assist in obtaining funding and Grants, provide direction and an integrated long-term plan for the maintenance, development and growth of Lancefield Park. It would allow us to ensure our facilities were accessible and met the health and well-being needs of the Lancefield community, by providing a variety of options for the community to participate in.

Our submission asks Council to consider and undertake a Masterplan on behalf of Lancefield Park. We have been advised that the cost to undertake this project would be \$45,000 to \$50,000 (which is similar to costs for other recent plans at Romsey and Kyneton). The Committee do not have access to funding of this magnitude for the preparation of this essential Masterplan.

We ask that our submission be considered by the Council to put us on a fair and equitable footing with other local towns, and will ensure that we are not to be disadvantaged because of the ownership and management structure at Lancefield Park.

An updated Masterplan is needed so that Lancefield Park can continue to increase participation opportunities in formal and passive sports by providing suitable facilities for our changing needs. We also need to be mindful of the increased importance of open public space for recreation and simple quiet enjoyment. Lancefield Park is unique in this respect. It is a beautiful park that has large open grassed areas, meandering walking tracks and trees of significant heritage and beauty.

Our 2012 Masterplan

In March 2011 the Council worked with the [REDACTED] our user groups and community to develop a masterplan for Lancefield Park. The council commissioned, directed, and funded 'Hands on Community Solutions' to undertake the work to guide the development of this iconic reserve.

Final Masterplan 2012' represented a well-researched, well planned, and well-prepared report, and was very relevant at the time. It provided valuable guidance to many worthy improvements to Lancefield Park over the last decade.

[REDACTED] is proud to acknowledge the improvements to Lancefield Park made possible by the 2012 Masterplan and the benefits to the Lancefield community, which led to increased participation and opportunities for sporting clubs, improved passive recreation activities which were balanced with projects to protect and enhance the natural beauty of our unique public open space and heritage priorities of The Lancefield Park.

With the influence of time and many changing circumstances, a new relevant and updated Masterplan is now required. Lancefield Park facilities and amenities are well below the standard of other competing towns in the Macedon Ranges, and without a relevant updated Masterplan we are further disadvantaged when applying for grants to further improve Lancefield Park

When seeking funding and applying for grants, particularly from MRSC and the state and Federal Governments, a relevant and current Masterplan is essential.

Following the tragic fires in 2015 substantial government funds were invested in infrastructure at Lancefield Park, the 2012 Masterplan was vital in determining where to invest in the Park. This included new park equipment, new netball change rooms and toilets, upgrade of cricket rooms, upgrade of main oval and sprinkler system, development of second oval, additional tennis courts and netball courts.

Without an updated Masterplan Lancefield Park is left vulnerable if there are similar environmental events.

Reviewing the 2012 Masterplan

During 2022 our [REDACTED] undertook a review of the 2012 Masterplan. The review was funded by the Committee and included consultation with our 12 user groups. It identified that there was a significant need for a new Masterplan as the membership of our sporting clubs had grown significantly, our population had already exceeded 2036 estimates and many of our building and facilities have been identified as requiring further upgrades to keep up the needs of our community. One particularly exciting development identified was the increased participation of girls and women in the sports of cricket and football, which in turn require unique facility upgrades and adjustments.

The [REDACTED] and the user groups continue to work through and prioritise identified projects in 2012 that have not yet been addressed and seek grants, we believe our lack of success is due to the outdated Masterplan.

A Demographic Review

In the Executive Summary, it was estimated that there will be an increase in the population of Lancefield, from 1,000 in 2006 to 3,000 in 2036. The Masterplan quotes a population of 2,265 in 2011, and the 2021 Census records a population of 2,743 with 795 families.

Macedon Ranges Shire on their website estimates a population for Lancefield of 3,472 in 2023 and 4,465 in 2036. That is an increase of 28.6% during that period, and an increase of 48.8% on the original estimated population for 2036, and an increase of 97.1% since 2011.

Many of the user group have substantially grown since 2012. All of these material changes will need to be considered in the preparation of a Masterplan, to meet the current and future needs of Lancefield Park and its user groups.

A new large housing development has recently been opened in the area opposite Lancefield Park, which does not have recreational space. This places even greater stress on the facilities of Lancefield Park. A new Masterplan needs to be prepared to reflect this much greater population and the demand that creates for now and in the future.

New Trends

Since the 2012 Masterplan developed and reviewed in 2022, there are many new developments which now need to be considered in a new Masterplan.

A girls' football team was introduced at Lancefield Park last year, with a second planned for next year. There are plans for senior Female football teams to also be introduced next year. Both junior and senior girls cricket teams commenced at Lancefield Park last year.

There is a desperate need for separate facilities for female football and cricket teams. This introduces new dynamics, which will require special consideration.

A skate park has been constructed and is well patronized. An Auskick program has been introduced and a Get Set Go program has commenced at Lancefield Park with up to 150 kids attending, reflecting the growth in young families in or community.

The erection of high-quality lights on the oval last year, and the assembly of an electronic scoreboard with full colour LED Video Board in coming months, have greatly increased the potential for further additional usages by tenant clubs, as well as for other community groups, and increases the potential for additional major events.

Our budget submission aligns directly to Council strategic objectives.

Our budget submission aligns directly to Council strategic objectives highlighted in the draft budget: connecting communities, healthy environment, healthy people, as well as impact on business and tourism.

Strategic Objective: Connecting Communities,

The submission also fits neatly within the Council Plan and strategic objective to support the connection of communities.

Without a new Masterplan Lancefield is excluded from the Council's Open Space Strategy.

Not being part of the Open Space Strategy would leave Lancefield disconnected from all our neighboring townships, stalling the development of public open space completely in Lancefield.

Lancefield is being left behind other neighboring communities which will grow and flourish under this worthy Council strategy.

For the Lancefield community to cultivate any sense of connection within our community and across local communities we need like for like facilities with communities around us. Currently our sporting teams are left behind with second-rate facilities which is already impacting on the health and wellbeing of our teams.

██████████ is especially keen to work with the Council to make strategic decisions about the future of Lancefield Park, and its sporting, recreation, and community building opportunities.

A new Masterplan and being part of the Open Space Strategy would facilitate this work.

It is understood the masterplan would have to balance the needs of our sporting community whilst protecting the natural beauty and heritage of our Park for everyone in the wider community and the visitors we regularly welcome to Lancefield Park.

Access to the experience and expertise of the Council is invaluable to the Committee and the Lancefield community in these areas.

Strategic Objective: Healthy Environment, Healthy People.

The development and successful implementation of a new Masterplan would generate fresh energy and optimism in the Lancefield community. It would be a community project bringing the community together, with long term residents being invigorated, and our many new residents identifying opportunities where they can engage and become part of their new community.

With new and updates facilities with equitable access for all the community, we envision an increase in opportunities for participation for our existing sporting and recreation groups as well as an increase in passive recreational opportunities and improved use of beautiful public open park space. This would in turn deliver undeniable health and well-being benefits for our community, other local communities, and every visitor to our region.

Many in our community visit our park regularly, to walk, sit, play and generally enjoy life, it has been reported that it is up to 100 each day with 100s more on weekends. Many appreciate its heritage trees, avenue, and the historical megafauna site, as well as enjoying the playground, walking tracks and skate park. There are currently, always, people partaking in some type of healthy outdoor activity at lancefield Park.

As our population grows, we see the need for improved facilities to cater for the growth in activity. We also see the growth as an opportunity to create better ways for people in our community to connect better with each other, this would be considered in the development of a Masterplan.

Lancefield Park is the heart of the Lancefield community and the centre of much energy and activity. The contribution it makes to positive health and wellbeing outcomes in our community is clear. You just need to walk into Lancefield Park to feel welcomed. The variety of opportunities and wonderful choice of activities surprises newcomers to our town. There truly is something for everyone. This proactively supports mental health, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion. The gender engagement is well balanced with our Cricket club having more women players than any other club in Victoria. This fosters a safe community space and supports the prevention of violence against women.

Strategic Objective: Business And Tourism.

In relation to the Business and tourism objective, The Masterplan will enable Lancefield Park to do the vital improvements needed to Lancefield Park and in turn foster economic growth in our community. Our Sport clubs and other organisations have increased membership and that in turn creates increase an events and activities in Lancefield. Therefore, we can expect to see more people visiting Lancefield Park to take part in our regular sporting events.

With upgraded facilities Lancefield Park will be able to attract more events large and small, which in turn would attract more people to Lancefield Park, further increasing the vibrancy of our community.

This additional visitation will increase business opportunities, employment and investments with more people seeking accommodation in the area, and patronizing all our local business, which is consistent with the Community Vision.

Many people visit our park now as it is renowned for its heritage trees, avenue, and the historical megafauna site. With improved facilities visitors will come more often to enjoy our open space more often and perhaps to stay longer.

With improved facilities, more sporting activities, and increased major events at Lancefield Park, Lancefield will become a of more of a destination for short and long-term visitation.

Greater Development as Emergency Relief Centre needs to be considered.

Recently Lancefield Park Committee of Management agreed to signing up formally to Energy Resilience Solutions installation of solar panels and diesel generator with the primary aim of providing access to power for the community in case of an emergency event.

With recent bushfires, many affected people not only from Lancefield, but also from other areas in the Macedon Ranges, used Lancefield Park as a safe haven.

There is a real potential for further development for an upgrading of the emergency relief utilization and facilities, which should be included in the Lancefield Park Masterplan.

Why should MRSC fund our Masterplan.

██████████ does not receive funding from DEECA and are responsible for raising their own funds. Our main revenue source is the license and lease fees from our user groups, hiring out facilities and \$20,000 maintenance allowance from the Council. Funding a Masterplan without Council support is impossible.

Without an updated Masterplan, Lancefield Park and the user groups have experienced great difficulty in obtaining funding and grants for essential and desired maintenance and upgrade of facilities. By funding a new Masterplan, the MRSC will be putting Lancefield Park on a fairer, more even footing with other Macedon Ranges facilities, assisting Lancefield Park and its user groups in being more competitive for grants and funding.

The Council has funded Masterplans in the Macedon Ranges, including Lancefield Park in 2012, with current funding for Romsey and others, but Lancefield was overlooked. The rate payers of Lancefield deserve their fair share of Council funding for open space and recreational activities.

In 2022 Macedon Ranges Council undertook an Open Space Strategy review. The council developed a new Open Space Strategy to provide strategic direction for the planning, management, and delivery of public open space. As the Macedon Ranges towns are growing, the climate is changing, and new recreation trends are emerging. This exercise was undertaken to ensure high quality open spaces are managed equitably throughout the shire.

This with the view to ensure Strategic decisions are made about the future of parks, sporting fields and recreation to balance the needs of the wider community with protecting the natural beauty of the shire. The strategic intention is to direct the council on current and future open space requirements to service the shire community into the future. If aligned with the fair access policy and roadmap and the gender equity act 2020 Macedon ranges, then to be equitable Lancefield must be seriously considered.

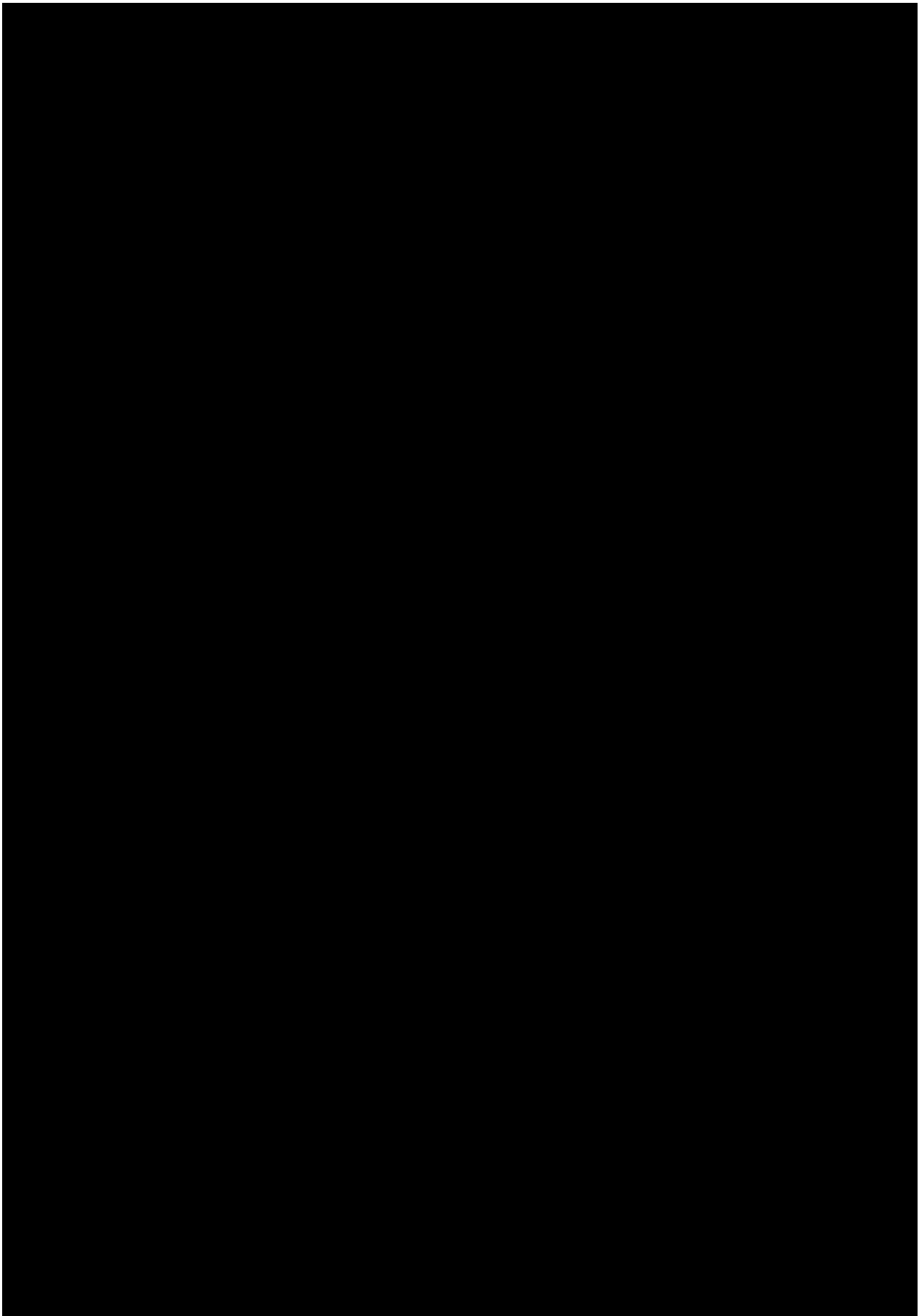
Relevant regional, state, and national plans and policies drive decisions. We believe the Victorian Government's Fair Access Policy Roadmap and The Gender Equality Act has driven funding for Masterplans in other local communities and is the reason why Lancefield should be funded as well.

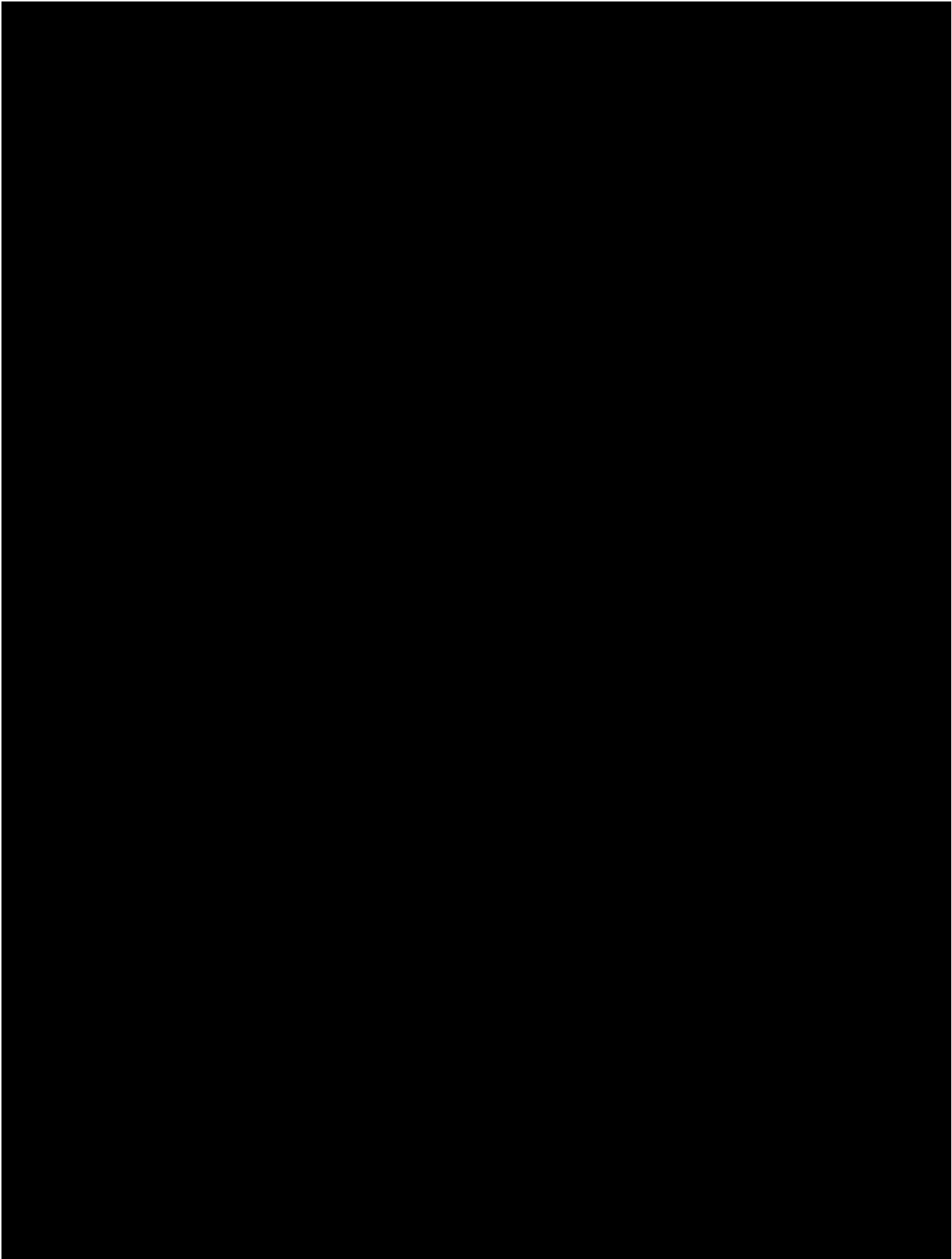
Lancefield Park is in a unique situation, being crown land and run entirely by a volunteer Committee, which is why we believe it has not been included in the strategy. This is a serious oversight, Lancefield as such is not covered by State Government plans and policies as the volunteer Committee of Management does not have the capacity to develop the required plans and fit in with the policies, leaving Lancefield vulnerable.

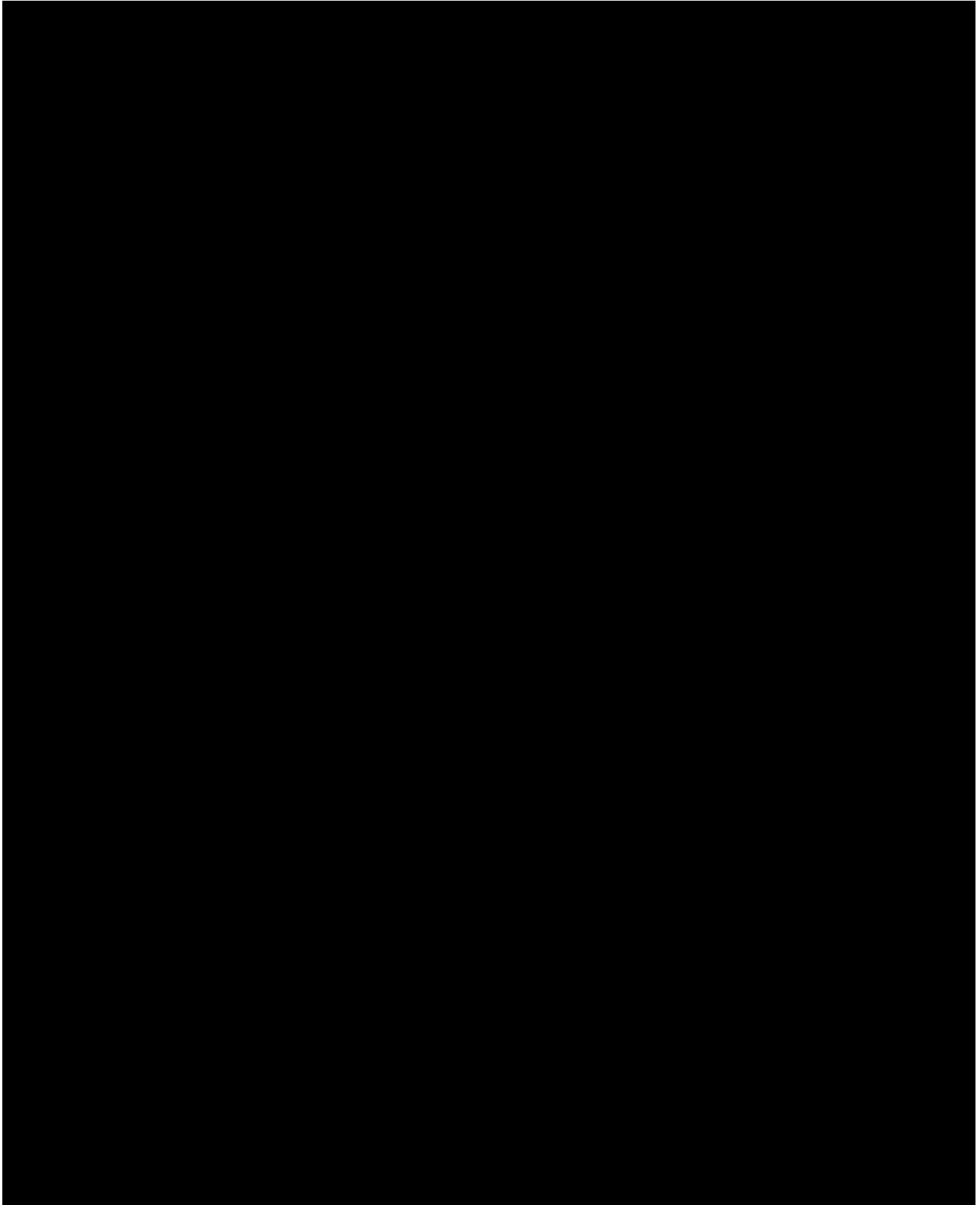
Lancefield Park needs support to begin to build an all-inclusive environment, enhancements, to basic infrastructure and facilities for every community user group, to improve and enhance the facilities of the entire Lancefield Park Precinct, including other community Open Spaces for every user to have fair and inclusive access.

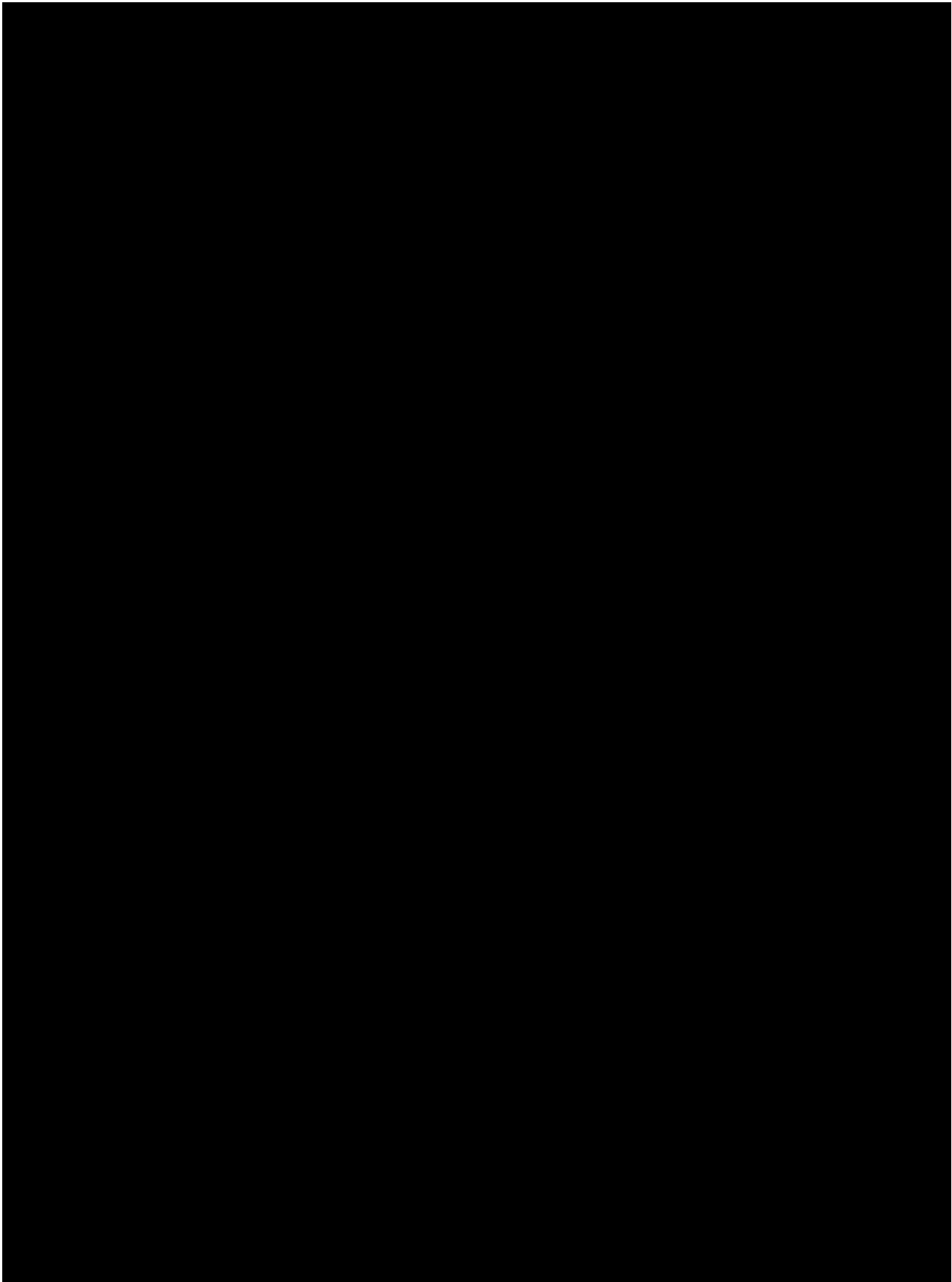
The Fair Access Policy Roadmap aims to develop a state-wide foundation to improve the access to, and use of, community sports infrastructure for women and girls. From July 2024, all Victorian Councils need to ensure fair access to sporting facilities for people of all genders to be considered eligible to receive infrastructure funding and align with Victoria's Gender Equality Act 2020. But not Lancefield's Recreation and Open spaces, we continue to be overlooked and misaligned – Lancefield Park needs support to address this Roadmap.

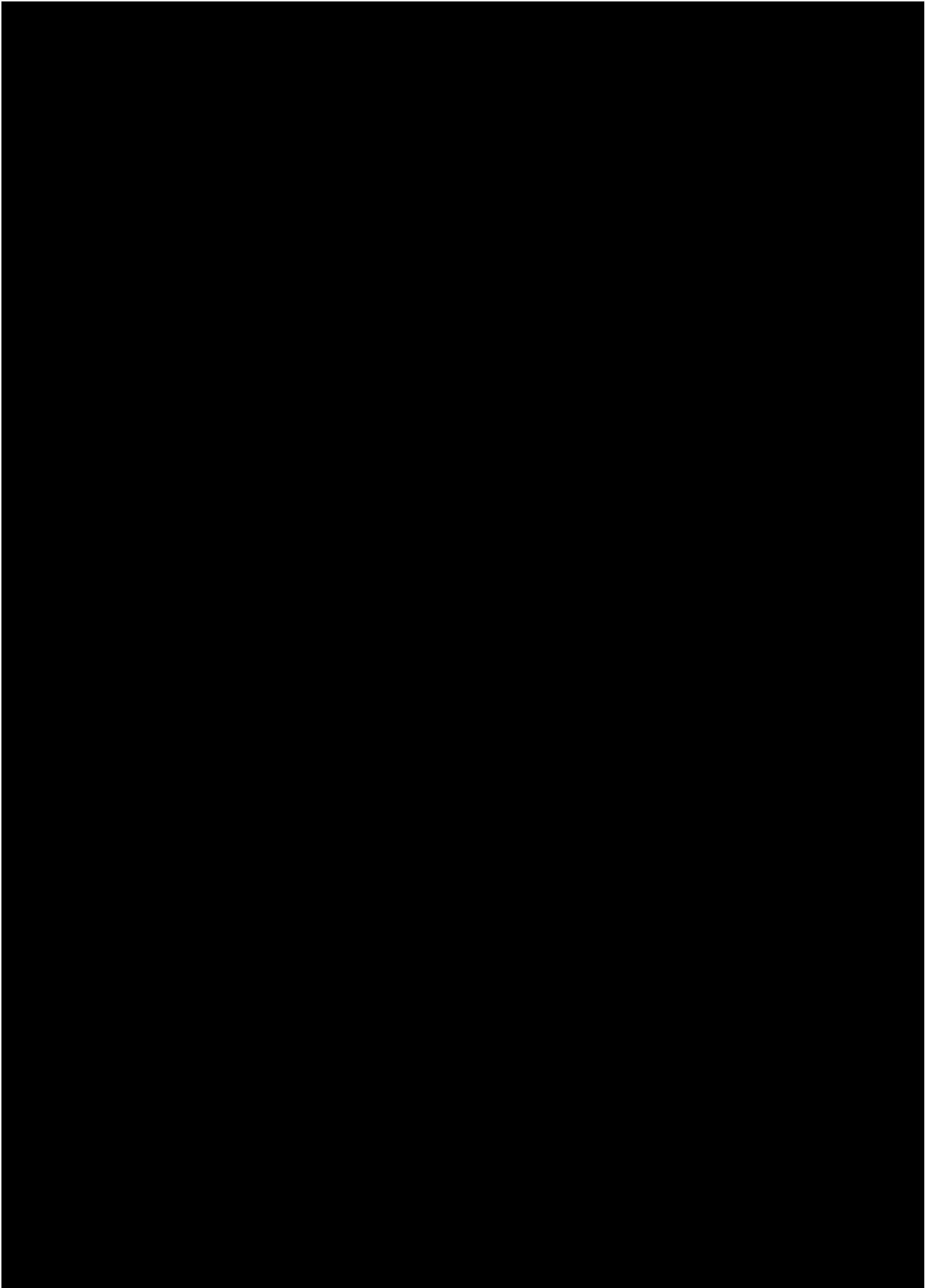
The Masterplan is very important to Lancefield Park and our community, to provide us with a current plan for the future development of Lancefield Park. It will enable us to compete on an equal footing for grants, and to proceed with our projects in a planned, coordinated, and informed manner.

