

Consistency of the proposal with the Statement of Planning Policy (SOPP):

Objective number	Objective in the SoPP (Direct quote)	Strategies to deliver the objective (Direct quote)	Meets	Does not meet	N/A	Planner's Comment
1	To ensure the declared area's natural and cultural landscapes are conserved and enhanced.				N/A	
		Manage land use, development and infrastructure to ensure that significant landscapes, views and vantage points are conserved and enhanced.				
		Encourage retention of native vegetation and revegetation that contributes to significant landscapes, particularly on escarpments and ridgelines and along riparian areas.				
		Manage development around significant landscapes of visual, scientific or education value, including along ridgelines and at vantage points.				
		Manage development and infrastructure provision to ensure sequences of views from key road and rail corridors are maintained for current and future users.				
2	To ensure the significant biodiversity, ecological and environmental values of the declared area are conserved and enhanced		✓			No native vegetation will be removed to facilitate the proposal.
		Conserve and enhance high-value native vegetation and biodiversity and their ecological integrity by undertaking responsible environmental management, planning, procedures and practices.	✓			Native vegetation on site will be protected via the implementation of Land Management Plan.
		Utilise appropriate historical ecological knowledge and practices from Traditional custodians of the land in the management of biodiversity and ecological and environmental values.			N/A	
		Encourage ecological restoration works in areas of identified state, regional and locally significant biodiversity value			N/A	
		Establish and improve bio links to connect high-value ecological areas, including areas along waterways and areas within and between towns.			N/A	
		Minimise the effects of weeds and pest animals on biodiversity values by establishing and implementing best practice land management plans.			N/A	

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3.	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.		✓			The subject site is located with Special Water Supply Catchment Area. The application was referred to relevant water authorities and no objection has been raised from the relevant water authorities.
		Protect water quality and natural systems by discouraging development that contributes to the degradation of water quality and quantity.	✓			
		Manage land use and development, including dams, in Declared Water Supply Catchments to retain and improve water quality and improve yield to support regional water needs and to increase system-wide capacity to Respond to demand.	✓			
		Reinforce the role of waterways as biodiversity Linkages and as corridors for native plants and animals.	✓			The waterway was required to be replanted and fenced off as part of the original planning permit, enabling its health to re-establish. The amended proposal will not impact the health of the waterway as no buildings and works have been proposed.
		Ensure water supply and land use planning policies are integrated, to realise efficiencies in regional catchment management and best practice, water-sensitive urban design.	✓			
		Address the expected impacts of climate change, including changes in the duration and frequency of rainfall events and changes in the intensity and frequency of bushfire events.			N/A	
		Review and improve regulation and monitoring of groundwater licences and surface water diversions.			N/A	
4.	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 subject site is partially located within area of Aboriginal cultural sensitivity however the proposal is an exempt activity and Cultural Heritage Management Plan is not required.
		With Traditional Owners, identify, protect, conserve and enhance sites, landscapes and views of Aboriginal cultural significance, consistent with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Cultural Heritage Management Plans.			N/A	

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		With Traditional Owners, acknowledge, protect, promote and interpret tangible and intangible Aboriginal cultural values, heritage and knowledge when planning and managing land use and development, water and other environmental resources.			N/A	
5.	To recognise, conserve and enhance the declared area's significant post-contact cultural heritage values.				N/A	
		Conserve and enhance the character of state and/or nationally significant post-contact cultural heritage values (including aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual values) in the declared area's heritage places, precincts and landscapes, including sequences of views along main road and rail routes.				
		Acknowledge, promote and interpret significant post-contact cultural heritage values in the planning, design, development and management of land uses, including infrastructure.				
6.	To support and encourage agricultural land uses that strengthen the declared area's economy and contribute to the rural landscape.		✓			It is considered that the increased agricultural use will not serve to adversely impact upon the environmental and landscape values of the area. It will continue to support the productive potential of the agricultural and horticultural industry and actively encourage sustainable management of land and water resources.
		Encourage the use of rural-zoned land for agricultural purposes and encourage the use of high-quality soils for soil-based agriculture.	✓			The proposal retains the rural feel of the area, whilst contributing to the productive environment of the shire. The proposal is considered economically viable not only to the quality of the land in the area, and access to water, but also due to the partially flexible nature of the agricultural use.
		Encourage and support innovations in agricultural practices (such as sustainable farming, water reuse, technologies to enable farming to adapt and respond to emerging and niche markets).	✓			The proposal is considered sustainable due to the low numbers of stock, the commitment to rehabilitation and the fact the proposal supports the 'from paddock to plate concept'; by harvesting vegetables to be utilised in a restaurant in Melbourne.