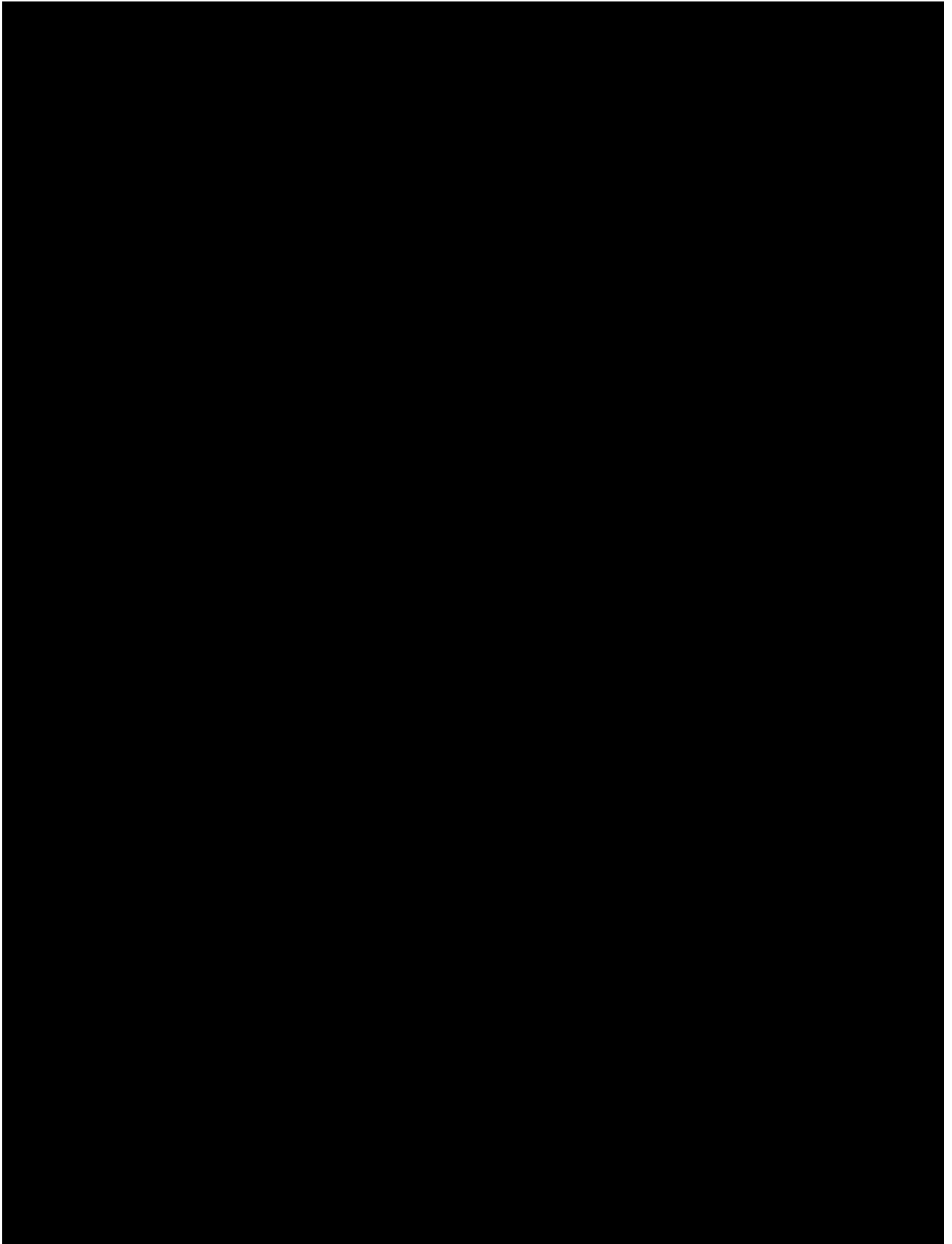


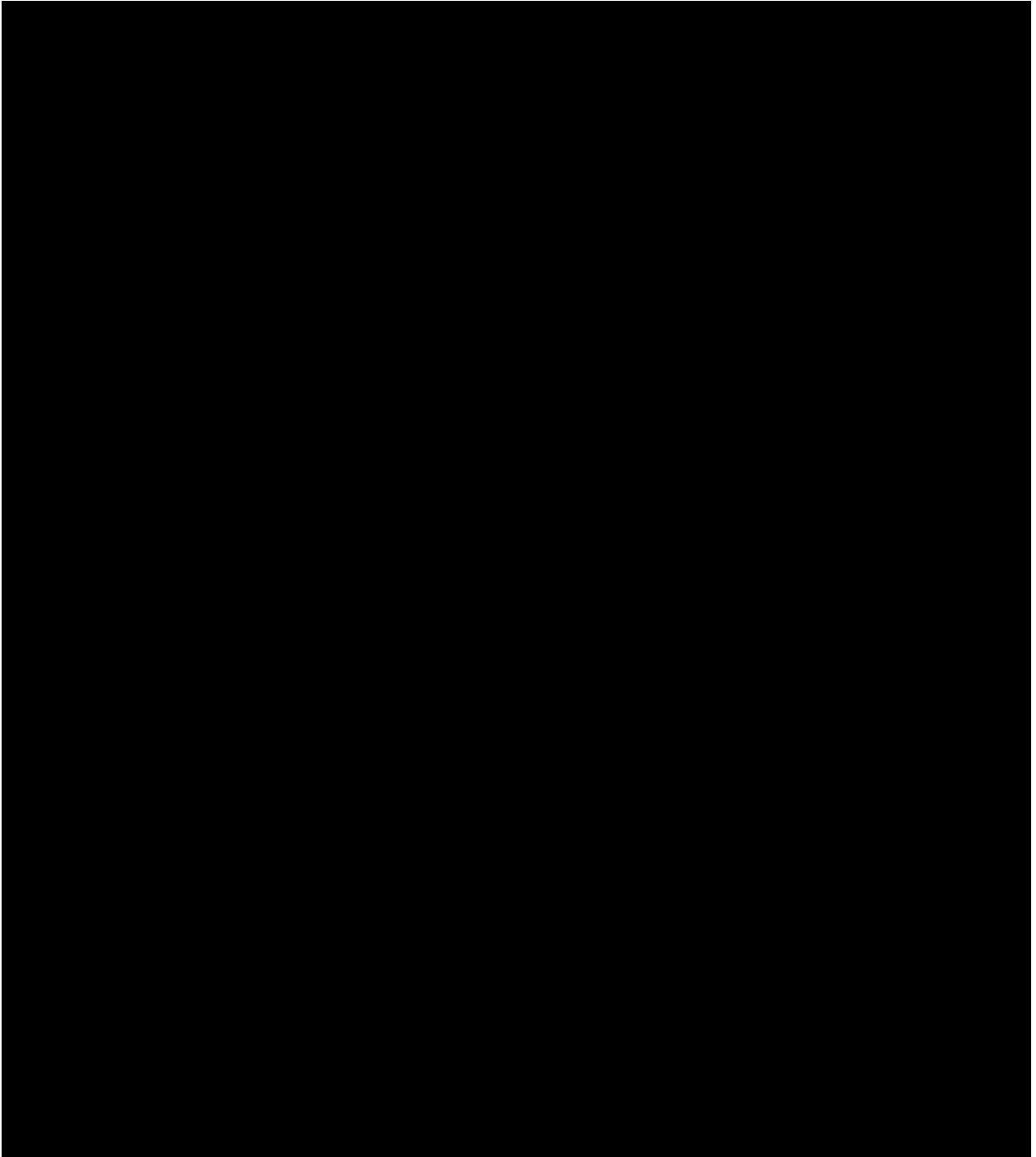


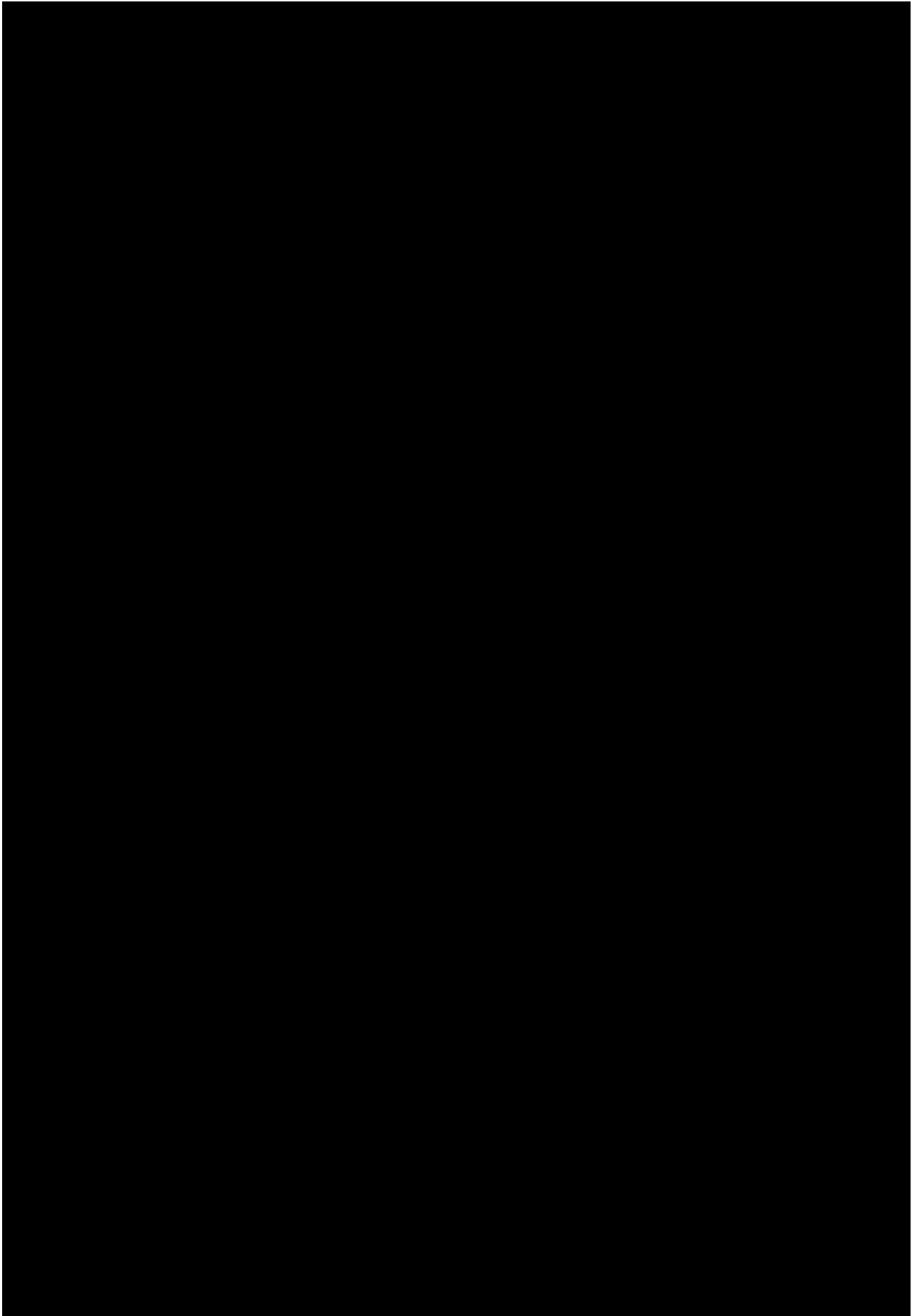


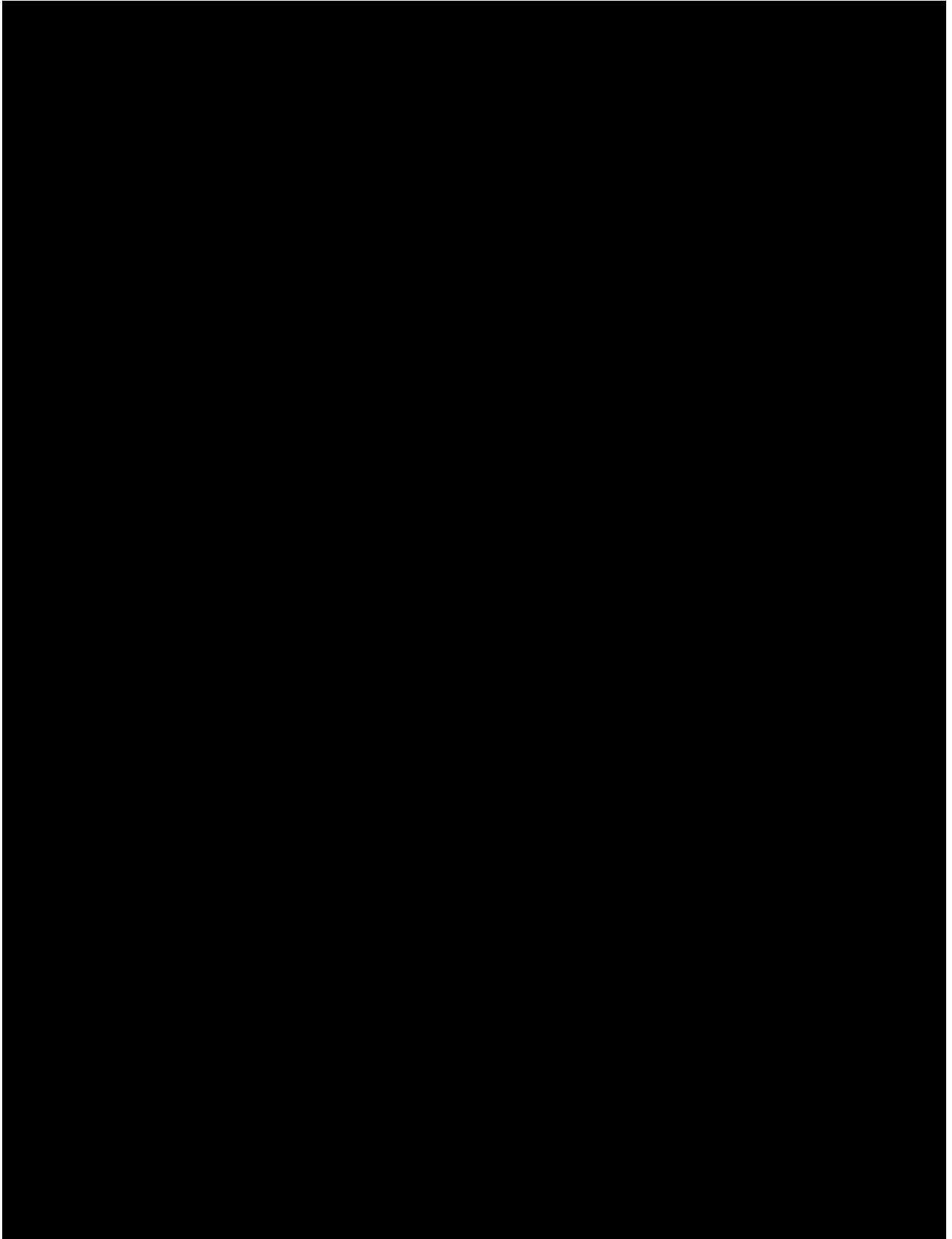


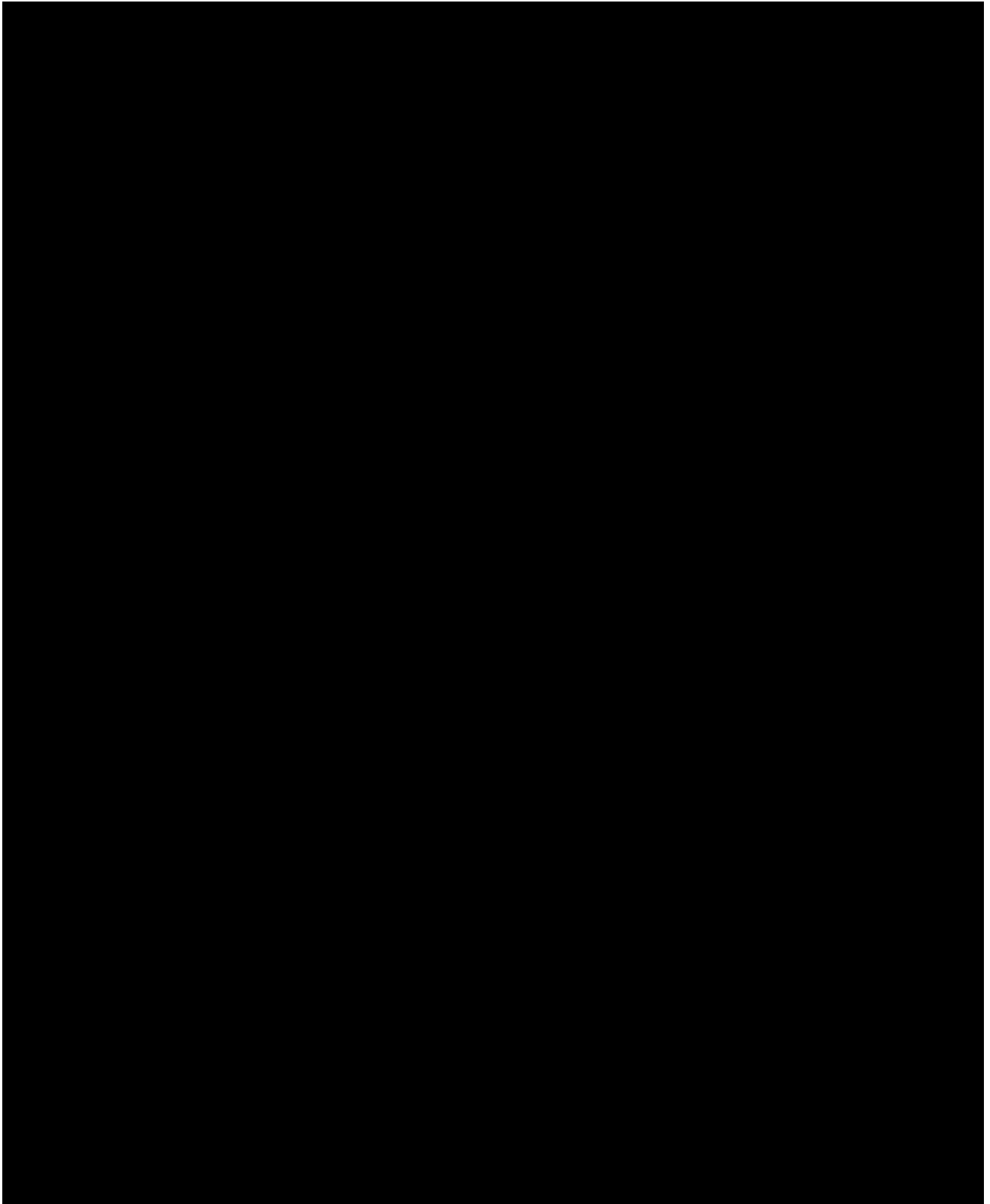


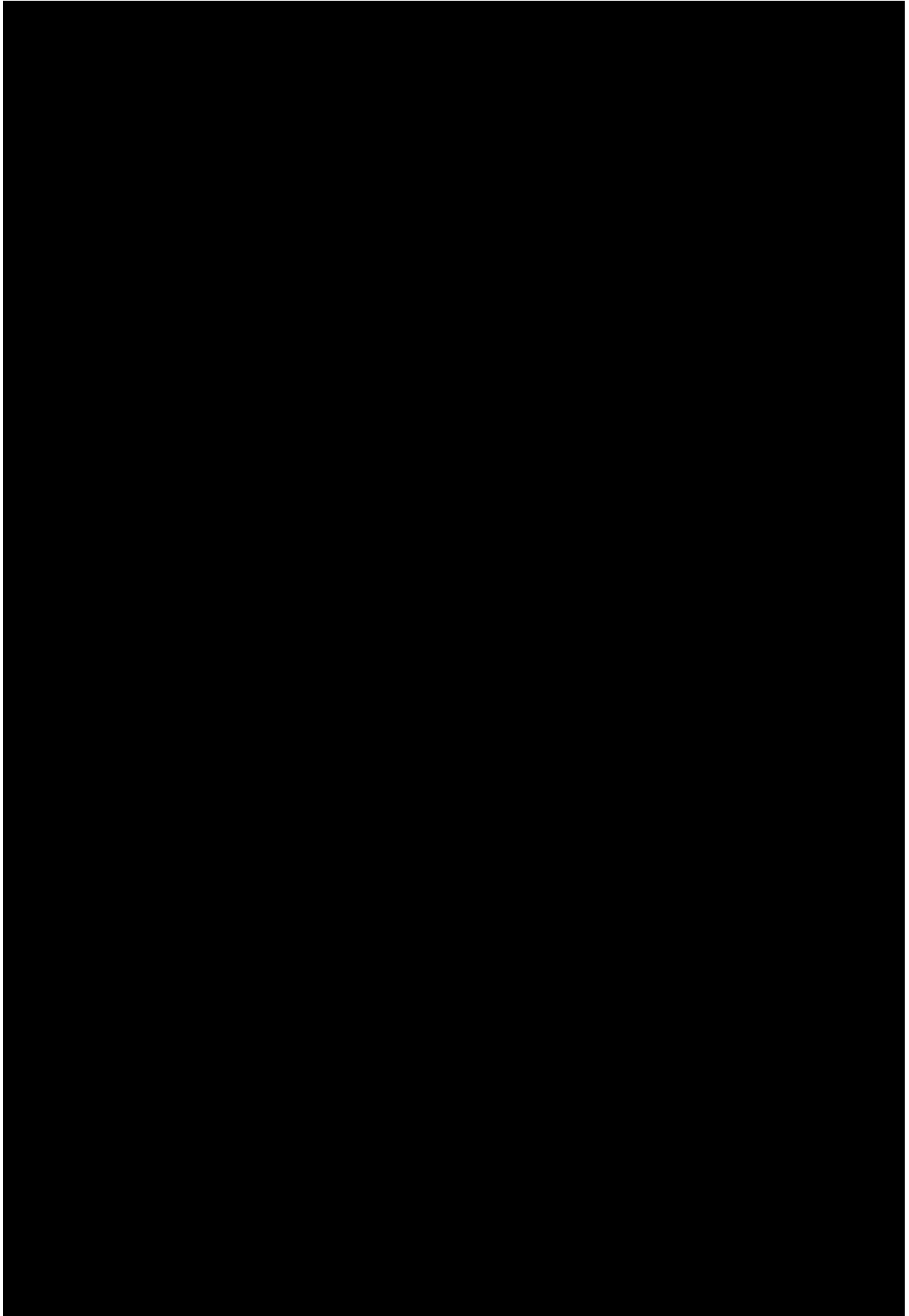


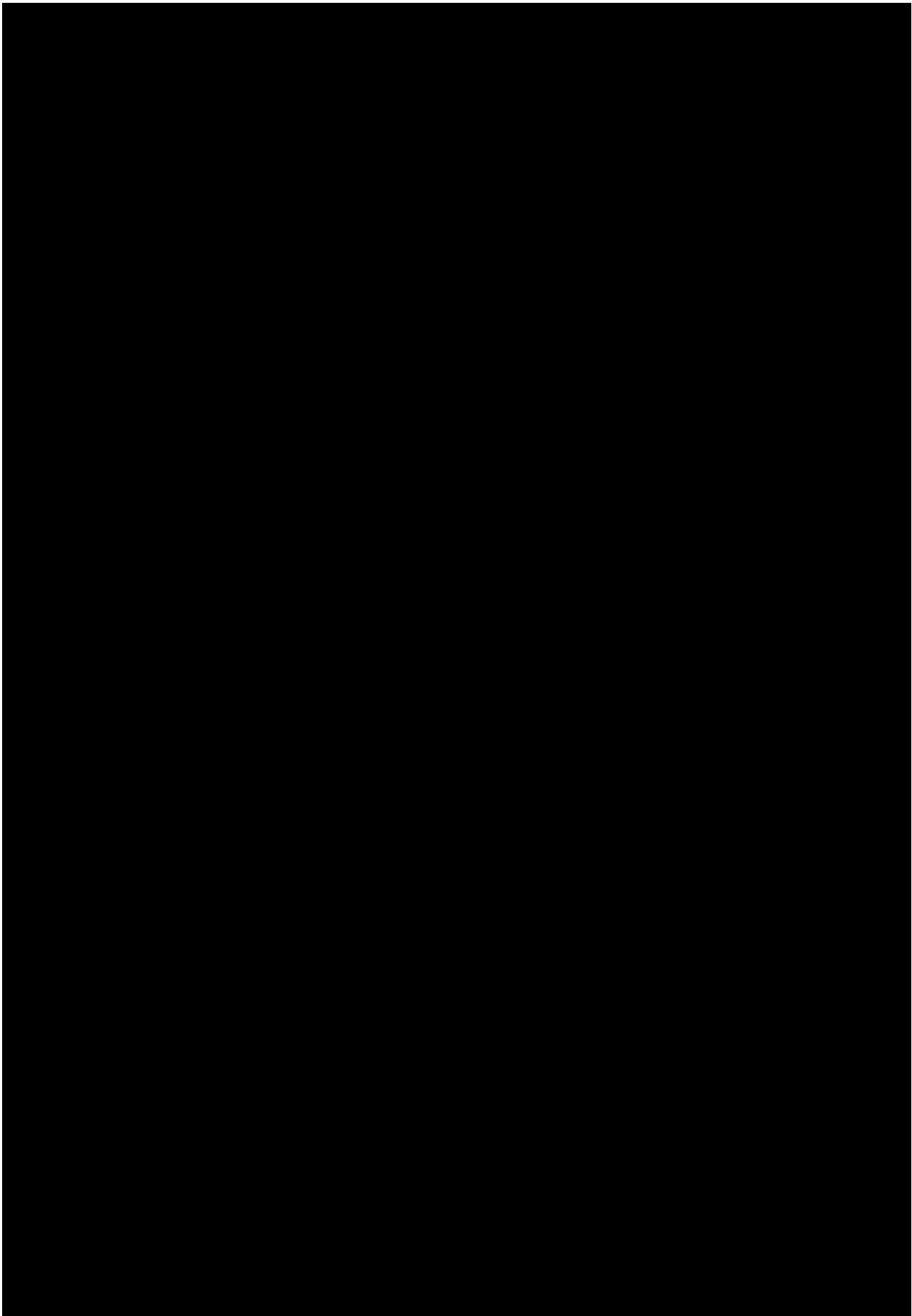


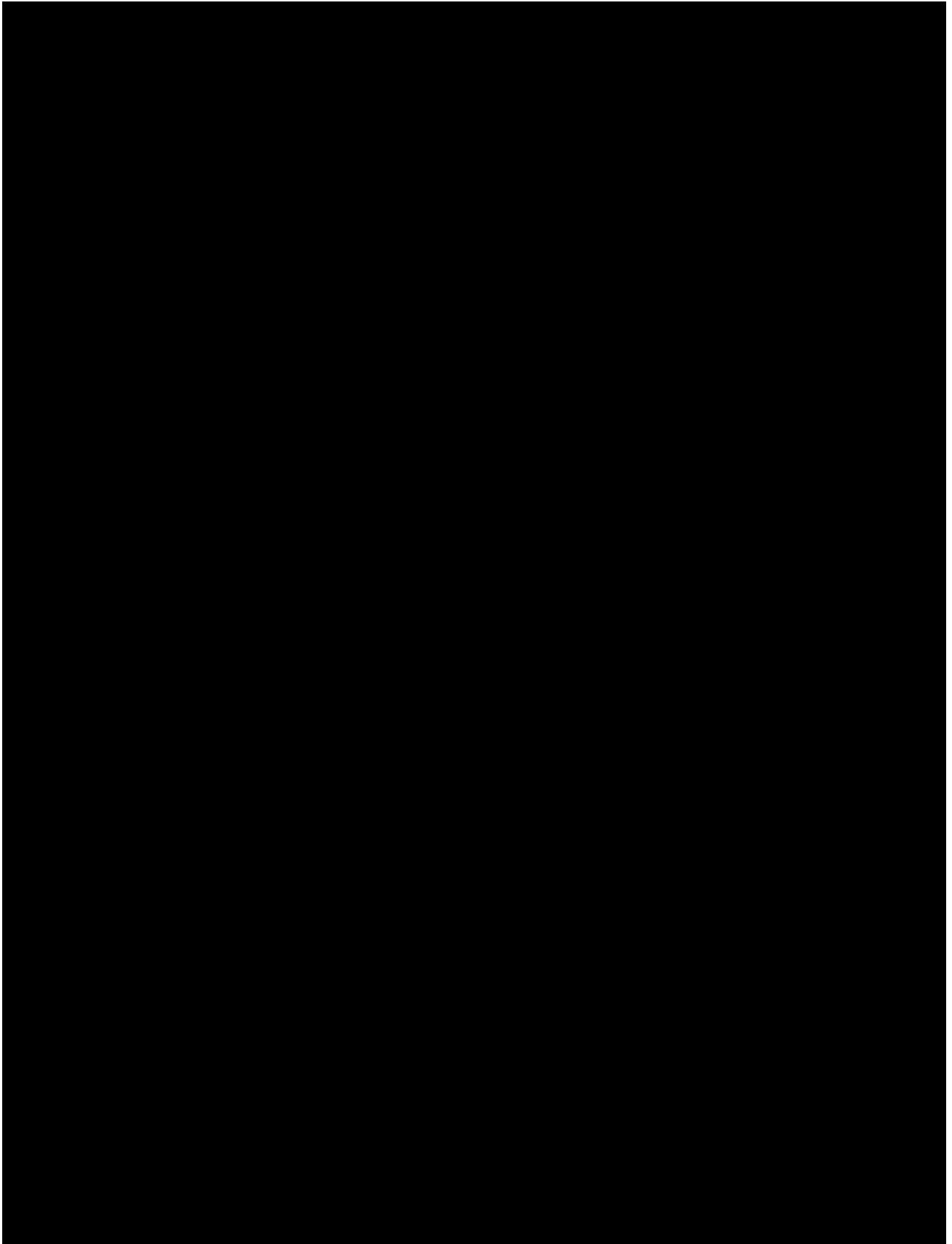


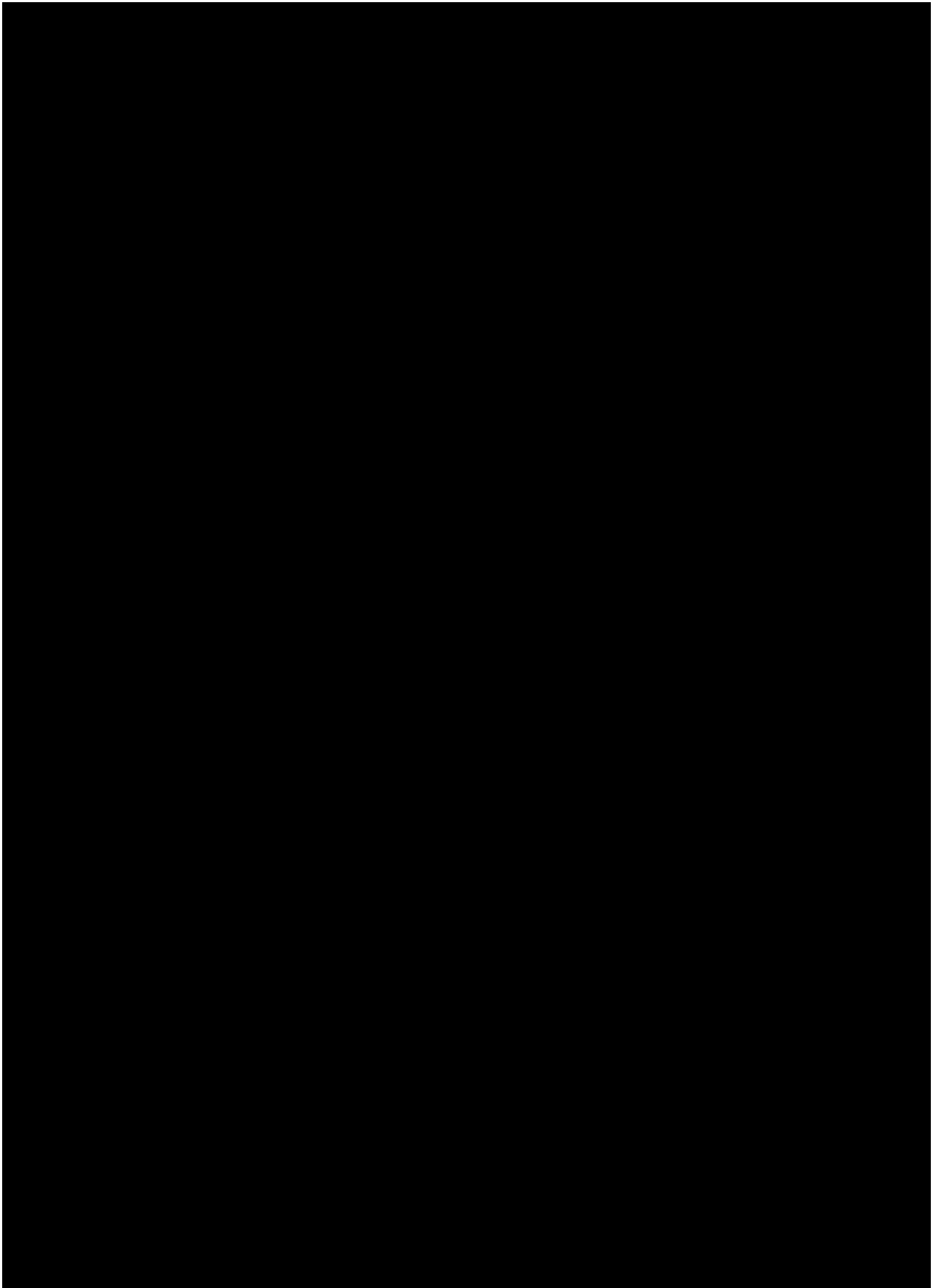


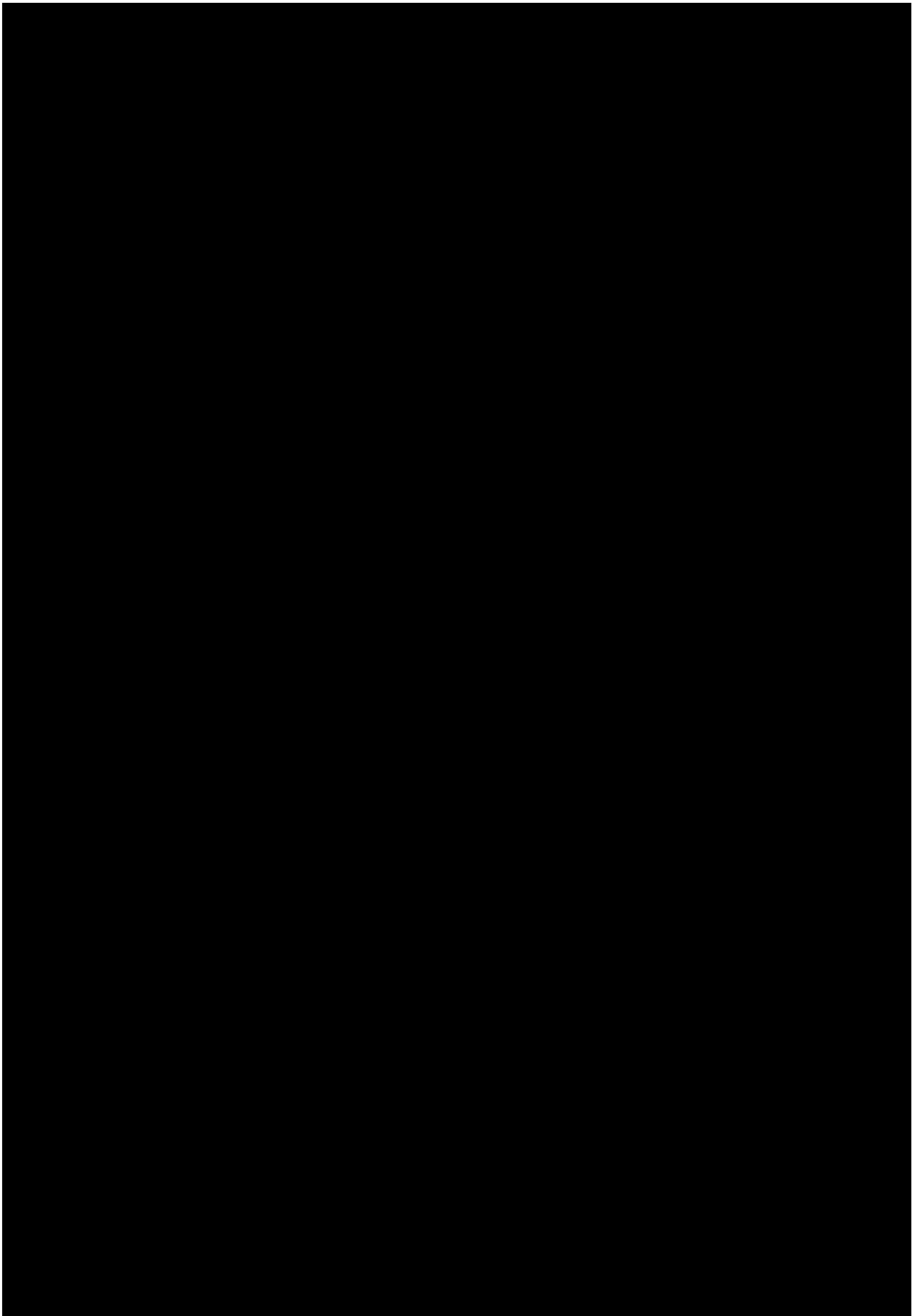


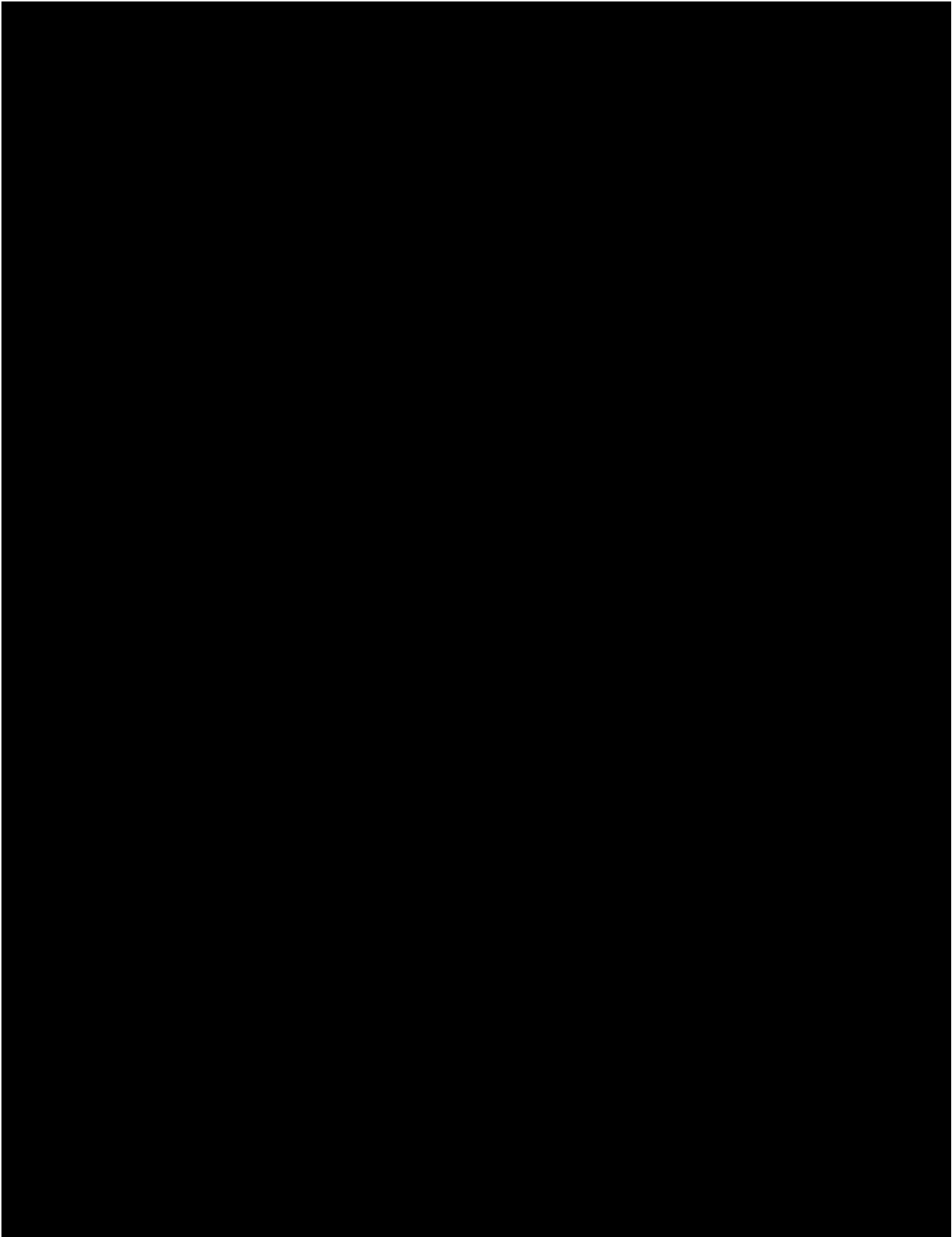


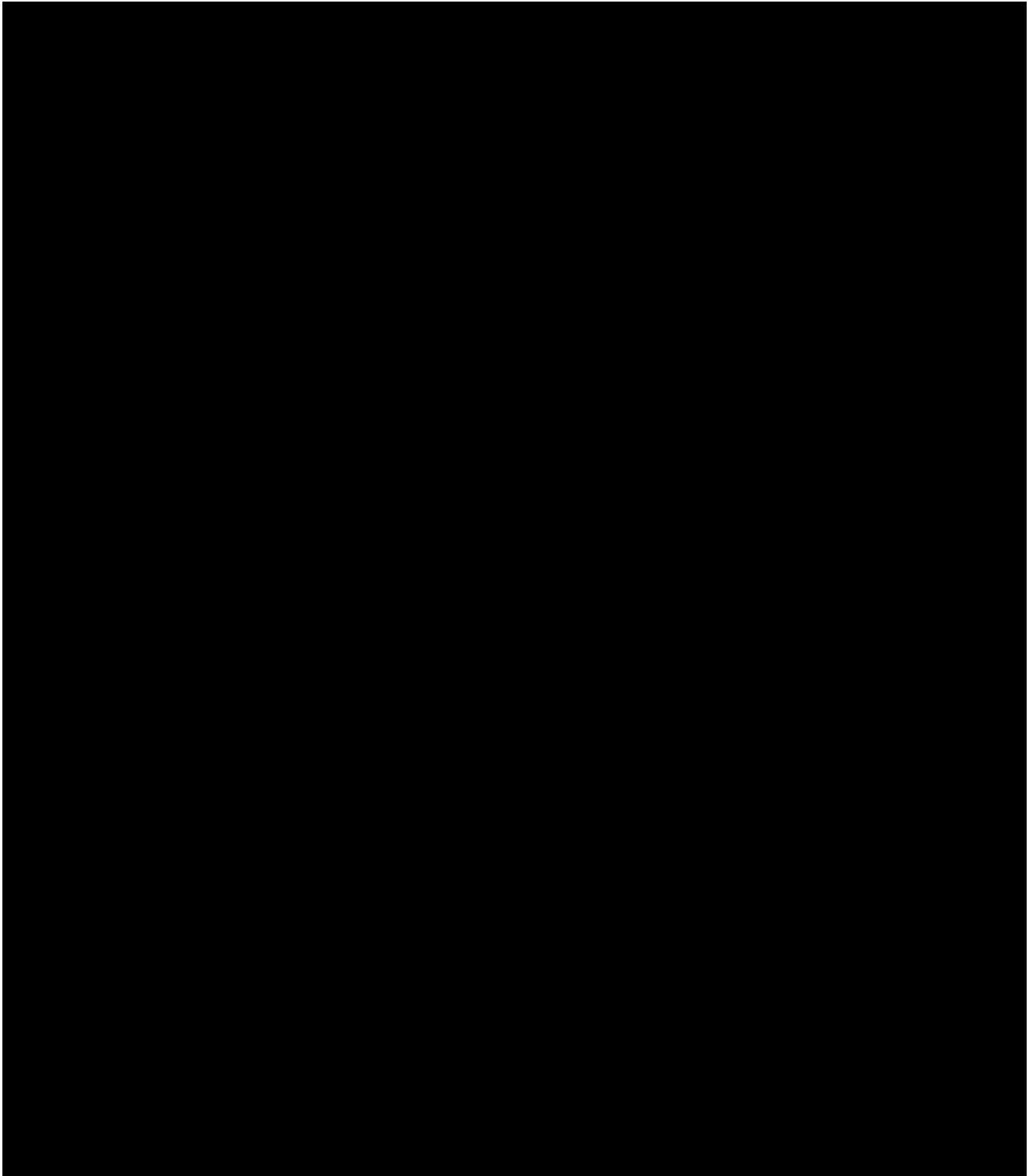




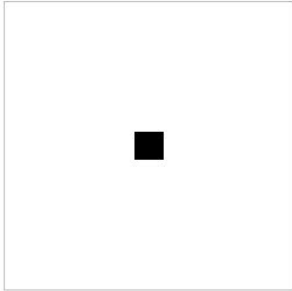








From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 1:16:59 PM



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	<p>Dear Council,</p> <p>I have several concerns regarding the budget. You seem to be spending big on sporting area and recreation facilities but almost nothing on the natural environment. Every time you approve a new development, eg. South Kyneton, more and more green space disappears. Do you have plans for the Botanic Gardens as a result of the changes to the climate? There are publications from America, stating there are more kids who prefer the outdoors rather than sport, again you spend more on sports facilities rather than the outdoors.</p> <p>Second, all your cultural and art shows are not for people with disabilities. There is nothing for people with sensory issues, who do not cope with large crowds. I emailed the Council about this and received a reply, thank you, but with no idea about how to go about this. Disability in sport is catered for not for kids who like to attend shows or art displays. What do you do for Seniors' Week?</p> <p>Third, Council is doing very little for volunteers, sure you have a night for them, but only for Council volunteers. What about all the other volunteers in the shire? Again this was mentioned to Council, still waiting for something to happen. I note the rate of volunteering at the Information centre in Kyneton and the museum is very low.</p> <p>Thanking you, </p>
If you would	


prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	No
How did you find out about this?	Local newspaper Community newsletter Word of mouth

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: 2023/24 Budget Submission [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 2:33:15 PM
Attachments: [Budget submission \[REDACTED\].docx](#)

Good afternoon,

Please find attached submission to the 23/24 MRSC budget process on behalf of the
[REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)


2023/24 MRSC BUDGET SUBMISSION**Submission For:**

Bullengarook Recreation Reserve - Sand Arena Rebuild

User Groups Involved in Submission:

- [REDACTED]; 25 Riding Members

- [REDACTED]; Over 45 Riding Members (of which 60% reside in the wider shire)

Issue and Proposed Resolution:

The condition and associated safety risks of the second sand arena had deteriorated to a critical point. It is easily identifiable that it has serious issues with drainage, resulting in a subsurface/base that is compromised. The arena was further impacted by the excessive rainfall of late 2022 in which a lot of the topping was washed away resulting in an uneven surface footing which makes it unsafe for both riders and horses, impacting its use, especially in wet conditions.

On this basis, MRSC arranged for an assessment by [REDACTED] who originally built the arenas approximately [REDACTED]. On 12 April 2023, [REDACTED] in a letter to MRSC (attached) that in their professional opinion the arena labelled 'Arena Two' was beyond repair and required a rebuild to address the issues with the foundation that impact the drainage.

Background

The Bullengarook Recreation Reserve has an equestrian facility at the rear of the reserve which includes two sand riding arenas, bushland, parking areas and yards for horses.

The sand arenas are utilized all year round for monthly rallies [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Riders from other clubs and within the Shire are invited to attend BARC rallies if there are spots available in the lessons.

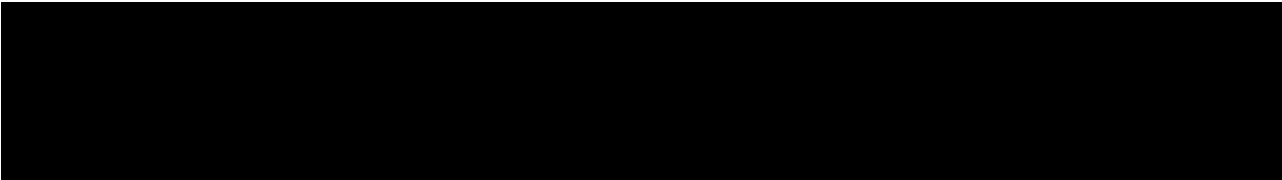
In addition, [REDACTED] uses the arenas for regular showjumping events and both clubs use them for training days in which shire and non-shire participants attend. A remediated surface would open up further opportunities to host additional events and activities which are necessary for fundraising to allow the clubs to continue operating.

As a result, the arenas need to be functional in all-weather including winter and periods of high rainfall.

In 2022, both user groups raised funds (over \$10,000) to implement new perimeter fencing and gates to the previously unfenced arenas. These upgrades dramatically improved safety and functionality for users.

This critical upgrade was augmented by further investment in surface sand upgrades through Bullengarook Pony Club's submission to the 2022 MRSC Community Grants Program. Work is well underway in completing the sand resurfacing upgrades on one arena, through the MRSC grant assistance and in-kind work of user group members.

In 2023, improvements were made to the surface of the second arena through in-kind use of heavy machinery, however this is only a temporary fix.





Both user groups are committed to continue to raise funds and negotiate in-kind work for the continued maintenance of the arenas and surrounding equestrian area.

Cost of Sand Arena Rebuild:

The quoted price for works by 

Summary:

The  and the  request consideration of funding of approximately \$43,800 from the MRCS 2023/24 Budget to address the serious issues with Sand Arena 2 at Bullengarook Recreation Reserve. Both clubs rely on the availability of this arena to be able to run rallies on a regular basis, in addition to having it usable for fundraising events.

Neither club can maintain basic operation without an adequate, well-draining surface that provides a safe place to conduct equestrian activities. Access to fit for purpose facilities at Bullengarook is critical to the long-term viability of these clubs and by extension the social and wellbeing benefits that are drawn to the local community, in this case often young women and children.

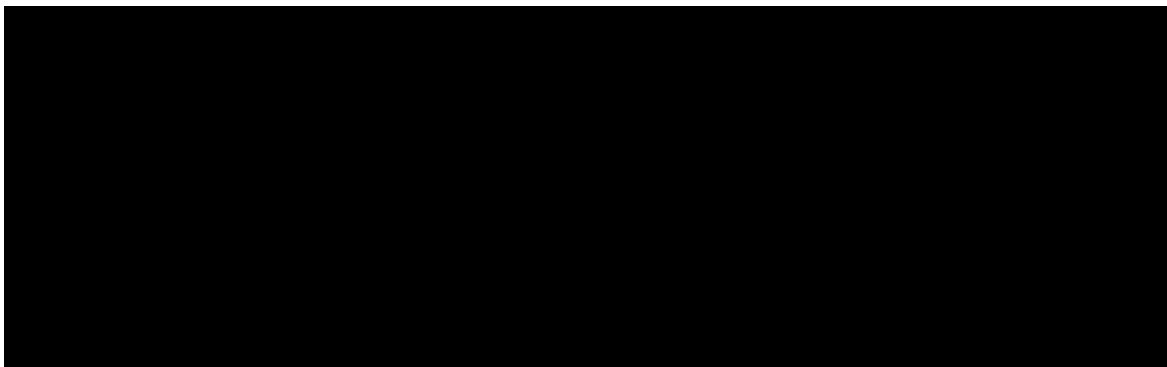
From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Submission for MRSC 2023/24 budget for the Romsey Skatepark.
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 3:18:40 PM
Attachments: [Skate Submission to MRSC.pdf](#)
[REDACTED]
[Sticker Response.pdf](#)
[Survey Monkey -01.pdf](#)
[Survey Monkey -02.pdf](#)
[Final Draft Concept Plan.pdf](#)
[Romsey Skatepark Redevelopment Plan.pdf](#)

[REDACTED]
Date: 19/05/2023 3:11:40 PM
Subject: Submission for MRSC 2023/24 budget for the Romsey Skatepark.
To: mrsc@mrsc.viv.gov.au
[REDACTED]

To Whom in may concern

Please find attached a copy of the [REDACTED], submission to the MRSC 2023/24 budget

[REDACTED]



19 May,2023

Macedon Ranges Shire Council,
PO Box 151,
KYNETON. VIC. 3444

Attention: BUDGET SUBMISSION COMMITTEE

SUBMISSION TO BE CONSIDERED FOR 2023/24 BUDGET

The Romsey Skatepark is over 25 years old, in extremely poor condition and needs to be replaced to provide a safe and usable space for the community. It's in a fantastic, highly visible location with existing amenities already in place.

The [REDACTED] a need for something to be done, so on behalf of the community we have organised and undertaken community consultation, concept designs and are currently completing construction drawings while gathering funding so the project can be delivered quickly and efficiently.

Building a new bigger, safer and innovative skatepark for the children of Romsey and surrounding areas to use is our main goal.

We wish to point out that as per Council's Romsey Master Plan, using information from the latest census, 5–24-year-olds currently make up nearly 25% of our population and, compared to the Victorian average, has a higher proportion of Primary and Secondary students. Therefore, this upgrade is needed.

We held public open days for the community to attend where we gathered initial thoughts and ideas to develop a concept design. Once this was done, we presented the design back to the community and, through their feedback, developed the final design, which was forwarded to Council recently.

Dates of Community Consultation:

Skatepark community consultation 1 (On Site)

Sunday 15 May 2022 10:00am-2:00pm

Advertised on Instagram and Facebook 13 May 2022

Online survey uploaded online 17 May 2022

Advertised on Instagram and Facebook

Skatepark community consultation 2 (After School)

Sunday 27 May 2022 3:00pm-4:00pm

Advertised on Instagram and Facebook 24 May 2022

Skatepark community consultation report

Shown on Instagram and Facebook 22 October 2022

Skatepark community consultation 1 (IGA)

Sunday 26 November 2022 11:00am-12:00pm

Community Consultation Report in paper form shown to the public

Advertised on Instagram and Facebook 21 November 2022

Skatepark Concept Design DRAFT

Shown on Instagram and Facebook 31 October 2022

Skatepark Concept Design FINAL

Shown on Instagram and Facebook 17 April 2023

All consultation dates were advertised on Instagram and Facebook (Baseplate).
Also advertised in the Romsey Rag local paper (available in IGA in paper form and Facebook),

Bendigo Bank, Romsey noticeboard situated inside the Bank

Romsey Primary School newsletter and Facebook page

Romsey Kindergarten Facebook Page and noticeboard on the premises

We had 95 replies to our surveys (face to face and online) showing the large amount of interest in the community of progressing with this project. 84% of these are residents of Romsey.

Through the process we have actively sought and obtained a \$550K funding commitment from the Labor Government and continue to follow grant sources with the aim to have a fully funded project ready to hand over to Council.

██████████ wish to address the Council Draft Budget 2023/24
Item 2.2 Strategic Objective: 2.0 Healthy environment, Healthy People Recreation (Page 23)

In this Budget we are requesting an allocation of \$20,000 so our project can become 'Shovel Ready' in the 2023/2024 year.

- These funds will be used to:
- Obtain an Arborist report and Planning Permit (if required) to remove 2 small trees on site.
- Obtain a Planning and Building Permit for the proposed shelter (if required).
- Allocate funds towards Council officer engagement on the project as we recognise that the skatepark project will need to be handed over to the asset owners for planning and delivery.

Through the [REDACTED] engagement of [REDACTED] for the skatepark design and documentation we have a geotechnical report and digital site survey. The construction drawings will be completed and certified by a qualified engineer and be ready for tendering purposes and construction. We don't anticipate any further costs towards the design or documentation component for the skatepark.

We ask Council to consider our submission so this much needed facility in our community can be commenced within the next 12 months.

We have attached the information gathered and produced to date for Council and are happy to speak directly about the project if helpful.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Attachments:

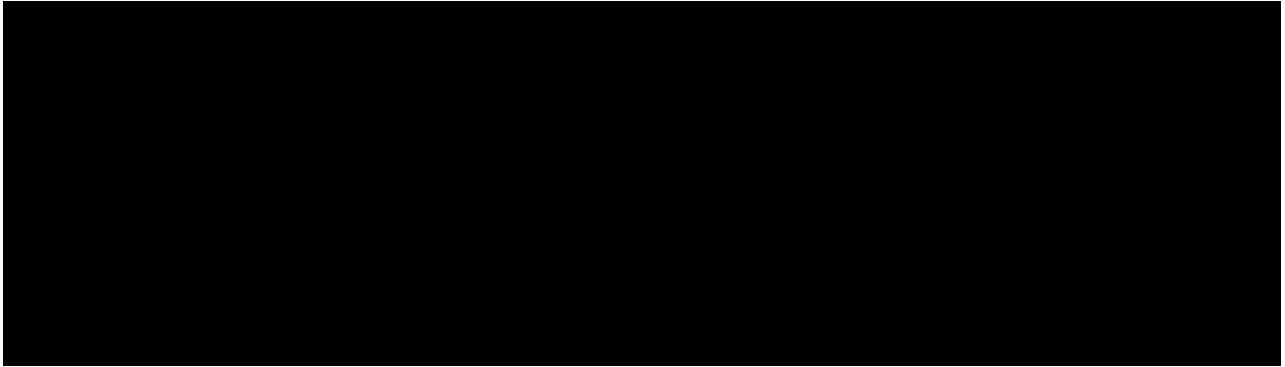
GeoTech Report

Sticker response to assist with concept design

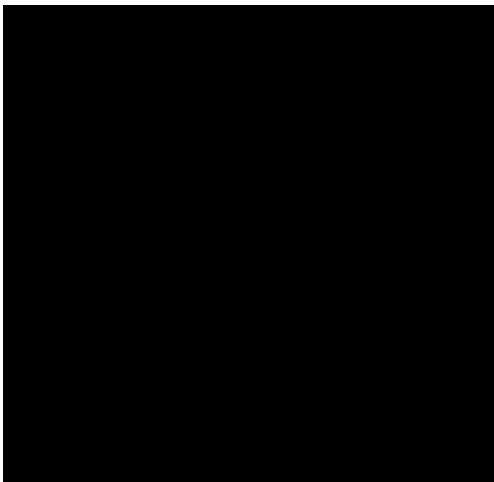
Survey Monkey for community consultation

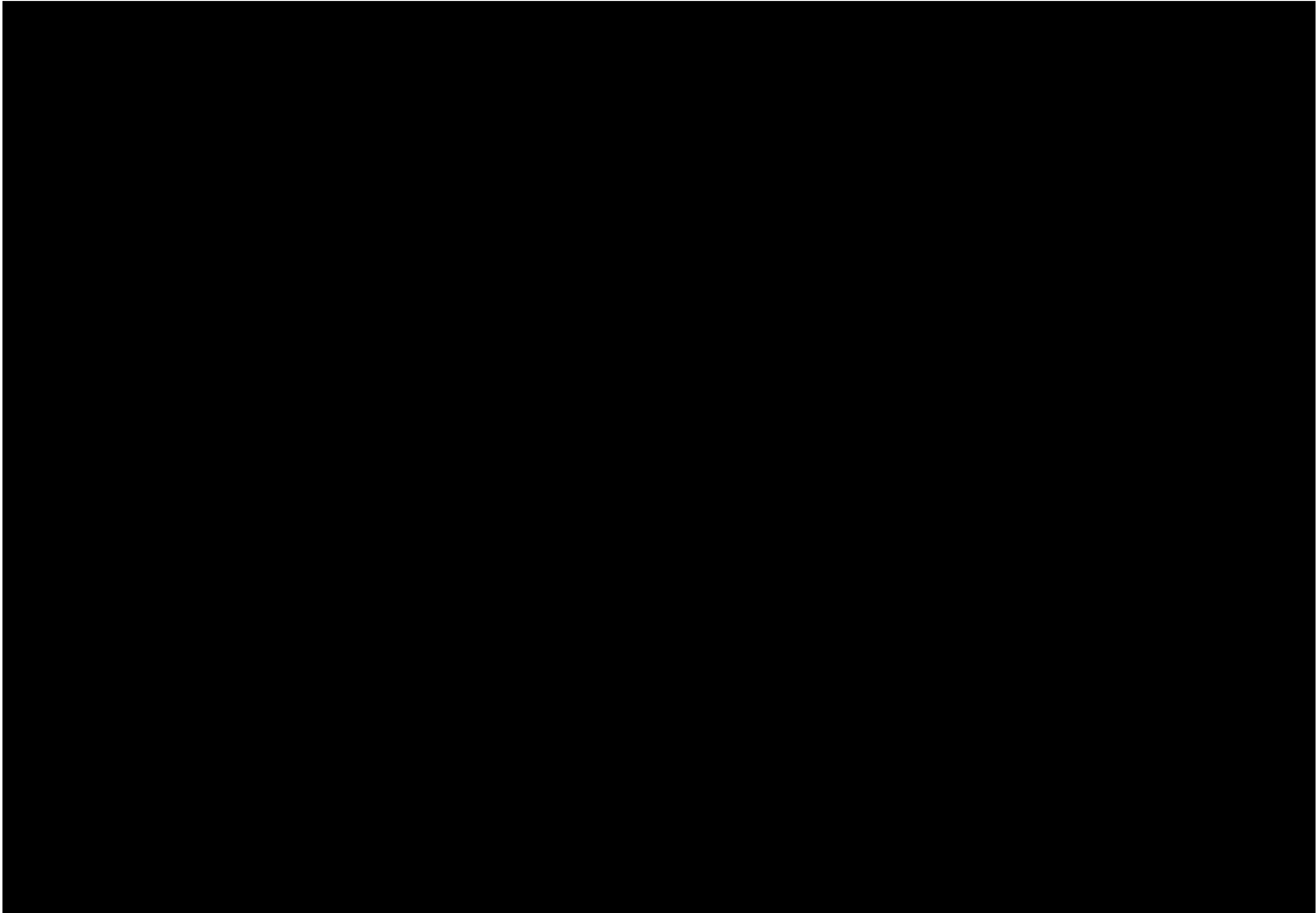
Final Draft Concept Plan

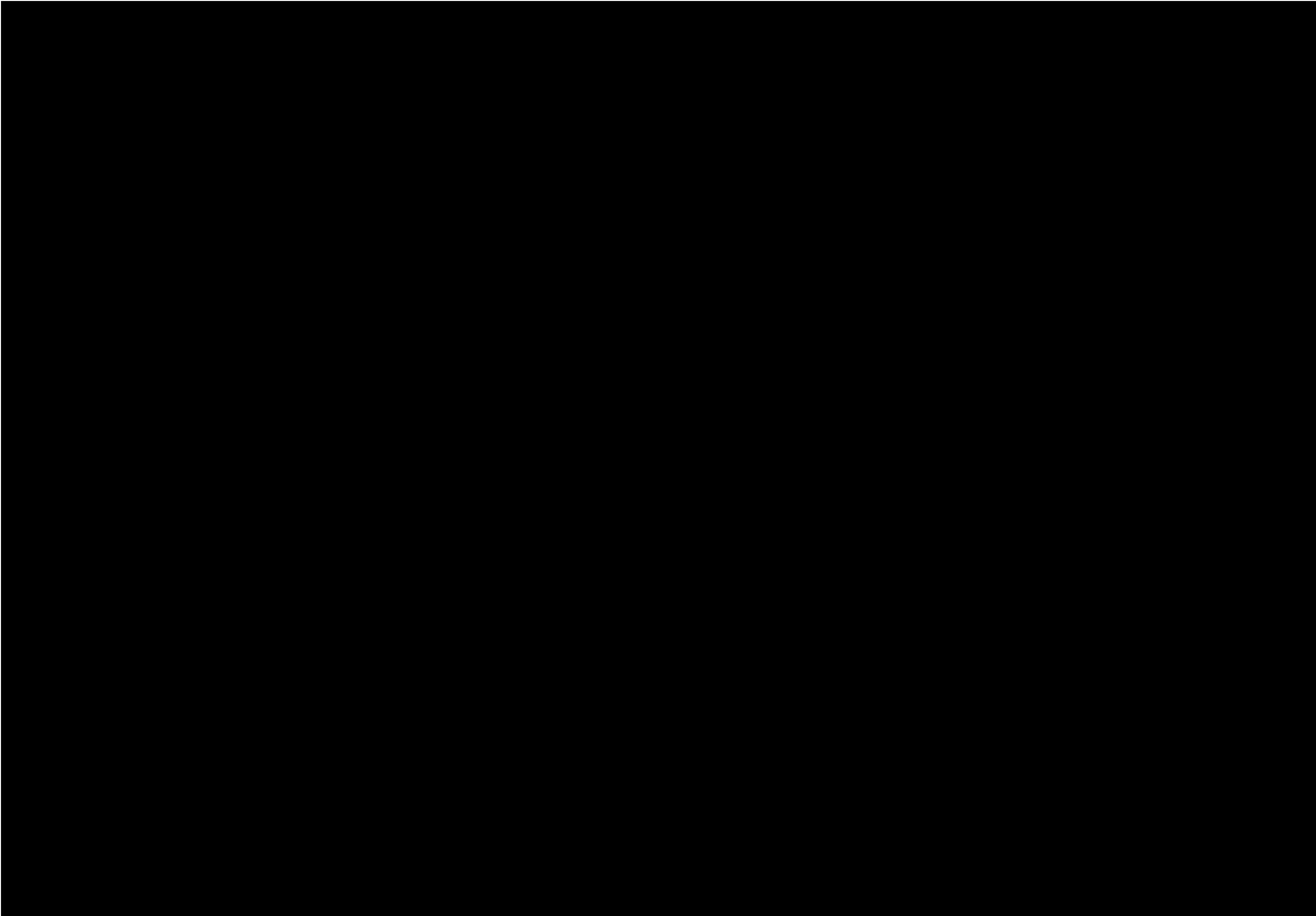
[REDACTED]

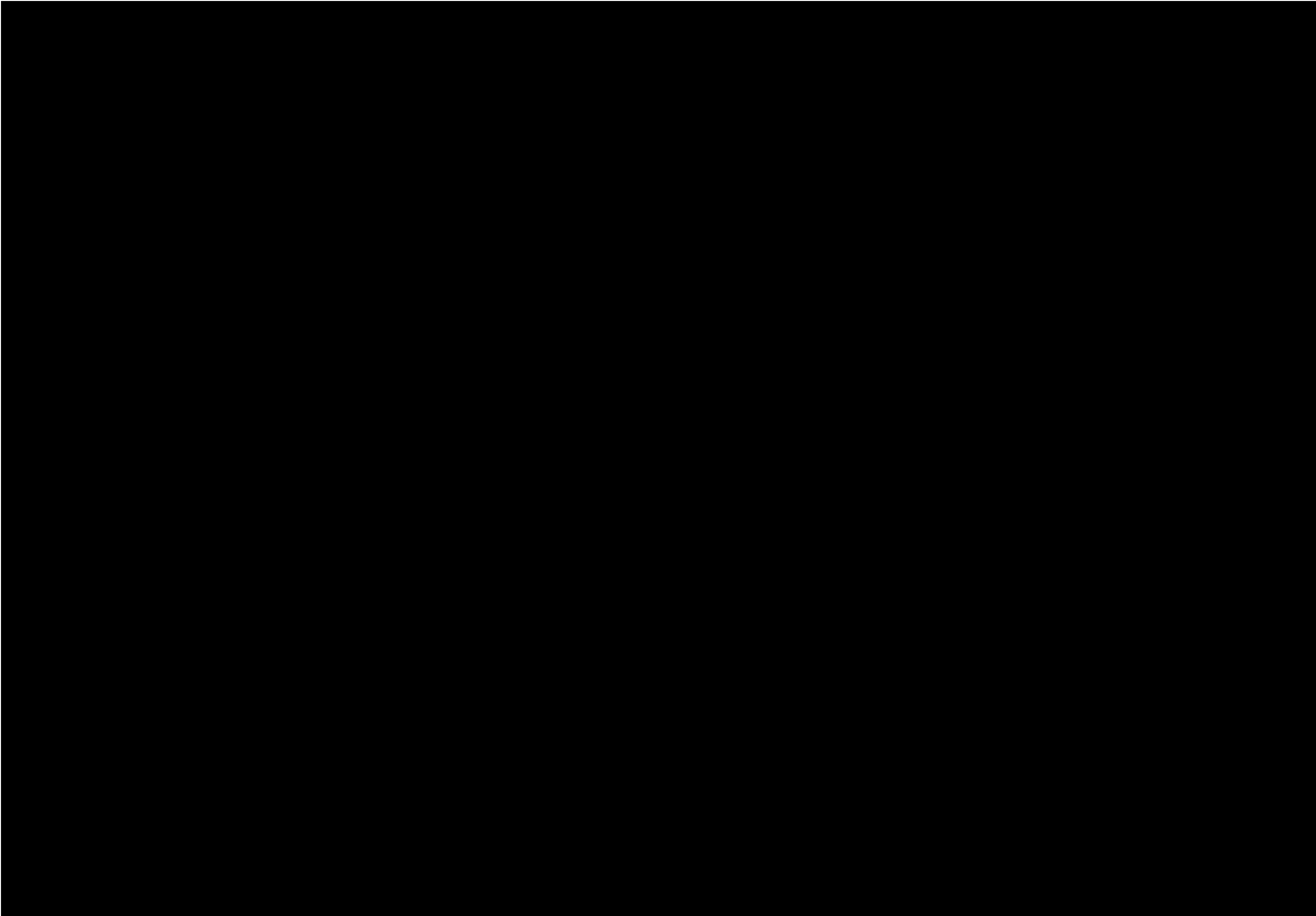


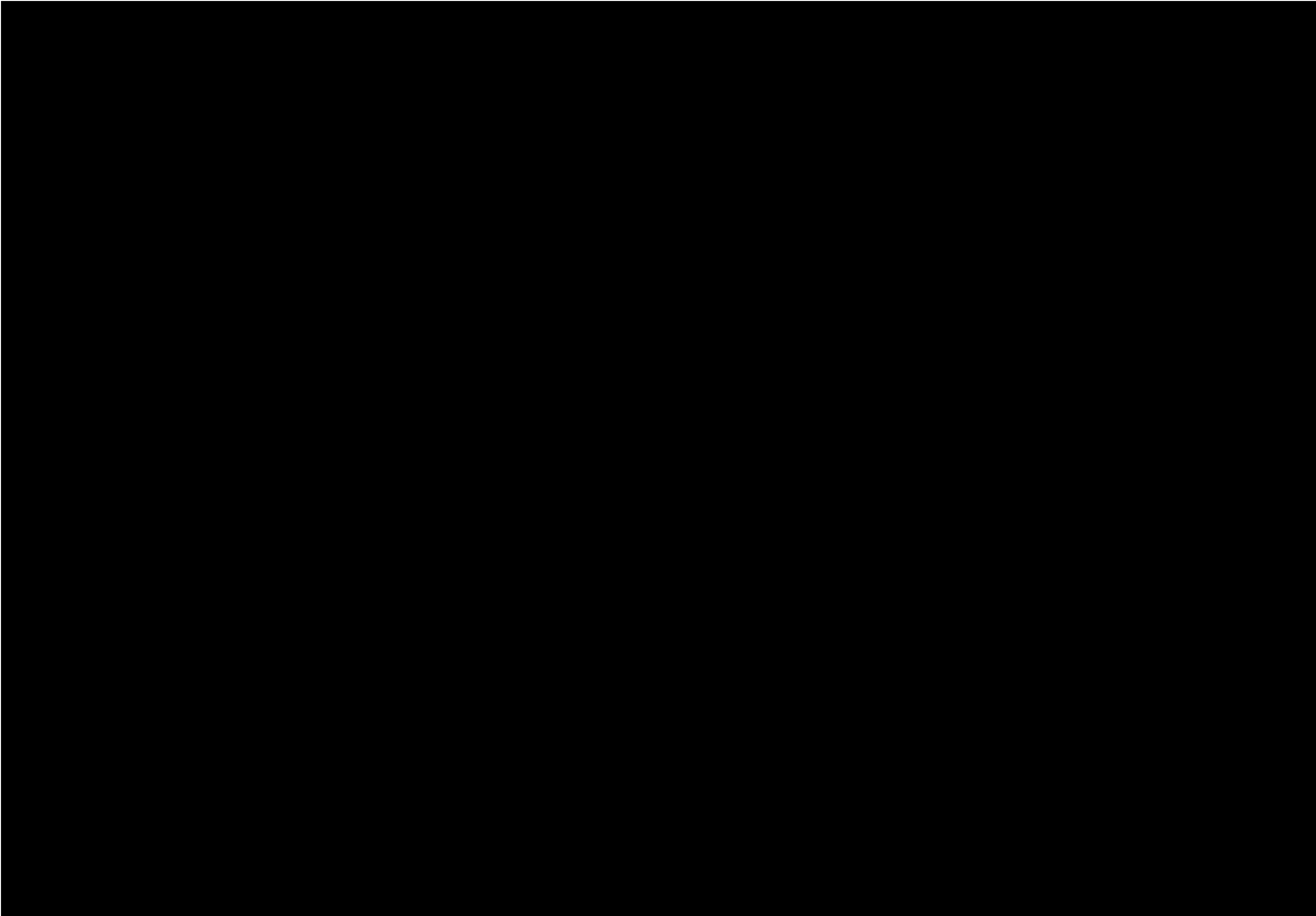
Sticker responses showing what was most popular, this info was then added to the community consultation report and helped form the concept design.