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		Support agricultural practices that improve soil health and respond to and encourage adaptation to climate change.	✓			<p>The increase in the area used for horticulture is also considered to be viable due to the generally flat, lightly sloping nature of the land and the quality of soil.</p> <p>Water is a concern or constraint in some ways (although this is an area of generally good rainfall), and the application was referred to relevant water authorities who did not object to the proposal.</p>
		Encourage measures to ensure agricultural practices protect and enhance soil quality, water quality, biodiversity and native plants and animals.	✓			<p>The permit conditions proposed by the water authorities will ensure the restriction of sediment into watercourses. Conditions will also aim to protect and rehabilitate the watercourse, and restructure the existing dam to ensure it only is fed from water from roofs of buildings and from licenced groundwater extraction.</p> <p>The implementation of Land Management Plan will ensure that the land is managed appropriately and avoid the impact on native vegetation.</p>
		Manage the effects of rural land use and development on important environmental and cultural values.	✓			It is considered that the proposal will achieve appropriate balance between protection and enhancement of the site's environmental features and the land's ability to sustain the proposed agricultural use. The application should therefore be supported.
		Restrict the supply of rural-living-zoned land to conserve and protect agricultural practices.			N/A	
		Protect strategic extractive resource areas and existing quarry operations from encroachment from inappropriate development.			N/A	
		Proposals to establish an extractive industry must adhere to best practice measures to avoid and minimise impacts on significant environments and landscapes.			N/A	
7.	To provide for a diverse and sustainable visitor economy compatible with the natural and cultural values of the area.				N/A	

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		Support and facilitate sustainable and responsible tourism and recreation-related land uses and developments (such as agritourism) in keeping with the declared area's significant landscapes, environmental and cultural values.				
		Facilitate tourism-related land use and development that encourages people to recognise and understand Aboriginal and post-contact cultural heritage.				
		Ensure the conservation and enhancement of Declared Water Supply Catchment Areas of regional or state significance in the planning of tourism and recreational land uses.				
		Protect the unique rural character of towns in the declared area.				
8.	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.				N/A	The site is not located adjacent to any significant landscape and no vegetation will be removed as part of the proposal.
		Direct urban development to a hierarchy of settlements identified for growth, through clearly defining long-term settlement boundaries.				
		Direct rural residential development to rural-living-zoned land as provided for in the Macedon Ranges Council's rural living strategy, In the Rural Living Zone – Strategic Direction (2015).				
		Encourage infill development that respects the townships' character.				
		Limit the expansion of settlements in high risk locations, actively reducing the risks associated with natural hazards.				
		Encourage a range of housing types within settlement boundaries to support a diverse range of housing needs.				
		Encourage provision of an adequate supply of well-serviced employment land within settlement				

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		boundaries to support local and regional jobs and services.				
		Encourage the use of voluntary Cultural Heritage Management Plans.				
9.	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.				N/A	
		Provide timely infrastructure and services to meet community needs in sequence with development.				
		Maintain and enhance transport connections that provide links between and within regional communities and to major cities.				
		Reduce use of fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by prioritising active transport and public transport modes.				
		Maintain view lines of state-significant landscape features from the main road and rail transport corridors.				
		Ensure the future operation and development of major transport linkages and rail corridors and upgrading and improved management of freight routes are considered when managing the growth of settlements.				
		Ensure equitable access to community infrastructure.				
		Encourage the use of active and public transport by planning infrastructure and facilities in accessible locations, and improve walking and cycling routes.				
10.	Respond to the challenges and threats of climate change and natural hazards with careful planning and mitigation strategies.		✓			
		Support community and government planning for disaster preparedness and climate resilience.			N/A	

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		Manage bushfire risks while also retaining valued biodiversity and landscape character.	✓			<p>The property is in the Bushfire Management Overlay, however the proposal does not trigger consideration under this overlay. It is still, however, important to consider the implications of the proposal in accordance with the policies.</p> <p>It is considered that the irrigation systems on site, and land management practices, will mitigate bushfire risk further and assist resilience to fire in the locality.</p>
		Plan for more renewable energy generation and distribution.			N/A	
		Ensure proposals to establish renewable energy facilities adhere to best practice measures to avoid and minimise impacts on significant environments and landscapes.			N/A	
		Ensure planning for future use and development of land prone to flooding minimises the consequences of inundation.			N/A	