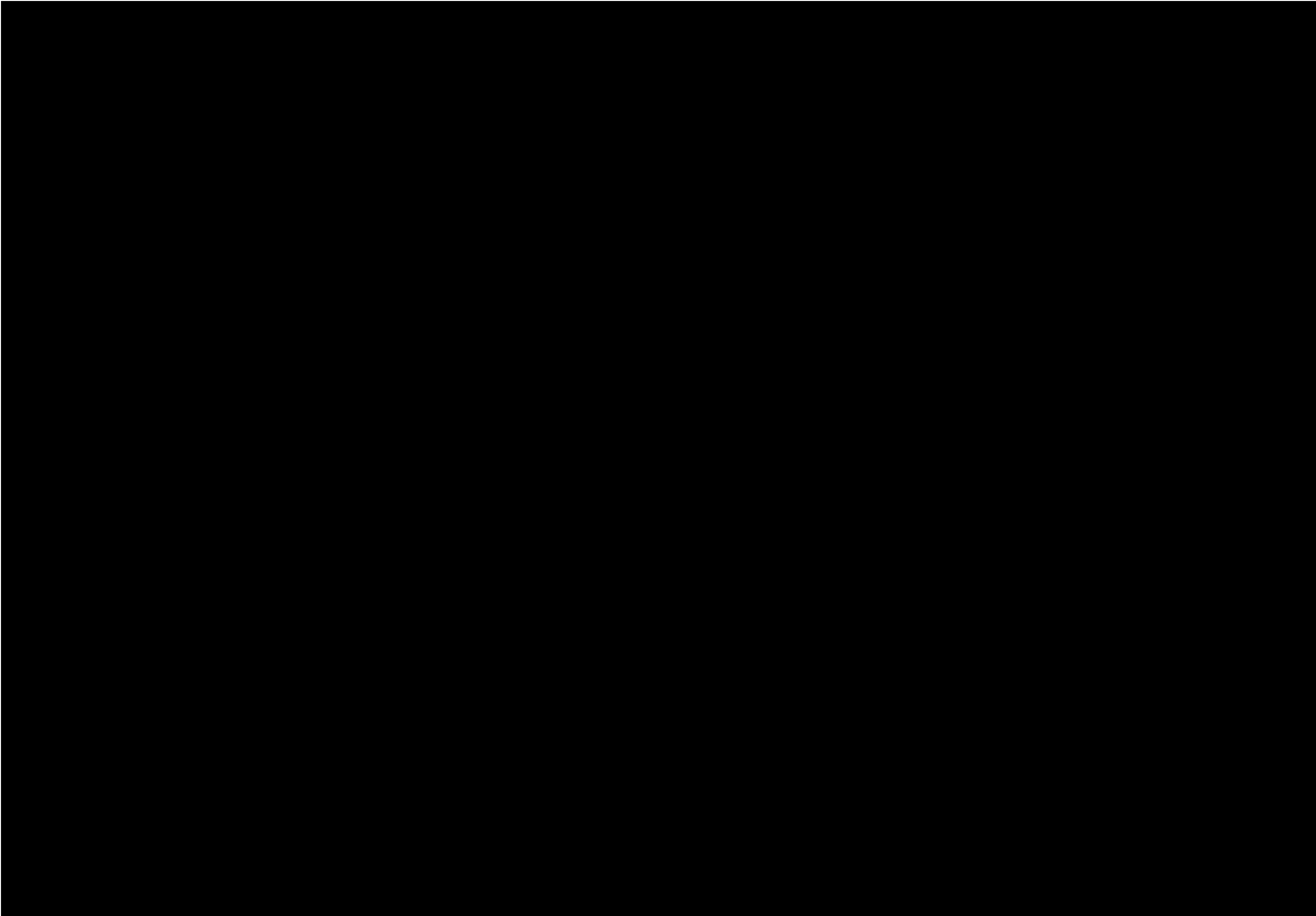


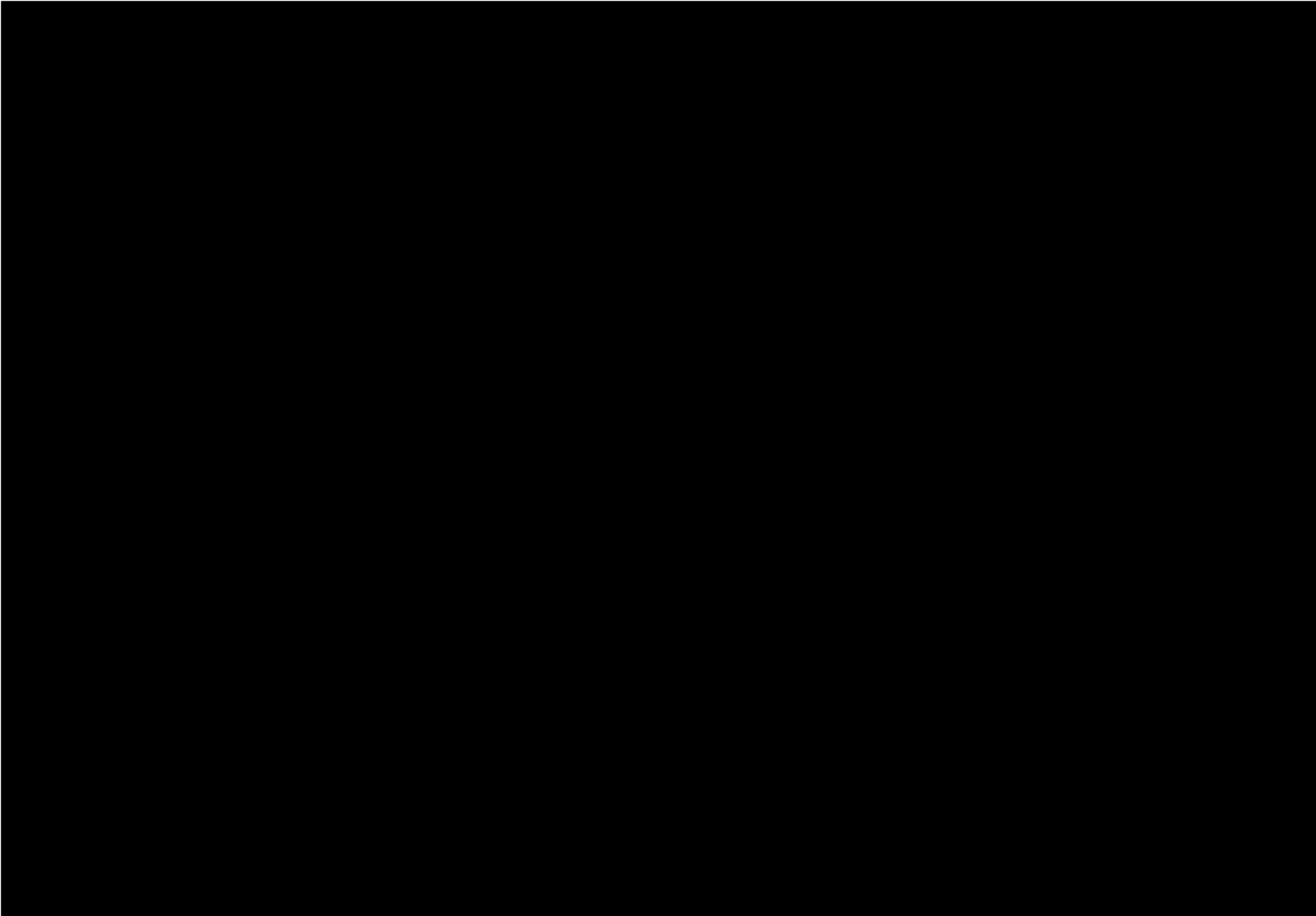


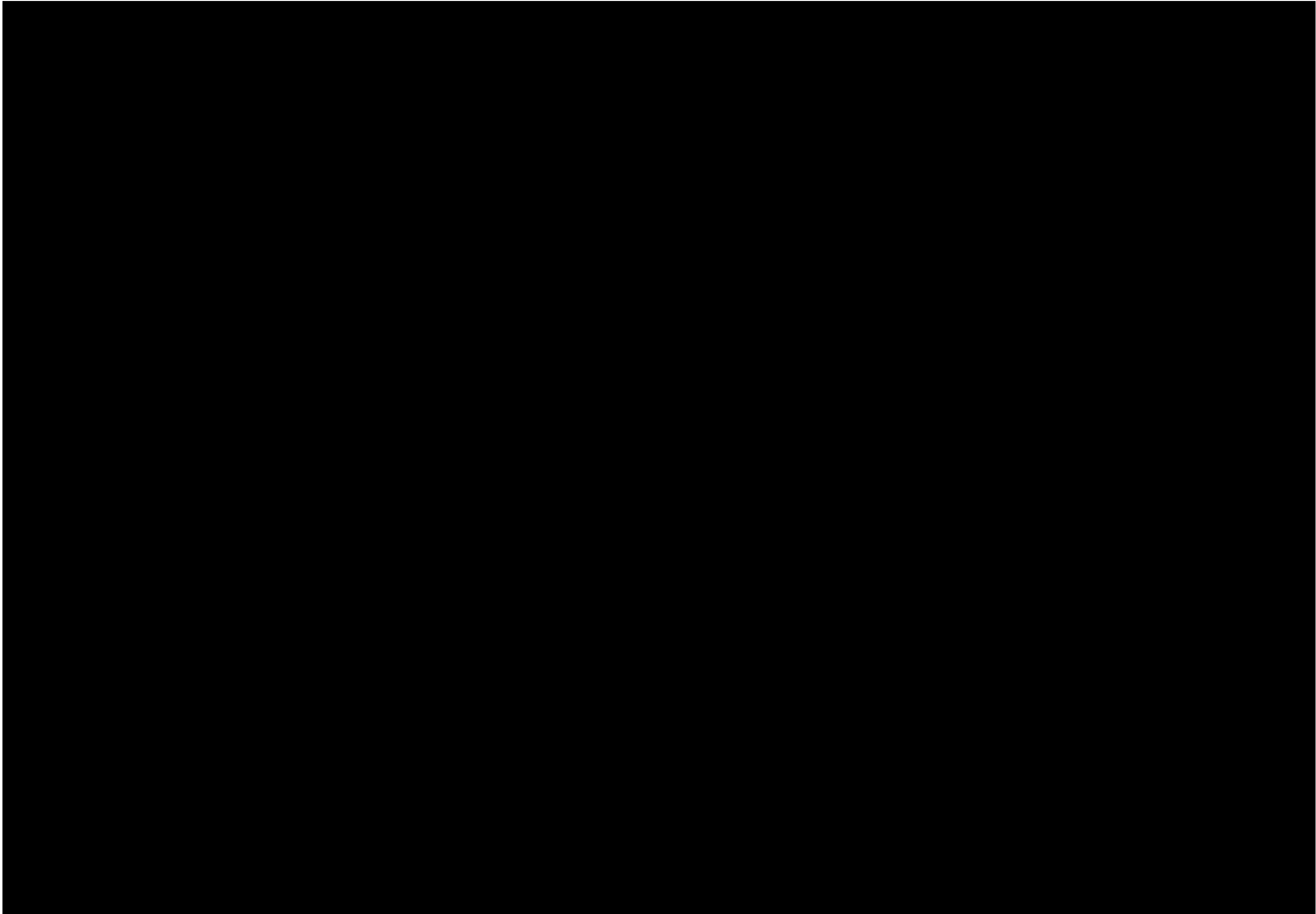


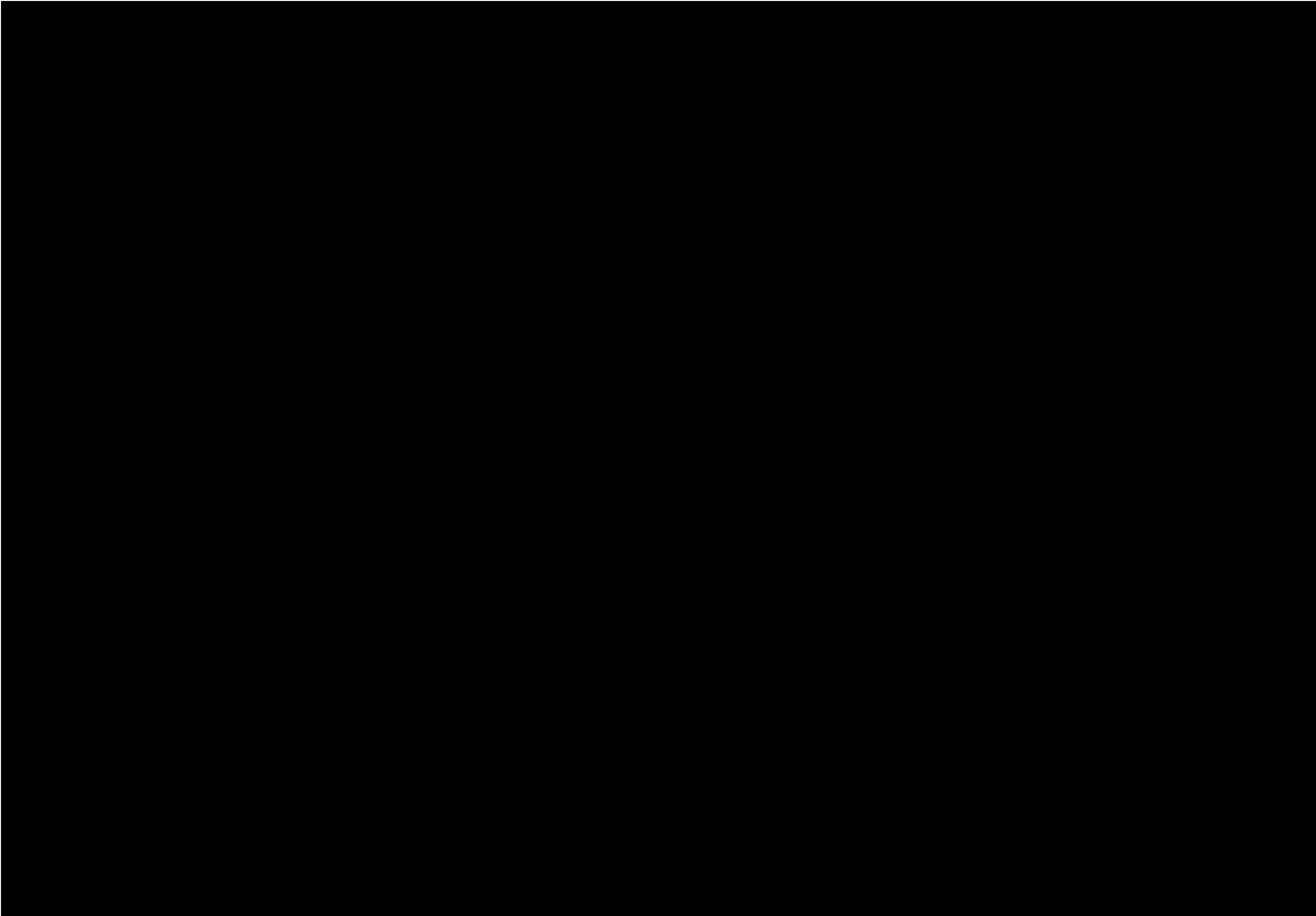


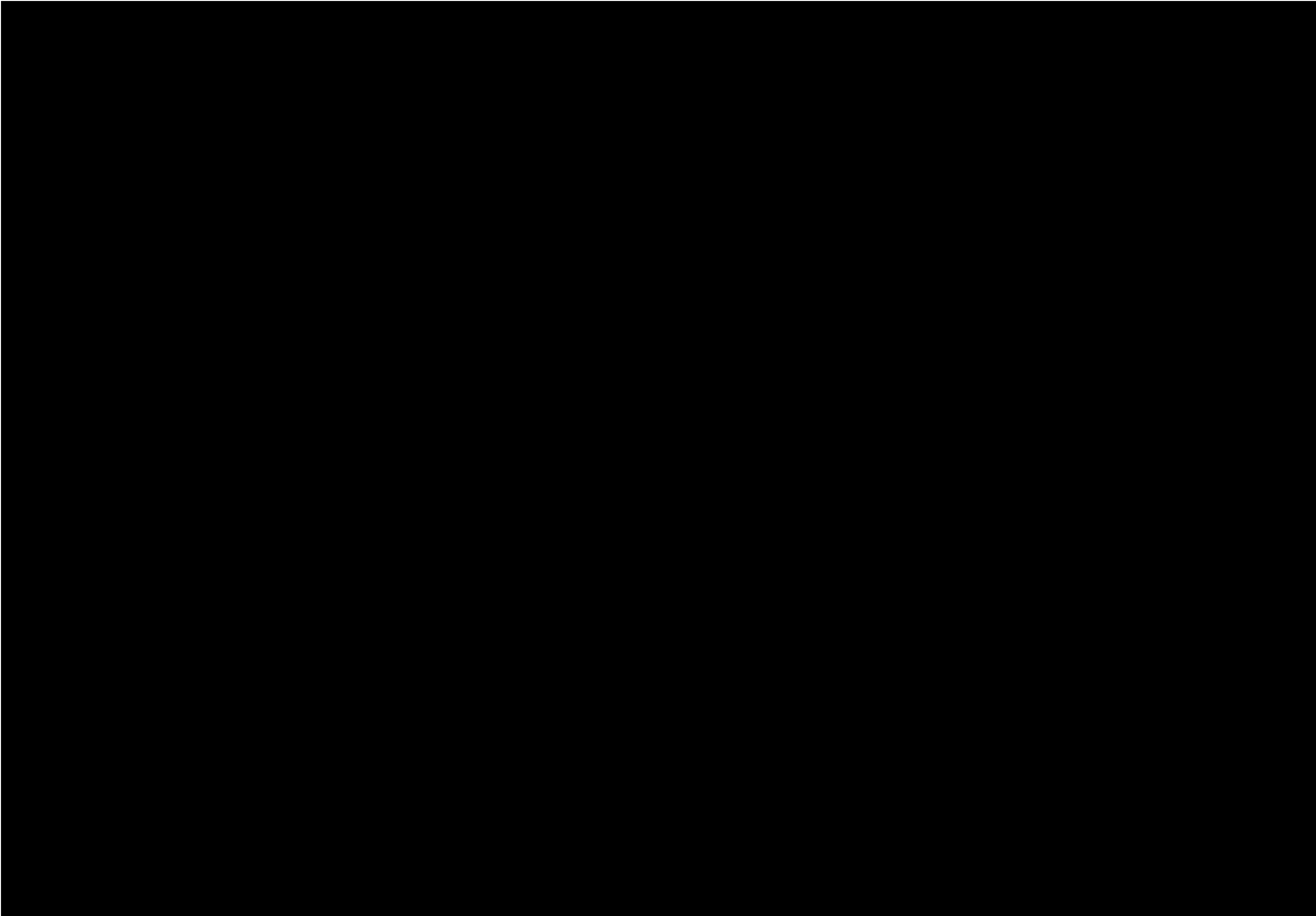


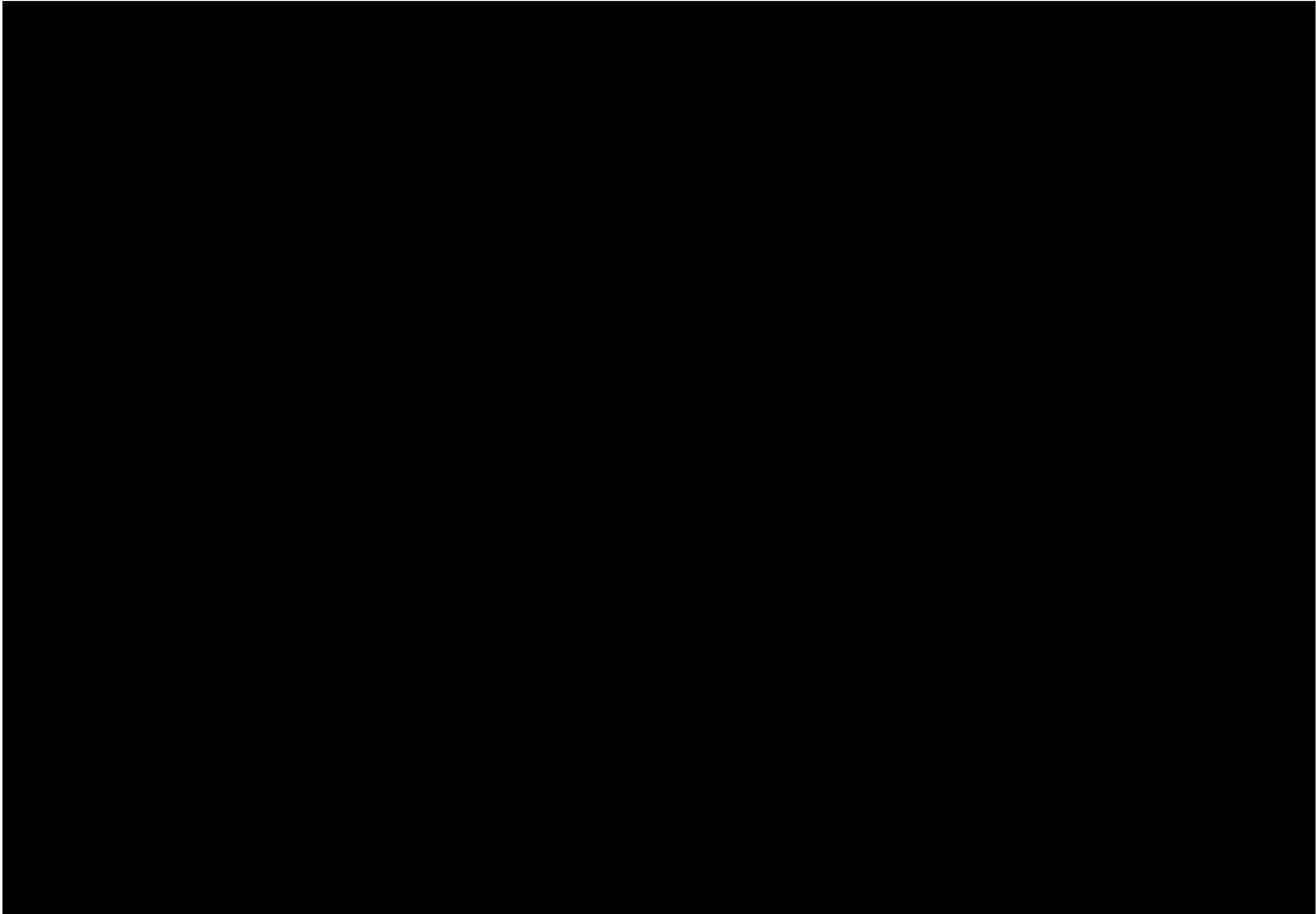




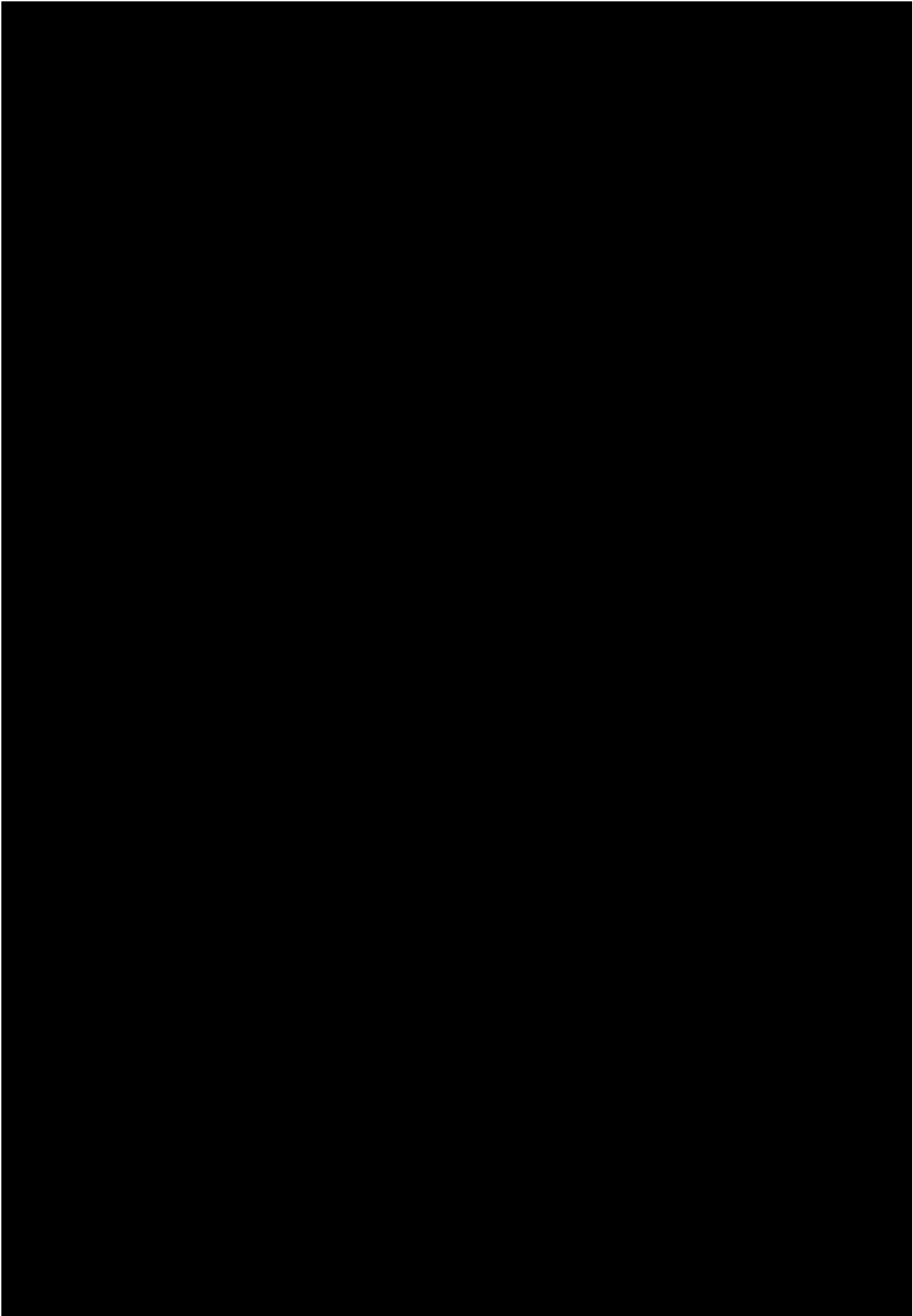


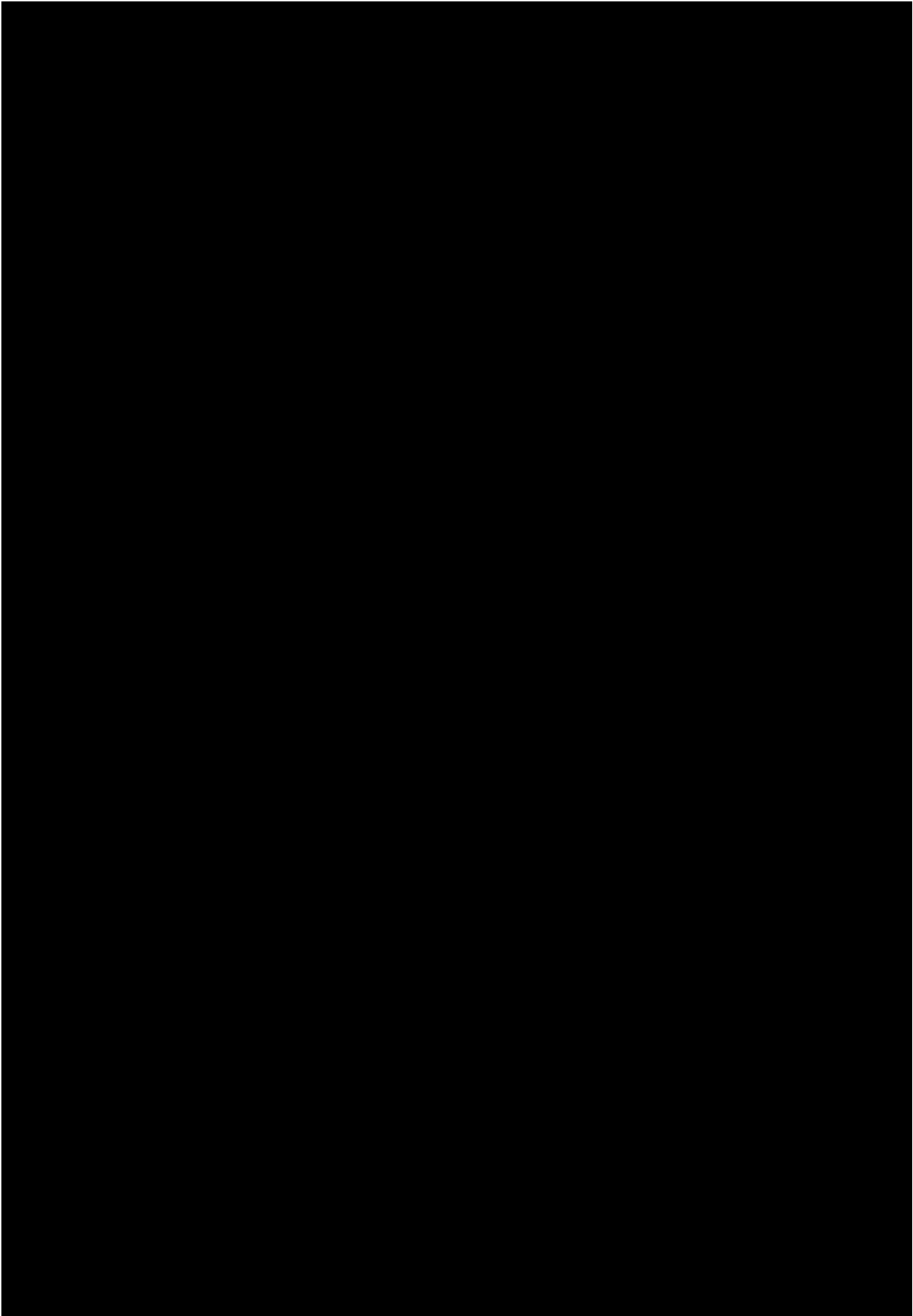


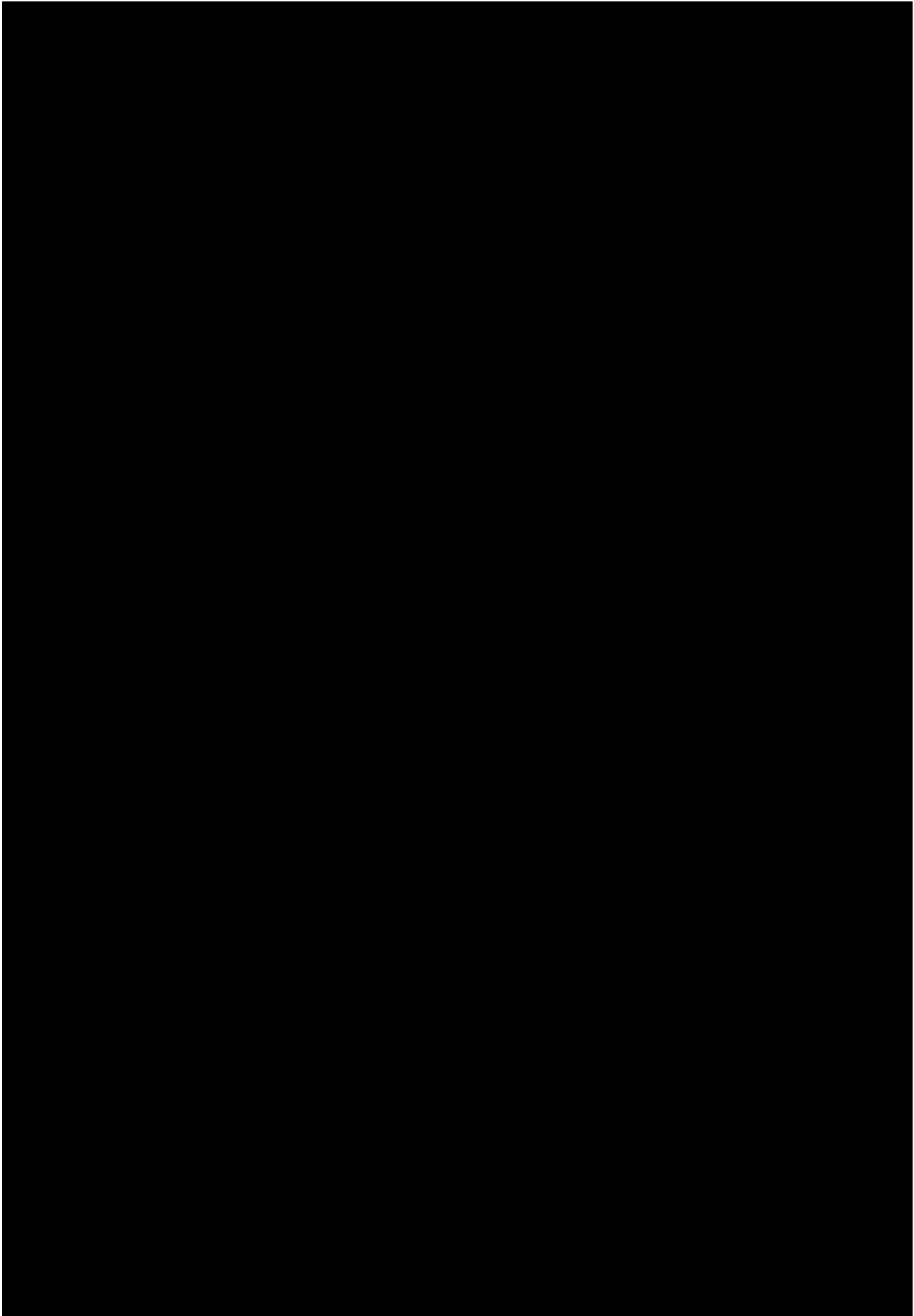


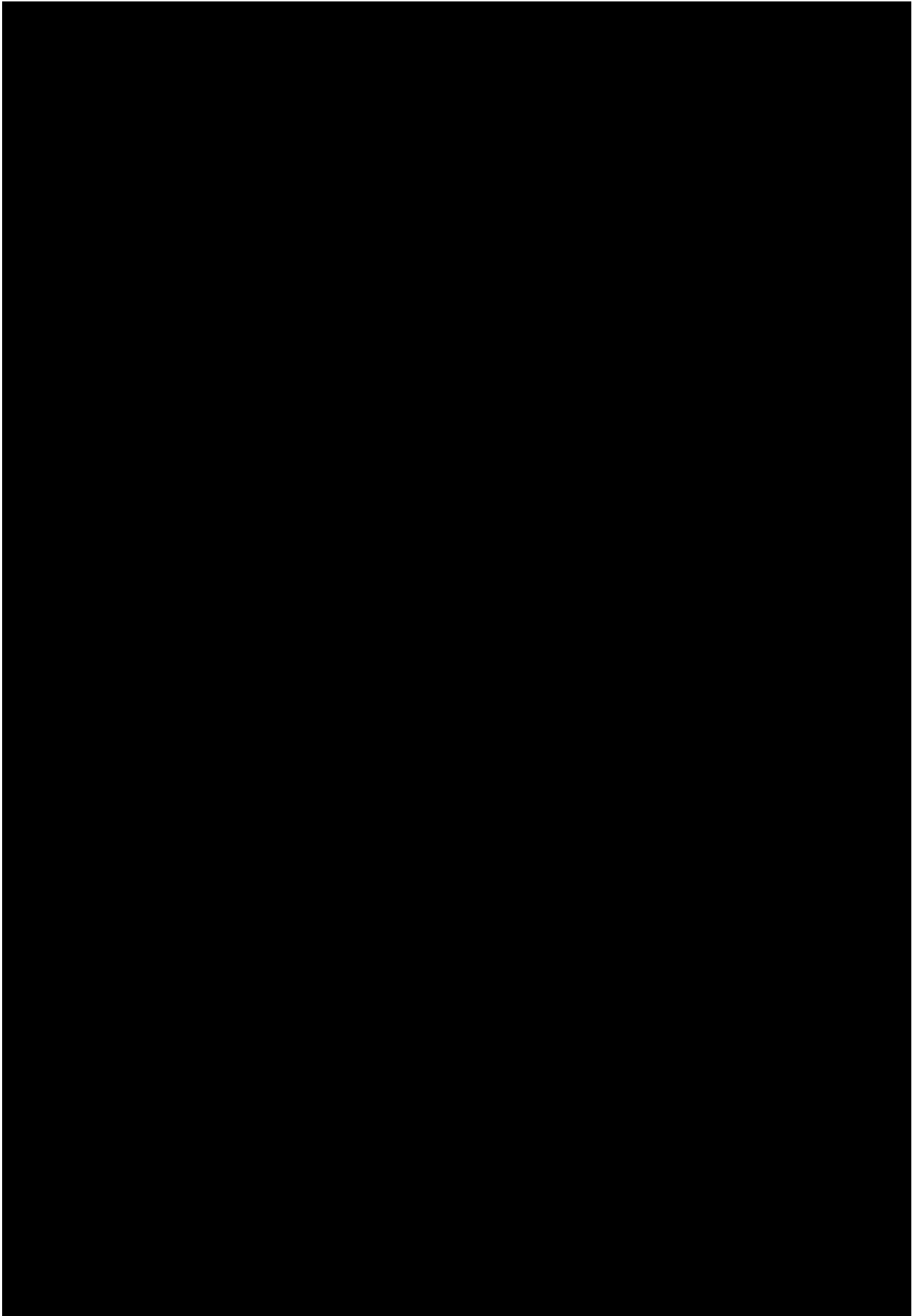


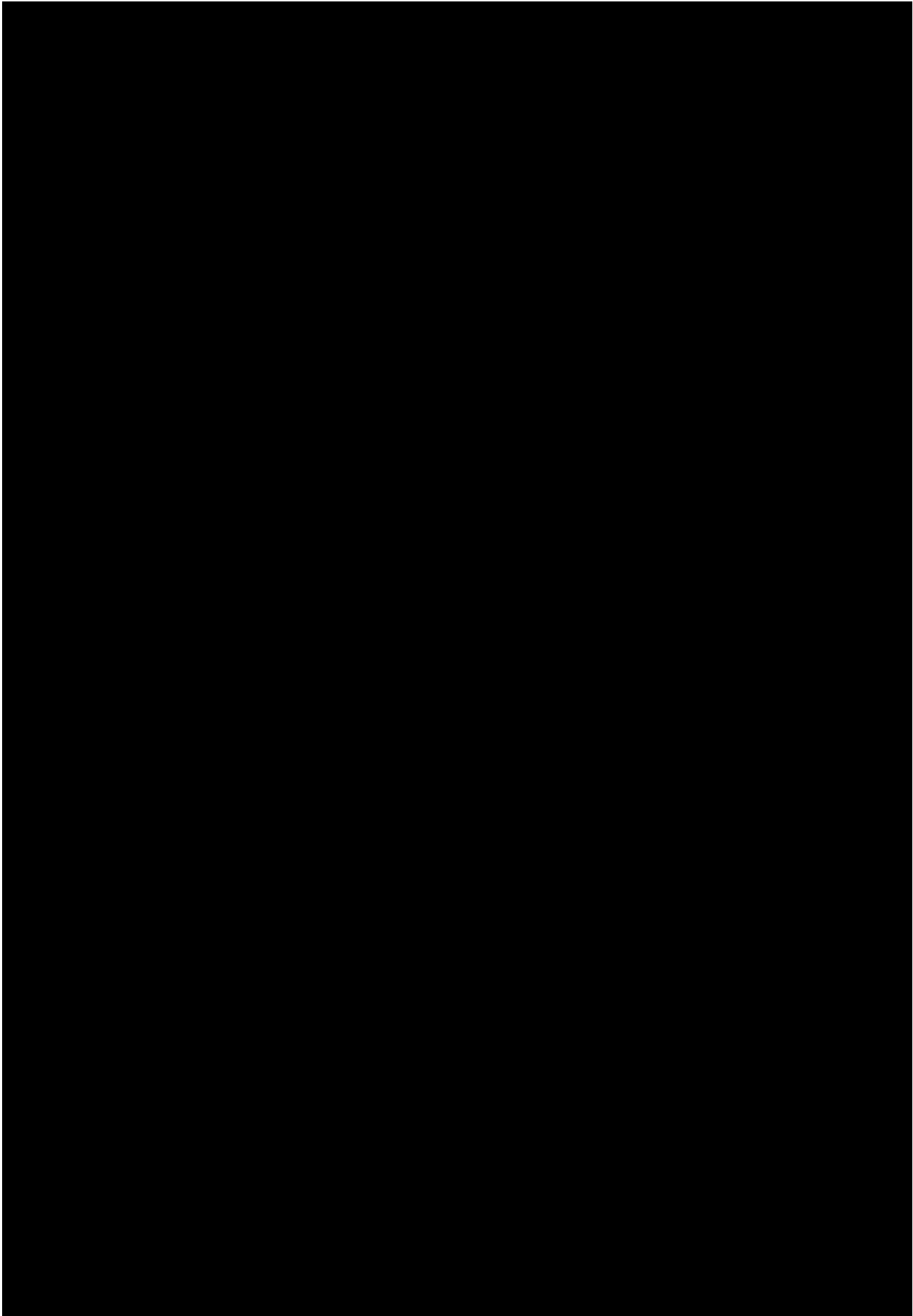


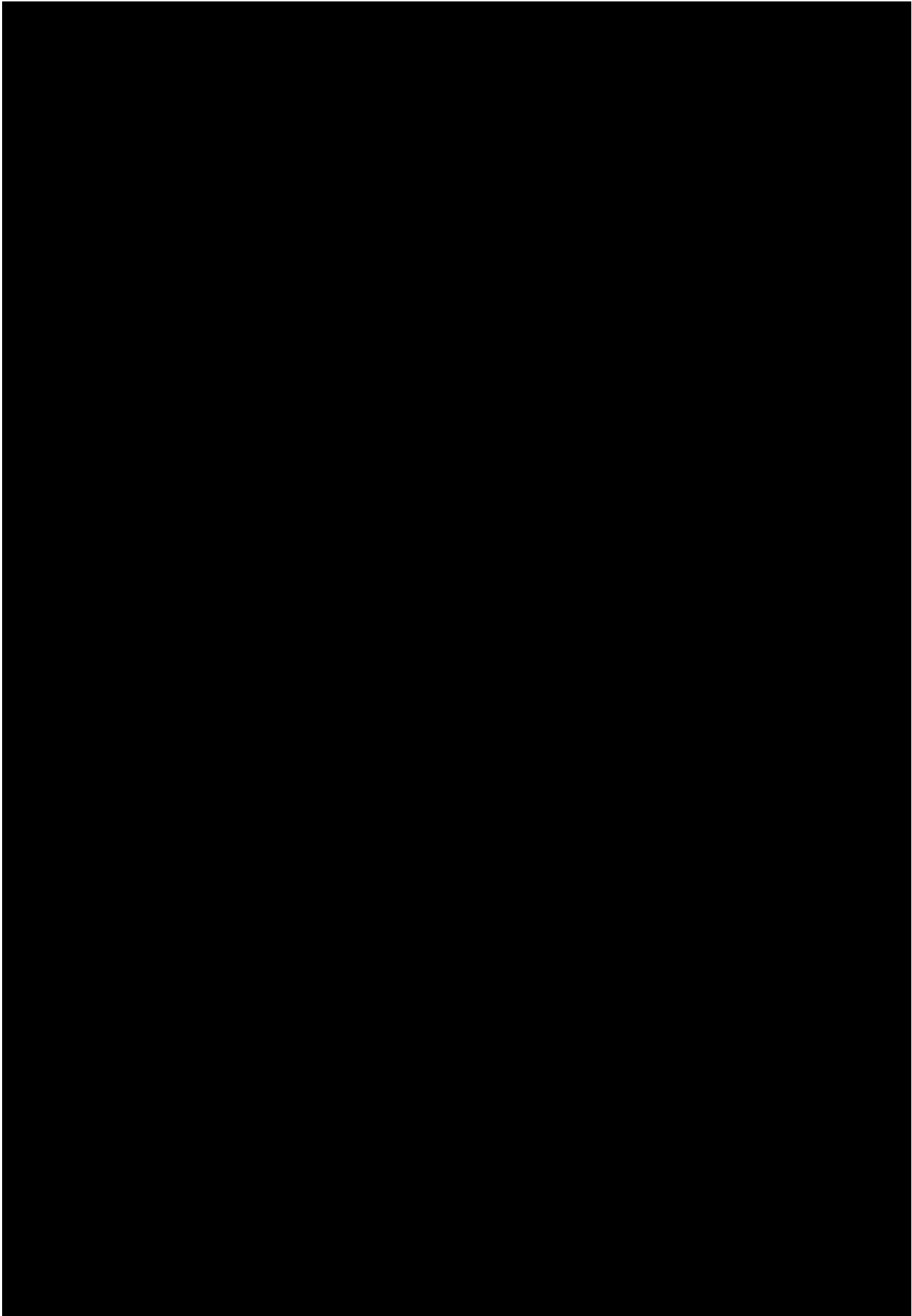


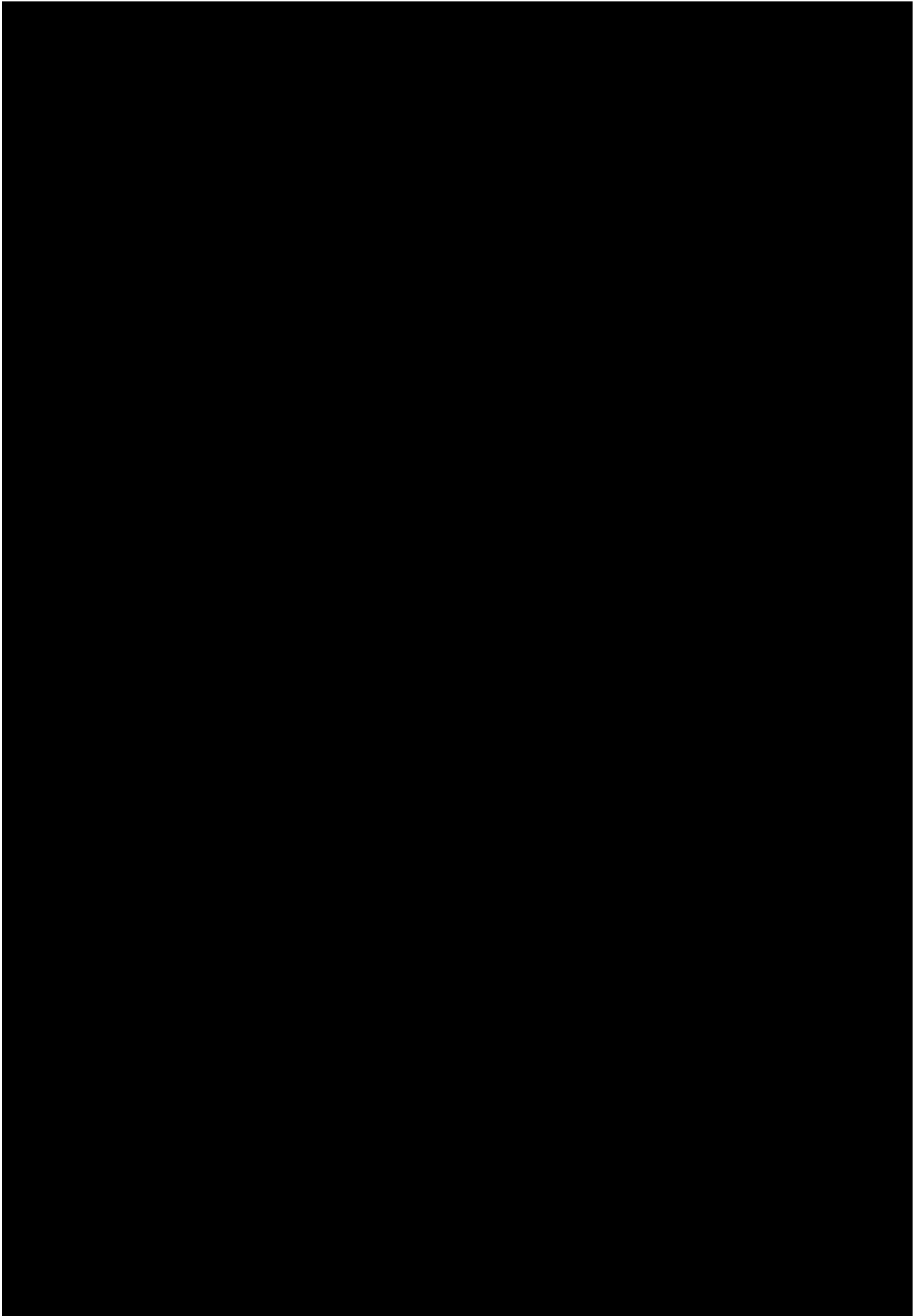


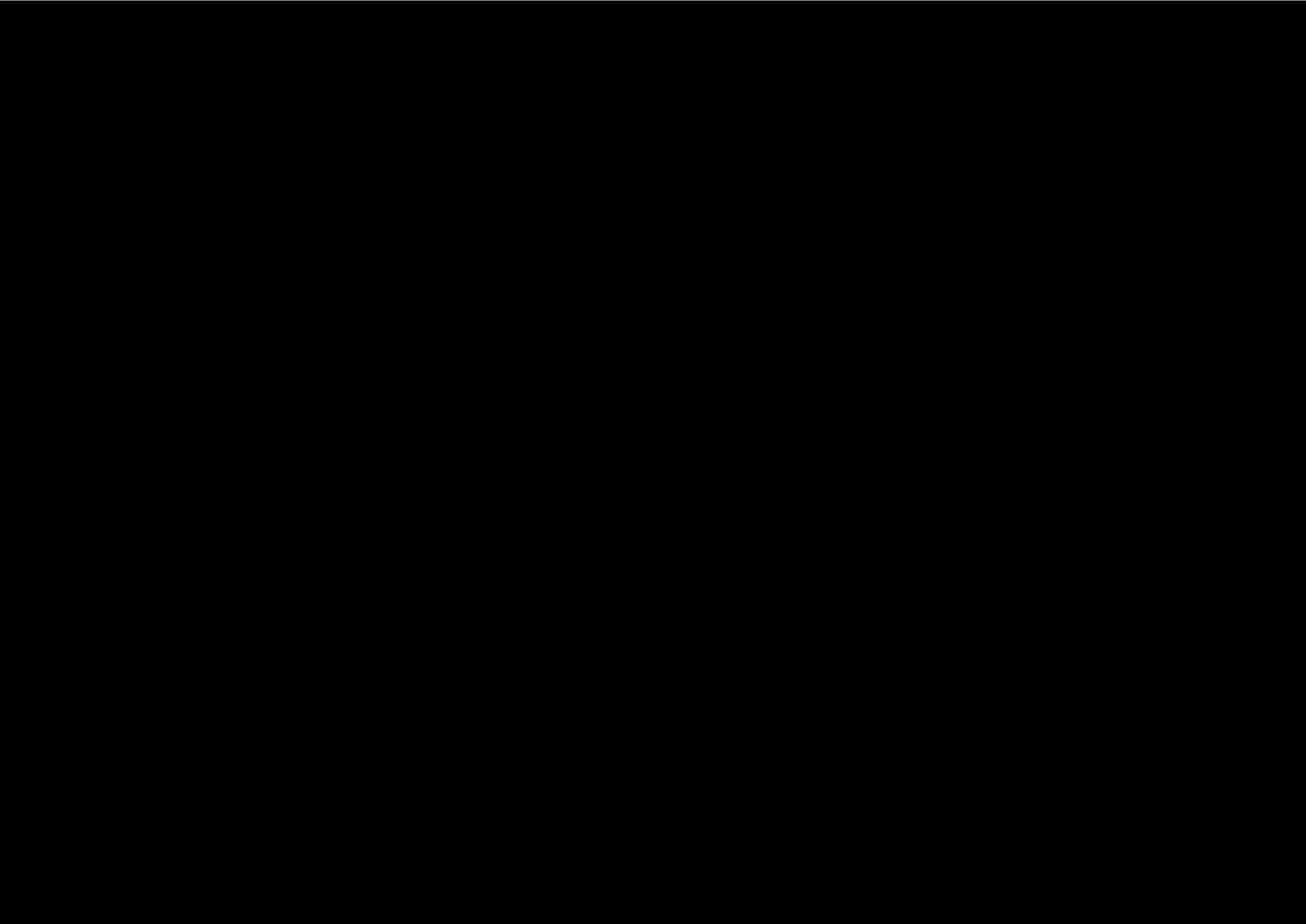


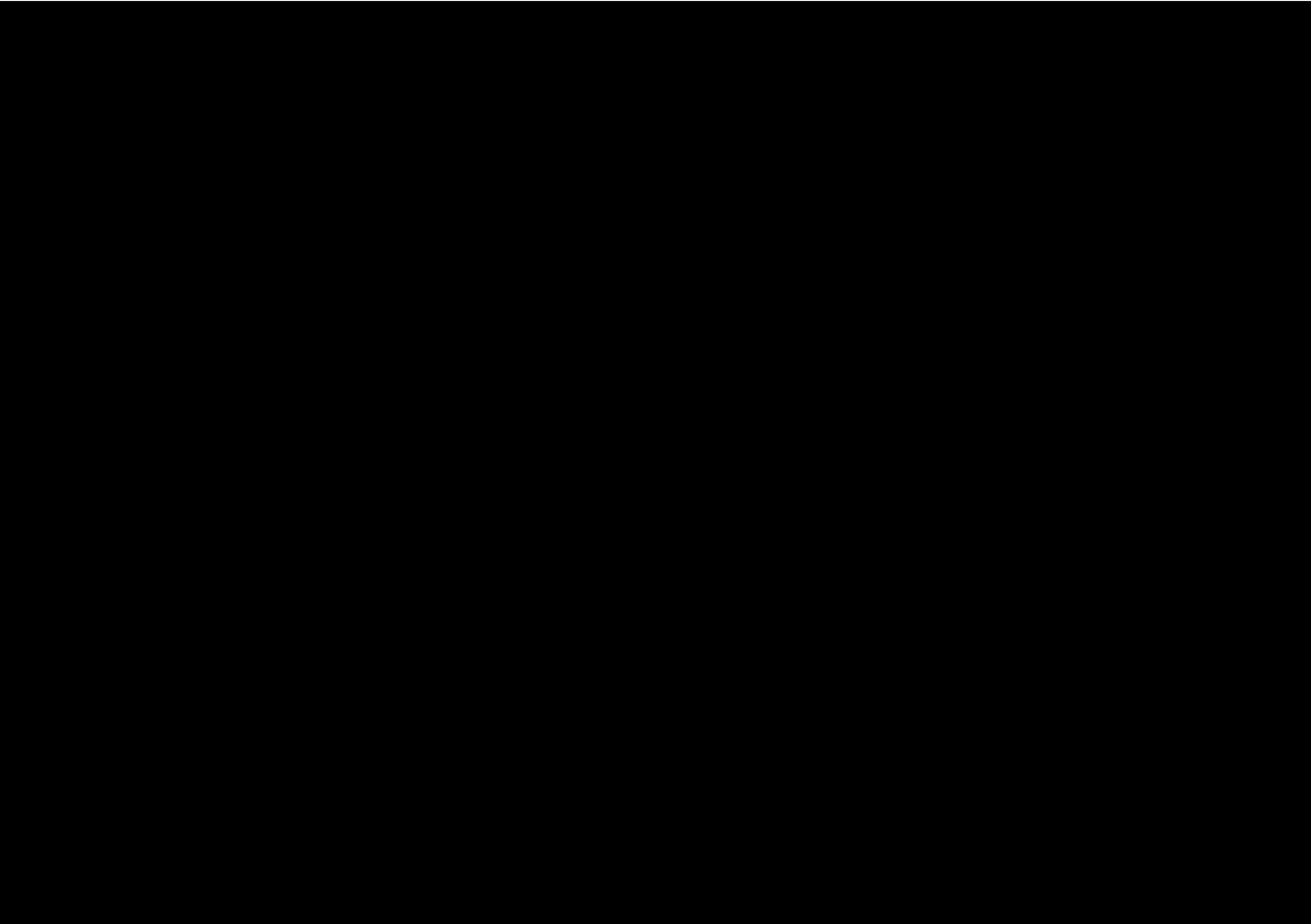


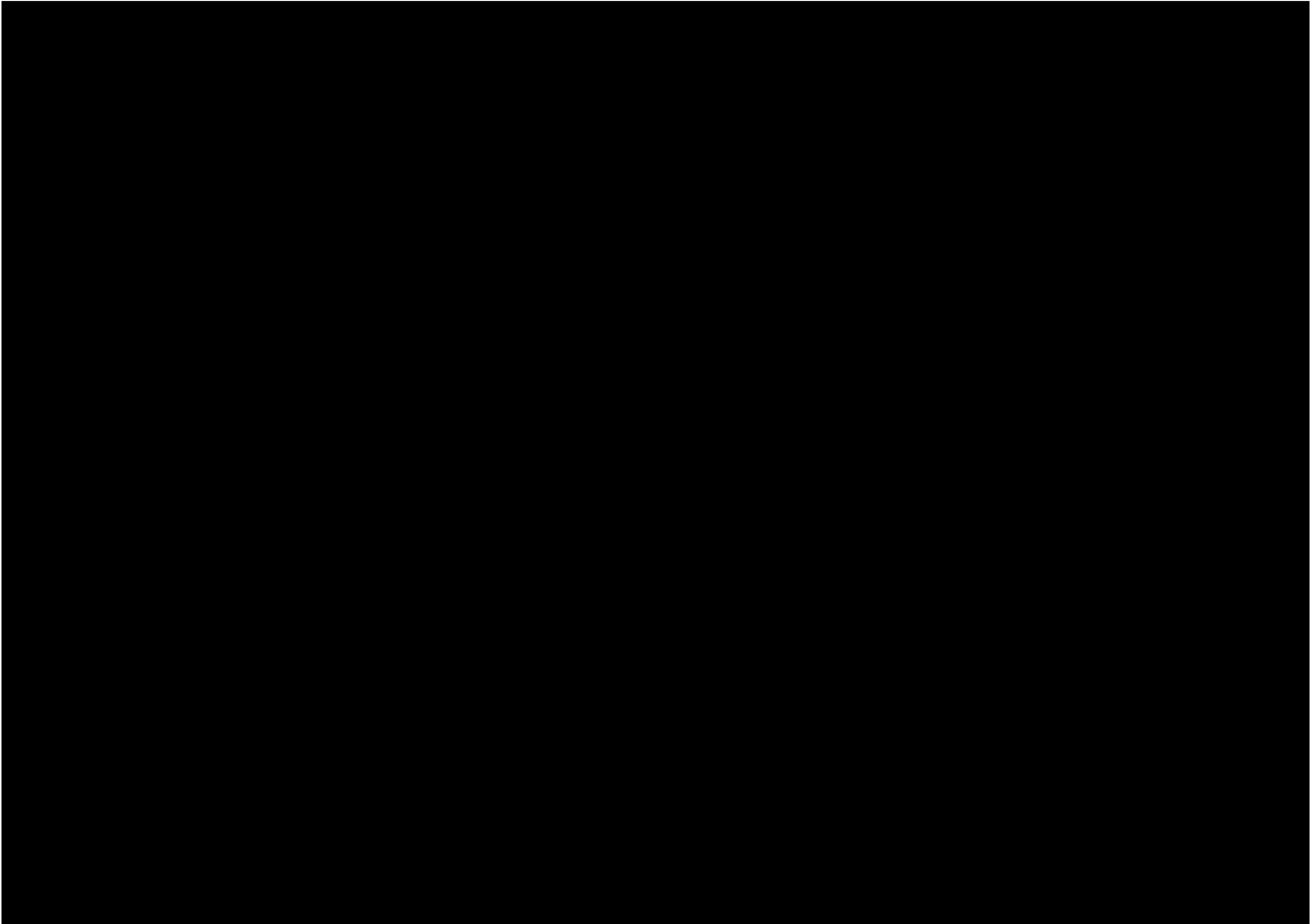


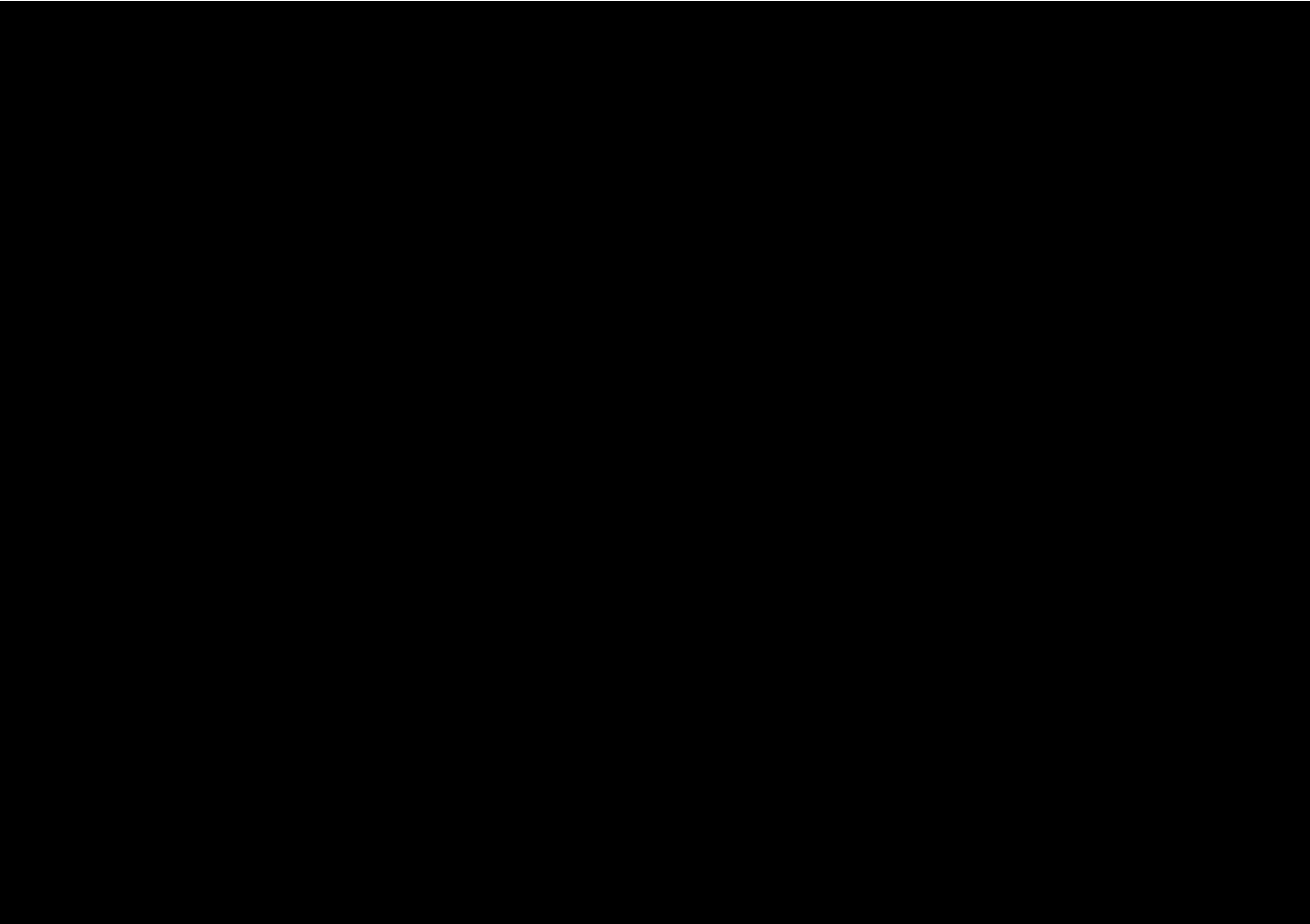


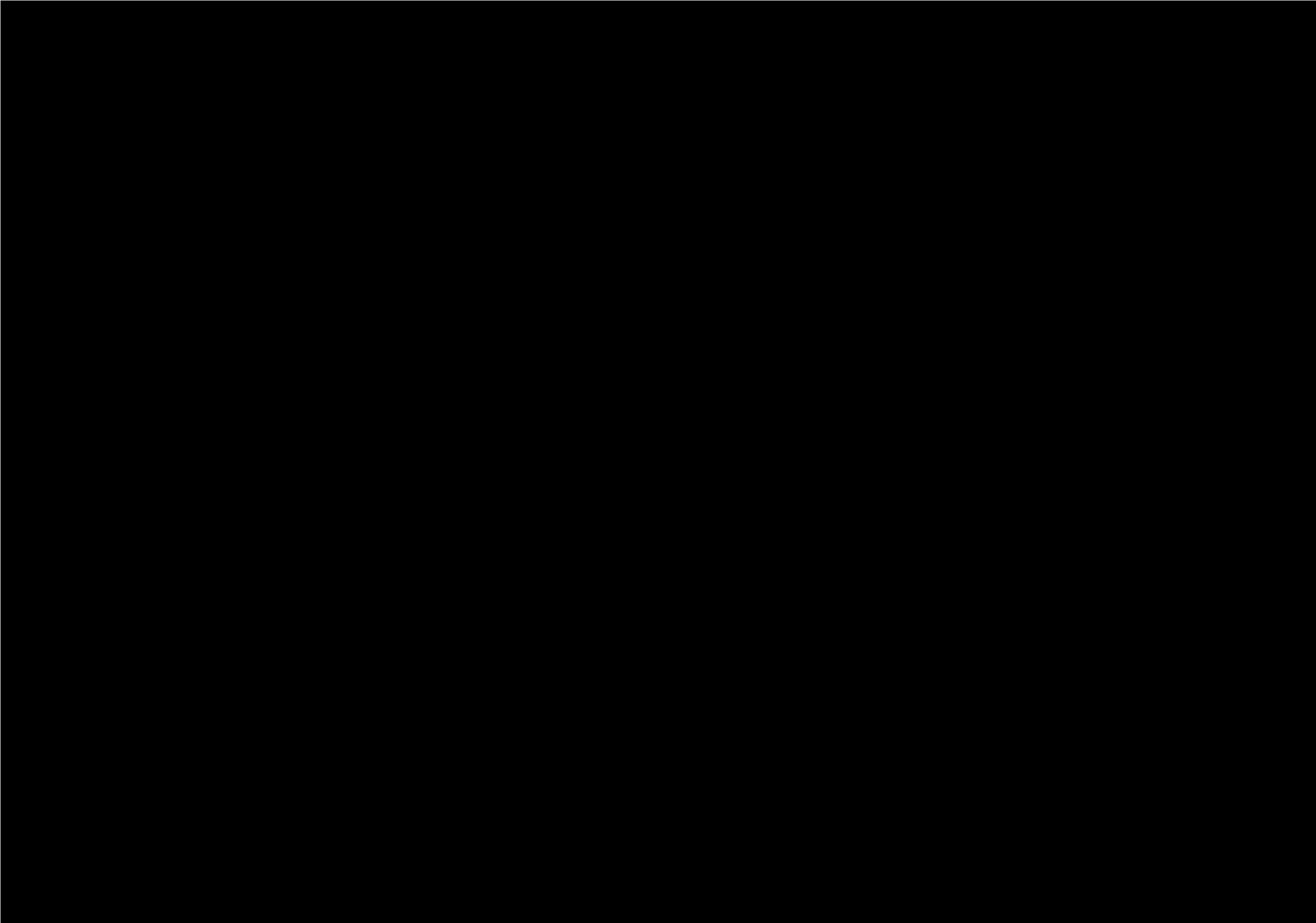


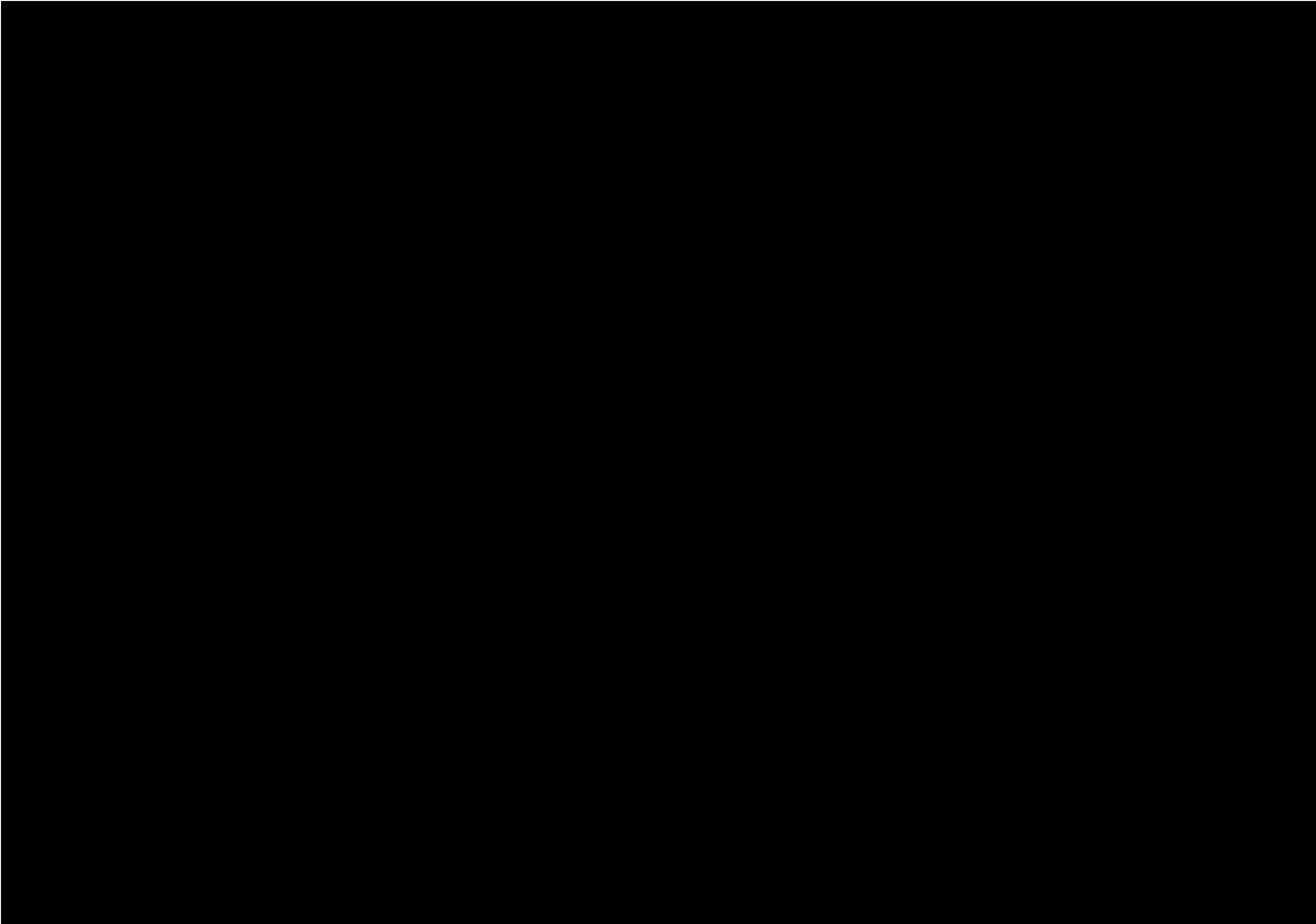


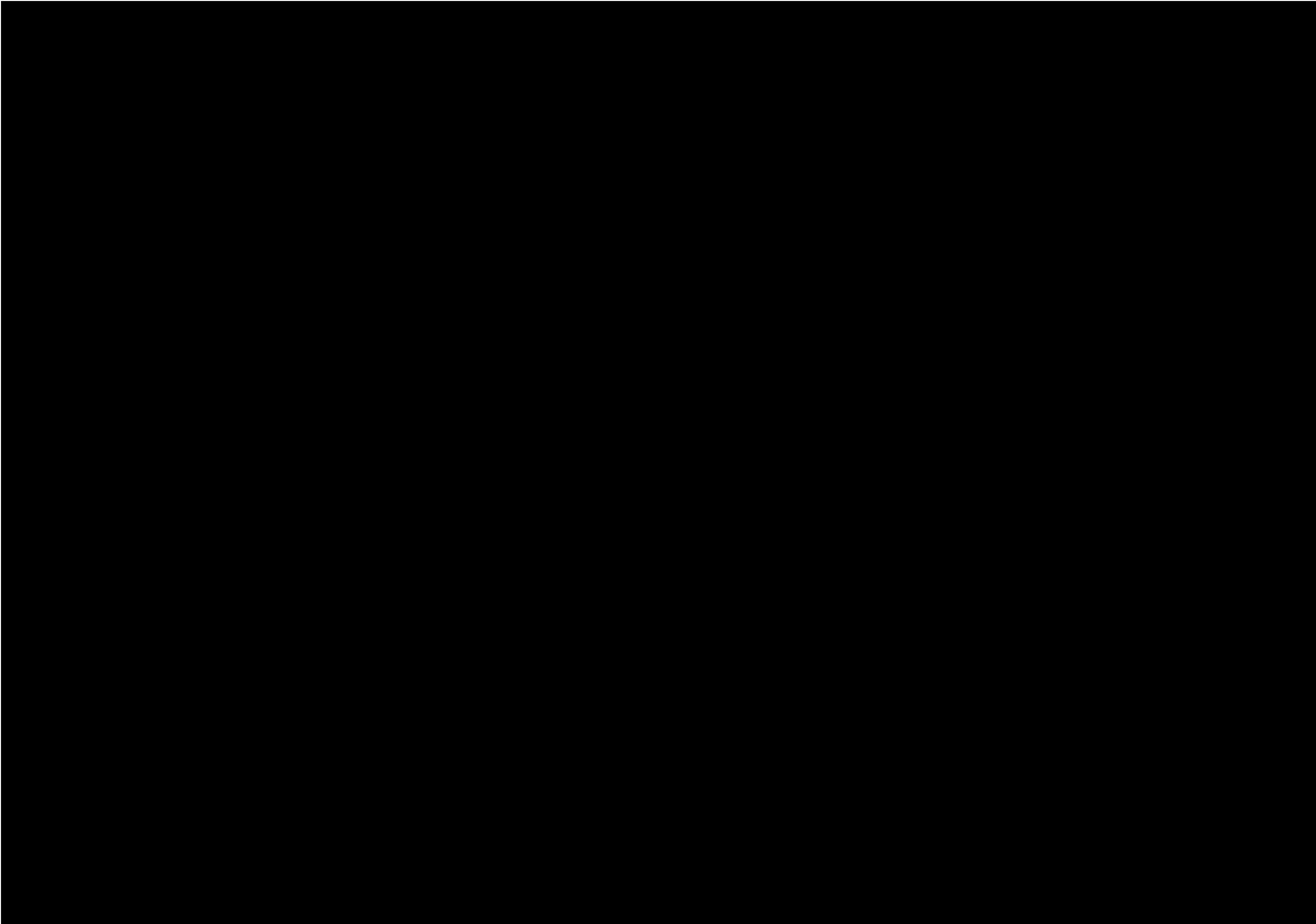


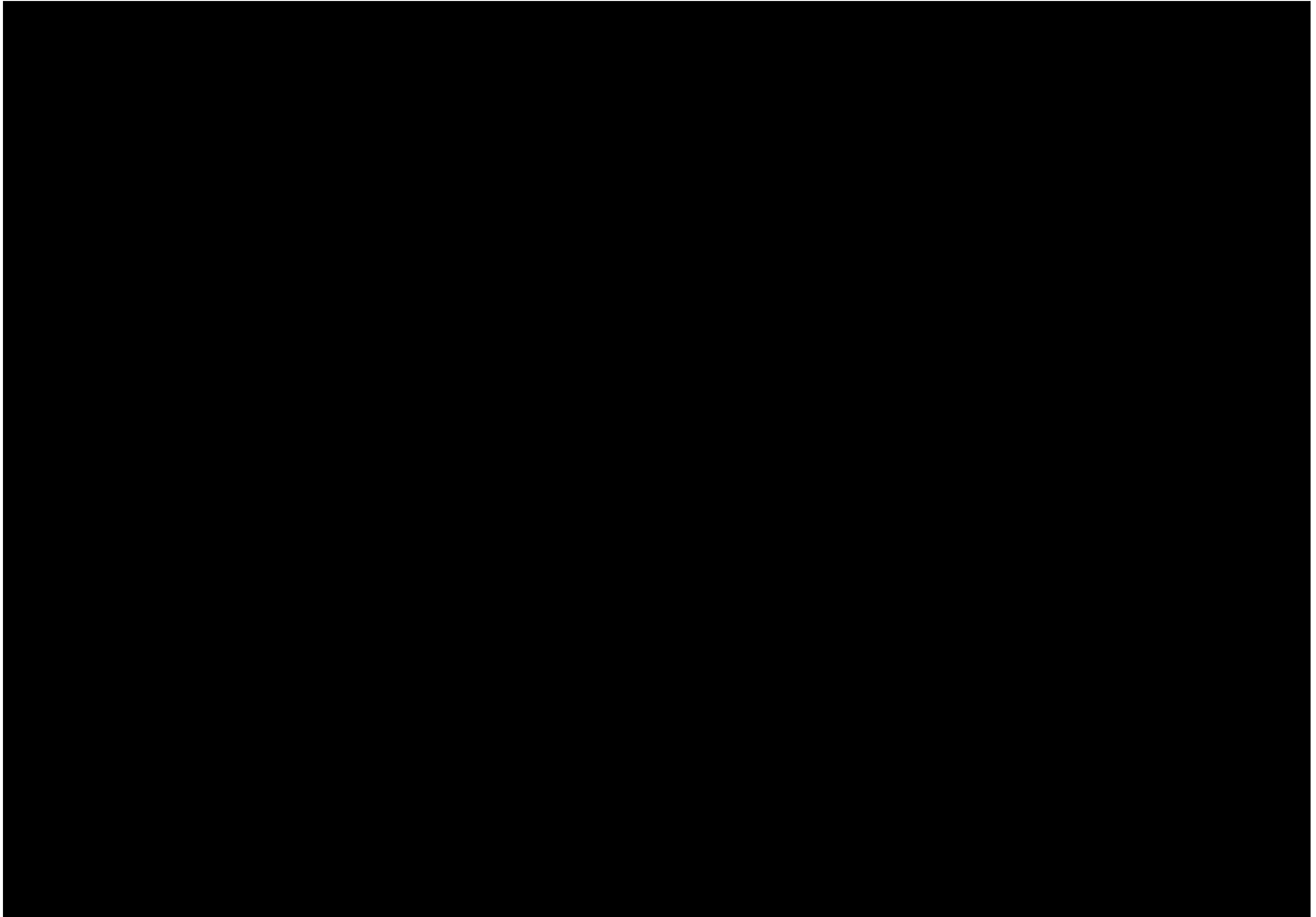


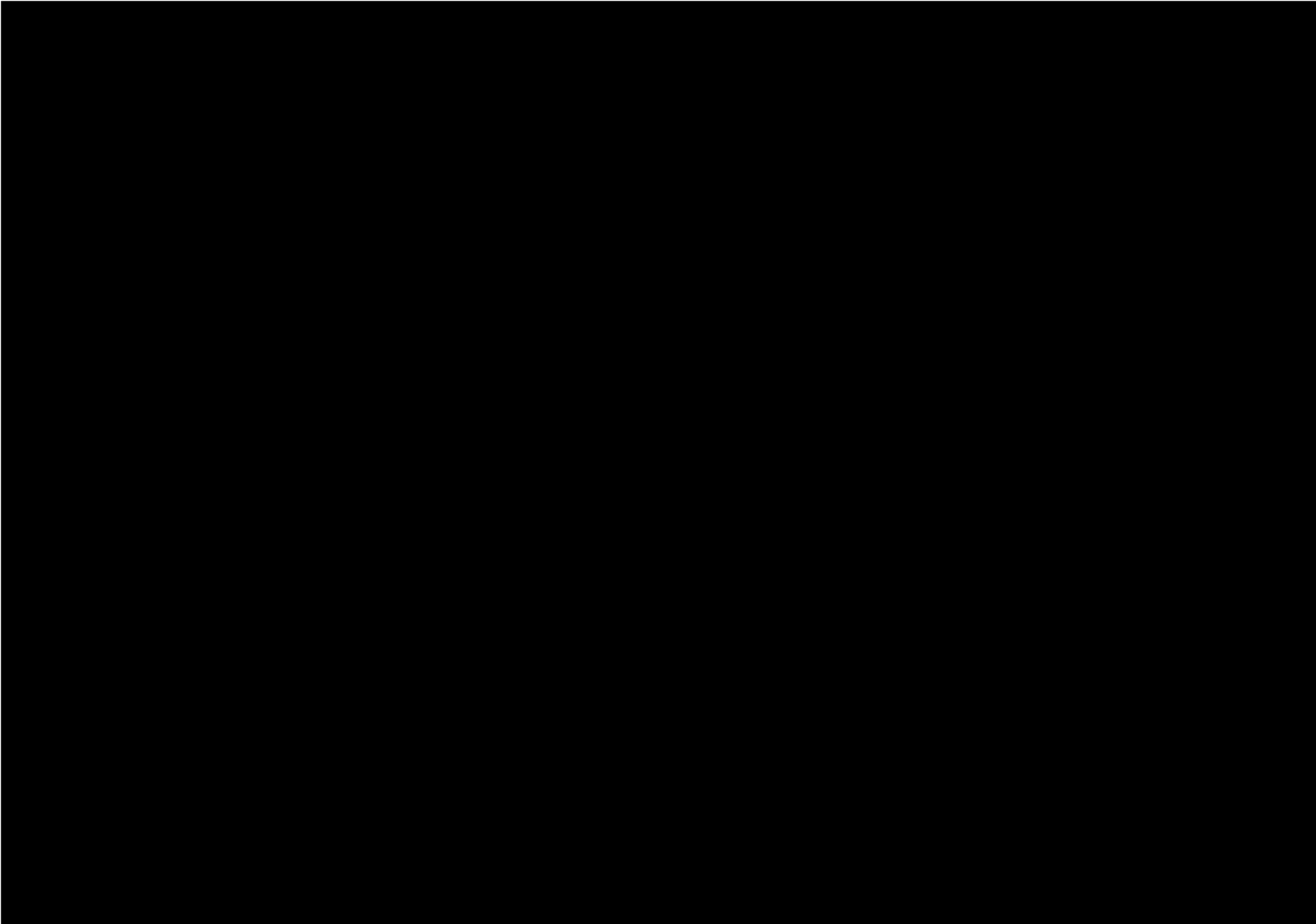


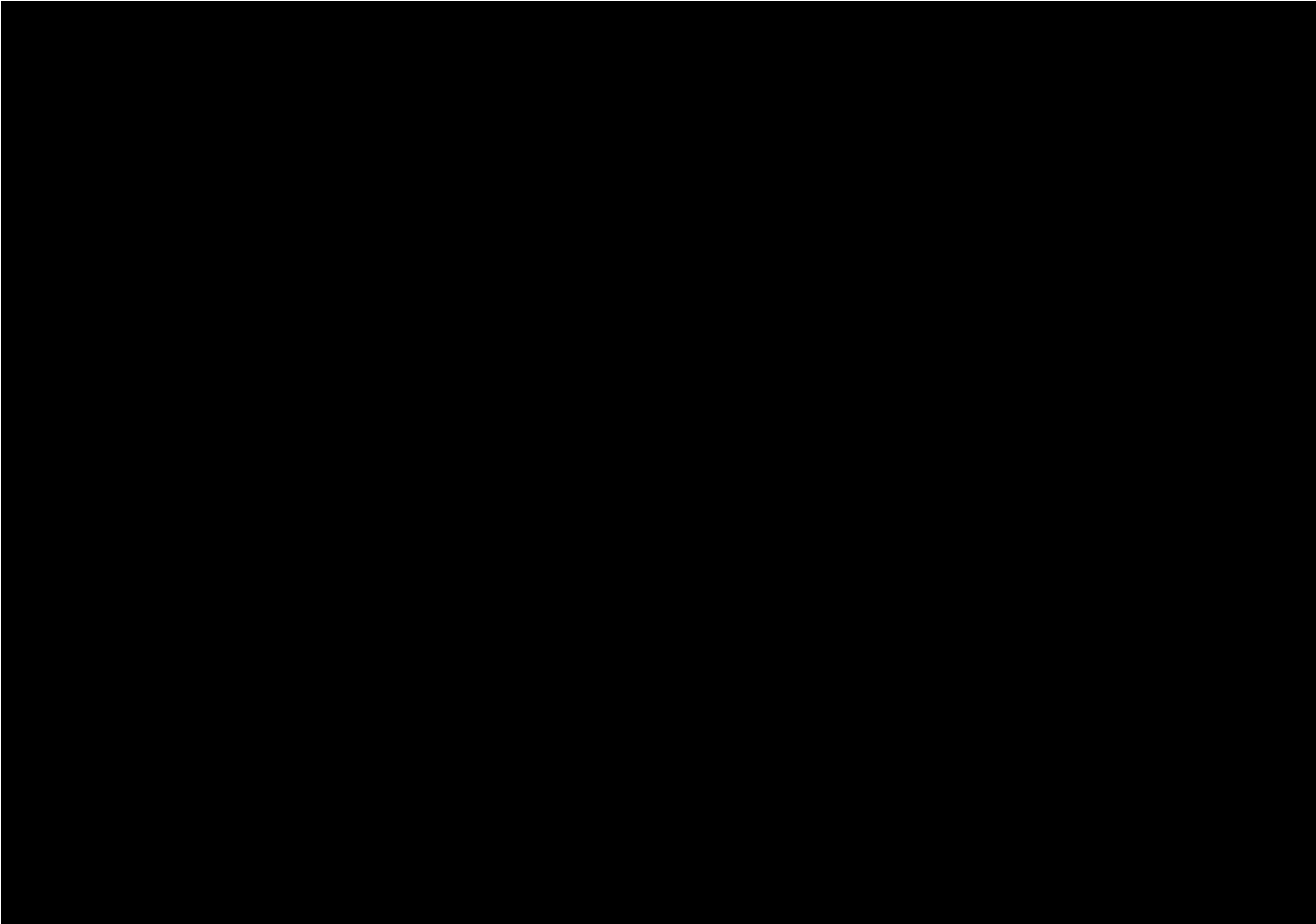


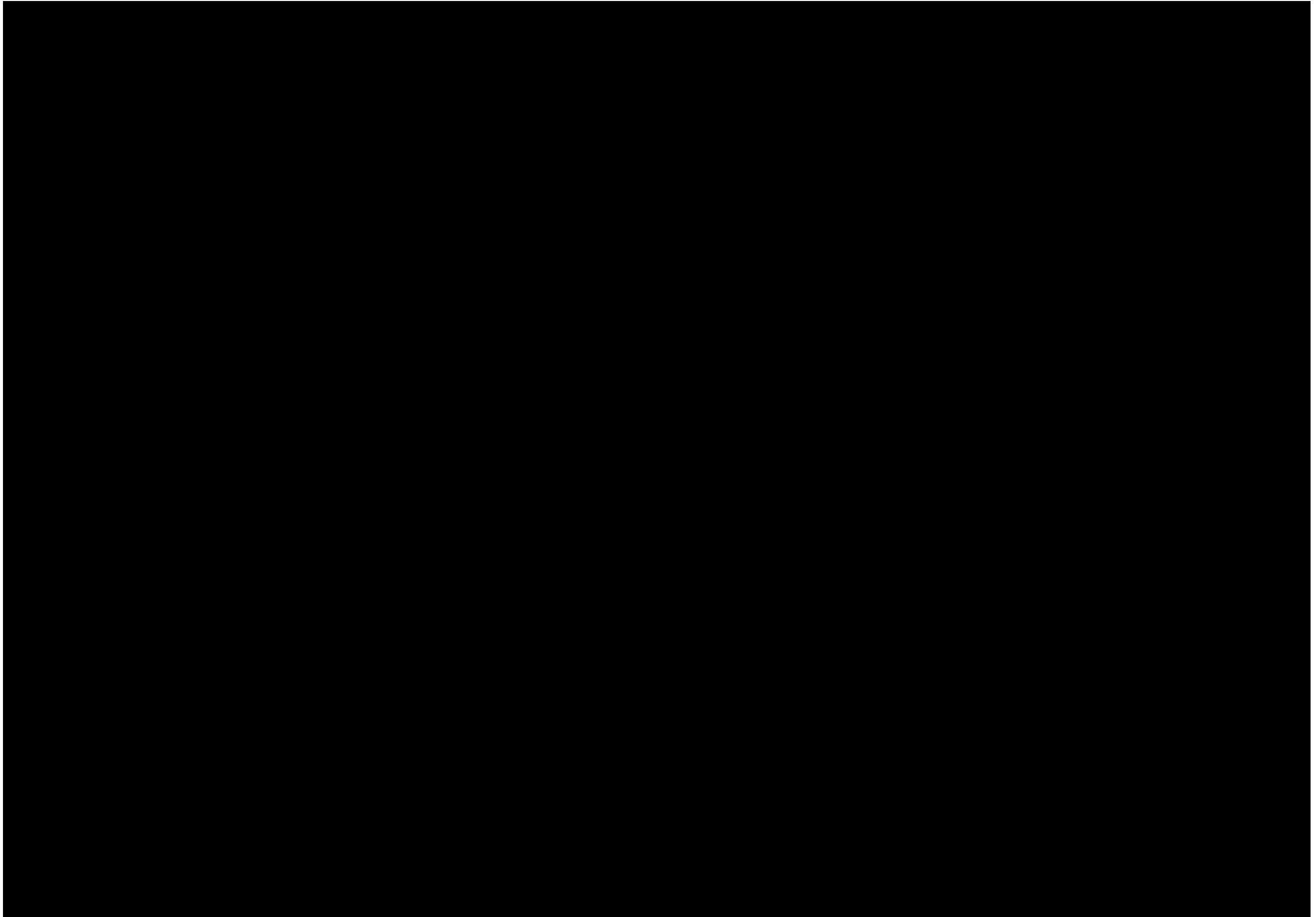


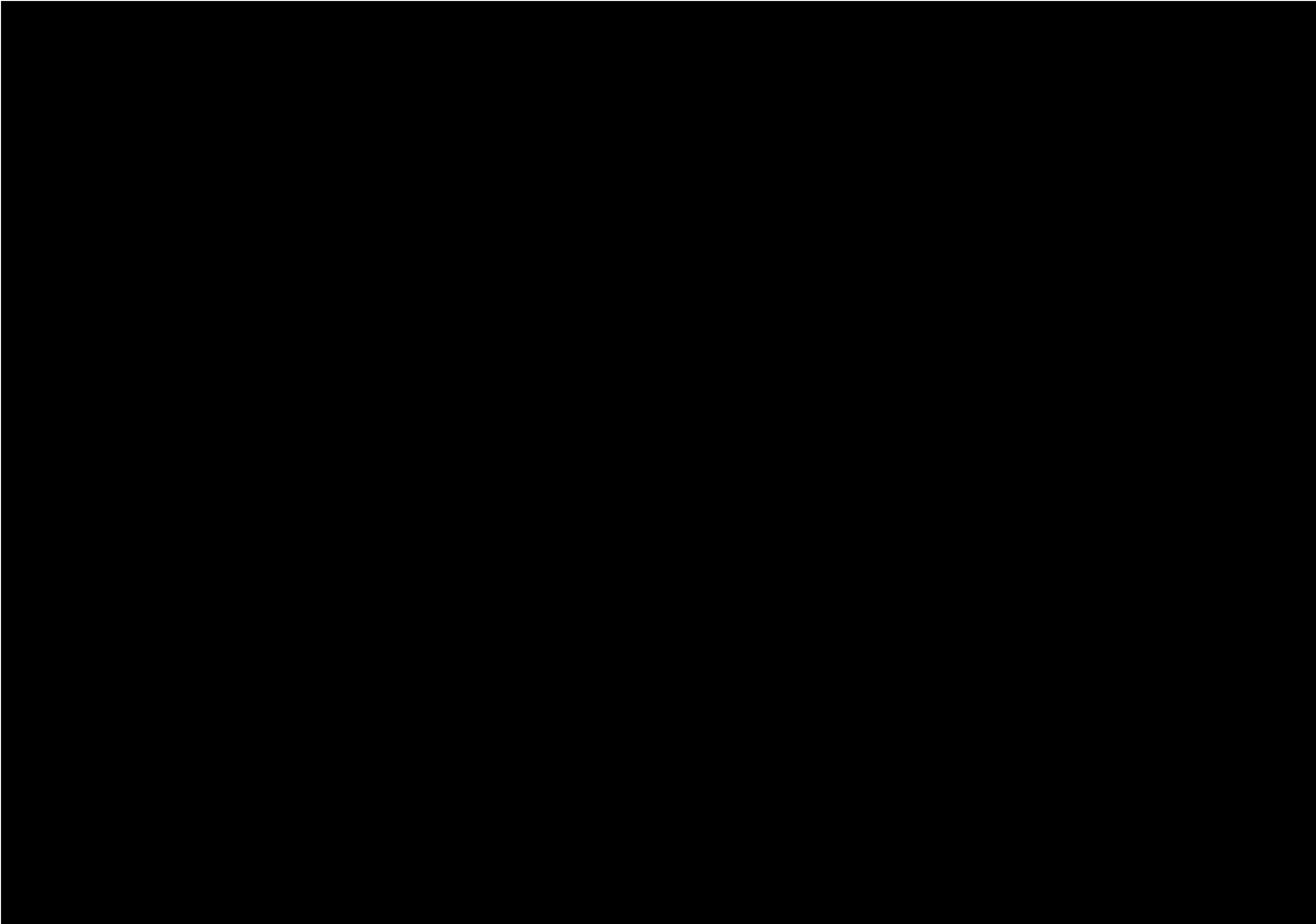


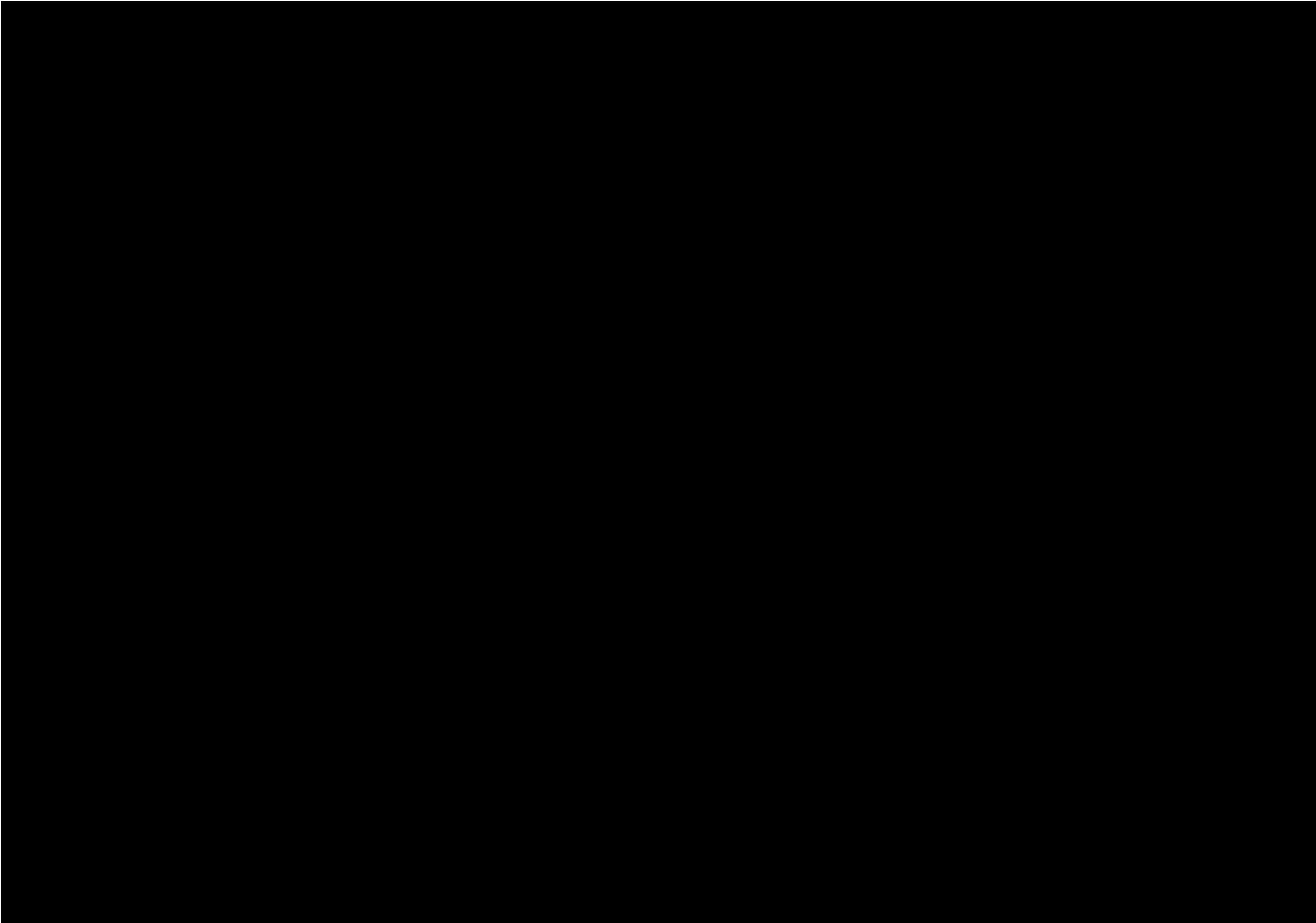


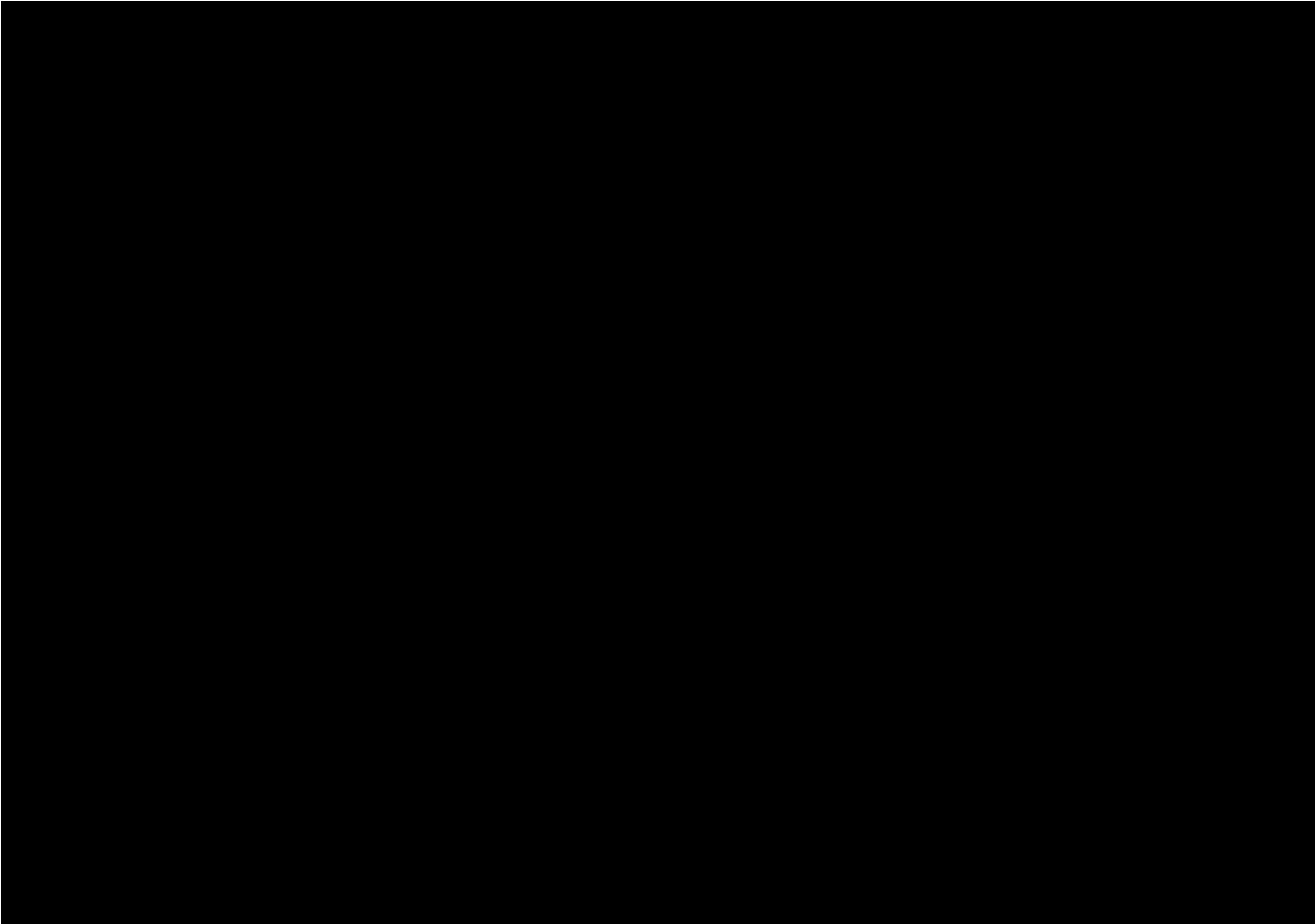


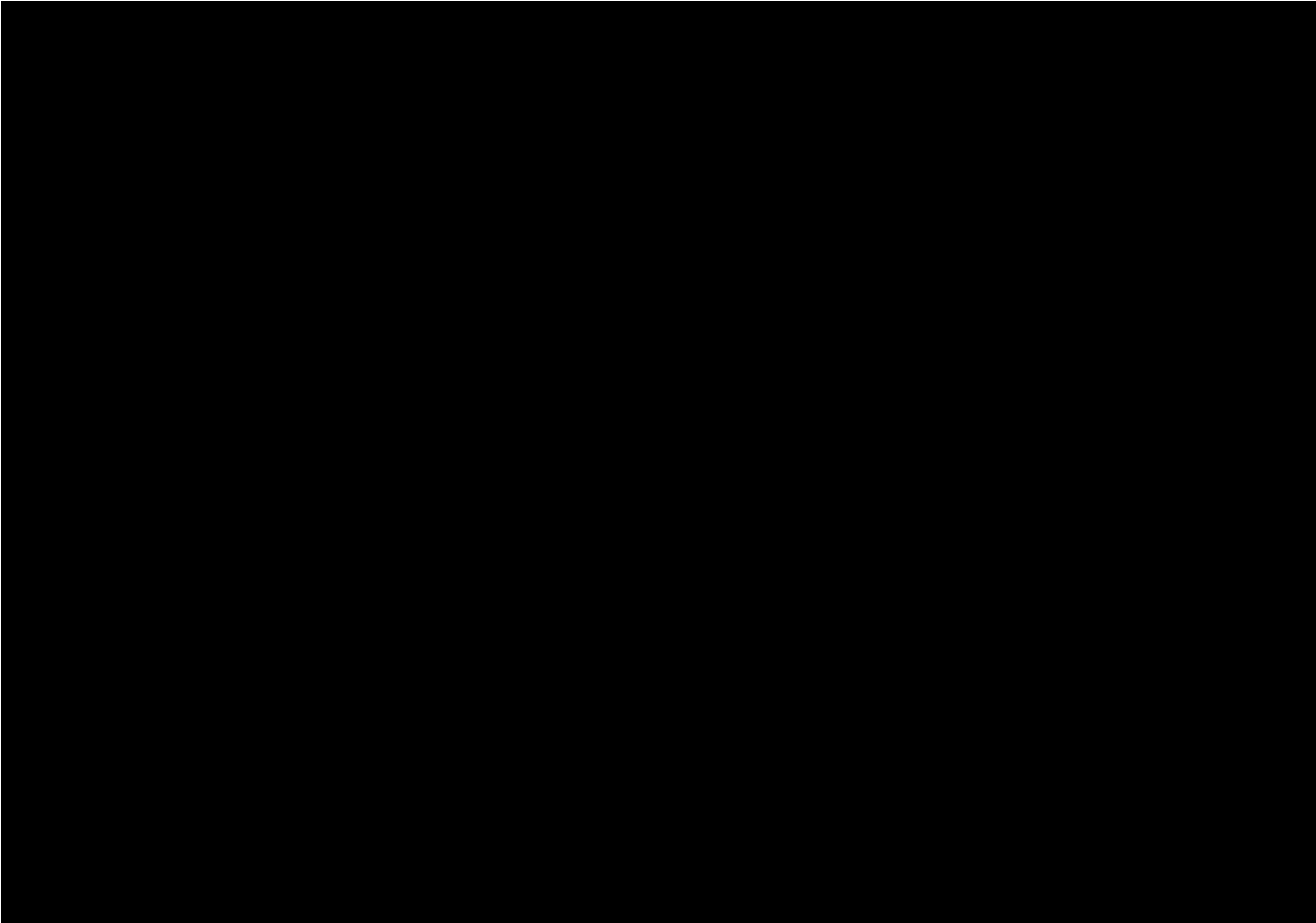


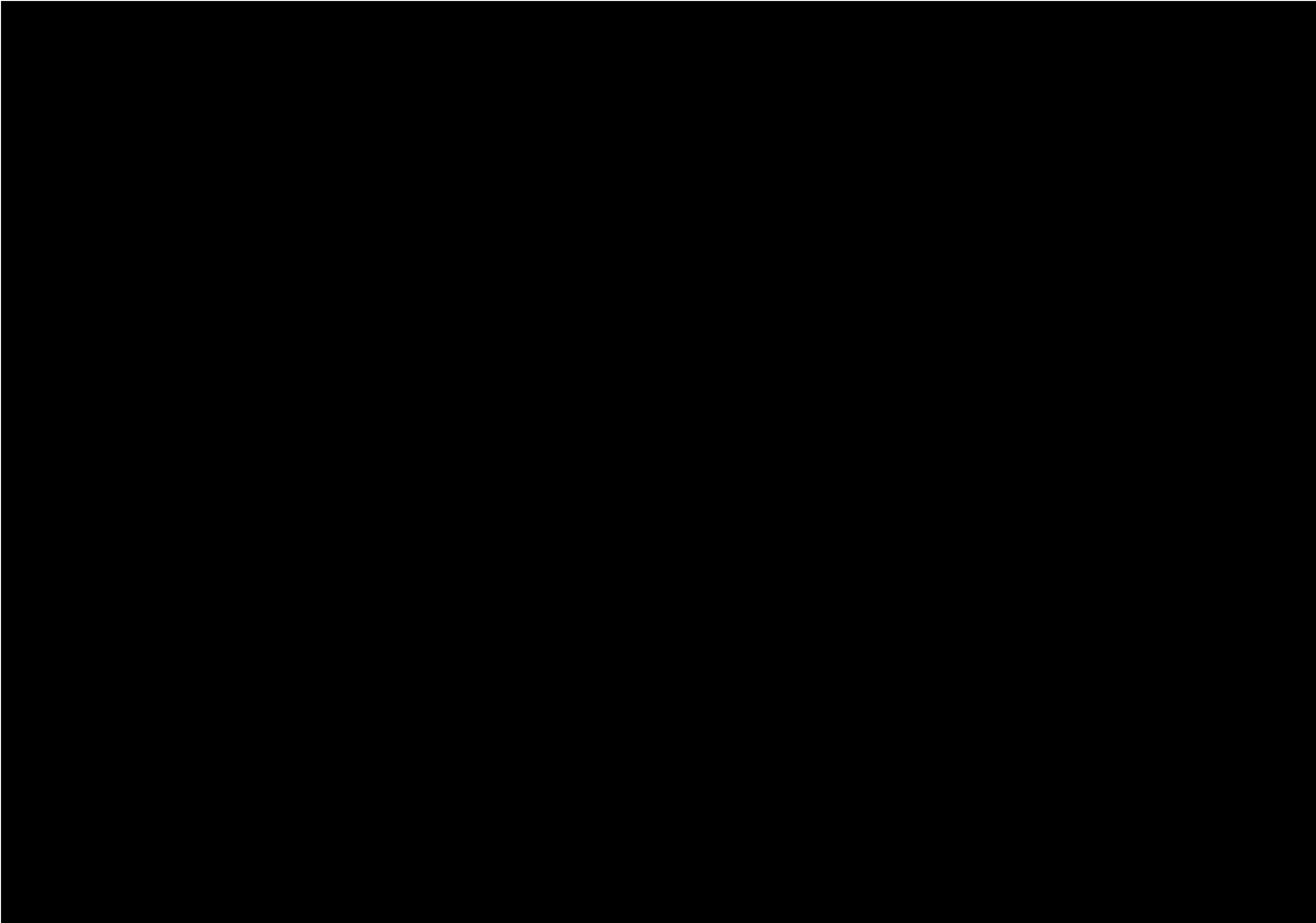


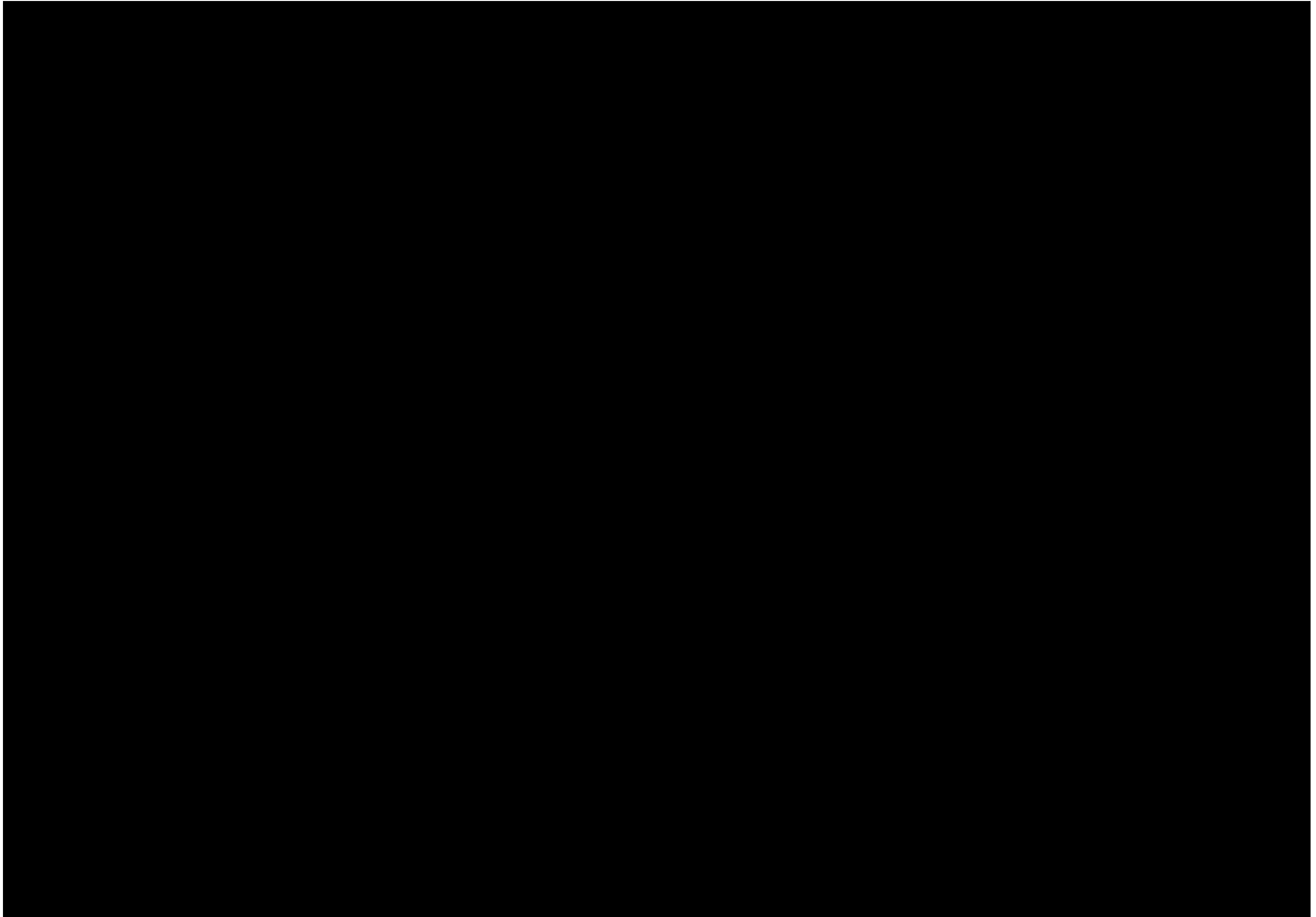


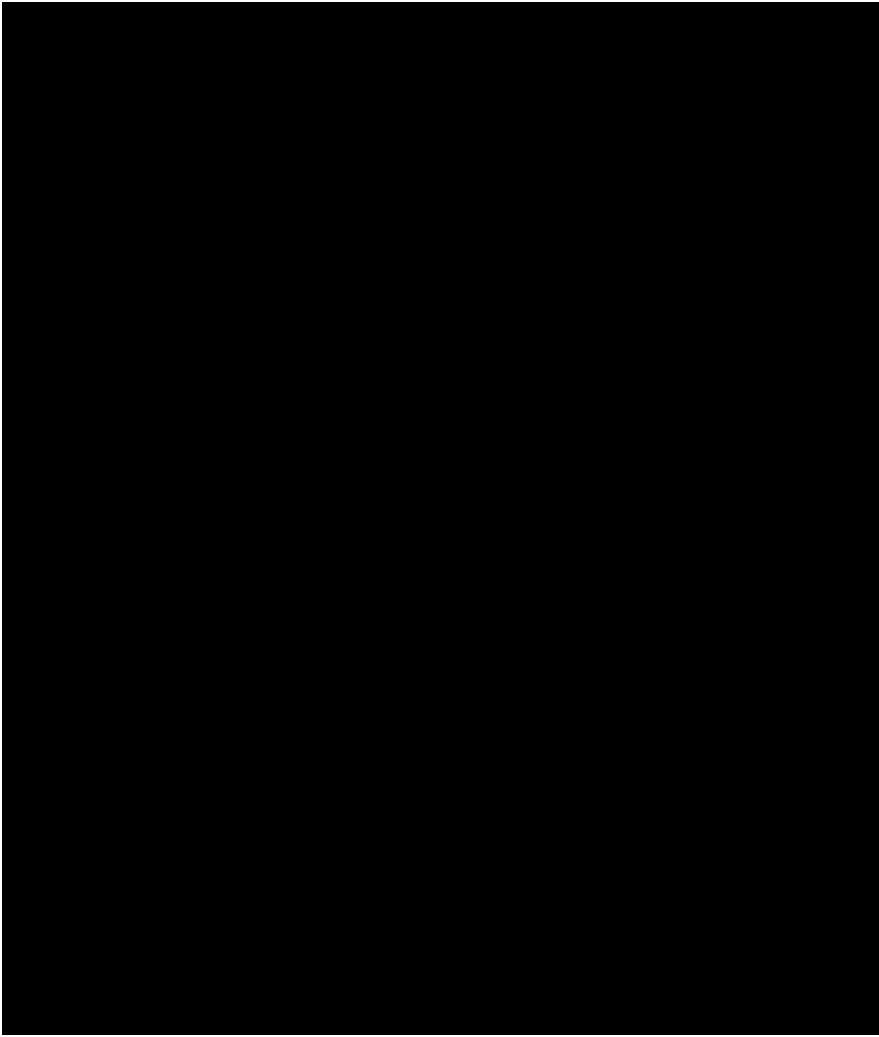


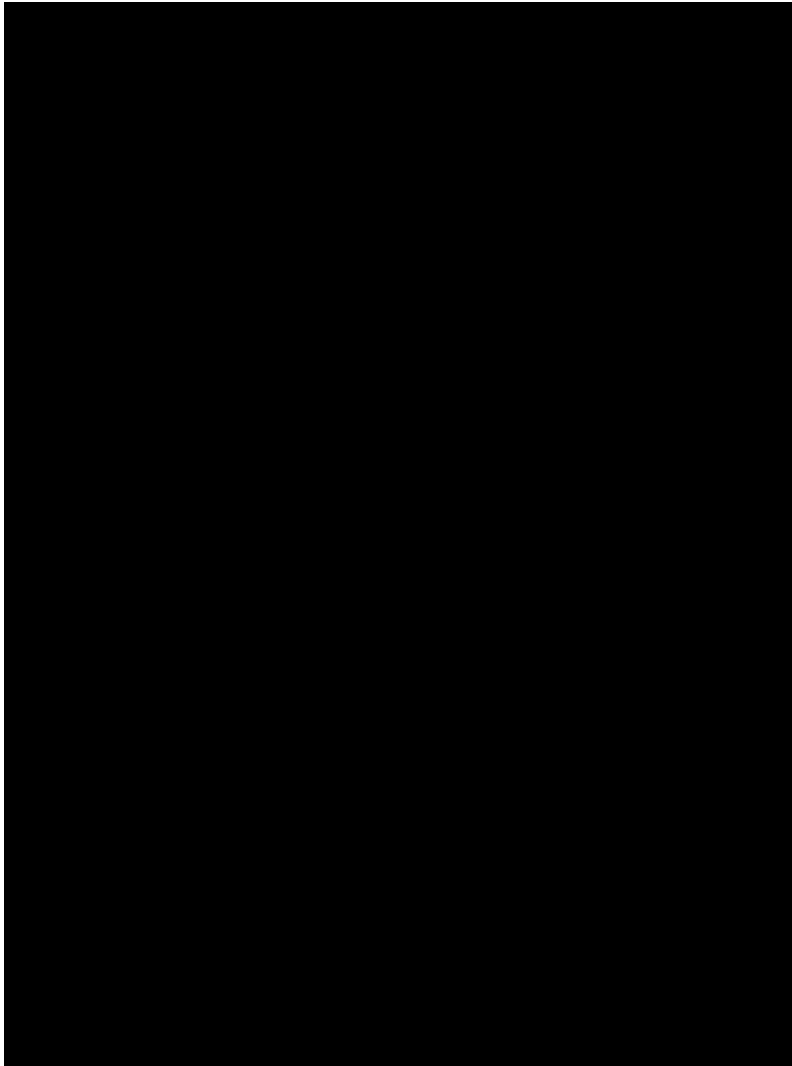


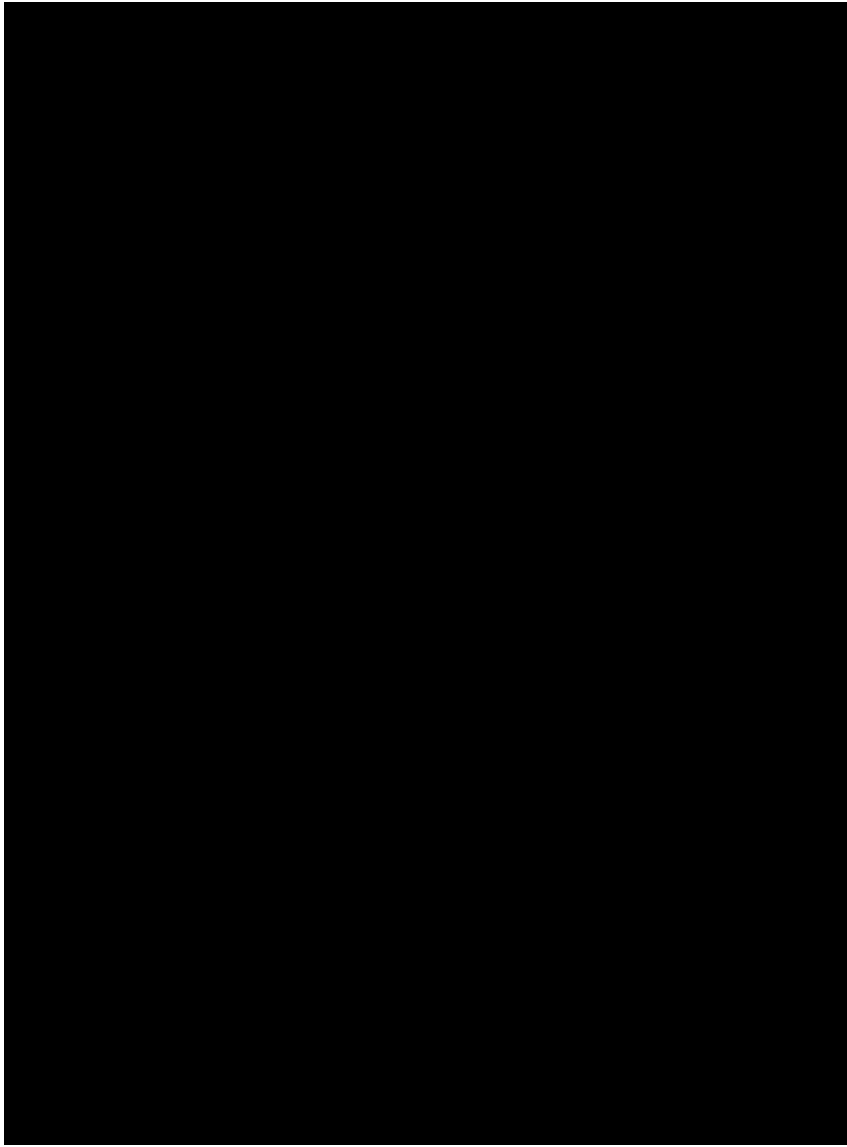


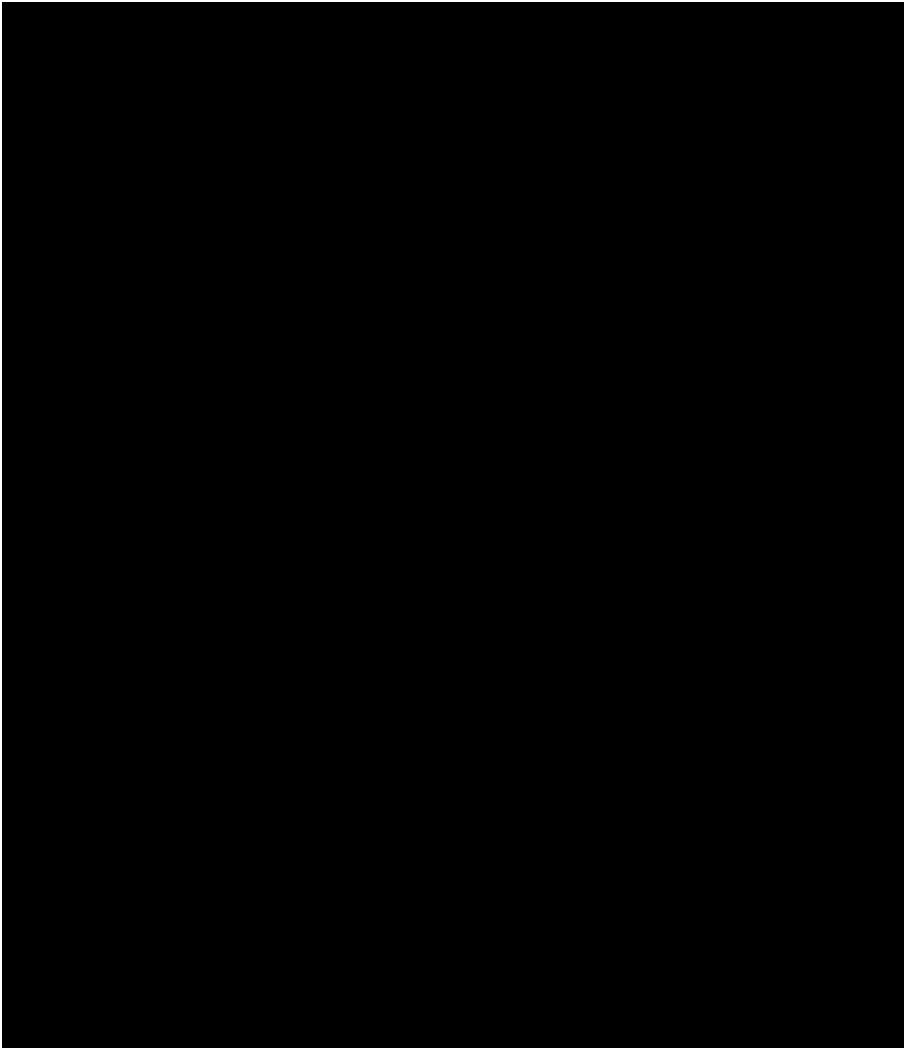


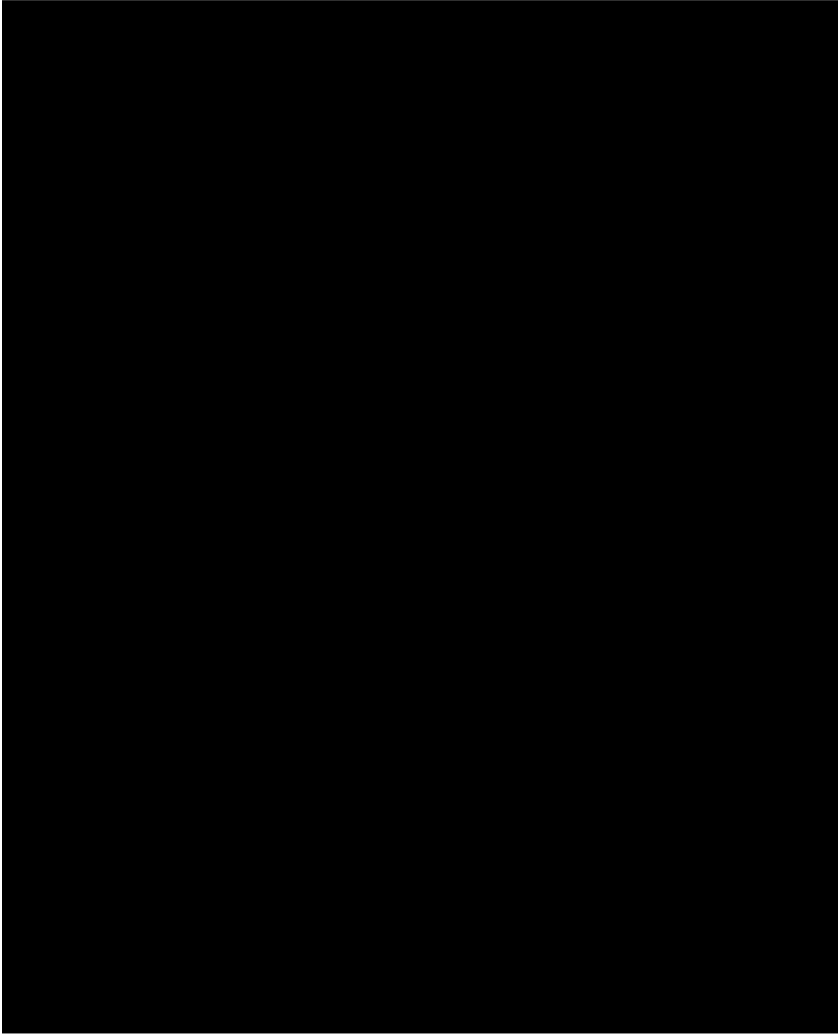


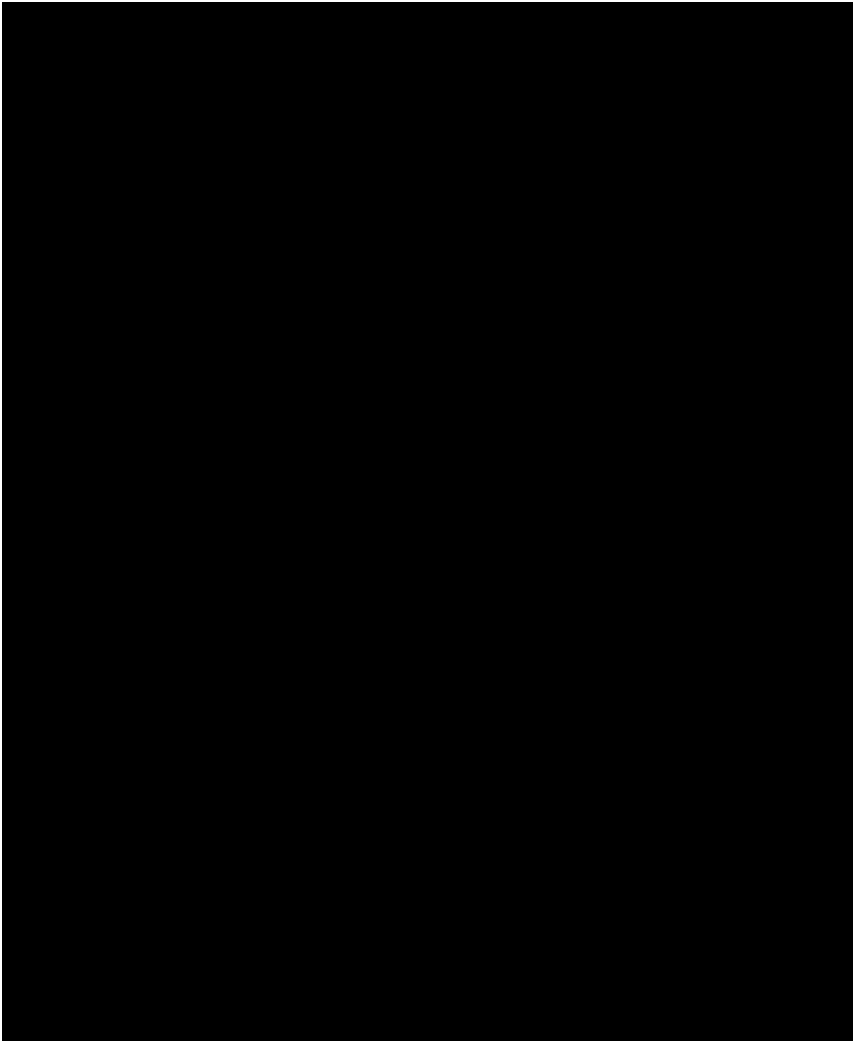


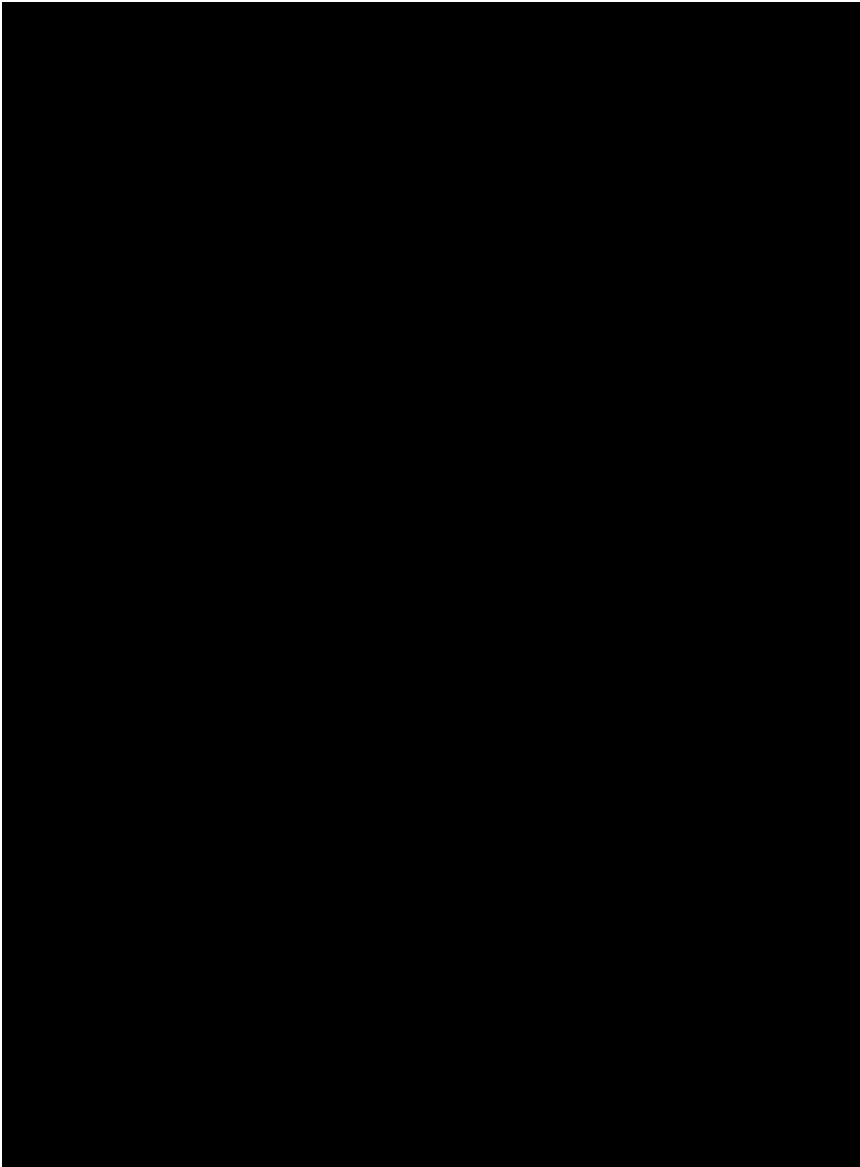


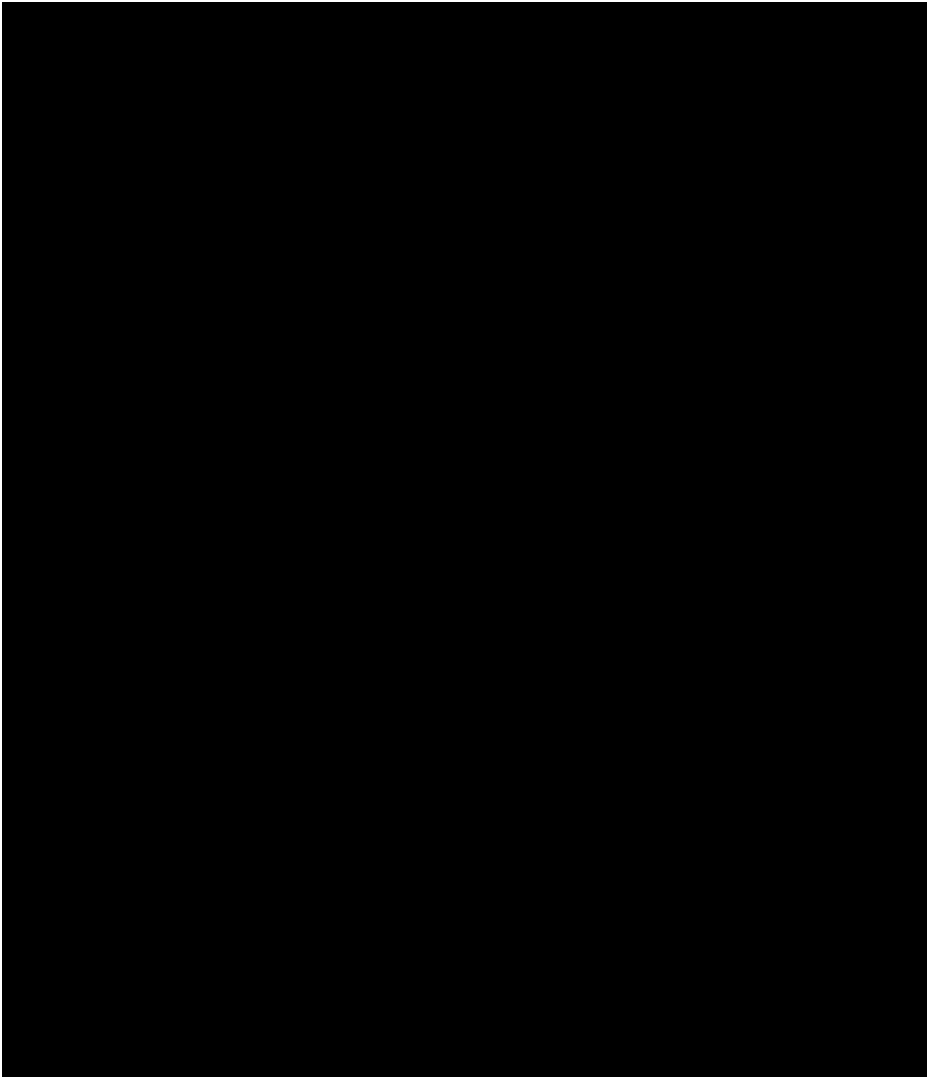


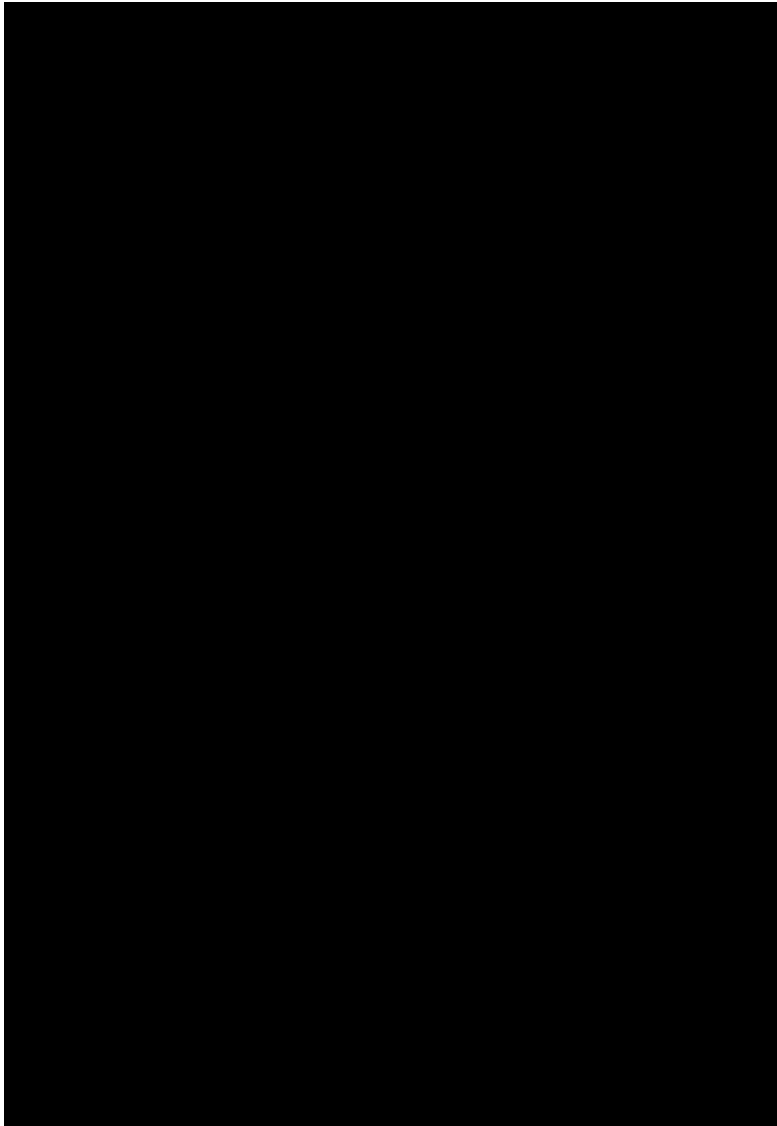


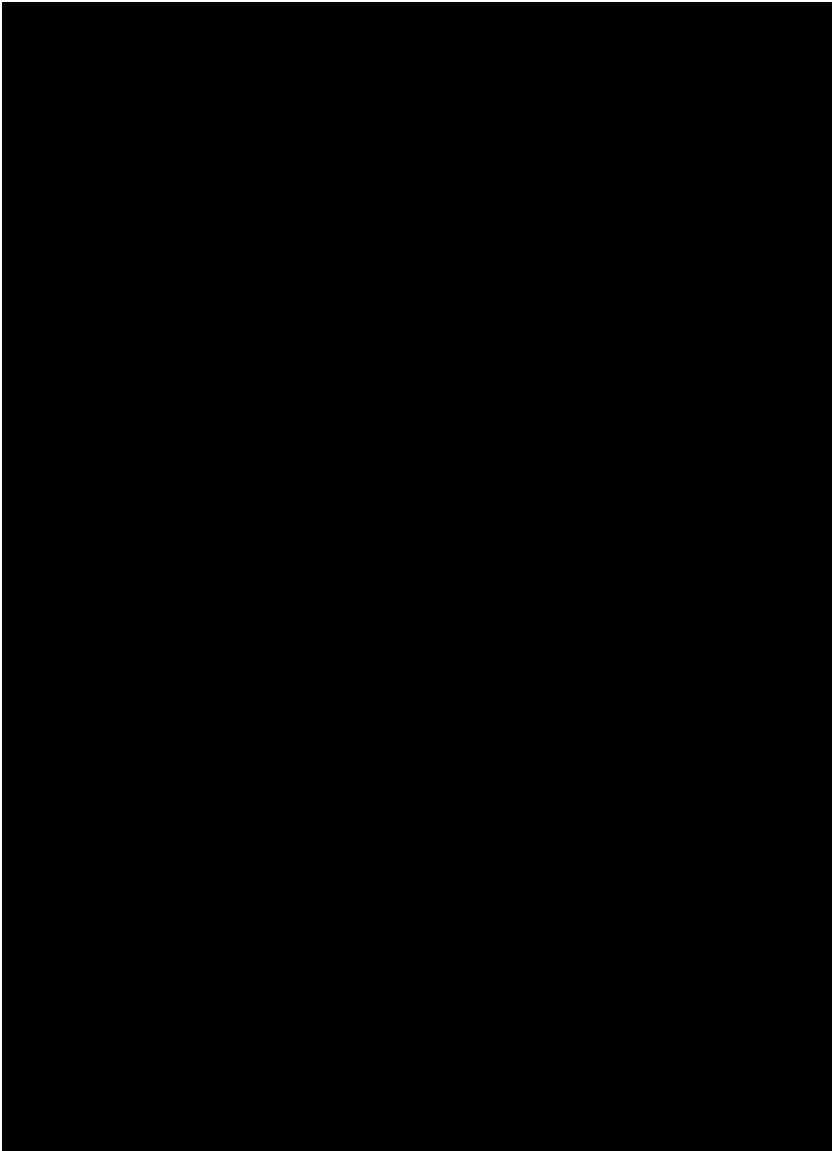


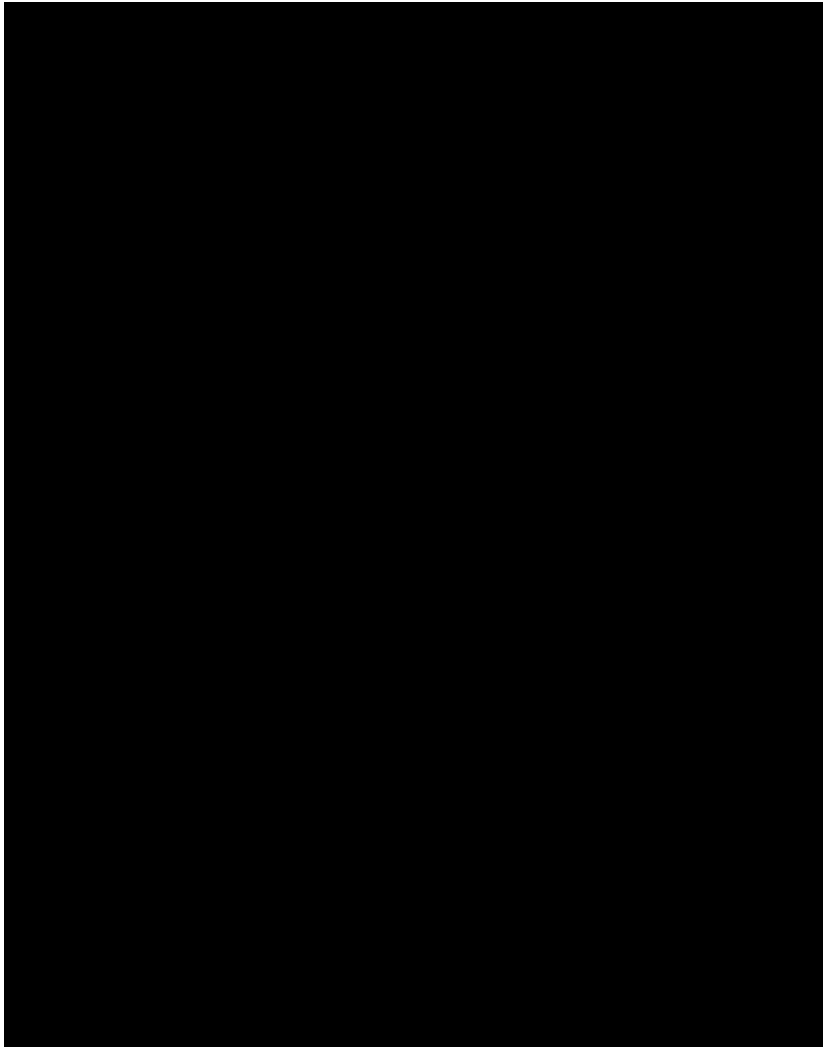


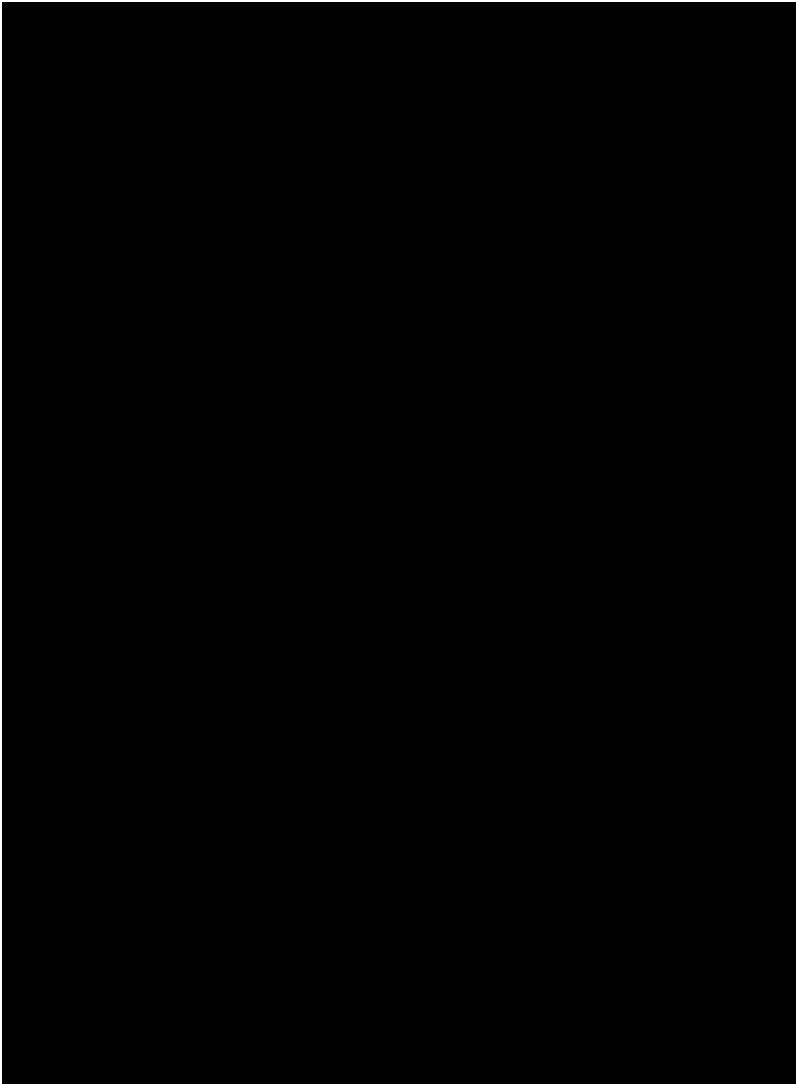


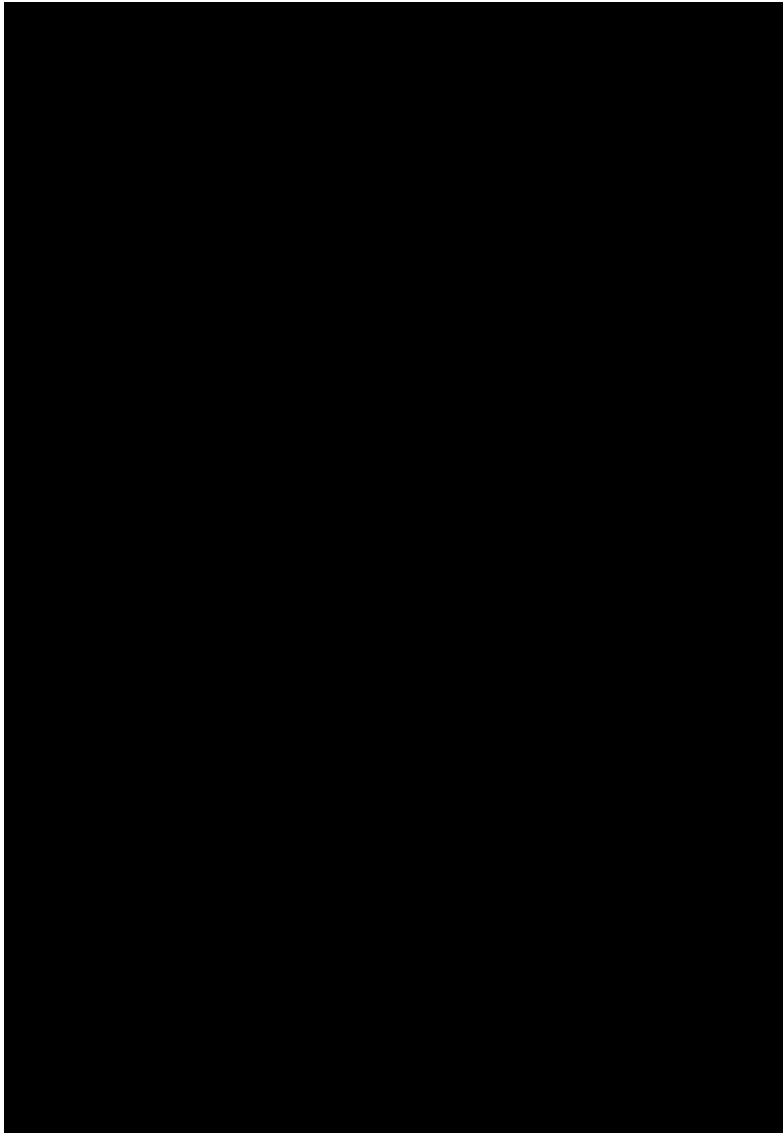


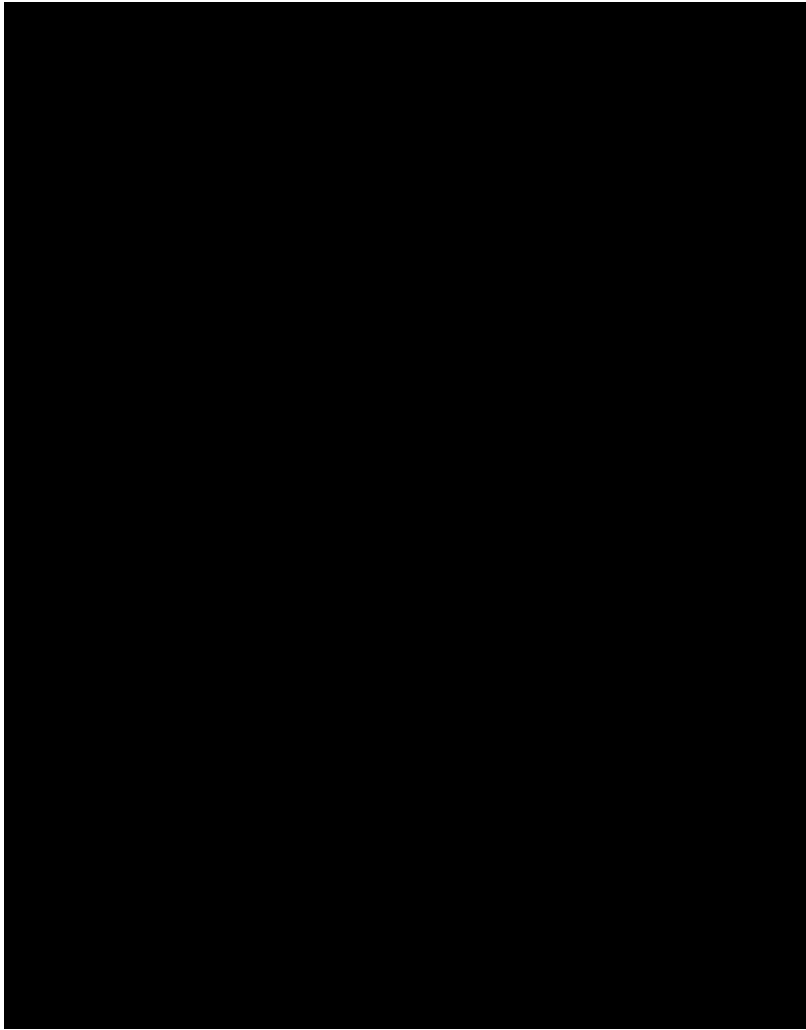










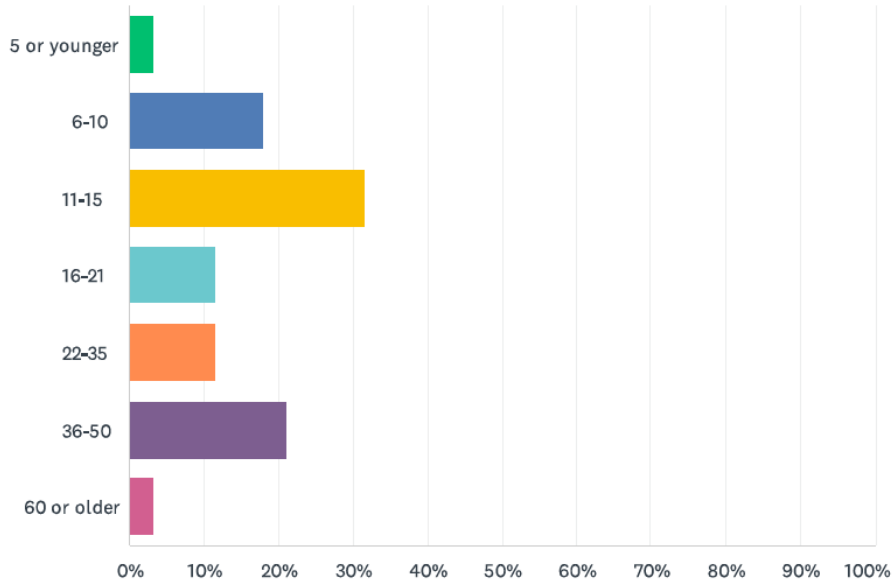


MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Survey Name

Q1 What is your AGE?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



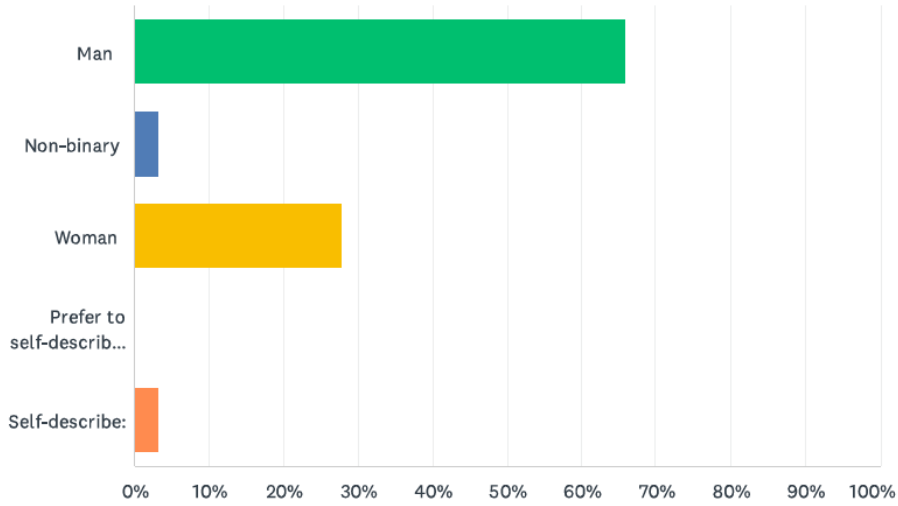
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
5 or younger	3.16% 3
6-10	17.89% 17
11-15	31.58% 30
16-21	11.58% 11
22-35	11.58% 11
36-50	21.05% 20
60 or older	3.16% 3
TOTAL	95

MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Survey Name

Q2 Gender: How do you IDENTIFY?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 1



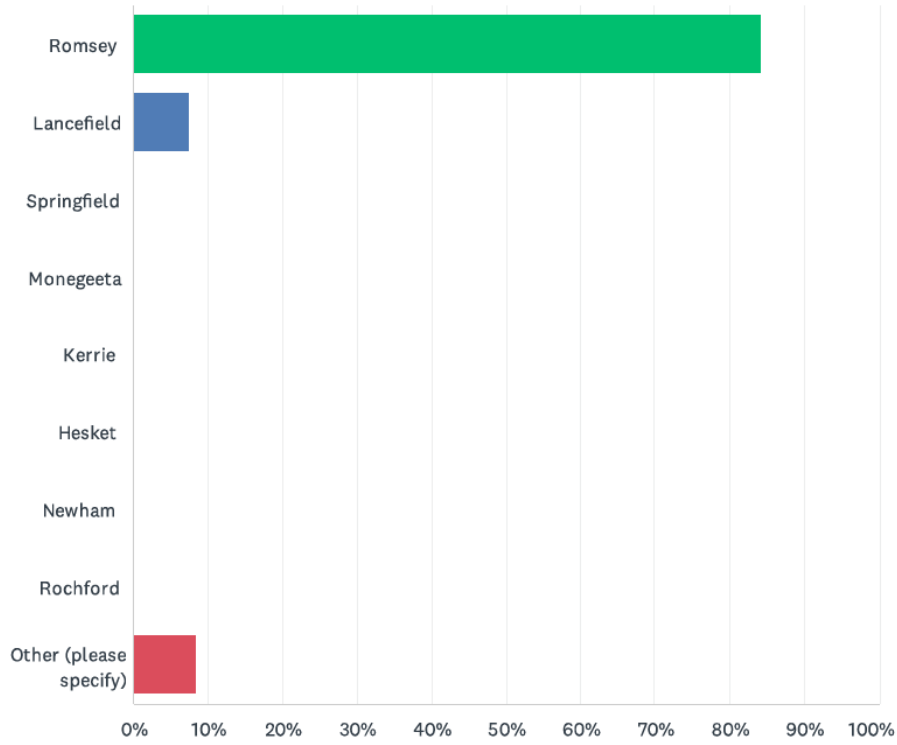
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Man	65.96%	62
Non-binary	3.19%	3
Woman	27.66%	26
Prefer to self-describe, below	0.00%	0
Self-describe:	3.19%	3
TOTAL		94

ROMSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

SurveyMonkey

Q3 Where do you LIVE? (Suburb or City)

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



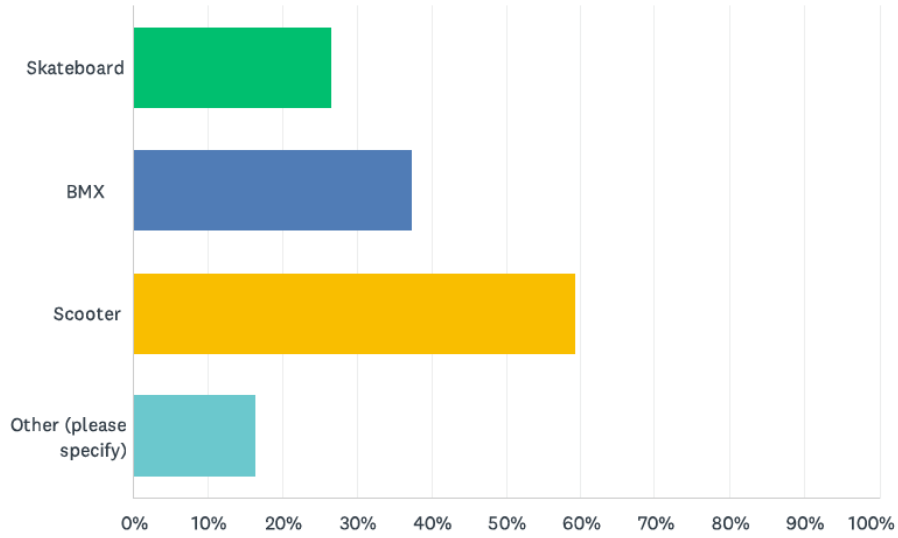
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Romsey	84.21%	80
Lancefield	7.37%	7
Springfield	0.00%	0
Monegeeta	0.00%	0
Kerrie	0.00%	0
Heskett	0.00%	0
Newham	0.00%	0
Rochford	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	8.42%	8
TOTAL		95

MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Survey Name

Q4 What do you RIDE?

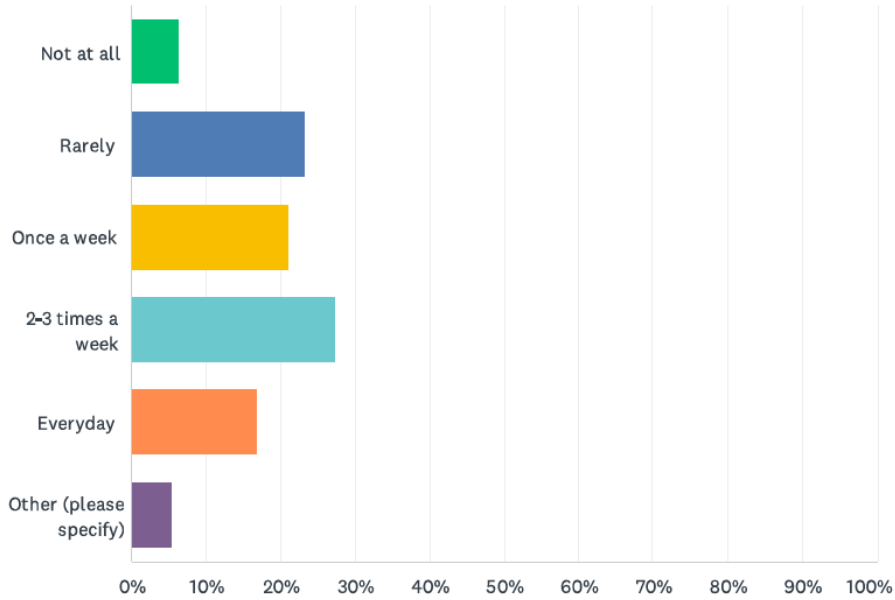
Answered: 91 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Skateboard	26.37% 24
BMX	37.36% 34
Scooter	59.34% 54
Other (please specify)	16.48% 15
Total Respondents: 91	

Q5 How OFTEN do you use the skatepark?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



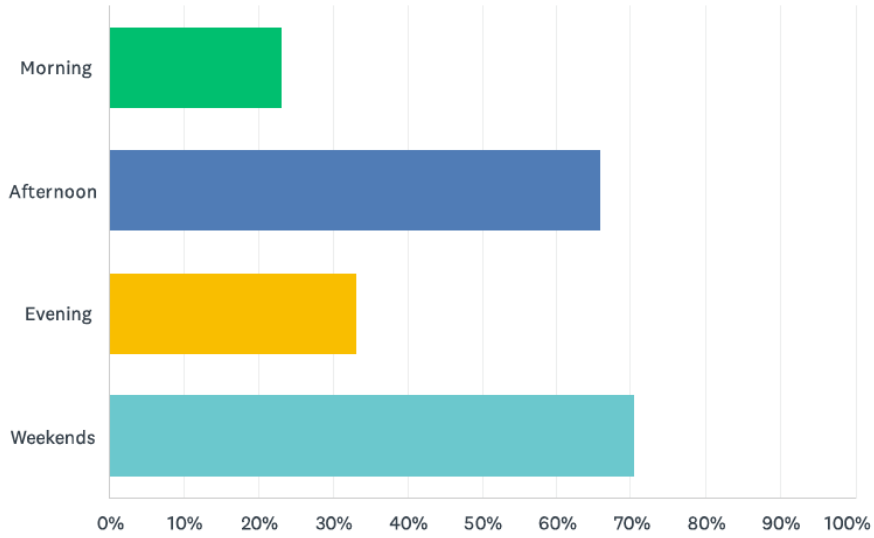
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all	6.32%	6
Rarely	23.16%	22
Once a week	21.05%	20
2-3 times a week	27.37%	26
Everyday	16.84%	16
Other (please specify)	5.26%	5
TOTAL		95

MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Survey Name

Q6 WHEN do you use the skatepark?

Answered: 91 Skipped: 4



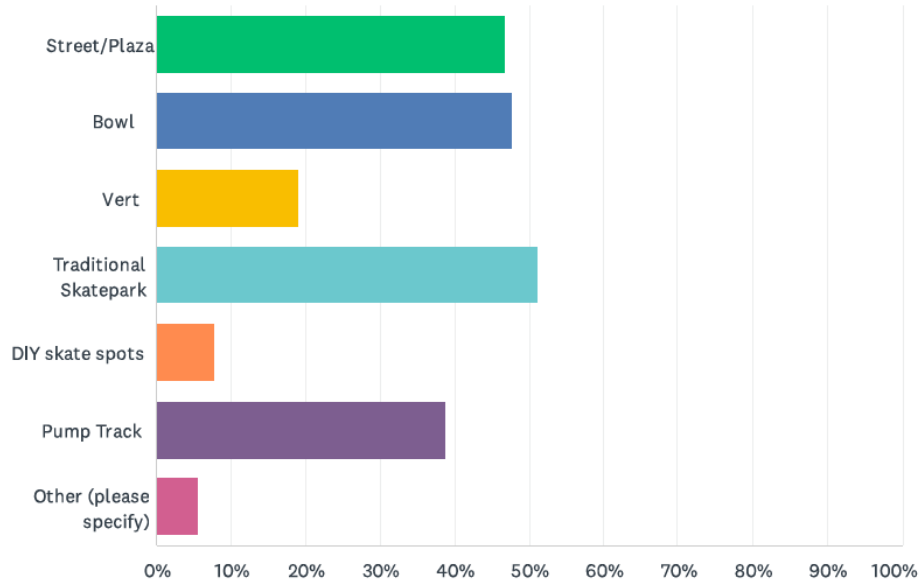
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Morning	23.08%	21
Afternoon	65.93%	60
Evening	32.97%	30
Weekends	70.33%	64
Total Respondents: 91		

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

SurveyMonkey

Q7 What type of TERRAIN do you like?

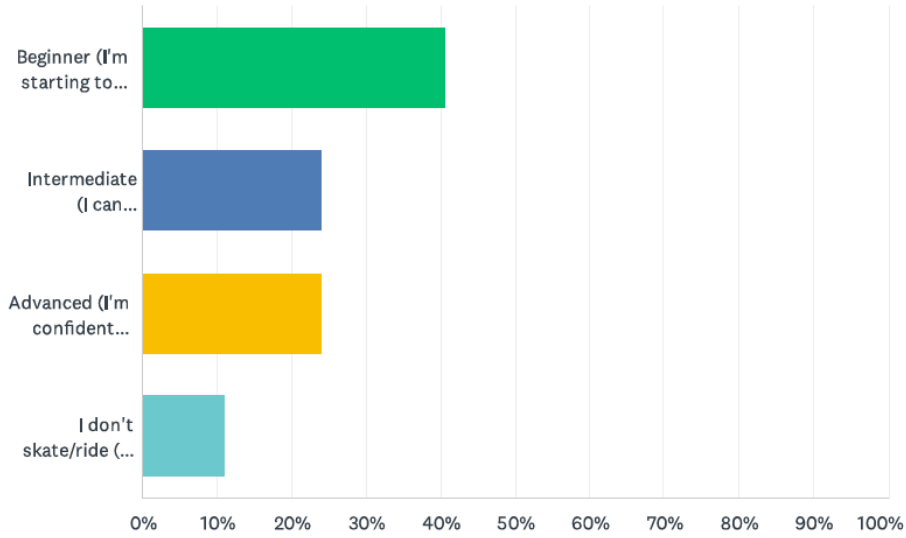
Answered: 90 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Street/Plaza	46.67%	42
Bowl	47.78%	43
Vert	18.89%	17
Traditional Skatepark	51.11%	46
DIY skate spots	7.78%	7
Pump Track	38.89%	35
Other (please specify)	5.56%	5
Total Respondents: 90		

Q8 Rate your SKILL level

Answered: 91 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Beginner (I'm starting to roll around and drop in on small ramps)	40.66%	37
Intermediate (I can air/ollie over hips or slide/grind the ledges and rails)	24.18%	22
Advanced (I'm confident riding and can do several grinds, flips, whips, pump around a bowl, etc.)	24.18%	22
I don't skate/ride (I just use the space to hang out and/or to watch the users)	10.99%	10
TOTAL		91

FOR SET SIX MEETING OF CIVIL

SurveyMonkey

Q9 What do you LIKE about the existing skatepark?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 16

FOR SET SIX MEETING OF CIVIL

SurveyMonkey

Q10 What do you DISLIKE about the existing skatepark?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 13

FOR SET SIX MEETING OF CIVIL

SurveyMonkey

Q11 What does the existing skatepark NEED?

Answered: 84 Skipped: 11

MEMBER SIGNATURES OF SURVEY

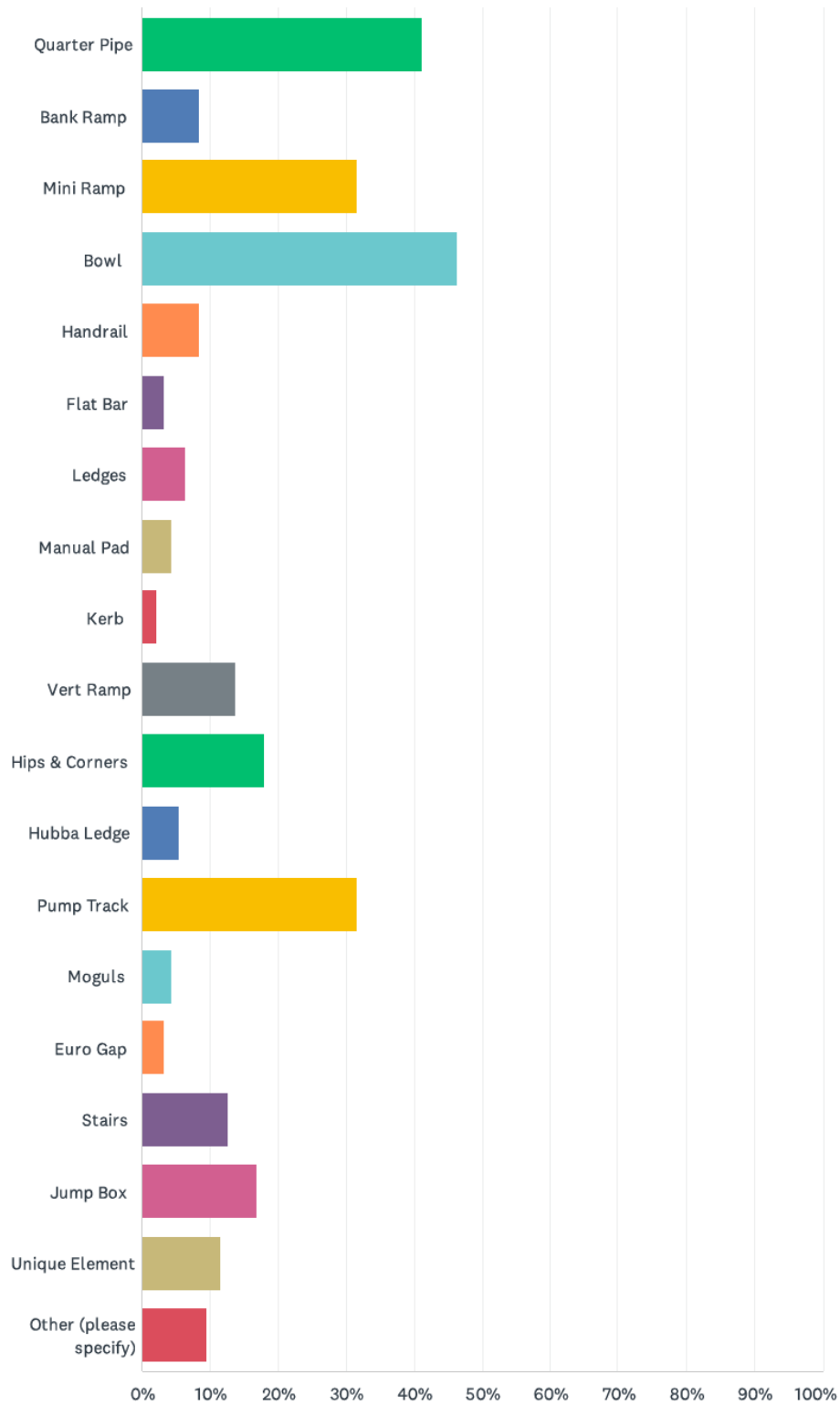
Survey Name

Q12 TOP 3 elements for a NEW skatepark.

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0

NUMBER OF REPAIRS OF GRADE

Survey Name



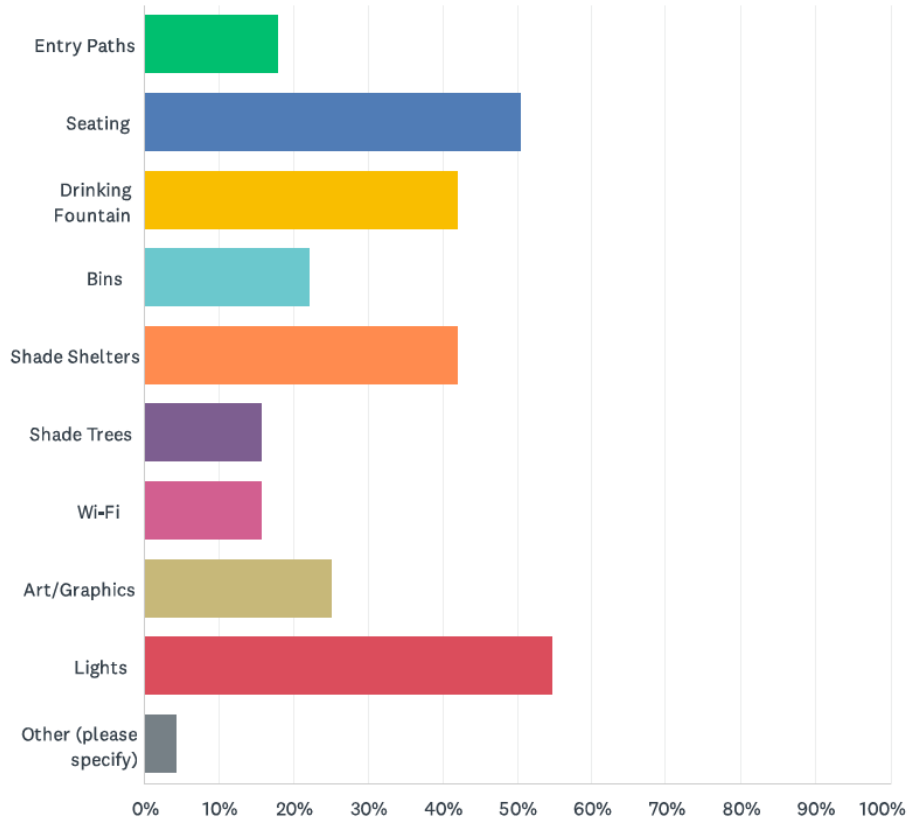
NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS FOR CHOICE

Survey Form No. 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Quarter Pipe	41.05%	39
Bank Ramp	8.42%	8
Mini Ramp	31.58%	30
Bowl	46.32%	44
Handrail	8.42%	8
Flat Bar	3.16%	3
Ledges	6.32%	6
Manual Pad	4.21%	4
Kerb	2.11%	2
Vert Ramp	13.68%	13
Hips & Corners	17.89%	17
Hubba Ledge	5.26%	5
Pump Track	31.58%	30
Moguls	4.21%	4
Euro Gap	3.16%	3
Stairs	12.63%	12
Jump Box	16.84%	16
Unique Element	11.58%	11
Other (please specify)	9.47%	9
Total Respondents: 95		

Q13 TOP 3 things to make the skatepark BETTER?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Entry Paths	17.89%	17
Seating	50.53%	48
Drinking Fountain	42.11%	40
Bins	22.11%	21
Shade Shelters	42.11%	40
Shade Trees	15.79%	15
Wi-Fi	15.79%	15
Art/Graphics	25.26%	24
Lights	54.74%	52
Other (please specify)	4.21%	4
Total Respondents: 95		

FOR SET SIX MEETING OF CIVIL

SurveyMonkey

Q14 Any other ideas that we should consider for a NEW skatepark?

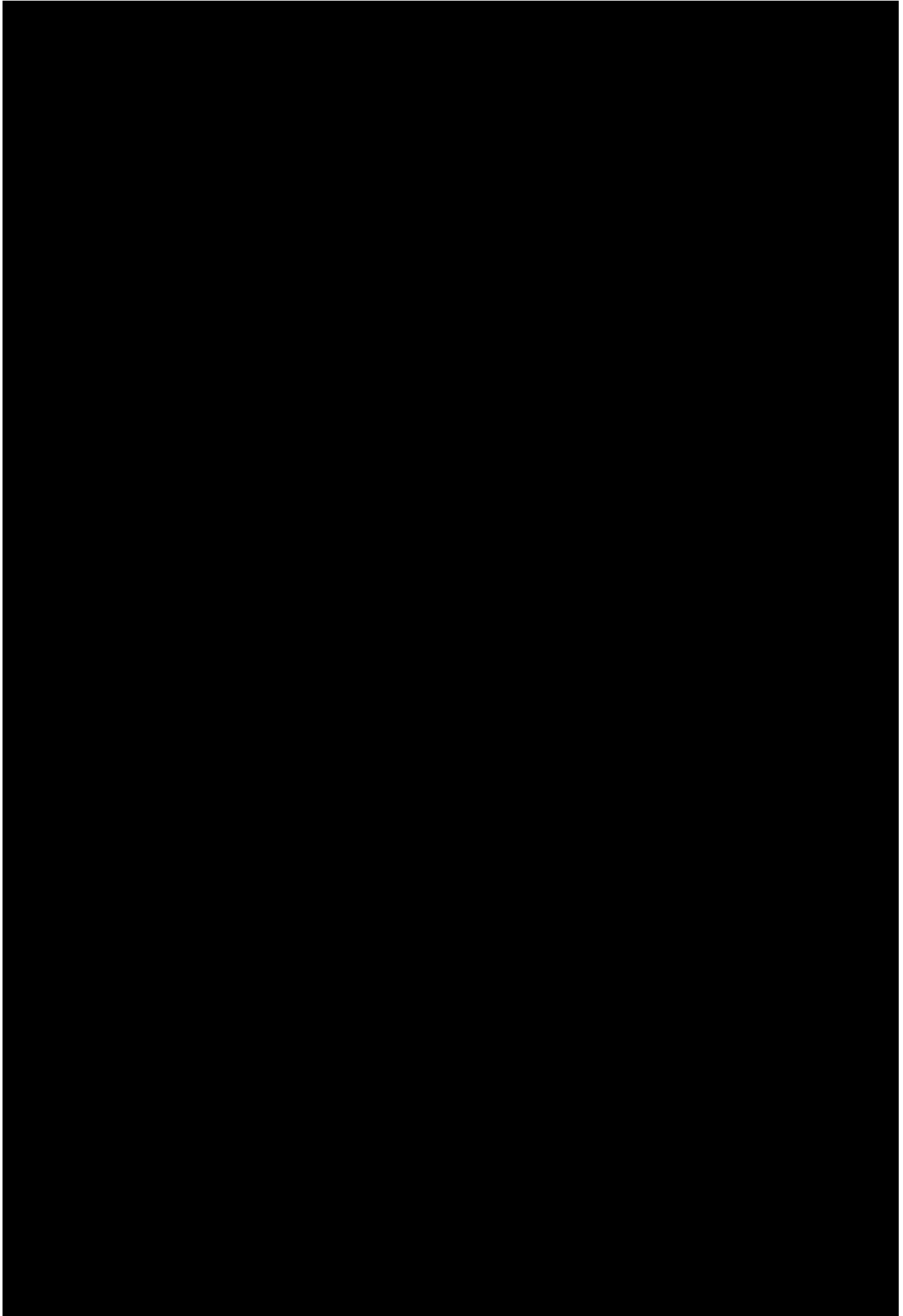
Answered: 58 Skipped: 37

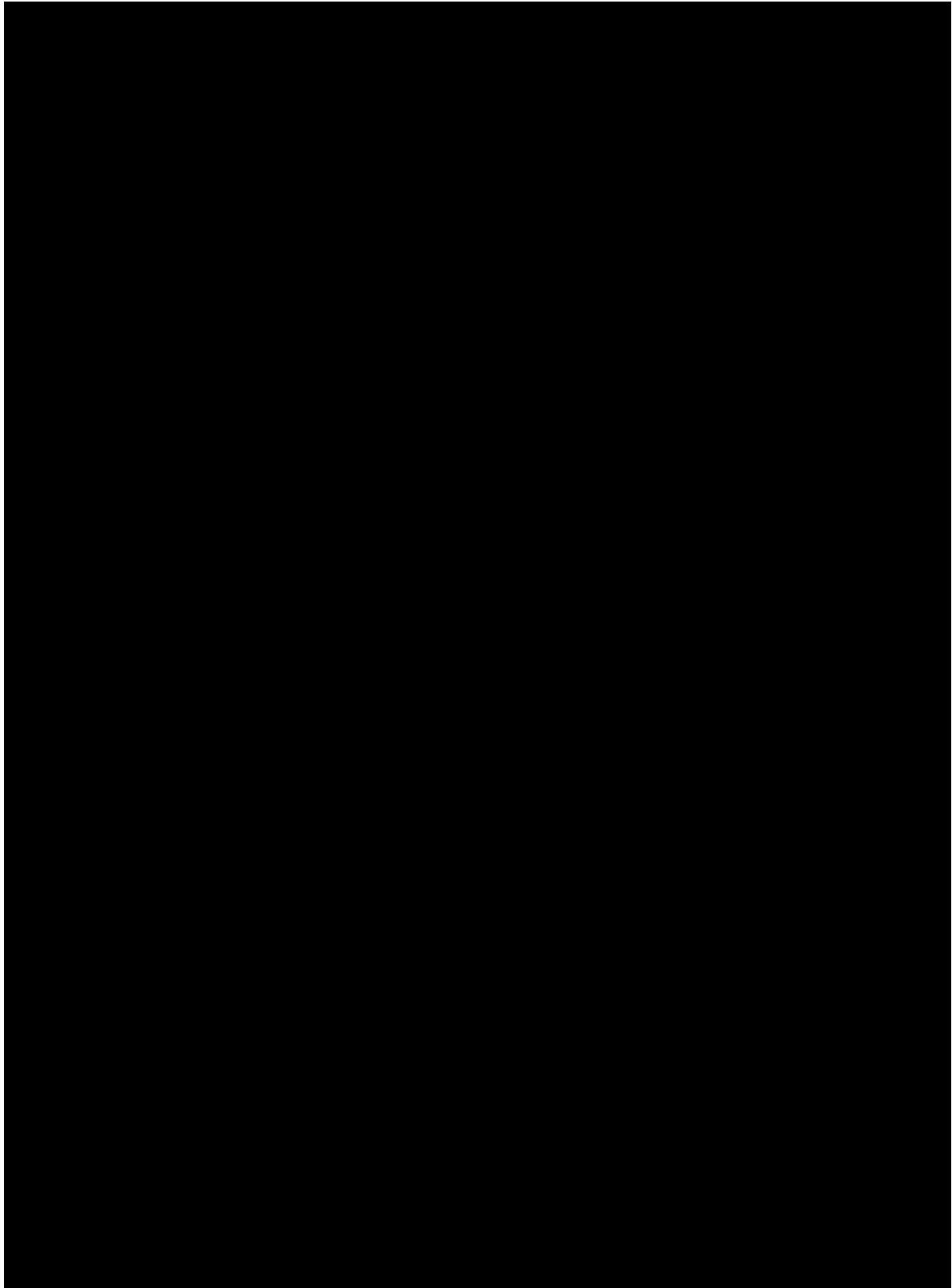
FOR SET SIX MEETING OF CHAIR

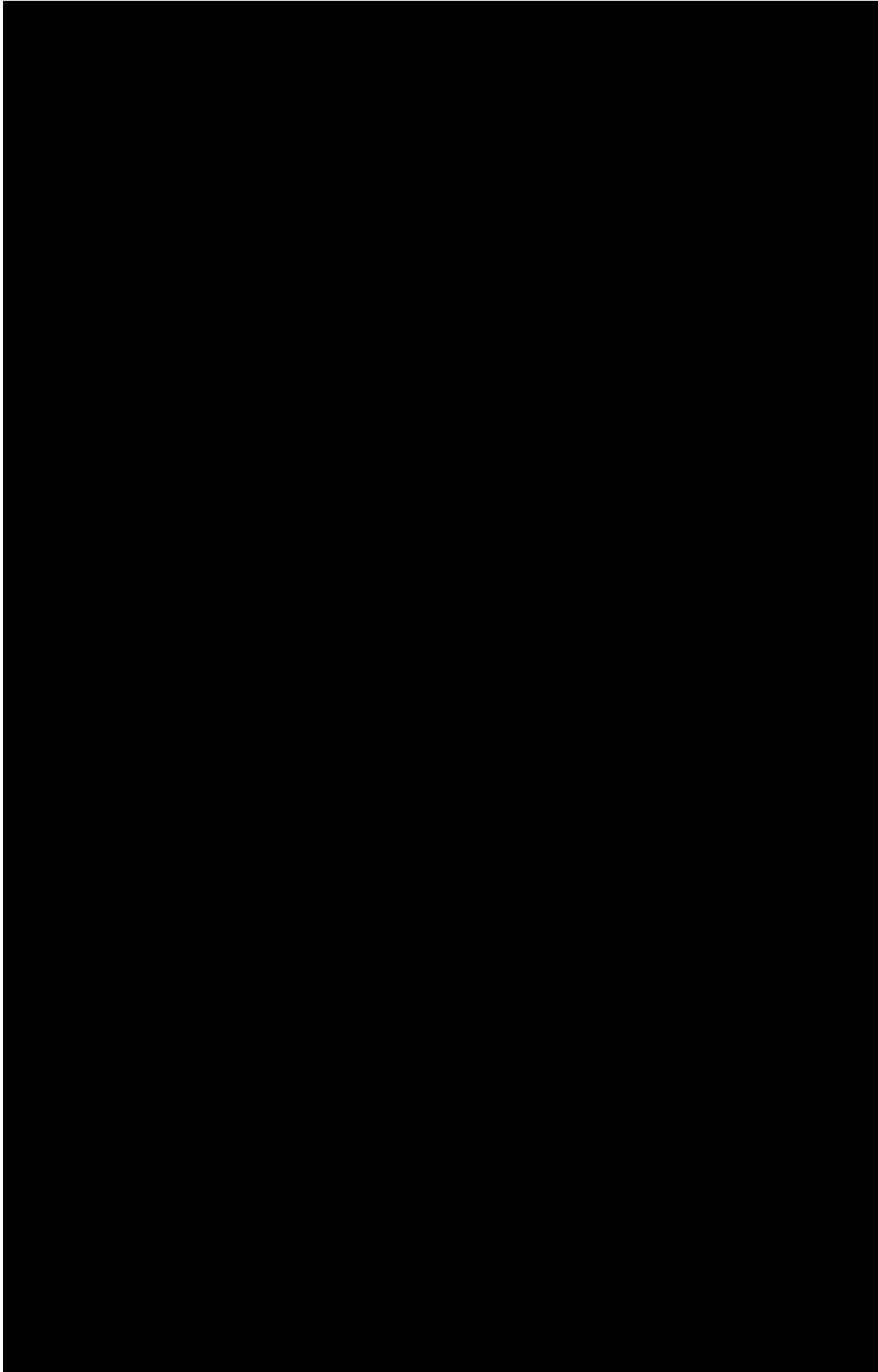
SurveyMonkey

Q15 Want to stay up to date with PROGRESS? Enter your email address below:

Answered: 40 Skipped: 55







From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Draft Budget Submission 2023/2024
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 4:25:26 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[REDACTED] [Draft Budget Submission2023-24.pdf](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached Draft Budget 2023/2024 submission from [REDACTED]

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned for clarification on any points.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

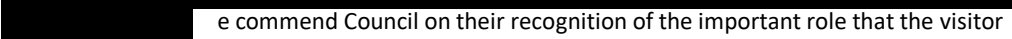


18th May 2023

Macedon Ranges Shire Council
P.O Box 151,
Kyneton. VIC. 3444
via email : mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Draft Budget 2023/2024 Submission



■ e commend Council on their recognition of the important role that the visitor economy plays in the economic sustainability of the Macedon Ranges Shire, and the contribution it makes to the delivering the lifestyle so prized by its residents.

We thank Council for their ongoing support of the Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail Project and the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival. We also thank Council for their ongoing support of the highly successful Macedon Ranges Business Breakfast, a project delivered by ■ Council's support.

We have reviewed the Draft Budget 2023/2024 and make the following comments:

1. Shire-wide Signage Plan

The need for accurate and brand appropriate signage has been recognised in the Macedon Ranges Visitor Economy Strategy 2019 - 2029 and subsequent Visitor Economy Action Plans.


■ propose that a professional Shire-wide Tourism Signage Plan, with a staged and prioritised implementation plan be commissioned. The project would deliver a coordinated plan that complies with regulatory requirements and allows for staged implementation as funding becomes available. Signage throughout the Shire would have a consistent look and feel and be updated in line with current brand pillars. With a masterplan in place, funding can be sourced for implementation.

We note in the Draft Budget that Council will seek external funding to "*improve signage/way finding within our town business centres*". We propose that this should be part of a Shire-wide project for the reasons outlined above, with funding through internal and external sources to develop the plan.

2. Autumn Festival – Strategic Plan

■ commends Council for their support of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival and recognizes the time and resourcing challenges this event places on their Visitor Economy Team.

While the high visitation over autumn is not a result of Council's actions, it has required Council to develop an Autumn Leaves Management Plan to ensure a safe environment for visitors and residents. The Festival was developed as one measure to help attract visitors away from Macedon/Mount Macedon, relieve pressure on this area, and provide benefit to other areas in the Shire.





The annual Festival and Autumn Leaves Management funding and operational management is essential. The current annual planning cycle fails to address the larger issues required to cater for the future growth and sustainability of the Festival, and manage the inevitable growth in autumn visitation.

█ propose that a Strategic Plan is developed for the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival, that also considers the Autumn Leaves Management Plan, with a view to evolving the festival for the long-term benefit of the community.

3. Vibrant Villages

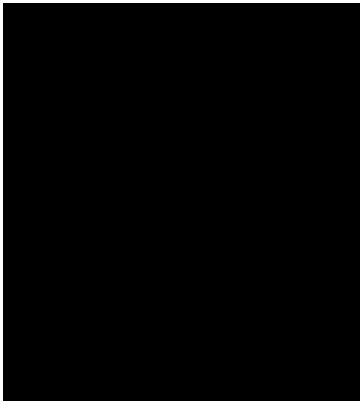
Our villages are facing challenges from rapid growth pressures, aging infrastructure, and deteriorating streetscaping and appearance. Businesses are struggling with post COVID operational issues such as rising costs, lack of staff, and burnout. These issues are impacting our communities.

Thriving townships, great main streets, and township infrastructure have all been highlighted in the Macedon Ranges Economic Development Strategy 2021 – 2031. To ensure that the villages of the Macedon Ranges can thrive in to the future work needs to start now on a plan to address these issues.

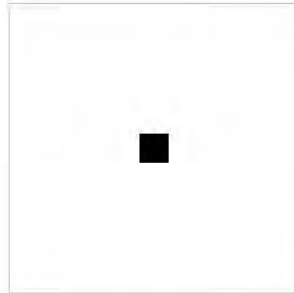
█ proposes that a Council-led project is undertaken in 2023/24 to scope a strategic ‘Vibrant Villages Plan’ for the Macedon Ranges. Funding to deliver this project may be available from the State Government to support their regional growth targets imposed on Council.

We respectfully request Council’s consideration of █ proposals for the 2023/2024 budget. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned for further information. A representative of █ would be happy to present in support of our submission

Yours sincerely,



From: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply](#)
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget 2023/24 submission
Date: Friday, 19 May 2023 4:48:06 PM
Attachments: [IMG_4283.jpg](#)
[REDACTED] [_submission MRSC budget 23-24.pdf](#)



Draft Budget 2023/24 submission

Have your say	
Please share your feedback.	Please find uploaded the submission [REDACTED] to the MRSC draft budget 2023-24.
If you would prefer, you can also upload a written submission here	IMG_4283.jpg IMG_4288.jpg _submission MRSC budget 23-24.pdf
Tell us about you	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Do you wish to speak at the Submitters Delegated Committee Meeting on 31 May in regards to your submission?	Yes
How did you find out about this?	Council's website

Friday 19th May 2023

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] participate in the submission process as part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) draft budget for 2023-24. The [REDACTED] welcomes the opportunity to work with the MRSC on providing the people of the Macedon Ranges and surrounding communities with a safe, inclusive, and accessible sporting facility that meets the diverse needs of the local and broader community.

Background to the submission:

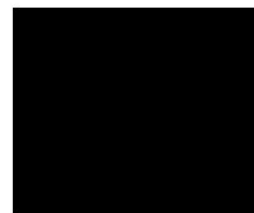
[REDACTED] a thriving and inclusive club that is focused on growing its membership and offering a range of sporting and recreational opportunities for people of all ages, cultures, and abilities. The club is well represented in both junior, open-age and mixed-gender competitions in the [REDACTED], with up to 15 teams competing for [REDACTED] pennants each season, and with matches played at the club on Thursdays and Saturdays. The club is entering teams next season in the [REDACTED] with matches to be played at the club on Tuesdays.

The club also hosts social competitions on Tuesday nights where currently 16 teams are participating, with each team having 3-5 players.

The [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] constitutes clubs from across the Macedon Ranges and surrounding shires, including the shires of Mitchell, Hume City Council, Moorabool, and Melton City Council. Each week up to 6 MRTA tennis matches are played at the KDTC, with as many as 24 players from other tennis clubs, accompanying visitors such as parents or carers and partners, as well as spectators, attending the venue and using the club facilities. On a regular Saturday morning, there are 3 matches scheduled that includes a minimum of 24 players and their parents or carers. It is typical for toddlers and young children, as well as elderly grandparents, to also be in attendance at these matches.

Coaching occurs at the club on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings. Sessions are accessible to individuals of all ages and abilities, who generally live, study or work within the Macedon Ranges and surrounding areas. Junior coaching sessions are at capacity with three courts utilised and up to 18 children participating in each timeslot, with several timeslots running from 3:50pm to 7pm. Cardio tennis occurs on Thursdays from 7pm-8pm and is well attended and attracts a range of people whose main aim is to improve their fitness and create social connections in a fun, tennis themed atmosphere.

In summary, the [REDACTED] often a busy place with many people using the tennis courts and club facilities, either as players, coaches, committee members, parents and carers of junior players,



spectators, and other visitors. The club is a central sporting facility that brings together people from communities across the Macedon Ranges and surrounding areas. Access to the club is either via a sand path or a bitumen car park. Both means of access pose health and safety risks to the community, and either hinder or prevent community members from attending the club and taking advantage of its facilities, and sporting and recreational opportunities.

The submission:

██████████ proposes that the current means of access to the venue is addressed in the 2023-34 council budget, so that the club can progress forward with its mission to offer a safe, inclusive, and accessible sporting facility that meets the diverse needs of, and brings together, the people of the Macedon Ranges community and surrounding areas.

As included on page 19 of the draft budget, pathway works are required to be undertaken at ██████████ to provide safe access to the clubhouse and the courts. This work aligns directly to the Council Plan and will achieve the delivery of the strategic objective of connecting communities.

The current sand pathway from Victoria Street to the entrance gate does not meet required accessibility standards nor does it provide safe access to the sporting facilities. This is evident as most visitors, including children and families, enter the club via the carpark. The club is also aware of individuals who have slipped, tripped, and fallen on the sand path while attempting to access the club.

Further to this, there is currently no pathway from the clubhouse to courts 1 to 6, nor appropriate pathing for viewing tennis next to courts 1-4. As per the attached photographs, the entire area between the clubhouse and courts 1-4 turns to mud in the Winter months or after heavy rain. This makes the area hazardous for visitors to navigate, and hazardous for players when accessing the courts to play their matches. It also reduces community participation as the hazardous nature of the venue and courts (mud is transferred from shoes to the courts, making the courts slippery) mean that certain members of the community cannot safely access the venue, including individuals of older age and those with a physical disability.

A simple concrete path from Victoria Street into and around the facility, supported by appropriate drainage would immediately alleviate this issue.

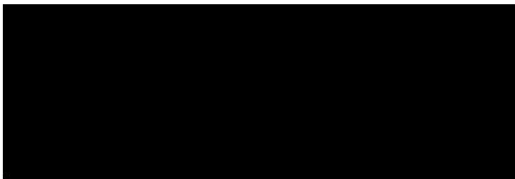
The ██████████ estimated that the cost of this work would be approximately \$160.00 per lineal meter of concrete, based on a quote provided by a local contractor. The club proposes the following pathways are suitably funded by Council in the 2023-34 budget to ensure that the club continues to offer a safe, inclusive, and accessible sporting facility to the Macedon Ranges community and surrounding areas.

Concrete pathway from Victoria Street alongside courts 7-10 to the entrance gate (89 metres)
Concrete pathway from the club entrance gate to the ramp (15 metres)
Concrete pathway from the ramp to court 1 (18 metres)
Concrete pathway from the club entrance gate to courts 5/6 (27 metres)
Concrete pathway from the club entrance around the front of the clubhouse (5 metres)



If these funds are allocated to the club in the 2023-24 budget, [REDACTED] will work with Council to ensure the work is undertaken in a timely manner and to the agreed scope.

The club appreciates the support Council provides to community groups and sporting organisations such as [REDACTED], and we value the strong partnership between Council and the club in building strong social connections between communities across the Macedon Ranges and surrounding areas.







From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [Bernie O'Sullivan](#)
Subject: 2023/2024 Budget Submission
Date: Sunday, 21 May 2023 9:41:48 PM
Attachments: [2023-24 Budget Submission - \[REDACTED\].pdf](#)

Dear Mr. O'Sullivan,

Attached please find the budget submission from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please note that I would also like the opportunity to present my submission to Councillors and Officers at the appropriate Council Meeting.

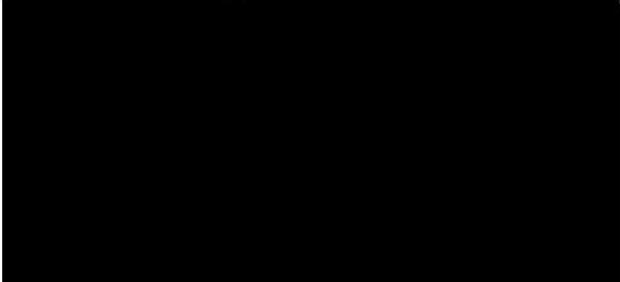
Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]




19th May, 2023

Mr Bernie O'Sullivan,
Mayor and Councillors,
Macedon Ranges Shire Council,
P.O. Box 151,
Kyneton Vic. 3444



**Submission to complete the Ash Wednesday Park Master Plan
Additional Funding Allocation in the 2023-24 Shire Budget**

Dear Councillors,



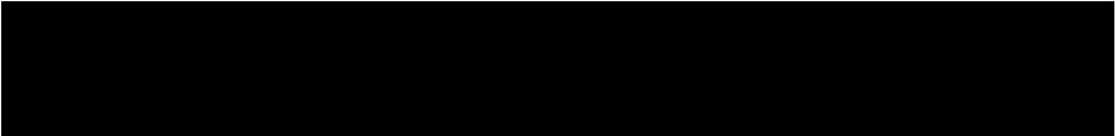
I present supporting reasons and documents to assist Councillors with their decision.

History

The 2022/2023 Budget Submission is summarised by the following main points,

- There was an allocation of \$50k for works in the 2019/2020 Budget that has been used to fund part of the 'Stage 1' (Short Term Package 1) of the Ash Wednesday Park Masterplan (AWP). The AWP works has been partially completed.
- A further \$100K of funding for "Stage 1 (Short Term Package 2)" was allocated towards the project in the 2021/2022 Budget.
- MMBBATA completed the Flying Fox component at Ash Wednesday Park with monies sourced from funding by Bendigo Bank

Submission

- This submission requests Council commits to allocating all funds needed, to complete all works of the AWP, in the 2023/2024 Budget in order that we can facilitate the completion of the balance of works that are defined in the Masterplan. These funds could be sourced from the South Ward Public Open Space Fund Reserve which was specifically established to pay for projects such as Ash Wednesday Park.
 - Funding could also be sourced from other Budget reserves for 'MRSC Asset Improvements' for existing infrastructure and/or included in any infrastructure funding
- 

- [REDACTED] has not been able to ascertain the full Scope of Works that have been completed because we have requested a reconciliation of works done and previously allocated budget monies which is yet to be advised to our group.

The following reasons are provided in support of the budget submission,

1. (a) The AWP project was first supported by the Gisborne Shire Council on 6th January 1988.
(b) The project has the support of the community and volunteer groups including the Lions Club.
(c) Community funds, grants and donations allowed Ash Wednesday Park to come to life by a resilient Community to provide ongoing activities and recreational opportunities for future generations.
(d) It has always been our goal for the full implementation of the AWP Masterplan by February 2023 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the devastation that occurred in the Macedon and Mount Macedon townships and a memorial to those that lost their lives.
(e) We note that the CEO, Councillors and the various Council departments have supported and committed to achieve as much of the AWP Masterplan by the 40th Anniversary date of February 2023.
2. Ash Wednesday Park was an initiative of the Community to assist the economy, tourism and community moving as one, after the Ash Wednesday bushfire disaster.
3. The Landscape Master Plan aligns with Council Plan priorities
 - (a) A 'High Priority' in MRSC Open Space Strategy since 2013,
 - (b) The MRSC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2018-2028 outlines a key direction of the Macedon and Mt. Macedon district is to "...continue to work with space/community hub (e.g. multipurpose stage, amphitheatre, picnic area and a play space)"
 - (c) The Playground Strategy 2009-2014 classifies Ash Wednesday Park as a district level playground and further identifies that, "... opportunity exists to diversify the play experience with the addition of some senior play equipment.."
 - (d) Note: The Officer recommendation when the draft Ash Wednesday Master Plan was approved at the Council meeting of 23 October, 2019 highlighted the points 5(a)(b)(c).
4. The 'Shared Trail Project' is progressing to fruition which will provide another link to the recreational facilities of AWP being only metres from the 'Shared Trail Route' We note that funding for Shared Trail project has been allocated from three of the Public Open Space Reserve funds.

Conclusion

Since 1988 Council has had this project endorsed but only in recent years was a Masterplan completed although the Masterplan was listed as a high priority in 2013 by Council. Our group was promised that all works would be completed by the 40th Anniversary of the Ash Wednesday bushfire that decimated the area. Although the completion of the Scope of Works for the AWP has not come to fruition after a long 40 years, we ask that Councillors make this happen.

[REDACTED]

Ash Wednesday Park is deserving of the balance of funding to enhance the tourism experience of visitors to the district and promote activities for community wellness as well as play an integral part during the annual Autumn Leaves Festival and many other Macedon district events.

The Park being within walking distance of the Macedon village and railway station, as well as part of the Shared Trail route, it will enhance the economic, social and health benefits for present and future activity of the local villages.

We urge you to support our Submission and further commit to budget funding to ensure that this project is completed in its entirety. Many millions of dollars have been allocated to other new projects such as the Gisborne Sports Fields and precinct and the Shared Trail project. Council need to step up and stop stalling this important local (and existing asset) much needed Park.

The draft 2023/2024 budget papers show monies for the Gisborne Fields project sourced from the South Ward Reserve. Now that the Gisborne Fields project has been stalled because of Contractor financial problems these funds from the South Ward Reserves could be redirected to the Ash Wednesday Park project to be completed.

Note: [REDACTED] was recently advised by MRSC officers in control of the works at AWP that works approved in the Masterplan were altered and reduced because funding (after 2 years) fell short. We have requested reconciliation and a meeting but to date this has not occurred. It is disturbing that Council Officers decide on a community approved project that they can reduce the works and yet provide no feedback or any transparency, let alone community consultation. This type of action is not conducive to Council/Community relationship of working together.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me or our Secretary Mr. Peter Shaw.

I thank you for the opportunity of this submission, and would like the further opportunity to present the [REDACTED] Submission at a future full Council Meeting.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft Budget
Date: Monday, 22 May 2023 4:05:20 AM
Attachments: [Director Corporate Sevices - Draft Budget 2023-24.docx](#)

To whom it may concern
Please find attached my submission for the MRSC draft Budget 2023-2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Director Corporate Services
Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Kyneton Vic 3444
mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

18th May 2023

To Whom it may concern.

I appreciate this opportunity to have my say on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Draft Budget 2023-24

I only wish to address the following items.

2.2 Strategic objective 2

Healthy environment, healthy people.

Wellbeing – page 25

I note that council intends to continue focusing on the mental well being children and adults within the shire.

I am concerned that not all residents will be included in these programs given that in 2022, the Community Wellbeing department ran a session in Woodend for residents that had been affected by Covid and the recent storms, they were concerned about the mental health of those affected. A psychologist was also to be present to help attendees on that evening. However, Council seems to have overlooked a group of residents that have had their mental health significantly compromised every year since 2012 and then this situation escalated even more from 2015 onwards. I am referring the Council's much desired Autumn Leaves. These activities have impacted on residents profoundly, many valued long- term residents have left, as they could no longer stand living here due to the unauthorized activities of the properties that started commercial ventures, we were never been consulted. Council needs to consider our metal health and to take steps to protect us.

Environment

This section states, "Guide and support Council and the community to develop and implement policies, strategies and plans, to achieve innovative sustainable practices, and manage and enhance Councils **Bushland reserves**, waterways and roadsides".

In 2021, the State Government adopted the recommendations in **C126macr**. This included the rezoning of seven MRSC Bushland Reserves to PCRZ, Public Conservation Resource Zone. The reserves that were rezoned are:

1. Black Hill Conservation Reserve
2. Barringo Conservation Reserve
3. Stanley Park Conservation Reserve
4. Magnet Hill Conservation Reserve
5. Mount Gisborne Conservation Reserve
6. Malmsbury Common Conservation Reserve
7. Sandy Creek Conservation Reserve

Bald Hill and Hobbs Road were excluded from C126 due to pollution issues.

I request that Council amend the above statement, exclude the wording **Bushland Reserves** from their statement and replace it with **Conservation Reserve**. Also, note that **Bald Hill** and **Hobbs Road** are still listed as Bushland Reserves.

2.3 Strategic objectives 3 Business & Tourism

Major

Continue funding Autumn Festival \$70,00.00

I strongly object to the Council continuing to waste rate payers rates on this debacle which you continually refer to as "Autumn Leaves Festival".

I am only commenting on the "Autumn Leaves" at Macedon and Mount Macedon.

██████████ I have experienced this debacle, which commenced in earnest in 2012 with a number of gardens opening seven days a week. There has never been a consultation process for planning permits to allow these property owners to conduct these businesses and they are businesses, they have ABN numbers. They started as open gardens, private, then changed into wedding ceremonies and photography and the next stage was wedding ceremonies, photography and full wedding reception with generators and rock bands all night and as always, Council turned a blind eye. Council always turned a blind eye and never considered the impact on the neighbours. On one occasion, I had two weddings and a function over three consecutive days, were we entitled to object, no, Council turned a blind eye. Two properties, Duneira and Alton both went through consultation, planning processes, vcat and obtained permits, they are the only ones who went through consultations. The other gardens, Forest Glade, Tieve Tara, Cameron Lodge and View Field have never been through this process. Council has shown a strong bias against residents and continue to waste money improving our two towns for the benefit of toxic tourists that do not give a hoot about our towns, council traffic regulations, trespassing signs and parking. There has also been a marked amount of car exhaust pollution noticed at Mount Macedon from the very heavy traffic.

This last Autumn showed just what a debacle this whole period was and the impact it had on residents. Councils plans failed miserably. There were major traffic issues everywhere, trespassing, still, wedding photography in peoples front yards, no permission not even the courtesy of asking, they don't care. One unfortunate resident found a tourist in her house using her toilet. Another resident was refused access to her property on the Avenue even though she had an Avenue pass. The Avenue pass is a joke, it looks like a tourist post card, not something that represents a legal document designed by a Local Laws department, there is no Council Logo.



Over recent years, I have noticed that Google regularly list some of the Mount Macedon Gardens as being a public park.

In just the last two weeks, a large sign has appeared on the front gate of Forest Glade stating that: see below pictures.



This is the new sign on the front gate at Forest Glade



This a picture of the road reserve in front of Durrol next door to Forest Glade. This area always has green grass and mosses, it has been totally destroyed, like many locations on Mount Macedon

The question I must ask is, does Forest Glade have a permit to erect this sign. They have also built a ticket box at the entrance gates, was a permit required. Viewfield, also erects very large signs on their front fence every year. All these signs are making Mount Macedon look very trashy, it is no longer the unique place it once was. Are these properties allowed to conduct retail, they are selling plants, flowers, biscuits etc. For a number of years, Forest Glade, Viewfield, Cameron Lodge and Tieve Tara, all advertised to bring a picnic. By inviting people for picnics in these gardens, this established all the bad behaviour that we have experienced for years and now Forest Glade is bleating about the very thing that they have brought down on residents since this all started.

This whole Macedon and Mount Macedon debacle requires a thorough investigation. In 2018, Margot Stork, former CEO, at a meeting with two local residents regarding activities up here, stated that she was planning to get an independent investigator to come to this area and to speak to every single resident, this never happened, this is badly needed and needs to be considered.

I urge Council to:

1. Close down Autumn Leaves at Macedon & Mount Macedon including the Avenue of Honour.
2. Close the gardens, call an amnesty until there is a credible management plan that residents are happy with, that is not intrusive, not biased and one that they agree to.
3. Review as to whether these gardens can operate as commercial businesses as they do now and without a planning permits.
4. Employ an independent investigator to speak to residents, listen to them about their concerns and views
5. Actively inform the greater public that these events are closed until further notice, put in infrastructure to keep visitors moving not stopping, they can come to visit the pub or the Trading Post or the Regional Park, stop the bad behaviour.
6. Use some of the money allocated for Autumn Leaves for an investigation, a correctly convened community consultation (not just feedback or event planning meetings that we have had previously, this has shown to be useless) and a correct plan for our two towns that has the approval of residents, not just what people with vested interests that have had the Councils ear since 2015 and not for toxic over tourism.

Additionally, please read below, it is our current Local Law, why hasn't this been considered before council decided to embark on Autumn Leaves instead of protecting residents from the now established debacle and instead supporting residents with vested interests.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council, General Purpose and Amenity Local Law No 10 of 2013, page 1 under Part one, Preliminary provisions:

Objectives

The objective of this Local Law is to provide for the peace, order and good government of the Macedon Ranges Shire by:

- (1) Managing, regulating and controlling activities on any land which:
 - (a) May be dangerous, cause a nuisance or be detrimental to the amenity of the area or the environment.
 - (b) Are directed at maintaining the health and well being and a healthy and safe environment for residents and visitors.
 - (c) Promotes an environment in which residents and visitors to the municipal district can enjoy a lifestyle that is expected of the area.
- (2) Regulating and controlling behaviour which causes detriment to the amenity and environment of the municipality or could compromise public safety or Council land and assets.

This concludes my submission for the Macedon Ranges Council Draft Budget 2023-2024

Yours truly

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted signature block]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: BUDGET RESPONSE and request to present at scheduled budget submitters meeting
Date: Monday, 22 May 2023 8:19:38 AM

As a [REDACTED], I email to express my views on the recently released budget. These views are with respect to the Romsey community part of your east ward.

I appreciate the challenges producing such a budget must be, especially given the state of current economics for all.

This budget however lacks investment, cohesion between departments and a vision given future growth projections of our town Romsey.

1. It fails to understand the existing needs of our rapidly growing community
2. Constituent rates collected and monies spent, demonstrate a clear inequity especially when compared to the wider shire budget investments
3. Social connectivity is given little consideration leaving children and those with mobility challenges (prams and the elderly) most vulnerable
4. The budget does not foster confidence in a big picture plan being, voiced by you our nominated representatives on behalf of Romseys wider community

So am I correct in the following is what is on offer for the Romsey region and its constituents;

Kettlewells road, upgrade
Murphy street, upgrades
Five mile creek, bridge design

The MRSC owned and operated site at the end of Kettlewells Road and Joyce Road junction stands to benefit from this upgrade. As I am aware this is the site of a storm recovery depot, was any funding sourced from *"The Victorian Government is providing \$35 million via the Council Flood Support Fund to councils to support their communities to recover from the October 2022 floods."* Given access to this site is achievable via multiple roads, do you really think investment benefits the wider community? I urge you to reconsider the allocation of these funds inline with the reasons listed above.

Murphy street upgrade, please confirm the contributions, developer, local business and residence of Murphy street. In this upgrade how do you plan to maintain safety for all users; large trucks, machinery, bike and foot traffic. Would this money be better spent working with the local icon Newearth to relocate, releasing prime residential real estate, reducing risks and fostering town growth inline with a solid (consistent) structure plan. Worth noting the Eco park site needs to have clear unobstructed connectivity to the township to foster economic growth and visitation for the town.
Given limited information available it is difficult to support such an investment.

Five mile creek, design, not construction but design of a single bridge. For this investment, I urge you negotiate;

1. Bridge design usable over two sites (end of Palmer street AND Wrixon street)
OR

2. Two complimentary bridge designs for the aforementioned sites for the same investment

Connectivity for the town is essential. I do not oppose this investment if either of the above mentioned is possible, in fact I would suggest this is a good use of resources.

Missing links;

- An already busy increase to traffic from the East and West along Barry street is clear and is becoming increasingly difficult to cross safely. Pedestrian crossings at Barry street and Station street for the east and at Shaw drive or Wrixon street on the west, would go some way to keeping the vulnerable safer.
- Investment in a vacant commercial land tax where zoned business building do not operate.
- Improvements to failing infrastructure and roads benefiting the wider community.
- Truck parking for those constituents trying to make a living for their families, not all trucks are owned by big industry.
- Finally the town entry roundabout is unattractive, the unfortunate entry into the town can not solely be blamed on the pub being closed.

I send this feedback with optimism and as someone who is invested in understanding the town needs.

Finally - it seems appropriate that at this time I formally request how much to date has it cost the MRCS to participate in the six, possibly just four legal proceedings ([Romsey Hotel search](#)) brought about by Romsey Hotel?

Regards,



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire Council](#)
Subject: Draft 23/24 Budget reply
Date: Monday, 22 May 2023 9:22:36 AM

Dear Mayor, CEO, Councillors and Officers,

On behalf of [REDACTED], we congratulate the Council on a balanced and responsible 23/24 Budget. We thank you also for the inclusion under Capital Works of a Grant Submission for \$500k for our project to inject into a Stage 2 design for the precinct.

Our [REDACTED] sincerely hopes that the Grant is successful, and the project can then be shovel ready with full design, Masterplan and Business Case. Community momentum for this project has been steady and strong for the past decade and we are keen for this to continue. We hope that in the next Council Budget 24/25 that serious capital funding allocation by Council can occur, to initiate Stage 1 of the actual build.

We appreciate the Council's financial limitations in this current cycle, impacted by economic and environmental influences. We feel Council have done an excellent job in distributing its resources to serve its wide ranging interests.

We are keen to support the Council moving forward with this pivotal development in Woodend and thank you for including it in your Priority Plan, and the initiative for external funding in this current Budget.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 May 2023 4:14 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: budget submission 2023-24
Attachments: budget submission 2023-24.pdf

Please accept the attached personal budget submission.

sincerely

[REDACTED]

To Macedon Ranges Shire Council,

Please accept my personal submission to the 2023/24 budget process.

Front cover:

Heavy machinery does not (or certainly should not) represent the Macedon Ranges Shire!

Page 23:

The Waterway Conservation Works Program will restore the ecological values of our waterways by undertaking weed control, revegetation and maintenance works.

Great it is an urgent need to remove oaks, elms, poplars, pines and other introduced species from alongside waterways – advocacy to Melbourne Water for same.

Page 27:

Funding for the Autumn Festival as a key action of Council's adopted Events Strategy 2021– 2025. An annual commitment of \$70,000 for the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival.

I am completely opposed to using a substantial amount (or any amount) of ratepayers money on the autumn festival. I believe this is a damaging festival, for many reasons including (but not limited to):

- * the damage to infrastructure
- * the damage to the mental health of residents
- * damage to listed sites of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Significance
- * damage to ecological processes in the natural environment
- * habitat loss due to introduced trees being promoted
- * the burden on residents in cleaning up excessive leaf dumps
- * the burden on residents in weeding seedlings of introduced weed trees
- * the climate impacts (discussed below)
- * the promotion of weed species
- * fire hazard the leaf dumps create
- * the pollution of our waterways created by leaf dumps

I believe if this sort of money is to be spent, it should be on reversing and stopping the damage this causes, by cancelling this "festival".

Further reasons and justification for this request follow:

Contributing to ecological decline in the state:

Parliamentary Inquiry into Eco-system decline in Victoria (December 2021)

FINDING 16: The ongoing removal and degradation of native vegetation is a key driver of ecosystem decline and is threatening Victorian biodiversity.

Council has the opportunity to be a leader in reversing eco-system decline in Victoria, but things like this autumn festival are only adding to the problem. Council is thereby contributing to eco-system decline by way of the autumn festival and the street tree choices which appear to be driven by red leaves rather than purpose.

Contributing to the poor state of the environment federally:

Australian State of the Environment Report 2021:

"Invasive species continue to impact the environment, the economy, human health and our way of life. Australia is burdened by thousands of non-native species introduced deliberately or by accident over the past 200 years. There are now more foreign terrestrial plant species in Australia than natives."

The promotion of introduced species, many of which are invasive, eg: oaks, elms, maples, honey locust, golden rain tree, white cedar. While some are just a problem due to leaf dumping, taking the place of indigenous species, disrupting natural processes and lack of habitat value, eg: ornamental pears, ash, crepe myrtle, plane trees, birch, linden.

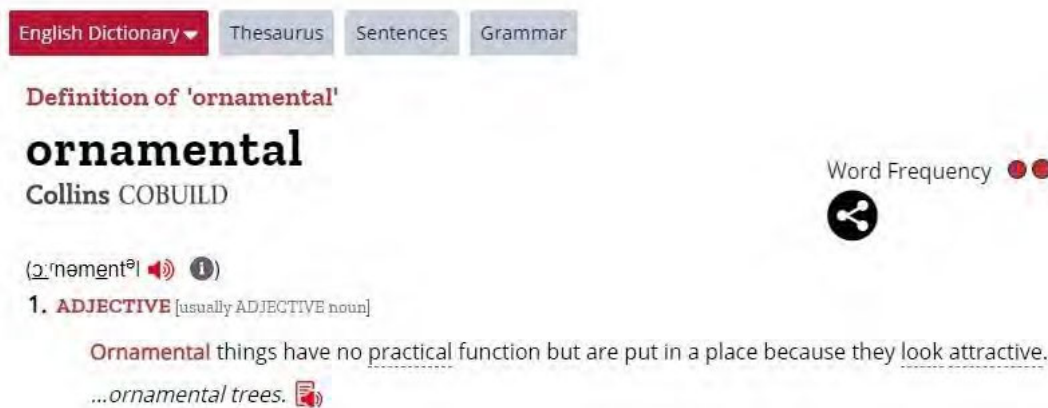
SPP Objectives which are binding:

Objective 1: Landscape

To ensure the declared area’s natural and cultural landscapes are conserved and enhanced.

Natural and cultural landscapes are being ruined by the damaging practice of promoting and planting inappropriate trees for their “ornamental” values. While some may think that these are attractive, many others see them as an ecological disaster.

Ornamental meaning below: from <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/ornamental>



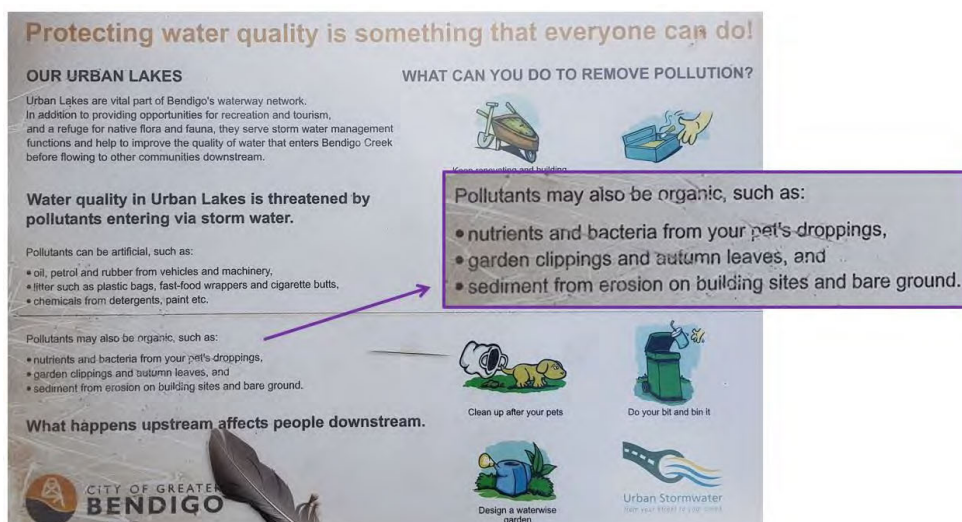
Objective 2: Biodiversity & Environmental

To ensure the significant biodiversity, ecological and environmental values of the declared area are conserved and enhanced.

The Macedon Ranges has fragile biodiversity, ecological and environmental values – promoting and celebrating the introduced species is detrimental to these values. There are many species indigenous to the Macedon Ranges that should be celebrated and appreciated, not introduced weeds.

Objective 3: Water catchment & Supply

To prioritise the conservation and use of the declared area’s water catchments to ensure a sustainable local, regional and state water supply, and healthy environment.



Autumn leaf dumps are detrimental and polluting to our waterways, as is the huge amounts of water sucked from underground and creeks to sustain the unsustainable introduced trees.

Objective 4: Aboriginal Culture, Heritage & Caring for Country

To recognise, protect, conserve and enhance the declared area's Aboriginal cultural and spiritual heritage values and work in partnership with Traditional Owners in caring for Country.

The first nations people of the Macedon Ranges area cared for Country for 65,000 years and more. In the last couple of hundred years, we have done so much damage, we need to work with Traditional Owners to restore this Country. Planting introduced weeds does not serve this purpose, we need to recognise and learn from our mistakes of the past.

Objective 5: Post-Contact cultural heritage

To recognise, conserve and enhance the declared area's significant post-contact cultural heritage values.

Objective 6: Agricultural & Natural Resources

To support and encourage agricultural land uses that strengthen the declared area's economy and contribute to the rural landscape.

Introduced "ornamentals" do nothing to contribute to the rural landscape, and there is no evidence of any economic benefit – just a big bill for the ratepayers.

Objective 7: Tourism & Recreation

To provide for a diverse and sustainable visitor economy compatible with the natural and cultural values of the area.

The autumn festival is NOT sustainable and is NOT compatible with the natural and cultural values of the area. There is nothing natural about introduced trees for the sake of tourism, these trees are detrimental to the natural values of the Macedon Ranges.

Objective 8: Settlements

To plan and manage growth of settlements in the declared area consistent with protection of the area's significant landscapes, protection of catchments, biodiversity, ecological and environmental values, and consistent with the unique character, role and function of each settlement.

The autumn festival is detrimental to the above values and is changing the character of settlements by planting inappropriate street trees. Red leaved trees do not and never have been a part of the character of any Macedon Ranges settlements. The natural vegetation (Ecological Vegetation Classes – pre 1750) of towns should be directing the character, not the current fad of red leaves.

Objective 9: Transport & Infrastructure

To manage the provision of infrastructure consistent with protection of the area's significant landscapes and protection of environmental values to support the social and economic needs of communities and increase resilience to climate change effects.

Green infrastructure – the provision of local indigenous species to protect the environmental values. Currently all the autumn festival appears to do with infrastructure is damage it: Centennial Park is reduced to car parking facility instead of the war memorial purpose, Macedon's Honour Avenue is a disaster, as is the damage to surrounding infrastructure.

Objective 10: Risks & Resilience

Respond to the challenges and threats of climate change and natural hazards with careful planning and mitigation strategies.

Increasing resilience to climate change should be achieved by protecting local indigenous species. Planting any old tree because it has red leaves is a recipe for disaster – these trees are from climates of colder and wetter weather – the predictions of global warming should see them die. Best practice is to source local plants from a slightly drier, warmer climate eg: indigenous plants but from a Bendigo provenance.

Declaration:

1. Preamble

In accordance with section 46AO(2)(d), the following statement sets out the significance of the area to the people of Victoria:

(a) The Macedon Ranges has landscapes of outstanding natural beauty and environmental, economic and cultural heritage values of state and national significance.

...

5. Threats of significant land use change of the declared area

In accordance with section 46AO(2)(c), the list below identifies the threats of significant or irreversible land use change, as described in section 46AP(2), that would affect the environmental, social or economic values of the declared area.

(a) Threats to areas of significant biodiversity from weeds and pests, climate change, natural hazards such as bushfire, and urban development.

(b) Threats to natural landscapes and landforms from intensity of land use and urban development.

(c) Threats to preservation of heritage and cultural attributes from the cumulative impact of development and land use practice and increased tourism activity and recreation.

(d) Threats to natural resources, water catchments and productive land from land use conflicts (including intensity of uses) between conservation, catchment management, agricultural use, residential use and recreation activities; cumulative impacts of development; and natural hazards, including bushfire and flooding.

(e) Threats to future effectiveness of strategic infrastructure from climate change impacts and expanded tourism activity.

Dated 14 August 2018 Responsible Minister: THE HON RICHARD WYNNE MP Minister for Planning ANDREW ROBINSON Clerk of the Executive Council

This declaration recognised outstanding natural beauty – not the introduced weeds which are promoted by the autumn festival.

The threats listed include irreversible land change – I would say that the introduced species replacing the natural beauty of our indigenous species is a threat in this classification.

a) these red-leaved trees are a significant threat to biodiversity.

b) these red-leaved trees are a threat to natural landscapes and in the intensity of land use

c) these red-leaved trees are a threat increasing detrimental tourism activity

d) these red-leaved trees are a threat to water catchments (leaf dumps pollute waterways) and conservation

e) these red-leaved trees are a threat to climate change impacts and also threaten due to expanded tourism

Biodiversity Strategy:

Objective 1: Protect existing biodiversity and native vegetation

The autumn festival is having a damaging impact on local biodiversity including flora, fauna and fungi.

Theme: Urban Biodiversity

2.31 In partnership with Council's Operations Department, develop landscaping guidelines that encourage locally native plants to be used in public spaces, as street trees and in new developments where appropriate.

While this is supposedly Council policy, the Street Tree Planting Preferred Species List (27 March 2019) is a total disgrace. While there are a couple of appropriate trees listed, most of them fit the criteria for removal, many are invasive, and too many appear to only make the list because of their red leaves.

It states “where appropriate” for native plants – there are very few situations where it would not be appropriate (eg: Honour Avenues), but the proliferation of introduced weed trees continues unabated. Does council have a list of where it is not appropriate for locally native plants to be used?

Objective 4: Improve Council and the community’s understanding and connection to biodiversity

4.7 Deliver training for relevant Council staff, including as part of induction programs, raising awareness about indigenous cultural heritage and cultural values of Country, biodiversity, plant identification and conservation in the Macedon Ranges.

This must happen – it appears there is an urgent need for an understanding of the importance and urgency of ecologically responsible plantings throughout the shire!

Environment Strategy

Biodiversity

Objectives

- * To protect and enhance the health, connectivity and extent of ecosystems across the Shire, and avoid any further loss of species and communities.
- * To continuously improve Council’s understanding of the Shire’s unique biodiversity, in its many contexts and complex interactions.
- * To utilise and promote best practice and evidence-based conservation management techniques to protect biodiversity and manage threats, taking into account local and expert knowledge.

I feel these points have been addressed above, but note that these policies exist and should be adhered to – the autumn festival does not.

Policy statements

- * Council recognises the many values of the Shire’s unique biodiversity, and will regard its protection and enhancement as a key outcome when making decisions, especially concerning Council owned or managed land.
- * Council will work with relevant decision makers and management agencies to optimise outcomes for biodiversity, within federal, state and regional policy and planning frameworks.
- * Council recognises and values community efforts to protect and enhance biodiversity across the Shire, and will work alongside community groups and land managers towards the continued improvement of the Shire’s biodiversity values.
- * Council will apply best practice and evidence-based conservation management techniques for protecting biodiversity and managing threats aiming for continuous improvement in its operations, including integration and coordination of programs and works across the organisation.
- * Council recognises the principles below as a cost efficient and environmentally effective means for protecting and enhancing biodiversity:
 1. Protect biodiversity (through avoiding and minimising loss of, and damage to, ecosystems, including the management of threats)
 2. Increase connectivity of ecosystems across the Shire
 3. Offset unavoidable loss of native vegetation through securing remnant native vegetation and facilitating revegetation, preferably within the Shire or region.
- * Council will aim to achieve positive outcomes for biodiversity when making decisions regarding acquisition, disposal, or leasing of (Council owned) land.

The above statements do not support the autumn festival! The festival is contrary to all of the points raised in these policy statements.

Council Plan (Year 2):**Strategic Objectives:***Healthy Environment, Healthy People*

Community vision: The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities. There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our shire's impact on the earth and its resources.

Resilient communities and robust economies rely entirely on a healthy environment.

Strategic objective: We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community, by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, community safety, and arts and culture.

We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity and enhance water catchment quality. The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021.

We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment.

Strategic Objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people:

Four Year strategic priorities: Protect the natural environment and enhance biodiversity

The autumn festival is contrary to the Council Plan – it is damaging the mental health of the community:

- * some community members are directly affected by the hordes of tourists.
- * some community members are affected by the destruction of our natural environment and watching the prioritisation of introduced species to the detriment of our environment.
- * some already suffer from climate change anxiety and this type of festival which is clearly a damaging process for climate action is making that worse. Residents should not be watching our council go against the climate emergency declaration and causing so much damage.

It goes on to say about protecting the natural environment, addressing climate change, supporting biodiversity and enhancing water catchment quality – the autumn festival goes against all of these objectives.

Contrary to the declaration of the Climate Emergency:

Keeling curve:

As you will see by the following – deciduous trees are only photosynthesising while in leaf, the trees that council is promoting for the autumn festival are not part of the climate solution, they are part of the problem (in the Macedon Ranges). Trees that grow quickly to store carbon are far more efficient, evergreen trees photosynthesise all year round. Indigenous trees are a far better choice and are actually worth celebrating for their hero status!

<https://www.britannica.com/science/Keeling-Curve>:

The curve also captures seasonal changes in atmospheric CO₂ concentration. The curve reveals that CO₂ concentrations decrease during periods corresponding to the [spring](#) and [summer](#) months in the Northern Hemisphere. This decline is explained by the rapid leafing of vegetation during the early [spring](#) and [subsequent plant](#) growth in the summer, when the influence of [photosynthesis](#) is greatest. (Photosynthesis removes CO₂ from the air and converts it, along with [water](#) and other [minerals](#), into [oxygen](#) and organic [compounds](#) that can be used for plant growth.) When spring arrives in the Northern Hemisphere, the portion of the planet that contains most of the land area and vegetation cover, the increased rate of photosynthesis outpaces the production of CO₂, and a decrease in carbon dioxide concentrations can be observed in the curve. As photosynthetic rates slow in the Northern Hemisphere during the [autumn](#) and [winter](#) months, atmospheric CO₂ concentrations rise.



In summing up about the autumn festival, I would also question what the \$70,000 covers, is it just the direct and obvious expenses, or is this also supposed to cover extra staff in the tourism dept, rebuilding damaged footpaths, repairing Centennial Park and other damages, etc., etc.

Page 59:

Contributions from subdivisional works for funding of open-space projects

With many recent losses of public open spaces, I would use this opportunity to advocate for the return to the community of Gisborne, the pine plantation (120 Aitken Street, Gisborne). This was donated for use as "Endowment planting scheme and Bird Sanctuary" to the local primary school. It has since been taken over by the state and now listed as "surplus to requirements". Due to its documented Indigenous burial and other artefacts, it must be restored and respected. This is a wonderful opportunity for educational, respect, scientific and restoration project. It is a needed open space in Gisborne.

Gisborne desperately needs more passive open spaces and natural environment.

General:

Gardens for Wildlife program (a recommendation in the Biodiversity Strategy) – this must be promoted and supported throughout the shire.

Street Tree Planting Preferred Species List (27 March 2019) is a disgraceful document and must be reviewed and updated to represent best practice and be ecologically responsible and not promote and encourage detrimental weed/introduced species.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Macedon Ranges Shire](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: 2023/2024 MRSC budget
Date: Tuesday, 23 May 2023 4:45:50 PM

I appreciate that official comment on the upcoming budget have closed, but we have been trying to establish whether the replacement of the underground power supply to the IR Robertson Reserve in Gisborne South has been considered.

The need for this upgrade has been flagged for many years and is one of the items put forward in the 2016 community forum. Since then the club rooms have been replaced by a new facility placing more demand on the existing supply.

I wrote to the generic MRSC address in September of 2022 after we spoke with a local electrical contractor about what kitchen equipment the existing power supply cables would allow us to install. His response was quite alarming as he told us that the existing power supply was totally inadequate to the point of being dangerous. By his calculations we barely have enough power to boil a jug and have one other appliance on at any one time.

I received a response [REDACTED] the Recreation department in November 2022, as follows:

Power Upgrade

The request to upgrade the power supply to IR Robertson reserve will be considered by Council. However, it is currently not funded. Your submission to the Council budget was received on 25 September 2022, this will assist in the development of the 2023/24 Council budget. Following development of the draft budget there will be a further opportunity for input once it has been released for community consultation in April/May 2023.

Given that this was put forward as an item needing urgent attention, we have been unsure how Council would manage the request. I have read the draft budget papers and have not seen where this is included as a capital item, and being unsure if it may have been included as a maintenance item, asked Cr Bonanno if he could find out.

Therefore currently we are unsure if the item has been put up for consideration, or if it has been included in the maintenance budget. Being an urgent replacement item it could potentially be treated either way.

We look forward to being able to discuss this with Council.

Regards

[REDACTED]